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Kansas City District

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Study determines Jefferson City levee will be lower

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A study completed by the Kansas City District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined the proposed levee in Jefferson City can be lowered by 4 feet in some areas and a permanent structure eliminated.

The Limited Reevaluation Report, which supersedes the April 2001 General Reevaluation Report, documents the selection of the optimum levee height by incorporating results from improved Missouri River hydraulic data from the 2001 Upper Mississippi River Flow Frequency Study.

“Application of this data has allowed us to integrate hydraulic and economic data based upon the most current river information,” said Cindy Moses, the Corps’ project manager for the levee. “These revised profiles allowed us to review the economic benefit of the project and create the most cost-effective plan while still providing a high level of flood protection.”

The top-of-levee profile upstream from the Highway 63 bridge is at least 2 feet, and, in some locations up to 4 feet lower than the previous studies recommended, Moses said. Consequently, the need for a permanent closure structure at the Highway 63/54 Bridge was also eliminated.

The Corps is continuing with design of the levee, she said.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$26.9 million and will provide a level of protection that provides for a 90 percent chance of containing a 0.26-percent-chance flood event and would exceed the 1-percent-chance event elevation by a minimum of 5.2 feet.

The project is a cost share project funded primarily by the federal government. The City of Jefferson, the non-federal sponsor, will be responsible for 25 percent of the total cost.

Depending upon funding, real estate and relocation activities will start in 2005 with a construction start in late 2005 or early 2006.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Details on the availability here.