

2008 CAPITAL BUDGET Flood Hazard Mitigation Grants Governor's Recommendation: \$15,000,000

It is needed because

Major floods in 1997, 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2007 have caused significant damage to communities across Minnesota. Browns Valley and southeast Minnesota experienced major flood events in 2007. Flood hazard mitigation is a cost-effective approach for at-risk communities by preventing future flood damages. This is particularly important given that the current level of flood damage potential in these at-risk communities continues unabated.

Flood hazard mitigation projects significantly reduce flood damages; protect people, homes and businesses; and reduce costs and dangers associated with flood fighting. Additional benefits include improved recreation and fish and wildlife habitat, and increased natural open space in floodplains.

Major project elements

This funding will provide state cost-share grants to local units of government to implement flood damage reduction and prevention projects, such as purchasing and removing homes and businesses from floodplains, relocating businesses, and constructing levees, floodwalls, control structures, diversion channels, and impoundments. Built in cooperation with partners, these projects leverage state resources with federal and local investment. Federal flood hazard mitigation projects are funded by about 65 percent federal and 35 percent non-federal sources, while non-federal projects are funded by 50 percent state and 50 percent local sources unless otherwise authorized.

Priority-setting

Project priorities are determined by:

- ♦ Flood hazard risk,
- Number of structures affected,
- ♦ Disaster declarations,
- Availability of funding from other sources,
- Ability of local government to proceed, and

♦ Compliance of local government with flood plain regulations.

Project locations

The program leverages federal funding for eligible projects, but the flow of federal funds is difficult to predict. Federal projects that may proceed include:

- ♦ Montevideo,
- ♦ Breckenridge,
- ♦ Roseau, and
- ♦ Hazard mitigation projects in federally declared disaster counties.

Non-federal flood hazard mitigation projects include:

- ♦ Browns Valley
- ♦ Crookston
- ♦ Granite Falls
- ♦ Austin
- ♦ Moorhead
- ♦ Oakport Township
- ♦ North Ottawa impoundment
- ♦ Canisteo Pit outlet

Key measures and outcomes

Flood damages to people and property are significantly reduced in at-risk communities.

 Specific activities include: acquisition and relocation, levees, pumping stations, floodwalls, outlet control works, and impoundments.

For further information contact:

Kent Lokkesmoe, Director, Division of Waters 500 Lafayette Road, Box 32, St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 259-5701, kent.lokkesmoe@dnr.state.mn.us

Pat Lynch, FDR Hydrologist, Division of Waters 500 Lafayette Road, Box 32, St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 259-5669, pat.lynch@dnr.state.mn.us

DNR Capital Project Priorities, as of January 2008 Flood Hazard Mitigation Grants

