DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. R25-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, RECOVERY SECTION AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE DESIGNATION FORM FOR HAZARDOUS MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE LOUP RIVER REGIONAL FLOOD MITIGATION ASSESSMENT, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN; AND TO REPEAL ALL RESOLUTIONS OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City is applying for the Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program for the Loup River Regional Flood Mitigation Assessment; and

WHEREAS, part of the Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program application is the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Recovery Section Authorized Representative Designation form; and

WHERAS, the mayor as the chief elected official is required to sign the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Recovery Section Authorized Representative Designation form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, that the mayor is hereby authorized to sign the Nebraska Emergency Management, Recovery Section Authorization Representative Designation form for Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program for the Loup River Regional Flood Mitigation Assessment, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

This resolution shall repeal all resolutions or portions thereof in conflict herewith.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER _____

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

_____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
CITY ATTORNEY

Accountability - Dedication
Honesty - Integrity - Respect

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 15, 2025

TO: Tara Vasicek, City Administrator

FROM: Richard J. Bogus, City Engineer

RE: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program -Regional Loup River Flood Mitigation Assessment

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend approval of the Resolution authorizing the mayor to sign the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Recovery Section Authorized Representative Designation, form for the Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for the Loup River Regional Flood Mitigation Assessment.

DISCUSSION:

The City was informed by NEMA that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has indicated that the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) 2023 grant cycle will be cancelled.by the federal government. The City was previously notified that it would receive the BRIC 2023 grant. NEMA recommends the City apply for the same scope of services, cost and cost share for the HMGP grant. The HMGP, like the BRIC, is a total cost of $190,000 with a federal cost share of 75% and local cost share of 25%. The projected assessment timeline is 36 months from the time of award.

The Regional Loup River flood mitigation assessment objectives and mitigation outcomes align with the following Continued Mitigation Actions as identified hazard mitigation plan: improve warning systems - specifically for flooding; improve emergency communications - specifically for emergency communications during flooding events; develop/implement hazard/emergency operations and response plan - specifically for emergency flood response; develop/update floodplain information - specifically to identify high risk flood zones where detailed studies are not available (not intended to update FEMA flood maps); and facility flood proofing - specifically for high-risk structures within 1% flood inundation areas.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded the grant, 2024-2025 CIP 20-03 in the amount of $200,000. Funding in the next couple fiscal years budgets will be required.

ALTERNATIVE:

None

SIGNATURE:

By: Richard J. Bogus

Approved By:

Section A. Subapplicant Information **all information in this section is required*

Part 1. Community and Project Information

Subapplicant (Organization):	City of Columbus		
Subapplicant Type:	State or Local Government		
FEMA Project Title:	Columbus Area Regional Flood Mitigation Assessment		
Is this a New or Revised application?	New		
Revision Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.		
Is this a Phased Project?	No		
Project Type:	Advanced Assistance		
Project Location (City, County):	Columbus, Platte County		
GPS Coordinates of *exact* Project Location (6 decimals):			
Total Proposed Project Cost:	$190,000.00		
Federal Cost Share (75%):	$142,500.00	Local Cost Share (25%):	$47,500.00
What Federal Agency has primary funding authority for this project?			FEMA
State Legislative District:	22		
Congressional District(s):	1		
Federal Tax ID Number:	47-6006144		
FIPS Code:	3110110		
UEI Number:	YM4RJGN196F5		
NIS Number:			
Is the subapplicant registered in grants.gov?			

Certifications

The undersigned assures fulfillment of all requirements of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as contained in the program guidelines and that all information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The governing body of the applicant has duly authorized the document, and hereby applies for the assistance documented in this application.

The applicant understands that the project may proceed ONLY AFTER FEMA APPROVAL is gained.

Richard J. Bogus, PE	City Engineer	402-562-4235
Typed Name of Authorized Representative/Applicant Agent	*Title*	*Telephone Number*

Richard J. Bogus — April 17, 2025

Signature of Authorized Representative/Applicant Agent — *Date Signed*

Part 2. Subapplicant Contact Information

Box A. Authorized Representative (individual must be able to make financial decisions and sign off on documentation on behalf to the applying entity)	
Name (prefix, first, last)	Richard J. Bogus
Title	City Engineer
Physical Address	2500 14th St., Suite 3
City, County, State, and Zip+4	Columbus, NE, 68602-1677
Mailing Address	PO Box 1677
City, County, State, and Zip+4	Columbus, NE, 68602-1677
Office Telephone (area code and extension)	402-562-4309
Email Address	rick.bogus@columbusne.us

Are the Authorized Representative and the Primary Point of Contact the same person? If not, provide contact information in Box B below.

☒Yes ☐No

Box B. Primary Point of Contact (subapplicant project coordinator, if different from authorized representative) This individual will be the NEMA primary point of contact.	
Name (prefix, first, last)	
Title	
Physical Address	
City, County, State, and Zip+4	
Mailing Address	
City, County, State, and Zip+4	
Office Telephone (area code and extension)	
Email Address	

Box C. Financial Officer Point of Contact	
Name (prefix, first, last)	Tara Vasicek
Title	City Administrator
Physical Address	2500 14th St., Suite 3
City, County, State, and Zip+4	Columbus NE 68602-1677
Mailing Address	PO Box #1677
City, County, State, and Zip+4	Columbus, NE, 68602-1677
Office Telephone (area code and extension)	402-562-4233
Email Address	Tara.vasicek@columbusne.us

Section B. Hazard Mitigation Plan Information **all information in this section is required unless noted otherwise*

Part 1. Hazard Mitigation Plan

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Title:	Lower Loup Natural Resources District HMP
Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status:	Approved
Approval Date:	6/2/2022
Adoption Date:	7/18/2022
Expiration Date:	6/2/2027

Part 2. Hazard Mitigation Strategies

How does the proposed project align with the mitigation goals and actions from the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan? Provide a brief explanation for each and page number.

