



Record of Decision

Prepared in accordance with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act



Bridgeport, Connecticut

October 2019

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Ned Lamont
Governor

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



Seila Mosquera-Bruno
Commissioner

November 4, 2019

Secretary Melissa McCaw
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Record of Decision for Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects

Dear Secretary McCaw,

The Connecticut Department of Housing (CT DOH) prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS; dated August 2019) for Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects (the Proposed Action) in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Funding for these projects are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) funding allocations to the CT DOH as part of HUD's response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. DOH prepared the FEIS in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), HUD's Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities (24 CFR 58.4), and the State of Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) (Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 22a-1). The FEIS jointly serves as an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) and meets CEPA requirements. I am requesting a Determination of Adequacy on this Record of Decision (ROD) from the Secretary of OPM.

A copy of the NEPA ROD that was signed on October 24, 2019 is available in Appendix A. The decision to proceed with the action, as stated in the ROD, is as follows:

The CT DOH has selected the Preferred Alternatives of the FEIS as the Selected Alternatives in this ROD for the implementation of the Proposed Action as the environmentally preferable alternatives as follows:

- **RBD Pilot Project.** The RBD Pilot Project at Marina Village/Windward Apartments will provide dry egress, reduce chronic flooding, improve water quality, provide a new public amenity, and anchor future development.

The RBD Pilot Project will construct green and gray infrastructure improvements that reduce the flood risk to the Marina Village/Windward Apartments parcels during both acute and chronic flooding events. The project will be designed to be both an infrastructure upgrade and urban amenity, composed of natural and fortified solutions to facilitate a more resilient neighborhood. The RBD Pilot Project consists of the following elements:

- A new road, Johnson Street extension, raised to provide a dry evacuation route (dry egress) for the surrounding residents and facilitate emergency access during an acute flooding event
- Regrading of a portion of the existing Johnson Street
- Regrading of a portion of Columbia Street, north and south of the new Johnson Street Extension

- A new 2.5-acre stormwater park, to be located just south of Johnson Street Extension with a wet well pump and force main connection into Cedar Creek outfall to accept water from upland streets and adjacent parcels and to retain, delay and improve the quality of the stormwater runoff
 - Additional street beautification and stormwater improvements along Ridge Avenue
- **Flood Risk Reduction Project.** The Flood Risk Reduction Project with the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment of the coastal flood defense system that largely follows the Eastern alignment in the DEIS. The Flood Risk Reduction Project will reduce the flood risk within the study area from future coastal storm surge and chronic rainfall events.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project includes a coastal flood defense system comprised of raising a portion of University Avenue and installing sheet piling and floodwalls along the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment. While all four of the alignment alternatives for the coastal flood defense system that were evaluated in the FEIS would meet the purpose and need, the Preferred Alternative 1 allows for the most comprehensive flood risk reduction to the South End, including both storm surge protection and stormwater drainage improvements and would remove the largest area from the 1% annual chance floodplain. The Preferred Alternative 1 alignment will minimize impacts to historic resources and the public realm. For this reason the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment is the Selected Alternative. Public access to Seaside Park on the south side of the coastal flood defense system would be maintained at all times via a ramped Broad Street open to vehicular traffic and pedestrians and ADA-accessible ramps for pedestrians and bicycles at the northern intersection of University Avenue and Main Street. Main Street will be ramped and open to vehicular traffic on the south side of the intersection with University Avenue.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project will also include internal drainage improvements and green infrastructure elements to accommodate stormwater during coastal storm conditions and to reduce flooding from chronic rainfall events. These improvements include a pump station located on the south side of Henry Street, east of Main Street, to prevent stormwater flooding on the interior of the coastal flood defense system by collecting stormwater runoff and discharging via a proposed overland flow system through Seaside Park to Bridgeport Harbor. Other potential stormwater improvements could include upsizing pipes in regions where capacity of the system causes upland flooding, isolating stormwater systems to prevent backflow from outside of the coastal flood defense system alignment to the interior, and incorporating green infrastructure elements on public land.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project will be designed to meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accreditation standard potentially allowing for a revision of the map of the 100-year floodplain to a Zone X or area protected by a levee. The revision would effectively take the area protected by the coastal flood defense system out of the floodplain.

- **Resilience Center.** The Resilience Center will serve as a center for resilience activities, provide a central location for resilience information dissemination, and assist the community in future recovery efforts. The project will provide funding to The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center to support renovations of a community space within the Freeman Houses complex that would provide a location in the South End that would operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after storm events. The project would include another open-air site with green infrastructure improvements near the entrance to Seaside Park at University Avenue.

In addition to flood risk reduction and stormwater improvements, the Proposed Action will provide numerous co-benefits, including new recreational opportunities, water quality improvements, new and enhanced habitats, and aesthetic benefits. As noted above, the Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action would lead to the fewest adverse impacts on the study area of the alternatives analyzed and were selected because they are the environmentally preferable alternatives. To further reduce anticipated adverse impacts, the CT DOH will implement extensive mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs), as described in the next section.

The selection of the Preferred Alternative of the FEIS as the Selected Alternatives in the NEPA ROD for implementation of the Proposed Action was approved by Hermia Delaire, Sandy Program Manager, as the CT DOH Certifying Officer.

All practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted. Numerous mitigation measures and best management practices have been identified to reduce potential adverse impacts that could result from the Proposed Action. The mitigation measures and best management practices address impacts to the following resources: historic Seaside Park, archaeological resources, hazardous materials, natural resources, water quality in Cedar Creek Reach and Long Island Sound, the Connecticut Coastal Zone, infrastructure (sanitary sewer, utilities and transportation), and noise and air quality. The mitigation measures and best management practices described in Table 2 of the NEPA ROD (Section 8.0) have been adopted for the Resilient Bridgeport applicable projects and will implemented by, or under the direction of, CT DOH.

Consultation. As described in detail in Chapter 6 of the FEIS, as the lead agency, CT DOH was responsible for public and agency coordination for the EIS/EIE process, as outlined in the Agency Coordination Plan and the Community Engagement Plan. Further, to proactively engage with the public and stakeholders, CT DOH has performed comprehensive outreach programs that included community relations management, media relations management, public inquiries, public outreach notifications, website, social media, and marketing materials.

The following cooperating and participating agencies were involved throughout the NEPA/CEPA process:

COOPERATING AGENCIES	PARTICIPATING AGENCIES
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Federal Emergency Management Agency	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Connecticut Department of Transportation
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation
Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office	Mohegan Tribe
—	Delaware Nation, Oklahoma
—	Delaware Tribe of Indians
—	Narragansett Indian Tribe

A Citizen Advisory Committee, comprising community leaders who represent the interests of the local community throughout the design effort, and a Technical Advisory Committee, comprising technical experts from state and city agencies, and other key technical stakeholders were formed to aid community engagement. In addition, consultation as part of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act included local organizations with an interest in the historic resources within Bridgeport. Other project stakeholders were regularly engaged, including property owners directed impacted by the projects and member of the public. Six meetings, hearings, or workshops occurred as part of the NEPA/CEPA process.

Notices of the availability of the Draft Scoping Document, the Draft EIS/EIE and Final EIS/EIE were published on the Environmental Monitor and in Only In Bridgeport, La Voz, and CT Post (see Appendix B for copies of the required notices and advertisements). In addition, the notices were posted on both the project website (www.ResilientBridgeport.com) and CT DOH's NDRC webpage (<https://portal.ct.gov/doh/doh/Sandy-Pages/Sandy-Programs/NDRC>). As appropriate, the notices provided information on the ways for the public to provide comment on the documents and details on the public hearings.

Public review process. The public scoping process began on February 27, 2018, with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the *Federal Register*. The NOI notified the public of DOH's intent to prepare an EIS for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, in accordance with NEPA and CEPA. The public scoping process also included publication of a draft Scope of Work, followed by a 30-day comment period and public Scoping Meeting. A scoping hearing was held on March 14, 2018. A transcript of the hearing and all comments received during the scoping period, along with responses, can be found in Appendix C.

A Notice of Availability of the DEIS (EIE) was published in the Connecticut Environmental Monitor on January 8, 2019, initiating the minimum 45-day public review and comment period. Due to the Federal government shutdown, the start of the NEPA DEIS comment period was delayed until February 1, 2019. As a result, the CEPA comment period was extended to March 18, 2019. A public hearing for the DEIS was held on February 26, 2019. A transcript of the hearing and all comments received during the public comment period, along with responses, can be found in Appendix D. Comments from the public on the DEIS focused on the coastal flood defense system alignment alternatives (with a preference for the Eastern option) and the design along Main Street, as well as protecting the historic resources of the community and maintaining access to Seaside Park. Many commenters supported accommodating future stormwater improvements at Seaside Village with the RBD Pilot Project. Agency comments were technical in nature, with a focus on permitting requirements, best management practices, and protection of natural quality.

The FEIS was made available for public review and comment for 30 days, between September 6, 2019 to October 7, 2019. All comments received and the responses can be found in Attachment 3 of the NEPA ROD in Appendix A.

DOH appreciates your review of this ROD for determination of adequacy concurrent with the 15-day public review period required by HUD for the NEPA ROD ending on November 10, 2019. Any comments received on the ROD will be sent to OPM staff member Bruce Wittchen as the CEPA contact. Should you have any questions regarding this ROD and request, please contact Dr. Rebecca French at Rebecca.French@ct.gov or 860-270-8231.

Sincerely,



Seila Mosquera-Bruno
Commissioner

APPENDIX A
NEPA RECORD OF DECISION



Record of Decision

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Record of Decision

Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

SUMMARY

This Record of Decision (ROD) documents the Connecticut Department of Housing's (CT DOH) decision to proceed with the Selected Alternative of the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design (NDR RBD) Project (the Proposed Action) as described in the Preferred Alternative of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) dated August 2019. The Selected Alternative is the environmentally preferable alternative. It consists of the construction of the Rebuild by Design Pilot Project and the Flood Risk Reduction Project along the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment (see Attachment 1) and the creation of a Resilience Center. The Selected Alternative of the Proposed Action protects residents, property, and infrastructure assets from future storm surge events and chronic flooding during high-frequency rainfall events by lowering the risk of acute and chronic flooding. It protects life and public health by providing dry egress during emergencies. It also educates the public about flood risks and sea level rise. This ROD is the final step in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated supplemental Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds (CDBG-DR) through the Rebuild by Design competition and Community Development Block Grant – National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) to the CT DOH under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Pub. L. 113–2) and Federal Register Notices 79 FR 62182 and 81 FR 36557 for the purpose of assisting recovery in the most impacted and distressed areas declared a major disaster due to Hurricane Sandy. The CT DOH is acting under the authority of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 58.4 as the Responsible Entity, and as the lead agency responsible for environmental review and decision-making, including obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 United States Code [USC] §§ 470 et seq, and 54 USC § 306108) and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800. The CT DOH is the Certifying Officer for the ROD and HUD Release of Funds. The ROD has been prepared in accordance with NEPA (42 USC §§ 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice), and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800).

A Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published in the Federal Register on February 27, 2018—which formally began the NEPA review process by initiating the public scoping period for the DEIS. A public scoping meeting was held on March 14, 2018, where material was presented to the community. Comments were received at that meeting, and substantive comments were incorporated into a Final Public Scoping Document (published June 2018), which informed the development of the DEIS. The DEIS was made available to the public for comment in early 2019 with the publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) of the DEIS on February 1, 2019 beginning a 45-day public review and comment period. A formal public hearing for the DEIS was held on February 26, 2019, followed by a design workshop. On September 6, 2019, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was made available for public review.

CT DOH coordinated compliance with Section 106 and NEPA, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.8, through the preparation of a Historic and Archaeological Resources Evaluation Report submitted to CT SHPO in May 2018 and the development of cultural resource specific recommendations for inclusion within the FEIS so that Section 106 recommendations were considered during the analysis of alternatives as part of the NEPA EIS processes as well as consultation with Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT SHPO) and invited consulting parties. A copy of the draft final Programmatic Agreement (PA) between the CT DOH and the CT SHPO – which included the resolution of adverse effects to historic properties under NHPA and detailed consultation with invited consulting parties, Tribes with an interest in the area of potential effects, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) - was appended to the FEIS for public review and comment. The public review period was initiated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (US EPA) publication of the NOA of the FEIS in the Federal Register, and the CT DOH's publication of the NOA of the FEIS in three newspapers of general circulation within the study area. The FEIS was made available for public review until October 7, 2019, via the following web addresses: www.ResilientBridgeport.com and <https://portal.ct.gov/doh/doh/Sandy-Pages/Sandy-Programs/NDRC>. Hard copies of the FEIS were also made available for review at the office of the CT DOH and four public facilities in and around the study area.

Based on thorough alternatives development, scoping, and impact analyses, this ROD establishes the CT DOH's decision to select the Preferred Alternative in the FEIS as the Selected Alternative in this ROD for implementation of the Proposed Action in compliance with NEPA and coordinated compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA (36 CFR § 800.8) as the environmentally preferable alternative. To avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse environmental impacts anticipated to result from construction and operation of the Proposed Action, the CT DOH further adopts the list of mitigation measures and best management practices (BMPs) included in this ROD. A copy of the executed PA between CT DOH and CT SHPO is included with this ROD (see Attachment 2). The CT DOH will continue to coordinate with Federal, State, and local agencies and the general public as it pursues final design and construction of the Proposed Action.

This ROD will be available for a 15-day public comment period, which begins following the publication of the Notice of Record of Decision and Intent to Request Release of Funds in three newspapers local to the study area (i.e., Only In Bridgeport, La Voz (Spanish language), CT Post). That notice outlines the methods by which interested parties may provide comments on the ROD; comments received by November 10, 2019 11:59pm EST will be considered prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Environmental Certification to HUD.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROPOSED ACTION

As described above, the Connecticut Department of Housing (CT DOH) prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Project (the Proposed Action). Funding for these projects are provided by HUD's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) funding allocations to the CT DOH as part of HUD's response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. Summarized below and detailed in the FEIS are the Proposed Action for the project study area, the purpose and need for the Proposed Action, the alternatives analysis for alternatives considered, evaluation of the impacts of those alternatives, and identification of a Preferred Alternative for the Proposed Action.

The FEIS for the Proposed Action included a thorough analysis of the potential physical, cultural, environmental, and socioeconomic impacts of the alternatives. This ROD documents the CT DOH's decision to select the Preferred Alternative in the FEIS as the Selected Alternative in this ROD for implementation of the Proposed Action in compliance with NEPA as the environmentally preferable alternative. In making its decision, the CT DOH carefully considered the conclusions of the FEIS as well as the comments received from Federal, State, and local agencies, organizations, and the general public during the preparation of the FEIS.

Proposed Action

The Resilient Bridgeport Proposed Action consists of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut:

- **RBD Pilot Project** at the Marina Village public housing site (to provide stormwater management and dry egress);
- **Flood Risk Reduction Project** on the east side consisting of a coastal flood defense system to reduce risk from acute storm events and a combination of natural/green and fortified/gray infrastructure solutions; and
- A **Resilience Center** to educate and facilitate increased resiliency within the community.

Study Area

The study area (see Attachment 1) is situated within the South End neighborhood of the city of Bridgeport, a peninsula of the Connecticut coastal region located between Cedar Creek, the Long Island Sound, and Bridgeport Harbor. On the northern end, the study area is bound by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) New Haven Line railroad tracks. The South End neighborhood is susceptible to chronic flooding conditions due to a combination of inadequate stormwater infrastructure in the area and its coastal location. The population includes public housing residents and other vulnerable populations. The city of Bridgeport is considered a distressed municipality per Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development criteria; therefore, the city of Bridgeport and the study area is considered an Environmental Justice Community.

The study area includes multifamily residential, utility, institutional, and open space land uses. The Marina Village site (to be identified as the governmentally-assisted affordable housing redevelopment site for the Windward Apartments), currently consists of medium-density public housing. The Bridgeport Harbor Generating Station, a Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) Power Connecticut LLC-owned energy generating facility occupies the eastern portion of the study area along the Pequonnock River (Bridgeport Harbor). Adjacent to the PSEG facility are light industrial facilities including the Bridgeport Energy natural gas power plant owned by Cogentrix LLC, the Singer substation owned by United Illuminating, and the current location and identified future location of the Pequonnock Substation owned by United Illuminating. The southern portion of the study area consists of the historic, 325-acre Seaside Park, which continues west following the Long Island Sound. To the north of Seaside Park, in the middle of the study area is the University of Bridgeport. The 86-acre campus has an enrollment of approximately 5,400 students and over 500 faculty members. A fuel-cell micro-grid, which can run independently and serves as a power source for critical services and shelters during emergencies, is located at the university.

2.0 PROJECT PURPOSE, NEED AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations. The principal targeted outcomes follow:

- Lower the risk of acute and chronic flooding
- Provide dry egress during emergencies
- Educate the public about flood risks and sea level rise

Minimizing the flooding at roadways leading into and out of the South End is vital to resident egress and emergency evacuation. Repetitive flooding of local streets occurs in the valleys and low-lying areas caused by both rainfall runoff and storm surge, making the streets impassable. Improving the existing drainage system is important to minimize internal flooding and to manage stormwater in both high- and low-frequency storm events. Ensuring the continuity of operations at the power-district scale is critical to maintaining industrial and commercial functions in the city. As the likelihood of storm events increase and sea levels rise, long-term resiliency will require educating the community about the risks of rising sea level, ways to increase preparedness levels ahead of future flood events, and resources available to address short-term and long-term recovery needs. Addressing the risk of storm and coastal flooding in the area creates the first layer of protection, creating opportunities to address larger economic and community efforts that support resiliency in the long term.

The Proposed Action is needed to protect residents, property, and infrastructure assets from future storm surge events and chronic flooding during high-frequency rainfall events. In addition to lowering the risk of chronic and acute flooding in the study area, the Proposed Action is needed to directly protect life, public health, and property in the study area by allowing for dry egress in emergency situations.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

To identify the alternatives that were evaluated in the FEIS, each Resilient Bridgeport project underwent an alternatives evaluation process through which alternatives selection criteria were developed and then used to comparatively screen potential alternatives (described in detail in Chapter 3 of the FEIS). This evaluation process eliminated some of the alternatives from further study and refined the alternatives that were analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS included a Western and an Eastern option for the north-south section of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction project. In the FEIS, in place of the Western and Eastern options, four alternatives for the alignment of the north-south section of coastal flood defense system were brought forward for further evaluation. A Preferred Alternative, which largely follows the Eastern alignment, was selected among the four alternatives based on response to public comment and input from private property owners. Based on the results of the alternatives analysis in the DEIS and further consultation with stakeholders, the Preferred Alternative was also selected for the other projects that are part of the Proposed Action.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative there would be no measures to address either coastal storm surge or rainfall flood risk reduction. In addition, there would be no measures to educate the public about flood risks or sea level rise. As a result, there would be no negative environmental impacts related to construction; no impacts to visual or historic resources within the South End. However, this alternative would not meet the project purpose. There would be no flood risk reduction from either acute or chronic flooding in the South End; therefore, risk of flooding and the associated health and safety implications would remain. There would be no new raised egress within the South End; therefore, residents would continue to be stranded during regular rainfall and storm events and emergency vehicles would continue to have issues accessing the neighborhoods. Development opportunities in the South End would continue to be limited due to risk of flooding and damage to property. In addition, there would be no investment in historic resources in the neighborhood and no new community facility or open space resource.

Although the No Action Alternative is not a reasonable or prudent solution and is not recommended by CT DOH or HUD, it is required to be evaluated pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations. As such, this alternative was included in the FEIS and used as a baseline against which the effects of this Proposed Action were compared.

RBD Pilot Project

The RBD Pilot Project was selected from a list of potential projects that would form a complementary system for decreasing chronic and acute flooding within the South End of Bridgeport and be a visible example of resilient planning in a coastal environment. An iterative process of team workshops, public events, and stakeholder meetings guided the selection of a pilot project. The RBD Pilot Project specifically aims to facilitate the redevelopment of public housing in the Marina Village/Windward Apartments site by reducing the flood risk to those parcels in both acute and chronic flooding events. The project includes installing diverse types of stormwater detention methods and flooding prevention methods. Following the project identification, additional feasibility analysis and stakeholder engagement clarified the scope and depth of the Preferred Alternative of the RBD Pilot Project in the FEIS.

Flood Risk Reduction Project

Alternatives were developed for establishing the South End East Resilience Network – a combination of measures within the South End that would reduce the flood risk within the project area from future coastal surge and chronic rainfall events. Raising streets were considered to provide dry egress during emergencies, a Flood Risk Reduction Project consisting of a coastal flood defense system with associated internal drainage management strategies was considered for lowering the risk of acute and chronic flooding.

The alternatives screening process for the coastal flood defense system first determined a general approach to the system, then identified potential flood reduction elements, and finally screened potential alignment options against selected criteria. The two general approaches for creating a coastal flood defense system that were evaluated were 1) Edge Alignment Approach (a coastal flood defense system in the water or on-land along the water's edge) and 2) Integrated Alignment Approach (combination of both the edge alignment and raised street approaches). The Integrated Alignment Approach was identified as likely to meet more of the goals and objectives and was selected as the preferred approach.

Options for the various components of the coastal flood defense system (flood control structures such as floodwalls and raised streets, green stormwater infrastructure) were considered as part of the alternatives evaluation. Next, alignment segment combinations were identified and screened.

The DEIS included a Western and an Eastern option for the north-south section of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction Project. Based on feedback from stakeholders and public comment on the DEIS, four alternative alignments within the area bounded by the Eastern and Western options in the DEIS were brought forward for further evaluation in the FEIS. Alternative 1 was selected as the Preferred Alternative (see map in Attachment 1) and largely follows the Eastern alignment from the DEIS with small changes to where it crosses between the Bridgeport Energy/PSEG and 60 Main Street/PSEG property lines. There was no alternative alignment in the FEIS that followed the Western alignment option from the DEIS due to public comment on the DEIS from the community regarding its impacts to Main Street and a finding of adverse effect to the William D. Bishop Cottage Development Historic District by the State Historic Preservation Office.

Resilience Center

An alternatives screening process that incorporated community input was used to refine the Resilience Center specifications. The attributes of the alternatives for a Resilience Center were varied by form from multiple kiosks integrated within public spaces in the community to a new, free-standing building, and by function from full emergency response capabilities to education and outreach. Data were collected to assess the community's needs. Considering the objectives, original NDR Action Plan definitions, conceptual considerations, funds allocated, and community response, the project details were refined.

The Preferred Alternative in the FEIS would provide funding to The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community to support renovations of a community space within the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses complex that would provide a location in the South End that would operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after shock events. The project would also construct an open-air landscaped site, including green infrastructure improvements, north of University Avenue at Main Street near the entrance to Seaside Park.

4.0 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Table 1 presents a summary of the direct and indirect impacts of the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action with the Preferred Alternative 1 for the alignment of the coastal flood defense system on the resources that were analyzed.

Table 1. Environmental Consequences

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION		
	RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Land Use, Zoning and Public Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No adverse impacts. No changes to land use or zoning. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to existing land uses from added dry egress and green space, and reduced flood risk. ■ Consistent with public policies related to improving coastal resiliency and reducing community vulnerability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant adverse impacts. No changes to land use; easements on private property required. No changes to zoning. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to existing land uses from added dry egress and reduced flood risk. ■ Consistent with public policies related to improving coastal resiliency and reducing community vulnerability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No adverse impacts. No changes to land use or zoning. ■ Indirect: No impacts. ■ Consistent with coastal resiliency goal of the City of Bridgeport.
Socioeconomics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to residents and businesses by facilitating construction of Phase II of Windward Development public housing and promoting investment in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to residents and businesses by facilitating development of 60 Main Street and promoting investment in the area by decreasing area of flood risk by 64 acres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Minor, temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts to residents and businesses.
Environmental Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts to air quality, noise and transportation during construction. Following construction, direct beneficial impacts to traffic and open space. No disproportionate adverse impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community with dry egress and stormwater improvements that would facilitate construction of low-income housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts to air quality, noise and transportation during construction. Following construction, adverse impacts to visual resources. No disproportionate adverse impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community with dry egress and reduced flood risk that would provide additional housing and commercial options for EJ populations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Direct benefits following construction by providing a community facility and improving public safety and visual resource. No disproportionate impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community through resiliency education and restoring African-American resource.

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION		
	RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Cultural Resources	<p>Direct: No direct adverse impacts to historical architecture. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits by protecting resources from future flooding events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct adverse impact to National Register listed Seaside Park to be mitigated with Programmatic Agreement. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits by protecting resources from future flooding events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct beneficial impact to the NR-listed Freeman Houses. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.
Urban Design and Visual Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Beneficial impacts to the overall viewshed and Seaside Village with construction of stormwater facility. ■ Indirect: Beneficial indirect impacts due to construction of new development in place of dilapidated buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. No significant adverse impacts. Some obstructed views of Seaside Park; improved aesthetics along University Avenue and from elevated view of waterfront, as well as new landscaping features. Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Beneficial impacts to the viewsheds near the Freeman Houses and Seaside Park entrance. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Hazardous Materials	<p>Direct: Direct adverse impacts during construction due to disturbance of contaminated soil or groundwater would be mitigated through BMPs. No adverse impacts in the long-term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Indirect: Indirect benefits to public health from removal and disposal of contaminated materials. 	<p>Direct: Direct adverse impacts during construction due to disturbance of contaminated soil or groundwater would be mitigated through BMPs. No adverse impacts in the long-term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Indirect: Indirect benefits to public health from removal and disposal of contaminated materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Limited adverse impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimize the temporary impacts that may occur during construction. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: Minor adverse indirect impact from traffic generated by Windward Development on new Johnson Road extension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimize the temporary impacts that may occur during construction. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: Minor adverse indirect impact from traffic generated by 60 Main Street development with reconfigured street network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary, less than significant impacts may occur during construction. Potential adverse effects on the Freeman Houses due to damage from vibration would be managed through a Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION		
	RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Minor adverse impacts to ecological communities resulting from repair and recommissioning work at Outfall E. No effect to T&E species. Limited, temporary displacement of urban wildlife. Long-term beneficial impact from trees and vegetation planted for stormwater facility. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits from expansion of the urban forest canopy and reduction of the pollutant load entering aquatic environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Minor adverse impacts due to removal of street trees and repair of existing outfall(s). No effect to T&E species. Limited, temporary displacement of urban wildlife. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits from reduction of the pollutant load entering aquatic environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.
Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction from excavation and filling. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to decrease in impervious surface and increase in vegetated area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction from excavation and filling. ■ Indirect: Long-term benefits from reduced flood risk that would stabilize geologic conditions and soils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Hydrology and Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts from dry egress and stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impact with reduced flooding risk to 64 acres. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction. No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts to Cedar Creek due to stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to surrounding water bodies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction. No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts to Bridgeport Harbor due to stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to surrounding water bodies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION		
	RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Coastal Zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct adverse impacts. Reduced impervious surface and improved infiltration rates and enhanced visual quality. Temporary impacts during construction because of work within the Coastal Zone would be minimized by best management practices included in project design and construction plans. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to reduced occurrence of CSO events. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term significant direct adverse impacts. Impacts to vegetation. Reduced area of coastal flooding hazard (64 acres) and reduced discharge to surface waters. Temporary impacts during construction because of work within the Coastal Zone would be minimized by best management practices included in project design and construction plans. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to improved drainage, reduced occurrence of CSO events, and improvements to water quality. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct adverse Impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts to utilities and infrastructure. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including temporary disruption of utility services service and road closures. Long-term benefits to stormwater infrastructure. ■ Indirect: Minor indirect impacts associated with increased usage from future development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts to utilities and infrastructure. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including temporary disruption of utility services service and road closures. Long-term benefits to stormwater infrastructure, and under the Preferred Alternative, long-term benefits to utility providers. ■ Indirect: Minor indirect impacts associated with increased usage from future development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.
Community Facilities and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term, beneficial impacts to public health and safety with dry egress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term beneficial impacts to public health and safety with dry egress and coastal flood defense system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct beneficial impacts with new community facility within rehabilitated Freeman Houses. ■ Indirect: Long-term beneficial impacts to public health and safety from added emergency relief infrastructure.

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION		
	RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Open Space and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term benefits from increased open space (stormwater facility). ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including disruption to access to Seaside Park. In the long-term, changes to Seaside Park entrance would not adversely impact access. ■ Indirect: Long-term benefits to open space as elevating University Avenue would allow installation of future amenities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Direct beneficial impact with construction of design element near entrance to Seaside Park. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct impacts. Temporary adverse impacts may occur during construction due to usage of construction equipment and construction related traffic. ■ Indirect: Impact from indirect increase in traffic from future development is not expected to have a potential to significantly affect the air quality in the vicinity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct impacts. Temporary adverse impacts may occur during construction due to usage of construction equipment and construction related traffic. ■ Indirect: Impact from indirect increase in traffic from future development is not expected to have a potential to significantly affect the air quality in the vicinity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

Source: WSP 2019

5.0 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

On October 22, 2019, the CT DOH, as the responsible entity designated by HUD, and the CT SHPO executed the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the resolution of adverse effects to historic properties (see Attachment 2). The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community, the City of Bridgeport, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma were invited to be Concurring parties. The Resilient Bridgeport PA establishes stipulations for undertakings funded by the CDBG-NDR and CDBG-DR programs to take into account the effects of the undertakings on historic properties and archaeological resources.

The Resilient Bridgeport PA identifies five measures, as further detailed in the PA (see Attachment 2), to be implemented by CT DOH as a resolution of adverse effect:

1. Document current conditions of entrance to Seaside Park before any work commences
2. Update the National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Seaside Park
3. Prepare a comprehensive preservation and management plan for Seaside Park

4. Fund up to two National Register of Historic Places nominations focusing on historic landscapes or properties designed/influenced by the Olmsted landscape firms.
5. Replace all trees within Seaside Park disturbed/destroyed during construction, consistent with the preservation plan.

In addition, the Resilient Bridgeport PA includes procedures for project review and consultation for the design for the new entrance to Seaside Park, connection of the coastal flood defense system into CT DOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct, and rehabilitation of the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses. Procedures for historic properties include review and comment of 60 percent and 90 percent design specifications by CT SHPO and Concurring parties, development of treatment plans or mitigation for any historic properties adversely affected by design enhancements and/or aesthetic treatments, and development of a Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan specific to the Freeman Houses that addresses vibrations during construction of the coastal flood defense system, if it occurs within 100 feet of the Houses. Procedures for archaeological resources include development of an Archaeological Assessment Plan for areas identified as archaeologically sensitive areas, an Archaeological Treatment Plan following assessment of data, and implementation of treatment plans if necessary. The Resilient Bridgeport PA also defines procedures for post-review discoveries. Concurring parties may review and comment on the Archaeological Treatment Plan and will be notified of any post-review discoveries at the earliest possible time.

A final draft version of the Resilient Bridgeport PA was included in Appendix C of the FEIS. The executed Resilient Bridgeport PA is included in this document as Attachment 2.

6.0 COMMENTS ON FINAL EIS

The Notice of Availability of the FEIS was published on September 6, 2019 with the comment period ending on October 7, 2019. Ten commenters provided comments:

1. Nicole Desrosiers, Duo Dickinson architect
2. Russel Bernard, 60 Main Street
3. George Estrada, University of Bridgeport
4. Jeraldlyn Mebane, Resident
5. James Crawford, Jr., Bridgeport Energy LLC
6. Todd Berman, The United Illuminating Company
7. John Brady, PSEG Power LLC
8. Maisa Tisdale, The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community, Inc.
9. Timothy Timmermann, U.S. EPA Region 1
10. Linda Brunza, CTDEEP, Office of Planning and Program Development

A summary of comments and responses and copies of comments are included in Attachment 3. Some commenters had multiple comments and are addressed in multiple responses.

7.0 DECISION

The CT DOH has selected the Preferred Alternatives of the FEIS as the Selected Alternatives in this ROD for the implementation of the Proposed Action as the environmentally preferable alternatives as follows:

- **RBD Pilot Project.** The RBD Pilot Project at Marina Village/Windward Apartments will provide dry egress, reduce chronic flooding, improve water quality, provide a new public amenity, and anchor future development.

The RBD Pilot Project will construct green and gray infrastructure improvements that reduce the flood risk to the Marina Village/Windward Apartments parcels during both acute and chronic flooding events (designed for the current 500-year base flood elevation plus 2.5 feet of sea level rise). The project will be designed to be both an infrastructure upgrade and urban amenity, composed of natural and fortified solutions to facilitate a more resilient neighborhood. The RBD Pilot Project consists of the following elements:

- A new road, Johnson Street extension, raised to provide a dry evacuation route (dry egress) for the surrounding residents and facilitate emergency access during an acute flooding event
 - Regrading of a portion of the existing Johnson Street
 - Regrading of a portion of Columbia Street, north and south of the new Johnson Street Extension
 - A new 2.5-acre stormwater park, to be located just south of Johnson Street Extension with a wet well pump and force main connection into Cedar Creek outfall to accept water from upland streets and adjacent parcels and to retain, delay and improve the quality of the stormwater runoff
 - Additional street beautification and stormwater improvements along Ridge Avenue
- **Flood Risk Reduction Project.** The Flood Risk Reduction Project with the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment (see map in Attachment 1) of the coastal flood defense system that largely follows the Eastern alignment in the DEIS. The Flood Risk Reduction Project will reduce the flood risk within the study area from future coastal storm surge and chronic rainfall events.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project includes a coastal flood defense system comprised of raising a portion of University Avenue and installing sheet piling and floodwalls along the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment (see map in Attachment 1). While all four of the alignment alternatives for the coastal flood defense system that were evaluated in the FEIS would meet the purpose and need, the Preferred Alternative 1 allows for the most comprehensive flood risk reduction to the South End, including both storm surge protection and stormwater drainage improvements and would remove the largest area from the 1% annual chance floodplain. The Preferred Alternative 1 alignment will minimize impacts to historic resources and the public realm. For this reason the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment is the Selected Alternative. Public access to Seaside Park on the south side of the coastal flood defense system would be maintained at all times via a ramped Broad Street open to vehicular traffic and pedestrians and ADA-accessible ramps for pedestrians and bicycles at the northern intersection of University

Avenue and Main Street. Main Street will be ramped and open to vehicular traffic on the south side of the intersection with University Avenue.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project will also include internal drainage improvements and green infrastructure elements to accommodate stormwater during coastal storm conditions and to reduce flooding from chronic rainfall events. These improvements include a pump station located on the south side of Henry Street, east of Main Street, to prevent stormwater flooding on the interior of the coastal flood defense system by collecting stormwater runoff and discharging via a proposed overland flow system through Seaside Park to Bridgeport Harbor (see map in Attachment 1). Other potential stormwater improvements could include upsizing pipes in regions where capacity of the system causes upland flooding, isolating stormwater systems to prevent backflow from outside of the coastal flood defense system alignment to the interior, and incorporating green infrastructure elements on public land.

The Flood Risk Reduction Project will be designed to meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accreditation standard potentially allowing for a revision of the map of the 100-year floodplain to a Zone X or area protected by a levee. The revision would effectively take the area protected by the coastal flood defense system out of the floodplain.

- **Resilience Center.** The Resilience Center will serve as a center for resilience activities, provide a central location for resilience information dissemination, and assist the community in future recovery efforts. The project will provide funding to The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center to support renovations of a community space within the Freeman Houses complex that would provide a location in the South End that would operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after storm events. The project would include another open-air site with green infrastructure improvements near the entrance to Seaside Park at University Avenue.

In addition to flood risk reduction and stormwater improvements, the Proposed Action will provide numerous co-benefits, including new recreational opportunities, water quality improvements, new and enhanced habitats, and aesthetic benefits. As noted above, the Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action would lead to the fewest adverse impacts on the study area of the alternatives analyzed and were selected because they are the environmentally preferable alternatives. To further reduce anticipated adverse impacts, the CT DOH will implement extensive mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs), as described in the next section.

8.0 MITIGATION MEASURES TO AVOID OR MINIMIZE HARM

The Proposed Action will have potentially adverse impacts on multiple technical resource areas. Numerous mitigation measures and BMPs have been identified to reduce potential adverse impacts that could result from the Proposed Action. The mitigation measures and BMPs address impacts to the following resources: historic Seaside Park, archaeological resources, hazardous materials, natural resources, water quality in Cedar Creek Reach and Long Island Sound, the Connecticut Coastal Zone, infrastructure (sanitary sewer, utilities and transportation), and noise and air quality. The mitigation measures and BMPs described in Table 2 have been

adopted for the Resilient Bridgeport applicable projects and will implemented by, or under the direction of, CT DOH.

Table 2. Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices to Avoid or Minimize Harm

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
RBD PILOT PROJECT	
Cultural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The agreed upon mitigation and procedures for additional consultation has been memorialized in a Programmatic Agreement (PA) between CT DOH and CT SHPO (see Attachment 2). ■ Archaeological data recovery programs, comprising the removal of all or part of a site, would be appropriate in areas where significant archaeological sites will be impacted, if those areas are accessible and safe to excavate (i.e., not contaminated). All data recovery programs will be prepared in consultation with CT DOH, CT SHPO, and the Concurring parties in the PA.
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Completion of a follow-up Task 210: Subsurface Site Investigation (or equivalent Phase II sampling), as appropriate, that targets contaminants of concern in the soils based on historic use of the site, with limited grab groundwater samples if groundwater is encountered in the depth of disturbance ■ Development of site-specific plans/procedures (e.g., HASPs, SAMPs, etc.) ■ Implementation of carefully selected BMPs (e.g., use of dust control measures, use of stockpile liners, etc.) ■ Adherence to regulations regarding proper handling, management, storage, and transport of hazardous substances.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use of noise barriers along the edges of work zones. ■ Pre-trench the holes with a long-arm backhoe when work is close to tunnels, utilities, or other sensitive structures. ■ Include a Noise Specification and a Vibration Specification in the contractor's bid documents. ■ Require the contractor to develop a Noise and Vibration Control and Mitigation Plan based on proposed equipment and methods to document expected noise levels and noise control measures that would be implemented. ■ Perform noise and vibration monitoring during construction to ensure the contractor is complying with specified thresholds.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Integrated pest management plans will be developed to address the potential for rats and other rodents that may be disturbed and mobilized by construction work. ■ In order to protect the threatened and endangered aquatic species in the vicinity of the study area (i.e., sea turtles and sturgeon), recommendations provided by EPA and NOAA Fisheries regarding harm mitigation measures, such as use of silt management and soil erosion best practices and disposal of contaminated sediment and sludge at a suitable upland facility, will be applied during any in-water work or during any activities that could affect water resources. ■ During the maintenance of existing outfalls, appropriate protective strategies, such as use of temporary erosion control fencing and storage of construction equipment away from the shoreline, will be implemented to preserve ecological communities (e.g., beach-dune complexes) potentially affected by proposed sewer system modifications. ■ Seasonal tree-cutting restrictions will be developed based on avian breeding seasons, and additional mitigation measures (e.g., restoring affected landscapes, replacing uprooted trees, and shielding undisturbed vegetation) near the project site will be implemented as necessary. ■ Protective measures will be taken to ensure that trees are safeguarded against adverse impacts associated with the construction process. ■ Possible hazards (e.g., heavy equipment, vehicles) will be stationed away from intact root systems. ■ Effectively mitigate any damage to existing trees that will occur as a result of construction activities.

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
Water Resources and Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water from dewatering will be sampled and handled/disposed of appropriately, in accordance with state and federal requirements. ■ Impacts to water quality from soil erosion will be mitigated through existing regulatory programs and controls and by use of best management practices. ■ Captured stormwater runoff will be pretreated by a series of grassed swales and rain gardens prior to discharge. ■ During the installation of a StormTech Chamber, or other large-scale subterranean features, erosion and sediment control mitigation measures must be implemented during construction. These measures can include vegetation, temporary sediment barriers such as silt fences, hay bales, fabric-wrapped catch basin grates, and strategic stormwater management. The StormTech Chamber manufacturer recommends the application of pipe plugs on the inlet-pipe until the unit is ready for service. ■ Stormwater runoff during the construction resulting from the project will be managed in accordance with the CTDEEP Stormwater Management Regulations.
Coastal Zone Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Debris clearing will be conducted from an upland access point (e.g., a manhole) to reduce littoral sediment disturbance. ■ Appropriate erosion control measures, including use of removable sediment barriers (e.g., silt fences, hay bales) and planting of stabilizing vegetation, will be applied during those construction activities of the Proposed Action that would require ground/soil disturbance (i.e., sewer pipe upsizing, force main installation, pump station construction) to sufficiently minimize expected impacts.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Where the Proposed Action will cross or impact sewer lines or other utility lines, design accommodations will be implemented (for example hand excavations, use of jet grout seals or use of sleeves) to reduce impacts. ■ A traffic management plan will be developed in order to minimize impacts on existing traffic patterns. ■ Public outreach during construction will be implemented to notify the public of construction schedule, upcoming activities and potential impacts. As needed, construction project staff will reach out to local community groups to provide in-person updates on construction progress and potential impacts. ■ Variable Message Signs may be used throughout the project area to warn motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists of changes in traffic patterns including road closures.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dust Control - To minimize fugitive dust emissions from construction activities, a fugitive dust control plan, including a robust watering program, will be required as part of contract specifications. ■ Clean Fuel – Ultra-low-sulfur-diesel fuel will be used exclusively for all diesel engines used during construction. ■ Idling Restriction - In addition to adhering to the local law restricting unnecessary idling on roadways, on-site vehicle idle time will be restricted to five minutes for all equipment and vehicles that are not using their engines to operate a loading, unloading, or processing device (e.g., concrete mixing trucks) or are otherwise required for the proper operation of the engine. ■ Best Available Tailpipe Reduction Technologies – Nonroad diesel engines with a power rating of 50 horsepower (hp) or greater and controlled truck fleets (i.e., truck fleets under long-term contract with the project), including but not limited to concrete mixing and pumping trucks, will utilize the best available tailpipe technology for reducing diesel particulate matter emissions. ■ Utilization of Newer Equipment – EPA’s Tiers 1 through 4 standards for nonroad diesel engines regulate the emission of criteria pollutants from new engines, including particulate matter, CO, nitrogen oxides, and hydrocarbons. ■ Diesel Equipment Reduction – Electrically powered equipment will be preferred over diesel-powered and gasoline-powered versions of that equipment, to the extent practicable.

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROJECT	
Cultural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The agreed upon mitigation and procedures for additional consultation has been memorialized in a Programmatic Agreement (PA) between CT DOH and CT SHPO (see Attachment 2). ■ Archaeological data recovery programs, comprising the removal of all or part of a site, would be appropriate in areas where significant archaeological sites will be impacted, if those areas are accessible and safe to excavate (i.e., not contaminated). All data recovery programs will be prepared in consultation with CT DOH, CTSHPO, and the Concurring parties in the PA.
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Completion of a follow-up Task 210: Subsurface Site Investigation (or equivalent Phase II sampling), as appropriate, that targets contaminants of concern in the soils based on historic use of the site, with limited grab groundwater samples if groundwater is encountered in the depth of disturbance ■ Development of site-specific plans/procedures (e.g., HASPs, SAMPs, etc.) ■ Implementation of carefully selected BMPs (e.g., use of dust control measures, use of stockpile liners, etc.) ■ Adherence to regulations regarding proper handling, management, storage, and transport of hazardous substances.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use of noise barriers along the edges of work zones. ■ Use of an alternative pile driving method such as hydraulic pile pushing system in specific locations. ■ Use of drilled caissons or slurry walls instead of piles in specific locations. ■ Wrap the pile with noise curtains or bellow that collapse as the pile is driven in specific locations. ■ Pre-trench the holes with a long-arm backhoe when work is close to tunnels, utilities, or other sensitive structures. ■ Develop a Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan specific to the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses that addresses vibrations during construction, if construction of the coastal flood defense system falls within 100 feet of the Houses. ■ Include a Noise Specification and a Vibration Specification in the contractor's bid documents. ■ Require the contractor to develop a Noise and Vibration Control and Mitigation Plan based on proposed equipment and methods to document expected noise levels and noise control measures that would be implemented. ■ Perform noise and vibration monitoring during construction to ensure the contractor is complying with specified thresholds.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Integrated pest management plans will be developed to address the potential for rats and other rodents that may be disturbed and mobilized by construction work. ■ In order to protect the threatened and endangered aquatic species in the vicinity of the study area (i.e., sea turtles and sturgeon), recommendations provided by EPA and NOAA Fisheries regarding harm mitigation measures, such as use of silt management and soil erosion best practices and disposal of contaminated sediment and sludge at a suitable upland facility, will be applied during any in-water work or during any activities that could affect water resources. ■ During the maintenance of existing outfalls, appropriate protective strategies, such as use of temporary erosion control fencing and storage of construction equipment away from the shoreline, will be implemented to preserve ecological communities (e.g., beach-dune complexes) potentially affected by proposed sewer system modifications. ■ Seasonal tree-cutting restrictions will be developed based on avian breeding seasons, and additional mitigation measures (e.g., restoring affected landscapes, replacing uprooted trees, and shielding undisturbed vegetation) near the project site will be implemented as necessary. ■ Protective measures will be taken to ensure that trees are safeguarded against adverse impacts associated with the construction process. ■ Possible hazards (e.g., heavy equipment, vehicles) stationed away from intact root systems. ■ Effectively mitigate any damage to existing trees occurring as a result of construction activities.

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
Water Resources and Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water from dewatering will be sampled and handled/disposed of appropriately, in accordance with state and federal requirements. ■ Impacts to water quality from soil erosion will be mitigated through existing regulatory programs and controls and by use of best management practices. ■ Stormwater runoff during the construction resulting from the project will be managed in accordance with the CTDEEP Stormwater Management Regulations.
Coastal Zone Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Debris clearing will be conducted from an upland access point (e.g., a manhole) to reduce littoral sediment disturbance. ■ Appropriate erosion control measures, including use of removable sediment barriers (e.g., silt fences, hay bales) and planting of stabilizing vegetation, will be applied during those construction activities of the Proposed Action that would require ground/soil disturbance (i.e., sewer pipe upsizing, pump station construction, flood wall construction, flood gate installation) to sufficiently minimize expected impacts.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Where the Proposed Action will cross or impact sewer lines or other utility lines, design accommodations will be implemented (for example hand excavations, use of jet grout seals or use of sleeves) to reduce impacts. ■ Relocation of sewer and other utility lines will be considered only if other design solutions are impractical. ■ A traffic management plan will be developed in order to minimize impacts on existing traffic patterns. ■ Public outreach during construction will be implemented to notify the public of construction schedule, upcoming activities and potential impacts. As needed, construction project staff will reach out to local community groups to provide in-person updates on construction progress and potential impacts. ■ Variable Message Signs may be used throughout the project area to warn motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists of changes in traffic patterns including road closures.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dust Control - To minimize fugitive dust emissions from construction activities, a fugitive dust control plan, including a robust watering program, will be required as part of contract specifications. ■ Clean Fuel - Ultra-low-sulfur-diesel fuel will be used exclusively for all diesel engines used during construction. ■ Idling Restriction - In addition to adhering to the local law restricting unnecessary idling on roadways, on-site vehicle idle time will be restricted to five minutes for all equipment and vehicles that are not using their engines to operate a loading, unloading, or processing device (e.g., concrete mixing trucks) or are otherwise required for the proper operation of the engine. ■ Best Available Tailpipe Reduction Technologies - Nonroad diesel engines with a power rating of 50 horsepower (hp) or greater and controlled truck fleets (i.e., truck fleets under long-term contract with the project), including, but not limited to concrete mixing and pumping trucks, will utilize the best available tailpipe technology for reducing diesel particulate matter emissions. ■ Utilization of Newer Equipment - EPA's Tiers 1 through 4 standards for nonroad diesel engines regulate the emission of criteria pollutants from new engines, including particulate matter, CO, nitrogen oxides, and hydrocarbons. ■ Diesel Equipment Reduction - Electrically powered equipment will be preferred over diesel-powered and gasoline-powered versions of that equipment, to the extent practicable.
RESILIENCE CENTER	
Cultural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The agreed upon mitigation and procedures for additional consultation has been memorialized in a Programmatic Agreement between CT DOH and CT SHPO (see Attachment 2). ■ Archaeological data recovery programs, comprising the removal of all or part of a site, would be appropriate in areas where significant archaeological sites will be impacted, if those areas are accessible and safe to excavate (i.e., not contaminated). All data recovery programs will be prepared in consultation with CT DOH, CTSHP, and the Concurring parties in the PA.

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Development of site-specific plans/procedures (e.g., HASPs, SAMPs, etc.) ■ Implementation of carefully selected BMPs (e.g., use of dust control measures, use of stockpile liners, etc.) ■ Adherence to regulations regarding proper handling, management, storage, and transport of hazardous substances.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use of noise barriers along the edges of work zones. ■ Pre-trench the holes with a long-arm backhoe when work is close to tunnels, utilities, or other sensitive structures. ■ Include a Noise Specification and a Vibration Specification in the contractor’s bid documents. ■ Require the contractor to develop a Noise and Vibration Control and Mitigation Plan based on proposed equipment and methods to document expected noise levels and noise control measures that would be implemented. ■ Perform noise and vibration monitoring during construction to ensure the contractor is complying with specified thresholds.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Integrated pest management plans will be developed to address the potential for rats and other rodents that may be disturbed and mobilized by construction work. ■ Seasonal tree-cutting restrictions will be developed based on avian breeding seasons, and additional mitigation measures (e.g., restoring affected landscapes, replacing uprooted trees, and shielding undisturbed vegetation) near the project site will be implemented as necessary. ■ Protective measures will be taken to ensure that trees are safeguarded against adverse impacts associated with the construction process. ■ Possible hazards (e.g., heavy equipment, vehicles) will be stationed away from intact root systems. ■ Effectively mitigate any damage to existing trees that will occur as a result of construction activities.
Water Resources and Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water from dewatering will be sampled and handled/disposed of appropriately, in accordance with state and federal requirements. ■ Impacts to water quality from soil erosion will be mitigated through existing regulatory programs and controls and by use of best management practices. ■ Stormwater runoff during the construction resulting from the project will be managed in accordance with the CTDEEP Stormwater Management Regulations.
Coastal Zone Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Appropriate erosion control measures, including use of removable sediment barriers (e.g., silt fences, hay bales) and planting of stabilizing vegetation, will be applied during those construction activities of the Proposed Action that would require ground/soil disturbance to sufficiently minimize expected impacts.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Where the Proposed Action will cross or impact sewer lines or other utility lines, design accommodations will be implemented (for example hand excavations, use of jet grout seals or use of sleeves) to reduce impacts. ■ A traffic management plan will be developed in order to minimize impacts on existing traffic patterns. ■ Public outreach during construction will be implemented to notify the public of construction schedule, upcoming activities and potential impacts. As needed, construction project staff will reach out to local community groups to provide in-person updates on construction progress and potential impacts. ■ Variable Message Signs may be used throughout the project area to warn motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists of changes in traffic patterns including road closures.

Discipline	Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dust Control - To minimize fugitive dust emissions from construction activities, a fugitive dust control plan, including a robust watering program, will be required as part of contract specifications. ■ Clean Fuel - Ultra-low-sulfur-diesel34 fuel will be used exclusively for all diesel engines used during construction. ■ Idling Restriction - In addition to adhering to the local law restricting unnecessary idling on roadways, on-site vehicle idle time will be restricted to five minutes for all equipment and vehicles that are not using their engines to operate a loading, unloading, or processing device (e.g., concrete mixing trucks) or are otherwise required for the proper operation of the engine. ■ Best Available Tailpipe Reduction Technologies - Nonroad diesel engines with a power rating of 50 horsepower (hp) or greater and controlled truck fleets (i.e., truck fleets under long-term contract with the project), including but not limited to concrete mixing and pumping trucks, will utilize the best available tailpipe technology for reducing diesel particulate matter emissions. ■ Utilization of Newer Equipment - EPA's Tiers 1 through 4 standards for nonroad diesel engines regulate the emission of criteria pollutants from new engines, including particulate matter, CO, nitrogen oxides, and hydrocarbons. ■ Diesel Equipment Reduction - Electrically powered equipment will be preferred over diesel-powered and gasoline-powered versions of that equipment, to the extent practicable.

9.0 MONITORING/ENFORCEMENT AND ONGOING COORDINATION

The commitments and conditions of approval stated in this ROD will be monitored by the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure compliance. Agency and stakeholder coordination will continue during the design and permitting phases of the Proposed Action, and construction monitoring and enforcement programs will be implemented and included in contract documents to verify that construction contractors act in accordance with contract provisions and design plans, required permit conditions, and adopted environmental commitments and mitigation requirements.

During final design, the Project Team, overseen by CT DOH, will work with the stakeholders to finalize the design considerations and amenities to be incorporated into the Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action components. This coordination will emphasize the usage of context-sensitive designs that will be mindful of the existing urban fabric to help mitigate any potential impacts of the project components on the community. During construction, the Proposed Action will also involve outreach and coordination by the Project Team with the community and impacted property owners to help mitigate construction-related impacts.

Coordination and communication with Federal, State, and local partners is critical in the implementation of the Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action. The CT DOH intends to communicate the activities associated with the Selected Alternatives through participation at future Sandy Regional Infrastructure Resilience Coordination (SRIRC) Federal Review and Permitting (FRP) meetings, Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meetings. At these venues, the CT DOH will provide updates regarding the Proposed Action and will meet with relevant stakeholders, local authorities, regulators, and other interested parties as the Proposed Project moves forward.

