



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
CHICAGO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
231 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-1437

March 11, 2022

Regulatory Branch  
LRC-2021-00454

SUBJECT: Acknowledge Receipt of the Individual Permit Application for the Proposed Public Beach Expansion at Elder and Centennial Parks in Lake Michigan, Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois (Latitude 42.09897, Longitude -87.71538)

John Peterson  
Winnetka Park District  
540 Hibbard Road  
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Dear Mr. Peterson,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your February 24, 2022 permit application, submitted on your behalf by Shabica & Associates, for the above-referenced project. An individual Department of the Army permit (IP) under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) is required for the project.

A public notice describing your proposed project will be issued in the near future. Opportunity will be given for other agencies and the general public to provide written comments on the project for a period of 30 days. Following the close of the comment period, this office will review the comment letters received, as well as your responses to the letters, conduct a public interest review, and prepare the appropriate environmental documentation. A determination will then be made concerning issuance or denial of your permit. This process is usually completed within 90 to 120 days if no objections are received. However, delays may result if significant issues need to be resolved.

Based on an initial review of the materials you submitted, your application is considered incomplete at this time. The following information is requested to complete your application and issue the public notice:

1. A revised project narrative that includes a description of the following:
  - a. An overview of the entire site redevelopment and how the regulated work fits into the overall plan for the parks;
  - b. Identify all needs (such as beach stabilization, improved access, etc.) and how the project will address these needs (Box 9 of application form). This is only required

for those needs that partially or fully involve fill below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM);

- c. Ensure that the Project Description included in the cover letter matches the plans and that all numbers are consistent. For example, the northern breakwater was identified as 265' in length with a description of the western 100' and eastern 155', which do not add up to 265';
  - d. In the Project Description included in the cover letter, describe and provide measurements for all proposed features to be located partially or entirely below the OHWM (such as sheet piling, pedestrian walkways, planting areas, louvered wall, stormsewer outfall, etc);
  - e. Explain the purpose of the walkway/road to be constructed immediately south of the proposed stormsewer outfall;
  - f. Explain the purpose of the wall depicted in cross-section C, Figure 7;
  - g. Explain the purpose of the louvered wall;
  - h. Describe any areas where the existing shoreline will be moved lakeward below the OHWM, as applicable.
2. Provide revised project plans that include the following:
- a. The resolution is poor in Figures 2, 3 and 6. Some text is difficult or impossible to read;
  - b. Include the OHWM on all plan view figures;
  - c. Figure 2 includes a note that all existing groins and the pier will be removed. If other structures will also be removed, such as the existing stormsewer or existing sheet piling, please also note these on Figure 2;
  - d. Include dimensions for all proposed structures on Figure 3 including the louvered wall, pedestrian walkway, pier, etc.;
  - e. Figure 3 labels some structures but does not specify whether the structures are existing or proposed;
  - f. Provide cross-sections along the shoreline to depict each distinct area of work identified in Figure 3;
  - g. The proposed stormsewer outfall in Figure 3 terminates further west compared with Figure 6. Ensure that both figures match;
  - h. Label the proposed louvered wall on Figure 3;
  - i. Figure 6 only identifies the pier as being removed. Some structures are labeled as proposed, some as existing, and others are not specified. All structures should be labeled, including the location of the proposed planting pockets;
  - j. Include a definition of "WF sheeting" on the plans in Figure 6.
3. Figure 6 depicts what appears to be partial grading contours along the bluff south of the proposed northern breakwater. If this work is associated with a discharge below the OHWM, be sure to describe the proposed activity in response to item #1 above and fully depict the proposed work in the plans.
4. Will the stormsewer outfall be visible or be fully enclosed with stone? A cross-section of the outfall may be useful for clarification. Also, although the discharge is on the outer edge of the structure, it is beyond the end of the steel sheeting. Will stormwater be able to

migrate through the stone into the enclosed beach cell?

5. Describe how the project will affect the ability for individuals to walk along the shoreline. Also explain if access to the public facility will be allowed from the adjacent shorelines;
6. Provide names and addresses of adjacent property owner on self-adhesive labels using capital letters only and with no punctuation added.

Once the above information is received, a public notice describing your project will be posted on our website at [www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx). More information may be requested at a later date to determine compliance with the Section 404(b) (1) Guidelines. The following additional information is required so that we may continue evaluating your application:

1. Explain the site characteristics that were used to identify the OHWM identified in the plans.
2. Any non-federal entity applying to the Corps for an Individual Permit or a Letter of Permission for a project located within the boundary of the Illinois Coastal Management Program, including waters of Lake Michigan, is required to submit a Federal Consistency Determination from the Illinois Coastal Management Program as part of the permit review process.

PDF maps of the Illinois Coastal Zone Boundary can be found at bottom of page at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/boundaries.aspx> and instructions on requesting an ICMP Federal Consistency Determination can be found at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Documents/ICMPFederalConsistencyReviewProcedures.pdf>.

Completed determinations shall be sent to the Illinois Coastal Management Program at 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite S-703, Chicago, IL 60601

Responses to the above-requested items shall also be submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency so that they may continue reviewing your project for Water Quality Certification.

Your prompt attention to this matter will enable the Corps of Engineers to proceed with the evaluation of your application in a timely manner. If you do not provide your response within 30 days of the date of this letter (and you have not been granted additional time), it will be presumed that you no longer wish to pursue the project and your application will be withdrawn without further notification.

Please visit our website at <http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx> for further information regarding the Regulatory Program. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Soren Hall of my staff by telephone at (312) 846-5532, or email at [Soren.G.Hall@usace.army.mil](mailto:Soren.G.Hall@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

Soren G. Hall  
Team Leader  
Regulatory Branch

cc:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources/OWR (James Casey)  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Shabica & Associates