



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Council Agenda City Council

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, Municipal Center

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

COM-20:012 QUARTERLY UPDATE PRESENTATION FROM MARK YOUNG, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE JONESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

5. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed below will be voted on in one motion unless a council member requests a separate action on one or more items.

MIN-20:036 MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2020

Attachments: [CC Minutes 04212020](#)

RES-20:049 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sponsors: Police Department and Finance

Attachments: [Lease Agreement - 2319 East Matthews Ave 042220 02](#)
[Lack Comments_email for Finance 04282020](#)

Legislative History

4/28/20	Finance & Administration	Recommended to Council
	Council Committee	

RES-20:052 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FY 2019 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT (SAFER)

Sponsors: Grants and Fire Department

Attachments: [5 Year Costs for Safer Grant](#)

Legislative History

4/28/20 Finance & Administration Recommended to Council
Council Committee

RES-20:053 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA), AND ACCEPT THE FY 2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING PROGRAM GRANT AND AMEND THE 2020 BUDGET

Sponsors: Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [Award Letter, DOJ Fy20 Coronavirus Supplemental Grant - Police Dept \(Walk-o Budget Summary, DOJ Fy20 Coronavirus Supplemental Grant - Police Dept \(W](#)

Legislative History

4/28/20 Finance & Administration Recommended to Council
Council Committee

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RES-20:050 A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO APPROVE THE 2020 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

Sponsors: Grants

Attachments: [2020 CDBG Action Plan, DRAFT](#)
[2020 CDBG Action Plan FINAL](#)
[Application for FY20 CDBG Action Plan, SF424](#)
[Assurances for FY20 CDBG Action Plan, SF-424-D](#)
[Certifications for FY20 CDBG Action Plan](#)

Legislative History

4/28/20 Finance & Administration Recommended to Council
Council Committee

RES-20:051 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NEAIDC) FOR FUNDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Finance

Attachments: [Agreement, 2020, City, NEAIDC](#)
[NEAIDC - City agreement 2020, Executed](#)
[Lack Comments_email for Finance 04282020](#)

Legislative History

4/28/20	Finance & Administration Council Committee	Recommended to Council
---------	---	------------------------

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-20:012 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BASE LEVEL ENGINEERING (BLE) STUDIES FOR THE ST. FRANCIS, CACHE AND L'ANGUILLE WATERSHEDS

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Cache BLE Report](#)
[Cache Discovery FRR](#)
[L'Anguille BLE Report](#)
[L'Anguille Discovery FRR](#)
[St. Francis BLE Report](#)
[St. Francis Discovery FRR](#)

Legislative History

3/3/20	Public Works Council Committee	Recommended to Council
4/7/20	City Council	Held at one reading
4/21/20	City Council	Held at second reading

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person for a total of 15 minutes.

11. ADJOURNMENT



City of Jonesboro

300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: COM-20:012 **Version:** 1 **Name:** QUARTERLY UPDATE PRESENTATION FROM MARK YOUNG, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE JONESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Type: Other Communications **Status:** To Be Introduced

File created: 3/11/2020 **In control:** City Council

On agenda: 5/5/2020 **Final action:**

Title: QUARTERLY UPDATE PRESENTATION FROM MARK YOUNG, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE JONESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Indexes: Presentations

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
------	------	-----------	--------	--------

QUARTERLY UPDATE PRESENTATION FROM MARK YOUNG, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE JONESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



City of Jonesboro

300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: MIN-20:036 **Version:** 1 **Name:** MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2020
Type: Minutes **Status:** To Be Introduced
File created: 4/22/2020 **In control:** City Council
On agenda: **Final action:**
Title: MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2020
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments: [CC Minutes 04212020](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
------	------	-----------	--------	--------

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 21, 2020



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Councilmember Gene Vance joined the Council meeting via zoom at 5:42 p.m.

Present 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent 1 - Chris Moore

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-20:018](#)

PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN RECOGNIZING CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 19-25, 2020

Attachments: [Crime Victims Week Proclamation](#)

Mayor Harold Perrin said, the first item I want to cover, please, is a proclamation from Captain Lynn Waterworth. We will not meet until May 5, 2020 on our next meeting. We do it every year. This is a proclamation for Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25, 2020.

Read

[COM-20:017](#)

PRESENTATION BY DR. SHANE SPEIGHTS ON THE COVID19 VIRUS

Attachments: [JBcouncilmeeting](#)

Dr. Speights said, first of all, thank you for having me, letting me speak to you tonight. Maybe even answer some questions you may have. Bear with me because I recognize some of this is going to be new information and I'm going to give you a bit of background. There is obviously a lot that has going on with this since started back in January, February. So, just kind of bear with me as we get started through this, but I'll go ahead and just jump right into it. In terms of what this is, COVID-19 is a virus and this is just kind of the family of the strain of viruses. People get confused and say, well, I've heard it's a common cold virus too. Well, it's got cousins that are common cold viruses and that is not the one that is wreaking havoc for us and it is related to the SARS virus. It is also a way to the MERS virus, which has caused epidemics around the country. This is certainly a new strain that we are seeing that started in China from what we can tell back at the end of November. So, it is a virus. It is not a

bacteria. It is not a fungus. The why that is important is because it requires a host. It has to be able to reproduce within a body. It can't do that on its own. And, so, how do you get infected by this virus? Well, it goes, it gets into your body through the nose, the eyes, the mouth. It moves into the lungs and that is where it reproduces. Unfortunately, with this virus, we find that it can get into the bloodstream and it can spread into and affect the heart, the kidneys, the brain, the liver, and even the bowel at some levels. The issue with this virus and the biggest problem we are having now is that it is highly contagious. It is an extremely contagious respiratory virus. We are finding out more and more that it can hang out on surfaces for more than we initially thought. It was 72 hours or longer. Now, there is some studies that show up to nine days. It can hang out in the air for a couple of hours and for people that are coughing or sneezing out into the air, it can live on surfaces, as I said, for quite a while. We are saying it is kind of a sneaky virus and what I mean by that is you can get infected by it and your body doesn't pick up on it so your body doesn't map a response immediately that allows the virus to actually reproduce and then spread to other hosts and so that is where you get the term asymptomatic spreader. It can actually get into your body and it can actually replicate before your body even knows it. And, so it has got an interesting way of kind of avoiding your body's defense mechanisms. The groups that are the highest risk for this for severe disease or individuals over the age of 65 or really anybody that takes a medication prescribed by a physician for any reason, whether that be high blood pressure, heart problems or any of the things listed there. We know those groups right there are at a higher risk. Asthma is one of those that we are also seeing that is a new group that is kind of emerging. And, oddly enough, there is a strange group of young individuals that have no medical issues at all that for the most part are in really good health and what happens in those individuals is actually the body over responds. The body gets really mad and creates this huge immune response and then it just starts basically breaking itself down and so the body starts attacking itself and so that it is called Cytokine storm, and that is an issue that we are seeing that we don't see with most viruses. So, that is alarming.

So, what do we do for COVID-19 to protect ourselves? Well, you have seen most of this. This has been put out by the CDC. It has been out in a lot of the media, publications, and things in terms of handwashing. Don't touch your face so the virus can't move in. The wearing of a mask in public is something that the CDC put out just in the past few weeks and that protects you as well as others around you. You have heard a lot about social distancing I am sure and the idea behind that is to limit the number of people the virus can infect. We don't have a lot of ways to actually treat this so these are the best tools. Testing, unfortunately, has been very limited and we haven't really done a great job as a country in terms of getting the test that we need and getting into the needed areas. I think that is getting better. I think it is certainly a lot better what it is today than what it was even just a few weeks ago. There is an antibody test that is out, but basically it can tell you if you have been infected because there are a group of individuals who got infected by this and maybe didn't have many symptoms at all. We are going to recognize they were sick. We are not quite sure how reliable that is. It is still a fairly new test and there is still a lot of information coming out about it. As I mentioned, there that Dr. Fauci, who is kind of our national infectious disease expert, he kind of weighed in on it just earlier this week about that test.

So, how do we fight this virus? Well, we don't have any medications right now. There is about 300 different trials going on. Obviously, we launched into a bunch of research, but research takes time and you have to go through multiple trials and you have to get lots of people on board and you have to give some people the medicine and some people get a sugar pill and so that doesn't always work out well, but we have got some

ideas. There is a drug called remdesivir which was actually created to fight the Ebola virus that is showing some really good promise in terms of slowing the spread and actually fighting COVID-19. There is a lot of medicines that we already have out there that we have been trying just to see if they can be repurposed. Some medicines we use for HIV. You have heard a lot about the hydroxychloroquine. A new study just came out today out of the VA that showed there is actually more deaths with that drug than without it and so that is some disappointing news as we were hopeful that there would be some good information regarding that. In terms of a vaccine, we don't have a vaccine. We have three vaccines right now that are promising that have moved into human trials and we are hopeful that those will be available by early to mid-2021. It takes a while for use to create a vaccine and then to grow it because that is what we do and you want to make sure the vaccine is safe and effective because it is something you are going to push out to 350 million people. So, you want to make sure that it is done right the first time. So, it just takes a while to get that. So with no medications and no vaccine, what we are left to do but to limit the spread of the disease. Really, that is all we have got. This is not uncommon in a pandemic, especially when it is a brand new virus that the human body has never seen.

At least 6 feet or more apart is the current CDC guidance. Obviously, the handwashing and wearing the mask and social distancing policies, which most every state in the country has adopted and the flattening of the curve, which I will talk about in just a second because I think that bears some discussion. So, I have had people ask me a lot, are you immune after you get infected? So, after I get sick with this, am I good? Has my body created a memory cells so to speak? Well, in theory, yes, but there is some evidence coming out that it says it really depends. It really depends on how your body responded. For some people, they do have an immunity. For some people, not so much which goes back to the real need for a vaccine and an effective treatment. Following some information out of South Korea, about 116 individuals that are still recovering that tested positive. We are not sure, actually, you know, what that means or what that is going to translate into.

I thought this was a great slide. And, I have used this before as I have discussed, you know, what this is and why so important to flatten the curve. What I want you to understand about this is certainly, at the very beginning back here at the very beginning, we say someone gets infected right about this area here. Let's say we do nothing. Let's say we just say, okay, look, we don't have vaccines, we don't have medicine so everybody is just kind of on their own. Then, the virus that gets passed around and people get sick and they get sick quickly. And, then the peak subsides and you will see it comes and it goes quickly. This is if you put social distancing measures in place. The gray curve is. It flattens it out and so this is the flattening of the curve. What I want you to pay attention to is the number of people here and the number of people here are the same. It is actually the same number of people under each one of these curves. You just change how many people get infected at a certain time, and why is that important? Well, it is the overload on the healthcare system. We only have so many ventilators. We only have so many ICU beds. We only have so many ICU doctors. The other thing that I want to point out too is right here is the peak. So, right here is the peak if you do nothing. You move the peak down the road so the peak becomes here, the better job you do social distancing. Well, why is that a big deal? Well, if we can move the peak, we buy ourselves time. We buy ourselves time to do research. We buy ourselves time in terms of creating a vaccine and in terms of maybe repurposing some of our medications to see if they will really work. So when you hear about flattening the curve and #flatteningthecurve, this is why this is such a big deal. It gets confusing for the general public, and so we try to put out as much good information as we can to hopefully make it clearer. But, this is why we want to

flatten it as much as we can. Even though in the end, the same number of people get infected, it's just a longer period of time. I will talk about this in a second and some of you are probably already realizing this. Does this mean that the virus hangs out in our community longer? Unfortunately, yes, that is exactly what happens. So, the virus when it comes in here, people get infected and they get over it and it is a shorter amount of time. It is much longer when you flatten the curve.

Just a quick update in terms of where we are nationally, we are at about 788,000 infections in the United States, with about 40,000 something deaths. I'll talk about that in just a second. This map, I think, is good because it shows you where the geographic spread is. It shows you where all of the cases across the country are and I'll come back to that in just a second. How do we look compared to other countries? This just came out earlier this week. We are starting as a country to flatten our curve. Now, there is a caveat there and it's kind of an asterick there as we as a country are starting to flatten our curve and I'll talk more about that in a second as well. What this graph depicts though, if you see the stars, now, stars are where national lockdowns occurred. Now, the United States is a big country and each state has their own ability to make these decisions and so it was different for the United States. These individual countries made their own decisions and so what's interesting is you will see the earlier and the only one depicted on this graph is New Zealand who started it early and was able to flatten their curve and to drop their numbers fairly quickly. Everyone watches China because China is the one where the virus originated and that gives us an idea of what we can expect or what other countries can expect where it goes up, it goes down. You have a second peak. It goes down. You have a third peak and they are just now reopening their country. So, we will see what happens there as they loosen all of their social distancing requirements.

In terms of the United States, about 95 percent of the population is under some lockdown right now. That is about 306 million people. Today, we have about 43,000 deaths over the last three months. The first one was reported at the end of February so compared to our influenza seasons, which can vary depending on if you have a bad one or not, normal deaths are between 25,000-45,000 over a season, which is about seven months. What I want you to take a look at now is in the top right corner. You will see that map of the United States that is based on geographic population. So, that is the population density of the United States where everybody lives. Now, look at the map below which we just looked at. You can see where the spread of the disease is. It should be no surprise to you that the more dense the area is in terms of the population, that is where the hotspots are so to speak in terms of the spread of the virus. And, again, what we are trying to do, as we are in the United States, for the most part, we are flattening the curve in the United States with what we have been doing.

Now, moving onto Arkansas. Let's get more of a granular level of what it looks like for us. Social distance in the governor's approach, as well as, Dr. Nate Smith, is their targeted approach has been working. We do have cases on the rise, but it has been slower. It has been slowing down quite a bit. For those of you who watched the governor's press conference today, you will see that there was a significant uptick in the last two days in terms of cases primarily in the prison system. The prison system is important to realize what is going on there because that is a micro environment. That system is similar to other systems like nursing homes or extended care facilities. And so, looking at what goes on in those areas can give us an idea of what would happen in other areas where you have clusters of people together in a specific area. Now, there is isolation that occurs in the prison system that you try to remove them. The other piece about the prison system, which I think is important, they were testing pretty much everybody so even individuals that didn't have symptoms were getting

tested which is something we don't do in the general public right now. Most of you are aware from the governor's press conference last week that right now, we have a target date of May 4, 2020, which is our phase one target date. I'll talk a little bit about that. This is based on the White House's proposal that was released the end of last week in terms of being able to restart our economy and move forward, which is something we must do. A lot of it's heavily dependent upon testing and contact tracing and we will talk more about that. Here we are in the state of Arkansas. I apologize this was as of yesterday, I believe. It shows 43 cases. We actually have 45 cases in Craighead County now. This is the age distribution, which I think is important. You will see that the largest percentage of people are between the ages of 25 and 64. So, a lot of your working class individuals are the ones that have the disease now. But it is true, the individuals with the most severe disease are the ones that take a medication or are over the age of 65, specifically over the age of 80.

When we talk about the actual Arkansas numbers cases by day, this is what the numbers look like and again it is about a day or two behind. Right now as of the press conference this afternoon and as the information I got from the ADH about 30 minutes ago, we were at 2,200 cases for the state of Arkansas. This is the same information depicted in an aligned graph form and here is a copy of the presentation from the governor from yesterday showing each day the new cases over seven day rolling average. What's interesting and not surprising is you will see it goes up. It goes down. It goes up. It goes down. Some of this is actually based on the release date of the test. So as we have test, we send them off to the lab and we get batches of them back. Sometimes that is why you will see the increase in the numbers there. Drilling down even further to Craighead County, this is what our trend line looks like. I was really concerned at March 28th when we showed up there at the parking lot of the Best Buy right after the tornado had hit about the congregation of people and what we were going to see in terms of an outbreak, I do believe there has been some bump based on that. If you look here, this is where we were trending along in Craighead County fine just kind of holding our own and then this is where the tornado hit and this is where you had people out helping neighbors, helping each other, which is what we do if that's part of our community. It is not surprising to see a little bit of a ball. Now, some of this is just normal. So, this is going to be a natural increase just based on the spread of the virus. Some of this is probably attributed to what happened during the tornado event and the little bit of cleanup, excuse me, large cleanup that occurred throughout there after. The nice thing about it, the good thing, I'm glad of is we did not see a spike in the number of cases so we did not see a significant spike. And, this just continues to trend like this. This is just more in line graph form. Again, you will see it comes up. We plateau. It comes up. We plateau. It comes up with plateau. This is a typical trend line. How does this compare to what national data looks like in terms of where we are as a stage and where we might peak. I'll be honest with you. There is about four or five different models out there that show different numbers and it is all based on different information in terms of what do we do as a state or what do we do as a community suddenly over the next several months.

This one shows a peak of April 30th in terms of peak resources will be used. This one has been moving forward. This model itself has been moving forward every few days. They keep pushing it out, but again, that is not a surprise as we do a good job of social distancing. We push the peak out more and so you will see it come out more this direction as we continue to do a good job as a state and as a community. This again, this model is the model actually used by the White House follows and a lot of individual organizations and institutions are following I have got mixed emotions about it. I know the governor spoke about it today and I agree with him in some regard on that. This one, and I am not sure where they got this data from, this one actually says

that in the state of Arkansas that we should look at relaxing our social distancing after June 22nd, which, of course, is not what our plan is right now. The governor is planning for May 4th to start back.

In terms of when do we really expect to see our first peak and I think that is important to delineate. We will have other peaks. Our first peak probably will come more earlier than May. There is some discussion about June. One model that shows July and I am still not quite sure where they are getting that from. Some of it depends upon what happens and what happens May 4th and what happens moving forward after that. Crittenden County, I have got this here because that is interesting. Crittenden County is kind of a light bulb certainly in our area in terms of cases and where that comes from is the crossover of the individuals that live in Memphis. Memphis, itself, almost has the same number of cases as the entire state of Arkansas. So, you have got a geographic area that basically holds this almost the same number of cases as our entire state. That means that they have in Memphis, significant community spread of person to person and that is not that far away from us. It is just kind of something to remind you, as a reminder, if we are successful and we are for the most part, if we are successful in flattening the curve, that means we prolong the presence of the disease in our community, but we don't overwhelm our health care system, which is something that we have to be very diligent about watching for it. So, and had this happened a week ago, I had to actually speak to this. I've got questions about well now that we peaked, what do we do now? Well, well, we is contextual. We haven't peaked yet. We, in the state of Arkansas, we are hoping to peak soon and we are hoping to get on the back side of it. We, in Craighead County, have not peaked. We are hoping to soon and be on the back side of it. The White House has put out guidance. The Arkansas Department of Health has a workgroup is going on right now. Dr. Nate Smith, I have been in contact with him frequently. He is a part of that group. There is also an economic group that has pulled together. We are hopeful that we will have more guidance within the next week from them because really, we are less than two weeks away from May 4th when the go live date should be from the governor to move forward to reopen the state and restart our economy which is desperately needed that I know. The worry that we have, certainly in the science and healthcare field is that there is public misconception, for whatever reason, the virus is gone. I can come out of my house. I can go back to normal. We can do the things we were doing before. And, you are starting to hear more about that from the Director of the CDC, from Dr. Fauci, that it would be a grave mistake and certainly put us back in a position that we were in just a month and a half ago. Which is why the city and the county and the state approach has to be united and has to be uniformed and it has to be consistent.

So, how do we do this? How do we make this happen? There is specific guidance that has come out for each workforce segment. Screening, testing, and contact tracing has to be viable. The Arkansas Department of Health is working diligently to hire people for this. When we see an increase in cases above a certain threshold, we are going to have to back down. I have kind of described it as two steps forward and one step back. That is going to be really hard for people who have been, for the most part, you know, cooped up in their house for the last several weeks. How long is this going to take? It is probably going to take a while because we are not close to getting a vaccine and we are still not sure about any good treatments and so, it kind of puts us in a bind because we start looking for cases to fall. The major concerns we have are compliance. Again, my whole family is tired of being in the house. I'm here at the breakfast table. Our testing is not that good yet. And, we are still working on putting a system in place for tracking. The second peak is a concern that could be higher than the first. And, we are not quite sure what will happen this fall. If you look back at history, which again, we are hopeful we don't repeat, the Spanish Influenza in 1918 had

its worst death rate occur in the fall after the virus first showed up in the spring. It dampened itself down in the summer and then, kind of came back with a vengeance in the fall. And, so, that is worrisome and we will kind of have to wait to make sure we do a good job of staying on top of it.

Just real quickly and I am not sure if many of you have seen this or are familiar with it, this is the White House "Gating" criteria. And, specifically, this is what the governor spoke to that we don't meet right now. So, we, as a state, don't meet this downward trajectory in terms of documented cases for that 14 day period. Some of that now, has been thrown off by the prison population. So, it will be interesting how we navigate that.

In terms of Phase One, ideally, if everything goes well like everybody hopes, May 4th we will move into Phase One. What does that mean? Well, it means that vulnerable individuals still have to shelter in place. They define a vulnerable individual as anyone with a chronic condition, so if you take a medication prescribed by a doctor for a chronic condition, or an elderly individual, which by definition of the World Health Organization is anyone 65 and older. Those individuals are still supposed to shelter in place. It talks about individuals in public and how you manage yourself in social situations. It talks about the number of ten. It talks about avoiding socializing in groups of ten or more. It talks about non-essential travel.

For the employer standpoint, and this is where you get into what is the City of Jonesboro and this council have to do to try to help make sure we do this right. Certainly continue to encourage telework, but return to work in phases. It is something that we are even discussing. I just got off of a meeting before here with our senior team here at NYIT on how do we do this? Avoiding common areas. Again, travel is a question. For specific employers, it talks about schools and organized youth activities. They are to remain closed at this point. So, that means your K-12 and certainly your undergrad will continue to be closed for the rest of the semester into the summer. It talks about large venues and places of worship. I have been asked to speak to a group on Thursday of local pastors and preachers to explain to them what this might look like and how do they change things within their own places of worship to make it safe for their parishioners and their individuals who are coming for services. Elective surgeries, I know both hospitals are looking forward to getting this back. Bars are to remain closed.

So, I realize that was kind of fast and furious. I am happy to answer any questions. But, what does this mean for Jonesboro? At the end of the day, we have to make sure we protect those at the highest risk. So, what do those policies and procedures look like for the different groups within the city. You think about the individual, the firefighter, or E911 operator who is 66 or those in Streets and Maintenance in terms of maintaining social distancing. I might say for the most part, we have done a great job. I have been in contact routinely with the Jonesboro Fire Department, as well as, the Jonesboro Police Department. They don't hesitate to contact me if they have questions about individuals who might be sick or might be infected or came into contact with someone who was infected and I think that is fine because I think it is important to have good information out there. Churches and places of worship are obviously excited about getting back as well. And, so, those are discussions left up individually to make sure that they do that safely. How do we host public events? And, what is the general public guidance that the city is putting out for the populace and the county putting out for the population? This is hard. This is hard. This is probably hard for you guys. I mean, I went to school for 4 years to understand viruses and microbiology before I ever went to medical school. And, so, for me, some of this stuff just makes sense, but it hard for the average person. It is hard for me to sit

sometimes and explain it to my own family. So, how can we make this information palatable and understandable for the general public so that we don't put ourselves in a situation that would be worse than when we started? And, so, that is kind of a quick update. That is kind of where I was. I am happy to answer any questions specific. I know that is a lot to digest at one quick setting. I do these updates for the city and the county every week. I have been doing that probably for the past six weeks or so to provide an update for them. You guys got it all out at once. I apologize, but hopefully that gives you some idea as to the situation where we are now.

