

Metro Flood Study Work Group

November 20, 2009

The Honorable Collin Peterson
United States Congressman
State of Minnesota
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

As you know, after the record flooding in the Red River Valley in the spring of 2009, elected officials in Fargo, North Dakota and Moorhead, Minnesota, along with their counterparts in Cass County, North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota came together to address long term flood risk mitigation. The elected officials formed the Fargo/Moorhead/Cass/Clay Metropolitan Flood Planning Committee to work with the Corps of Engineers on a feasibility study to determine the most cost-effective approach to addressing flood protection in the metropolitan area as well as the surrounding rural subdivisions.

A final decision on the most beneficial plan meeting all the flood risk mitigation standards of the Corps will be decided in late December 2009; after the Corps has completed their feasibility study. The local sponsors will include the cities of Fargo and Moorhead and possibly the two counties when it is determined if a Minnesota or North Dakota solution is the best alternative.

The communities of Fargo and Moorhead are the local, non-federal sponsors for the Corps feasibility study. They will continue to be involved in the sponsorship and ownership of a Corps project once the final decision is made. The contact persons for the local, non-federal sponsors will be Pat Zavoral, Fargo City Administrator at 701-241-1310 and Michael Redlinger, Moorhead City Manager at 218-299-5301.

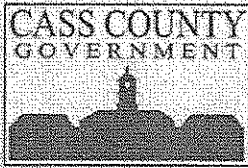
Sincerely,

Dennis Walaker
Mayor of Fargo

Mark Voxland
Mayor of Moorhead

Tim Mahoney, Co-Chair
Metro Flood Study Work Group

Kevin Campbell, Co-Chair
Metro Flood Study Work Group



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Dear Congressman Peterson:

Following up on our last correspondence relating to the sponsorship/ownership of a certified Corps of Engineers flood risk mitigation project for the Fargo/Moorhead/Cass/Clay metropolitan area, we have been asked to provide you with cost estimates for options currently being analyzed that will protect our metropolitan area and meet the Corps cost benefit standards.

The subcommittee comprised of all affected parties represented by elected officials in the two communities and counties have reached consensus on levels of protection - 500 year flood protection; method of protection - diversion around the communities (the route to be determined by January 1, 2010); and the minimum level of diversion volume - 35,000 cubic feet per second (as long as it meets the Corps benefit cost standard of 1/1 costs to asset protection level).

The range of costs for the options still under consideration is \$962 million to \$1.337 billion. These values include the local, non-federal share of the project which is currently eligible for cost share at 65% federal and 35% non-federal.

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