



CITY OF SCHENECTADY, NY STOCKADE FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT



**YOUR VOICE
MATTERS!**

STAY INVOLVED:

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

Stockade Neighborhood Flood Mitigation Project

The City of Schenectady has been awarded funding to work with the community to evaluate flooding, examine feasible alternatives, choose the preferred flood mitigation strategy and assist property owners to preserve their homes. Funding is provided by the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) through the New York Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES.) This work builds on design guidelines developed in 2017 with funding from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). The project is divided into two phases:

Phase One: Comprehensive Mitigation Analysis. Funds in the amount of \$1,206,000 have been awarded for Phase One and may be used to evaluate existing conditions, assess alternatives, recommend a preferred mitigation strategy and design improvements to benefit the Stockade Study Area.

Phase Two: Construction. Based on Phase One results, FEMA will consider awarding just over \$7,545,000 for Phase Two Construction. Phase One will be complete by June 2020.



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ABOUT THE PROJECT ...continued



STUDY AREA

The Study Area for the project is defined as the area containing **all primary structures** that are:

- located within the **100 year floodplain** AND
- also within the Stockade **National Register Historic District boundary**.

The project begins by identifying a range of potential mitigation approaches by:

- Evaluating the **causes and impacts of flooding** in the Stockade study area from wet weather events, hurricanes, seasonal thaw and ice jams and completing engineering, hydrological, environmental, natural resource, and other assessments.
- Evaluating **existing conditions** in the Stockade study area, documenting which areas are most vulnerable to flooding and completing architectural, urban design, landscape architecture, ecological and related assessments.
- Evaluating all identified **potential mitigation measures** by preparing **technical studies and designs** with cost estimate, level of protection, technical feasibility, cost effectiveness and Environmental, Historic & Preservation (EH&P) impacts for each alternative.
- Selecting the **best practicable preferred mitigation strategy**, completing a design development process, and providing a final scope of work and design for the selected mitigation alternative to be proposed for construction in Phase Two.
- Conducting a **comprehensive community engagement process** including meetings, focus groups, interviews, and a project website (www.stockaderesilience.com).
- The City has retained the services of **River Street Planning & Development** to assist with project management and community engagement (www.riverstreet.org).
- Technical services will be coordinated by a team of professionals led by **Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker Architects** that includes engineers, community designers, hydrologists and cultural resource specialists (MCWB-arch.com).



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COMPONENT 1

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work reflects an iterative process that will build over four components based upon the findings at each stage:

Assessment

Component IA: Preliminary Assessment (Data Collection and Existing Conditions Analysis).

- Compile a database of information and **document areas vulnerable to flooding**.
- Collect and analyze data to understand existing conditions in the Study Area.
- Complete all necessary environmental, natural and cultural resource and other required assessments necessary to understand flooding and determine environmental impacts related to a range of potential mitigation measures.
- Collect all data in a manner that supports future **NEPA, SEQRA and permit documentation**.

Component IB: Selection of Flood Mitigation Alternatives (Charrette and Preliminary Conceptual Design).

- Identify the full range of **potential flood mitigation measures**.
- Include potential strategies that have been discussed to date including, but not limited to, elevation of impacted properties, installation of berms or floodwalls, elevation of existing street grades, etc.
- Conduct a four day interactive community charrette to determine the **selected flood mitigation alternatives** for further evaluation.
- Document and recommend a set of mitigation alternatives/combination of alternatives for detailed evaluation.

COMPONENT 2

Evaluation of Alternatives

Component II: Evaluation of Flood Mitigation Alternatives and Recommended Preferred Mitigation Strategy.

- **Refine the scope of work and budget based on Component I findings and input.**
- Evaluate each of the **selected flood mitigation alternatives** emerging from the workshop in detail to determine feasibility and cost effectiveness.



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COMPONENT 2 ...continued

- Complete all necessary engineering and related tasks to evaluate each alternative including analysis of hydrology, civil engineering, transportation, urban design, environmental conditions, architecture and cultural resources.
- Prepare a complete full **benefit cost analysis (BCA)** using FEMA's required modeling program and software for each alternative.
- Recommend the **preferred flood mitigation strategy** for the Study Area.

COMPONENT 3

Design Development

Component III: Design Development of Preferred Mitigation Strategy for the Stockade Neighborhood.

- **Determine the final scope of work and budget to advance design development based on Component II findings and input.**
- Advance design development to the level necessary to prepare a detailed cost estimate.
- Demonstrate how the alternative is fully compliant with NEPA and SEQRA requirements and documents.
- Final BCA evaluation.
- Identify all construction requirements including the full range of required permits appropriate for the preferred alternative.
- Complete all tasks necessary to recommend the preferred alternative and secure approval by the City, FEMA, NYS DHSES and NYS SHPO, Tribal Nations, other potential involved agencies and regulators.

COMPONENT 4

Construction Documents

Component IV: Final Construction Documents and Proceeding to Phase II: Construction Approval.

- **Determine the final scope of work and budget to advance construction documents based on Component III Design Development findings and input.**
- Provide all materials necessary to proceed to Phase Two construction of the preferred alternative.
- Provide all materials necessary to issue a RFP for Phase Two Professional Services to construct the improvements.