

GREEN BROOK FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
NEWSLETTER
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VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 2

APRIL 2002

FEDERAL MONEY TIME AGAIN

This is the time of year when Congress considers appropriations for next year (beginning October 1, 2002). Its called Federal Fiscal Year 2003. The short hand is: FY2003.

Recently the second construction contract to complete protection for eastern Bound Brook Borough was awarded. The Federal Engineers are now planning the beginning of protection for western Bound Brook Borough. Protection along the banks of the Middle Brook.

THE PROJECT NEEDS \$10 MILLION FOR NEXT YEAR

Having placed a contract for \$8.3 million to complete the protection for the eastern part of Bound Brook, the Federal Engineers will now need \$10 million to begin construction of the next segment, along the Middle Brook.

The President's proposed budget for FY2003 **recommends only \$5 million**. That's a significant amount, but it is **not enough** to keep progress going as it should.

BOUND BROOK BOROUGH REDEVELOPMENT

As everyone knows, redevelopment in Bound Brook is just about that Borough's highest priority.

The tax ratable base in Bound brook was devastated by the Floyd flood. Bound Brook is faced with a desperate situation. Their only real hope is to speed up the progress of major redevelopment.

The Commission has recognized this problem. We're doing our best to support Bound Brook by urging the earliest possible completion of full protection for the Borough.

THE FEDERAL ENGINEERS ARE WILLING TO COOPERATE

Extensive discussion by the Commission with the Federal Engineers has achieved an understanding: the Federal Engineers will make every effort to speed up protection for Bound Brook Borough, so that redevelopment there can move forward.

The overall approved budget for the protection of Bound Brook is about \$56 million.

\$5 million, as proposed by the President for next year, simply is not enough. \$10 million for next year is needed to speed up progress.

HELP IS NEEDED FROM CONGRESS

The Commission believes that New Jersey's Representatives in Congress from the area will support this effort for \$10 million to make maximum progress.

We hope, and expect, that New Jersey's two US Senators will see things the same way.

Fortunately, New Jersey has some key voices in the right places in Congress. There is real reason for hope.

The Commission has submitted written Testimony to Committees of the House of Representatives and the US Senate urging their approval of the necessary \$10 million for next year (FY2003).

MATCHING MONEY FROM NEW JERSEY

The State of New Jersey will have to support the commission's efforts to persuade Congress to appropriate the necessary money.

Of course, New Jersey will have to provide enough money to match the Federal money on the established basis of 75% Federal - 25% New Jersey money.

As we all know, New Jersey has very difficult budget challenges for next year.

Still, everyone recognizes the importance of assisting Bound Brook Borough to get back on its feet.

With the support of New Jersey Senators and Assembly members from the area, the Commission is very hopeful that New Jersey will find a way to support the needs for the fastest possible progress to help Bound Brook.

EVERYONES HELP IS NEEDED 

In your contacts with our elected leaders from our area, both in Washington and Trenton, we hope that you will do your best to urge them to support the need for the fastest possible progress on the Project.

THERE ARE ALWAYS CHALLENGES 

Over the years, the Commission has faced many obstacles in the long efforts to bring about flood protection for the Green Brook Basin. With your help, the commission is determined to do its very best to continue progress for flood protection at the fastest possible pace.