



**City of Cedar Rapids**  
**Flood Control System Committee Minutes**  
**City Hall – Council Chambers**  
**Thursday, July 21, 2016**  
**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Present: Councilmembers Ralph Russell (Chair), Justin Shields, Kris Gulick  
Sandi Fowler, Assistant City Manager; Rob Davis, Flood Control Program Manager; Bill Bogert,  
Anderson Bogert; Teresa Stadelmann, HR Green

Absent: Mayor Ron Corbett

Meeting called to order at 11:01 a.m. by Councilmember Russell.

Councilmember Shields moved to approve the meeting minutes from the January 21, 2016 and May 2, 2016 Flood Control System Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Russell. Motion passed.

Rob Davis presented an update on the Flood Control System Financial Report included in the packet. The preliminary totals through June 2016 show \$16 million of flood control expenses have been incurred, of which \$15 million is funded from growth reinvestment (GRI) revenue. The goal is to stay ahead of funds as they come in and the city is tracking ahead of projections.

Rob Davis presented information on the reconstruction and raising of the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge included in the packet. He pointed out the need for another transportation element other than Highway 380 during a flood event. The proposed reconstruction of the bridge that will be raised will clear the flood control system, need fewer piers, improve river hydraulics and be usable during a flood event. Benefits of reconstructing and raising the bridge include preserving the connection between two dry sides of the river during a flood emergency, allowing access to hospitals, the police department and interstate connections; it will save money by eliminating the need for flood gates, the lifecycle of the bridge will coincide with the lifecycle of the flood system, and it will be more aesthetically pleasing. Rob Davis reviewed the project timeline and noted that the reconstruction process would close the bridge for 2 years. Councilmember Russell asked if the construction of the bridge took priority in the GRI funding. Rob Davis explained that it was a fairly high priority due to the age of the bridge and the need for exterior repairs. He noted that the reconstruction of the bridge would cost an estimated \$10 million more than the repairs; however, this would extend the lifecycle of the bridge along with providing numerous benefits that the current bridge does not. He confirmed the utility relocation was part of the cost estimate in the GRI funding. He also shared that the bridge would require fewer piers with the support of beams depending on the structural type of the bridge. The bridge would keep the same number of lanes and they will review the lanes on the west side merging on to the bridge. The Committee members all agreed priority should be placed on designing an aesthetically appealing bridge due to the location and visibility of the bridge. Councilmember Russell asked Rob Davis to include a concept for a covered walkway on the bridge in the request for proposals for design.

Bill Bogert with Anderson-Bogert reviewed the updated aesthetics for the Sinclair Pump Station included in the packet. The second pump station to be constructed on the east side will be located near the cul-de-sac at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on the old Sinclair site by the levee. This pump station will be smaller and there will be no roof, however, the color and style of the design will match the first pump station. The aesthetic guidelines are included in the pump station policy reviewed at the May 2016 Flood Control System Committee meeting. The committee members agreed they were comfortable with this design and the pump station not having a roof.



Bill Bogert informed the Committee that this pump station will be bid out the end of October 2016 and will be constructed in 2017.

Teresa Stadelmann with HR Green presented updates to the Flood Control System Master Plan included in the packet. Updates include clarification of the acquisition map and alignment refinement which include raising the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge, a change in flood control along 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue to become a continuous levee keeping the intersection of 17<sup>th</sup> Street and A Avenue open, and rerouting 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW to rise over the levee eliminating the need for a gate. Additional updates include a change in the Aesthetics Policy regarding the wall façade that states all aesthetic enhancements must allow for the flood control system to be easily viewable for regular inspection for crack detection, and adding the Stormwater Pump Station Policy, previously approved by the Flood Control system Committee, to the plan. Councilmember Gulick moved to recommend to the City Council approval of the updates to the Flood Control System Master Plan. Motion seconded by Councilmember Shields. Motion passed.

Rob Davis presented the removable Flood Control Implementation and Maintenance Study contract with the US Army Engineer and Research Development Center included in the packet. He explained the need to conduct an updated implementation and operations study for deploying the removable floodwall. The previous study conducted in 2011 only looked at the east side. He explained they need to incorporate the west side into this new study and want to validate the selection of removable floodwall system chosen in 2011. They would most likely not change the style, but possibly the size. The Cedar River Plan has a larger percentage of removable wall sections than other modern flood control projects at 20% versus less than 5%. The study is needed to determine the most efficient and effective types of removable walls and gates, the annual operating and maintenance costs and the necessity of implementing and schedule external on-call contracts. The study will identify new technologies, determine the sequence of installation, analyze risks of implementation, and provide cost to deploy the system, provide annual costs to test and annual maintenance costs. Rob Davis stated a cost benefit analysis of automated versus manual gates and lifecycle analysis will be included in the study. The US Army Corps of Engineers has been selected to perform the study. The proposed timeline is September 2016-March 2017. Councilmember Shields moved to recommend to the City Council approval of the study. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gulick. Motion passed.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
April Wing  
Project Coordinator  
Development Services