

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 09/22/20

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 20-0723

**LOG NAME:** 20SWM FEMA GRANT CENTRAL ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

## **SUBJECT**

(CD 7) Authorize Execution and Acceptance of a Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program in an Amount Not to Exceed \$515,500.00 for the Central Arlington Heights Voluntary Acquisition Project, Authorize Acceptance of Matching Funds from the Texas Water Development Board Flood Infrastructure Fund in an Amount Not to Exceed \$34,500.00, Authorize Execution of Related Agreements, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize acceptance of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$515,500.00 for the Central Arlington Heights Voluntary Acquisition project (City Project No. 101262);
  2. Authorize acceptance of matching funds from the Texas Water Development Board Flood Infrastructure fund in an amount not to exceed \$34,500.00;
  3. Authorize the execution of related agreements with Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Texas Water Development Board; and
  4. Adopt the attached Appropriation Ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Capital Projects Federal Fund in an amount not to exceed \$550,000.00 upon receipt of the funding.
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## **DISCUSSION:**

This Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) recommends that the City accept grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a part of their Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program for a project to mitigate flooding in the Central Arlington Heights neighborhood (City Project No. 101262). The M&C also recommends that the City accept matching funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Flood Infrastructure fund.

On September 26, 2017, City Council authorized staff to apply for a FEMA grant, administered by TWDB, for voluntary acquisition of highly flood-prone residential properties in Central Arlington Heights (M&C C-24810). A grant was subsequently awarded for the acquisition of two properties, located at 2209/2211 Western Avenue and 2217/2219 Western Avenue. The effective date of the grant is May 21, 2020, with an amount not to exceed \$515,000.00 and a required local match of \$34,500.00. On February 11, 2020, staff was notified by TWDB that they would be funding the local match requirement through their Flood Infrastructure fund, for a 100% grant to the City. Indirect cost is not allowable under this grant.

These properties are the last two of the eleven contiguous properties participating in the voluntary acquisition initiative in the Central Arlington Heights neighborhood. These properties will be included along with the other nine in a Request for Proposal (RFP) to residential developers for redevelopment of the acquired properties in a way that removes the flood risk from the acquired structures without adversely impacting the surrounding neighborhood. Based on grant requirements, the two tracts acquired with FEMA grant funding must remain open space in perpetuity but can be utilized as a part of a redevelopment concept. No insurable structures may be placed on the properties. If the RFP is unsuccessful, the City will maintain all eleven parcels as open space and work with the community to identify a plan that utilizes the property for flood mitigation and park-like amenities.

This project is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 7.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: FEMA and TWDB

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## **FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Cap Projects Federal Fund. The Transportation & Public Works Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Transportation & Public Works Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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