



MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Crawford, Interim City Administrator

FROM: Sumedh Bahl, Community Services Area Administrator
Sue McCormick, Public Services Area Administrator

DATE: July 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Argo Whitewater Features – DTE Remediation

Recently DTE informed City staff that they have completed a preliminary investigation, as required by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), of the sediment quality in the Huron River adjacent to its property on the south side of the Huron River, between Allen Creek Drain and the Broadway Bridge. This investigation indicates the need for a remediation plan to be formulated between DTE and the MDEQ. DTE has indicated that they are pursuing an aggressive timeline for remediation and anticipates performing this remediation work in 2012.

DTE has requested the City to delay construction of the whitewater features of the Argo Headrace Reconstruction project until DTE completes the remediation in 2012 as DTE recognizes that the whitewater features will likely need to be removed and rebuilt if the remediation plan includes these areas. DTE has also proposed paying for the construction costs of the whitewater features with their installation in 2012 following completion of the remediation, although the details have yet to be finalized.

City staff recommends delaying the whitewater features' construction to 2012 as proposed by DTE. This delay will not impact the other features of the Argo Headrace Reconstruction Project nor negatively impact the consent agreement between the City and MDNRE.

As you may recall there was an interest in modifying the headrace entrance to enhance its appearance and usability when the Argo Headrace Reconstruction project was shared with Council and PAC, if savings resulted from the project value engineering. Staff intends to explore the option of modifying the headrace entrance and funding that improvement from the savings resulting from DTE's proposal to pay for the whitewater feature installation. If staff determines that it is feasible to fund the modification to the headrace entrance within the current project budget, staff will seek Council approval for this change in scope without modifying the budget.