

CITY OF HAILEY

2017 BIG WOOD RIVER FLOOD RECOVERY INFORMATION

(Hailey, Idaho) The city of Hailey was notified July 3 that the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (OEM) tentatively granted \$875,000 in emergency assistance to repair city infrastructure damaged by record spring flooding during the past two months. The city's required match is \$102,311.

Damage from the 2017 Big Wood River flood to streets in the Della View neighborhood in west Hailey has been significant. The area also houses a crucial lift station for the city's sewer system.

The OEM is applying for a federal disaster declaration for Blaine County this week. A response can be expected within the next 1-3 weeks.

If the federal disaster declaration is granted, then OEM requires the city to apply for federal funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance Program to supplant a portion of OEM funds. Under this scenario, FEMA's share would be 75 percent of costs, OEM's share would be 15 percent, and the city's share would be 10 percent (\$102,311). If FEMA does not grant a federal disaster declaration, then the city will use the funds allocated under the state's OEM grant award of \$875,000. If the federal disaster declaration is granted and FEMA becomes involved, it is expected that obtaining funds from either OEM or FEMA will be delayed.

A federal disaster declaration makes additional funding opportunities available. It will allow the city to seek funding assistance for wastewater lift station protection, park repairs, and other repairs not currently funded through OEM's grant award. FEMA's Public Assistance Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Pre-disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) are all potential funding sources. All of these programs

require the city to share a portion of cost, which will place limits on the scope of work to be completed.

Engineering planning meetings have begun on repair to city roads and improved protection of the wastewater lift station. Plans will be brought forward at a future City Council meeting. If a federal disaster declaration is made, FEMA will be on site within days to assist the city. Due to the scope of the recovery effort, the need to secure additional funding, the waning 2017 construction season and potential federal involvement, the city's preliminary schedule includes the following tasks:

July/August: Data acquisition, scoping, FEMA coordination

August: Analysis of design options and costs

September: Commence preliminary design

October: HGMP and/or PDM grant applications due

December: Commence final design

February/March: Bidding

Summer 2018: Construction

The above schedule is preliminary and subject to change.

Streets have been cleaned and reopened in the Della View neighborhood. The Heagle Park Pavilion, restrooms, and play structure will remain closed for the remainder of the season, and are unsafe for public use. Access to the Big Wood River via the trail on the west side of Heagle Park is permitted.

Community Development staff is concurrently wrapping up assessment of damaged homes in the Della View area in compliance with the National Floodplain Insurance Program.

Mayor Fritz Haemmerle and city staff continue to meet with Blaine County, the Wood River Land Trust, state and federal agencies and other stakeholders on long-term issues related to the Big Wood River floodplain. Recent information provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers indicates that any significant work in the river corridor is a multi-year, multi-jurisdictional process. “Long-term solutions must reflect our community values for the health and viability of the Big Wood River,” said Haemmerle. “I am committed to working with our partner agencies over the long run.”

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