



City Council

Agenda Item

Subject: Approval of the Agreement with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a Flood Control Feasibility Study, Project No. 2118, in the estimated amount of \$1,800,000.00, with a 50% cost share and first phase financial commitment of \$25,000.

Meeting: City Council - Aug 01 2022

From: Heath VonEye, Public Works Director

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Please reference the attached Agreement for additional background and context. This is a 50/50 matching funds agreement between the USACE and the City.

As of today, study costs are projected to be \$1,800,000.00, with the Federal Government's share of \$900,000.00 and the Non-Federal Sponsor's (City's) share of \$900,000.00. These amounts are estimates only that are subject to adjustment by the Federal Government and are not to be construed as the total financial responsibilities of the Government and the City.

Over the past three decades, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have worked with the City to sponsor and perform a feasibility level study for a flood control project that protects the City from eminent flood damage due to the Big Sioux River. Staff records show several milestone dates of the initial and past updates to the feasibility study, to include 1994, 1998, 2003, and 2005.

After the recurrence of flooding events in the past decade, The USACE and City have continued to request/preserve funding for updating the feasibility study with the goal of identifying flood mitigation solutions. Through that effort, the City requested assistance from the SDDANR, receiving a State Water Resources Management System (SWRMS) grant for \$249,777.00. This grant funding is effective for a 4 year period, with SDDANR ability to extend it for an additional 2 years.

The attached agreement between the USACE and the City is for a feasibility level study update for a flood control project. The City will be committed to the initial phase costs of up to \$25,000. This phase will include landowner meetings with the Corps and the City. Whether to proceed with subsequent phases and any additional financial obligations will be determined at that time.

Upon 30 calendar days written notice to the other party, either party may elect at any time, without penalty, to suspend or terminate future performance of the Study.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The agreement provides for a maximum cost of \$1,800,000. The City is responsible for \$900,000. With current State funding of \$250,000, the City's obligation is at \$650,000.

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The Corps estimates that the overall study could be completed at a much lower cost due to the previously detailed efforts from past years' work. Costs are projected and updated throughout the study so that City match funding can be allocated appropriately.

The City recently accepted a State Water Resources Management System (SWRMS) grant for \$249,777.00 from the SDDANR. The City has requested an additional \$200,000 in funding from SWRMS in the 2023 Omnibus bill, to bring total State funding to \$450,000, matching half of the City's \$900,000 obligation. If successful with '23 SWRMS funding, the City's overall estimated costs for the study are reduced from \$650,000 to \$450,000.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move to approve the Agreement with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a Flood Control Feasibility Study, Project No. 2118, in the estimated amount of \$1,800,000.00, with a 50% cost share and a first phase financial commitment of \$25,000.

STAFF REFERENCE(S):

Justin Petersen

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Agreement](#)

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
AND
CITY OF WATERTOWN, SD
FOR THE
WATERTOWN, SD GENERAL INVESTIGATION

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this _____ day of _____, _____, by and between the Department of the Army (hereinafter the "Government"), represented by the District Commander for Omaha District (hereinafter the "District Commander") and the City of Watertown, SD (hereinafter the "Non-Federal Sponsor"), represented by the City Manager.

WITNESSETH, THAT:

WHEREAS, resolutions adopted by the Committee on Public Works, U.S. Senate on May 8, 1964, and March 26, 1968; and a resolution adopted by the Committee on Public Works, U.S. House of Representatives on August 1, 1963 authorizes the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors to review the reports on the Big Sioux River and its Tributaries, Iowa and South Dakota, published as House Document Numbered 133, Eighty-fourth Congress, and other reports, with a view to determining any modifications should be made in the recommendations therein, with particular reference to utilization of storage reservoirs for flood control and related water problems, including municipal water supply, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife conservation, irrigation, erosion, and water quality control, in the Big Sioux basin upstream from the mouth of the Rock River but including the Rock River basin;

WHEREAS, Section 105(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, as amended (33 U.S.C. 2215(a)), specifies the cost-sharing requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor have the full authority and capability to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

A. The term "Study" means the activities and tasks required to identify and evaluate alternatives and the preparation of a decision document that, as appropriate, recommends a coordinated and implementable solution for identifying an economically feasible flood control project for the Big Sioux River in the vicinity of Watertown, SD at Watertown, SD

