

Remarks for Mayor Finkbeiner
Monday, December 22
Ottawa River Cleanup Project

For many years in Toledo's manufacturing and industrial past, many companies inadvertently added great amounts of pollutants into the Ottawa River. Highway construction and bank stabilization projects also contributed to the Ottawa River's problems.

To reverse these harmful effects, many of the companies who were responsible for at least some of the contamination formed the Ottawa River Group. This voluntary consortium—whose members include Chrysler, Allied Waste North America; GenCorp, Inc.; Honeywell, Inc.; Illinois Tool Works, Inc., United Technologies Corporation, AND The

City of Toledo—is committed to removing the polluted sediment from the Ottawa River, to once again allow citizens to fully enjoy this great natural resource.

The City of Toledo and the rest of the Ottawa River Group members will be undertaking a \$40 million dollar thorough cleanup of the river. The Group has applied for grant funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help pay for these associated cleanup costs. At a time when many of our City's construction workers are out of work, this \$40 million dollar project will no doubt lead to many jobs.

To complete this project and help repair the River, the Department of Public Service

Division of Solid Waste is offering usage of the Hoffman Road Landfill for the disposal of the dredging materials. We are offering use of this City-owned landfill in lieu of monetary contributions, which we cannot afford due to our budget issues.

A public hearing on this project will be held next Tuesday, December 30 at 6 p.m. in Lucas County Commissioner Chambers. Myself, and the other members of the Ottawa River Group, are urging City Council to approve this arrangement, which will not only help relieve the City's financial obligations, but speed up this necessary environmental project.

I will now ask Casey Stephens, our
Commissioner of Public Service to speak.