

in this project moving ahead and that local obligations would be assumed. This assurance was repeated by official resolution of the Court and presented at public hearings held by the Corps of Engineers on December 1, 1964, and November 22, 1966.

As further evidence of our assurance, the proposed budget for fiscal year 1968-'69 now under consideration contains provision for setting aside \$500,000 to begin preparation for assuming local obligation, now estimated to be \$6.6 million. We further indicate our interest by proceeding to purchase necessary right of way to accommodate the proposed flood protection in conjunction with the Mill Creek Drainage project which is expected to be underway later this year by the Corps of Engineers.

With the rapid development now underway in the County, the need increases and can be expected to be magnified as time passes. The project has been reported to have an extremely favorable cost benefit ratio so I urge your approval of this project so that it may move ahead to completion at an early date, hopefully, before another flood can strike and repeat the damage in this large area of our community.

Thank you for allowing this statement to be entered into the record. I am confident that with the partnership of local and federal government working together, we will solve this problem of fear of flooding at an early date and thus save untold damage from loss in the future.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM W. DAVIS, SECRETARY-TREASURER, LOUISVILLE AND JEFFERSON COUNTY RIVERPORT AUTHORITY, IN SUPPORT OF THE SOUTHWEST JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY., LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, JUNE 18, 1968

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, my name is William W. Davis, of Louisville, Kentucky. I am Secretary-Treasurer of the Louisville and Jefferson County Riverport Authority, a public corporation established in late 1965 by the City of Louisville and Jefferson County, Kentucky, for the primary purpose of developing suitable industrial sites and port and terminal facilities in the unprotected area of Southwest Jefferson County in order to attract river-oriented industry. The governing body of the Authority is a non-partisan board composed of six businessmen and community leaders who recognize the industrial potential of undeveloped land in our county adjacent to the Ohio River.

The specific area which the Authority plans to develop (and, indeed, the only remaining area of our county suitable for river-oriented industry) is currently unprotected from severe flooding of the type which most recently occurred in 1964. For this reason, the Riverport Authority has a predominant interest in the Southwest Jefferson County Local Protection Project and in the earliest possible authorization of the project by the Congress.

In order to be as brief as possible, we shall not here attempt to reiterate the text of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' report describing the urgent necessity and reasons for this project and its definite economic benefits to our community, except to say over 42,300 inhabitants of the Louisville Metropolitan Area live in a territory which is completely unprotected from damaging Ohio River floods and which therefore cannot be developed—industrially, commercially and residentially—to its full potential.

It is our purpose today to respectfully request the authorization of the Southwest Jefferson County Local Protection Project this year, and in doing so we wish to point out to the Subcommittee that local government has already begun the necessary fiscal planning to provide its \$6,600,000 share of the \$20,700,000 total estimated cost of the project.

The threat of damaging floods has resulted in a wasteful limitation of industrial as well as residential expansion in Southwest Jefferson County, and the success of the community's plans to alleviate this condition is dependent upon favorable action by this Subcommittee by recommending the inclusion of our project in the Omnibus Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Bill to be acted upon by this session of the Congress.

We wish to sincerely thank the Subcommittee for giving consideration to this statement and to the flood protection needs of the Louisville Metropolitan Area.