

Oct 68

To → Plng. Br.
 File
 AWS
 10/9/68

NPSN-PL-PS

MEMO FOR: RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Skagit County Planning Department to Discuss the Skagit River Avon Bypass Project

1. At the request of the Skagit County Planning Department, the following people met in this office on 27 September to discuss the Avon Bypass Project:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
E. J. Gullidge	Planning Branch
Allen W. Summers	Planning Branch
Sydney Knutson	Design Branch
Stu Kisnger	Design Branch
W. R. McKinley	Design Branch
Wayne Kite	Planning, Skagit County
Dave Hough	Planning, Skagit County

2. Mr. Gullidge described the project as it stands today. He explained that at present, both the Avon Bypass Project and the Levee and Channel Improvement Project are authorized for construction, but due to a lack of local sponsorship, are not being constructed. He also gave a brief discussion of the Puget Sound Comprehensive Plan and the present status of the comprehensive planning in the Skagit River Basin. He explained that studies had been made and shown that a change in operations at the upper Baker Power Dam could provide additional justified flood protection in addition to the two projects already authorized.

3. Mr. Kite was quite interested in the Avon Bypass Project and its relation to future lands use in the downstream area that enters Padilla Bay. Skagit County has recently approved a comprehensive land-use plan for the entire county. The planning commission is looking to the possibility of developing the Padilla Bay area as an alternative industrial site. They were wondering of the possibility of including navigation in the Bypass Project. Mr. McKinley explained that it is not economically feasible to include navigation for the entire project due to the seven bridges that would have to be raised for barge traffic clearance. Considerable discussion followed on the possibility of including shallow draft navigation as far as the lower control structure of the Bypass would allow. I said I would check with the Navigation Committee and the Flood Control Committee to see whether this would be a feasible alternative in the Comprehensive Plan.

4. Mr. Kite was quite interested in recreation potential along the Bypass Project. We explained that since the change of alignment of the

project, no detailed analysis had been made on recreation sites; however, we said that five boat launching ramps would be included in the project.

5. Mr. Kite indicated that they would be very interested to discuss the comprehensive planning of the river basin when the preliminary planning had been completed.

A.W.S.
ALLEN W. SUMMERS

cc: Summers
Gullidge
S. Knutson