

REBUILD BY DESIGN MEADOWLANDS

NEWS

June 2018

What's the Story?

Rebuild By Design Meadowlands originated with the Rebuild by Design (RBD) competition - a design competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy to find effective ways to protect people, homes, businesses, and infrastructure, and to increase resilience in Sandy-affected regions.

At the conclusion of the RBD competition, HUD awarded funding to winning projects with designs that would help densely populated communities address repetitive flooding challenges. Through the use of HUD funds, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is overseeing the design, planning, and construction of the Rebuild by Design Meadowlands (RBDM) Flood Protection Project (Proposed Project).

Upcoming Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Public Hearing!!!

TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018

Robert L. Craig Elementary School
20 West Park Street
Moonachie, New Jersey, 07074

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

How can I participate?

Submit comments on the DEIS:

- **Attend:** The Public Hearing
- **Email:** rbd-meadowlands@dep.nj.gov
- **Mail:** New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
c/o Dennis Reinknecht, Program Manager
Bureau of Flood Resilience
501 East State Street, Mail Code 501-01A
P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ, 08625-0420

**Comments on the DEIS will be accepted until:
July 15, 2018.**

Environmental Review

Publication of DEIS

The DEIS is currently available for public review and comment through July 15, 2018. The DEIS describes the Proposed Project's purpose and need, the Proposed Project, the alternatives' development and analysis process, public involvement efforts, the affected environment, potential environmental impacts (including direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts) of the considered alternatives, and appropriate mitigation measures.

Public Hearing on the DEIS

The DEIS Public Hearing will be held on June 26, 2018 for RBDM Flood Protection Project. The purpose of the public hearing is for NJDEP to receive comments on the information provided in the DEIS. NJDEP will not respond to any of the comments or take action on the project at the hearing. Comments and/or statements at the public hearing will become part of the public record during the comment period and will also be considered during the preparation of the Final EIS (FEIS).

Publication of Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)

At the conclusion of the 45-day comment period for the DEIS, NJDEP incorporates substantive public comments into the document and compiles the FEIS. The FEIS is circulated in the same manner as the DEIS (including the publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register and local media outlets) and has a public comment period of 30 days.

Record of Decision

Following completion of the FEIS comment period, NJDEP prepares a Record of Decision (ROD) and Statement of Findings. The ROD summarizes the Government's decision, identifies the Environmentally Preferable Alternative, selects the alternative that will be implemented, and identifies the potential environmental impacts of that alternative, as well as the mitigation measures that the Government will implement.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Feasibility Study Report

What is it? Why is it needed?

The purpose of the Feasibility Study Report is to investigate the constructability, viability, and potential flood risk reduction of the Proposed Project. The primary goal of the Feasibility Study Report is to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of the Build Alternatives and how they meet the overall goals and objectives of the Proposed Project. The Feasibility Study Report is an important reference in the DEIS analysis and will be made available concurrent with the DEIS public review and comment period.

Get involved!

- ✓ If you would like to become a member of the Citizen Advisory Group, please contact Alexis Taylor at: rbd-meadowlands@dep.nj.gov. 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 Proposed Project and NEPA process.
- ✓ Continue to build interest in the Proposed Project.
- ✓ Subscribe to receive email updates on the Proposed Project at: www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov

January 2018 Community Meeting ** The Preferred Alternative **



On January 11, 2018, the NJDEP introduced the Preferred Alternative to the community. The NJDEP is recommending Alternative 3 as the Preferred Alternative for implementation of the Proposed Project, as it would provide the most comprehensive flood reduction to the Project Area, including both storm surge protection and stormwater drainage improvements.

During the presentation, the team discussed the numerous reasons supporting that recommendation. For a full video of the meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jldwGih0T2M&feature=youtu.be>

June 1st

Publish NOA of DEIS in the Federal Register

June 26th

DEIS Public Hearing

July 15th

DEIS Public Comment Period Ends

October

Publication of FEIS

November

Prepare ROD, Publish NOA, and Request Release of Funds

2018 45-day public comment period on DEIS

Dates are subject to change. Please visit our website for the most current information.



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



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