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HAILEY DEVELOPS OPTIONS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND NEIGHBORHOOD FLOOD RECOVERY PROJECTS

(Hailey, Idaho) The City of Hailey is collaborating with Blaine County, the Wood River Land Trust, the Big Wood River Flood Control District and other partners to develop a list of capital projects that would protect public infrastructure and could lessen the degree of flood impacts on the Della View neighborhood. The City is moving ahead based on possible funding scenarios. This includes federal funds related to the recent federal disaster declaration signed by President Trump for Blaine County and four other Idaho counties. With Federal funds, FEMA would cover 75% of project costs, the state of Idaho would cover 15% and the local partners would be responsible for 10%. The City will be meeting with FEMA representatives the week of September 11 to discuss the scope of work covered by funding.

Possible projects have been identified by City Engineer Galena Engineering, and in a recent report prepared by Harmony Design and Biota Research and Consulting titled Hailey Greenway Master Plan: River Management Recommendations. (See <https://haileycityhall.org/documents/HaileyMasterFloodPlan8-20-17.pdf> and <https://haileycityhall.org/documents/2017-0822HGMPFloodMemo.pdf>). Potential projects identified from these two sources include:

- Wastewater Lift Station and Access Road Protection
- Flood Water Conveyance Swales and/or channels in Heagle Park



- Improved Storm Water Management and Drainage: War Eagle Drive
- Improved Storm Water Management and Drainage: Della View residential areas
- Maintenance to City Sewer Trunk line through Draper Preserve

- Activation of Side Channel Across from Heagle Park
- Construction of Setback Barrier from Bow Bridge to War Eagle Drive
- Channel Restoration and Sediment Storage Downstream of Bullion Bridge
- Channel Restoration in Colorado Gulch Preserve

“Each of these projects requires careful consideration,” said Mayor Fritz Haemmerle. “There are cost considerations, timing, impacts to natural systems and avoidance of flood impacts to other property owners. I plan to bring this list of projects to the City Council and our project partners in the near future. In the meantime, I encourage all Hailey citizens to familiarize themselves with the complexity of issues at hand.” Galena Engineering notes that many of these projects could shorten the duration of the flood, but not eliminate peak flood waters. Some projects have multiple-year time horizons and require an array of federal, state and local permits, and significant levels of funding.

In the short term, Mayor Haemmerle has directed the City Engineer to prepare bid documents for the Wastewater Lift Station and Access Road Protection. “This top-priority project affects not only the Della View neighborhood, but the majority of Hailey,” he said. “It is my goal to protect this necessary infrastructure immediately.”

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