

CITY OF EPWORTH
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February 26, 2014

To: Iowa Flood Mitigation Board

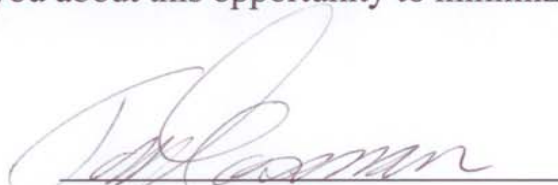
RE: Flood Mitigation Funding

The City of Epworth extends its support of the Flood Mitigation Fund as an avenue for small communities to achieve funding assistance for flood prevention and flood mitigation measures.

The City has concerns for an area which has encountered repetitive flood damage over the course of the last 5 years, with the most damage occurring as a result of the July 2011 flash flood event which caused severe damage to public and private property, disruption of utility service and endangered health and safety of our citizens within the disaster area. The City reacted by commissioning a storm water study which presented plans for mitigation. These measures are identified as an action item in the Dubuque County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Epworth, population 1,860, is presently struggling to finance a mandated wastewater facility upgrade at a cost of six million dollars. Finding the resources to proceed with our flood mitigation measures in light of these other required infrastructure improvements will be an on-going struggle. Appropriating dollars to the Flood Mitigation Fund specifically designated for small cities would be one more potential source of funding that could help the City of Epworth and similar sized communities implement their flood control and prevention plans. We appreciate the flood Mitigation Board's efforts to address these issues for small communities.

We look forward to hearing from you about this opportunity to minimize the threat of a future disaster.



Tom Gassman, Mayor