


RE: Jefferson Chalmers flood mitigation

 **From** Rusinowski, Susan D CIV USARMY CELRE (USA) <Susan.Rusinowski@usace.army.mil>
To Art Levasseur <levasseur@fischerfranklin.com>, Eboni.Deberry@detroitmi.gov <Eboni.Deberry@detroitmi.gov>
Cc Mike Helm <commodore2024@byc.com>, Sandra Svoboda <svoboda.sandra@gmail.com>, Stephanie Chang <SChang@senate.michigan.gov>, Korzetz, Brian R CIV USARMY CELRE (USA) <Brian.R.Korzetz@usace.army.mil>, info@jeffersonchalmerswaterproject.org <info@jeffersonchalmerswaterproject.org>, councilmemberjohnson@detroitmi.gov <councilmemberjohnson@detroitmi.gov>, Alfred Baylor <abaylor@med.wayne.edu>, Angela Young <angelay41@icloud.com>, Kenneth Kucel <KucelK@detroitmi.gov>, Ellis, Eric J CIV USARMY CELRE (USA) <Eric.J.Ellis@usace.army.mil>, [2 more...](#)
Date 2024-08-23 14:17

Hi Art/all,

Thanks for checking in. Councilwoman Johnson also requested an update from us a couple of weeks ago, not sure if that trickled out to anyone here –

We are currently in the process of terminating the Jefferson Chalmers CAP study as that specific program is for projects limited in scope, scale and complexity, which was our concern from the start when we received this congressionally directed spending project. Usually, we are looking at an area much smaller than the size of Jefferson Chalmers under that program, as I discussed with Art long ago. This program is limited to \$10M federal investment from start to finish. Our typical process is to terminate the CAP and convert to a “General Investigations” study, which is an authority intended for much larger projects that have to be specifically authorized by congress. Luckily, we do not have to wait on congress to authorize and fund such a study, we just began working with GLWA on a study for flooding in Southeast Michigan, and Jefferson Chalmers is included in that study area. I know I have spoken to Jay about this regional study in the past as he saw it in legislation back in 2022 when we were still waiting on federal funding– it has been a long time coming. We just received initial funding to sign an agreement with GLWA for the study and the City/DWSD will be involved.

We intend to have public scoping workshops for Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne Counties for this study in the fall/winter. Those workshops will introduce the study to folks and allow interested parties to provide input into the study process and the development of alternative flood risk management plans/solutions. We will also be hosting meetings throughout the study process so that we are continually checking in, receiving feedback, and incorporating it into our process. I have already made sure everyone on this chain is added to our stakeholder list for those workshops and future engagement throughout the study. As this study is regional and complex, this will be a longer study which I know can be frustrating, but it does bring the potential for much greater federal funding to the table down the line. Additionally, this will be a more comprehensive look at flooding issues and will target the regional issues(going on upstream of the neighborhood) that are exacerbating the flooding in Jefferson Chalmers.

I copied Ken who may be able to provide other updates on work the city is doing in the area without USACE involvement.

Susan Rusinowski

From: Art Levasseur <levasseur@fischerfranklin.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Eboni.Deberry@detroitmi.gov
Cc: Mike Helm <commodore2024@byc.com>; Sandra Svoboda <svoboda.sandra@gmail.com>; Stephanie Chang <SChang@senate.michigan.gov>; councilmemberjohnson@detroitmi.gov; Alfred Baylor <abaylor@med.wayne.edu>; Angela Young <angelay41@icloud.com>; Rusinowski, Susan D CIV USARMY CELRE (USA) <Susan.Rusinowski@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Jefferson Chalmers flood mitigation

Eboni,

It has been some time since we had an update on the status of flood mitigation plans for the Jefferson-Chalmers area. Would it be possible to set up another zoom or in-person meeting with the appropriate City and/or Building Authority representatives to give us an update? Hopefully Susan Rusinkowski from the USACOE can also participate and give us an update on where things stand at the federal level.

Thanks

Art

(for Bayview Yacht Club)

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Arthur J. LeVasseur