Finally, in accordance with the CDBG-DR funding requirements, the CT DOH will develop an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan for the Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action. The CT DOH will establish an O&M subcommittee with local and State partners to develop this plan. State partners will be

engaged through the Governor's Council on Climate Change's State Agencies Fostering Resilience Council subcommittee established under Executive Order No. 3 on September 3, 2019 by Governor Lamont. The participants in the O&M planning and development process will include, but not be limited to, entities such as the CT DOH, the City of Bridgeport, the University of Bridgeport, PSEG, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP). The O&M Plan will contain five functions (Operations, Maintenance, Engineering, Training, and Administration) and describe the responsibilities, procedures, and communication associated with routine maintenance, flood event operations, and emergency maintenance/repairs.

10.0 APPROVAL

After carefully considering the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action; the analysis presented in the FEIS; the mitigation measures as required herein; the written and oral comments offered by Federal, State, and local agencies and entities and the public on the DEIS and FEIS; and the written responses to the comments, I have determined that the Preferred Alternative for the Proposed Action, as identified in the FEIS, best meets the project needs. Therefore, I have selected the Preferred Alternatives of the FEIS as the Selected Alternatives in this ROD (see Section 7.0) for implementation of the Proposed Action in accordance with 24 CFR 58 based on the following:

- The requirements of 24 CFR Part 58 have been met as the DEIS and FEIS were duly prepared under NEPA;
- The Selected Alternatives of the Proposed Action in this ROD (see Section 7.0) are the environmentally preferable alternatives because they avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts to the maximum extent practicable and adverse environmental impacts will be further avoided or minimized by adopting those mitigation measures and BMPs identified herein;
- Alternative courses of action were evaluated and decisions were made in the best overall public interest based upon a balanced consideration of: the need to reduce chronic and acute flooding, while providing community co-benefits including resiliency education; the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the Proposed Action; and Federal, State, and local environmental protection goals;
- The Proposed Action's NEPA process, to the fullest extent possible, incorporates all environmental investigations, reviews, and consultations in a single coordinated process;
- Compliance with all applicable environmental requirements are reflected in the environmental review record required under NEPA; and
- Public involvement and a systematic interdisciplinary approach were essential parts of the development process for the Proposed Action.



Hermia Delaire

Sandy Program Manager & DOH Certifying Officer

Connecticut Department of Housing

10/24/2019
Date

ATTACHMENT 1: RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT PROJECT COMPONENT AREAS



ATTACHMENT 2: PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

**PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT AMONG
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, AND
CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter, HUD) has allocated supplemental Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds (hereinafter, CDBG-DR) through the Rebuild by Design competition and Community Development Block Grant – National Disaster Resilience (hereinafter, CDBG-NDR) to the Connecticut Department of Housing (hereinafter, CT DOH) under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Pub. L. 113–2) and Federal Register Notices 79 FR 62182 and 81 FR 36557 for the purpose of assisting recovery in the most impacted and distressed areas declared a major disaster due to Hurricane Sandy;

WHEREAS, HUD has unique statutory authority to delegate its environmental compliance responsibilities promulgated at 24 CFR Part 58 to State, tribal, and local governments including obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. §§ 470 *et seq.*, [54 U.S.C.306108], hereinafter, Act) and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800;

WHEREAS, CT DOH has assumed the role of Responsible Entity, on behalf of HUD, and makes assistance, including CDBG-DR, available to communities, its citizens, Federally recognized Indian Tribes (Tribes) and other entities;

WHEREAS, CT DOH has determined that implementing the Resilient Bridgeport projects will result in undertakings (as that term is defined by 16 U.S.C. § 470w and 36 C.F.R. § 800.16(y)) that may affect historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and CT DOH has consulted with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CT SHPO) pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Pub. L. No. 89-665 (1966) (codified as amended at 16 U.S.C. § 470f) (Section 106) and Section 110(f) of the NHPA (codified as amended at 16 U.S.C. § 470h-2), and Section 106's implementing regulations at 36 C.F.R. Part 800;

WHEREAS, the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings is the set of projects to create a more resilient Bridgeport South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations by lowering the risk of acute and chronic flooding, providing dry egress during emergencies, and educating the public about flood risks and sea level rise for this low-lying area located largely within the 1% annual chance floodplain, as further detailed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (hereinafter DEIS) published February 1, 2019 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement (hereinafter FEIS) published September 6, 2019 and in the descriptions below;

WHEREAS, the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings consist of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut—the Rebuild By Design Pilot Project (hereinafter RBD Pilot Project), a Flood Risk Reduction Project on the east side of the South End (hereinafter Flood Risk Reduction Project), and a Resilience Center;

WHEREAS, RBD Pilot Project means the project benefiting the public housing development on the site of Marina Village/Windward Apartments consisting of the construction of the new

Johnson Street extension, raised to provide dry egress for the surrounding residents and facilitate emergency access during an acute flooding event; regrading of a portion of the existing Johnson Street; regrading of a portion of Columbia Street, north and south of the new Johnson Street Extension; additional street beautification and stormwater improvements along Ridge Avenue; and a new 2.5-acre stormwater park, to be located just south of Johnson Street Extension with a wet well pump and force main connection into Cedar Creek outfall to accept water from upland streets and adjacent parcels and to retain, delay and improve the quality of the stormwater runoff through this green and grey infrastructure approach (Exhibit A);

WHEREAS, Flood Risk Reduction Project means a combination of measures within the eastern South End that would reduce the flood risk within the DEIS study area, which includes the William Bishop Cottage Development Historic District and the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses (Exhibit B), from future coastal surge, including 2.5 feet of sea level rise, and chronic rainfall events. The measures would include a coastal flood defense system and implementing both green and gray stormwater and internal drainage management strategies (e.g., detention/retention features, drainage structures, and pump systems);

WHEREAS, Coastal flood defense system means raising a portion of University Avenue and installing sheet piling and floodwalls in the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system alignment. The DEIS included a Western Alignment option and an Eastern Alignment option with variations in between those boundaries for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system (Exhibit A) and in place of the Western and Eastern options the FEIS includes four alternative alignments, Alternatives 1-4, for the coastal flood defense system with Alternative 1 selected as the preferred alternative (Exhibit A);

WHEREAS, Resilience Center, as described in the FEIS, means a “center for resilience activities, disseminating information to the community and assisting the community in future recovery efforts. The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community [(hereinafter, Freeman Center),] located on Main Street in the South End, is a significant historic resource to the local community. The project would provide funding to the Freeman Center to support renovations of a community space within the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses complex that would provide a location in the South End that would operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after storm events. The project would include another open-air site with green infrastructure improvements near the entrance to Seaside Park at University Avenue”;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 106 regulations, CT DOH identified Archaeological and Historic Architectural Areas of Potential Effects (APE) for Resilient Bridgeport (Exhibit B), and determined that the APEs will be the areas where potential effects on Historic Properties caused by Projects may occur;

WHEREAS, the Historic Properties in the APE are listed under Exhibit C;

WHEREAS, the CT DOH is the Responsible Entity for initiating Section 106 and the CT SHPO is the regulatory agency overseeing compliance to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended and which describes a finding of adverse effect when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association;

WHEREAS, this Programmatic Agreement (hereinafter PA) was developed with appropriate public participation during the NEPA public comment periods pursuant to Subpart A of Section 106 Regulations, and copy of this PA was included in and distributed with the FEIS, published September 6, 2019. The public shall be duly notified as to the execution and effective dates of this PA through the issuance of the FEIS Record of Decision for the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings;

WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1), in a letter dated July 26, 2019, the CT DOH notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (hereinafter ACHP) of its intent to develop a PA for the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings; and on August 26, 2019 the ACHP declined to formally participate in the consultation to resolve adverse effects as the ACHP concluded under Appendix A, *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases* that their regulations do not apply to these undertakings as it appears that the CT SHPO are involved in productive consultation to resolve adverse effects;

WHEREAS, in the same letter as above dated August 26, 2019, the ACHP indicated they would like to provide technical assistance to the CT DOH in meeting its Section 106 obligations in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.9(a) and requested that CT DOH schedule a meeting with the consulting parties to discuss the status of the current Section 106 review, and the schedule for drafting and finalizing a PA and that the meeting include consulting parties that have been identified to date, including the SHPO, tribes that may have properties of cultural and religious significance affected by the undertaking, representatives of local governments, and any other parties that may have concerns with the undertaking's effects on historic properties [36 C.F.R. §800.2 (c)(1-3,5) and in a letter dated August 28, 2019 CT DOH responded to the ACHP that the CT DOH would be inviting Concurring parties to review and sign the PA and notifying identified consulting parties of the publication of the PA ahead of its publication with the FEIS on September 6, 2019 and the commencement of the 30-day comment period and that the status and schedule of the Section 106 process is discussed in the FEIS along with the extensive public engagement process inclusive of the parties listed by the ACHP;

WHEREAS, the CT DOH issued letters on February 5, 2019 inviting the following parties to consult with the agency regarding the Resilient Bridgeport projects: the Freeman Center, the Barnum Museum, the Bridgeport History Center, Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, the Fairfield Garden Club, Chair of the Bridgeport Historic District No. 1 Commission, and the Associate Professor of English Eric Lehman of the University of Bridgeport and a letter on September 23, 2019 inviting the CT Trust for Historic Preservation to consult with the agency regarding the effects of the undertaking on historic properties and will continue to invite them to participate in the Section 106 process through invitations to general public meetings or invitations to focused meetings. In a letter dated February 20, 2019 the CT DOH invited the Golden Hill Paugussetts, a state-recognized tribe in Connecticut to be an interested party to the Section 106 process;

WHEREAS, the Freeman Center attended regular meetings of the Citizens Advisory Committee, submitted comments on the DEIS in an email dated March 18, 2019, presented oral comments on the DEIS at the Public Hearing on February 25, 2019, and met with CT DOH and CT SHPO on June 26, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Barnum Museum attended regular meetings of the Citizens Advisory Committee, submitted comments on the DEIS in a letter dated February 26, 2019, presented

oral comments on the DEIS at the Public Hearing on February 25, 2019, and participated in a conference call to review the draft PA with CT DOH on September 13, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Bridgeport History Center participated in a conference call with CT DOH on April 2, 2019 and in a letter dated September 9, 2019 was invited to review the draft PA;

WHEREAS, Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises participated in a conference call with CT DOH on March 28, 2019 and in a letter dated September 9, 2019 was invited to review the draft PA;

WHEREAS, the Fairfield Garden Club responded in an email dated February 14, 2019 that they would like to participate as a consulting party. A member of the Fairfield Garden Club participated in a workshop at Seaside Park with CT DOH and CT SHPO on May 9, 2019 and three members of the Fairfield Garden Club participated in a conference call with CT DOH on September 23, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Bridgeport Historic District No. 1 Commission responded in an email dated February 14, 2019 that the Commission's involvement should be limited due to legal requirements. The Chair of the Bridgeport Historic District No. 1 Commission participated in a conference call to review the draft PA with CT DOH on September 23, 2019;

WHEREAS, Associate Professor of English Eric Lehman of the University of Bridgeport participated in the Citizens Advisory Committee, participated in a workshop at Seaside Park with CT DOH and CT SHPO on May 9, 2019, and participated in a conference call to review the draft PA with CT DOH on September 13, 2019;

WHEREAS, the CT Trust for Historic Preservation responded in an email dated September 24, 2019 that they would like to participate as a consulting party. CT Trust for Historic Preservation submitted comments on the DEIS in a letter dated March 18, 2019, participated in a workshop at Seaside Park with CT DOH and CT SHPO on May 9, 2019, and participated in a conference call to review the draft PA with CT DOH on September 30, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Golden Hill Paugussetts did not respond to the invitation to be an interested party and did not respond to a letter issued on September 17, 2019 inviting them to review the draft PA;

WHEREAS, CT DOH has conducted reasonable and good faith efforts to invite the appropriate Native American tribes and groups (the "Tribes") to participate in the Section 106 process by way of identifying the Tribes and delivering letters of invitation to such Tribes that could attach religious or cultural significance to sites within the Resilient Bridgeport APE, and upon which Resilient Bridgeport could have an effect. Letters of invitation were sent as an attachment via email and a hard copy via mail to the Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut on November 14, 2018, to the Delaware Tribe of Indians; the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma and the Narragansett Indian Tribe on December 21, 2018;

WHEREAS, the Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation did not respond to the above letter;

WHEREAS, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut responded to the above letter that they would like to be a consulting party on November 21, 2018 and submitted comments on the

Resilient Bridgeport projects in an email dated December 11, 2018 supporting recommendations for geotechnical investigations, monitoring of ground disturbances, and archaeological Phase IB surveying in areas determined to have high potential for intact resources;

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribe of Indians responded to the above letter that they forwarded the information to their archaeologist, Susan Bachor who handles reviews for all projects in their eastern states on December 27, 2018;

WHEREAS, the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma responded to the above letter on January 28, 2019 that the Resilient Bridgeport Undertakings do not endanger cultural or religious sites of interest to the Delaware Nation but they should be notified within 24 hours if an archaeological site or artifacts are inadvertently uncovered;

WHEREAS, the Narragansett Indian Tribe did not respond to the above letter;

WHEREAS, the CT DOH in a letter dated September 5, 2019, invited the Tribes who responded to the consulting parties invitation to be Concurring parties on the PA: the Mohegan Tribe of Indians, the Delaware Tribe of Indians and the Delaware Nation and in a letter dated September 5, 2019 invited the Freeman Center and the City of Bridgeport to be Concurring parties on the PA;

WHEREAS, the CT DOH sent an email on September 27, 2019 inviting the consulting parties and the interested party and sent an email on September 30, 2019 inviting the Concurring parties, to a meeting on October 8, 2019 to review revisions to the draft PA following the close of the 30-day public review period;

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport met with the CT DOH to review the draft PA on September 6, 2019 and CT DOH presented to the Bridgeport Board of Parks Commissioners at their regularly scheduled meeting on October 8, 2019, wherein the board subsequently approved a resolution supporting the overall Resilient Bridgeport project and the City of Bridgeport being a Concurring party to the PA.

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport will bring the resolution to the City Council for their approval at their regularly scheduled meeting on November 4, 2019 and will sign as a Concurring party pending the approval of the resolution at that meeting;

WHEREAS, in a meeting on October 9, 2019 the CT DOH and the CT SHPO reviewed the project schedule and due to schedule constraints planned to execute the PA prior to November 4, 2019, but agreed to accept the signature of the City of Bridgeport as a Concurring party on the executed PA after November 4, 2019 pending the outcome of the City Council resolution;

WHEREAS, in a meeting on October 9, 2019 the CT DOH and CT SHPO determined the City of Bridgeport Concurring party signature page will remain attached to the PA once it is executed. The CT DOH and CT SHPO determined that if and when the City of Bridgeport has agreed to be a Concurring party with their signature, the executed PA will be posted on the CT DOH website with the signed City of Bridgeport Concurring party signature page;

WHEREAS, the DEIS was published on February 1, 2019 for public comment. The DEIS provides the environmental impact analysis of the Resilient Bridgeport projects;

WHEREAS, CT DOH has coordinated compliance with Section 106 and NEPA, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.8, through the preparation of a Historic and Archaeological Resources Evaluation Report submitted to CT SHPO in May 2018 and developed cultural resource specific recommendations for inclusion within the Project's FEIS for Resilient Bridgeport so that Section 106 recommendations were considered during the analysis of alternatives as part of the NEPA EIS processes as well as consultation with CT SHPO for participation in the Section 106 process;

WHEREAS, in a letter dated March 18, 2019, CT SHPO determined the RBD Pilot Project will have no adverse effects to historic properties, and therefore no additional consultation regarding RBD Pilot Project is needed;

WHEREAS, in the same letter, CT SHPO determined an adverse effect to the historic Seaside Park for the Flood Risk Reduction Project - listed in the National Register under Criteria B and C as a "well-preserved Post-Civil War park landscape" and "an important work of 19th-century civil engineering"- due to the proposed elevation of University Avenue at the entrance to the park, which alters the remaining portion of the park designed by the firm of Frederick Law Olmsted;

WHEREAS, in the same letter, the option of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system" of the Flood Risk Reduction Project along Main Street across the street from the William Bishop Cottage Development Historic District - listed under Criteria B and C as "one of Bridgeport's fine extensive tract developments, a community planned especially to provide an innovative housing scheme for lower-income workers"- could adversely affect the setting, feeling and association of the Cottage District;

WHEREAS, the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction Project is proposed to terminate at the Connecticut Department of Transportation (hereinafter CT DOT) New Haven Line railroad viaduct, and in the letter dated March 18, 2019, CT SHPO determined it is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register under Criteria A and C, and includes numerous structures and features, including railroad viaduct retaining walls, catenary structures, and bridges at Park and Myrtle Avenues and Warren, Lafayette, and Broad Streets, as well as the under-grade railroad bridge (known as Bridge 43.21), located at 600 Main Street;

WHEREAS, in the letter dated March 18, 2019, CT SHPO determined the creation of a Resilience Center would directly affect the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses, listed under Criterion A "as the last two houses to survive of "Little Liberia," a settlement of black freedmen in this area that began in [1821] and reached its apogee just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War;"

WHEREAS, in the letter dated March 18, 2019, CT SHPO stated that more information is needed to evaluate the effect to both Seaside Park and the Freeman Houses, including design schema;

WHEREAS, in a letter dated October 7, 2019, the Freeman Center stated that the Resilience Center is consistent with the mission and strategic priorities of the Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and requested the opportunity for additional consultation in the design process in collaboration with CT DOH;

WHEREAS, in a meeting on October 8, 2019 the CT DOH agreed to consult with the Freeman Center and CT SHPO to further refine the design of the Resilience Center prior to construction, including the potential to create an agreement separate from this document;

WHEREAS, the entire APE is likely sensitive for Late Woodland and Contact period archaeological sites, including burial and village remnants;

WHEREAS, the preferred alternative for the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction Project, known as Alternative 1 (Exhibit A), is proposed to continue the 60 Main Street alignment parallel to the shoreline across the 60 Main Street site to the eastern border, where it would turn south for a short distance before crossing to the east into PSEG's property and connecting to the elevated podium for PSEG's newly built Harbor Unit 5 (HU5) perimeter sheet pile wall. HU5 would provide the southeast corner of the coastal flood defense system, which would extend north from HU5's access road ramp on the northwest corner of the perimeter wall. The alignment would connect from the ramp over to Bridgeport Energy's eastern border north of Atlantic Street. The alignment would continue along the eastern border of Bridgeport Energy's site until it reaches the Pequonnock Substation relocation site, where it would continue north along the eastern property line of the site across Ferry Access Road with a northern tie-in at the elevated CT DOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct;

WHEREAS, Alternative 1 in the FEIS is CT SHPO's preferred option for the alignment of the coastal flood defense system and would not adversely impact the William Bishop Cottage Development Historic District;

WHEREAS, there is a potential for adverse effects to historic resources in regards to the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses regarding vibrations during construction of the coastal flood defense system, and additional information regarding design of the coastal flood defense system where it is proposed to be integrated into the railroad viaduct, and an archaeological assessment plan for the APE;

WHEREAS, in a letter dated October 7, 2019, the Freeman Center concurred with CT SHPO's opinion that there is the potential for adverse effects to the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses regarding vibrations during construction of the coastal flood defense system;

WHEREAS in the meeting on October 8, 2019 CT DOH and CT SHPO responded that the Freeman Center as a Concurring party will be given a 30 calendar day review and comment period on the Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan;

WHEREAS, it was determined by the CT DOH as the Responsible Entity that a PA was appropriate to the circumstances of the above projects since as design progresses to 90% there may be changes that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate any findings of adverse effect; CT SHPO expects additional consultation in accordance with Section 106 during that design process; a PA allows for the agreement of CT DOH and CT SHPO to the process by which further consultation will occur throughout the design process; and that publication of the PA with the FEIS allows for public review of that consultation process;

WHEREAS, it is possible that as the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings evolve or as a result of the addition of new project elements beyond the boundaries of the current APEs, CT DOH, in consultation with CT SHPO, may identify additional, previously unidentified Historic Properties or archaeologically sensitive areas, which may be affected by the Project;

WHEREAS, CT DOH invited the City of Bridgeport, the Freeman Center, and the Tribes who responded to the invitation to be a consulting party (the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma) to sign this

Programmatic Agreement as Concurring parties in a letter dated September 5, 2019 in advance of the start of the 30-day comment period of the FEIS on September 6, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, CT DOH and CT SHPO as the PA Signatories, agree that, upon execution of this PA, the Resilient Bridgeport undertakings funded by the CDBG-NDR and CDBG-DR programs shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations to take into account the effects of the undertaking on Historic Properties and Archaeological Resources.

STIPULATIONS

CT DOH will ensure the following stipulations are implemented:

I. RESOLUTION OF ADVERSE EFFECT

1. CT DOH, or a contracted party, shall document the current conditions of entrance to be lost to Seaside Park before any work commences. Documentation shall meet the state-level standards of CT SHPO and, at a minimum, include indexed high-quality photographs, a site plan, and narrative text. Final documentation shall be provided to CT SHPO for permanent archiving and public accessibility, including electronically on the City of Bridgeport's website. A copy is also to be made available to the Bridgeport History Center at the Bridgeport Public Library. Documentation is estimated to cost \$20,000.
2. The National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Seaside Park shall be updated, with funding by CT DOH, following the completion of the undertaking. The update shall reflect current conditions but also provide additional narrative that meets current documentation standards in consultation with CT SHPO. The consultant selected to update the district must meet the minimum professional qualifications for architectural historian, as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards and Guidelines, part of the larger Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidance for Archeology and Historic Preservation. The updated nomination shall include a reevaluation of:
 - a. Boundaries,
 - b. Contributing and non-contributing resources, and
 - c. Themes and period of significance.

A final draft that is acceptable to SHPO will be completed within one (1) year of the signing of this document. Additional guidance will be provided by CT SHPO after the project has begun. Updating the nomination is estimated to cost \$20,000.

3. CT DOH shall fund a comprehensive preservation and management plan for Seaside Park developed in consultation with CT SHPO, with specific attention made to the following:
 - a. Remaining 19th century engineering components and water management systems. The consultant selected to create this portion of the plan must meet the minimum professional qualifications for architectural historian, as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards and Guidelines, part of the larger

Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidance for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

- b. Structures and features determined to be significant within the nomination and not in direct APE, including Bath House, Stables, Memorial Archway, and Lighthouse and keeper's house foundations. The consultant selected to create this portion of the plan must meet the minimum professional qualifications for architectural historian, as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards and Guidelines, part of the larger Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidance for Archeology and Historic Preservation.
- c. A tree study and planting diagram created by a licensed arborist, having prior experience with historic landscapes. The resulting portion of the plan is to include a financial allowance of \$50,000 for maintenance and planting schema that includes reestablishment of historic tree canopy.
- d. Opportunities for natural flood remediation and addressing sea level rise shall be incorporated into the plan, including opportunities for reintroducing permeable paths and surfaces.

A final draft that is acceptable to SHPO will be completed within one (1) year of the signing of this document. Additional guidance will be provided by CT SHPO after the project has begun.

The comprehensive preservation and maintenance plan is estimated to cost \$100,000, with an implementation fund of \$100,000. The total estimate for measures in Stipulation I.3 is \$250,000.

4. CT DOH shall fund up to two National Register of Historic Places nominations focusing on historic landscapes or properties designed/influenced by the Olmsted landscape firms. Suitable resources are to be determined by September 30, 2020, in consultation with and approved by CT SHPO.

The two nominations are estimated to cost \$20,000 each.

5. All trees within Seaside Park disturbed/destroyed during construction shall be replaced in a location that will support tree growth. The replacement species and location shall be in accordance with the new planting schema prepared in item 3c above.

Cost of tree replacement is to be determined once site plans have been finalized and will be incorporated into construction costs.

Should the CT DOH determine that the costs of carrying out the mitigation measures in Stipulation I.1 to I.4 may exceed \$379,500 in CDBG-NDR funds, which includes a 15 percent contingency, then the CT DOH shall consult with the CT SHPO to consider and if possible adopt ways of limiting costs, subject to Stipulation VI. The cost of tree replacement in Stipulation I.5 is on a per tree basis depending on final design and construction impacts and is not included in the above budget.

II. PROJECT REVIEW AND CONSULTATION

CT DOH shall ensure that the procedures for project-specific consultation, including design for the new entrance to Seaside Park, connection of the coastal flood defense system into CT DOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct, and funds for the support of renovations of a community space within the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses complex to serve as a Resilience Center, historic properties and archaeological resources identification and evaluation, assessment of effects, and mitigation of adverse effects are implemented in accordance with the procedures below.

A. Procedures for Project Review: Historic Properties

1. Design Specifications will be submitted by the CT DOH to the CT SHPO and Concurring parties for review and comment. The CT SHPO and Concurring parties will be afforded a 30 calendar day review period for all design submittals. CT DOH may proceed with the design if CT SHPO or Concurring parties do not respond within the time allotted or if a response is provided by CT SHPO and the Concurring parties sooner.
 - a. When design reaches 60 percent, CT SHPO and Concurring parties will review all available plans and specifications and determine if the design might affect historic properties within the APE.
 - b. When design reaches 90 percent, CT SHPO and Concurring parties will review all available plans and specifications and determine if the design might affect historic properties within the APE.
2. All design enhancements and/or aesthetic treatments that may affect historic properties will be subject to a 30 calendar day review and comment period by the CT SHPO and Concurring parties.
 - a. In the event CT SHPO determines that the design enhancements and/or aesthetic treatments will have an adverse effect on the historic property, CT DOH shall develop appropriate treatment plans or mitigation for historic properties adversely affected by the projects. Unless the CT SHPO objects within 30 calendar days of receipt of any plan, CT DOH shall ensure that treatment plans are implemented by CT DOH or its representative(s).
 - b. Each treatment plan will address historic properties adversely affected and set forth means to avoid, protect, or develop treatment measures to minimize the undertakings' effects where CT DOH, in consultation with the appropriate agencies and CT SHPO determines that adverse effects cannot be avoided. The treatment plans will conform to the principles of the ACHP's Treatment of Archaeological Properties: A Handbook Parts I and II, the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation" (48 Fed. Reg. 44716-44742 (September 29, 1983)), and appropriate CT SHPO Guidelines.
 - c. CT DOH, shall revise Plans to address comments and recommendations provided by the CT SHPO and Concurring parties.
3. Should construction of the coastal flood defense system fall within 100 feet of the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses, CT DOH will develop a

Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan specific to the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses that addresses vibrations during construction. The plan is intended to ascertain the current condition of the buildings, to identify potential impact to the buildings due to construction activities, and to develop protection and/or monitoring procedures during construction for the buildings. The Plan will be submitted to CT SHPO and the Freeman Center for a review and comment period of 30 calendar days from submittal of design review to CT SHPO and the Freeman Center. CT DOH may proceed with the plan if CT SHPO and the Freeman Center do not respond within the time allotted or if a response is provided by CT SHPO or the Freeman Center sooner.

4. CT DOH will include all plans within specific contract packages to inform contractors of the responsibilities relative to historic properties within the APE.

B. Procedures for Project Review: Archaeological Resources

1. CT DOH, in consultation with the CT SHPO and in advance of construction, will develop an Archaeological Assessment Plan for areas identified as archaeologically sensitive areas within the Project's archaeological APE.
 - a. The plan may include Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to provide evidence of potential burial sites and Geoprobos to provide data on subsurface archaeological integrity.
 - b. The results of the GPR or Geoprobos will be used to further refine the areas of archaeological potential.
 - c. The Archaeological Assessment Plan shall be submitted to CT SHPO for a review and comment period of 30 calendar days, which may include implementation of an archaeological monitor where deemed appropriate.
 - d. Upon receipt of comments on the Plan, CT DOH will implement the approved Plan. CT DOH may proceed with the plan if CT SHPO does not respond within the time allotted or if a response is provided by CT SHPO sooner.
 - e. CT DOH will provide a summary report of the Archaeological Assessment Plan's activities and results.
2. Following the refinement and definition of sensitive areas, shovel test sites and excavation units in select parts of the APE that may be impacted will be performed to confirm further the presence or absence of probable archaeological deposits.
3. Following assessment of archaeological data, recommendations for additional intensive archaeological survey, potential archaeological removal of identified sites, and exploration of burials will be made and an Archaeological Treatment Plan will be developed by the CT DOH and submitted to CT SHPO and Concurring parties for a review and comment period of 30 calendar days.

- a. If deemed appropriate by the CT SHPO, the Archaeological Treatment Plan may be incorporated into a Memorandum of Agreement with the appropriate parties
 - b. Upon receipt of comments on the Archaeological Treatment Plan, CT DOH will implement the approved Plan. For all field tested sites, CT DOH shall provide a summary report to the CT SHPO and Concurring parties for a 30 calendar day review period. CT DOH may implement the plan if CT SHPO and Concurring parties do not respond within the 30 calendar days or if a response is provided sooner.
 4. If the Projects will have an adverse effect on an NRHP eligible archaeological site, CT DOH in consultation with CT SHPO, shall develop appropriate treatment plans for archaeological properties adversely affected by the undertakings. Unless the CT SHPO objects within 30 calendar days of receipt of any plan, CT DOH shall ensure that treatment plans are implemented by CT DOH or its representative(s). CT DOH shall revise plans to address comment and recommendations provided by CT SHPO. CT DOH may proceed with the plans if CT SHPO does not respond within the time allotted or if a response is provided by CT SHPO sooner.
 5. Confidentiality
 - a. All parties to this PA shall ensure that shared data, including data concerning the precise location and nature of historic properties and properties of religious and cultural significance are protected from public disclosure to the greatest extent permitted by law, consistent with applicable confidentiality requirements and federal records management requirements, including conformance to Section 304 of the NHPA, as amended, and the regulations implementing the NHPA, specifically 36 CFR § 800.11 (c) and Section 9 of the Archaeological Resource Protection Act as amended 1988 (ARPA) and Executive Order on Sacred Sites 13007 FR dated May 24, 1996.
- C. Procedures for Post-Review Discoveries
1. CT DOH shall ensure that the procedures for post-review discoveries, if previously unidentified historic properties are discovered or unanticipated effects on historic properties are found during the implementation of the undertaking, are implemented in accordance with the procedures outlined below.
 2. If previously unidentified historic properties are discovered or unanticipated effects on historic properties are found during the implementation of the undertaking, CT DOH shall cease all work in the vicinity of the discovered historic property or effect and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the property until it can be evaluated pursuant to Stipulation II of this Programmatic Agreement.

3. CT DOH shall notify the PA Signatories and the Concurring parties of the discovery at the earliest possible time and consult to develop actions to take into account the effects of the Undertaking. CT DOH shall notify the PA Signatories of any time constraints, and all parties will mutually agree upon timeframes for this consultation.
4. CT DOH shall provide the CT SHPO with written notification describing CT DOH's assessment of National Register eligibility of the property and proposed actions to resolve the adverse effects.
5. The CT SHPO shall respond to CT DOH's written notification within the mutually agreed upon timeframe.
6. CT DOH shall take into account their recommendations regarding National Register eligibility and proposed actions, and then carry out appropriate actions.
7. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be developed by the CT DOH if CT DOH determines, in consultation with CT SHPO and the Concurring parties, that the Undertaking will have an adverse effect on the unanticipated discovery. The MOA will include avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures for eligible properties. CT DOH will notify the ACHP of any finding of adverse effect and invite the ACHP to participate in the development of the MOA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1)(i)(c)
8. The agency official shall provide the CT SHPO a report of the actions when they are completed.
9. Human Remains
 - a. If human remains are discovered during construction activities, all construction will cease within one hundred (100) feet in all directions of the human remains. CT DOH will immediately inform the appropriate parties as laid out under Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-388.
 - b. Any human remains and funerary objects discovered as a part of the Projects will be treated by CT DOH in accordance with the requirements of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-388.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

All cultural resource work under this agreement will be conducted by qualified professionals meeting the *Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44738-39).

IV. REPORTING AND MONITORING

A. Annual Reports. In order to monitor completion of the stipulations contained in this PA, CT DOH, will prepare and submit an annual report each year for distribution to the CT SHPO summarizing the actions taken to fulfill the stipulations of this PA. The CT

DOH and CT SHPO as the Signatories may agree to change the frequency of the reports.

B. Reporting Meetings. CT DOH will coordinate meetings with the CT SHPO to discuss activities carried out pursuant to this PA as needed.

C. Schedule. The timeframe for the annual reports will commence from the execution date of this PA.

V. OTHER FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT

In the event that another federal agency not initially a party to or subject to this PA receives an application for funding/license/permit for the Undertaking as described in this PA, that agency may fulfill its Section 106 responsibilities by stating in writing it concurs with the terms of this PA and notifying the CT DOH and CT SHPO that it intends to do so. Such agreement shall be evidenced by execution of this PA and filing with the ACHP, and implementation of the terms of this PA.

VI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should the CT DOH or the CT SHPO as the Signatories to this PA object in writing within 15 calendar days to the terms of this Agreement, CT DOH shall consult with CT SHPO for not more than 15 calendar days to resolve the objection. If CT DOH determines within 15 calendar days that such objection cannot be resolved, CT DOH will:

A. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the CT DOH's proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide CT DOH with its advice on the resolution of the objection within 30 calendar days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, CT DOH shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP and CT SHPO and provide ACHP and CT SHPO with a copy of this written response. CT DOH will then proceed according to its final decision.

B. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the 30 calendar day time period, CT DOH may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching such a final decision, CT DOH shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the CT SHPO, and provide CT SHPO and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.

C. CT DOH's responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this PA that are not the subject of the dispute remain unchanged.

VII. AMENDMENTS

This PA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by CT DOH and CT SHPO as the Signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by the CT DOH and CT SHPO as Signatories is filed with the ACHP.

VIII. EMERGENCY SITUATION

In accordance with 36 CFR Section 800.12(b)(2), should an emergency situation occur which represents an imminent threat to public health, or safety, or results from a natural disaster, or safety CT DOH shall immediately notify the CT SHPO as the Signatory, the ACHP, the appropriate SHPO/THPO and any Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties likely to be affected prior to the undertaking of the condition which has initiated the situation and the measures taken to respond to the emergency or hazardous condition. The CT DOH will afford them an opportunity to comment within 7 calendar days of notification. If the CT DOH determines that circumstances do not permit 7 calendar days for comment, the CT DOH shall notify the ACHP, the SHPO/THPO and the Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and invite any comments within the time available. Should the CT SHPO or the ACHP desire to provide technical assistance to the CT DOH, they shall submit comments within 7 calendar days from notification, if the nature of the emergency or hazardous condition allows for such coordination. In accordance with 36 CFR Section 800.12(d) Stipulation VIII applies only to undertakings that will be implemented within 30 calendar days after the disaster or emergency has been formally declared by the appropriate authority. An agency may request an extension of the period of applicability from the ACHP prior to the expiration of the 30 calendar days. Immediate rescue and salvage operations conducted to preserve life or property are exempt from the provisions of section 106 and 36 CFR Section 800.12(d).

IX. TERMINATION

If the CT DOH or CT SHPO as the Signatories determines that its terms will not or cannot be carried out, that party shall immediately consult with the other party to attempt to develop an amendment per Stipulation VII, above. If within 15 calendar days an amendment cannot be reached, the CT DOH or CT SHPO as the Signatories may terminate the PA upon written notification to the Signatories and Concurring parties.

Once the PA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, CT DOH must either (a) execute a PA pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6 or (b) request, take into account, and respond to the comments of the ACHP under 36 CFR § 800.7. CT DOH shall notify the CT SHPO as to the course of action it will pursue.

X. DURATION

Unless otherwise extended and agreed upon by the CT DOH and CT SHPO as the Signatories to this PA, the Resilient Bridgeport PA will remain in effect until December 31, 2022, with all funds expended by September 30, 2022 consistent with the Disaster Relief Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-2) and 31 U.S.C. § 1552(a).

APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

AMONG

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

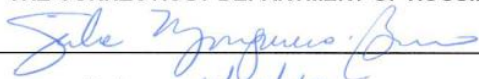
AND

CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT

SIGNATORY

THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

By: 
Date 10/27/19

Name: Seila Mosquera-Bruno

Title: Commissioner

APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

AMONG

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

AND

CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT

SIGNATORY

THE CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

By: Mary B. Dunne

Date 10.22.19

Name: MARY DUNNE

Title: STATE HISTORIC Preservation Officer

**CONCURRING PARTIES PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND
CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT**

CONCURRING PARTY

MOHEGAN TRIBE OF INDIANS OF CONNECTICUT

By: _____

Date _____

Name:

Title:

**CONCURRING PARTIES PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND
CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT**

CONCURRING PARTY

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

By: _____

Date _____

Name:

Title:

**CONCURRING PARTIES PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND
CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT**

CONCURRING PARTY

DELAWARE NATION, OKLAHOMA

By: _____

Date _____

Name:

Title:

**CONCURRING PARTIES PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND
CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT**

CONCURRING PARTY

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

By: _____

Date _____

Name:

Title:

CONCURRING PARTIES PAGE FOR PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

AMONG

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

AND

CONNECTICUT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

REGARDING RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT IN BRIDGEPORT, CT

CONCURRING PARTY

THE MARY & ELIZA FREEMAN CENTER FOR HISTORY AND COMMUNITY

By: *Maisa L. Tisdale*

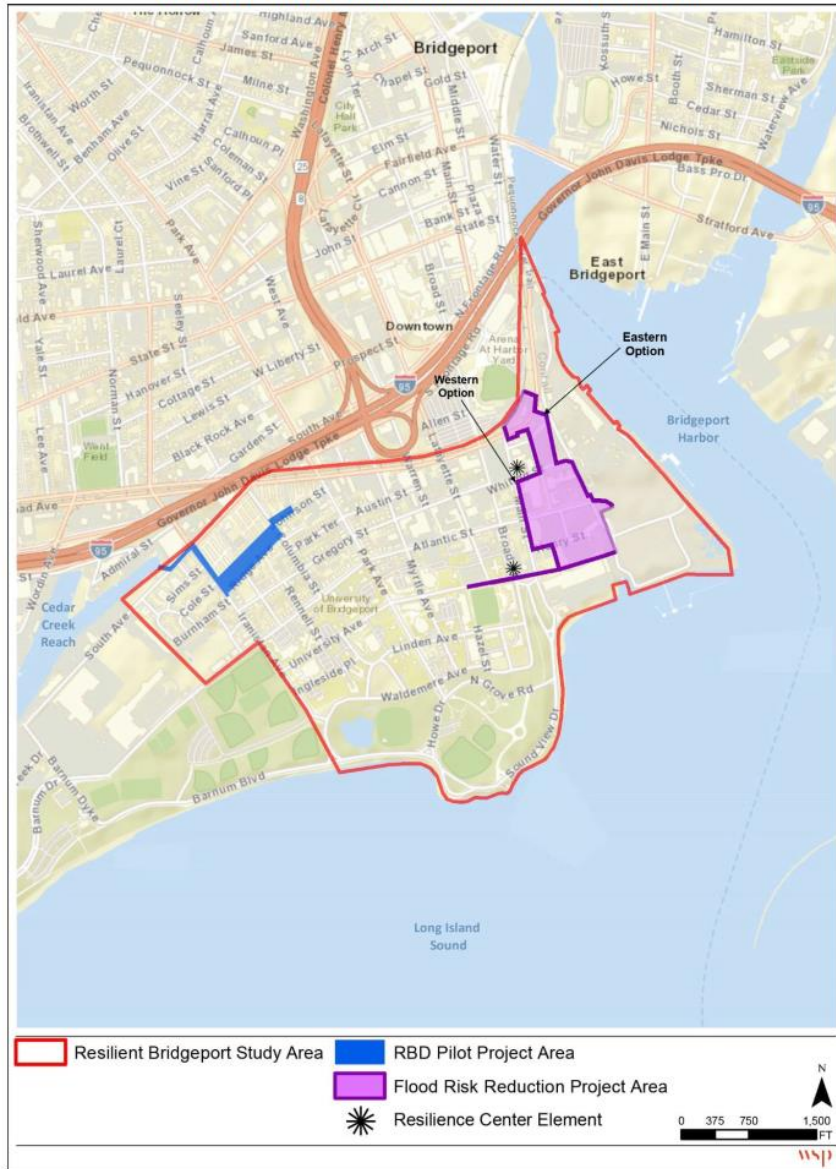
Date *10/18/2019*

Name: *MAISA L. TISDALE*

Title: *PRESIDENT / CEO*

EXHIBIT A

**RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT PROJECTS
IN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**



**RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT PROJECTS
IN FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**



EXHIBIT B

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS



**EXHIBIT C
HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN THE APE**

Property Name	NR Listed (indiv.)	NR Listed (district)	NR Pot. Elig. (indiv.)	NR Pot. Elig. (district)	SR Listed Only	LHD
Seaside Park	X					
Tongue Point Lighthouse	X					
Freeman Houses	X					
Seaside Institute	X					
Park Apartments	X					
Willam D. Bishop Cottages Development Historic District		X				
Barnum/Palliser Historic District		X				X
Marina Park Historic District		X				X
Seaside Village Historic District		X				
Walters Memorial AME Zion Church			X		X	
Bridgeport Storage Warehouse Company			X			
Crown Corset & Crown Paper Box Company Factories			X			
D. M. Read Company Warehouse			X			
Carstensen Hall			X			
Ingleside Hall			X			
Waldemere Hall			X			
Wisteria Hall			X			
247 Atlantic Street			X			
337-341 Broad Street			X			
Seagrove Cottage			X			
Housing on Park Avenue & Atlantic & Gregory Streets (24 houses)				X		
Myrtle Avenue Housing (7 houses)				X		
New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad				X		
Bassick Company Factory				X		
Warner Brothers Company Factory				X		

ATTACHMENT 3: PUBLIC AND AGENCY COMMENTS ON THE FEIS

Response to Comments

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
1	1	RBD Pilot	Will the raising of Johnson and Columbia Streets as part of the Johnson Street extension under the RBD Pilot project impact the northwest corner of the Johnson / Columbia / Park Terrace block and the Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust project to be constructed in that location?	Yes, Johnson and Columbia Streets will be elevated at that corner, sloping down to the east and south in order to meet current grade. CT DOH will coordinate with Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust as design on the RBD Pilot project continues so the two projects can be integrated.
2	2	60 Main	As developer of the 60 Main Street site, concerned about the potential impact of the flood wall through the site, particularly design implications from the turn south at the eastern end and the space taken up by the pump station.	Please note that the area identified as the location of the pump station is just conceptual and will not take up a significant amount of space (approximately 75' x 75'). As design progresses, CT DOH's Project Team will coordinate with the 60 Main Street developer to integrate the coastal flood defense system with the plans for the site.
3	2	60 Main	The design of the residential portion of the 60 Main Street project includes raising the first floor significantly above the existing grade, where it would be well above storm surge or flooding.	Elevation of the site is important but dry egress is also required (see response to comment 5).
4	2	60 Main	Significant amounts of time and money have been expended in planning the 60 Main Street project and the delays due to the Resilient Bridgeport project have cost money and hurt the ability of the project to move forward.	As stated in the FEIS, the Resilient Bridgeport project is needed to provide dry egress to the 60 Main Street site. The time taken was needed to develop the best option for the project and the various stakeholders.
5	2	Dry Egress	EIS says that both Marina Village/Windward Apartments and 60 Main Streets need the Rebuild by Design to go forward in order to provide dry egress. I do not believe this is the case. The design of the project includes substantial elevation to the site. Page 3-19 of the FEIS states only Marina Village/Windward Apartments require dry egress, but page 3-3 includes 60 Main Street (this should be removed).	In correspondence from Robert Kaliszewski at CT DEEP to Cynthia Petruzzello at the Department of Economic & Community Development dated October 18, 2017, CT DEEP indicated that DECD shall require that the developer construct a dry access pathway leading from the site ("60 Main Street") to a location outside of the coastal floodplain to serve as an egress pathway during flood events prior to the issuance of the certificate of occupancy, as a special condition of an exemption request from Section 25-68d(b)4 of the

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
				<p>Connecticut General Statutes for the 60 Main property since the proposed activities will not promote long-term nonintensive floodplain uses nor have utilities located to discourage floodplain development.</p> <p>Page 3-3 discusses both the Marina Village/Windward Apartments and 60 Main Street sites, while page 3-19 is only using Marina Village/Windward Apartments as one example.</p> <p>Page 3-3 states, “Although the projects are not part of the Proposed Action, both the redevelopment of the Marina Village/Windward Apartments site and development at 60 Main Street, as currently planned, depend on the Proposed Action to be complete prior to construction in order to provide dry egress for future residents. It is assumed that without the Proposed Action, the design for these redevelopment projects would be altered to provide the necessary dry egress and incorporate other flood risk reduction measures to allow the projects to move forward.” The second sentence was included in the FEIS to clarify that in the absence of the Resilient Bridgeport projects the requirement for dry egress for the 60 Main Street site as described in the CT DEEP letter still stands and would have to be met in another way.</p> <p>No change to the FEIS is needed.</p>
6	2	60 Main	On page 5-4 of the FEIS, it should be clearly noted that the development of 60 Main Street is the result of previously obtained zoning and other required approvals with a design that incorporated its proximity to water and dry egress.	Comment noted. The FEIS will not be revised but this change is recorded in this ROD. Please note the dry egress requirement in the CT DEEP letter described in Response #5 above.
7	2	60 Main	The delay caused by the finalization of the EIS has not only impacted the upland portion of the 60 Main Street	Comment noted. The work proposed for the Resilient Bridgeport projects should not impact the marina and

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			development, but also the marina and waterfront portions of the project. We received a short extension that requires additional expense and we may have to commence construction very soon in order to avoid the loss of our rights to develop.	waterfront portions of the 60 Main Street development. Those projects may be able to proceed without final design of the coastal flood defense system and should not interfere with construction. CT DOH's Project Team will coordinate with the 60 Main Street development.
8	3	Construction	The schedule and impact on campus continues to be the University of Bridgeport's greatest concern.	Comment noted. Due to the CDBG-DR requirements, schedule is vitally important to Resilient Bridgeport's implementation as well. CT DOH's Project Team will work closely with the University of Bridgeport to develop a construction schedule that is compatible and minimizes impacts to campus operations.
9	3	University Ave	The alignment of the structure [coastal flood defense system] on University Avenue has been shown south of the street curb line.	The figures in the FEIS are conceptual and do not reflect the exact location relative to the street curb line. The 30% engineering and design drawings were shared with the University of Bridgeport as a further refinement of the location of the coastal flood defense system and they can provide the University of Bridgeport with a more accurate alignment. Further refinements of the alignment of the sheet piling along University Avenue will be prepared during the next phase of design and shared with the University of Bridgeport for review.
10	4	CSO	What does it mean when actual treated sewage water released into Long Island Sound is separated? Separated into how many lines and where are these lines of treated sewage going?	Sewer separation, which will be implemented by the Bridgeport WPCA as part of multiple planned projects throughout Bridgeport, means that current combined sewer overflow (CSO) systems would be converted to a two-line system where runoff (relatively clean water from roadways and other impervious surfaces) are separated from sewage systems which are directed to a wastewater treatment plant, such as the West Side wastewater facility near the South End.

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
11	4	Green Infrastructure	How is the green infrastructure going to supplement new drainage systems and protect Long Island Sound and the public?	The green infrastructure proposed by the Resilient Bridgeport projects, such as the stormwater park at the RBD Pilot Project and the overland discharge through Seaside Park for the Flood Risk Reduction Project, will use natural measures to treat runoff, reducing the burden on the wastewater treatment plants and cleaning/filtering water before it is discharged to Cedar Creek Reach or Long Island Sound. Green infrastructure approaches are considered a best practice by the CT DEEP for removing pollutants in surface water runoff that contribute to an overabundance of nutrients in the Sound, leading to algal blooms that cause low-oxygen conditions leading to fish kills and other impacts. Contaminated runoff also contributes to higher levels of bacteria that close beaches and prevent the consumption of fish and shellfish from the Sound.
12	4	WPCA	Will Bridgeport WPCA have a different role in this after project completion?	It is the CT DOH's understanding that the WPCA will continue to maintain the CSO separation projects described in Response #10 in the study area after the Resilient Bridgeport projects are constructed.
13	4	Water Treatment	Is treated water recycled solutions in play during heavy rainfall/spillage or temporary storage tanks provided for the treated sewage overflows?	The stormwater park at Marina Village/Windward Apartments and the overland discharge through Seaside Park (along Soundview Drive converted to a vegetated basin) will serve as temporary storage during heavy rainfall events. Water will be retained in these areas, be naturally cleaned by the green infrastructure prior to discharge to the waterways. This eliminates the need for storage tanks. The Resilient Bridgeport projects do not incorporate treated water recycling solutions.
14	5	Construction – Transmission Lines	The [coastal flood defense system] cannot, as a practical manner, be constructed in the proposed location [for the Preferred Alternative] at the northern boundary of the Bridgeport Energy site. The flood wall as proposed would	CT DOH's Project Team is aware of this issue through previous conversations with Bridgeport Energy plant staff. CT DOH recognizes this as an area of concern and does not want to cause any power outage as a result of construction.

