



**Corporation of the County of Essex**  
*Office of the Director of Council Services/Clerk*

**Mary S. Brennan, B.A., C.M.O.**  
Director of Council Services/Clerk

February 26, 2013

Mr. David Ullrich  
Executive Director  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
(email: [david.ullrich@glslcities.org](mailto:david.ullrich@glslcities.org))

Dear Mr. Ullrich:

**Re: Resolution on Asian Carp**

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Essex County Council, at their February 20, 2013 meeting, adopted the following resolution:

**44-13** Moved by Mr. McNamara  
Seconded by Mr. Paterson  
THAT Essex County Council supports the resolution from the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative regarding keeping Asian Carp out of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence. **Carried**

Yours truly,

Mary Brennan,  
Director of Council Services/Clerk

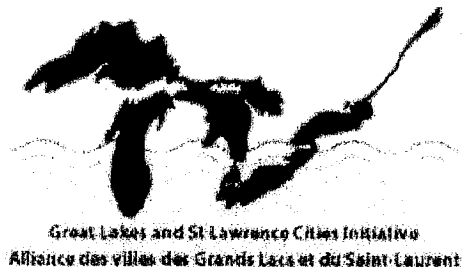
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Attachment

**Mary Brennan - Model Resolution on Stopping Asian Carp**

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**From:** Pam Carey <pam.kaput@glslcities.org>  
**To:** David Ullrich <david.ullrich@glslcities.org>, Nicola Crawhall <nicola.cr...>  
**Date:** 1/18/2013 12:23 PM  
**Subject:** Model Resolution on Stopping Asian Carp  
**Attachments:** MODEL RESOLUTION ON ASIAN CARP.DOCX; Milwaukee CertifiedCopy09-Jan-2013-03-27-45.pdf; CAWS-4Pager-20120203.pdf

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January 18, 2013

Dear GLSLCI Mayors:

Stopping the introduction of invasive species to our waters has been a very high priority for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative since our organization was founded. We have emphasized this issue even more with the Asian carp crisis. We have done a great deal of work over the past three years on the Chicago Area Waterway System report "Restoring the Natural Divide," and have consistently advocated for uniform, protective, achievable ballast water standards for ships. With the serious nature of the Asian carp threat, we need to look for more ways to address this problem.

We recently agreed to work with a group called "Freshwater Future" on this matter. This initiative includes having cities across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basins pass city council resolutions that emphasize the serious nature of the problem and the urgency of finding a solution. The focus of the resolution is on physical separation of the Chicago Waterway System and restoring the natural divide between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins.

It would help the cause significantly if your city council would pass such a resolution, and I ask that you take this up with them. If you choose to do so, please let our Executive Director David Ullrich know at [david.ullrich@glslcities.org](mailto:david.ullrich@glslcities.org) and provide him with a copy of any resolution that is passed. Also, please contact Dave if you have any questions.

Thank you for all you do for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and our organization.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett, Chair  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Mayor of Milwaukee

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## MODEL RESOLUTION ON ASIAN CARP

### Keeping Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence represent the largest body of surface fresh water in the world and are a vibrant, diverse ecosystem that is critically important to the economic well-being and quality of life of the Canadian and U.S. populations in the basin ;

WHEREAS, over 180 invasive species have entered the ecosystem over the years and caused widespread damage and disruption to the natural balance of the system, as well as significant economic damage;

WHEREAS, one of the most serious threats ever presented by invasive species currently comes from Asian carp, including silver, bighead, and black varieties;

WHEREAS, these varieties of carp were introduced to the southern United States for use in fish farms for algae control in the 1970's and escaped into the Mississippi River system as a result of floods and other means over the years;

WHEREAS, the invasive carp have migrated northward through the Mississippi River system over the years to a point where they are as far north as Wisconsin and Minnesota, and into Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, as well;

WHEREAS, the invasive carp have established dominant populations in many places in the river systems, reducing significantly or eliminating populations of the more desirable species of fish because of their voracious food consumption and prolific reproduction;

WHEREAS, the invasive carp are threatening to enter the Great Lakes at a number of points across the basin, but none appear to present as great a threat as the Illinois River and Chicago Area Waterway System;

WHEREAS, many federal, state, provincial, and local government agencies in the United States and Canada have worked diligently and expended tens of millions of dollars over the past 10 years on a variety of projects to stop the migration of the invasive carp and keep them out of the Great Lakes;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed and currently operates an electric barrier near Romeoville Illinois on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal that seems to have helped slow or stop the movement of the invasive carp toward Lake Michigan;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a multiyear, comprehensive study across the U.S. side of the Great Lakes basin called the "Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study" (GLMRIS) that examines 19 separate locations where invasive carp could cross from the Mississippi River Basin to the Great Lakes Basin, and considers a large number of potential ways to stop the further migration;

WHEREAS, including the invasive carp, there are 39 invasive species in the two basins that present a threat to cross over into the other basin in the near future;

WHEREAS, once an invasive species establishes itself in an ecosystem, it is exceedingly difficult to eradicate it, and it often inflicts serious damage on the ecosystem and imposes major costs in the form of efforts to control it;

WHEREAS, invasive species have already inflicted hundreds of millions in damage across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and invasive carp pose a serious threat to the \$7 billion sport and commercial fishery that support the economy and help define the culture of the entire region;

WHEREAS, Canadian and U.S. citizens across the basin have expressed serious concern about the invasive carp and other invasive species, and are demanding prompt action;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities initiative has taken the position by resolution that physical separation of the Mississippi River and Great Lakes basins in the Chicago Area Waterway System provides the most effective means of keeping the invasive carp from reaching Lake Michigan;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and Great Lakes Commission completed a report entitled "Restoring the Natural Divide" on January 31, 2012 that established the feasibility of physical separation of the two basins in the Chicago Area Waterway System that would also maintain or enhance water quality, flood control, and transportation in the System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the invasive carp in the Mississippi River system pose one of the greatest threats to the integrity and well-being of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem, including the 40 million Canadians and Americans who live there;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that preventing the invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem needs to be approached with the greatest sense of urgency by all those responsible for dealing with this matter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is the most effective way to keep invasive carp from entering Lake Michigan through the Chicago Area Waterway System, and such barriers would also prevent the movement of many other invasive species from one basin to the other;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is feasible and can be done in a way that maintains or enhances water quality, flood control, and transportation in the system;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should take all necessary steps accelerate its process to complete its work on the Chicago Area Waterway System portion of the study no later than December 2013, and give fair and thorough consideration to the physical separation option;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and all cooperating U.S. and Canadian agencies continue operation of the electric barrier, intensive commercial fishing, and other methods to keep the invasive carp out of the Great Lakes while a long term solution is found and implemented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that additional work should be undertaken immediately to develop more details of the "Restoring the Natural Divide," report, with a special emphasis on ways to finance the necessary infrastructure investments;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, once a preferred option is identified, all parties should move forward to implement the solution in an expedited fashion with the greatest sense of urgency.