

Army Corps of Engineers

August 1996

The proposed levee project was found to have unacceptable impacts to the floodway. The levee would constrain the Pecatonica River and increase flood heights up to 2.5 feet. The increased flood heights would cause damages to nearby properties which would not otherwise be subject to inundation. These damages would have to be mitigated. To avoid raising flood heights, the levee would have to be theoretically pulled back from the Pecatonica River to such an extent as to leave the majority of the east side of the community unprotected. The Rock Island District has concluded that there are no alternatives remaining which justify under Corps of Engineers regulations.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Water Resources

Mitigation Program
Floodplain Buyouts

Why Mitigation?



Floodway Issue

- 2014 EPA Study – told you what you wanted to hear – FEMA's fault
- The East side is in the floodway. Federal laws don't let you build in the floodway.
- Flooding is getting worse.
(Climate change, Farmers tiling their fields, silt in rivers)

1996 Study

Four Possibilities

- Structural solution – Levee (Ruled out)
- Do Nothing – Community deteriorates (abandoned homes are trouble)
- Relocate residents – Opposed by the neighborhood
- Make relocation acceptable – Recommended
- Not to choose is to choose

Quick Facts

- Voluntary – no one is forced to take it
- You will be paid what it was worth before the last flood.
- We pay all of the costs – appraisals, title, closing. No cost to you.
- We cannot pay relocation funds
- Major issue – Replacement housing – Experts here
- No one can ever build on this land.