

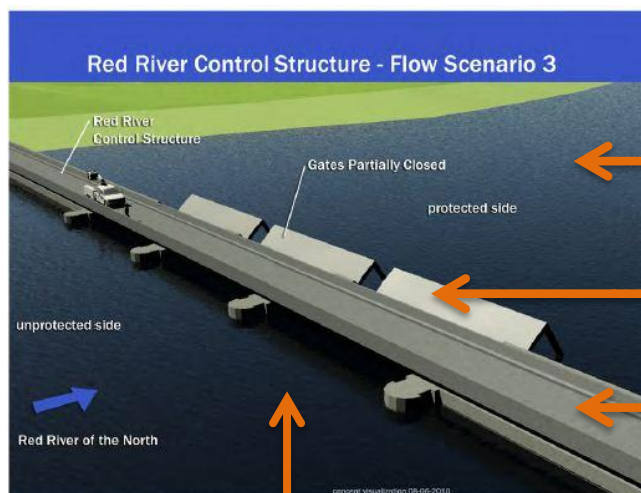
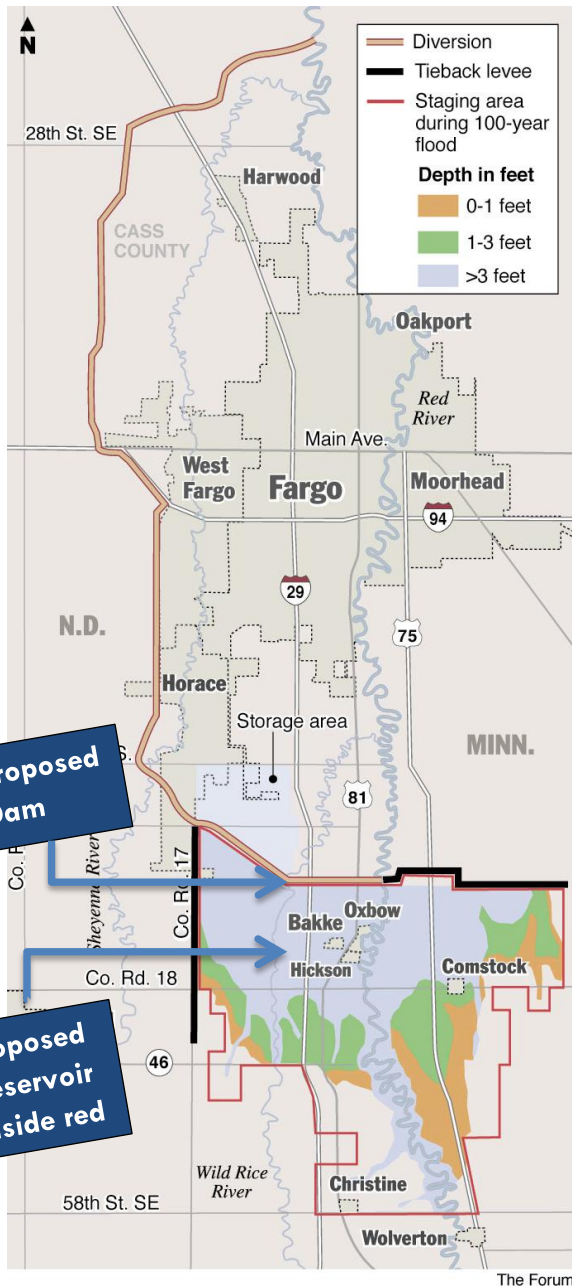
Red River Diversion Information Guide

The Fargo-Moorhead Metro Flood Study Group has recommended a 36-mile channel with a **54,000 acre dam and reservoir** to protect Fargo and Moorhead from a 500-year flood. This plan will lead to the destruction of farms, communities and businesses south of the diversion channel, Clay and Cass counties and northern Richland and Wilkin counties.

The fully-funded cost of the project, with contingencies, is currently estimated to be **\$2 billion dollars**. ***\$1.1 billion of this amount will need to be raised by Fargo and Moorhead.***

Sales taxes are projected to raise only \$420 million over 20 years *and protection provided by the diversion is 10 years away at minimum, or may never happen.*

Federal deficits are at record levels and Minnesota has its own deficit problem. All of this casts serious doubt on how much funding is truly available.



Protected Side

Gates Partially Closed

Control Structure

Unprotected Side

What Is the Impact?

PEOPLE

- **1,100 structures are affected, including 400 residences affected. A majority of these homes will be eliminated** to hold water in the upstream Dam, located just south of the Fargo school district boundary.
- **54,000 Acres dammed** up and under water including mature communities. The dam shifts ponded water from the current flood plain south to the new reservoir and dam area. The result is an expansion of Fargo's available growth area at the expense of those in the newly formed **(and currently dry)** reservoir area.

ECONOMICS

- **Financial institutions are reluctant to extend financing for property purchases and improvements in and around the proposed reservoir.** Property owners in this area are uncompensated captives of an artificially destroyed real estate market.
- **Economic impact to schools.** 20% enrollment and 25% taxable revenue reduction in **Kindred**. 19% enrollment and 23% taxable revenue in **Richland**.

FARM COMMUNITY

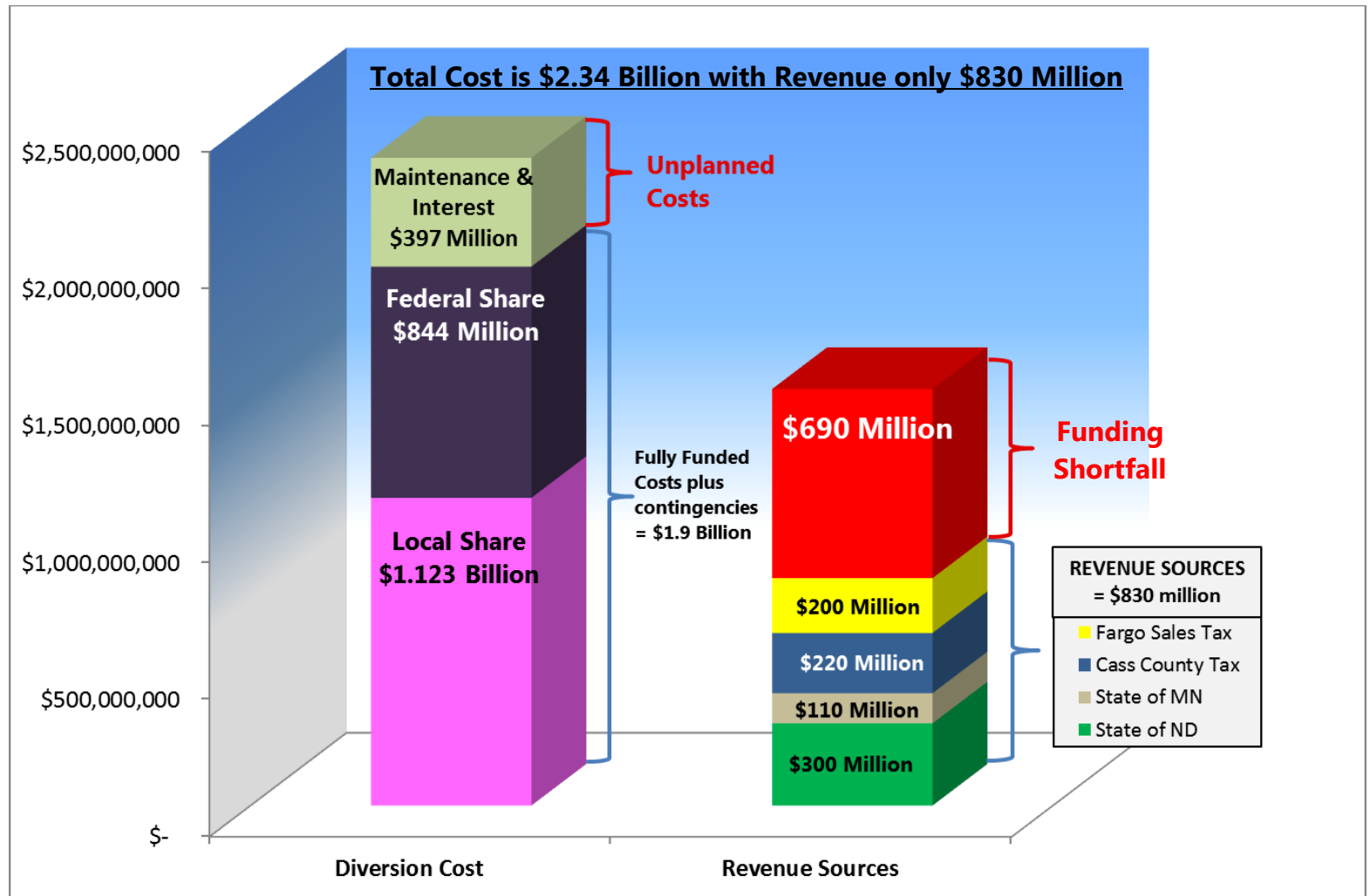
- Under U.S. Army Corps guidelines, **purchases of farm structures are not based on replacement value, but on "market" value.** The difference is quite substantial.
- The **Federal crop insurance program provides no coverage for losses caused by manmade structures that are designed to hold water."**

