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# City of West Allis Matter Summary

7525 W. Greenfield Ave.  
West Allis, WI 53214

File Number	Title	Status
2009-0469	Communication	Introduced
	Communication from City Engineer regarding Jurisdiction of the West Branch of Root River	
	Introduced: 7/7/2009	Controlling Body: Public Works Committee

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

*Approve & Send letter*

ACTION DATE:	MOVER	SECONDER		AYE	NO	PRESENT	EXCUSED
<u>7/7/2009</u>			Barczak	✓			
			Czaplewski	✓			
			Kopplin				
			Lajsic				
			Narlock				
			Reinke				
	✓		Roadt	✓			
			Sengstock	✓			
		✓	Vitale				
			Weigel	✓			
			TOTAL	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>1</u>

### SIGNATURE OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

*[Signature]*  
Chair

Vice-Chair

Member

### COMMON COUNCIL ACTION

**APPROVAL**

ACTION DATE:	MOVER	SECONDER		AYE	NO	PRESENT	EXCUSED
<u>AUG 04 2009</u>			Barczak				✓
			Czaplewski	✓			
			Kopplin	✓			
			Lajsic	✓			
			Narlock				✓
			Reinke	✓			
			Roadt	✓			
			Sengstock	✓			
	✓	✓	Vitale	✓			
			Weigel	✓			
			TOTAL	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>2</u>



# Memorandum



## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Michael G. Lewis  
*City Engineer*

414/302-8360  
414/302-8366 (Fax)

City Hall  
7525 West Greenfield Avenue  
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

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[mlewis@ci.west-allis.wi.us](mailto:mlewis@ci.west-allis.wi.us)

TO: Gary Barczak, Chair, Board of Public Works  
Michael Czaplewski, First District  
Martin Weigel, Second District  
Daniel Roadt, Fourth District  
James Sengstock, Fifth District

FROM: Michael Lewis, City Engineer

DATE: July 2, 2009

RE: **Communication from City Engineer Regarding Jurisdiction of the West Branch of the Root River**

One of the items that came out of Thursday night's town meeting about the recent flooding is jurisdiction of our rivers. The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), after a lengthy process and study, accepted jurisdiction of Hale Creek a couple of years ago.

Of course, MMSD has had jurisdiction of Root River for years. In order to minimize flood damage, MMSD has been buying out and razing a number of homes along Root River.

I talked to Dave Fowler from MMSD about the West Branch. MMSD is willing to look into the issue and determine if MMSD will take over jurisdiction.

My question to the Board is should staff pursue this matter with MMSD?



July 24, 2009

Mr. Kevin Shafer, Executive Director  
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
260 West Seeboth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204-1446

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**Michael G. Lewis**  
City Engineer

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**RE: West Branch of the Root River**

**COPY**

Dear Mr. Shafer:

In accordance with our understanding of Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's (MMSD) Watercourse Policy and Chapter 13, Surface Water and Stormwater Rule, the City is petitioning MMSD to take jurisdiction over the West Branch of the Root River. We believe the West Branch meets MMSD's policy for the following reasons:

- 1) Parsons Corporation studied the West Branch and their March 2002 report listed three structures that might be adversely impacted by flooding based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's floodplain map.
- 2) Since part of New Berlin drains into the West Branch, it is a regional concern.
- 3) The West Branch is clearly a perennial stream.

The West Allis Board of Public Works has approved this request. Please contact me regarding what the next step may be and/or any other information you need. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Lewis  
City Engineer

MGL/mgl

Cc: Mr. Michael Martin, MMSD