

LETTERS

Letter: No, it's not time to end opposition to the F-M Diversion

Written By: Marcus Larson | Mar 4th 2020 - 10pm.

Mike Hulett's [Feb. 15th opinion column](#) is rife with Diversion Authority misinformation and talking points.

In 2007, Fargo laid out Strategies for Growth stating: "The ability to accommodate this growth is contingent on completing flood control projects in the city." The USACE corroborated the North Dakota alignment was generally chosen "to accommodate the city of Fargo's current future plans of development."



In April 2009, the USACE indicated that Fargo Southside Project would violate Executive Order 11988 because it facilitates development of undeveloped flood plain.

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In November 2009, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District passed resolution #2009-18 supporting a North Dakota diversion with the largest geographical area possible to improve the struggling cost/benefit ratio.

Hulett marginalized upstream impacts as a few structures. In reality, over 1,500 structure rooftops exist and socio-economic impacts to health, welfare and safety of upstream residents would last in perpetuity.

Hulett claimed most of the protected area is previously developed land. In reality, over 76,000 acres of undeveloped flood plain are impacted by the proposed project.

The Governors Task Force did not address legitimate concerns. To date, no flowage easement mitigation has been determined.

Despite Hulett's assurances of land being "fairly acquired," there are several instances where litigation was the only resolution to the low-ball offers from the FM Diversion Authority.

If Fargo-Moorhead were truly concerned about “historically life-threatening and economically-crippling” flooding, internal protection should have been completed.

No Mr. Hulett, it is not time to end opposition. Now, would you kindly remove your misinformed black jack-boots from our properties?

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