

APPENDIX D  
PUBLIC  
INVOLVEMENT/CORRESPONDENCE  
APPENDIX

Augusta Rocky Creek, Georgia  
Flood Risk Management  
Section 205 Feasibility Study  
Augusta-Richmond County, Georgia



## Office of the Administrator

Frederick L. Russell, Administrator

Tameka Allen, Deputy Administrator  
William Shanahan, Deputy Administrator

Room 801 - Municipal Building  
530 Greene Street - AUGUSTA, GA. 30901  
(706) 821-2400 - FAX (706) 821-2819  
[www.augustaga.gov](http://www.augustaga.gov)

August 15, 2013

Colonel Thomas J. Tickner  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Savannah District  
100 W. Oglethorpe Ave  
Savannah, GA 31402

Dear Colonel Tickner:

On August 12, 2013, members of your Planning and Project Management Staff met with Mr. Fred Russell, me and other members of the City of Augusta's (City) management team. The meeting was held to discern the City's continuing interest in maintaining the Congressionally authorized Augusta Flood Risk Management Study in the Investigation program. In addition, the concept of converting the Rocky Creek portion of the Augusta Flood Control study to a Continuing Authorities Program study was discussed. We fully support maintaining the existing study authorization and applaud the initiative to convert a portion of the existing study to allow the Rocky Creek feature to be addressed expeditiously. This approach will yield needed improvements now while also maintaining the flexibility to address other requirements that may arise in the near term.

The City understands that both Federal and City funds remain on the Augusta Flood Risk Management Study in the investigation program and would request they continue to be held to meet future study requirements. Furthermore, the City is receptive to entering into a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) with USACE in Fiscal Year 2014 for the CAP study. Funds for the CAP study have been requested in the City budget for 2014.

If you have any questions, please contact Abie L. Ladson, Director of Engineering Department at (706)796-5040 or (706) 796-5070.

Sincerely,

Frederick L. Russell  
Administrator

cc: Mr. Abie Ladson, P.E., Director, Augusta Engineering Department  
Mr. Hameed Malik, Ph.D., P.E., Augusta Engineering Department

Copy



Reply to  
Attention of:

Executive Office

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

NOV 21 2012

Mr. Fred Russell  
Administrator  
Augusta-Richmond County  
530 Greene Street  
Augusta, Georgia 30911

Dear Mr. Russell:

On October 15, 2012, the Savannah District, US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) held a teleconference with you and your staff concerning the Rocky Creek portion of the Augusta Flood Damage Reduction Study and the City of Augusta's (City) non-Federal plans for flood risk management on Rocky Creek.


The discussion resulted in the following determinations regarding the Federal study:

- a. The City has requested removal of Nixon Street levee from the Federal study, and opts not to pursue alternative alignments. The only remaining features in the Federal study would then be the Rosedale Detention Pond and Kissingbower non-structural option.
- b. The City stated they have independently pursued a strategy to divert water through a proposed relief channel to a detention area to be constructed in the Hyde Park area. The City also discussed a second independent strategy to construct a diversion structure on Rocky Creek to flood three proposed ponds in the Hollywood Subdivision area.
- c. We request that the City determine if there is still interest in pursuing the remaining features of the Federal study. Hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling will be performed by our staff to determine whether the independent features proposed by the City will impact the viability of the remaining features of the Federal study. We request that the City provide details of the newly proposed project features, to include H&H modeling parameters and project schedules, to the Corps as soon as possible to facilitate for future budgetary planning.

In addition, a Department of the Army permit will be required for any work the City proposes that would result in a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. This applies not only to the Rocky Creek diversion to the Hollywood Subdivision, but would also apply to the Hyde Park proposal, if outside the Federal flood control study.

If you have questions regarding the Department of the Army permit process, please contact Ms. Kelly Finch, Chief, Coastal Branch, Regulatory Division at 912-652-5503. For questions regarding the Federal project, contact Mr. Bob Sirard, Project Manager at 912-652-5804.

