



Keith Creek, Rockford, Illinois

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG ®

Location

Rockford, Illinois

State(s)

IL

Congressional District(s)

IL-16

Status

The reconnaissance report (905 b Analysis) was completed in July 2004 and approved in September 2004. The report recommended that a feasibility study be conducted. The Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) and was signed on 19 February 2008. A hydraulic model of Keith Creek has been constructed and provided to the City for its use. The Feasibility Study has determined that there is no Corps interest in the implementation of a flood risk management plan for Keith Creek. This decision is based on a BCR that is less than 1 for all of the alternatives considered. The city has been proactive in taking steps to reduce flood damages in the watershed; these steps include: 1.) the City's purchase of 113 homes along Keith Creek and down stream of Alpine Dam, 2.) the City has retained engineering consultants to design improvements to Alpine Dam, 3.) the City has made improvements to the Keith Creek Channel and to the City's storm water collection system. The Corps can provide technical assistance to the City to improve the safety of Alpine Dam under Section 5003 of WRDA 2007 if the City were to request this through a Congressional appropriation. To date the City has not made this request. The Corps is preparing a report document its evaluation of the Keith Creek watershed, the flood risk management alternatives considered and the basis for the finding of no Corps interest.



Description

Keith Creek is located in the city of Rockford, Winnebago Co., IL. It has a 14.6 square-mile drainage area. The creek downstream of Alpine Dam traverses a heavily developed urban area and has inadequate capacity to contain flood flows. Alpine Dam is an earth fill flood control dam constructed by the Works Project Administration (WPA) for the City of Rockford in 1942, and does not meet current Federal standards. The spillway is 69 years old and is in poor condition. The dam lacks capacity to safely pass the design flood and fails to adequately protect the urban areas downstream from flooding. The property damage that could be caused by a dam failure was previously estimated by the City to be \$37,000,000. To date the City has acquired 112 homes and has plans to purchase an additional 13 units, all of which are located in the Churchill Park Area. In 2006 and again in 2007 and 2008, heavy rain in the Keith Creek watershed, causing flooding along Keith Creek. More severe flooding of Keith Creek was avoided by the city's management of Alpine Dam.

Summarized Project Costs

	FY 2013
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	Feasibility
Federal Cost	\$792,756
Non-Federal Cost	792,756
Total Cost	\$1,585,512
Federal Allocations through FY 2012	\$885,000
FY 2012 Appropriation *	0
Budget for FY 2013	0
Balance to Complete After FY 2013	0

* Continuing Resolution Authority Amount.

Additional Project Information

Senator Durbin has expressed an interest in the successful out come of this study.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2013: Complete report detailing Corps study effort and findings.

Authority Details

Resolution of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives, adopted May 22, 2002.

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