### **EAST WASH AND WEST WASH DAM REHABILITATION PROJECT**

**Project Update Meeting** 

January 31, 2023





### **PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS**





**United States Department of Agriculture** Natural Resources Conservation Service



**OWNER:** City of Reno 1 East First St. Reno, NV 89501

### LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY: USDA-NRCS 1365 Corporate Blvd. Reno, NV 89502

### ENGINEER: DOWL 5510 Longley Ln. Reno, NV 89511

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

- West Wash Dam 1960
- East Wash Dam 1961
- Evaluated life of 50 years
- Classified "High Hazard"
- Do not meet dam safety requirements
- City and USDA-NRCS agreement to rehabilitate



### **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Submission
 Meeting
 Technical Memorandum

|                                     | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |  |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|--|
| Project Start                       |      |      |      |      |  |
| Public Participation Plan           |      | •    |      |      |  |
| Data Collection and Analysis Report |      |      |      |      |  |
| TM #1: HH&S Part 1                  |      |      |      |      |  |
| Project Scoping Public Meeting      |      |      |      |      |  |
| TM #2: HH&S Part 2                  |      |      |      |      |  |
| TM #3: Preliminary Alternatives     |      |      |      |      |  |
| TM #4: Final Alternatives           |      |      |      |      |  |
| Project Update Public Meeting       |      |      |      |      |  |

### **PROJECT TIMELINE TO DATE**

### **PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT**

Purpose:

- 1. Preserve the flood protection function of the East Wash and West Wash Dams
- 2. Protect lives and property in the surrounding urban area
- 3. Comply with current performance and safety standards in a cost effective and environmentally acceptable manner

### **PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT**

Need:

- 1. Address current deficiencies at West Wash and East Wash Dams to bring both dams into compliance with current dam safety regulations, engineering standards, and performance criteria
- 2. Ensure the watershed structure is properly maintained to minimize the risk to lives and property in the surrounding and downstream urban area

## **PROJECT CHALLENGES**

Dam Deficiencies:

- Repairs and maintenance identified in inspections
- Hydraulic inadequacy of current dam design
- Sediment accumulation reducing runoff volume stored

## **PROJECT CHALLENGES**

- City Growth and Increased Urbanization
- Original Watershed Plan written in 1958
- Urban land use changes to project area
- Continuing growth in City of Reno

## **PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Maintain downstream flood protection
- Reduce possibility of dam failure
- Comply with NDWR and NRCS criteria

## **NEPA SECTION 106**

- Project complying with NEPA and NHPA Section 106
- •NRCS determined both dams are historical properties
- West Wash considered to have adverse effects
- Working with SHPO on mitigation
- Proposed measures:
  - SHPO approved historical sign
  - Historical documentation (plans and pictures)



### **ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS**



PDS-based depth-duration-frequency (DDF) curves Latitude: 39.5024°, Longitude: -119.7694° 9 8 Precipitation depth (in) 6 5 Δ 3 2 1 5-min o 30-min 60-min 10-min 15-min 7-day 10-day 30-day 45-day 60-day 2-hr 3-hr 2-day 3-day 4-day 20-day 6-hr 12-hr 24-hr

Duration





- 100-Year Storm

  1% chance within a year

  200-Year Storm

  0.5% chance within a year
- Examples
  - 1997: ~50-year storm
  - 2017: ~25-year storm



- Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) Event
  - Maximum precipitation meteorologically possible
  - "Worst Case Scenario"
  - Location specific



Principal Spillway
 Primary Spillway

Auxiliary Spillway
 Emergency Spillway





- Benefit-Cost-Ratio (BCR)
- ■BCR > 1
  - Positive net present value
- ■0 < BCR < 1
  - Project cost outweigh benefits
  - Minimize threat to human life
- ■BCR < 0
  - Generate greater disbenefits than benefits

### **PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES**

- Identified 13 preliminary alternatives
- Workshopped alternatives with project stakeholders
  - Meet project purpose and need
  - Meet goals and policies of NRCS
- Eliminated 8 preliminary alternatives
- Selected 5 alternatives for detailed analysis

## FINAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

- 1. Future Without Project
- 2. Downstream Flood Improvements
- 3. Remediate East Wash Auxiliary Spillway and West Wash Dam
- 4. Remove Both Dams
- 5. Remove Both Dams with Downstream Flood Channel

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Operations and Maintenance
- Engineering
- Public/Regional Impacts
- Environmental
- Right-of-Way Requirements
- Level of Flood Protection

### **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Capital Cost Estimates
- Benefit-Cost Analysis



### **ALTERNATIVE 1 – FUTURE WITHOUT PROJECT**

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Operations and Maintenance
   No change to existing O&M
- Engineering
  - Does not meet regulatory compliance
- Public/Regional Impacts
  - No expected immediate impact

