Planning & Policy Update

American Association of Port Authorities

Harbors and Navigation Committee

27 March 2023, Washington, DC

Eric Bush, SES, Chief

Planning and Policy, HQUSACE













ASA(CW)'s Intent for Civil Works

"My vision for the future is driven by a sense of <u>urgency</u>. I'd like the Army Corps, a capable and talented organization, to be innovative in developing new strategies and to build climate resilience to better protect and prepare communities for some of the challenges they're facing. We need to take advantage of nature-based infrastructure and figure out how we can bring multiple benefits to our projects so that we're not just doing flood risk and coastal storm management but are also helping to further environmental <u>restoration</u> and even <u>augment water</u> supply where we can."

Hon. Michael Connor, May 2022



"Modernize Civil Works" Initiatives

- ► FRN JUN '22: Listening Sessions
 - Tribal issues; cultural resources; PR&G; Environmental Justice

New/Emerging Guidance & Policies

- Comprehensive Benefits
- Planning Guidance Notebook
 - ► New draft "EC" released 03/22
- PR&G Agency-Specific Procedures
 - **▶** *Draft rule, 2023*
- Environmental Justice
 - ► ASA(CW) Policy MAR '22
 - **▶ USACE Implementation DEC '22**
 - ✓ Outreach & Community Engagement
 - ✓ FPMS/PAS/TPP/CAP (Justice 40)
- Non-structural Flood Risk Reduction



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
CIVIL WORKS
108 ARMY PENTAGON

5 January 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

SUBJECT: POLICY DIRECTIVE – Comprehensive Documentation of Benefits in Decision Document

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. This memorandum issues policy direction on the comprehensive assessment and documentation of benefits in the conduct of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) water resources development project planning. This policy updates current procedures, and emphasizes and expands upon policies and guidance to ensure the USACE decision framework considers, in a comprehensive manner, the total benefits of project alternatives, including equal consideration of economic, environmental and social categories. This directive pertains to pre- and post-authorization decision documents (reports), as well as other decision documents approved under delegated authorities. In addition, the directive may be applied to benefit-cost analyses required to support budgetary decision-making processes. As stated in my 15 July 2020 memorandum to the Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, one of my highest priorities is to ensure this policy directive is implemented as soon as practicable.
- 2. <u>Applicability</u>. This directive applies immediately to all USACE elements having Civil Works planning, engineering, design, construction, and operations & maintenance responsibilities. The policies contained in this directive shall remain in effect and fully applicable unless and until modified, supplemented, amended, or rescinded expressly and in writing by the ASA(CW). See also, paragraph 8, Limitation on Modification.
- 3. <u>Background</u>. Civil Works planning guidance, contained in Engineer Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100 (Planning Guidance Notebook), provides the overall direction by which Civil Works projects are formulated, evaluated and selected for implementation. ER 1105-2-100, published in 2000, contains a description of the USACE planning process, missions and programs, specific policies applicable to each mission and program, and analytical requirements.
- a. This directive supplements the guidance provided in ER 1105-2-100 by requiring comprehensive consideration of total project benefits including economics, environmental, and social categories, until a comprehensive update is accomplished.
- b. As outlined in ER 1105-2-100, USACE currently applies the Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies (i.e., Principles and Guidelines) when formulating and evaluating Civil Works water resources development project alternatives. The Water Resources Council released the Principles and Guidelines (P&G) in 1983.

Planning Studies – FY22



Planning Studies, FY23

