



# Indianapolis North Flood Damage Reduction Project Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

July 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement:

**Summary of DSEIS.** The DSEIS evaluates four main alternatives to realign the downstream end of the Indianapolis North floodwall. The alternatives consist of a No Action plan, Rocky Ripple alignment, W. 56th Street alignment, and Westfield Blvd. alignment (proposed action). The document also describes two variations to the Westfield Blvd. alignment – relocation of a canal gated structure and construction of a full-height removable floodwall. See the attached “Alternative Alignments” drawing for the location of each alternative alignment.

Current design standards require much greater vegetation clearing and maintenance of a grassed area on and adjacent to the project than was described in the GRR and original EIS. The DSEIS therefore includes alternatives for removal of additional trees along the Warleigh Levee (Phase 3A) and Old Monon East Levee (Phase 3C).

**Review Process.** The June 29 issue of the Federal Register provides official notification the Draft Supplemental EIS (DSEIS) is now circulated for a minimum 45-day review period. During that time, federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials and members of the public, may submit comments. The DSEIS and instructions for submission of comments are available at <http://bit.ly/indynorth>. **The comment period has been officially extended to Aug. 31, 2012.** Following conclusion of the DSEIS comment period, the Corps of Engineers will prepare a Final SEIS (FSEIS) which will provide detailed responses to the public and agency comments and include changes and clarifications resulting from those comments as may be needed. The FSEIS will then be circulated to agencies and the public for a minimum 30-day review period, after which the Corps will make final decisions on the future direction of the project. Those decisions will be set forth in a Record of Decision (ROD) by the Corps of Engineers. The ROD will explain the reasons for the project decisions, based upon the information contained in the SEIS.

## Background:

As a result of flooding by the White River in January 1991, the City of Indianapolis requested the Army Corps of Engineers to study potential flood risk management improvements for neighborhoods in the northern area of the city. The Corps conducted a Reconnaissance Study from May 1991 through July 1992 which identified possible improvements that could be considered for federal participation. The Corps then prepared a General Reevaluation Report (GRR) – a feasibility study – and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The documents were completed in September 1996 and contained a recommended plan for project construction. The plan involved construction of approximately three and a half miles of floodwall and earthen levee along the east bank of the White River in the Broad Ripple (Phase 3C), Warleigh (Phase 3A) and South Warleigh (Phase 3B) neighborhoods. (See the attached Project Map.) All three phases must be completed to achieve the project benefits within the designated areas of protection.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