Mayor Perrin asked, any questions ladies and gentlemen? Councilmember David McClain said, I appreciate you making that presentation. It was really good. Should we be putting something out as far as education to the public? As a city, should we continue to a one page info graph that helps explain that to people, to make it understandable? I think you did a great job making it clear to me why we should continue to have things in place. Should we do something? Maybe, Mayor, we get Bill or somebody to put something out every so often explaining these are the reasons why we are doing social distancing, these are the reasons why we need to continue to implement these things. Should we do something along those lines? What are some of your recommendations to us to help us make it clearer to citizens around town? Dr. Speights said, so, any education like that is going to be important. It is going to be vital. There are going to be so many questions. There are still questions on the medical side and the research side. I am reading stuff almost every day, every hour right now and it is like "wow, we didn't know it did that." There is a lot of new research coming out. There are a lot of questions that I have.

With that being said, I think the information that we do know is solid, we should put that out there in a format that the public can understand. My hesitation right now, to answer your question, yes. I know the governor and their working group is in the middle of creating guidelines and a specific overview of how the state of Arkansas should look. He mentioned that even in his press conference last Friday. When he was asked if this would be a county and a city approach or would it be statewide and I believe, and so I don't misquote him, the answer was that there would be overall guidelines by the state, but obviously, it is not a one size fits all for every city and every county. I think you can never go wrong by putting out good information and good education. I think that some of this stuff I just described to you guys, I think is important in terms of look, the virus didn't go away. It is still smoldering in our community and people are going to get sick. We are trying to do the best job that we can in the absence of a vaccine and in the absence of good medications. We are trying to limit the number of people that get sick, specifically in high risk groups. So, I do think that education is important and I am happy to help with that as well. Councilmember McClain said, thank you.

Mayor Perrin said, I will say one thing gentlemen. We do have, Councilmember McClain, we do have the COVID-19 on our website. Obviously, the CDC and the Department of Health, all of that he covered on some of those slides in there. But, he is right. There are so many things that are moving so quickly on that if he feels like there is something that we need to put on our post, on our website or whatever, that is good. I know, I think he has been on channel 24 if I am not mistaken and talked about it. But, it would be good for us, and we stay with Dr. Speights every week. I can assure you of that. And, talk about this and I am always there on Monday when he gives a report to the county, County Judge Marvin Day and Anthony McCoy and all of that. It was a good question and we will certainly put anything that he feels like needs to be on our website, we will be happy to do that.

Councilmember John Street said, Mayor, Dr. Speights, it was down and dirty, but it was a very, very good explanation and a lot of people are having a difficult time understanding this. Would it be possible to present the presentation he just gave us on channel 24, a few times a day so people could watch that at their convenience and maybe sit there and they could watch it twice to get a little better understanding of it? Mayor Perrin said, absolutely. We could do that and I think he may already have that filmed. If not, we can film him doing that with the slides as he talks, we will show each one of them and we can run that. Any changes to that we could make them as soon as he wants us to do that. So, great idea. We will get Bill Campbell with Dr. Speights if that is okay with you Dr. Speights? And, we can film that presentation. That is a good point. Councilmember Street said, Mayor, there is one other thing. I hear this from people that they equate this to no more dangerous than the flu. Could Dr. Speights address that? Dr. Speights said, yes sir. I will be happy to. I hear that a lot too and I have to stop. That may be a separate segment on why this is not the flu. One of the great things about the flu is that we have a vaccine. The other thing is that we have medications. We have really good medications for the flu and so that really limits the number of people who have severe disease or that even die from the flu because of that. You know, people don't realize this either. We had a flu pandemic back in 2009. There was an H1N1 pandemic. People don't even realize this. The CDC did a phenomenal job of getting test kits out within about two to four weeks across the country and we even shipped them overseas to people who needed them. The reason why is that we already had a platform. We already did annual flu testing so when you went into see your doctor, they could do a flu swab just like they do a strep strain or a mono swab. And, so, we already had a platform available. Plus, we already had flu medications. So, all we had to do was test them and see if they worked against this pandemic flu, which they did. And, because it happened in April, kind of like we are running this too, because the H1N1 happened in April, we were able to rapidly turn around and use the same vaccine manufacturing process and get a vaccine out for the fall. So, when it came back in the fall, we had a vaccine that we were ready for. This is a completely different virus. Our human bodies have never seen this virus. You have never seen this strain before. So, creating a vaccine takes a year or up to 18 months depending on which way we go and make sure that there are no problems with it. We don't have any medications for it. So, that kind of puts us behind the 8 ball. The other thing is, gosh, it spreads so rapidly and it spreads kind of like the flu. One of the slides I had up there, we are at about 42,000 deaths in just three months. So, in a bad flu year, we have about 45,000 deaths over seven months. And, so, we are hopeful that we don't see that. That this doesn't become, you know you can call it a really bad flu, but really, this is a separate entity. It is certainly a separate virus. It is not even in the same family. So, it is a different viral family and it just behaves differently. Usually, once you have gotten the flu, you get antibodies and you don't get sick with the same flu again. This virus is showing that you can even have symptoms after you have gotten over it before. So, we are scratching our heads over why that is. There are still a lot of questions and not a whole lot of answers. Does that help? Councilmember Street said, yes sir. Thank you for your guidance and your expertise on this matter. It is difficult for all of us. Dr. Speights said, yes sir, I understand.

Councilmember Joe Hafner asked, Dr. Speights, a question I have and I don't want to get ahead to what we are going to be talking about with the curfew, but, obviously, as you are saying, this is something new. We haven't dealt with it before. In your opinion, are people taking it serious enough because, you know, you go to the grocery store that is busy during the day and maybe not even half of the people are wearing a mask. How do we deal with that? Dr. Speights said, yes sir, it is a mixed bag. I think the best thing that we can do is educate. I really do. I don't see it and the governor got asked this today and I agree with him. I don't see it being mandated that you are going to

make people wear a mask. I think you try to put out the best information that you can, the best guidance and say, hey look, this is the deal. You know, and let them make their own choices. My son and I ran by Home Depot this weekend. Of course, we were both wearing masks and we had alcohol wipes. But, there were a lot of people there that weren't wearing masks. There was a group full of teenage girls running around my neighborhood just last week. I mentioned this to the Mayor. I am more worried about the juvenile spread because you know, they are not in school. They are not in High School. They are not in Jr. High. They are not in college. And, they are just social at that age anyway so they are grouping up and just running all over. They spread it quicker because they have less symptoms and they can be super spreaders of it. So, that kind of worries me. But, I think the best thing we can do overall is to continue to put out good education and guidance. I think people really won't take it seriously until we start having a lot more cases really bad. This sounds bad, but until we have more cases where people die here. I have heard it before, you can talk about New York and you can talk about Italy, you can talk about those places and it is not here and that is true. We just want it to become that. I am afraid and I feel bad for you guys in the position that you all are in trying to navigate this. But, we have got to do something, you know, for the economy. We can't continue this way. So, economically, we have to move forward in some form or fashion. How do we do that as safely as possible and protect the populations that we need to that are most vulnerable? So, maybe it is that we hammer those groups really hard and say, hey look, if you are on this list, you shouldn't be out and about at Kroger or you shouldn't be out without a mask on. You should carry hand sanitizer with you. There is a lot of different ideas that are being circulated now on how best to approach that. So, does that help? Does that answer your question? Councilmember Hafner said, it does. It does. I mean because and like I said, not to jump ahead on our agenda, but in your opinion, is the curfew an effective way to help slow the spread? Dr. Speights said, so here is my stance. My stance is anything we can do to slow the spread that is reasonable, then we should do that. But, I am very cognoscente of the economic impact. I am very cognoscente of restrictions of trade. I would not be for things like that because on the medical side, we are talking about the opposite piece in terms of, gosh, people, you know, are at home now and they have been that way for weeks and the social isolation. I've got medical students, you know, we did this immediately. So, they are all in their apartments doing online learning and it gets lonely and there is a whole different psychology that occurs with that. And, again, from an economic standpoint, certainly a rural state like Arkansas, we have got to get people back to work in some manner. So, how do we do that safely? It is going to take some innovative ideas to say, okay, we can do this and this that really negatively affect commerce, but it gets to where we need to to limit the interactions of the people and to protect the people that we need to protect the most. When early on when this was happening, I was really concerned about our fire department to be honest with you. And, I was worried because they were making all of these medical calls and they all cohabitate there. And, so that is all you need for one whole crew to get out. We don't have a lot of depth from what I can tell on the fire or police department. So, we don't need to lose those individuals that are really on the front lines of protecting us. That is a round about answer and I apologize. I am trying to be cognoscente of the discussion. Councilmember Hafner said, I appreciate that. Thank you.

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, to remove RES-20:045 from the Consent Agenda so that RES-20:045 could be discussed due to questions from the public. All voted aye.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilperson Charles Coleman, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

[MIN-20:031](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 7, 2020

Attachments: [CC Minutes 04072020](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

[RES-20:035](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1403 OAKHURST, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY A+ PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, LLC

Attachments: [1403 Oakhurst](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-040-2020

[RES-20:046](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING MUTUAL AID ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH CRAIGHEAD COUNTY FOR WORK ASSISTING WITH THE TORNADO EMERGENCY

Attachments: [Jonesboro - Craighead County debris mutual aid agreement](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-041-2020

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES[RES-20:045](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE APPORTIONMENT AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA), FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE 2020 FTA FORMULA 5307 CARES ACT FUNDING FOR THE JONESBORO ECONOMICAL TRANSIT (JET).

Attachments: [CARES Act 5307 Split Letter \(002\)](#)
[RES-20-045-Public Questions_Lack 04212020](#)

Mayor Perrin said, before we get a motion, again, if you all will remember, we have asked people to send things in and I would like to ask if we could get an approval, but if you could pull RES-20:045 so that I can answer some questions that has been submitted to me.

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, to remove RES-20:045 from the Consent Agenda so that RES-20:045 could be discussed due to questions from the public. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin said, before we do that if I can, again, and I apologize, but I want to answer these questions if I can. I will be brief on those. The first question was when the money, \$3,277,057 is received, will the total amount be deposited into the JET budget? If not, where and what account will it be deposited into? On these grants, we have not received the final regulations, but if it runs like any other grant, it is required that we will spend those funds and then we will ask for reimbursements again from ARDOT. It would be in the JET account, not in general funds. The second question is when some of the money is to be used on a project/item, does each of the projects/items money that is allocated have to be approved by the Finance and Administration committee and the City Council first? The answer to that is definitely yes. You all would approve the grants, but we would also as expenditures come in, we would ask you to do that and go through that. The third question is who is the person that is going to be accountable for the usage and delegation of that money? That would be the same system that we now do on purchase orders before we spend any money for any item that goes to a certain project. The fourth question is how is the public going to be able to see how this money is spent and to see the balance on a regular basis? In that case, we would obviously probably set that up on a quarterly basis. I think monthly may be too often for that. Now, let me tell you what we have done so far and that would kindly help with all of these questions. I contacted Michael Black, the Director of JETS, and told him to start putting a master plan together. He is doing that now. The first thing that is done is that we have pulled all of our data on our GIS map of every bus stop that we have. We also know if any of them have sidewalks leading to those bus stops. We have also looked at the bus stops themselves to see if they are too little or should be larger because of again, COVID-19, and not only that, having more people to be able to sit down at those bus stops. The other thing we pulled is all of the vehicles which under the 5307 money with the Federal Transit Authority is that you keep those buses for I believe it is seven years or 250,000 miles and that would go for not only our buses but our paratransit. So, I would anticipate within the next month or so, we will come up with a draft of a master plan that we could present to the Finance Committee to show them that, but that would have to be after we get our guidelines from the federal government because we have not received all of the guidelines yet. But, we do know that you can use this money for operating expense, capital improvement, and several things. So, it is going to be a pretty good grant for Jonesboro. I don't anticipate that the \$3 million would be spent in any one year, depending on if there is a deadline. Because, if we need to build more sidewalks to our bus stops, that is going to take some time to take that out for bid. The other thing is that if we needed more bus stops, we would have to bid those out, get those prices, and bring those back in. Also, if you purchased new vehicles, again, you have to go by ARDOT and the Federal Administrations guidelines which means that you would submit that into them. Once they are approved, they have to be manufactured, then they have to come back to ARDOT. They have to be inspected before we ever take delivery. That takes somewhere between probably 6-8-9 months just to get that done. So, again, this would be a great grant for Jonesboro. The citizens will know exactly what we are doing with this money and we want to use this money very wisely. I think a lot of those issues were brought up at the last Finance Committee. I know Chairman Hafner asked some of the questions on that, particularly about the sidewalks that are leading to some of these bus stops. I have driven around and looked. And, again, some of the stops only has a grass area. You can see a trail leading to that. Some are not logistically located, let me say that. If you go back and

logistically locate those bus stops, then that will tell me that route will need to increase better time wise in order to do that. We also have and a press release will be coming out hopefully this week in the fact that with Arkansas State University's help, you can go on an app and see these buses, see where they are at, see the time and how long it will take to get to that next bus stop. And, that is going to be a great thing for Jonesboro. So, I have answered all of the questions from the public that they have asked.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to adopt RES-20:045. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Gibson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-042-2020

6. NEW BUSINESS

[RES-20:047](#)

A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO EXTEND A CURFEW DUE TO THE DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

Attachments: [Against Curfew Williams 04172020](#)
[Against Curfew Locke 04202020](#)
[Against Curfew Waller 042020](#)
[Against Curfew Robertson 042020](#)
[Against Curfew Martin 04202020](#)
[For Curfew Warner 04202020](#)
[Against Curfew Weinstock 04212020](#)
[Against Curfew Kriner 04212020](#)
[Against Curfew Sullivan 04212020](#)
[For Curfew Casteel 04212020](#)
[Against Curfew Martin 04212020](#)
[For Curfew Evans 04212020](#)
[For Curfew Daniyal Khan 04212020](#)
[For Curfew Schloemer 04212020](#)
[For Curfew Ewart 04212020](#)

Mayor Perrin said, I have got something that I would like to read to you if I can. This goes along pretty clear with I think with what Dr. Speights had done, but I would like to read that and let this be a part of the record because there have been some emails concerning certain violations, if you will, based on the current curfew that was adopted. We all agree that we want to get past this. But, we are really not past it at this time. We all have businesses that we want to reopen and everyone to get back to work. We, obviously, want to embrace our at-risk loved ones and go out and eat. We might not all want to go out at midnight, but we have enjoyed that privilege of our lives and should we choose to use it. Our governor has created a timeline that matches deadlines and

attainment goals for COVID-19 cases in Arkansas. At the hub of northeast Arkansas, Jonesboro has been recognized as a potential hotspot. We are 50 miles from Memphis, which has as many cases of coronavirus as the entire state of Arkansas. Our curfew has impacted few, but served many. It has served our police department in keeping this virus out of our police force is critical a mission as we have faced. It has served our health workers. Our hospitals are treating many COVID-19 cases as we speak, and I can think of nothing worse than threatening the health and the safety of our first responders and health workers by playing politics with this virus. According to the Arkansas Municipal League (AML), a curfew such as the one we have implemented is constitutional. It is not a violation of civil rights. It is a national and state and local emergency. Curfews are included in CDC best practices, at the same level of closing schools and public gatherings. Curfews have been encouraged by both state health officials and approved by Governor Hutchinson. Jonesboro is one of 14 cities and counties, at this present time, in Arkansas that have a curfew at this time, plus many in the surrounding states. Curfews are as much a part of America as every other measure that has been taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This is not a matter of civil rights, it is a matter of civil responsibility. This is not an issue for politics. My only concern is about the people of Jonesboro. I have been your Mayor for almost 12 years, and I have always put the people first and I always will. It is clear that every hour that we do not spread COVID-19 prevents the spread at other hours. I think by most of the measures that we have available, we are showing success, but only if we maintain our discipline. Governor Asa Hutchinson has set targets to phase in reopening of our economy, restoring our ability to move as we do so desire, piece by piece. With the Governor's target date of May 5th in mind to implement Phase 1, I would like to extend Jonesboro's night curfew from 10-5 until that date, subject to the Council's approval of Resolution 20:047. A few days prior to May 5th, we will evaluate data as you have just heard that it moves quiet frequently and quiet fast and talk to our experts about whether we should extend the curfew or not. So, that is my comments that I wanted to make on that and we will go back to RES-20:047.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to adopt RES-20:047.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, Mr. Mayor, I appreciate your comments. I also think that something needs to be put into the record. As you know, this has been, it has hit a nerve with quiet a lot of people. I think that their voice also needs to be put into the record. I would just like to read a few words. Sometimes elected officials have a do something mentality and sometimes this can drive elected officials to act too quickly with little supporting validating data to enact measures that seemingly are disproportionate to the problem being addressed. Bertrand Russell said that neither man, nor a crowd, nor a nation can be trusted to act humanely or to think sanely under the influence of great fear. I think this is true both of the public and the elected official. It seems like in times of crisis, elected officials are so easily persuaded to take away certain freedoms and liberties, but at the same time, the general public are willingly handing them over. I think both attitudes are harmful and can cause more long term damage than any virus. Ben Franklin said that those who would give up liberty to purchase a little safety deserve neither liberty nor safety. We are told that we are at a tipping point of having a massive outbreak, but in Craighead County we have 45 cases per 100,000 residents. That is 0.00045 of our population or 4/100ths of one percent. And, I think it is important that we understand it. We don't understand what the data points are that we are monitoring that make up that tipping point. We were told there is one, but we don't know what data people are looking at that make up that tipping point. Also, what thresholds were we approaching that caused alarm? We were told that the curfew that was enacted was enacted to slow the spread of COVID-19 to protect our

police officers and fire personnel. We were told that the main perpetrators were teens. We were even given an example of such an incident where one had to be broken up. I would like some help in understanding the data that supports that given the following: From my understanding, individuals under 18 already have a curfew and groups like that can be broken up without instigating a curfew. It would seem also, one of my main concerns, it seems that the curfew only creates more opportunity for interaction with possible carriers by making it illegal to be on the streets between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. even if I am obeying all traffic laws and there would be no other reason to pull me over. The CDC has put into place a six foot rule and contact would be greater than 10 minutes. It would seem that our police officers are even more at risk because now they are pulling people over that they normally would not pull over. It seems to me that is counterproductive to what the curfew is actually trying to do. The time of the curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. really doesn't make sense to me if the reason is to slow the spread when a fraction of the stores are not open and a limited number of police are actually patrolling. We can't measure the success of the curfew because Chief Elliott stated that no data was collected prior to the curfew on the number of groups being broken up so we have no baseline to see if we are getting better. We have no data that I am aware of indicating that any viable contractions by any police officer occurred as a result of interaction between the times of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Even if our police force were to have a wave of infections, it is much less possible to determine the origins much less the time. So, I am not for sure, but I don't think we even know what threshold we have to drop below for the curfew to be lifted. So, here we are, voting on whether to extend a curfew that was, in my opinion and several others, enacted on presumptions. I totally understand you wanting to protect the people of Jonesboro, but I think we need to do it based on data. To me, any proof of continuation of a curfew of any kind should be based on objective data showing why the curfew should be enacted with a stated goal that when reached, a curfew would be lifted. And, to my understanding, there is no such data in this case. In this case, we have no exit strategy. In a time when Arkansas is talking about opening back up, we are ratcheting down and it just doesn't make sense.

Mayor Perrin said, thank you for your comments. I will try to address some of them if I can if I may. First of all, when we enacted this curfew the last time, there were I think 30 cases. In two weeks, it is now up to 45 and it moves up every day that I look at that map, every hour through the Department of Health. The second thing is when we adopted this curfew, I don't know of any cases we had in our hospitals here. I can tell you, but not under a confidentiality, I can tell you that we have COVID-19 cases in both hospitals in Jonesboro this day. We also have a death that we did not have then. We also had an employee within the City of Jonesboro again, who was, tested positive on that. Also, we have another one as of today that had to be quarantined. We just hope and pray that they do not have COVID-19. You are also dealing with something that has never been dealt with before. And, I think what Dr. Speights was saying was to try to set statistics or guidelines to slow down the growth and spread of COVID-19. I think that this curfew would help do some of that. I am only asking this curfew to go to May 5, 2020 which is the next council meeting. And, then, we will come back with additional data and if that is the case, we don't need the curfew, then we don't put the curfew in.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson asked, Mayor, can you explain the advantage of having a curfew when it seems to me when I am coming home from work, and all of these home improvement stores, I mean to me, it looks like the people are out during the day. So, it looks like to me that the chance of spreading this virus is more is going on during the daytime hours. What is the advantage to having a curfew that is going to prevent it any better at night than something we don't have in place to protect us during

the day? I would like to go on a little bit more.

Mayor Perrin said, as I have said before, this virus doesn't have a time. It doesn't tell you whether it is 10 at night, 6 in the morning or 4 in the afternoon or 8 in the morning. In what I was trying to say was in visiting with Dr. Speights, I think he covered some of it. But, is that anytime we can have that, just trying to curtail that and if we can have any time on that and some cities have even gone to the stay at home order which we obviously don't want to do that. We may have to do that at some point in time. I don't know that, depending on that. That state of California and others have already gone to require that if you are in public, you will be wearing a mask. Now, I have been to Academy. I have been to Kroger. I have been to all of these places and you are right. That the volume on that, even though I got letters from Walmart and some of the others saying that we are going to try to put them within 6 feet apart and we are going to try to let so many in per square foot of our store, we are also going to have areas where you go to shop and some of those things and when I went and looked at that, at the people that is outside was not 6 feet apart. They were all talking to each other, getting ready to go into the store and so one of the things I am going to do and have not had an opportunity to visit with Carol Duncan. I would like to write a letter to some of these large box stores, if you are talking about those, to ask them and to suggest, not require, but suggest that their employees, the main thing I am seeing is their employees are not masked as well as the customer. And, so, we will have to do several things in order to prevent of this COVID-19.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, I am not out at the night time hours. I don't know if the convenience stores are staying open or if they are closing, but I guess the things that come to mind for me is in my situation, I am a single person. I work an 8-5 job because I am an essential person and so I am left to scrape and scrap to get food and things like that on my time away from work. So, I think about the people at the night time jobs. And, if they have to leave an 11 p.m. job and go right home and, again, I don't know what the convenience store hours are, suppose those people don't have an opportunity to stop and get something if those convenience stores are open because we are telling them they can go to and from work. You can't be out doing anything.

