

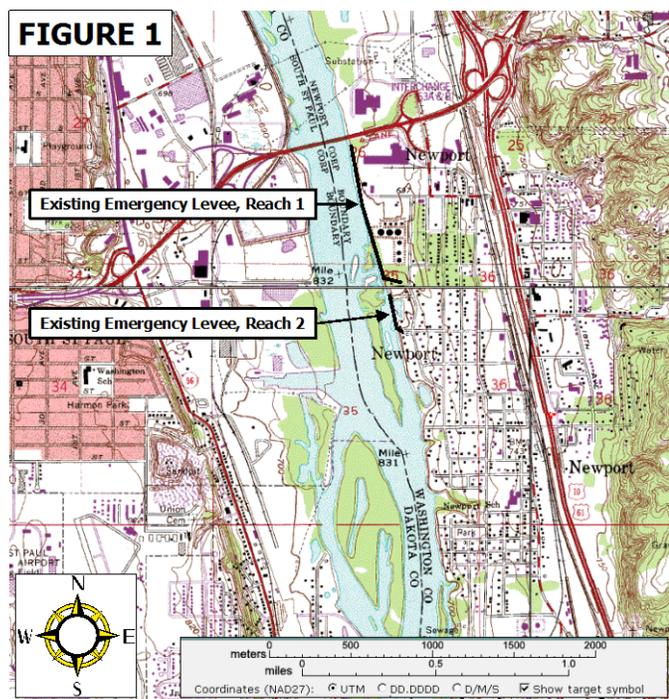


US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
St Paul District

# Information Paper

## Flood Risk Management: Section 205, Mississippi River at Newport, Minnesota

**FIGURE 1**



*Two temporary levees, built under emergency conditions in 1969 and 1971, remain in place in Newport. The city should have removed the emergency levees after the threat for which they were built subsided; however, they remain in place.*

### Contact

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### Location/Description/Background

In 1969 and 1971, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built two emergency levees, shown on the figure above, to provide temporary protection for a sanitary sewage lift station and approximately 40 homes in Newport, Minnesota. The emergency levees were built under the authority of Public Law 84-99, Flood Emergency Preparation. The Corps inspected both levee segments on November 20, 1997, for inclusion in the Non-Federal Flood Control Works Inspection Program. Both were deemed to be unacceptable. Deficiencies noted in the resulting report included embankment geometry, erosion, animal burrows, unwanted vegetation, encroachments, and inadequate scour protection.

In 1999, Newport asked the Corps, under the authority of Section 205 of the Continuing Authorities Program, to initiate a study to determine the feasibility of building a permanent flood risk management project. The first step in the study process is to prepare an initial appraisal report to determine if the problem (1) is within the authority of the program, (2) has potential to be a viable project, and (3) is in the interest of the Federal Government and non-Federal sponsor to continue into a cost-shared feasibility study.

### Status

The initial appraisal report for the nonstructural approach was completed and approved in December 2010 with updated economic information. Structural flood risk reduction measures do not appear to have a Federal interest; however, there is a Federal interest in a small multipurpose nonstructural project that would incorporate recreation. The sponsor is not seeking to begin a feasibility study at this time, and is instead investigating the possibility of using the funds it has, matched with Federal and state hazard mitigation funds, to buy out the at-risk properties.

### Authority

Section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act, as amended

### Fiscal

The first \$100,000 of planning, design, and analysis (reconnaissance study) was conducted at full Federal expense. The cost for the feasibility study would be shared 50-percent Federal and 50-percent non-Federal. The cost of the implementation phase, consisting of the preparation of plans and specifications and construction, would be shared 65-percent Federal and 35-percent non-Federal.