

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, August 3, 2015

Regular Meeting

Item Reports5

Council to consider submitting a grant application for the Scottsbluff Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan, an optional add-on to the Hazard Mitigation Plan and authorize the Mayor to execute all documents.

Staff Contact: Annie Folck, City Planner

Agenda Statement

Item No.

For meeting of: August 3, 2015

AGENDA TITLE: Council to consider grant application for Scottsbluff Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan, an optional add-on to the Hazard Mitigation Plan

SUBMITTED BY DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION: Planning and Zoning

PRESENTATION BY:

SUMMARY EXPLANATION: The North Platte NRD is currently working with several communities to update the area-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan makes the City eligible for grant assistance from FEMA to prevent and respond to disasters. The consultants working on the area-wide plan have approached the City of Scottsbluff to see if we would want to work with them to conduct some additional mitigation planning. This would focus on properties in Scottsbluff's floodplain, making suggestions for risk reduction for individual properties. Flood risk reduction will become increasingly important in future years as flood insurance costs continue to rise. The project would cost \$32,000, with 75% of the cost being paid by FEMA and 25% being paid by the City. This project is completely optional, and our participation will not affect our participation in the NRD's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of this contract

EXHIBITS

Resolution Ordinance Contract Minutes Plan/Map

Other (specify) _____

NOTIFICATION LIST: Yes No Further Instructions

APPROVAL FOR SUBMITTAL: _____
City Manager

Rev 3/1/99CClerk



Scottsbluff Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan

Parcel Level Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan for Floodprone Properties		Estimated Cost
Task 1: Flood Risk Assessment		
	Review mapped floodplain	\$1,000
	Review flood depth approximations	\$1,000
	Establish lowest floor elevation	\$5,000
	Conduct a structural analysis	\$5,000
Task 2: Develop Risk Reduction Recommendations		
	Establish a comprehensive range of mitigation alternatives	\$3,500
	Prioritize and rank mitigation alternatives	\$5,500
Task 3: Community engagement and awareness		
	Develop community outreach materials	\$2,500
	Conduct one open house	\$3,500
Task 4: Summary Report		
	Develop summary report	\$5,000
	Total	\$32,000
	FEMA Costshare	\$24,000
	Local Match	\$8,000

Project Funding:

The Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA) is an annual appropriation by Congress, the City of Scottsbluff is eligible for this grant program because they have an approved and adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan. The FMA program will provide up to a 75% costshare for projects that help mitigate future flood losses. The FMA program has a very defined window for applications, usually during the summer months with grant awards by the end of the year. FMA grants allow the recipient 20 months to complete the project. For this project the FMA grant would cover a full 75% (\$24,000) and the City would be responsible for 25% (\$8,000).

Project Scope and Timeline:

This project would be subject to FEMA grant approval. The project would be scheduled to begin following the completion of the floodplain mapping process currently underway. JEO would coordinate with Scottsbluff planning staff and floodplain management to determine the area of highest need. The project would examine 25-50 structures, the total number of structures evaluated would be contingent upon available data and extent of evaluation required. It would be possible to complete an evaluation of the entire floodplain and floodprone areas through project phasing over multiple years. Project phasing would allow the City to prioritize the areas in need of evaluation and approach the project by structure and neighborhood rather than a major, area-wide study. Flood mitigation grants are available annually and could be pursued to support this project for more than one year, if desired. This approach would be necessary due to the period of performance for the FMA grant (20 month period of performance).



