# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT** PRESENTED TO: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES, ALIANZA POR LA CUENCA DEL RIO PIEDRAS AND MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JUAN

Jose Bilbao, P.E. Chief, Rio Puerto Nuevo Section

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers **Jacksonville District** 

09 MARCH 2023

Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow









# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – PROJECT OVERVIEW**

### CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION, FEATURES, AND PROJECT MAP (ALL LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE)

### COMPLETED (COST SHARED)

### CONTRACTS 1, 1A, 2A/AR, 2AA, 2C1, 2D WALLS

STATUS: 2D Walls, last completed, was May 2022 AMOUNT: \$470M

- Kennedy Bridge seismic retrofit; 36-inch water line
- First 1.3 miles of channel improvements
- Quebrada Margarita channel excavation and confluence wall; lower Puerto Nuevo channel dredging
- Bechara Channel secant pile wall box culvert; 90-inch sewer line modification: open channel work
- De Diego Expressway Bridge abutments; east and west pier drill shaft reinforcement
- Quebrada Margarita Stilling Basin
- Construction of 350-foot left channel wall and 750-foot right channel wall at channel confluence.

### ONGOING (SUPPLEMENTAL) CONSTRUCTION

### **CONTRACT - LA CHULETA**

- Upland Material Management Area (future capacity of ~350,000 cubic yards of material)
- REMAINING (SUPPLEMENTAL) CONSTRUCTION

### CONTRACT 1 | UPPER MARGARITA CHANNEL

- Sewer line relocation
- Construction of .63 miles of channel improvements at Upper Quebrada Margarita

### CONTRACT 2 | ROOSEVELT BRIDGE

- Roosevelt Avenue Bridge replacement
- CONTRACT 3 | MAIN CHANNEL (RIO PIEDRAS)
- Channel walls
   1.1 miles of Main Channel improvements

### CONTRACT 4 | LAS AMERICAS BRIDGES

- Channel, Stilling Basin and Bridge Replacements
- + 4A-1: Las Americas Expressway Bridge
- + 4A-2: Piñero Avenue Bridge East
- 4A-3: Northeast Access Ramp Bridge
- + 4A-4: Southeast Access Ramp Bridge

### CONTRACT 5 | NOTRE DAME & W. PINERO BRIDGE

- 5A: Notre Dame Bridge replacement
- 58: Piñero Avenue Bridge West replacement; Quebrada Josefina downstream to Río Piedras

### CONTRACT 6 | MAIN CHANNEL / BUENA VISTA

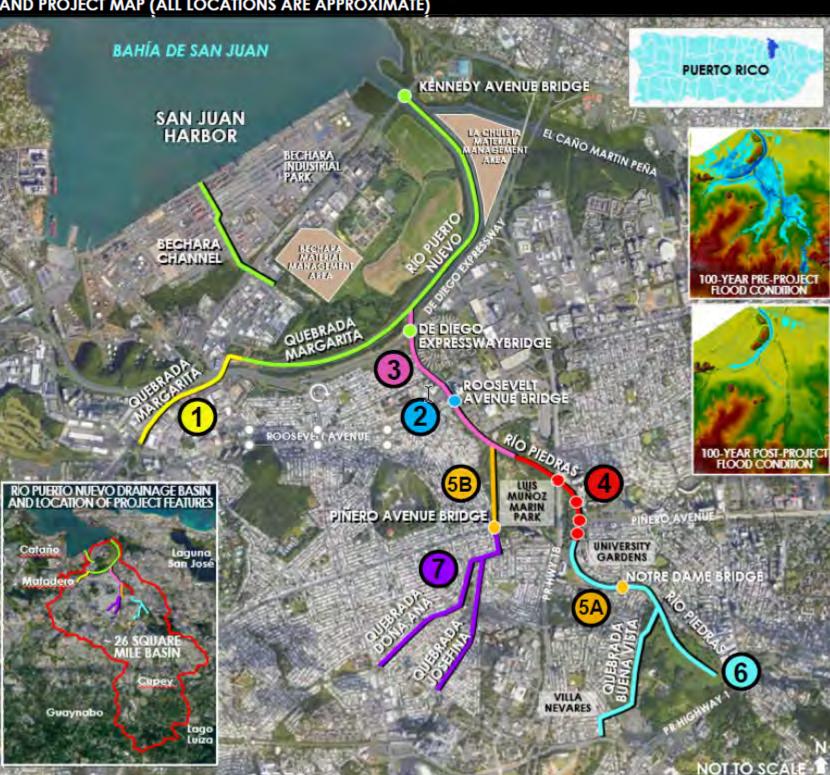
- 1.75 miles of Rio Piedras channel improvements
- 4 bridges (2 new; 2 replacements)
- .80 miles channel diversion at Quebrada Buena Vista