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			<p>run under the Bridgeport Energy power plant’s high-voltage electric transmission lines at the northeastern corner of the property. The high-voltage electric transmission lines between the power plant and utility substation are approximately 35 feet above the ground at their lowest point. We believe the placement of the flood wall directly under the high-voltage electric transmission lines is both unworkable and inherently unsafe. Construction work near electric transmission lines is subject to strict regulation, including minimum approach distance (both horizontal and vertical) based on the transmission line’s voltage, clearances between energized conductors and clearance to roads, water, supports, ground and ungrounded structures, and establishes grounding standards. If the construction equipment and procedures cannot comply with the applicable codes, the transmission lines would have to be de-energized during construction of the flood wall and installation of sheet piling under those transmission lines. De-energizing the transmission lines would prevent Bridgeport Energy from exporting its electrical generation to the regional grid. In addition, de-energizing the lines is subject to ISO New England limits on timing and disruptions in transmission and would require ISO-NE approval for the outage, which could significantly delay construction of a flood wall under the transmission lines. For example, Bridgeport Energy’s outages for scheduled plant maintenance, typically 12 to 14 days in the spring and fall, are scheduled and approved as much as a year or more in advance.</p>	<p>CT DOH can work with Bridgeport Energy to schedule construction under the high-voltage electric transmission lines during the plant’s scheduled outages in the spring or fall as noted in Bridgeport Energy’s comments. In addition, CT DOH’s Project Team will incorporate any necessary worker safety requirements into contractor bid documents.</p>
15	5	Coastal Flood Defense System – Design	<p>Structures near electrical transmission lines must also be designed and grounded to prevent arcing. As a result, the sheet piling and the design of the wall may have to be modified, especially because the wall will be in contact with</p>	<p>As design progresses, CT DOH’s Project Team will work with Bridgeport Energy to ensure the coastal flood defense system incorporates the necessary engineering controls to prevent arcing. This may require elevating the transmission lines and reviewing the flood wall materials for conductivity when in</p>

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			seawater during stormwater surge events, which would alter the materials' conductive characteristics.	contact with sea water. The coastal flood defense system designs presented in the FEIS are at a conceptual level. These are issues that will need to be addressed as part of final design.
16	5	Coastal Flood Defense System Alignment	The [coastal flood defense system] should not abut the northern boundary of the Bridgeport Energy parcel or the eastern boundary of the United Illuminating parcel. The [alignment] can, however, extend north from Bridgeport Energy's eastern property line, along the route of the access way, in order to avoid the high-voltage electric transmission lines. We understand that the alignment would bisect the PSEG property and traverse PSEG's coal ash pile, requiring further discussion between the State and PSEG.	Straightening the coastal flood defense system alignment as proposed would increase the amount of land protected from future storm events and taken out of the 1% annual chance floodplain, with no additional environmental consequences. However, as noted, the alignment would bisect PSEG property, requiring further consultation with the property owner. CT DOH does not consider this proposed minor alteration to the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment as requiring a change to the FEIS; rather any change of this type to the Preferred Alternative 1 will be resolved as part of the negotiation of easements for construction with the property owners involved. Although the CT DOH recognizes the benefits to the Resilient Bridgeport project of the proposed minor alteration of the alignment, as noted in Response #14 and #15, it is possible to construct the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment as described in the FEIS.
17	5	Construction – Vibration	The FEIS notes that vibration may occur during construction of the [coastal flood defense system]. The Bridgeport Energy power plant relies on instrumentation that is sensitive to vibration. As a result, construction methods must be modified so as to not interfere with the power plant's instrumentation. Bridgeport Energy is happy to meet with the engineers working on the [coastal flood defense system] to work through the details.	The CT DOH Project Team will consult with the utility companies regarding vibration from construction and incorporate recommendations, as appropriate and thanks Bridgeport Energy for their offer to meet with the CT DOH Project Team's engineers.
18	5	Hazardous Materials	The FEIS does not take into account the environmental investigation and remediation work that has already occurred on the Bridgeport Energy parcel. As a result, the FEIS discusses performing investigation work that is not needed	The additional environmental data from the environmental investigation and remediation work on the Bridgeport Energy parcel will be helpful for the Project Team to review. Additional investigations will not be performed if they are not

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			<p>and does not include soil management requirements that will be needed at the Bridgeport Energy parcel. Bridgeport Energy recommends that the FEIS be amended to incorporate the investigation and remediation records for the parcel. In particular, Appendix D of the FEIS did not acknowledge the 2015 Verification of Remediation on file for the Bridgeport Energy site (audited and approved by CTDEEP) and instead recommended that a Phase II be performed for all areas of intrusive activities. Phase II, Phase III and remedial work (including an institutional control) has already been completed at the Bridgeport Energy site. There would be no need to conduct additional investigations, except as needed for soil management and disposal purposes.</p>	<p>necessary for data collection purposes. As design continues, including development of a sampling and analysis plan, the Project Team will evaluate all available data. The CT DOH Project Team will contact Bridgeport Energy and CT DEEP to obtain this data or Bridgeport Energy may share it directly with the CT DOH's Director of Resilience, Rebecca French as the Point of Contact for the Resilient Bridgeport project.</p>
19	5	Groundwater	<p>WSP may not be aware of the measurements of groundwater depth and quality contained in that report and associated reports. This data may be relevant to both the design and stormwater system improvements and to the construction specifications for the [coastal flood defense system] near the Bridgeport Energy property.</p>	<p>Comment noted. WSP is the lead consultant for the CT DOH's Project Team for the design and engineering of Resilient Bridgeport. The CT DOH Project Team will review the available reports and add the data to the groundwater data that has already been collected for the project.</p>
20	5	Archaeological Surveys	<p>Because the Bridgeport Energy power plant is located on comparatively recent, made land, we believe that archaeological surveys are not needed for the portion of the [coastal flood defense system] abutting the Bridgeport Energy property.</p>	<p>The Historic and Archaeological Resources Evaluation Report in Appendix C of the FEIS evaluated the historic shoreline of the South End. All available data will be evaluated to determine the need for surveys or sampling in specific areas to be impacted during construction of the projects.</p>
21	6	Coastal Flood Defense System Alignment	<p>United Illuminating (UI) is most supportive of the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment. Moreover, UI believes the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment can be further improved as Resilient Bridgeport adopts a straighter derivative of the proposed path.</p>	<p>See response to comment 16.</p>

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
22	6	Coastal Flood Defense System Alignment	The Preferred Alternative 1 alignment is proposed to extend across the northeastern section of PSEG’s property that is situated north of Ferry Access Road. PSEG intends to transfer that section of property to UI and UI intends to use it as part of the Pequonnock Substation Project. As presently depicted, the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment of the floodwall is proposed to cross a section of PSEG’s property and continue in a northerly direction that would cause the floodwall to sever a portion of the property into two separate parcels.	It is not CT DOH’s intention to bisect the northern PSEG property to be transferred to UI for the Pequonnock Substation Project. The figures in the FEIS are conceptual and should represent the coastal flood defense system alignment following the parcel line. As design progresses and as easements are developed, the Project Team will refine the alignment to match the exact property lines, where appropriate.
23	6	Utilities – University Avenue	UI requires additional information from Resilient Bridgeport to assess the potential impacts of the Flood Risk Reduction Project plan to raise a portion of University Avenue. UI is in the early stages of assessing and identifying what gas and electric distribution equipment may require removal, relocation, and reconstruction to accommodate the intended elevation of University Avenue. Over the coming months, it will be important for personnel of Southern Connecticut Gas Company and UI (collectively, the UIL Companies) to meet with Resilient Bridgeport to best understand what needs to be done to ensure safe and successful completion of the Flood Risk Reduction Project.	CT DOH appreciates UIL Companies’ offer to confer on the potential for impacts to utilities along University Avenue. CT DOH similarly wants to ensure the project is implemented safely. As design progresses, the Project Team will consult with UIL Companies to review detailed design drawings and discuss construction methodology.
24	7	Coastal Flood Defense System Alignment	PSEG notes that Alternative 1 is incorrectly described in Section 3.3.4 as: “[t]he alignment then <u>would run almost entirely along the PSEG property</u> , before crossing Ferry Access Road and tying into a northern section of the CTDOT New Haven line railroad viaduct.” (emphasis added). It is more accurately described in Section 4.5.2.3 (page 4-66) as “[t]his alternative <u>would run almost entirely along private property owned by PSEG, Bridgeport Energy and future UI Pequonnock Substation site</u> , before crossing	CT DOH agrees that the text in Chapter 4 is more descriptive and the intention was to use that same text throughout the document. We do not believe the alternate text appearing once elsewhere in the document warrants a change to the FEIS, but it is noted in this ROD that the CT DOH’s preferred description of the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment is “this alternative would run almost entirely along private property owned by PSEG, Bridgeport Energy and future UI Pequonnock Substation site, before crossing Ferry Access Road and tying into the CTDOT New Haven Line

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			Ferry Access Road and tying into the CTDO New Haven Line viaduct...) (emphasis added).	viaduct...)” This description is consistent with figures in the FEIS showing the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment along these property boundaries.
25	7	Hazardous Materials	PSEG questions the risk ranking of its property as “high” in Table 4.6.3 given the amount of investigation and remediation completed on its property to date. Particularly since other property owners with similar “contaminants of concern” only received a “moderate” rating.	Comment noted. It is possible that the risk ranking did not take into consideration all the available data. The ranking is for comparison between sites and has no regulatory bearing. As design continues, including development of a sampling and analysis plan, the Project Team will evaluate all available data.
26	7	Easement	Section 3.3.4 notes that Alternative 1 is “dependent on multiple easements from private entities for construction and maintenance. Per direction from HUD, those easements cannot be executed until after the completion of the environmental review process...” PSEG notes that negotiating the proper easements for the location of the flood wall, including the scope, duration and requirements of the easement to the satisfaction of CT DOH and PSEG is an essential component in the feasibility of the flood wall in the proposed Alternative 1 location. Section 6.5.1 states that “PSEG provided input on the alignment alternatives and is supportive of the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) that would require an easement on PSEG property.” PSEG’s support is necessarily contingent on the negotiation of an acceptable easement and the CT DOH’s addressing the other concerns set forth in this comment letter.	Comment noted. CT DOH will work with PSEG to address their concerns and negotiate the required easement prior to construction of the impacted area of the coastal flood defense system.
27	7	Hazardous Materials	<u>Commitment to T-Wall Design:</u> In response to PSEG’s concerns regarding the possibility of CT DOH encountering impacted soils during construction of the flood wall, CT DOH has committed to the installation of a T-wall design which will eliminate the removal of soils along PSEG’s property. Further, CT DOH committed that if any impacted	CT DOH has determined that the T-wall design would be appropriate for the coastal flood defense system in order to eliminate the need for soil removal in areas of potential contamination. That level of design detail was not needed for the FEIS, but is intended to be integrated into final design. PSEG’s description of the soil management is consistent with

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
			soils are excavated, CT DOH will properly remove the soils off-site and sign the disposal records as the generator.	the discussions and written exchanges between the CT DOH and the PSEG to date. Written agreements between CT DOH and PSEG addressing soil management will be prepared prior to any commencement of site work.
28	7	Dry Egress - PSEG	<u>Restricted Access:</u> The construction of the flood wall will result in the PSEG property becoming land-locked with no off-site access during flood events. PSEG has informed CT DOH that their employees and site occupants must have access off the site, including for safety reasons during a storm event. Further, the City of Bridgeport's emergency services must have the ability to access PSEG's property during storm events, for example, in the event of a fire. PSEG requested that CT DOH design and construct a ramp for off-site access.	CT DOH understands that due to the elevation of the Harbor Unit 5 site, a ramp is required for PSEG to access the dry egress following construction of the coastal flood defense system. The current conceptual plan is for the existing ramp (earthen embankment), created for construction of Harbor Unit 5 by PSEG, be replaced. The specifics of the design will be refined in consultation with PSEG and commitments identified in the easement to be executed following this ROD.
29	7	Stormwater	<u>Stormwater:</u> PSEG recommends that CT DOH ensure that additional steps and caution be implemented to ensure that the existing stormwater sewer system is not over-taxed and further degraded.	The Flood Risk Reduction Project incorporates both the coastal flood defense system and stormwater infrastructure projects to ensure that there will be no impacts to the existing stormwater sewer system. In addition, CT DOH is coordinating with the Bridgeport WPCA as they implement CSO separation projects on the east side of the South End and at Seaside Village, which will further improve the stormwater sewer system in the area.
30	7	Utilities	A number of companies and utilities have operated in the South End of hundreds of years. The Project should be prepared to encounter various underground utility lines (known and unknown). The Project should take appropriate health and safety and construction measures to identify and deal with these lines without interrupting residential and commercial use in the South End.	Comment noted. Health and safety measures will be incorporated into the contractor's bid documents.

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
31	7	Easement	<p><u>Post-Construction Concerns:</u> As previously noted, easement agreement must be drafted. The parties need to negotiate appropriate access rights. PSEG's property has restricted access 24/7 and CT DOH cannot access the site without proper notice and following safety protocols. PSEG understands that there are limited funds for the on-going inspection and maintenance requirements of the flood wall post-construction. Therefore, PSEG will need assurances that the State of Connecticut can identify and lock in funds to complete these tasks into perpetuity and that the obligations and costs associated with them do not fall upon the property owners along the flood wall.</p>	<p>Comment noted. Access and safety requirements will be outlined in the easement and CT DOH will provide assurances that inspection and maintenance of the coastal flood defense system will not be a responsibility of PSEG. As described in Section 9.0 of this ROD, the CT DOH will develop an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan for the Preferred Alternative.</p>
32	7	Coastal Flood Defense System Alignment	<p>Proposed Realignment of Alternative 1: Bridgeport Energy/Cogentrix plans to submit a comment letter on the FEIS that will recommend the adjustment of a portion of Alternative 1 to place the flood wall further from its high-tension lines claiming it is both unworkable and inherently unsafe. Although PSEG understands the concern, the realignment portion Alternative 1 proposed by Bridgeport Energy/Cogentrix would relocate the proposed flood wall of Alternative 1 further onto PSEG's property. PSEG opposes this proposed realignment because it will place unnecessary burdens and expenses on PSEG's property.</p>	<p>Comment noted. See response to comment 16. While CT DOH recognizes the suggested change has additional benefits to the Resilient Bridgeport project, the Preferred Alternative 1 in this ROD is feasible. CT DOH understands the suggested change to this alignment bisects PSEG property.</p>
33	8	Programmatic Agreement – Resilience Center	<p>The Resilience Center functions referenced in the Programmatic Agreement (PA) [draft version distributed October 7, 2019] on page 2, paragraph 4, were designated without input from the Freeman Center and without State knowledge of the site's design. As such, we ask that the PA omit references to the Freeman Center's Resilience Center operations until discussion between the Freeman Center and CT DOH have taken place.</p>	<p>Following a meeting with the consulting parties on October 8, 2019, the Programmatic Agreement (PA) text was revised to note that the definition of the Resilience Center is taken from the FEIS. See the executed version of the PA in Attachment 2 of this ROD.</p>

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
34	8	Programmatic Agreement – Vibration	Section II, A.2: The Freeman Center does not empower or delegate CT DOH and CT SHPO to deem what course of action is sufficient to protect its properties – the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses – from vibrations.	Following a meeting with the consulting parties on October 8, 2019, the Programmatic Agreement (PA) text was revised to include the Freeman Center as a reviewer of the Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan specific to the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses. See the executed version of the PA in Attachment 2 of this ROD.
35	8	Programmatic Agreement	Clarification of Section II. PROJECT REVIEW AND CONSULTATION and Section VI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION is requested.	At the October 8, 2019 consulting parties meeting, CT DOH provided clarification on those two sections. The text was unclear and changes were made further specifying the roles of the Signatories and Concurring parties in Section II and Section VI. of the Programmatic Agreement (PA). See the executed version of the PA in Attachment 2 of this ROD.
36	8	Design Review	The expanse between the first element of the Resilience Center – the Freeman Houses – and the second element – the Dead-end/raised roadway at University Avenue (bordered by the Cottage District and inhibiting access to Seaside Park) – raises several critical design issues. These require further meaningful, direct input from the Freeman Center and others in the community with intimate knowledge of the neighborhood. Since there is considerable design work to be done before plans are finalized, the Freeman Center requests the opportunity to interface with the design process directly by bringing its own team to advise and work in collaboration with the CT DOH Team. We request that additional State funding be allocated for this effort.	As discussed in the October 8, 2019 consulting parties meeting, the Freeman Center is a Concurring party to the Programmatic Agreement and reviews the 60% and 90% designs for their impacts to historic properties. As design progresses, CT DOH will continue to seek input from the public and project stakeholders through public meetings/workshops, Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee meetings. The Freeman Center and their team is welcome to participate in these meetings and provide input. The CT DOH recognizes the considerable effort it takes all stakeholders to review and provide comments on the Resilient Bridgeport project and thanks them for their voluntary time. The CT DOH publicly recognizes the contributions of the public to the development of this project. At this time due to grant constraints there is no plan to provide state funds to any member of the public or stakeholder to compensate them for participation in these meetings. The CT DOH makes meeting materials, reports, etc. available electronically on the ResilientBridgeport.com website for those who wish to use those materials and strives

#	Commenter Code	Topic	Comment	Response to Comment
				to make that material understandable to the public. It is the intention of the Resilient Bridgeport project that the project benefits, once constructed, will be experienced by the public in terms of decreased flood risk, lower flood insurance costs, and public amenities of the Resilience Center and the street improvements as part of the Flood Risk Reduction Project.
37	9	General	We found the FEIS responsive to the recommendations we [USEPA] offered on the DEIS related to required permits and the management of contaminated sediment during project construction. We have no additional comments and appreciate the opportunity to review the FEIS.	Comment noted.
38	10	Permitting	DEEP previously identified the permit programs that would be involved for this project in the response to scoping and in comments on the DEIS. DEEP advises the Resilient Bridgeport design team to contact the Planning and Program Development Office to coordinate a cross-division pre-application meeting at DEEP. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled directly with the appropriate permitting group. For the initial pre-application meeting, please contact Beatriz Milne in Planning and Program Development at 860-424-3844, or by email at Beatriz.Milne@ct.gov , or Robert Hannon at 860-424-3245, or by email at Robert.Hannon@ct.gov . While preparing permit applications, consider timing the submission to allow for notice requirements and public participation.	Comment noted.
39	10	Maintenance – RBD Pilot	DEEP agrees that the creation of the 2.5-acre stormwater retention park will provide treatment for stormwater and improve water quality for Long Island Sound. A robust long-term maintenance plan designed by a professional engineer is essential in maintaining the function of the Stormwater Park such as slowing water velocity, storage, and filtering	Comment noted. As described in Section 9.0 of this ROD, the CT DOH will develop an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan for the Selected Alternative.

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			contaminants. DEEP recommends that DOH identify the responsible parties for long-term maintenance and work with their contracting office to ensure compliance.	
40	10	Maintenance – Flood Risk Reduction Project	A long-term maintenance plan should be developed for the flood control structures and the responsible parties identified for maintenance and floodgate operations.	Comment noted. As described in Section 9.0 of this ROD, the CT DOH will develop an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan for the Selected Alternative.

----- Original message -----

From: Nicole Desrosiers <ndesrosiers.duos@gmail.com>

Date: 9/19/19 10:33 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: "French, Rebecca" <Rebecca.French@ct.gov>, "Dickinson, Duo" <duo.dickinson@gmail.com>

Subject: Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust project at the Johnson & Columbia block

Hello Rebecca,

We are the architects for the Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust project at the Johnson / Columbia /Park Terrace block. The client forwarded us the FEIS and i see there is some talk of raising Johnson and Columbia street around the new johnson street extension road. Since i dont know exactly where this new road is i am having difficulty determining if this is going to impact the northwest corner of the block. Could you please help guide me on this? We are starting design development so this information will be crucial at this time.

Thank You,

Nicole Desrosiers

DUO DICKINSON architect

94 Bradley Road

Madison, CT 06443

Tel (203) 245-0405

Fax (203) 245-0093

****Please note my email address has changed
to ndesrosiers.duos@gmail.com****

From: Russel Bernard [<mailto:russ@westportpm.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 9:56 PM
To: French, Rebecca <Rebecca.French@ct.gov>; Stephen Grathwohl <steve@westportpm.com>
Subject: RE: Final EIS on CT DOH website

Rebecca,

I reviewed the EIS and as we discussed, I am concerned about the potential impact of the flood wall going through the middle of the site. The jag at the eastern portion of the wall towards the sound probably has significant design implications for the project. Additionally, the pump station is using a portion of the property which will render that portion of property unusable for the project. As you know, significant amounts of time and money have been expended in planning this project over many years prior to your involvement and the submittal of the EIS. The delays have only further hurt the ability to move forward. The project has been on hold since we don't know what the final plan will be. As you know from the plans provided to you, the design of the residential portion of the project included raising the first floor significantly above the existing grade where it would be well above storm surge or flooding. Although I appreciate the need for what the EIS proposes, and am in favor of trying to

get it done, the costs to the 60 Main Street development are substantial and I am not sure how to cover them.

Russ

On Sep 24, 2019, at 9:23 AM, French, Rebecca <Rebecca.French@ct.gov> wrote:

Hi Russ,

Thank you for your note. I am assuming this is an official comment on the FEIS since we are in a public comment period so I will respond formally in the response to public comment, but please know the alignment in the Final EIS is the plan. The utilities have been working well with us since we came to an understanding this summer about the best option for the project and for their properties. My design team is on notice to work closely with your team to integrate the coastal flood defense system with the plans for your property as we enter final design.

Best,
Rebecca

Rebecca A. French, Ph.D.
Director of Resilience
Department of Housing
State of Connecticut

E-mail: Rebecca.French@ct.gov
Phone: 860-270-8231
Cell: 860-381-9372



From: Russel Bernard [mailto:russ@westportpm.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 5:29 PM
To: French, Rebecca <Rebecca.French@ct.gov>
Cc: Stephen Grathwohl <steve@westportpm.com>
Subject: Re: Final EIS on CT DOH website

Rebecca,

You are correct, my comments to you should be considered 60 Main Street's official comments and included in the EIS and related documents.

I also noticed that the EIS says that 60 Main Street needs the Rebuild by Design project to go forward in order to provide 60 Main with dry egress. As we discussed when we first met I don't believe that is the case. The design of the project, as you know, includes substantial elevation to the site. The EIS includes Marina Village/Windward Apartments requiring dry egress which makes sense and excluded 60 Main on page 3-19. 60 Main should also be excluded on page 3-3.

On page 5-4 it should be clearly noted that the development of 60 Main Street is the result of previously obtained zoning and other required approvals with a design that incorporated its proximity to the water and dry egress. Since you have the plans for the site you can see that 60 Main Street has had to delay its work and will have to incur substantial costs to modify the design of the project. 60 Main should not have to bear these costs.

Additionally, the delay caused by the finalization of the EIS has not only impacted the land portion of the development but also of the marina and waterfront. As you know, we received a short extension that requires additional expense. We may have to commence construction very soon in order to avoid the loss of our rights to develop. This may cause more expenses in the future, especially if there are any further changes.

Thank you,

Russ

From: George Estrada [mailto:gestrada@bridgeport.edu]
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2019 11:23 AM
To: French, Rebecca <Rebecca.French@ct.gov>
Cc: David Cote <davidc@bridgeport.edu>
Subject: RE: Resilient Bridgeport - Call tomorrow

Good morning Rebecca,

Unfortunately we were not able to attend the meeting this past Monday. I would love to connect with you in the near future to discuss where things stand. The schedule and impact on campus continues to be our greatest concern. Finally the comments submitted by the University still remain to be resolved. For example the alignment of the structure on University Avenue having been shown in earlier drawing south of the street curb line. I know you have lots of moving parts in the project and you are very busy but it would be helpful at this point for us to hear where things stand.

I appreciate as always your help.

George

From: Jeraldlyn Mebane [mailto:jeraldlynnc.sc@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 2:02 PM
To: French, Rebecca <Rebecca.French@ct.gov>
Subject: SUBJECT: BRIDGEPORT's SEWAGE SPILLAGE REMEDIES???

Dear Ms. French:

Today, I read the reprinted article (CT Post), dated 9/20/19 about how the storm overflow water projects in City of Bridgeport will be addressed with federal dollars, but this article did not clearly explain what it means when actual treated sewage water released into the Long Island Sound is separated, as you stated. Separated into how many lines and where are these lines of treated sewage waste going? How is the *Green Infrastructure going to supplement new drainage systems and protect the Long Island Sound and the public?* Also, *will the Bpt. WCPA have a different roll in this after project completion? The public needs to know more about this part of the project. (Is treated water re-cycled solutions in play during heavy rainfall/spillage or temporary storage tanks provided for the treated sewage overflows, etc?)*

Please provide more information to the public.

Sincerely,

Jeraldlyn Mebane



Bridgeport Energy LLC

13860 Ballantyne Corporate Place
Suite 300
Charlotte, NC 28277
(704) 525-3800

October 7, 2019

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL AND EMAIL INFO@RESILIENTBRIDGEPORT.COMRebecca French, Director of Resilience,
Connecticut Department of Housing
505 Hudson Street,
Hartford, CT 06106**RE: COMMENTS ON FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION DATED AUGUST 2019**

Dear Dr. French:

Bridgeport Energy LLC (Bridgeport Energy) is submitting the following comments on the Resilient Bridgeport Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) specifically as it relates to the Flood Risk Reduction component of the Proposed Action, Preferred Alternative 1. The Preferred Alternative will include installing sheet piling and seawalls with floodgates at street crossings. The proposed seawall will run north-south along the eastern border and north of Bridgeport Energy's site until it reaches the Pequonnock Substation where it would continue north along the eastern property line of the substation.

Comment 1: The seawall cannot, as a practical matter, be constructed in the proposed location at the northern boundary of the Bridgeport Energy site.

The seawall as proposed would run under the Bridgeport Energy power plant's high-voltage electric transmission lines. The area of concern is marked by the red circle on the copy of Figure 3-20, below, and depicted more clearly on Attachment A.

{N5631507}

Rebecca French
October 7, 2019

Figure 3-20. Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1)



Attachment A is an aerial photo of the circled area from the City of Bridgeport’s GIS site. It depicts the northeastern corner of the Bridgeport Energy power plant, the access road to the right, the extension of Whiting Street across the approximate midline of the image and the electrical substation in the upper right corner. The image also shows the high-voltage electric transmission lines that run from the northeastern corner of the Bridgeport Energy power plant to the substation. The substation is part of the Bridgeport Energy power plant and is located on land leased to it by United Illuminating.

Bridgeport Energy exports power to the New England grid at 115,000 volts. It has a nominal rating of 535 megawatts, which is enough to power 370,000 to 400,000 homes on average, the equivalent of all of Fairfield County¹. The high-voltage electric transmission lines between the power plant and the utility substation are approximately 35 feet above the ground at their lowest point. As proposed in Preferred Alternative 1, the sheet piling and sea wall are to be located directly under those high-voltage electric transmission lines.

We believe that placement of the sea wall directly under the high-voltage electric transmission lines is both unworkable and inherently unsafe. Construction work near electric transmission lines is subject to strict regulation, including standards promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Part 2 of ANSI C2: National Electrical Safety Code.

¹ 374,481 housing units in Fairfield County, 2013 – 2017.
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fairfieldcountyconnecticut>

{N5631507}

2.

Rebecca French
October 7, 2019

OSHA has established a minimum approach distance (both horizontal and vertical) based on the transmission line's voltage². Cranes and derricks are required to take additional steps before beginning work. The National Electric Safety Code also establishes minimum vertical and horizontal clearances, clearances between energized conductors and clearance to roads, water, supports, grounded, and ungrounded structures. It also establishes grounding standards. It is not at all clear that these codes could be complied with during construction of the proposed sea wall under the transmission lines, or that the sea wall as proposed would itself meet these codes.

Please note that structures constructed near electric transmission lines must also be designed and grounded to prevent arcing. As a result, the sheet piling and the design of the wall, in general, may have to be modified, especially because the wall will be in contact with seawater during storm surge events, which would alter the materials' conductive characteristics.

If the construction equipment and procedures cannot comply with the applicable codes, the transmission lines would have to be de-energized during construction of the sea wall and installation of sheet piling under those transmission lines. De-energizing the transmission lines would prevent Bridgeport Energy from exporting its electrical generation to the regional grid.

Bridgeport Energy is subject to the ISO New England (ISO-NE) Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff as well as its rules, protocols, procedures and other requirements. De-energizing the lines would, as a result, be subject to the requirements of ISO-NE, which imposes specific limits on the timing and duration of disruptions in transmission, among other things. For example, ISO-NE must approve Bridgeport Energy's outages for scheduled plant maintenance, typically 12 to 14 days in the spring and again in the fall, and those maintenance events are scheduled and approved as much as a year, or more, in advance. Such limits could, as a result, significantly delay construction of a sea wall under the transmission lines.

For the above reasons, the seawall should not and, as a practical matter, cannot abut the northern boundary of the Bridgeport Energy parcel or the eastern boundary of the United Illuminating parcel. The seawall can, however, extend north from Bridgeport Energy's eastern property line, along the route of the accessway in order to avoid the high-voltage electric transmission lines. A suggested modification is shown by the red line on the figure, below:

² 29 CFR 1926.1400 *et seq.*

Rebecca French
October 7, 2019



We understand that the alignment proposed above would bisect the PSEG property and traverse PSEG’s coal ash pile. In consequence, locating the seawall as proposed above would require further discussion between the State and PSEG.

Comment 2: The FEIS notes that vibration may occur during construction of the sea wall and sheet piling. The Bridgeport Energy power plant relies on instrumentation that is sensitive to vibration, including the Steam Turbine .46 in/sec (rms) seismic vibration trip settings and the Gas Turbine (GT) seismic trip settings .58 in/sec (rms). As a result, construction methods must be modified so as not to interfere with the power plant’s instrumentation.

Again, disruption of the power plant’s operations has broad consequences, potentially affecting the power supply for a large area. We therefore ask that the work be performed in a manner that does not disrupt the operation of the power plant. Bridgeport Energy is happy to meet with the engineers working on the sea wall to work through details.

Comment 3: The FEIS does not take into account the environmental investigation and remediation work that has already occurred on the Bridgeport Energy parcel. As a result, the report discusses performing investigation work that is not needed and does not include soil management requirements that will be needed at the Bridgeport Energy parcel. Bridgeport recommends that the FEIS be amended to incorporate the investigation and remediation records for the parcel.

{N5631507}

4.

Rebecca French
October 7, 2019

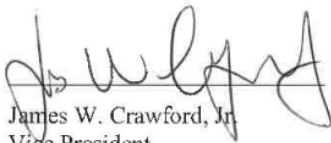
In particular, the Dec. 2018 WSP Resiliency Project Report in Appendix D of the FEIS did not acknowledge the 2015 Verification of Remediation³ on file for the Bridgeport Energy site and, instead, recommended that a Phase II be performed at all areas of intrusive activities. Phase II, Phase III and remedial work (including an institutional control) has already been completed at the Bridgeport Energy site. The 2015 verification of remediation report has been audited and approved by DEEP. There would, therefore, be no need to conduct additional investigations, except as needed for soil management and disposal purposes.

In addition, by not reviewing the 2015 Verification Report or other reports on file at DEEP, WSP may not be aware of the measurements of groundwater depth and quality contained in that report and associated reports. This data may be relevant to both the design of stormwater system improvements and to the constructions specifications for the seawall and flood gates near the Bridgeport Energy property.

Comment 4: Because the Bridgeport Energy power plant is located on comparatively recent, made land, we believe that archaeological surveys are not needed for the portion of the sea wall and flood gates abutting the Bridgeport energy property.

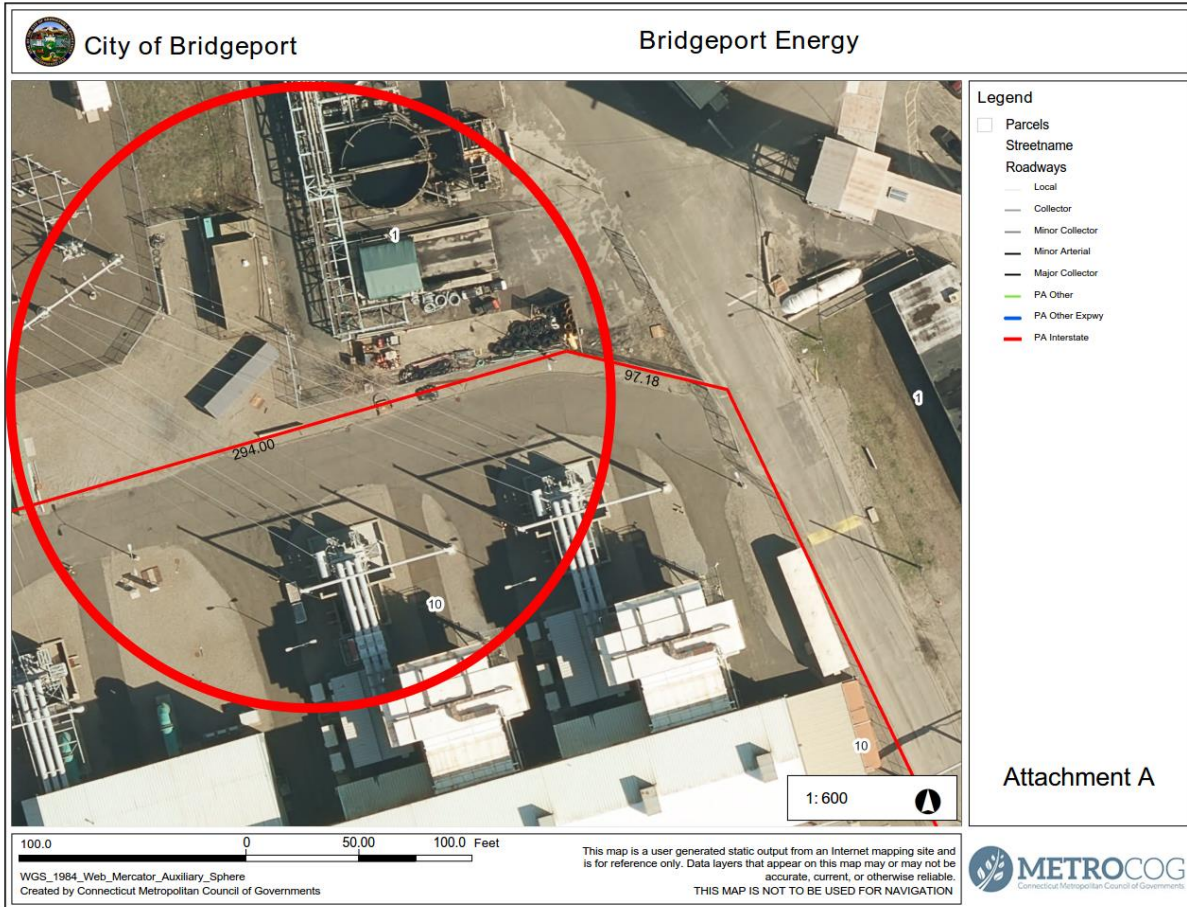
Please contact us if you would like additional information regarding the above comments. Thank you for your consideration.

BRIDGEPORT ENERGY LLC



James W. Crawford, Jr.
Vice President

³ A Form II Verification was also filed on April 3, 2019, following the issuance of the WSP report. DEEP has not yet issued a Letter of No Audit or Request for Audit in connection with that filing.





Todd Berman
United Illuminating
Manager – Environmental Programs & Projects

Rebecca French, Director of Resilience
Connecticut Department of Housing
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106

October 7, 2019

Comments of The United Illuminating Company and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company regarding the Connecticut Department of Housing’s Resilient Bridgeport Final Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Dr. French,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Connecticut Department of Housing’s Resilient Bridgeport (“Resilient Bridgeport”) Final Environmental Impact Statement (“FEIS”). The United Illuminating Company (“UI”) and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company (“SCG”) (collectively, the “UIL Companies”) recognize the timely importance of Resilient Bridgeport’s proposed flood mitigation investments that are intended to support public safety and security in the South End of the City of Bridgeport. UI is at the forefront of this effort as it undertakes a separate and unique resilience project in the South End of the City of Bridgeport.

UI plans to construct and place in-service the Pequonnock Substation Project on utility property that UI has contracted to acquire from PSEG Connecticut LLC (“PSEG”) in late 2019. The Connecticut Siting Council has recognized that the Pequonnock Substation Project is necessary for the reliability of the electric power supply of Connecticut, which will serve the interests of electric system economy and reliability, and as such, conforms, to a long-range plan for expansion of the electric system serving the State of Connecticut and related interconnected utility systems. Despite looming threats of frequent and severe weather related events, coupled with the observation of sea level rise and the expectation that sea levels will continue to rise along the Connecticut coast, the completion of the Pequonnock Substation Project will ensure that UI electric customers are afforded safe and reliable service of uninterrupted electric power.

The UIL Companies’ comments are particular to Resilient Bridgeport’s Flood Risk Reduction project component, which proposes to construct “a coastal flood defense system comprised of raising a portion of University Avenue and installing sheet piling and floodwalls...”¹ Resilient Bridgeport has set forth four alternatives of the proposed route and alignment of the coastal

¹ FEIS Executive Summary at VIII.

Todd Berman
United Illuminating
Manager – Environmental Programs & Projects
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flood defense system, or floodwall, for public comment. UI is most supportive of the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment. Moreover, UI believes the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment can be further improved if Resilient Bridgeport adopts a straighter derivative of the proposed path.

More significantly, the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment is proposed to extend across the northeastern section of PSEG's property that is situated north of Ferry Access Road. PSEG intends to transfer that section of property to UI and UI intends to use it as part of the Pequonnock Substation Project. As presently depicted, the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment of the floodwall is proposed to cross a section of PSEG's property and continue in a northerly direction that would cause the floodwall to sever a portion of the Pequonnock Substation Project property into two separate parcels divided by the floodwall. From this area, the floodwall is proposed to continue until it terminates at the elevated portion of the Metro North Railroad viaduct.

UI respectfully requests that Resilient Bridgeport adjust the route of the Preferred Alternative 1 alignment so that the floodwall is constructed adjacent to or away from the Pequonnock Substation Project property line in this area. UI is committed to providing Resilient Bridgeport with the appropriate guidance and information that will assist Resilient Bridgeport in making this necessary adjustment.

Lastly, the UIL Companies require additional information from Resilient Bridgeport to assess the potential impacts of the Flood Risk Reduction plan to raise a portion of University Avenue. The UIL Companies are in the early stages of assessing and identifying what gas and electric distribution equipment may require removal, relocation, and reconstruction to accommodate the intended elevation of University Avenue. Over the coming months, it will be important for personnel of SCG and UI to meet with Resilient Bridgeport to best understand what needs to be done to ensure safe and successful completion of the Flood Risk Reduction project.

The UIL Companies appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the FEIS and to guide the Resilient Bridgeport project team as it continues to make meaningful strides toward completion of these critical measures intended to protect the communities of the South End of the City of Bridgeport.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/ Todd Berman
Todd Berman
Manager – Environmental Programs & Projects
The United Illuminating Company

As agent for the UIL Companies

PSEG Power Connecticut LLC
1 Atlantic Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604



October 7, 2019

By Email (Rebecca.French@ct.gov) and First Class Mail

Ms. Rebecca French
Director of Resilience
Connecticut Department of Housing
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Comments on Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental
Impact Evaluation, dated August 2019

Dear Ms. French:

PSEG Power Connecticut LLC (“PSEG”) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Evaluation, dated August 2019 (“EIE”) and submits the following general comments on the project described in the EIE (the “Project”):

(1) Comments on the Text of the EIE – PSEG notes that Alternative 1 is incorrectly described in Section 3.3.4 as: “[t]he alignment then would run almost entirely along the PSEG property, before crossing Ferry Access Road and tying into a northern section of the CTDOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct.” (emphasis added). It is more accurately described in Section 4.5.2.3 (page4-66) as “[t]his alternative would run almost entirely along private property owned by PSEG, Bridgeport Energy and future UJ Pequonnock Substation site, before crossing Ferry Access Road and tying into the CTDOT New Haven Line viaduct...” (emphasis added).

PSEG questions the risk ranking of its property as “high” in Table 4.6.3 given the amount of investigation and remediation completed on its property to date. Particularly, since other property owners with similar “contaminants of concern” only received a “moderate” rating.

Section 3.3.4 also notes that Alternative 1 is “dependent on multiple easements from private entities for construction and maintenance. Per direction from HUD, those easements cannot be executed until after the completion of the environmental review process...” PSEG notes that negotiating the proper easements for the location of the flood wall, including the scope, duration and requirements of the easement to the satisfaction of CT DOH and PSEG is an essential component in the feasibility of the flood wall in the proposed Alternative 1 location. Section 6.5.1 states that: “PSEG provided input on the alignment alternatives and is supportive of the Preferred Alternative (Alternative

1) that would require an easement on PSEG property.” PSEG’s support is necessarily contingent on the negotiation of an acceptable easement and the CT DOH’s addressing the other concerns set forth in this comment letter.

(2) Commitment to T-Wall Design – In response to PSEG’s concerns regarding the possibility of CT DOH encountering impacted soils during construction of the flood wall, CT DOH has committed to the installation of a T-Wall Design (please see documents in Attachment A) which will eliminate the removal of soils along PSEG’s property. Further, CT DOH committed that if any impacted soils are excavated, CT DOH will properly remove the soils off-site and sign the disposal records as the generator.

(3) Restricted Access – The construction of the flood wall will result in the PSEG property becoming land-locked with no off-site access during flood events. PSEG has informed CT DOH that their employees and site occupants must have access off the site, including for safety reasons during a storm event. Further, the City of Bridgeport’s emergency services must have the ability to access PSEG’s property during storm events, for example, in the event of a fire. PSEG requested that CT DOH design and construct a ramp for off-site access.

(4) Stormwater – As noted in PSEG’s prior submittal, PSEG recommends that CT DOH ensure that additional steps and caution be implemented to ensure that the existing stormwater sewer system is not over-taxed or further degraded.

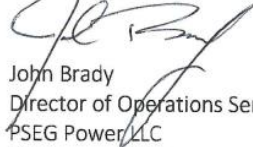
(5) Underground Utility Lines – As noted in PSEG’s prior submittal, a number of companies and utilities have operated in the South End for hundreds of years. The Project should be prepared to encounter various underground utility lines (known and unknown). The Project should take appropriate health and safety and construction measures to identify and deal with these lines without interrupting residential and commercial use in the South End.

(6) Post-Construction Concerns – There are a number of post-construction concerns that must be addressed. As previously noted, easement agreement must be drafted. The parties need to negotiate appropriate access rights. PSEG’s property has restricted access 24/7 and CT DOH cannot access the site without proper notice and following safety protocols. PSEG understands that there are limited funds for the on-going inspection and maintenance requirements of the flood wall post-construction. Therefore PSEG will need assurances that the State of Connecticut can identify and lock in funds to complete these tasks into perpetuity and that the obligations and costs associated with them do not fall upon the property owners along the flood wall.

(7) Proposed Realignment of Alternative 1 – Bridgeport Energy/Cogentrix plans to submit a comment letter on the Final EIS that will recommend the adjustment of a portion of Alternative 1 to place the flood wall further from its high-tension lines claiming it is both unworkable and inherently unsafe. Although PSEG understands this concern, the realigned portion of Alternative 1 proposed by Bridgeport Energy/Cogentrix would relocate the proposed flood wall of Alternative 1 further onto PSEG’s property. PSEG opposes this proposed realignment because it will place unnecessary burdens and expenses on PSEG’s property.

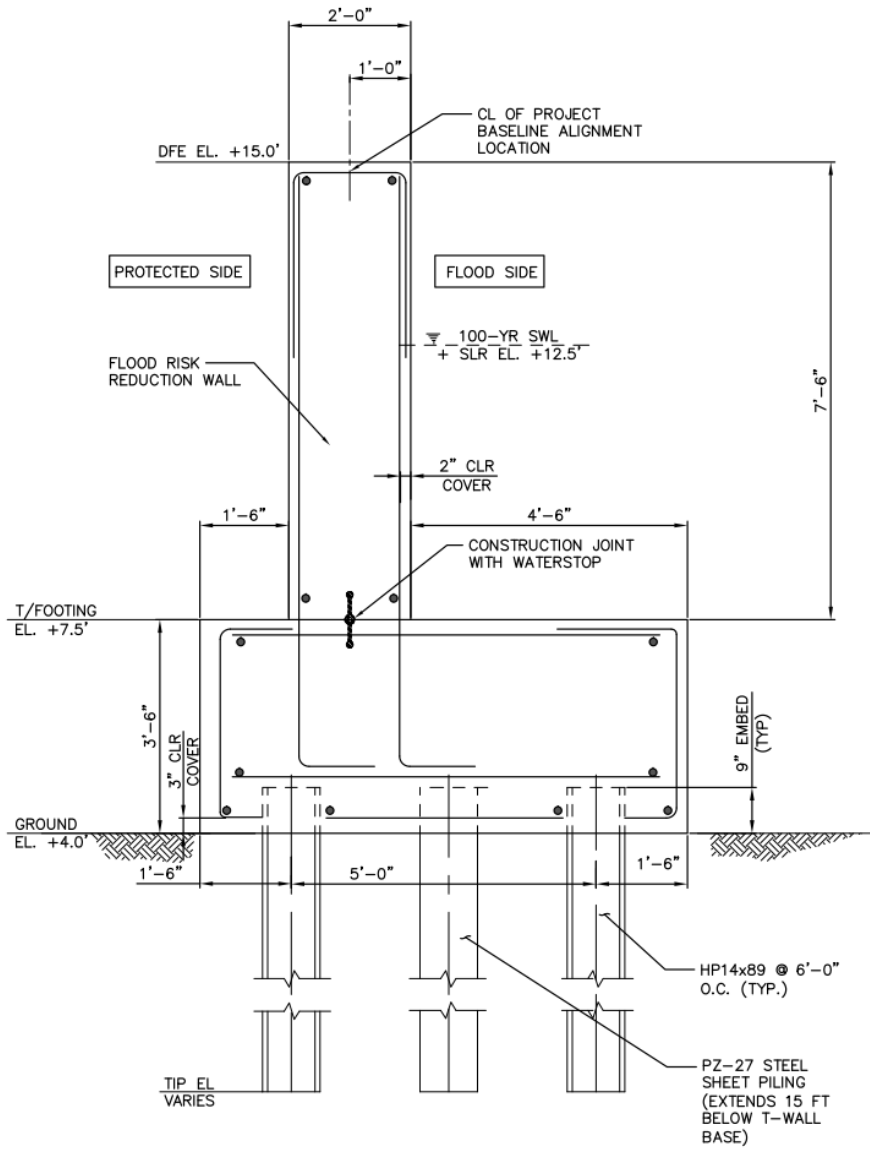
Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments for the Project's review and consideration.

Very truly yours,



John Brady
Director of Operations Services
PSEG Power LLC
40 Cragwood Rd
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Enclosure: Attachment A



**The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center**
FOR HISTORY AND COMMUNITY, INC.

October 7, 2019

Rebecca A. French, Ph.D.
Director of Resilience
Department of Housing
State of Connecticut
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106-7106

Dear Ms. French:

Serving as the Resilience Center is consistent with the mission and strategic priorities of The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community (Freeman Center); nonetheless, I would like to raise the issues below for discussion and consideration:

- The Resilience Center functions referenced in the Programmatic Agreement (PA) on page 2, paragraph 4, were designated without input from the Freeman Center and without State knowledge of the site's design. As such, we ask that the PA omit references to the Freeman Center's Resilience Center operations until discussion between the Freeman Center and CT DOH have taken place.
- Section II, A.2. - The Freeman Center does not empower or delegate CT DOH and CT SHPO to deem what course of action is sufficient to protect its properties - the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses - from vibrations.
- Clarification of Section II. PROJECT REVIEW AND CONSULTATION and Section VI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION is requested.
- The expanse between the first element of the Resilience Center—the Freeman Houses—and the second element—the Dead-end/raised roadway at University (bordered by the Cottage district and inhibiting access to Seaside Park) — raises several critical design issues. These require further meaningful, direct input from the Freeman Center and others in the community with intimate knowledge of the neighborhood. Since there is considerable design work to be done before plans are finalized, the Freeman Center requests the opportunity to interface with the design process directly by bringing its own team to advise and work in collaboration with the CT DOH Team. We request that additional State funding be allocated for this effort.

I look forward to discussing these issues.

Sincerely,

Maisa L. Tisdale
President/CEO
(203) 895-2469 cell

Mailing address:
1019 Main St., Suite 210
Bridgeport, CT 06604



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

October 7, 2019

Rebecca French
Director of Resilience, CTDOH
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106
ATTN: Resilient Bridgeport

RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, Bridgeport, Connecticut (CEQ# 20190215)

Dear Ms. French:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Connecticut Department of Housing Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Resilient Bridgeport National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Our review was conducted pursuant to our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

We found the FEIS responsive to the recommendations we offered on the DEIS related to required permits and the management of contaminated sediment during project construction. We have no additional comments and appreciate the opportunity to review the FEIS.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact me at (617) 918-1025.

Sincerely,



Timothy Timmermann, Director
Office of Environmental Review



79 Elm Street • Hartford, CT 06106-5127

www.ct.gov/deep

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To: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience, Connecticut Department of Housing

From: Linda Brunza, Environmental Analyst

Telephone: 860-424-3739

Date: 10/7/2019

Email: Linda.Brunza@ct.gov

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Resilience Projects, South End of Bridgeport.

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has received the final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the projects sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) to address the susceptibility of the South End of the City of Bridgeport to chronic flooding. There are three projects planned for this area, the Rebuild by Design at Marina Village/ Windward Development, a Flood Risk Reduction project, and the Resilience Center. The following comments are for your consideration during the design and implementation of the resilience strategies.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement dated August 2019, identifies the eastern most alignment of the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system as the preferred location (Alternative 1). DEEP previously identified the permit programs that would be involved for this project in the response to scoping and in comments on the draft EIS. DEEP advises the Resilient Bridgeport design team to contact the Planning and Program Development Office to coordinate a cross-division pre-application meeting at DEEP. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled directly with the appropriate permitting group. For the initial pre-application meeting, please contact Beatriz Milne in Planning and Program Development at 860-424-3844, or by email at Beatriz.Milne@ct.gov, or Robert Hannon at 860-424-3245, or by email at Robert.Hannon@ct.gov. While preparing permit applications, consider timing the submission to allow for notice requirements and public participation.

DEEP agrees that the creation of the 2.5-acre stormwater retention park will provide treatment for stormwater and improve water quality for Long Island Sound. A robust long-term maintenance plan designed by a professional engineer is essential in maintaining the functions of the Stormwater Park such as slowing water velocity, storage, and filtering contaminants. DEEP recommends that DOH identify the responsible parties for long-term maintenance and work with their contracting office to ensure compliance. A long-term maintenance plan should be developed for the flood control structures and the responsible parties identified for maintenance and floodgate operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Please contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Robert Hannon, DEEP/ Planning and Program Development
Nicole Lugli, DEEP/ Planning and Program Development
Brian Thompson, DEEP/ Land and Water Resources
Jeff Caiola, DEEP/ Land and Water Resources
Charles Lee, DEEP/ Dam Safety



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FLOOD MANAGEMENT

Department of Economic & Community Development
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Attn: Cynthia Petruzzello

Re: **Approval of Certification & Exemption Request**
FM-201610971
60 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT

Dear Ms. Petruzzello:

The Land & Water Resources Division of the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has reviewed the flood management certification application and exemption request prepared by Stephen Grathwohl of Westport Property Management, LLC, and signed by Tim Sullivan of the Department of Economic & Community Development ("Certifying Agency").

The certification and exemption requests submitted on September 9, 2016 and October 27, 2016 respectively state that the proposed activity has been designed in compliance with the requirements of Section 25-68d(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and Section 25-68h-1 through 25-68h-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) with the exception of Section 25-68d(b)4 of the CGS.

Specifically, an exemption is requested from the provisions of Section 25-68d(b)4 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) which requires that the proposed activities promote long-term nonintensive floodplain uses and has utilities located to discourage floodplain development.

The project consists of remediation and demolition of existing structures of the former Remington Shave Factory and construction of a mixed use development located at 60 Main Street in the City of Bridgeport, as shown on plans entitled, "60 Main Street," signed by Malcom G. McLaren, P.E., dated January 30, 2015, last revised June 12, 2015. The project is located within a designated FEMA VE & AE Special Flood Hazard Area of Long Island Sound.

The agency has determined that although the proposed development does not promote long-term nonintensive floodplain uses or have its utilities located to discourage floodplain development, it will not injure persons or damage property in the area of such activity or critical activity, has minimized the environmental impact and provides dry egress for the base flood event.

DECD
60 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT
FM-201610971
Page 2 of 3

In addition, the agency has determined that the activity is in the public interest, will not injure persons or damage property in the area of such activity or critical activity, and complies with the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program.

Therefore, in accordance with CGS Section 25-68d(b) & (d), your request for approval of the above referenced certification and exemption is granted with the following conditions:

Special Conditions:

1. DECD shall require in accordance with Section 6.14 (Compliance with Environmental Laws) of the Department of Economic & Development's contract with the developer, that the developer construct a dry access pathway leading from the site ("60 Main Street") to a location outside of the coastal floodplain to serve as an egress pathway during flood events prior to the issuance of the certificate of occupancy. The specific design of the pathway shall be determined by the Applicant provided the pathway surface shall be set at or above elevation 14 NAVD88, be at least four (4) wide and be constructed of materials designed to support use of a wheelchair for its entire length. After completion of construction, the Applicant shall provide the Commissioner with written certification from a professional engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut that the pathway meets or exceeds the criteria described in the forgoing sentence. The pathway shall be kept free of obstructions and adequately maintained.

Operating Conditions:

1. This approval shall expire ten years after issuance or if the construction of any structures or facilities authorized herein has not commenced within three years of issuance of this approval.
2. The Certifying Agency may not make any alterations, except de minimis alterations, to any structure, facility, or activity authorized by this certification unless the Certifying Agency applies for and receives a modification of this certification. A de minimis alteration means a change in the design or operation of the authorized permit that does not increase its adverse environmental or other regulatory impacts.
3. In constructing or maintaining any structure or facility or conducting any activity authorized herein, or in removing any such structure or facility, the Certifying Agency shall employ best management practices to control storm water discharges, to prevent erosion and sedimentation, and to otherwise prevent pollution of wetlands and other waters of the State. The Certifying Agency shall immediately inform the Commissioner of any adverse impact or hazard to the environment which occurs or is likely to occur as the direct result of the construction, maintenance, or operation of structures, facilities, or activities authorized herein. Best Management Practices include, but are not limited, to practices identified in the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* as revised, *2004 Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*, Department of Transportation's *ConnDOT Drainage Manual* as revised, and the Department of Transportation Standard Specifications as revised.
4. All temporary structures, cofferdams, and fill shall not impede the movement of flood flows and shall be removed at the completion of their use. The design of such temporary structure, cofferdams

DECD
60 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT
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Page 3 of 3

and fill shall be based on the DOT Drainage Manual, where applicable. All temporary and permanent fill shall be clean and free of stumps, rubbish, and hazardous or toxic material.

5. The Certifying Agency shall cause equipment and materials to be removed from the floodplain during periods when flood warnings have been issued or are anticipated by a responsible federal, state or local agency. It shall be the Certifying Agency's responsibility to obtain such warnings when flooding is anticipated.

This authorization is subject to and does not derogate any present or future property rights or other rights or powers of the State of Connecticut, conveys no property rights in real estate or material nor any exclusive privileges, and is further subject to any and all public and private rights and to any federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertinent to the property or activity affected thereby. No revisions or alterations to the approved plans are allowed without first obtaining written approval from this Division.

If there are any questions, contact Jeffrey Caiola of the Land & Water Resources Division at 860-424-4162.

October 18, 2017
Date


Robert E. Kaliszewski
Deputy Commissioner

cc: Stephen Grathwohl - Westport Property Management, LLC

APPENDIX B
NOTICES AND ADVERTISEMENTS

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Immigrant Petition for Alien Workers.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection:* I-140; USCIS.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary:* Business or other for Profit. USCIS uses the information provided on Form I-140 to classify aliens under section 203(b)(1), 203(b)(2) or 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I-140 is 225,637 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.08 hours.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 243,688 hours.

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$93,977,810.

Dated: February 15, 2018.

Samantha Deshommes,

Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2018-03879 Filed 2-26-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-97-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-6082-N-01]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects in the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The State of Connecticut, through the Department of Housing (DOH), is providing notice of its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild By Design (RBD) Projects located in Bridgeport, CT. The proposed project was developed as part of Connecticut's application for assistance through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the RBD and National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). RBD and NDRC's objectives through the competition are to support innovative resilience projects at a local level. This Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS represents the beginning of the public scoping process. Following the scoping meeting referenced below, a Draft EIS will be prepared and ultimately circulated for public comment.

