Projects Submitted by Congressman Donnelly for Consideration for Authorization through the Water Resources Development Act of 2010.

Authorization is different than the actual appropriation of funds, in that should the below authorization requests be granted, they are simply eligible for funds to be appropriated to them at a later date. The requests are listed in no particular order.

Study of Bowman Creek requested by the City of South Bend

On behalf of the City of South Bend, I requested authorization for the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study of Bowman Creek, the most troubled and ecologically-impaired contributor to the St. Joseph River watershed. The creek is mostly underground, creating stagnant, inaccessible pools during low flow and causing concern about contaminants and E. coli entering the St. Joseph River. The ultimate goal would be to "daylight" Bowman Creek, making it accessible during periods of low flow and allowing the water quality to be better managed.

Technical assistance for environmental infrastructure along the St. Joseph River requested by the City of South Bend

On behalf of the City of South Bend, I requested a $1.8 million authorization for the Army Corps of Engineers to provide technical assistance for the planning and design of water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development on a short span of the west bank of the St. Joseph River, including CSO mitigation. The span of the river lies between Leeper Park and Angela Boulevard. Additional benefits include erosion control of the riverbank and the potential for riverfront development.

A new storage and pump facility requested by the City of Elkhart

On behalf of the City of Elkhart, I requested a $2.4 million authorization for the Army Corps of Engineers to assist in the planning, design, and construction of a new storage and pump facility. The facility would provide offline storage to capture wet weather overflow from combined sewer overflow (CSO) 31 and return it back to the sewer system for treatment after the rain event has passed instead of allowing untreated flow to reach the river. In a typical year, CSO 31 overflows 19 times and releases five million gallons of untreated waste into the Elkhart River. The construction of the 80,000 gallon storage basin should reduce these to eight occurrences releasing 2.7 million gallons. The proposed project, which is one of the components of the city's CSO Long Term Control Plan, reduces the impact of the CSO that enters the river in an area with multiple parks, education facilities and river walks. The reduction in volume and frequency of the overflows will dramatically improve the water quality of the river.