

TOWN OF FREDERICK FLOOD REPAIR UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2014

As we reflect on one year since the flooding, we see many improvements that have been made as well as many projects that still need to be completed. Please know that we are working as diligently and quickly as possible on getting our community back into its pre-flood condition and in some cases improved for the better. We continue to appreciate your patience and understand your frustration at the length of time some of these projects are taking.

It is important to note that the road repair projects that are taking longer are items that can't be done without following the procedures set forth by FEMA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in order to qualify for Emergency Relief funding. We're required by FHWA to work directly with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). CDOT is also responsible for coordinating and reviewing roadway repair projects for all areas in the state that were damaged by the flood. If we don't follow these procedures and receive approval at each stage, we will not receive any federal or state financial assistance. This means that the full \$4 million in repairs will fall to the Town which would mean cutting other essential services such as snow plowing, park maintenance and water and routine road infrastructure maintenance.

We have provided updates to each flood repair project that is going through the federal and state processes on the following page. For more background on these projects, check out our May 2014 update that was also sent to you in the mail and can be found at www.frederickco.gov/FloodInformation.

In order to get the most up to date information as it is available, we encourage you to sign up at www.frederickco.gov/emailupdates for our weekly email newsletter, the Frederick Flash which is sent every Wednesday. All updates will also be immediately posted to the Town's website, facebook and twitter pages at www.facebook.com/TownofFrederick and www.twitter.com/TownofFrederick. You are welcome to email any questions you have to mwilliams@frederickco.gov with the subject line "Flood Repair Question."

In addition to working through the road repair procedures and FEMA projects, we have also been working on other projects to keep our homeowners most affected by the flood from experiencing anything so devastating again. These areas of town are specifically the Coal Ridge neighborhood, the Countryside neighborhood, Downtown Frederick and the Savannah neighborhood.

Coal Ridge

The property owner just east of this neighborhood donated an easement to the Town so that we could install a berm and storm drainage swale improvement east of Hawthorne Street to protect the properties in the neighborhood. This will redirect excess water to the correct drainage channels which will keep houses from being flooded in the future.

Countryside

A detention pond in Countryside broke its banks and flooded the homeowners closest to it. While this detention pond is owned and maintained by the Countryside HOA, the Town has helped by hosting meetings at Town Hall, inquiring to FEMA on the HOA's behalf and reviewing existing drainage improvements to determine if they are adequate. The HOA has hired an engineering firm to design a new pond and the Town has approved the design. Now it is up to the HOA to pay for the repairing the construction.

Downtown

In the 2015 budget, we have planned for some drainage improvements in Downtown Frederick that could include additional inlets and/or storm sewers. The final budget will be adopted by the Board of Trustees in December.

Savannah

The Town has contacted the irrigation company that owns and operates the irrigation ditch that runs along the east boundary of Savannah. The company has checked the ditch periodically over the past year and performed maintenance. The Town and the company are committed to operating the ditch in safe manner.

FEMA/CDPS-OEM

- Wetland Loop Road
- Storm Drainage Basins

FHWA/CDOT

- WCR 7/Aggregate Boulevard
- WCR 18/Godding Hollow Parkway
- WCR 20/Bella Rosa Parkway

There continues to be confusion and questions regarding the process of funding and repair through CDOT and FHWA. CDOT is responsible for maintenance and repair of U.S. Interstates, U.S. Highways and State Highways within Colorado. However, countless other local roadways were also damaged during the flood event including the roads listed above in Frederick. County, city and town roads that are classified as arterial, urban collectors and major rural collectors are considered Federal Aid Roads and are eligible for FHWA Emergency Relief (ER) Funds. CDOT is the administrator of FHWA ER funds to Federal Aid Roads and works in partnership with local counties and municipalities to complete necessary roadway repairs. Repairs to these roads are managed by local counties or municipalities with CDOT oversight. Upaved arterials and local roads, along with other local flood damage repairs, fall under FEMA for repair funding.

FEMA/CDPS-OEM Projects

Wetland Loop Road:

Request: The Town asked FEMA to change the capacity of the damaged area to bring it up to the current adopted Frederick Codes and Standards of 100-year flood compliance. The scope of work would require removing asphalt, concrete sidewalk, guardrail, monument signs, and the existing 48" diameter reinforced concrete pipe (RCP). The pipe would then be replaced with four – 14' x 4' concrete box cells to bring the culvert capacity up to the 100-year flood compliance. The road, sidewalk, and guardrail would then be installed and completed to Town specifications.

