

Appendix H

Public Involvement

This appendix contains documentation of public engagement which occurred during the course of the study, including an initial public meeting in 2004 where conceptual alternatives were presented, a meeting with homeowners in 2006 to gauge interest in structure elevation (a non-structural measure), and a second public meeting in 2006 where the final array of alternatives was presented.

Correspondence with State and Federal agencies can be found at the back of Appendix F – Environmental Assessment.

Comments
Ste Genevieve Tributaries Public Meeting
25 February 2004

1. [REDACTED] – Floodplain of South Gabouri Creek

Comments: Need to re-consider some up stream ponding.

2. [REDACTED] – Floodplain of North Gabouri Creek

Comments: Consider raising LaHaye 2 feet and raise and widen the bridges. The 4th Street bridge is a bottleneck and it backs up from there. Nobody ever asked any of the residents what they think. I think that should be done. I have a better idea.

3. [REDACTED] – Near North Gabouri Creek but outside the floodplain

Comments: I would think simple cleanout of the channel fill and debris accumulated over decades would increase the capacity. The Tower Rock Quarry mine plan will mine areas east of North Gabouri Creek over the next 20 years. Flood routing to the Mississippi River would be possible. Underground mining technology is available.

Questions: What is the flood estimated capacity for the 100-year storm for each drainage? Please provide data on lime deposits in South Gabouri Creek.

4. [REDACTED] – Near North Gabouri Creek but outside of floodplain

Comments: Prefer Channel and Levee alternative because it protects ALL homes. Concerned about ponding on the “dry” side of the levee. Concerned about the property values of owners who have to have their driveways elevated in order to access the street in the LaHaye Levee alternative. Very interested in saving the very historic properties. This is the basis for having the levee.

5. [REDACTED] – Floodplain of North Gabouri Creek

Comments: Plans 1 and 2 (North Gabouri) concern us because of the hill behind LaHaye. During a rain storm, a tremendous amount of water runs down to LaHaye Street and unless adequate drainage is provided, there will be flooding behind your levee. My alternative suggestion is simply to just dig out the creeks. Make them wider and deeper and to replace the bridges on 3rd and 4th streets so more water can flow freely when flash flooding occurs. This may not protect us against a 100-year flood but it will help against the majority of them and will be more cost efficient.

I am concerned with raising the streets along 3rd and 4th streets as we as LaHaye. If the streets are raised, peoples’ property will be lower than the streets. This will create ponding on properties that will become a problem during heavy rain storms.

6. [REDACTED] – Floodplain of South Gabouri Creek

Comments: I favor the authorized plan with the 20' ditch with 2:1 slopes but I feel that the only way to get full benefit from this is to change the RR bridge at Main Street to a wider span for the supports at the channel to get them out of the channel. The skew of the supports may need to be change too. If all this isn't done the debris against the existing supports will continue to act as a dam.

Concerned that there is thought given to the possible changes in flooding in the lower part of the creek by making changes in the upper part in both the North and South Gabouri Creeks. I have property in the lower part on both creeks.

If new bridges are to be built or existing ones altered in the historic district, thought should be taken on the appearance and style of the news structures in a historic area.

I am going to put \$200,000 to \$300,000 into restoring the [REDACTED] House at 93 Gabouri. I would like some assurance that tampering with the stream from Main Street to Highway 61 will not make the situation worse from Main Street to the new Burlington Northern RR Bridge near the sewer treatment plant.

If anything is done in the Gabouri Street and Main Street area it should be done with street clearance under the RR bridge in mind. We need more clearance than we have now certainly not less.

On the North Gabouri project, if there is material removed from the creek, I feel that any excess from the project should be trucked to the old creekbed between 3rd Street and 2nd Street and fill it in as it is a breeding area for mosquitos and snakes.

7. [REDACTED] – Floodplain of North Gabouri Creek

Comments: My house is #463 on the North Gabouri drawings. Option 1 would leave my house on the creek side during flash flooding with no protection. Option 2 would be my preferred choice. The creek channel would be moved away from my house and a levee would be between my house and the creek. Option 3 would not work. It would probably cost as much or more to elevate my house as much as I bought it for.

