

Staff Report

File #: 16-223**Version:** 1**Date:** 9/12/2016**Item #:** 6.b.

TO: Mayor and City Council**THROUGH:** Steve Powers, City Manager**FROM:** Peter Fernandez, PE, Public Works Director**SUBJECT:**

Annual evaluation of the City of Salem Floodplain Management Plan

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

ISSUE:

Annual evaluation of the City of Salem Floodplain Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Information only.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

On January 26, 2015, Council adopted the City's *Floodplain Management Plan* through Resolution 2015-4. The *Floodplain Management Plan* guides the City's floodplain management programs and improves public safety for future flood events. The Plan identifies flood hazards throughout the community, evaluates the problems caused by those hazards, reviews possible mitigation activities, and creates an action plan to mitigate those flood hazards.

The *Floodplain Management Plan* is integral to the City's participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System. The Community Rating System reduces annual flood insurance premiums for property owners citywide. By implementing the Plan's actions, the City is eligible for additional Community Rating System credits that increases the City's rating. The higher the City's rating the greater the flood insurance reduction for property owners.

In order to comply with FEMA's requirements for the Community Rating System, the *Floodplain Management Plan* must be evaluated annually by a citizen committee. The annual review must

include an overall evaluation of the Plan in addition to a detailed review of Appendix H (Flood Information and Outreach Plan) and Appendix I (Flood Insurance Plan). The Committee, comprised of both City staff and community stakeholders, performed its annual evaluation of the Plan on August 12, 2016. The table at the end of this staff report summarizes the status of the Plan's action items and projects.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Floodplain Management Plan Committee is comprised of City staff and community stakeholders who have been involved in the planning efforts for the *Floodplain Management Plan* and its amendments. City staff members on the committee included representatives from floodplain management, Public Works Department, planning, building and safety, emergency management, and public information. Community stakeholders included a Neighborhood Association chair, floodplain property owners, professional engineers and land surveyors, a local lender, and a local insurance agent. The committee members evaluated the *Floodplain Management Plan* at their August 12, 2016, meeting and provided insight, feedback, and recommendations for future updates.
2. The Floodplain Management Plan Committee meets the FEMA requirement for a citizen review committee because at least half of its members came from a variety of community stakeholders, including lenders and insurance agents. This information staff report to Council meets the FEMA requirement for the annual report "be submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public."
3. The status of the *Floodplain Management Plan*'s thirty action items, the Flood Information and Outreach Plan's nineteen action items, and the Flood Insurance Plan's five coverage improvement projects, were presented to the committee in three general categories: (a) Completed; (b) Ongoing or in process; and (c) Remaining. The status summary for each category is described below:

Floodplain Management Plan Action Items Completed

ID	Action Item	Explanation
PA4	Identify and remove barriers for implementing low impact development techniques	Ordinance Bill 34-13 adopted by Council October 28, 2013
PA5	Develop a new <i>Salem Revised Code</i> chapter dedicated solely to stormwater management	Ordinance Bill 28-13 adopted by Council November 4, 2013
NR3	Develop stormwater quality design and associated maintenance standards for new and redevelopment	Public Works Director promulgated new stormwater quality design standards under Administrative Rule 109-004 effective January 1, 2014
PA9	Adopt critical routes plan in Transportation System Plan (TSP)	Resolution 2015-37 adopted by Council August 31, 2015.

PA10	Investigate prohibition of first-floor enclosures	Ordinance Bill 17-15 adopted by Council September 14, 2015
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Floodplain Management Plan Action Items Ongoing or In Process

ID	Action Item	Status	Timeline
PA1	Maintain benchmark data	Benchmarks are maintained by City Surveyor based on project needs	Ongoing
PA2	Inspect and clean streams and stormwater facilities annually	Identified as RC4, Task 7, of the City's Stormwater Management Plan	Ongoing
PA7	Provide additional staff training in administering regulations	Public Works staff includes three Certified Floodplain Managers who receive training to maintain certification	Ongoing
PA8	Coordinate stormwater and flood management regulations with communities and organizations that share Salem's watersheds	Stormwater Advisory Committee includes representatives from City of Keizer and Marion County	Ongoing
PA13	Improve floodplain mapping data	Major flood studies will be performed in <i>Stormwater Master Plan</i> update. Minor flood studies are budgeted based on project needs	Ongoing
PP1	Improve floodplain protection assistance program	Program featured in outreach project OP1, Appendix H.	Ongoing
PP2	Promote flood insurance	Flood Insurance Plan adopted by Council January 26, 2015, Resolution 2015-4.	Ongoing
PP3	Acquire easements for public and private stormwater facilities	Identified as RC2, Task 3, of the City's Stormwater Management Plan	Ongoing
NR1	Provide grant funding for restoration projects in riparian areas	Identified as RC8 of the City's Stormwater Management Plan	Ongoing
NR4	Implement Riparian Action Plan	Implemented per the report adopted by City Council in September 2009	Ongoing
NR7	Increase quality and quantity of vegetated cover	On October 26, 2015, Council adopted Ordinance 23-15 acting SRC 86, "Trees on City property"	Ongoing
ES1	Coordinate emergency response plans for critical facilities	Implemented through City's Emergency Management Plan	Ongoing
ES3	Improve flood warning and response	Identified in part as Multi-Hazard #7 in the National Hazard Mitigation Plan. Flood Operations Response Plan Committee formed in 2016.	Ongoing
SP1	Construct stormwater capital improvement projects	Implemented through City's Capital Improvement Program	Ongoing
PI1	Require hazard disclosure in real-estate transactions	Hazard brochure for real estate companies created. Continued outreach efforts and training with real estate professionals.	Ongoing
PI2	Create and implement a Program for Public Information	Flood Information and Outreach Plan adopted by Council January 26, 2015, Resolution 2015-4.	Ongoing

