

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FLOOD MITIGATION – RIVER FLOODING TREE CLEARING

BACKGROUND:

On February 11, 2020, City Council approved the FEMA grant funding agreement for the stream bank restoration project providing flood mitigation in the Squaw Creek channel. A central component includes conveyance improvements within the channel approximately 2,000 feet either side of the South Duff Avenue bridge. The cost share amounts for this grant are as follows:

Funding Source	Funding Amount	% of Cost
Federal:	\$ 3,747,450.00	75%
Local:	\$ 1,249,150.00	25%
Total:	\$ 4,996,600.00	100%

Final design has been submitted with permit applications to the Army Corps of Engineers and Iowa DNR. The land acquisition process is underway, including landowner offers being sent out.

On March 9, 2021 City Council awarded the tree clearing project to RW Excavating Solutions, LC of Prairie City, Iowa in the amount of \$74,745 as the Base Bid plus all Alternates except for properties associated with Alternates 5, 6, and 7. A map reflecting the various Alternates is attached. Staff approved Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$14,540 to add the Alternate 5 area to the contract with the addition of harvesting 35 root wad trees which will be reused during the grading contract to provide habitat within the stream as well as control stream flows and prevent erosion.

Change Order No. 2 includes additional seeding/mulching and wattles for enhanced erosion control. Originally this work was to be completed by City staff, however with other significant workload and to keep within Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) permit compliance, the contractor has been asked to complete this work. The other item included with this change order is additional hauling of felled cottonwood trees to create additional storage space for stockpiled trees within the floodway area, per the IDNR Floodplain Development permit. This stockpile arrangement was planned with both IDNR and City Floodplain Development staff, just in case there would be a flood prior to the larger grading project taking place. Change Order No. 2 is a contract increase of \$74,800. The total tree clearing contract is in the amount of \$164,085.

Iowa Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEMD) performed a cursory review of both proposed Change Orders and found the necessary language required by the Hazard Mitigation Assistance to be present, **therefore these costs are eligible within the 75%/25% cost split outlined above and total estimated costs remain within the available funding.**

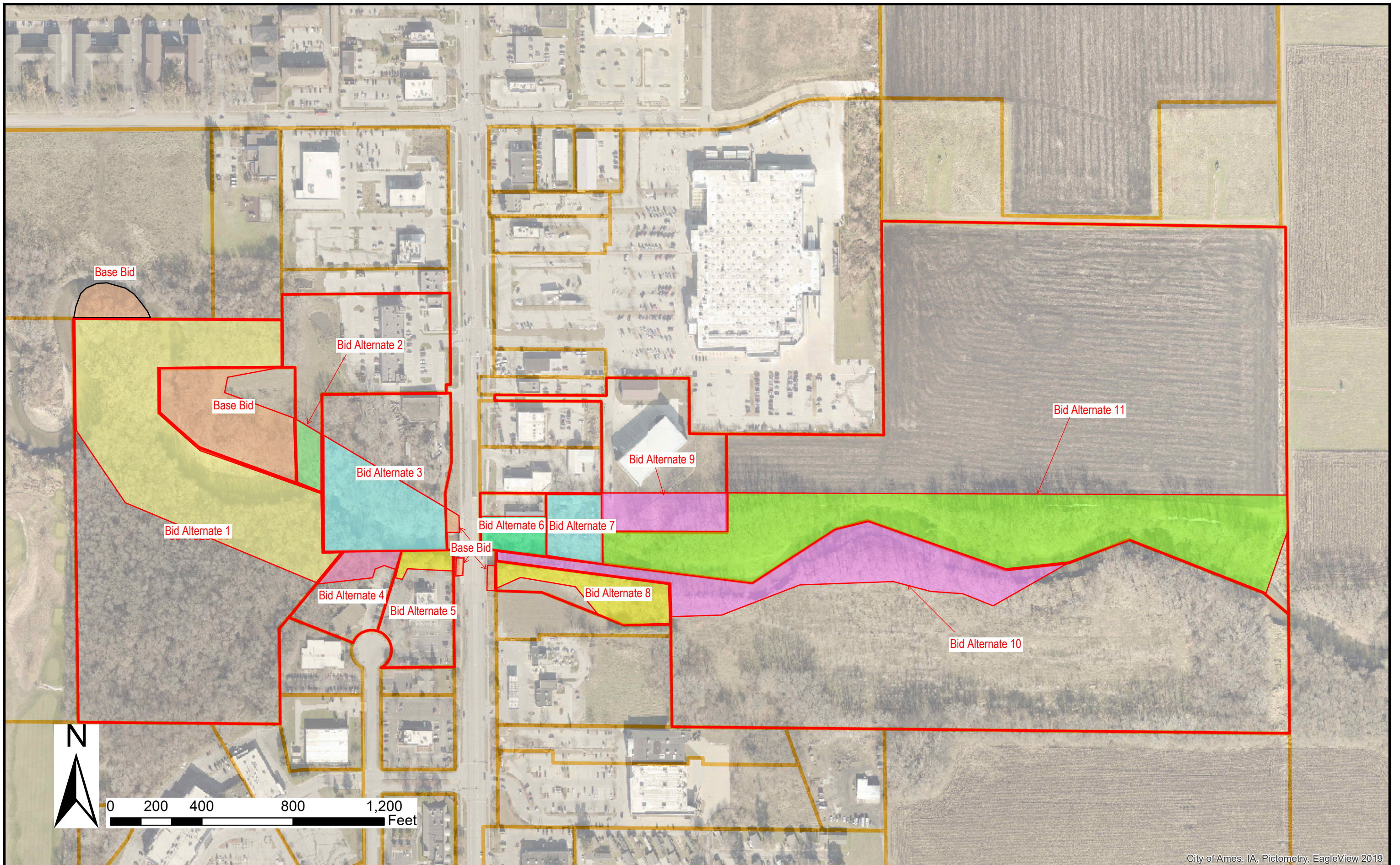
ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Change Order No. 2 for the Flood Mitigation – River Flooding (Tree Clearing) project with RW Excavating Solutions, LC of Prairie City, Iowa in the amount of \$74,800.
2. Direct staff to revise the project.

MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Overall, the FEMA flood mitigation project has a closeout of June 2022. Land acquisition offers are being sent out and negotiated.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.



City of Ames, IA, Pictometry, EagleView 2019