



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Paul District

Public Notice

Project: Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection
Phases MI-6, MI-7, MI-8 and MI-9

Date: June 23, 2023

Expires: July 24, 2023

In Reply Refer to: Regional Planning and
Environment Division North

1. Project Proponent. St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1678.

2. Project Authority. The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation, or alteration of any Corps of Engineers civil works project is contained in Section 14 of the River and Harbors Act of 1988, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 ("Section 408"). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project.

3. Project Location. The proposed actions would be within the City of Minot, North Dakota.

4. Summary of the Proposed Project. The Souris River Joint Board (SRJB; the "requester") is pursuing a plan to reduce future flood risks throughout the U.S. portions of the Souris River Basin by constructing a series of new levees, floodwalls, and other flood risk-reduction features. This plan has become known locally as the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project (MREFPP). The MREFPP would be constructed and permitted in a number of stages over the course of multiple decades, depending on available funding.

This stage of the request implements the South Minot System of the MREFPP. This includes:

- Phase MI-6 would provide flood risk-reduction features within the 1st Avenue NE and Central Avenue E area, located to the northeast of Downtown Minot.
- Phase MI-7 would provide flood risk-reduction for the Roosevelt Park and Zoo area, in the central portion of Minot.
- Phase MI-8 would provide flood risk-reduction within the central portion of Minot near South Valker Road.
- Phase MI-9 includes the modification of the Burdick Expressway bridge.

5. Construction Schedule. Construction of the proposed actions is most likely to occur during the period 2024 thru 2027.

6. Permits/Coordination.

a. General. Agency and public coordination has been ongoing throughout development of the MREFPP.

b. Federal. A Draft Environmental Assessment was prepared and is being coordinated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

7. Summary of Environmental Impacts. The proposed action would have various minor temporary and permanent adverse effects on surface waters, noise, aesthetics, recreation, transportation, air quality, terrestrial habitats, and soils. It would have substantial long-term beneficial effects on public safety, property protection, and other social and economic benefits associated with flood risk reduction. Affected resources would be expected to recover from any adverse effects shortly after conclusion of the project. Mitigation measures used to avoid, minimize, or offset adverse impacts of the proposed project will be incorporated, as appropriate, or as required by permit. The project would not have significant adverse effects on any federally listed species or critical habitat. For historic properties, the Corps is developing three Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) for mitigation in connection to adverse effects on three historic properties as a result of the project. Each MOA will be in place prior to the final approval of the environmental documentation. Overall, the project would have a long-term beneficial effect to the residents of the City of Minot and the surrounding area from the substantial improvements in flood risk management.

8. Report. A Draft Environmental Assessment that describes the project and the environmental impacts in detail is available to the public and can be viewed at <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/Public-Notices/>.

9. Review and Comment. The draft environmental assessment is being made available for a 30-day public review and comment period. Persons submitting comments are advised that all comments received will be available for public review, to include the possibility of posting on a public website. Individuals are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as home addresses or home phone numbers, in their comments, unless they do not object to such information being made available to the public. Questions on the project or comments on the Environmental Assessment can be directed to Elliott Stefanik at (651) 290-5260 or at Elliott.L.Stefanik@usace.army.mil. Please address all formal written correspondence on this project to District Engineer, St. Paul District, USACE of Engineers, ATTN: Elliott Stefanik, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

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Environment Division North