Parcel Level Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan for Floodprone Properties

Proposed Project Scope:

- I) **Flood Risk Assessment:**
 - a. Review the mapped floodplain
 - i. The FEMA FIRM maps and the regulatory 1% floodplain will be compared and contrasted with the working maps developed by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources;
 - ii. Work with city staff and other relevant stakeholders to establish floodprone areas located outside of the 1% floodplain;
 - iii. Develop community engagement tool to allow residents to map areas previously impacted by floods and high water events.
 - b. Review flood depth approximations
 - i. Coordinate with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to determine what data has been developed;
 - ii. Work with City staff to review historical flooding/high water events that have occurred locally;
 - iii. Work to identify other studies and approximations of flood depths for the study area.
 - c. Establish lowest floor elevation for structures included in evaluation
 - i. Coordinate with City staff to review elevation data for structure located in the floodplain;
 - ii. Utilize Google Earth to establish elevations per parcel;
 - iii. Field verify a defined number of parcels (not to exceed 10 percent of properties) to ensure accuracy of elevations collected via Google Earth;
 - iv. Review assessor/parcel data to be provided by the City to establish if structures in the study area have basements or crawlspaces.
 - d. Conduct a structural analysis through site visits
 - i. Conduct a survey of parcels located in the study area;
 - ii. Collect data related to:
 1. Additional structures located on the parcel;
 2. Location of mechanical systems located outdoors;
 - iii. Ingress/egress from building and property;
- II) **Develop Risk Reduction Recommendations:**
 - a. Establish a comprehensive range of mitigation alternatives:
 - i. Structural mitigation
 1. Acquisition
 2. Elevation
 3. Fill basement
 4. Etc.
 - ii. Community Education and Outreach



1. Flood warning systems
 2. Automated notifications
 3. Education materials
 4. Etc.
- iii. Area-wide Mitigation
 1. Stormwater system deficiencies and potential improvements
 2. Stormwater detention facilities
 3. Flood control devices (i.e. berms and/or levees)
 4. Etc.
- b. Prioritize and rank mitigation alternatives:
 - i. Review potential mitigation alternatives and the dynamic characteristics of each structure in the study area
 - ii. Evaluation the potential effectiveness of each mitigation alternative based on the structural characteristics
 - iii. Rank mitigation alternatives for each structure evaluated
 - iv. Provide a clear classification for each mitigation alternative per structure, classifications could include:
 1. Highly effective (recommended)
 2. Effective
 3. Further evaluation required
 4. Not effective/Not recommended

III) Community engagements and awareness:

- a. Develop community outreach materials to share with residents residing in the study area
- b. Conduct one Open House to share the study results with residents of the City

Deliverable(s):

Summary report outlining the findings of the study. The report will include a review and ranking of mitigation alternatives as established for each structure evaluated. The summary report will outline what mitigation alternatives were considered, the criteria for evaluation, factors in prioritization, and specific recommendations. In addition to the recommendations per parcel, the report will examine mitigation alternatives that are appropriate for the entire study area. This plan will serve as an appendix to the hazard mitigation plan that is currently in the process of being updated.

ON CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF LETTERHEAD

August 3, 2015

Mr. Mitch C. Paine, Flood Mitigation Planning Coordinator
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68509-4676

RE: Scottsbluff Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan
Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
Financial Commitment Letter

Mr. Paine,

Via this letter, the city of Scottsbluff, Nebraska hereby pledges \$8,000 in cash towards the Scottsbluff Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan.

If you should have any questions regarding this financial commitment letter, please feel free to contact Andrea Folck, Planner, at 308-630-6244.

Sincerely,

Randy Meininger, Mayor
City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

cc: Andrea Folck, Planner

August 4, 2015

Mitch Paine
Flood Mitigation Planning Coordinator
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68509-4676

RE: Scottsbluff Parcel Level Flood Risk Assessment and Flood Mitigation Plan
Notice of Intent for Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program

Mr. Paine,

The city of Scottsbluff is submitting this Notice of Intent to secure funding from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources through Parcel Level Flood Risk Assessment and Flood Mitigation Plan. This study and plan will be included as a component of the 2015 North Platte Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Pertinent information provided below:

Contact Information:

Annie Folck, Planner
2525 Circle Drive
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308.630.6294

Hazard Mitigation Plan:

This study and plan will be included in the North Platte Natural Resources District's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Project Costs:

The estimated cost for the Parcel Level Flood Risk Assessment and Flood Mitigation Plan is \$30,000.

Estimated Start Date:

March 1, 2016.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this grant request.

Sincerely,