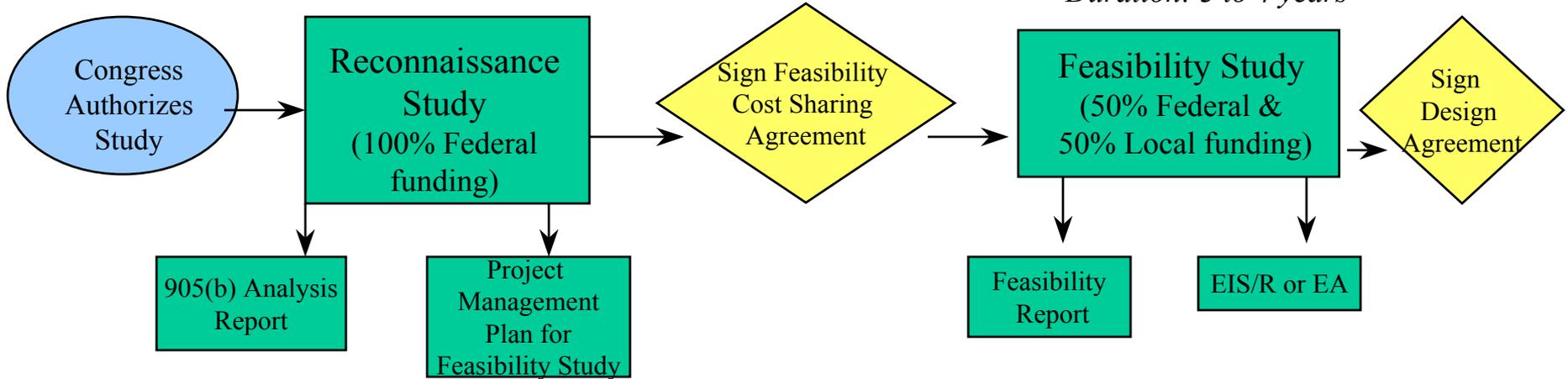


Corps of Engineers Project Implementation Process

Duration: About 1 year

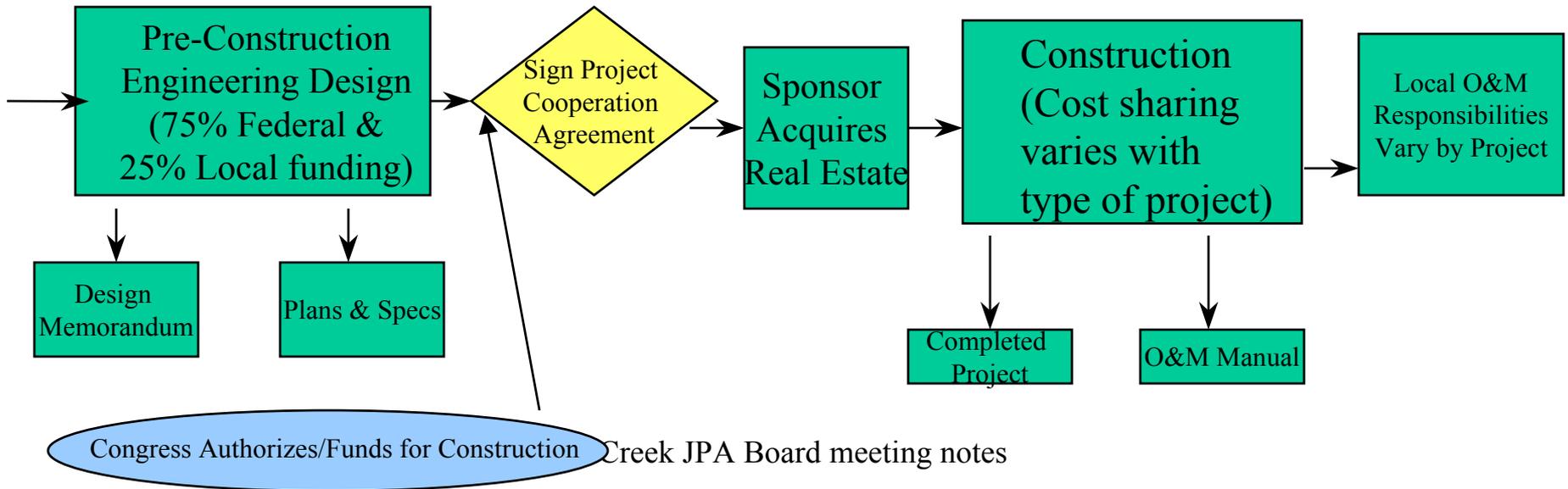


Duration: 3 to 4 years

Duration: Approximately 2 years

Duration at least 1 year

Duration: varies by project



Project Management Plan (PMP)

- **Is negotiated between COE and SFCJPA**

to ensure work required for Feasibility Phase has been carefully developed and considered.