### CONTRACT 7 | JOSEFINA & DOÑA ANA CHANNEL 10 bridge replacements

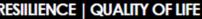
5000 LF. of Quebrada Josefina and 4400 LF. of Quebrada Doña channel improvement

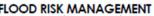
### **CONTRACT - BECHARA**

Upland Material Management Area (future capacity of ~600,000 cubic yards of material)



## Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow





- 100-year storm event
- More than 250,000 people residing in the highly urbanized and densely developed basin
- Over \$125 million average annual economic benefits



JPDATED INFORMATION/DESIGN Stakeholder engagement and updated data/analyses facilitating design modifications such as natural channel bottoms where possible, versus concrete).

latural Bottom Channel

Concrete Wall

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUCCESSES 25+ acres of planted mangroves resulting in wildlife, such as the Antillean Manatee, returning to completed sections of the project. Improved sanitary sewer infrastructure reducing discharges into waterbody



PEDESTRIAN CORRIDORS Planned linear parks, bike paths, and pedestrian bridges to increase connectivity across pedestrian corridors

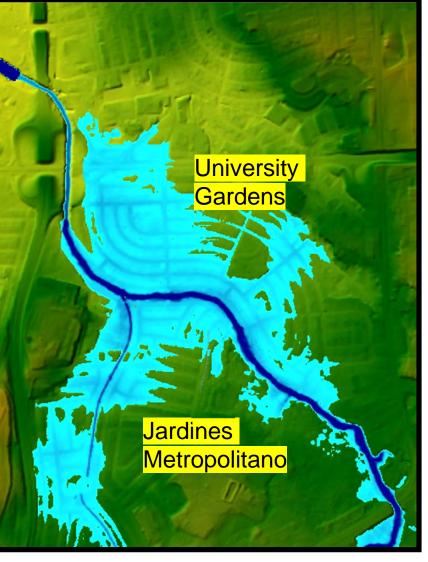




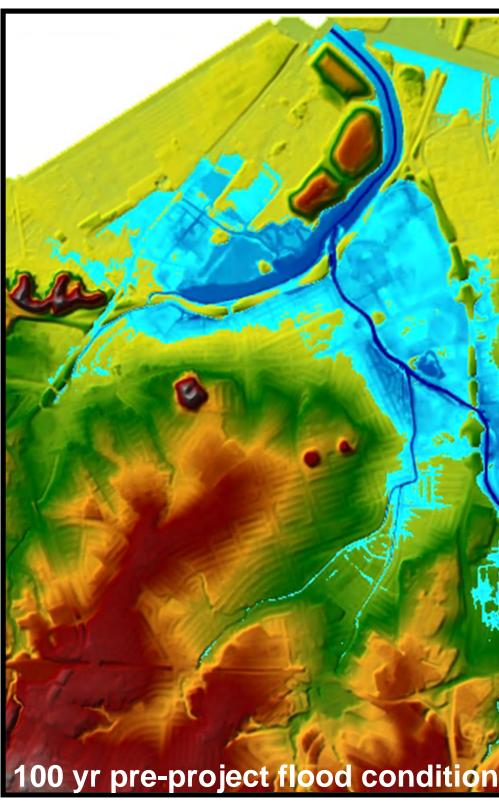


# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO PRE PROJECT CONDITIONS**

- 26 square miles of highly urbanized, densely populated flood basin
- Existing channel overflows above 2-year storm event (bank full)
- Bank full refers to the water level stage that just begins to spill out of the channel into the floodplain.
- Bank full flows tend to occur frequently, on the average every two years, its how the river form its channel; natural river process.



Low lying areas High lying areas (above flood area) Higher elevated area Highest elevation in basin Shallow flooding area Heavier flooding area





