US Army Corps of Engineers
Wilmington District

Concord Streams Restoration, Concord, NC (Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration CAP Section 206)

- **Sponsor: City of Concord, NC**
  - **Degraded aquatic habitat**
  - **Degraded water quality**
  - **Frequent flash flooding**
- **Feasibility phase completed FY 2009**
- **Project partnership agreement executed in December 2009**
- **95% plans and specifications completed in August 2011**
- **Strategy under development with sponsor to initially construct Stricker Branch portion of the project**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 8 DATE: 23 February 2015

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended and WRDA 2007, Section 1006, paragraph (a) (32).

2. **STUDY AREA**: The proposed project is located in the city of Concord, North Carolina, in Cabarrus County, in the Piedmont region of NC, approximately 20 miles northeast of Charlotte, NC. The study area is experiencing rapid residential and commercial development resulting from urban sprawl generated by the nearby booming economy of Charlotte. The streams considered for restoration in the feasibility study were Three Mile Branch, Afton Run, Stricker Branch, and Academy Center Branch.

3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED**: The feasibility report and report recommendations were approved on February 18, 2009 for ecosystem improvements along Stricker Branch and Academy Center Branch. The Stricker Branch project reach has one instream and three upland (wet pond) features proposed for construction. The Academy Branch project reach has three

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instream and three upland (2 constructed wetlands and 1 wet pond) features proposed for construction. Recent coordination with the sponsor indicates a desire to initially proceed only with the Stricker Branch portion of the project, which would be implementable within the sponsor's current financial resources.

4. **COST ESTIMATE:**

$ 551,000	(Feasibility study)
1,706,000	(Lands, easements, rights of way)
6,223,000	(Design and implementation phase)
$8,480,000	Total implementation cost (65% Federal/35% non-Federal)

5. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2014:** $1,217,655. (Includes $666,655 in design and implementation funds)

6. **FY 2015 FUNDING ALLOCATION:** $0. Funds in the amount of $35,000 could be used to complete real estate acquisition for the Stricker Branch portion of the project.

7. **FY 2016 OPTIMUM AMOUNT:** $2,300,000. These funds could be used to award a construction contract to complete Stricker Branch portion of the project.

8. **KEY DATES:**

August 2011	95% plans and specifications
To be determined	Sponsor acquires real estate
To be determined	Construction contract award
To be determined	Project close out, complete

Note: Completion dates subject to the availability of funds.

9. **STATUS:** The project partnership agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the city of Concord was executed in December 2009. Design was initiated with award and full funding in FY 2010 of the architect/engineer design contract. Construction plans were developed to a 95% level in August 2011. The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources has funded a portion of the non-Federal cost share of the project to date.

10. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The city of Concord is committed to developing and implementing a comprehensive solution to restoring, protecting and maintaining the Stricker Branch and Academy Center Branch subwatersheds. The city of Concord's dedication to pursue the stream restoration initiatives is evident in the very proactive approach it has already taken to prepare the city's first land use plan although not mandated by the state of North Carolina. The city council has recognized the connection between planning for population and growth and land development regulations and, therefore, is pursuing restoration of Concord Streams to complement their ongoing efforts.

The Corps of Engineers and the sponsor are working to pursue a strategy that is affordable to the sponsor by initially constructing the Stricker Branch portion of this project. Final project cost sharing is 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal.