



# Indianapolis North Flood Risk Reduction Project

FACT SHEET - *Updated*

August 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Currently, the flood risk reduction project is under construction. It involves construction of earthen levees and floodwalls in three sections – Warfleigh (Phase 3A), South Warfleigh (Phase 3B) and Broad Ripple (Phase 3C). The Broad Ripple and Warfleigh sections are complete. When all three sections are complete, the project will provide flood risk management to homeowners, residential and business properties, public facilities, utility installations and other infrastructure behind the floodwall and levee system. The project is designed to reduce flooding risks for an estimated 1,500 businesses and homes from the 0.35 percent annual “exceedance” or 300-year floodplain. Approximately 1,300 of those structures are now located within the one percent annual event (100-year) floodplain. When the project is complete, property owners would likely pay either reduced or no flood insurance premiums. This would occur *after* Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issues a Letter of Map Revision to modify Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the National Flood Insurance Program. Map revision is not among the Corp’s missions.

## PROJECT MODIFICATIONS and TREE AND BRUSH CLEARING:

Structural modifications to constructed parts of the levee system have been undertaken which are required by the Army Corps of Engineers. More rigorous enforcement of design standards prompted these modifications -- due in part to Hurricane Katrina lessons learned. Additionally, tree and brush clearing on completed parts of the levee to ensure the system operates as designed is also required. The existing Warfleigh Levee along Phase 3A of the project is tree-covered on the river slope of the embankment. There is also a small area of trees along the river slope of the Old Monon East Levee in the Phase 3C section of the project where the levee runs adjacent to northern property limits of the Reserve at Broad Ripple Condominiums. Additional tree clearing at both sites is required to meet current Corps’ guidance for vegetation management on earthen levees. The tree and shrub clearing is required for levee certification.

## THE WAY AHEAD:

A final construction contract could be awarded *for the entire final segment* of the levee system -- the South Warfleigh segment – only if the project receives funds through the federal budget process. At this time, funds are currently available to *only begin* the final phase of the project near Friedman Park and conduct some tree and shrub removal (see the fact sheet for more details on this construction phase at <http://bit.ly/indynorth>). A construction plan for the *entire final phase* of the project has been named the Westfield Blvd. alternative and recommended to the City in a detailed plan the Corps refers to as a “Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS).” That plan describes the construction that would begin at the south end of the Riviera Club Property, cross the canal and terminate on Butler University property. Of note, any Army Corps of Engineers flood risk reduction project would *never* induce flooding in any other areas: this is law under which the Corps operates. Subject to congressional funding, the projected date of completion of the *complete project* is 2015. Go to the Questions and Answers Document at <http://bit.ly/indynorth> for more information on this project and to read the DSEIS.

## PROJECT COSTS:

The project sponsor is The City of Indianapolis Department of Public Works. The cost share is 75 percent federal and 25 percent non-Federal. To utilize federal money for a levee system, a local sponsor is required.