## University Gardens

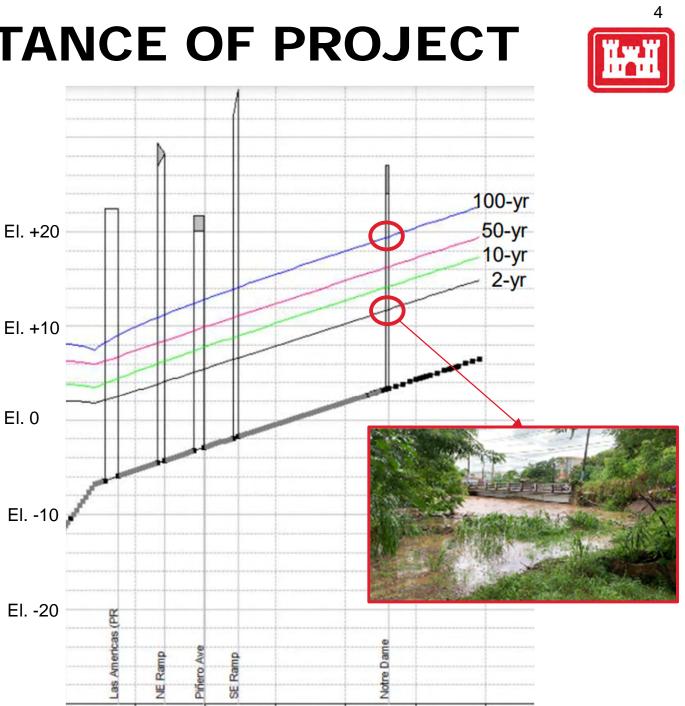


# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT**



Note: Video taken on corner of Calle Interamericana and Calle Oxford showing flooding of Rio Piedras during a 5 to 10-yr storm event from Hurricane Lenny on November 15-19, 2009.

Credit: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T\_osfiDlaqA</u>



Note: Profile above highlights Notre Dame Bridge flooding between recently seen 1-2 yr events (~10-ft water elevation) and a 100-year storm event which would increase flooding by an additional ~8-ft.

Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow



## **RIO PUERTO NUEVO** EXPECTED 100 YEAR FLOODING (1% CHANCE OF ANNUAL EXCEEDANCE)







# **RECENT FLOODING IN RIO PIEDRAS**

## < 1-year storm event



13 Oct 2021 Notre Dame Bridge during flood waters from Rio Piedras. This is less than a 1-year (100% chance of occurring in a given year) storm event.

