

August 20, 2009

Mr. Gary McCarty
HVCC President

Re: **High Valley 8 Revetment / Mountain View Drive**

Dear Mr. McCarty:

This letter is provided in response to your previous telephone and email documents regarding the High Valley No. 8 (HV8) revetment adjacent to Mountain View Drive. As discussed previously, Lewis County negotiated and paid property owners in 2004 for release of all future County involvement with the HV8 revetment.

You contend the HV8 revetment needs to be repaired to protect Mountain View Drive and the HVCC waterline located within Lewis County's right of way. Lewis County cannot expend road funds outside existing right of way for potential threats and in areas with no benefit to the public agency. Although you make the argument Mountain View Drive damage is eminent, the potential scour risk is debatable. We agree the Cowlitz River is braided in this reach and can switch channels overnight. Currently, it appears scour would have to progress 40-ft until entering Mountain View right of way and would have to advance over 50-ft to affect the roadway prism. Lewis County will continue to monitor this site. Additionally, information presented at the upcoming meeting with NRCS on September 3 will address threats to the Upper Cowlitz region. Lewis county staff will evaluate this information to provide support for preventative action or other measures at this location.

On a larger scale, Lewis County will take emergency action if needed to protect our infrastructure throughout the county. Our active damage response plan outlines contractors, rock sources and County staff in charge to direct resources during a flood event. We believe that during an emergency steps can be taken to protect the roadway. If road damage were to occur, Mountain View Drive would have access from either end of this loop road while repairs were being made.

Please contact me at 360-740-2780 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Rodney T. Lakey
Assistant County Engineer

cc: BOCC