DATES: Comments on the Draft Scope of Work to prepare a Draft EIS are requested by this notice and will be accepted until March 28, 2018. The scoping meeting will be held on March 14, 2018, from 6 until 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The scoping meeting will be held at the Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center (first floor), located at 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06601. The Draft Scope of Work is available on <https://resilientbridgeport.com> or <http://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Further information may be obtained by contacting David Kooris, Director of Resilience, Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, Connecticut, 06106-7106, or via email at David.Kooris@ct.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments on the Draft Scope of Work to prepare a Draft EIS are requested by this notice and will be accepted by the individual

named in this notice under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Comments will also be accepted at the scoping meeting to be held on March 14, 2018, from 6 until 9 p.m. at the Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center (first floor), located at 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06601. All comments received by March 28, 2018 will be considered prior to the acceptance, certification, and distribution of the Draft EIS by the Lead Agency (DOH). Commenters are also asked to submit any information related to reports or other environmental studies planned or completed in the project area, major issues that the Draft EIS should consider, and recommend mitigation measures and alternatives associated with the Proposed Action. Federal, State, or local agencies having jurisdiction by law, special expertise, or other special interest should report their interest and indicate their readiness to aid in the EIS effort as Cooperating, Participating, and Interested Agencies. Written requests of individuals and organizations to participate as Section 106 Consulting Parties under the National Historic Preservation Act may also be made to the individual named in this notice under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The public and agencies will also be offered an opportunity to comment on the purpose and need, range of alternatives, level of detail, methodologies, and all elements of the Draft Scope of Work through public and agency outreach that will consist of: A public scoping meeting (described below), scheduled Community Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee meetings, a public hearing on the Draft EIS; meetings with the applicable Cooperating, Participating, and Interested Agencies, and meetings with Section 106 Consulting Parties, including federally recognized Indian tribes. Once completed and released, the Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment.

Following the public scoping process, a Draft EIS will be prepared that analyzes the Proposed Action. Once the Draft EIS is certified as complete, a notice will then be sent to appropriate government agencies, groups, and individuals known to have an involvement or interest in the Draft EIS and particularly in the environmental impact issues identified therein. A Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS will be published in local media outlets at that time in accordance with HUD and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations. Any person or agency interested in receiving notice and commenting on the Draft Scope of

Work should contact the individual named in this notice under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than March 28, 2018.

Background

HUD gives notice that the State of Connecticut (the State), through the DOH, as the "Responsible Entity," as that term is defined by 24 CFR 58.2(a)(7)(i), has assumed environmental responsibilities for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild By Design Projects in accordance with 24 CFR 58.1(b)(1). DOH, as the Lead Agency in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, intends to prepare an EIS that will evaluate the environmental and social impacts of alternatives for the construction of flood risk reduction measures within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Such measures will be designed to reduce the impacts of flooding on the quality of the natural and built environment in the project area due to both sea level rise and storm hazards, including heavy rainfall events and intense coastal storm events. Bridgeport's South End suffers from flood damage from major tidal events and repetitive loss from flooding from rain events and power outages, resulting in a depressed economy, increasing vacancies and continued significant risk from future storm events.

The State is the Grantee of Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) and RBD funds that have been appropriated under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Pub. L. 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster that was declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (Stafford Act) in calendar years 2011, 2012, and 2013. Receipt of CDBG-NDR and RBD funding requires compliance with NEPA.

The proposed EIS will address the environmental review requirements of NEPA and the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) (CT Gen Stat § 22a, Chapter 439). This Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS is, therefore, being published in accordance with the CEQ regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500-1508 and HUD regulations found at 24 CFR part 58 and is announcing that a public scoping process on the EIS is commencing.

The CT DOH, under the authority of HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 58,

and in cooperation with other Cooperating, Participating, and Interested Agencies, is proposing to prepare an EIS that will analyze the potential environmental and social effects of alternatives that are being proposed to improve coastal and social resiliency and reduce flood risk to the South End of Bridgeport.

Following the devastation of Hurricane Sandy, HUD launched Rebuild by Design, an innovative design competition that brought together interdisciplinary teams of researchers, designers, engineers, businesses, policy-makers and local groups to craft solutions that communities can implement to help minimize against future climate risks. The State of Connecticut was awarded \$10 million in HUD CDBG-DR funding to continue planning for Resilient Bridgeport and construct a first pilot project. Building on the success of Rebuild by Design, in September 2014, HUD launched the \$1 billion National Disaster Resilience Competition. The Connecticut application was the highest scoring in the competition and garnered \$54 million in HUD CDBG-NDR funding to construct the Resilient Bridgeport pilot project as part of the State's broader *Connecticut Connections Coastal Resilience Plan*.

The proposed Resilient Bridgeport: NDR & RBD Projects represent the culmination of an integrated and thoughtful process coordinated by the State during Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the National Disaster Resilience Competition application and subsequent community participatory events. DOH consulted in depth with government agencies at municipal and state levels as well as resident stakeholders, small and large business owners, and professional experts. An outgrowth of the Phase 1 and 2 applications and consultations, the Connecticut State Agencies Fostering Resilience (SAFR) Council, is creating a roadmap for long-term resilience planning in coastal and riverine communities damaged during Hurricane Sandy, and working with State agencies to craft policies that equitably promote resilience across the entire State. The \$52.5 million Resilient Bridgeport component provides a long-term, holistic approach to resilience, incorporating green and grey stormwater infrastructure improvements, a street raising and street improvements strategy to lift the surrounding development datum, and an integrated flood protection system consisting of an earthen berm and sea walls. This layered approach will protect a vulnerable and disenfranchised community while providing new

economic development opportunities, improving mobility, and enhancing quality of life. The EIS will examine several alternatives aimed at achieving these objectives.

Purpose and Need of the Proposed Action

Located on a peninsula, surrounded by the Pequonnock River to the east and Long Island Sound to the south, the South End is one of the most vulnerable communities in Bridgeport, at risk of flooding from both coastal storm surge and regular rainfall events. The area includes Seaside Park, the University of Bridgeport, residences, some industrial buildings, and several energy providers (including both electricity generators and utilities). The area has a population of over 8,000 people including public housing residents and other vulnerable populations.

The peninsula is exposed to storm surge from coastal storms and the risk of such events is increasing due to Sea Level Rise. During Superstorm Sandy, the area experienced a storm surge of nearly 7 feet above normal high tide, inundating over 200 buildings (including affordable and public housing). With an additional 100 buildings located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplain, these and other infrastructure assets remain vulnerable to future events. In addition to flooded streets and damaged residential properties, residents experienced a loss of electric power after Superstorm Sandy lasting for a period that ranged from a few hours to more than a week. Disruptions to regional supply chains and power interruptions caused serious complications for local industries. Ensuring the continuity of operations at the power district scale is critical to maintaining industrial and commercial functions in the city.

Over the next 50 years, sea levels are expected to rise significantly, which will further compound existing flooding risks in Bridgeport's South End. Much of the critical infrastructure in the area lies within the coastal floodplain, including electricity generation, transmission, and distribution facilities and low lying stormwater and wastewater pipes, and will face increasing risk as sea levels rise.

The low-lying geography of the area, in addition to the old age of the combined sewer and stormwater system, results in flooding from rainfall or tidal inundation on a regular basis. Improving the existing drainage system is important to minimize internal flooding and to manage stormwater in

both high and low-frequency storm events.

While proximate to its urban center, the South End area is isolated from the downtown by Interstate 95 and the Northeast Corridor and has been physically cut-off from help by emergency responders (fire, police, medical) and others due to flooding of streets (particularly low-lying underpasses under the highway and railroad) that has prevented vehicles from accessing the area during and after storm events. Repetitive flooding of local streets occurs in the valleys and low-lying areas due to both rainfall runoff and storm surge, making the streets impassable. Portions of the South End lack dry egress for residents, businesses and emergency vehicles when flooding occurs. Minimizing the flooding at roadways leading into and out of the South End is vital to resident egress and emergency evacuation.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations. The principal targeted outcomes of the Proposed Action are:

- Lower the risk of acute and chronic flooding,
- Provide dry egress during emergencies, and
- Educate the public about flood risks and sea level rise.

The Proposed Action could deliver co-benefits to the community, potentially unlocking development or public realm opportunities, enhancing connectivity between the South End and Downtown Bridgeport, improving existing open space amenities, building up the resilience of local energy systems, and leveraging public investment in ongoing resiliency efforts through coordination with local stakeholders.

Project Alternatives

The EIS will discuss the alternatives that were considered for analysis, identify those that were eliminated from further consideration because they do not meet the stated purpose and need, and identify those that will be analyzed further. It is expected that project alternatives will continue to be developed and refined during the public scoping process, with input from the public, agencies, and other stakeholders. The EIS alternatives analysis will consist of a comparison of the impacts under each alternative pursuant to 24 CFR part 58, in addition to how well each alternative achieves the project's purpose and need. This process, which will be described in detail in the EIS,

will lead to the designation of a Preferred Alternative. At this time, it is anticipated that the following alternatives will be analyzed.

1. No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative represents the status quo or baseline conditions without implementation of any improvements associated with the Proposed Project. The No Action Alternative assumes that the redevelopment of the Marina Village site would progress as planned, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) and United Illuminating Company would continue any planned resiliency projects along the edge of Bridgeport Harbor, the mixed-use development at 60 Main Street would move forward, and a number of other projects would be implemented both within and near the proposed project areas through the 2022 analysis year.

2. Build Alternatives

In addition to the No Action Alternative, the EIS will examine multiple build alternatives. The Build Alternatives will have three parts—Flood Risk Reduction, a Resilience Hub, and Stormwater Improvements and Dry Egress (elements common to all build alternatives).

Flood Risk Reduction. The proposed project would include a combination of measures within eastern South End that would reduce the flood risk within the project area from future coastal surge and chronic rainfall events. The measures may include raised streets, floodwalls, landscaped berms, and both green and grey stormwater and internal drainage management strategies (e.g., detention/retention features, drainage structures, and pump systems). This alternative, to the extent practical, would provide a FEMA Certifiable level of flood protection to a portion of the project area. Different routing alignments and different levels of flood protection are being considered, although all alignments would include elevating a section of University Avenue.

(1) **Integrated Alignment.** This alignment would be constructed in coordination with key area stakeholders and include raised streets, walls and berms that take into account plans for growth, development and risk reduction taking place within the eastern South End community.

(2) **Interior Alignment.** The interior alignment would identify a street or streets that could be raised to provide dry egress for future development, provide some reduction in risk from storm events and generate opportunities

for storm water management that produce co-benefits for the community.

(3) **Edge Alignment.** This alignment would be constructed either in-water or along the outer edge of the community along the waterfront.

Resilience Hub. This project would fund a Resilience Hub to serve the South End community in its ongoing commitment to build a resilient Bridgeport. The site would serve as a hub for resilience activities, providing a central location for dissemination of information to the community and assisting the community in future recovery efforts. The Resilience Hub may serve a design center function or operate as a community center.

(1) Resilience Hub Alternative 1 would be a building dedicated to resilience and education. The building would be a space in all or a portion of an existing building or a new building.

(2) Resilience Hub Alternative 2 would be one or more open air sites integrated within the community that are dedicated to resilience and education. The sites would be located within the South End area, adjacent to existing community amenities.

Elements Common To Build Alternatives

All Flood Risk Reduction alignments would include elevating a section of University Avenue. In addition, all build alternatives would include the stormwater management project and extension of Johnson Street at the Marina Village site (identified as a pilot project during the RBD project). Prior to redevelopment of the western parcel (bound by Park Avenue, Iranistan Avenue, Ridge Avenue and South Avenue) an approximately 2.5-acre stormwater park would be constructed to accept water from upland streets and adjacent parcels and to retain, delay and improve the quality of the stormwater runoff. An extension of Johnson Street (between Columbia Street and Iranistan Avenue) would provide a raised egress corridor on the southern edge of the future mixed-income redevelopment to facilitate emergency access during an acute flooding event and improve east-west neighborhood connectivity. The redevelopment of the site is independent of the stormwater and raised egress improvements.

Need for the EIS

The Proposed Action described above has the potential to significantly affect the quality of the environment and an EIS will therefore be prepared in accordance with the requirements of NEPA and CEPA. Responses to this notice will be used to (1) determine

significant environmental issues; (2) assist in developing a range of alternatives to be considered; (3) identify issues that the EIS should address; and (4) identify agencies and other parties that will participate in the EIS process and the basis for their involvement.

Scoping

A joint NEPA/CEPA public scoping meeting on the Draft Scope of Work to prepare the Draft EIS will be held on March 14, 2018 at 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. at the Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center (first floor), located at 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06601. As noted above, the Draft Scope of Work is available online at: <https://resilientbridgeport.com> or <http://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>. The public scoping meeting location will be accessible to the mobility-impaired. Interpreter services will be available for the hearing or visually impaired upon advance request. The EIS public scoping meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the Proposed Action and provide input to the environmental review process. At the meeting, an overview of the Proposed Action and its alternatives will be presented, and members of the public will be invited to comment on the Draft Scope of Work, including the methodologies to be used in developing the environmental analyses in the EIS. Written comments and testimony concerning the Draft Scope of Work will be accepted at this meeting. In accordance with 40 CFR 1501.7, affected Federal, State, and local agencies, any affected Indian tribes, and other interested parties will be sent a scoping notice. In accordance with 24 CFR 58.59, the scoping meeting will be preceded by a notice of public meeting published in the local news media at least 15 days before the hearing date.

Probable Environmental Effects

The EIS will evaluate potential effects from the Proposed Action on: Land Use, Zoning, and Public Policy; Socioeconomic Conditions; Environmental Justice; Open Space; Historic and Cultural Resources; Urban Design and Visual Resources; Natural Resources; Hazardous Materials; Water and Sewer Infrastructure; Transportation; Construction; and Cumulative Effects.

Dated: February 22, 2018.

Neal Rackleff,

Assistant Secretary for Community, Planning and Development.

[FR Doc. 2018-04042 Filed 2-23-18; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1380 (Final)]

Tapered Roller Bearings From Korea; Scheduling of the Final Phase of an Antidumping Duty Investigation

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of antidumping investigation No. 731-TA-1380 (Final) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (“the Act”) to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of certain tapered roller bearings from Korea, provided for in subheadings 8482.20, 8482.91, and 8482.99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, preliminarily determined by the Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) to be sold at less-than-fair-value.

DATES: February 2, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keysha Martinez (202-205-2136), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Scope.— For purposes of this investigation, Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as certain tapered roller bearings. The scope covers all tapered roller bearings with a nominal outside cup diameter of eight inches and under, regardless of type of steel used to produce the bearing,

whether of inch or metric size, and whether the tapered roller bearing is a thrust bearing or not. Certain tapered roller bearings include: Finished cup and cone assemblies entering as a set, finished cone assemblies entering separately, and finished parts (cups, cones, and tapered rollers). Certain tapered roller bearings are sold individually as a set (cup and cone assembly), as a cone assembly, as a finished cup, or packaged as a kit with one or several tapered roller bearings, a seal, and grease. The scope of the investigation includes finished rollers and finished cones that have not been assembled with rollers and a cage. Certain tapered roller bearings can be a single row or multiple rows (e.g., two- or four-row), and a cup can handle a single cone assembly or multiple cone assemblies.¹

Background.—The final phase of this investigation is being scheduled, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673d(b)), as a result of an affirmative preliminary determination by Commerce that imports of tapered roller bearings from Korea are being sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 733 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b). The investigation was requested in a petition filed on June 28, 2017 by The Timken Company, North Canton, Ohio.

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigation, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

Participation in the investigation and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of this investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission’s rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigation need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigation.

¹ For a complete description of Commerce’s scope, see 83 FR 4901, February 2, 2018.

The Following Scoping Notices have been submitted for review and comment.

1. Notice of Scoping for Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild By Design Projects

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Bridgeport, CT

Addresses of Possible Project Locations: Marina Village (20 Ridge Avenue); University Avenue from Park Avenue to Main Street; portions of the area between Main Street to the west and the waterfront to the east and Ferry Access Road to the north and the waterfront to the south.

Project Description: The State of Connecticut, through the Department of Housing (DOH) is proposing to prepare an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) to analyze the potential environmental and social effects of alternatives being proposed to improve coastal and social resiliency and reduce flood risk to the south end of Bridgeport. The proposed project was developed as part of Connecticut's application for assistance through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Rebuild by Design (RBD) and National Disaster Resilience (NDR) competitions. The purpose of the project is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations. The EIE will examine build alternatives with three parts – Flood Risk Reduction, a Resilience Hub and Stormwater Improvements and Dry Egress.

Draft Scope of Work: Click [here](#) or [here](#) to view the draft scope of work.

Project Map: Click [here](#) to view a map of the project area.

A **Public Scoping Meeting** will be held for this project at:

DATE: **Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

TIME: 6:00 – 9:00 pm. (Presentation to start at 6:30 pm)

PLACE: Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center (first floor) located at 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06601

Purpose of Meeting: The Scoping Meeting will present information about the project and solicit comments on the project's purpose and need, preliminary alternatives, and area of key environmental concern.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Wednesday, March 28, 2018**

Comments may be emailed to:

info@resilientbridgeport.com (Please use the subject heading "EIE Comment")

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about the scoping for this project, contact the project team by calling (860) 815-0299.

Weymouth, Nicole

From: Resilient Bridgeport <info@resilientbridgeport.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Weymouth, Nicole
Subject: Public Hearing & Design Workshop - MARCH 14



Meeting Announcement

Please Join Us for a Public Hearing & Design Workshop

Wednesday, March 14, 2018
Schelfhault Gallery
Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center (first floor)
84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

6:00 PM Open House
6:30 PM EIS / EIE Presentation
6:50 PM Public Comments
Design Presentation & Public Workshop
(approximately 7:00 PM)

A Public Hearing & Design Workshop for Resilient Bridgeport will be held at the Schelfhault Gallery on the first floor in the Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center located at 84 Iranistan Avenue in Bridgeport, CT.

The Public Hearing will begin promptly at 6 PM with an open house and opportunity to speak one-on-one with project staff. A presentation on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) will begin promptly at 6:30 PM. Following the presentation, the public will have the opportunity to provide

comments. After the hearing, attendees are encouraged to stay for a design update and public workshop.

For more information about Resilient Bridgeport and to review the EIS Notice of Intent and Draft Scoping Document, please visit the project website www.resilientbridgeport.com.

If you have any special needs and require assistance at the meeting, please contact the project team by calling 860-815-0299 no later than 5 PM on Friday, March 9, 2018.

Please feel free to spread the word of this Public Hearing & Design Workshop with your colleagues, friends and neighbors who share an interest in the future of Bridgeport's South End. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

We look forward to your attendance at the public meeting and working with you to create a more resilient South End and City of Bridgeport!

Connect with us!



[Visit our website](#)

Resilient Bridgeport is a prototype for the region's coastal cities. It consists of a resilience strategy and pilot projects focused on protecting homes, businesses and infrastructure in the South End of Bridgeport from chronic and acute flooding in order to foster long-term prosperity in the neighborhood.



Resilient Bridgeport | 7 Middle Street, Bridgeport , CT 06604

[Unsubscribe nicole.weymouth@wsp.com](mailto:nicole.weymouth@wsp.com)

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RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT

Public Hearing & Design Workshop

March 14, 2018
6 PM - 9 PM

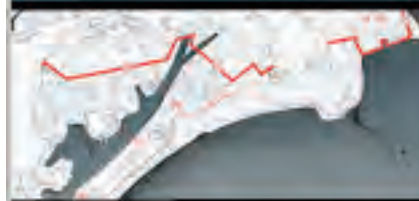
Schelfhaudt Gallery
84 Iranistan Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

The Public Hearing will begin promptly at 6 PM with an open house and opportunity to speak one-on-one with project staff.

A presentation on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) will begin promptly at 6:30 PM. Following the presentation, the public will have the opportunity to provide comments.

After the hearing, attendees are encouraged to stay for a design update and public workshop.

www.ResilientBridgeport.com
info@resilientbridgeport.com



More Information >>



**RESILIENT
BRIDGEPORT**

Public Hearing & Design Workshop

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Schellhaedt Gallery
84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

6:00 PM Open House

6:30 PM EIS/EIE Presentation

6:50 PM Public Comments

**Design Presentation & Workshop to Follow
(Approximately 7:30 PM)**

Join us for a presentation on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE). Following the presentation, the public will have the opportunity to provide comments. After the hearing, please join us for a design update and public workshop.

For more information and to review the EIS Notice of Intent and Draft Scoping Document, please visit

www.ResilientBridgeport.com

If you have any special needs and require assistance at the meeting, please contact the project team by calling (860) 815-0299 no later than 5 PM on Friday, March 9, 2018.

EIE Notices

After Scoping, an agency that wishes to undertake an action that could significantly affect the environment must produce, for public review and comment, a detailed written evaluation of the expected environmental impacts. This is called an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE).

The following EIE Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Notice of EIE for Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild By Design and National Disaster Resilience Projects

Municipality where project is proposed: Bridgeport

Address of Possible Project Location: South End of Bridgeport, CT

Project Description: The State of Connecticut's Department of Housing (CTDOH) is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster recovery grant funding and is the "Responsible Entity," as that term is defined by HUD regulations at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58.2(a)(7)(i). CTDOH has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for the proposed Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design projects (Proposed Action). The disaster recovery grants are under HUD's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) programs as part of HUD's response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. The Proposed Action consists of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut—the RBD Pilot Project at the former Marina Village public housing site, a Flood Risk Reduction Project on the east side of the South End, and a Resilience Center—that together would provide stormwater management, dry evacuation routes (dry egress), a coastal flood defense system, and resiliency education to the community.

The Connecticut Environmental Policy Act establishes environmental policy for the State of Connecticut and requires an EIE for any state action that could affect the natural environment. In addition, the Proposed Action is considered a "major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment"; therefore, it must comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). As such, this EIE will jointly serve as an EIS and will meet NEPA requirements. CTDOH has prepared this Draft EIS/EIE in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and HUD's Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities (24 CFR 58). Scoping for the Draft EIS / EIE formally began on February 27, 2018 when the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS was published in the Connecticut Environmental Monitor, which commenced a 30-day comment period to solicit public and agency input that lasted through March 28, 2018 and included a public scoping hearing on March 14, 2018.

The study area is situated within the South End neighborhood of the City of Bridgeport (see linked Figures 1 and 2), a peninsula of the Connecticut coastal region located between Cedar Creek, the Long Island Sound, and Bridgeport Harbor. Overall, the study area is a cross section of the residential, institutional, utility, and recreational uses that define the South End neighborhood, all of which are susceptible to acute and chronic flooding conditions due to a combination of inadequate stormwater infrastructure in the area and its coastal location.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations. The principal targeted outcomes follow:

- Lower the risk of acute and chronic flooding.
- Provide dry egress during emergencies.
- Educate the public about flood risks and sea level rise.

The Proposed Action will deliver additional benefits to the community, potentially unlocking development or public realm opportunities, enhancing connectivity between the South End and downtown Bridgeport (located north of the railroad and I-95), improving existing open space amenities, building up the resilience of local energy systems, and leveraging public investment in ongoing resiliency efforts through coordination with local stakeholders.

Project Maps:

[Figure 1 – Project Areas Map](#)

[Figure 2 – Project Location Map](#)

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: March 18, 2019. The comment period for the CEPA was extended to the end of the 45-day NEPA comment period, which commenced on February 1, 2019 with the publication of the notice in the Federal Register.

The public can view a copy of this EIE at:

Bridgeport City Hall

45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7081

Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch

925 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7400

Bridgeport Public Library Black Rock Branch

2705 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605
(203) 576-7025

University of Bridgeport Magnus Wahlstrom Library

126 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

(203) 576-2388

Project Document Website at the Connecticut Department of Housing:

<https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>

Project Documents Direct Links:

[DEIS / EIE Document Chapters](#)

[DEIS / EIE Document Appendices](#)

There will be a public informational workshop for this EIE on:

DATE: February 26, 2019

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Schelfhaudt Gallery (84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT)

NOTES: This hearing serves as the public hearing required under NEPA. The public hearing will be followed by a design workshop where the public can provide further input into the design of the Resilient Bridgeport projects. The **snow date** for the public hearing and workshop is February 28, 2019.

Additional information about this project can be found online at:

<https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726> and www.resilientbridgeport.com

Send your comments about this EIE to:

Name: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience

Agency: Connecticut Department of Housing

Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106

E-Mail: Rebecca.French@ct.gov

If you have questions about the public hearing, or where you can review this EIE, or similar matters, please contact:

Name: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience

Agency: Connecticut Department of Housing

Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106

E-Mail: Rebecca.French@ct.gov

Phone: 860-270-8231

Other information: N/A

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) Notice for Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild By Design and National Disaster Resilience Projects

Project Title: Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild By Design and National Disaster Resilience Projects
Municipality where project is proposed: Bridgeport
Addresses of Project Locations: South End of Bridgeport, CT
Project Description: The State of Connecticut's Department of Housing (CTDOH) is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster recovery grant funding and is the "Responsible Entity," as that term is defined by HUD regulations at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58.2(a)(7)(i). CTDOH has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for the proposed Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design projects (Proposed Action). The disaster recovery grants are under HUD's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) programs as part of HUD's response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. The Proposed Action consists of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut—the RBD Pilot Project at the former Marina Village public housing site, a Flood Risk Reduction Project on the east side of the South End, and a Resilience Center—that together would provide stormwater management, dry evacuation routes (dry egress), a coastal flood defense system, and resiliency education to the community.

The Connecticut Environmental Policy Act establishes environmental policy for the State of Connecticut and requires an EIE for any state action that could affect the natural environment. In addition, the Proposed Action is considered a "major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment"; therefore, it must comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). As such, this EIE will jointly serve as an EIS and will meet NEPA requirements. CTDOH has prepared this Draft EIS/EIE in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and HUD's Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities (24 CFR 58). Scoping for the Draft EIS / EIE formally began on February 27, 2018 when the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS was published in the Connecticut Environmental Monitor, which commenced a 30-day comment period to solicit public and agency input that lasted through March 28, 2018 and included a public scoping hearing on March 14, 2018.

The study area is situated within the South End neighborhood of the City of Bridgeport, a peninsula of the Connecticut coastal region located between Cedar Creek, the Long Island Sound, and Bridgeport Harbor. Overall, the study area is a cross section of the residential, institutional, utility, and recreational uses that define the South End neighborhood, all of which are susceptible to acute and chronic flooding conditions due to a combination of inadequate stormwater infrastructure in the area and its coastal location.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community's vulnerable populations. The principal targeted outcomes follow:

- * Lower the risk of acute and chronic flooding.
- * Provide dry egress during emergencies.
- * Educate the public about flood risks and sea level rise.

The Proposed Action will deliver additional benefits to the community, potentially unlocking development or public realm opportunities, enhancing connectivity between the South End and downtown Bridgeport (located north of the railroad and I-95), improving existing open space amenities, building up the resilience of local energy systems, and leveraging public investment in ongoing resiliency efforts through coordination with local stakeholders.

A public hearing will be held to solicit community feedback on the content of this DEIS on **February 12, 2019**, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Schelfhaudt Gallery (84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT). The hearing will provide an opportunity for the public to submit comments on the DEIS orally and/or in writing. Comments on this DEIS will be recorded at the hearing. Those who do not wish to voice their comments publicly will be offered an opportunity to provide a private written or verbal comment at the meeting, or submit comments through the project website, email or by mail to CTDOH (see below).
In addition to the linked access to the DEIS provided below, the public can also view a copy of this DEIS at:

Bridgeport City Hall
 45 Lyon Terrace
 Bridgeport, CT 06604
 (203) 576-7081

Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch
 925 Broad Street
 Bridgeport, CT 06604
 (203) 576-7400

Bridgeport Public Library Black Rock Branch
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 126 Park Avenue
 Bridgeport, CT 06604
 (203) 576-2388

Project Document Website at the Connecticut Department of Housing:
<https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>
Comments on this DEIS will be accepted until the close of business on: February 22, 2019.
 It should be noted that due to the ongoing Federal government shutdown, the required NEPA Notice of Availability for this DEIS cannot be published in the Federal Register concurrently with this Connecticut Environmental Monitor notice. Pursuant to NEPA, a required 45-day public comment period would commence upon the Notice of Availability's publishing in the Federal Register. As such, it is anticipated that the NEPA public comment period for the DEIS would extend beyond the CEPA deadline of February 22, 2019, the exact length of which is dependent upon the ability to publish in the Federal Register. This does not change the anticipated public hearing date of February 12, 2019. The DEIS would still be available for public review at the physical and digital locations provided above during that time.
Additional information about this project can be found online at:
<https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726> and www.resilientbridgeport.com
Send your comments about this DEIS to:
Name: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience
Agency: Connecticut Department of Housing
Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 270-8231
E-mail: Rebecca.French@ct.gov

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) will conduct a public hearing at Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut, on **Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 10:30 a.m.**, concerning Docket No. 13-01-32RE01 - Joint Application of Wind Colebrook South LLC and The Connecticut Light and Power Company for Review and Approval of a Proposed Renewable Power Purchase Agreement with Wind Colebrook South LLC - Interconnection Dispute. The hearing is for PURA to review the interconnection and pricing concerns raised by Wind Colebrook South LLC related to its Power Purchase Agreement with The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy. Information on any cancellation or postponement of this hearing is available each day commencing from 7:30 am by calling PURA's offices at (860) 827-1553, option 4. Persons with disabilities may request accommodations in advance at (860) 418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Connecticut State Lien Law, Prime Storage - Pepper Street Park, 551 Pepper Street, Monroe, CT 06468 intends to hold an auction of the goods stored in the following unit in default for non-payment of rent. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.StorageTreasures.com ENDING on 1.22.19 at 12pm.

#C4027 Jason Northrop Golf clubs, fishing poles, boxes

All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply; CASH ONLY. Contact manager at 203-261-3377 or www.StorageTreasures.com for details.

ORDER OF NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NUMBER: FBT-CV17-6067926-S : **SUPERIOR COURT**

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT : **J.D. OF FAIRFIELD**

VS. : **AT BRIDGEPORT**

DOROTHY MOSS, ET AL : **DECEMBER 6, 2018**

NOTICE TO EUGENE TODD MOSS, HEIR AND/OR BENEFICIARY OF THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY MOSS

Upon the complaint of the plaintiff in the above-entitled action, praying for reasons therein set forth, for a foreclosure of sewer use charges on the property known as: 181-183 BEARSLEY STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT and possession of said premises, returnable to the above court on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, and upon a motion in said action for an order of notice, it appearing to and being found by the subscribing authority, that the identity and residence of the defendant named above is unknown to the Plaintiff, and that notice of the pendency of this action most likely to come to their attention is that hereinafter ordered: it is ORDERED, that notice of the pendency of this action be given to the said defendant by some proper officer or other person causing a true and attested copy of this order of notice to be published in the CONNECTICUT POST, a newspaper of general circulation in the Bridgeport, CT area, once a week for two successive weeks, commencing on or before February 4, 2019 and that return of such notice be made to the above-named court.

**BY THE COURT (JENNINGS)
 ALFRED J JENNINGS
 JUDGE/ASS'T CLERK**

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Publisher's Notice

Connecticut's Comprehensive Fair Housing Act makes it unlawful to print or publish any notice, statement or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling, that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or sexual preference. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PROBATE NOTICES

Court of Probate,
 District of Trumbull Probate Court

NOTICE OF HEARING

ESTATE OF James E. Perry, Of Monroe (18-00245)

Pursuant to an order of the Hon. T. R. Rowe dated January 2, 2019, a hearing will be held on an application for Sale of Real Estate as in said application on file more fully appears, at the Trumbull Probate Court, 5866 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611 on January 10, 2019 at 9:00 AM.

Did you know...

The National Cancer Institute notes that, while more research is necessary, small studies have indicated the potential benefits of cannabis in helping cancer patients overcome the pain associated with their disease. According to the NCI, a small study of 21 patients with chronic pain who combined vaporized cannabis with morphine experienced improved pain relief compared to patients who took only morphine. However, combining vaporized cannabis with oxycodone, a narcotic pain reliever and cough suppressant that is similar to morphine, did not produce significantly greater pain relief. In addition, two small studies indicated that delta-9-THC, the main active cannabinoid in marijuana, helped to relieve pain as well as nausea and vomiting. A second study indicated that delta-9-THC given in doses could provide pain relief similar to that provided by codeine, a pain-relieving drug derived from morphine. The NCI also cites a study that indicated a cannabis plant extract medicine effectively relieved pain when sprayed under the tongue of advanced cancer patients whose pain was not relieved by strong opioids alone. That study also indicated that some patients were able to continue to control their cancer-related pain without needing higher doses of the cannabis spray or higher doses of other pain medications they were taking.

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(A) Go ask your mother.
(B) Because I said so.
(C) We'll see.

There are no perfect answers in parenting.

ELM CITY COMMUNITIES

Request for Proposals

Youth Development Program Services- Eastview and Fairhaven

Housing Authority City of New Haven d/b/a Elm city Communities is currently seeking Proposals for Youth Development Program Services at Eastview and Fairhaven. A complete copy of the requirement may be obtained from Elm City's Vendor Collaboration Portal <https://newhavenhousing.cobblestonesystems.com/gateway> beginning on **Monday, January 14, 2019 at 3:00 PM**

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority) will conduct a public hearing at Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut, on **Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.** concerning Docket No. 18-11-14 - Application of RBH Project, 370 Asylum Street, Hartford, CT for Master Electric Service Metering. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§16-11 and 16-19ff, the hearing is for the Authority to review the a request for the installation of master metering within a housing project known as Teachers Corner Hartford located at 370 Asylum Street in Hartford, Connecticut. Information on any cancellation or postponement of this hearing is available each day commencing from 7:30 am by calling PURA's offices at (860) 827-1553, option 4. Persons with disabilities may request accommodations in advance at (860) 418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) will conduct a public hearing at Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut, on **Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 10:30 a.m.** concerning Docket No. 13-01-32RE01 - Joint Application of Wind Colebrook South LLC and The Connecticut Light and Power Company for Review and Approval of a Proposed Renewable Power Purchase Agreement with Wind Colebrook South LLC - Interconnection Dispute. The hearing is for PURA to review the interconnection and pricing concerns raised by Wind Colebrook South LLC related to its Power Purchase Agreement with The Connecticut Light and Power Company dba Eversource Energy. Information on any cancellation or postponement of this hearing is available each day commencing from 7:30 am by calling PURA's offices at (860) 827-1553, option 4. Persons with disabilities may request accommodations in advance at (860) 418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov.

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203-865-2272

PROYECTO DE DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL (DEIS) AVISO DE EVALUACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL (EIE) PARA BRIDGEPORT RESISTENTE: RECONSTRUCCIÓN POR DISEÑO Y PROYECTOS NACIONALES DE RESISTENCIA ANTE DESASTRES

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE)
Notice for Resilient Bridgeport:
Rebuild By Design and National Disaster Resilience Projects

Título del proyecto: Resilient Bridgeport (Bridgeport resistente): Reconstrucción por diseño y proyectos nacionales de resistencia ante desastres

Municipio donde se propone el proyecto: Bridgeport

Dirección de la ubicación del proyecto: South End of Bridgeport, CT

Descripción del proyecto: El State of Connecticut's Department of Housing (Departamento de Vivienda del Estado de Connecticut) (CTDOH, por sus siglas en inglés) recibe el subsidio por recuperación de desastres del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD). Y es la "Entidad Responsable", según lo definen las normas de HUD en el 24 Código de Regulaciones Federales (CFR) Parte 58.2 (a) (7) (i). CTDOH ha preparado un Proyecto de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (EIE) para los proyectos propuestos Resistencia de Bridgeport: Resistencia Nacional ante Desastres y Proyectos de Reconstrucción por Diseño (Propuesta). Las subvenciones para la recuperación ante desastres son parte de los programas de Recuperación de Desastres Nacionales (NDR) y Reconstrucción por Diseño (RBD) de HUD de la Subvención Reservada para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG-DR), como parte de la respuesta de HUD a la devastación que siguió a la Super tormenta Sandy. La propuesta consta de tres proyectos ubicados en el extremo sur de Bridgeport, Connecticut: el Proyecto piloto de RBD en el antiguo sitio de viviendas públicas de Marina Village, un proyecto de reducción de riesgo de inundación en el lado este del extremo sur y un centro de resistencia, que juntos facilitarían la gestión de aguas pluviales, rutas de evacuación seca (salida seca), un sistema de defensa de inundaciones costeras y educación de resistencia para la comunidad.

La Ley de Política Ambiental de Connecticut, establece una política ambiental para el Estado de Connecticut y requiere una EIE para cualquier acción estatal que pueda afectar el medio ambiente. Además, la Acción Propuesta es considerada una "acción federal importante, que afecta significativamente la calidad del medio ambiente humano"; por lo tanto, debe cumplir con los requisitos de la Ley de Política Ambiental Nacional de 1969 (NEPA).

Como tal, esta EIE servirá conjuntamente como una EIS y cumplirá con los requisitos de la NEPA. CTDOH ha preparado este Borrador de EIS / EIE, en concordancia con las Regulaciones del Consejo de Calidad Ambiental para la Implementación de las Disposiciones de Procedimiento de la NEPA (40 CFR Partes 1500-1508) y los Procedimientos de Revisión Ambiental de HUD para Entidades que Asumen Responsabilidades Ambientales de HUD (24 CFR 58). La redacción del borrador del EIS / EIE, comenzó formalmente el 27 de febrero de 2018, cuando se publicó el Aviso de Intención de Preparar un EIS en el Connecticut Environmental Monitor, que inició un período de comentarios de 30 días, para solicitar la opinión del público y de la agencia, que duró hasta el 28 de marzo, 2018, e incluyó una amplia audiencia pública el 14 de marzo de 2018.

El área de estudio está ubicada en el vecindario South End de la ciudad de Bridgeport, un área peninsular en la región costera de Connecticut, ubicada entre Cedar Creek, Long Island Sound y Bridgeport Harbor. En general, el área de estudio es una sección transversal que incluye zonas residenciales, institucionales, de servicios públicos y recreativos, que definen al vecindario South End. Todas esas zonas son susceptibles a situaciones de inundación aguda y crónica, debido a una combinación de infraestructura de aguas pluviales inadecuada en el área y su ubicación costera.

El propósito de la Propuesta es crear una comunidad más resistente en South End, apoyar su viabilidad a largo plazo y mejorar la salud y la seguridad de las poblaciones vulnerables de la comunidad. Los principales objetivos específicos son:

- Reducir el riesgo de inundaciones agudas y crónicas.
- Proporcionar vías de circulación secas durante emergencias.
- Educar al público sobre los riesgos de inundaciones y el aumento del nivel del mar.

La Acción propuesta brindará beneficios adicionales a la comunidad, lo que posiblemente facilitará el desarrollo o las oportunidades en el ámbito público, mejorando la conectividad entre el South End y el centro de Bridgeport (ubicado al norte del ferrocarril y la I-95), mejorando las instalaciones existentes en espacios abiertos, aumentando la resistencia de los sistemas de energía locales y aprovechando la inversión pública en los esfuerzos continuos de resistencia a través de la coordinación con las partes locales involucradas.

Una audiencia pública tendrá lugar, para solicitar comentarios de la comunidad sobre el contenido de este DEIS, el **12 de febrero de 2019**, desde las 6:00 p.m. a las 8:00 p.m. en la Galería Schellhaudt (84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT). La audiencia brindará una oportunidad para que el público envíe comentarios sobre el DEIS de manera oral y / o por escrito. Los comentarios sobre este DEIS se registrarán durante la audiencia. A las personas que no deseen expresar públicamente sus comentarios, se les ofrecerá la oportunidad de hacerlos privados escritos o verbales en la reunión, o enviándolos a través del sitio web del proyecto, correo electrónico o por correo a CTDOH (ver más abajo).

Además del acceso al DEIS que se proporciona a continuación, el público también puede ver una copia de este DEIS en:

Bridgeport City Hall

45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-7081

Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch

925 Broad Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-7400

Bridgeport Public Library Black Rock Branch

2705 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06605
203-576-7025

University of Bridgeport Magnus Wahlstrom Library

126 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-2388

Proyecto en la página web del Connecticut Department of Housing (Departamento de Vivienda de Connecticut): <https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>

Los comentarios sobre este DEIS se aceptarán hasta el cierre de actividades laborales del 22 de febrero de 2019.

Se debe tener en cuenta que, debido al cierre del gobierno federal en curso, la Notificación de Disponibilidad de NEPA requerida para este DEIS, no puede publicarse en el Registro Federal al mismo tiempo que esta notificación del Monitor Ambiental de Connecticut. De conformidad con la NEPA, un período de comentario público de 45 días requerido, comenzaría a partir de la publicación del Aviso de disponibilidad en el Registro Federal. Como tal, se anticipa que el período de comentarios públicos de la NEPA para el DEIS, se extendería más allá del plazo de CEPA del 22 de febrero de 2019, cuya duración exacta depende de la posibilidad de publicación en el Registro Federal. Esta circunstancia no cambia la fecha de audiencia pública, prevista para el 12 de febrero de 2019. El DEIS aún estaría disponible para revisión pública en las ubicaciones físicas y digitales que se proporcionaron anteriormente durante ese tiempo.

Se puede encontrar información adicional sobre este proyecto online en: <https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726> y en www.resilie

Envíe sus comentarios acerca de este DEIS, a:

Nombre: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience
Agencia: Connecticut Department of Housing
Dirección: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Teléfono: 860-270-8231
E-mail: Rebecca.French@ct.gov

Connecticut



RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT

Public Meeting & Design Workshop

February 12, 2019
6 PM - 8 PM

Schelhaudt Gallery
84 Iranistan Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

The evening will begin promptly at 6 PM with a presentation on the project's progress, the EIS and its findings, and design refinements.

Following the presentation, attendees are encouraged to participate in a design workshop focused on the head of park and resilience gateway, stormwater management and Soundview Park, and take an interactive look at the head of park model.

Light refreshments will be provided.

www.ResilientBridgeport.com
info@resilientbridgeport.com



[More Information >>](#)



Calling All Candidates, Peruse The Election Calendar

January 31, 2019 12 Comments



The Bright Light Of Safety At Trumbull Gardens

January 31, 2019 1 Comment



List Of Bridgeport Warming Centers

January 31, 2019 No Comments



SPORTTECH

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Chief's Payout Swells To More Than \$300K, After Taxes

January 29, 2019 14 Comments



"Let's Do This!" Moore Launches Fundraising Page For Mayor

January 28, 2019 10 Comments



Bradley Announces Bill To Increase Minority Teacher Hires

January 28, 2019 44 Comments

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'Captain Traffic' Morgan Kaolian, Aerial Photographer Extraordinaire, Dies

January 28, 2019 6 Comments



Tony Raises The Barr In Underdog Campaign For Mayor

January 27, 2019 41 Comments



AJ-acked! Let's Be Friends—Chief Cashes Windfall For Job Time Owed, Moolah To Pay College Tuition

January 26, 2019 15 Comments

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LEGAL NOTICES



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Announcement of Public Hearing, and Early Notice of Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-year Floodplain for the Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Relief Projects in the City of Bridgeport.



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Note: Retail Display Ads May Not End in Identified Placement

Run Dates
2/ 1/2019

Note: Ad size does not reflect actual ad

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Announcement of Public Hearing, and Early Notice of Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-year Floodplain for the Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Relief Projects in the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

SUMMARY: The State of Connecticut's Department of Housing (CTDOH) is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster recovery grant funding and as the "Responsible Entity" defined by HUD regulations at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58.2(a)(7)(i), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design projects in Bridgeport, Connecticut (Proposed Action). The disaster recovery grants are under HUD's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) programs as part of HUD's response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. The Proposed Action consists of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport—the RBD Pilot Project at the former Marina Village public housing site, a Flood Risk Reduction Project on the east side of the South End, and a Resilience Center—that together would provide stormwater management, dry evacuation routes (dry egress), a coastal flood defense system, and resiliency education to the community.

The Proposed Action is considered a "major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment"; therefore, it must comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). CTDOH has prepared a DEIS in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and HUD's Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities (24 CFR 58). In addition, the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act establishes environmental policy for the State of Connecticut and requires an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for any state action that could affect the natural environment. As such, the DEIS will jointly serve as an EIE and will meet Connecticut Environmental Policy Act requirements. The DEIS includes documentation of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management).

This Notice of Availability commences a 45-day comment period to solicit public and agency input on the DEIS through March 18, 2019.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DEIS: Electronic copies of the DEIS are available for public review at the following websites: www.ResilientBridgeport.com and <https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=45138q=588726>. Copies of the DEIS will also be available for review at the following locations during regular business hours:

* **Bridgeport City Hall**
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7081

* **Bridgeport Public Library Black Rock Branch**
2705 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605
(203) 576-7025

* **Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch**
925 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7400

* **University of Bridgeport Magnus Wahlstrom Library**
126 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 0660
(203) 576-2388

PUBLIC COMMENT: Any person wishing to comment on the DEIS may do so. The public comment period will be 45 days. Comments and related material must be submitted on or before March 18, 2019. You may submit comments using any one of the following methods:

- (1) Email: info@ResilientBridgeport.com
- (2) Online: www.ResilientBridgeport.com
- (3) Mail: Connecticut Department of Housing (CTDOH) c/o Rebecca French, Director of Resilience, 505 Hudson Street, Hudson, Connecticut, 06106. ATTN: Resilient Bridgeport
- (4) Hand delivery: Same as mail address above, between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM to hear a presentation on the project and provide an opportunity for oral comments (with a snow date for any weather-related cancellations scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2019 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM). The public hearing will be held at 7 Middle Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. The meeting facility is accessible to those with disabilities. Any individual who requires special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, accessible seating, or documentation in alternative formats, is requested to contact **the project team at 860-815-0299 or by e-mail at info@ResilientBridgeport.com** no later than 5 PM Thursday, February 15, 2019.

EARLY NOTICE OF ACTIVITY IN 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN: This provides notice, pursuant to 24 CFR Part 55, that this proposed federally funded project would be located within the 100-year floodplain (the one-percent-annual-chance floodplain). CTDOH identified and evaluated practicable alternatives to locating the Proposed Action in the floodplain, and analyzed the potential impacts from the Proposed Action, as required by Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 55.20 Subpart C, *Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands*.

The Study Area encompasses approximately 380 acres. The majority of the Study Area (265 acres) is mapped within the coastal 'AE' or 'VE' floodplain zones based on the FEMA Flood Insurance Risk Maps. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to reduce flood risk in the South End of Bridgeport, CT, thereby protecting critical infrastructure, residences, and businesses from both acute and chronic future flood events. The project would reduce the area at risk of flooding by between 39 and 64 acres with the construction of the coastal flood defense system.

The three primary purposes for this notice are: 1) give an opportunity to people who may be affected by activities within the floodplains to express their concerns and provide information about these areas, 2) encourage commenters to offer alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts, which may enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas, 3) inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk that the Federal government will participate in actions taking place in floodplains.

**DEPARTAMENTO DE VIVIENDA Y DESARROLLO URBANO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Aviso de disponibilidad de borrador de declaración de impacto ambiental (DEIS), Anuncio de Audiencia pública, Notificación temprana de explicación pública sobre una actividad propuesta en una planicie de inundación de 100 años sobre resiliencia de Bridgeport, Reconstrucción por diseño y proyectos nacionales de ayuda para desastres en la ciudad de Bridgeport, Connecticut.

RESUMEN: El Departamento de Vivienda de Connecticut (Connecticut Department of Housing -CTDOH), es receptor de los fondos para la subvención de recuperación de desastres del U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development -HUD (Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano) y en su condición de "Entidad responsable", tal como definida por las regulaciones de HUD contenidas en el Reglamento 24, del Código de Reglamentos Federales (CFR), Parte 58.2(a)(7)(i), ha preparado un borrador de declaración de impacto ambiental (DEIS) sobre resiliencia de Bridgeport: Proyectos nacionales de resistencia a desastres y reconstrucción por diseño en Bridgeport, Connecticut (Acción propuesta). Las subvenciones para la recuperación ante desastres se encuentran en los programas de Recuperación de Desastres Nacionales (NDR) y Reconstrucción por Diseño (RBD, por sus siglas en inglés) de HUD, siendo parte de la Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (Paquete de Subvención para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG-DR, por sus siglas en inglés) como parte de la respuesta de HUD a la devastación que siguió a la supertormenta Sandy. La acción propuesta consta de tres proyectos ubicados en el extremo sur de Bridgeport: el proyecto piloto RBD en el antiguo emplazamiento de viviendas públicas de Marina Village, un proyecto de reducción de riesgo de inundación en el lado este del extremo sur y un centro de resiliencia que juntos, facilitarán el control de aguas pluviales, rutas de evacuación seca (salida seca), un sistema de defensa de inundaciones costeras y educación de resiliencia ante desastres para la comunidad.

La acción propuesta se considera una "acción federal importante que afecta significativamente la calidad del medio ambiente humano"; por lo tanto, debe cumplir con los requisitos de la Ley de Política Ambiental Nacional de 1969 (NEPA). CTDOH ha preparado un DEIS de acuerdo con las Regulaciones del Consejo de Calidad Ambiental para la Implementación de las Disposiciones de Procedimiento de la NEPA (40 CFR Partes 1500-1508) y los Procedimientos de Revisión Ambiental de HUD para Entidades que Asumen Responsabilidades Ambientales de HUD (24 CFR 58). Además, la Ley de Política Ambiental de Connecticut, establece una política ambiental para el Estado de Connecticut y requiere una Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (EIE) para cualquier acción estatal que pueda afectar el medio ambiente. En esa virtud, el DEIS servirá conjuntamente como un EIE y cumplirá con los requisitos de la Ley de Política Ambiental de Connecticut. El DEIS incluye la documentación de la Sección 106 de la Ley Nacional de Preservación Histórica y el cumplimiento de la Orden Ejecutiva 11988 (Gestión de las áreas de inundación).

Con este Aviso de disponibilidad se inicia un período de comentarios de 45 días para solicitar comentarios del público y de la agencia sobre el DEIS, hasta el 18 de marzo de 2019.

DISPONIBILIDAD DEL DEIS: Las copias electrónicas del DEIS están disponibles para revisión pública en los siguientes sitios web: www.ResilientBridgeport.com y <https://www.ct.gov/doh/cwp/view.asp?a=4513&q=588726>. Las copias del DEIS también estarán disponibles para su revisión en los siguientes lugares durante el horario laboral habitual:

- **Bridgeport City Hall**
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-7081
- **Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch**
925 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-7400
- **Bridgeport Public Library Black Rock Branch**
2705 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605
203-576-7025
- **University of Bridgeport Magnus Wahlstrom Library**
126 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 0660
203-576-2388

COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO: Cualquier persona que desee comentar sobre el DEIS puede hacerlo. El período de comentarios públicos será de 45 días. Los comentarios y el material relacionado deben someterse antes del 18 de marzo de 2019. Se pueden enviar comentarios utilizando cualquiera de los siguientes métodos:

(1) Email: info@ResilientBridgeport.com

(2) Online: www.ResilientBridgeport.com

(3) Por correo: Connecticut Department of Housing (CTDOH) c/o Rebecca French, Director of Resilience, 505 Hudson Street, Hudson, Connecticut, 06106. ATTN: Resilient Bridgeport

(4) Entrega a mano: igual que la dirección de correo de arriba, entre las 9:00 AM y las 5:00 PM, de lunes a viernes, excepto los días feriados federales.

AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA: se llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el martes 26 de febrero de 2019 de 6:00 p.m. a 7:30 p.m., para escuchar una presentación sobre el proyecto y ofrecer una oportunidad para comentarios orales (si por nieve o cualquier evento relacionado con el clima, se cancela la audiencia, quedaría reprogramada para el jueves, 28 de febrero de 2019 de 6:00 PM a 7:30 PM). La audiencia pública tendrá lugar en el 7 Middle Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. El local de la reunión es accesible para las personas con discapacidad. Cualquier persona que requiera servicios especiales, como un intérprete de lenguaje de señas, asientos accesibles o documentación en formatos alternativos, debe comunicarse con el equipo del proyecto al 860-815-0299 o por correo electrónico a info@ResilientBridgeport.com, a más tardar, el jueves 15 de febrero de 2019, a las 5 de la tarde.


NOTIFICACIÓN TEMPRANA DE UNA PROPUESTA DE ACTIVIDAD DE 100 AÑOS EN ÁREAS DE INUNDACIÓN: Por este medio se avisa, de conformidad con 24 CFR Parte 55, que este proyecto propuesto, financiado con fondos federales se ubicaría dentro del área de inundación de 100 años (área de inundación de probabilidad del uno por ciento anual). El CTDOH identificó y evaluó alternativas viables para ubicar la Acción propuesta en el área de inundación y analizó los impactos potenciales de la Acción propuesta, según lo exige la Orden ejecutiva 11988 (Gestión de las áreas de inundación), de acuerdo con las regulaciones de HUD en 24 CFR Parte 55.20 Subparte C, Procedimientos para hacer determinaciones sobre el manejo de la planicie de inundación y la protección de humedales.

El área de estudio abarca aproximadamente 380 acres. La mayoría del Área de Estudio (265 acres) está mapeada dentro de las zonas de inundación "AE" o "VE" costeras según los Mapas de Riesgo de Seguro de Inundación de FEMA. El propósito de la Acción propuesta, es reducir el riesgo de inundación en el extremo sur de Bridgeport, CT, protegiendo así la infraestructura crítica, las residencias y las empresas de inundaciones futuras agudas y crónicas. El proyecto reduciría el área en riesgo de inundación entre 39 y 64 acres, con la construcción del sistema de defensa de inundaciones costeras.

Hay tres propósitos principales para este aviso. 1) las personas que puedan verse afectadas por las actividades en las áreas de inundación y humedales y las que tienen interés en la protección del entorno natural, se les debe dar la oportunidad de expresar sus inquietudes y proporcionar información sobre estas áreas. 2) un adecuado programa de notificación pública puede ser una herramienta importante de educación pública. La difusión de información sobre áreas de inundación y humedales puede facilitar y mejorar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos asociados a la ocupación y modificación de estas áreas especiales. En tercer lugar, como una cuestión de justicia, cuando el gobierno federal determina que tomará acciones en áreas de inundación y humedales, se debe informar a quienes puedan estar en mayor o continuo riesgo.