Floodplain Management Plan Action Items Remaining

ID	Action Item	Status	Timeline
PA3	Establish <i>Stormwater Master Plan</i> policies to reduce peak flows during 100-year events	Proposed as a future policy in the <i>Stormwater Master Plan</i>	0 to 2 years
PA6	Adopt Oregon model floodplain ordinance	Awaiting DLCD modification of model ordinance to incorporate Endangered Species Act policies	0 to 2 years
PA11	Investigate FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partners program	No activity	0 to 2 years
PA12	Protect buildings from shallow flooding	To be considered during adoption of model floodplain ordinance (PA6)	2 to 5 years
NR2	Amend <i>Salem Revised Code</i> to implement provisions of the Endangered Species Act as they relate to floodplain development	Awaiting adoption of state and federal policies based on Program Level Biological Assessment released by National Marine Fisheries Service in February 2013	0 to 2 years
NR5	Develop and maintain watershed management plans	Proposed as a future action item in the <i>Stormwater Master Plan</i>	2 to 5 years
NR6	Streamline process to accept land donations to City for natural areas	No activity	2 to 5 years
ES2	Create post-flood procedures for gathering flood data	No activity	2 to 5 years
SP2	Include damage assessments from National Hazard Mitigation Plan as a criteria for prioritizing CIP projects	Proposed as a future policy in the <i>Stormwater Master Plan</i>	0 to 2 years

Flood Information and Outreach Plan Action Items

ID	Action Item	Status
OP1	Annual outreach letter	Mailer sent to floodplain residents and property owners Fall of 2016.
OP2	Real estate flyer	"Flood Hazards" flyer disseminated to local real estate agencies.
OP3	Repetitive loss letter	Letter mailing to repetitive loss properties October 2015.
OP4	City newsletter article	Community Connection article Fall of 2015
OP5	Training for real estate industry professionals	Training sessions scheduled for Summer of 2016

OP6	Presentation to City board/commission	Floodplain Management Plan Presentation to Planning Commission January 27 th 2016
OP7	Presentation to watershed council	Claggett Creek Watershed Council presentation February 2016
OP8	Presentation to neighborhood association	SESNA Meeting in January 2016, SEMCA Meeting September 2016
OP9	Pamphlets at Permit Application Center	Pamphlets available at PAC
OP10	CERT Training	November 2015 and February 2016
OP11	Website Information	Updated October 2016
FRP1	Media kit during flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP2	Media kit after flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP3	Social media messages during flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP4	Social messages after flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP5	Switch City web page during emergency	Ongoing
FRP6	Radio PSAs after flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP7	Regional messages during flood event	Updated 2015-16
FRP8	Regional messages after flood event	Updated 2015-16

Flood Insurance Plan Action Items

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CP1	City newsletter article	Quarterly City of Salem Community Connections Articles
CP2	Stakeholder training session	Training sessions scheduled for Summer of 2016
CP3	Presentation to neighborhood association	SESNA Meeting in January 2016, SEMCA Meeting September 2016
CP4	Real estate/property management flyer	"Flood Hazards" flyer disseminated to local real estate agents and property management companies.
CP5	Project involving Mayor/Council	Council work session on July 18 th , 2016 "Stormwater Master Planning and Flood Risk Reduction Work Session". This work session meets FEMA criteria because it was publicized, made open to the public, and not held during a regularly scheduled Council meeting.

- The Floodplain Management Plan Committee reviewed the status report described above and did not recommend any modifications to the Action Items and Coverage Improvement Projects.

Glenn J. Davis, PE, CFM

Chief Development Engineer

Attachments:

September 12, 2016