

CCMC Steering Committee Meeting
April 3, 2020 @ 12:30pm

In Attendance: Ally Capps (City of Miles City), Samantha Malenovsky (City of Miles City), Jason Strouf (Custer County Commission), Austin Lott (Miles City City Council), Scott Gray (City of Miles City), Mayor John Hollowell (City of Miles City), Carl Jackson (KLJ) and Becky Bey (KLJ)

Updates since February CCMC Steering Committee Meeting:

EDA Grants:

- After follow-up conversations with USACE and KLJ, Sam believes the best project to consider for the EDA grant is a PER of the Yellowstone River portion of the levy project. Carl indicated this project would be an initial “deep dive” into the conditions there and the first step in pursuing future remedies. This project would complement work USACE is doing in the Section 205.
- The County is still considering utilizing the grant for a 2-dimensional (2-D) modeling/remapping project that might allow for additional remedies for residents (who might be removed from the floodplain/floodway) while other remedies (such as the Section 205 and PER) are also pursued.

Committee Discussion:

- Sam provided information from DNRC about a project they are currently moving forward with on the Yellowstone that might have overlap/considerations for the proposed County project (During the meeting Sam emailed all attendees the letter from DNRC)
- Carl offered KLJ technical assistance to the County regarding continued discussion/research pertaining to 2-D modeling/remapping alternative.
- The next City Council meeting is scheduled for 4/14/2020 and any recommendations from the Steering Committee can be made then.
- Match for the EDA grant is 20 percent. Should the City move forward, this would be in addition to the Section 205 match for 2020/2021 which is important to consider.
- Although there is no formal deadline for the EDA grant application, the most current information is that several applications are being submitted and EDA does not anticipate monies being available much longer. Ideally, grant applications should be submitted by the end of May 2020. As a reminder, both the City and the County can submit applications without “damaging” the other application in terms of competitiveness.
- The CCMC Steering Committee is not a decision-making entity, but rather an advisory board. Although recommendations from the Committee are important and should be considered by both the involved governing bodies (as indicated in the interlocal agreement and CCMC by-laws), both governing bodies are free to act in whatever way they feel most beneficial for their constituents. Neither the City nor the County is beholden to the Committee recommendations.

Motions and Related Discussion

- Original Motion: The CCMC Steering Committee recommends that the City pursue a full scope and fee for a PER for the Yellowstone River portion of the levy project and corresponding EDA grant application with a City match commitment not to exceed \$50,000 over a 2-year period. (Moved by Sam and seconded by Austin). Discussion led to an amended motion. No vote.

- Amended Motion: The CCMC Steering Committee recommends that the City pursue a full scope and fee for a PER for the Yellowstone River portion of the levy project and corresponding EDA grant application with a City match commitment not to exceed \$50,000 over a 2-year period. It is further recommended that the County continue conversations and research pertaining to a separate application for a 2-D modeling/remapping project and apply to EDA for that funding should the County Commissioners deem the project be appropriate. – (Moved by Jason) **Motion Failed without a second**
- Amended Motion: The CCMC Steering Committee recommends that the City pursue a full scope and fee for a PER for the Yellowstone River portion of the levy project and corresponding EDA grant application with a City match commitment not to exceed \$50,000 over a 2-year period. It is further recommended that the County continue conversations and research pertaining to a separate application for a 2-D modeling/remapping project. (Moved by Sam and seconded by Austin) **Motion Failed on a tie vote** (Austin and Sam voted for and Scott and Jason against)

Following the failed vote on the amended motion, the following comments were made for the record:

- Jason is in favor of the County's continued information gathering and possible pursuit of the EDA funds for 2-D modeling/remapping as it is in the citizens' best interest that multiple projects be pursued to provide remedies to the current flood insurance situation.
- Scott is opposed to the County pursuing the 2-D modeling/remapping project as he believes information provided by DNRC indicates they will be doing that project and it is a waste of EDA and County funds to duplicate those efforts.
- Original Motion Reintroduced: The CCMC Steering Committee recommends that the City pursue a full scope and fee for a PER for the Yellowstone River portion of the levy project and corresponding EDA grant application with a City match commitment not to exceed \$50,000 over a 2-year period. – (Moved by Sam and seconded by Austin) **Motion Passed on a 3-1 vote** (Scott, Sam and Austin in favor and Jason opposed)

Additional Topics

- Sam is currently in conversation with Chris at USACE to estimate Section 205 matching needs for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.
- Flood Awareness Day for 2020 has been cancelled due to the social distancing and gathering restrictions currently in place due to Covid-19

Next Steps:

- Meeting notes will be reviewed by the Steering Committee/meeting attendees for accuracy and, once approved will be included in the City Council packets for the 4/14 meeting.
- Carl will contact Jason to further discuss technical assistance related to 2-D modeling/remapping.
- Sam will notify Becky/Carl of the City's determination to proceed (or not) following the 4/14/2020 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:28pm