



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Flood Risk Management: Roseau River, Roseau, Minnesota



Aerial view of Roseau looking north, taken on June 12, 2002; the downtown business district is in the center of the photo

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Location/Description

Roseau is located in the northwestern corner of Minnesota in Roseau County about 10 miles south of the Canadian border and about 65 miles east of the North Dakota border. Roseau's population is about 2,800. It is home to Polaris Industries, Inc., which employs more than 2,000 people and, along with agriculture, provides a solid economic base for the community. Roseau County has 16,000 residents; the population is expected to increase to 19,000 by 2030.

The Roseau River flows north through the city. Most of Roseau is located in the regulatory floodplain because the city is very flat and relatively low in elevation. Once the river flows out of its banks, it flows throughout most of the city. From June 9 to 11, 2002, intense rainfall over the river basin dumped an extraordinary amount of water into the area. This water quickly collected and drained into the Roseau River, overtopping the city's levee system and flooding most of the developed area. The flood damage was extensive, resulting in significant damage to downtown businesses and private residences.

Background

After the 2002 floods, the city of Roseau and the Roseau River Watershed District asked the Corps to conduct a feasibility study for a flood control project in Roseau. In 2003, a likely Federal interest was determined. In September 2003, the city and Corps signed a feasibility cost share. The feasibility study was completed in September 2006. The Chief's report was signed in December 2006. The design phase began in fall 2006. The project partnership agreement was signed on June 15, 2009, initiating construction.

Status

The city of Roseau has acquired all necessary real estate and substantially completed required utility/road relocations. Construction of the diversion channel's outlet and 1.25 miles was completed in August 2011. Construction of the next 2.25 miles of channels is ongoing. Plans and specifications are complete for the remaining reach estimated to cost \$11M. Solicitation of the final reach is dependent on available funding and authority. A Project Authorization Change Report has been submitted to Corps Headquarters.

Authority

This specifically authorized study originates from a resolution of the Senate Committee on Public Works, September 30, 1974. Project construction was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The current working estimate exceeds 902(b) authorization limits and will require an increase.

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.

Estimated Federal cost	\$23,320,000
Estimated non-Federal cost	\$17,544,000
Total estimated cost	\$41,864,000
Total Federal funding to date (including \$4,600,000 in ARRA funds)	\$15,338,000