

State of Indiana

Senate

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Committees:
Elections, R.M.M.
Ethics, R.M.M.
Education & Career Development
Insurance & Financial Institutions

March 25, 2009

The Honorable Mitch Daniels
Governor, State of Indiana
State House
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Governor Daniels:

I am writing to request your assistance in providing funding for the completion of the Little Calumet River Flood Control and Recreation project. This project is a priority for the welfare of the residents of Northwest Indiana.

Major floods along this corridor have raised grave concerns for the safety of homeowners and their families. In September 2008 the flood damage in this area was so severe that many homeowners are still unable to return to their homes. Unfortunately, the extent of flood damage has left some of these homes simply beyond repair.

On behalf of the constituents of my home district and on behalf of all residents of Northwest Indiana, I request a state appropriation of \$15 million to complete this critical project. Additionally, I request that this project be considered in the state's use of the federal funds we will receive from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Future consequences of not funding this central flood project are many. First and foremost, the safety of thousands of families is at risk each time the water rises. According to the Army Corps of Engineers, when this project is completed it will prevent an average of \$11 million in flood damage each year. Nearly 10,000 houses will no longer need flood insurance, resulting in millions of dollars in savings for homeowners living in the area. Additionally, economic development will be stimulated because approximately 4,000 acres will no longer remain in the floodplain and will become available for business growth and much needed jobs.

Please help complete this flood control project for the safety of our people and the opportunity of economic growth and development. Your early action and commitment is needed for this state emergency.

Sincerely,



Frank Mrvan
State Senator, District 1