- **Defines approach for Feasibility Study for:**

Scope - Schedule - Costs

- **Reflects mutually agreed upon:**

Critical assumptions - Methodologies - Level of study to be conducted

- **Is a study management tool that forms the basis of identifying commitments and measuring performance.**

**Recognizing that planning is an iterative process
the PMP is considered:**

- A “living document” that will /can be modified**
- A basis for change as the technical picture unfolds**

therefore,

At this time, there is **no risk** associated
with including a study of tidal flooding
in the PMP process.

Including tidal flooding through PMP process
will provide a better understanding of *cost and schedule*
associated with study of the issue; and

it can be programmed into PMP & FCSA as a
separate task, keeping cost/schedule separate from primary
study elements;

At end of PMP process:

the JPA can decide *not to keep* the area in FCSA

OR

keep the area in FCSA and study the problem.

- If kept in, the issue *can again be revisited and removed* at the end of Feasibility if desired (before start of subsequent Design & Engineering phase).
- However, it *cannot be added back in* at any point without major costs and time impacts.
- What does need to take place at this juncture if the issue is to be included, at minimum in PMP, is to determine the *extent of study area* for tidal flooding.

We have provided a series of maps to facilitate this discussion now. The series of questions/answers that have been further developed since April Board meeting are being provided for review before next meeting.

The following questions & comments regarding inclusion of tidal flooding in JPA G.I. project

- Have been generated from the March Board meeting; April Watershed Council Steering Committee meeting; and two Management Team Meetings.
- Answers have come from communications with the COE Project Management Team and staff research. Staff has attempted to summarize the responses to facilitate meaningful discussion.
- Staff will continue to work through these and any subsequent questions that arise, for future presentations.

Why should JPA look at including tidal flooding in current G.I.?

- Without it, we are providing an incomplete solution to flooding problems for representative cities.
- South Bay Shoreline Study includes authorization for the areas being consider for inclusion, but no local sponsor has committed to partner with the Corps on the Study. The Baylands levees in the proposed area are continuing to degrade and will be overtopped on a more frequent basis resulting in increased flooding of neighborhoods.
- Santa Clara Valley Water District will participate in Shoreline Study to assure bayside levees are studied to prevent future flooding in Palo Alto. San Mateo County, East Palo Alto, and Menlo currently have no such plan.
- The JPA has the Congressional authority to include tidal flooding in project; cities do not have ability to act independently to resolve issue of tidal flooding as it is a regional issue.
- Take advantage of current availability of Federal sponsors to match project costs.
- Inclusion *could* strengthen the b/c ratio of overall G.I. project.

Are we certain that this action would result in a *positive* impact on the b/c ratio?

- No. We need to study the problem of tidal flooding further to be sure.
- There is no risk in studying tidal flooding through Feasibility. The two efforts (tidal and fluvial) can be programmed as separate components throughout the study.
- If found to have negative impact on b/c ratio, this element can be dropped from future study.

What would the cost and time extensions be on the G.I. project?

- This is currently unknown, but will be better understood in the PMP process.
- The option remains open to drop tidal study component after PMP or after Feasibility if cost prohibitive.
- Likewise, it could be dropped or scheduled separately in future phases of the project, so as not to impede progress on creek flooding

Watershed boundary and study limits are not always the same.

➤ In this case, the watershed boundary can be referred to as the historical alluvial fan. This most clearly illustrates the watershed or drainage basin as a topographically defined area drained by the creek system. It better demonstrates not only the area draining into the creek, but how the creek system drains (removes water) itself.