	Narrative	Page Number
Goals	Facility Flood Proofing	Pg.66
Actions	1. Explore possibility of flood proofing facilities which fall within HAZUS 1% flood inundation areas 2. Conduct flood proofing feasibility study for structures and implement identified measures	Pg.66

How does the proposed project align with the mitigation goals and actions from the State Hazard Mitigation Plan? Provide a brief explanation for each and page number.

	Narrative	Page Number
Goals	Goal 2: Reduce or eliminate long-term risk to property, including critical facilities and infrastructure, historic, and private property.	Pg. 286
Actions	2.4: Identify opportunities to mitigate vulnerable critical infrastructure, such as utilities, roads and bridges, and other Lifeline-related facilities.	Pg.286

How does the proposed project align with the mitigation goals and actions from the Nebraska Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan? Provide a brief explanation for each and page number.

	Narrative	Page Number
Goals	Local Plans and Regulations	Pg.118
Actions	Continually update plans and guidance as new information or best available data becomes available.	Pg.118

Part C. National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP)

To confirm information under this part contact Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Does the community participate in NFIP?	Yes

Indicate current participation status: FEMA's Community Status Book	The community is an active participant in the NFIP.
NFIP Community Identification Number (CID):	315272
Is the project located within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) or Moderate Flood Hazard Area 0.2% (500 year)?	Yes, the project is in the SFHA.
Which flood zone(s) is the project located in (if known):	AE, X, AO, A

Section C. Detailed Scope of Work **all information in this section is required*

Part 1. Project History/Duplication of Programs

Was the proposed project previously submitted under any of the following FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant programs or other federal grant programs?

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	☐YES	☒NO
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post-Fire (HMGP Post-Fire)	☐YES	☒NO
Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM)	☐YES	☒NO
Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)	☒YES	☐NO
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	☐YES	☒NO
Other federal grant program(s)	☐YES	☒NO

If **YES**, provide grant fiscal year or DR number: EMK-2023-BR-002-0012

If "**Other federal grant program(s)**" is checked yes, briefly explain.

Part 2. Identify Hazard(s) to be Mitigated

Please check all that apply to the proposed project.

Dam/Levee Breach	☐	Severe Winter Weather	☐
Drought	☐	Special Events	☐
Fire	☐	Tornado	☐
Flood	☒	Windstorm	☐
Extreme Temperatures	☐	Other	☐
Severe Storms	☐		

If "**other**" is checked, briefly explain.

Part 3. Project Description

A. Describe the problem(s) to be mitigated:

Describe the natural hazard(s) being mitigated by the project. Include frequency, duration, magnitude and extent.	Flooding has been a consistent hazard to Columbus, as well as other communities, counties, and other entities across the region for many years.
Describe types of damages and losses previously experienced by the community that resulted from the hazard being mitigated by the project OR, in the absence of past damages, describe how the hazard risk was determined and evaluated.	Records indicate that 20 open water floods have occurred on the Loup River in the study reach during the period from 1894 to 1973. Large floods occurred in 1935, 1947, 1948, 1960, and 1966. Refer to Attachment 3C for an article from the Columbus Telegram documenting the 1966 flood event and Attachment 3D for images from that event. Significant flooding due to ice jams occurred in 1948 and 1993. Historic flooding occurred across the region in 2019 due to frozen soils and snow cover followed by rapid warming and rainfall. Refer to Attachments 3E 3F and 3G for articles, damage assessments, images and levee information pertaining to the 2019 flood event. The city has taken a proactive approach to effort to address these flood risks. Current efforts are underway to evaluate structural flood risk reduction measures immediately in the vicinity of the city. To complement other previous efforts, the city seeks to gain a more holistic view of flood risks and evaluate a wide range of alternatives both near Columbus and upstream along the Loup River and Loup Power Canal. Current efforts include the Columbus Flood Mitigation Project which is evaluating mitigation alternatives in the City and downstream (Attachment 3H).
Number of people directly impacted by the project:	22,327
Must provide supporting documentation and references for the numbers stated above. Must be consistent with numbers used to calculate the BCA.	
Describe Structures or Infrastructure protected by the project:	The City of Columbus is located in southeastern Platte County and covers an area of 10.08 square miles. The Loup River runs along the south side of the city and combines with the Platte River southeast of the corporate limits. Most of Columbus lies in the plains topographic region and is surrounded by agricultural fields. The focus area for this regional assessment is approximately 1,100 sq mi and will generally include the City of Columbus (population 22,327) and areas along the Loup River upstream/west of Columbus.

	Refer to Attachment 3A for study area maps illustrating the general location, communities and topography and Attachment 3B for images of major roadway/waterway crossings in the study area. The study area includes rural populations in the southern portions of Platte County and Nance County, eastern portions of Howard County and southeastern portions of the Lower Loup NRD. This also includes communities such as Monroe (population 284), Genoa (population 1,003), Fullerton (population 1,307), Cushing (population 32) and St. Paul (population 2,299). As deemed to be beneficial, other communities along Loup River tributaries to the west and northwest may also be incorporated into this collaboration. The Loup River Left Bank Levee is federally certified, is a critical flood control asset for the city and this assessment will provide increased protection to the levee system to ensure optimal performance. The Loup River Power Canal is a federally approved power generation system and supplies the hydroelectric plant at Lake Babcock, another vital City asset that will benefit from this mitigation activity. In addition to the above-mentioned entities benefitting from this assessment, it is also anticipated that benefits will be realized for major transportation corridors (highways and railroads), a major food processing facility (Archer Daniels Midland southeast of Columbus), other public and private assets, agricultural lands and livestock facilities.

