

"The Dam Scorecard"

	Current Plan - Full Removal	"Do Nothing"	Full Height Same Site	Full Height New Site	"Half Height" Plan
Public Safety	+1	-1	-1	-1	0
Upfront Costs	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
Long-term Costs	+1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Riverfront Beauty	+1	-1	0	0	+1
Depot Pond	+1	-1	0	0	0
Historic Value	-1	-1	0	-1	-1
Environmental Health	+1	0	-1	-1	0
Fishing	+1	0	-1	-1	0
River Recreation	+1	-1	-1	-1	+1
Lake Recreation	-1	-1	0	-1	-1
Available Funding	+1	0	-1	-1	+1
TOTAL	5	-7	-7	-9	-1

Scale: +1 Improvement
 0 No Change/Neutral
 -1 Decline/Impairment

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Upfront Costs					
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Riverfront Beauty					
Depot Pond					
Historic Value					
Environmental Health					
Fishing					
River Recreation					
Lake Recreation					
Available Funding					
TOTAL					

Scale: **+1** Improvement
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Dam Scorecard - Notes

Batavians for a Healthy River

August 5, 2003

	Current Plan - Full Removal	"Do Nothing"	Full Height Same Site	Full Height New Site	"Half Height" Plan
Public Safety	Removing the dam would alleviate all current and future risk to public safety.	The current dam is deteriorating and poses a similar risk to public safety as does a crumbling bridge. Risks include flooding downstream and loss of life in the event of a catastrophic breach.	A new full-height dam opens new risks to recreation at the dam site including drownings. The Park District of Wilmington, IL, recently lost ownership of park areas adjacent to a dam due to their inability to secure liability insurance for such risks.		The half-height option creates an environment unlike other stretches of the Fox River, introducing risk to those unfamiliar with navigating mild whitewater conditions.
Upfront Costs	The immediate cost to remove the dam entirely and restore the stretch of river to a long-term, stable, riverine environment is approximately the same as the cost to build a new half-height dam – \$8 million. State funds already appropriated.	No upfront cost to "do nothing."	Cost unknown, but would require full re-design investment as well. Full-height construction not included as a viable option by city council or IDNR. Would require additional cost to construct a berm to enclose Depot Pond.		The cost to modify the existing dam, add a berm for Depot Pond and a new dam at Duck Island is approximately the same as for dam removal - \$8 million.

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Long-term Costs	Full dam removal leaves the city with very minimal long-term costs.	If the current dam is left to deteriorate on its own, the city will be left with the job – and the bill – to clean up sediment transported downstream, stabilize exposed shorelines, and design, permit, and build a solution to restore Depot Pond.	The long-term costs include the maintenance of the dam structure - the City will be required to maintain the new structure for 50 years - and the continued cost (approximately \$1 million per occurrence) and disruption of dredging Depot Pond.		
Riverfront Beauty	Naturalized, stabilized riverfront will blend into riverwalk's wildflower sanctuary. Free-flowing river channel will run over exposed limestone riffles. Depot Pond Berm would be visually insignificant from Pond & covered with native plants on River side.	An eventual dam breach will leave unmanaged streambanks susceptible to erosion and dominance by invasive plants. Sediment released downstream will also be unmanaged and could be a detriment to Island Park.	No change.	The new dam structure would be more visually dominant due to the longer length needed to span the upstream river. Would not provide same visual or sound benefit as current dam structure because you wouldn't see it or hear it from downtown.	Two dam structures and large boulders between structures would be much more visually dominant. Would not look like any other stretch of Fox River in the region.
Depot Pond	New increased pond depth would be beneficial to fish in the pond. Sedimentation greatly reduced. Pond level stabilized. Depot Pond will be twice as big, cleaner and able to be managed and stocked with game fish.	Depot Pond will be lost with an eventual full dam breach.	No change.	Berm also needed to maintain Depot Pond with full height dam configuration at alternate location.	Berm also needed to maintain Depot Pond with half-height dam configuration.

	Current Plan - Full Removal	"Do Nothing"	Full Height Same Site	Full Height New Site	"Half Height" Plan
Historic Value	Lose history of 100-year old dam; revert back to history of previous river channel.	As dam deteriorates, lose history of 100-year old dam.	Lose history of dam, maintain history of 100-year old impoundment.	Lose history of dam, impoundment is also altered.	Lose history of dam, impoundment is also altered.
Environmental Health	Best possible environmental improvements: water quality, natural sediment movement, natural water fluctuations, improved riparian vegetation.	Environmental degradation: unchecked sediment release as dam deteriorates, influx of invasive plant species with unmanaged streambank exposure.	No improvements: maintain present degraded water quality in impoundment, degraded shoreline vegetation, sediment collection in impoundment & Depot Pond.		Slight environmental benefits: smaller degraded impoundment area.
Fishing	Best possible fishing resource: free-flowing conditions will attract more diverse and intolerant species, and in greater numbers. An overwhelming majority of fishermen choose free-flowing stretches of the Fox over impounded areas.	Fishermen near the dam at increasing risk as the dam crumbles and as repairs need to be made.	Fish passage required, through fish ladders or other means. However, fish will still be unlikely to survive in the poor water quality above the dam. Fish passage alternatives deemed not possible for existing dam location.	Fish passage required, through fish ladders or other means. However, fish will still be unlikely to survive in the poor water quality above the dam.	Fish passage somewhat improved through 'roughened channel' between dam structures, but poor water quality in impoundment still a problem.

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River Recreation	Best possible alternative for canoeing, kayaking, fishing, birdwatching, hiking, biking, etc.	As dam deteriorates, river recreation becomes increasingly dangerous around failing structure.	Canoe passage required, through canoe chute or other means. No habitat improvements for birdwatching, fishing, etc. Canoe passage at current site deemed not possible.	Canoe passage required, through canoe chute or other means. No habitat improvements for birdwatching, fishing, etc.	Canoe passage improved through 'roughened channel', though novice canoeists may be challenged to navigate the mild whitewater.
Lake Recreation	No motorboating or jetskiing possible after removal.	As dam deteriorates, lake recreation becomes impossible with lowered river levels.	No change.	Potential loss of some area of current impoundment.	Loss of some area of current impoundment.
Available Funding	State funds currently appropriated for this alternative.	Batavia would be responsible for all future maintenance and restoration costs.	Batavia would be responsible for funding entire project including design, permitting, construction, and maintenance. IDNR has stated they will not build a new dam at the current location.	Not one of alternatives originally investigated - would require additional time and funds to return to preliminary design and feasibility stage.	State funds currently appropriated may fund this project. Some loss of current funding due to time & resources spent on design of full removal to date.