



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

December 11, 2018

The Honorable Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Rauner:

I greatly appreciated our conversation in September, in which we discussed our ongoing efforts to fight invasive carp. We recognize the significance and importance of the work that Illinois has been doing to step forward as the nonfederal sponsor for the Brandon Road project and continued activities to contain the established population as it has moved up the Illinois River and into the Des Plaines River.

I also appreciate your consideration of a collaborative approach to ensure certainty and stability for the diverse stakeholders that rely on the interconnected waterway systems of the Great Lakes. The binding nature of the Great Lakes is crucial to growing our regional economy and it is our duty to ensure the natural resource and infrastructure aspects of the Great Lakes are healthy for generations to come.

We cannot afford to wait any longer to take action. The entry of Asian carp into the Great Lakes would have a devastating, permanent impact not only in Michigan, but in every Midwestern state or province that shares this shoreline. The strength, protection and sustainability of our economy, environment, industries and public health are at stake. States and Provinces representing over 90% of Great Lakes surface area have recognized this threat and agreed to work collaboratively to prevent it, and Illinois' partnership is the final, critical piece of this important agreement.

As I indicated in my original letter to you one year ago (see attached), and as I, along with our colleagues in the Great Lakes Basin, outlined in our letter to the Army Corps on March 28, 2018 (also attached), the State of Michigan remains committed to partnering with the State of Illinois to support the Brandon Road project financially and informatively. This partnership is also consistent with your nonfederal sponsorship letter to the Army Corps dated May 4, 2018 indicating your desire to pursue an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Great Lakes states to help satisfy the obligations of a nonfederal sponsorship (see attached). Michigan is ready to satisfy this portion of the nonfederal sponsorship now, with up to \$8 million I have dedicated in the 2019 state budget.

I have attached a partnership agreement between the states of Michigan and Illinois outlining the intent for a more formal Intergovernmental Agreement in the future for your consideration. As you well know, time is of the essence and I would appreciate your feedback and signature by December 14th. Please have your staff contact Ms. Angela Ayers, Director of Strategic Policy at ayersa@michigan.gov or 517-241-5033 to discuss finalization of the agreement.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor