



FEMA

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
CITY OF EDMOND WILLOWOOD FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT
EDMOND, OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
HMGP-DR-1678-OK PROJECT #52**

BACKGROUND

In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Subpart B, Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The purpose of the proposed project is to reduce impacts of future flooding events within the Willowood residential subdivision in Edmond, Oklahoma County, OK. This EA informed FEMA's decision on whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The City of Edmond has applied for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding, through the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM), under HMGP-DR-1678-OK Project #52. Through HMGP, which is authorized under Section 404 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, FEMA provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures that reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

Two project alternatives were considered in this EA: 1) No Action; and 2) Construction of the Willowood Flood Protection Project (Proposed Action). Under the No Action alternative, no improvements would be made to Spring Creek Tributary I. The infrastructure and homes in the Willowood subdivision would remain at risk of flooding and damage. Residents whose homes are east of Spring Creek Tributary I on Lonsdale Drive, Belmont Drive, and Belmont Circle would remain at risk of being cut off from emergency services when Lonsdale Drive is overtopped by flood waters.

Under the Proposed Action alternative, FEMA proposes to provide funding to the City of Edmond for channel improvements to approximately 1,395 linear feet of Spring Creek Tributary I to reduce impacts of future flooding events within the Willowood residential subdivision. Proposed improvements include upsizing the Lonsdale Drive culverts; replacing approximately 140 linear feet of asphalt roadway with a curb and gutter system and an adjacent sidewalk; modifying the existing Willowood channel to be 30 feet wide with vertical wall concrete side slopes; and re-grading an additional 175 feet of Spring Creek Tributary I to allow transition from the improved channel to the existing

undisturbed channel. The proposed improvements will increase the channel capacity from a 10-year to a 100-year flood event and will reduce the risk of property damage due to flooding within the Willowood subdivision.

A public notice was posted in The Edmond Sun on March 8 and March 22, 2011, and the draft EA was made available for comment at the City of Edmond Engineering Department located in the Planning and Public Works Building and on the FEMA website for a 30-day public comment period. No comments were received from the public during the 30-day comment period.

FINDINGS

The Proposed Action as described in the EA will not impact geology, groundwater, floodplains, wetlands, minority or low-income populations, threatened and endangered species or critical habitat, cultural resources, or hazardous materials. Positive impacts to public health and safety are expected. During the construction period, short-term impacts to soils, downstream surface water, transportation, air quality, noise, and in-stream habitats and organisms are anticipated. Long-term, minor impacts to surface waters are anticipated. All adverse impacts require conditions to minimize and mitigate impacts to the proposed project site and surrounding areas.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions must be met as part of this project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of federal funding.

1. The applicant is required to obtain and comply with all local, state, and federal permits, approvals and requirements prior to initiating work on this project.
2. The applicant must prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program Plan (SWPPP) and obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit prior to construction and comply with permit conditions.
3. Excavated soil and waste materials must be managed and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. If contaminated materials are discovered during the construction activities, the work must cease until the appropriate procedures can be implemented and permits obtained.
4. If the proposed project requires additional excavation to groundwater depths, the applicant must consult with the EPA, ODEQ, and OWRB to identify and implement appropriate mitigation.

5. The City of Edmond must require the construction contractor to establish staging areas outside of the regulatory floodplain. Any equipment that is used during construction activities in the floodplain must be removed from the floodplain at the end of each work day.
6. The City of Edmond must comply with all conditions of NWP's 13, 14, and 31 and must remain informed of changes to the NWP's and their conditions as they occur. All three NWP's expire on March 18, 2012. If the City of Edmond commences, or is under contract to commence, the activity before the date the NWP is modified or revoked, the City will have 12 months from the date of the modification or revocation to complete the activity under the present terms of the NWP's.
7. Construction vehicles and equipment must be stored onsite during project construction and appropriate signage must be posted on affected roadways.
8. Construction contractors will be required to water down construction areas to control dust when necessary.
9. Fuel-burning equipment running times will be kept to a minimum and engines will be properly maintained.
10. Construction activities will take place during normal business hours. Equipment and machinery installed at the proposed project site must meet all local, state, and federal noise regulations.
11. In the event that archeological deposits, including any Native American pottery, stone tools, bones, or human remains, are uncovered, the project shall be halted and the applicant shall stop all work immediately in the vicinity of the discovery and take reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. All archeological findings will be secured and access to the sensitive area restricted by the City of Edmond. The City of Edmond will inform FEMA immediately and FEMA will consult with the SHPO. Work in sensitive areas cannot resume until FEMA's determination that consultation is completed and appropriate measures have been taken to ensure that the project is in compliance with the NHPA.
12. All construction activities will be performed using qualified personnel trained in the proper use of the appropriate equipment, including all appropriate safety precautions. All activities will be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with the standards specified in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations. The appropriate signage and barriers must be in place prior to construction activities to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities.
13. Changes, additions, and/or supplements to the approved scope of work which alter the existing use and function of the structure, including additional work not funded by FEMA but performed substantially at the same time, will require re-

submission of the application prior to construction to FEMA for re-evaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the EA, coordination with the appropriate agencies, comments from the public, and adherence to the project conditions set forth in this FONSI, FEMA has determined that the proposed project qualifies as a major federal action that will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment, nor does it have the potential for significant cumulative effects. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.9) and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.

APPROVAL



Jomar Maldonado
Federal Environmental Officer

APR 15 2011

Date _____

Tony Russell
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region VI

Date _____