



Skagit County Government Community Report

March 2009 Issue



COMMISSIONER'S REPORT SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONER *Kenneth A. Dahlstedt*, District 2

Kudos to the Flood Control Zone Advisory Committee

When we re-activated the Skagit County Flood Control Zone District last year and appointed a 12-member advisory committee and three technical committees we knew we were in for some hard work.

Let's face it, finding viable solutions for flood control that can help one without hurting another is no easy task. Last month the advisory committee made great progress in sorting through the 38 measures

for flood control presented last summer by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Representatives from the Environmental, Dike and Drainage District, and Land Use Committee weighed in, many times playing the devil's advocate on what an outcome might be.

Our hope is when this diverse group of Skagit County citizens digest all the information, discuss it thoroughly, and make recommendations to the Board of Skagit County Commissioners, we'll be ready to move forward and build projects that protect the environment and Skagit County citizens.

We appreciate the patience of all the participants. At times, it has been slow and laborious, but we are getting there. I sincerely believe that we are on the right track and the committee work being done today will pay huge dividends in the future. We have to stay at the table and get the job done.



Commissioner
Kenneth A. Dahlstedt

Skagit County requests federal funding to complete Skagit River General Investigation Study

Skagit County has requested federal funding for fiscal year 2010 for the Skagit River Investigation Study in partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for \$1.3 million. An additional request for \$1.3 million for 2011, and \$600,000 in 2012 has been made to complete the project.

"We are requesting continued funding of the Corps of Engineers Skagit River Flood Control General Investigation Study," said Skagit County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt. "Once completed, this will

be the blueprint for flood control projects that will protect lives and infrastructure in our community."

Recent flooding in the Skagit River basin and frequent floods in the past decade continue to cost millions of dollars in damage to both public and private property.

"Skagit County has made a very strong commitment to the General Investigation Study process with our partner the Corps," said Dahlstedt. "Flooding is the largest threat to public safety and economical viabil-

ity here. We appreciate the support of our Congressional delegation in helping us fund this necessary process."

Skagit County also requested \$3,500,000 of funding from the Federal Highway Administration to improve the Skagit River bridge corridor for flood control focusing on the setback of levees and replacing the Burlington Northern Sante Fe railroad bridge.