ENVIRONMENT

- **Extreme project design complexity.** Five rivers intersect with the diversion, including the Wild Rice, Sheyenne, Maple, Rush and Lower Rush Rivers.
- This **complicates fish passage**, migration and mortality while increasing overall environmental stress.
- **19 Highway and 4 Railroad bridges** require re-building to heights above the diversion, including I-29 and Highway 75 in MN.
- When asked at public meetings, **the Army Corps of Engineers cannot identify another project in the U.S. with this level of complexity.**

What will the Diversion Cost You?

The chart below shows the relationship between contributions and costs of the diversion over a 20 year period – which is the length of time for the sales tax.



Are protected residents ready to pay for this revenue shortfall?

- ☑ Fargo/Moorhead responsibility: Local Share + Unplanned Costs = **\$1.52 Billion**
- ☑ Revenue Sources: Fargo Tax + Cass County Tax + MN Share + ND Share = **\$830 Million**
- ☑ Shortfall: Local Share – Revenue Sources = **\$690 Million****

**** This value does not include costs for current levee work, public relations firm and lobbyist firm in Washington DC**

Note: Interest = Bonds estimated at 4%

The only way to pay for this project is to impose massive taxes on the properties located inside the diversion.

Fargo-Moorhead can be protected without destroying Red River Basin communities.

A Dam & Reservoir is not needed!

HOW

The Red River Basin Commission recent study shows:

- Managing floodwater across the Red River Basin can eliminate upstream and downstream impacts of a diversion, and reduce flooding throughout the entire Red River Valley, preserving all our communities and economic growth for everyone.¹

WHY

Do our local leaders insist on destroying communities and businesses with a dam when there are other viable options?

- **WE DON'T KNOW!** The sponsors appear to be more interested in a quick fix for THEIR problem, instead of a permanent Red River Basin wide solution.

WHAT

You Can Do!

- Request your local leaders and Congressional Representatives to work together **TO SAVE EVERYONE** in the Red River Valley from floodwaters. It's an opportunity to do what's right for the states of North Dakota and Minnesota, not what's best for **ONLY** Fargo!

All Data is sourced from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers FEIS Study at their website:

<http://www.internationalwaterinstitute.org/feasibility>

¹ <http://www.redriverbasincommission.org/> FINDING LONG TERM FLOOD SOLUTIONS TOGETHER Report to State and Federal Officials on a Comprehensive Plan of Flood Strategies for the Basin of the Red River of the North 2009-2011 Draft 8-29-2011. Table D-16

www.mndakupstreamcoalition.com

www.stopthefargodam.com