In Feasibility, **areas of "co-mingling"** of fluvial and tidal flooding will be identified and addressed. This may result in improvements to bay side levees at mouth of the creek. The question becomes how far beyond that area do we wish to address.

Can this area be covered in the Shoreline project with the cities or JPA acting as local sponsor, instead of including it in Creek G.I.?

➤ Yes, either cities or JPA could act as local sponsor through that study to address these areas. However, this area of Shoreline study will likely not happen for several years. The outcome of the project phases is unclear at this time.

FEMA and COE use different standards by which the levees are evaluated for potential flooding. FEMA maps show more extensive flooding than the COE Shoreline study found in 1989 because of the difference in standards used. A negative b/c ratio was found in that study. **What is to prevent this from happening again, would the approach be any different this time?**

➤ In the 1989 study, the COE assumed Cargill would continue maintenance of the ponds and levees. Today this is not the case. Therefore the levees would be viewed as continuing to deteriorate with no maintenance, increasing the likelihood of failure.

➤ The 1989 study was not a multi-objective study. Both the Creek study and Shoreline this time are multi-objective. This increases the benefits to a project.

- The COE evaluates levees in a "without project condition". Today this would include no long - term maintenance, impacting long - term viability of the levees.
- FEMA simply does not recognize any levees that are not certified, and none of the pond levees were ever certified.

Will the effort ever allow for constituents to be entirely removed from the flood insurance maps?

- Yes, the project does have the potential to remove areas from flood maps. The COE can petition FEMA (with the local sponsor), after the levees have been corrected and certified, to remove the areas from maps.

FEMA is currently undertaking a new mapping project, how will this impact our area and outcome of project?

Questions for JPA regarding increasing project boundary:

Is adding this element to the project going to significantly go beyond the amount of funding we have secured for Feasibility?

➤ Uncertain until PMP is done to get an estimate of costs.

If it does, where will the additional necessary funds come from?

➤ This is an unknown. The individual member agencies and the Board need to discuss this point. This will not be able to happen until after costs estimates are in.

If not an increase, and costs estimates remain within the amount of funding secured, are the two county agencies willing to allow expenditure in this way, or will other funding need to be secured to cover the costs?

➤ Unknown, needs to be determined. Likely will not be able to answer until cost estimates are in (PMP is done).

What are the implications (both long and short term) for the JPA? (Additional staff and resources needed?)

➤ Adding the bay levee / tidal flooding study, only increases area of the project by approximately 3-5 miles. However, there are significant increases in the number of agencies and projects that would need coordination; this adds a different kind of environmental review (and opportunity); and this is a new area of engineering analysis (tidal flooding).

➤ Current staff resources are at maximum workload. Additions of project area would require modest changes. Recommendations are being researched as to how to address this issue.

This represents a large expansion of mission of JPA; JPA is being asked to be involved in a project that has not historically been the responsibility of the agency.

➤ True, tidal flooding and bayside levees have not historically been the purview of the JPA. On the flip side, there is nothing in agreement that prevents the agency from expanding its mission. This is not a large expansion; nor is it one that is totally unrelated.

➤ If justification for determining project boundary beyond the creek is tied to use of the historical floodplain, then the addition of tidal flooding is not completely outside the mission (nor authorization).

➤ It is an action that will provide a more comprehensive flooding solution for *both sources*; in some cases residents whose creek flooding will be solved, will still be in tidal flood area if we only address creek. In other cases, residents who experience only tidal flooding will still be at risk. Overall, we are expanding to serve more constituents of existing member agencies with an available means and federal interest.

Would inclusion of tidal have an influence on whether or not upper watershed communities participate in the JPA and project?

- The upper watershed communities will ultimately be interested in issues of localized flooding, ecosystem restoration, sediment reduction, fire management, and an upstream storm water storage facility if that is in the plan.
- If staff resources are not expanded to cover the new areas, JPA staff will continue to be limited in time to address these communities.

Overarching potential benefits of increasing G.I. project boundary:

- It maximizes the value of the project by securing the largest Federal commitment possible at this time, which could be scaled down in the future at the local sponsor's discretion.
- It will include a larger number of protected constituents, and therefore could increase the likelihood of generating support for local match of future project costs.
- It has the potential to increase the overall b/c ratio of the project, which in turn would increase the level of protection that is economically justifiable for COE recommendation.