



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-PD-EC
Public Notice No. FP15-MH01-10

December 11, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
MOBILE DISTRICT**

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
PREPARATION OF A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
TO
EVALUATE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MOBILE HARBOR FEDERAL NAVIGATION
CHANNEL, MOBILE, ALABAMA**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is hosting a public scoping meeting January 12, 2016 at the Mobile Alabama Cruise Terminal, 201 S. Water Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The purpose of the workshop is to receive public input regarding the preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) to address potential impacts associated with improving the Mobile Harbor Federal Navigation Channel in Mobile County, Alabama. The DSEIS will be used as a basis for ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and evaluating alternative plans, including the "No Action" plan. The proposed alternatives being identified in the Alternatives Milestone analysis that will be evaluated include widening and deepening of selected areas of the navigation channel within the federally authorized dimensions.

The evaluation will examine the costs and benefits as well as the environmental impacts of modifying the maintained dimensions of the existing Federal project within its federally authorized limits. The purpose of the study will be to determine improvements for safety and efficiency of harbor users. Vessels are experiencing delays leaving and arriving at port facilities and inefficiencies have increased as increased cargo volumes and larger vessels call on the port to handle these increases which have resulted in traffic delays. The Alabama State Port Authority requested the USACE, Mobile District undertake studies to determine the feasibility of deepening and widening the channel to its full federally authorized depths and widths. On October 20, 2014, the Assistant Secretary of the Army approved the direction of General Investigation funds to complete Preconstruction Engineering and Design of channel widening for Mobile Harbor to initiate a General Reevaluation Report, which includes preparation of the DSEIS, to evaluate deepening and widening of the channel to its full federally authorized dimensions.

CORRESPONDENCE: Public comments can be submitted through a variety of methods. Comments may be submitted to the USACE, Mobile District by mail or electronic methods by *January 26, 2016*. In addition, comments (written or oral) may be submitted at the public meeting. Correspondence concerning this notice should refer to Public Notice No. FP15-MH01-10 and should be directed to the District Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District Mobile, P.O. Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, ATTN: CESAM-PD-EC. For additional information please contact Mr. Larry Parson at (251) 690-3139 or by email at larry.e.parson@usace.army.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curtis M. Flakes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CURTIS M. FLAKES
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District