

Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Modification, CA Construction

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:

The Whittier Narrows Dam project is a flood control project with incidental water conservation, and is the central element of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) flood control system. The dam was constructed in 1957 and is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District. The project is located at the "Whittier Narrows", which is a natural gap in the hills that form the southern boundary of the San Gabriel Valley. The Rio Hondo and the San Gabriel River flow through the reservoir flood control basin and the San Gabriel (605) freeway passes along the eastern boundary of the basin. Whittier Narrows Dam is currently classified as a DSAC I dam. The resulting combination of combination of life, or economic consequences with likelihood of failure is extremely high. Whittier Narrows is being addressed under the seepage/stability correction program (dam safety).

AUTHORIZATION:

Flood Control Act of 1941.

ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2021:

Funds are being used to continue design. Award a construction contract for the utility relocations and a contract to meet requirements of the Biological Opinion. In addition, the funding will be used to develop pre-final design for the dam modification construction contract.

FY 2022 PLANNED ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In conjunction with FY22 funding, the scheduled carryover funds will be used to award the Dam modification construction contract.

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION:

Appropriation for FY21 was reduced from original President's Budget requested (was \$384.9M). In addition to planned carryover funds, \$190M will be required to fully fund the dam modification contract. If full funding for the dam modification contract award is not possible. Continuing Contract Clause authority will be needed in order to award.

The Dam is classified as DSAC I. Backward erosion piping, premature opening of spillway gates, and overtopping have been identified as probable failure modes. The opening of spillway gates is separately funded and performed through an Interim Risk Reduction Measure and is physically complete: an Operations and Maintenance Manual is being developed. There is no local sponsor for the project.

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST:

Congresspersons, Chu (CA-27), Napolitano (CA-32), and Sanchez (CA-38).

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY:	Construction
Estimated Federal Cost	\$427,366,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$0
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$427,366,000
Allocation thru FY20	\$12,600,000
Approved Work-Plan for FY21	\$192,500,000
President's Budget for FY22	TBD
House Report for FY22	TBD
Senate Report for FY22	TBD
Balance to Complete After FY22	\$222,266,000