



FEMA

City Uses HMGP to Restore Park

Montague, MI - Thanks to HMGP funds, the site of an old factory in a once neglected part of the small Michigan city of Montague was razed with intentions to create a park in its place. The structure, known as the Chimont building, was built in 1910 and later used for World War II related manufacturing activities.

The property is located next to the Buttermilk Creek just before the creek enters a 48-inch, 800-foot-long culvert that runs beneath the City of Montague’s central business district and continues on to enter the White River. The land sits approximately 10 feet lower than the surrounding parcels and during extremely heavy rain, the creek overwhelms the culvert, flooding the site.

This old Chimont building had become undesirable for manufacturing use and in addition to becoming an eyesore in the city’s central business district, it was also a safety concern. HMGP has allowed the City of Montague to raze the structure from the flood zone and restore the site to much desired open space, which the city will eventually restore to a public park.

While there had been various previous ideas to redevelop the structure/property, they were adversely affected by the potential for flooding.

In the end, thanks to the HMGP, the land was cleared and the plan to turn the area into a park can be realized. Infrastructure improvements include a small parking area, walking trails, and play ground equipment. The park will also be designed to accommodate a skating rink and sliding hill in the winter.

FEMA and the City of Montague were able to show that restoring the property to a park would be the best use for the land and would eliminate future property loss due to flooding. Thanks to cooperation and the HMGP, the project was completed in a timely, cost-efficient manner that has greatly benefited the city and its residents.



Muskegon County, Michigan



Quick Facts

Sector:

Public

Cost:

\$335,109.00 (Actual)

Primary Activity/Project:

Acquisition/Buyouts

Primary Funding:

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)