



5000 Diamondhead Circle, Diamondhead, MS 39525

Telephone (228) 222-4626

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August 28, 2024

Colonel Jeremy Chapman
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Attn: CESAM-PD
109 Saint Joseph Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602

RE: Sec. 592 Environmental Infrastructure Assistance Program

Dear Colonel Chapman,

I understand that the USACE is receiving proposals and will again consider new and modified project authorizations for Section 592 Environmental Infrastructure Assistance Program. Accordingly, the City of Diamondhead respectfully requests authorization of \$1,600,000 in federal funding to help us address critical infrastructure needs in our city. We understand that Section 592 projects require a 25% non-federal cost share.

The multi-faceted project would provide multiple benefits to the city and residents of Diamondhead, including but not limited to; flood damage prevention and reduction of environmental impacts through critical stormwater, water, and sewer infrastructure repairs. The City of Diamondhead started as a rural residential community in the early 1970's. The community included over 10,000 parcels for residential and commercial development. Diamondhead was incorporated in 2012 and the city took over responsibility for maintenance of drainage and roadway infrastructure while working closely with the Diamondhead Water and Sewer District who maintains all water and sewer infrastructure. With the majority of infrastructure (roadways, stormwater, water, and sewer) installed in the 1970s, 80s and 90s; and the growth of residential and commercial development; this young city has a monumental task of upgrading and maintaining aging infrastructure. The proposed project could include hardening of critical water and sewer conveyance infrastructure, channel improvements, drainage structure replacement and storage facilities to mitigate flood events and decrease erosion.



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Additionally, the city, working with the Diamondhead Water and Sewer District, has identified dozens of vulnerable utility crossings that threaten environmental impacts as well as loss of service to the community. The city inherited a stormwater system that was poorly designed and barely maintained. Therefore, the city finds itself in a position where multiple areas need priority attention which exceed our annual capital improvement budget.

Implementation of this project will directly and positively impact impaired waterways in our community through the reduction of erosion and mitigation of environmental spills through the failure of aging wastewater infrastructure.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any further information to support this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jon McCraw', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jon McCraw
City Manager, City of Diamondhead