



City Council

Agenda Item

Subject: Approval for the Finance Officer to issue a Special Check to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a Flood Control Feasibility Study, Project No. 2118, in the amount \$175,000.00 for a total financial commitment of \$200,000.00.

Meeting: City Council - Nov 07 2022

From: Heath VonEye, Public Works Director

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On August 1, 2022, the City entered into a 50/50 matching funds agreement between the USACE and the City with an initial financial commitment of \$25,000. This request is to have the City match the financial commitment of USACE to bring the City's total financial commitment to \$200,000. This is to allow the USACE to continue the first phase of the project through January 2023. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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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 Finance Officer to issue a Special Check to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a Flood Control Feasibility Study, Project No. 2118, in the amount \$175,000.00 for a total financial commitment of \$200,000.00.

STAFF REFERENCE(S):

Justin Petersen, Wyatt Ewing

ATTACHMENT(S):

[USACE Request for Funds](#)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
1616 CAPITOL AVENUE
OMAHA NE 68102-4901

Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division

Ms. Amanda Mack
City Manager, City of Watertown
23 2nd Street NE, P.O. Box 910
Watertown, South Dakota 57201

Dear Ms. Mack:

The Feasibility Cost Share Agreement (FCSA) between the City of Watertown and the Omaha District was executed on August 19, 2022, and the Watertown Feasibility cost-shared study has been initiated. We are excited to partner with the City of Watertown on this study. To continue the study as efficiently as possible, we request that the City of Watertown provide the remainder of its cash match for FY23 of \$175,000.00.

You may send your payment via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT – preferred) or check. Using EFT reduces the processing time by approximately 2 weeks. If you wish to pay using EFT, please follow the guidance attached. For specific questions related to EFT please contact Kevin Heath at (901) 873-9135.

If you wish to pay by check, please make your check payable to the "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District." Please note "Watertown, South Dakota Feasibility Project" on the check and send to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
Attn: CENWO-PMP-C (Brittney Raggett)
1616 Capitol Avenue
Omaha, NE 68102-4901

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sarah Miller, Project Manager, at (402) 995-2699 or email at Sarah.J.Miller2@usace.army.mil or Ms. Brittney Raggett, Program Analyst, at (402) 995-2643 or email at Brittney.L.Raggett@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

**Ted H.
Streckfuss**

Digitally signed by Ted H.
Streckfuss
Date: 2022.09.06 08:12:57
-05'00'

Ted H. Streckfuss, Env. P.E., PMP
Deputy District Engineer

Enclosure