



April 1, 2024

Mr. Karl Jansen
Army Corps of Engineers Deputy District Engineer
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Mr. Jansen:

Please consider this request by the City of Minot for United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Planning Assistance to States and Tribes (PAS) for evaluation and study of water quality concerns within the oxbow cut offs (dead loops) in Minot, ND.

The dead loops in Minot are a result of the federal flood control project constructed in Minot during the late 70s and early 80s. Due to channelization of the Souris River through Minot, some long meanders in the river were cut off which resulted in isolated sections of river channel that remain connected to the main river through control structures. During spring runoff the up and downstream control structures are opened to flush and refill the dead loops with fresh water. However, after spring runoff, the flow in the river frequently drops to a negligible level, thus eliminating the ability to flush. During these times, the dead loops become isolated and stagnant resulting in algae and duckweed blooms. The areas become mosquito breeding grounds and frequently get reported by residents due to odor concerns.

The City of Minot is requesting assistance to find potential solutions to the listed concerns. It is imperative any solutions will be compatible with the long-term design and construction of the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Plan.

The City of Minot understands that any study costs would be shared 50/50 pursuant to the terms of a Cost Share Agreement. Please consider providing assistance for a comprehensive plan under Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act.

Sincerely,

Jason Sorenson
Utilities Director

★The Magic City★

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