



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: November 9, 2020

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Agenda Item: BRIC Application Consideration

Explanation: FEMA has a grant program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), that can be utilized to assist with any priority flood management projects. This is funded on a 75/25 basis. A pre-application form was submitted to IEMA by a September 30 in order to be eligible for the program. The actual grant cycle opens on September 30 and must be submitted by January 29. Staff received approval of the pre-application by IEMA last week, which has now requested that a sub-application be submitted by November 20. FEMA anticipates an announcement of project awards in the summer of 2021.

Attached is an estimate and corresponding map showing a multi-tiered example project to address historic flooding issues along and near a tributary that flows through the Washington Estates subdivision. Also attached is a map showing the areas of flooding that our staff is aware of in the last year within the city limits. A similar project that included the construction of an upstream detention basin was submitted for grant consideration through the HUD National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) program in 2015 but was not awarded. As with NDRC, the City would be the subapplicant and IEMA would be the applicant on behalf of any local governments in Illinois. Having previously applied for the NDRC program will assist in the preparation of a BRIC application should the direction be to complete that.

This project is estimated at \$1.857M. This includes the replacement of the existing culvert at Business 24, tributary channel improvements (plus easement acquisitions from nearly 40 properties), and land acquisition and earthwork associated with the aforementioned upstream detention basin with a recreation trail connection to improve the project's benefit-cost ratio. This does not include the possible completion of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to determine the whereabouts of the 100-year floodplain along and near the tributary. This area was not subject to floodplain mapping in 1986 by FEMA because Washington Estates was not annexed into the city at the time. The most recent FEMA floodplain map modernization project in 2017 did not include any new survey data to determine new areas of floodplain or the revision of existing mapped floodplains. A rough cost for that would be \$50,000. It would be staff's hope that if there was resident support for this project, most, if not all, of the owners on Elgin and Fayette Avenues would forego any financial compensation as part of the easement acquisitions. This cost is currently included in the overall estimate.

Fiscal Impact: Based on the current project construction improvements and LOMR, the 25% local share would be \$476,813. This is not included in the FY 20-21 budget and would need to be accommodated for in FY 21-22 in order to consider the project. Even if the easements acquisition cost was eliminated altogether, the total project cost would be about \$1.5M with a local share of approximately \$375,000.

Action Requested: This topic was discussed at the November 2 Public Works Committee meeting. While the proposed improvements would assist with the periodic flooding, it is a very localized project. As such, the discussion led to the drafting of a letter that was delivered this week to each of the property owners adjacent to the tributary to determine the level of interest in the creation of a Special Service Area (SSA) to pay for the 25% local cost if an application was submitted and a grant was awarded to cover the other 75%. Limited feedback has been received thus far but none of the three respondents have said that they would favor paying for the improvements. Staff seeks direction on a possible BRIC grant submittal at the November 9 Committee of the Whole meeting. If there is interest, the City Council would need to approve a resolution at the November 16 meeting supporting the 25% share to be included in the sub-application, which could still be paid back through the creation of an SSA or other means.

Washington Estates Flood Control Project Cost Estimate

Component	Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost
BR-24 Culvert	Demo Existing Culvert	1	Each	\$50,000	\$50,000
	Structural Concrete (Large Vol)	315	Cu Yd	\$1,000	\$315,000
	Riprap Outlet Protection	500	Tons Cal.	\$50	\$25,000
	Traffic Control and Protection	12	Mo.	\$5,000	\$60,000
	Subtotal				\$450,000
Channel Improvements	Expanded Propety Easements	40	Each	\$10,000	\$400,000
	Channel Excavation	4,250	Cu Yd	\$35	\$148,750
	Riprap	5,550	Tons	\$70	\$388,500
	Restoration				\$70,000
	Subtotal				\$1,007,250
Detention Basin	Land Acquisition	1	Each	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Earthwork	1	Lsum	\$300,000	\$300,000
	Subtotal				\$400,000
	TOTAL				\$1,857,250

Washington Estates