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey M. Hall  
Colonel, US Army  
Commanding





## Office of The Administrator

Frederick L. Russell, Administrator

Tameka Allen, Interim Deputy Administrator  
Robert Leverett, Interim Deputy Administrator

Room 801 - Municipal Building  
530 Greene Street - AUGUSTA, GA. 30901  
(706) 821-2400 - FAX (706) 821-2819  
www.augustaga.gov

November 4, 2010

Col. Jeffery Hall, Commander  
Savannah District Army Corps of Engineers  
100 W Oglethorpe Ave.  
Savannah, GA 31404-3604

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PM-C

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DX

Dear Colonel Hall:

This letter is in response to US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) letter dated October 5, 2010 that requested confirmation of the City of Augusta's, Georgia (City) continued support for the Augusta Flood Control Project (Project). On 29 July 2010, the Corps and City representatives met to discuss the status of on-going Study efforts and reviewed many of the critical decisions now being faced by the Project Delivery Team (PDT). The subject matter was further discussed at a follow-up teleconference on September 22, 2010. This letter outlines the City's desires related to the Augusta Canal, Rae's Creek and Rocky Creek Flood Control Projects and provides a path forward for completion of this work.

The City has limited funds to complete this Study and consequently we feel the best use of these available funds would be to use them as outlined below:

**1. Augusta Canal Flood Control Project:** The City is currently unable to provide the additional funds necessary to continue work on the Feasibility Study for Augusta Canal drainage basin and therefore request that the Corps discontinue any additional work on this project except for the documentation of work performed to date as outlined below. The City requests that the Corps provide an interim report that summarizes the analysis of all work completed to date and provide a copy (hard and electronic) of all raw data, including hydrologic and hydraulic modeling (input data files, assumption used and results files) data, surveys, maps, cost estimates, specifications of proposed equipment, etc. This information should be sent to the Augusta Engineering Department, attention, Mr. Abie Ladson, Director of Engineering.

**2. Rocky Creek Flood Control Project:** The Corps recommended key components for the Rocky Creek improvements include the Rosedale Detention Basin, Peach Orchard Road 1.5 Bench Cut Ecosystem Restoration, and Kissingbower Road non-structural purchases of five frequently flooded homes. The City supports these three features. The City desires that as a cost saving measure and to use available funds effectively, the Corps evaluate the necessity of the Peach Orchard Road Bench Cut Ecosystem Restoration improvement. Also, there are two additional locally sponsored flood reduction projects in this Basin and the City desires that the Corps consider these projects when evaluating project features to be included in the overall Rocky Creek Basin Flood Control Study hydraulic modeling. These two projects are Regency Mall/Hollywood Subdivision Flood Management and Recreational facility and Hyde Park Regional Detention facility. The City does not seek Federal funds to design and construct these two projects; however, it is City desire that Corps provide assistance in the permitting process.



Also, the City confirms that it no longer desires to pursue construction of the Wheelless detention basin as a locally preferred plan in the Rocky Creek basin. The City requests the Corps perform engineering analysis necessary to prepare a concept design for this basin and to prepare a construction cost estimate, construction plan and final report.

3. Rae's Creek Flood Control Project: The Corps recommended components for Rae's Creek includes only non-structural features such as raising of home, flood proofing of structures, etc. The City does not desire to pursue any of these non-structural alternatives in this basin. As such, the City requests that the Corps discontinue work on Rae's Creek basin. However, the City requests that the Corps provide an interim report that summarizes the analysis of all work completed to date and provide a copy (hard and electronic) of all raw data, including hydrologic and hydraulic modeling (input data files, assumption used and results files) data, surveys, maps, cost estimates, specifications of proposed equipment, etc. This information should be sent to the Augusta Engineering Department, attention, Mr. Abie Ladson, Director of Engineering.

4. The City understands that the President's budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 includes \$578,000 for continuation of the Augusta Flood Control Study. The City agrees to provide non-Federal funds required to match the final appropriated federal 2011 funds up to \$578,000 in accordance with the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA). The City requests that the Corps use the available funds to focus their efforts on completing the work as outlined above.

Again we'd like to express the City's continued support as modified in this letter of the Augusta Flood Control Project. The City assumes that the actions requested above will not delay completion of the final Feasibility Report. The City believes these improvement features will ultimately result in a better performing and more aesthetically pleasing Flood Control Project.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office or Director Augusta Engineering Department, Abie Ladson, P.E. at (706)796-5040.

