

House Appropriations Committee OK's Funding To Re-Channel Carlin Creek

Washington, DC - Continuing his ongoing efforts to prevent systemic flooding along the Susquehanna River, Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today secured the House Appropriations Committee's approval of his request for \$330,000 to help re-channel the land along Carlin Creek in the Town of Conklin in order to help prevent future floods. Hinchey, who is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, had the committee include the funds for Conklin as part of the Fiscal Year 2009 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. The measure still has several legislative steps to go, but having the funds included in the original version of the bill is considered a critical step in the process. The funds may also face a challenge from President Bush who has said he opposes the inclusion of funding for such projects.

"These funds will enable the Town of Conklin to improve the flow of Carlin Creek in order to prevent it from consistently overflowing during storms and endangering the lives and property of residents," Hinchey said. "While we will never be able to fend off all natural disasters, we can take important steps to minimize the risk of damage, which is exactly what we're doing by securing these federal funds for Conklin. I am very pleased to have secured these funds, which will spare local taxpayers the full cost of the project, and look forward to continuing to push the money through the legislative process."

The Town of Conklin needs to re-channel Carlin Creek, a tributary of the Susquehanna River, in order to protect life and property during high and low flooding events. Various properties in Conklin are located in the flood plain through which the creek winds before emptying into the Susquehanna River. These properties become flooded areas in times of heavy rainfall. Additionally, over a period of many years the creek has become a habitat for beavers, whose dams add to the restrictive flow of the creek and thus create more flooding problems. Flooding has occurred along parts of Carlin Creek even during low-storm events

The Town of Conklin has indicated that re-channeling Carlin Creek would eliminate a large percentage of residential flooding. Hard work will have to be preformed to relocate utility lines, excavating and placing large culverts along with placing many tons of riprap and landscaping to hold the dirt from washing away the new flow area to be created by the Town of Conklin. The

House Panel Approves Hinchey Request of \$330,000 For Flood Prevention Efforts in Conklin

Monday, 23 June 2008 19:00

\$330,000 Hinchey secured from the House Appropriations Committee for the Town of Conklin will be allocated in the following way: engineering -- \$25,000; relocating utilities -- \$15,000; excavation -- \$100,000; culvert pipes -- \$65,000, riprap drainage stone -- \$75,000; and landscaping/fencing -- \$50,000.

The full House is expected to take up the Homeland Security Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2009 in July.