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LEGAL NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Announcement of Public Hearing, and Early Notice of Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-year Floodplain for the Resilient Bridgeport: Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Relief Projects in the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

SUMMARY: The State of Connecticut's Department of Housing (CTDOH) is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster recovery grant funding and as the



Weymouth, Nicole

From: Resilient Bridgeport <info@resilientbridgeport.com>
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2019 3:59 PM
To: Weymouth, Nicole
Subject: **LOCATION UPDATE** Public Hearing & Design Workshop - February 26, 6-8 PM



Meeting Announcement

Please Join Us for a Public Hearing & Design Workshop

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 6-8 PM
Schelfhautd Gallery
Arnold Bernhard Arts and Humanities Center
84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

A Public Hearing and Design Workshop for Resilient Bridgeport will be held at the Schelfhautd Gallery, located in the Arnold Bernhard Arts and Humanities Center, 84 Iranistan Avenue in Bridgeport, CT.

PUBLIC HEARING

The evening will begin promptly at 6:00 PM with a presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE). Following the presentation, the public will have an opportunity to provide comments.

To view the DEIS in advance, please use the following links:

- [Draft Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Evaluation](#)
- [Draft Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Evaluation Appendices](#)

- [Figure 1 – Project Location Map](#)
- [Figure 2 – Project Areas Map](#)

In addition to the project website, the public can view a copy of this DEIS at:

Bridgeport City Hall
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7081

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925 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-7400

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University of Bridgeport Magnus Wahlstrom Library
126 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 576-2388

Comments will be accepted through March 18, 2019, and can be submitted online through the project website or at the email address or through regular mail at the below addresses.

Send your comments about this DEIS to:
Name: Rebecca French, Director of Resilience
Agency: Connecticut Department of Housing
Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 270-8231
E-mail: info@resilientbridgeport.com

DESIGN WORKSHOP

Attendees are encouraged to stay following the presentation to take part in a Design Workshop. The Design Workshop will illustrate the different elements of the overall design, as well as provide the opportunity for community feedback.

The Design Workshop will focus on two significant design items- "Head of Park" and the Resilience Gateway, and Stormwater Management at Soundview Park. A 3D model will offer an interactive look at current design plans at these locations.

Please feel free to spread the word of this Public Hearing and Design Workshop with your colleagues, friends and neighbors who share an interest in the future of Bridgeport's South End. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

We look forward to your attendance at the public meeting and working with you to create a more resilient South End and City of Bridgeport!

For more information about Resilient Bridgeport, please visit our website www.resilientbridgeport.com.

Connect with us!



Visit our website

Resilient Bridgeport is a prototype for the region's coastal cities. It consists of a resilience strategy and pilot projects focused on protecting homes, businesses and infrastructure in the South End of Bridgeport from chronic and acute flooding in order to foster long-term prosperity in the neighborhood.



Resilient Bridgeport | 7 Middle Street, Bridgeport , CT 06604

[Unsubscribe nicole.weymouth@wsp.com](mailto:nicole.weymouth@wsp.com)

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**RESILIENT
BRIDGEPORT**

Public Hearing & Design Workshop

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
Scheifhaudt Gallery
84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

6:00 PM Open House
6:20 PM DEIS/EIE Presentation
6:40 PM Public Comments
Design Presentation & Workshop to Follow
(Approximately 7:00 PM)

Join us for a presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) / Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE). Following the presentation, the public will have the opportunity to provide comments. After the hearing, please join us for a design update and public workshop.

For more information and to review the DEIS/EIE, please visit
www.ResilientBridgeport.com.

If you have any special needs and require assistance at the meeting, please contact the project team by calling (860) 815-0299 no later than 5 PM on Friday, February 22, 2019.



**RESILIENT
BRIDGEPORT**

Audiencia Pública y Taller de Diseño

Martes 26 de Febrero, 2019
Galería de Arte Scheifhaudt
84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT

6:00 PM Se abren las puertas al público
6:20 PM Presentación del DEIS/EIE
6:40 PM Comentarios del Público Asistente
Presentación del Diseño y Taller Público
(Aproximadamente a las 7:00 PM)

Esta cordialmente invitado a unirse a nosotros para una presentación preliminar sobre la Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (DEIS) / Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (EIE). Después de la presentación, el público tendrá la oportunidad de presentar sus comentarios y hacer preguntas. Luego de la reunión, también lo invitamos a participar en un taller público y recibir información adicional sobre las actualizaciones de diseño del proyecto.

Para obtener mayor información y para revisar la documentación del DEIS / EIE, por favor visita
www.resilientbridgeport.com

Si tiene alguna discapacidad o necesidad especial y requiere asistencia en la reunión, le pedimos que por favor se comuniqué con el equipo del proyecto llamando al (860) 815-0299 a más tardar a las 5:00 p.m. del día viernes 22 de febrero de 2019.

APPENDIX C
EARLY PUBLIC SCOPING COMMENTS

Appendix A: Comment Response Document

The Draft Scoping Document was published and presented on the project website (<https://resilientbridgeport.com>) and a Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the Federal Register on February 27, 2018 (FR-6082-N-01). The Public Comment Period began that day (February 27, 2018) and concluded on March 28, 2018. A Public Scoping Meeting was held on March 14, 2018 where material was presented to the community. Comments were received at that meeting. Additionally, comments were accepted through electronic mail throughout the comment period. Below are the responses to comments received during the comment period. Comments in their original form can be found in Appendix B.

Oral Comments at Scoping Meeting on March 14, 2018 (from official transcript):

Oral Comment 1: Good evening everyone. My name is Carmen Yeves and I'm a resident of the south end and I also represent the South End NRZ and I just want to -- we've given a letter of support to this in the past about the work that we've been doing here and we think that we've been very involved in the process. We understand that it's not an overnight process so that we know that it will take several years. What we are excited about is the opportunity to finally get some resiliency working construction finally started because of the floods that we've had before and how it's impacted our community. It's actually stopped new development from being able to -- other projects to be able to build more locally, maybe rehabbing properties and things like that because, you know, houses need to be lifted off the grounds because of that. So we're excited about the opportunity to finally see some work going in because we believe that once one project and the study is completed and published, it will actually open up the opportunity as things are -- one project will build on the other and we know that it will take over time but we feel that this is a needed -- we as part of the NRZ have had meetings where we've had the group come and speak. We've done other events in other places where the community has been involved, including youth. They've done design, discussions that we've had that involve the youth, and we're looking forward to continuing that so we thank you for all that you've done and you have my support and the support of the NRZ going forward. Thank you.

Response: Comment noted.

Oral Comment 2: My name is Lydia Silvas, S-i-l-v-a-s. I am a resident in the Seaside Village and it's kind of hard to make a comment at the beginning of the evening when we haven't had our workshop yet, but one of the reasons that I wanted to come out tonight and take part in the design part of the workshop is my interest in the Resilience -- the Resiliency Centers that we're going to be having and in some of the meetings that we've been having so far, it's been very open for the community to make suggestions about what we'd like to see that be and one of the things that I would like to throw out to the community is the idea of -- at one point there was a gentleman that came over from Holland and did a workshop that was open to all of us and he talked about the importance of monitoring and the importance of monitoring in cities that have -- that already have old and somewhat failing storm water systems like we have here in the South End and in other sections of Bridgeport, and it sparked the idea in my mind that if we could use the Resiliency Center as a center to use as a way to start a program to do monitoring and do it with the aid of maybe under his direction with the rest of the team that's working, the engineers that are working to set up a program to bring the community, volunteers in the community and maybe UB and Groundwork Bridgeport and other partners that have been involved in this program to start monitoring the south end as part of the Resilience program. It would give our youth and our university and anybody else in the community a chance to really take part in correcting our failing storm water systems down here and to set up now that we've got this big body of money, to set up a really educated and smart groundwork so that we can set our self up for future funding to maintain this kind of work over a period of years because it's going to take us a long time to really correct and maintain our situation down here. So I know tonight we're going to be talking about the Resilient Center and I just wanted to be able to throw that idea out. I don't know how or if that is something that the rest of the community is interested in but I wanted to use this time to just say what has been on my mind as a resident down here and thank you.

Response: The Project Team is continuing outreach to the community to identify the priority attributes of the Resilience Hub. An online survey was conducted to supplement feedback received at the workshop on March 14, 2018. The team will work to incorporate the community's input to the extent possible within the given cost constraints. It should be noted that funding can only be used for design and construction of a center and cannot be used for implementing new programs. Partnership opportunities are being explored to supplement the public funding.

Comments Received Through Regular Mail or Email:

David Simmons
U.S Fish and Wildlife Services
david_simmons@fws.org

Comment: NEFO requests to submit a no comment for the subject ER.

Response: Comment noted.

Lynn M. Haig
Director of Planning, Bridgeport

Comment: City of Bridgeport has expressed their support for work produced by Resilient Bridgeport.

Response: Comment noted.

Maisa L. Tisdale
The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community
freemancenterbpt-ct@yahoo.com

Freeman Center Comment 1: Regarding the portion of the elevated roadway, berm, to be placed on Atlantic, crossing Main Street; homeowners in the historic cottages, prefer a tunnel with floodgates that would permit access to Seaside Park at ground level – as opposed to a landscaped and terraced hill that would bring Main Street to a dead end with no view of the water, or access to the park by car from Main Street. The tunnel should be reminiscent of those in Beardsley Park, another Olmstead Park, or overpasses on the Merritt Parkway. This is the preference of The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community as well.

Response: The design team is evaluating options to both connect Main Street to Seaside Park and terminate vehicular traffic but maintain bike and pedestrian continuity at Main Street and University for future discussions with the public.

Freeman Center Comment 2: Making Main Street a dead-end would irreparably damage the cultural fabric and development aspirations of nearby historic neighborhoods adjacent to the park. For example, the origins of the William D. Bishop Cottage Development” (circa 1880) and the history of the Mary & Eliza Freeman Houses, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places are inextricably linked the nearby water, the Long Island Sound.

Response: We appreciate your insight on the historic significance of the linkage to the water and acknowledge the potential impacts to changing Main Street to a dead-end. One of the goals of the project is to maintain connection to the water. In addition to exploring the option of dead-ending Main Street, the Project Team is investigating options to keep Main Street a through street while still maintaining the necessarily level of flood risk reduction. The primary through-street option under consideration would include ramping Main Street on both the north and south side of University Avenue to allow vehicular traffic to continue from northern Main Street over raised University Avenue and into Seaside Park. This option presents some design challenges that the project team is analyzing, such as maintaining the allowable grade (5%) under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A tunnel option was evaluated based on this comment, but was not considered feasible due to issues of exacerbating flooding, failure rates of deployable measures, and requiring University Avenue to be elevated higher resulting in higher construction costs.

Freeman Center Comment 3: Of about 36 structures that comprised Little Liberia, only the Freeman Houses survive on original foundations. Little Liberia (known as Ethiope then Liberia in the 1800s), a seafaring community of free people of color, boasted - a luxurious seaside resort hotel for wealthy Blacks (cited in a letter to Frederick Douglass), Bridgeport’s first free lending library, a school for colored children, businesses, fraternal organizations, and churches. Mary & Eliza Freeman were accomplished business women. When Mary Freeman died, the only Bridgeporter of greater wealth was legendary showman P.T. Barnum. The Freeman Houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their significance to African Americans and Women. Research suggests that Little Liberia’s African and Native American residents sought to establish a free city for people of color - on American soil - during slavery in Connecticut and the US. Men brought their earnings home and then returned to sea. Many women owned or operated family business ventures; developed, owned and maintained property; and exercised leadership skills – at a time when women in the United States didn’t even have the right to vote. Little Liberia’s residents were outspoken

advocates for human rights; and like-minded free people of color from around the country, indeed around the world, joined this 1800s community, and invested here. Bridgeport's African and Native American seamen whaled, harvested oysters, sailed Caribbean packet vessels, worked the China trade, and even fought pirates! Then they returned to their secluded "garden" community on Bridgeport Harbor. The Long Island Sound provided food, a hallowed inlet for full immersion baptisms - and according to Shinnecock oral tradition, sheltered waters for night time canoe crossings on the Underground Railroad. Regarding Bishop Cottages, "Of primary interest is a collection of 35 small wood cottages (there were 36 originally), a planned workers' development of the Bishop Realty Company. These cottages, with only minor differences, 1 ½ story Carpenter's Gothic-style structures, L-shaped, with front- and side-gable roofs. They can be divided into 2 categories—those erected in the spring of 1880 and those built in the summer of 1881. The 1880 cottages line both sides of Atlantic Street. Unlike their later counterparts, the house on this block display differing variants. The William D. Bishop Cottage Development National Register District consists primarily of one of Bridgeport's first extensive tract developments, a community planned especially to provide an innovative housing scheme for lower-income workers. It can be said almost with certainty to be an important work of the Palliser Brothers, a Bridgeport architectural firm until 1882 which was instrumental in elevating the style of workingmen's architecture to a level equal to the mainstream of late-Victorian taste. His South End holdings were in an area considered at the time to be ideal for low-income housing – in close proximity to both factories and Seaside Park, which provided opportunities for recreation for those unable to afford carriages to escape the city, yet in an area where land prices were still relatively inexpensive." PT Barnum wrote the following: The horse railroad is to be extended to a convenient distance and all for a mere trifle can avail themselves of the privilege of the park. The intention is to make it the resort of this class of citizens, land being cheaper in this part of town, houses of cheaper rent will be put up, and those of moderate circumstances will be better provided for than they have ever been before. Rich and poor alike are interested in this movement, and let all classes as one man join in rendering every facility to ensure complete success. -- *Bridgeport Standard*, October 7, 1865. Local residents chose to buy these and other historic homes nearby because of they would have access to the park. The elderly, mothers with children, people walking dogs, and riding bicycles use this route to enter the park. Owners consider their proximity the Seaside Park and the vista as seen from Main Street critical to the value of their homes, and important as a car route to carry disabled relatives to the Park.

Response: Comment noted.

Linda Brunza

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Linda.Brunza@ct.gov

DEEP Comment 1: The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has received the Notice of Scoping by the Department of Housing for the National Disaster Resilience Projects in Bridgeport. An Environmental Impact Evaluation will be completed to analyze the potential environmental and social effects of the projects being proposed to improve coastal and social resiliency. The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

Response: CTDOH plans to prepare a NEPA EIS that will also serve as an EIE that meets CEPA requirements.

DEEP Comment 2:

Flood Management

The proposed activities that will be undertaken under the Rebuild by Design pilot project must be certified as being in compliance with flood and stormwater management standards and receive approval from DEEP, (i.e., the 2.5 acre stormwater park, reconstruction of Johnson & Columbia Streets, and stormwater improvements along Iranistan Avenue). These standards are specified in section 25-68d of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and section 25-68h-1 through 25-68h-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA). A Dam Safety Permit will be required for the Flood Risk Reduction component of the project which includes the construction of floodwalls and landscape berms (levees). In accordance with section 22a-403(b) of the CGS, Flood Management Certifications are not required when a Dam Safety permit is required. Although a flood management certification will not be required for the construction of the levees, the Dam Safety permit application must demonstrate compliance with the factors for consideration under the Flood Management program. Specifically, the project must demonstrate that it is in the public interest, will not injure persons or property and complies with the National Flood Insurance Program.

Response: The RBD pilot project will comply with flood, stormwater management, and flood management standards. Language will be added to Section 5.2 of the Scoping Report and the requirements addressed in the DEIS. A Dam Safety Permit will be obtained when the flood risk reduction component of the project is at the appropriate

level of design and the project will demonstrate it is in the public interest and will not injure persons or property. FEMA accreditation is a specified goal of the project.

DEEP Comment 3:

Flood Management

State policy regarding floodplain development is articulated in section 25-68d (b)(4) of the CGS: “*The proposal promotes long-term non-intensive floodplain uses and has utilities located to discourage floodplain development.*” In order to be certified, a proposal must be determined to be a non-intensive use of the floodplain. The determination of whether a specific proposal is considered non-intensive requires examination of numerous factors including, but not limited to, the existing state of the floodplain and its natural resources, the types of uses proposed for the floodplain area, the design of the entire proposal and the extent of encroachment into the floodplain, and the availability of alternatives to siting within the floodplain. Construction of the levees does not promote long term non-intensive floodplain uses as defined by the statute. Therefore, this aspect of the project does not meet section 25-68(b)(4) of the CGS and is considered an intensive use of the floodplain. Normally, this would require an exemption from the flood statutes; however, since a dam safety permit is required, flood management certification is not needed. Therefore the criteria for flood management certification will be addressed through the dam safety application.

Response: Comment noted.

DEEP Comment 4:

Flood Management

With regard to the proposed high hazard dam to meet flood management certification requirements and dam safety design storm requirements, levees must satisfy the highest of the following criteria: (1) be accredited by FEMA, to withstand the 100-year tidal flood plus the amount of freeboard required by FEMA so that the area behind the levee can be designated as “area protected by a levee” and (2) the design needs to pass the 500-year coastal flood factoring in sea level rise. For more information or questions on Flood Management, please contact the Jeff Caiola with the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-4162.

Response: Comment noted. One of the project’s goals is to be accredited by FEMA. The project team has met with FEMA to understand their requirements and review process. Similarly, it is anticipated that the design will exceed the 500-year coastal flood (11.3 ft NAVD88) factoring in sea level rise by targeting a current design elevation that incorporates the necessary considerations to be accredited by FEMA (i.e., wave overtopping and wave runup) and 2.5 feet of sea level rise.

DEEP Comment 5:

Flood Management

Also, be advised that the Dam Safety application must address potential adverse impacts to structures located outside the berm. In addition, there are several potential pitfalls with building a flood control levee in a developed area. Existing storm and sanitary sewers and other underground utilities are located under the proposed levee. The underground utilities and their intersections with the levee will require special attention during the design process. The levee shall be designed so as to prevent seepage under the flood retarding structure. For Dam Safety permit information, please contact Peter Spangenberg at 860-424-3870 or Jennifer Perry at 860-424-3802.

Response: Efforts will be made to minimize the potential adverse impacts to structures located outside the proposed berm. The project team is aware of the requirements of the Dam Safety application and the issues with work within developed area, particularly one with large energy providers. The design process currently underway is making every effort to avoid conflicts with the underground utilities and develop appropriate design solutions where conflicts cannot be avoided.

DEEP Comment 6:

Coastal Management

The proposed project is within Connecticut’s coastal boundary as defined by section 22a-94 of the CGS and is subject to the provisions of sections 22a-90 through 22a-112 of the Connecticut Coastal Management Act (CCMA). Prior to a Federal action, including the granting of funds directly affecting the coastal zone, a determination of the consistency of such action with Connecticut’s approved Coastal Management Program must be made pursuant to 15 CFR 930. For further information concerning coastal consistency reviews, contact the office at 860-424-3019.

Coastal consistency review forms can be downloaded from the DEEP website: [Coastal Consistency, Federal and State](#).

Response: Comment noted. The project team will work with DEEP to address requirements of consistency with Connecticut's Coastal Management Program as part of the DEIS process.

DEEP Comment 7:

Coastal Management

Coastal management concerns which must be addressed in future phases of the project planning process are: avoidance or mitigation of potential flooding threats, particularly for any residential-type uses that might be proposed within the coastal flood hazard area; displacement of existing water-dependent uses, if any such uses exist and do not adversely affect coastal resources, by non water-dependent uses; the potential mobilization of pollutants in contaminated soils at former/current waterfront industrial sites; and appropriate use of urban retrofit stormwater best management practices, wherever possible.

Response: Comment noted. The project planning is addressing potential flooding threats and avoidance and mitigation measures will be identified in the DEIS.

DEEP Comment 8:

Coastal Management

The project, or portions thereof, can be considered to be a municipal improvement according to section 8-24 of the CGS. Therefore, a Coastal Site Plan Review, in accordance with sections 22a-105 through 22a-109 of the CGS, must be included in the review by the local planning commission.

Response: Comment noted.

DEEP Comment 9:

Coastal Management

Before a building permit can be granted for this project, the local building inspector must certify that the Coastal Site Plan Review requirements pursuant to sections 22a-105 through 22a-109 of the CGS have been met.

Response: Comment noted.

DEEP Comment 10:

Coastal Management

If local planning and zoning approvals, variances or building permits are required for this project, the Coastal Site Plan Review requirements of sections 22a-105 through 22a-110 of the CGS would be applicable. In accordance with section 22a-109(b), minor additions to or alterations of existing buildings may be exempt from these requirements. The municipal planning and zoning commission or designated zoning official should be consulted regarding this matter.

Response: Comment noted. The Coastal Site Plan Review requirements will be met and the Bridgeport Planning and Zoning Commission will be consulted.

DEEP Comment 11:

Water Diversion

Part of the Resilient Bridgeport project includes addressing how stormwater flows in the South End. Any collection and discharge of runoff, including stormwater drainage or skimming flood flows, from a watershed area of 100 acres or greater; relocation, retention, detention, bypass, channelization, piping, culverting, ditching, or damming of waters where the drainage tributary to such waters is 100 acres or greater; or the transfer of water from one distribution system to another where the combined maximum withdrawal from any source supplying the system or interconnected systems exceed 50,000 gallons during any 24-hour period, may require a permit from the Land and Water Resources Division for the diversion of waters of the State pursuant to section 22a-368 of the CGS and section 22a-377(c)-1 of the RCSA. For further information please contact Jeff Caiola with the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-4162.

Response: Comment noted. The DEIS will address anticipated permit requirements.

DEEP Comment 12:

Threatened and Endangered Species

The Natural Diversity Database maps represent the approximate locations of species listed by the State, pursuant to section 26-306 of the CGS, as endangered, threatened or of special concern. The maps are a pre-screening tool to identify potential impacts to state listed species. Portions of this project fall within one of these areas. The applicant is required to submit a *Request for Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) State Listed Species Review Form* (DEEP-

APP-007) and all required attachments, including maps, to the NDDDB for further review. Additional information concerning NDDDB reviews and the request form may be found on-line at: [NDDDB Requests](#).

Response: The NDDDB request will be submitted and the information used to inform the terrestrial species technical study and EIS.

DEEP Comment 13:

Stormwater During Construction

Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require a permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges. For projects disturbing five or more acres, registration describing the site and the construction activity must be submitted to DEEP prior to the initiation of construction. A stormwater pollution control plan, including measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management, must be prepared. A goal of 80 percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing post-construction stormwater management measures. The general permit also requires that post-construction control measures incorporate runoff reduction practices, such as LID techniques, to meet performance standards specified in the permit.

Response: Comment noted. These permits will be added to Section 5.2 of the Final Scoping Document and identified in the DEIS.

DEEP Comment 14:

Stormwater During Construction

The construction stormwater general permit dictates separate compliance procedures for Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects (as defined in the permit). Locally Exempt construction projects disturbing over 1 acre must submit a registration form and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) to DEEP. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of one to five acres are not required to register with DEEP provided the development plan has been approved by a municipal land use agency and adheres to local erosion and sediment control land use regulations and the *CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of five or more acres must submit a registration form to DEEP. This registration shall include a certification by a Qualified Professional who designed the project and a certification by a Qualified Professional or regional Conservation District who reviewed the SWPCP and deemed it consistent with the requirements of the general permit. The SWPCP for Locally Approvable projects is not required to be submitted to DEEP unless requested. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3018. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: [Construction Stormwater GP](#).

Response: Comment noted. These requirements will be identified in the DEIS.

To: Hermia Delaire, Program Manager, CDBG Disaster Recovery Programs
Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford CT 06106

From: Linda Brunza- Environmental Analyst

Telephone: 860-424-3739

Date: 4/3/2018

Email: Linda.Brunza@ct.gov

Subject: Scoping Notice for Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has received the Notice of Scoping by the Department of Housing for the National Disaster Resilience Projects in Bridgeport. An Environmental Impact Evaluation will be completed to analyze the potential environmental and social effects of the projects being proposed to improve coastal and social resiliency. The following comments are submitted for your consideration.

Flood Management

The proposed activities that will be undertaken under the Rebuild by Design pilot project must be certified as being in compliance with flood and stormwater management standards and receive approval from DEEP, (i.e., the 2.5 acre stormwater park, reconstruction of Johnson & Columbia Streets, and stormwater improvements along Iranistan Avenue). These standards are specified in [section 25-68d](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and [section 25-68h-1 through 25-68h-3](#) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA). A Dam Safety Permit will be required for the Flood Risk Reduction component of the project which includes the construction of floodwalls and landscape berms (levees). In accordance with section 22a-403(b) of the CGS, Flood Management Certifications are not required when a Dam Safety permit is required. Although a flood management certification will not be required for the construction of the levees, the Dam Safety permit application must demonstrate compliance with the factors for consideration under the Flood Management program. Specifically, the project must demonstrate that it is in the public interest, will not injure persons or property and complies with the National Flood Insurance Program.

State policy regarding floodplain development is articulated in section 25-68d (b)(4) of the CGS: *“The proposal promotes long-term non-intensive floodplain uses and has utilities located to discourage floodplain development.”* In order to be certified, a proposal must be determined to be a non-intensive use of the floodplain. The determination of whether a specific proposal is considered non-intensive requires examination of numerous factors including, but not limited to, the existing state of the floodplain and its natural resources, the types of uses proposed for the floodplain area, the design of the entire proposal and the extent of encroachment into the floodplain, and the availability of alternatives to siting within the floodplain. Construction of the levees does not promote long term non-intensive floodplain uses as defined by the statute. Therefore, this aspect of the project does not meet section 25-68(b)(4) of the CGS and is considered an intensive use of the floodplain. Normally, this would require an exemption from the flood statutes; however, since a

dam safety permit is required, flood management certification is not needed. Therefore the criteria for flood management certification will be addressed through the dam safety application.

With regard to the proposed high hazard dam to meet flood management certification requirements and dam safety design storm requirements, levees must satisfy the highest of the following criteria: (1) be accredited by FEMA, to withstand the 100-year tidal flood plus the amount of freeboard required by FEMA so that the area behind the levee can be designated as “area protected by a levee” and (2) the design needs to pass the 500-year coastal flood factoring in sea level rise. For more information or questions on Flood Management, please contact the Jeff Caiola with the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-4162.

Also, be advised that the Dam Safety application must address potential adverse impacts to structures located outside the berm. In addition, there are several potential pitfalls with building a flood control levee in a developed area. Existing storm and sanitary sewers and other underground utilities are located under the proposed levee. The underground utilities and their intersections with the levee will require special attention during the design process. The levee shall be designed so as to prevent seepage under the flood retarding structure. For Dam Safety permit information, please contact Peter Spangenberg at 860-424-3870 or Jennifer Perry at 860-424-3802.

Coastal Management

The proposed project is within Connecticut's coastal boundary as defined by section 22a-94 of the CGS and is subject to the provisions of sections 22a-90 through 22a-112 of the Connecticut Coastal Management Act (CCMA). Prior to a Federal action, including the granting of funds directly affecting the coastal zone, a determination of the consistency of such action with Connecticut's approved Coastal Management Program must be made pursuant to 15 CFR 930. For further information concerning coastal consistency reviews, contact the office at 860-424-3019. Coastal consistency review forms can be downloaded from the DEEP website: [Coastal Consistency, Federal and State](#).

Coastal management concerns which must be addressed in future phases of the project planning process are: avoidance or mitigation of potential flooding threats, particularly for any residential-type uses that might be proposed within the coastal flood hazard area; displacement of existing water-dependent uses, if any such uses exist and do not adversely affect coastal resources, by non water-dependent uses; the potential mobilization of pollutants in contaminated soils at former/current waterfront industrial sites; and appropriate use of urban retrofit stormwater best management practices, wherever possible.

The project, or portions thereof, can be considered to be a municipal improvement according to section 8-24 of the CGS. Therefore, a Coastal Site Plan Review, in accordance with sections 22a-105 through 22a-109 of the CGS, must be included in the review by the local planning commission.

Before a building permit can be granted for this project, the local building inspector must certify that the Coastal Site Plan Review requirements pursuant to sections 22a-105 through 22a-109 of the CGS have been met.

If local planning and zoning approvals, variances or building permits are required for this project, the Coastal Site Plan Review requirements of sections 22a-105 through 22a-110 of the CGS would be applicable. In accordance with section 22a-109(b), minor additions to or alterations of existing

buildings may be exempt from these requirements. The municipal planning and zoning commission or designated zoning official should be consulted regarding this matter.

Water Diversion

Part of the Resilient Bridgeport project includes addressing how stormwater flows in the South End. Any collection and discharge of runoff, including stormwater drainage or skimming flood flows, from a watershed area of 100 acres or greater; relocation, retention, detention, bypass, channelization, piping, culverting, ditching, or damming of waters where the drainage tributary to such waters is 100 acres or greater; or the transfer of water from one distribution system to another where the combined maximum withdrawal from any source supplying the system or interconnected systems exceed 50,000 gallons during any 24-hour period, may require a permit from the Land and Water Resources Division for the diversion of waters of the State pursuant to section 22a-368 of the CGS and section 22a-377(c)-1 of the RCSA. For further information please contact Jeff Caiola with the Land and Water Resources Division at 860-424-4162.

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Stormwater discharges from construction sites where one or more acres are to be disturbed, regardless of project phasing, require a permit from the Permitting & Enforcement Division. The *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters Associated with Construction Activities* (DEEP-WPED-GP-015) will cover these discharges. For projects disturbing five or more acres, registration describing the site and the construction activity must be submitted to DEEP prior to the initiation of construction. A stormwater pollution control plan, including measures such as erosion and sediment controls and post construction stormwater management, must be prepared. A goal of 80 percent removal of total suspended solids from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing post-construction stormwater management measures. The general permit also requires that post-construction control measures incorporate runoff reduction practices, such as LID techniques, to meet performance standards specified in the permit.

The construction stormwater general permit dictates separate compliance procedures for Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects (as defined in the permit). Locally Exempt construction projects disturbing over 1 acre must submit a registration form and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP) to DEEP. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of one to five acres are not required to register with DEEP provided the development plan has been approved by a municipal land use agency and adheres to local erosion and sediment control land use regulations and the *CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. Locally Approvable construction projects with a total disturbed area of five or more acres must submit a registration form to DEEP. This registration shall include a certification by a Qualified Professional who designed the project and a certification by a Qualified Professional or regional Conservation District who reviewed the SWPCP and deemed it consistent with the requirements of the general

permit. The SWPCP for Locally Approvable projects is not required to be submitted to DEEP unless requested. For further information, contact the division at 860-424-3018. A copy of the general permit as well as registration forms may be downloaded at: [Construction Stormwater GP](#).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. These comments are based on the reviews provided by relevant staff and offices within DEEP during the designated comment period. They may not represent all applicable programs within DEEP. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning these comments.

cc: Robert Hannon, DEEP/ Office of Policy, Planning and Program Development
Jeff Caiola, DEEP/ Land & Water Resources
Jennifer Perry, DEEP/ Dam Safety
Peter Spangenberg, DEEP/ Dam Safety
Robin Blum, DEEP/ Natural Diversity Database



JOSEPH P. GANIM
Mayor

City of Bridgeport
OFFICE OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Margaret E. Morton Government Center
999 Broad Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

THOMAS GILL
Director

March 23, 2018

Mr. David Kooris
Connecticut Department of Housing
505 Hudson Street, 2nd Floor
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

RE: Resilient Bridgeport
NEPA Comments

Dear Mr. Kooris,

On behalf of the City of Bridgeport I am expressing support for the design work that has been produced by the Resilient Bridgeport group. Under the leadership of David Kooris there has been a substantial amount of public outreach and public input, as well as coordination with integral property owners and the City of Bridgeport. The designs are thorough and thoughtful, carefully weighing the needs of the neighborhood, impacts to properties, and overall project benefits.

These improvements will not only have immediate benefits such as reducing insurance premiums and significantly reducing or eliminating flooding during storm events, but also far-reaching benefits such as opening up redevelopment opportunities that have long been tempered in this flood zone.

The City of Bridgeport wholeheartedly supports Draft Scoping Document for the Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project.

Regards,

Lynn M. Haig, AICP
Director of Planning
City of Bridgeport


Thu 3/15/2018 9:25 AM

KD

Kooris, David <David.Kooris@ct.gov>

FW: ER 18/0100, Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, Bridgeport, CT

To  Weymouth, Nicole

 You forwarded this message on 3/15/2018 9:31 AM.

<Diane.Lazinsky@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: David Simmons <david_simmons@fws.gov>

Subject: ER 18/0100, Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, Bridgeport, CT

NEFO's David Simmons has requested that I submit a no comment for the subject ER.

Jeannine Dube

--

Secretary
New England Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
70 Commercial St., Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301
603-223-2541

"And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make." Paul McCartney

From: [Van Metre, Rachel](mailto:Van.Metre.Rachel)
To: [Van Metre, Rachel](mailto:Van.Metre.Rachel)
Subject: RE: Scoping Hearing Comments
Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 4:57:26 PM

From: Maisa L. Tisdale [<mailto:freemancenterbpt-ct@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 5:03 PM
To: info@resilientbridgeport.com
Subject: Scoping Hearing Comments

These brief but passionate comments refer to the scoping document as articulated at the March 14, 2018 Public Hearing and Design Workshop.

Regarding the portion of the elevated roadway, berm, to be placed on Atlantic, crossing Main Street; homeowners in the historic cottages, prefer a tunnel with floodgates that would permit access to Seaside Park at ground level – as opposed to a landscaped and terraced hill that would bring Main Street to a dead end with no view of the water, or access to the park by car from Main Street. The tunnel should be reminiscent of those in Beardsley Park, another Olmstead Park, or overpasses on the Merritt Parkway. This is the preference of The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community as well.

Making Main Street a dead-end would irreparably damage the cultural fabric and development aspirations of nearby historic neighborhoods adjacent to the park. For example, the origins of the William D. Bishop Cottage Development” (circa 1880) and the history of the Mary & Eliza Freeman Houses, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places are inextricably linked the nearby water, the Long Island Sound.

Of about 36 structures that comprised Little Liberia, only the Freeman Houses survive on original foundations. Little Liberia (known as Ethiope then Liberia in the 1800s), a seafaring community of free people of color, boasted - a luxurious seaside resort hotel for wealthy Blacks (cited in a letter to Frederick Douglass), Bridgeport’s first free lending library, a school for colored children, businesses, fraternal organizations, and churches. Mary & Eliza Freeman were accomplished business women. When Mary Freeman died, the only Bridgeporter of greater wealth was legendary showman P.T. Barnum. The Freeman Houses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their significance to African Americans and Women.

Research suggests that Little Liberia’s African and Native American residents sought to establish a free city for people of color - on American soil - during slavery in Connecticut and the US. Men brought their earnings home and then returned to sea. Many women owned or operated family business ventures; developed, owned and maintained property; and exercised leadership skills – at a time when women in the United States didn’t even have the right to vote. Little Liberia’s residents were outspoken advocates for human rights; and like-minded free people of color from around the country, indeed around the world, joined this 1800s community, and invested here.

Bridgeport's African and Native American seamen whaled, harvested oysters, sailed Caribbean packet vessels, worked the China trade, and even fought pirates! Then they returned to their secluded "garden" community on Bridgeport Harbor. The Long Island Sound provided food, a hallowed inlet for full immersion baptisms - and according to Shinnecock oral tradition, sheltered waters for night time canoe crossings on the Underground Railroad.

Regarding Bishop Cottages, "Of primary interest is a collection of 35 small wood cottages (there were 36 originally), a planned workers' development of the Bishop Realty Company. These cottages, with only minor differences, 1 ½ story Carpenter's Gothic-style structures, L-shaped, with front- and side-gable roofs. They can be divided into 2 categories—those erected in the spring of 1880 and those built in the summer of 1881. The 1880 cottages line both sides of Atlantic Street. Unlike their later counterparts, the house on this block display differing variants. The William D. Bishop Cottage Development National Register District consists primarily of one of Bridgeport's first extensive tract developments, a community planned especially to provide an innovative housing scheme for lower-income workers. It can be said almost with certainty to be an important work of the Palliser Brothers, a Bridgeport architectural firm until 1882 which was instrumental in elevating the style of workingmen's architecture to a level equal to the mainstream of late-Victorian taste. His South End holdings were in an area considered at the time to be ideal for low-income housing – in close proximity to both factories and Seaside Park, which provided opportunities for recreation for those unable to afford carriages to escape the city, yet in an area where land prices were still relatively inexpensive."

PT Barnum wrote the following:

The horse railroad is to be extended to a convenient distance and all for a mere trifle can avail themselves of the privilege of the park. The intention is to make it the resort of this class of citizens, land being cheaper in this part of town, houses of cheaper rent will be put up, and those of moderate circumstances will be better provided for than they have ever been before. Rich and poor alike are interested in this movement, and let all classes as one man join in rendering every facility to ensure complete success.

--**Bridgeport Standard**, October 7, 1865

Local residents chose to buy these and other historic homes nearby because of they would have access to the park. The elderly, mothers with children, people walking dogs, and riding bicycles use this route to enter the park. Owners consider their proximity the Seaside Park and the vista as seen from Main Street critical to the value of their homes, and important as a car route to carry disabled relatives to the Park.

There was and still is great hope that Resilient Bridgeport will improve security and livability for the working class and ethnically diverse population that lives in the South End, not just students or new residents. The South End's boundaries within my lifetime were State and

Iranistan - everything south & east. It has born it's share of urban renewal. These are the preferences of the community that has had the resilience to stay.

Maisa L. Tisdale, President/CEO
The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community
(203) 895-2469 cell
www.freemancenterbpt.com

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* * * * *
RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT:
National Disaster
Resilience and Rebuild
by Design Projects
* * * * *

March 14, 2018

PUBLIC SCOPING HEARING

HELD BEFORE:

DIMPLE DESAI, Hearing Officer

CHERYL S. DAMATO/COURT REPORTING SERVICE
CHERYL S. DAMATO, CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER
300 TOLL GATE ROAD
BERLIN, CONNECTICUT 06037
(860) 828-8847

1 . . . The following is the Public Scoping
2 Hearing in the Matter of: RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT,
3 National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design
4 Projects, held before Dimple Desai, Hearing
5 Officer and Cheryl S. Damato, Certified Court
6 Reporter in and for the State of Connecticut, held
7 at the University of Bridgeport Arts & Humanities
8 Building, 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport,
9 Connecticut, at 6:36 p.m., on Wednesday, March 14,
10 2018.

11
12 Also present:

13 David Kooris, Program Manager, Director of
14 Resilience, Connecticut Department of Housing
15 Hermia M. Delaire, Program Manager, CDBG -
16 Disaster Recovery Programs, Connecticut
17 Department of Housing
18 Nicole Weymouth, Deputy Environmental Manager,
19 WSP USA
20 Laura Toole, Senior Supervising Manager,
21 Connecticut Public Involvement, WSP USA
22 Members of the public
23
24
25

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good evening
2 everyone. If you can take your seat, that
3 would be great. We're going to start the
4 public hearing.

5 My name is Dimple Desai and I'm from
6 the State of Connecticut Department of
7 Housing. I'm the Department of Housing
8 hearing officer for tonight's scoping
9 meeting for the Resilient Bridgeport
10 projects. You're about to see a
11 presentation about the environmental
12 analysis for three projects: The pilot
13 project for RBD and two NBR projects.
14 After that the formal scoping hearing
15 begins.

16 Now I'd like to call David Kooris who
17 is the Director of Resilience for the DOH
18 to give some remarks.

19 MR. KOORIS: Thanks to both. I'm
20 just going to walk briefly through what
21 we're going to be doing tonight and we're
22 trying to get a lot done in a relatively
23 short amount of time. So we certainly
24 appreciate everyone coming out and I think
25 this is a really great opportunity to get

1 feedback from you all on the environmental
2 review process, but also on some of the
3 aspects of the design which we'll get into
4 later in the evening.

5 I'm going to give a brief overview of
6 the project. Just kind of a reminder I
7 know we've got a lot of familiar faces
8 here but we just want to kind of refresh
9 very briefly sort of where we've come from
10 and where we're going, and then Nicole is
11 going to walk us through the actual
12 environmental process in accordance with
13 both the National Environmental Policy Act
14 and the Connecticut Environmental Policy
15 Act which includes a whole series of
16 components, the purpose and need for the
17 project, the proposed action, how we're
18 going to analyze and assess alternatives,
19 what some of the environmental
20 considerations are that we're going to be
21 reviewing these projects through, what the
22 schedule is for the overall process, and
23 then we're going to have a scoping
24 hearing.

25 And so tonight those of you who have

1 been coming to our hearings for a couple
2 of years know that at mandated intervals
3 throughout the project at key milestones
4 like tonight with the release of the
5 scoping document for the environmental
6 review we have a formal public hearing
7 which is the opportunity for you all to
8 put your comments on the record. We get
9 comments from you at every meeting and I
10 think we've demonstrated clearly how we
11 take the information that we receive from
12 you all and incorporate it into design and
13 incorporate it into the project. But
14 there are these opportunities as well to
15 log those comments formally within the
16 federal record such that they are part of
17 the project and part of the project
18 documentation going forward.

19 So just a quick reminder after
20 Hurricane Sandy in 2012, five and a half
21 years ago, the Federal Government through
22 the Department of Housing and Urban
23 Development in an attempt to try and
24 change the way we do disaster recovery
25 rather than just replacing what was

1 damaged just as it was before and keeping
2 our vulnerabilities to future storm events
3 and to future disasters the same, they
4 wanted to engage communities throughout
5 the region in a process through design and
6 through stakeholder engagement and through
7 community participation to identify ways
8 in which our communities can better
9 prepare through design and through
10 infrastructure investment to be more
11 resilient to future events and thinking
12 broadly. Not just disaster recovery but
13 all about economic resilience, jobs, tax
14 base, bringing resources to the community,
15 social resilience, enhancing the social
16 fabric that binds us all together,
17 ecological resilience, you know, restoring
18 some of our natural system so they can
19 play a valuable role within our
20 communities.

21 That competition was in 2014.
22 Bridgeport was lucky to be one of ten
23 communities that was assigned urban design
24 and architecture and landscape
25 architectural support by the Federal

1 Government through HUD and we were one of
2 seven who through the State of Connecticut
3 was awarded funding, \$10 million for
4 planning which we completed over the
5 course of the past couple of years, and
6 for a pilot project to reduce flood risk
7 in the vicinity of Marina Village.

8 Based on the success of that
9 competition, they expanded it to the
10 national scale in something that was
11 called the National Disaster Resilience
12 Competition. Again, building off of the
13 work that we had done here together in
14 Bridgeport, the State of Connecticut put
15 together a proposal that included
16 additional pilot projects in Bridgeport,
17 but also a broader regional planning
18 process and state policy analysis to begin
19 to scale up the lessons that we're
20 learning here together on the ground and
21 institutionalizing them in the way we make
22 decisions at the state and regional levels
23 so that we can learn from the great work
24 that's happening here.

25 Connecticut was again very successful

1 and was one of 13 awardees across the
2 country with an additional \$54 million,
3 about 42 million of which was earmarked to
4 continue investment in infrastructure
5 identified through the Resilient
6 Bridgeport program.

7 So we have approximately 52 million,
8 some of which has been spent already,
9 through the planning process and
10 preliminary design to get us where we are
11 today. The remainder of which, the vast
12 majority of which is for investment in
13 four projects within the community which
14 you'll hear a bit more about.

15 But again, just to kind of take a
16 step back and remind ourselves this is
17 first and foremost about reducing flood
18 risk but it's about leveraging those
19 resources that we've been awarded for that
20 purpose to create a whole range of
21 benefits. And Connecticut's proposal
22 focusing on Bridgeport was about
23 transit-oriented development, downtown
24 revitalization and capitalizing on
25 opportunities for private investment in

1 our community to bring tax revenue, to
2 bring jobs, to bring housing, market rate
3 and affordable, to bring all the
4 ingredients that we have all been looking
5 for, for some time to elevate the
6 prospects for the future for particularly
7 the south end.

8 And with that, I'm going to hand it
9 over to Nicole whose going to talk more
10 specifically about the environmental
11 review process and the scoping document
12 that we're discussing tonight.

13 MS. WEYMOUTH: Thank you. So we have
14 to generate an environmental impact
15 statement and environmental impact
16 evaluation because these are HUD projects
17 and they're federally funded. So there's
18 the National Environmental Policy Act and
19 the parallel process for the Connecticut
20 Environmental Policy Act. HUD is the lead
21 federal agency. They designate
22 responsibility to the Connecticut
23 Department of Housing for this
24 environmental process.

25 Now NEPA and CEPA although we do

1 generate documents as a result of them,
2 they're really more about the process and
3 it's about identifying a purpose and need,
4 you know, evaluating alternatives that
5 would meet that purpose in need and
6 getting public agency input to evaluate
7 those alternatives against social,
8 ecological and economic impacts.

9 The process you can see on the far
10 side started officially with the notice of
11 intent that was published in the Federal
12 Register, the notice of intent for EIS and
13 that kicked off our scoping period which
14 is where we are right now.

15 Once the scoping period is over,
16 we're going to really dig into preparing
17 the draft, environmental impact statement.
18 When that gets released there will be
19 another opportunity for a public input and
20 formal comments, another hearing and we'll
21 incorporate those comments and get a final
22 EIS and record of decision which is the
23 ultimate goal so that construction can
24 then begin.

25 So what is scoping? That's an open

1 process that we like to have at the
2 beginning of the environmental process so
3 we don't go too far down a path without
4 getting some input on what we've defined
5 as the purpose in need, what alternatives
6 should be considered and what
7 methodologies we should be using in
8 evaluating those alternatives.

9 And so our official scoping period
10 started February 27. It's going to
11 continue on through March 28. We have a
12 draft scoping report that was published
13 and we have copies that are out front if
14 you'd like to comment on that. Any of the
15 comments that we receive during the
16 scoping period will be incorporated in our
17 final scoping report that will be
18 published again.

19 So I want to go over the main topics
20 that are in this scoping report that you
21 can read. First we need to identify the
22 project needs and we've talked a lot about
23 that with all the public involvement
24 that's happened with this project. Pretty
25 aware of the conditions in this community

1 with the risk for future storm events,
2 exacerbated by climate change and sea
3 level rise. We have a community with some
4 vulnerable populations as well as some
5 critical utilities, critical
6 infrastructure that are all impacted by
7 the flood risk. This just shows on the
8 south end community how large a portion it
9 is within the hundred year floodplain and
10 there's an overlay on there that you can
11 see is the Hurricane Sandy inundation, and
12 a large part were affected by that storm.

13 We have developed in the scoping
14 document our preliminary project purpose
15 that we would like some feedback on if you
16 have some comments. The primary purpose
17 that we developed was to create a more
18 resilient south end community that
19 supports its long-term viability and
20 improves the health and safety for the
21 community's vulnerable populations.

22 In addition we identified three
23 targeted outcomes to lower the risk of
24 both acute and chronic flooding where
25 possible. Provide dry egress during

1 emergencies and educate the public about
2 flood risks and sea level rise.

3 In addition to help us with the
4 evaluation of alternatives, we have some
5 primary, you know, goals and a whole list
6 of objectives that support those goals and
7 those can be found in the scoping
8 document. Talk about the acute and
9 chronic flooding, integrating with local
10 stakeholders, co-benefits when possible
11 and the final one, very important, is the
12 implementable which goes to the cost and
13 schedule which is a big defining part of
14 the funding that we received from NDR and
15 RBD and we have a limited amount of money.
16 We want to make the most of it and it has
17 to be spent by a certain period of time.
18 So we have to be realistic about what we
19 can do.

20 The co-benefits we would like to, you
21 know, this is our wish list what we'd like
22 to see happen in addition to our primary
23 purpose. We want to, you know, look -- we
24 have these stakeholders throughout this
25 community; the university, the utilities,

1 the Park City communities, Seaside
2 Village -- Seaside Park, sorry. We want
3 to get the most out of our stakeholders
4 and the facilities that are there already.

5 So the projects that fall under this
6 EIS and EIE, there are three components.
7 The first is the pilot project that came
8 out of the RBE book. So this would take
9 place at the site of Marina Village which
10 is going to be separate from us, you know.
11 Residents relocated and the facilities
12 demolished and we wanted to first extend
13 Johnson Street across the site and then on
14 the southern part create a 2.5-acre storm
15 water park that would, you know, serve as
16 an area for drainage for storm water
17 during rain events and then eventually out
18 fall into Cedar Creek. So that would
19 allow for future development of that site
20 which is separate from this project.

21 In addition, there's the flood, what
22 we're calling sort of the flood risk
23 reduction and this would occur more on the
24 east side of the south end. Some
25 combination of elevated roadways, berms,

1 flood walls that would form a line of
2 protection on the east side.

3 In the scoping document, we've just
4 identified some very rough alignment
5 alternatives. We wanted to get feedback.
6 I know our group and working with the
7 different stakeholders are starting to
8 really refine these alignments but just in
9 general we, you know, laid it out as one,
10 being just the edge alignment; one looking
11 more, you know, interior that would
12 probably serve more to provide dry egress
13 and not necessarily a lot of flood
14 protection; or an integrated solution that
15 is more interior and integrates with some
16 of the other stakeholders and development
17 they're doing.

18 So as we're developing these
19 alignments, what we're actually going to
20 see in the EIS is a lot more detailed and
21 very specific to this road going up here,
22 bending here and very likelihood we're
23 looking at multiple alternative alignments
24 that might be all within, you know, the
25 integrated general area.

1 And the third part of this
2 environmental documentation is the
3 resilient hub, and the form and function
4 of that is still being developed. I won't
5 really go into detail because that is
6 actually going to be a focus of the
7 following design meeting so stick around
8 for more to hear about what they're
9 thinking there and to participate in the
10 development of ideas for this facility.

11 What we're doing as part of the EIS,
12 the screening process we start with a full
13 range of any possible alternatives and
14 start whittling them down. We have the
15 goals and objectives that were developed,
16 evaluate the different alternatives
17 against those goals and objectives, and
18 then for a smaller subset we will evaluate
19 the impacts from those different
20 alternatives to eventually come to a
21 preferred alternative which will be in the
22 final EIS.

23 Just touching on quickly the
24 different impact categories that will be
25 in the EIS and in the scoping document,

1 you will see a brief summary of the
2 proposed methodology and what our approach
3 would be in each of these categories and
4 how we would be evaluating impacts and
5 you'll see it really covers a broad range
6 of impacts. There's land use, possible
7 air noise that might come from
8 construction, visual impacts. It includes
9 socioeconomics so impacts to residents, to
10 businesses as well. We're very aware we
11 have environmental justice, low income and
12 minority populations in the area so all
13 the impacts would be evaluated to see if
14 there's any disproportionate adverse
15 impacts to those communities. Obviously
16 we'll be looking at the utilities and
17 storm water. We know some of the impacts
18 will be to some of the local roadways and
19 we will be looking at the traffic impacts
20 as a result of that.

21 In addition, there's sort of a more
22 traditional, you know, if there's wetlands
23 and floodplains, surface water, coastal
24 resources, of course, and we're very aware
25 there's a lot of cultural resources in

1 this very small area which we're
2 discovering; architectural and
3 archiological resources.

4 Just touching on that, there is a
5 Section 106 of the National Historic
6 Preservation Act as a very detailed
7 process to identify resource, assess their
8 impacts and resolve any adverse impacts in
9 consultation with the state historic
10 perservation office and other consulting
11 parties. And that's a parallel process
12 that will be going on at the same time as
13 our NEPA and CEPA process is under way.

14 An important part of this is our
15 agency coordination which we have started.
16 We're reaching out to the different
17 agencies to get their input. They will be
18 partners in this through the rod and then
19 we'll continue in some cases if there's
20 additional permitting that's required as
21 part of construction.

22 This is a very broad rough strokes of
23 the schedule. Just in general we're at
24 the scoping portion here in early 2018.
25 Our hope is to get, you know, develop a

1 draft, EIS this spring, into summer so
2 that we can have a draft, EIS publish and
3 available sometime in the fall, if
4 possible. That would be another
5 opportunity for comment and then we'll
6 incorporate those comments and work to get
7 that finalized and ultimately get a record
8 of decision maybe early, hopefully, again,
9 early 2019 is probably a realistic time
10 frame. At the same time we'll be to a
11 degree, you know, developing the --
12 continuing the design. The construction
13 can't begin until we've gotten that rod
14 and then it has to be complete by
15 September, 2022.

16 Tonight we'll open it up for public
17 comment. You can speak now but there are
18 other opportunities to comment through
19 March 28. If you want to just send an
20 e-mail to the info at
21 Resilientbridgeport.com. We have comment
22 cards at the front desk. You can take
23 one, fill it out now, or take it home and
24 mail it in.

25 All those comments no matter how they

1 get to us if we receive them by March 28
2 will be considered and responded to in the
3 final scoping document which will be
4 published on the website. So that's all.
5 I'm going to pass it back.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: As the
7 Department's hearing officer, I am here to
8 listen to comments from any members of the
9 public who wishes to offer comments. A
10 public hearing is the time for people who
11 have thoughts on the environmental scoping
12 for the NDR and RBD project, to put those
13 thoughts on the record. And you will have
14 what you need to comment on, however, this
15 is the first time of the scoping so the
16 whole scope will be developed right now.
17 And you know so these are the important
18 steps, the first steps to provide your
19 comments.

20 I'm here to listen only. This is not
21 going to be a back and forth so what we'll
22 do is just hear you out and, you know,
23 intake all the comments you have. Whether
24 it's verbal, written, you can submit it
25 later but this is like an intake process

1 right now and we will not be responding to
2 your comments tonight.

3 In response to all comments it will
4 be included in the final scoping document.
5 To that end there is a sign-up sheet for
6 this hearing at the signing desk when you
7 entered this room. If you wish to speak
8 and have not signed that sheet, please do
9 so.

