

RECOMMENDATION 1-2025

To: Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission

From: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Subject: Bank stabilization in the City of Plymouth

Date: August 21, 2025

DESCRIPTION: Within the City of Plymouth, the Yellow River between the East LaPorte Street foot bridge and the South Water Street foot bridge is eroding badly along its outer bend. The degraded bank, which is as high as fifteen to twenty feet, is currently contributing to downstream sedimentation and encroaching upon private parcels in the immediate vicinity.

The restoration approach would be anticipated to focus on toe of slope protection, grading, and native vegetation establishment along the east/south bank. The opposite bank would then be graded to optimize and manage the channel to floodplain connectivity.

Under the Kankakee River Flood and Sediment Management Work Plan adopted in 2019, “Reduce Sediment Supply from Yellow River Upstream of Knox” is Active Management Recommendation 5.1.1 (ranked first).

LOCATIONS: An overview map of the proposed project is shown below. The river section [shown in **RED**] is approximately 1000’ long.



ISSUES: According to Page 41 of the Work Plan, *“The stabilization of these severely eroded and failing slopes is expected to greatly reduce the contribution of sediment from the Yellow River. Elimination of the sediment load from the bank failures, estimated at 25,000 tons per year, is expected to improve the performance of the portion of the Yellow River downstream of Knox by decreasing the size of the sediment ‘slugs’ that are pushed into the Kankakee during significant flow events.”*

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee favorably recommends the project to the Commission contingent upon its budgetary means. Improvement of the degraded bank would further reduce the downstream transportation of sediment while halting threats to private property and economic development in the immediate area. Bank stabilization projects of this nature are highly consistent with the adopted Work Plan.

Furthermore, the Committee further finds that relatively limited physical scope of the project is outweighed by its direct benefit to a more densely populated area and unique visibility within Plymouth.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 08/21/2025

ADOPTED BY COMMISSION 9/25/2025.

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Cultice".

9/30/2025

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Craig D. Cultice, Secretary