CITY OF BURLINGTON

BURLINGTON, WASHINGTON 98233

March 22, 1978

Corps of Engineers

Gentlemen:

The Burlington City Council and I express our thanks and appreciation for the Skagit River Levee and Channel Improvement study and the information provided.

Referring to draft No. 1, dated March 1978, we urge that, as a minimum, the Corps recommend to the Federal Congress the adoption of Alternate 3. We actually hope that the final conclusions will justify Alternate 4 and possibly Alternate 6.

Should the study not recommend Alternates 4 or 6 we hope they will be retained in a status which would permit prompt reconsideration if circumstances change.

The lower Skagit River Delta has been developed into a very valuable piece of real estate, providing a most attractive environment in which to live. Neglecting to provide reasonable protection for this investment, and this environment, could only be considered gross negligence.

With reference to the alternates requiring adjustments to the river environment upstream, it seems the gain in protection for the environment downstream, when considering the comparative value, fully justifies the adjustments. We need only remind ourselves that Skagit County is valued, for tax purposes, over one billion dollars, a large part of which is subject to flood damage, and that the City of Burlington is valued, for tax purposes, over fifty-five million dollars all of which is subject to flood damage.

Thank you,

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Raymond C. Henery Mayor

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