REBUILD BY DESIGN

MEADOWLANDS



August 2016



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Report From the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting #3 Results of the Public Scoping Process Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix

KEY EVENTS IN AUGUST

Executive Steering Committee Meeting: August 8, 2016

CAG Meeting: August 11, 2016

Final Public Scoping Document available

Final Public Scoping Summary Report available

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

CAG Meeting #4: September 20, 2016, Concept Component Development

CAG Meeting #5: October 24, 2016, Concept Development and Screening

Work on the following by the Project Team continues:

- Concept Component
 Development
- Draft Concept Screening
 Criteria Matrix
- Data Collection
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Preparation

Please visit www.rbd-meadowlands.
nj.gov to obtain current project information and data, including confirmation of the above meeting dates.

REPORT FROM THE CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #3

Active participation in the public scoping process by engaged citizens, local elected officials, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) was highlighted again during the

recent Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting #3 for the Rebuild By Design Meadowlands Flood Protection Project. This meeting was held at the Port Authority Building Conference Room at Teterboro Airport on August 11, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the results



CAG Meeting #3

of the public scoping process to date and to review in a workshop format the Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix developed for the Proposed Project.

Participants were provided a meeting packet that included a PowerPoint presentation and the Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix for the Proposed Project. The NJDEP Project Team began the meeting with a presentation that included a project status update, a summary of the public scoping results, and an overview of the Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix. During the meeting, attendees were encouraged to ask questions and provide comments on the provided materials.

Public Scoping Results

The Public Scoping period for the Proposed Project occurred from June 20 to July 21, 2016. During this time, the Draft Public Scoping Document was available for public comment on www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov. The Draft Public Scoping Document outlines the Proposed Project actions, and provides a description of areas of potential impact to be analyzed in the EIS, as well as proposed methodologies to assess impacts.

During the Public Scoping period, comments were received from a diverse range of commenters, which included federal agencies, local organizations, private citizens, and universities. Public comments focused on the following sections of the Draft Public Scoping Document: Technical Resource Areas, Build Alternatives, the Proposed Action, Public Scoping/Outreach, Purpose and Need, and Cumulative Effects. A majority of the Technical Resource Area comments addressed biological resource concerns, including wetlands, special status species, and fish and wildlife habitats. Other comments addressed Water Resources, Water Quality, and Waters of the United States; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Flooding; Recreation; Cultural and Historic Resources; and Visual Quality/Aesthetics concerns.



West Riser Tide Gate in Moonachie identified by the CAG as a Potential Project Concept Location

NJDEP and its Project Team appreciate the public feedback. We have prepared the Final Public Scoping Document and Final Public Scoping Summary Report based on the comments received. Both of these documents will be available to the public on www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov.

Get involved!

- ✓ If you would like to become a member of the CAG, please contact Alexis Taylor at rbdmeadowlands@dep.nj.gov. The NJDEP welcomes your participation and input into this process!
- ✓ Share information from this newsletter with friends and neighbors.
- ✓ Educate your friends and colleagues on the Project and NEPA process.
- ✓ Continue to build interest in the Project.
- Subscribe to receive email updates on the Project at www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov.

Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix

The Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix was created to evaluate concepts leading to the identification of the Build Alternatives analysis in the EIS. The Matrix groups criteria based on the Project's Purpose and Need and includes the following categories:

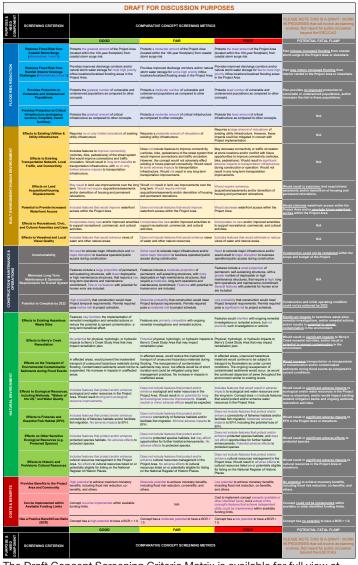
- Flood Risk Reduction Criteria
- Built Environment/Human Environment Criteria
- Construction Maintenance and Operation Criteria
- Natural Environment Criteria
- · Costs and Benefits Criteria

Each project concept will be evaluated by reviewing the concept against the detailed screening criteria and assigning "Good", "Fair", "Poor", or "Potential Fatal Flaw" ratings for each criterion. Based on the analysis using these criteria-based ratings, a concept will either be advanced for further design development, or discarded due to the inability of the concept to meet the Proposed Project's Purpose and Need.

Attendees were given the opportunity to comment on the draft matrix through a whiteboard review led by the Project Team during the second half of CAG Meeting #3. Specifically, CAG members were asked to identify if each criterion was applicable, if any criteria were missing, and if the metrics for each criterion were accurate. Additionally, CAG members were provided until August 19, 2016 to submit comments on the Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix. NJDEP and its Project Team will revise and refine the draft matrix based on public feedback before the matrix is applied to evaluate project concepts.

Next Steps

Since CAG Meeting #3, the Project Team has continued to develop initial concepts during team planning meetings, prepare the Final Public Scoping Document, produce the Final Public Scoping Summary Report, advance the Preliminary Draft EIS, and update and refine the Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix.



The Draft Concept Screening Criteria Matrix is available for full view at www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov.

