



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action item for the City Council Meeting of October 20, 2020

DATE: September 23, 2020

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Al Raymond III, Director, Development Services
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Authorization of five grant application submissions to the Texas General Land Office for Community Development Block Grant-MIT 2015 Floods and Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition funds.

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing five grant application submissions to the Texas General Land Office for Community Development Block Grant-MIT program for 2015 Floods State Mitigation Competition and Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition funds

SUMMARY:

This is a resolution authorizing five grant application submissions to the Texas General Land Office for Community Development Block Grant-MIT 2015 Floods and Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition funds.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City of Corpus Christi is eligible to compete in two grant programs of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) -MIT program: 2015 Floods State Mitigation Competition and Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition, Round 1. The 2015 Floods State Mitigation Competition has available funds of \$46,096,950. The City of Corpus Christi is designated as a State MID county and can submit 2 applications individually or jointly with another political subdivision. Project costs must be a minimum of \$3 million and a maximum of \$10 million.

The Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition has available funds of \$1 billion in round one, out of \$2,144,776,720 total. The City of Corpus Christi is a HUD MID county and can submit 3 applications individually and 3 jointly with another political subdivision. Project costs must be a minimum of \$3 million and a maximum of \$100 million.

Grants may be awarded to cities, counties, Indian tribes, and councils of governments (COG) to address risks in HUD- and state-designated Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) areas. Examples of projects include flood control and drainage improvements, infrastructure improvements, green infrastructure, public facilities, buyouts.

The grant deadline is October 28, 2020 at 5 p.m. For public comment purposes, drafts of the substantially complete applications were posted on October 4, 2020 through October 17, 2020 on the City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department webpage: www.cctexas.com/ds.

Five projects are proposed for individual submission: two in 2015 Floods and three in Hurricane Harvey competitions.

2015 Floods

- 1) **Downtown Pump Stations/Drainage Improvements.** The downtown flood protection system, in addition to two existing stormwater pump stations, relies on ditches, street curb and gutter and an extensive underground piping system with discharge through the seawall to Corpus Christi Bay, through the levees to the Salt Flats Drainage Channel and into the Corpus Christi Ship Channel. The two stormwater pump stations are known as the Power Street Pump Station, serving the northern area, and the Kinney Street Pump Station, serving the southern area and pump storm water into the bay. The ditches and underground system handle smaller rain events and the pump stations are activated when rain intensities and ensuing runoff volumes and water levels exceed the capacity of the underground system. Stormwater discharge from the ditches and underground system are also affected by the tide levels in the bay, Salt Flats Channel, and the ship channel. This project will provide drainage improvements at six locations in downtown Corpus Christi. The improvements will provide upgrades to maximize the efficiencies of the Kinney Street and Power Street Stormwater Pump Stations and implement critical storm infrastructure improvements including upsizing the stormwater drain system on Kinney Street – Water Street, Lawrence Street, Blucher Box at Water Street and the Salt Flats area with a relief box system along Resaca Street. The estimated project cost is approximately \$6.1 Million, and a 1% match is proposed using Type A/B Sales Tax funding identified in the *Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Planning Guide, FY 2020-2021*.
- 2) **Back Up Generators for Corpus Christi Wastewater Infrastructure.** This project mitigates flood damage by installing backup generators to operate during storm events at different wastewater infrastructure sites. Nineteen (19) critical lift stations vulnerable to damage due to storm events and flooding have been identified by City staff based on historical data. Under this project, a new permanent back-up generator be installed at each individual location, along with an automatic transfer switch. The generators will be diesel powered and installed in an enclosure to protect the equipment. The enclosure will also have available footprint to store a 24-hour UL 142 diesel tank. The entire set up will be in a level 2 sound enclosure to minimize impact on any surrounding communities where possible. In case construction of an enclosure is unfeasible for a site, the generator will be placed on a concrete pedestal above the 500-year WSEL. The scope of this project will also include the installation of a back-up generator at the Allison Wastewater Treatment plant to assist in continued treatment operations during storm events. The estimated project cost is approximately \$6.1 Million, and a 1% match is proposed using revenue bonds/PAYGO identified in the *Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Planning Guide, FY 2020-2021*.

Hurricane Harvey

- 3) Greenwood Flood Mitigation and Emergency Generator - The Greenwood Wastewater Treatment Plant was originally constructed in 1957 and is located adjacent to La Volla Creek at the intersection of Greenwood Drive and Saratoga Boulevard. Problems concerning wastewater overflows and flooding in neighboring areas have led to the need for flood mitigation improvements. The objective of this project is to construct cost-efficient flood proofing improvements to eliminate Oso Creek / La Volla Creek flooding impacts on Greenwood Wastewater Treatment Plant. Under this project, measures are proposed to protect those structures that are most susceptible to flooding inside the plant along with interior drainage system improvements and grading improvements to collect stormwater from the critical areas within the plant that are prone to ponding in and around plant facilities, and to run emergency generators to keep continued power supply in the event of power outages in coast area. Among the proposed improvements are site grading, piping, and flooding way improvements; flooding walls for plant structures; a new effluent pump station (EPS) of firm capacity 24 MGD; two (2) permanent electrical generators (500-800 kW and 1500-1800 kW). The estimated project cost is approximately \$11.5 Million, and a 1% match is proposed using revenue bonds identified in the *Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Planning Guide, FY 2020-2021*.
- 4) Oso Creek Bottom Rectification - Improvements to a 12-mile section of Oso Creek channel from Greenwood Road to Cayo del Oso will include channel modifications to remove peaks and valleys, and provide bank stabilization, revegetation, and other green infrastructure techniques. The project benefits the entire Oso Creek Stormwater Basin which is a 175.9 sq. mile service area and it will improve the quality of urban runoff into Oso Creek and Cayo del Oso, both designated impaired by TCEQ. The project will utilize best management practices listed in the Texas Non-point Source Management program, primarily the grass channel with bank and outfall stabilization, revegetation, and other techniques. The project will also remove debris within the channel and construct pervious access roads for cleaning and maintenance purposes. This project will noticeably have a positive effect on The Lakes, Kings Crossing, Sun Valley Estates, Oso Parkway and Cedar Ridge neighborhoods on the north side of the creek. Functioning as a multi-use infrastructure, the enhanced channel improvements will not only provide important flood mitigation but will enhance the natural greenway which is adjacent to a regional hike/bike network. The estimated project cost is approximately \$48.9 Million, and no match is proposed.
- 1) Williams Ditch/Oso Bay Basin Flood Mitigation - The project entails upgrading Williams Ditch and a detention pond and other drainage improvements in the Tanglewood neighborhoods. The original Williams Ditch drainage system was sized to convey a 5-year storm event. This project will design for a 25-year storm event starting upstream at Rodd Field Road and heading downstream to Oso Bay, running along a one-mile section of earthen ditch. The first section from Rodd Field Rd. to Lexington Rd., the City will construct underground drainage structures. The remaining 60% of the project employs green infrastructure. The next half section from Lexington Rd to Ennis Joslin Rd. would expand the open channel and add culverts at the Ennis Joslin Rd. bridge. The last section from Ennis Joslin Rd. to South Padre Island Drive (SPID) would require some channel widening and channel shaping near the mouth of the Bay. A detention basin will be sited upstream near Williams Drive and S. Staples Road. The estimated project cost is approximately \$28.4 Million, and a 1% match is proposed using revenue bonds identified in the *Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Planning Guide, FY 2020-2021*.

ALTERNATIVES:

Do not submit the applications, and fund through bonds or other revenue funds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A match is not required; however, providing a 1% cash match will make the grant more competitive. The 1% match, proposed for four of the projects could be funded using programmed dollars in the *Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Planning Guide, FY 2020-2021*.

Funding Detail:

Revenue and Expense:

Fund: N/A
Organization/Activity: N/A
Mission Element: N/A
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution authorizing five grant application submissions to the Texas General Land Office for Community Development Block Grant-MIT 2015 Floods and Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition funds.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution
Presentation