



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
BALTIMORE DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
10 S. HOWARD STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

Planning Division

21 Nov 17

Mr. Cassius Cash
Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks, National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Cash:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, (USACE) Washington, D.C., Local Flood Risk Management Project (FRM Project) includes several components located at the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA) managed by the National Park Service (NPS). FRM Project features at NAMA include a levee between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument adjacent to the reflecting pool (the Potomac Park levee), a post and panel closure system at 17th Street, and a temporary closure at 23rd Street (sandbags). NPS is responsible for operation and maintenance of the 17th Street closure system, 23rd Street temporary closure, and Potomac Park levee. USACE inspects the Potomac Park levee and 17th Street closure structure annually to ensure that these structures would perform their FRM functions in event of severe flooding.

The NPS, in cooperation with the National Desert Storm War Memorial (NDSWM) Association, is currently preparing an environmental assessment (Desert Storm EA) addressing site selection and design for the proposed NDSWM. The Desert Storm EA is evaluating the potential siting of the NDSWM in three locations, including at the Constitution Avenue Terminus near 23rd Street, Northwest. This is near the location of the 23rd Street temporary closure.

Pursuant to 40 CFR §1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, I request that USACE be approved by NPS to participate as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the Desert Storm EA. USACE anticipates that its participation would focus on potential impacts of the NDSWM on the FRM Project (and vice versa) during site selection, and how best to incorporate the FRM Project into the final NDSWM design if the 23rd Street and Constitution Avenue site is chosen. Cooperating agency status would ensure that USACE is brought in on a timely manner prior to decisions being made that could affect the FRM project. It is not anticipated that this relationship will include financial contributions from either party to the other.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact my action officer, Ms. Amy Guise, Chief, Planning Division, at (410) 962-4900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Chamberlayne', written in a cursive style.

Edward P. Chamberlayne, P.E.
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commander and District Engineer

cc:
Catherine Dewey, NPS Chief Resource Management