



DANIEL J. CRONIN
COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN

DuPage County

(630) 407-6060

September 20, 2011

Honorable David Brummel
Mayor of the City of Warrenville
3S258 Manning Ave.
Warrenville, IL 60555

Dear Mayor Brummel,

We are in receipt of your August 29, 2011 letter and report requesting that action be taken by DuPage County in regards to the flooding caused by the West Branch of the DuPage River to the City of Warrenville. The protection of citizens and businesses from the terrible effects of flooding requires both the cooperation of the City and the County to maximize the benefits for those who have suffered from flooding. The County appreciates the efforts of the City of Warrenville to work along with the County to bring the necessary relief.

We understand that while the City is supportive of our efforts you have several concerns/requests that you would like addressed. You were kind enough to forward the preliminary draft of your letter to the County. We have already made some progress on several of your concerns/requests as you can see from the following responses.

Request #1: Provide written clarification of the estimated time-frame for the implementation of all preferred alternative planned flood mitigation improvements in Warrenville.

Response#1: The County has assigned design contracts with three consultants to begin the implementation of the plan. All of the improvements contained in the contracts are scheduled to start by late fall/early winter. They will be permitted over the winter and spring and ready for construction in the summer of 2012. The projects include the channel compensatory storage project, flood control berms for Bower School, River Road, Towne Tap, upstream of Warrenville Road, Emerald Green, Iroquois Court and Forestview. The projects will begin with the channel storage being constructed first and the berms, next progressing from downstream to upstream.

The identification of funding will control the ultimate schedule for completion of all planned improvements. As you will recall, between the Klein Creek Watershed Plan and the West Branch Watershed Plan the County needed to identify approximately \$6 million

in additional funding to complete all of the proposed projects (not including the Warrenville Road Bridge and the Williams Road Bridge). Through grants and cost savings on other bond related projects the County has already successfully identified \$1 million in additional funding for these projects. We continue to work with grant agencies and the private sector to obtain the additional funding. However, funds on hand will allow us to create the necessary channel storage and implement a significant portion of the berm work beginning in the 2012 construction season. The County will continue diligently to pursue funding opportunities for the projects..

The County understands that the City of Warrenville plans to secure federal funding to replace the Williams Road Bridge. The DuPage County Division of Transportation (DuDOT) had a kick-off meeting with FHWA and IDOT staff and has submitted information to IDOT to begin the process to obtain federal funds to replace the Warrenville Road Bridge. It is anticipated that agreements may be in place to allow engineering to begin in 2012.

Request #2: Written County commitment to design each of the individual County flood protection/mitigation projects to achieve maximum level of flood protection reasonably possible given technical and economic restraints and City/resident input.

Response #2: DuPage County Stormwater Management is committed to working with the City and its businesses and residents in the development of the proposed projects. It is our understanding that County staff has already reviewed preliminary designs for the Emerald Green, Iroquois Court and Forestview Drive berms with City staff and are awaiting responses from the City on several design option questions. We will continue to meet with City staff on all of the watershed plan projects to ensure the City's concerns are being addressed. Once the City and County have agreed on preliminary design plans, the County will then meet with the different areas to review the proposed plans and get input from the citizens/businesses. We anticipate being ready for the neighborhood meetings in late September/early October.

Concerns/Requests #'s 3, 4 & 5 each have several parts. To simplify the writing of this response letter we will not re-type the Concerns/Request verbatim. We will simply identify the appropriate section in our response. Please refer to your original correspondence for the complete Concern/Request wording.

Response #3

- A. Chairman Cronin has previously given direction to Director Kos to pursue funding for the replacement of the Warrenville Road Bridge. DuDOT is working

with IDOT to secure funding for the replacement of the bridge. It is our hope to have a funding agreement in place in early 2012.

- B. As previously stated, the County has already identified \$1 million in funding towards the West Branch/Klein Creek Watershed plans in addition to the funding that was previously committed in our bond issue. We have 3 applications for additional grants in progress and currently are completing a fourth grant application. Additionally, we are working with The Conservation Foundation to identify private sector funding opportunities that might be available.
- C. The County considers the Main Street. backflow preventer as part of the overall watershed plan; therefore, we are seeking funding to complete this portion of the work as well.

