

water, and this project is only one of many that must be built to supply the needs of the area for the long-time future.

Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF SENATOR FRANK E. MOSS, DEMOCRAT, UTAH, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FLOOD CONTROL, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Jones, and members of the subcommittee, I ask that the Little Dell Project, Salt Lake City Streams, on which you have a full report from the Army Corps of Engineers (Sen. Doc. 53-90th Congress), be recommended for authorization.

I fully expect that The Little Dell Project will be included in the Omnibus Rivers and Harbors Bill which the Senate Public Works Committee expects to report later this week, and I sincerely hope that the House Committee will take similar action as soon as all hearings are completed. The project is noncontroversial, and is very urgently needed.

It was at my request that the Senate Subcommittee on Flood Control, Rivers and Harbors adopted, in May, 1963, the resolution which directed the Department of the Army to undertake the review investigation of the proposed project, and I am also the author of the Senate Bill (S. 2661) to authorize the project. So it is most satisfying to me to have Little Dell under consideration by both Senate and House Committees in the same week. I trust this means that final action will be taken before this Congress adjourns.

What I am really asking is the reauthorization of the Little Dell Project. Behind that request lies a series of decisions and events which has delayed for more than ten years the construction of important flood prevention facilities which are unquestionably needed to protect the people of Salt Lake City.

The Little Dell Project was first proposed in 1955, and was authorized in 1960. It grew out of a disaster which occurred in 1952 when unusually high temperatures brought on rapid melting of the snows above the transcity tributaries of the Jordan River, including Parleys, Emigration, Red Butte and City Creeks. In late April this heavy snow melt produced a serious flood in Salt Lake City. The main flooding came from Parley's Creek and its tributaries. Water gushed down some of the city's main streets, held back only by gravel dikes thrown up as high as six feet in some instances. Even though all possible emergency measures were taken, the flood waters inundated 1,200 acres of highly developed urban areas, requiring the evacuation of over 1,500 homes, and causing an estimated damage of \$2.5 million.

Although no other single flood in recent years has reached the magnitude of the 1952 flood, the Army Corps of Engineers estimates that the average expected future damage from all floods in the Jordan River Basin, which includes all of the Salt Lake metropolitan area, will reach over \$2 million annually.

The Little Dell Project, as authorized in 1960, provided for a dam on Parley's Creek—actually on its Dell Creek tributary—about two miles above the present Mountain Dell Dam. The project was designed mainly for flood control, although it would have provided some additional supplies of municipal water. It called for a reservoir with a capacity of 8,000 acre feet, and a new, dependable water supply of about 3,800 feet. Its cost was set at about \$6 million.

The Corps of Engineers proceeded with some preliminary planning on the project, and submitted these plans to the Salt Lake City Commission. For a number of reasons, the Commission decided to reject the plans. For one thing, it was obvious by that time that it would be wise to look at the water problems of the area in their entirety. During the period between 1950 and 1960 the population of Salt Lake County had risen about 61 percent, and the assessed total valuation had increased to about 56 percent. Continued growth in both population and industrial development seemed assured. What was needed was a comprehensive study of both flood control and municipal water needs of the entire metropolitan area, with emphasis on long-range planning.

The Salt Lake City Commission therefore asked an independent firm of consulting engineers, the Berger Associates of Salt Lake City, to make a comprehensive study of a 110 mile drainage area along the Western slopes of the Wasatch Range adjoining metropolitan Salt Lake City. The firm did so, and results of this investigation and review were submitted in a full report to the Commission in December, 1962.

The report recommended the construction of a multiple-purpose reservoir at