



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Wilmington District

**PM-D-2023-S408-0002**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**REQUEST FOR PERMISSION**  
**TO MODIFY A**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408**

**TITLE:** Roanoke River Pedestrian Blueway Access at 13th Street Bridge, Roanoke, VA

**PUBLIC NOTICE COMMENT PERIOD:**

Begins: May 23, 2023  
Expires: June 6, 2023

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for Department of the Army Section 408 (Water Resources Development Act of 1986; 33 U.S.C. 408; hereinafter "Section 408") permission to conduct proposed work adjacent to The Roanoke River Upper River Basin, Virginia (Figure 1), as described below. Written comments are being solicited from anyone having an interest in the requested alteration. Comments received will become part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) administrative record and will be considered in determining whether to permit the request. Comments supporting, opposing, or identifying concerns that should be considered by the USACE in its decision process are welcome. Comments providing substantive information and/or a rationale for the commenter's position are the most helpful. Comments regarding the proposed work should reference the USACE public notice number (PM-D-2023-S408-0002) and must reach the USACE via email no later than **June 6, 2023** to become part of the public record and be considered in the USACE's decision. Please send comments to the Wilmington District Section 408 Coordinator at: [timothy.quinlan@usace.army.mil](mailto:timothy.quinlan@usace.army.mil).

**REQUESTER:** In compliance with Section 408, the City of Roanoke, Virginia has requested permission to alter the existing Federal project. The city desires to construct a permanent canoe/kayak (blueway) cast-in-place concrete ramp (10' wide) from the existing greenway into the Roanoke River.

**LOCATION:** The portion of the existing project impacted by the proposed modifications is located in the City's Right of Way under the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, SE.

**PROPOSED ACTION:** The proposed project includes construction of a permanent canoe/kayak (blueway) cast-in-place concrete ramp (10' wide) from the existing greenway into the Roanoke River. The ramp will provide ADA compliant blueway access to the river for boats, kayaks, etc. The ramp is intended for pedestrian use and not to be used by vehicles.

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**REGULATORY AUTHORITY:** This request will be reviewed according to the provisions of Section 408. A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations. An approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to grant the requested permission for federal project modification under Section 408 will be based on several factors and will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of the request for modification will be reviewed by a USACE technical review team and will consider, but not necessarily be limited to, the following factors:

1. Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination. The review team will determine if the proposed alteration would limit the ability of the projects to function as authorized, or would compromise or change any authorized project's conditions, purposes, or outputs. The decision whether to approve a request for modification would be based on a determination of no impairments.
2. Injurious to the Public Interest Determination. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest.

**SUMMARY:** It should be noted that materials submitted as part of Section 408 requests become part of the public record and will be available to the general public under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individuals may submit a written request to obtain materials under the FOIA or make an appointment to view the project file at the USACE Wilmington District's Office of Counsel.

Interested parties wishing to comment on the proposed action must do so in writing no later than **June 6, 2023**. Comments may be submitted to the Wilmington District Section 408 Coordinator at: [timothy.quinlan@usace.army.mil](mailto:timothy.quinlan@usace.army.mil). It is presumed that all parties viewing this notice will wish to respond; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning there is no objection to the proposed action as described.

*Timothy J Quinlan*

Timothy Quinlan  
Wilmington District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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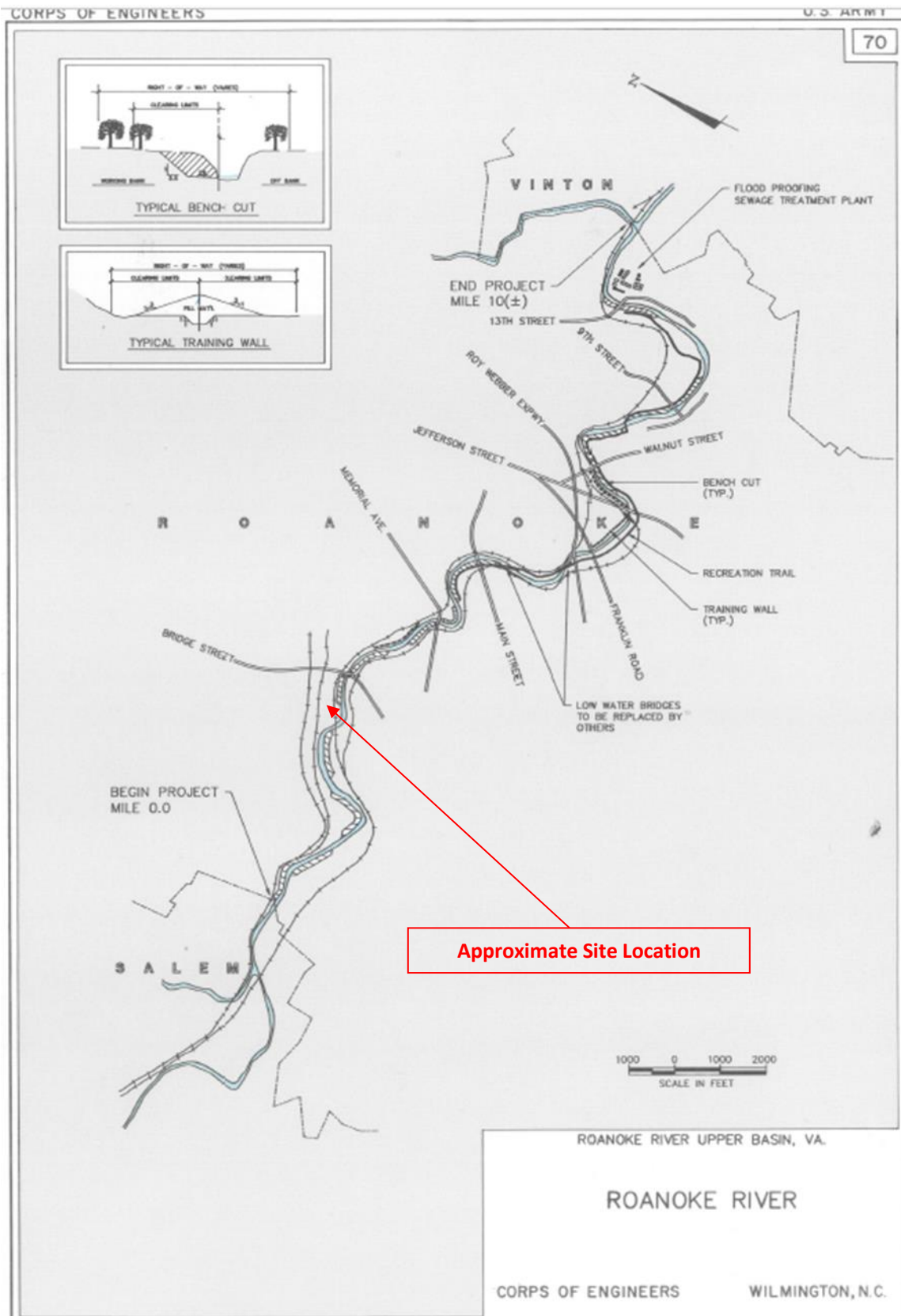


Figure 1. Roanoke River, Virginia Federal Project Map