10 After we have heard from any elected
11 or appointed officials, we will take
12 comments from members of the general
13 public in the order that person appears on
14 the signing sheet. Each person will have
15 three minutes to speak. I will signal
16 when two of the three minutes have passed.
17 This way we will go through the list and
18 ask if anyone who has spoken before wishes
19 to offer comments again for another three
20 minutes. The hearing will conclude when
21 all the comments have been received.

22 You will see that we have a
23 stenographer who is recording this hearing
24 as well. We have also comment forms
25 outside, you know, if you want to turn

1 them in as formal comments. That's all
2 you have to do during the public comment
3 period which concludes on March 28 so that
4 is the deadline for comments on this
5 scoping process.

6 If you'd like to record your comments
7 in a more private setting, please see one
8 of our staff at the signing desk. We will
9 provide you with a tape recorder for the
10 three-minute period and those comments
11 will be part of the formal record. Please
12 state your name and organization,
13 affiliation clearly as you begin and if
14 you have a written document that reflects
15 your comments, please hand them to the
16 stenographer when finished.

17 MS. TOOLE: As of this moment no one
18 has signed to make comments. Is there an
19 elected or appointed official in the room
20 who would like to say something? Would
21 anybody like to make a comment?

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: This is your
23 chance. You have come all the way here so
24 might as well say something.

25 MS. YEVES: Good evening everyone.

1 My name is Carmen Yeves and I'm a resident
2 of the south end and I also represent the
3 South end NRZ and I just want to -- we've
4 given a letter of support to this in the
5 past about the work that we've been doing
6 here and we think that we've been very
7 involved in the process. We understand
8 that it's not an overnight process so that
9 we know that it will take several years.

10 What we are excited about is the
11 opportunity to finally get some resiliency
12 working construction finally started
13 because of the floods that we've had
14 before and how it's impacted our
15 community. It's actually stopped new
16 development from being able to -- other
17 projects to be able to build more locally,
18 maybe rehabbing properties and things like
19 that because, you know, houses need to be
20 lifted off the grounds because of that. So
21 we're excited about the opportunity to
22 finally see some work going in because we
23 believe that once one project and the
24 study is completed and published, it will
25 actually open up the opportunity as things

1 are -- one project will build on the other
2 and we know that it will take over time
3 but we feel that this is a needed -- we as
4 part of the NRZ have had meetings where
5 we've had the group come and speak.

6 We've done other events in other
7 places where the community has been
8 involved, including youth. They've done
9 design, discussions that we've had that
10 involve the youth, and we're looking
11 forward to continuing that so we thank you
12 for all that you've done and you have my
13 support and the support of the NRZ going
14 forward. Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
16 Anyone else would like to follow up? I
17 don't see any other speakers.

18 MS. SILVAS: Hello everybody. I feel
19 strong about putting my back to everybody.
20 Oh, hey Alex. I haven't seen you in a
21 long time.

22 THE COURT REPORTER: I need your
23 name, ma'am.

24 MS. SILVAS: My name is Lydia Silvas,
25 S-i-l-v-a-s. I am a resident in the

1 Seaside Village and it's kind of hard to
2 make a comment at the beginning of the
3 evening when we haven't had our workshop
4 yet, but one of the reasons that I wanted
5 to come out tonight and take part in the
6 design part of the workshop is my interest
7 in the Resilience -- the Resiliency
8 Centers that we're going to be having and
9 in some of the meetings that we've been
10 having so far, it's been very open for the
11 community to make suggestions about what
12 we'd like to see that be and one of the
13 things that I would like to throw out to
14 the community is the idea of -- at one
15 point there was a gentleman that came over
16 from Holland and did a workshop that was
17 open to all of us and he talked about the
18 importance of monitoring and the
19 importance of monitoring in cities that
20 have -- that already have old and somewhat
21 failing storm water systems like we have
22 here in the south end and in other
23 sections of Bridgeport, and it sparked the
24 idea in my mind that if we could use the
25 Resiliency Center as a center to use as a

1 way to start a program to do monitoring
2 and do it with the aid of maybe under his
3 direction with the rest of the team that's
4 working, the engineers that are working to
5 set up a program to bring the community,
6 volunteers in the community and maybe UB
7 and Groundwork Bridgeport and other
8 partners that have been involved in this
9 program to start monitoring the south end
10 as part of the Resilience program. It
11 would give our youth and our university
12 and anybody else in the community a chance
13 to really take part in correcting our
14 failing storm water systems down here and
15 to set up now that we've got this big body
16 of money, to set up a really educated and
17 smart groundwork so that we can set our
18 self up for future funding to maintain
19 this kind of work over a period of years
20 because it's going to take us a long time
21 to really correct and maintain our
22 situation down here.

23 So I know tonight we're going to be
24 talking about the Resilient Center and I
25 just wanted to be able to throw that idea

1 out. I don't know how or if that is
2 something that the rest of the community
3 is interested in but I wanted to use this
4 time to just say what has been on my mind
5 as a resident down here and thank you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
7 Anyone else would like to speak, any
8 comments on the scoping notice or scoping
9 document or scope. Seeing none, what I
10 would like to do is close the public
11 hearing and, you know, you still have a
12 chance to comment in writing, you know,
13 during this presentation or later on and,
14 you know, by e-mail, by submitting papers,
15 anything but the deadline is March 28 so,
16 you know, you have until that time and
17 thank you.

18 (At this point, the public hearing
19 concluded at 7:00 p.m.)
20
21
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 28 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original Stenotype notes taken of the public scoping hearing in the Matter of: RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, held before DIMPLE DESAI, Hearing Officer, and before Cheryl S. Damato, Certified Court Reporter/Notary Public in and for the State of Connecticut, held at the University of Bridgeport Arts & Humanities Building, 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, commencing at 6:36 p.m., on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

Cheryl S. Damato
Court Reporter-Notary Public

APPENDIX D
DEIS PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD COMMENTS

Appendix H. Comments on the DEIS and Responses

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Resilient Bridgeport Projects to the public on February 1, 2019.¹ The public was provided opportunities to submit comments on the DEIS in several ways throughout the comment period. Written comments could be submitted via email, the project website, mail, comment cards provided at the public hearing, and/or through a stenographer available at the public hearing. HUD and CTDOH have considered the comments received on the DEIS. This appendix provides summaries of and responses to the substantive comments received on the DEIS.

Comments from the public focused on the coastal flood defense system alignment alternatives (with a preference for the Eastern option) and the design along Main Street, as well as protecting the historic resources of the community and maintaining access to Seaside Park. Many commenters supported accommodating future stormwater improvements at Seaside Village with the RBD Pilot Project. Agency comments were technical in nature, with a focus on permitting requirements, best management practices, and protection of natural quality.

The comments received on the DEIS and responses are organized into the following sections:

- Section 1: Responses to Public Comments – The Responses to Public Comments section contains summaries of the substantive comments received from the public and responses to those comments. Comments are organized by subject matter. When more than one commenter provided a similar comment, these comments were grouped and addressed together. This section also includes a table listing the commenters and the comment/response numbers associated with the submitted comments.
- Section 2: Responses to Agency Comments – The Responses to Agency Comments section contains summaries of the substantive comments received from the agencies and responses to those comments. Comments are organized by subject matter. This section also includes a table listing the commenters and the comment/response numbers associated with the submitted comments.
- Section 3: Public/Agency Comments – The Public/Agency Comments section contains the oral comments from the public hearing and copies of the written comments received from the public and agencies.

For additional information regarding public involvement, refer to Section 6.6.1.5 (DEIS Public Hearing and Design Workshop (#5)) of this FEIS.

¹ EIE published on Environmental Monitor on January 8, 2019.

Table H-1. List of Commenters

NAME	DATE &	COMMENT RECEIVED	COMMENT NUMBER	AFFILIATION
Aurelia, Vincent	2/26/2019	Comment Card	82, 83,84	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Bailey, Bernicestine	3/19/2019	Email	153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158	Public – Resident
Basler, Frank	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	179	Public – Seaside Village Board (President)
Bisacky, Patricia	3/18/2019	Letter	54, 55	Agency – State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section (DWS)
Capinera, Angela	3/7/2019	Letter	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22	Public - Conservation Commission, Town of Stratford
Celis, Diego	3/14/2019	Email	85	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Cruz, Jorge	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	185, 186	Public - Resident
Cullen, Robert	2/22/2019	Letter	1191	Public – Resident
Faiz, Alexandra	3/18/2019	Email	41, 42, 43	Public - Resident
Fennelly, Faith	3/18/2019	Email	44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50	Public – Resident
Fernandez, Ulises	2/25/2019	Email	79, 80, 81	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Finidinisi, Vincent	3/11/2019	Letter	51, 52, 53	Public – PSEG Power Connecticut LLC
Gaglio, Anthony	3/18/2019	Letter	208, 209	Public – Viking Construction Inc.
Hassell, Monroe	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174	Public – VP Board of Seaside Village/ Resident
Heilmann, Niels	3/18/2019	Email	148, 149, 164	Public – Bridgeport Generation Now/ Resident
Hill, Carolyn	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	178	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Huber, Sonya	3/18/2019	Email	150, 151, 152	Public – Director, Fairfield U. Low-Residency MFA Program
Humphries, John	3/18/2019	Email	139,140	Public – CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs
Kelly, Barbara	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	187, 188	Public - Resident
Korshunova, Anna & Pershyn, Dmitry	2/24/2019	Email	1	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Kovac, Marcella	3/18/2019	Email	141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147	Public – Resident
Labadia, Catherine	3/18/2019	Letter	56, 57, 58, 59, 60	Agency – Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development
LaBelle, Paige A.	3/18/2019	Email	76, 77, 78	Public- Resident
Maher, Kathleen	2/26/2019	Public Hearing & Letter	189, 200, 201, 202	Public – Executive Director, Barnum Museum / Resident
Martinez, Andrew	2/25/2019	Letter	73, 74, 75	Public - Resident
McClutchy, Todd	3/18/2019	Letter	203, 204	Public – JMM Group
McCormick, Sheila	2/25/2019	Email	38, 39, 40	Public - Resident

NAME	DATE &	COMMENT RECEIVED	COMMENT NUMBER	AFFILIATION
Melton, Shanna	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	176, 177	Public - Resident
Pettway, Clifford	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	190	Public - Resident
Raddant, Andrew	3/14/2019	Letter	86	Agency – U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Riese, Frederick	3/18/2019	Letter	87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123	Agency – Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP)
Robinson, Gail	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	180, 181, 182, 183	Public – Seaside Village Resident
Schieb, John	3/18/2019	Email	61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68	Public – Freeman Center
Sergiyenko, Volodymyr	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	184	Public - Resident
Slaughter, James	3/18/2019	Letter	205	Public – Park City Communities
Starn, Kai	2/26/2019	Comment Card	69, 70, 71, 72	Public - Seaside Village Resident
Tayloe-Moye, Denese	3/17/2019	Letter	206, 207	Public - Marina Village Resident Council (President)
Timmermann, Timothy	3/18/2019	Letter	135, 135, 136, 138	Agency – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
Tisdale, Maisa	3/18/2019	Email	23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163	Public – Freeman Center
Weber, Horst	2/26/2019	Public Hearing	165	Public
Wigren, Christopher	3/18/2019	Letter	124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134	Public – CT Trust for Historic Preservation
Unknown- Seaside Village Board of Directors	2/20, 2019	Letter	192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199	Public – Seaside Village Board of Directors

H.1 RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

H.1.1 Alternatives/Concepts Considered

C1-1 Many commenters stated their concern with the Western Alignment of the coastal flood defense system and their support for the Eastern Alignment. Specifically, commenters opposed the construction of a flood wall on Main Street. Some commenters felt that a flood wall on Main Street would result in a decrease in property values along the corridor in an already distressed neighborhood. Further, the flood wall along Main Street could potentially divide the South End neighborhood and would remove the possibility of developing properties on the east side of the street, which is essential in creating a vibrant and attractive streetscape. In addition, some commenters were concerned that the flood wall would severely harm the attractiveness of the streetscape and likely adversely affect the nearby historic resources including the Cottage District (located across the road on the west side of Main Street), the Freeman Houses, historic cottages in Little Liberia and properties that potentially have archaeological fossils and artifacts. Locating the flood wall further east, as in the Eastern Alignment, would address community needs by protecting the local historical and cultural access and maintaining existing access to the Long Island Sound via Main Street. (Comment Nos. 23, 40, 41, 44, 61, 72, 73, 75, 78, 79, 82, 128, 139, 141, 152, 153, 159, 161, 172, 182, 183, 189, 190, 197, and 200)

R1-1 CTDOH has been working with the various stakeholders to identify a preferred north-south alignment that would reduce the flood risk for the largest area of the South End and minimize impacts to the public realm. The north-south section of the coastal flood defense system for the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) presented in this FEIS is a variation of the Eastern Alignment from the DEIS and would provide the greatest geographic extent of coastal flood risk reduction as well as meet the objectives of the project; however, it entails construction on private property owned by PSEG, Bridgeport Energy and the future UI Pequonnock Substation site, which will require easements for construction and maintenance. Per direction from HUD, those easements cannot be executed until after the completion of the environmental review process, but at this time the CTDOH believes that Alternative 1 best meets the needs of the project and is responsive to public comment in support of the Eastern Alignment presented in the DEIS. Preferred Alternative 1 would avoid impacts to the historic Cottage District and maximize benefits by reducing flood risk for the largest area and providing dry egress to utilities (see Section 3.3.4 of this FEIS for additional explanation). The Western Alignment in the DEIS that impacted two blocks along Main Street is described in this FEIS in Chapter 3 Concept and Alternatives Development, but it is not carried forward for further evaluation in this FEIS.

Explanation of Change from Western and Eastern Alignment Options in DEIS to Evaluation of Four Alternatives and Preferred Alternative in the FEIS. The DEIS included a Western and an Eastern option for the north-south section of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction project. These two options also bounded the area between them where the alignment could also have been placed based on negotiations with private property owners and feedback from the public on the DEIS (see Figure 3-14 in this FEIS). Based on feedback from these stakeholders and public comment on the DEIS, four

alternative alignments within the area bounded by the Eastern and Western options in the DEIS were brought forward for further evaluation in this FEIS (see Figure 3-20, 3-21, 3-22 and 3-23 in this FEIS). Alternative 1 was selected as the Preferred Alternative and largely follows the Eastern alignment from the DEIS with small changes to where it crosses between the Bridgeport Energy/PSEG and 60 Main Street/PSEG property lines. There is no alternative alignment in the FEIS that follows the Western alignment option from the DEIS due to public comment on the DEIS from the community regarding its impacts to Main Street and a finding of adverse effect to the William D. Bishop Cottage Development Historic District (Cottage District) by the State Historic Preservation Office. Alternative 4 is now the western-most option being evaluated in this FEIS. It remains largely in the public right-of-way, but differs from the Western option alignment in the DEIS by reducing the impact to the Cottage District and Main Street by moving the alignment east one block to Russell Street between Henry Street and Atlantic Street. There is no public street east of Main Street between Whiting Street and Atlantic Street and therefore the Alternative 4 alignment remained along the eastern sidewalk of Main Street for this one block. The coastal flood defense system section along Main Street would have been designed to blend in with the neighborhood to the extent possible with options presented to the public at the June 26, 2019 informational meeting. Alternative 4 was not selected as the Preferred Alternative due to its remaining impact to Main Street and the Cottage District. Alternatives 2 and 3 show options that move the alignment off of Main Street by crossing private property to the east. They avoid impacts to Main Street and the Cottage District, but they do not provide as many benefits (less total area protected and no dry egress for all energy infrastructure in the study area as Alternative 1) and were, therefore, not selected as the Preferred Alternative for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system for the Flood Risk Reduction project.

- C1-2 Main Street should not dead end at University Avenue. Commenters are against the closing of Main Street to vehicular traffic at University Avenue. They felt that Main Street should ramp up to University Avenue on both sides. Dead-ending Main Street (again) and compressing the street with a barrier will diminish the natural patterns of public flow and ultimately suffocate the already burdened neighborhood. (Comment Nos. 24, 45, 62, 83, 142, 149, 154, 201)
- R1-2 It has been determined based on further design that vehicular access along Main Street cannot continue across University Avenue. Elevating Main Street would maintain the existing street network, but would result in an elevated road in front of four houses located north of University Avenue on Main Street, severely impacting access to those existing houses. Section 3.3.4.3 of the Concept and Alternatives Development chapter of this FEIS (Chapter 3) has been updated to include figures demonstrating the impacts to the houses. In addition, in a letter dated May 7, 2019, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CTSHPO) determined that terminating vehicular access on Main Street at University Avenue is preferable to ramping Main Street, as it would not result in adverse impacts on the four houses mentioned above. Access to Seaside Park and the waterfront via Main Street would be maintained for pedestrians and cyclists via stairs and an ADA-accessible ramp. Vehicular access would continue via Broad Street, that runs parallel to Main Street one block to the east and Main Street would continue south of University Avenue.

- C1-3 The Through-Street Option for Main Street is important to generate the kind of through traffic that is conducive to revitalization. Making Main Street a dead-end would discourage future redevelopment, and as testimony during the public hearing demonstrated, is strongly discouraged by members of the community. Although raising the street over the flood barrier would block the ground floor of the three historic structures close to Henry Street, the decision to eliminate the through-street alternative needs to be reconsidered carefully for its impact on the larger neighborhood. Perhaps other solutions could be explored for those three buildings. (Comment No. 128)
- R1-3 The option to terminate vehicular access on Main Street at University Avenue, with the addition of a proposed landscaped area and pedestrian ramp, could encourage future redevelopment of residential and mixed uses by creating a park amenity that is ADA-accessible by pedestrian and bicycle. The CTDOH welcomes further feedback on how to design this space to best meet the needs of the community. Broad Street will remain a vehicular through-street and could be used for future redevelopment as well. Based on comments from the State Historic Preservation Office in a letter dated May 7, 2019 (see Comment R1-2), the through-street option with a ramp for Main Street would be considered an adverse effect on the historic Cottage District and, therefore, SHPO's preference was for the no through-street option that would avoid that impact.
- C1-4 The Freeman Center supports the Eastern Alignment and rejects the construction of the flood wall on Main Street. Once the neighborhood is protected from flooding, Main Street from the railroad tracks to the Long Island Sound can be the site of long overdue mixed-use development (residential and commercial) that highlights the neighborhood's unique historical architecture and social history, and serves as a gateway to Seaside Park. (Comment No. 31)
- R1-4 As discussed in Section 3.3.4 of this FEIS, the preferred alignment of the coastal flood defense system is Alternative 1, which is similar to the Eastern Alignment in the DEIS and would have no coastal flood defense system on Main Street. Three additional alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3 and 4) are evaluated in this FEIS for the routing of the north-south section between 60 Main Street and the CTDOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct (See R1-1), but were not selected as the Preferred Alternative. The proposed coastal flood defense system is essential to the protection of the historic Freeman Houses, the historic Cottage District and other residential, industrial, and commercial properties in the South End neighborhood from acute and chronic flooding. The design of the coastal flood defense system is being designed to meet FEMA accreditation standards and would remove 64 acres of property under the Preferred Alternative and between 53 and 44 acres of property in Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 from the 100-year floodplain through a FEMA accreditation process and remapping. In addition to protecting existing homes and businesses from flooding with greatly reduced insurance costs, removing this property from the floodplain allows for dry evacuation routes and access for emergency vehicles to neighborhoods before, during and after storms making a safer neighborhood for residential and commercial properties.
- C1-5 The Freeman Center chooses the option showing Main Street going uphill, over the barrier, and continuing into Seaside Park. This is being proposed for Broad Street; why not Main Street? Main Street should remain a through street. (Comment No. 34)

- R1-5 It is possible to ramp Broad Street up to University Avenue because there would be less of an elevation change at that point than at Main Street and because the adjacent properties (30 University Avenue and University of Bridgeport's Bodine Hall) are already planned to be redeveloped so they can be raised to meet the new Broad Street elevation. Elevating Main Street would impede access to existing homes and have an adverse effect on the setting of the historic Cottage District, according to the State Historic Preservation Office in a letter dated May 7, 2019. See R1-2, response to C1-2.
- C1-6 Various alternatives/routes for the Project were very briefly discussed in the DEIS, "Section 3.2.2.1, Alternatives Considered, but Eliminated from Further Consideration." PSEG requests that CTDOH consider these alternatives again and in more depth. The other alternatives are more practical and do not implicate safety and access issues that are inherent in the proposed Eastern alignment. (Comment No. 51)
- R1-6 Based on analysis in the DEIS and further discussion with PSEG regarding safety and access, Alternative 1 (a variation of the Eastern Alignment) is presented as the Preferred Alternative alignment for the coastal flood defense system in this FEIS. Alternative 1 would provide an access and evacuation route to the PSEG Harbor Unit 5 power plant, the to-be-constructed Pequonnock Substation, and the Bridgeport Energy power plant when the flood barrier gates are closed during storm conditions, in addition to providing flood protection to residential homes and businesses in the South End. As such, in the view of the CTDOH, Alternative 1 would provide the greatest safety and access to PSEG's assets and to the surrounding neighborhood. As described in Comment Response R1-1, three additional alternatives are evaluated in this FEIS, but were not selected as the Preferred Alternative in part because they do not provide dry egress to PSEG Harbor Unit 5.
- C1-7 Regarding the Rebuild by Design (RBD) Pilot Project, which includes the stormwater park, the extension of Johnson Avenue, and the separation of the sewer lines, including the installation of the new pumping station to pump the stormwater into Cedar Creek, Seaside Village would like to tie into the system when our systems are separated. (Comment No. 69)
- R1-7 Comment Noted. CTDOH is coordinating with the Bridgeport WPCA on any plans for sewer separation in the area of Seaside Village.
- C1-8 It was very disappointing to learn on February 25, only after the public hearing closed, that one of the alternative treatments for Main Street had been eliminated by the design team and that design work for the Head of the Park area of Seaside Park had proceeded far beyond that presented in the draft EIE document. The purpose of the EIE process is to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on various alternatives so that the project can continue in harmony with public needs and wishes. To withdraw alternatives from consideration and continue with design work before the public has had a chance to offer comments is inconsistent with this purpose. The design team must be prepared to reconsider seriously any and all decisions it has made since the draft document was issued in light of public comments. (Comment No. 124)
- R1-8 Due to the scheduling requirements of the NDR funding, CTDOH has continued design through the NEPA process. The CTDOH is responding to public comments to the DEIS

here and in public workshops and meetings. Continuing design during the NEPA process has also allowed CTDOH to provide improved visualizations of alternatives to better communicate impacts of the project to the public. Both a through-street ramped option and an option that terminates Main Street to vehicular traffic at University Avenue were considered in the DEIS as part of the preliminary design work. Further analysis of the through-street ramp option demonstrated that elevating Main Street to meet University Avenue would result in restricting access to four historic houses on Main Street and resulted in a finding of adverse effect to the historic neighborhood by the CTSHPO in a letter dated May 7, 2019 (see Comment Response R1-2); therefore, in response to state agency comments and impacts to the community, it was no longer a viable option that would meet the project purpose and need.

C1-9 Was a trench (canal) considered in the planning or is a wall the only option? (Comment No.157)

R1-9 A trench is not a feasible option due to the presence of utilities and other considerations. In addition, a trench or canal would not prevent flooding in the South End due to coastal storm surge, which is part of the project's purpose.

C1-10 I do not understand the rationale behind a "barrier"/ "flood control"/ "wall" that only goes through certain parts of the City and skirts the major plants that spend millions of dollars, or maybe billions, of dollars trying to maintain their infrastructure and also skirts the area of Captain's Cove, which is also highly prone to flooding. (Comment No. 7)

R1-10 The scope of the project is limited due to the funding sources as well as the Project Purpose and Need. Although the Captain's Cove area was studied as part of the State's application for the Rebuild by Design (RBD) Competition, the project area was further focused for the RBD Pilot (which was required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to focus on public housing in the South End) and per the State's grant from the National Disaster Resilience Competition. CTDOH has been working closely with the owners of the utilities and power plants in the South End for the past several years. This FEIS evaluates the potential impacts from four different north-south alignments of the coastal flood defense system that would meet the Purpose and Need of flood protection from storm surge and address chronic flooding to protect different combinations of utility facilities, but which also require agreements (easements) with different private property owners. The Preferred Alternative's alignment for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system (Alternative 1) provides dry egress to PSEG's Harbor Unit 5 power plant and encloses the new UI Pequonnock Substation site, the UI Singer Substation and the Bridgeport Energy power plant inside the coastal flood defense system. The other three alternatives evaluated in this FEIS require fewer agreements with private property owners to move forward and are routed in such a way to limit the number of agreements, but they do not provide as much protection to the utilities as the commenter noted. The PSEG Harbor Unit 5 (officially opened July 29, 2019) has local flood protection as it is elevated out of the floodplain. The new Pequonnock Substation is also planned to be elevated above the floodplain. However, neither location has dry egress.

- C1-11 The Freeman Center has secured approximately \$1.7 million in funding to invest in the restoration of the houses and continues to raise more. We propose creating a cultural heritage corridor consisting of the restored Freeman Houses, the Freeman Center (a new Little Liberia museum, education, and heritage travel destination), and (with help from government and private partners) a mixed-use development that would encompass 375 Main St. (owned by the Bridgeport Housing Authority) and 280 Main St. (the PSEG warehouse at Main & Whiting). (Comment No. 33)
- R1-11 Comment noted. Note that State funded or initiated projects for housing, which is considered a critical action, in a floodplain needs to have dry routes for access to and evacuation of those properties and must be elevated above the 500-yr floodplain plus 2 feet of freeboard to account for sea level rise. Currently 375 Main Street and 280 Main Street are in the floodplain and do not have dry egress. Without the implementation of the Resilient Bridgeport coastal flood defense system, there are only limited and more locally impacting ways to provide dry egress to these properties that would not have met the project Purpose and Need of providing all residents in the project area with flood protection (see Chapter 3 of this FEIS).

H.1.2 Connectivity

- C2-1 Among the many wonderful attributes of Seaside Park is the fact that it is accessible and visible for most traveled roads in our city. A wall is a restriction. Without the visibility of the park, it creates a divide that changes the feeling of the neighborhood. Bridgeport does not need any more corners that are unattended or unsafe. The history of that area should be preserved. There should be shops and places to eat while you enjoy the park. (Comment No. 175)
- R2-1 The coastal flood defense system would maintain the public access to Seaside Park. It would not prevent anyone from entering the park. Broad Street would continue to be ramped up and over the elevated University Avenue, allowing for vehicular access to the Park. Pedestrians and bicycles would be able to continue up and over University Avenue at the intersection of Main Street and University Avenue through stairs and ADA-accessible ramps as well as on the ramped sidewalks and road of Broad Street. Main Street would terminate for vehicles only at the intersection of University Avenue and Main Street. South of University Avenue vehicles coming from Broad Street would be able to turn left onto the elevated University Avenue and then right onto Main Street going south. The elevation of University Avenue would reduce some views of the Park, but would also result in new expansive views of the Park and Long Island Sound along the elevated University Avenue area between Broad and Main Streets. CTDOH is working closely with CTSHPO and consulting parties to ensure the history of the area is preserved. CTDOH is open to continued community input into the design of the elevated University Avenue and the entrance to Seaside Park between Broad and Main Streets to ensure the State is building a safe space for the community.

H.1.3 Design

- C3-1 The Freeman Center requests that a detailed report, including drawings, be issued to the public showing how the Palliser Townhouses will be impacted before a final decision is made. (Comment Nos. 36, 150)
- R3-1 A drawing has been added to this FEIS in Section 3.3.4 and has been shared with the Freeman Center to demonstrate that there would be limited impact to the townhouses by the elevation of Broad Street. The sidewalk in front of the houses would remain at the existing elevation and a grass buffer would slope up to meet the need road elevation. At least one property owner from the Palliser Townhouses attended a public information workshop on June 26, 2019 and were consulted on the design of the ramped area of Broad Street where it would face their home. Homeowners in the project area will continue to be invited to public meetings and workshops to work with the CTDOH to design this area to best meet the needs of the property owners and community.
- C3-2 Provide more information about the impact of the wall's placement so that residents can see the final structure. (Comment No. 151)
- R3-2 Additional drawings will be made available to the public as design continues. In addition, a workshop was held on June 26, 2019 at the corner of Main Street and Whiting Street that presented cross-sections of the potential coastal flood defense system along a block of Main Street (under Alternative 4 only), an example of the material to be used, and allowed participants to view different design options for the coastal flood defense system through a virtual reality tool.

H.1.4 General Comments

- C4-1 What does the CTDOH have to do with this and why is this going to Hartford if this involves Bridgeport? (Comment No. 2)
- R4-1 As described in Section 1.1.2 of this FEIS, the projects are funded by the Federal U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Resilience programs under a congressional appropriation for Hurricane Sandy. The State of Connecticut applied for these funds and the CTDOH has been designated the responsible entity by HUD in managing these grants and preparing this EIS. The CTDOH is working closely with the government of the City of Bridgeport, residents and community members, businesses and other stakeholders to design the projects that will be implemented in the City of Bridgeport's South End. Rebuild by Design funds are for the stormwater park, pump station and elevated Johnson Street Extension in the Marina Village/Windward Apartments housing development site and National Disaster Resilience program funds are for the Flood Risk Reduction Project (coastal flood defense system and green and grey infrastructure) and Resilience Center in the eastern side of the South End.
- C4-2 Why is a group from Delaware involved? (Comment No. 3)

- R4-2 The Delaware Tribe of Indians and Delaware Nation of Oklahoma are federally recognized tribal nations with an interest in this area due to their history.
- C4-3 Why does Bridgeport get to be the test case when I've had my share of driving through flooded streets in New Haven, Norwalk, Stratford, and even Fairfield? (Comment No. 6)
- R4-3 The Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery grants had limitations on the communities eligible for the funding. Grant funding limited HUD in selecting only the City of Bridgeport to participate in the Rebuild by Design competition. For the National Disaster Resilience Competition program, the State of Connecticut was limited to working only in areas still recovering from Hurricane Sandy, which was determined by HUD to be Fairfield and New Haven counties. The State applied for funds for pilot projects in both Bridgeport and New Haven that best met the grant's eligibility requirements as well as funds for a regional resilience plan for Fairfield and New Haven Counties. When Connecticut was announced as a competition winner, grant funding availability and requirements limited HUD to selecting the project in Bridgeport and the regional resilience plan for funding under the competition. The pilot projects in Bridgeport address flooding challenges that are common to multiple coastal communities in the state and lessons learned from these projects can be shared with neighboring communities. The regional resilience plan, now called Resilient Connecticut, will plan projects to address flooding challenges in multiple coastal communities. Resilient Connecticut is funded by the CTDOH through a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Connecticut, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA). Learn more about Resilient Connecticut at <https://resilientconnecticut.uconn.edu/>. You can learn more about the National Disaster Resilience Competition here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dr/resilient-recovery/>
- C4-4 Once the neighborhood is protected from flooding, Main Street from the railroad tracks to the Long Island Sound can be the site of long overdue mixed-use development (residential and commercial) that highlights the neighborhood's unique historical architecture and social history, and serves as a gateway to Seaside Park. (Comment No. 32)
- R4-4 Comment noted. It is part of the project's purpose and need to create opportunities to address larger economic and community efforts that support resiliency in the long term by greatly reducing the risk of flooding and designing a coastal flood defense system that would be eligible to remove the flood protected area from the floodplain, thereby creating a safer South End for residential and commercial properties.

H.1.5 General Support

- C5-1 Upon reviewing the document, [the JMM Group] strongly support[s] the State of Connecticut Department of Housing ("DOH") in its efforts to implement three resiliency strategies that will provide stormwater management, dry evacuation routes (dry egress), a coastal flood defense system, and resiliency education to the City of Bridgeport. (Comment No. 203)
- R5-1 Comment noted.

C5-2 [The Park City Communities] feel that CTDOH's Draft EIE/EIS effectively addresses the need to protect residents and property from future storm surge events. The main component of the RBD plan involves utilization of the southern 2.5 acres of the Marina Village property that will be transformed into a stormwater retention park separated by a new Johnson Street extension for dry egress by residents and emergency vehicles. We hope to remain an integral partner in the planning and execution of the resiliency efforts that will go a long way to support the continued growth of the South End. (Comment No. 205)

R5-2 Comment noted.

C5-3 The Marina Village Resident Council would like to express their full support of the State of Connecticut Department of Housing ("DOH") in their efforts to implement the resiliency objectives of the National Disaster Resilience ("NDR") and Rebuild by Design ("RBD") disaster. (Comment No. 206)

R5-3 Comment noted

C5-4 The Marina Village Resident Council has reviewed CTDOH's Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Evaluation for the resilient effort and feel that it effectively addresses our need for safety by lowering the risk of future flooding, providing dry egress during emergencies, and educating the public about flood risks and sea level rise. (Comment No. 207)

R5-4 Comment noted.

C5-5 [Viking Construction] feel[s] that the proposed strategies effectively address the need to protect residents and property from future storm surge events. (Comment No. 208)

R5-5 Comment noted.

H.1.6 Historic Resources

C6-1 Clearly show and explain the impact that changing Broad Street into a ramped roadway will have on the historic Palliser Townhouses on Broad Street near University Avenue. Broad Street will become a ramped roadway taking traffic up onto University Avenue, which will be raised. Broad Street has historic homes near the park at 256-270 Broad Street. What will the elevations be near these houses? What will the impact of the ramped roadway be? There are no drawings provided. (Comment Nos. 25, 35, 46, 63, 143)

R6-1 Elevating Broad Street to meet University Avenue was not found to adversely impact any of the historic Palliser townhouses within the Cottage District. A drawing has been added to Section 3.3.4 of this FEIS to demonstrate how the end of the ramped Broad Street would transition between the vacant property line of 30 University to the Palliser townhouse properties, including a preliminary design for the sidewalks in that area. Property owners and the public will continue to be consulted on how to design that transition to best meet the needs of the property owners and community.

- C6-2 Protect all historic and cultural assets now and in the future. All historic elements in the South end should be taken into account and preserved. In order to breathe life into the South End, safeguard the vitality of all neighborhoods and champion this new, modern landscape as a dynamic and thriving place for all members of the Bridgeport community. Commenters strongly urged the consideration of the barrier alignment that honors the Freeman House neighborhood and fully respects the cultural and historic heritage of this nationally significant site. (Comment Nos. 26, 47, 64, 144, 155, 202)
- R6-2 A benefit of the project is the protection of historic resources from future flooding events and sea level rise. Both the national historic landmarks of the Freeman Houses and the Cottage District homes are in a floodplain. These structures have not been elevated above the base flood elevation and are therefore highly vulnerable to flooding. All roads leading to these homes are also in the floodplain and therefore there is no dry evacuation or dry access routes (a.k.a. dry egress) during storm events. The coastal flood defense system would be designed to meet FEMA accreditation standards so that these homes and evacuation and access routes are protected by the proposed coastal flood defense system and the risk of flooding is greatly reduced. Further, as a result of the coastal flood defense system, it is anticipated that FEMA would amend their flood maps removing these properties from the 100-year floodplain, which would potentially negate the need for flood insurance. FEMA recommends that homeowners behind flood barriers maintain flood insurance, but it will be highly discounted due to the significant reduction in the risk of flooding to those homes. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) includes an impact to Seaside Park with the elevation of University Avenue but CTDOH is working with CTSHPO and consulting parties to minimize the impacts and improve conditions at that area of the park. A Programmatic Agreement is being developed with the CTSHPO to determine mitigation measures for impacts to historic resources for the Preferred Alternative (see draft in Appendix C of this FEIS).
- C6-3 As a homeowner of a historical property, extremely concerned about the negative impact of the western alignment plan which proposed to build a wall on Main Street. It will not only impact historical properties, but will also limit any possibility of economic development and growth on Main Street. (Comment No. 74)
- R6-3 The Preferred Alternative's north-south section of the coastal flood defense system (Alternative 1) would protect the Cottage District and Freeman Houses and other residential, industrial, and commercial properties in the South End neighborhood from flooding. This flood protection will significantly lower flood insurance costs for homeowners and businesses, as discussed in Comment Response R6-2. As discussed in Comment Response R1-1, four alternatives for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system have been evaluated in this FEIS. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) and Alternatives 2 and 3 would avoid impacts to Main Street. Alternative 4 would impact one block of Main Street, which is less of an impact than the Western Alignment in the DEIS.
- C6-4 The RBD Pilot does not address directly the serious flooding problems at Seaside Village, a National Register listed enclave. (Comment No. 125)

- R6-4 Under the Federal Register Notice 79 FR 62182 published October 16, 2014 awarding the Rebuild by Design funds to the State of Connecticut, the State was directed as follows, “at a minimum, the pilot project must reduce flood risk to public housing in the City’s South End/Black Rock Harbor area” in order to support HUD’s affordable housing goals. The only public housing in these neighborhoods at that time was Marina Village. Although the Seaside Village floods regularly and resides in the floodplain, the amount of funding awarded of \$10 million was only sufficient to address this minimum requirement by HUD for Marina Village’s flood risk. It is CTDOH’s understanding that there is a proposal prepared by the Bridgeport WPCA to separate the combined sewer to remove storm flow from the Seaside Village area sewer infrastructure that will help to address the problem. The CTDOH will continue to coordinate with Bridgeport WPCA on that sewer separation project in conjunction with the RBD Pilot project at the Marina Village site.
- C6-5 The Flood Risk Reduction project also will have serious effects on the landscape of Seaside Park in the historic entry area at Soundview Drive between Broad and Main streets. (Comment No. 130)
- R6-5 The design would minimize impacts to trees in this area of the park and a landscaping plan would be developed to address new plantings. CTDOH is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office and local historians on design plans for the park.
- C6-6 The 30 percent designs proposed for the Head of the Park area, while still preliminary, raise concerns about how sensitive the project will be to the historic landscape of Seaside Park. (Comment No. 131)
- R6-6 A workshop was held at Seaside Park on May 9, 2019 as part of Section 106 consultation to address impacts of the project to this historic Seaside Park. Consultation with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office and consulting parties on the history of the park will continue through the design process to avoid, minimize and mitigate adverse impacts to the park. A draft Programmatic Agreement is included with this FEIS with proposed mitigation for Seaside Park (see Appendix C).
- C6-7 It would be more appropriate for the new elements to defer more to the historic landscape, rather than calling attention to themselves so loudly. (Comment No. 132)
- R6-7 Comment noted.
- C6-8 For Seaside Park itself, modern interventions should deflect attention away from themselves as much as possible and toward the historic landscape. (Comment No. 133)
- R6-8 Comment noted.
- C6-9 Rehabilitation of the Freeman Houses to accommodate a resilience center would provide much-needed repairs and give the houses a viable and a community use that is consistent with their significance and with fundraising and program planning currently underway by the Mary and Eliza Freeman Center, which owns the houses. The Connecticut Trust strongly supports this proposed action. (133)
- R6-9 Comment noted.

- C6-10 We want to ensure the economic development of the South End as a cultural tourism destination that also offers amenities to residents, be it Seaside Village, the Cottages, Freeman Houses and other South End historic buildings. (Comment Nos. 174, 199)
- R6-10 That is consistent with the project's purpose statement. The Proposed Action would reduce the risk of flooding to the historic buildings in the South End. The coastal flood defense system would be designed to meet FEMA accreditation standards, which would likely result in a remapping of the floodplain and removal of these properties from the 100-year floodplain, creating a safer area for residential and commercial properties.
- C6-11 The restoration of the Freeman Houses with the help of the community will be a great way to travel and experience our history, and to become a tool to heighten literacy rates in our City. We should keep it accessible, bright and welcoming to our community while making sure the community is safe.
- R6-11 The Preferred Alternative in this FEIS includes contributing funds to the Freeman Houses as part of the Resilience Center project. The Preferred Alternative greatly reduces the risk of flooding for the Freeman Houses and would provide dry evacuation and access routes to this property and the surrounding neighborhood during flood events. The coastal flood defense system maintains public access to all public amenities in the South End, including Seaside Park.

H.1.7 Neighborhood and Community Cohesion

- C7-1 Do not construct (on purpose or by accident) a berm/barrier as high as the train tracks that closes in black and brown people, working and immigrant families, retirees, young and first-time homeowners on one side of Main Street; while luxury condos, a marina and the University of Bridgeport are on the other. (Comment Nos. 27, 48, 65, 145, 163)
- R7-1 The Preferred Alternative for the coastal flood defense system would not be as high as the train tracks. It would be approximately 8' tall where it meets the rail viaduct. It would be 9 feet above grade along the north-south section (Alternative 1). At its highest point above the natural grade at Seaside Park, it would be 11 feet above grade, since the entrance to Seaside Park is the lowest point in the neighborhood. Under current conditions, residents of the South End can be trapped from safe evacuation and emergency vehicles cannot access homes and businesses during storm events due to the low-lying and flooded streets. The coastal flood defense system would protect the homes and businesses of community members and allow for safe evacuation and access during storm events.
- The design of the coastal flood defense system maintains access for everyone to Seaside Park at all times. Access to Seaside Park would continue on Main Street at University Avenue for pedestrians and bicycles through ADA-accessible ramps. It would only be closed to vehicular traffic at that intersection. Broad Street would be ramped up and over University Avenue and open to cars, cyclists and pedestrians. The north side of University Avenue at Main Street would become a "pocket park" as part of the Resilience Center.
- University Avenue would be elevated allowing for public access along that route at all times. Gates along the coastal flood defense system are planned for road crossings in the north-

south portion and would only be closed during storm conditions to stop flood waters from entering the neighborhood, although most of the gates would be on private property owned by utilities in the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1). Portions of University of Bridgeport property would be both inside and outside the area protected by the coastal flood defense system. The coastal flood defense system would cross through the middle of the 60 Main Street property.

C7-2 All Bridgeport residents must have easy and equal access to Seaside Park and the Long Island Sound. Seaside Park should not be cut off from access. (Comment Nos. 28, 49, 66, 146, 156)

R7-2 Under the Proposed Action, access to Seaside Park would be maintained for everyone at all times. See Comment Response R7-1.

C7-3 Direct and easy access to Seaside Park is the foremost attraction. The proposed western alignment may not impact my walk to the park, but it would wall off enough of my neighbors to make this letter necessary. Pushing through flawed plans that will destroy the quality of life for long-time residents is unjust and clashes against the sense of community involvement that the city has been fostering over the last year. (Comment No. 42)

R7-3 The north-south section of the coastal flood defense system in the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) does not impact Main Street. None of the proposed alternatives would block off any residential areas in the neighborhood. Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained at all times to pedestrian and vehicular access via Broad Street and pedestrian and bicycle access via Main Street. Road crossings in the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system would have gates that would only be closed during storm events to prevent flood waters from entering the neighborhood. See Comment Response R7-1.

C7-4 Although unlocking new development or public realm opportunities is listed in the draft EIE as an additional benefit rather than a principal goal, it must be remembered that the point of the resiliency projects as a whole is to make the South End more viable as a community in light of changing climate conditions. (Comment No. 127)

R7-4 Comment noted.

C7-5 Strongly condemn the proposed western alignment that would damage and destroy a local and national treasure - Little Liberia (Freeman Houses). The proposed western alignment would result in gentrification (the luxury apartments) and promote corporate interests (PSEG) (Comment No. 148)

R7-5 The Freeman Houses are located on Main Street north of Whiting Street. The alignment of the coastal flood defense system was designed to provide flood protection to the Freeman Houses. As discussed in Comment Response R1-1, the Preferred Alternative in this FEIS is a variation of the Eastern Alignment from the DEIS and would be located several blocks east of the Freeman Houses. The land uses to the east of the coastal flood defense system include a few industrial uses, but primarily the PSEG property. Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained at all times for vehicles and pedestrians via Broad Street and pedestrians and bicycles via Main Street. See Comment Response R7-1

- C7-6 It is really important that we take a look at the highest and best use of the land, especially the land on Main Street. That land needs to be brought back into circulation as an opportunity for community revitalization and development. I see two major impediments for the development of Main Street. One is the PSEG warehouse that is at the corner of Whiting and Main Streets. That lot, now that the neighborhood will not flood, should be made available through some mechanism for development. (Comment Nos. 160, 161)
- R7-6 CTDOH has been working with the utility stakeholders regarding the land adjacent to Main Street. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) and Alternative 2 would be located east of the PSEG warehouse located at 280 Main Street, Alternative 3 would cut through the lot in question, immediately east of the warehouse, and Alternative 4 would be located west of the lot, on the east side of Main Street. These four alternatives are all evaluated in this FEIS. The development of private property is beyond the scope of this project.
- C7-7 The Freeman Center recently received a \$1 million grant which makes accessible another \$600,000 on top of \$50,000 that other grants, and nearly \$100,000 that we raised in two months alone. We are willing to invest in making Main Street a cultural thoroughfare that invites both tourism and residents. We are finally at the point where we can start planning the actual Freeman Center as opposed to just the restoration of the houses, and the Center is going to be a companion to the neighborhood culturally and invite the discussion of policy ongoing through time. (Comment No. 162)
- R7-7 Comment noted. The Proposed Action includes funding towards the Freeman Center as part of the Resilience Center.
- C7-8 I am concerned about the University Avenue egress for the luxury condominiums that are proposed [at 60 Main Street]. I think we have a really rare opportunity here where you have both an opportunity for economic development, \$2 million that have been raised both publicly and privately and create economic development that is not gentrification; and so I think that everything needs to be done to prioritize that over the needs of a possibly to-be-created luxury condominium. The design team should do anything possible to support the Freeman Center's vision for the entire area of Little Liberia. (Comment No. 164, 165)
- R7-8 The Proposed Action includes contributing funds to the Freeman Houses as part of the Resilience Center project. The Flood Risk Reduction Project would protect the Freeman Houses and other historic resources in the South End from flooding as well as allow for the development at 60 Main Street. 60 Main Street has received funding from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development to clean up this brownfield site. Any future development of housing at the site must have dry egress, per State policy.
- C7-9 If you go to most waterfront areas like ours you see benches, places to eat, community gardens, galleries and many other creative uses of the gift. There are better ways to make use of this space besides filling it with dirt and creating an invisible corner. (Comment No. 176)
- R7-9 It is necessary to elevate a small portion of Seaside Park in order to create the coastal flood defense system to protect the neighborhood from future storm events. The location of the coastal flood defense system was selected to minimize impacts to the park and surrounding

neighborhood (see Chapter 3 of this FEIS). The CTDOH welcomes input from community members to ensure the design meets the communities' expectations of a creative use of the space by attending workshops and information sessions for Resilient Bridgeport. Residents can learn of these opportunities through ResilientBridgeport.com or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

C7-10 I would appreciate if engineers will think ahead of time for the next not only 15-20 years, but for 50 years and build a nice retaining wall or barrier which will not block the park and at the same time allow everybody to get access to the park. (Comment No. 184)

R7-10 The design does consider sea level rise and the increased risk of flooding over the next 50 years. It is necessary to elevate a small portion of Seaside Park in order to create the coastal flood defense system to protect the neighborhood from future storm events. Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained for everyone. See Comment Response R7-1 for more details.

C7-11 Do not block the beach at Seaside Park to anybody. (Comment No. 185)

R7-11 The project would not block the beach. Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained for everyone at all times. See Comment Response R7-1.

C7-12 Seaside Park is the crown jewel that I grew up with and we cannot block it to anyone and I hope that it will also include some trees that have been rooted out of there. There should be some trees for the wildlife and the birds as well as trees so I can sit down under to be able to watch a baseball game. (Comment No. 186)

R7-12 Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained for everyone at all times. A landscaping plan would be developed during final design to both minimize impacts to existing trees and create a viable planting plan for the area of the park that is impacted. A draft Programmatic Agreement is included with this FEIS with proposed mitigation of the impacts to Seaside Park (see Appendix C).

C7-13 I cannot imagine what the Western Alignment would look like. Since there is not a large amount of space, like at Seaside Park, it would only be a wall, which would be a shame. (Comment No. 187)

R7-13 The preference of the CTDOH is to avoid impacts to Main Street where possible. The Alternative 1 alignment of the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system was selected as the Preferred Alternative in part because it did not impact Main Street (see Comment Response R1-1). The Resilient Bridgeport design team will work to create a more visually appealing structure for any portion of the coastal flood defense system along streets in view of the public.

C7-14 Why on earth is one end of Seaside Park going to be completely blocked off? Isn't the purpose of the Park to improve the quality of life, as you so highly talk about on the website? Won't this stop people from walking and exercising in the Park, or is this the subliminal intent? What about all of the people who live near the entrance? Won't they be blocked in? (Comment Nos. 8, 9)

- R7-14 The flood risk reduction project would not block off one end of Seaside Park. Public access to Seaside Park would be maintained for everyone at all times. See Comment Response R7-1.
- C7-15 I want to support my neighbors at Seaside Village. It feels like the existing housing are not being represented as well in the proposals for this project. (Comment No. 188)
- R7-15 Due to the source of the funding (HUD) the focus is on public housing (Marina Village) (See Comment Response R6-4 for more details on federal guidance for the RBD Pilot Project). The RBD pilot project would provide some benefit to Seaside Village by managing chronic flooding in the area and the Bridgeport WPCA has indicated that a stormwater separation project is under review for the area that would help address local flooding in that community.

H.1.8 Project Cost

- C8-1 Funding sources are our biggest concern. Unfortunately, if any of these projects will cause any property tax or any other pay increase that will be painful for us and we would say no to these projects. (Comment No. 1)
- R8-1 As described in Section 1.1.2 of this FEIS, the construction of the projects are funded by two federal grants from the U.S. HUD Community Development Disaster Recovery and National Disaster Resilience programs.
- C8-2 Who is funding all of this, the meetings, paying University of Bridgeport for the space, the website, the materials to promote this? (Comment No. 5)
- R8-2 Funding for the meetings, website, and materials is paid for by federal funds under the Federal U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience Program under a congressional appropriation for Hurricane Sandy disaster recovery further described in Section 1.1.2 of this FEIS.

H.1.9 Public Involvement

- C9-1 Who wrote the website? The language runs in circles and in some cases is clearly misleading. The opening line I read was, "today, water ponds in low-lying areas." It's a scientific fact from the beginning of human observation that water always follows the path of least resistance. Water has always "ponded" in low-lying areas and will always "pond" in low-lying areas whether one lives in Connecticut or anywhere else in the world. (Comment No. 4)
- R9-1 The website is managed by the consultant team contracted to CTDOH for design and engineering of the Resilient Bridgeport projects. The language is meant to provide an introduction to the public on the issues that the projects aim to address. Although it is simplistic to say that water ponds in low lying areas, the discussion on that section of the website gets to the point that in order to address the chronic flooding conditions in the

South End, the lowest lying areas must be elevated, protected or have flood waters removed through better drainage and pumps.

H.1.10 Purpose and Objectives

C10-1 Revitalize Main Street via Coastal Resiliency: (1) Preserve the integrity of Freeman Houses and potential for neighboring diverse revitalization of Main Street; (2) Reconnect Main Street to Downtown; (3) Slope Main Street up to University Avenue (not Broad with its more Historic Homes; (4) Proper gateway to Seaside Park and residential development; and (5) Keep wall off Main Street. (Comment No. 68)

R10-1 (1) The coastal flood defense system is designed to provide flood protection to the historic resource of the Freeman Houses and to avoid any adverse impact on these historic properties. Further, Freeman Houses are proposed in the Preferred Alternative to house the Resilience Center, which was intended to preserve and reuse an existing structure. (2) It is beyond the scope of this grant from HUD for climate resiliency to address reconnection of Main Street to downtown. Main Street is discontinued between South Frontage Road and Ferry Access Road. (3) Elevating Main Street would maintain the existing street network, but would result in an elevated road in front of four houses located north of University Avenue on Main Street and obstruct direct views of the Seaside Park. Locating a ramp in front of these homes also causes an additional adverse effect to the historic setting of the Cottage District and therefore the State Historic Preservation Office, in a letter dated May 7, 2019, supported the option of closing Main Street to vehicular traffic at Main and University, which avoided the impact to those homes. (4) Access to Seaside Park is maintained at all times for everyone. See Comment Response R6-2 for more details. (5) The Preferred Alternative for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system (Alternative 1) does not impact Main Street. Of the three additional alternatives evaluated, but not selected as the Preferred Alternative, in this FEIS only Alternative 4 would impact Main Street and for that alternative, the coastal flood defense system alignment would be along Main Street for only one block between Whiting and Atlantic Streets. This was a change from the Western Alignment option in the DEIS in response to public comment.

H.1.11 Safety

C11-1 Won't this [Project] increase crime? (Comment No. 10)

R11-1 There is no reason to expect this project would increase crime. Access would be maintained, usage would continue and the design could include adding lighting to the entrance to Seaside Park. CTDOH welcomes community input to ensure the project creates safe spaces for the public.

C11-2 How are emergency vehicles supposed to respond? How are the huge fire trucks supposed to turn around with a wall? Fire hydrants? What happens to those? What if an ambulance can't get through to someone having a heart attack in the Park because of that wall? (Comment No. 12)

R11-2 CTDOH consulted with the Bridgeport fire department regarding requirements for turning radius and access. The design would incorporate those requirements to ensure emergency vehicles continue to have access to residences. There would be no change to fire hydrants since Main Street would be maintained at its current elevation. Vehicular access to Seaside Park is maintained through a ramp on Broad Street allowing for emergency vehicles, including ambulances, to enter the park crossing over the flood barrier along University Avenue. The north-south section of the coastal flood defense system Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) would allow emergency response vehicles to access all of the utilities in the area as well even when gates are closed during storms.

H.1.12 Schedule

C12-1 Connecticut must ask Congress for more time. We ask the State of Connecticut to join New York and New Jersey in requesting more time from Congress to properly resolve conflicting stakeholder issues and adjust plans. Do not short-cut the planning process. Once massive, expensive capital infrastructure is built; decisions cannot be reversed. An extension will allow the community to all come together to map a plan that will protect and promote our residents, our history, and our future. (Comment Nos. 30, 37, 43, 140, 158)

R12-1 The schedule is dictated by the HUD funding sources and cannot be extended without an act of Congress. The State of Connecticut keeps our congressional delegation aware of the status of this federal funding, but the project must move along assuming the end of the project cannot be moved. The extensive community engagement process for this project will continue throughout the project's design, engineering and construction to incorporate input from the community and address concerns.

H.1.13 Socioeconomics

C13-1 Yes, protect the neighborhood from floods, storms and sea level rise, but take the time to do it right. Protect future economic revitalization, property values, and the quality of life for current residents. Build with equity and social justice. (Comment Nos. 29, 50, 67, 147)

R13-1 By reducing the risk of acute and chronic flooding in the South End of Bridgeport, the Proposed Action would improve conditions for the environmental justice populations. The coastal flood defense system is being built to meet FEMA accreditation standards with the goal of remapping the area protected by the coastal flood defense system out of the 100-year floodplain that would allow for highly discounted flood insurance for homeowners and businesses due to the significantly decreased risk of flooding. Low flood insurance results in savings for homeowners and businesses and would therefore have a direct economic benefit to those community members in addition to avoiding costs of future flood damage.

C13-2 Among JHM's greatest concerns, is the population of public housing residents currently living in the South End that will remain vulnerable to future flood events if this plan is not put into action. JHM is currently working in conjunction with the Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport to provide replacement housing for the Marina Village public housing complex whose existing, obsolete units

present immediate health and safety threats for their inhabitants. Residents continue to live in these types of conditions because new, quality affordable housing units are scarce in Bridgeport. The Draft EIE/EIS effectively addresses the need to protect residents and property from future storm surge events. The main component of the RBD plan involves utilization of the southern 2.5 acres of the Marina Village property that will be transformed into a stormwater retention park separated by a new Johnson Street extension for dry egress by residents and emergency vehicles. (Comment No. 204)

R13-2 Comment noted.

C13-3 As you know, the city faces a shortage of quality affordable housing and we are very interested in supporting projects that address this issue, such as Resilient Bridgeport, which makes new development in the South End possible by reducing the threat of future flooding. (210)

R13-3 Comment noted

H.1.14 Traffic

C14-1 [Will this project cause] traffic congestion? (Comment No. 11)

R14-1 As described in Section 4.13.3 of this FEIS, an analysis of traffic showed that there would be no adverse impact to congestion as a result of stopping traffic at Main Street and University Avenue. During construction, the increased truck traffic and temporary road closures is not anticipated to result in a significant adverse impact to traffic in the study area. A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) would be developed in order to minimize impacts on existing traffic patterns.

H.1.15 Utilities

C15-1 A number of companies and utilities have operated in the South End for hundreds of years. The Project should be prepared to encounter various underground utility lines (known and unknown). The Project should take appropriate health and safety and construction measures to identify and deal with these lines without interrupting residential and commercial use in the South End. (Comment No. 53)

R15-1 The contractor will develop a site-specific health and safety plan prior to initiating any soil boring program or construction activities. A utility mark-out will be completed prior to initiating subsurface work, and proposed locations will be cleared by a private utility contractor. If clearance cannot be obtained through the private utility contractor, the top 5 feet of material (the zone where underground utility lines would most likely be encountered) will be cleared manually with the use of a high-pressure vacuum truck.

H.1.16 Water Resources

C16-1 Wider stormwater and sewer pipes than currently planned for should be installed so that Seaside Village could link into the RBD Pilot Project in the future and we could get that CSO project which we really badly need. Pump station and pipe capacity on Iranistan Avenue should be designed to

allow future connection of Seaside Village for stormwater management. We strongly urge that the project accommodate the requests from the Board of Directors of Seaside Village-that information that will assist Seaside Village in developing its own stormwater management system be provided. (Comment Nos. 38, 70, 76, 80, 84, 126, 170, 179, 181, 195)

R16-1 It is the CTDOH's understanding that a plan by the Bridgeport WPCA's to separate the combined sewer system of Seaside Village is currently under review. CTDOH is coordinating with the Bridgeport WPCA on their project.

C16-2 Multiple commenters supported the Seaside Village Board's statement requesting a larger capacity for the pumping station of the RBD Pilot Project so that it could accommodate a future CSO project which they are already consulting the City of Bridgeport about. (Comment Nos. 39, 71, 77, 81,126, 179, 180, 195)

R16-2 The Resilient Bridgeport team will work with the Bridgeport WPCA to assess the feasibility of increasing the design pump station capacity to assist in addressing chronic flooding concerns in the area of the Rebuild by Design pilot project. CSO separation is required in advance of pumping any stormwater through the RBD Pilot project stormwater system.

C16-3 The EIE recognizes that the "chronic flooding issues are the result of both an aged and combined storm water sewer system." The EIE proposes certain stormwater protections and enhancements. PSEG recommends that the Project ensure that additional steps and caution be implemented to ensure that the existing stormwater sewer system is not over-taxed or further degraded. (Comment No. 52)

R16-3 Comment noted. Consideration of the existing stormwater sewer system is part of the design process.

C16-4 The only resident involved in keeping the Yale Rain Garden in Seaside Village alive after two hurricanes and resident opposition. The Seaside Village got short-changed in the Resilient Bridgeport project, because it is worse off now, with the threat of the Windward development that will bring more residents across the avenue and will increase our flooding problems tenfold. So, instead of solving our problem, it got aggravated. (Comment No. 85)

R16-4 The stormwater facility that is part of the Resilient Bridgeport project has been designed to accommodate stormwater from the Windward development and would not increase flooding to Seaside Village.

H.2 RESPONSE TO AGENCY COMMENTS

H.2.1 State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and Drinking Water (DWS)

C17-1 The subject project is not in a public drinking water supply source water area, but it is within the public water supply service area of the Aquarion Water Company Main System (AWC, PWSID #CT0150011). The Department of Housing should consult with the AWC on the locations of existing public drinking water infrastructure. (Comment No. 54)

- R17-1 Coordination is being undertaken with the Aquarion Water Company in order to identify and protect existing public drinking water infrastructure within the Study Area that may be impacted as a result of the Proposed Project, including during construction and operational activities. As described in Section 4.11 of this FEIS, any recommendations from the Aquarion Water Company regarding the protection of public drinking water infrastructure would be implemented to the maximum extent practicable.
- C17-2 It is recommended that the CTDOH coordinate with the AWC to ensure that the proposed action is implemented in a manner that is compatible with the public drinking water infrastructure. (Comment No. 55)
- R17-2 Coordination is being undertaken with the Aquarion Water Company.

H.2.2 Connecticut Department Of Economic and Community Development (DECD)

- C18-1 In regards to the RBD Pilot project, SHPO has previously commented on the demolition and new construction of the Former Marina Village, with a finding of no historic properties affected. However, the proposed RBD work is adjacent to the National Register of Historic Places listed Seaside Village Historic District (NR# 90001424). The proposed scope includes regrading (not elevating) of adjacent streets, construction of a new street, Johnson Street Extension, installation of new storm drains and pump, and creation of a storm water park, located to the southeast of the district. The proposed scope for this section of the project will have no adverse effects to historic properties. (Comment No. 56)
- R18-1 Comment noted.
- C18-2 Both of the proposed alternatives constitute an adverse effect to historic properties, with particular concern given to the raising of University Avenue, which will negatively impact the entrance to Seaside Park, listed in the National Register under Criteria B and C as a "well-preserved Post-Civil War park landscape" and "an important work of 19th-century civil engineering." (57)
- R18-2 Comment noted.
- C18-3 The Western Option would also adversely impact the William Bishop Cottage Development Historic District, listed under Criteria B and C as "one of Bridgeport's first extensive tract developments, a community planned especially to provide an Innovative housing scheme for lower-income workers." Therefore, SHPO's Preferred Alternative is the Eastern Option, which would avoid the adverse impact to the William Bishop Cottage Development, and potential archaeological resources in the vicinity of the Freeman Houses. (Comment No. 58)
- R18-3 Comment noted. As described in Comment Response R1-1, CTDOH has been working with stakeholders to identify an alignment of the coastal flood defense system that can be implemented and would eliminate or minimize impacts to the Cottage District. The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) and Alternatives 2 and 3 would not impact Main Street. Alternative 4, would limit impacts to one block of Main Street between Atlantic and Whiting Streets.

- C18-4 SHPO expects additional consultation in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to minimize or mitigate the adverse effect in regards to Seaside Park, potential effects to the Freeman Houses regarding vibrations during construction of the flood wall, additional information regarding design of the flood barrier where it is proposed to be integrated into the railroad viaduct, and an archaeological assessment plan for the area of potential effect (APE). The creation of a Resilience Center, would directly impact the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses, listed under Criterion A "as the last two houses to survive of "Little Liberia," a settlement of black freedmen in this area that began in 1831 and reached its apogee just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War." The properties are proposed to "operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after storm events." This use has the potential to help preserve the structures, as they are currently unoccupied. However, an additional portion of the Resilience Center would be to create an "open-air landscaped site, including green infrastructure improvements, near the entrance to Seaside Park at University Avenue." More information is needed to evaluate the effect to both Seaside Park and the Freeman Houses, including design schema. (Comment Nos. 59, 60)
- R18-4 Comment noted. Consultation has continued and the process for further review by SHPO and consulting parties will be memorialized in a Programmatic Agreement. A draft of the Programmatic Agreement is included with the FEIS (see Appendix C).

H.2.3 U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

- C19-1 No comment on the DEIS. (Comment No. 86)
- R19-1 Comment noted.

H.2.4 Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment (DEEP)

- C20-1 DEEP is fully supportive of the proposed stormwater improvements at the Marina Village site. (Comment No. 87)
- R20-1 Comment noted.
- C20-2 The use of the existing Outfall E to Cedar Creek Reach as the discharge point for the stormwater from the raingarden appears to be a logical choice as an outfall. As mentioned on page 4.11-20 for the currently unused Outfall C, the redevelopment of Outfall E for the proposed purpose would require an NPDES Permit from Water Permitting and Enforcement Division of DEEP. (Comment No. 88)
- R20-2 Comment noted. NPDES permit will be obtained and the FEIS has been updated to reflect this comment.
- C20-3 Depending on whether any work will be necessary below the coastal jurisdiction line of Cedar Creek Reach, a Structures, Dredging and Fill Permit could be required from the Land and Water Resources Division of DEEP. (Comment No. 89)

- R20-3 Comment noted. This comment has been noted in the FEIS.
- C20-4 The impacts of the redeployment of Outfall E for the raingarden discharge would be expected to be minor in comparison to the benefits of the improved stormwater management following construction of the stormwater park basin. (Comment No. 90)
- R20-4 Comment noted.
- C20-5 As with the larger Flood Risk Reduction Project, a Flood Management Certification will be required for this project as state and federal funds are being utilized for modifications of a drainage system located within a mapped FEMA floodplain. (Comment No. 91)
- R20-5 Comment noted.
- C20-6 Discussion on page 4.8-14 refers generically to protective measures to be undertaken to safeguard the grove of sycamores at Marina Village and the existing street trees along South Street. Good intentions are often not enough to protect trees at construction sites from being damaged or killed. Consideration should be given to penalties or incentives in the construction contracts to provide financial motivation to promote the survival of these trees through the construction period and perhaps for one growing season after project completion. (Comment No. 92)
- R20-6 A detailed landscaping and construction protection plan will be developed as part of the final design and requirements for the contractor will be noted. As noted in Section 4.8.4 of this FEIS, the contractor's contract requirements will require strict adherence to the construction protection plan.
- C20-7 The EIS/EIE makes numerous references to Marina Village using terms such as 'the site of the former Marina Village'. While the eastern portion of the complex has been demolished, most of Marina Village is still intact and occupied. The repeated references to Marina Village in the past tense are a curious recurring wording throughout the document. (Comment No. 93)
- R20-7 This wording was chosen to reflect the ongoing redevelopment of the site. It has been revised to "Marina Village/Windward Apartments" throughout this FEIS.
- C20-8 The floodwall, berm and, to the extent it is relied upon to keep floodwaters out of the project area, the raised portion of University Avenue, will be considered for regulatory purposes as a dam and will require a Dam Safety Permit pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) section 22a-403. (Comment No. 94)
- R20-8 Comment noted.
- C20-9 Flood Management Certification will not be required for the construction of the flood defense system, the Dam Safety Permit application must demonstrate compliance with the factors for consideration under the Flood Management Program. Specifically, the project must demonstrate that it is in the public interest, will not injure persons or property and complies with the National Flood Insurance Program. (Comment No. 95)

R20-9 Comment noted.

C20-10 Another consideration for the Flood Risk Reduction Project is the State policy for floodplain development set forth in C.G.S. section 25-68d(b)(4) which requires any action within a floodplain to demonstrate that "The proposal promotes long-term, non-intensive use of the floodplain and has utilities located to discourage floodplain development." There is at least a potential conflict between the proposed Flood Risk Reduction Project and this State policy. (Comment No. 96)

R20-10 The CTDOH will work with FEMA through the accreditation process to remap the area as a Zone X "area protected by a levee." This will allow for land uses that are consistent with current zoning and master plans. The project team will continue discussions with CTDEEP to address these considerations in the permitting process.

C20-11 In view of the level of risk to persons and property that could ensue should the proposed floodwall and/or berm fail, the proposed combined structure would be considered and regulated as a high hazard dam. The flood wall, berm or other levee must satisfy the highest of the following criteria: (1) be accredited by FEMA to withstand the 100-year tidal flood plus the amount of freeboard required by FEMA so that the area behind the levee can be designated as "area protected by a levee" or (2) the design needs to provide protection up to the 500-year coastal flood, factoring in sea level rise. (Comment No. 97)

R20-11 The project's design intent is to meet these requirements. See response R20-10.

C20-12 The project applicant will need to submit documentation to FEMA showing that the proposed floodwall meets the requirements of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 65.10 (44 CFR 65.10) in order to obtain "levee certification". (Comment No. 98)

R20-12 The project's design intent is to meet these requirements. See response R20-10.

C21-13 Dam Safety application must address potential adverse impacts to structures located outside the berm. (Comment No. 99)

R20-13 Comment noted.

C20-14 The underground utilities and their intersections with the floodwall will require special attention during the design process. The floodwall and berm shall be designed so as to prevent seepage under the flood retarding structure. (Comment No. 100)

R20-14 Seepage has been evaluated in accordance with industry standard practice and the design intent is to meet FEMA and State requirements.

C20-15 At least as of the February 26 public hearing, the question of the alignment for the proposed floodwall was still not settled. As expressed at that hearing, there was a strong public preference for the eastern wall alignment, and that alignment also appeared to be the preference of the planning team. The eastern alignment is certainly preferable in terms of the acreage and facilities protected. (Comment No. 101)

- R20-15 The Preferred Alternative for the alignment of the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system is Alternative 1, which closely follows the Eastern alignment option noted by the comment, with minor modifications based on feedback from private property owners. See Comment Response R1-1.
- C20-16 The exact location of the pump station(s) is not a substantial regulatory concern of DEEP due to their limited footprint and the probability that they will not impact any resources under our jurisdiction. However, as covered later in the discussion of necessary project permits, the potential need for permits to cover the emissions from these facilities, and also the pumphouse for the Rebuild by Design project, is one that needs more attention. (Comment No. 102)
- R20-16 The design and specifications of the proposed pumphouse is still being finalized, such that annual emission quantities for air pollutants cannot be determined at this time. If, during the design process, it is found that the proposed pumphouse would not comply with relevant air quality regulatory thresholds, the appropriate permits would be obtained. Ultimately, the proposed pumphouse would be designed and operated in compliance with all local, State, and Federal air quality emissions criteria and requirements, such that no adverse air quality impacts are anticipated.
- C20-17 According to discussion on page 4.8-17, it was an open question at the time of EIS/EIE preparation as to whether tidegates would be incorporated at the stormwater outfalls. Given the emission of the drainage improvements, tidegates would certainly be useful on any outfalls not directly connected to a pumping station in order to keep rising coastal waters on the proper side of the floodwall. The incorporation of tidegates, or the rationale for why they are not needed, should be addressed in the FEIS, including some analysis of how the inclusion or lack of tidegates would affect the frequency of operation of the pumphouses and the efficiency of their operation. (Comment No. 103)
- R20-17 The intent is to have tide gates or other backflow prevention measures incorporated into the system in accordance with applicable FEMA guidelines. This is addressed in Section 4.11 of this FEIS.
- C20-18 As of the writing of the EIS/EIE, neither the purpose nor the location of the Resilience Center had been determined. In all probability, the construction and operation of the Resilience Center will not involve any regulatory or resource issues under the purview of DEEP. For this reason, and the lack of any specific details about the center, these comments will not cover that aspect of the Resilient Bridgeport proposal. (Comment No. 104)
- R20-18 Comment noted.
- C20-19 Page 4.8-10 of the EIS/EIE notes the filing of a request for review of potential impacts to State-listed species for the proposed project and site. By letter of March 11, 2019 to Jessica Denzler of Arcadis, your project team has been informed that no negative impacts to State-listed species are anticipated as a result of the proposed activities. The presence of a peregrine falcon at the Pequannock River Metro-North bridge was the species of greatest interest to the NDDDB program as to potential impacts but, given that the nearest project activity would be the northernmost terminus

of the floodwall, which is approximately 1,700' from the Metro-North bridge, no impacts to the peregrine falcon are anticipated. (Comment No. 105)

R20-19 Comment noted.

C20-20 A list of federal, state and local permits is given on page 4.16-14 of the EIS/EIE. It is unclear what the fifth and sixth permit entries in the State section correspond to. These are listed as CT DEEP L WRD General Permit Registration Form and CT DEEP L WRD Long Island Sound. (Comment No. 106)

R20-20 These permits have been clarified in the FEIS.

C20-21 The other State permits given on Page 4.16-14 are accurate, with the caveat that the Permit for Diversion of Waters of the State would be needed only if an area of 100 acres or more drains to a common point. For instance, if any of the pumphouses or outfalls will individually receive stormwater from 100 or more acres, a diversion permit would be necessary for that discharge. (Comment No. 107)

R20-21 Comment noted. This has been clarified in Section 4.17.5 of this FEIS.

C20-22 The pump house engines may require New Source Review Permits if the potential-to-emit (PTE) of any individual air pollutant exceeds 15 tons per year. As an alternative, the engines may operate as emergency engines under section 22a-174-3b(e) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies if they will not exceed 300 hours per year of operation and will maintain records to document their hours of operation and the sulfur content of their fuel. Pump manufacturers must certify their pollution emissions rates to EPA for the operation of their equipment in conformance with their O&M specifications. Thus, DEEP cannot provide firm guidance on the qualification for the emergency exemption or, alternatively, the potential need for a New Source Review Permit, in the absence of specific information on the pumps which will be employed. (Comment No. 108)

R20-22 The design and specifications of the proposed pumphouse is still being finalized, such that annual emission quantities for air pollutants cannot be determined at this time. If, during the design process, it is found that the proposed pumphouse would not comply with relevant air quality regulatory thresholds, the appropriate permits would be obtained. Ultimately, the proposed pumphouse would be designed and operated in compliance with all local, State, and Federal air quality emissions criteria and requirements, such that no adverse air quality impacts are anticipated.

C20-23 Any engines that have a PTE of less than 15 tons per year are not subject to permitting. (Comment No. 109)

R20-23 Comment noted.

C20-24 Page 4.12-10 mentions that the construction work connected with this project could result in the displacement of urban wildlife from construction activity and street tree removal. This point does not specifically mention a problem that has occurred at other construction projects in urban

environments. The street drainage work in particular could cause problems with rodents moving out of pipes and drainage basins and into the neighborhood. (Comment No. 110)

R20-24 Comment noted.

C20-25 Integrated pest management plans should be developed to address the potential for rats and other rodents to be disturbed and mobilized by construction work. (Comment No. 111)

R20-25 Comment noted. A reference to this plan has been added to Section 4.8.4 of this FEIS.

C20-26 Section 4.6 of the EIS/EIE contains an extensive inventory of properties within the study area which have had historic involvement with hazardous materials or which may present some risk of encountering contaminants. The proposed mitigation and best management practices listed in section 4.6.4 are appropriate given the historic uses of the properties in the study area and the identified potential contaminants of concern. (Comment No. 112)

R20-26 Comment noted.

C20-27 Individual potential release areas should be evaluated separately, as opposed to characterizing the general soil quality in the specific areas of the project. (Comment No. 113)

R20-27 The characterization is presented for the purposes of public review. Details are provided in the FEIS appendices.

C20-28 It is unclear if polluted soil will be reused as part of the project. Any potential reuse of polluted soil must be conducted consistent with DEEP's remediation standard regulations, meet applicable criteria, and be coordinated with the DEEP Remediation Division. (Comment No. 114)

R20-28 Comment noted. CTDOH and the contractor would work with the CTDEEP Remediation Division related to any potential reuse of polluted soil to ensure that it is consistent with CTDEEP guidance. If polluted soil is reused, it will be placed above the water table, capped by clean soil or pavement so as to eliminate direct exposure to the polluted soil and prevent erosion.

C20-29 Reused polluted soil must be placed above the water table, not be subject to erosion, and must not create an arbitrary landform. In the event that PCBs are present, the DEEP PCB Unit should be consulted regarding any specific characterization requirements. (Comment No. 115)

R20-29 Comment noted.

C20-30 Page 4.12-11 mentions limited removal of parkland vegetation along the northeastern border of Seaside Park. The FEIS would benefit from a more concrete description of the vegetative or landscaping losses expected to occur in Seaside Park and the plans for mitigation or replacement thereof. (Comment No. 116)

R20-30 Section 4.8.3 of this FEIS presents the potential tree impacts in Seaside Park. A more detailed landscaping plan is being developed as part of final design but it will not be part of the FEIS.

C20-31 A comprehensive table of contents at the beginning of the document would help readers navigate through this extensive report rather than having to look for the breaks in the pagination sequence to identify where a new section is and then what its content consists of. (Comment No. 117)

R20-31 A comprehensive table of contents has been added to the FEIS.

C20-32 For figure 4.10-5 on page 4.10-13, an understanding of this map would benefit from some discussion in the text to define what constitutes a 'pier street' and a 'connector street'. (Comment No. 118)

R20-32 Text has been added to Section 4.10 of the FEIS.

C20-33 The reference to this figure (figure 4.10-5) on the preceding page refers to it as figure 4.11-5 rather than figure 4.10-5. (Comment No. 119)

R20-33 Text has been revised.

C20-34 Page 4.10-19 mentions the intersection of University Avenue and Atlantic Avenue. In fact, these two streets do not intersect. The text should probably say, in reference to Box A, the intersection of University Avenue and Lafayette Street. (Comment No. 120)

R20-34 Text has been revised.

C20-35 The text at the bottom of page 4.13-7 mentions six floodgates to be provided for the eastern floodwall alignment, but then lists only four locations. If any of these four locations would host multiple floodgates, adding that detail in the listing would be helpful. (Comment No. 121)

R20-35 The current design would include between 5 and 8 flood gates, depending on the alternative (the Preferred Alternative would have 7 gates). The text will be revised accordingly.

C20-36 The percentage increase in area protected by the eastern wall alignment as compared to the western wall alignment at the bottom of page 4.10-14 is given as 39%. In fact, the eastern alignment protects 64% more acreage than the western alignment. (Comment No. 122)

R20-36 Text has been revised and compares the four alternatives evaluated in the FEIS.

C20-37 On pp. 4.13-9 and 4.13.10, the statement is made on the latter page that "Although UI does not directly supply residences with electricity in the study area, it owns and operates the Pequannock Substation, " In fact, United Illuminating is the retail electric supplier in the South End and in all of Bridgeport and does directly serve the customers in the study area. (Comment No. 123)

R21-37 Text has been revised.

H.2.5 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1

C21--1 We recommend that the current discussion in the DEIS (Section 4.11.1.2, p.4.11-4) be expanded in the FEIS to specify which regulatory permits (e.g., Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404, NPDES, Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, etc.) will be required for specific project components and

whether project proponents will need to obtain new permits or modifications of existing permits.
 (Comment No. 135)

R21-1 Regulatory permits are being identified for project components and have been identified in Section 4.11.1 of this FEIS.

C21-2 We recommend that the FEIS clarify whether the discharge through Outfall E will require a new NPDES permit, or instead be regulated through modification of an existing NPDES permit.
 (Comment No. 136)

R21-2 It is expected a modification of an existing NPDES permit would be required. The FEIS text in Section 4.11.3 has been revised to clarify this.

C21-3 We note that the federal regulatory requirement for a CWA Section 404 permit is not restricted to "inland" wetlands or watercourses, as indicated in the DEIS (Section 4.8.1.2 on page 4.8-3).
 (Comment No. 137)

R21-3 Text in Section 4.8.1.2 has been revised.

C21-4 The DEIS (Section 4.8.3.2, p. 4.8-14; Section 4.11.3.2, p. 4.11-18) discusses potential ecological impacts from repair and recommissioning work at Outfall E. The proposed direct discharge of untreated sediments and sludge from the work area would be likely to cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. We recommend that the FEIS consider practicable alternatives for disposal of contaminated sediments and sludge from Outfall E (other than direct discharge to Cedar Creek Reach). We recommend that collection and disposal (at an appropriate upland facility) of contaminated sediments and sludge be considered. (Comment No. 138)

R21-4 The majority of soil generated during drilling activities will be characterized and properly disposed at an offsite facility. Contaminated sediments and sludge from Outfall E will also be characterized for offsite disposal. Trench excavations would be re-used to the extent possible, based on the investigation and/or waste characterization results.

Table H-2. Relevant Indicator Bacteria Standards for Ambient Saltwater Water Quality

DESIGNATED USE	CLASS	INDICATOR	CRITERIA
Shellfishing – Direct Consumption	SA	Fecal coliform	Geometric Mean < 14/100ml 90% of Samples < 31/100ml
Shellfishing – Indirect Consumption	SB	Fecal coliform	Geometric Mean < 88/100ml 90% of Samples < 260/100ml
Recreation – Designated Swimming	SA, SB	<i>Enterococci</i>	Geometric Mean < 35/100ml Single Sample Max < 104/100ml
All Other Recreational Uses	SA, SB	<i>Enterococci</i>	Geometric Mean < 35/100ml Single Sample Max < 500/100ml

* * * * *
RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT:
National Disaster
Resilience and Rebuild
by Design Projects
* * * * *

February 26, 2019

PUBLIC SCOPING HEARING

HELD BEFORE:

HERMIA DELAIRE, Hearing Officer

CHERYL S. DAMATO/COURT REPORTING SERVICE
CHERYL S. DAMATO, CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER
300 TOLL GATE ROAD
BERLIN, CONNECTICUT 06037
(860) 828-8847

1 . . . The following is the Public Scoping
2 Hearing in the Matter of: RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT,
3 National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design
4 Projects, held before Hermia Delaire, Hearing
5 Officer and Cheryl S. Damato, Certified Court
6 Reporter in and for the State of Connecticut, held
7 at the University of Bridgeport Arts & Humanities
8 Building, 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport,
9 Connecticut, at 6:14 p.m., on Tuesday, February
10 26, 2019.

11
12 Also present:

13 Dr. Rebecca French, Director of Resiliency,
14 Department of Housing
15 Hermia M. Delaire, Program Manager, CDBG -
16 Disaster Recovery Programs, Connecticut
17 Department of Housing, Hearing Officer
18 Nicole Weymouth, Deputy Environmental Manager,
19 WSP USA
20 Laura Toole, Senior Supervising Manager,
21 Connecticut Public Involvement, WSP USA
22 Members of the public
23
24
25

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good evening,
2 everyone. My name is Hermia Delaire and I
3 am with the State of Connecticut
4 Department of Housing. I am the
5 Department of Housing's public hearing
6 officer for tonight's hearing on the Draft
7 for Environmental Impact Statement for the
8 Resilient Bridgeport Projects.

9 We are about to see a presentation
10 about the purpose and need, proposed
11 action and environmental consequences for
12 two projects proposed for the south end of
13 Bridgeport; the Rebuild by Design project
14 and the National Disaster Resiliency
15 project. After that we are going to move
16 onto the formal hearing of this program.

17 But first, I'm going to invite Dr.
18 Rebecca French who is the Director of
19 Resiliency for the Department of Housing.
20 She has a few remarks that she would like
21 to share with you regarding the NEPA which
22 is the National Environmental Policy Act
23 of 1969, and CEPA which is the Connecticut
24 Environmental Policy Act.

25 Dr. French?

1 DR. REBECCA FRENCH: Really I'm just
2 introducing myself. I am the new director
3 for this program so I wanted everybody to
4 know who I am.

5 I am the Director of Resilience. I
6 am overseeing both the National Disaster
7 Resilience Grants as well as the Rebuild
8 by Design Grants that were both funded by
9 the Community Development Block Grant
10 Disaster Recovery programs as HUD.

11 And really, as Mia said this is the
12 hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact
13 Statement and we'll give more detail to
14 overview of the agenda but tonight we're
15 going to hear the agenda slide. We're
16 going to give you an update and findings
17 and then we're going to open the floor to
18 public comments.

19 As Mia said after the public hearing
20 formally concludes, we will go to a design
21 workshop and that's going to start off
22 with a presentation. We're going to give
23 you an update on project milestones as
24 well as design refinements, not all of
25 which are in the Draft EIS. So you're

1 going to see additional information for
2 advance design that happened after the
3 development of the draft development EIS,
4 and we're going to break out into the
5 tables you see in the back. There's going
6 to be on these different topics talk about
7 the elevation of the road along University
8 Avenue, pump station and the north/south
9 flood walls, as well as head of park and
10 green infrastructure components there and
11 then the Resilient Center.

12 So again, you're going to get an
13 overview of all these in the presentation,
14 and then you can choose to have a more
15 in-depth discussion at each of the tables
16 in the design workshop. So hopefully it
17 will give you many opportunities to
18 provide input to us.

19 I'm so happy to see so many of you
20 here. Thank you for your time and coming
21 tonight, and with that I'm going to turn
22 it over to Nicole Weymouth who is
23 overseeing our Draft EIS development as
24 part of my consulting team at WSP.
25 Thanks.

1 MS. NICOLE WEYMOUTH: Thank you. So
2 I'm going to give just a summary of the
3 draft environmental impact statement which
4 is available for public comment right now.

5 The DEIS was prepared to meet the
6 requirements of both NEPA and CEPA. NEPA
7 and CEPA are decision-making processes
8 that evaluate social and ecological and
9 economic impacts of Build Alternatives,
10 factoring in community impacts and public
11 and agency input.

12 The Notice of Intent to prepare the
13 EIS was actually issued one year ago today
14 as I discovered making my notes. We had a
15 scoping hearing in March of 2018 and since
16 that time, we've been developing the draft
17 EIS that's available now. It was released
18 for public comment on February 1.

19 Once we are done with the public
20 comment period we will incorporate public
21 and agency comments to prepare a final EIS
22 and then a record of decision.

23 Just to show the milestone dates of
24 the review period, we actually originally
25 released the document for CEPA through the

1 Environmental Monitor and we hoped -- that
2 was on January 8 hoping that the Federal
3 Register would follow shortly. We had a
4 bit of a delay because of the government
5 shutdown so it wasn't until February 1
6 that there was a Federal Register notice
7 formally made the document available to
8 the public, the DEIS portion for NEPA.

9 We're having the public hearing
10 obviously tonight and the comment period
11 extends to March 18.

12 Just a quick overview of the document
13 which is available on our website at
14 Resilient Bridgeport dot com and there's a
15 copy in the back of the room if you care
16 to browse through it. And it starts
17 obviously with an introduction chapter.

18 Chapter 2 is the purpose and need
19 which really is very consistent with what
20 we had gone over during the scoping
21 meeting. We didn't change a lot of our
22 original purpose and need.

23 Chapter 3, alternative development is
24 a very important part of NEPA and CEPA and
25 we identify for the different projects

1 potential alternatives. A lot of
2 alternatives might be dismissed if they
3 did not meet the purpose and need and
4 others that are viable were carried
5 forward to the DEIS.

6 Chapter 4 is really the bulk of the
7 document. There are 16 different resource
8 categories that we evaluated, the impacts
9 and benefits of the proposed action.

10 And then Chapter 5 evaluates a
11 cumulative impact from other projects in
12 the area.

13 Finally we talk about the ongoing
14 consultation coordination as part of the
15 draft DEIS and there are appendices that
16 provide a lot more detail as necessary.

17 I just want to quickly remind
18 everyone that the proposed action that's
19 talked about in this draft DEIS has three
20 projects. One is the RBD pilot at Marina
21 Village which is creating a storm water
22 facility and elevating/extending Johnson
23 Street through that park prior to it then
24 being redeveloped as a separate project.

25 The second project is the Flood Risk

1 Reduction Project. That's over on the
2 east side of the south end. That involves
3 both coastal flood defense system and
4 storm water management and green
5 infrastructure.

6 In the DEIS we carry forward two
7 alignment options. One is the western
8 option which goes more through public
9 land, some of it on Main Street, and then
10 the further Eastern Alignment which is on
11 private -- which will require easements on
12 private property. Both of them -- both of
13 these alignment options have the same
14 elevated University Avenue.

15 Another option, two options is at the
16 Main Street and University Avenue
17 intersection. We looked at one option
18 which would stop the Main Street, keep it
19 at its current elevation. There would be
20 a park transition option. That's going to
21 be talked about a lot in more and more
22 detail at the workshop if you want to
23 learn more about that after this.

24 And the other option for Main Street
25 would be to actually bring it up to

1 elevation to meet the new elevation of
2 University Avenue and would continue it as
3 a thru street.

4 The third project is the Resilient
5 Center and that has two components. The
6 "pocket park" north of University Avenue
7 or what I was just talking about the Park
8 Transition that will be talked about at
9 the workshop, and then a contribution of
10 funds toward the rehabilitation of the
11 Freeman Houses.

12 This is a very quick snapshot of the
13 environmental consequences in Chapter 4.
14 As I said there are 16 different resource
15 categories; land use, geology all through.
16 Socioeconomic impacts as well that
17 evaluated the impacts which you see in
18 red, as well as the benefits in green from
19 the three different projects.

20 The analysis addressed both the
21 direct and indirect impact. Direct being
22 those that are occurring at the same time
23 and place, and indirect impacts being
24 those that are caused by actions that are
25 later in time or further reviewed from

1 distance, but are still reasonably
2 foreseeable.

3 I'm just going to highlight a couple
4 of these. As I said, the draft DEIS has
5 the details and I'm available after this
6 if there's specific questions you have
7 about the contents of the DEIS. But the
8 urban design section actually addresses to
9 the visual environment as a result of
10 proposed action. We know there will be
11 some temporary impacts during construction
12 and some long-term changes to the visual
13 environment as a result of this project.

14 Some of the impacts such as
15 obstructed views of Seaside Park or new
16 pump houses might be considered adverse
17 and others such as the added greenery at
18 the storm water facility at Marina Village
19 would be a benefit to the community.

20 The workshop is going to go into some
21 more detail about the design elements that
22 were not complete at the time of the draft
23 DEIS.

24 Another important impact would be to
25 cultural resources which include both

1 architectural and archaeological
2 resources. We know there's a rich history
3 in the South End that has to be
4 considered.

5 The redesign of the entrance to
6 Seaside Park would be considered an
7 adverse impact to a National Register
8 listed property and the funding of the
9 Freeman House rehabilitation would be a
10 benefit.

11 In addition, there are areas of
12 archaeological sensitivity where
13 construction would occur. The DEIS
14 proposes some additional investigation and
15 monitoring to ensure that archeological
16 resources wouldn't be impacted during
17 construction.

18 Parallel to the NEPA process that
19 we're undergoing, we are performing the
20 Section 106 of the National Historic
21 Preservation Act. That requires
22 consultation with the State Historic
23 Preservation Office and other consulting
24 parties. And that consultation is still
25 ongoing to identify mitigation measures

1 and possibly prepare a Memorandum of
2 Agreement or Programmatic Agreement to
3 define those measures.

4 Based on the industrial history of
5 this area, we know there's areas of
6 moderate or high risk of hazardous
7 material contamination. It's a
8 consideration that varies based on the
9 different alignments for the Coastal Flood
10 Defense System. We reviewed a lot of
11 existing sampling data and the DEIS
12 outlines steps that can be taken to
13 minimize risk to workers and the public
14 during construction.

15 In the long term we considered there
16 would be contaminating material that would
17 be encountered that might be disposed of
18 properly that would be an overall benefit
19 to the area.

20 The area of Hydrology Flooding
21 Coastal Resources. This is where we see
22 the biggest benefit. This is sort of the
23 purpose of this project. So we looked at
24 where there's although there might be some
25 temporary impacts of water quality during

1 construction following the project
2 completion depending on the alignment
3 options that we look at, there would be
4 between 39 and 64 acres of land with
5 reduced risk of flooding. The blue area
6 shows a one percent annual chance
7 floodplain.

8 In addition to the flood risk
9 reduction, there is other benefits from
10 dry egress at University Avenue and from
11 the Johnson Street Extension. There is
12 storm water improvements again at the RBD
13 pilot on the east side and we would expect
14 fewer CSO events, as well as other
15 benefits.

16 There would be construction impacts
17 obviously during the three-year
18 construction period. Those are described
19 in the various impact categories, whether
20 air quality, noise, traffic. They would
21 be expected to be minor and we would work
22 with the City to identify ways to minimize
23 those impacts and work with the community.

24 Chapter 5 is the cumulative impacts
25 and that would -- we know that there's a

1 lot of projects besides this one that
2 we're proposing that are ongoing in the
3 immediate area, either right before, right
4 after, at the same time.

5 We know that the University of
6 Bridgeport has their own master plan.
7 There's the development at Windward
8 Development. There's 60 Main Street, the
9 WPCA, Area H project, among other things.
10 And so this chapter looks at the
11 cumulative impacts and the benefits of the
12 proposed action on top of those other
13 projects.

14 I just want to highlight all the
15 agency involvement that there has been and
16 continues to be at both the local, state
17 and federal level, the tribal nations.
18 This will continue, actually beyond the
19 NEPA process as we go into permitting and
20 that sort of element and we would expect
21 that some of the agencies would be
22 commenting during this public period.

23 This just shows an overall schedule
24 where we are. We're hoping to once we
25 incorporate all the comments at the end of

1 the comment period and any new design
2 refinements, we would be preparing a final
3 environmental impact statement this spring
4 looking to get a record of decision this
5 summer. We're moving forward as quickly
6 as we can in order to meet the overall
7 project goal of getting construction
8 complete by 2022, which is a requirement
9 of the funding.

10 So before -- it's now time to hear
11 from you. Before we open it up, I just
12 want to remind you if you don't want to
13 speak in front of this large crowd that's
14 not a problem. We still will welcome your
15 comments. Either you can comment at the
16 back of the room there's comment cards;
17 you can e-mail them all up until March 18;
18 and however you would want to do that, we
19 would welcome it. Thank you.

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: So as the
21 department hearing officer, I am here to
22 listen to any comments from members of the
23 public who wish to offer their comments
24 this evening.

25 A public hearing is a time for people

1 who are thoughts on the Draft EIS for both
2 the NDR and RBD projects to put their
3 thoughts on the record. I am here only to
4 listen and will not be responding to your
5 comments this evening. A response to all
6 comments will be received in the final
7 EIS.

8 To that end, there is a sign-up sheet
9 for this hearing at the front desk so if
10 you have not signed up, please feel free
11 to do so. If you wish to speak and you
12 have not signed up, like I said before,
13 feel free to do so.

14 After we have heard from any elected
15 officials that we have here this evening,
16 we will then move onto members of the
17 public. Each person will have three
18 minutes to speak. I will signal when the
19 two-minute mark has approached and then we
20 will then ensure that everyone keeps to
21 the time of three minutes.

22 The public hearing will conclude when
23 all comments have been received.

24 You will see that we have a
25 stenographer who will be available to

1 record this hearing.

2 We also have comment forms which will
3 be part of the formal hearing for any
4 records that are received this evening or
5 any time during the public record period
6 which ends on March 18. If you would like
7 to record your comments in a more private
8 setting, please see one of our staff
9 members at the desk. They will provide
10 you with a tape recorder and you will also
11 have three minutes to have your comments
12 heard and be part of the formal record.

13 Please when your name is called state
14 your name clearly and any organization
15 that you are affiliated with as you begin
16 and if you have any written comments,
17 please hand them over to the stenographer
18 once you have completed your remarks.

19 At this time I'm going to pause and
20 ask if we have any elected officials in
21 the room who would like to have their
22 comments be on the record at this time,
23 please stand.

24 (No response.)

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Hearing none,

1 we have a few individuals who have signed
2 up and we are going to go in order of the
3 way the individuals signed up.

4 We have the first person and if I did
5 not pronounce your name correctly, please
6 forgive me. It's my accent.

7 I have Niels Heilmann. Then we have
8 followed by Horst Weber and then Monroe
9 Hassell.

10 So the first individual to the
11 microphone will be Niels Heilmann.

12 MR. HEILMANN: Hi. I would like to
13 give my time or at least have Maisa
14 Tisdale, president of the Freeman Center
15 speak first.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

17 MS. TISDALE: Hi. My name is Maisa
18 Tisdale. I'm the president of the Mary
19 and Eliza Freeman Center for History and
20 Community.

21 As you saw on the board above, we
22 were asked to participate as the Resilient
23 Center for part of this program. I want
24 to make it very clear that although we
25 welcome the opportunity to serve as the

1 Resilient Center and, in fact, it's in
2 keeping with our activities and with our
3 mission, we do not -- we do not support
4 the Western Alignment, not at all, not in
5 any way, shape or form.

6 Now that the neighborhood is going to
7 be made safe from flooding, I think it's
8 really important that we take a look at
9 the highest and best use of the land,
10 especially the land on Main Street. That
11 land needs to be brought back into
12 circulation as an opportunity for
13 community revitalization and development.

14 I see two major impediments for the
15 development of Main Street. One is the
16 PSEG warehouse that's at the corner of
17 Whiting and Main. That lot now that the
18 neighborhood won't flood should be made
19 available through some mechanism for
20 development. The insistance on putting a
21 flood wall on Main Street running from
22 Whiting in front of cottages that are on
23 the National Register of Historic Places,
24 along blocks that were part of historic
25 Little Liberia, along blocks that have

1 archaeological fossils and artifacts
2 related to the Paugussett Indians, it
3 should not, it cannot happen. That
4 neighborhood has borne more than its share
5 of infrastructure and capital changes for
6 the rest of the region and the rest of the
7 city. We have to think about the value of
8 the properties.

9 The Freeman Center recently received
10 a \$1 million grant which makes accessible
11 another \$600,000 on top of \$50,000 that
12 other grants, and nearly \$100,000 that we
13 raised in two months alone. We're willing
14 to invest in making Main Street a cultural
15 thoroughfare that invites both tourism and
16 residents.

17 We are finally at the point where we
18 can start planning the actual Freeman
19 Center as opposed to just the restoration
20 of the houses, and the Center is going to
21 be a companion to the neighborhood
22 culturally and invite the discussion of
23 policy ongoing through time.

24 I also do not support the dead-ending
25 of Main Street at University. I do

1 support the elevated Main Street that goes
2 up and over and allows access to the park.

3 I think it's really important in this
4 era of walls and borders not to create a
5 barrier between the planned luxury housing
6 that may or may not happen and the rest of
7 the neighborhood. Those residents should
8 be able to find their amenities and their
9 needs met along Main Street as well.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Heilmann.

13 MR. HEILMANN: Thank you. So I'm
14 just going to add no one knows more about
15 this project -- I'm going to start
16 actually by thanking Maisa and her board
17 and all the community members with the
18 progress that she just described as
19 decades in the making of their hard work.
20 And so to that end, I just want to add to
21 what she said with a sort of commentary
22 about the University Avenue egress for if
23 it is in fact to be used as an egress for
24 the luxury condominiums that are proposed.
25 I just want to put into a little bit of

1 context that I think we have a really rare
2 opportunity here where you have both an
3 opportunity for economic development that
4 as Maisa pointed out \$2 million that have
5 been raised both publicly and privately
6 and create economic development that is
7 not gentrification; and so I think that
8 all that this project can do needs to be
9 done to prioritize that over the needs of
10 a possibly to-be-created luxury
11 condominium and I just think that is
12 really important and so I would ask that
13 the group do anything in there --
14 anything -- for the engineers that's
15 possible to be done to support the Freeman
16 Center's vision for the entire area of
17 Little Liberia. Thank you.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

19 Mr. Weber?

20 MR. WEBER: Thank you. It was
21 already commented by the previous speaker.

22 MS. TOOL: Could you just come to the
23 microphone please, and just repeat that
24 for the record?

25 MR. WEBER: Thank you. My name is

1 Horst Weber and the previous speaker has
2 pretty much covered my concerns.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
4 Next we have Monroe Hassell.

5 MR. HASSELL: Good evening all. My
6 name is Monroe Hassell as she mentioned
7 and I'm the vice president of the Board at
8 Seaside Village Homes and we'd like to
9 make the following statement.

10 Dear Dr. French: Our Board of
11 Directors has prepared the following
12 requests for public record for the
13 Environmental Impact Statement on the
14 RBD/NDR projects.

15 The first section of our comments
16 pertain specifically to Seaside Village
17 and the Rebuild by Design Pilot Project.
18 The second section deals with the NDR
19 project and the South End as a whole.

20 Rebuild by Design Pilot Project.
21 Seaside Village has acute and chronic
22 flooding problems that are not being
23 addressed by RBD and NDR. In addition to
24 the complex sources that contribute to
25 both our acute and chronic flooding

1 problems, we continue to face extremely
2 unsanitary conditions -- last year we had
3 conditions with E.coli and this is caused
4 by our present ancient CSO system.

5 While we hope that the RBD pilot
6 project will address and manage water for
7 the proposed Windward Community and not
8 contribute further storm water management
9 issues in Seaside Village, nothing at all
10 has been done to include or do the same
11 for Seaside Village as part of this pilot
12 project. This is a shame for many
13 reasons, but primarily because our
14 resident population numbers were included
15 in the presentation to the RBD judging
16 panel as part of the total number of
17 people who would be helped by the award if
18 it were granted to Bridgeport's South End.

19 Once again, we are left to our own
20 resources. Therefore, in order to resolve
21 and find funding for our flooding
22 problems, we are requesting that as part
23 of the EIS or in an accompanying document
24 as part of this project, the following be
25 provided:

1 A; a detailed list of the capital
2 improvements and activities that we can
3 use to leverage funding for the issues we
4 face; and B, access to the information
5 collected pertaining to the acute and
6 chronic flooding in Seaside Village in a
7 document that can assist us in our funding
8 efforts.

9 Additionally, we are requesting the
10 following adjustments or changes in the
11 proposed RBD CSO separation project for
12 Iranistan Avenue.

13 We request wider storm water and
14 sewer pipes than currently planned, and a
15 larger pumping station than planned as
16 well.

17 These two requests are being made to
18 accommodate an anticipated future CSO
19 separation project and other storm water
20 management projects we seek funding for.

21 NDR project. We would like the
22 assistance of HUD and the State of
23 Connecticut in creating a partnership
24 between PSE and G and the community to
25 develop flood hazard mitigation that

1 supports the Eastern Alignment. We are
2 not in favor of the Western Alignment.

3 We want Main Street to be a
4 designated historical corridor. Every
5 block stretching from the railroad tracks
6 to Long Island Sound is either already
7 listed on the National Register of
8 Historic Places or is within the
9 boundaries of the historic Little Liberia
10 neighborhood. It should be a cultural
11 corridor with commercial development on
12 the eastern side of the street. The
13 Western Option permanently precludes that
14 option.

15 We want to ensure the economic
16 development of the South End as a cultural
17 tourism destination that also offers
18 amenities to residents, be it Seaside
19 Village, the Cottages, Freeman Houses and
20 other South End historic buildings.
21 Sincerely, Seaside Village Board. Thank
22 you.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: We also have

1 Miss Shanna Melton.

2 MISS MELTON: Hi everybody. I am not
3 on the committee. I am Shanna. I am an
4 artist and I just wanted to add my
5 perspective to the conversation and I help
6 with the Freeman Houses.

7 This letter is intended to add my
8 voice to the conversation. Among the many
9 wonderful attributes of Seaside Park is
10 the fact that it is accessible and visible
11 for most traveled roads in our city. A
12 wall is a restriction. Without the
13 visibility of the park, it creates a
14 divide that changes the feeling of the
15 neighborhood. Bridgeport does not need
16 any more corners that are unattended or
17 unsafe. The history of that area should
18 be preserved. There should be shops and
19 places to eat while you enjoy the park.
20 Businesses need to make a point of
21 bringing back the hot dogs and sodas and
22 ice creams and ways of spending your days
23 that have moved forward like salads and
24 smoothies and fresh foods and markets.

25 There are a lot of ways to bring life

1 into the waterfront but blocking it still
2 makes it feel unwelcoming and that is not
3 what our community strives toward.

4 Developing the area instead of closing it
5 off would benefit the economy and the
6 community. We see this is successful in
7 places like Captain's Cove which is also
8 in Bridgeport. If you look at the success
9 of Bridgeport Art Trail, Black Wall
10 Street, and the Bridgeport Arts Fest in
11 addition to many events that our community
12 supports, it is evident that our safe and
13 joyful spaces need to be accessible and
14 preserved.

15 If you go to most waterfront areas
16 like ours you see benches, places to eat,
17 community gardens, galleries and many
18 other creative uses of the gift. There
19 are better ways to make use of this space
20 besides filling it with dirt and creating
21 an invisible corner.

22 Community members, churches, we
23 celebrate our ancestors. There are people
24 who do yoga and pray, exercise, create and
25 seek quiet at the Main Street end of the

1 park. Community members appreciate the
2 beautiful trees and statues, playgrounds
3 and boardwalks just as much as the beach.
4 This allows them access without having to
5 go to the opposite end which if you are
6 walking is quite a distance. The park
7 parallels downtown through the west end of
8 Bridgeport and it is not fair to people
9 who live beyond either point to have to
10 travel so far to enjoy our park.

11 We pride ourselves in being a park
12 city yet this proposal would seemingly
13 take away from getting into it. The
14 restoration of the Freeman Houses with the
15 help of the community will be a great way
16 to travel and experience our history, and
17 to become a tool to heighten literacy
18 rates in our City. We should keep it
19 accessible, bright and welcoming to our
20 community while making sure the community
21 is safe.

22 I heard you about your pipes. That's
23 real. The water is a passageway for The
24 Underground Railroad and that entire area
25 is a testament to the resilience of the

1 people who existed in that area before us.
2 If we divided with these permanent
3 structures people will lose the chance to
4 fully experience the power of how
5 triumphant this city is and it is
6 important that we are intentional about
7 being on the right side of history,
8 because, you know, look at the amazing
9 things that have happened in Weeksville,
10 Brooklyn which is just like Little Liberia
11 and absorb the potential of what can
12 develop in our city. I am Shanna.

13 (Applause.)

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Just a reminder
15 if you have written comments, I'm going to
16 ask you to hand it over to the
17 stenographer. This actually concludes all
18 the individuals we have listed on the
19 form. I am going to open up to the
20 audience. If there is anyone who feels
21 impressed and they would like to offer
22 comments now, you can please come up to
23 the mike and do so.

24 MS. HILL: My name is Carolyn Hill.
25 I am a relatively new resident to Seaside

1 Village, formerly of Stamford, embracing
2 Bridgeport, and I support our Board in its
3 request for the Eastern Alignment water
4 pumping station. Just want to support
5 that and make it known. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. BASLER: I am Frank Basler,
8 B-a-s-l-e-r. Like Carolyn wanting to
9 support what Monroe said. I am the
10 president of Seaside Village. Especially
11 the widening the pipe and increasing the
12 capacity of the pumping station. I lost a
13 car due to flooding earlier this year and
14 the electrical system was totaled so.
15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. ROBINSON: Hi. My name is Gail
18 Robinson and I'm also a resident of
19 Seaside Village and I just want to support
20 the Board's statement requesting a larger
21 capacity for the pumping station so that
22 it could accommodate a future CSO project
23 which we're already in consultation with
24 the City of Bridgeport regarding and we --
25 it's a very expensive project obviously

1 and a larger pumping station capacity
2 could make the difference in terms of
3 whether the City funds it and goes forward
4 with it or not. But also we would like to
5 see a larger diameter of pipes for both
6 the sewer and the storm water so that we
7 could, you know, link into it and, you
8 know, that could also help us, you know,
9 to get that CSO project which we really
10 badly need.

11 You know, our combined sewer storm
12 water system was put in in 1918 and, you
13 know, it's limited in capacity and we end
14 up with a lot of chronic flooding and it's
15 that's only going to get worse with the
16 sea rise and we have been flooded in Irene
17 and Sandy. We deal with a lot of flooding
18 and yet, you know, we just weren't
19 included in anything that came up in
20 either of these two projects and it's not
21 a lot to ask. We just you know would like
22 to see some accommodation to recognize our
23 needs and to help us a little bit.