Mayor Perrin said, well, I can tell you someone that can tell you better than me and that is the Chief.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I can say that I have advised that convenience stores can remain open specifically for that purpose. And, any police officer that has asked, and I think the Chief is going to speak, we have advised the same thing. We don't want to harm the people, like you say, that are getting off work and need to stop or that have a lunch break and need to run over to the convenience store to grab something to eat. Those people are not who we are targeting, I don't believe. I will let the Chief speak to it further.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, so, in my mind, would it not be more intelligent for us to pass a non-congregation ordinance or resolution for those hours rather than a curfew?

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, and, don't we already have something like that in place with the governor saying no more congregations of more than 10. Believe me, I certainly don't want to tax our officers because I know we have fewer on the streets at night than we do in the daytime. I am just trying to think of this from all realms and not just jump and say we have got to do this.

Police Chief Rick Elliott said, thank you Mayor for allowing me a few moments to speak on this issue. First, I would like to commend the residents of Jonesboro for complying to the curfew that has been enacted. We have not had many problems. We have had very few arrests. As far as getting out on the street at night leaving work, we understand that businesses close at 10 and it may be 11 or 12 o'clock before you get things cleaned up and have to get out of there and head home. It is not an issue. There are a lot of people who travel throughout the town, may leave and go across town, whatever. We are not stopping every vehicle on the street at night because it is past 10 o'clock curfew time. So, common sense factors in on this. You are not going to find a bunch of residents that have been pulled over for pulling out of the driveway. So, if you are going stir crazy at midnight and decide you are going to drive across town, the chances are you are probably not going to get stopped. Now, if you have gathered on the parking lot at Sears to chit-chat with your friends, then, you are probably going to be dealt with. And, that is one of the problems we face, especially with our youth who have been confined during this issue is that they get out late at night and want to gather up in large quantities and therefore, potentially spreading this virus. And, instead of us spending time busting up huddles here and there, we need to be out patrolling buildings that are getting broken into because our economy has suffered due to the lack of jobs and people are out having to support themselves by out stealing. So, times are tough and we are starting to see a spike in our criminal activity taken place. And, then, we still have our criminal element that we have to deal with at night also. So, Dr. Speights mentioned Memphis, TN and we do have a large criminal element that does come out of that Memphis area to Jonesboro in spite of a pandemic episode that has taken place. So, we have to deal with that during all of this and those stabbings and shootings and drug dealings has not slowed down in spite of a pandemic or tornado. We are still having to deal with those issues also. So, the key take away is that at 10 o'clock, there is not really anything open at night anyway. There may be a few convenience stores that someone can stop at and get some gas or a soda on the way home from wherever they are going. Your Waffle House and everything like that, everybody is closing down and then again, it is take away only if they are open. So, we have not stopped or wrote anybody for stopping by a Waffle House, grabbing a to-go order, or stopping to top off your tank of gas before you go home. Again, it is the prevention of a groups and gatherings of people on different lots and locations and parks and things like that to help curtail the spread of this virus. There is a population in any community that cares less about the virus or the spread or anything else and unfortunately, we have to deal with those people. If we have a tool that we can use to help keep people off of the streets, then it is a little bit better for all of us because if they become infected and spread, then it is going to affect all of us one way or another at some point in time.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, if I can speak to the curfew that we already have. I know there has been a lot of questions about when we talk about youth, why can't we just enforce the curfew we have and I think it is important to remember that when we talk about youth, we are not necessarily talking about under the age of 18. I mean, you can still be a teenager if you are 18 or 19. They are still teenagers. So, when we say groups of teenagers, a lot of times, that is still 18-19, then of course, 20, 21, 22 year olds. That is kind of the gatherings of youth that we have been talking about and dealing with primarily. It is not people who would be affected by the existing curfew. And, Chief, you can correct me if I am wrong, but that is just what was reported to me. Chief Elliott said, you are correct.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, Mayor, I think the doctor has already answered a lot of these questions. At the same time, I do respect everybody that has had statements, but I think we need to go ahead and vote this up or vote it down and

be done with it or we will be here all night.

Ms. Duncan said, I do want to ask one thing about the desire of the council. I know when we were talking about rezonings, we expressed to the public that we would read any public comment that was submitted. I don't know the desire of the council. We have over 15 emails in favor of the curfew and over 7 against the curfew, that is an approximate number based upon what we printed before coming to the meetings. So, I don't know what the desire of the council is. I know you received most of these I believe. A lot of them were copied to the entire council when people sent them, but what is your desire as far as reading those public comments.

Councilmember Coleman said, I think we need to go ahead and vote and then if you want to read the comments after that, then fine. Councilmember Johnson said, I don't think we need to read the comments afterwards, but I am finding it difficult to believe that you have received so many positives, when I haven't received a single positive. I have received numerous negatives. Once again, I am not saying that it is a bad thing, I am saying is that we vote a lot of our stuff on public opinion which is what we should do. We are elected by the people and we are here to represent those people's feelings and I weigh that pretty heavy on comments I get, like I said, I have not had anybody call me or send me any single email other than what was forwarded to me from the city that is in favor of this. Councilmember Long said, that is exactly right. I have had over 250 negative comments and probably two positive. I spoke with a lady yesterday at TSC that was totally against it. She got off at midnight by the way. And, I talked to a lady prior to the meeting that voiced her opinion in rejection of this. So, I am not sure where those were coming from as well because it has been about 100 to 1. Ms. Duncan said, again, I am asking if you would like for me to read these.

Councilmember Charles Frierson said, I move the previous question. Councilmember Johnson said, you don't even have a motion on the floor, Mr. Frierson. Councilmember Frierson said, I move to approve the resolution then. Councilmember Ann Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Perrin said, I have a motion and a second to approve RES-20:047. A roll call vote was taken: AYE – McClain, Hafner, Bryant, Street, Williams, Coleman, Vance, Frierson; NAY – Long, Johnson, Gibson; Moore was absent. The motion passes on an 8-3 vote.

Mayor Perrin said, let me say this again. There has been a lot of good comments there and everybody has opinions. I understand that. A lot of good comments were made tonight and we will certainly take those under consideration again if we have to come back and put another curfew on.

A motion was made by Councilperson Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilperson Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Gene Vance; Charles Coleman; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Nay: 3 - Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson and Bobby Long

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-043-2020

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-20:012](#) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BASE LEVEL ENGINEERING (BLE) STUDIES FOR THE ST. FRANCIS, CACHE AND L'ANGUILLE WATERSHEDS

Attachments: [Cache BLE Report](#)
[Cache Discovery FRR](#)
[L'Anguille BLE Report](#)
[L'Anguille Discovery FRR](#)
[St. Francis BLE Report](#)
[St. Francis Discovery FRR](#)

Mayor Perrin said, I am sure that you all want to hold it at second reading. Yes, was stated by several members of council. Mayor Perrin said, thank you.

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-20:006](#) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 117-139(C) OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO ZONING CODE

Attachments: [Salvage Yards Changes 03032020](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Gibson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-017-2020

[ORD-20:008](#) AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-018-2020

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

The first where you saw you got the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission Report. I thought it was a good report. It talked about the number of creation of jobs that was done last year on the funds that we make a contribution to them. It also had people here in town, companies, that added onto their facilities here in Jonesboro. So, I thought it was a very good report. I wish that we could have Mark Young here to really go in depth on that, but I think the report is self-explanatory itself.

I will move onto March's financials. I think you all have received those. The first three quarters of the year, we are doing good, the first three quarters. However, when this COVID-19 started. I set down with Chief of Staff Mike Downing and Finance Director Steve Purtee. Steve is going to join us here in just a moment because we have calculated and have looked at some of the projects that we think are going to, excuse me, the revenue that we are going to be losing based on this COVID-19, as well as the tornado. So, Steve, are you with us? Mr. Purtee said, yes sir Mayor, I am. I am available. Mayor Perrin said, I think you sent out to the committees the format that you are going to cover. Am I correct on that? Mr. Purtee said, no sir, that format will be provided following this meeting. Mayor Perrin said, okay. Mr. Purtee said, I apologize that this was not coordinated with our clerk prior to the meeting. Very quickly, I wanted to just provide an overview of those March financials. The key measure that I wanted to bring up was the fact that our surplus position for the first three months is approximately \$1.3 million ahead of our budget projections. We had what I would consider a very encouraging first quarter comparing that to our budget projections. However, now we turn our attentions to the COVID-19 pandemic impact. We have visited with various groups and relative to trying to form a foundation for an analysis. Your office contacted Secretary Walters of the Department of Finance and Administration. We also spoke with the executive leadership of the Arkansas Municipal League and we have also been keep abreast of the studies that have been provided to us by the National League of Cities. With all of this communication, we wanted to try to begin formulating a process of how this might impact our revenues for the City of Jonesboro. Based upon this analysis, we potentially estimate that we would incur a financial shortfall in revenues ranging anywhere from the high of 50% to a low of just near of 30%. Actually, the Arkansas Municipal League has projected, through a poll that they did for the local leaders that the impact would be about 26.5%. So, what we did was we took our financials for that period of April through October of 2019, looking at our sales activity revenues. During that period, our revenues would normally be approximately \$24 million. We applied not only a 50% analysis, but a 26.5% analysis, obviously, those would be ranging with negative shortfalls of approximately \$12 million to a level of \$6 million at the lower ratio. If you look at our first quarter again at \$1.3 million in surplus, and then if you further factor in the remainder of our budget for 2020, we expect to end the year at about a \$2.6 million deficit before considering any shortfalls or estimates relating to the pandemic. So, if you couple these together, we will be staring at a shortfall in revenues of approximately \$14 million down to a level of \$9 million. So, then, we wanted to take a look at our current reserve position. If you will recall, we operate with a reserve position of about \$30-31 million on average. Obviously, that includes about 15% of our budget expenditures and that equates to about \$7.8 million. Additionally, we have set aside just under \$4 million for our STIP projects. So, all told, this leaves us about \$19 million in available reserves to absorb any deficits or shortfalls of revenues. Based on our current level of expenditure, our run rate, if you will is about \$4.5 million monthly with regard to our expenditure level. So, at \$19 million, we have approximately 4.5 months of reserves available to support operations before any consideration for revenues. And then, if you factor in that we could potentially lose \$14 million in deficit position, relating to not only our budget deficit, but also the shortfall of revenues, this could take our revenues down to a

period of or a point of about \$5 million at the lowest or \$10 million at the 26.5 shortfall percentage. This leaves us at a coverage position of about 1 month to 2.5 months of operating cushion. We wanted to briefly provide this analysis. We will provide this to you via email. We will also post it on our city website. We want to be sure to remember that this analysis is only centered on revenue shortfalls. It does not consider any expenditure changes relative to our 2020 budget. Nor, does it consider any impact that would be sustained from the tornado event as well that might occur with our revenues. So, we will continue to monitor this and we will be sure to bring back any actual results to our council as we find those. But, again, we will provide this information to you via electronically. Thank you.

Mayor Perrin asked, does anybody have any questions? And, again, we will get this spreadsheet to you, but we just felt like we need to start planning now of what it would be if again, the worst case scenario of a 50% reduction in revenue down to what the Arkansas Municipal League survey stated. Their projection came back at 26.5%. So, again, we would hope that we would end up in that scenario of 3, but we don't know that which would still give us 2.2 months of operating costs on that. Also, in that regard, I just have a few items. But, at the last session in Little Rock, the Legislature at their fiscal session, reduced our state turnback by 15%. The House and Senate passed that. So, you will see a drop in our state turnback and Steve is aware of that and we have already been calculating that now. The other thing is that you know with the tornado, Steve and I and many and Mike are working with the Arkansas Municipal League on our claims which is our flight station which was totally destroyed. In addition to that, there were some automobiles there that belong to that operation out there at the airport. And, then also, we had some other planes we are working with on that. The thing that is good in our AML policy is, and I am real pleased with this, I will be bringing you all at the next council meeting, a lease because these people had to be relocated very quickly on the type of operation that they do. And, so, I will be bringing you a lease on that. In our policy, we have two things that really stand out. One is we have a \$500,000 of business recovery or what is called business continuation. There is a deductible to that, but Steve and I and Mike will be working very closely with the AML on that. In addition, they also have a loss of revenue up to \$3 million which is good that we could use to offset some of this loss of revenue that we have been talking about. There is a formula for that. So, we are working with AML very closely to make sure that we get every dime that we can. In regards to the tornado, if you all will remember when it started and let me just say this, I cannot thank all of the people who were involved in that cleanup operation. I think the governor made a statement the other day that within two weeks, we had a majority of all of the cleanup done. I think, probably the first day or day and a half if I am not mistaken, we were taking all of that to Legacy Landfill. When you do that, then you are paying right at, I think it is \$38.75 a ton going across that scale. I had talked with Becky Keough, the Director of the Department of Environmental Services, and she was willing to give up her \$2.50 that went to the state. That still left \$36 a ton on that. So then we asked her could we get an emergency order from ADEQ in one day to open up at our old landfill, which is the pit, the digging pit across the street from the other landfill that we have on Strawfloor Road. I cannot believe that we got that in one day. And, so, we had to calculate what that cost would be. We estimated with all of the loss with 300 homes or more and the things that would have had to be gone to Legacy, it could have gone up to about \$1.6 million in tipping fees. When word got out, we had the county, ARDOT, and the city as well as some private individuals, non-profits hauling this stuff off to our landfill and our estimated cost will be somewhere around \$70,000-\$100,000 to put a two inch clay cap once we get through with all of the pickup. So, we saved a great deal of money there. I talked to AJ Gary today who is over the 911 Board which used to be over ADAM. All the documentation from the county and the city has been sent to Denton, TX to FEMA

and we are hoping and praying that we get the federal declaration which means that we could recoup 75% of every dollar that we expensed on all of our overtime, fuel, truck utilization, excavators, everything that we used in there. We think that will hit the federal because the airport, in itself, will probably put that way over the threshold. So, I did talk to Senator Boozman today by phone with Mark Young about the airport and the fact that now is a good time, if in fact, they would like to modernize the airport facility out there. We definitely are going to need some money from the Federal Transportation Authority. So, we now, have another call scheduled with this staff to see what they can do to help us and get a pretty good size of money coming in to help us with the airport. We don't know if we can or not, but there have been airports in the United States that were either hit by hurricanes or tornadoes and they are looking at that to see how much money we can get from the Federal Transportation Authority. So, that was a very good conversation that we had with Senator Boozman. He had asked about the federal declaration. I told him that it was in Denton, TX and I am sure he will be making a call over there on that. Also, tomorrow, we will open our bids for our Veteran's Village. I hope those bids come in good. So, as soon as those bids come out, then we will send those to you to show you what we have got and what we got from our grant and decide which way we will be going on our Veteran's Village. That is all I have. I didn't want to put a lot on there because we have been doing a lot of paperwork on claims as well as calculating the loss of revenue to make sure that we will always keep this city in a cash flow position and also try to maintain a reserve at all times for our people. So, again, with that, that is all I have unless you have any questions to me.

[COM-20:014](#)

2019 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Attachments: [Annual Report 2019 Letter City](#)
[NAIDC Annual Report 2019](#)

Read

[COM-20:015](#)

MARCH 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Attachments: [Observations March 2020](#)
[Statement of Changes in FB, Required Reserve and STIP Balances March 2020](#)
[Cash Deposit Collateralization Report March 2020](#)
[Revenue Report March 2020](#)
[Expenditure Report March 2020](#)
[Combined Sales Tax Report March 2020](#)
[Combined State Turnback Report March 2020](#)

Read

[COM-20:019](#)

CITY OF JONESBORO ESTIMATE OF COVID-19 REVENUE SHORTFALL PRESENTED BY FINANCE DIRECTOR STEVE PURTEE

Attachments: [City of Jonesboro Estimate of COVID-19 Revenue Shortfall](#)

Read

[COM-20:016](#)

JONESBORO AIRPORT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ENDING MARCH 31, 2020

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 03_2020](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said, Mayor, you answered the two questions that I had in my mind already and your presentation so I have nothing further.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Mayor, I would just say briefly, thanks for your leadership and I know that everyone on the Council does what they think is best. I know we all want what is best for Jonesboro. Sometimes we disagree, but I know everybody says their very best when they come to the council meeting so I appreciate everybody's service. Mayor Perrin said, thank you.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I think it is going to be an interesting meeting in two weeks. I hope we have some good data at that one. Thank you.

Councilmember David McClain said, yeah, I have a couple of items. The Nominating & Rules Committee went on before the Council meeting and I would like to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-20:039 and RES-20:048. Councilmember Joe Hafner seconded the motion. All voted aye.

[RES-20:039](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO THE JONESBORO BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

Councilmember David McClain motioned, second by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-20:039. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-044-2020

[RES-20:048](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

Councilmember David McClain motioned, second by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-20:039. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-045-2020

Councilmember Gene Vance said, just two quick things. I apologize for my battery running down at the last meeting as I was finishing what I was saying. And, the second thing, I apologize for being late today. I consider myself fairly good with technology, but obviously not.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: RES-20:049 **Version:** 1 **Name:** TO AMEND THE 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR LEASE OF BUILDING

Type: Resolution **Status:** Recommended to Council

File created: 4/23/2020 **In control:** Finance & Administration Council Committee

On agenda: **Final action:**

Title: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sponsors: Police Department, Finance

Indexes: Lease

Code sections:

Attachments: [Lease Agreement - 2319 East Matthews Ave 042220 02](#)
[Lack Comments_email for Finance 04282020](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/28/2020	1	Finance & Administration Council Committee		

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2020 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, a Police Department facility located at the Jonesboro Airport was destroyed by a tornado on March 28, 2020 and the operations had to be replaced immediately due to public safety; and,

WHEREAS, Resolution 19:165 adopted the 2020 Budget for the City of Jonesboro; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas desires to enter into a lease contract from June 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021 with Halsey Properties LLC for a building located at 2319 East Matthews Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas consisting of approximately two thousand two hundred (2,200) rentable square feet, with rent at Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and No/100 Dollars (\$2,750.00) per month under the terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Lease Agreement provides after December 31, 2021, the City shall have the right and option to extend the term until June 30, 2022 on a month to month basis; and,

WHEREAS, the 2020 Police Department Budget will need to be increased in order to include seven monthly lease payments of \$2,750.00 totaling \$19,250 for the remaining portion of 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, THAT:

Section 1: The sum of \$19,250 will be added to the Police Department’s 2020 budget fixed asset line item, said sum shall come from the unappropriated funds in the General Fund with the expectation of partial reimbursement by FEMA and/or insurance.

Section 2: The Mayor, Harold Perrin and City Clerk, Donna Jackson, are hereby authorized by the City Council for the City of Jonesboro to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the agreement.

LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT (the "Lease") is entered into by and between **HALSEY PROPERTIES LLC** an Arkansas limited liability company ("Landlord"), and **THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS**, a subdivision of the State of Arkansas ("Tenant").

1. Definitions.

a. *Premises; Use.* The Premises means the space in that certain building located at 2319 East Matthews Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401 (the "Building") consisting of approximately two thousand two hundred (2,200) rentable square feet (the "Premises"). Tenant acknowledges that Tenant is renting the Premises to conduct city business.

b. *Term.* The Term shall commence on June 1, 2020 (the "Commencement Date") and shall terminate on December 31, 2021 (the "Initial Term"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, at any time after March 31, 2021, Tenant may terminate this Lease on sixty (60) days written notice. Upon written notice to Landlord received by Landlord no less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the Initial Term (the "Renewal Option Notice"), Tenant shall have the right and option ("Renewal Option") to extend the Term for the Premises until June 30, 2022, on the terms and conditions hereof, at the rental rate set forth in Section 3.c. below (the Renewal Term and the Initial Term collectively referred to herein as the "Term"). Landlord and Tenant agree the Renewal Term shall be on a month to month basis, and any party can terminate on thirty (30) days' notice to the other party. If Tenant shall fail to provide a Renewal Option Notice to Landlord in the time set forth herein, then Landlord and Tenant agree the then Renewal Option shall be deemed to be terminated. In Landlord's sole discretion, Tenant shall not be entitled to exercise the Renewal Option for the Renewal Term if Tenant is in default under the terms of this Lease either at the time it provides the Renewal Option Notice, or at the beginning of the Renewal Term. No other amendment of this Lease shall be binding on either party unless it is in writing and signed by Landlord and Tenant.

In the event Tenant holds over after the end of the Term or upon earlier termination of the Lease, the Rent shall increase to one hundred twenty five percent (125.00%) of the pre-termination rate, and Landlord may pursue any remedies to remove Tenant from the Premises.

c. *Rent.* The Rent shall be due and payable to Landlord in advance on the first day of each month at Landlord's place of business at 301 West Washington Avenue, Suite 200, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401, or such other place as Landlord may designate. Monthly Rent shall be Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty and No/100 United States Dollars (\$2,750.00) per month.

2. Lease. For the duration of the Term, Landlord hereby leases to Tenant and Tenant hereby accepts the Premises for the exclusive purpose of using the Premises to operate the City of Jonesboro's business. Tenant shall pay the Rent by the first day of each month throughout the effectiveness of this Lease. Tenant shall return the Premises to Landlord in the same condition as the Premises is delivered to Tenant subject to reasonable wear and tear; provided, any improvements to the Premises (other than trade fixtures that can be removed without materially damaging the Premises) shall be considered a permanent part of the Premises and shall belong to Landlord. Any property left on the Premises after the termination date shall automatically and irrevocably be deemed abandoned and shall become the exclusive property of Landlord with Landlord having the right to keep or remove the abandoned property at Tenant's expense. Tenant shall not assign this Lease or sublet all or any part of the Premises without the prior written consent of the Landlord, which consent may be withheld in Landlord's absolute discretion. Any approved assignment or sublet by Tenant shall not relieve Tenant of any obligations under the Lease.

3. **Maintenance and Repair.** Tenant acknowledges it has inspected the Premises and accepts the Premises in "AS IS" condition. Landlord shall maintain and repair the exterior of the Premises in satisfactory condition during the Term (subject to contribution from Tenant for damage to any of these structures caused by Tenant, its employees, agents, licensees or invitees). Landlord shall not be responsible for any damages caused by failure to maintain any of the foregoing items unless and until Landlord has received written notice of a problem and has had a reasonable time to repair the same.

Tenant shall, at its cost and expense, repair and maintain the interior of the Premises. Tenant shall not make any modifications to the Premises without Landlord's express written consent. Any approved modifications shall become part of the Premises and shall become Landlord's property upon termination of the Lease. Landlord has the right to specify approved contractors who will do any work or maintenance within the Premises. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Landlord shall reimburse Tenant for repairs to the interior of the Premises in excess of Five Thousand and No/100 United States Dollars (\$5,000.00) in any calendar year during the term of this Lease, so long as such repairs are not the result of damage caused by Tenant, its employees, agents, licensees or invitees.

