



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Flood Risk Management: Park River at Grafton, North Dakota



Downtown Grafton, North Dakota, flooded in 1979

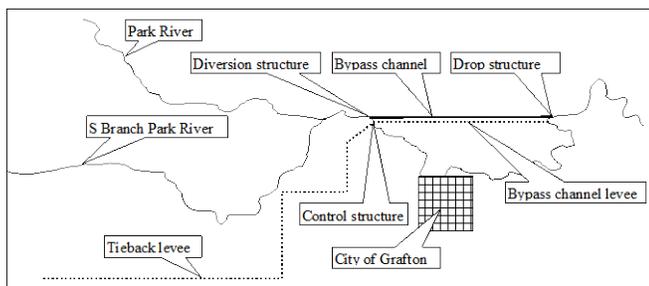
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Location/Description

Grafton is in Walsh County, North Dakota, along the Park River, a tributary of the Red River of the North. It is about 340 miles northwest of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

Recurrent flooding along the South Branch and main stem Park River has caused significant problems for Grafton. In 1950, the largest flood of record inundated almost the entire city. The project location and the major features are shown in the following diagram.



Status

The Corps' January 2000 General Reevaluation Report reexamined the January 1983 plan. The reevaluation accounted for considerable new development that has

occurred in and around the city since the 1983 plan was issued. It also reanalyzed the hydrology in light of a major spring flood in 1997. Key features of the recommended plan are as follows:

- A 2.9-mile bypass channel to carry flows in excess of 2,000 cubic feet per second past the city.
- Tieback and bypass channel levees to prevent overland flooding.
- Control, diversion, and erosion control structures.
- Three railroad bridges and a highway bridge.

Funds (\$500,000) were appropriated in fiscal year 2002 to initiate construction. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works approved the report in May 2004. The non-Federal sponsor asked that the project partnership agreement and start of construction be placed on hold in June 2004. The Office of Management and Budget cleared the report in February 2008. In January 2010, the non-Federal sponsor asked the Corps to proceed with the project. The project has been on hold pending receipt of additional funds. The city is seeking alternative ways to move the project forward, to include in-kind work and accelerated funds. Approximately \$49,000 was reprogrammed into the project in fiscal year 2012.

Authority

The Water Resources Development Act of 1986 authorized the construction of a flood risk management project on the Park River at Grafton. The project was subsequently deauthorized in 1991. Section 364 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, Public Law 106-53, reauthorized the project.

Fiscal

Project design and construction costs are to be shared with the non-Federal sponsor. Operation and maintenance costs are the responsibility of the non-Federal sponsor. The State of North Dakota is assisting the city in cost sharing project construction funding.

Estimated Federal cost	\$32,700,000
Estimated non-Federal cost	\$10,900,000
Total estimated cost	\$43,600,000