

NEWS

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Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment Released

Minot, N.D. - The ND State Water Commission and Barr Engineering team released the next generation of Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Project maps today. The Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment includes maps showing the more refined location of the levee alignment, recommended features for each area along the project, construction limits designating areas that would be required as part of the project for construction and maintenance, areas which are still under evaluation, closure structures, pump stations, and critical transportation routes that will remain open during a flood event throughout the Mouse River Basin. The revised draft includes approximately 110,000 feet of levee, 11,000 feet of floodwall, 41 closure structures and 26 pump stations.

The objectives of the project are to protect as many homes as possible, minimize the project footprint and adverse affects to unprotected features, and maintain consistency with long range objectives of affected communities and stakeholders, all for the lowest practical cost. The Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment represents a protection level of 27,400 cfs from Burlington to Velva and 29,700 cfs through Mouse River Park with an additional three feet of freeboard.

Revisions to the Draft Preliminary Alignment that make up the Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment include:

- Further review of the Kings Court / Del Nor Drive neighborhood (still under review)
- Levee alignment changes in the Tierrecita Vallejo neighborhood
- Consideration of a high flow diversion in the Lincoln Elementary School neighborhood as an alternative to the existing channel alignment between 2nd Street SW and the Broadway bridge (still under review, this modification was previously released November 18, 2011)
- Major alignment change to incorporate a high flow diversion in the El Rio Drive / 27th Street SE neighborhood (this modification was previously released November 18, 2011)
- Minor levee alignment changes in several different areas within the City of Minot
- Levee alignment changes in the Apple Grove and Eastside Estates areas
- Levee alignment changes around Sawyer
- Modification of the channel width upstream of the Highway 41 bridge at Velva
- Further review of the river channel alignment downstream of the Highway 41 bridge at Velva (still under review)

The Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment accounts for a significant reduction in the number of properties adversely impacted by the project. Within the City of Minot, it is estimated that about 380 residential properties will be adversely affected, approximately 100 fewer than the initial alignment. In the areas including Burlington, Logan, Sawyer, Velva and rural properties, approximately 80 will be impacted. In addition, within the project limits approximately 230 rural residential homes would be unprotected and susceptible to inundation during an event similar to the flood of 2011. Residents in this situation have options that include relocation, purchasing flood insurance, enrolling in a ring-dike cost share program, or flood-fighting on their own and will need to be evaluated on an individual basis.

The Revised Draft Preliminary Alignment can be found on the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection website at www.mouseriverplan.com, on the Facebook and Twitter pages at Mouse River Plan, or at the Minot Public Library located at 516 2nd Ave SW in Minot.

For more information about the Mouse River Enhanced Flood Protection Plan, visit www.mouseriverplan.com.

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