



February 11, 2016

The Honorable Joe Hogsett, Mayor  
2501 City-County Building  
200 East Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mayor Hogsett,

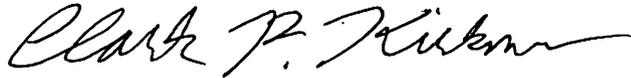
On February 8, 2016, the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (“BTNA”) held its monthly meeting and discussed the Ballard Administration’s decision in December 2015 to pursue the construction of the Westfield Alignment for completing Phase 3B of the Indianapolis North Flood Damage Reduction Project. Among those in attendance were many Butler-Tarkington residents whose homes are located in the 100-year floodplain who are eager to have their property protected from the danger of a major flood event. For their protection and for the protection of other similarly-situated homes, BTNA expresses unequivocally that we support the construction of flood protection for the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood that may be completed in a timely manner and that will offer it and other Midtown neighborhoods relief from exposure to flooding and the expense of carrying flood insurance.

In 2012 and 2013, BTNA passed resolutions related to this project in which we maintained that the most equitable solution for providing Midtown with flood protection is to include every Midtown neighborhood, including the Town of Rocky Ripple. We ask that your administration, in reviewing the decision of the Ballard Administration and making your final decision, consider the merits of an alternative alignment for finishing Phase 3B by building a flood barrier to a 100-year-plus-two-feet level following the flow of the White River and around Rocky Ripple.

There are many reasons why a levee along the White River is an attractive option. Rocky Ripple has asked the City to build flood protection in this fashion. Should the City proceed with the Westfield Alignment, a secondary project would have to be commissioned that would amount to duplicative protection for the areas east and south of Rocky Ripple. A White River levee option also spares the City the expense of building an expensive emergency pumping station downstream because its water supply, the Central Canal, would be protected. Further, it protects Butler’s Holcomb Gardens from the construction of a floodwall through this historic location. The footprint exists for a levee around Rocky Ripple, it has been studied by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and it represents the only option that provides the necessary protection for each and every affected home in Midtown from the dangers of a catastrophic flood and the expense of flood insurance.

BTNA is mindful of the need to complete this project in a timely fashion, and we will respect your final decision. We write to communicate our principled belief that the most good would be achieved by placing the flood barrier where it protects the most people and their homes – along the body prone to flooding, the White River. Representatives of BTNA are available to further discuss our position. We respectfully ask for an update from your office regarding your review in advance of our March 14, 2016 meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Clark P. Kirkman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Clark P. Kirkman  
President – Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association  
Email: [btnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:btnapresident@gmail.com)

cc:

The Honorable Colleen Fanning, City-County Council, District 2  
The Honorable Joe Simpson, City-County Council, District 7  
Ben Hunter, Chief-of-Staff to President James M. Danko, Butler University