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Contact: Karen L. Auer, 412-395-7106

Karen.L.Auer@usace.army.mil

Officials to Sign Partnering Agreement

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA – Mayor Wayne Alexander and the City of New Castle, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will host a Project Cooperation Agreement Signing Ceremony for the Neshannock Creek Streambank Protection Project on Thursday, June 28, at 11:15 a.m. in the New Castle City Council Chambers at 230 N. Jefferson Street in New Castle, Pennsylvania. Signing of the agreement enables the project to proceed into construction.

The Neshannock Creek Streambank Protection Project will provide protection from erosion for approximately 1,400 feet of the Neshannock Creek sewer between Rural Avenue and South Mill Street. Streambank erosion in this area has removed the protective covering over the sewer and in several areas the sewer has become undermined.

Construction of the project is planned to begin in the fall of this year and will be completed within a year. Protection of the sewer will be accomplished by placement of rock around the sewer and planting of erosion-resistant vegetation to reduce environmental impacts, enhance the riparian zone and replace shading that will be lost by tree removal.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will provide over \$850,000 of Section 14 Program funding to support the design and construction of this \$1.4 million streambank protection project. Federal participation in the project is authorized in Section 14 of the Flood Control Act of 1946. The Section 14 Program provides construction, repair and restoration of eroded streambanks and shorelines that threaten the structural integrity of Public Works or non-profit public facilities.

In addition to representatives from the City of New Castle and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, invited participants in the ceremony include the Offices of Congressman Jason Altmire and Senator Robert Casey and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.