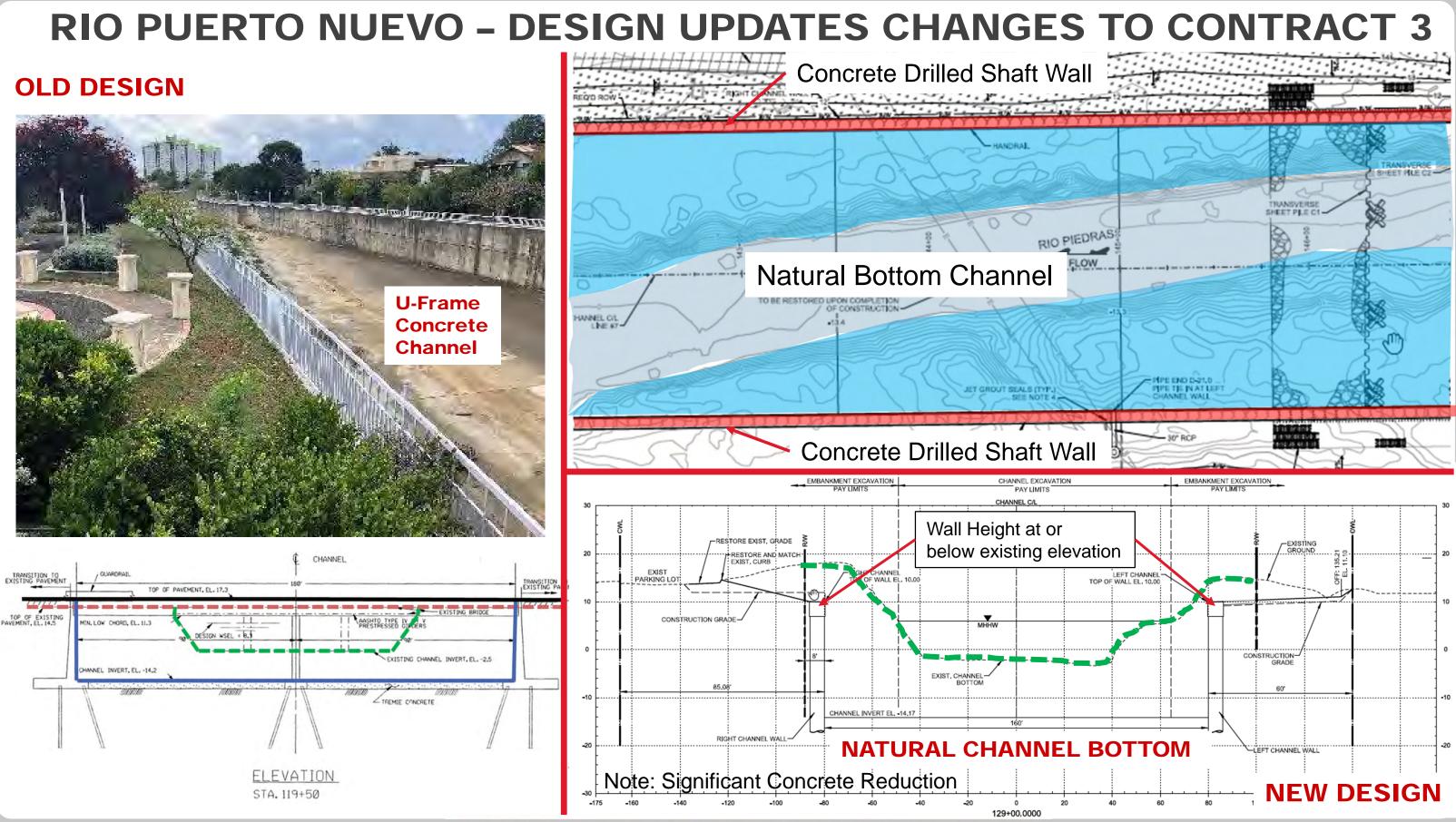


Note: Video taken on property immediately south of Notre Dame Bridge showing flooding of Rio Piedras during a 5 to 10-yr storm event from Hurricane Lenny on November 15-19, 2009.

Credit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWmPh9Bm1UA What will a 100-yr storm event look like in Rio Piedras? Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow



## 5-10-year storm event





# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – DESIGN UPDATES CHANGES TO CONTRACT 4**



**CONTRACT 4 and 6** 





## **NEW DESIGN**

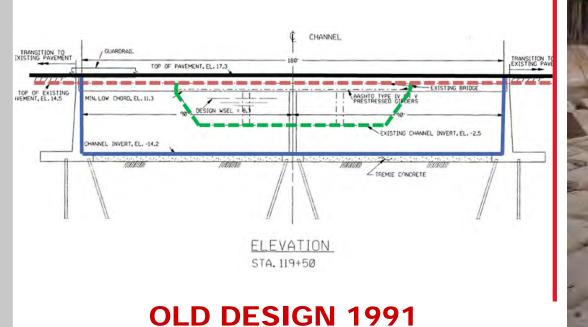




# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – (CNT-6) RIO PIEDRAS DESIGN IDEAS**



**U-Frame Concrete Channel Bottom** 



 Articulated Concrete Block

 Mattress Channel Botton

DESIGN UPDATE 2021-2022

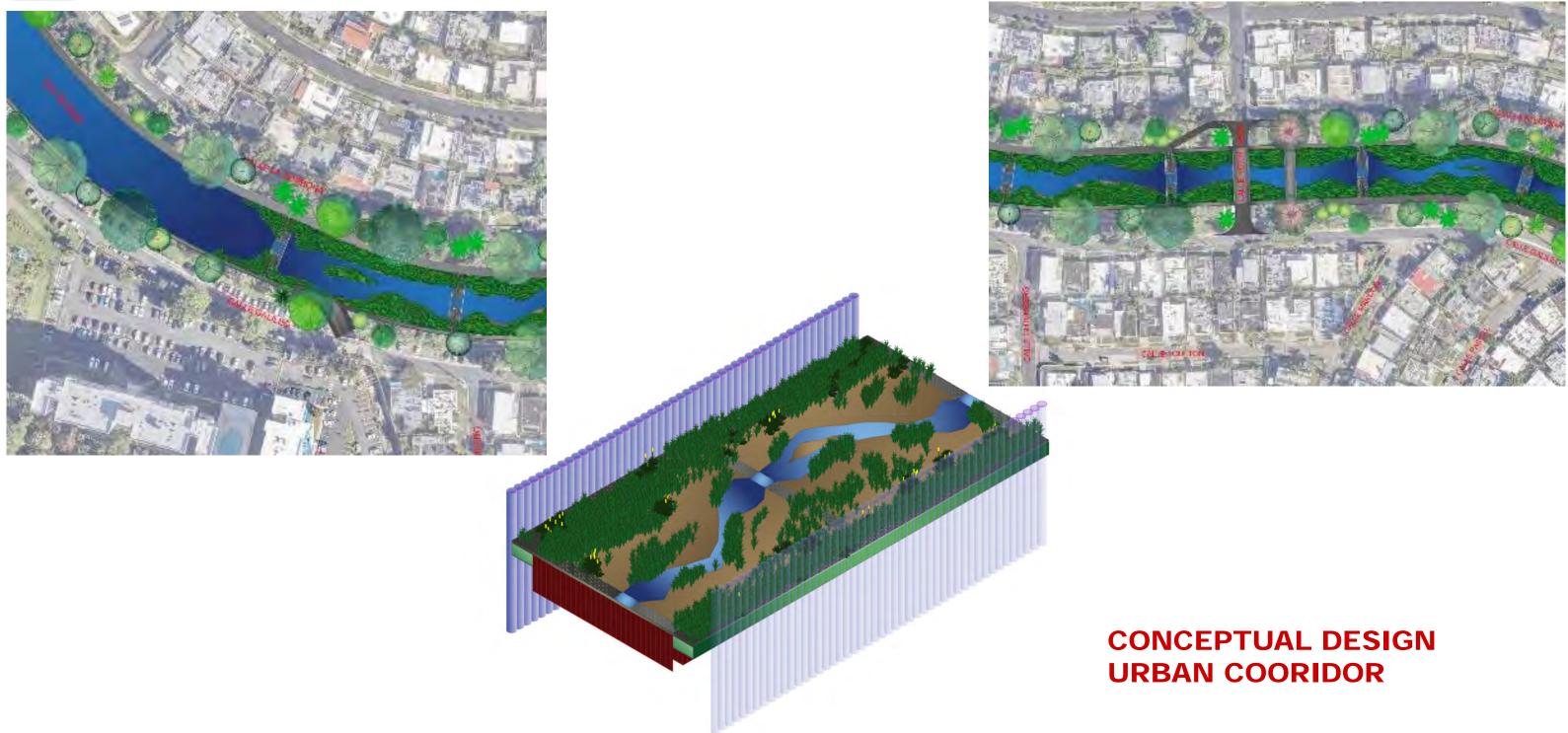








# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – (CNT-6) RIO PIEDRAS DESIGN**

