



office memorandum

DATE: January 30, 2026
TO: Floodplain Permit Committee Members
FROM: Jason Murphy, Stormwater Program Manager
SUBJECT: Floodplain Permit Committee 2025 End of Year Summary

Floodplain Permits

The Department of Public Works received 28 floodplain permit applications and 2 amendments in 2025:

- Of the 30 permit applications reviewed, 25 were approved by the committee.
- 2 permit applications were denied, 4 were postponed, and 1 was withdrawn.

Floodplain Violations

Seven floodplain violation notices was issued in 2025.

Letters of Map Revision (LOMR)

No Letters of Map Revision were received in 2025.

Flood Insurance Studies

No Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) were received in 2025.

Community Rating System (CRS) Program

Norman's CRS Class rating was changed to back to a 6 from 7 in October 2022 due in part to the City's update to its Flood Hazard Ordinance. As part of the program community outreach requirements, city staff performed the following in 2025:

- Direct mailed approximately 2,300 flood protection letters to property owners and renters in the floodplain.
- Letters were sent to approximately 70 property owners and renters who own or rent homes in Norman's repetitive loss areas. A Repetitive Loss (RL) property is any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) within any rolling ten-year period, since 1978. The purpose of the letter was to inform affected property owners and renters that their property is subject to flooding, suggest property protection measures, and provide basic facts about flood insurance.
- A CRS Cycle Visit was conducted by FEMA in July of 2025. No results of that audit have been provided by FEMA as of this January 2026.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Year 2025

The Cleveland County Hazard Mitigation Plan, under which the City of Norman operates, was updated during 2025. The plan is currently undergoing final review by FEMA and a resolution for adoption by the City is being prepared by City Emergency Management.

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Action Item 12 – Miscellaneous Drainage Improvements

The attached Stormwater Division monthly reports highlight projects and ongoing maintenance that are credited through the CRS program under Action Item 12. These reports indicate infrastructure repairs, replacements, improvements and maintenance completed by the City's Stormwater Maintenance Crews. As these reports indicate, some of the maintenance and many of the projects are identified not only City performing preforming inspections, but are also reported by citizens of Norman.

Flood Warning System (FWS)- The City of Norman experiences flood events on a regular basis which often lead to road closures. The current process to identify and barricade flooded roadways is a manual process which can take a significant amount of time and puts both the emergency responders and traveling public at risk. In November of 2020, the City applied for a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant through the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (ODEMHS). These grants are designed for pre-disaster mitigation and are competitively awarded. In February 2022, ODEMHS notified the City of Norman of the approval to award funds for the FEMA BRIC Grant for the City of Norman Flood Warning System Scoping Project. The scoping project was completed by and a final report submitted in the summer of 2024. The City of Norman applied for a grant through the BRIC program to fund the implementation of the FWS. The City was selected as a recipient of the grant in early 2025, but before the funds could be awarded, the grant program was discontinued. The City is currently awaiting for results of a different grant application through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program that is under review.

Stormwater Master Plan Update - In 2025, the City's Area and Infrastructure Master Plan (AIM) Plan was completed, which included an update to the 2009 Stormwater Master Plan (SWMP). This Community led project included updates to the by hydraulic and hydrologic data in the SWMP as well as a reevaluation of the 2009 plan projects. A new rubric was developed based on the Committee and community feedback to prioritize existing and new key projects outlined in the SWMP. Cost estimates were also updated for these projects. In addition, recommendations were made for Stormwater Quality priorities City-wide. In addition, as a part of AIM update and City Council approval of the plan, the Flood Hazard District ordinance for the City of Norman was updated to correct some scrivener's errors.

Action Item 23 – Imhoff Creek Channel Improvements

This project involves the purchase of drainage/access easements and streambank stabilization in central Norman. The City has received 90% construction plans from the consultant. The City received FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant funds for construction of this project and construction began on this project in July 2025. Construction is currently set to be complete by early summer 2026. Additionally, the City has moved forward with a design solution for Phase 2 of the project.

Action Item 24 – Relocate/Elevate Mobile Home Parks

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There were 3 mobile home parks in Norman that were partially located in the floodplain. This project involves property acquisition and/or relocation of the residents to areas outside the floodplain. The parks would then be used for regional detention and green space.

The residents of Ranch Estates Mobile Home Park in the Little River floodplain/floodway were relocated to other areas of town in 2016. The park area is now being developed as green space and designated as Water Quality Protection Zone for the Little River.

The 2 remaining mobile home parks are still in existence. Residents have not been relocated or properties acquired due to lack of funding.

Action Item 25 – Property Acquisition in Floodplain

The City will acquire properties located within the floodplain that frequently flood, remove or demolish structures, and turn into open space as grants and funding allow.

In 2024, 214 South Lahoma was purchased by the City and deeded as permanent open space. In the fall of 2025, that property was redesigned into a community garden area that will be maintained by the local community with assistance from the DoERs and the City Parks Department. No new property was obtained during 2025.

2025 FLOODPLAIN PERMIT COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE CHART							
Meeting	Sturtz	Scanlon	Stansel	Hudson	Danner	Hoggatt	Miles
1/6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
1/21	x	x	x	x	x		x
3/3	x	x		x	x	x	x
3/17	x	x		x	x		x
4/7		x	x		x	x	x
5/19	x	x	x	x	x		x
6/2	x	x	x		x	x	x
7/7	x	x	x		x	x	x
7/21	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
8/4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
8/18		x	x		x	x	x
9/2		x	x	x	x	x	x
9/15	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
10/6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
12/1	x	x	x	x	x		x
12/15	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Legend: X = Present for Meeting							