



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Public Works**

Date: November 17, 2003
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **Flood Mitigation Area 1 (Crystal Lake Cemetery) Property Acquisition**

Recommendation:

1. Passage of the accompanying resolution authorizing the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), on behalf of the City of Minneapolis, to acquire property necessary for the construction of a flood mitigation pond as part of the Area 1 Flood Mitigation project.
2. Upon recommendation from MCDA staff, that the proper City officials be authorized to sign a Purchase Agreement for the property and all other necessary documents for the purchase.
3. That the City Engineer be authorized to pay all relevant expenses associated with this property acquisition, payable from the Sewer Construction – Capital Agency (7300-932-9322-PS37)

Previous Directives:

- Realignment of Capital Appropriations, April 18, 2003
- Capital Appropriation, December 14, 2000
- MCDA/Public Works Memorandum of Understanding, January 23, 1998
- Capital Appropriation, December 11, 1997

Prepared by: Patrick Wrase, P.E., Engineer III, 673-3129

Approved by:

Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Patrick Wrase, P.E., Engineer III, Engineering Services

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

Flood Area 1, as defined in the City of Minneapolis 1997 Flood Report, includes areas along the 4200 blocks of Queen and Russell Avenues in North Minneapolis. There are approximately 20 homes along these blocks that presently experience damage due to moderate rainfall events.

The primary cause of the problem at Flood Area 1 are inadequate storm drains which run through the low point on Queen Avenue, and adjacent to the low point on Russell Avenue and the alley low points. These storm sewers effectively handle the runoff from a 1.2 inch/hour storm event (2-year event). This design standard is very inadequate when compared to the 100-year ultimate design standard that is commonly used today. The goal of the City of Minneapolis is to completely handle all runoff from a 10-year storm and to protect all surrounding structures from a 100-year storm.

The proposed mitigation strategy for Flood Area 1 is described as follows. First, a 26 acre-ft detention pond is to be constructed on vacant land currently owned by Crystal Lake Cemetery. The location of this pond will be along the south side of 42nd Ave North, east of Penn Ave North. Second, a 72" storm pipe will be extended from the storm pond, west along 42nd Ave North, to Russell Avenue. This pipe will serve to redirect the large area that presently drains through Queen Ave east to the newly constructed storm pond. This interception of storm flow by the new pipe will allow the existing pipes to adequately handle the resultant inflows. The intercepted storm water will be sent to the new pond and released at a rate which can be contained within the existing downstream storm trunk.

In addition to eliminating the flooding problem, the construction of the storm water pond will also help to reduce contaminants to Shingle Creek and the Mississippi River downstream. The storm water basin will be designed to maximize the removal of sediments and phosphorus from the influent storm water. A large flood pond such as that being proposed here will be capable of removing greater than 90% of total suspended solids from the stormwater influent.

The estimated total cost for the Flood Area 1 project is \$4,310,000. The draft purchase agreement for the 8 acres of land necessary for pond construction lists the purchase price at \$1,000,000. Previous Council actions have dedicated \$2,089,611 for this project. The necessary future appropriations have been preliminarily approved through the CLIC process and are included for the 2004 Capital Improvement Appropriation. The funding necessary for the purchase is available in the Sewer Construction – Capital Agency (7300-932-9324-PS37). Construction of the Flood Area 1 project is scheduled for the summer and fall of 2004.

Recommendation 1: MCDA Authorization That the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) is directed, on behalf of the City of Minneapolis, to acquire the property necessary for the construction of a flood mitigation pond as part of the Area 1 Flood Mitigation project.

Recommendation 2: Authorize Proper City Officials to Execute Purchase Agreement

Upon recommendation from MCDA staff, that the proper City officials be authorized to sign a Purchase Agreement for the property and all other necessary documents for the purchase.

Recommendation 3: Authorize City Engineer to Pay Expenses That the City Engineer be authorized to pay all relevant expenses associated with this property acquisition, payable from the Sewer Construction – Capital Agency (7300-932-9324)

Attachment A – Flood Area 1 Pond conceptual layout

C: Council Member Barbara Johnson
Michael Schwab, MCDA
Bernie Maciej, Finance