4. **Common Area.** The "Common Area" is the part of the Building designated by Landlord from time to time for the common use of all tenants and their invitees, including among other facilities, parking area, sidewalks, landscaping, curbs, loading areas, private streets and alleys, lighting facilities, hallways, elevators, and other areas and improvements provided by Landlord for the common use of all tenants and their invitees, all of which shall be subject to Landlord's sole management and control and shall be operated and maintained in such manner as Landlord, in its reasonable discretion, shall determine. Landlord reserves the right to change from time to time the dimensions and location of the Common Area. Tenant and its employees, customers and licensees shall have the non-exclusive right and license to use the Common Area as constituted from time to time, such use to be in common with Landlord, other tenants of the Building and other persons permitted by Landlord to use the same, and subject to such reasonable rules and regulations governing use as Landlord may from time to time prescribe. Tenant shall not place any temporary signage, or solicit business or display merchandise, within the Common Area, or distribute handbills therein, or take any action which would interfere with the rights of other persons to use the Common Area without the prior written consent of the Landlord. Landlord may temporarily close any part of the Common Area for such periods of time as may be necessary to prevent the public from obtaining prescriptive rights or to make repairs or alterations, but such repairs or alterations shall be done in a manner so as to cause a minimum of interference with Tenant's business.

5. **Default.** Landlord may declare Tenant in default if Tenant: (i) fails to pay its Rent or any other sums due under this Lease within five (5) days of the due date; (ii) fails to perform any of its other obligations under this Lease and the failure shall continue for ten (10) days following written notice from Landlord; or (iii) if the Premises shall be deserted or vacated for a period of more than seven (7) days. If Tenant fails to pay the Rent within the five (5) day grace period, Landlord shall have the option to declare the Tenant in default or assess a late fee of ten percent (10%) of the past-due amount. If the past-due Rent (plus late fees) is not paid in full, Landlord shall have the option to declare Tenant in default or exercise any other remedies available to Landlord. Exercise of the option to assess a late fee instead of declaring Tenant in default shall not waive Landlord's right to declare Tenant in default in the future. After Landlord declares Tenant in default, Landlord may immediately terminate this Lease and/or pursue any remedies available at law or equity, including without limitation, altering all locks and other security devices without terminating this Lease and leasing the Premises for the account of Tenant without releasing Tenant from Tenant's obligations under this Lease or accepting Tenant's surrender.

6. **Signage.** Tenant may display signage on the Premises at locations designated by the Landlord. All signage displayed by Tenant must be approved by Landlord, in writing, prior to Tenant displaying

such signage. Tenant must remove its signage upon termination of the Lease and return the area where the signage was located to its previous condition.

7. **No Waste.** Tenant agrees that it will not commit waste nor permit waste to be done to or upon the Premises. Tenant shall keep and maintain the Premises in compliance with, and shall not cause or permit the Premises to be in violation of, any federal, state or local laws, ordinances or regulations relating to occupational hazards, industrial hygiene or to the environmental conditions on, under, about or affecting the Premises. Tenant shall not use, generate, manufacture, store or dispose of on, under or about the Premises or transport to or from the Premises any flammable explosives, radioactive materials, hazardous wastes, toxic substances or related materials, including without limitation any substances defined as or included in the definition of hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, hazardous materials or toxic substances under any applicable federal or state laws or regulations (collectively, the "Hazardous Materials"). If Tenant desires to have Hazardous Materials on the Premises, Tenant must make written request to Landlord detailing the specific Hazardous Materials and documenting to Landlord's satisfaction the Tenant's plan for managing the Hazardous Materials, keeping the Hazardous Materials from contaminating the Premises, complying with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Landlord shall have no obligation to permit the Hazardous Materials on the Premises. In the event Landlord approves the presence of the Hazardous Materials, Tenant shall be bound to comply with the plans it specified for the handling of the Hazardous Materials and, no matter what, shall keep the Hazardous Materials from contaminating the Premises and, no matter what, shall comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Landlord shall not be required to incur any expense in connect with such compliance.

8. **Insurance.** Landlord shall maintain, at its expense, commercial general liability insurance, insuring Tenant, Landlord, and Landlord's agents against all liability for injury to or death of a person or persons or damage to property arising from the Tenant's use and occupancy of the Premises, fire and extended insurance similar coverage for the full replacement cost of the Building (including earthquake and flood insurance) and public liability insurance in such amounts and with such deductible amounts as would be maintained by a prudent landlord of similar commercial properties in Craighead County, Arkansas. Additionally, Landlord may obtain and carry any other form or forms of insurance as it may reasonably desire or as any Landlord's mortgage may require.

9. **Condemnation/Casualty.** If the whole or a portion of the Premises shall be taken by any public or quasi-public authority under any statute or by right of eminent domain, or by private purchase in lieu thereof, and the portion remaining after the taking cannot, in the sole judgment of Landlord, be used economically or profitably, then, on written notice from Landlord to Tenant or on written notice from Tenant to the Landlord, to be effective as of the effective date of the taking, this Lease shall terminate. If a portion of the Premises shall be condemned, and, in the determination of Landlord, the remaining portion can be operated economically and profitably, this Lease, as to such part, shall continue in full force and effect, and the rents payable hereunder shall be reduced in proportion to the portion taken, and, as to the portion taken, this Lease shall terminate. All condemnation awards or proceeds, whether for the whole or a portion of the Premises shall belong to and be the property of Landlord; provided, however, that Tenant shall have the right to recover from the condemning authority compensation for the taking of any personal property of Tenant, and any relocation costs incurred by Tenant. Notwithstanding anything herein, Landlord may terminate this Lease if Landlord deems such loss to be detrimental to Landlord.

10. **Casualty.** If the Premises are totally or partially destroyed by fire or other casualty and there are, Landlord may terminate this Lease or elect to rebuild as follows. If the Premises are totally or partially destroyed by fire or other casualty so that they cannot be restored or made suitable for Tenant's business needs, as determined by Landlord, within one (1) month from the date of the casualty or the date of expiration of the Term, whichever occurs earlier (the "Rebuild Date"), either Landlord or Tenant may terminate this Lease by giving written notice to the other party within ten (10) days after the date of the

casualty, failure to do so within the specified time period shall mean that the Lease is in full effect. To the extent of the insurance proceeds allocable to the Premises, Landlord will restore the Premises as nearly as possible to the condition which existed immediately prior to such casualty. If Landlord, subject to unavoidable delays or force majeure, does not restore the Premises by the Rebuild Date, Tenant may terminate this Lease. Such restoration shall be commenced promptly and prosecuted with reasonable diligence. Notwithstanding anything herein, Landlord may terminate this Lease if Landlord deems such loss to be detrimental to Landlord.

11. **Taxes.** Landlord shall pay all ad valorem real property taxes for the Premises, but Tenant shall be solely responsible for all other taxes, including without limitation taxes for all property owned by Tenant.

12. **Utilities and Trash.** Tenant shall be responsible for both the procurement and payment of all utilities including, but not limited to, water, electric, gas, cable, internet, telecommunications, and other data services.

Landlord does not warrant that any service will be free from interruptions caused by repairs, renewals, improvements, changes of service, alterations, strikes, lockouts, labor controversies, civil commotion, riot, accidents, inability to obtain electrical power, fuel, steam, water, supplies or labor or other cause beyond the reasonable control of Landlord. No such interruption of service shall be deemed an eviction or disturbance of Tenant's use and possession of the Premises or any part thereof, or render Landlord liable to Tenant for damages, by abatement of rent or otherwise, or relieve Tenant from performance of Tenant's obligations under this Lease. Tenant hereby waives and releases all claims against Landlord for damages for interruption or stoppage of service.

In the event that by agreement with Tenant, Landlord furnishes extra or additional services to be paid for by Tenant, a failure to pay for such services within five (5) days after notice to Tenant shall authorize Landlord, in Landlord's discretion and without further notice, to immediately discontinue such services and terminate any agreement for such services. Tenant shall remove and properly dispose of all Tenant's trash on the Premises.

13. **Compliance with Applicable Law.** Tenant shall comply at all times during the Term with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations. Tenant shall comply with all rules and regulations Landlord concerning the Premises and any memorandum or other publication, applicable to Tenant, issued as a supplement, amendment, as a replacement for or in addition to the rules and regulations of Landlord.

14. **Right of Entry.** Landlord reserves the right during the Term to enter the Premises during normal business hours of Tenant, after reasonable prior notice to Tenant, for purposes of inspecting the Premises. During the Term or any extensions of the Term, Landlord may enter the Premises as needed from time to time as is customary with the re-leasing of the Premises.

15. **Bankruptcy.** If Tenant shall become insolvent or if bankruptcy proceedings shall be instituted by or against Tenant during the terms of this Lease, Landlord is hereby irrevocably authorized, at its option, to cancel this Lease for default. Landlord may elect to accept rent from such receiver, trustee, or other judicial officer during the term of their fiduciary capacity without affecting Landlord's rights as contained in this Lease, but no receiver, trustee, or other judicial officer are granted any right, title, or interest in or to the Premises by virtue of the terms of this Lease.

16. **Notices.** Any notice or demand required or permitted to be delivered hereunder may be delivered in person or shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid,

registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Notice shall also be deemed to have been delivered when deposited, prepaid, with any overnight express mail service, addressed as provided below:

If to Landlord: HALSEY PROPERTIES LLC
301 West Washington Avenue, Suite 200
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401

If to Tenant: THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401

17. **No Oral Agreements.** This written agreement may not be contradicted by evidence of prior, contemporaneous or subsequent oral agreement of the parties. There are no unwritten oral agreements between the parties. Any provision of this Lease may be changed, waived or terminated only by written instrument specifically referring to this Lease signed by the party against whom the change, waiver or termination is sought to be enforced. Each of the parties hereto hereby acknowledges no other party, or agent or attorney of any other party, has made any promise, representation or warranty whatsoever, express or implied, not contained herein concerning the subject matter hereof, to induce the other party to execute this Lease or any of the other documents referred to herein and each party hereto acknowledges it has not executed this Lease or such other documents in reliance upon any such promise, representation or warranty not contained herein.

18. **Construction.** This Lease and all provisions contained herein have been jointly drafted (or reviewed and negotiated) and agreed to, and shall be deemed to have been prepared jointly by the parties hereto, each being sophisticated in transactions such as the one contemplated by this Lease and each having the benefit and advice of legal counsel (or the opportunity to seek such counsel), and shall not be construed in favor of or against any party to this Lease. This Lease may be executed in counterparts. This Lease shall be governed by the laws of the State of Arkansas, and Arkansas shall be the exclusive forum for any disputes arising in connection with this Lease. If any part of this Lease or any other agreement entered into pursuant hereto is contrary to, prohibited by or deemed invalid under applicable law or regulation, such provision shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed omitted to the extent so contrary, prohibited or invalid but the remainder hereof shall not be invalidated thereby and shall be given full force and effect so far as possible. Time is of the essence with respect to all obligations of Tenant under this lease.

19. **Estoppel Certificate.** Tenant agrees that it will from time to time, upon request by Landlord, execute and deliver to Landlord within ten (10) business days after demand therefor an estoppel certificate in Landlord's form certifying that this Lease is unmodified and in full force and effect (or if there have been modifications, that the same is in full force and effect as so modified).

20. **Rules and Regulations.** Landlord reserves the right to make, establish and amend, from time to time, in Landlord's sole discretion, subject to the provisions herein, reasonable rules and regulations which shall be applicable to the Premises and the Tenant. Tenant shall comply with such rules and regulations as may be set forth from time to time.

21. **Representations and Warranties of Landlord.** Landlord hereby warrants and represents to Tenant as follows: **Authority.** Landlord is a limited liability company duly formed and validly existing under the laws of the State of Arkansas, with full power and authority to execute and deliver this Lease, and perform its obligations hereunder. **Validity.** This Lease has been duly executed and delivered by Landlord and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of Landlord, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except to the extent that such enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency,

reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditor's rights or by general principles of equity. No Violations. Neither the execution nor delivery of this Lease by Landlord, nor the performance by Landlord of its obligations hereunder will (i) violate or conflict with the provisions of, or constitute an event of default under any note, loan, mortgage, indenture, deed of trust, license, lease or other agreement to which Landlord is a party, or to which it or any of its properties may be bound; or (ii) violate any judgment, ruling, order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to Landlord or any of its properties or assets.

22. **Representations and Warranties of Tenant**. Tenant hereby represents and warrants to Landlord that: Authority. Tenant has full power and authority to execute, by the party or parties executing this Lease, and to deliver this Lease, and to perform its obligations hereunder. Validity. This Lease has been duly executed and delivered by Tenant and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of Tenant, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except to the extent that such enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws affecting the enforcement of creditor's rights or by general principles of equity. No Violations. Neither the execution nor delivery of this Lease by Tenant, nor the performance by Tenant of its obligations hereunder will (i) violate or conflict with the provisions of, or constitute an event of default under any note, loan, mortgage, indenture, deed of trust, license, lease or other agreement to which Tenant is a party, or to which it or any of its properties may be bound; or (ii) violate any judgment, ruling, order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to Tenant, or any of its properties or assets.

23. **Waiver**. The failure of any party to enforce any of the provisions of this Lease, or any rights with respect hereto, or the failure to exercise any right provided for herein, will in no way be considered a waiver of such provisions, rights or elections, or in any way affect the validity of this Lease. The failure of any party to enforce any such provisions, rights or remedies will not prejudice such party from later enforcing or exercising the same or any other provisions, rights or remedies which it may have under this Lease. No custom or practice which may evolve between the parties in the administration of the terms of this Lease shall waive or diminish the right of either party to insist upon the performance by the parties in strict accordance with the terms hereof.

24. **Attorney's Fees**. The prevailing party in any litigation instituted to enforce the terms of this Lease shall recover from the other party, in addition to any other relief or damages awarded, such prevailing party's attorney's fees, and costs and expenses incurred in prosecuting any such litigation.

25. **Real Estate Agent**. This Lease was negotiated by Jerry Halsey, Jr. ("Landlord's Broker"). Landlord's Broker is acting as agent for Landlord and does not represent Tenant. Landlord agrees to pay its respective broker a commission pursuant to a separate agreement.

The parties further disclose that some members of Landlord, including without limitation Jerry Halsey, Jr. hold a valid Arkansas real estate license.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Lease to be executed this ____ day of 2020.

LANDLORD:

HALSEY PROPERTIES LLC

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

TENANT:

CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Name: _____
Title: _____

By: _____

LANDLORD INITIALS: _____
TENANT INITIALS: _____

-----Original Message-----

From: Patti Lack <pglack@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:39 PM

To: Joe Hafner <Joeforjonesboro@gmail.com>; Ann Williams <edgecoffeehouse@hotmail.com>; Charles Coleman <crcjab@sbcglobal.net>; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; John Street <jwstreet@sbcglobal.net>; Larry Bryant <LJ@ljbryant.com>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Comments and Questions for the Finance and Administration meeting on April 28, 2020

Hi Joe Hafner,

I am writing you this email because I have a couple of comments and questions concerning 2 of the Resolutions that are on the agenda today at the Finance and Administration Meeting today April 28, 2020.

The resolutions that I have listed have comments and questions about is Resolution 20:049 and Resolution 20:051.

I hope you will address and read what I have written.

I. RESOLUTION 20:049. Authorizing the City of Jonesboro to amend the 2020 annual budget for the police department.

-First, why is there a need for the police department to rent space?

-The space to be rented is just over 2000 square feet, which is not very big. I would think that there would be some vacant rooms either at the Main Police building on Caraway, or at the police building on Washington or even in the City municipal building- especially if it is temporary.

-The contract that the police department will sign is for \$2750.00 per month. That's a lot of money for that little space.

-Several months ago, when the 2% sales tax was trying to be passed, all the citizens heard was that IF we DON'T pass this tax, we're going to have to lay off officers.

Where did the department all of a sudden have this extra money to pay rent on a small space?

When reading over the contract, if the police department wants out of the contract, there will be some stiff penalties.

-The police department and the citizens of Jonesboro will be paying \$33,000 just in rent for one year! That's about the amount of the salary of a new police officer- or pretty close.

*If this is because of one of the emergencies that we are dealing with today and the police department is going to get reimbursed, how much is the reimbursement and where is this money coming from? I would think that there would be a much cheaper place to rent here in Jonesboro.

2. RESOLUTION 20:051. For the City of Jonesboro to enter into an agreement with the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission for funding of Economic development services.

Looking at the contract that is attached, it appears that the City of Jonesboro will make one installment prior to 6/30/2020 for \$167,250.00

For economic services AND \$227,500.00 for Capital improvement related to industrial property.

If you add these both up you get \$394,750.00!

The comments that I would like to make is that \$394,750.00 is a lot of money especially when we heard last week at the City Council meeting that the City of Jonesboro will have a shortfall of \$12,000,000.00 to \$15,000,000.00 in the next couple of months.

I would think that we need to cut any unnecessary costs/projects right now and try to get back on track.

I believe that they City of Jonesboro gives Mark Young at the Chamber Office several \$100,000's of dollars to basically do the same thing that this commission(NEAIDC) is going to do. I know that I have questioned the projects that Chamber has produced. Also, I remember that they were late in giving their report last year.

This new commission doesn't have to give a report till next year.

I just don't know why we need both the Chamber and this new commission to do the same thing and especially having to pay double the price.

Please explain to me why we need this commission now, with our city's financial situation and why do we need 2 groups doing the same thing?

Thank you Joe for answering these questions. I'll be watching so keep that phone close! I've memorized the number- 336-7248

Patti Lack



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	RES-20:052	Version:	1	Name:	APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FY 2019 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT (SAFER)
Type:	Resolution	Status:			Recommended to Council
File created:	4/23/2020	In control:			Finance & Administration Council Committee
On agenda:		Final action:			
Title:	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FY 2019 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT (SAFER)				
Sponsors:	Grants, Fire Department				
Indexes:	Grant				
Code sections:					
Attachments:	5 Year Costs for Safer Grant				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/28/2020	1	Finance & Administration Council Committee		

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FY 2019 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT (SAFER)

WHEREAS, applications are now being accepted for the FY19 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant ; and,

WHEREAS, the SAFER grant is funded for two years at 75% by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security with 25% local match required and one year at 35% by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security with a 65% local match required and 100% local funds for the fourth and fifth year; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas is seeking funding up to \$873,487.02 for the employment of three new firefighters (salaries and benefits) of which \$307,783.78 is federally funding and \$565,703.24 would be local match for the five years of the grant timeframe. This assistance will provide support for new, additional firefighters to improve staffing levels.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1: The City of Jonesboro, Arkansas supports the submission of the application to the FY 2019 SAFER grant for three full time firefighter's salaries and benefits to provide support for new additional firefighters to improve staffing levels.

SECTION 2: The Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby authorized by the City Council for the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this application.

SECTION 3: The Grants and Community Development Department is hereby authorized by the City Council for the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas to submit all necessary documents for this federal program.

Projected cost for one Firefighter for the next 5 yrs.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total for 5 Yrs.
Base Salary	34,500.00	36,200.00	37,050.00	37,900.00	38,750.00	184,400.00
Payroll Taxes	500.25	524.90	537.23	549.55	561.88	2,673.80
LOPFI	8,280.00	8,869.00	9,262.50	9,664.50	10,075.00	46,151.00
Group Insurance	9,086.88	9,813.83	10,598.94	11,446.85	12,362.60	53,309.10
Workers Comp	865.95	908.62	929.96	951.29	972.63	4,628.44
Grand Total	53,233.08	56,316.35	58,378.62	60,512.19	62,722.10	291,162.34
For 3 Firefighters	159,699.24	168,949.05	175,135.85	181,536.58	188,166.30	873,487.02
Grant	119,774.44	126,711.79	61,297.55			307,783.78
City's Cost	39,924.80	42,237.26	113,838.30	181,536.58	188,166.30	565,703.24



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: RES-20:053 **Version:** 1 **Name:** AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA), AND ACCEPT THE FY 2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING PROGRAM GRANT AND AMEND THE 2020 BUDGET

Type: Resolution **Status:** Recommended to Council

File created: 4/24/2020 **In control:** Finance & Administration Council Committee

On agenda: **Final action:**

Title: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA), AND ACCEPT THE FY 2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING PROGRAM GRANT AND AMEND THE 2020 BUDGET

Sponsors: Grants, Police Department

Indexes: Grant

Code sections:

Attachments: [Award Letter, DOJ Fy20 Coronavirus Supplemental Grant - Police Dept \(Walk-on\)](#)
[Budget Summary, DOJ Fy20 Coronavirus Supplemental Grant - Police Dept \(Walk-on\)](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/28/2020	1	Finance & Administration Council Committee		

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA), AND ACCEPT THE FY 2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING PROGRAM GRANT AND AMEND THE 2020 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas has been awarded the FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant in the amount of \$100,329 with no local match requirement; and,

WHEREAS, the FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant award will be used to purchase personal protective equipment supplies, hire a part time Coronavirus Cleaning personnel and equipment to fight the spread of Coronavirus; and,

WHEREAS, this grant has a two year funding period, and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas passed the 2020 budget in RES-19:201, which will need to be amended in order to reflect the award amount.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1: The City of Jonesboro, Arkansas will enter into agreement with the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to accept the 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant for \$100,329 to the Police Department for personal protective equipment supplies, hire a part time Coronavirus Cleaning Specialist and equipment to fight the spread of the Coronavirus

SECTION 2: The Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby authorized by the City Council for the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this application.

SECTION 3: The 2020 Budget for the Police Department is hereby amended to provide a change in Federal Funds for the FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant.



Department of Justice (DOJ)

Office of Justice Programs

Office of Communications

Washington, D.C. 20531

GRANT NOTIFICATION

Grant Number: 2020-VD-BX-0181

Name & Address of Recipient: City Of Jonesboro
1001 S. Caraway

City, State & ZIP: Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401-2779

Recipient Project Director/Contact:
Harold Perrin
Mayor

Phone: (870) 336-7229

Title of Program: FY 20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program

Title of Project: FY 20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program

Amount of Award: \$ 100,329

Date of Award: 04/23/2020

Awarding Agency: Bureau of Justice Assistance
Dawn K Hill

Supplement: No

Statutory Authority for Program:

FY20(BJA - CESF) Pub. L. No. 116-136, Div. B; 28 U.S.C. 530C

Impact/Focus: Formula

CFDA Number: 16.034

Project Description:

The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program allows States, U.S. Territories, the District of Columbia, units of local government, and federally recognized tribal governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Funded projects or initiatives may include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

Jonesboro Police Department will purchase equipment, supplies, and hire a part-time cleaner to address issues related to COVID-19.

NCA/NCF

For more information about this grant, contact the Office of Justice Program's Office of Communications at 202/307-0703.

Budget Summary

Budget Summary

Note: Any errors detected on this page should be fixed on the corresponding Budget Detail tab.

