

Manitoba

Floodway Expansion Authority



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Release

April 29, 2004
For Immediate Release

FLOODWAY AUTHORITY UNVEILS NEW WEB-SITE TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF EXPANSION PROJECT

Winnipeg, Manitoba – Manitobans interested in the floodway expansion project have another way to find out more about the historic project with the unveiling of the Manitoba Floodway Expansion Authority's (MFEA) permanent web-site.

“The web-site is an important component of our public education and awareness commitment,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of MFEA. “The web-site’s launch coincides with our second round of public consultations that began last week and continues into next week. It will be an important tool to ensure Manitobans have access to current and detailed information about this important national project.”

The web-site address is www.floodwayauthority.mb.ca. Residents and interested Manitobans are invited to access the site to obtain general information about:

- upcoming public meetings;
- project description;
- environmental assessment process;
- newsletters & announcements;
- MFEA mandate; and
- links to government reports, articles and other background information.

The web-site will be updated as required and will include detailed project designs, youth outreach initiatives, photo gallery, charts, graphs and historic archives.

In addition to the new web-site, MFEA will continue with the second round of public consultations. Public open houses have been scheduled from 5:00 – 9:00 pm for today and Monday:

Thursday, April 29, Winnipeg, St. Norbert Community Centre, 3450 Pembina Highway

Monday, May 3, Winnipeg, Vince Leah Recreation Centre, 1295 Salter Street

These meetings are designed to solicit input from the public and provide information about the project. Some of the key components to be examined will include: compensation, water levels, recreation & economic opportunities, mitigation, floodway operating rules and summer operation.

“We are committed to an inclusive, innovative and informative public consultation process,” said Gilroy. “We want to invite Manitobans to learn about and have their say on the project. This project will have a long lasting benefit and we invite Manitobans to share their ideas to help shape the future of their communities for generations to come.”

Over the last year, the Government of Canada and Province of Manitoba have announced \$240 million to begin work on the Red River Floodway Expansion Project – more than one third the total cost. Canada has recognized the project as a national priority.

Following 1997’s “Flood of the Century”, Canada and Manitoba invested \$130 million in flood protection measures - \$110 million for rural residents of the Red River Basin.

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