

ROD BLUM
1ST DISTRICT, IOWA

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

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February 2, 2016

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2017 budget, we respectfully request the inclusion of funding for the Flood Risk Management project in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Congress authorized this project in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) and it has yet to receiving federal funding.

In June 2008, Cedar Rapids was devastated by flood waters, resulting in an estimated \$2.4 billion of destruction—destroying or damaging thousands of residential and commercial properties, along with important local government buildings such as the police station, courthouse, and City Hall. Following the devastation, plans were initiated to construct levees, floodwalls, and closure structures on the banks of the Cedar River.

Unfortunately, to date, the project has not been appropriated any federal funds or included in a Presidential budget and therefore, leaves a major Iowa city susceptible to future devastation. Congress has validated this project by specifically authorizing it into law and if the project does not receive funds quickly, it could be de-authorized. While we recognize the number of worthy projects and the limited availability of funding for all of them, this project is of the utmost importance as we work to prevent a similar catastrophe in the future and protect the lives and property of Iowans.

If you have questions, please contact Peter Mihalick, Legislative Director and Counsel in Mr. Blum's office via email at peter.mihalick@mail.house.gov or Mitch Adams, Legislative Assistant in Mr. Loeb sack's office at mitch.adams@mail.house.gov.

We look forward to working with you to see the inclusion of the Cedar Rapids flood project in your Fiscal Year 2017 budget and a quick and successful completion of the project in the near future.



Rod L. Blum
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Dave Loeb sack
Member of Congress

Cc: Director Shaun Donovan, Office of Management and Budget