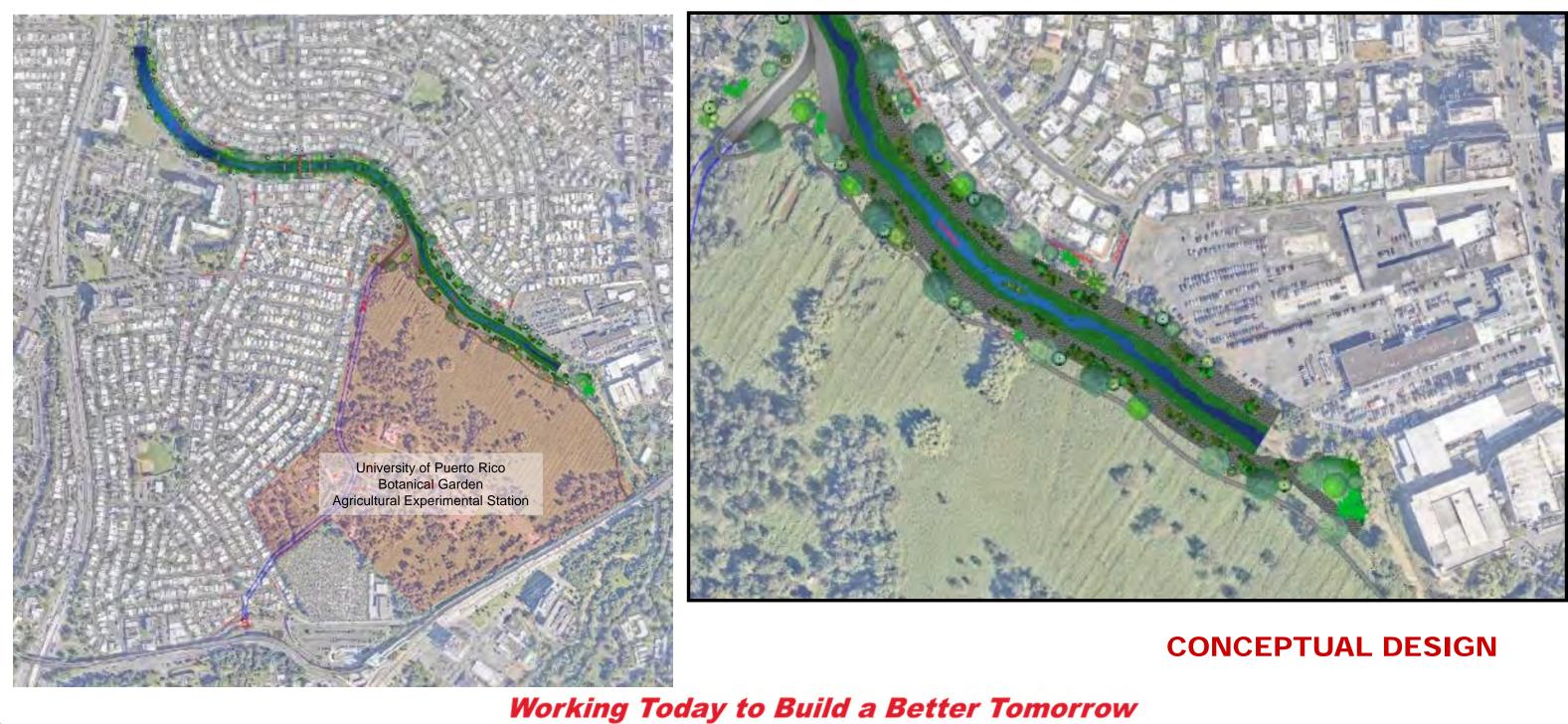


Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow





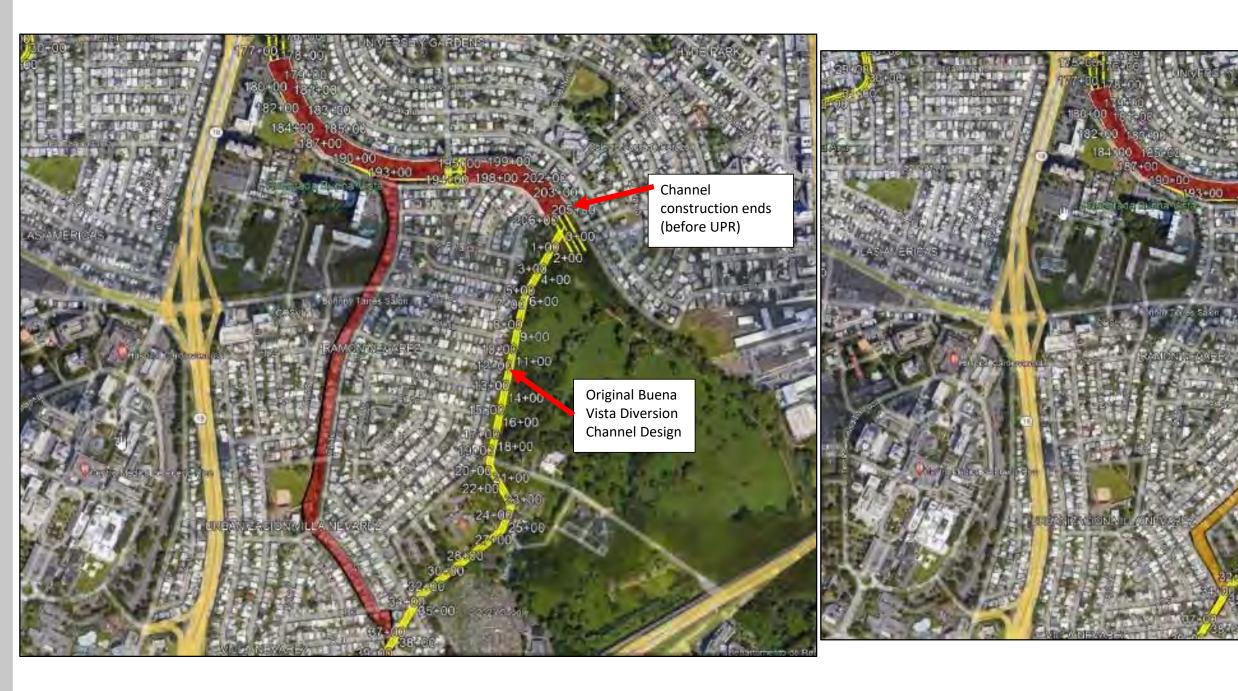
# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – (CNT-6) RIO PIEDRAS DESIGN**







## **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – CONTRACT 6 ALTERNATE DESIGN** (AVOIDING UPR PROTECTED LANDS – ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR)



Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow



Channel construction ends (before UPR)

Original Buena Vista Diversion Channel Design



# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – (CNT-6) RIO PIEDRAS DESIGN**