Budget Category	Year 1		Year 2 (if needed)		Year 3 (if needed)		Year 4 (if needed)		Year 5 (if needed)		Total(\$)
	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	
A. Personnel	\$8,800	\$0	\$14,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,100
B. Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
C. Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
D. Equipment	\$39,239	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$39,239
E. Supplies	\$26,520	\$0	\$11,470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$37,990
F. Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
G. Subawards (Subgrants)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
H. Procurement Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
I. Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$74,559	\$0	\$25,770	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,329
J. Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Project Costs	\$74,559	\$0	\$25,770	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,329
Does this budget contain conference costs which is defined broadly to include meetings, retreats, seminars, symposia, and training activities? - Y/N											No



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: RES-20:050 **Version:** 1 **Name:** APPROVE THE 2020 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

Type: Resolution **Status:** Recommended to Council

File created: 4/23/2020 **In control:** Finance & Administration Council Committee

On agenda: **Final action:**

Title: A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO APPROVE THE 2020 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

Sponsors: Grants

Indexes: Grant

Code sections:

Attachments: [2020 CDBG Action Plan, DRAFT](#)
[2020 CDBG Action Plan FINAL](#)
[Application for FY20 CDBG Action Plan, SF424](#)
[Assurances for FY20 CDBG Action Plan, SF-424-D](#)
[Certifications for FY20 CDBG Action Plan](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/28/2020	1	Finance & Administration Council Committee		

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO APPROVE THE 2020 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET
WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas has held two public hearings and one public review and comment period for the Annual CDBG Action Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the 2020 Annual CDBG Action Plan is in the fourth year of the (2017 - 2021) Five-Year Consolidated Plan designed to address goals set for community needs; and,

WHEREAS, the FY2020 Annual CDBG Action Plan contains the projects, activities and budget for allocated Federal funds of \$616,257. The 2020 Action Plan's budget is listed below:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (including sewer connections) | \$40,000 |
| 2. Homeownership Assistance | \$14,000 |
| 3. Demolition & Clearance Assistance | \$10,000 |
| 4. Neighborhood Revitalization Program | \$40,000 |
| 5. Veterans Village Outreach Center | \$150,000 |
| 6. Patrick Street Sidewalks | \$130,000 |
| 7. Recovery, Inc. - ADA Parking Access Improvements | \$20,000 |
| 8. L.M. Stott's Park | \$60,000 |
| 9. Hispanic Community Services, Inc. | \$20,000 |
| 10. West End Neighborhood Association | \$10,822.88 |

11. CDBG Program Planning & Administration

\$121,434.12

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: The 2020 CDBG Action Plan, attached hereto, is hereby approved by the City Council.

SECTION 2: The 2020 CDBG projects, activities and budget are hereby approved for the Action Plan.

SECTION 3: Mayor, Harold Perrin and City Clerk, Donna Jackson are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the Action Plan.

SECTION 4: The Grants and Community Development department is hereby directed to submit the plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by May 15, 2020.



Annual Action Plan

Community Development Block Grant

2020 Program Year

(July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

City of Jonesboro
Department of Grants & Community Development
300 South Church Street, Suite 402
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403

Annual Action Plan
2020

2020 Annual Action Plan

(July 1, 2020– June 30, 2021)

City Council Members

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Charles Frierson, Ward 1

Gene Vance, Ward 1

Dr. Charles Coleman, Ward 2

Chris Moore, Ward 2

Ann Williams, Ward 3

Chris Gibson, Ward 3

John Street, Ward 4

Mitch Johnson, Ward 4

LJ Bryant, Ward 5

Joe Hafner, Ward 5

Bobby Long, Ward 6

David McClain, Ward 6

Department of Grants & Community Development

Regina Burkett, Director of Community Development

Angy Abaunza, CDBG Program Manager

Brenda Hall, Grants & Finance Specialist

Hillary Starnes, Community Service Manager

Lakyn Williams, Rehab Project Coordinator

Table of Content

Community Development Block Grant Program 2020 Program Year Funds \$616,257

<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Process	
AP-05 Executive Summary	1
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies	6
AP-10 Consultation	7
AP-12 Participation	11
Annual Action Plan	
AP-15 Expected Resources	14
AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives	16
AP-35 Projects	26
AP-38 Project Summary	28
AP-50 Geographic Distribution	37
AP-55 Affordable Housing	39
AP-60 Public Housing	41
AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities	43
AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing	46
AP-85 Other Actions	48
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements	51
Appendices	
Appendix 1: Forms SF424 and SF424-D, and Certifications	
Appendix 2: Proof of Publication (Notice of Funding, Public Hearing, Review and Comment)	
Appendix 3: Guidance on Submitting and Allocation Letter	
Appendix 3: COJ Passed and Approved Resolution	

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program allocates annual funds to the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas. The CDBG Program authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The purpose of the program is to provide funding for grantees to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting for low- and moderate-income persons within city limits of Jonesboro. CDBG eligible activities must address one of the following three National Objectives:

- Benefit to low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons or households;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and
- Meet a need having a particular urgency (urgent need).

City of Jonesboro, as grantee, carry out a wide range of community development activities, such as, housing services and economic development within the following core activities - programs:

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (may include sewer connection);
- Homeownership Assistance;
- Demolition & Clearance Assistance;
- Public Services Program;
- Public Facilities and Improvements Program;
- Neighborhood Revitalization Program; and
- Homeless Prevention and Services.

Designed to set goals that address community needs, the City of Jonesboro 2020 Annual Action Plan is an addition to 2017 – 2021 (Five-Year) Consolidated Plan. This Action Plan is the fourth annual report with descriptions and action items for specific activities that meet the goals outlined in the original Consolidated Plan.

HUD FY 2020 appropriations were released on February 14, 2020. The City of Jonesboro received \$616,257 in CDBG allocation to carryout allowable activities listed herein.

As the lead agency for the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan, the City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development follows a citizen participation plan to include citizens, City departments, CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee, non-profit organizations, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City of Jonesboro with the citizens' participation process has identified objectives and outcomes to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting low- and moderate-income persons and areas within city limits of Jonesboro.

Based on survey responses during the public hearings on December 11, 2019, citizens indicated these priorities: Infrastructure; Housing; Homelessness and Clearance; Code Enforcements; and Economic Development. Ranking infrastructure as higher need and on respectively. The City considered these surveys to identify objectives and outcomes for the 2020 Annual Action Plan.

Programs and FY 2020 CDBG allocations are as followed:

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance grant to qualified owner-occupied applicants with needed housing repairs. Allocated \$40,000 to assist approximately 5-8 qualified LMI homeowners with needed minor or major house repairs that may consist in the replacement, installation, and or repair of roofs, windows, doors, plumbing, electrical, sewers, foundations, and may include sewer connections. This activity is where the remaining balances of all activities and projects of the program year are transferred; therefore, the allocated amount may multiply and more homeowners will be assisted.
- Homeownership Assistance grant to LMI first-time homebuyers with down payment and closing costs. Allocated \$14,000 to assist four qualified individuals.
- Demolition and Clearance Assistance to demolish qualified homeowner properties and other dilapidated structures in LMI areas. Allocated \$10,000. Due to not having any qualified applicants in the previous program years, the allocation amount should cover the demolition and tipping cost to assist at least one applicant.
- Public Services Program provides nonprofit organizations with funding for programs benefitting LMI persons and or areas. A total of \$30,822.88 were allocated to two nonprofit organizations. CDBG funds for the Hispanic Community Services, Inc. will assist the organization to cover afterschool program expenses providing bilingual tutoring and support services to 75 school (K-8) age children from LMI household, most of them from CDBG designated area in north Jonesboro. Funding for the West End Neighborhood Association will assist with their neighborhood safety lighting initiative to benefit approximately 3468 individuals in LMI area in the city.
- Public Facilities and Improvements program is where a high amount of CDBG funds is used. Phase three of the Patrick Street Sidewalk and ADA Accessible project has \$130,000 allocated. Constructing the sidewalks will promote connectivity and accessibility to main roads, a nearby

park, and future city master plan redevelopment area. Furthermore, allocation to this program will include \$60,000 for L.M. Stott's Park to replace the playground and other park improvements in the LMI area mentioned above, and \$20,000 for Recovery Inc. for ADA parking and facility access improvements.

- Other activities funded include the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and Homeless Prevention and Services. The NRP is community driven and revitalization focused, \$40,000 allocated, will cover cost of projects selected by City Council and Neighborhood Beautification Committee to focus neighborhood revitalization and beautification in LMI areas. The Veterans Village Outreach Center (formally referred as Business Center), phase two of the construction project. Funds, \$150,000, will cover a portion of the cost to install new roof and windows. The Center will be the hub of the Veterans Village housing community to provide housing and onsite supportive services to veterans suffering homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless.

Sections AP 35 and 38 contains more details about the above-mentioned program and activities.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The City of Jonesboro (COJ) continues addressing housing services as one of the priorities for the Department. Providing low-and moderate-income persons with decent housing and a suitable living environment is a continuing goal. Homeownership and Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance, and other activities funded have been instrumental to enable the City to address issues that homeowners encounter by living in substandard conditions and having limited access to affordable housing.

The Rehab grant provides qualified homeowners the opportunity to complete needed home repairs; the grant is very sought after. Most applicants are elderly with low fixed incomes and low-income female-headed households. Due to Rehab being the activity where residuals from program year funded activities are transferred, the FY 2019 Rehab activity has not exhausted the money available for projects. In FY 2018, 18 minor and major rehab projects were completed, a total cost of \$219,006.52. As of now, for FY 2019, by the time this plan becomes official, there will be approximately 10 projects completed; averaging five projects per applications cycle and with a growing waitlist. It is evident that this program is needed; however, not having enough contractors to complete as many projects as possible is a limitation that hinders the amount of projects that can be completed at a time. Nonetheless, due to having FY 2019 funding available, it was determined that FY 2020 would be lower funded than usual. This will enable the usage of those funds to other projects otherwise funded lower amounts, such as allotting \$130,000 for the sidewalk project.

In 2019, the Grants and Community Development Department launched a new campaign as community outreach to promote housing assistance grants available, resulting in an influx of new applicants for all

programs. Last year under FY 2018 funding for Homeownership, there were eight grants awarded, that is four more than in previous years. Four of those grants were awarded to female-headed households.

Aiding in the prevention and elimination of homelessness keeps being a priority for the jurisdiction. In previous years, CDBG funding has been awarded to organizations providing services to the homeless and those at-risk of becoming homeless through facility rehab projects, administrative expenses, and or program related costs. In FY 2019, CDBG funds were allocated to aid in the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center by covering the cost of plumbing installation.

Moreover, the Public Services Program is a great way to assist nonprofit organizations with administrative and program expenses to services they provide to their LMI clients and residents. The Hispanic Community Services, Inc. is an organization providing several programs and services to the Hispanic community in Jonesboro and the outskirts of the city. This year, CDBG will fund them for the afterschool program, La Escuelita, to provide resources, bilingual tutoring and much more to K-8 school age children attending the program. West End Neighborhood Association has created multiple projects to assist and improve their neighborhood within their association boundaries. Previously, the nonprofit has received CDBG funding for neighborhood safety initiatives, safety security cameras, and park and lighting improvements. Continuing with their great neighborhood improvement and safety in-mind projects, for FY 2020, they will receive funding to install over 100 streetlights in their neighborhood aiming to decrease the growing crime rate. They are collaborating with City Water and Light, City of Jonesboro Police Department, and other entities to install lighting strategically needed areas of the neighborhood where more crime activity is reported or seen.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The jurisdiction follows the citizen participation plan to include citizens, City departments, non-profits, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee and the Grants and Community Development Department staff are involved in the decision-making for funds allocation. Citizens have the opportunity to provide input and to become informed throughout the planning process by participating in public hearings and public review and comment period, all advertised in local newspaper and City website.

On December 11, 2019 the *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* was published in the local newspaper. The *Notice of Public Hearing* was advertised on November 21, 2019 for two separate hearing held on December 11, 2019. The public hearings were held one in the morning and one in the evening to facilitate participation and convenience for citizens to attend. Attendees to the public hearing were asked to fill out a short survey ranking community needs; the survey responses were taken into consideration while planning allocations and projects for FY 2020 CDBG Program.

To fulfill the public comment and review period for the Action Plan Draft, the City published the *Notice of 30 Days Public Review and Comment Period* advertisement in the local newspaper and City website on March 27, 2020. A copy of the plan was available in the office for review. The last day for the public to submit comments was April 26, 2020. **No requests to review the AP draft or comments were received.**

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

No comments were received through the end of the 30 days public review and comment period.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

Not applicable. No comments or views were received.

7. Summary

Through the newspaper advertisement, the website, and City social media the public where given the opportunity for a 30-days public review and comment period for the 2020 Action Plan Draft. There were no comments or concerns submitted or brought up to the department.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	JONESBORO	Grants and Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development is the lead agency assigned to administrate, implement and oversee the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded programs and activities. The staff are responsible of preparing the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan with the input and collaboration with citizens, public and private entities.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Regina Burkett

Director of Community Development

rburkett@jonesboro.org

870-336-7229

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

As part of the consolidated planning process, the City of Jonesboro (COJ) recognizes that collaborating with citizens, public and private entities is vital for the advancement of the community. The Grants and Community Development Department administers the Community Development Block Grant Program and continuously form partnerships with organizations to provide input on their field of expertise to better assist the department in developing the Plan.

During the planning process for the 2020 Annual Action Plan, the City consulted with the community, COJ departments, public and private organizations. Collaborated and consulted with the Jonesboro Urban Renewal & Housing Authority (JURHA), Crowley’s Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Department of Human Services, Beck Pride Center, United Way of Northeast Arkansas, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro, BancorpSouth, Food Bank of NEA, and many other organizations and agencies.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The jurisdiction receives input from City departments, Citizens Advisory Committee, public and private organizations, and federal and state agencies to coordinate community development and housing services. Coordination between entities include strategizing, communicating, and serving on committees and boards.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City was involved with planning and strategizing of the Homelessness Task Force Coalition in 2016 and 2017. COJ is a member of the Northeast Arkansas Continuum of Care Coalition, part of the Arkansas Balance of State CoC. The City received the Continuum of Care grant in 2017 and the program delivery was between 2017 and 2018. The jurisdiction did not apply for the grant during the upcoming program year. Nonetheless, the City maintains its goal of addressing the needs of homeless persons.

Being part of the NEA AR CoC Coalition has facilitated the COJ with working together with other organizations and agencies that provide services to the homeless population in Craighead, Green, and Poinsett Counties. During the planning process, the jurisdiction has collaborated with Crowley’s Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Hispanic Community Services, Inc. (HCSI); Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (N.A.R.T.C.P), East Arkansas Planning and Development District

(EAPDD), Craighead County Veterans Services, HUB Homeless Resource Center, and other non-profit organizations, church outreach ministries, community groups and neighborhood associations.

The City participates in the annual Point in Time Count (PIT); collaborates with its partners to serve the homeless populations and at-risk of becoming homeless. On January 23, 2020, the PIT count was conducted in northeast Arkansas and data was collected by surveying homeless individuals in Craighead, Greene, and Poinsett counties. Among these three counties, reported numbers were categorized as unsheltered (23), sheltered (153), and school districts (847).

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The City of Jonesboro planning process is a 12-month process that solicits and accepts citizens' input throughout the year. Information and data are collected from federally mandated public hearings; including CDBG, AFH hearings, community meetings and listening sessions. This process has enhanced the avenues for sharing data and gaining a better understanding of how we can coordinate our efforts to improve the lives of low- and moderate-income citizens. Additionally, social service agencies and other entities were invited to the table during the planning process as well as throughout the year. This yearlong listening process has proven to be successful in gaining input from a cross-section of the community and service providers.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF JONESBORO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development has collaborated with all City departments through the year process for the annual action plan. The purpose to collaborate is to find ways to leverage CDBG funds with other local, state, federal, and private funding for project to benefit LMI areas and individual. Projects such sidewalk and street improvements, parks improvements and playground equipment, economic development, in conjunction with assisting with City's Master Plan to provide connectivity to LMI neighborhoods to access to stores, health services, and more.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Not applicable - None known.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	City of Jonesboro	This plan overlaps the Consolidated and Action Plans through ensuring affordable and decent housing is available for the homeless to become independent and integrated into the community. In addition, transportation planning and implementation was the second goal that was part of both programs for the jurisdiction.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

In the efforts to broaden citizen participation the City advertises all notices in the local newspaper, COJ website and social media pages, flyers are created and posted in community centers, and mass emails are sent out from all staff of the department.

The citizen participation process began with publishing the *Notice of Public Hearing* on November 21, 2019 in the local newspaper, flyers posted on COJ's social media and website announcing two separate hearings. On December 11, 2019, the public hearings were held one in the morning and one in the evening to facilitate participation and convenience for citizens to attend. Attendees to the public hearing were asked to fill out a short survey ranking community needs; the survey responses were taken into consideration while planning allocations and projects for FY 2020 CDBG Program.

The *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* was published on December 11, 2019 in the local newspaper, COJ website and social media accounts. With the notice of funding availability, citizens get informed of available funding for housing programs, such as rehabilitation, demolition, and homeownership assistance. The RFP notice, which is directed to nonprofit organizations that may be interested in applying for the upcoming program year, proposals were due January 10, 2020.

To fulfill the public comment and review period for the Action Plan Draft, the City published the *Notice of 30 Days Public Review and Comment Period* advertisement in the local newspaper and City website on March 27, 2020. A copy of the plan was available in the office for review. The last day for the public to submit comments was April 26, 2020. **No requests to review the AP draft or comments were received.**

The jurisdiction utilizes newspapers, printed material, website and social media to reach out to the community to encourage citizen participation.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community Non-Profit Organization	Notice of Public Hearing - Non-profit organizations and residents contact the office for more questions about public hearings time and location. Notice of Funding Availability and RFP - citizens and organizations contact the office to inquire about the grants available, qualifications, and requirements. Six proposals were received. Noticed of 30 Day Public Review and Comment Period - no comments received.	No public comment received.	Not applicable, no public comments received.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Citizens, Citizens Advisory Committee members, and non-profit organizations were invited to attend the public hearing on December 11, 2019. A total of 8 citizens attended the two meetings and filled out a survey identifying community priority needs.	Dept. staff made presentation of all activities and organizations proposals accepted. Attendees filled out a short survey identifying priority community needs. Identifying infrastructure as a community priority, following with housing, homelessness and clearance or demolition, code enforcement, and economic development.	All comments were accepted.	
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	No applicable.	No comments received.	No comments received.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The 2020 CDBG allocation of \$616,257 will be utilized for the program year to fund multiple projects and activities to benefit LMI persons directly or indirectly.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	616,257	0	0	616,257	534,276	This is the expected amount of CDBG funds for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan (2017 - 2021). The available remainder of funds from 2018 is and 2019 is \$434,223.57 both noted in expected amount available remainder of Con Plan. These amount include encumbered amounts of multiple activities that will completed before 2020 program year begins.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied. If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

One of the priority of the jurisdiction is to aid in the prevention and eradication of homelessness. They City is currently working with appointed coalition members, other COJ departments, and key stakeholders to find location for a homeless shelter. Additionally, the Veterans Village and the Outreach Center are in city-owned property.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit	2017	2021	Public Housing Transportation	Jonesboro	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons	CDBG: \$0	

2	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board	2017	2018	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	
---	---	------	------	--	------------------------------	---	-----------	--

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$390,823	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9745 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3500 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement	2017	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	
7	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled	2017	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$20,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$14,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted
9	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies	CDBG: \$50,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 2 Buildings
10	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless	2017	2021	Homeless	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public		

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit
	Goal Description	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted in transportation through JETS.
2	Goal Name	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board
	Goal Description	Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. Several members have attending training and conferences hosted by the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. The goal for 2020 if for the board to focus on the role and actions to take as leaders of the community to establish procedures. It must be determined whether the board will hear citizens’ concerns and reports or if it will maintain in their informative and advocate role.
3	Goal Name	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy
	Goal Description	<p>The purpose of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) is to fund community driven, neighborhood revitalization and beautification focused projects to benefit LMI areas. \$40,000 CDBG funds were allocated with the goal to cover the cost of projects selected by City Council and Neighborhood Beautification Committee members. Projects have not been selected; nonetheless, projects selected will benefit LMI areas.</p> <p>Public Services project for West End Neighborhood Association (\$10,822.88). The association aims to decrease crime in key LMI areas of the West End Neighborhoods Association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights to benefit approximately 1,700 households.</p> <p>Public Facilities and Improvements for sidewalk improvements (\$130,000) in an LMI area, continuing with phase 3 of the Patrick Street Sidewalk projects to facilitate access to residents and connectivity. The sidewalk improvement will benefit over 5,000 LMI persons. Additionally, funding for the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center (\$150,000) to cover installation costs of roof and windows. Organizations and services being provided in the Outreach Center will benefit 9 households per year housed in the village, including other veterans experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless that are seeking these services. Furthermore, the L.M. Stott’s Park rehabilitation project (\$60,000) in an identified LMI area will cover the cost of new playground installation and other improvements. The neighborhood is over 51 percent LMI and approximately over 4,000 residents will benefit from these improvements to the park.</p>

4	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge
	Goal Description	Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. Several members have attending training and conferences hosted by the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. The goal for 2020 if for the board to focus on the role and actions to take as leaders of the community to establish procedures. It must be determined whether the board will hear citizens' concerns and reports or if it will maintain in their informative and advocate role.
5	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement
	Goal Description	Increasing awareness and enforcement of fair housing among publicly assisted families. Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. This fiscal year the board will meet to determine their role with the community and establish procedures.
6	Goal Name	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank
	Goal Description	The City Land Bank Commission was established on Dec. 19, 2017. The City of Jonesboro Department of Land Bank and the Commission purpose is to reverse urban blight, increase home ownership and the stability of property values, provide affordable housing, improve the health and safety of neighborhoods within the City and to maintain architectural fabric of the community.
7	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	Goal Description	Public Improvement Program (\$130,000) project construct S. Patrick Street sidewalks, phase 3 of Patrick St. sidewalk project. The purpose of the project is to increase accessibility to sidewalks for citizens, including ADA accessible sidewalks in this LMI area. Over 5,000 residents and commuter drivers will benefit. This has already been counted in goal 3 identified prior. Public Facility Program (\$20,000): funding for the Recovery, which they serve approximately 200 individuals fighting substance and are part of AA meetings. The project will cover the cost to provide ADA accessibility to the facility and parking improvements. The Homeowner Rehabilitation projects may also include ADA accessibility improvements for elderly disabled applicants.