24 We're also in favor of the Eastern
25 Alignment. The Western Alignment we're

1 very concerned about what it does to Main
2 Street, what it does to places like
3 Freeman Houses and, you know, the way it
4 blocks off Main Street and it doesn't seem
5 like the best solution and it sounds like
6 a plan B and we just want to really
7 support you on that; that we hope you get
8 the Eastern Alignment. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. SERGIYENKO: Good evening. My
11 name is Volodymyr Sergiyenko and I am a
12 resident of Main Street. The one of the
13 closest park to the Seaside Park and the
14 water. So thank you everybody who came
15 here. The reason is it's not because
16 everyone should concern about own house,
17 own needs and everybody talked about the
18 preservation of the park; the development
19 and future. Sandy came and this is the
20 reason that we're here and who knows, in
21 another ten, 15 years, the hurricane or
22 flood is going to be twice wider and
23 larger than right now. So I would
24 appreciate if engineers will think ahead
25 of time for the next not only 15, 20 years

1 for 50 years and build a nice retaining
2 wall or barrier which won't block the park
3 at the same time everybody can get access
4 to the park and that will be really
5 appreciated because my basement was
6 totally flooded up to the first floor and
7 it's a disaster. So if people got water
8 and sewer line destroyed and everything,
9 it's another disaster so at the same time
10 we need to preserve the park so everybody
11 can get to the park to get there. So
12 we're requesting engineers to please build
13 the project, please make sure in the next
14 20 years it won't happen again. Thank you
15 so much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. CRUZ: Good evening. My name is
18 George, Jorge Cruz. I am a member and
19 elected official of the Democratic
20 Committee of the South End, this area
21 here. I am also a member of the
22 neighborhood revitalization of the South
23 End. I just want to say that I agree with
24 everything that everyone has spoken here
25 in terms of the Freeman Houses, the Little

1 Liberians, Seaside Village, but I want to
2 come from a perspective of a man who grew
3 up in Bridgeport and I grew up in PT
4 Barnum, came here in 1962. For some
5 reason we always ended up in Seaside Park
6 and now that we've got this massive
7 project coming, I just hope and pray it's
8 not blocking the beach to anybody.
9 Seaside Park is the crown jewel that I
10 grew up with and we cannot block it to
11 anyone and I hope and pray that it will
12 also include some trees that they have
13 been rooted out of there, crews have some
14 trees for the wildlife and the birds and
15 the trees so I can sit down under to be
16 able to watch a baseball game. Again with
17 this project that you're about to do to
18 please consider that, too. Don't take the
19 beauty away from Bridgeport. Let's
20 beautify it. Let's all work together
21 because Seaside Park to me is the crown
22 jewel of the City and a lot of people look
23 forward to coming to Seaside Park and we
24 cannot block it in any way, shape or
25 fashion.

1 When I grew up over here they didn't
2 have those yellow gates that they have
3 here. They close Seaside Park at eight
4 o'clock at night. Before it was 24 hours
5 a day. I could understand why they closed
6 it because some years ago some violence
7 was going on, but I hope and pray that
8 some day they take those gates out of
9 there and welcome everybody so we could be
10 able to hang out at Seaside Park in the
11 summer nights, nine, ten o'clock, midnight
12 and enjoy the breeze coming from the beach
13 because that is one of the most beautiful
14 places to be that I grew up with and I
15 would like to continue to enjoy that.
16 Thank you.

17 MS. KELLY: Hi. My name is Barbara
18 Kelly and I am a resident of the Cottages
19 and that seems to be a little under
20 represented here, so I would just like to
21 voice my support for what was said already
22 this evening. The Main Street, the
23 western, what are you calling it the
24 western alliance?

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Alignment.

1 THE WITNESS: Yes, the Western
2 Alignment. I just can't imagine what that
3 would look like. You don't have the
4 setback to create like the visual that you
5 provided going into the park. You know,
6 we have the berm and how green and
7 beautiful it is and it's very wide. It's
8 got a huge girth. You don't have that
9 space over there to create that so in my
10 mind I'm seeing a wall and that is -- that
11 would be really a shame. It just doesn't
12 seem to work but, in any case, I also want
13 to support my neighbors at Seaside Village
14 and how, you know, my heart is broken that
15 you didn't get -- they didn't -- nobody
16 paid any attention to Seaside Village. So
17 it feels like the existing, those of us
18 who are there and in existing housing and
19 there's hundreds, hundreds of families,
20 you know, that maybe are not being as
21 represented as well in the proposals of
22 this project as those who are the
23 utilities or those who have, you know,
24 these plans where some big money, big
25 development is happening so, you know,

1 that's what I'm hearing as well. So thank
2 you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. MAHER: Thank you so much. My
5 name is Kathleen Maher, the executive
6 director of Barnum Museum and I also serve
7 although not in the capacity of a council
8 member of the Connecticut SHPO.

9 I have had the privilege of coming to
10 these meetings I think for about three
11 years now and I've seen it grow and
12 there's enormous dedication to it, but I
13 also want to give a huge shoutout for the
14 community members who have come to every
15 single one of these meetings to make sure
16 they've had their voices heard so this is
17 important.

18 I would love to amplify what Maisa
19 suggested about the Freeman Houses. Now
20 is the time that that community needs to
21 have a spotlight on it and recognize. It
22 has struggled and assumed the burden of so
23 many pressures from urban development and
24 it has -- just in this last year, it has
25 succeeded in getting national recognition,

1 something that is enormously important,
2 not just in the Bridgeport community but
3 to American history. This is for everyone
4 and the shame of putting a wall -- I can't
5 even believe we're talking about a wall --
6 a wall that's going to suffocate this
7 section of a community is a little
8 alarming, especially now. It's going to
9 restrict national public flow of people
10 moving back and forth and then cutting
11 Main Street off again. I mean the
12 ballpark already does it, right, so now
13 we're going to have it done again. How is
14 that going to be a place to celebrate the
15 history and heritage of all of those
16 people that came before us.

17 So I don't need to speak any more but
18 I thought it was important that because I
19 am the director of yet another national
20 site in this community that we fully
21 support the Freeman community and the
22 community that really represents the
23 Freeman Houses; and the work that you do,
24 too, Shanna, so I thank you very much.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. PETTWAY: Good evening. My name
2 is Clifford Pettway and I grew up in the
3 south end of Bridgeport in the Cottages
4 and I remember at one time since the '70s
5 at one time the south end of Bridgeport
6 down at the entrance of Seaside Park was a
7 very thriving community. We had so many
8 restaurants and stores down there;
9 Homer's, Kingsman Pub, County's, Alberto's
10 just to name a few.

11 Back in 2011 I stayed there at the
12 house during Hurricane Irene and I
13 remember going outside that Sunday morning
14 about 10:45 and looking down the street
15 and saying "Hurricane Irene passed us by,"
16 and I just seen a stream of water coming
17 down alongside the curb, and I went back
18 in the house. I went back fifteen minutes
19 later and the water was waist high. It
20 happened just that fast. So me, myself, I
21 don't know why they would put a wall on
22 Main Street where it would be an eye sore
23 for one thing and it would cut off another
24 part of Main Street as Bluefish is right
25 now where the Harboryard Arena as the lady

1 just mentioned. So I totally disagree
2 with them putting a wall on Main Street.
3 I think it's a poor decision on the part
4 of everyone that's involved in it. That's
5 all I have to say. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Anyone else who
8 feels impressed to speak?

9 (No response.)

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Seeing no one,
11 as all the elected and appointed officials
12 and members of the public have been heard,
13 I, Hermia Delaire, call this hearing
14 closed this evening. I want to remind
15 everyone that public comments can be
16 received through March 18. We thank you
17 for attending this evening's public
18 hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact
19 Statement for the Resilient Bridgeport
20 projects.

21 I would now turn you over and I'm
22 going to ask everyone to please, if you
23 can, let's stay for the second part of it,
24 the program which will be the design
25 workshop. I am going to hand you back

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over to project manager, Dr. Rebecca French as she tells a little bit about what will happen in the second segment. I thank you.

(The public hearing was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 43 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original Stenotype notes taken of the public scoping hearing in the Matter of: RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, held before HERMIA DELAIRE, Hearing Officer, and before Cheryl S. Damato, Certified Court Reporter/Notary Public in and for the State of Connecticut, held at the University of Bridgeport Arts & Humanities Building, 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut, commencing at 6:14 p.m., on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

Cheryl S. Damato
Court Reporter-Notary Public

APPENDIX E
FEIS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The State of Connecticut’s Department of Housing (CTDOH) is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) disaster recover grant funding and is the “Responsible Entity,” as that term is defined by HUD regulations at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58.2(a)(7)(i)—CTDOH has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design projects (Proposed Action). The disaster recovery grants are under HUD’s Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) National Disaster Resilience (NDR) and Rebuild by Design (RBD) programs as part of HUD’s response to the devastation following Superstorm Sandy. The Proposed Action consists of three projects located within the South End of Bridgeport, Connecticut—the RBD Pilot Project at the Marina Village public housing site, a Flood Risk Reduction Project on the east side of the South End, and a Resilience Center—that would provide stormwater management, dry evacuation routes (dry egress), a coastal flood defense system, and resiliency education to the community.

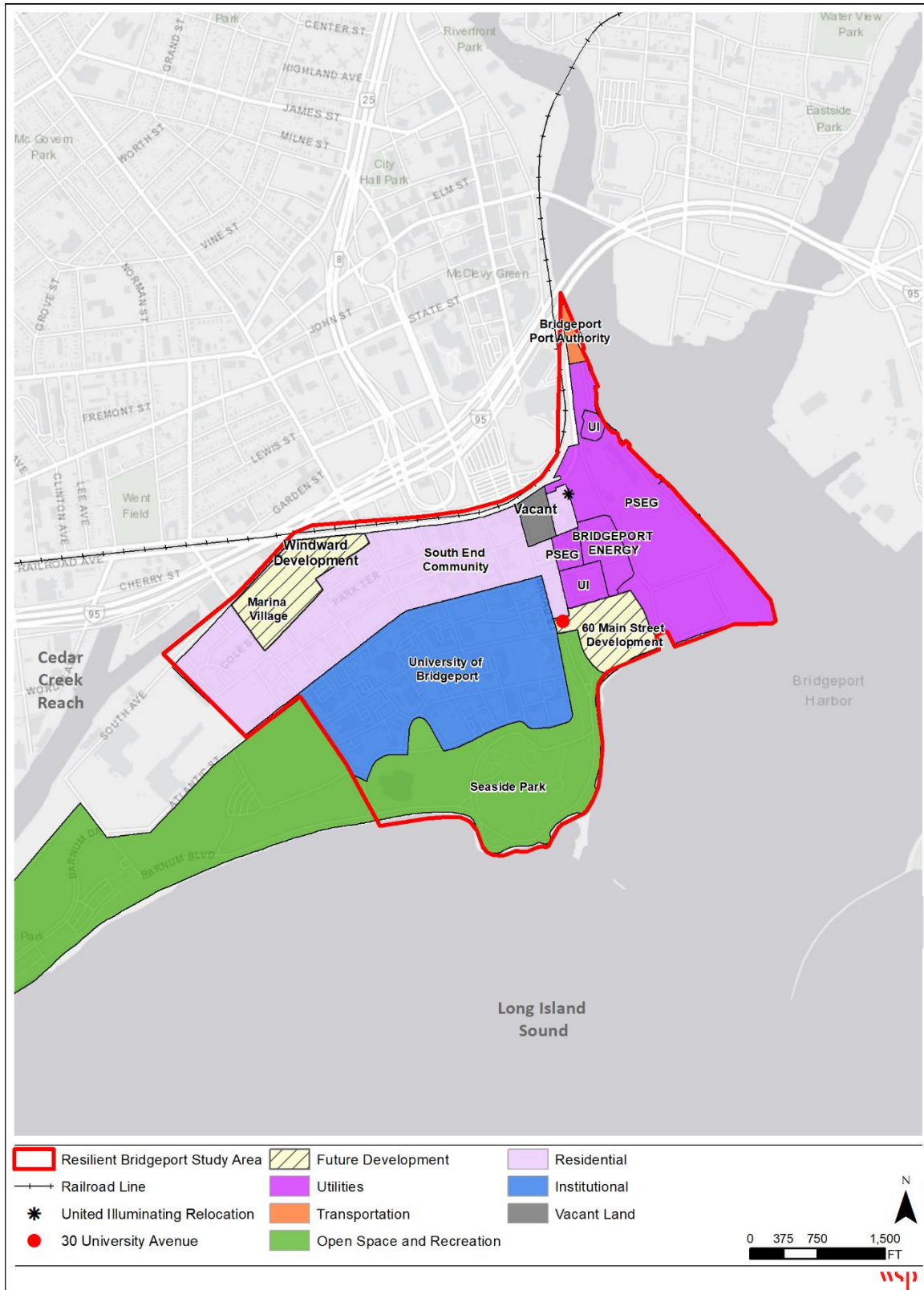
The Proposed Action is considered a “major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment;” therefore, it must comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). CTDOH has prepared this FEIS in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality’s Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and HUD’s Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities (24 CFR 58). In addition, the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act establishes environmental policy for the State of Connecticut and requires an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for any state action that could affect the natural environment. As such, this FEIS will jointly serve as an EIE and will meet Connecticut Environmental Policy Act requirements.

A Notice of Intent to prepare a DEIS was published in the *Federal Register* on February 27, 2018—which formally began the NEPA review process by initiating the public scoping period for the DEIS. A public scoping meeting was held on March 14, 2018, where material was presented to the community. Comments were received at that meeting, and substantive comments were incorporated into a Final Public Scoping Document (published June 2018), which informed the development of the Draft EIS. The DEIS was made available to the public for comment in early 2019 and a formal public hearing was held on February 26, 2019, followed by a design workshop. All comments received on the DEIS by March 18, 2019, have been addressed in this FEIS (see Appendix H). This FEIS will be circulated in the same manner as the DEIS—including the publication of a notice of availability in the *Federal Register* and local media—and will have a review and comment period of 30 days. If no additional substantive comments are received during the FEIS comment period, CTDOH will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD) and Statement of Findings. The ROD will summarize the government’s decision, identify the environmentally preferred alternative, select the alternative that will be implemented, and disclose the potential environmental impacts of that alternative, as well as the mitigation measures that the government will implement. If additional substantive comments are received during the FEIS comment period, CTDOH will address these comments in the ROD. In addition, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management will make a determination whether the environmental documentation is adequate to comply with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act.

The study area is situated within the South End neighborhood of the city of Bridgeport (Figure S-1), a peninsula of the Connecticut coastal region located between Cedar Creek, the Long Island Sound, and Bridgeport Harbor. On the northern end, the study area is bound by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) New Haven Line railroad tracks. The South End neighborhood is susceptible to chronic flooding conditions due to a combination of inadequate stormwater infrastructure in the area and its coastal location. The population includes public housing residents and other vulnerable populations. The city of Bridgeport is considered a distressed municipality per Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development criteria; therefore, the city of Bridgeport and the study area is considered an Environmental Justice Community.

The study area includes multifamily residential, utility, institutional, and open space. The Marina Village site (to be identified as the governmentally-assisted affordable housing redevelopment site for Windward Apartments), currently consists of medium-density public housing. The Bridgeport Harbor Generating Station, a Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) Power Connecticut LLC-owned energy generating facility occupies the eastern portion of the study area along the Pequonnock River (Bridgeport Harbor). Adjacent to the PSEG facility are light industrial facilities including the Bridgeport Energy natural gas power plant owned by Cogentrix LLC, the Singer substation owned by United Illuminating, and the current location and identified future location of the Pequonnock Substation owned by United Illuminating. The southern portion of the study area consists of the historic, 325-acres Seaside Park, which continues west following the Long Island Sound. To the north of Seaside Park, in the middle of the study area is the University of Bridgeport. The 86-acre campus has an enrollment of approximately 5,400 students and over 500 faculty members. A fuel-cell micro-grid, which can run independently and serves as a power source for critical services and shelters during emergencies, is located at the university.

Figure S-1. Resilient Bridgeport Study Area



Source(s): WSP (2018); CT DEEP GIS Data, Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

PURPOSE AND NEED

Purpose

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to create a more resilient South End community, support its long-term viability, and improve health and safety for the community’s vulnerable populations. The principal targeted outcomes follow:

- Lower the risk of acute and chronic flooding
- Provide dry egress during emergencies
- Educate the public about flood risks and sea level rise

The Proposed Action could deliver additional benefits to the community, potentially unlocking development or public realm opportunities, enhancing connectivity between the South End and Downtown Bridgeport, improving existing open space amenities, building up the resilience of local energy systems, and leveraging public investment in ongoing resiliency efforts through coordination with local stakeholders.

The Proposed Action serves as an example of the State of Connecticut’s long-term vision (as described in the State’s National Disaster Resilience Center Phase I application) of establishing more resilient coastal communities where structures and critical infrastructure in the flood zone are adapted to withstand occasional flooding and protected by healthy buffering ecosystems, where critical services, infrastructure and transport hubs are located on safer, higher ground, and where strong connections exist between the two. The South End of Bridgeport, with affordable housing within walking and biking distance of the Metro-North train station downtown, critical power infrastructure, historical and cultural resources like the Mary and Eliza Freeman Houses and William D. Bishop Development Cottage Historic District, a university, and historic Seaside Park, is one of the state’s identified resilience zones where adapting the area to flood risk and increasing investment provides an opportunity to increase economic resilience by strongly tying back to the regional transportation network and regional economic opportunities. These investments represent a “no regrets” approach to disaster mitigation and climate adaptation because in addition to providing long-term resilience, they would provide a myriad of co-benefits that would strengthen communities and economic opportunities in the short term and between storms. Additionally, the State of Connecticut will be taking lessons learned from the Proposed Action in the city of Bridgeport to further the development of the Connecticut Connections Coastal Resilience Plan, also funded under the NDR program, but exempted from the NEPA process as a planning only activity. Briefly, this resilience plan will include working with communities in Fairfield and New Haven Counties to integrate the State of Connecticut’s resilience vision into their local and regional planning with the support of local flood risk modeling (learn more at resilientconnecticut.uconn.edu).

Need

The South End neighborhood experiences flooding resulting from both coastal and inland flooding and regular rainfall events. These chronic flooding issues are the result of both an aged and combined stormwater sewer system. The peninsula is exposed to storm surge from coastal storms, which pose an increasing risk due to sea level rise. The University of Connecticut’s Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation’s 2018 report utilized projections from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration, adjusting the projections based on local conditions. The report, published on the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection website for sea level change scenarios, recommends: "...that planning anticipates that sea level will be 0.5 meters (1 foot 8 inches) higher than the national tidal datum in Long Island Sound by 2050. Further, we recommend that planners be made aware that it is likely that sea level will continue to increase to 1.0 meters (3 feet 3 inches) by 2100."¹

During Superstorm Sandy, sustained 70 mph gale force winds assailed the area, which experienced the highest storm surge in the state (nearly 7 feet above normal high tide), and resulted in damages to over 570 single-family homes citywide. Within the South End, 211 buildings were inundated. Flooded buildings are susceptible to mold and other public health concerns. These buildings and other infrastructure assets in the South End remain vulnerable to future events. The Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation's modeling results predict that the frequency of areas experiencing coastal flooding, including the South End of Bridgeport, at the current 10-year and 100-year levels will increase with sea level rise. For a 0.5-meter increase in sea level, the frequency of flooding for the area of Long Island Sound encompassing Bridgeport's coast (the Western Sound) will be four times higher than it is today.²

Due to the low-lying geography, the area regularly experiences flooding from rainfall or tidal inundation. Flooding also occurs as stormwater flows south from a higher elevation at Downtown Bridgeport. Following rain events, extensive ponding often occurs in the railroad underpasses, including at Lafayette Street and Myrtle Street. Minimizing the flooding at roadways leading into and out of the South End is vital to resident egress and emergency evacuation. Repetitive flooding of local streets occurs in the valleys and low-lying areas caused by both rainfall runoff and storm surge, making the streets impassable. During a rain event as frequent as a 2-year storm, backflow of the system can cause street flooding for over 2 hours. During a severe flood event, the area near the intersection of Main Street and University Avenue can experience street flooding for over 13 hours. Improving the existing drainage system is important to minimize internal flooding and to manage stormwater in both high- and low-frequency storm events.

In the South End East, the sewer and stormwater system infrastructure is aging, including an existing outfall that runs along Singer Avenue in the study area and drains into Bridgeport Harbor during combined sewer overflow (CSO) events. Generally, when the area experiences a heavy rainfall event, the water volume exceeds the capacity of the system and discharges the stormwater and wastewater with pollutants directly into the harbor. In Bridgeport, a rain event as small as 0.4 inch of precipitation can trigger a CSO event.

In addition to flooded streets and damaged residential properties, after Superstorm Sandy residents experienced power outages, lasting from a few hours to more than a week. United Illuminating, which serves the larger region, reported that over 250,000 customers experienced power outages. Of the roughly 57,835 Bridgeport customers, over 41 percent (or 23,700) still experienced outages four days following the onset of Superstorm Sandy. Disruptions to regional supply chains and power interruptions caused serious complications for local industries. Ensuring the continuity of operations at the power-district scale is critical to maintaining industrial and commercial functions in the city.

¹ O'Donnell, J. 2018. *Sea Level Rise in Connecticut* (Draft). Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation and Department of Marine Sciences.

https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2705&q=607286&deepNav_GID=2022

² <https://circa.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1618/2018/05/Legal-Policy-Analysis-to-Support-Resilience-Measures.pdf>

Over the next 50 years and beyond, sea levels are expected to rise significantly, which will further compound existing flooding risks in Bridgeport’s South End. Much of the critical infrastructure in the area, including electricity generation, transmission, and distribution facilities and low-lying stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, lies within the coastal floodplain and will face increasing risk of impact as sea levels rise.

Although the Connecticut Department of Housing did receive applications for assistance from homeowners in the South End, during the NDRC outreach process, some residents at outreach meetings seemed unaware of opportunities to apply for assistance. In addition, the recovery and repairs to homes and infrastructure often did not include resilient measures to protect from future storm events. As the likelihood of storm events increase and sea levels rise, long-term resiliency will require educating the community about the risks of rising sea level, ways to increase preparedness levels ahead of future flood events, and resources available to address short-term and long-term recovery needs.

A lack of economic redevelopment poses a significant obstacle to recovery and long-term resilience within the study area. Flooding from Superstorm Sandy closed or relocated the remaining businesses (which were already experiencing an economic downturn) in the South End and further exacerbated housing vacancies in the neighborhood. The 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates reported the homeowner vacancy rate at 22.4 percent for the South End, which is roughly twice the rate than in the city of Bridgeport and the state of Connecticut (12.7 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively). The vulnerability of the area to regular flooding, future storm events and sea level rise has limited the opportunities for redevelopment in the area – both for businesses and housing. Addressing the risk of storm and coastal flooding in the area creates the first layer of protection, creating opportunities to address larger economic and community efforts that support resiliency in the long term.

In summary, the Proposed Action is needed to protect residents, property, and infrastructure assets from future storm surge events and chronic flooding during high-frequency rainfall events. In addition to lowering the risk of chronic and acute flooding in the study area, the Proposed Action is needed to directly protect life, public health, and property in the study area by allowing for dry egress in emergency situations.

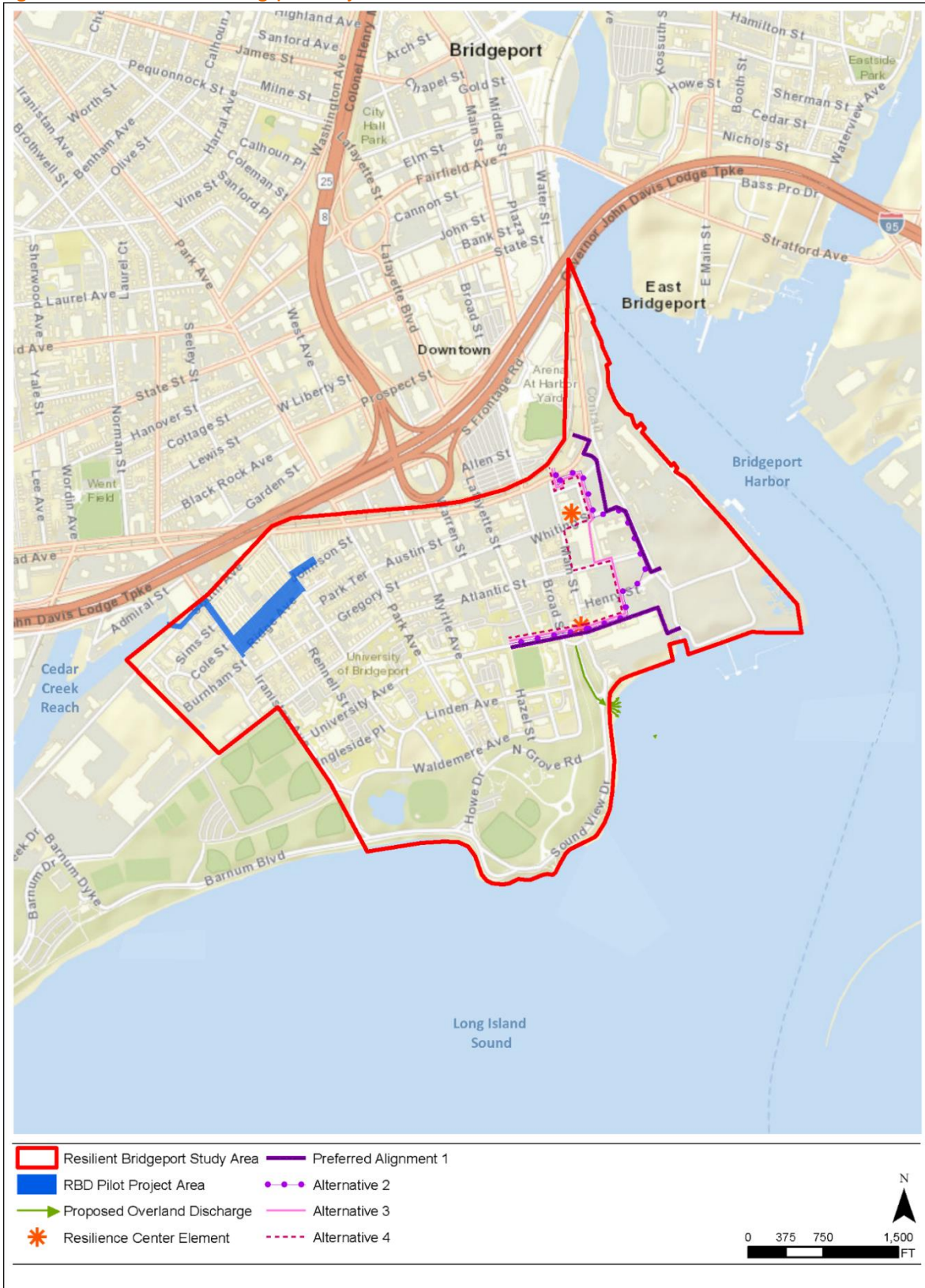
PROPOSED ACTION

The Resilient Bridgeport Proposed Action consists of three project components (see Figure S-2):

- RBD Pilot Project at the Marina Village public housing site (to provide stormwater management and dry egress)
- Flood Risk Reduction on the east side consisting of a coastal flood defense system to reduce risk from acute storm events and a combination of natural/green and fortified/gray infrastructure solutions; and
- A Resilience Center to educate and facilitate increased resiliency within the community.

The intended combined effect of these three projects is to create flood resiliency within the study area for its various stakeholders, including residents and businesses, during typical rain events as well as more intense storm events, improving overall health and safety for the area. Property owners in the area protected by the coastal flood defense system could realize a direct financial savings as well due to no requirement for flood insurance or highly discounted flood insurance premium rates if coverage were continued, as is recommended by the federal government.

Figure S-2. Resilient Bridgeport Study Area



RBD Pilot Project

In response to regular flooding issues in the area, the RBD Pilot Project would construct green and gray infrastructure improvements that reduce the flood risk to the Marina Village/Windward Apartments parcels during both acute and chronic flooding events (designed for the current 500-year base flood elevation plus 2.5 feet of sea level rise). The project would be designed to be both an infrastructure upgrade and urban amenity, composed of natural and fortified solutions to facilitate a more resilient neighborhood. The RBD Pilot Project proposes the following elements:

- A new road, Johnson Street extension, raised to provide a dry evacuation route (dry egress) for the surrounding residents and facilitate emergency access during an acute flooding event
- Regrading of a portion of the existing Johnson Street
- Regrading of a portion of Columbia Street, north and south of the new Johnson Street Extension
- A new 2.5-acre stormwater park, to be located just south of Johnson Street Extension with a wet well pump and force main connection into Cedar Creek outfall to accept water from upland streets and adjacent parcels and to retain, delay and improve the quality of the stormwater runoff
- Additional street beautification and stormwater improvements along Ridge Avenue

Flood Risk Reduction Project

The Flood Risk Reduction Project of the Proposed Action would include a combination of measures within the eastern South End that would reduce the flood risk within the study area from future coastal storm surge and chronic rainfall events. The measures would include a coastal flood defense system comprised of raising a portion of University Avenue and installing sheet piling and floodwalls, and implementing both green and gray stormwater and internal drainage management strategies (e.g., detention/retention features, drainage structures, and pump systems). The coastal flood defense system will be designed to meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accreditation standard potentially allowing for a revision of the map of the 100-year floodplain to a Zone X or area protected by a levee. The revision would effectively take the area protected by the coastal flood defense system out of the floodplain. FEMA does not require flood insurance for properties in these areas, but recommends that they continue to carry it. Property owners in the protected area selecting to continue coverage would be eligible for highly discounted flood insurance resulting in a direct financial savings for the community.

A Preferred Alternative 1 and three additional Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 are evaluated for the routing of the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system alignment. All four alternative alignments include elevating a section of University Avenue. The coastal flood defense system would consist of the following segments:

- University Avenue – The road would be improved and raised from a high point on University Avenue through to the east side of Main Street to provide dry egress, and multimodal transportation options (i.e., walking and cycling) for residents and students, while reducing future flooding risk from tidal waters during storms. Public access to the entrance of Seaside Park between Broad Street and Main Street at the intersection with University Avenue would be maintained at all times to all vehicles and pedestrians via

Broad Street that would be ramped up and over University Avenue, and to bicycles and pedestrians through ADA-accessible ramps at the intersection of Main Street and University Avenue.

- 60 Main Street – This lot along the waterfront is vacant but development is expected in the near future. A floodwall would be constructed in the east-west direction through this lot.
- 60 Main Street to the CTDOT New Haven Line railroad viaduct – This north-south segment of the system would tie into the existing high ground of the rail abutment near the I-95 bridge. The height of the structure would be designed to reduce flood risk with considerations for wave overtopping. Where the coastal flood defense system would cross a street, a floodgate would be constructed that would remain open except during flood emergencies. A Preferred Alternative 1 and three additional Alternatives 2, 3, and 4 are evaluated for the routing of the north-south segment in the FEIS. The Preferred Alternative 1 would protect the largest area of the Bridgeport South End Community from flooding and would avoid impacts to the William Bishop Historic Cottage District along Main Street, but would also require the agreement of the greatest number of private property owners for construction across their property. Alternatives 2 and 3 would avoid the William Bishop Historic Cottage District impact along Main Street and would require fewer private property owner agreements for construction, but would protect a smaller area than Alternative 1. Alternative 4 would maintain flood protection for the South End community, but for a smaller area than Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 and is predominantly in the public right-of-way with the least number of private property agreements required, but would impact the William Bishop Historic Cottage District along a block of Main Street.

Resilience Center

The Resilience Center would serve as a center for resilience activities, disseminating information to the community and assisting the community in future recovery efforts. The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community, located on Main Street in the South End, is a significant historic resource to the local community. The project would provide funding to The Mary and Eliza Freeman Center to support renovations of a community space within the Freeman Houses complex that would provide a location in the South End that would operate as a community center, a central location for resilience information dissemination, and a location that could store supplies to assist the community with recovery efforts during or after storm events. The project would include another open-air site with green infrastructure improvements near the entrance to Seaside Park at University Avenue that would add to the South End East Resilience Network.

CONCEPT AND ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

To identify the alternatives evaluated in this FEIS, each project under the Proposed Action underwent an alternatives evaluation process through which alternatives selection criteria were developed and then used to comparatively screen potential alternatives (described in detail in Chapter 3). This evaluation process eliminated some of the alternatives from further study and refined the alternatives that were analyzed in the DEIS. The DEIS included a Western and an Eastern option for the north-south section of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction project. In the FEIS, in place of the Western and Eastern options, four alternatives for the alignment of the north-south section of coastal flood defense system are brought forward for further evaluation. A preferred alternative, which largely follows the Eastern alignment, was selected among the four alternatives based on response to public comment and input from private property

owners. Based on the results of the alternatives analysis in the DEIS and further consultation with stakeholders, a Preferred Alternative was also selected for the other projects within the Proposed Action.

RBD Pilot Project

The Federal Register notice awarding the funds to State of Connecticut under the Rebuild by Design competition (79 FR 62182) specified that the “pilot project must reduce risk to public housing in the South End.” The RBD Pilot Project was selected from a list of potential projects that would form a complementary system for decreasing chronic and acute flooding within the South End of Bridgeport and be a visible example of resilient planning in a coastal environment. An iterative process of team workshops, public events, and stakeholder meetings guided the selection of a pilot project. The RBD Pilot Project specifically aims to facilitate the redevelopment of public housing in the Marina Village/Windward Apartments site by reducing the flood risk to those parcels in both acute and chronic flooding events. The project includes installing diverse types of stormwater detention methods and flooding prevention methods. Following the project identification, additional feasibility analysis and stakeholder engagement clarified the scope and depth of the RBD Pilot Project.

South End East Resilience Network

This element of the Proposed Action would include a combination of measures within the eastern South End that would reduce the flood risk within the project area from future coastal surge and chronic rainfall events. The measures could include creating raised streets, coastal flood defense, landscaped berms, both green and gray stormwater internal drainage management strategies (e.g., detention/retention features, drainage structures, and pump systems), and a Resilience Center.

Alternatives were developed for establishing the South End East Resilience Network satisfying the purpose and need. Raising streets were considered to provide dry egress during emergencies, a Flood Risk Reduction Project consisting of a coastal flood defense system with associated internal drainage management strategies was considered for lowering the risk of acute and chronic flooding and options for a Resilience Center were considered for educating the public about flood risk and sea level rise.

For the Proposed Action, raised streets were considered to provide dry egress and flood risk reduction when incorporated into a full coastal flood defense system. During the alternatives analysis, individual streets were examined for effectiveness for providing dry egress. Later, raised streets were evaluated as segments of a full coastal flood defense system.

The alternatives screening process for the coastal flood defense system first determined a general approach to the system, then identified potential flood reduction elements, and finally screened potential alignment options against selected criteria. The two general approaches for creating a coastal flood defense system that were evaluated were 1) Edge Alignment Approach (a coastal flood defense system in the water or on-land along the water’s edge) and 2) Integrated Alignment Approach (combination of both the edge alignment and raised street approaches). The integrated alignment approach was identified as likely to meet more of the goals and objectives and was selected as the preferred approach.

Options for the various components of the coastal flood defense system (flood control structures, floodwalls, raised streets and dry egress, green stormwater infrastructure) were evaluated. Finally, alignment segment

combinations were identified and screened. The first stage of screening alternatives included stakeholder outreach and a high-level review of potential alignments. An alignment alternatives screening matrix was developed to qualitatively assess the effectiveness of each possible combination of segments against the project goals and selection criteria.

The DEIS included a Western and an Eastern option for the north-south section of the alignment of the coastal flood defense system of the Flood Risk Reduction project. These two options also bounded the area between them where the alignment could also have been placed based on negotiations with private property owners and feedback from the public on the DEIS. Based on feedback from these stakeholders and public comment on the DEIS, four alternative alignments within the area bounded by the Eastern and Western options in the DEIS were brought forward for further evaluation in this FEIS. Alternative 1 was selected as the Preferred Alternative and largely follows the Eastern alignment from the DEIS with small changes to where it crosses between the Bridgeport Energy/PSEG and 60 Main Street/PSEG property lines. There is no alternative alignment in the FEIS that follows the Western alignment option from the DEIS due to public comment on the DEIS from the community regarding its impacts to Main Street and a finding of adverse effect to the William D. Bishop Cottage Development Historic District by the State Historic Preservation Office. Alternative 4 is now the western-most option being evaluated in this FEIS. It remains largely in the public right-of-way, but differs from the Western option alignment in the DEIS by reducing the impact to the Cottage District and Main Street by moving the alignment east one block to Russell Street between Henry Street and Atlantic Street. There is no public street east of Main Street between Whiting Street and Atlantic Street and therefore the Alternative 4 alignment remained along the eastern sidewalk of Main Street for this one block. Alternative 4 was not selected as the preferred alternative. Alternatives 2 and 3 show options that move the alignment off of Main Street by crossing private property to the east. They avoid impacts to Main Street and the historic district, but they do not provide as many benefits as Alternative 1 and were therefore not selected as the Preferred Alternative for the north-south section of the coastal flood defense system for the Flood Risk Reduction project.

An alternatives screening process that incorporated community input was used to refine the Resilience Center specifications. To assess the community's needs in regard to a Resilience Center, data were collected on programs currently accessible to the community and residents' resilience programming preferences. Considering the objectives, original NDR Action Plan definitions, conceptual considerations, funds allocated, and community response, the project details were refined.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Table S-1 presents a summary of the direct and indirect impacts of the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action with the Preferred Alternative, Alternative 1, for the alignment of the coastal flood defense system on the resources that were analyzed. Details of the analysis of direct and indirect effects are presented in Chapter 4 of the FEIS, while cumulative impacts are addressed in Chapter 5 of the FEIS.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Land Use, Zoning and Public Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No impact. ■ Indirect: Regular flooding will continue and increased risk due to sea level rise and higher frequency of storm events will result in indirect adverse impact on land use. ■ Inconsistent with public policies related to improving coastal resiliency and reducing community vulnerability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No adverse impacts. No changes to land use or zoning. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to existing land uses from added dry egress and green space, and reduced flood risk. ■ Consistent with public policies related to improving coastal resiliency and reducing community vulnerability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant adverse impacts. No changes to land use; easements on private property required. No changes to zoning. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to existing land uses from added dry egress and reduced flood risk. ■ Consistent with public policies related to improving coastal resiliency and reducing community vulnerability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No adverse impacts. No changes to land use or zoning. ■ Indirect: No impacts. ■ Consistent with coastal resiliency goal of the City of Bridgeport.
Socioeconomics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No Impact. ■ Indirect: Regular flooding will continue and increased risk due to sea level rise and higher frequency of storm events will continue adverse trends of low vacancy rates and residential and commercial disinvestment in the study area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to residents and businesses by facilitating construction of Phase II of Windward Development public housing and promoting investment in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to residents and businesses by facilitating development of 60 Main Street and promoting investment in the area by decreasing area of flood risk by 64 acres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Minor, temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts to residents and businesses.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Environmental Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No Impact. ■ Indirect: Continued and increased risk of acute and chronic flooding would have an adverse indirect impact on EJ populations. Future development, including low-income housing, would be limited and/or delayed. Businesses with EJ employees may experience adverse impacts due to flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts to air quality, noise and transportation during construction. Following construction, direct beneficial impacts to traffic and open space. No disproportionate adverse impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community with dry egress and stormwater improvements that would facilitate construction of low-income housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts to air quality, noise and transportation during construction. Following construction, adverse impacts to visual resources. No disproportionate adverse impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community with dry egress and reduced flood risk that would provide additional housing and commercial options for EJ populations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Direct benefits following construction by providing a community facility and improving public safety and visual resource. No disproportionate impacts to EJ communities. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to the EJ community through resiliency education and restoring African-American resource.
Cultural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct Impact. ■ Indirect: Adverse indirect impact to historic and archaeological resources through increased risk from flooding and sea level rise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct adverse impacts to historical architecture. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits by protecting resources from future flooding events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct adverse impact to National Register listed Seaside Park to be mitigated with Programmatic Agreement. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits by protecting resources from future flooding events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct beneficial impact to the NR-listed Freeman Houses. Potential adverse impacts to archaeological resources to be mitigated through additional investigation and monitoring. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Urban Design and Visual Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: Minor indirect impact as Freeman Houses would continue to deteriorate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Beneficial impacts to the overall viewshed and Seaside Village with construction of stormwater facility. ■ Indirect: Beneficial indirect impacts due to construction of new development in place of dilapidated buildings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. No significant adverse impacts. Some obstructed views of Seaside Park; improved aesthetics along University Avenue and from elevated view of waterfront, as well as new landscaping features. Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Beneficial impacts to the viewsheds near the Freeman Houses and Seaside Park entrance. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: Potential indirect impact from flooding that may release hazardous materials from disturbed soils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct adverse impacts during construction due to disturbance of contaminated soil or groundwater would be mitigated through BMPs. No adverse impacts in the long-term. ■ Indirect: Indirect benefits to public health from removal and disposal of contaminated materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct adverse impacts during construction due to disturbance of contaminated soil or groundwater would be mitigated through BMPs. No adverse impacts in the long-term. ■ Indirect: Indirect benefits to public health from removal and disposal of contaminated materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Limited adverse impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimize the temporary impacts that may occur during construction. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: Minor adverse indirect impact from traffic generated by Windward Development on new Johnson Road extension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimize the temporary impacts that may occur during construction. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: Minor adverse indirect impact from traffic generated by 60 Main Street development with reconfigured street network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary, less than significant impacts may occur during construction. Potential adverse effects on the Freeman Houses due to damage from vibration would be managed through a Historic Resource Construction Protection Plan. No long-term direct impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Minor adverse impacts to ecological communities resulting from repair and recommissioning work at Outfall E. No effect to T&E species. Limited, temporary displacement of urban wildlife. Long-term beneficial impact from trees and vegetation planted for stormwater facility. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits from expansion of the urban forest canopy and reduction of the pollutant load entering aquatic environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary impacts may occur during construction. Minor adverse impacts due to removal of street trees and repair of existing outfall(s). No effect to T&E species. Limited, temporary displacement of urban wildlife. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits from reduction of the pollutant load entering aquatic environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.
Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: Indirect adverse impact as a result of turbidity and sedimentation caused by soil erosion from continued and increased flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction from excavation and filling. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to decrease in impervious surface and increase in vegetated area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction from excavation and filling. ■ Indirect: Long-term benefits from reduced flood risk that would stabilize geologic conditions and soils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Hydrology and Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: Compared to the Build Alternative, more intense rainfall over time from climate change could have direct potentially significant adverse impacts on hydrology and flooding in the study area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts from dry egress and stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impact with reduced flooding risk to 64 acres. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction. No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts to Cedar Creek due to stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to surrounding water bodies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Temporary adverse impact during construction. No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term beneficial impacts to Bridgeport Harbor due to stormwater improvements. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits to surrounding water bodies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Coastal Zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct adverse impacts. Reduced impervious surface and improved infiltration rates and enhanced visual quality. Temporary impacts during construction because of work within the Coastal Zone would be minimized by best management practices included in project design and construction plans. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to reduced occurrence of CSO events. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term significant direct adverse impacts. Impacts to vegetation. Reduced area of coastal flooding hazard (64 acres) and reduced discharge to surface waters. Temporary impacts during construction because of work within the Coastal Zone would be minimized by best management practices included in project design and construction plans. ■ Indirect: Long-term indirect benefits due to improved drainage, reduced occurrence of CSO events, and improvements to water quality. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct adverse impacts. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts. ■ Consistent with the Connecticut Coastal Management Act

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: Increased coastal storm events and local flooding could have potentially significant adverse indirect impacts to sanitary sewer, utilities and transportation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts to utilities and infrastructure. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including temporary disruption of utility services and road closures. Long-term benefits to stormwater infrastructure. ■ Indirect: Minor indirect impacts associated with increased usage from future development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts to utilities and infrastructure. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including temporary disruption of utility services and road closures. Long-term benefits to stormwater infrastructure, and under the Preferred Alternative, long-term benefits to utility providers. ■ Indirect: Minor indirect impacts associated with increased usage from future development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: No indirect impacts.
Community Facilities and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term, beneficial impacts to public health and safety with dry egress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction. ■ Indirect: Long-term beneficial impacts to public health and safety with dry egress and coastal flood defense system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: Direct beneficial impacts with new community facility within rehabilitated Freeman Houses. ■ Indirect: Long-term beneficial impacts to public health and safety from added emergency relief infrastructure.

Table S-1. Environmental Consequences (continuation)

RESOURCE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	PROPOSED ACTION		
		RBD PILOT PROJECT	FLOOD RISK REDUCTION	RESILIENCE CENTER
Open Space and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Long-term benefits from increased open space (stormwater facility). ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Temporary impacts may occur during construction including disruption to access to Seaside Park. In the long-term, changes to Seaside Park entrance would not adversely impact access. ■ Indirect: Long-term benefits to open space as elevating University Avenue would allow installation of future amenities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No significant direct adverse impacts. Direct beneficial impact with construction of design element near entrance to Seaside park. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct impacts. Temporary adverse impacts may occur during construction due to usage of construction equipment and construction related traffic. ■ Indirect: Impact from indirect increase in traffic from future development is not expected to have a potential to significantly affect the air quality in the vicinity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No long-term direct impacts. Temporary adverse impacts may occur during construction due to usage of construction equipment and construction related traffic. ■ Indirect: Impact from indirect increase in traffic from future development is not expected to have a potential to significantly affect the air quality in the vicinity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Direct: No direct impact. ■ Indirect: No indirect impact.

Source: WSP 2019

Cumulative Impacts

In accordance with 40 CFR § 1508.7, and as detailed in the Council on Environmental Quality guidance entitled *Considering Cumulative Effects Under the National Environmental Policy Act (1997)* and Section 22a-1a-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the CTDOH must analyze the potential cumulative effects that may occur when considering the Proposed Action “when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions.”

The geographic scope of the cumulative impact analysis was identified as the same study area as each technical resource defined in Chapter 4. The timeframe for the analysis is from 2015 to 2025. This factors in recently completed projects, continues through the construction of the Proposed Action (to be completed by September 2022) and accounts for projects to be initiated immediately following the Proposed Action construction.

After identifying a comprehensive list of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions within the study area, the potential impacts from those actions were identified and then the magnitude of the cumulative impacts to each resource with potential adverse impacts was determined (see Chapter 5 of this FEIS).

Mitigation Measures and Best Management Practices

The Proposed Action would have potentially adverse impacts on multiple technical resources areas. Numerous mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMP) have been identified to reduce potential adverse impacts that could result from the Proposed Action (see Section 4.17.5). The mitigation measures and BMPs address impacts to the following resources: historic Seaside Park, archaeological resources, hazardous materials, natural resources, water quality in Cedar Creek Reach and Long Island Sound, the Connecticut Coastal Zone, infrastructure (sanitary sewer, utilities and transportation), noise and air quality.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Chapter 6 of this FEIS describes the agency and public coordination efforts undertaken by CTDOH during the planning and design process for the Proposed Action to ensure the process remained open and inclusive to the extent possible.

Agency Coordination

In compliance with the NEPA requirements, CTDOH prepared an Agency Coordination Plan to facilitate and document the review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the FEIS with cooperating and participating agencies listed in Table S-2. The plan describes the processes and communication methods for soliciting and considering information from these agencies, and will be in effect throughout the environmental review process, beginning with scoping and ending with the Record of Decision.

Agencies were invited to a webinar on October 12, 2018, during which a PowerPoint presentation provided a summary of the Proposed Action and the analysis of environmental consequences. Agencies were provided the opportunity to ask questions and give initial comments. Agencies were also given the opportunity to provide pre-public review of the DEIS and were given the opportunity to review the FEIS prior to publication.

Table S-2. Invited Cooperating and Participating Agencies

COOPERATING AGENCIES	PARTICIPATING AGENCIES
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Federal Emergency Management Agency	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Connecticut Department of Transportation
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation
Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office	Mohegan Tribe
–	Delaware Nation, Oklahoma
–	Delaware Tribe of Indians
–	Narragansett Indian Tribe

All agencies were notified of the availability of the DEIS and will be notified of the availability of this FEIS and were given appropriate comment opportunities. Following the Record of Decision by CTDOH, the appropriate agencies will be consulted to obtain any necessary permits.

Community Engagement

The primary goal of the Community Engagement Plan is to maximize opportunities to engage the public and neighboring communities through regular and proactive communication. The plan outlines how open communication with the public will be fostered and maintained. A Citizen Advisory Committee, comprising community leaders who represent the interests of the local community throughout the design effort, and a Technical Advisory Committee, comprising technical experts from state and city agencies, and other key technical stakeholders were formed to aid community engagement. In addition, consultation as part of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act included local organizations with an interest in the historic resources within Bridgeport. Most of the consulting parties to the Section 106 process, as well as the State Historic Preservation Office, were members of the Citizen Advisory Committee or Technical Advisory Committees. In this way, the community engagement process informed and was informed by the Section 106 process. The Section 106 consultation resulted in a draft Programmatic Agreement to be signed by CTDOH and SHPO following public review (see Appendix C of the FEIS). Invited concurring parties include the Freeman Center, the City of Bridgeport Parks & Recreation Department, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma.

Stakeholders

CTDOH has regularly engaged the following project stakeholders throughout the NEPA and CEPA process and has continued to solicit input throughout the environmental review process. Those groups that also serve as consulting parties to the Section 106 process are indicated with an asterisk.

- Citizen Advisory Committee Members’ Affiliation: CT Trust for Historic Preservation*; Freeman Center*, Downtown Special Services District, Bridgeport Regional Business Council, Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust, Green Village Initiative, South End NRZ, Barnum Museum*, Seaside Village Association, Marina Village Association, local religion institutions, local schools, Housatonic Community College, Bridgeport & Port Jefferson Steamboat Company, Arena of Harbor Yard, Bridgeport Economic Development Corporation.

- Technical Advisory Committee Members’ Affiliation: City of Bridgeport, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA), Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)*, Connecticut Department of Economic Community Development, MetroCOG, University of Bridgeport*, Historic District Commission, Bridgeport Port Authority, Yale University, Water Pollution Control Authority, and elected officials (State Senator Moore, State Senator Gomes, Councilwoman Denese Taylor-Moye, City Council members, Office of the Mayor of Bridgeport, Representative Antonio Felipe, Congressman Himes, Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal)
- Property Owners Directly Impacted (portions of the project would cross their property): PSEG Power Connecticut LLC, Bridgeport Energy, United Illuminating, owner of 60 Main Street, University of Bridgeport, City of Bridgeport, Bridgeport Housing Authority, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation
- Section 106 Consulting Parties not listed above: Bridgeport History Center, Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, and Fairfield Garden Club.
- Members of the Public: Regular public meetings have engaged individual members of the public, particularly residents of the South End, who did not serve on a committee or represent a larger group, but who none-the-less participated in workshops, design charrettes, and information sessions that informed the projects’ design throughout the NEPA and CEPA process. Collectively the CTDOH would like to acknowledge their participation.

Public Involvement

As part of the NEPA/CEPA process, extensive consultation and coordination with the public, local, state, and federal officials took place throughout the project development. Public involvement occurred at the following meetings:

- Project Kick Off Meeting (#1) October 18, 2017
- Concept Screening Meeting (#2)December 12, 2017
- Scoping Meeting and Design Workshop (#3)March 14, 2018
- Alternatives Analysis Meeting (#4) June 6, 2018
- DEIS Public Hearing and Design Workshop (#5)..... February 26, 2019
- Main Street Workshop (#6)..... June 26, 2019

For the Proposed Action, the public scoping process began on February 27, 2018, with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the *Federal Register*. The NOI notified the public of CTDOH’s intent to prepare an EIS for the Resilient Bridgeport: National Disaster Resilience and Rebuild by Design Projects, in accordance with NEPA and CEPA. The public scoping process also included publication of a draft Scope of Work, followed by a 30-day comment period and public Scoping Meeting.

The Scoping Meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. on March 14, 2018, at Schelfhault Gallery, Bridgeport, CT. At least two weeks in advance of the meeting, legal notices were published in local English and Spanish newspapers notifying the public of the time and location of the meeting, including contact information should anyone

require translation services at the meeting. The public meeting included a presentation and discussion on the Draft Scoping Document for the Resilient Bridgeport's EIS, including a discussion on the purpose and need, preliminary design alternatives, and analysis methodologies. The meeting was followed by a design workshop. All comments received at the DEIS Scoping Meeting were recorded at the meeting (see Appendix H) and were addressed in the Final Scoping Document (https://resilientbridgeport.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Resilient-Bridgeport-Final-Scoping-Doc_June2018.pdf).

Following the notice of availability of the DEIS, a public hearing provided an opportunity for the public to submit comments on the DEIS orally and/or in writing. The public hearing was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the University of Bridgeport Arts & Humanities Building, 84 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT. The public hearing was followed by a design workshop. Comments on the DEIS were recorded at the hearing (see Appendix H). Those who did not wish to voice their comments publicly were offered an opportunity to provide a private written or verbal comment at the meeting, or to submit comments at any point during the public comment period through the Resilient Bridgeport website (www.ResilientBridgeport.com) or by mail or email

All comments received by March 18, 2019 have been addressed in this FEIS.

Electronic copies of the Final EIS are available for public review on the following websites: www.ResilientBridgeport.com and <https://portal.ct.gov/doh/doh/Sandy-Pages/Sandy-Programs/NDRC>.

This FEIS is available for comment for 30 days, through October 6, 2019. For further information, write or email the following:

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