B. The term "study costs" means all costs incurred by the Government and Non-Federal Sponsor after the effective date of this Agreement that are directly related to performance of the Study and cost shared in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The term includes the Government's costs for preparing the PMP; for plan formulation and evaluation, including costs for economic, engineering, real estate, and environmental analyses; for preparation of a floodplain

management plan if undertaken as part of the Study; for preparing and processing the decision document; for supervision and administration; for Agency Technical Review and other review processes required by the Government; and for response to any required Independent External Peer Review; and the Non-Federal Sponsor's creditable costs for in-kind contributions, if any. The term does not include any costs for dispute resolution; participation by the Government and Non-Federal Sponsor in the Study Coordination Team to discuss significant issues and actions; audits; an Independent External Peer Review panel, if required; or negotiating this Agreement.

C. The term "PMP" means the project management plan, and any modifications thereto, developed in consultation with the Non-Federal Sponsor, that specifies the scope, cost, and schedule for Study activities and tasks, including the Non-Federal Sponsor's in-kind contributions, and that guides the performance of the Study.

D. The term "in-kind contributions" means those planning activities (including data collection and other services) that are integral to the Study and would otherwise have been undertaken by the Government for the Study and that are identified in the PMP and performed or provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor after the effective date of this Agreement and in accordance with the PMP.

E. The term "maximum Federal study cost" means the \$1,500,000 Federal cost limit for the Study, unless the Government has approved a higher amount.

F. The term "fiscal year" means one year beginning on October 1st and ending on September 30th of the following year.

ARTICLE II - OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

A. In accordance with Federal laws, regulations, and policies, the Government shall conduct the Study using funds appropriated by the Congress and funds provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor. In carrying out its obligations under this Agreement, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall comply with all the requirements of applicable Federal laws and implementing regulations, including but not limited to, if applicable, Section 601 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d), and Department of Defense Directive 5500.11 issued pursuant thereto; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6102); and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), and Army Regulation 600-7 issued pursuant thereto.

B. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall contribute 50 percent of the study costs in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph and provide required funds in accordance with Article III.

1. No later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of this Agreement, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide funds in the amount of \$25,000, for the Government to initiate the Study, including preparation of the PMP. In the event more funds are needed to develop the PMP, the Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with a written estimate of the amount of funds required from the Non-Federal Sponsor, and no later than 15 calendar days after such notification, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the full amount of such funds to the Government.

2. As soon as practicable after completion of the PMP, and after considering the estimated amount of credit for in-kind contributions, if any, that will be afforded in accordance with paragraph C. of this Article, the Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with a written estimate of the amount of funds required from the Non-Federal Sponsor to meet its share of study costs for the remainder of the initial fiscal year of the Study. No later than 15 calendar days after such notification, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the full amount of such funds to the Government in accordance with Article III.C.

3. No later than August 1st prior to each subsequent fiscal year of the Study, the Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with a written estimate of the amount of funds required from the Non-Federal Sponsor during that fiscal year to meet its cost share. No later than September 1st prior to that fiscal year, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the full amount of such required funds to the Government in accordance with Article III.C.

C. The Government shall include in study costs and credit towards the Non-Federal Sponsor's share of such costs, the costs, documented to the satisfaction of the Government, that the Non-Federal Sponsor incurs in providing or performing in-kind contributions, including associated supervision and administration. Such costs shall be subject to audit in accordance with Article VI to determine reasonableness, allocability, and allowability, and crediting shall be in accordance with the following procedures, requirements, and limitations:

1. As in-kind contributions are completed and no later than 60 calendar day after such completion, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the Government appropriate documentation, including invoices and certification of specific payments to contractors, suppliers, and the Non-Federal Sponsor's employees. Failure to provide such documentation in a timely manner may result in denial of credit. The amount of credit afforded for in-kind contributions shall not exceed the Non-Federal Sponsor's share of study costs less the amount of funds provided pursuant to paragraph B.1. of this Article.

2. No credit shall be afforded for interest charges, or any adjustment to reflect changes in price levels between the time the in-kind contributions are completed and credit is afforded; for the value of in-kind contributions obtained at no cost to the Non-Federal Sponsor; for any items provided or performed prior to completion of the PMP; or for costs that exceed the Government's estimate of the cost for such item if it had been performed by the Government.

