

Dear Assemblyman Bramnick:

As you know the communities along Rahway River have been impacted over and over by flooding from major storms with the last having over \$100 million in damage and immeasurable impact on lives and our communities. While most things are back to normal, we remain less protected than before from the next storm.

The Mayors of the various communities from Millburn to Rahway have been working with the US Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to come up with a plan to resolve some of the problem.

Now a plan called Alternative 4A has been identified as having the best cost-benefit and was recently included in the Federal Water Resources Development Act with a request that the US Army Corps expedite the process to construction of the improvements.

This letter urges the State of New Jersey and Union and Essex Counties to take steps to expedite both the state and local funding to begin construction of the flood mitigation plan in 2017.

We urge the state and counties to make it a priority in capital budgets to permit the work needed to get the flood mitigation done.

We appreciate all the efforts to date.

Sincerely,