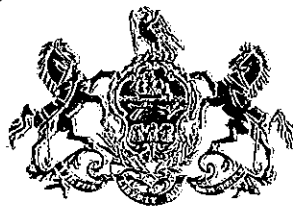


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Senate of Pennsylvania

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November 10, 2009

Re: \$1,000,000 Safe Water Grant for the Cemetery Lane Flood Control Project

Dear Officials:

I am proud to announce that through a grant request I made two years ago, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has awarded a Safe Water Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Cemetery Lane Flood Control Project to alleviate flooding concerns in the Babcock business district along Girty's Run and downstream therefrom.

For well over five years, I have worked with the North Hills Council of Governments and all of my municipalities in Allegheny County to devise an innovative and comprehensive storm water initiative that has become a model for municipal cooperation nationwide. This funding amount for concentrated storm water retention efforts is unprecedented in the Commonwealth.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Ross Township and the North Hills Council of Governments who have diligently assisted throughout this long process. After the devastation resulting from Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and a similarly destructive storm in 2007, I began working with the North Hills COG and Ross Township to address this difficult issue. After years of diligent work by these groups and Mr. Art Gazdik, Ross Township's knowledgeable engineer, we have finally been notified that these funds will be available to assist the community and businesses in the region. This funding comes to our area by way of special grant funding through the Pennsylvania DEP, earmarked for this project two fiscal years ago.

Our goal for the Cemetery Lane Flood Control Project was to develop a regional flood retainage area in the vacant section of the Cemetery Lane Valley. This valley is tributary to the main branch of Girty's Run that flows along Babcock Boulevard. The project is designed to retain stormwater only during extreme wet weather events through the use of embankments. These series of low embankments will be approximately 12' to 16' in height and would span Cemetery Lane Valley. They will be designed to store approximately 10' to 14' of water during

a flood event. The embankment control structures would control outflow rates and provide for a controlled overflow.

The watershed area upstream of the lowest proposed control point is 440 acres and equates to approximately 5.1% of the total area of the 8,576 acre Girtys Run Watershed. As Cemetery Lane Valley is not inhabited, a sanitary sewer owned by the Girtys Run Sanitary Authority is located in and along the stream. In order to mitigate the effects of the impoundment inflow and infiltration into the sewer, the sanitary sewer will be lined and the manholes will be improved as needed.

I am also excited to report that the vacant section of the Cemetery Lane Valley will be used as a recreation area during dry weather. A trail with a board walk area is planned as well as a small parking area and educational signage about watersheds, wet lands, plant and flood controls will be installed.

I am proud that I could be of assistance in helping to obtain this Safe Water Grant that will help contain the area's flooding dilemma by developing a regional flood retainage area. The Cemetery Lane Flood Control Project is crucial as it will help to store 10' to 14' of stormwater during a flood event.

Again, congratulations and if there is anything that I can do for you at the state level, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Clare Orié". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JANE C. ORIE
Majority Whip
40th Senatorial District

JCO/mjr