

Skagit Regional Planning Council

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LARRY O. HJORTEN

DONALD WALLEY vice-chairman

FRED S. MARTIN secretary

TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS

AT A PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1979

IN MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON

IAN S. MUNCE, AICP executive director

JONETTE PALMER administrative assistant A-95 coordinator

To: Colonel Poteat, Jr.

District Engineer, Corps of Engineers

The Skagit Regional Planning Council is a council of governments composed of elected officials representing general and special purpose units of local government in Skagit County. The members are the cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Concrete, Hamilton, La Conner, Lyman, Mount Vernon, Sedro Woolley; Skagit County, the Skagit Soil Conservation District, Skagit PUD, the Port of Anacortes, and the Swinomish Tribal Community.

The Council's responsibilities include recommending long range planning objectives for incorporated and unincorporated Skagit County and engaging in continuing and cooperative planning efforts and programs covering land use, transportation, housing, economic development, open space, natural resources development, community facilities and general improvement of living environments.

Through our planning program the Council has established what we believe to be a comprehensive program of capital improvements directed at meeting the needs of our community. The project identified as the number one priority in this program is the Lower Levee Flood Control Project.

It is the position of the Council that this project is urgently needed to protect both our urban areas and our farms. A major flood would be catastrophic, causing extensive damage to property and endangering the lives of those who live and work in the floodplain. We strongly support this project for early construction as a minimum measure for providing flood protection for the lower valley and the urban areas up to the city of Sedro Woolley.

Skagit County will provide necessary local cooperation for any flood protection measures. The Regional Council wishes to work very closely with both the Corps and the County and assist in any way we can to help to expedite the completion of the levees.

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