

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: SQUAW CREEK WATER MAIN PROTECTION PROJECT
(HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FLOOD MITIGATION)**

BACKGROUND:

Following flooding in 2010, Public Works staff submitted 11 projects for consideration under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Nine of the projects were denied federal funding due to failure to achieve a benefit cost analysis greater than 1.0. **On June 26, 2012, City Council directed staff to continue pursuing federal funding for the Stuart Smith Park Bank Stabilization project, which has been named the Squaw Creek Water Main Protection project** by Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (HSEMD). Municipal Engineer Tracy Warner was designated as the City's authorized representative for the project, and a local match was approved up to \$120,000.

Included in the 2012-2017 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) was a program entitled Flood Response and Mitigation Projects that included \$820,000 in General Obligation Bonds and \$325,000 in Storm Sewer Utility Funds. Portions of this funding were used on a flood mitigation project in Northridge Subdivision/Moore Memorial Park and for bank stabilization near Utah Drive and another location near North Riverside. These three projects are now complete. The two remaining projects are the Trail Ridge Landslide and the Squaw Creek Water Main Protection project (this report). Unspent local funding totaling \$620,081 has been carried forward through budget amendments.

The City hired an engineering consultant to complete the HMGP Drainage Project Application, which was completed and submitted for consideration in July 2012. The proposed construction project included sheet pile walls and riprap infill for bank stabilization to protect the existing 24-inch water main under Squaw Creek on the south side of Lincoln Way. In September 2012, the City was notified that this project was considered stacked, which meant that the funding cap was reached by other projects for the certain disaster covering this project. However, if funding remained, then the City's project would be considered for funding. In June 2014, a Request for Information was received from FEMA, and a response was submitted back to FEMA within a month. Staff has been notified that FEMA is interested in breaking up the project into phases, which includes Phase I (this report and associated agreement) that would fund further analysis of the problem and the best proposed solution, including consideration of whether the existing low-head dam should be removed as part of the project. Through this agreement, FEMA would fund 75%, the State would fund 10%, and the City would fund 15% of the cost of Phase I.

	Utah Drive Landslide (actual cost)	Trail Ridge Landslide (estimated cost)	Squaw Creek Water Main Protection (estimated, this project)	North Riverside Water Main (actual cost)	Northridge/ Moore Park (actual cost)	Total
<i>Project Cost</i>	\$163,790	\$310,00	\$695,000	\$66,882	\$769,060	\$2,004,732
2009/10 Storm Water Facility Rehab					\$98,998	\$98,998
2010/11 Storm Water Facility Rehab					\$57,495	\$57,495
2011/12 Storm Sewer Improvements					\$70,000	\$70,000
2011/12 Low Point Drainage					\$70,000	\$70,000
2012/13 Flood Response & Mitigation (G.O. Bonds)	\$163,790	\$310,000	\$120,000	\$66,882	\$158,902	\$820,000
2012/13 Flood Response & Mitigation (Storm Sewer Utility)					\$313,665	\$313,665
FEMA/State			\$575,000			\$575,000
Total Funding	\$163,790	\$310,000	\$695,000	\$66,882	\$769,060	\$2,004,732

A table summarizing these various projects is shown on the next page.

Professional services proposals were received and rated by city staff for work associated with the recommended Phase I work tasks as agreed upon by FEMA and HSEMD. One proposal was received and rated as follows:

Consultant	Total Score (out of possible 360 points)	Overall Rank	Estimated Cost
Snyder & Associates, Inc.	326	1	\$99,500

Since only one proposal was received, staff was quick to compare the proposed scope of services and estimated cost with other similar projects that the City is currently working to complete. The associated fee in connection to the required schedule (in

order to meet FEMA deadlines) and scope of services is comparable to other contracts. Staff also discussed the proposal with HSEMD who concurred that the proposal is sound and that Snyder & Associates, Inc. is strongly qualified to complete this work. Staff has negotiated a professional services contract with Snyder & Associates, Inc. of Ankeny, Iowa, due to their strong understanding of the HMGP process, technical skills necessary for the work associated with Phase I, and their ability to meet the necessary (tight) timeline for completing this funded project.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1a. Approve Grant Agreement with FEMA/Iowa Homeland Security for Phase I of the City of Ames, Squaw Creek Water Main Protection Project. **Under this agreement FEMA and the Iowa Homeland Security will pay up to \$84,575 (85%) of the Phase I engineering contract, with the City contributing \$14,925 (15%).**
- b. Approve a professional services agreement with Snyder & Associates, Inc. of Ankeny, Iowa, for work associated with Phase I of the City of Ames, Squaw Creek Water Main Protection Project at a not to exceed cost of \$99,500.
2. Direct staff to pursue alternative funding sources for this project.
3. Do not proceed with this project at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Through approving these agreements, the City of Ames can continue pursuing federal and state funding to aid in protecting the existing 24-inch was main at Squaw Creek/Lincoln Way. Phase I will continue engineering analysis to develop the best solution for stabilizing this area with consideration by FEMA. Delay of approving these agreements could jeopardize receipt of federal and state funding due to this project being on an extremely tight schedule as directed by FEMA.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above. **Under this agreement FEMA and the Iowa Homeland Security will pay up to \$84,575 (85%) of the Phase I engineering contract, with the City contributing \$14,925 (15%).**