Sincerely,



Frederick L. Russell  
Administrator

cc: Hameed Malik, Ph.D., P.E.  
Assistant Director Engineering



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

OCT 5 2010

Programs and Project Management

Mr. Frederick L. Russell  
Administrator  
Augusta-Richmond County  
530 Greene Street  
Augusta, Georgia 30911

Dear Mr. Russell:

On September 22, 2010, the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) held a teleconference with City of Augusta (City) representatives to discuss the status and direction of the Augusta Flood Control Study (Study). The Corps presented the current alternatives for flood risk management in the Augusta Canal and Rocky Creek basins and based on the discussion, it was apparent that the City had been investigating additional options regarding the direction of the project. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was agreed that the City would conduct further internal discussions and then provide the Corps a written detailed description of their desired path forward for this Study. The purpose of this letter is to clarify our understanding of the outstanding items (by major project feature) that require a decision and/or direction from the City for continuation of the study effort.

### **Augusta Canal**

The plan for Augusta Canal now includes construction of a 450-foot overflow spillway on the canal bank located near the City's raw water pump station at the historic Works Progress Administration (WPA) site, and automation of 12 bulkhead gates with controls/monitoring at the City pump station.

During our teleconference, we reviewed the current Canal Spillway concept design, location, and cost. Much discussion revolved around other alternatives available for removal of water from the Canal. Some of the alternatives discussed included:

- a. Relocating the Canal Spillway from its current location downstream to the old Raes Creek outfall.
- b. Relocating the Canal Spillway from its current location upstream to reach 7 where the City recently constructed a buttress berm to increase Canal bank stability.
- c. Automation of multiple waste gates combined with a siphon system and/or spillway. The Corps investigated adding additional gated openings to the Tin House Gate early in our study, but it did not achieve significant benefits. Additionally, during the design phase of the City's

water pump plant expansion, ZEL Engineering suggested adding a flood bypass gate and channel to the intake design. City representatives stated that they wanted a passive overflow design, and not another gate structure that required action by an operator. At that point the Corps did not pursue further gate outlet alternatives.

The major item in the Augusta Canal basin needing confirmation and/or clarification from the City is concurrence with the Augusta Canal improvement features as currently designed/outlined above or identification of other alternatives the City desires to be evaluated as part of this Study.

### **Rocky Creek**

The plan for Rocky Creek now includes Rosedale Detention Basin, Peach Orchard Road 1.5 miles Bench Cut Ecosystem Restoration and Kissingbower Road non-structural purchase of five frequently flooded homes

During the teleconference, the City indicated they are moving forward with the design, permitting and construction of two projects in the Rocky Creek basin. These include a detention basin/park at the old Regency Mall/Hollywood Subdivision and a 42-acre regional flood control basin at the Hyde Park Subdivision. The Corps must consider construction of these projects when evaluating project features to be included in the overall Rocky Creek Basin Flood Control Study. The major items in the Rocky Creek basin needing confirmation and/or clarification from the City are as follows:

a. The City is moving forward with design, permitting, and construction of the Hollywood and Hyde Park Subdivision detention basins and the proposed timeframes for major actions. The City does not desire for these two projects to be included in the Federal Flood Control Project, nor does the City seek Federal funds to construct these projects as part of the Flood Control Project.

b. The City no longer desires to pursue construction of the Wheless detention basin as a locally preferred plan in the Rocky Creek basin.

c. The City supports the three features currently included in the Rocky Creek plan as listed above.

d. The City does not want to pursue additional work or study efforts associated with a levee alternative to protect the Virginia Subdivision area.

With respect to project funding, the President's budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 includes \$578,000 for continuation of the Augusta Flood Control Study. The City has agreed to provide non-Federal funds required to match the Federal 2011 funds up to \$578,000 in accordance with the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA). Once Congress passes an FY 2011 Energy and Water Development appropriations bill, the Corps will notify the City of the final amount



appropriated for the Study and the amount of matching non-Federal funds required in accordance with the FCSA.

The Corps will not proceed with any new investigations and/or analyses of the items above until receipt of written clarification from the City on their desired direction forward. Upon receipt of direction the Corps will evaluate the time and cost impacts of those changes and will provide City with assessment. As always, my staff and I stand ready to meet and discuss any of these issues with you if so desired.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 912-652-5220 or the Project Manager, Hampton Spradley at 912-652-5581.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffery M. Hall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jeffery M. Hall  
Colonel, US Army  
Commanding