

BIWEEKLY UPDATE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG

For Immediate Release: July 26, 2017 Contact: USACE Public Affairs 251-690-2505

Mobile Harbor General Reevaluation Report

MOBILE, Ala. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District (USACE), releases a biweekly update every other Wednesday on the current status of the Mobile Harbor General Reevaluation Report (GRR). Each update provides an overview of recent activities under the study, highlights upcoming milestones, and provides links to important changes on the project website.

Current Updates:

- **Public Involvement:** The venue for the September public meeting has been selected. We are proposing to use the Bayou La Batre Community Center on Thursday, September 14, 2017. More details, once finalized, will be provided via news releases, social media, biweekly updates, the quarterly newsletter, and the Listserve.
- **Plan Formulation:** Based on preliminary costs and benefits developed thus far and coordinated within our vertical chain, the team has identified modified channel dimensions that will be considered for our **initial** impact analysis and form the basis for our plan selection. The initial depth will be 50 feet with a five-mile widener of 500 feet located in the lower bay.
- Environmental: Analysis of the benthic and fish samples collected last fall are nearly complete. Maps depicting the baseline for the wetlands, seagrasses, and oyster beds are nearly complete. Determination of salinity tolerances for these resources continue to be evaluated.
- **Economic:** The economic analysis continues to be refined as we receive additional information about current and future port usage including the projected traffic increase expected from the development of the new Walmart distribution center. This added information will help determine the feasibility of including a widening component with the deepening options.
- **Engineering:** The hydrodynamic model is running and we are inputting data to develop existing condition results.
- **Real Estate:** Real Estate and Engineering are working to incorporate recent utility pipeline data onto project plan sheets to map existing conditions.

Public Involvement: As the study progresses, interested parties have several avenues in which they can receive updates on the project. Throughout the process, the Mobile District will

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – MOBILE DISTRICT 109 SAINT JOSEPH STREET, MOBILE, ALA. 36602-3630 WWW.SAM.USACE.ARMY.MIL host a series of public meetings and engagements. We will announce the dates, times and locations of future public engagements in news releases, on the project website, by Listserve, social media, biweekly updates and quarterly bulletins.

Listserve: If you wish to receive regular updates on the study, please sign up for the project Listserve at <u>http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-ProjectManagement/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/</u>

Public Comment: The Mobile District will continue to accept public comments on the study that will be added to the official record.

Comment by Email:

MobileHarborGRR@usace.army.mil.

Comment by U.S. Mail:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District ATTN: PD-F P.O. Box 2288 Mobile, AL 36628

Comment by Public Meeting:

Dates, Times and Locations to be determined for future meetings

Note: All comments will be addressed at the appropriate time during the study.

To download the spring 2017 Mobile Harbor GRR Quarterly Newsletter visit: http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-Project-Management/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/Quarterly-Newsletter/

To download the latest Public Involvement Strategy (PIMS) or other documents associated with the project visit the GRR Document library:

http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-Project-Management/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/Mobile-Harbor-GRR-Downloads/

For more information on the study visit the project website:

http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-Project-Management/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/

For answers to Frequently Asked Questions visit:

http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Program-and-Project-Management/Civil-Projects/Mobile-Harbor-GRR/Frequently-Asked-Questions/

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