FEMA Determination: FEMA will only cover upgrading facilities to meet the 100-year flood standards if they were destroyed or substantially damaged. If only part of a facility was damaged, FEMA will only pay to upgrade the damaged elements. Therefore, while the road repair itself is eligible for financial assistance (\$34,345), replacing/upgrading the undamaged RCP drainage structure (\$420,000) to comply with codes and standards is not.

FEMA Project Cost Estimate: \$420,000

FEMA Approved Amount: \$34,345

Town Obligation: \$385,655

Comments: The Town applied for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to help with funding this extremely large financing gap in upgrading the culvert. The application was submitted on May 16, and has been approved for \$315,000. Now we are working through their processes and have completed a State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) 106 form, which is reviewed by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to determine whether the project could affect historic property. We have also passed the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) requirements for this project. An environmental assessment is currently in progress and the plans and design are almost complete.

Storm Water Detention Ponds between Frederick Way and WCR15/Ridgeway Blvd:

Request: The storm water detention pond berms were washed out and detention ponds filled with sediment during the flood. The work would restore the five damaged areas to pre-disaster conditions.

FEMA Determination: FEMA approved repair of these detention ponds with the added installation of GeoTech fabric with 12-24 inches of riprap (rock) to minimize future damage.

Project Actual Cost: \$79,437

FEMA Pays: \$59,577.75

Town Pays: \$9,929.63

State Pays: \$9,929.63

Comments: The Town advertised for bids on this project's construction for a period of three weeks to comply with federal procurement standards and hired a contractor to complete the work. Construction began in August, and the project is nearly completed, with reseeding of the affected area yet to be done.

FHWA/CDOT Projects

Currently, FHWA/CDOT are in the evaluation and authorization processes of all local permanent repair projects. The FHWA ER program is a reimbursement program. All permanent repair eligible projects are reimbursed by FHWA and the State of Colorado at a value of 91.94% of the project. The remainder of the cost is covered by the Town as a project match. Here is some detailed information about our current requests to FHWA/CDOT awaiting approval/denial:

WCR 7/Aggregate Boulevard:

Request: The Town has requested that WCR 7/Aggregate Boulevard be repaired to its pre-disaster condition.

Project Cost Estimate: \$182,350

FHWA Amount (if fully funded as requested): \$151,350

Town Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$15,371

State Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$15,371

Comments: CDOT authorized the Town to advertise for bids for construction of this project. The Town obtained a good bid and has recommended that CDOT authorize awarding a contract to the bidder for the final repairs. CDOT is currently reviewing the bid. Once CDOT approves the bid award, the contractor is ready to begin work so we anticipate the work will be completed in 2014.

WCR 18/Godding Hollow Parkway:

Request: The Town has requested that WCR 18/Godding Hollow Boulevard be repaired with the addition of a box culvert to bring it up to the current adopted Frederick Codes and Standards of 100-year flood compliance. Paving of the road surface would also be included in this project's scope.

Project Cost Estimate: \$1,354,896

FHWA Amount (if fully funded as requested): \$1,121,718

Town Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$116,589

State Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$116,589

WCR 20/Bella Rosa Parkway:

Request: The Town has requested that WCR 20/Bella Rosa Parkway be repaired with the addition of a box culvert to bring it up to the current adopted Frederick Codes and Standards of 100-year flood compliance. Paving of the road surface would also be included in this project's scope.

Project Cost Estimate: \$1,498,550

FHWA Amount (if fully funded as requested): \$1,240,650

Town Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$128,950

State Obligation (if fully funded as requested): \$128,950

On September 18, 2014, Town staff presented our proposal for repair options for WCR18 and WCR 20 that followed the preliminary plans and cost estimates prepared in cooperation with CDOT. FHWA will take this information and prioritize it with all of the other projects they are reviewing. Then they will determine how much funding they can make available for Frederick. Due to the amount of damage throughout Colorado caused by the 2013 flooding, FHWA has stated that there are more requests than funding available. The Town is looking into other sources of funding in an attempt to bring the repairs up to the Town's current standards of 100-year flood compliance.

Glossary of Terms

Detention Pond: excavated area that provides flood protection by storing water for a limited period of time

100-year Flood Compliance: making sure drainage structures are able to handle the runoff from a flood event that has a 1% probability of occurring in any given year

Berm: a level space, shelf or raised barrier separating two areas