



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montique McClary, Interim City Manager
Dwan Bell, Public Utilities Director
Jon Hawley, Grants Administrator

Date: September 9, 2022

Re: Consideration - Adoption of the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin Stormwater Master Plan

BACKGROUND:

In 2018, the City of Elizabeth City won an NC Division of Water Resources grant for development of the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin Stormwater Master Plan. This plan evaluated 341 acres of central Elizabeth City – including the former bed of Tiber Creek running under the Grice Street area to the riverfront – and performed the modeling and analyses needed to propose potential projects that could reduce repetitive flooding. Two of these projects include replacement/upgrade of the Water-Church Street Pump Station and replacement of stormwater pipes under Shirley and Selden streets.

Public Utilities presented the Tiber Creek plan to the City Council during its work session on October 28, 2019. Councilors at the time received the plan favorably, but took no action. City staff now wish to request adoption of a resolution to formally accept the plan.

ANALYSIS:

City staff are requesting this resolution now to strengthen a potential grant application. The NC Division of Water Infrastructure is offering a new program, "Local Assistance for Stormwater Infrastructure Investments," that can provide up to \$5 million for a single locality proposing a stormwater construction project. The Water-Church Street pump station project won funding for design work earlier this year from NC Emergency Management, but that program lacked enough funding for project construction. The LASII program would keep momentum going for this project.

LASII is a competitive grant program; applications may increase their score if they document that their proposal is the result of a formally-accepted stormwater plan. The proposed resolution endorses the Tiber Creek plan and City staff's efforts to implement its projects; it makes no monetary commitments.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, approve the Resolution of Adoption for the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin Stormwater Master Plan, and authorize all necessary signatures.



Resolution # 2022 –09-01
Adoption of Tiber Creek Drainage Basin
Stormwater Master Plan

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth City has determined that residences, businesses, and streets and other public infrastructure are impacted by repetitive flooding from the former “Tiber Creek” beginning west of downtown Elizabeth City and running easterly to the Pasquotank River; and

WHEREAS, repetitive flooding creates risks for public health and safety and may harm emergency response, damage public and private property, and inhibit long-term community development in the affected areas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth City secured a Water Resources Development Grant from the North Carolina Division of Water Resources on July 31, 2018, to develop a stormwater master plan to evaluate the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin to more fully understand its flooding risks, and identify solutions to them; and

WHEREAS, the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin Stormwater Master Plan was completed and presented to the Elizabeth City City Council on October 28, 2019, and said plan performed stormwater analyses and modeling to inform development of potential projects that could reduce or mitigate flooding; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth City City Council wishes to confirm its support of this plan, and continuing efforts to implement its recommendations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elizabeth City City Council hereby approves and adopts the Tiber Creek Drainage Basin Stormwater Master Plan, and endorses efforts to implement its recommendations to combat flooding and enhance the resiliency of residences, businesses, and infrastructure within the basin.

ADOPTED, this the 12th day of September 2022.

E. Kirk Rivers
Mayor

April D. Onley
City Clerk, NCCMC