Response #4

- A. Although the County is not in a position to analyze the very complex issue of groundwater movement throughout the project reach, we are aware of the granular nature of soils in the project areas and will design our projects to address the groundwater issue in each project location.
- B. The County continuously updates our modeling and watershed planning efforts throughout the County. Although Ferry Creek is not being actively updated, we have instructed Director Charlton to work an update of Ferry Creek into our watershed updates as soon as reasonably possible.
- C. The County Board will consider providing funding for the voluntary buyout program as part of its 2012 budget consideration. Ultimately, it is up to the County Board to balance competing requests against available funding. If funding of the voluntary buyout program is a priority of the City of Warrenville we encourage you to make your District 6 Board Members aware of this priority.
- D. The County will pursue an update of the West Branch DuPage River floodplain mapping with FEMA at the conclusion of the plan implementation.
- E. The County has already contracted United States Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a flood forecast model for the West Branch. The USGS created the flood forecast model that is already in use for Salt Creek. In addition, the County has requested the National Weather Service Association (NOAA) to develop a flood forecast point for the West Branch in Warrenville. This forecast point will not have the accuracy of the County's forecast model once developed, however, it can

be implemented quicker and will provide a better tool for flood event planning than what currently exists for the City and the County. The request to National Weather Service (NWS) has already been made and we anticipate hearing from them before the end of October.

- F. This request will also be considered by the County Board during its 2012 budget adoption process.

Response #5

- A. The County has already started work on this request. We have had discussions with the City of Naperville who indicated a willingness to support this operational modification subject to the County providing documentation that property owners downstream of Fawell Dam will not be adversely affected. Preliminary analysis by County staff indicates that we should be able to provide this documentation. It is important to have Naperville's concurrence before we submit to the State of Illinois for modification of the dam's operations plan. The State would be unlikely to approve a modification of the operating plan without the support of the downstream community.
- B. See Response 5A.
- C. DuDOT has reviewed the cost of removing the accumulated sediment in the west cell of the Warrenville Road Bridge. Without widening the channel to the west both upstream and downstream of the bridge, both DuDOT and Stormwater Management engineers believe removal of this sediment would only provide a minimal change to current flood levels. DuDOT would prefer to use the County funding to begin the engineering for a replacement structure.
- D. At the request of neighboring residents, the current lights on the dam are left off, other than when staff is present during operations,. We feel it is important to honor that commitment with our neighbors. However, we are exploring different illuminators for our cameras and different types of staff gages that we hope will make the numbers more legible during night time hours. County staff will keep City staff updated on the progress.
- E. The County has re-verified the elevations on the pole staff gages and have found them to be accurate.
- F. The County has a number of staff gages throughout the county including the upstream side of Warrenville Road that are used for the operations of our

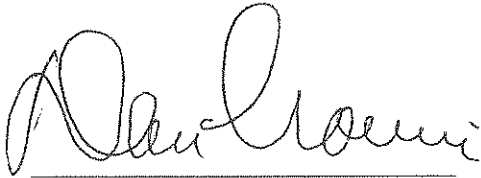
facilities, however, we do not have funding for a general staff gage program. Respectfully, we are not able to implement this request at this time. As each of these bridges is owned/managed by DuDOT we would be willing to allow the City to install the requested gages subject to obtaining a permit from DuDOT.

- G. The County has implemented a weekly check/cleaning process for each of our cameras. Unfortunately, due to the orientation of the Fawell Dam, there are certain periods of the day when glare from the rising sun is impossible to prevent. If you need elevation information during such a period, please contact County Stormwater operations staff for the most current readings.
- H. The County is in the process of updating its web pages and will add more operations information. Please check back frequently for new information.
- I. The County operates Fawell Dam in accordance with all applicable laws and permits. On the issue of maintenance of debris from in front of the dam, daily checks through camera observation and once per week visual inspections are performed. Due to the dams location within a forest preserve the accumulation of woody debris is inevitable and the immediate removal of each piece of wood is not financially practical. During each camera/visual inspection an assessment is made regarding the immediate need to remove the accumulated debris. If immediate removal is not necessary, we schedule our third party stream maintenance contractor to remove the debris once a full day's work has accumulated. This minimizes the costs to our stream maintenance program. If immediate removal is required, we have a separate series of rates from our contractor already in-place and have working agreements with the Forest Preserve District, DuPage County Public Works and DuDOT to have the debris removed on an emergency basis.
- J. The County would comply with all applicable Dam Safety Permit requirements should we propose any modifications to the Dam operation or the flood protection pool behind the Dam.
- K. The County will provide the City with the available reports.

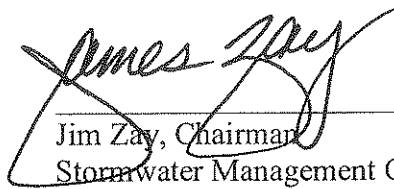
We hope this adequately addresses the City's current concerns/requests. We look forward to working with the City to implement the County's West Branch of the DuPage River Watershed Plan in the City of Warrentville.

City of Warrenville
September 20, 2011
Page 6

Sincerely,



Daniel Cronin, Chairman
DuPage County Board



Jim Zay, Chairman
Stormwater Management Committee