

mentioned admittedly have been "rocks in the road" to our total flood plain management. Right now we're banging over some of these rocks and going around others as if they didn't exist. We need to begin to involve ourselves and study the regulations and history of flood plain management so that we can understand flood plain management within its proper context. And that's where I think some of us are getting into trouble. We think this is another Federal regulation and it is, but, it should lead to something better for people whose lives are affected by what happens in this country's flood plains. We must begin to want to work with all possible entities, cities, counties, flood control districts, State and Federal agencies, whatever, to let them know what criteria we believe are fair and reasonable. After all, we do have some expertise in the transportation community, since we've been involved in flood plains for several decades now, and also have a contribution to make to mankind through continued development of usable transportation facilities.

Many mistakes have been made but we've learned a few things. Besides, we spend many millions of dollars there so we have a right not to just criticize what's being done, but to tell people through diplomatic disagreement, if you will, and with facts, what it is that we think is reasonable and just. We must support research to develop better tools and information. Both hydrologic and hydraulic methodology is important.

Much of the impact which involves criteria and methodology that is being experienced by highway engineers today can be resolved through the interdisciplinary actions of concerned entities and individuals, who, when considering the seriousness of the impact on transportation, will help develop uniform criteria and methodology while providing a service of keeping the transportation engineer well informed about rules, regulations, city ordinances, etc., so that he can perform his task in concert with those who strive for good flood plain management. I believe we are all playing the same game so I suggest that we get into the same ballpark.

FLOOD CONTROL IN ILLINOIS

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The State of Illinois has recently completed a two-year study of its flood problems and issued a report entitled "Flood Control in Illinois, a Statement of Program and Policy," dated May 1975. The significance attached to this study may be judged by the fact that it was carried out by The Governor's Task Force on Flood Control. The material which follows is adopted from that report.

Although the Illinois report cannot be assumed to represent the views of any other State, it may be indicative of the position in other States which have taken a recent, hard look at their flood experience and management system.

Illinois suffers flood damages in excess of \$100 million annually. We must invest our flood control dollars, both state and federal, in the most efficient program possible. Until now, we have not. For example:

1. Our state investment has been inadequate: in the nine years between 1964 and 1973 only \$11 million was spent on urban flood control projects, \$4 million less than our budgeting for FY 76 alone.
2. Our state dollar investment has been inefficient, without regard for the most severe problem areas and without analysis of cost-benefit ratios.
3. State projects have consisted primarily of piecemeal channelization which often causes environmental damage, increases flooding downstream and is only a temporary solution.
4. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has pursued its own flood control objectives without coordination with state priorities.
5. Urban flood control problems in Illinois have been ignored by the Corps - less than \$2 million a year is allocated for urban flood control projects.
6. No level of government has seriously attempted to discourage homes and businesses from being built on the flood plains.
7. Flood control planning procedures are so cumbersome that they cannot respond quickly to small, obvious problems.
8. Too many flood victims have heard from State Government in the past, "That's not our problem."
9. The State, too, in the past, has not been flexible or responsive enough to provide real help in emergency flooding situations.
10. The only major effect on agricultural flooding, the Soil Conservation Service's small watershed program (PL 566), has been paralyzed by lack of federal funds.

11. The special districts which sponsor agricultural flood control projects have been hampered by technical, legal and constitutional problems.

12. Local governments have lacked the expertise and the resources to solve their own flooding and drainage problems.

These problems can no longer be ignored. We propose a comprehensive attack that coordinates the resources of local, State and Federal Governments to accomplish the following goals in Illinois:

1. TO REDUCE THE URBAN FLOOD DAMAGES PRESENTLY OCCUR
2. TO PREVENT FUTURE FLOOD DAMAGES,
3. TO SPEED UP AND STRENGTHEN THE STATE'S RESPONSE TO LIMITED FLOODING PROBLEMS,
4. TO SEEK REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROPERTY DAMAGES WHERE FLOODING CANNOT BE FEASIBLY ELIMINATED,
5. TO REDUCE AGRICULTURAL FLOOD DAMAGES PRESENTLY OCCURRING IN ILLINOIS, and
6. TO STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO SOLVE URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD PROBLEMS.

Our first goal must be to reduce the urban flood damages presently occurring in Illinois. We must begin to inventory and rank problems by severity so that we have priorities for the elimination of the flooding problems that exist today. The most severely flood damaged areas must receive immediate priority assistance from both the State and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

State flood control projects will be designed to maximize economic efficiency and minimize environmental damage.

We must commit our state dollars to those projects which give us the greatest benefits with the least costs. Our budget should include only those projects which are the best investment of dollars for the people of Illinois.

We must increase federal financial participation in the solving of urban flood control problems.

We must obtain the participation and support of local governments in all state flood control planning.

We must give thorough interagency review to all federal flood control projects requiring comment by the Governor.

The second goal is to prevent future flood damages. Land development along the flood plains has increased faster than our ability to solve flooding problems. We must prevent new damagable development on the flood plains of Illinois.

We must protect our investment of state dollars by building state flood control projects only where there are restrictions on further building in the flood plain.

We must provide data to local governments to implement their own flood plain regulations. Local governments have the authority and the immediate responsibility for implementation of flood plain regulation. But, a legally acceptable flood plain map is very costly, and most local governmental units prefer to avoid this expenditure.

Federal flood control projects not requiring state funds must be constructed only where there are local flood plain regulations.

State permits under the River and Lakes Act shall be granted only if they do not lead to increased flood damages.

The State will insure that flood plain regulations implemented by local, State or Federal Governments shall be compatible.

No state agency will take direct or indirect actions that will increase flood damages on Illinois flood plains.

The third goal is to speed up and strengthen the State's response to limited flooding problems.

The State shall establish a work force adequate to deal with emergency flooding problems.

The State shall improve its capability for solving limited flooding problems.

The State will provide assistance to all local units of government in solving water damage related problems and complaints.

Our fourth goal is to seek reimbursement for property damages where flooding cannot be feasibly eliminated.

Illinois communities with identified flood hazard areas must participate in the Federal Flood Insurance Program before grants are approved.

Residents of flood hazard areas must be made aware of the 90% federally subsidized flood insurance that is available to them.

To insure that all Illinois citizens and communities have full access to maximum disaster assistance.

Our fifth goal is to reduce agricultural flood damages presently occurring in Illinois.

To direct the federal activities in agricultural flood control toward state determined priorities.

The planning activity of the small watershed program of the Soil Conservation Service (PL 566) in Illinois will be increased twofold.

Technical problems encountered by local governments and special districts sponsoring agricultural flood control projects will be solved with state help.

Our sixth goal is to strengthen the ability of local governments to solve urban drainage and flood problems. Local governments possess planning and regulatory authority to help solve drainage and flooding problems, but frequently lack the expertise and resources necessary to implement them.

Local governments shall be given assistance in solving flood problems.

The State will only implement flood control projects where there are compatible local government storm drainage plans to avoid future flood damages.

The State will help local governments provide adequate storm drainage for their citizens without damaging the property of others.