



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION
1100 COMMERCE ST, STE 831
DALLAS, TX 75242-1317

CESWD-ZA

6 Mar 23

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, (CESWG), P.O. Box 1229, Galveston Texas 77553

SUBJECT: Approval of Galveston Island Coastal Erosion, Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) – Section 204

1. References:

a. Memorandum from Southwestern Division, Galveston (SWG) Commander at CESWG-Programs and Project Management Division (PPMD), dated 21 Feb 23, Subject: Final Report and Policy Waiver for Galveston Island Coastal Erosion, Section 204, Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment.

b. Self-certification of the non-federal sponsor (NFS) financial capability, dated 15 Nov 22 from City of Galveston.

c. Self-certification of NFS financial capability, dated 02 Nov 22 from Texas General Land Office.

d. Letter from City of Galveston affirming interest in moving forward to design and implementation of the project and accepting responsibility for costs exceeding the federal limit.

e. CECG Memorandum dated 01 Sep 20, Subject: Continuing Authorities Program Approval Level for Costs in Excess of the Federal Participation Limit.

2. Per reference 1a., SWG submitted to the Southwestern Division (SWD) the Galveston Island Coastal Erosion, Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) – Section 204. The first cost of the recommended plan is \$14,427,000. The SWG Commander is seeking a cost exceedance waiver that is within the purview of the SWD Commander to approve since the estimated federal costs exceed the authority limit by less than 25% of the federal limit. Per references 1b. and 1c., the City of Galveston, and Texas General Land Office have provided self-certification of financial capability letters. The City has also provided a letter of interest for partnering on the design and implementation of the project. In the City's letter of interest, they also have indicated that they understand that the federal project costs will exceed the per-project federal cost limit and that the city will accept responsibility for paying those exceedances).

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3. The recommended plan is to beneficially use beach quality sediment dredged from the Galveston Harbor Entrance Channel to augment the Galveston Beach shoreline starting at Sunbather Lane and extending 1.7 miles to the west. This effort will be timed to coincide with one of the periodic entrance channel maintenance dredging events performed using a hopper dredge. Benefits for the increased beach fill include reducing the damage to developed properties including land loss, structural damages, and recreation activities for the 24-year period of analysis. Net annual benefits amount to \$364,400 yielding a Benefit-to-Cost Ratio of 1.45 to one.

4. The estimated design and implementation cost of the project is \$15,115,000 and the planning cost was \$450,000 (Total project cost is \$15,565,000). The normal 35% share for the NFS would be \$5,447,750; however, the NFS is also responsible for all costs greater than the \$10 million federal funding limit for Section 204 projects. This difference is estimated to be \$117,250 or approximately 1% of the federal limit. In accordance with reference 1.e. delegating CAP project cost exceedances, I am hereby approving the cost exceedance.

5. With the approval of the cost exceedance waiver, the report complies with all applicable policy and laws in place at the time of its completion. I hereby approve implementation of the recommended plan as described in the Galveston Island Coastal Erosion, Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment, Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) – Section 204. Please sign the Finding of No Significant Impact and deliver a copy to SWD for the record.

6. Any modification to the approved recommended plan must be coordinated with SWD staff for a determination as to whether an additional amendment to the project report is required for submittal for SWD processing and action.

7. The point of contact for this memorandum is Dr. Maria Wegner, Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Division, at (202) 731-9962 or maria.m.wegner@usace.army.mil.



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JAMES M. SCHULTZE, P.E.
COL, EN
Commanding