

The Burlington Journal

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Diking District Expansion Sought for Southeast Area

Eighteen businessmen, farmers and representatives of the city of Burlington and the dike commission visited the area south east of Burlington Friday afternoon to inspect the site of the proposed new dike which would add about 1000 acres of farm and residential land to that now protected from flood waters by the existing dike.

The group met and checked over the ground between the dike and the Skagit River which would be affected by any change in the diking district. Included in the group were committees from the Lions and Kiwanis clubs, the Burlington planning commission, mayor and the city council and the board of diking district 12.

Bert Beeks, chairman of district 12 diking commission, discussed the problems of such an undertaking with the committee members and other interested citizens including Steve Johns, chairman of the planning commission; H. O. Wahlberg, county engineer and member of the planning commission; Don Kloke, Lawrence Kloke, Elza Smith, Chris Knutzen, Victor Cressey, Frank Gilkey, member of the planning commission; Royal Ekrem, Jim Mapes, dike commissioner; Robert Schroder, secretary of dike commissioners; Norm Wallace and Fred Lubbe, member of the planning commission.

Object of the get-together was to get some of the preliminary work done so dike work could get underway this summer if the annexation of the new acreage is approved by the commission. Dike work will be at the discretion of the diking commission.

Should the annexation be approved work would begin in time to be completed

before the high water season comes again. In the event of expansion of the diking district a number farms and residences not now protected by the dike would come under the high water protection and much land now flooded by the Skagit River during the flooding period would be saved.

Possibility of development of residential area within the acreage was discussed and according to the diking commission the proposed new dike could be relied upon to give good protection to the area east of Burlington.