D. To the extent practicable and in accordance with Federal laws, regulations, and policies, the Government shall afford the Non-Federal Sponsor the opportunity to review and comment on contract solicitations prior to the Government's issuance of such solicitations; proposed contract modifications, including change orders; and contract claims prior to resolution thereof. Ultimately, the contents of solicitations, award of contracts, execution of contract modifications, and resolution of contract claims shall be exclusively within the control of the Government.

E. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall not use Federal program funds to meet any of its obligations under this Agreement unless the Federal agency providing the funds verifies in writing that the funds are authorized to be used for the Study. Federal program funds are those

funds provided by a Federal agency, plus any non-Federal contribution required as a matching share therefor.

F. Except as provided in paragraph C. of this Article, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall not be entitled to any credit or reimbursement for costs it incurs in performing its responsibilities under this Agreement.

G. If Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) is required for the Study, the Government shall conduct such review in accordance with Federal laws, regulations, and policies. The Government's costs for an IEPR panel shall not be included in study costs or the maximum Federal study cost.

H. In addition to the ongoing, regular discussions between the parties regarding Study delivery, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor may establish a Study Coordination Team to discuss significant issues or actions. The Government's costs for participation on the Study Coordination Team shall not be included in study costs, but shall be included in calculating the maximum Federal study cost. The Non-Federal Sponsor's costs for participation on the Study Coordination Team shall not be included in study costs and shall be paid solely by the Non-Federal Sponsor without reimbursement or credit by the Government.

ARTICLE III - PAYMENT OF FUNDS

A. As of the effective date of this Agreement, study costs are projected to be \$1,800,000.00, with the Government's share of such costs projected to be \$900,000.00 and the Non-Federal Sponsor's share of such costs projected to be \$900,000.00. These amounts are estimates only that are subject to adjustment by the Government and are not to be construed as the total financial responsibilities of the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor.

B. The Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with monthly reports setting forth the estimated study costs and the Government's and Non-Federal Sponsor's estimated shares of such costs; costs incurred by the Government, using both Federal and Non-Federal Sponsor funds, to date; the amount of funds provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor to date; the estimated amount of any creditable in-kind contributions; and the estimated remaining cost of the Study.

C. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide to the Government required funds by delivering a check payable to "FAO, USAED, Omaha District (G6) to the District Commander, or verifying to the satisfaction of the Government that the Non-Federal Sponsor has deposited such required funds in an escrow or other account acceptable to the Government, with interest accruing to the Non-Federal Sponsor, or by providing an Electronic Funds Transfer of such required funds in accordance with procedures established by the Government.

D. The Government shall draw from the funds provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor to cover the non-Federal share of study costs as those costs are incurred. If the Government determines at any time that additional funds are needed from the Non-Federal Sponsor to cover the Non-Federal Sponsor's required share of study costs, the Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with written notice of the amount of additional funds required. Within 60

calendar days of such notice, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the Government with the full amount of such additional funds.

E. Upon completion of the Study and resolution of all relevant claims and appeals, the Government shall conduct a final accounting and furnish the Non-Federal Sponsor with the written results of such final accounting. Should the final accounting determine that additional funds are required from the Non-Federal Sponsor, the Non-Federal Sponsor, within 60 calendar days of written notice from the Government, shall provide the Government with the full amount of such additional funds by delivering a check payable to "FAO, USAED, Omaha District (G6)" to the District Commander, or by providing an Electronic Funds Transfer of such required funds in accordance with procedures established by the Government. Should the final accounting determine that the Non-Federal Sponsor has provided funds in excess of its required amount, the Government shall refund the excess amount, subject to the availability of funds. Such final accounting does not limit the Non-Federal Sponsor's responsibility to pay its share of study costs, including contract claims or any other liability that may become known after the final accounting.

ARTICLE IV - TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION

A. Upon 30 calendar days written notice to the other party, either party may elect at any time, without penalty, to suspend or terminate future performance of the Study. Furthermore, unless an extension is approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), the Study may be terminated if a Report of the Chief of Engineers, or, if applicable, a Report of the Director of Civil Works, is not signed for the Study within 3 years after the effective date of this Agreement.

