City of Cedar Rapids  
Flood Control System Committee  
City Hall Training Room – City Hall  
Tuesday, July 3, 2018  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Present: Committee Council members: Tyler Olson (Chair) and Susie Weinacht  
Dale Todd (Council Member), Jeff Pomeranz (City Manager), Sandi Fowler (Asst. City Manager), Rob Davis (Flood Control Program Manager), Jen Winter (Public Works Director), Nate Kampman (City Engineer), Mandee Beardsley (Administrative Assistant I), Bill Bogert (Anderson-Bogert), Jim Halverson (HR Green) and Mary Snapp (Stanley Consultants)  
Media: Brian Morelli, The Gazette

Meeting called to order at 11:05 am by Council member Olson.

Committee unanimously approved the February 2018 meeting minutes with no comments added.

Rob Davis reported the financial report as of June 2018; thus far, the City has received $33.8 Million in state sales tax/flood hazard mitigation funds to date. Overall Flood Control Expenses since April 2014 (initiation of design phase) is $62 Million. Rob stated that Czech Village numbers would grow in upcoming quarters this year, as construction continues. As well, Quaker Oats project will begin summer 2018 and the North Industrial area will start to see substantial increase in investment numbers.

Rob Davis presented a new “Partnership Log” that was generated to show the City’s partnership with outside agencies. Tyler Olson asked Rob Davis if new development that includes flood control should be added i.e. Ellis Landings, CRST, etc. Staff noted that this log might not be the correct location for the new developments, but would generate a new log for this information going forward.

Rob Davis reported that an internal selection committee comprised of City staff and Council members, has selected Ty-Lin International out of San Francisco, CA as the lead consultant for the 8th Avenue Bridge replacement. Ty-Lin International has teamed with local consultants and shows a good mix of experience bridge designers, with continuity with consultants who are currently working on the Flood Control System. City staff is currently working on their contract and hope to have the contract to full Council by the end of the summer. Rob Davis mentioned that as the 8th Avenue Bridge begins the road will be closed for roughly 2 years and reconstruction of 1st Street/Diagonal Drive/8th Avenue intersections would happen at the same time.
The current Flood Control System Master Plan, which was adopted in 2015, has been updated twice since, in 2015 and 2016. City staff would like Chapter 3 (alignment) and Chapter 7 (aesthetics) updated in 2018 to bring the Master Plan current. Changes included would show additional detention basin in the Time Check area as well as an alignment change near the former Cooper’s Mill Motel site to allow for future re-development. City staff has also been working on concepting a flood control system with fewer gates and removable walls than are currently in FCS Master Plan. This will reduce initial construction costs, will reduce long term maintenance costs, and increase reliability, while blending better into neighborhoods. Several locations for switching from gates and removable walls to permanent walls and levees were presented including O Ave NW, 21st Street/Bowling Street SW and at Czech Museum. City staff is proposing the current updates be taken to the full Council next month (August).

Tyler Olson asked how the FCS Master Plan continues to be reviewed and updates recommended. Rob Davis stated that some items come in conjunction with Army Corps planning, some items come as construction projects are designed further to fit better with neighborhoods, some others come as private developments are proposed, and finally others come in conjunction with the FCS staff’s initiative to reducing the number of moving parts currently shown in the FCS Master Plan. Tyler Olson stated that he likes that the FCS staff continue to look for updated changes and to find ways to bring people to Cedar Rapids and to the River.

Flood Control Council committee voted and approved/recommended sending the Flood Control Master plan updates to the full City Council in August.

Rob Davis presented the FY 19 Work Plan to show the annual updates to the City’s design consultant contracts: Stanley Consultants (east side) and HR Green (west side). Stanley Consultants has a proposed FY19 work plan of $1.75M and HR Green has a proposed FY19 work plan of $1.1M. The primary focus for each consultant are only items through June 30, 2019. City staff would like these contract work plans to be considered before City Council on July 24, 2018 and processed as amendments to their consulting contracts. Susie Weinacht asked that Rob Davis and FCS staff stay in contact with the Solid Waste Agency as the Czech Village Levee and the Kayak landing are being designed.

Flood Control Council committee approved/recommended sending the FY19 Work Plan Amendments to both Stanley Consultants and HR Green’s contracts to the full City Council on July 24th.

Dale Todd asked if there might be a way to connect the trail from the Czech Village Levee to the McGrath Amphitheater through Ingredion. Tyler Olson stated that it is hard to get through property owner’s property. Rob Davis noted this could be costly, but is technically feasible, and is part of the current Master Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 pm.

Respectfully,

Mandee Beardsley
Administrative Assistant I
Public Works