



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: September 7, 2021

ITEM TITLE: Consideration of FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant and Budget Amendment

ITEM SUMMARY:

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program, is funded by FEMA and administered through a partnership with the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCEM). NCEM has the authority and responsibility for developing and maintaining a State Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan, reviewing the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program sub-applications, recommending technically feasible and cost-effective sub-applications to FEMA and providing pass-thru funding for FEMA-approved and awarded project grants to eligible sub-applicants. Letters of Interest are due no later than October 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

The proposed project areas are included in the *NC 12 Drainage Study* completed by VHB Engineering in cooperation with the Town of Duck, and NCDOT, to address potential solutions to flooding throughout the roadway corridor. Staff submitted a Letter of Interest for funding in 2020 for the identified solution at the Sea Oats project and was invited to submit a full application for FEMA's consideration. However, staff was unable to pull together the required documentation and meet the pre-application planning requirements in time to submit a full application. Attached is a contract provided by VHB Engineering NC, P.C. for grant application assistance to better position the town to submit a full and competitive application. The application will require pre-design level of refinement of the initial concepts included in the 2006 report in order to develop construction cost estimates, address potential right-of-way impacts, address grading and drainage issues, and confirm environmental compliance and permitting requirements. However, the preliminary engineering, final design, construction documents, environmental compliance documents and permitting of the drainage projects will be accomplished under a separate contract pending the actual grant award.

The NC12 corridor in Southern Shores has inadequate drainage or stormwater infrastructure in place to provide conveyance of roadway drainage to adequate receiving systems. Instead, the sandy soils within the corridor provide for infiltration of stormwater runoff from the roadway and contributing runoff from public side streets. The roadway floods frequently from storm events of various intensities due to the lack of drainage infrastructure and periods of saturated soils. This situation caused extensive flooding in the lowest areas along the corridor, negatively impacting residents, tourists, and emergency personnel. Although an extreme, this was indicative of sub-standard drainage conditions, and helped reinforce the need for improvements along NC12, thereby leading to this request.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval.

REQUESTED ACTION: A motion to approve the attached Budget Amendment and authorize the town manager to sign the grant application contract with VHB Engineering NC.

ATTACHMENTS:

Agreement for Professional Services with VHB Engineering NC for grant application assistance with the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant.

Budget Amendment #12