

Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, thank you for hosting this Member Day –

And thank you for allowing me time to address you and the Committee.

I'm here today to discuss an issue that has impacted my constituents since long before I came to Congress –

The erosion of the Clarksville shoreline.

Since 1963 – when current water flow practices started – the redirection of the river has caused the shoreline to recede about 100 yards.

This erosion threatens local businesses, roads, projects, and historical sites, including the George Rogers Clark Homesite, which marks the spot where Lewis and Clark first met and formed the group that would begin their westward expedition.

While this problem has been brought to the attention of the Army Corps of Engineers, it hasn't received the attention it desperately needs.

That is why for this year's Water Resources Development Act, I am requesting that the Army Corps of Engineers focus on prioritizing and completing the Clarksville shoreline stabilization project.

Any further delay to this project risks greater losses not only to our state, the local community, and infrastructure – but also to our heritage.

Thank you, again, for allowing me the opportunity to speak on this issue today. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on stabilizing this shoreline and protecting this important historical area.

I yield back the balance of my time.