(Also would like us to consider) option #4 which wasn't discussed. Buy out. If the Corps goes with Option 1, I'll be stuck with no protection and if there is too much mitigation for Option 2, I will be willing to be bought out at a fair price.

8. [REDACTED] – home near North Gabouri Creek but outside floodplain (some property in floodplain)

Comments: Prefer the channel and levee option, but with three very important modifications (there is no logical reason these three can't be made – just listen to the people affected). A) Property #452 [REDACTED] property – historical building) must be bought out. These people want to be bought out and should be – 11 people in favor and 1 against is a majority. A solution to the historic value of the building can and will be found. The structure has added on to and modified many times. The only part of the structure with historical value is a one room vertical log cabin in the center of the building. This can be and should be moved. The price of the property is under \$100,000 and very affordable solution to the problem. It's too bad a historical building has to be moved – but after all, few people know anything now about the structure. It's not in a very accessible area anyhow. B) There is no reason for the creek road to be cut off! My

property is in that area and a solution is very practical and cost effective! C) Flow can be made to enter the creek bend in the old creek. A simple drainage system could be designed into the project.

Concerned about ponding areas.

Feels we need more public discussion.

9. [REDACTED] – floodplain of North Gabouri Creek

Comments: The best solution to the flooding problem would be to widen and deepen the existing channels. Ninety years ago, the deepest water running in the North Gabouri was estimated to be 12' by our recent ancestors. Since then the existing channel has raised above the floodplain due to sediment deposition decreasing the available water level to 4' (approximately 0.10 ft of sediment deposited per year), the channel can't hold as much flood water. If levees are built along the creek, sediment deposition will continue to raise the creek even higher above the floodplain. The future potential exists for a truly disastrous flood because if the levee should be breached, the entire stream would flow over the valley floor.

The LaHaye Street Levee would make many driveways inaccessible or unsafe and would cause the Historical Home #452 greater chance of being flooded. The purpose of the Federal grant was to protect the historical homes in Ste Genevieve, not flood them protecting non-historical homes.

Altering the channel and building levees near Home #452 would cut off our main entrance leaving us to access our property using a hazardous route due to the steep incline of the road. We would also be in danger during flash floods because we would be cut off from our only escape route. This proposed solution is disturbing because of the hazards created and the plan requires 5 of 8 acres of my property. Another issue that was not considered is that a natural spring and large run off of water would be on the wrong side of this proposed levee. If this historical home would be sold to the city, some of the problems with this proposed solution wouldn't exist.

Elevation and flood-proofing is not feasible for Home #452. It could not be elevated because vertical log walls of which one side is supported by a horizontal log would ultimately lead to the destruction of this home.

The proposed solutions would be a temporary fix which would end up reducing the quality of life for Ste Genevieve residents and local wild life by decreasing access to these water resources which could be developed into a usable recreational resource. Please consider my proposal to restore the creek channels to their previous discharge capacity therefore creating a more natural habitat which would sustain an increased quality of aquatic life while protecting the area from a potentially disastrous flood.

People with homes that are affected by flood prevention should be allowed to create a committee of citizens to be personally involved in the development of more reasonable solutions. Can officials create a citizen based committee which can be more involved in deciding what solutions would truly benefit this town as a whole?

10. [REDACTED] – floodplain of North Gabouri Creek

Comments: I have thought long and hard about this. You would not have to buy many of us out to solve this problem. I have spoken with neighbors and some, many off the record, agree. Levees on this part of the creek are going to create more problems at LaHaye and 4th Street and LaHaye and 6th Street.

**Official Vote Results
 Public Meeting – 25 February 2004**

Group 1 – North Gabouri Creek

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
LaHaye Levee	1	10	1
Channel and Levee	12	1	0
Elevation/Floodproofing	0	1	12

Group 2 – North Gabouri Creek

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
LaHaye Levee	1	2	7
Channel and Levee	8	1	1
Elevation/Floodproofing	1	6	3

Group 3 – South Gabouri Creek

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
Authorized Plan	4	2	3
Levee	1	3	2
Elevation/Floodproofing	3	1	3

Note: many of the South Gabouri participants abstained from voting due to lack of specific information about floodproofing.

Photos
Public Meeting – 25 February 2004



Participants formed discussion groups based on which Creek they were interested in.



Participants looked at maps to locate their structures along each creek.