B. In the event of termination, the parties shall conclude their activities relating to the Study. To provide for this eventuality, the Government may reserve a percentage of available funds as a contingency to pay the costs of termination, including any costs of resolution of contract claims, and resolution of contract modifications.

C. Any suspension or termination shall not relieve the parties of liability for any obligation incurred. Any delinquent payment owed by the Non-Federal Sponsor pursuant to this Agreement shall be charged interest at a rate, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, equal to 150 per centum of the average bond equivalent rate of the 13 week Treasury bills auctioned immediately prior to the date on which such payment became delinquent, or auctioned immediately prior to the beginning of each additional 3 month period if the period of delinquency exceeds 3 months.

ARTICLE V - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

As a condition precedent to a party bringing any suit for breach of this Agreement, that party must first notify the other party in writing of the nature of the purported breach and seek in good faith to resolve the dispute through negotiation. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute through negotiation, they may agree to a mutually acceptable method of non-binding alternative dispute resolution with a qualified third party acceptable to the parties. Each party shall pay an equal share of any costs for the services provided by such a third party as such costs are incurred.

The existence of a dispute shall not excuse the parties from performance pursuant to this Agreement.

ARTICLE VI - MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS AND AUDIT

A. The parties shall develop procedures for the maintenance by the Non-Federal Sponsor of books, records, documents, or other evidence pertaining to costs and expenses for a minimum of three years after the final accounting. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall assure that such materials are reasonably available for examination, audit, or reproduction by the Government.

B. The Government may conduct, or arrange for the conduct of, audits of the Study. Government audits shall be conducted in accordance with applicable Government cost principles and regulations. The Government's costs of audits for the Study shall not be included in study costs, but shall be included in calculating the maximum Federal study cost.

C. To the extent permitted under applicable Federal laws and regulations, the Government shall allow the Non-Federal Sponsor to inspect books, records, documents, or other evidence pertaining to costs and expenses maintained by the Government, or at the Non-Federal Sponsor's request, provide to the Non-Federal Sponsor or independent auditors any such information necessary to enable an audit of the Non-Federal Sponsor's activities under this Agreement. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall pay the costs of non-Federal audits without reimbursement or credit by the Government.

ARTICLE VII - RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

In the exercise of their respective rights and obligations under this Agreement, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor each act in an independent capacity, and neither is to be considered the officer, agent, or employee of the other. Neither party shall provide, without the consent of the other party, any contractor with a release that waives or purports to waive any rights a party may have to seek relief or redress against that contractor.

ARTICLE VIII - NOTICES

A. Any notice, request, demand, or other communication required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been duly given if in writing and delivered personally or mailed by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, as follows:

If to the Non-Federal Sponsor:

City Manager, City of Watertown
23 2nd Street NE, P.O. Box 910
Watertown, SD 57201

If to the Government:

District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
1616 Capital Ave Suite 9000
Omaha, NE 68102-4901

B. A party may change the recipient or address to which such communications are to be directed by giving written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this Article.

ARTICLE IX - CONFIDENTIALITY

To the extent permitted by the laws governing each party, the parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of exchanged information when requested to do so by the providing party.

ARTICLE X - THIRD PARTY RIGHTS, BENEFITS, OR LIABILITIES

Nothing in this Agreement is intended, nor may be construed, to create any rights, confer any benefits, or relieve any liability, of any kind whatsoever in any third person not a party to this Agreement.

ARTICLE XI - OBLIGATIONS OF FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS

The Non-Federal Sponsor intends to fulfill fully its obligations under this Agreement. Nothing herein shall constitute, nor be deemed to constitute, an obligation of future appropriations by the City Council of the City of Watertown, South Dakota, where creating such an obligation would be inconsistent with South Dakota Codified Law § 9-21-10. If the Non-Federal Sponsor is unable to, or does not, fulfill its obligations under this Agreement, the Government may exercise any legal rights it has to protect the Government's interests.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement, which shall become effective upon the date it is signed by the District Commander.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

City of Watertown, SD

BY: _____

Mark R. Himes, P.E., PMP
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander

BY: _____

Amanda Mack,
City Manager, Watertown, SD

ATTEST:

Kristen Bobzien,
Finance Officer, Watertown, SD

DATE: _____

DATE: _____