



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Periodic Inspection Results for the Des Moines River – City of Des Moines, Iowa Local Flood Damage Reduction Project (Downtown) – Right Descending Bank of the Des Moines River and left Descending Bank of the Raccoon River

The Des Moines, Iowa Local Flood Protection Project (LFPP) is a federally authorized and non-federally operated and maintained urban flood protection project. The Des Moines, Iowa Flood Damage Reduction Project (Downtown) was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944, Public Law 534, 78th Congress, 2nd Session, approved on December 22, 1944.

The inspection portion of the project is located on the west (right descending) bank of the Des Moines River between river miles 202 and 204 and on the north (left descending) bank of the Raccoon River between river miles 0 and 2.6. Other levee systems in the operated by maintained by the City of Des Moines, Iowa were not Periodically Inspected. The system of levees and floodwalls was completed in 1971.

The City of Des Moines is responsible for operating and maintaining the Local Flood Protection Project system.

The five year Periodic Inspection of the Des Moines Levee System: Des Moines River RDB and Raccoon River LDB, occurred on April 26 and 27, 2010. The local sponsor shows an active response to operation and maintenance of the project; however, some deficiencies were noted and actions are required. The overall system rating recommended by the contractor who conducted the inspection was unacceptable based on the deficiencies identified in the report.

The Rock Island District received comments from the Sponsor in response to the draft Periodic Inspection Report. Those comments and responses were considered during the levee risk analysis used to determine the final inspection rating. Several deficiencies were determined to be temporary conditions allowing the rating of the system to be appropriately based on an engineering determination of risk.

The Rock Island District has determined that the existing departures from USACE National standards identified during the Periodic Inspection result in an appropriate rating of the levee system as **Minimally Acceptable**. The Rock Island District rating supersedes the contractor's rating.

Issues that could impair the operation of the system and are in the most need of action:

- Unwanted vegetation is present within the vegetation-free zone of the levee system as defined by ETL 1110-2-571.
- Insufficient sod cover.
- Encroachments exist along portions of the levee which will interfere with flood fighting efforts if proper coordination and procedures are not implemented.
- A sidewalk traverses the line of protection at Station 99+00, and is lower than the adjacent line of projection.
- The Animal Control program needs improvement at a few locations.
- Numerous depressions/rutting along the levee alignment
- Insufficient amounts of riprap along portions of the riverside levee slope.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY- Des Moines River – City of Des Moines, Des Moines River RDB and Raccoon River LDB Local Flood Control Project Periodic Inspection Results - Page 2

- The foundation at the end of the Gatewell O structure was observed to be undermined.
- Severely corroded and bent metallic parts at gates at Station 97+00 and at Gatewell M at Station 41+56. Gate 175B is not in place.
- Pump No. 1 at the SW 9th Street Pump Station is currently out of service.

The next annual Inspection will be scheduled after October 1, 2011, with periodic inspections currently scheduled every five years.