Describe the proposed project:

Provide a brief summary of the proposed project activities:	The objectives and mitigation outcomes of this regional flood assessment align with the following Continued Mitigation Actions as identified hazard mitigation plan: improve warning systems - specifically for flooding; improve emergency communications - specifically for emergency communications during flooding events; develop/implement hazard/emergency operations and response plan - specifically for emergency flood response; develop/update floodplain information - specifically to identify high risk flood zones where detailed studies are not available (not intended to update FEMA flood maps); and facility flood proofing -

	specifically for high-risk structures within 1% flood inundation areas.
Is the project being proposed as a Phased Project per Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide (p. 46)?	☐YES ☒NO
Is the proposed project a critical action?	Yes
Critical action is an action for which even a slight chance of flooding poses too great of a risk. It may or may not be associated with a critical facility. (Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide pg. 86)	
If the project falls under the 5% Initiative the items below do not apply	
Level of protection the proposed project will provide: *For example, 0.2% 500-year flood, 250 mph wind speed.*	N/A
Level of design currently available. If design plans included in application, provide a reference to the documentation:	N/A
Describe how the project is an independent and long-term solution to the hazard problem. Independent means the project is not contingent on another action or funding to be effective or implemented:	This study will enhance the knowledge, skills and expertise of stakeholders to expand or improve administration of flood mitigation assistance. This includes activities such as building code adjustments, partnerships, project scoping, flood hazard mitigation planning and other planning related activities. The objectives and mitigation outcomes of this regional flood assessment align with the following Continued Mitigation Actions as identified hazard mitigation plan: improve warning systems - specifically for flooding; improve emergency communications - specifically for emergency communications during flooding events; develop/implement hazard/emergency operations and response plan - specifically for emergency flood response; develop/update floodplain information - specifically to identify high risk flood zones where detailed studies are not available (not intended to update FEMA flood maps); and facility flood proofing - specifically for high-risk structures within 1% flood inundation areas.

B. Project description - Provide a detailed project scope of work narrative, outlining all project activities, deliverables, and proposed outcomes. *Ensure the project milestones follow the Scope of Work.*
This assessment will be an activity that will enhance the knowledge, skills, and expertise of stakeholders to expand or improve the administration of flood mitigation assistance. This includes activities such as building code adjustments, partnerships, project scoping, flood hazard mitigation

planning, and other planning-related activities. The objectives and mitigation outcomes of this regional flood assessment align with the following Continued Mitigation Actions as identified hazard mitigation plan: improve warning systems - specifically for flooding; improve emergency communications - specifically for emergency communications during flooding events; develop/implement hazard/emergency operations and response plan - specifically for emergency flood response; develop/update floodplain information - specifically to identify high risk flood zones where detailed studies are not available (not intended to update FEMA flood maps); and facility flood proofing - specifically for high-risk structures within 1% flood inundation areas. A brief summary of specific project tasks is included below. Task 1: Project Management - Periodic coordination by the city and other stakeholders will be conducted to share progress reports, and coordinate the collection of data and input. Progress meetings will be conducted as well as contract administration. Task 1A: Grant Administration (Management Costs are not part of the overall project budget) - The City will coordinate with NEMA to ensure the project adheres to grant requirements, and that schedules and budgets are maintained. Quarterly progress reports will be prepared and submitted to NEMA. Task 2: Background Data Collection and Field Visits - Gather and review readily available information such as: pertinent historical records; information provided by local entities; Flood Insurance Studies; Bridge As-builts; Emergency Action Plans; Local Emergency Operation Plans; Historical Records of Flooding and Ice Jams; LiDAR, aerial imagery and other GIS data. Field visits to potential project locations will be conducted as needed to identify key features, such as at ice jam-prone bridges. Task 3: Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses - Available existing hydrologic data for the 50-year (2% annual chance exceedance) and 100-year (1% annual chance exceedance) events will be the focus of the hydrologic analyses. Hydraulic analyses will be performed utilizing HEC-RAS 2D and readily available topographic data. The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses will support development of high-risk or high-velocity flood zones in reaches of the Loup River upstream of the City, where a detailed flood study has not been completed and where a floodway has not been designated. The analyses will also support evaluation of upstream bridges, potential relief channels and river bends at known locations at risk to ice jams. Task 4: Stakeholder Collaboration and Public Engagement - To leverage support for the flood mitigation effort, multiple affected partner jurisdictions will be collaborating in this effort. In addition to the City of Columbus, it is anticipated that Platte County, Nance County, the Lower Loup NRD and other key stakeholders will be involved in the project. These partnerships will provide invaluable insight into current flood mitigation and response protocols as well as feasible alternatives. The partnerships will also promote community engagement, such as through educational project fact sheets, online surveys, etc. Partnerships and community engagement efforts will offer substantial benefits towards project implementation and risk mitigation…WHICH IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL. Task 5: Evaluation of Mitigation Alternatives - A wide array of mitigation alternatives will be considered to reduce flood risks AND increase flood risk awareness considering current conditions, as well as future conditions. Climate change, new development patterns, population change, and other environmental factors all will be considered for future conditions. A ‘no-action’ alternative will be evaluated, providing a baseline for comparison to other alternatives, also outlining flood risks that will persist with no flood mitigation efforts. Flood mitigation alternatives will include nature-based solutions, structural and non-structural solutions, programmatic and procedural solutions all resulting in a more robust and resilient community response and risk-informed decisions to ever-changing conditions. Refer to the ‘Alternatives’ portion of this section for additional details and specifics pertaining to flood mitigation alternatives. Conceptual alternatives will be identified, and feasibility assessed based upon input and collaboration with stakeholders and other project partners. This information along with a preliminary benefit/cost assessment will then be used to determine feasibility for the identified projects and prioritize flood risk reduction actions that can be taken to mitigate flood risks in the study area. Task 6:

