

THE MOUNT VERNON ARGUS

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River Flood Plan Offered

A master plan for future development of the Skagit river channel through downtown Mount Vernon for both flood protection and landfill has been forwarded by city officials to the U. S. Corps of Engi-

neers, Seattle, and the state Department of Water Resources, Olympia.

The state agency, which last year questioned the city's continuing to use Blumberg island

Continued on Page 8

River Flood Plan Offered by City

Continued from Page 1

as a garbage fill, for gradual conversion to Edgewater park, replied in recent days that it would study the report.

Combining Corps of Engineers data on river flood capacity with results of the city's actual measurement of the river bed at 19 crossings this year, City Engr. Denny LeGro has recommended cutting back the bank of Blumberg island from 44 to 98 feet between the Division street bridge and the downstream tip of the island, across from Kincaid street.

Including studies on downstream past the property the city bought for future garbage fill, LeGro found that the river's flood handling capacity could be improved by excavating some 5.3 million cubic feet and at the same time permitting a net fill-in volume of 13.1 million feet. His letter suggested a plan for a minimum river channel width of 50 feet at ten-foot river level through downtown Mount Vernon, with a flaring out on below to improve the flow of flood waters.

LeGro's letter declared the proposed plan would "provide the hydraulic needs of the Skagit river through Mount Vernon without materially affecting the flood plain needs of the Skagit river at flood stage."