



THEY'RE YOUR METROPARKS. TAKE A WALK ON OUR WILD SIDE.

Administrative Office | 13000 High Ridge Drive, Brighton MI 48114-9058 | 810-227-2757 | metroparks.com

April 25, 2025

Mayor Steven Beller & Flat Rock City Council
25500 Gibraltar Road
Flat Rock, MI 48134

Subject: Transfer of Dam and Bottomlands

Dear Mayor Steven Beller & Flat Rock City Council,

I am reaching out on behalf of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) to discuss the possible transfer of the Flat Rock Dam and a portion of the bottomlands.

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks is committed to being a good steward of our land and our environment as well as serving the needs of our region. We believe the Metroparks belong to all the people of Southeast Michigan, all their lives, and as such must evaluate our decisions on the needs of the region as a whole and our future sustainability. The current EGLE dam safety rating has classified the Flat Rock Dam as a high hazard potential dam. "High hazard potential" indicates a dam located in an area where a failure may cause serious damage to critical infrastructure, critically harm the environment, or where failure could cause potential loss of life. The dam is currently in fair condition; however, like any aging infrastructure, it will continue to degrade over time. As such, we feel it is our responsibility as the owners of the Flat Rock Dam to be proactive in the management of the dam and have as much information about future alternatives as possible to make decisions and to budget for future needs. That is why we are currently conducting the feasibility study around this dam.

Keeping the communities we serve informed and included in our decision-making process has been a top priority since we started the [Flat Rock Dam Feasibility Study](#). Throughout the process, we hosted several meetings for community members, stakeholders and elected officials to ask questions and provide comments on the future of the dam. We have heard and recorded all feedback and have seen a consistent desire for more local control over the decision-making process regarding the future of the dam.

As a result, we would like to formally offer to transfer the Flat Rock Dam and a portion of the bottomlands to City of Flat Rock for a nominal fee of \$5. This would bring the decision-making responsibility for the future of the Flat Rock Dam, as well as its ongoing and future maintenance, to the City of Flat Rock.

Please take this opportunity to consider the Metroparks' offer to transfer the Flat Rock Dam and some of the associated bottomlands to your community. We request that you respond by May 7, 2025.

If you are interested, we are happy to schedule a meeting to discuss the details further.

Sincerely,

Amy McMillan
Chief Executive Officer

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CC: Senator Darrin Camilleri
State Representative, James DeSana
State Representative, Jamie Thompson
Wayne County Executive, Warren Evans
Wayne County Board Chair, Alisha Bell, Wayne County Commissioner Alex Garza, Wayne County
Commissioner Allen Wilson & Board of Commissioners
HCMA Board of Commissioners

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