

CITY OF WASHINGTON

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Manier and City Council
FROM: Jon R. Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director
SUBJECT: Letter of Map Revision FEMA Payment Authorization
DATE: May 12, 2017

As you know, a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) has been in progress for nearly two years to study an area on the east side of the city roughly between N. Main Street and Diebel Road. The work includes detailed surveying, hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, and the completion of all necessary Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and FEMA forms by the consulting engineering firm, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL). This project has been progressing well and the preliminary mapping has reduced the 100-year floodplain for many properties within the project boundaries.

FEMA/Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) has notified us that we now will have to pay a \$8,250 fee for the review and processing of the LOMR project. While this had been considered a possibility in 2015 when the project was originally proposed, CBBEL and the ISWS were hopeful that we may not have to pay it because it is a locally-sponsored project. But FEMA now requires this fee be paid for all LOMR projects when there have been new man-made modifications or channelization has occurred within the floodplain since the prior 1986 map was adopted. In Washington's case, a bridge replacement on Lawndale in 2002 means that the City has to pay this fee. This is anticipated to be the last item needed by FEMA before the LOMR is issued in June. ISWS has estimated that it would be five months before the LOMR would become effective in November.

This payment authorization is scheduled for approval at the City Council meeting on May 15.