Funding Strategy - A strategy will be developed in coordination with stakeholder collaboration for how to fund recommended structural, non-structural and programmatic mitigation alternatives. The strategy will consider external funding assistance such as grants from FEMA (FMA or HMGP), NeDNR (WSF), NRCS (WFPO), BOR (WaterSMART), and EPA, among others. The strategy will also lay out recommended local funding responsibilities for the City (such as in the CIP), LLNRD, counties, communities and possible private entities. Task 7: FEMA Grant Application Development - A submittal-ready grant application for a FEMA grant program (FMA or HMGP) will be developed. The application will seek funding assistance for the highest priority, highest feasibility alternative evaluated as part of this assessment. The application will identify project costs and include a FEMA benefit-cost analysis where required. The application will also lay out local-share cost contributions for partner stakeholders, as well as a project schedule meeting grant requirements. Task 8: Deliverables - A draft flood mitigation assessment will be developed to describe the findings and summarize the mitigation alternatives. Potential summary of findings to include: hydrology and hydraulics results; collaboration and public engagement efforts; alternatives analyses and recommendations; funding strategies; grant application development; and associated figures and maps. The draft assessment will then be revised to incorporate input from the City and other stakeholders, and finalized.

C. Describe how the project will be implemented, who will manage the project (local department, agency, division, etc.) and what is their experience?
The city will utilize appropriate local/state/federal procurement procedures to select a highly qualified professional consultant to provide assistance in the development of the flood risk reduction assessment. The consultant will work closely with the city, Counties, CPNRD, and other stakeholders to identify flood risk reduction alternatives, assess feasibility, develop estimated costs, and identify a funding plan for implementation. Once completed, the city will pursue funding assistance (such as through FEMA) for the design and construction of the selected alternative(s). Designated representatives from the city and other stakeholders will be identified and roles assigned to lead efforts from grant award through implementation. IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS FLOOD MITIGATION ACTIVITIES WILL ULTIMATELY REDUCE RELIANCE ON FUTURE DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND FUNDING.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements

The NEPA process requires at least two alternative actions be considered that address the same problem(s)/issue(s) as the proposed project. In this section, describe the ***No-Action Alternative*** and at least one ***other feasible alternative*** to mitigate the hazard(s) faced in the project area.

No-Action Alternative: explain potential consequences in the project area if no-action is taken.

Other feasible alternative: describe one other feasible alternative and why the preferred alternative (i.e., the proposed project) was selected.

D. Alternatives – *Both No-Action and other Feasible Alternative must be included for the project to be considered for funding.*
No-Action Alternative: A wide array of mitigation alternatives will be considered to reduce flood risks AND increase flood risk awareness considering current conditions, as well as future conditions. A 'no-action' alternative will be evaluated, providing a baseline for comparison to other alternatives, also outlining flood risks that will persist with no flood mitigation efforts. Such risks, as evident by past flood events, will continue if additional mitigation efforts are not taken.
Other Feasible Alternative: Actionable flood mitigation alternatives to be assessed will include nature-based solutions, structural and non-structural solutions, programmatic and procedural solutions all resulting in a more robust and resilient community response and risk-informed decisions to ever-changing conditions. Among the alternatives we will consider include (not all-inclusive): Stream Gages and Automated Alert Systems; Ice Jam Monitoring and Mitigation; Inter-agency/Regional Communication and Response Protocols; Development of High Flood Risk/High Flood Velocity Zones (where Floodway has not been defined); Building Code and Ordinance Enhancements; Structure Acquisitions/Relocations; Structure Floodproofing/Retrofitting; Diversion/Bypass/Relief Channels; Bridge Improvements/Upsizing; and Buffer Strips. Conceptual alternatives will be identified, and feasibility assessed based upon input and collaboration with stakeholders and other project partners. This information along with a preliminary benefit/cost assessment will then be used to determine feasibility for the identified projects and prioritize flood risk reduction actions that can be taken to mitigate flood risks in the study area.

If the project involves public property, public ownership, or management of property, discuss long-term project maintenance activities. Your answer must address the following:

- Staff, agencies or departments who will be responsible for maintenance activities.
- If an Operation & Maintenance plan must be developed, discuss how it will be developed and provide a timeline for completion.
- Annual costs that will be made available to maintain the project for the duration of the project's useful life by the subrecipient. FEMA does not reimburse maintenance costs for any project.

E. Long-term project maintenance
N/A
Annual Maintenance Cost:
N/A

Part 5. Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) *If the project falls under the 5% Initiative this does not apply*

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) is a method that determines the future risk reduction benefits of a hazard mitigation project and compares those benefits to its costs. The result is a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). A project is considered cost-effective when the BCR is 1.0 or greater. Applicants and subapplicants must use FEMA-approved methodologies and tools, such as the BCA Toolkit, to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of their projects. Please reference the corresponding project worksheet for guidance on developing a BCA for the proposed project type.

