



## Release

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For Immediate Release

### **MAPPING CONFIRMS EXPANSION PROJECT WILL NOT CAUSE ARTIFICIAL FLOODING NORTH OF FLOODWAY**

#### **Floodway Authority to Share Mapping Project with Municipalities: Gilroy**

**Winnipeg, Mb** – The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) today released a mapping analysis conducted for an area northwest of Winnipeg that confirms that an expanded floodway will not cause artificial flooding at Breezy Point or Selkirk. As part of its ongoing commitment to a responsive public consultation process, the mapping information is being shared with municipalities in the region to help facilitate future municipal development and planning activities.

“During the course of our public consultation, we heard from a small number of municipalities that additional mapping in the area was required”, said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “This mapping confirms that the floodway expansion project will not result in artificial flooding in the region.”

The mapping information, together with a hydraulic analysis, indicates that in the event of 700 year flood and with corresponding river levels in the Red River, the expanded floodway would result in water levels approximately half a foot lower than natural at Breezy Point, and approximately one foot lower at Selkirk.

The MFA commissioned a digital elevation map (DEM) of a 505 square kilometer area located north of Winnipeg and west of the Red River. The DEM was prepared using a combination of ground survey, a photogrammetric survey and LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) survey. This information was then used in the hydraulic analyses, which was performed by Manitoba Water Stewardship.

MFA invested \$180,000 in the mapping project which will provide more accurate topographical data that can be used for a variety of local purposes including municipal development planning, drainage studies, or future flood protection planning. In particular, the mapping data will assist the City of Selkirk, Peguis First Nation, and the Rural Municipalities of St. Clements, St. Andrews, West St. Paul, East St. Paul and Rockwood.

“Throughout this process, we have been working with local communities to identify their concerns,” said Gilroy. “This is another example of how we are able to address the local concerns as we plan for the expansion project. We continue to look forward to working with local governments as the project moves forward.”

The Red River Floodway expansion project will divert more water around Winnipeg during major floods by more than doubling the capacity of the floodway channel. By improving flood protection to 1 in 700 year level of protection, floodway expansion will protect more than 450,000 Manitobans, over 140,000 homes, over 8,000 businesses and prevent more than \$12 billion in damages to the provincial economy. Canada and Manitoba have confirmed their commitment to complete the expanded floodway.

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