



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

Coastal Environment Team
Planning and Environmental Division

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is beginning preparation of an integrated Feasibility Study and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document to identify and evaluate alternatives to improve the Federal Gulfport Harbor Channel, Harrison County, Mississippi. The non-Federal sponsor for this study is the Mississippi State Port Authority (the Port). Depth increments, up to 10 feet, will be evaluated in addition to possible channel widening and/or modifications. The study will also evaluate potential placement options for new work and future operations and maintenance dredged material. Improvements would encourage safer navigation for large capacity international shipping, allowing the Port to increase commercial activity which would add direct, indirect, and ancillary jobs within the region. The Gulfport Harbor, Mississippi Feasibility Study is authorized by Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-611, as amended). The purpose of this study is to identify and evaluate alternatives to improve the Federal Gulfport Harbor Channel. USACE, Mobile District is currently gathering information to define issues and concerns that will be addressed in an analysis to be prepared in compliance with the NEPA.

USACE, Mobile District welcomes your scoping comments, views, and information about environmental and cultural resources, and important features within the described project area. There will be an opportunity to participate in a public NEPA scoping meeting on June 20, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Westside Community Center, 4006 8th Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501. USACE, Mobile District will accept written scoping comments regarding the proposed project via email to CESAM-gulfportharborMSfeasibilitystudy@usace.army.mil or by U.S. mail to the letterhead address through July 21, 2023. All individuals who respond with scoping comments will be included in future mailings. Others may be added to the mailing by making a written request by email to the address above. All comments will be summarized, addressed, and used to inform the Gulfport Harbor Navigation Improvement Study Feasibility Study.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kathleen McConnell at (251) 323-2533 or via email at Kathleen.K.Mcconnell@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Jeremy M. LaDart
Chief, Planning and Environmental
Division