

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
MARCH 17, 2015 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>A resolution expressing the willingness of the City to accept Federal-Aid Monies to update Flood Maps for certain creeks in the City</p> <p>Submitted By:</p> <p>Public Works Department</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance √ Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SYNOPSIS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FISCAL IMPACT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RECOMMENDATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CITIZEN PARTICIPATION</p>	<p>Authorizes the City Manager to apply for a grant and to execute agreements with the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission for funding of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grant Study Project along Rock Creek, Grassy Flat North Creek, Colony West Creek and State Capitol Drain.</p> <p>The City of Little Rock has been offered a grant to partner with the AR Cooperating Technical Partnership Program for flood studies in the City. The total cost for this project is \$293,150.00, and the City share is 25% of the total cost, which is \$73,287.00. Funding is proposed from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales and Use Tax Funds authorized by Resolution 13,699.</p> <p>Approval of the resolution.</p> <p>Staff has met with property owners and representatives of property owners located adjacent to these creeks in the floodplain who requested more accurate floodplain maps as a project request.</p>	

BACKGROUND

The current floodplain maps at locations on Rock Creek, Grassy Flat North Creek, Colony West Creek, and State Capitol Drain have apparent inaccuracies and in some cases lack a detailed study. The current floodplain maps were prepared over thirty (30) years ago with limited data. Grassy Flat North Creek, Colony West Creek, and State Capitol Drain lack detailed studies which determine Base Flood Elevations or Floodways limits, making flood insurance very expensive for property owners in these areas.

The Rock Creek limits of restudy begins at the confluence with Fourche Creek upstream to approximately 1,000 feet north of the intersection of Chenal Valley Drive and Gordon Road. The Grassy Flat North Creek detailed study is from the confluence with Grassy Flat Creek upstream to the downstream side of Interstate 430. The Colony West Creek detailed study is from the confluence with Grassy Flat North Creek upstream to the upstream side of Old Forge Drive. The State Capitol Drain detailed study is from 7th Street upstream to downstream side of Jack Stephens Drive.

Property owners or property owner's representatives have long expressed concerns about these creeks and the current maps. Properties along Rock Creek allegedly have exaggerated floodplain limits and base flood elevations that possibly have a negative impact to property values. Grassy Flat North Creek, Colony West Creek, and State Capitol Drain do not have base flood elevations so it is more difficult to obtain favorable flood insurance rates.