8	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice
	Goal Description	Homeownership Assistance will benefit 4 LMI First-time homebuyers with \$3,500 down payment and or closing cost assistance.
9	Goal Name	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Goal Description	<p>To create attractive neighborhoods the City will continue to focus on funding housing services.</p> <p>Housing services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (\$40,000) to LMI homeowner-occupied. Approximately 15 homeowners will benefit from the grant; additionally it helps improve their quality of life. Demolition and Clearance Assistance (\$10,000) to LMI homeowner, approximately 1-2 homeowners will benefit from the grant. LMI neighborhoods to prevent/eliminate slum and blight will benefit.</p> <p>Many of the activities funded this fiscal year will be to address neighborhood revitalization, specifically through public facilities and improvements.</p> <p>Additionally, creating attractive neighborhood livability is part of the City aiming to develop a community revitalization strategy with the goal to in the next two years to conduct a professional neighborhood assessment. The assessment will enable the City to design better strategies to target specific and identified neighborhoods in need.</p>
10	Goal Name	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	Goal Description	It is the jurisdiction goal to continue prioritizing and aiding in the prevention and eradication of homelessness in the city. CDBG funding utilized will assist with the cost of building the Veterans Village Outreach Center to benefit homeless veterans or those at-risk to become homeless directly. The purpose of the center is to provide a place where organizations and other agencies can provide onsite housing and supportive services needed to those veterans and their families housed in the Veterans Village and community at large seeking for services. The center will provide services to assist with the veteran housing village. Activity identified in goal 3.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded \$616,257 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the City of Jonesboro to achieve the set goals of activities listed in the 2020 Action Plan.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
2	Homeownership Assistance
3	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
4	Neighborhood Revitalization Program
5	Veterans Village Outreach Center
6	S. Patrick Street Sidewalks - Phase 3
7	Recovery, Inc. - ADA Accessibility Parking Improvements
8	L.M. Stott's Park - Playground Installation
9	PS: Hispanic Community Services, Inc. - La Escuelita Expansion
10	West End Neighborhood Association - Safety Lighting Expansion
11	CDBG Program Planning & Administration

Table 7 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

CDBG funds will benefit LMI individuals throughout the city of Jonesboro. The Housing Services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance; Homeownership Assistance; Demolition & Clearance Assistance, which are direct services managed by the grantee, are citywide services for qualified LMI applicants. Providing these services is a priority for the city, specifically, Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance where the program benefits mainly individuals that are below the 50 percent of HUD income guidelines. These services are a priority due to the high number of applicants having homes near dilapidation caused by the years of being unattended by homeowner for various reasons, one being limited income. Demolition assistance for preventing and eliminating slum and blight in LMI neighborhoods. Furthermore, assisting LMI individuals that are unable to afford demolishing their houses after a fire or beyond decayed. Assisting first-time homebuyers with closing cost/down payment provides accessibility

to affordable housing.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) was designed to revitalize and beautify LMI neighborhoods. Funding for the NRP will be utilized for projects selected by the Neighborhood Beautification Commission—the Mayor appointed members. The City Council—through the initiative call of WIN (Wards Improving Neighborhoods) where the City Council will select projects in their LMI neighborhoods that may be funded with CDBG funds. Additionally, funds for the NRP will assist the Land Bank indirectly to beautify and rehabilitate homeowner-occupied houses near the areas of new development to increase community and economic development. Projects selected may include park rehabilitation, community beautification by planting trees, creating green spaces in empty lots, painting murals, neighborhood cleanup events, and many more projects.

Aiding in the prevention and elimination of homelessness is one of the city's top priority. Finding ways to provide housing and services to the homeless has been a focus for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Veterans Village of Jonesboro—affordable veterans housing is one of the ways COJ has been working in this priority. In addition, CDBG funding is assisting with the cost of building the Veterans Village Outreach Center to provide a place where housing and supportive services can be provided to the veterans housed at the village and those in the community seeking for services. One of the goals to addressing homelessness is to find a location for a homeless shelter. The Mayor has appointed a Taskforce tasked with finding a location for the shelter, potential funding, and partnerships. One of the obstacles that have been identified with finding a shelter location is community opposition.

This program year, funds were allocated to address two public facilities and improvements projects. One is the ADA Accessible parking improvements project for the Recovery center, the center service Alcohol Anonymous and Substance Abuse Services. The second project funded is to continue Patrick Street Sidewalk improvements, phase 3 will be on South Patrick St. in another LMI area of the city.

There are two Public Services Program subgrantees for 2020 program year, one is the Hispanic Community Services, Inc., also known as El Centro Hispano, and the West End Neighborhood Association. CDBG funds awarded to El Centro Hispano will be for their after-school program—La Escuelita, where bilingual tutoring and other services will be provided to school age children grades K-8 of LMI households. The West End Neighborhood Association continues their Safety Neighborhood Initiative by expanding on the safety lighting. The association is aiming to decrease and eliminate crime in their neighborhood association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights in identified trouble crime areas.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance for qualified homeowner-occupied properties for minor and major home repairs. Repair, replacements, and or installations plumbing, sewer, roof, electric up to code, windows, foundation and many more. It may include sewer connection.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4-6 projects will be completed for qualified LMI applicants. Most grant recipients are elderly with fix incomes below the 50 percent HUD income limits.
	Location Description	Citywide projects based on LMI applicants in various locations throughout the city limits of Jonesboro.
Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of Rehab projects that may be comprised in replacement, repair, and installation of roof; windows, plumbing, electrical, air and heat units, sewer lines, and it may include sewer connection.	
2	Project Name	Homeownership Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range
	Funding	CDBG: \$14,000
	Description	Homeownership Assistance program provides qualified first-time homebuyers a \$3,500 grant for down payment and closing cost assistance. Most applicants are within the 80 percent of HUD income limits.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four LMI households will benefit directly from this grant.
	Location Description	Citywide qualified applicants.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized for COJ to award a \$3,500 grant to four qualified LMI persons purchasing their first home to cover the closing costs and or down payment.
3	Project Name	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The demolition assistance grant benefits LMI homeowners to demolish their dilapidated properties. It may include the demolition of privately owned buildings aiming to address slum and blight in LMI areas.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One or two homeowners will benefit directly from receiving the grant to demolish their dilapidated homes.
	Location Description	Citywide qualified applicants, most in identified LMI areas, especially north Jonesboro.
Planned Activities	Qualified applicants will receive grant to demolish dilapidated homes. CDBG funds will cover the cost of demolition and tipping fees.	
4	Project Name	Neighborhood Revitalization Program
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public

	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Program will fund the cost of projects addressing revitalization and beautification of LMI neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Beautification Commission and City Council will identify potential projects. Potential projects may be neighborhood cleanup events, tree planting, painting or murals, street lighting, curbside appeals, and much more.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Residents of LMI neighborhoods will directly benefit from neighborhood revitalization and beautification projects.
	Location Description	Jonesboro LMI areas.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of completing projects such neighborhood cleanup events, tree planting, painting or murals, street lighting, curbside appeals, and much more.
5	Project Name	Veterans Village Outreach Center
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	Once the construction of the Outreach Center is complete, a vast amount of housing and supportive services will be provided by organizations and agencies collaborating with COJ. Services provided at the Veterans Village Outreach Center will benefit veterans housed at the Veterans Village that have previously experienced homelessness, are chronic homeless, or at-risk of becoming homeless. Services will also be provided to those veterans seeking services in the community.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Primarily, those benefiting from the construction of the Outreach Center and the housing and supportive services that will be provided are those housed at the village. The Veterans Village will housed 9 households of veterans that were experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless. Additionally, services will be provided to veterans in the community seeking for services. Approximately 100 veterans and their families will be assisted.
	Location Description	Administration of the construction project will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be located in Jonesboro at boundaries of Aggie Road, Patrick Street, Allis Street, and Chalky Street.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the costs of installing roof and windows for the Veterans Village Outreach Center.
6	Project Name	S. Patrick Street Sidewalks - Phase 3
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings
	Funding	CDBG: \$130,000
	Description	Public Improvements - Phase 3 of Patrick Street sidewalks improvements will be on S. Patrick Street north of E. Matthews Avenue. The sidewalk improvements will include the construction of new sidewalks in certain areas and modifications for ADA Accessibility compliance.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Patrick Street sidewalk improvements will benefit over 5,000 LMI persons in the identified area where over 63 percent are LMI.
	Location Description	On S. Patrick Street from E. Matthews Avenue north to Creath Avenue.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of construction and ADA Accessible improvements to sidewalks on S. Patrick Street from E. Matthews Avenue north to Creath Avenue.
7	Project Name	Recovery, Inc. - ADA Accessibility Parking Improvements
	Target Area	Jonesboro

	Goals Supported	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Public Facility Program - modifications and improvements for ADA Accessible parking for the Recovery center. The center provide Alcohol Anonymous and Substance Abuse Services to approximately 200 individuals in the community seeking for those services.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximate 200 individuals including persons with physical disabilities access the facility and use the parking lot.
	Location Description	Administration of project will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grant and Community Development Department. Location of Recovery, Inc. facility is 2901 W. Washington Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of making ADA Accessible modifications and improvements to the parking lot and entrance of the Recovery, Inc. facility.
8	Project Name	L.M. Stott's Park - Playground Installation
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Public Facilities and Improvements Program - the L.M. Stott's Park rehabilitation project includes new playground installation and other improvements.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4,000 residents will benefit from these improvements to L.M. Stott's Park. The neighborhood is over 54 percent low-and moderate-income.
	Location Description	832 E. Hope Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas 71401

	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of purchasing and replacement of playground equipment and other improvements to the L.M. Stott's Park
9	Project Name	PS: Hispanic Community Services, Inc. - La Escuelita Expansion
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Public Services Program - The Hispanic Community Services, Inc., also known as El Centro Hispano are expanding their after-school program, La Escuelita, where bilingual tutoring and other services and resourced will be provided to school age children grades K-8 of LMI households.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 students benefit directly from La Escuelita. Over 51 percent of the K-8 students are from LMI households.
	Location Description	Program administration will be conducted at Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. Services will be provided at El Centro Hispano at 211 Vandyne Street, Jonesboro, AR 72401
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the after-school program expenses for 75 students.
10	Project Name	West End Neighborhood Association - Safety Lighting Expansion
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,822.88
	Description	Public Services Program - The West End Neighborhood Association project aims to decrease crime in key LMI areas of the West End Neighborhoods Association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights to benefit approximately 1,700 households.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 3468 individuals (1700 households) residing in the West End Neighborhood Association boundaries will benefit with the neighborhood safety initiative.
	Location Description	Program administration will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. Project activity will be in key crime reported areas within the neighborhood boundaries of the association.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the expenses incurred with the installation of over 100 streetlights in key areas identified in crime reports within the boundaries of the West End Neighborhood Association.
11	Project Name	CDBG Program Planning & Administration
	Target Area	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement AFH: Establish a City Land Bank AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless

Needs Addressed	<p>AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit</p> <p>AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons</p> <p>AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability</p> <p>AFH: Community Opposition</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Private Investments</p> <p>AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing</p> <p>AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions</p> <p>AFH: Private Discrimination</p> <p>AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing</p> <p>AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range</p> <p>AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public</p>
Funding	CDBG: \$121,434.12
Description	<p>CDBG administration expenses necessary for planning, project management, implementation and compliance reporting. Planned activities include managing 2020 CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Program management will directly/indirectly have a positive effect on thousands of low-to moderate-income individuals throughout the program year. Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Meeting the 20 percent cap.</p>
Target Date	6/30/2021
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide outreach and services, specifically to LMI residents.
Location Description	Municipal Center at 300 S. Church St., Jonesboro, AR 72401
Planned Activities	Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

City of Jonesboro – data shows multiple low-and moderate-income sectors citywide. There are multiple pockets of low-income and minority concentrations throughout the city. Three key areas in the city have the highest LMI population and with neighborhoods needed rehabilitation, revitalization, and beautification strategies. These areas are north Jonesboro (NRSA), Fairview at the east of city limits, and West Ends adjacent to downtown in the west side of town. North Jonesboro has approximately 74.8 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 6.01 Block Group 3, 6.02 Block Group 1 and 2. Fairview has approximately 70 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 4.01 Block Group 1 and 3, 4.02 Block Group 3, and 5.02 in Block Group 1 and 3. West End overall census tract data shows that approximately 55 percent of the population is LMI; however, the area of focus are in Census Tract 1.01 Block Group 1 and 3, and 2 Block Group 3 indicating that 75.9 percent are LMI.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Jonesboro	24
North Jonesboro	31
Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	46

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

It is the City's priority to fund projects and activities that benefit LMI individuals. A portion of the funds will be utilize to fund activities in north Jonesboro, where a large number of LMI households reside. Most of the public services organizations being funded this fiscal year provide services to LMI individual. Funds for housing services are awarded to qualified LMI individuals citywide; however, there is a large number of applicants from north Jonesboro for the rehabilitation assistance program.

Geographic distribution is as follow: Jonesboro (citywide) 23.4 percent, LMI areas 45.6 percent, north Jonesboro 30.9 percent. Program Planning and Administration amount allocated was divided evenly among the three areas of focus for a balanced distribution.

Discussion

Funds will benefit low-and moderate-income individuals all throughout the city of Jonesboro. More than

50,000 individuals will benefit through direct and or indirect service.

DRAFT

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

In FY 2017 the jurisdiction were granted Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Continuum of Care (CoC) funds to assist with providing services to homeless and at-risk to be homeless individuals. Services included rapid rehousing, rent and utility payment assistance. The program was completed at the end of FY2018 and the City will not be receiving this funding for FY2020.

FY 2018 funds are being awarded to eight first-time homebuyers for the Homeownership Assistance Program. These funds are awarded to qualified LMI individuals to assist with closing cost and down payment. FY 2019 funds for this activity has not been utilized due to FY 2018 being available and applications not submitted during the winter months.

Currently, the jurisdiction is working on funding housing services from 2019 CDBG funds. Approximately 10+ houses will be completed for the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program. Funds to rehabilitate homeowner-occupied properties to bring them up to code, clean and safe environment to live. With this program, homeowners in very dilapidated housing will be able to stay in their property that they can afford as oppose to relocating in case their home becomes condemned—unlivable conditions.

In addition, the Veterans Village of Jonesboro will be assisting approximately 100 veterans and their families with affordable housing. CDBG funds allotted are to assist with the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	100
Non-Homeless	23
Special-Needs	8
Total	131

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	15
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	15

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

All direct and indirect services are provided for LMI individuals, including homeless or at-risk of being homeless veterans.

DRAFT

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The jurisdiction does not own or manage any public housing. The City of Jonesboro collaborates with Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) who is over public housing. JURHA public housing developments are primarily located on the outskirts of the R/ECAP. Even though it is physically located out of the R/ECAP, based on the JURHA annual review for de- concentration in public housing, 87 percent (121 of 140 public housing residents) fall at or below the extremely low- income levels. Of the remaining eleven percent of the households (19 residents) live at the 50 percent or the very low- income levels of the city population.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

Jonesboro Housing Authority notes that residents have frequently given opposition to the requirement that public housing residents provide community service. However, JURHA has no choice but to implement this requirement of federal law. In designing the program, the JURHA has addressed resident concerns. Non-exempt residents will be encouraged to perform community service at the development where they reside or in their immediately surrounding communities. Activities such as participation in Neighborhood Watch, Bus Stop Patrol, Tenant Patrol, Computer Lab Volunteer, and Youth Event Chaperone are available to residents for community service credits. Residents may perform community service at locations not owned or controlled by Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority. JURHA has ten approved work sites.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

JURHA encourages active participation in our Public Housing Resident Council. Many single parents lacked the time and scheduling conflicts from residents' work schedules prevent adequate participation in these resident council meetings. JURHA offered different schedules for resident council and their board meetings, however the varying non-traditional work schedules of our residents is still second only to lack of transportation as an excuse for nonattendance at the meetings.

JURHA has a public housing resident on our Board of Commissioners, as required by HUD. We give each resident a flyer from JURHA CHDO that sells houses with homeownership tips. Unfortunately, we no longer offer a homeownership program where we were able to truly consult and advise residents on ways to improve credit scores and educate them about homeownership. HUD discontinued funding for the Homeownership Program, expecting housing authorities, to acquire funding from other sources. Even though banks were willing to provide some funding, we were unable to secure adequate funding

from local banks.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

Not applicable

Discussion

DRAFT

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The City of Jonesboro is tackling the ever-increasing issue of homelessness. As more and more people find themselves without shelter, the jurisdiction deems necessary to address this issue and allocate funds for services that aim to prevent or eliminate homelessness in the city. However, individuals with disabilities struggle to transition into permanent housing. The jurisdiction is aware of these issues and are willing to work with the service providers and the families of these individuals. There have also been an increase in veterans being homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless, as a result, the City is working to construct a Veterans Village affordable housing. CDBG funds have been allocated in FY 2019 and FY 2020 to assist with the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center. The Center will be the hub for organizations and other agencies to provide housing and supportive services to the veterans and their families housed at the village and other veterans seeking these services.

COJ has allotted CDBG funds for ADA Accessible sidewalks, parking, and facility entrance modifications to comply with ADA Accessible regulations. Additionally, through the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program, funds are utilized to make ADA accessible bathrooms, doorways, ramps, and other modification for qualified LMI applicants with disabilities.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The jurisdiction is aiming to address the homelessness issue by providing funding to two activities this fiscal year. One activity is a public services project for fund The HUB to advance their services to the homelessness population. The other activity/project is the Veterans Village of Jonesboro for affordable housing for veterans. Approximately 100 individuals (and their households) will have access to housing and services. Collaborating with other veteran service organizations to provide services, job preparedness, and to assist individuals to be able to achieve permanent housing and employment. These collaborations will also benefit individuals with disabilities that struggle to transition into permanent housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Mayor of City of Jonesboro has been working tirelessly with finding solutions to the city's shortage of emergency shelters and transitional housing to assist homeless persons. The jurisdiction is collaboration with other private and public entities to open a new emergency shelter and or transitional housing for homeless individuals. Within the city limits of Jonesboro, there are not many shelters, for instance, the Salvation Army has approximately 20 beds and 2 being family rooms, other organizations

and churches have expanded their services to the homeless by assisting homeless seeking for shelter with vouchers for motel stays.

The Mayor has appointed a Homeless Task Force made of service providers, churches, and key stakeholders to find a location for a shelter, funding opportunities, and partnerships.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The jurisdiction will continue working with the HUB to provide emergency and transitional housing needs for homeless individuals. As a resource center, the HUB will initially tap into emergency and transitional service providers. These includes area homeless shelters and churches. If beds are not available at a shelter, HUB volunteers call area churches who provide 1-2 nights in a motel. If churches are out funds for the month, the HUB used donated and/or raised funds to provide 1-2 nights' motel stay before starting the process over. The jurisdiction and the HUB will continue to refine this process and encourage churches and other organizations to support our efforts to shelter our homeless.

In addition, the City is invested to see the Veterans Village of Jonesboro for affordable housing to provide services and housing for homeless or at-risk of being homeless veterans (and their families). The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be the hub of organizations and agencies to provide housing and supportive services to the veterans to provide skills and transition them into self-sufficiency with being employed, paying rent, and cover all necessities.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

As mentioned herein the plan, the jurisdiction has the Veterans Village project for affordable housing to veterans and their families. The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be constructed to have other homeless services providers, organizations and agencies, to provide onsite housing and supportive services. Focusing on providing key services for participants to become self-sufficient and avoid the risks of becoming homeless or chronically homeless. The City through funding projects and activities such as the Veterans Village Outreach Center that address the needs of those that are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless aims to help low-income individual and their families. The jurisdiction intends to

assist individuals and service providers with the resources through providing decent and affordable housing opportunities. In addition to the housing aspect, opportunities to enter into life skills and other programs will assist those living within a community setting.

Finding solutions to establish a homeless shelter that meets demand it is a priority.

One of the core CDBG programs for the City is the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance that provides housing repairs to those who own their home and need assistance to bring their homes up to codes. Most of the applicants are elderly on fixed income and single parent head of household that without receiving the grant for needed housing repairs may run the risk of losing their homes or their homes becoming beyond repair that may be condemned.

Discussion

DRAFT

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor in our AFH, because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just two neighborhoods (north Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representation of minority and low-income individuals. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like better schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods.

In the recent years, there have been an increase in multifamily housing development throughout the city and especially in the impoverished area; however, being new building or duplexes may not be affordable to low-income individual seeking for affordable housing.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

A significant barrier to affordable housing remains the financial ability of the low- to moderate- income families to provide necessary funding for acquisition or for major or minor homeowner repairs, so acquisition and repair programs implemented by the city help address this obstacle. Another obstacle the City continues to face is the rising cost of materials and labor for rehabilitation projects in the community and the negative impact of that escalation on the existing program limits. The city currently administers minor and major repair programs that enable low- and moderate- income homeowners to stay in their homes in a safe and decent environment. The city continues to assist the low-income community by offering the Homeownership Assistance program to eligible first-time homebuyers. These programs continue to be very successful and in demand. The Homeowner Rehabilitation program, specifically, is a great resource and tool for qualified homeowners to apply for the grant and have their homes repair to avoid fines or losing their homes for becoming dilapidated or inhabitable.

The City enforces various zoning, permit, and parking requirements, which restricts 'free' use of land, but the city considers these regulations as being necessary to regulate safety and traffic issues for residential areas. The jurisdiction has provided for more affordable housing by allowing for relaxed lot standards; smaller lots with reduced setbacks (RS-8 Single Family District). This district allows reduced 15 foot, setbacks in front and back yards, as well as 7.5 foot, side setbacks with a lot as small as, 5,445 square feet at 50 foot, in width. The city's Zoning Code requires two parking spaces per single-family or

duplex unit.

Discussion:

DRAFT

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro continues to place major emphasis on HUD's priority to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. COJ's goals of housing, and improving the quality of life for LMI residents through the provision of needed public services, public improvements, and housing assistance programs. This year's projects and activities address these goals directly as it increases accessibility of affordable housing and the viability for potential homeownership through the provision of direct homeownership financial assistance. The city will address the sustainability of our existing affordable housing through its preservation, improvement, and rehabilitation projects. Providing grant opportunities for the underserved LMI and minority groups, fund services through public services programs, working on finding a suitable location to open a homeless shelter, and follow lead-based paint regulations are all efforts to assure the most disadvantaged residents have access to these programs and opportunities.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Jonesboro's Department of Grants & Community Development has implemented a citywide community engagement strategy that includes residents, churches, stakeholders and non-profit organizations that serve our lowest income residents. It is the jurisdiction's intention to build a model of community involvement that directly addresses poverty issues, encourages community leadership, and enables low-income neighborhoods to see marked change in the program year 2020.

2020 program year includes multiple projects that will benefit the LMI and minority persons in the city. Every year through the planning process of the plan, the City focuses on identifying community needs through its citizen's participation plan. Those comments, concerns, and community needs identified take priority in developing projects to be funded through CDBG. This year, a sidewalk project will be funded solely with CDBG program allocation. Funding nonprofit organizations through public services that service primarily minorities and LMI individuals is of importance to the City. Furthermore, the housing programs grants available to LMI individuals is a great way of servicing and providing opportunities to those underserved and with financial difficulty. Thus far, the City has not faced any obstacles to meeting the needs of residents being served within the programs mentioned herein.

