From: Elizabeth Bargren
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Thoughts on Estabrook Dam
Date: Monday, March 28, 2016 12:53:14 PM

Good afternoon,

I was disappointed when the Milwaukee Country supervisors chose to fund the rebuilding of the dam. I understand why the home owners on the river and the people who use Lincoln Park would like it rebuilt; however, I haven't heard a good reason why all the tax payers in the County should fund it. If there is a Friends of Lincoln Park organization, I didn't hear that they are providing some funding and I didn't hear the riverfront homeowners offer to help either. I live in Wauwatosa. I am not a member of either Riverkeepers or Friends of Hart Park, but when the groups thought it would be good to have more native plants along the Menomonee River and Parkway here in Wauwatosa, people applied for grant money and I was one of many volunteers organizing and planting those plants for several years. I understand that waterways are different, but putting sweat equity or dollars toward a desired outcome pulls more weight then just making phone calls and saying I want it to happen because I want it to. So funding is one issue - to rebuild it and provide maintenance for years to come at taxpayer expense.

Another, is the health of the river itself. I know that a fish passage is being built. That's good. Barriers for fish movement were just removed from the Menomonee River in Wauwatosa this past November. I understand that some species have already been seen upriver where they haven't been in ??? So for the health of the Milwaukee River a fish passage will be installed. Yep. Or we could just take the dam out. Better.

Thanks for considering my comments. I appreciate the opportunity.

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