Provide the project useful life.	N/A
Describe the damage frequency before- and after- mitigation.	N/A
Describe the residual risks that will remain after the project is completed.	N/A

Benefit Cost Analysis Used:	Choose an item.
Total Cost:	N/A
Total Benefits:	N/A
Benefit Cost Ratio:	N/A
Approved BCA Alternative:	N/A
Are pre-calculated benefits used?	☐ YES ☐ NO
If yes, identify which benefits are being used.	N/A

Appendix B required documentation:

- ☐ BCA Narrative (must include):
  - ☐ Analyst name and title
  - ☐ Methodology/Analysis supporting documentation
  - ☐ Explanation and justification of all BCA input data
  - ☐ Data reference/citation page
- ☐ BCA Report
- ☐ BCA Tool Zip File

* 5% Initiative projects do not need to complete a BCA.
* If you are unsure if the project requires a BCA please contact your NEMA Hazard Mitigation Unit Point of Contact.

Section D. Project Location *all information in this section is required unless noted otherwise*

Part 1. Project Area Location

For the following project types a Property Site Inventory (PSI) Worksheet must be completed and attached with the subapplication:

- Real Property Acquisition Demolition/Relocation
- Structure Elevation
- Structure Retrofit
- Mitigation Reconstruction

This applies to public facilities, critical facilities, residential structures, and non-residential structures.

IMPORTANT: Not completing the PSI Worksheet for these application types will delay application processing and review.

Are you submitting the PSI Worksheet with this application? ☐YES ☒No

Please provide *exact* project location information below.

Location	Address/Parcel ID, City, Zip Code	Latitude*	Longitude*
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

* Use decimal degree format to the 6th decimal placement (i.e., 40.873837, -96.745622)
* Include coordinates for starting, ending and any turning points
* If multiple project locations, please include all locations

Using the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), determine the flood zone(s) of the project site and check all that apply. Attach the map to this application.

AE or A1-30	☒	Floodway	☐	A (no BFE given)	☒
AO or AH	☒	AR	☐	A99	☐
B or X (shaded)	☐	C or X	☒	None	☐

Use FEMA Flood Map Service Center to determine the firm panel ID(s).

Panel Number(s):		Panel Date:
1.	0340E	04/19/2010
2.	0320E	04/19/2010
3.	0310E	04/19/2010
4.	0305E	04/19/2010
5.	0315E	04/19/2010
6.	0300E	04/19/2010

Additionally reference the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Interactive Floodplain Map, attach the map with this application.

Comments

FIRMette maps are required for this application. All attached maps must have the project site and structures clearly marked on the map with a corresponding legend. FIRMettes may be downloaded from *https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home*. See FEMA's How to Find Your FIRM and Make a FIRMette for guidance.

Attach one (1) copy of each of the following:

Make sure project location(s) are clearly labeled on each map.

1. ☒ FIRMette map
2. ☒ FIRM panel information
3. ☒ Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Interactive Floodplain Map
4. ☒ Project area site map (<100 ft area)
5. ☒ Surrounding project area (>2-mile radius)

Part 2. Project Area Maps and Photographs

Include the following attachments for the project area:

1. ☒ A copy of a city or county scale map (large enough to show the entire project area) with the project site and structures ***clearly*** marked on the map.
2. ☒ A U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 1:24,000 Topographic map with the project site ***clearly*** marked on the map.
3. ☒ Attach photographs (at minimum 5 photographs) for each project site per application. The photographs should be representative of the project area, including any relevant streams, creeks, rivers, etc. and drainage areas that affect the project site or will be affected by the project, and labeled. For each structure, include the following angles: front, back, and both sides (e.g., North, South, East, West). *See photo guide*
4. ☐ For projects that require ***fill***, please include a map and coordinates of source location(s).

Section E. Milestones **all information in this section is required unless noted otherwise*

Project work schedule: list the major milestones and timeframes for this project.

Milestone	Starting point* (month #)	Expected duration (months)
Tasks 1 and 1A: Project Management and Grant Administration	1	36
Task 2: Background Data Collection and Field Visits	1	12
Task 3: Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses	6	24
Task 4: Stakeholder Collaboration and Public Engagement	6	24
Task 5: Evaluation of Mitigation Alternatives	12	24
Task 6: Funding Strategy	24	12
Task 7: Grant Application Development	30	6
Task 8: Deliverables	24	12
Project Closeout	35	1
Total project duration (not to exceed 48 months):		**36**

* The starting point is the specific month number within the entire project time frame (milestones can happen concurrently) Adjust to your specific project.

*Allow roughly 6 months for FEMA application review and approval in your project timeline.

Example

Milestone	Starting point (month #)	Expected duration (months)
Initial startup paperwork	1	1
Task 1	1	22
Task 2	3	16
Task 3	5	7
Task 4	8	10
Task 5	18	3
Account reconciliation	21	1
Final reimbursement	22	1
Project closeout paperwork	23	1
Total project duration:		24

Section F. Project Budget Summary and Grant Management Costs *all information in this section is required unless noted otherwise*

Part 1. Project Budget Summary

Project Budget Summary

- Use the HMGP Official Budget worksheet to provide a **detailed cost estimate breakdown**.
- Cost estimate must reflect the anticipated costs associated with the Scope of Work for the proposed mitigation activity. Cost estimates must include **detailed estimates of cost item categories**.
- **Only include costs that directly related to performing the mitigation activity**. If additional work, such as remodeling, additions, or improvements are being done concurrently with the mitigation work, do not include these costs in the submitted budget.
- **Documentation that supports the budget must be included** within the subapplication packet in the Budget Supporting Documentation Appendix.
- **Contingency costs are limited to 5%** of the total project cost and must be justified in the budget narrative. These are not automatically obligated upon award.

