

WAY NOW PAVED FOR IMMEDIATE WORK ON DIKES

A joint program between the city and county for immediate work on waterfront diking repairs with the aid of state matching money, is assured today following the adoption of an emergency measure by the city council last night to cover the city's portion of the cost.

The program, as announced by Councilman Vern Schacht who had previously met with the board of county commissioners on the matter, calls for probable rock revetment work along the waterfront dike from the south end of the Division street bridge to the south end of property owned by Minnie Lee, known as the Dewdrop tavern.

State Matching Money

Schacht told the council that the county was in a position to receive matching money from the state on a 2-1 basis to do the actual work and if the city could turn over their proportionate share of the cost — amounting to approximately \$4,000 — to the county, state aid would be assured and then work could start on the much-needed project immediately. The councilman also stated that the county will repair the dike between the Darigold plant and the San Juan Island canning plant at its own expense. A motion by Councilman Perc Watkins and seconded by Herman Hanson that an emergency be declared and the city treasurer be instructed to sell current expense bonds in the amount of \$5,000 and have them transferred to the county, was unanimously adopted.

The transfer of funds to the county was necessary due to the fact that only the county could get the necessary state matching money, it was pointed out.

Rock Work Probable

Rock work along the river bank is the best method of taking care of present erosion by high water in the opinion of County Engineer H. O. Walberg. The county is prepared to commence the necessary work immediately, Councilman Schacht told the council, and the state matching money is available at the present time.

Recent high water of the Skagit river had done considerable damage to the east bank of the river and threatened to do still greater damage unless emergency measures to correct the situation were instituted.

Inspect Site

With city appropriating \$4,000 toward the project, the state matching fund would make a total of 12,000 available for the work. State authorities, who with members of the county engineer's office inspected river erosion here yesterday, approved the project as an emergency measure and assured local officials that state aid would be forthcoming.

Public Hearing

A public hearing in which county, city and state officials will be in attendance, will be held at the court house here Monday evening to work out necessary details before actual work on the proposed project gets under way.

The revetment work along the dike will be done by the county, using their equipment and manpower.