Nonetheless, the obstacles of finding a place to open a shelter has been found to be challenging due to community opposition to having a homeless shelter in their neighborhood. The City and the Homeless Task Force is working together with key community leaders to overcome this obstacle and finding better

ways and solution to opening a homeless shelter within the city limits of Jonesboro.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Jonesboro is committed to the proper implementation of a balanced Community Development Program that maximizes benefits to low and moderate income persons both directly and indirectly through the improvement of their neighborhoods. Through the provision of decent and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, educational and supportive services, and the expansion of economic opportunities, the city intends to change the face of our low-income neighborhoods and provide residents with the needed resources to assist them in breaking both generational and circumstantial poverty. This year's primary focus is housing, along with a broad range of public and social services addressing the core needs of our low-income individuals.

CDBG funding makes it possible for Jonesboro to provide meaningful housing improvements, public improvement, and community restoration and development activities. It is through these activities that the City address the quality of life issues.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

According to the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X), lead based paint hazard is defined as any condition that causes exposure to lead from lead contaminated dust, lead contaminated soil or lead contaminated paint that is deteriorated or present in chewable surfaces, friction surfaces, or impact surfaces that would result in adverse human health effects. As required by Title X, the City of Jonesboro is carrying out CDBG funded activities in tandem with our Jonesboro Inspection Department. The Chief Building Official and inspectors are also certified in lead-based paint testing and removal.

Owners of properties to be rehabilitated are informed of the risks of lead based paint. As part of the rehabilitation process, the property is inspected for signs of defective paint. Defective paint in older homes that is suspected to be lead based is removed following the lead based paint standards. If there are children in the home, the parents are provided information regarding the benefits of having the children tested for lead based paint and also where they can go to get this done. When the Rehab project scope includes paint disturbance or touching paint, the RRP Certified contractor will test the paint surface for lead and if lead is found then the contractor follows Lead-Based Paint Safety Work Practices. All properties with built date unknown are assumed to have lead and SWP must be followed to avoid lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The institutional structure for implementation of the Consolidated Plan includes non-profit organizations along with other public agencies and educational institutions. The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development is responsible for implementation of the

Consolidated and Annual Action Plans. Providing LMI individuals multiple of services and opportunity for grants enables the jurisdiction to decrease the number of poverty-level families in the city.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The city funds and coordinates with the nonprofit organizations that provide public services to benefit Jonesboro residents. The city also works with housing developers in the development of affordable housing throughout the city. Non-profit organizations are vital partners in achieving the Consolidated Plan goals.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The city will continue to offer their assistance to the Public Housing Authority in submitting applications for funding to increase Section 8 vouchers or provide additional funds for affordable housing or other housing services. The city regularly collaborates with the local PHA, participates in non-profit meetings and faith-based activities, and organizes and facilitates focus groups.

The city assists non-profit agencies in securing other state and federal funding by writing letters of support and assisting agencies to complete applications for funding.

The major strengths of the city's institutional structure is in the access to various city departments and a large number of very capable non-profit organizations who are highly competent in using available resources and leveraging funding in order to achieve the desired housing and services.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro will continue to affirmatively further fair housing as set out under 24 CFR §91.220, and has prepared the AFH Plan that identifies impediments and barriers to fair housing choice, and maintains records pertaining to carrying out this certification. CDBG funding allows low-income individuals and families to be assisted in homeownership through education and matching grants for down payment and closing costs. For those who cannot afford to maintain their homes, CDBG funds will be used to provide grants for rehabilitation. The city has undertaken activities to address homeless resource center, affordable housing needs and rapid rehousing of our homeless individuals and families.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants & Community Development administer the CDBG funds. Annually, the assessment of how to use funds involve the citizens' participation. It is the goal of the City to use CDBG to fund programs, projects, and services that benefit LMI individuals within the city limits of Jonesboro.

DRAFT

DRAFT



Annual Action Plan

Community Development Block Grant

2020 Program Year

(July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

City of Jonesboro
Department of Grants & Community Development
300 South Church Street, Suite 402
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403

Annual Action Plan
2020

2020 Annual Action Plan

(July 1, 2020– June 30, 2021)

City Council Members

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Charles Frierson, Ward 1

Gene Vance, Ward 1

Dr. Charles Coleman, Ward 2

Chris Moore, Ward 2

Ann Williams, Ward 3

Chris Gibson, Ward 3

John Street, Ward 4

Mitch Johnson, Ward 4

LJ Bryant, Ward 5

Joe Hafner, Ward 5

Bobby Long, Ward 6

David McClain, Ward 6

Department of Grants & Community Development

Regina Burkett, Director of Community Development

Angy Abaunza, CDBG Program Manager

Brenda Hall, Grants & Finance Specialist

Hillary Starnes, Community Service Manager

Lakyn Williams, Rehab Project Coordinator

Table of Content

Community Development Block Grant Program 2020 Program Year Funds \$616,257

<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Process	
AP-05 Executive Summary	1
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies	6
AP-10 Consultation	7
AP-12 Participation	11
Annual Action Plan	
AP-15 Expected Resources	14
AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives	16
AP-35 Projects	26
AP-38 Project Summary	28
AP-50 Geographic Distribution	37
AP-55 Affordable Housing	39
AP-60 Public Housing	41
AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities	43
AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing	46
AP-85 Other Actions	48
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements	51
Appendices	
Appendix 1: Forms SF424 and SF424-D, and Certifications	
Appendix 2: Proof of Publication (Notice of Funding, Public Hearing, Review and Comment)	
Appendix 3: Guidance on Submitting 2020 Action Plan	
Appendix 4: COJ Passed and Approved Resolution	

Annual Action Plan
2020

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program allocates annual funds to the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas. The CDBG Program authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The purpose of the program is to provide funding for grantees to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting for low- and moderate-income persons within city limits of Jonesboro. CDBG eligible activities must address one of the following three National Objectives:

- Benefit to low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons or households;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and
- Meet a need having a particular urgency (urgent need).

City of Jonesboro, as grantee, carry out a wide range of community development activities, such as, housing services and economic development within the following core activities - programs:

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (may include sewer connection);
- Homeownership Assistance;
- Demolition & Clearance Assistance;
- Public Services Program;
- Public Facilities and Improvements Program;
- Neighborhood Revitalization Program; and
- Homeless Prevention and Services.

Designed to set goals that address community needs, the City of Jonesboro 2020 Annual Action Plan is an addition to 2017 – 2021 (Five-Year) Consolidated Plan. This Action Plan is the fourth annual report with descriptions and action items for specific activities that meet the goals outlined in the original Consolidated Plan.

HUD FY 2020 appropriations were released on February 14, 2020. The City of Jonesboro received \$616,257 in CDBG allocation to carryout allowable activities listed herein.

As the lead agency for the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan, the City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development follows a citizen participation plan to include citizens within the city limits of Jonesboro, City departments, CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee, non-profit organizations, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City of Jonesboro with the citizens' participation process has identified objectives and outcomes to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities benefitting low- and moderate-income persons and areas within city limits of Jonesboro.

Based on survey responses during the public hearings on December 11, 2019, citizens indicated these priorities: Infrastructure; Housing; Homelessness and Clearance; Code Enforcements; and Economic Development. Ranking infrastructure as higher need and on respectively. The City considered these surveys to identify objectives and outcomes for the 2020 Annual Action Plan.

Programs and FY 2020 CDBG allocations are as followed:

- Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance grant to qualified owner-occupied applicants with needed housing repairs. Allocated \$40,000 to assist approximately 5-8 qualified LMI homeowners with needed minor or major house repairs that may consist in the replacement, installation, and or repair of roofs, windows, doors, plumbing, electrical, sewers, foundations, and may include sewer connections. This activity is where the remaining balances of all activities and projects of the program year are transferred; therefore, the allocated amount may multiply and more homeowners will be assisted.
- Homeownership Assistance grant to LMI first-time homebuyers with down payment and closing costs. Allocated \$14,000 to assist four qualified individuals.
- Demolition and Clearance Assistance to demolish qualified homeowner properties and other dilapidated structures in LMI areas. Allocated \$10,000. Due to not having any qualified applicants in the previous program years, the allocation amount should cover the demolition and tipping cost to assist at least one applicant.
- Public Services Program provides nonprofit organizations with funding for programs benefitting LMI persons and or areas. A total of \$30,822.88 were allocated to two nonprofit organizations. CDBG funds for the Hispanic Community Services, Inc. will assist the organization to cover afterschool program expenses providing bilingual tutoring and support services to 75 school (K-8) age children from LMI household, most of them from CDBG designated area in north Jonesboro. Funding for the West End Neighborhood Association will assist with their neighborhood safety lighting initiative to benefit approximately 3468 individuals in LMI area in the city.
- Public Facilities and Improvements program is where a high amount of CDBG funds is used. Phase three of the Patrick Street Sidewalk and ADA Accessible project has \$130,000 allocated. Constructing the sidewalks will promote connectivity and accessibility to main roads, a nearby

park, and future city master plan redevelopment area. Furthermore, allocation to this program will include \$60,000 for L.M. Stott's Park to replace the playground and other park improvements in the LMI area mentioned above, and \$20,000 for Recovery Inc. for ADA parking and facility access improvements.

- Other activities funded include the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and Homeless Prevention and Services. The NRP is community driven and revitalization focused, \$40,000 allocated, will cover cost of projects selected by City Council and Neighborhood Beautification Committee to focus neighborhood revitalization and beautification in LMI areas. The Veterans Village Outreach Center (formally referred as Business Center), phase two of the construction project. Funds, \$150,000, will cover a portion of the cost to install new roof and windows. The Center will be the hub of the Veterans Village housing community to provide housing and onsite supportive services to veterans suffering homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless.

Sections AP 35 and 38 contains more details about the above-mentioned program and activities.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The City of Jonesboro (COJ) continues addressing housing services as one of the priorities for the Department. Providing low-and moderate-income persons with decent housing and a suitable living environment is a continuing goal. Homeownership and Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance, and other activities funded have been instrumental to enable the City to address issues that homeowners encounter by living in substandard conditions and having limited access to affordable housing.

The Rehab grant provides qualified homeowners the opportunity to complete needed home repairs; the grant is very sought after. Most applicants are elderly with low fixed incomes and low-income female-headed households. Due to Rehab being the activity where residuals from program year funded activities are transferred, the FY 2019 Rehab activity has not exhausted the money available for projects. In FY 2018, 18 minor and major rehab projects were completed, a total cost of \$219,006.52. As of now, for FY 2019, by the time this plan becomes official, there will be approximately 10 projects completed; averaging five projects per applications cycle and with a growing waitlist. It is evident that this program is needed; however, not having enough contractors to complete as many projects as possible is a limitation that hinders the amount of projects that can be completed at a time. Nonetheless, due to having FY 2019 funding available, it was determined that FY 2020 would be lower funded than usual. This will enable the usage of those funds to other projects otherwise funded lower amounts, such as allotting \$130,000 for the sidewalk project.

In 2019, the Grants and Community Development Department launched a new campaign as community outreach to promote housing assistance grants available, resulting in an influx of new applicants for all

programs. Last year under FY 2018 funding for Homeownership, there were eight grants awarded, that is four more than in previous years. Four of those grants were awarded to female-headed households.

Aiding in the prevention and elimination of homelessness keeps being a priority for the jurisdiction. In previous years, CDBG funding has been awarded to organizations providing services to the homeless and those at-risk of becoming homeless through facility rehab projects, administrative expenses, and or program related costs. In FY 2019, CDBG funds were allocated to aid in the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center by covering the cost of plumbing installation.

Moreover, the Public Services Program is a great way to assist nonprofit organizations with administrative and program expenses to services they provide to their LMI clients and residents. The Hispanic Community Services, Inc. is an organization providing several programs and services to the Hispanic community in Jonesboro and the outskirts of the city. This year, CDBG will fund them for the afterschool program, La Escuelita, to provide resources, bilingual tutoring and much more to K-8 school age children attending the program. West End Neighborhood Association has created multiple projects to assist and improve their neighborhood within their association boundaries. Previously, the nonprofit has received CDBG funding for neighborhood safety initiatives, safety security cameras, and park and lighting improvements. Continuing with their great neighborhood improvement and safety in-mind projects, for FY 2020, they will receive funding to install over 100 streetlights in their neighborhood aiming to decrease the growing crime rate. They are collaborating with City Water and Light, City of Jonesboro Police Department, and other entities to install lighting strategically needed areas of the neighborhood where more crime activity is reported or seen.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The jurisdiction follows the citizen participation plan to include citizens, City departments, non-profits, and other public and private entities to contribute in the development of the Plan. The CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee and the Grants and Community Development Department staff are involved in the decision-making for funds allocation. Citizens have the opportunity to provide input and to become informed throughout the planning process by participating in public hearings and public review and comment period, all advertised in local newspaper and City website.

On December 11, 2019 the *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* was published in the local newspaper. The *Notice of Public Hearing* was advertised on November 21, 2019 for two separate hearing held on December 11, 2019. The public hearings were held one in the morning and one in the evening to facilitate participation and convenience for citizens to attend. Attendees to the public hearing were asked to fill out a short survey ranking community needs; the survey responses were taken into consideration while planning allocations and projects for FY 2020 CDBG Program.

To fulfill the public comment and review period for the Action Plan Draft, the City published the *Notice of 30 Days Public Review and Comment Period* advertisement in the local newspaper and City website on March 27, 2020. A copy of the plan was available in the office for review. The last day for the public to submit comments was April 26, 2020. No requests to review the AP draft or comments were received.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

No comments were received through the end of the 30 days public review and comment period.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

Not applicable. No comments or views were received.

7. Summary

Through the newspaper advertisement, the website, and City social media the public where given the opportunity for a 30-days public review and comment period for the 2020 Action Plan Draft. There were no comments or concerns submitted or brought up to the department.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	JONESBORO	Grants and Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development is the lead agency assigned to administrate, implement and oversee the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded programs and activities. The staff are responsible of preparing the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan with the input and collaboration with citizens, public and private entities.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Regina Burkett

Director of Community Development

rburkett@jonesboro.org

870-336-7229

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

As part of the consolidated planning process, the City of Jonesboro (COJ) recognizes that collaborating with citizens, public and private entities is vital for the advancement of the community. The Grants and Community Development Department administers the Community Development Block Grant Program and continuously form partnerships with organizations to provide input on their field of expertise to better assist the department in developing the Plan.

During the planning process for the 2020 Annual Action Plan, the City consulted with the community, COJ departments, public and private organizations. Collaborated and consulted with the Jonesboro Urban Renewal & Housing Authority (JURHA), Crowley’s Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Department of Human Services, Beck Pride Center, United Way of Northeast Arkansas, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro, BancorpSouth, Food Bank of NEA, and many other organizations and agencies.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The jurisdiction receives input from City departments, Citizens Advisory Committee, public and private organizations, and federal and state agencies to coordinate community development and housing services. Coordination between entities include strategizing, communicating, and serving on committees and boards.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City was involved with planning and strategizing of the Homelessness Task Force Coalition in 2016 and 2017. COJ is a member of the Northeast Arkansas Continuum of Care Coalition, part of the Arkansas Balance of State CoC. The City received the Continuum of Care grant in 2017 and the program delivery was between 2017 and 2018. The jurisdiction did not apply for the grant during the upcoming program year. Nonetheless, the City maintains its goal of addressing the needs of homeless persons.

Being part of the NEA AR CoC Coalition has facilitated the COJ with working together with other organizations and agencies that provide services to the homeless population in Craighead, Green, and Poinsett Counties. During the planning process, the jurisdiction has collaborated with Crowley’s Ridge Development Council (CRDC), Hispanic Community Services, Inc. (HCSI); Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (N.A.R.T.C.P), East Arkansas Planning and Development District

(EAPDD), Craighead County Veterans Services, HUB Homeless Resource Center, and other non-profit organizations, church outreach ministries, community groups and neighborhood associations.

The City participates in the annual Point in Time Count (PIT); collaborates with its partners to serve the homeless populations and at-risk of becoming homeless. On January 23, 2020, the PIT count was conducted in northeast Arkansas and data was collected by surveying homeless individuals in Craighead, Greene, and Poinsett counties. Among these three counties, reported numbers were categorized as unsheltered (23), sheltered (153), and school districts (847).

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The City of Jonesboro planning process is a 12-month process that solicits and accepts citizens' input throughout the year. Information and data are collected from federally mandated public hearings; including CDBG, AFH hearings, community meetings and listening sessions. This process has enhanced the avenues for sharing data and gaining a better understanding of how we can coordinate our efforts to improve the lives of low- and moderate-income citizens. Additionally, social service agencies and other entities were invited to the table during the planning process as well as throughout the year. This yearlong listening process has proven to be successful in gaining input from a cross-section of the community and service providers.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF JONESBORO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development has collaborated with all City departments through the year process for the annual action plan. The purpose to collaborate is to find ways to leverage CDBG funds with other local, state, federal, and private funding for project to benefit LMI areas and individual. Projects such sidewalk and street improvements, parks improvements and playground equipment, economic development, in conjunction with assisting with City's Master Plan to provide connectivity to LMI neighborhoods to access to stores, health services, and more.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Not applicable - None known.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	City of Jonesboro	This plan overlaps the Consolidated and Action Plans through ensuring affordable and decent housing is available for the homeless to become independent and integrated into the community. In addition, transportation planning and implementation was the second goal that was part of both programs for the jurisdiction.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

During the 12 months process, the jurisdiction holds public hearings and meetings, and invites key organizations and the public to attend. It is imperative to hear from several agencies, groups, organizations, and others to share their information as frontline service providers. Many organizations like JURHA, HUB, CRDC, and others have provided input and assistance in finding solutions to homelessness in the city and providing better supportive services to those at-risk of becoming homeless or are experiencing homelessness.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

In the efforts to broaden citizen participation the City advertises all notices in the local newspaper, COJ website and social media pages, flyers are created and posted in community centers, and mass emails are sent out from all staff of the department.

The citizen participation process began with publishing the *Notice of Public Hearing* on November 21, 2019 in the local newspaper, flyers posted on COJ's social media and website announcing two separate hearings. On December 11, 2019, the public hearings were held one in the morning and one in the evening to facilitate participation and convenience for citizens to attend. Attendees to the public hearing were asked to fill out a short survey ranking community needs; the survey responses were taken into consideration while planning allocations and projects for FY 2020 CDBG Program.

The *Notice of Funding Availability* and *Notice of Request for Proposal* was published on December 11, 2019 in the local newspaper, COJ website and social media accounts. With the notice of funding availability, citizens get informed of available funding for housing programs, such as rehabilitation, demolition, and homeownership assistance. The RFP notice, which is directed to nonprofit organizations that may be interested in applying for the upcoming program year, proposals were due January 10, 2020.

To fulfill the public comment and review period for the Action Plan Draft, the City published the *Notice of 30 Days Public Review and Comment Period* advertisement in the local newspaper and City website on March 27, 2020. A copy of the plan was available in the office for review. The last day for the public to submit comments was April 26, 2020. No requests to review the AP draft or comments were received.

The jurisdiction utilizes newspapers, printed material, website and social media to reach out to the community to encourage citizen participation.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community Non-Profit Organization	Notice of Public Hearing - Non-profit organizations and residents contact the office for more questions about public hearings time and location. Notice of Funding Availability and RFP - citizens and organizations contact the office to inquire about the grants available, qualifications, and requirements. Six proposals were received. Noticed of 30 Day Public Review and Comment Period - no comments received.	No public comment received.	Not applicable, no public comments received.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Citizens, Citizens Advisory Committee members, and non-profit organizations were invited to attend the public hearing on December 11, 2019. A total of 8 citizens attended the two meetings and filled out a survey identifying community priority needs.	Dept. staff made presentation of all activities and organizations proposals accepted. Attendees filled out a short survey identifying priority community needs. Identifying infrastructure as a community priority, following with housing, homelessness and clearance or demolition, code enforcement, and economic development.	All comments were accepted.	
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	No applicable.	No comments received.	No comments received.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The 2020 CDBG allocation of \$616,257 will be utilized for the program year to fund multiple projects and activities to benefit LMI persons directly or indirectly.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	616,257	0	0	616,257	534,276	This is the expected amount of CDBG funds for the remainder of the Consolidated Plan (2017 - 2021). The available remainder of funds from 2018 is and 2019 is \$434,223.57 both noted in expected amount available remainder of Con Plan. These amount include encumbered amounts of multiple activities that will completed before 2020 program year begins.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied.

FY 2020 is the fourth year of the Consolidated Plan. The jurisdiction will continue to utilize the CDBG funds for the improvement of the community with infrastructure projects, assisting LMI citizens with housing assistance, and funding nonprofit organization to provide services vital for the community. In effort to increase the positive impact CDBG funds, the jurisdiction leverage CDBG funds with additional state, local, and private funds.