Ineligible costs:

The following line items are **regulatorily ineligible**:

- Lump Sums
- Miscellaneous Costs
- "Other" Costs
- Maintenance costs

Pre-Award Costs:

Eligible pre-award costs are costs incurred after the disaster date of declaration, but prior to grant award. Pre-award costs directly related to developing the application may be funded under either Project Cost Estimate or Grant Management Costs.

- Label Pre-Award Costs as "Pre-Award" under either HMGP Subapplication Budget Summary or Grant Management Costs.
- The date in which "pre-award" costs are incurred must be provided with a narrative of the task completed.

Examples of pre-award costs:

- Developing a BCA
- Developing subapplication materials
- Preparing design specifications
- Conducting feasibility studies
- Gathering environmental and historic data
- Workshops or meetings related to project development
- Request for Information (RFI) response

Cost Estimate Narrative:

FEMA requires a budget narrative that explains all projected expenditures in detail. The budget narrative is intended to mirror the project budget summary spreadsheet and should include a full detailed narrative to support the cost estimates listed in the HMGP Budget Summary Spreadsheet. (The budget summary will be located in the HMGP Budget Summary Worksheet)

Describe each budget line item and state how projected estimates were determined for each and how the costs are reasonable. Provide one or two sentences for each budget line item. If your cost estimate includes City, County, or State employees' time (your agency), include personnel titles and salary/hourly wages plus benefits for a total hourly cost.

In-Kind Cost sharing or matching

All third-party in-kind contributions must be identified in the budget as separate line items. The following documentation is required for **all** cash and third-party in-kind contributions:

- Identification of contributions in the approved budget.
- Record of donor (who donated, quantity used, location of work provided, invoices or other documentation to determine value).
- Dates of donation (the donation must be within the period of performance).
- Rates for staffing, equipment usage, supplies, etc.
- Amounts of donation or value of donation.
- Deposit slips for cash contributions.

For all Federal awards, any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, must be accepted as part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- Are verifiable from the non-Federal entity's records;
- Are not included as contributions for any other Federal award;
- Are necessary and reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives;
- Are allowable under subpart E of CFR 200.306
- Are not paid by the Federal Government under another Federal award, except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to matching or cost sharing requirements of other Federal programs;
- Are provided for in the approved budget when required by the Federal awarding agency; and
- Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

Part 2. Grant Management Costs Summary

Use the Management Costs tab in the HMGP Subapplication Budget Summary. Subapplicants are eligible to request grant management costs up to 5 percent of total project costs. Management costs will be reimbursed at 100 percent federal share, as long as they are adequately documented and are no more than 5 percent of the total project costs. Examples of eligible management costs include:

- Staff salary directly related to performing the activities listed below
- Application development, including the benefit-cost analysis (BCA)
- Preparing quarterly reports
- Processing payments
- Conducting contract procurement
- Preparing closeout documentation

NOTE:

* Management costs that exceed $25,000 will need to be broken down into a yearly budget.

**Management Costs that exceed more than 5% of the current project expenditures will not be reimbursed until more project costs are incurred.

Budget Checklist

☒ Documentation must be completed and submitted with HMGP Application.

☒ HMGP Official Budget Worksheet with completed detailed budget narrative

☒ Budget estimate documentation

☒ Financial commitment letter

☐ In-Kind letter on official letterhead stating donating entity, what is donated, date donated, cost of donation and how the cost was estimated.

☐ Management Costs

Section G. Environmental & Historic Preservation Information **all information in this section is required unless noted otherwise*

Since the HMGP is a federally funded program, all projects must undergo an environmental and historic preservation review as part of the grant application process. Moreover, all projects must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and associated Federal, State, Tribal, and Local statutes to obtain funding. NO PHYSICAL WORK can be done prior to the NEPA review process. If any groundbreaking occurs associated to the proposed project before the NEPA review is completed, the project will NOT be eligible for Federal Funding. The following sections must be completed in full or the application with not be processed. Correspondence from the appropriate entities related to the questions below must be placed on official entity letterhead.

Part 1: National Historic Preservation Act – Historical Building Structures *Per the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program Guidance a building could be considered historic if it is 45 years old or more.*

A.	Are there any structures or buildings that are 45+ years old in or adjacent to the project area?	Choose an item.
B.	Address of each structure or building that is 45+ years old	Date Constructed
1		
2		
3		

If YES, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐ Property address and original date of construction for each site
2. ☐ Five (5) color photographs, one for each side of the structure and 1 showing the entire property including out buildings/and pools. *See photo guide*
3. ☐ Parcel sheets
4. ☐ Site map showing footprint of project
5. ☐ Correspondence from the State Historical Preservation Office (NEMA will conduct the consultation on behalf of the subapplicant for acquisition projects).