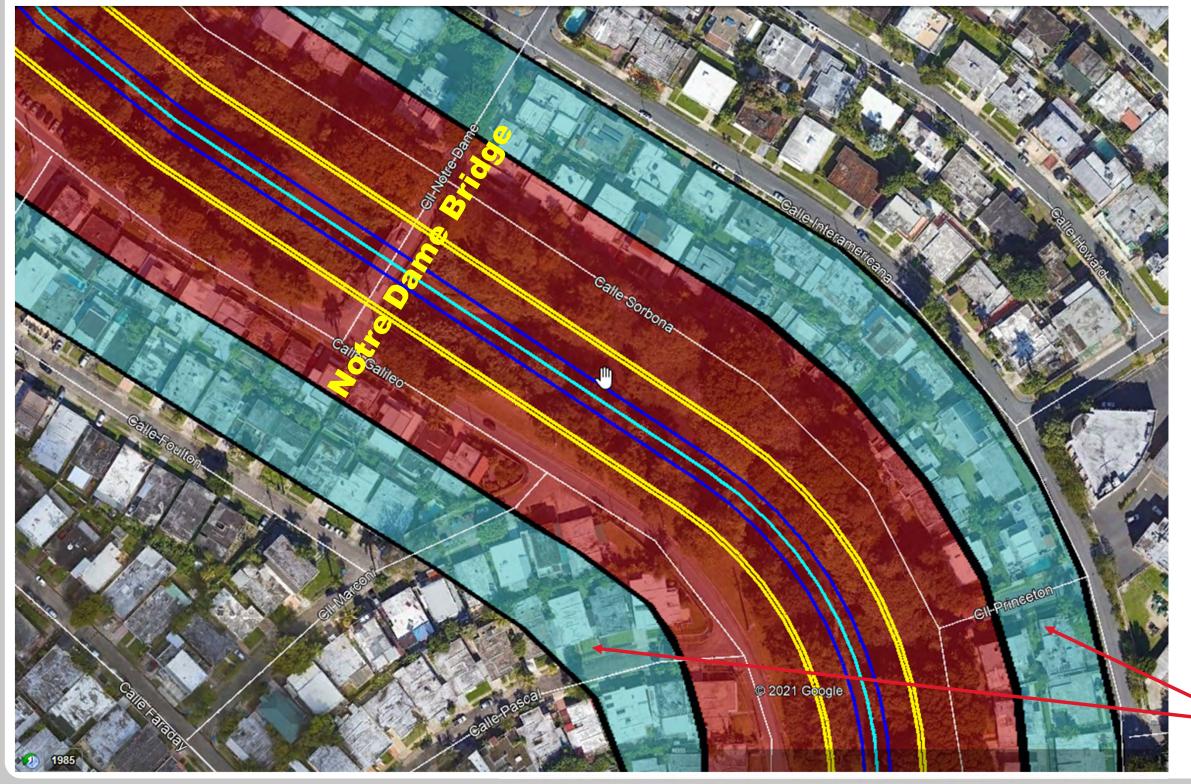
## **DESIGN ON UPR LAND**



Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow



# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – NATURAL CHANNEL IMPACT**



U.S.ABM



## NATURAL CHANNEL ISSUES:

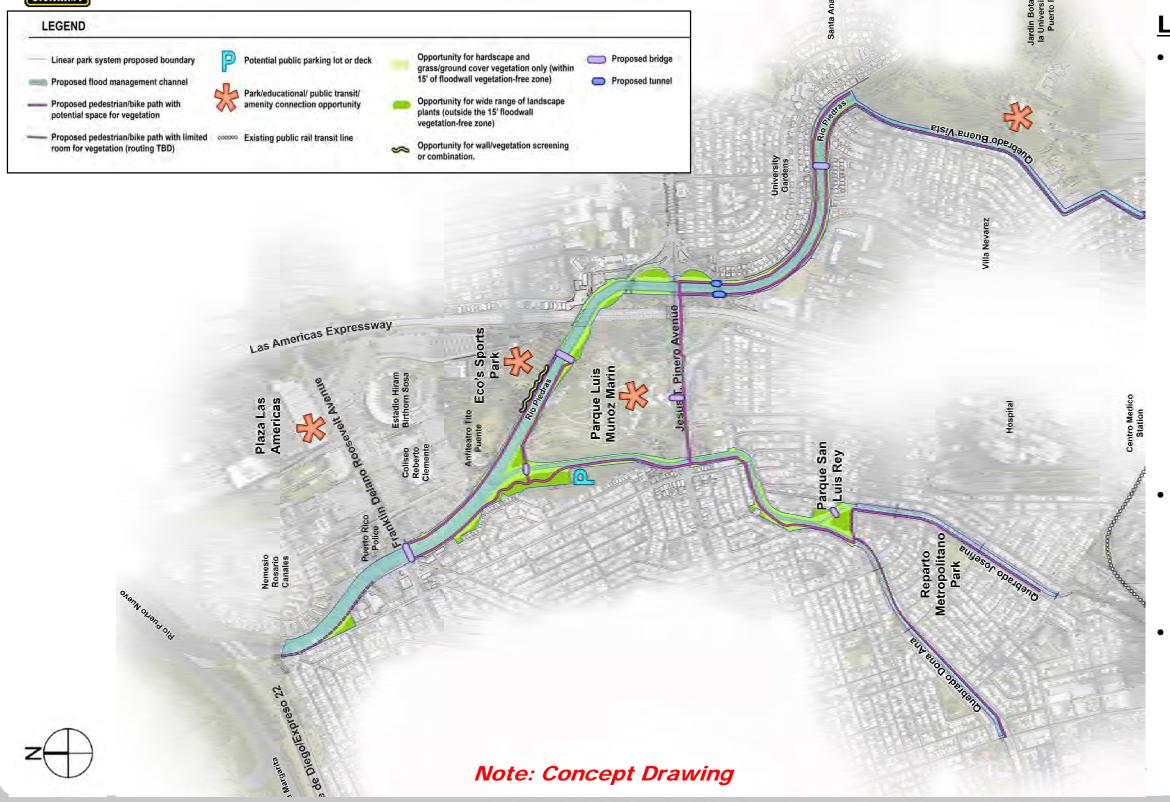
- Much Larger Channel required to pass the total volume of water
- Much more Real Estate Acquisition would significantly increase cost (approximately an additional 160 parcels, Inter-Americana university, apartments on Calle Galileo)
- USACE preference is to go with natural channel when land is available



