



MESSAGE TO RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS

FROM: Mayor Anderson and City Council

DATE: July 10, 2014

REGARDING: Skagit River General Investigation Study Comment Period

DEADLINE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS: July 21, 2014

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Skagit County recently published the Draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement for the Skagit River General Investigation Study. This study includes a tentatively selected plan for providing flood control on the Skagit River system called the Comprehensive Urban Levy Improvement plan. The urban levy improvements are designed to protect Burlington and Mount Vernon and also include protection for Sedro-Woolley's wastewater treatment plant and United General Hospital.

Post-project modeling is not complete enough to know the extent to which flood risk will be transferred from current flood zones to current non-flood zones, but it is clear that some transfer of risk is contemplated by the draft report. Commissioner Dillon told the City Council that she was told that she would be walking through water at her house during a 100 year flood event. Her house is located on Fidalgo Street.

The Sedro-Woolley City Council and Mayor Anderson are very concerned that providing taller levies for Burlington and tying those levies to higher ground will back water up to Sedro-Woolley, causing flooding where none has existed in the past and forcing property owners who have never been in the flood zones to purchase federal flood insurance (\$\$\$). The draft report does not have adequate detail to understand the possible transfer of risks and impacts to Sedro-Woolley.

The City Council adopted Resolution 902-14 on July 9, 2014 which provides the City's comments on the plan. As a resident or property owner on the south side of the city, you are encouraged to provide your comments and questions as part of the process. **The deadline for comment to be received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is July 21, 2014.** A form is attached and may be mailed or comments may be emailed to Hannah Hadley at Skagit.River@usace.army.mil; she may also be contacted at (206) 764-6950.

WE NEED YOUR HELP, PLEASE COMMENT TODAY.