



# Sims Bayou, Houston, Tx

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

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**FACT SHEET as of date March 26, 2012**

Sims Bayou at W Orem Br.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, amended by Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 1990, modified by WRDA of 1992.

**TYPE OF PROJECT:** Flood Risk Management



**PROJECT PHASE:** Construction

**CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST:** Senators Hutchison (TX) and Cornyn (TX); Representatives **A. Green (TX-9)**, G. Green (TX-29), Jackson-Lee (TX-18), and Olson (TX-22).

**NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR:** Harris County Flood Control District (Flood Control Feature) and City of Houston (Recreation Feature)

**BACKGROUND:** The project is located in south central Houston, Texas and will reduce flooding in a highly urbanized watershed and flood plain in the Houston metro area with high damage potential. The authorized project consists of 19.3 miles of channel improvements and erosion control with environmental quality measures and 13.9 miles of hike and bike trail connected to 6 existing parks along the improved bayou. The project will reduce stream flooding from 14,800 acres of urban lands and beneficially affect nearly 94,000 persons living in 35,000 homes and 2,000 commercial structures. The 100-year flood plain would be reduced to 2,300 acres outside the required rights-of-way. The flood risk depth is 3 feet. During 2001 Tropical Storm Allison, partial construction avoided \$200 million in damages. Harris County experienced excessive rainfall over a 12-24 hour period October 15th through 16th, 2006. Harris County Flood Control District reported that channel conveyance improvements virtually completed from State Highway 225 upstream to State Highway 288 helped reduce residential and commercial flooding along Sims Bayou. Cumulative Flood Damages prevented through 2011 are \$518,627,000. The improved bayou is decreasing the potential for a high water event to impact the residences and businesses. This is one of the reasons this area continues to grow, which creates more jobs and improves the lives of the residents. The project 2011 Benefit Cost Ratio is 8.8 at 7%. Construction started in 1994 at the lower portion of the Bayou and proceeded up stream to the last 3 reaches which are between 80 and 95% complete. The flood control feature is about 95% complete and has proven its potential critical life safety and health infrastructure purpose in the community during recent storm events (Hurricane Ike and annual storm events). The project is expected to be physically complete in Sep 2015.

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**STATUS:** FY11 activities included continuation of construction at MLK plug, Reach 7b (Hiram Clark to Robin), Reach 8a (Hiram Clark to South Post Oak) and Reach 8b (South Post Oak to Croquet).

**ISSUES:** The City of Houston (Sponsor for the final authorized recreation feature) supports and is willing to fund this feature of the authorized project. The recreation (Hike and Bike trails) feature is in high demand since it will link 7 parks and many subdivisions along the bayou. It offers a green transportation mode along an east west corridor in the southern sector of Houston, which is highly underserved by bike trails.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$):**

**CONSTRUCTION**

Federal Cost Estimate	\$272,347,000
Non-Federal Cost Estimate	127,151,000
Total Project Cost	\$399,498,000
Allocation thru FY 2010	\$252,172,000
ARRA Funding	16,101,000
Allocation for FY 2011	-5,448,000 <u>1/</u>
Allocation for FY 2012	1,000,000 <u>2/</u>
President Budget FY 2013	2,171,000
Amount That Could Be Used for FY 2013	3,341,000
Balance to Complete	\$6,351,000

1/ - Funds in the amount of \$5,448,000 were transferred to the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Account to repair damages at projects impacted by the 2011 Floods.

2/ - Funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 received from the Mini-pot for Tree Planting contract.

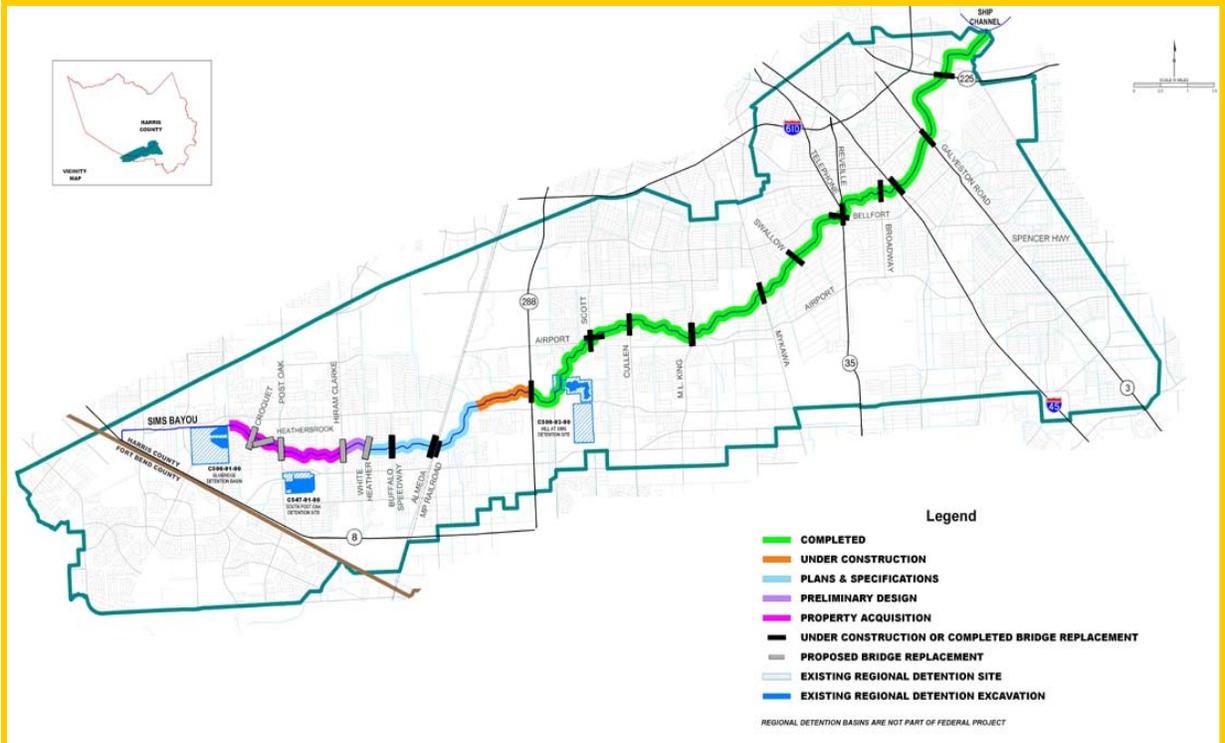
**SCHEDULE:**

FY 2012 Scheduled Work: Not in the President's FY2012 budget. Funds carried in from previous fiscal years will be applied as follows: Complete Channel Rectifications for Reach 7b, Robin to Bathurst, Martin Luther King (MLK) Boulevard and Hemingway to MLK Boulevard and continue Channel Rectification for Reach 8b (South Post Oak to Croquet). FY 2012 Mini Pot funds are being used to award final Tree Planting contract.

FY 2013 Budget: FY13 funds will be used to Complete Channel Rectification Croquet to South Post Oak, Reach 8b and area circa Hiram Clark Bridge. If additional funds are received, they will be used to initiate and complete construction of a portion of the recreation feature from Reveille Park to Scott Park.

**COMPLETION:** If funding is adequate, the flood control feature will be completed in 2014 while the recreation feature will be completed in 2015.

**For more information** regarding the Sims Bayou, Houston, TX project, contact Mr. Pete Perez, P.E., Deputy District Engineer, Chief, Programs and Project Management Division at 409-766-3018 or Pete.G.Perez@usace.army.mil.



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