

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD (MFR)

SUBJECT: Alabama Coastal Comprehensive Plan (ACCP) West Mobile County Meeting, 27 August 2015

1. Welcome. The subject meeting was held on Thursday, 27 August 2015 at the Jon Archer Agricultural Center in Mobile, Alabama. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) welcomed everyone and facilitated the meeting.
2. Introductions and Purpose. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), outlined the ACCP's intent and need. ADCNR referenced other states' comprehensive plans and stated Governor Bentley secured \$1 million of State funds to prepare this comprehensive plan. ADCNR acknowledged an additional funding contribution from the Alabama-Mississippi Sea Grant to commence this effort. ADCNR stated that a framework was needed to pull the two counties into one comprehensive plan. They continued to explain that USACE was engaged due to their technical expertise in developing the Mississippi Coastal Improvements Plan (MsCIP). The ACCP could be used as a 30,000-foot view framework to assist prioritizing projects within the State of Alabama. The ACCP is a framework to leverage additional State and Federal funds.

USACE, stated that ACCP is a coastal vision for today/ 10/20/50 years into the future. Highlighted were USACE's expertise in Mobile Bay, MsCIP, and other major planning efforts. The USACE developed MsCIP by asking constituents' their desired vision for Coastal Mississippi and for them to identify what system stressors exist that could hinder achieving this outcome. USACE explained that ACCP is a forward-thinking roadmap building off existing planning efforts to develop a shared vision and ownership for Coastal Alabama. He highlighted differences between ACCP and MsCIP. USACE clarified how Federal language constrained MsCIP to specific areas while ACCP does not have that language therefore the plan is what the constituents identify it to be. Therefore, economic benefits from local businesses will be included, if that is a constituent desire.

3. West Mobile County's Vision. USACE asked the team what their vision for coastal Alabama is for today, in 10 years, in 25 years, and the next 50 years and captured those participants' ideas. One participant representing local businesses mentioned MsCIP's buyout program, and questioned such a program for Dauphin Island given portions of the island are eroding while other areas are accreting. Hurricane Katrina greatly impacted areas, such as Bayou La Batre. Investment in infrastructure is vital given storm water issues facing the City of Mobile. Economic investments in the Alabama State Port

Authority to benefit the local and regional area are essential while also addressing infrastructure issues, such as flooding of Bankhead tunnel during storm events. In addition, investments should be made to raise the causeway. This effort would increase the quality of Mobile Bay's water for recreational uses. Alabama's coastal vulnerability of I-10 over Mobile Bay and its need for connecting those two counties was highlighted given events of Hurricane Ivan in Pensacola in 2004. The City needs a Resiliency Management Plan because certain areas are prone to frequent flooding; therefore, after multiple events, buyouts could be possibly offered to those at risk in those areas. Restoration opportunities also exist for Mobile, such as Langan Park and Dog River watershed. Some discussion highlights have been captured in this MFR.

4. Table Top Exercise. USACE requested participants to identify needs/problems, solutions, and opportunities, and then place those items on the Baldwin or Mobile Counties coastal maps distributed throughout the room.
5. Next Steps. Information gathered today will be entered into a database and utilized for prioritizing ACCP framework.
6. Action Items.
 - a. USACE will prepare meetings minutes.