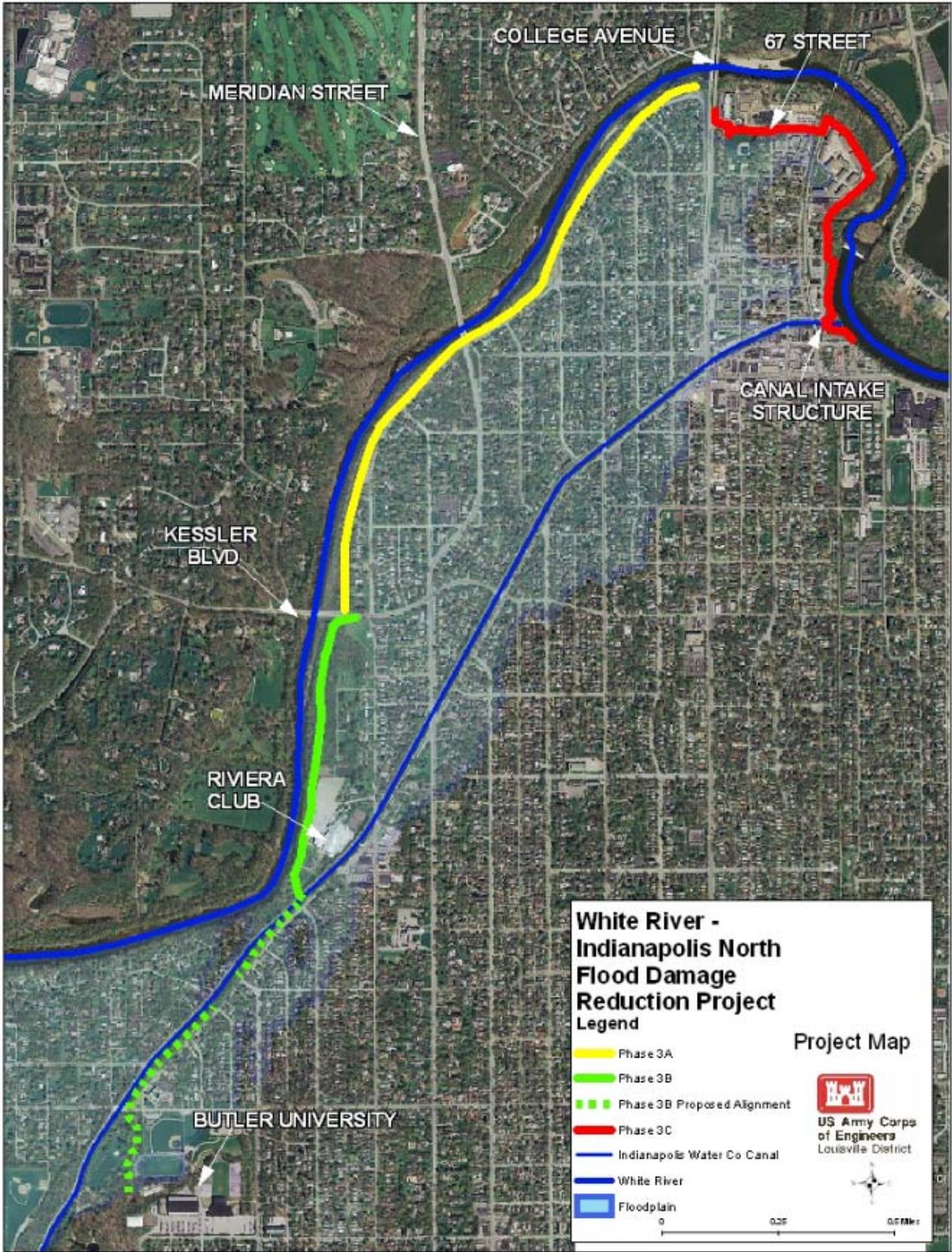
P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059