**Homeowner Responses to Structure Elevation
 Meeting Held July 20, 2006**

Structure Number	Address	Creek		Name	Vote		Questions/Comments
		North	South		Yes	No	
?	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		Home address is 455 Elm. Please put me on your contact list. The property is next to the South Gabouri Creek. I am interested in all alternatives.
408	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]	X		
?	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]	X		
209	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
?	[REDACTED]			[REDACTED]	X		
233	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
290	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]	X		
239	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		I think it is the best option. Better than a levee, which would change the looks of everything.
232	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
236	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
257	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
240	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]	X		
?	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]		X	Fix the creeks.
468	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]		X	

**Homeowner Responses to Structure Elevation
 Meeting Held July 20, 2006 (continued)**

454	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]	X		Not sure. We are in the county not city limits. We have concerns about losing the use of our basement. We have a small home and need the room. Also we are concerned how our home can handle being raised without damage. I can't see where we could add on to our home the way it's situated. Will it increase our taxes?
316	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]		X	My house is a vertical log home and there is a levee on the creek.
246	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]		X	
?	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]		X	
212	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]		X	
452	[REDACTED]	X		[REDACTED]		X	Not feasible. Engineer needs to look at it.
?	[REDACTED]			[REDACTED]			
?	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]			Please contact me for further meetings
456	[REDACTED]			[REDACTED]			Have other issues to discuss. 883-9550
255	[REDACTED]		X	[REDACTED]			
	Summary	Yes	No	Note: Summary numbers only count those whose properties were on the "flooded" list. Those not on the list have "?" in the left-most column.			
	North Gabouri	3	3				
	South Gabouri	7	2				
	Total	10	5				

Comments
Ste Genevieve Tributaries Public Meeting
21 September 2006

11. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: No Action

Comments: Where will Ste Genevieve get finances to pay for this project?

12. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: South Gabouri non-structural

Comments: None.

13. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: North Gabouri non-structural

Comments: Induced flooding – may affect a major outbuilding if levee plan is used – but could be protected with berm.

14. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: North and South Gabouri Levees (2 feet high and clean the channel)

Comments: None.

15. [REDACTED]

Comments: Need to address Virginia Street bridge. Favor house raising if we get 3rd St, 4th St, Main Str and a new bridge on Virginia St. I do not trust our city government to do the job with sales tax.

16. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference : North Gabouri channel widening (and deeper, change bridges so water can flow better)

Comments: None.

17. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference : North and South Gabouri non-structural

Comments: None.

18. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference : North Gabouri non-structural

Comments: Any time you build a levee you simply push the water some place new. Clean up the creeks, raise the houses and let the water go where mother nature intended. Has the City considered the cost of the lawsuits that the induced flooding will cost? How about the natural spring running off the hillside by the Dave Gegg property on Creek Road?

19. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference : North Gabouri creek widening, North Gabouri non-structural

Comments: If they decide to do the LaHaye levee, I think my house should be taken care of before any work is done on the levee. Also my outbuildings, propane tank, septic system, etc. I think to maintain the integrity of the historic homes, the best solution would be to widen the existing creek channels and dig them deeper.

20. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: South Gabouri non-structural)

Comments: A levee in front of our house and business would mean the Gabouri Street would pretty much be eliminated, not allowing entry ways to our business or adjoining neighbors. I feel “widening” the creek would also pose the same problem as the levee proposal – not allowing access to our business or adjoining neighbors. If the “structure elevation” is to be implemented, how would this affect my business as this is our main source of income and cannot afford to be closed for the time it takes to complete the project? Will need alternate building to operate our business that can pass Missouri Childcare approval. Any questions, please call 573-883-3905 or e-mail tony@tydckids.com.

21. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: North Gabouri non-structural

Comments: We worry that the city will build up the road again as they did in 1993, which caused us to be in a hole with a dirty gravel road out front of our home. We had a lot of water seepage in our front yard for a couple of months. It was a dirty mess. Which two homes on the north end won't be protected by the levees?

22. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: North Gabouri channel widening, North Gabouri non-structural

Comments: None.

23. [REDACTED]

Alternative preference: North Gabouri channel widening, North Gabouri non-structural, No action.

Comments: None.