





of Engineers

Memphis District

Public Notice

REPLY TO ATTN: James L. Snell U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 167 North Main Street, Room B-202 Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894 Telephone: (901) 544-0733 Fax (901) 544-0211 EMail:James.L.Snell@usace.army.mil POSTMASTER PLEASE POST UNTIL: June 23, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE NO: <u>MVM-2004-317 (JLS)</u> REFERENCE NUMBER: <u>200400317</u> PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: <u>May 25, 2004</u> EXPIRATION DATE: <u>June 23, 2004</u>

<u>Joint Public Notice</u> Corps of Engineers and State of Arkansas

- AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986, this notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- APPLICANT: City of Jonesboro Executive Office City Hall 515 West Washington Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403 (870) 932-1052

Agent: Bernie Auld, PE BA Engineering 4825 Trousdale, Suite 218 Nashville, TN 37220

LOCATION: The project is located in Sections 21 and 27, Township 14N, Range 4E in Craighead County, Arkansas, at approximate latitude 35.7293 and longitude 90.4735 on the Jonesboro 7.5 minute quadrangle map. The project is located in Jonesboro at the intersection of Highland Drive (Highway 18) and Stadium Blvd. The project will impact sections of Turtle Creek north and south of Highland Drive.

PURPOSE: The stated purpose of this project is for flood reduction and flood storage. Development in the area is planned according to the attached drawing (see drawings 1 and 2, labeled the Mall of Turtle Creek).

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Project improvements along Turtle Creek will include the relocation of approximately 1,675-linear feet of channel north of Highland Drive. 255-linear feet of the relocated channel of Turtle Creek will be encased at the end of the channel relocation section (see drawings 1,2,3,4). 3,090-linear feet of man-made channel running in an easterly to westerly direction will be encased (see drawing 5). The construction of the man-made channel drained waters of the U.S. (ponds) as shown on drawing 5. South of Highland Drive 1,520-linear feet of new channel construction will take place and a nine-acre overbank flood storage empoundment area will be constructed (see drawing 6). Construction of the flood storage area will consist of constructing a ditch off of Turtle Creek to collect overbank flooding. The ditch will be within a levee system and the storage area will be excavated to increase storage capacity. Two weirs will be installed in the levee system next to Turtle Creek to allow flow in and out of Turtle Creek and into the flood storage area. Following the relocation of Turtle Creek 1,460-linear feet of old channel will be filled. To offset the impacts to filling the old channel 1,675 linear feet of channel will be relocated, 1,520-linear feet of new channel will be constructed and a nine-acre flood storage area will be constructed. The original 1,515-linear feet of channel improvement work south of Highland Drive will not be done. Activities requiring Corps authorization include filling within Turtle Creek and encasement of 3,090-linear feet of man-made channel.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: By copy of this public notice, the applicant is requesting water quality certification from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality that the activity will comply with applicable requirements set forth in 33 U.S.C. and 1341(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act and all State laws and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. This certification or evidence of this water quality certification or waiver of the right to certify must be submitted prior to the issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit. The Corps of Engineers' evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

- City of Jonesboro/Turtle Creek MVM-2004-317 (JLS)

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, are known to exist in the project area. This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments they may have regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants, or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Memphis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.

FLOOD PLAIN: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the activities for which a permit is sought and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision.

COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you wish to obtain additional information or to submit comments on the application, please contact James L. Snell at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 167 North Main Street, Room B-202, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894, telephone (901) 544-0733. Copies of all comments, including the names and address of commenters, may be provided to the applicant for consideration and response prior to a decision by the Corps.

Comments should be received by June 23, 2004.

Lany D. Watson

Larry D. Watson Chief Regulatory Branch

Attachments

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Drawing 2

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MAXIMUM ENCROACHMENT SECTION - SECTION "A" (NOT TO SCALE)



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