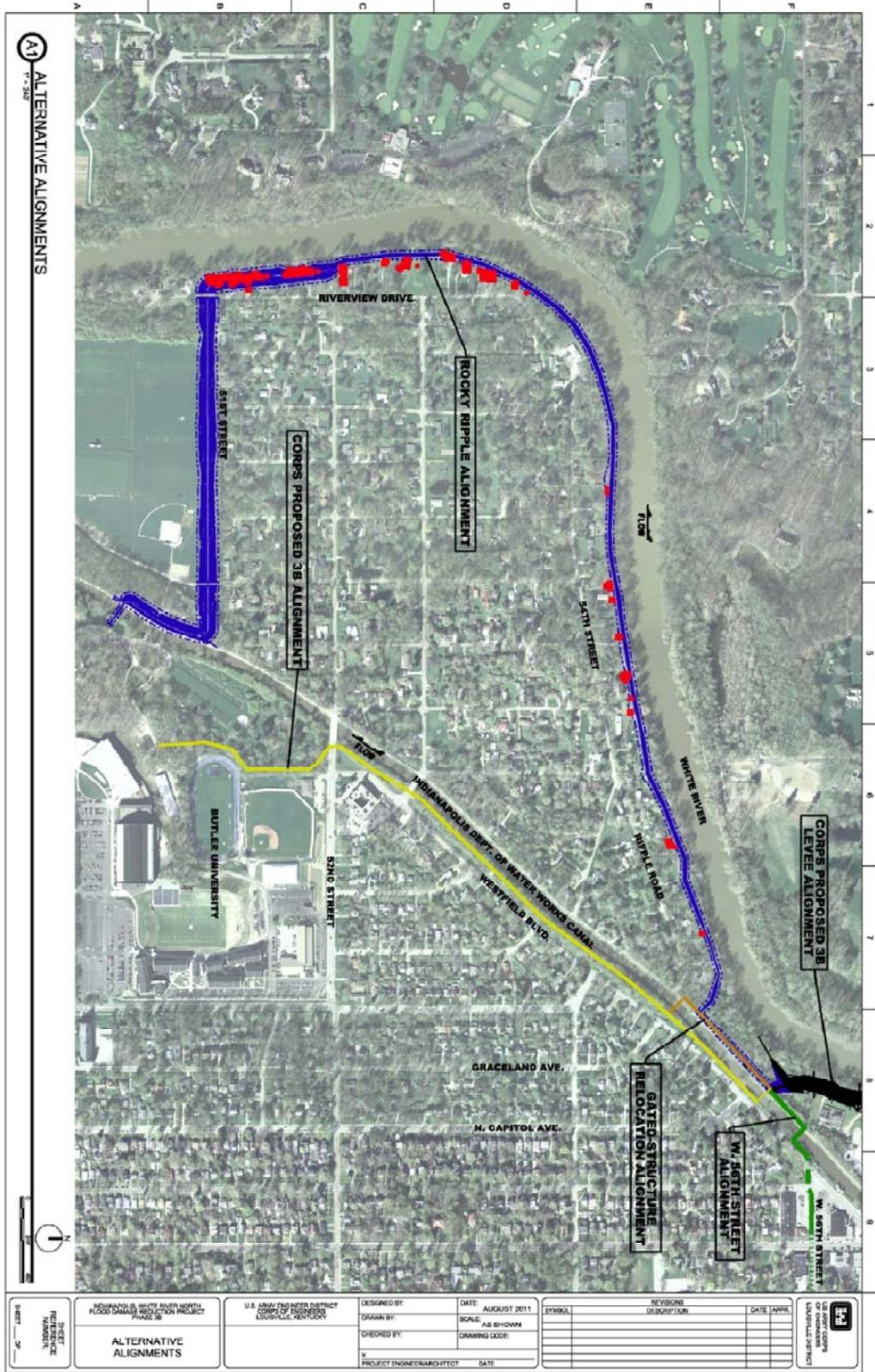
[www.lrl.usace.army.mil](http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil)

In December 2000, the City of Indianapolis and Corps of Engineers executed a Project Cooperation Agreement which established cost sharing and other project responsibilities for both agencies. Since execution of the Agreement, the Corps completed construction of the Warfleigh (Phase 3A) and Broad Ripple (Phase 3C) sections of the project, with exception to minor alterations related to changes in floodwall design standards since Hurricane Katrina. A Corps contracted construction firm is currently making alterations to the floodwalls of those sections, with completion scheduled in the fall of 2012.

During design of the South Warfleigh (Phase 3B) section, the Corps discovered geotechnical issues that would require a realignment of the downstream section of floodwall. The proposed alignment change would not alter the plan formulation and economic benefits identified in the GRR. As a result, the feasibility study or GRR is still applicable. However, the project's EIS does not include an alternative for the proposed change in the floodwall alignment. Therefore, the Corps prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposed alignment change and circulated it for agency and public review between February 1 and April 4, 2011. The EA also included an alternate plan for environmental mitigation of the project. The Corps received numerous comments on the proposed floodwall alignment, thus prompting preparation of a supplemental EIS (SEIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.

***For additional information about the White River, Indianapolis North, IN Flood Damage Reduction Project, please visit <http://bit.ly/indynorth>***





DATE REVISIONS

**A1** ALTERNATIVE ALIGNMENTS  
 11-2011

\*\*\* SUPPORT VALUE ENGINEERING - IT PAYS \*\*\*

SHEET REFERENCE NUMBER A1	ALTERNATIVE ALIGNMENTS	U.S. ARMY / INDIANAPOLIS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	DESIGNED BY:	DATE:	REVISIONS DISCUSS/TEAM	DATE	APPR.
			DRAWN BY:	SCALE:			
			CHECKED BY:	DRAWING CODE:			
			X PROJECT ENGINEER/ARCHITECT	DATE			

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT