Cedar River Flood Control System (FCS) Master Plan

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FLOOD | CONTROL SYSTEM

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY

June 17, 2015

How We Got Here

- ✓ 2008: Interim flood control plan and concept for permanent protection
- ✓ 2009 – 2014: Acquisition program and flood recovery
- ✓ 2012 – 2013: Lobbied for GRI funding
- ✓ 2012 – Today: Flood recovery, redevelopment and protection milestones: CRST, WPC, McGrath Amphitheatre, etc.
- ✓ **2015: Cedar River Flood Control System Master Plan**

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What Council is Adopting

Flood Control System master plan to guide construction over the next 20 years.

Purpose: Define City Council direction on key policy items that will allow the design team to proceed with implementation of the Flood Control System.

The Plan Serves As:

- A fluid document; it will change over time.
- A confirmation of a $400 million project plan.
- A tool for communicating to the public and legislators.

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Plan Includes

- Alignment / Protection to the 2008 flood volume
- Implementation (prioritization and construction methods)
- Property acquisition and disposition policy
- Budget
- Communication and public outreach
- Format to add revisions and future policies

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Alignment

- Protects as many flood-vulnerable properties as possible.
- Levees, permanent and removable floodwalls selected to integrate with neighborhood characteristics.
- Maximized use of removable flood walls to maintain enjoyment of river.

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Flood Control System Considerations

- Public input
- Environmental / historical
- Regulatory
- Public / Private utilities
- Viewsheds

Partners:

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Iowa Department of Transportation
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Iowa State Historical Preservation Office

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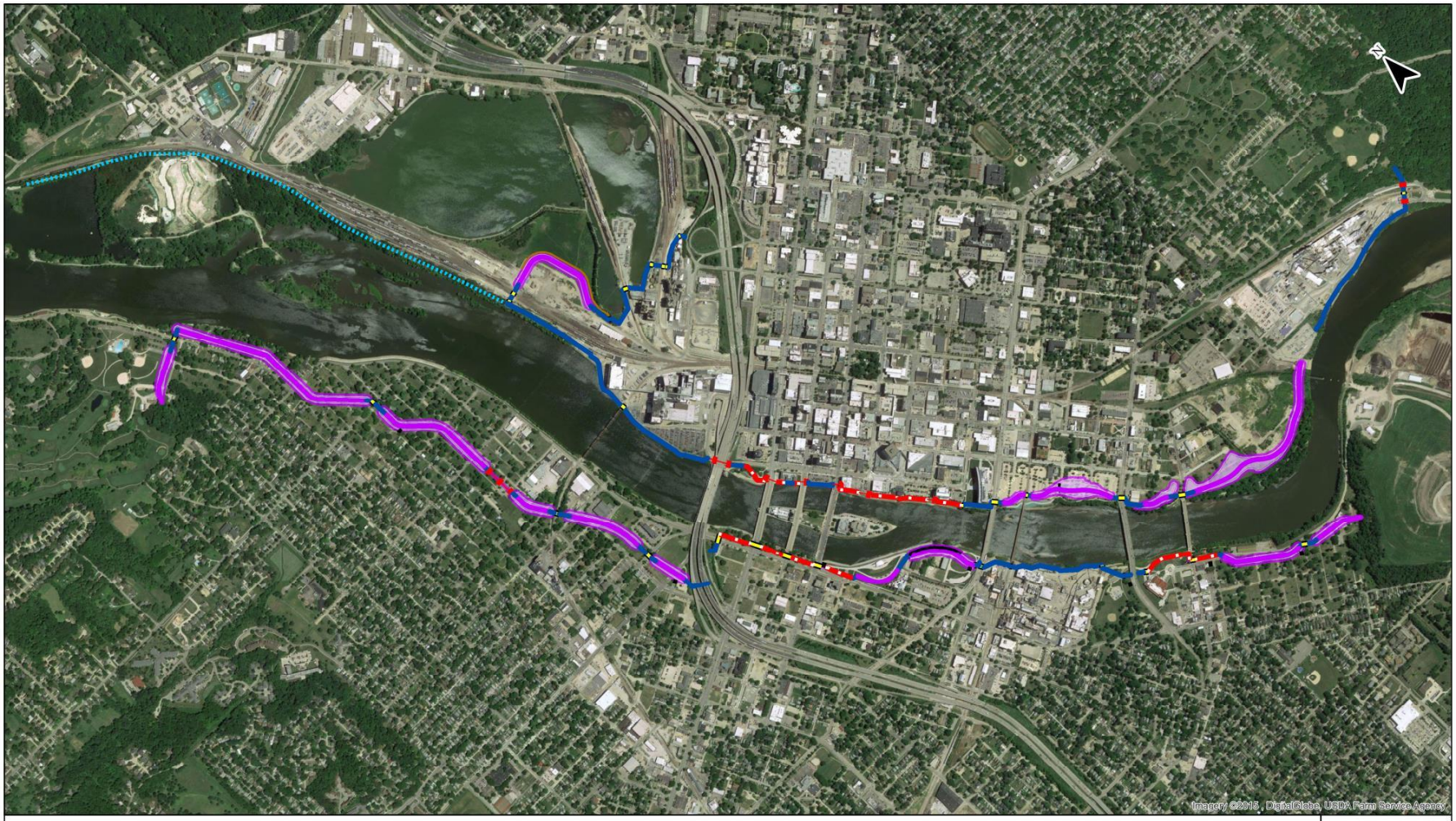
Flood Control System



Cedar Rapids Flood Project System
East and West Side Alignment

Legend

- Gate
- Combination Wall
- Permanent Wall
- Removable Wall
- Retaining Wall
- Levee
- Alternate Cedar Lake Alignment
- Gravel Road
- Levee Footprint
- Pump Station

0 500 1,000
Feet

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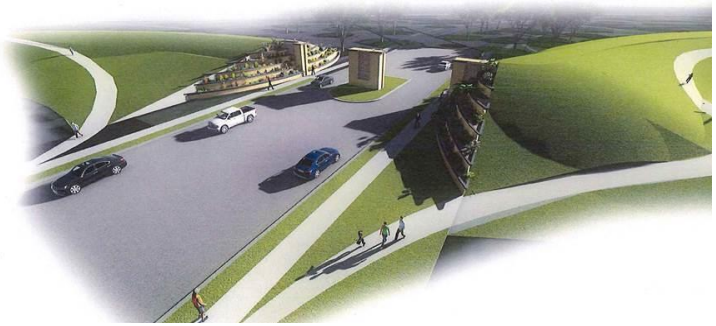
Construction Examples



Kingston / Downtown: Permanent walls with removables above. Supports promenade.

Czech Village / NewBo / Sinclair: Levees, trails connecting to river.

Time Check: Levee upstream; permanent and combination walls.

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Implementation & Sequencing

- Interim flood protection plan remains until FCS completed.
- Considerations included:
  - Interim flood risk reduction
  - Engineering
  - Social, economic, and development
- Prioritization moves between segments on both sides of river.

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Sequence Plan and Reaches *	Initial Timeline
NewBo/Sinclair – from 8th Avenue Bridge to new Alliant Substation	0 – 5 years
Czech Village – from 12th Avenue Bridge to former landfill site 1	
North Industrial – from north tie-in point to Interstate 380 (I-380)	5 – 10 years
Kingston Village – from I-380 to 8th Avenue Bridge	
Downtown – from I-380 to 8th Avenue Bridge	10 + years
Time Check – from Ellis Lane (north tie-in point) to I-380	
Cargill South – from new Alliant Substation to south tie-in point	
Penford – from 8th Avenue Bridge to 12th Avenue Bridge	
Edgewood Road NW Bridge Approach	Undefined

** Sequence will change depending upon grants, development opportunities, and possibility of breaking into sub-segments.*

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Acquisition Policy

- Differentiates between Mandatory and Voluntary properties for the FCS.
- Mandatory Example: Includes maintenance and operational areas.
- Voluntary Example: Downstream of FCS.
- Provides guidelines on use of flowage easements vs. total acquisitions.
- Includes “Buy Early” provision.

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Disposition Policy

Includes City-owned properties:

- Unprotected (upstream and downstream of FCS)
- Project Area
- PUB Zoning – future policy addition

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Budget

- Approximate 5% increase since GRI application cost estimate.

- New total cost estimate is approximately $400 Million (2015)
- With inflation, estimate is approximately $600 Million (life of project)
  - 2/3 construction
  - 1/3 design, permitting, and other pre-construction services

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Communications

Public outreach will remain a critical component during the life of the FCS.

- City website, www.cedar-rapids.org
- Social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube)
- Online discussion board CRTalks.com
- OurCR Magazine and City Source electronic newsletter
- Stakeholder and resident outreach
- Open House: July 9 at library
- Information at public events:
  - Cedar Rapids Night at the Kernels, July 16
  - Downtown Farmer's Markets, June 6 and July 18

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Special Thanks…

…to countless residents, property owners, and business leaders who invested time and attention...

Staff and consultant teams would like to thank the community for their time and involvement.

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