

RESOLUTION 2021-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN AND YELLOW RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (“the Commission”) URGING THE REMOVAL OR RELOCATION OF STATE LINE BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the State Line Road Bridge has carried no vehicular traffic since August 1999; and

WHEREAS, the bridge is structurally unsafe; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has a duty to public safety in primary mission; and

WHEREAS, the State Line Bridge continues to exacerbate local flooding and erosion due to ice jams, trees and debris captured by the bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Kankakee River has experienced nine recorded flood conditions since the bridge’s 1999 closing, including the years of 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Commission routinely must remove blockages and heavy debris from the bridge at substantial cost; and

WHEREAS, even in the absence of debris, the bridge itself is not elevated sufficiently to allow the unimpeded flow of water at flood levels; and

WHEREAS, again during just minor flooding in 2021, the bridge trapped significant numbers of logs, trees, trash, and debris that aggravated high water levels; and

WHEREAS, demolition of the bridge would be a preferred option; and

WHEREAS, as a secondary option, any insisted historic significance of the bridge could be preserved by re-locating it to a public site along the Kankakee River or elevating it to a level that would not interrupt the natural flow of water.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission urges removal or relocation of the bridge to provide safety for the residents of the Kankakee River Basin in Indiana and Illinois, and to reduce flooding and maintenance demands of the Kankakee River.

Adopted this 15th day of July, 2021

By:

_____, Chair
Signature Title Printed Name

On Behalf of the Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission