

## RESOLUTION NO. 902-14

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY, WASHINGTON COMMENTING ON THE DRAFT FEASIBILITY REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE SKAGIT RIVER FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT GENERAL INVESTIGATION

*Whereas*, the City of Sedro-Woolley was an active partner in the Corps of Engineers General Investigation of flooding on the Skagit River until recently when the City was no longer included in meetings and discussions about flood reduction alternatives including the process for identifying the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP), and

*Whereas*, the original intent of the Skagit River GI Study was to include a comprehensive, system-wide approach to flood risk mitigation which included the City of Sedro-Woolley and was the reason the City of Sedro-Woolley was so engaged in this process and helped fund the local match, and

*Whereas*, the Draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement for the Skagit River Flood Risk Management General Investigation that was issued by the U.S. Army Corps Engineers (USACE) and Skagit County in May of this year does not include information that is adequate to allow the City of Sedro-Woolley to understand the consequences of the TSP, and

*Whereas*, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) does not include a careful analysis of the post-project conditions, and

*Whereas*, prior studies and analysis has demonstrated that raising the dikes downriver from Sedro-Woolley raises the flood levels within and around the City of Sedro-Woolley to include critical infrastructure, human lives, and real property, and

*Whereas*, it is not possible for the community in general and the City of Sedro-Woolley in particular to provide meaningful comments on the TSP without the post-project conditions clearly studied, and

*Whereas*, the City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley supported the GI Study in an effort to find a Skagit River system wide flood reduction solution rather than a transfer of risk plan from a higher assessed value community to a lower assessed value community,

*Now, therefore*, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley:

**Section 1.** The DEIS is inadequate to allow the City and the community to understand the TSP as it fails to provide post-project modeling which is necessary to fully describe the impacts to the people and infrastructure of the City of Sedro-Woolley including

impacts to the environment, economic losses, lives, property, on-going future risk and reductions to quality of life and impact on low-income households who may be at risk of losing their homes as a result of consequential changes to the base flood elevation from the TSP that may trigger mandatory participation in the federal flood insurance program and other intended and unintended consequences.

**Section 2.** The City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley has grave concerns about the possible transfer of flood risk from historical and traditional flood prone areas which have been heavily developed in recent decades to areas that developed over a century ago and which have never been at significant risk of flooding as may be possible if the TSP is constructed.

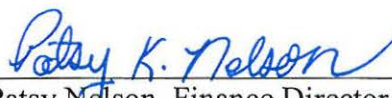
**Section 3.** The City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley requests Skagit County and the USACE to fully study the impacts of the TSP on the City of Sedro-Woolley and include the results within the scope of the final environmental impact statement and to further include as part of the finally selected plan all necessary measures to ameliorate the harm to the people, property and infrastructure of Sedro-Woolley that result from the finally selected plan.

**Section 4.** The City Council requests personal follow-up from Skagit County and USACE regarding these critical issues.

**PASSED** by majority vote of the members of the Sedro-Woolley City Council this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014, and signed in authentication of its passage this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patsy Nelson, Finance Director

Approved as to form:

  
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Eron Berg, City Attorney