Comments related to National Historic Preservation Act

Part 2. National Historic Preservation Act – Archaeological Resources

A.	Will the proposed project involve ground disturbance?	NO

If YES, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐ Any correspondence with Native American Tribes and the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) within the proposed project area.
2. ☐ Property address and original date of construction for each site
3. ☐ Color photographs of the project impact area
4. ☐ Site map showing footprint of project
5. ☐ All correspondence to and from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Ground disturbance description: – give dimensions (area, volume, depth, etc.) and location (latitude, longitude):
Will Boring or Trenching occur? If yes, describe the activities below:
What is the current use of the land at the proposed project site (note the extent of previously disturbed area):

NOTE: If an Archeological survey is required, a meeting between the archeologist and FEMA EHP is required in advance to ensure all requirements are understood and met.

Part 3. Endangered Species Act & Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

A.	Are there any federally listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, present in or near the project area?	NO

If **YES**, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐ All correspondence to and from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) about their review of the proposed project.
2. ☐ Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) report species list for the project area https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/
3. ☐ All correspondence to and from the Nebraska Game & Parks about their review of the proposed project.

Identified potential endangered or threatened species:
Summary of findings from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service:
Summary of findings from the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission:
Additional Comments (endangered or threatened species):

B.	Will the proposed project remove or affect vegetation?	NO
Description of vegetation removed or affected:		
Will reseeding or revegetation occur?		NO
Description of reseeding or revegetation to occur:		

C.	Is the proposed project in or near (within 200 feet) or likely to affect any type of waterway or body of water?	NO

If YES or unknown, provide the information below and any documentation that would help FEMA evaluate the project.

☐ Include this information in your correspondence with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Nebraska Game and Parks.

☐ Include this information in your correspondence with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Description of any body of water in or near the proposed project:
Potential impact of project regarding bodies of water:
Additional comments (bodies of water):

Part 4. Clean Water Act, Rivers &Harbors Act, and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands)

A.	Will the project impact or modify any waters of the United States as identified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?	NO
Description of impact to waters of the U.S.:		
B.	Will the proposed project involve dredging, the disposal of dredged material, excavation, or the addition of fill material within the impacted bodies of water?	NO
Description of dredging activities:		

If YES to A OR B, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

☐Correspondence with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers about their review of the proposed project.

C.	Is the proposed project located in or will it affect a wetland as listed in the National Wetlands Inventory?	NO

If **YES**, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐National Wetlands Inventory Map of the proposed project area https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html
2. ☐Correspondence with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about their review of the proposed project.
3. ☐Wetland Delineation Map

Description of impact to wetlands:
Summary of findings from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:
Alternatives to eliminate or minimize impacts to waters of the U.S. and or/wetlands:
Additional comments (waters of the U.S. and/or wetlands):

Part 5. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)

A.	Does a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM), hydrological study, or some other source indicate that the project is located in, or will affect, a 100-year floodplain, a 500-year floodplain (if a critical action), an identified regulatory floodway, or an area prone to flooding?	YES

If **YES**, attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project and indicate any documentation necessary to identify the means or the alternatives considered to eliminate or minimize the impacts to floodplains (See the 8-step process found in 44 CFR §9.6.)

1. ☒Attach FIRM
2. ☐Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) study *(if applicable)*
3. ☐No-rise certificate *(if applicable)*

Comments regarding Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management):

B.	Will the proposed project alter a watercourse, water flow patterns, or a drainage way, regardless of its floodplain designation?	NO
If **YES** or unknown, provide the information below and any documentation that would help FEMA evaluate the project.		
Additional comments and information:		

Part 6. Farmland Protection Policy Act

A.	Will the proposed project convert more than five (5) acres of "prime or unique" farmland outside city limits to a non-agricultural use?	NO

If **YES**, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐Consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

See additional information on the USDA Natural Resources Conservice Service website for Nebraska. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ne/home/?cid=nrcs143_014052

Description of impact to prime farmland:
Summary of findings from the Natural Resources Conservation Service:
Additional Comments:

Part 7: Resource Conservation & Recovery Act and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act (Hazardous and Toxic Materials)

A.	Is there reason to suspect there are contaminants from a current or past use on the property associated with the proposed project?	NO
B.	Are there any studies, investigations, or enforcement actions related to the property associated with the proposed project?	NO
C.	Will any project construction or operation activities involve the use and/or disposal of hazardous or toxic materials?	NO
D.	Are any of the current or past land uses of the property associated with the proposed project or any of the adjacent properties associated with hazardous or toxic materials?	NO

If YES, provide or attach the following to help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

1. ☐Environmental Site Assessments phase 1 and phase 2 if available
2. ☐Toxic release surveys
3. ☐Other pertinent documents

Describe the results of any consultations with state or local agencies in obtaining a permit with requirements for handling, disposing of, or addressing the effects of hazardous or toxic materials related to project implementation and that the property is clear of contamination:
List and attach all supporting documentation pertaining to studies, investigations, or enforcement actions associated with the proposed project:
Description of use or disposal method:
Additional comments regarding hazardous and toxic materials related to the proposed project:

Part 8. Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice Low-income and Minority Populations

A.	Are there any low-income and/or minority populations in or adjacent to the project area?	Choose an item.

If **YES**, provide or attach the following the help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project:

☐Provide results from assessment of the project area using the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) EJSCREEN Tool https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen

Describe the potential impacts on any low-income and/or minority populations that would be disproportionately and adversely effected. Include issues identified by the effected population. Summarize specific efforts to address these impacts in your project narrative and budget.
Describe the efforts that will be made in order to minimize the impact on affected low-income and/or minority populations.

B.	Is the community directly affected by the proposed project considered a population less than 3,000 and average per capita does not exceed 80% of the national per capita income?	Choose an item.

