



Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 4, 2019

Re: Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Intuition & Logic Engineering for remapping the floodplain of Mill Creek near West Alhambra Drive

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution authorizing an agreement with Intuition & Logic Engineering (the Engineer) for a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,780 to provide professional engineering services, perform a floodplain analysis of Mill Creek east of Bethel Street to determine floodplain elevations and extents, and to determine floodway extents. In addition, the Engineer will manage the process of revising the official Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Discussion

Two issues have been raised by residents along this part of Mill Creek which is located east of Bethel between West Alhambra Drive and Miramar Lane; a change in regulatory floodplain status and stream bank erosion.

Floodplain Status: In 2011, as part of a nationwide effort to review and remap floodplains, FEMA changed the classification of the floodplain between West Alhambra Drive and Miramar Lane to a zone for which flood insurance is often required as a condition of home loans by lenders; Un-numbered A Zone. Previous to 2011, the floodplain had been known as Zone X Shaded, a designation for which mortgage lenders typically do not require insurance.

Unfortunately, the new classification does not include flood elevations nor a delineated floodway. This makes it difficult for homeowners to do work on their homes, such as building an addition, by placing the burden on them to determine floodplain elevations and the floodway location and show that they are avoiding adverse floodplain impacts with their work. It also makes it difficult for them to floodproof their homes to an acceptable level and try to reduce their insurance costs.

Stream Bank Erosion: In addition to floodplain issues, residents have expressed concerns about stream bank erosion. Staff has been monitoring erosion for the last two years in order to determine the best path forward. (During the last two years, the stream has not eroded any further.)

Remapping the floodplain will address the floodplain issue directly and will be a necessary first step in any future stream bank stabilization for the work that takes place in the stream. It is important to begin this work now because it can take a long time to get through the process of remapping with FEMA.



Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The engineering contract is for a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,780. Permitting and printing fees to FEMA for the official remapping will cost \$10,520. Total short-term fiscal impact is expected to be \$41,300.

Long-Term Impact: No impact.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Environmental Management, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
07/05/2016	REP56-16 Report to Council

Suggested Council Action

Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Intuition & Logic Engineering to provide professional services for floodplain mapping of upper Mill Creek.