

# NOTES

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Michael W. Cowin, City Manager 

DATE: June 5, 2024

SUBJECT: Materials for Your Information

Please find attached the following materials for your information:

1. A memo from Lisa Kirby, Director of Engineering, regarding a notice of award of Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund grant
2. A memo from Kevin Mulligan, Director of Public Works, regarding Public Works Sanitation Division NCDEQ grant

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Attachment

# Memorandum

**TO:** Michael Cowin, City Manager  
**FROM:** Lisa Kirby, PE, CFM, Director of Engineering  
**DATE:** May 29, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Notice of Award of Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund Grant

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The City has received a Notice of Award (attached) for \$2,000,000 in additional funding under the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund (DRMF) to support design and construction of the St. Andrews Drive Critical Infrastructure Protection and Stream Restoration project. The St. Andrews Project uses nature-based solutions to stabilize an unnamed tributary that presents erosion and flood risk to nearby public infrastructure and private property. A more detailed project summary is provided below.

The original estimate for the project was \$4,593,475. The City was previously awarded \$3,215,433 in FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funds from the fiscal year 2021 application cycle. With the previous BRIC grant award, \$1,378,042 from the City's local funds were committed as the local cost share. However, due to recent increases in construction costs, the city updated the project estimate to \$6,130,465 resulting in an increased local cost share of \$2,915,032. In an effort to minimize the City's financial exposure, the Engineering Department identified and applied for the DRMF Grant. The award from the DRMF grant covers the increased construction costs and lowers the City's local match to \$915,032.

**PROJECT SUMMARY:** The St. Andrews Project was identified as a priority stream stabilization and watershed improvement project in 2016 as part of the Greens Mill Run Watershed Master Plan. The St. Andrews Drive project was designated as high risk for the community due to erosion and flooding threats presented for private property along the stream, as well as electric and water infrastructure that crosses the streambed.

The St. Andrews project is expected to offer resilience benefits to 1,014 residents. The residents of this service area see higher rates of poverty, unemployment, persons over the age of 65, minority status, and disability status over the nationwide average. This project will mitigate the bank erosion that is threatening the structural integrity of 10 residential and commercial structures, along with electrical and sewer infrastructure. Electrical transformer boxes are located within 1 foot of the top of the eroding stream bank. These transformer boxes provide critical services to the community and are a threat to public safety. There is also an exposed gravity sewer line that crosses the stream. This exposed public infrastructure could also further destabilize the stream bank because debris jams can form and constrict channel conveyance and score the stream bed and banks.

Attachment: Notice of Award



NC Department of Public Safety  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Roy Cooper, Governor

Eddie M. Buffaloe Jr., Secretary  
William C. Ray, Director

3 May 2024

Mr. Daryl Norris  
Civil Engineer III  
City of Greenville  
200 West Fifth St.  
Greenville, NC 28858

Dear Mr. Norris,

North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) is pleased to inform you that your grant application for the Emergency Management Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund has been selected for funding up to the amount of \$2,000,000.

The final approval is conditional on the return of the attached Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed by the appropriately authorized representative(s) within 45 days from the date of this letter.

The attached MOA, as well as the following documents below, should be returned to NCEM via email and sent to [NCEMLTR.grant@ncdps.gov](mailto:NCEMLTR.grant@ncdps.gov)

- [Supplier Electronic Payment Request](#) Please email the completed form directly to OSC for processing: [ncfsepay@osc.nc.gov](mailto:ncfsepay@osc.nc.gov) with copy to [NCEMLTR.grant@ncps.gov](mailto:NCEMLTR.grant@ncps.gov)
- Conflict of Interest Policy ([G.S. 143C-6-23.\(b\)](#))
- [Sworn \(Notarized\) No Overdue Tax Debt Certification](#) ([G.S. 143C-6-23.\(c\)](#))

This grant shall be effective upon transmittal to the jurisdiction of the executed MOA by NCEM.

By accepting this grant, the recipient agrees that funds will only be expended to complete the approved project, not to exceed the funding amount during the designated period of performance, as well as all applicable terms, conditions, and responsibilities specified in the MOA.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Jeff Welker, NCEM Long-Term Recovery Grants Manager, directly (984-222-4159 or [Jeffrey.Welker@ncdps.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Welker@ncdps.gov)).

Respectfully,

William C. Ray  
Director & Deputy Homeland Security Advisor  
North Carolina Emergency Management



**Memorandum**

**To:** Michael Cowin, City Manager  
**From:** Kevin Mulligan, PE, Director of Public Works/*km*  
**Date:** June 3, 2024  
**Subject:** Public Works Sanitation Division NCDEQ Grant

Public Works Sanitation Division and Abby Kimmel, City Manager Office, applied for and received a North Carolina Community Waste Reduction and Recycling (CWRAR) grant for \$50,000. The City is required to have a 20% match, which is the amount of \$10,000. The purpose of the grant is to assist the City of Greenville with implementing, expanding, and improving waste reduction and recycling programs in North Carolina.

The grant funds will be available in July 2024. The City of Greenville will be implementing a city-wide recycling education campaign. Grant funding will be used to purchase waste audit equipment from Prairie Robotics to be installed on 2 of our recycling trucks. Hardware materials include 2 cameras, 2 GPS and 2 AI-enabled computers.

This equipment will utilize machine learning to identify contaminants at a household level. During recycling collection, cameras analyze materials in the hopper for contamination. Contaminants are tracked to ensure each item is assigned to the correct household. The grant would also fund the cost of 44,000 contamination notice mailers. An example of what a mailer would look like is shown below:



The goal of conducting waste audits is to provide residents with customized feedback on their recycling habits to raise awareness about the contamination they contribute to the recycling stream. This process enables residents to improve their recycling practices, ultimately reducing contamination at the household level and throughout the entire city. The City's most prevalent contamination items found in the blue recycling carts are as follows:

- Food
- Plastic bags
- Wood
- Clothes
- Styrofoam
- Yard waste

With the incorporation of multiple AI-enabled cameras, the city will focus our recycling education efforts in a more discrete fashion based on where the specific contamination is occurring:

