# **LEVEE SAFETY PROGRAM**





### U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

#### **BUILDING STRONG**



Levees provide tremendous benefits to communities. For example, levee systems in 2011 contributed to more than \$120 billion in prevented damages nationwide. But, with those benefits come risks. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Kansas City District's Levee Safety Program works to better understand, manage and reduce the flood risks associated with levees.

Kansas City District's Levee Safety Program Overview:

- Multidisciplinary staff of over 40 engineers with experience in life cycle management of flood risk management infrastructure
- Technical backgrounds include: Geotechnical Engineering; Structural Engineering; Hydraulic & Hydrologic Engineering; River Engineering; Geology; Planning; Economics; Project Management; and Emergency Operations
- Responsible for managing over 1,000 miles of levee systems across district area of responsibility, including USACE constructed levees (59 systems), USACE constructed flood reduction channels (7 systems) and non-USACE constructed levees (86 systems)
- Federal program levees within district boundaries provide direct benefits to over 100,000 people and \$20 billion in development
- Specific experience and capabilities include: Design; Risk Assessments (Detailed and Screening Level); Planning Studies for New Projects and major project modifications; Inspections (Periodic and Routine); Value Engineering; Agency Technical Review; Assistance to Risk Management Center and Higher Headquarters; and Flood-fighting Activities: Providing Technical Advice, Damage Assessment and Rehabilitation
- Engages across USACE with various technical and policy activities: USACE-FEMA Task Force to align agency activities and programs to better serve agency missions and needs of the nation; effort to rewrite Engineering Manual 1110-2-1913 (Design and Construction of Levees); development of levee underseepage guidelines that have been shared regionally with other districts; development of levee risk communication practices and tools to be incorporated as new USACE policy
- Demonstrates expertise on a number of recent projects across the entire spectrum of levee engineering: planning studies for new projects (Topeka, KS; Manhattan, KS; and Kansas City, MO & KS); rehabilitation of levees damaged during floods (2007, 2008, 2010, and 2011); design of new projects and improvements (North Kansas City Relief Wells; Fairfax Relief Wells and Floodwall Improvements; Turkey Creek Tunnel, improved channel and levee); and performance of Agency Technical Reviews

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The levee safety program mission is to ensure levee systems provide benefit to the Nation by working with sponsors and stakeholders to assess, communicate, and manage the risks to people, property, and the environment from inundation associated with the presence of levee systems.

**VISION STATEMENT:** The Kansas City District Levee Safety Program will support flood risk management infrastructure across its life cycle, efficiently delivering high quality engineering services. The Kansas City District will be known as a levee safety powerhouse whose staff are leaders across the profession.

#### **Key Messages**

## Facts & Figures

- Kansas City District has experience working with all phases of the flood risk management infrastructure life cycle (planning, design, construction, and operations & maintenance)
- Staff leads in their fields and has experience with levee safety issues across USACE
- Staff executes their mission to ensure levee systems provide benefits to the Nation in a safe and efficient manner
- Over 1,000 miles of USACE program levees (148 systems)
- More than 40 engineering and technical staff (>90% professionally registered)
- Spent over \$10M annually in engineering and construction services between FY2012-13

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