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Environmental
  - No change to existing impact
- Right-of-Way Requirements
   No change to existing ROW
- Level of Flood Protection
  - Flooding occurs at 200-year event
  - PMP overtops West Wash



## **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Capital Cost Estimate
   No Cost
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
   BCR = n/a



### ALTERNATIVE 2: DOWNSTREAM FLOOD IMPROVEMENTS

## 1 2 3 4 5

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Operations and Maintenance
  - Large increase in O&M
- Engineering
  - Constructability and design constraints
- Public/Regional Impacts
  - Large impact to downstream areas

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Environmental
  - Significant environmental disturbances
- Right-of-Way Requirements
  - Purchase and demolish 664 properties
- Level of Flood Protection
  - PMP overtops West Wash

## **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Capital Cost Estimate
   \$2.0 billion
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
   BCR = 0.00:1



### **ALTERNATIVE 3: REMEDIATE EAST WASH AUXILIARY SPILLWAY AND WEST WASH DAM**

### **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Operations and Maintenance
  - Reduce O&M needs
- Engineering
  - Bring West Wash Dam into compliance
- Public/Regional Impacts
  - Minimal impacts to surrounding residents

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Environmental
  - Smallest impact aside from Alternative 1
- Right-of-Way Requirements
  - May require change to existing ROW
- Level of Flood Protection
  - Flooding occurs at 500-year event
  - PMP does not overtop dam



## 1 2 3 4 5

## **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Capital Cost Estimate
   \$23.0 Million
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
   BCR = 0.16:1



### **ALTERNATIVE 4: REMOVE BOTH DAMS**

### **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

Operations and Maintenance

- Increase downstream O&M needs
- Engineering
  - Does not meet regulatory compliance
- Public/Regional Impacts
  - Large impacts to downstream residents

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Environmental
  - Multiple environmental impacts

# Right-of-Way Requirements No change to existing ROW

- Level of Flood Protection
  - No flood protection for downstream residents



## **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Capital Cost Estimate
   \$5.5 Million
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
   BCR = -96.3:1



### ALTERNATIVE 5: REMOVE BOTH DAMS WITH DOWNSTREAM IMPROVEMENTS

## 1 2 3 4 5

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

Operations and Maintenance

- Increase downstream O&M needs
- Engineering
  - Design and constructability constraints
- Public/Regional Impacts
  - Large impacts to downstream residents

## **NON-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

- Environmental
  - Multiple environmental impacts
- Right-of-Way Requirements
  - Purchase and demolish 161 properties
- Level of Flood Protection
  - 100-year event contained

## 1 2 3 4 5 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

- Capital Cost Estimate
   \$172.2 Million
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
   BCR = 0.00:1

### **NON-ECONOMIC COMPARISON**

| Criteria         | Alt. 1 | Alt. 2 | Alt. 3 | Alt. 4 | Alt. 5 |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| O&M              | 5.6    | 2.5    | 6.3    | 3.8    | 2.5    |
| Engineering      | 9.5    | 7.3    | 10.3   | 6.3    | 7.3    |
| Public Impacts   | 18.8   | 3.8    | 15.0   | 11.3   | 7.5    |
| Environmental    | 22.4   | 13.3   | 19.5   | 16.5   | 9.9    |
| ROW              | 12.5   | 2.5    | 7.5    | 12.5   | 5.0    |
| Flood Protection | 9.5    | 25.0   | 21.5   | 7.0    | 7.0    |
| Total Score      | 78.3   | 54.3   | 80.0   | 57.3   | 51.6   |

### **ECONOMIC COMPARISON**

| Criteria                 | Alt. 1 | Alt. 2        | Alt. 3         | Alt. 4        | Alt. 5          |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Capital Cost<br>Estimate | \$0    | \$2.0 billion | \$23.0 million | \$5.5 million | \$172.2 million |
| BCR                      | n/a    | 0.00:1        | 0.16:1         | -96.3:1       | 0.00:1          |

### **PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

- Alternative 3: Remediate East Wash Auxiliary Spillway and West Wash Dam
  - Reduces required operations and maintenance
  - Minimizes impacts to surrounding residents
  - Increases flood protection to downstream residents
  - Brings West Wash into compliance

### **FUTURE PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Submission
 Meeting
 Task Duration



### **PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE TIMELINE**

### **FUTURE MILESTONES**

- July 2023 Environmental Assessment & FONSI Draft
- August 2023 Public Comment on Environmental Assessment & FONSI Draft
- October 2023 Final Environmental Assessment & FONSI



# THANK YOU...

Any questions or comments?