

JUNE 2017

# REBUILD BY

# DESIGN

■ RESIST ■ DELAY ■ STORE ■ DISCHARGE ■

# HUDSON RIVER

Hoboken Weehawken Jersey City | New Jersey

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



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## Rebuild By Design Hudson River: Resist, Delay, Store, Discharge Project

**LEAD AGENCY:** New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), on behalf of the responsible entity New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDECA)

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey and NJ Transit

### ABSTRACT:

The Proposed Project consists of a four-part comprehensive strategy for flood risk reduction, including (1) hard infrastructure and soft landscape for coastal defense (Resist); (2) policy recommendations, guidelines and urban infrastructure to slow storm water runoff (Delay); (3) green and/or grey infrastructure improvements to allow for greater storage of excess rainwater (Store); and (4) water pumps and alternative routes to support drainage (Discharge). The Proposed Project is located throughout the City of Hoboken and extending into Weehawken and Jersey City, New Jersey. This Final EIS includes a detailed project description and evaluates environmental impacts, including indirect and cumulative environmental impacts, associated with three Build Alternatives (Alternatives 1, 2 and 3) as well as a No Action Alternative. Alternative 3 was selected as the Preferred Alternative to construct in consideration of environmental, technical and other factors. The Preferred Alternative consists of a Resist alignment that travels primarily within inland areas minimizing impacts to waterfront open spaces and provides enhancements to approximately 2.55 acres of open space or parks. The Delay, Store, Discharge features in the Preferred Alternative include three large stormwater detention facilities and approximately 61 small tanks (ROW sites) that will include new and/or improved stormwater management techniques.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds have been allocated to the Project. Per HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58, CDBG- DR funding requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 USC 4321 *et seq*) as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). HUD has further outlined the project's environmental review requirements in a Federal Register notice published on October 16, 2014 (79 FR 62182). The NJDEP has prepared this Final EIS in accordance with HUD's procedures for NEPA found at 24 CFR part 58.

Electronic copies of the FEIS are also available for public review on the following websites: [www.rbd-hudsonriver.nj.gov](http://www.rbd-hudsonriver.nj.gov) and [www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review](http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review).

A public hearing on the Draft EIS was held on March 16, 2017 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Comments were accepted through April 10, 2017. The Response to Comment document, as well as copies of all comments received during the comment period, is included in Appendix C of the FEIS. The Response to Comments provides answers to substantive questions and comments on the DEIS and explains where updates were made to the EIS text, when appropriate.

The FEIS is available for public comment for a period of 30 days ending on July 17, 2017. Comments can be submitted online at the email address or through regular mail at the below addresses.

For further information, write or e-mail Dennis Reinknecht, Program Manager, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Bureau of Flood Resilience, 501 East State Street, Mail Code 501-01A, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420, email [rbd-hudsonriver@dep.nj.gov](mailto:rbd-hudsonriver@dep.nj.gov).

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