Construction and Maintenance Easements



# **RIO PUERTO NUEVO – RECREATIONAL FEATURES**





## LINEAR PARK/BICYCLE PATH:

Plans for a linear park and bike path that connects all communities adjacent to the project to the Luis Muñoz Marin Park.

- Includes a path from Puerto Nuevo Notre (thru Roosevelt Avenue Bridge)
- Includes linear park and paths from Reparto Metropolitano thru Piñero Avenue pedestrian crossing.
- Includes a path from University of Puerto Rico through the Villa Nevares / Jardines Metropolitano / University Gardens areas, crossing over at Notre Dame Bridge

Replanting of vegetation and trees equal in number to the ones removed (native, noninvasive species)

One Service Bridge connecting both sides of park at the southern end of Luis Munoz Marin Park



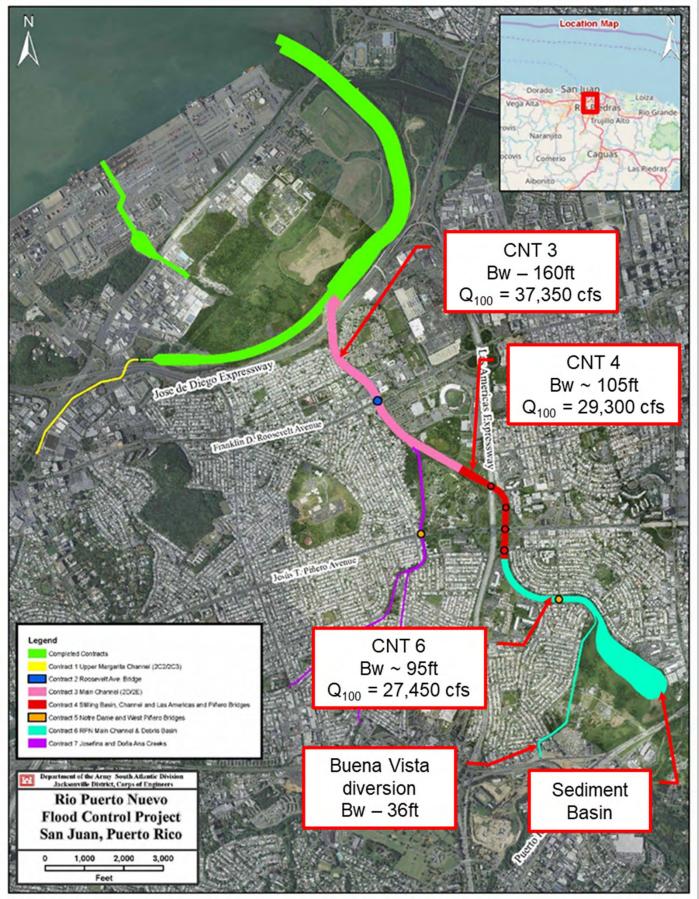
# RIO PUERTO NUEVO DESIGN UPDATES 👗

## **1991 INITIAL DESIGN**

- Rainfall Frequency TP-42
- U-Frame concrete channels
- Super-critical flow regime
- Higher than natural grade wall height
- Steeper channel slopes

## POST BBA-2018 DESIGN

- Rainfall Frequency NOAA ATLAS 14
- Climate Change and Sea Level Rise considerations
- Natural bottom channels or with scour protection
- Reduced Flow regime
- Walls below natural grade
- Milder channel slopes





# **QUESTIONS?**

## **Point of Contact:**

Jose Bilbao, P.E. Chief, Rio Puerto Nuevo Section Jacksonville District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 701 San Marco Blvd Jacksonville, FL 32207 (904) 232-1031 (office) (561) 236-5106 (mobile) jose.d.bilbao@usace.army.mil



Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow

