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KEY EVENTS IN JULY

Public Scoping Period:
June 20–July 21, 2016

Public Comment Period Closes:
July 21, 2016

Public Scoping Meeting:
July 6, 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

Final Public Scoping Document available

Public Scoping Summary available

Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meeting: August 8, 2016

Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting: August 11, 2016

Work on the following by the Project Team continues:

- **Concepts and alternatives**
- **Alternatives screening criteria**
- **Data collection**
- **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) preparation**

Please visit www.rbd.meadowlands.nj.gov to obtain current project information and data.

REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

On July 6, 2016, a Public Scoping Meeting for the Rebuild By Design Meadowlands Flood Protection EIS was held at the Robert L. Craig Elementary School in Moonachie, New Jersey.

The purpose of the scoping meeting was to share information and obtain public input on the proposed project early in the process. The meeting was well attended by over 80 people, including mayors and other officials from



the five affected municipalities, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) representatives, special interest groups, and local residents of the project area. The project area includes the Boroughs of Little Ferry, Moonachie, Carlstadt, and Teterboro, and Township of South Hackensack in Bergen County, New Jersey.

Each meeting participant was provided with a meeting packet that included relevant information, including the Draft Public Scoping Document.

The scoping meeting began with a presentation that provided an overview of the proposed project and its purpose and need, a discussion of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process, a listing of key public involvement milestones, an overview of the design and alternative development process, and a summary of the scope of the EIS. Attendees of the meeting were also given an opportunity to ask questions and comment on the proposed project to NJDEP and the Project Team.

After the comments were given, an engaging open discussion session was held with attendees and Team representatives, including poster boards illustrating the NEPA process, key environmental resources under consideration, and existing data collected. The NJDEP received public comments until July 21st. Responses to public comments will be posted on the project website in August.

NEPA PROCESS OVERVIEW



In this initial newsletter, we thought it important to provide a brief overview of the NEPA process. The Draft EIS will be the next document available for public review and comment. More information on the NEPA process was presented at the Public Scoping Meeting and these materials are available at www.rbd.meadowlands.nj.gov

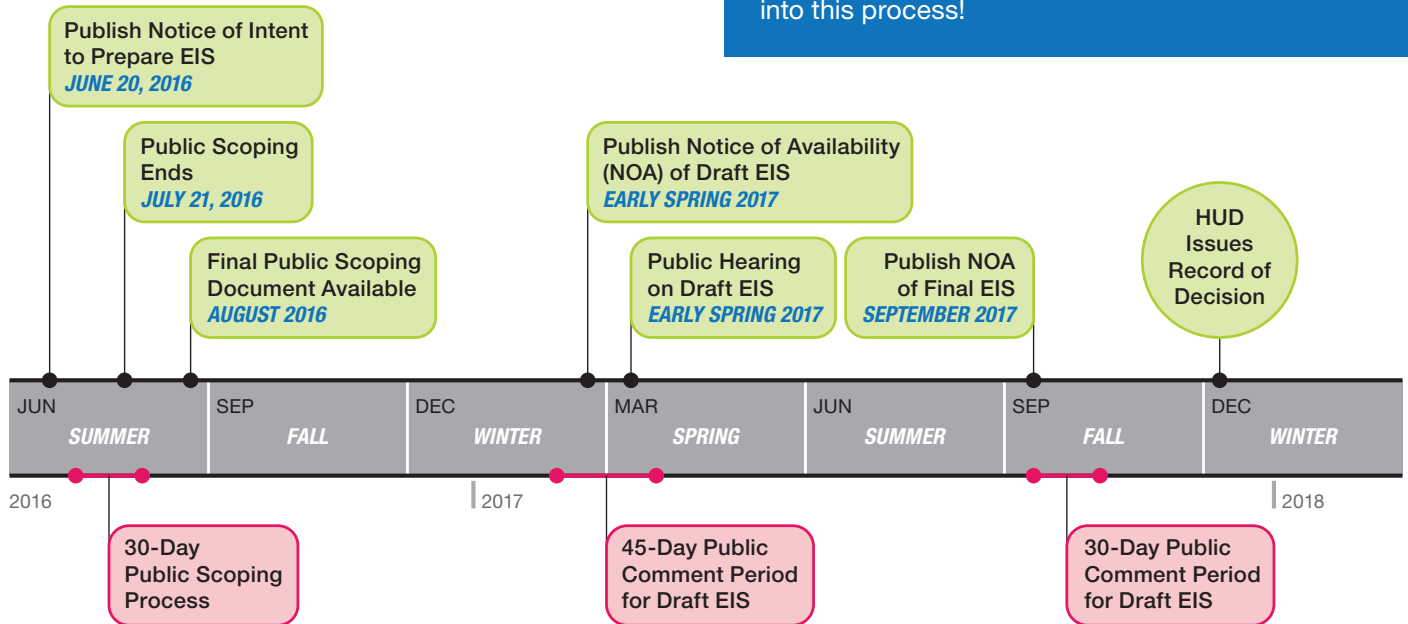
What is the Purpose of NEPA?

NEPA ensures the federal government considers the environmental effects of their projects, prior to implementation.

When Does NEPA Apply?

NEPA applies to all projects with a federal connection (e.g., funding, approval).

Anticipated EIS Timeline ...



What Does NEPA Require?

HUD is the Federal decision-making agency funding the Meadowlands Flood Protection Project. As such, the Meadowlands Flood Protection Project is subject to NEPA, which requires an EIS to be prepared. An EIS analyzes the potential effects on the physical, natural, cultural, and socioeconomic environment from a proposed Federal action.

The EIS process has several procedural steps to ensure public input is obtained and considered. The process of preparing an EIS is prescribed by law and regulation, and includes requirements for specific public involvement and review events, including opportunities for the public to provide input and comments. The July 6, 2016 Public Scoping Meeting was the first such event.

Get involved!

A Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) has been formed for the Meadowlands Flood Protection Project to provide a forum for information exchange between the NJDEP project team and citizens and interested groups within the community. If you would like to become a member of this CAG, please contact Ms. Alexis Taylor at rbd-meadowlands@dep.nj.gov. The NJDEP welcomes your participation and input into this process!

All public scoping meeting materials, including the meeting packet, presentation slides, posters, a full-length video of the presentation, as well as other project data, are available at www.rbd.meadowlands.nj.gov.

