



Fulton County

Commissioners

125 E. 9th Street / Rochester, Indiana 46975

February 27, 2009

Richard Lugar
1180 Market Tower
10 W. market St.
Indianapolis IN 46204

Dear Senator Lugar,

This letter is to inform you of the urgency by which we need funding for the Dam at the Mt. Zion pond in Fulton County. Your efforts to assist this project by obtaining authorization for Funding through WRDA as well as the partial funding already set aside are greatly appreciated. The Bridge funding has been authorized but is in jeopardy because of the ability to move ahead with the project due to the shortfall of funding for the dam.

This situation has a high priority in Fulton County due to the number of lives, property's, and critical infrastructure that will be affected if measures are not taken immediately to remedy the situation. Fulton County has exhausted all of its internal resources, and made all efforts possible including the development of an emergency action plan, in an attempt to mitigate this threat.

Bridge 88 has been deteriorating over the past several years as proven by the State Bridge Inspection findings, visual inspection, and photography taken by the Fulton County Highway Department, as well as emergency management. The most recent visual inspection was conducted last week and a report is attached for your consideration. Bridge 88 is heavily used by Responders to emergencies in Fulton County. The loss of the Bridge would increase response time, and threaten greater loss of life and property. The gaps in the box beams on the bridge also pose a safety threat to those residents that use Mr. Zion mill pond for recreation.

Mt. Zion Mill pond Dam, which is integral to Bridge 88, also poses many threats to Fulton County, the largest being failure of the Dam. Mt. Zion mill pond Dam was originally constructed for use by a local grist mill. The dam now holds back the waters of Mt. Zion Mill pond. The pond in its normal state encompasses approximately 27 acres and 60,000,000 gallons of water. The pond can grow in size due to heavy rains and

flooding to 55 acres. When this Dam fails the waters will move down stream thru Rain Creek and into Lake Manitou. Lake Manitou waters would rise to flood levels in a matter of minutes with little chance for evacuation or warning to its many residents. Lake Manitou waters are also held back by a Dam which would give great concern of failure due to the added stress. Lake Manitou empties into Mill Creek which flows past Fulton counties only Hospital, Rochester Metal Products, and Water Haven elderly living center. Preliminary findings from the National Weather Service show that failure of the 2 Dam's would send a 6 – 8 foot waver much like a tsunami down Mill Creek. This wave would affect the entire first floor of the Hospital, Rochester Metal Products, and all of the residences of Water Haven elderly living center. Dam failure would also affect 2 major response routes, first being Bridge 88, and the second being Bridge at 4th street in downtown Rochester.

Due to this major threat to our community and residents Fulton County needs immediate attention in this very critical situation. The only true safe guard to protect life and property in Fulton County is to replace Bridge 88 and Mt Zion Mill Pond Dam.

In closing we feel that we are very close to moving forward with this project. All pre- construction hurdles are cleared and the project is ready for initiation with the one exception of the remaining funding needed on the Dam. We respectfully request your assistance in this matter and look forward to the safety and infrastructure improvement that will be gained for the citizens of Fulton County.

Respectfully,



Mark Rodriguez, President of Commissioners



Roger Rose, Commissioner



Sherry Fulton, Commissioner

Fulton County Highway Department
1037 South State Road 25
Rochester, In. 46975
David Tofson, Superintendent
Phone- 574-223-2385
Fax- 574-223-9852
E-mail-fulcohwy@rtcol.com

Subject: Bridge No. 00088

To: Fulton County Commissioners

CC: American Structure Point Inc.

The structural integrity of Bridge No. 00088 located in Fulton County Indiana has hit a point of deterioration that calls for immediate attention and emergent concern. Points of concern that have changed dramatically within the last 5 years are as follows.

Gap widening in shear keys: 2004 Phase II inspection stated leakage at shear keys.

2006 Phase I inspection stated shear keys 4" gap.

Estimated Life 2004 - 2006 Inspections.

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2006</u>
A. Wearing Surface:	01 years	01 years
B. Deck:	25 years	20 years
C. Joints:	N/A	N/A
D. Superstructure:	25 years	20 years
E. Substructure:	10 years	5 years
F. Approach:	08 years	5 years
G. Channel:	15 years	15 years

Bridge Sufficiency Rating.

Bridge No. 00088	<u>2004</u>	<u>2006</u>
	43 Structurally Deficient	38

The 2008 Phase II report shows a sufficiency rating of 38. Bridge No. 00088 has remained the Number One priority for Bridge Replacements since 2004.

Bridge No. 00088 and the roadway that travels over it has historically been a heavily used route for large trucks, school buses, and local motor vehicle traffic. This road also serves as a time critical emergency response route to southern parts of Fulton County.

David Tofson
Superintendent
Fulton County Highway Department
(574)223-2385
fulcohwy@rtcol.com