If YES, provide most current US Census Bureau data

☐ US Census Bureau Report

C.	Has the County in which the community resides been designated by FEMA as a Community Disaster Resilience Zone (CDRZ)?	Choose an item.

If YES, proved the CDRZ designation documentation

☐ CDRZ map designation documentation

Part 9. Other Environmental and Historic Preservation Laws or Issues

A.	Are there any other environmental or historic preservation requirements associated with this project?	NO
If YES, describe any additional requirements and other concerns or known obstacles for project implementation that have not already been identified.		
Comments or additional information:		

B.	Are there any controversial issues associated with this project?	NO
If YES, describe any additional requirements and other concerns or known obstacles for project implementation that have not already been identified.		
Comments or additional information:		

C.	Have any public meetings been conducted, public notices been circulated, or public comments been solicited on the proposed project?	NO
If YES, describe details of public meetings, when public notices were issued, and what public comments were expressed. Include any methodology used to solicit public involvement.		
Comments or additional information:		

☐Attach all public notices, meetings, and/or public comments for the project.

Part 10. Summary and Cost of Potential Impacts

A.	Having answered questions in parts 1 through 9, have you identified all aspects of your proposed project that have the potential to impact environmental resources or historic properties?	YES
Additional comments:		

During the application process the subapplicant completed the following:

B.	Consulted with appropriate parties to identify any measures needed to avoid or minimize impacts.	YES
C.	Considered alternatives that could minimize both the impacts and costs of the project.	YES
D.	Made certain that the costs of any measures to treat adverse effects are realistically reflected in the project budget estimate.	YES
Additional comments:		

Section H. Engineering **all information in this section is required except for warning sirens*

Project Designs

Are project designs completed?	NO
Is a certified engineering design for this project included with this application? (pg. 81)	NO
If not, what percentage is complete? (For example, conceptual, 30%, 60%, 90%.)	

Required supporting documentation:

☐ Project design/schematic drawings and specifications; **must be signed and stamped by a licensed engineer.**

☐ Feasibility studies

☐ Engineering calculations

☐ For electrical components a Master Electrician or Electrical engineer signed designs.

☐ Letter from subapplicant that the project will comply with ALL State/Local standards and codes.

☐ Include the signed statement from the subapplicant stating that they will obtain all required permits prior to construction and will follow local requirement for inspection.

☐ Proof of license confirming the licensed of the professional has the qualifications to meet the design requirements of the project.

☐ Short narrative containing the construction sequence.

NOTE: *FEMA will accept the certified engineering design in lieu of the FEMA comprehensive technical feasibility review.*

If an alternative design is proposed:

☐ Applicable building code/edition or engineering standard used.

☐ Level of protection provided by the proposed project and description of how proposed activity will mitigate future losses.

☐ For the retrofit of existing buildings or infrastructure protection projects, an assessment of the vulnerabilities of the existing building.

☐ Any remaining risk to the structure after project implementation.

☐ Proposed schematic drawings or designs (as applicable).

Section I. Certification Statement **all information in this section is required*

Subapplicant:	City of Columbus
FEMA Project Title:	Columbus Area Regional Flood Mitigation Assessment

The subapplicant authorized representative hereby certifies that:

- all information within this application is current and accurate to the best of their knowledge
- The subapplicant understands that NO work on this project may begin until FEMA awards the project and the subapplicant is notified by NEMA of such award.

Richard J. Bogus, PE	City Engineer
Printed Name	Title

Richard J. Bogus	April 17, 2025
Authorized Representative Signature	Date

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Recovery Section Authorized Representative Designation

Applicant's Name (City, County, Government Agency, Tribe, Township, Village, NRD, PNP, PPD, FRF, SID, etc.)			
City of Columbus, Nebraska			
Disaster/Grant #	**Assistance Listing (AL) #**	**UEI # (from SAM.gov)**	**Tax ID #**
		YM4RJGN196F5	47-6006144
Applicant's Fiscal Year Start			
Month		Year	

Chief Elected Official	**Authorized Representative**	**Fiscal Officer**
Name James B. Bulkley	Name Richard J. Bogus	Name Tara Vasicek
Official Position Mayor	Official Position City Engineer	Official Position City Administrator
Mailing Address 2500 14th Street, Ste. 3	Mailing Address 2500 14th Street, Ste. 3	Mailing Address 2500 14th Street, Ste. 3
City, County, State, Zip Code Columbus, Platte, NE, 68601	City, County, State, Zip Code Columbus, Platte, NE, 68601	City, County, State, Zip Code Columbus, Platte, NE, 68601
Daytime Telephone 402-562-4244	Daytime Telephone 402-562-4309	Daytime Telephone 402-562-4233
Fax Number NA	Fax Number NA	Fax Number NA
Cell Phone Number (if applicable)	Cell Phone Number (if applicable)	Cell Phone Number (if applicable)
Email Address Jim.bulkley@columbusne.us	Email Address Rick.Bogus@columbusne.us	Email Address Tara.Vasicek@columbusne.us

The above Authorized Representative is hereby authorized to execute and file any project application on behalf of this organization for the purpose of obtaining state and/or federal financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act or otherwise available. The designated Authorized Representative is authorized be the below Chief Elected Official to represent and act for this organization in all dealings with the State of Nebraska for all matters pertaining to this grant and will serve as the single point of contact.

Signature of Chief Elected Official

Date

James B. Bulkley

Printed Name of Chief Elected Official

Mayor

Printed Title of Chief Elected Official