



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

March 12, 2020

Eric P. Summa
Chief, Planning and Environmental Policy Jacksonville District
U.S Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
701 San Marco Boulevard
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Subject: Central and South Florida Flood Risk Management Infrastructure Resiliency Plan

Dear Mr. Summa,

The South Florida Water Management District (District), as the non-federal sponsor of the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project endorses the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) funding request, through a 216 Initial Appraisal, to reevaluate the C&SF Project to address flooding and other related risks due to changed conditions, including sea level rise, climate change, land development and population growth. The C&SF Flood Resiliency Study request is for a focused segment of a comprehensive study to assess the resiliency of the system's most critical infrastructure and related water resources concerns. The study would also provide recommended areas for further evaluation and study.

The District's current efforts to implement the Flood Protection Level of Service Program (FPLOS) includes the development of enhanced water management models to evaluate the C&SF operations under changed current and future conditions, and recommendations for priority infrastructure investments in critical locations within the District's boundaries. The FPLOS effort has already identified C&SF structures in Miami Dade County that exhibit an opportunity for adaptation.

It is our understanding that this 216 Study will further evaluate specific components of the C&SF system that need to be updated and adapted to continue to provide service given the changes in land development and climatic conditions. The District supports the Corps initiating this evaluation, and also strongly encourages the study scope to allow the immediate authorization of construction to update components that need immediate attention to provide the expected C&SF level of service.

The District is pleased to join forces with the USACE in recognizing the urgency of addressing the limitations of the 72-year old C&SF system, through a focused feasibility

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study and identification of priority investments. We understand that we will cost share 50% in the Section 216 Study once funded, and we would have significant participation in the Study, from the scope development through its final completion.

We look forward to working together with the USACE on the Section 216 Central and Southern Florida Project Update Study - Central and Southern Florida Flood Risk Management Infrastructure Resiliency Plan, under the existing authority of the Flood Control Act of 1970.

Enclosed please find a copy of the resolution approved by our Governing Board on March 12, 2020.

Sincerely,



Drew Bartlett
Executive Director

Enclosure

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2020 - 0317

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to approve a letter of endorsement, supporting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) seeking federal funding to initiate the Central and Southern Florida Flood Resiliency Study; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, South Florida Water Management District (District) is the non-federal sponsor of the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1948.

WHEREAS, the C&SF Project was authorized for the purposes of flood control, water supply, navigation, prevention of saltwater intrusion, and protection of fish and wildlife resources, and projected to serve a population of 2 million people.

WHEREAS, a C&SF Project Comprehensive Review Study was initiated in 1992 and authorized in 2000 as the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

WHEREAS, the District is strongly committed to address the impacts of sea level rise and changing climate as part of our core mission of protecting and restoring ecosystems, protecting communities from flooding and ensuring adequate water supply for all of South Florida's needs.

WHEREAS, a new review study is needed to reevaluate the C&SF Project to address flooding, water supply and other related risks to vulnerable communities due to changed conditions, including sea level rise, weather patterns, land development and population growth.

WHEREAS, the new review study request is made pursuant to Section 216 of the Flood Control Act to assess the infrastructure at highest risk and the resilience aspects of such infrastructure in terms of flood vulnerabilities, water supply, coastal flooding, surge protection and related water resource concerns, and to recommend areas for further evaluation.

WHEREAS, the new review study will further evaluate specific components of the C&SF system that need to be updated and adapted to continue to provide service and allow the immediate authorization of construction to update components that are currently not providing the expected C&SF level of service.

WHEREAS, the District will cost share 50% in the Section 216 review study once funded and will have significant participation in its development, from elaborating the scope of work through its final completion.

Resolution No. 2020 - 0317

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves a letter of endorsement, supporting USACE seeking federal funding to initiate the Central and Southern Florida Flood Resiliency Study.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** on this 12th day of March, 2020.



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, BY ITS GOVERNING BOARD

By:

Chauncey P. Goss, II
Chairman

Attest:

District Clerk/Secretary

Legal form approved:

By:

Office of Counsel

Print name:

JUDITH LEVINE