



**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
MEMORANDUM**

Date: September 28, 2020

To: Stormwater Management Commission
Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee
Finance & Administrative Committee

From: Mike Warner, Executive Director
Sharon Østerby, Water Resource Professional

Subject: SMC Grant Application Approval
FEMA -Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
FEMA - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

ACTION REQUESTED:

SMC - CCIP Floodplain Property Buyout Fund Carryover and FEMA Grant Direct Match Approval

SMC had taken action in February at the Commission level only for carryover of this CCIP fund, but due to the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and personnel changes that occurred, the carryover was never forwarded to PWPT and F&A. This action is requested of the Commission/Committees along with approval of the grants described below. We have shown a 20% COVID related reduction of those funds which would be accomplished by approving this action at the dollar amounts shown (results in a reduction of the fund values existing in 2019).

SMC staff requests approval to submit three (3) separate FEMA grant applications; one (1) Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program project in the amount of \$843,082 and two (2) Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) Program projects in the amount of \$229,507. The combined total of all three (3) grant applications is \$1,072,589. The proposed 75% federal cost share is \$807,455 and the required 25% local match contributions is \$270,135, of which \$210,771 is proposed from the CCIP Floodplain Buyout funds, and \$59,364 is SMC staff and Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) in-kind services. The grant application for floodplain property buyout purpose has utilized this CCIP fund over the past several years, to supplement other local government cash and in-kind services match. The fund dedicated to this program has been managed frugally and successfully by SMC.

In 2019, SMC staff applied for one of the three grants, but was not awarded funding due to the limited FEMA funding available for fiscal year 2019. Therefore, the previously requested \$200,334 of SMC assigned floodplain property buyout funding was not utilized.

FEMA FMA - SMC staff has prepared a Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant application in the amount of \$843,082, which proposes to buyout two (2) structures in Fox Lake. The proposed 75% federal share cost share is \$632,312 and the required 25% local match contribution is \$210,771.

FEMA BRIC 1 - SMC staff has also prepared a Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant application in the amount of \$70,000 to update the Lake County All-Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. Hazard mitigation plans need to be updated and re-submitted for FEMA approval every five years to maintain eligibility for non-emergency disaster assistance. The proposed 75% federal share is \$56,250 and the required 25% local match contribution of \$18,750 will be provided as in-kind services by SMC staff.

FEMA BRIC 2 - SMC staff and the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) have jointly prepared an Advanced

Assistance grant application through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program for Lake County in the amount of \$159,507, for a structure-specific risk assessment in the Nippersink Creek Floodplain. In December 2019, the ISWS submitted this grant application, however, it was rejected by IEMA because the Illinois State Water Survey cannot be the applicant. IEMA recommended Lake County re-submit this project as the applicant. The proposed 75% federal cost share is \$118,893 and the required 25% local match contribution of \$40,614 will be provided as in-kind services from the Illinois State Water Survey. The overall goal is to remove at-risk floodplain residents from their flood damaged homes, and most efficiently utilize local, state and federal grant funding.

Pursuant to the budget policy excerpt below, Committee approval is required when direct cash match is being utilized for a grant application.

Budget Policies Section III.A.6.

New grants: During the course of any fiscal year, any Department intending to pursue a new grant (i.e., one that was not awarded in the previous fiscal year) shall acquire approval from the standing committee and the F&A Committee (or the County Board if so required by the agency) to apply for such grant prior to application if the grant requires a direct County match. Renewal of grants awarded during the previous fiscal year or those that are for less than \$10,000 and do not require a County match do not need prior approval. If the deadline to apply for any grant does not allow sufficient time for prior approval the department may apply and submit for approval to committee(s) at the next available committee meetings. Departments will notify the Department of Finance & Administrative Services of grant applications that require an indirect, or in-kind, match.