One of the projects in which CDBG funds are leveraged is the Veterans Village Outreach Center. The Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA) awarded the City of Jonesboro \$1,058,925 from the National Housing Trust Fund Program to construct the affordable housing for veterans (Veterans Village of Jonesboro); the grant covers the costs of building the housing units. CDBG funds are going towards the construction of the Outreach Center located in the Veterans Village premises. Having a center will enable to provide onsite housing and supportive services to the veterans being housed in the village and those in the community that seek these services. In FY 2019, \$80,000 were allocated to assist with the construction of the center, specifically, to cover the cost of plumbing. For FY 2020, \$150,000 allotted funds will cover the costs of roof and windows installation. The Veterans Village project is an example of leveraging federal, state, local, and private funds to complete a project such this one of this magnitude. It is necessary to be noted that no CDBG funds are going towards the housing aspect of the project; all funds allocated are for the Outreach Center.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

One of the priority of the jurisdiction is to aid in the prevention and eradication of homelessness. They City is currently working with appointed coalition members, other COJ departments, and key stakeholders to find location for a homeless shelter. Additionally, the Veterans Village and the Outreach Center are in city-owned property.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit	2017	2021	Public Housing Transportation	Jonesboro	AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons	CDBG: \$0	

2	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board	2017	2018	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	
---	---	------	------	--	------------------------------	---	-----------	--

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Lack of Private Investments AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$390,823	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9745 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3500 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement	2017	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Community Opposition AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions AFH: Private Discrimination AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range	CDBG: \$0	
7	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled	2017	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public	CDBG: \$20,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice	2017	2021	Affordable Housing Public Housing	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$14,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted
9	Create Attractive Neighborhood-Livability	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Jonesboro	AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies	CDBG: \$50,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 2 Buildings
10	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless	2017	2021	Homeless	Jonesboro	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public		

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit
	Goal Description	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted in transportation through JETS.
2	Goal Name	AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board
	Goal Description	Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. Several members have attending training and conferences hosted by the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. The goal for 2020 if for the board to focus on the role and actions to take as leaders of the community to establish procedures. It must be determined whether the board will hear citizens' concerns and reports or if it will maintain in their informative and advocate role.
3	Goal Name	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy
	Goal Description	<p>The purpose of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) is to fund community driven, neighborhood revitalization and beautification focused projects to benefit LMI areas. \$40,000 CDBG funds were allocated with the goal to cover the cost of projects selected by City Council and Neighborhood Beautification Committee members. Projects have not been selected; nonetheless, projects selected will benefit LMI areas.</p> <p>Public Services project for West End Neighborhood Association (\$10,822.88). The association aims to decrease crime in key LMI areas of the West End Neighborhoods Association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights to benefit approximately 1,700 households.</p> <p>Public Facilities and Improvements for sidewalk improvements (\$130,000) in an LMI area, continuing with phase 3 of the Patrick Street Sidewalk projects to facilitate access to residents and connectivity. The sidewalk improvement will benefit over 5,000 LMI persons. Additionally, funding for the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center (\$150,000) to cover installation costs of roof and windows. Organizations and services being provided in the Outreach Center will benefit 9 households per year housed in the village, including other veterans experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless that are seeking these services. Furthermore, the L.M. Stott's Park rehabilitation project (\$60,000) in an identified LMI area will cover the cost of new playground installation and other improvements. The neighborhood is over 51 percent LMI and approximately over 4,000 residents will benefit from these improvements to the park.</p>

4	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge
	Goal Description	Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. Several members have attending training and conferences hosted by the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. The goal for 2020 if for the board to focus on the role and actions to take as leaders of the community to establish procedures. It must be determined whether the board will hear citizens' concerns and reports or if it will maintain in their informative and advocate role.
5	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement
	Goal Description	Increasing awareness and enforcement of fair housing among publicly assisted families. Citizens Fair Housing Advisory Board established March 20, 2018 with 8 members. The members have received training and created a partnership with the Arkansas Fair Housing Advisory Board. This fiscal year the board will meet to determine their role with the community and establish procedures.
6	Goal Name	AFH: Establish a City Land Bank
	Goal Description	The City Land Bank Commission was established on Dec. 19, 2017. The City of Jonesboro Department of Land Bank and the Commission purpose is to reverse urban blight, increase home ownership and the stability of property values, provide affordable housing, improve the health and safety of neighborhoods within the City and to maintain architectural fabric of the community.
7	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	Goal Description	Public Improvement Program (\$130,000) project construct S. Patrick Street sidewalks, phase 3 of Patrick St. sidewalk project. The purpose of the project is to increase accessibility to sidewalks for citizens, including ADA accessible sidewalks in this LMI area. Over 5,000 residents and commuter drivers will benefit. This has already been counted in goal 3 identified prior. Public Facility Program (\$20,000): funding for the Recovery, which they serve approximately 200 individuals fighting substance and are part of AA meetings. The project will cover the cost to provide ADA accessibility to the facility and parking improvements. The Homeowner Rehabilitation projects may also include ADA accessibility improvements for elderly disabled applicants.

8	Goal Name	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice
	Goal Description	Homeownership Assistance will benefit 4 LMI First-time homebuyers with \$3,500 down payment and or closing cost assistance.
9	Goal Name	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Goal Description	<p>To create attractive neighborhoods the City will continue to focus on funding housing services.</p> <p>Housing services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance (\$40,000) to LMI homeowner-occupied. Approximately 15 homeowners will benefit from the grant; additionally it helps improve their quality of life. Demolition and Clearance Assistance (\$10,000) to LMI homeowner, approximately 1-2 homeowners will benefit from the grant. LMI neighborhoods to prevent/eliminate slum and blight will benefit.</p> <p>Many of the activities funded this fiscal year will be to address neighborhood revitalization, specifically through public facilities and improvements.</p> <p>Additionally, creating attractive neighborhood livability is part of the City aiming to develop a community revitalization strategy with the goal to in the next two years to conduct a professional neighborhood assessment. The assessment will enable the City to design better strategies to target specific and identified neighborhoods in need.</p>
10	Goal Name	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	Goal Description	It is the jurisdiction goal to continue prioritizing and aiding in the prevention and eradication of homelessness in the city. CDBG funding utilized will assist with the cost of building the Veterans Village Outreach Center to benefit homeless veterans or those at-risk to become homeless directly. The purpose of the center is to provide a place where organizations and other agencies can provide onsite housing and supportive services needed to those veterans and their families housed in the Veterans Village and community at large seeking for services. The center will provide services to assist with the veteran housing village. Activity identified in goal 3.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded \$616,257 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the City of Jonesboro to achieve the set goals of activities listed in the 2020 Action Plan.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
2	Homeownership Assistance
3	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
4	Neighborhood Revitalization Program
5	Veterans Village Outreach Center
6	S. Patrick Street Sidewalks - Phase 3
7	Recovery, Inc. - ADA Accessibility Parking Improvements
8	L.M. Stott's Park - Playground Installation
9	Hispanic Community Services, Inc. - La Escuelita Expansion
10	West End Neighborhood Association - Safety Lighting Expansion
11	CDBG Program Planning & Administration

Table 7 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

CDBG funds will benefit LMI individuals throughout the city of Jonesboro. The Housing Services: Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance; Homeownership Assistance; Demolition & Clearance Assistance, which are direct services managed by the grantee, are citywide services for qualified LMI applicants. Providing these services is a priority for the city, specifically, Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance where the program benefits mainly individuals that are below the 50 percent of HUD income guidelines. These services are a priority due to the high number of applicants having homes near dilapidation caused by the years of being unattended by homeowners for various reasons, one being limited income. Demolition assistance for preventing and eliminating slum and blight in LMI neighborhoods. Furthermore, assisting LMI individuals that are unable to afford demolishing their houses after a fire or beyond decayed. Assisting first-time homebuyers with closing cost/down payment provides accessibility

to affordable housing.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) was designed to revitalize and beautify LMI neighborhoods. Funding for the NRP will be utilized for projects selected by the Neighborhood Beautification Commission—the Mayor appointed members. The City Council—through the initiative call of WIN (Wards Improving Neighborhoods) where the City Council will select projects in their LMI neighborhoods that may be funded with CDBG funds. Additionally, funds for the NRP will assist the Land Bank indirectly to beautify and rehabilitate homeowner-occupied houses near the areas of new development to increase community and economic development. Projects selected may include park rehabilitation, community beautification by planting trees, creating green spaces in empty lots, painting murals, neighborhood cleanup events, and many more projects.

Aiding in the prevention and elimination of homelessness is one of the city's top priority. Finding ways to provide housing and services to the homeless has been a focus for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Veterans Village of Jonesboro—affordable veterans housing is one of the ways COJ has been working in this priority. In addition, CDBG funding is assisting with the cost of building the Veterans Village Outreach Center to provide a place where housing and supportive services can be provided to the veterans housed at the village and those in the community seeking for services. One of the goals to addressing homelessness is to find a location for a homeless shelter. The Mayor has appointed a Taskforce tasked with finding a location for the shelter, potential funding, and partnerships. One of the obstacles that have been identified with finding a shelter location is community opposition.

This program year, funds were allocated to address two public facilities and improvements projects. One is the ADA Accessible parking improvements project for the Recovery center, the center service Alcohol Anonymous and Substance Abuse Services. The second project funded is to continue Patrick Street Sidewalk improvements, phase 3 will be on South Patrick St. in another LMI area of the city.

There are two Public Services Program subgrantees for 2020 program year, one is the Hispanic Community Services, Inc., also known as El Centro Hispano, and the West End Neighborhood Association. CDBG funds awarded to El Centro Hispano will be for their after-school program—La Escuelita, where bilingual tutoring and other services will be provided to school age children grades K-8 of LMI households. The West End Neighborhood Association continues their Safety Neighborhood Initiative by expanding on the safety lighting. The association is aiming to decrease and eliminate crime in their neighborhood association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights in identified trouble crime areas.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance for qualified homeowner-occupied properties for minor and major home repairs. Repair, replacements, and or installations plumbing, sewer, roof, electric up to code, windows, foundation and many more. It may include sewer connection.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4-6 projects will be completed for qualified LMI applicants. Most grant recipients are elderly with fix incomes below the 50 percent HUD income limits.
	Location Description	Citywide projects based on LMI applicants in various locations throughout the city limits of Jonesboro.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of Rehab projects that may be comprised in replacement, repair, and installation of roof; windows, plumbing, electrical, air and heat units, sewer lines, and it may include sewer connection.
2	Project Name	Homeownership Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range
	Funding	CDBG: \$14,000
	Description	Homeownership Assistance program provides qualified first-time homebuyers a \$3,500 grant for down payment and closing cost assistance. Most applicants are within the 80 percent of HUD income limits.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four LMI households will benefit directly from this grant.
	Location Description	Citywide qualified applicants.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized for COJ to award a \$3,500 grant to four qualified LMI persons purchasing their first home to cover the closing costs and or down payment.
3	Project Name	Demolition & Clearance Assistance
	Target Area	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The demolition assistance grant benefits LMI homeowners to demolish their dilapidated properties. It may include the demolition of privately owned buildings aiming to address slum and blight in LMI areas.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One or two homeowners will benefit directly from receiving the grant to demolish their dilapidated homes.
	Location Description	Citywide qualified applicants, most in identified LMI areas, especially north Jonesboro.
Planned Activities	Qualified applicants will receive grant to demolish dilapidated homes. CDBG funds will cover the cost of demolition and tipping fees.	
4	Project Name	Neighborhood Revitalization Program
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public

	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Program will fund the cost of projects addressing revitalization and beautification of LMI neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Beautification Commission and City Council will identify potential projects. Potential projects may be neighborhood cleanup events, tree planting, painting or murals, street lighting, curbside appeals, and much more.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Residents of LMI neighborhoods will directly benefit from neighborhood revitalization and beautification projects.
	Location Description	Jonesboro LMI areas.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of completing projects such neighborhood cleanup events, tree planting, painting or murals, street lighting, curbside appeals, and much more.
5	Project Name	Veterans Village Outreach Center
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	Once the construction of the Outreach Center is complete, a vast amount of housing and supportive services will be provided by organizations and agencies collaborating with COJ. Services provided at the Veterans Village Outreach Center will benefit veterans housed at the Veterans Village that have previously experienced homelessness, are chronic homeless, or at-risk of becoming homeless. Services will also be provided to those veterans seeking services in the community.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Primarily, those benefiting from the construction of the Outreach Center and the housing and supportive services that will be provided are those housed at the village. The Veterans Village will housed 9 households of veterans that were experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless. Additionally, services will be provided to veterans in the community seeking for services. Approximately 100 veterans and their families will be assisted.
	Location Description	Administration of the construction project will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be located in Jonesboro at boundaries of Aggie Road, Patrick Street, Allis Street, and Chalky Street.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the costs of installing roof and windows for the Veterans Village Outreach Center.
6	Project Name	S. Patrick Street Sidewalks - Phase 3
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings
	Funding	CDBG: \$130,000
	Description	Public Improvements - Phase 3 of Patrick Street sidewalks improvements will be on S. Patrick Street north of E. Matthews Avenue. The sidewalk improvements will include the construction of new sidewalks in certain areas and modifications for ADA Accessibility compliance.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Patrick Street sidewalk improvements will benefit over 5,000 LMI persons in the identified area where over 63 percent are LMI.
	Location Description	On S. Patrick Street from E. Matthews Avenue north to Creath Avenue.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of construction and ADA Accessible improvements to sidewalks on S. Patrick Street from E. Matthews Avenue north to Creath Avenue.
7	Project Name	Recovery, Inc. - ADA Accessibility Parking Improvements
	Target Area	Jonesboro

	Goals Supported	AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Public Facility Program - modifications and improvements for ADA Accessible parking for the Recovery center. The center provide Alcohol Anonymous and Substance Abuse Services to approximately 200 individuals in the community seeking for those services.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximate 200 individuals including persons with physical disabilities access the facility and use the parking lot.
	Location Description	Administration of project will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grant and Community Development Department. Location of Recovery, Inc. facility is 2901 W. Washington Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the cost of making ADA Accessible modifications and improvements to the parking lot and entrance of the Recovery, Inc. facility.
8	Project Name	L.M. Stott's Park - Playground Installation
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Public Facilities and Improvements Program - the L.M. Stott's Park rehabilitation project includes new playground installation and other improvements.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4,000 residents will benefit from these improvements to L.M. Stott's Park. The neighborhood is over 54 percent low-and moderate-income.
	Location Description	832 E. Hope Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas 71401

	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will cover the cost of purchasing and replacement of playground equipment and other improvements to the L.M. Stott's Park
9	Project Name	PS: Hispanic Community Services, Inc. - La Escuelita Expansion
	Target Area	Jonesboro
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Public Services Program - The Hispanic Community Services, Inc., also known as El Centro Hispano are expanding their after-school program, La Escuelita, where bilingual tutoring and other services and resourced will be provided to school age children grades K-8 of LMI households.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 students benefit directly from La Escuelita. Over 51 percent of the K-8 students are from LMI households.
	Location Description	Program administration will be conducted at Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. Services will be provided at El Centro Hispano at 211 Vandyne Street, Jonesboro, AR 72401
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the after-school program expenses for 75 students.
10	Project Name	West End Neighborhood Association - Safety Lighting Expansion
	Target Area	Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability
	Needs Addressed	AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,822.88
	Description	Public Services Program - The West End Neighborhood Association project aims to decrease crime in key LMI areas of the West End Neighborhoods Association boundaries by installing over 100 streetlights to benefit approximately 1,700 households.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 3468 individuals (1700 households) residing in the West End Neighborhood Association boundaries will benefit with the neighborhood safety initiative.
	Location Description	Program administration will be conducted at the Municipal Center by the Grants and Community Development Department. Project activity will be in key crime reported areas within the neighborhood boundaries of the association.
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be utilized to cover the expenses incurred with the installation of over 100 streetlights in key areas identified in crime reports within the boundaries of the West End Neighborhood Association.
11	Project Name	CDBG Program Planning & Administration
	Target Area	Jonesboro North Jonesboro Jonesboro - Low Income Areas
	Goals Supported	AFH: Improvement of Public Transit AFH: Establish a Citizen Fair Housing Board AFH: Develop a Community Revitalization Strategy AFH: Increase Fair Housing Knowledge AFH: Increase Awareness & Enforcement AFH: Establish a City Land Bank AFH: Increase Accessibility for the Disabled AFH: Increase Acceptability of Housing Choice Create Attractive Neighborhood- Livability Housing and Services Opportunities to the Homeless

Needs Addressed	<p>AFH Factor: Lack of Public Investment - Transit</p> <p>AFH: Access to Transportation for Persons</p> <p>AFH: Availability, type, frequency & reliability</p> <p>AFH: Community Opposition</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Private Investments</p> <p>AFH: Location and Type of Affordable Housing</p> <p>AFH: Occupancy Codes and Restrictions</p> <p>AFH: Private Discrimination</p> <p>AFH: Deteriorated and Abandoned Properties</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Community Revitalization Strategies</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Fair Housing Outreach & Enforcement</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Knowledge of Fair Housing</p> <p>AFH: Availability of Affordable Units in a Range</p> <p>AFH: Inaccessible Sidewalks, Pedestrian Crossings</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Transitional Housing</p> <p>AFH: Lack of Services & Amenities - Public</p>
Funding	CDBG: \$121,434.12
Description	<p>CDBG administration expenses necessary for planning, project management, implementation and compliance reporting. Planned activities include managing 2020 CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Program management will directly/indirectly have a positive effect on thousands of low-to moderate-income individuals throughout the program year. Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Meeting the 20 percent cap.</p>
Target Date	6/30/2021
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Citywide outreach and services, specifically to LMI residents.
Location Description	Municipal Center at 300 S. Church St., Jonesboro, AR 72401
Planned Activities	Planned activities include managing CDBG funded programs, projects, and comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

City of Jonesboro – data shows multiple low-and moderate-income sectors citywide. There are multiple pockets of low-income and minority concentrations throughout the city. Three key areas in the city have the highest LMI population and with neighborhoods needed rehabilitation, revitalization, and beautification strategies. These areas are north Jonesboro (NRSA), Fairview at the east of city limits, and West Ends adjacent to downtown in the west side of town. North Jonesboro has approximately 74.8 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 6.01 Block Group 3, 6.02 Block Group 1 and 2. Fairview has approximately 70 percent of LMI population in Census Tract 4.01 Block Group 1 and 3, 4.02 Block Group 3, and 5.02 in Block Group 1 and 3. West End overall census tract data shows that approximately 55 percent of the population is LMI; however, the area of focus are in Census Tract 1.01 Block Group 1 and 3, and 2 Block Group 3 indicating that 75.9 percent are LMI.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Jonesboro	24
North Jonesboro	31
Jonesboro - Low Income Areas	46

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

It is the City's priority to fund projects and activities that benefit LMI individuals. A portion of the funds will be utilize to fund activities in north Jonesboro, where a large number of LMI households reside. Most of the public services organizations being funded this fiscal year provide services to LMI individual. Funds for housing services are awarded to qualified LMI individuals citywide; however, there is a large number of applicants from north Jonesboro for the rehabilitation assistance program.

Geographic distribution is as follow: Jonesboro (citywide) 23.4 percent, LMI areas 45.6 percent, north Jonesboro 30.9 percent. Program Planning and Administration amount allocated was divided evenly among the three areas of focus for a balanced distribution.

Discussion

Funds will benefit low-and moderate-income individuals all throughout the city of Jonesboro. More than

50,000 individuals will benefit through direct and or indirect service.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

In FY 2017 the jurisdiction were granted Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Continuum of Care (CoC) funds to assist with providing services to homeless and at-risk to be homeless individuals. Services included rapid rehousing, rent and utility payment assistance. The program was completed at the end of FY2018 and the City will not be receiving this funding for FY2020.

FY 2018 funds are being awarded to eight first-time homebuyers for the Homeownership Assistance Program. These funds are awarded to qualified LMI individuals to assist with closing cost and down payment. FY 2019 funds for this activity has not been utilized due to FY 2018 being available and applications not submitted during the winter months.

Currently, the jurisdiction is working on funding housing services from 2019 CDBG funds. Approximately 10+ houses will be completed for the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program. Funds to rehabilitate homeowner-occupied properties to bring them up to code, clean and safe environment to live. With this program, homeowners in very dilapidated housing will be able to stay in their property that they can afford as oppose to relocating in case their home becomes condemned—unlivable conditions.

In addition, the Veterans Village of Jonesboro will be assisting approximately 100 veterans and their families with affordable housing. CDBG funds allotted are to assist with the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	100
Non-Homeless	23
Special-Needs	8
Total	131

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	15
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	15

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

All direct and indirect services are provided for LMI individuals, including homeless or at-risk of being homeless veterans.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The jurisdiction does not own or manage any public housing. The City of Jonesboro collaborates with Jonesboro Housing Authority (JURHA) who is over public housing. JURHA public housing developments are primarily located on the outskirts of the R/ECAP. Even though it is physically located out of the R/ECAP, based on the JURHA annual review for de- concentration in public housing, 87 percent (121 of 140 public housing residents) fall at or below the extremely low- income levels. Of the remaining eleven percent of the households (19 residents) live at the 50 percent or the very low- income levels of the city population.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

Jonesboro Housing Authority notes that residents have frequently given opposition to the requirement that public housing residents provide community service. However, JURHA has no choice but to implement this requirement of federal law. In designing the program, the JURHA has addressed resident concerns. Non-exempt residents will be encouraged to perform community service at the development where they reside or in their immediately surrounding communities. Activities such as participation in Neighborhood Watch, Bus Stop Patrol, Tenant Patrol, Computer Lab Volunteer, and Youth Event Chaperone are available to residents for community service credits. Residents may perform community service at locations not owned or controlled by Jonesboro Urban Renewal and Housing Authority. JURHA has ten approved work sites.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

JURHA encourages active participation in our Public Housing Resident Council. Many single parents lacked the time and scheduling conflicts from residents' work schedules prevent adequate participation in these resident council meetings. JURHA offered different schedules for resident council and their board meetings, however the varying non-traditional work schedules of our residents is still second only to lack of transportation as an excuse for nonattendance at the meetings.

JURHA has a public housing resident on our Board of Commissioners, as required by HUD. We give each resident a flyer from JURHA CHDO that sells houses with homeownership tips. Unfortunately, we no longer offer a homeownership program where we were able to truly consult and advise residents on ways to improve credit scores and educate them about homeownership. HUD discontinued funding for the Homeownership Program, expecting housing authorities, to acquire funding from other sources. Even though banks were willing to provide some funding, we were unable to secure adequate funding

from local banks.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

Not applicable

Discussion

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The City of Jonesboro is tackling the ever-increasing issue of homelessness. As more and more people find themselves without shelter, the jurisdiction deems necessary to address this issue and allocate funds for services that aim to prevent or eliminate homelessness in the city. However, individuals with disabilities struggle to transition into permanent housing. The jurisdiction is aware of these issues and are willing to work with the service providers and the families of these individuals. There have also been an increase in veterans being homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless, as a result, the City is working to construct a Veterans Village affordable housing. CDBG funds have been allocated in FY 2019 and FY 2020 to assist with the construction of the Veterans Village Outreach Center. The Center will be the hub for organizations and other agencies to provide housing and supportive services to the veterans and their families housed at the village and other veterans seeking these services.

COJ has allotted CDBG funds for ADA Accessible sidewalks, parking, and facility entrance modifications to comply with ADA Accessible regulations. Additionally, through the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program, funds are utilized to make ADA accessible bathrooms, doorways, ramps, and other modification for qualified LMI applicants with disabilities.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The jurisdiction is aiming to address the homelessness issue by providing funding to two activities this fiscal year. One activity is a public services project for fund The HUB to advance their services to the homelessness population. The other activity/project is the Veterans Village of Jonesboro for affordable housing for veterans. Approximately 100 individuals (and their households) will have access to housing and services. Collaborating with other veteran service organizations to provide services, job preparedness, and to assist individuals to be able to achieve permanent housing and employment. These collaborations will also benefit individuals with disabilities that struggle to transition into permanent housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Mayor of City of Jonesboro has been working tirelessly with finding solutions to the city's shortage of emergency shelters and transitional housing to assist homeless persons. The jurisdiction is collaboration with other private and public entities to open a new emergency shelter and or transitional housing for homeless individuals. Within the city limits of Jonesboro, there are not many shelters, for instance, the Salvation Army has approximately 20 beds and 2 being family rooms, other organizations

and churches have expanded their services to the homeless by assisting homeless seeking for shelter with vouchers for motel stays.

The Mayor has appointed a Homeless Task Force made of service providers, churches, and key stakeholders to find a location for a shelter, funding opportunities, and partnerships.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The jurisdiction will continue working with the HUB to provide emergency and transitional housing needs for homeless individuals. As a resource center, the HUB will initially tap into emergency and transitional service providers. These includes area homeless shelters and churches. If beds are not available at a shelter, HUB volunteers call area churches who provide 1-2 nights in a motel. If churches are out funds for the month, the HUB used donated and/or raised funds to provide 1-2 nights' motel stay before starting the process over. The jurisdiction and the HUB will continue to refine this process and encourage churches and other organizations to support our efforts to shelter our homeless.

In addition, the City is invested to see the Veterans Village of Jonesboro for affordable housing to provide services and housing for homeless or at-risk of being homeless veterans (and their families). The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be the hub of organizations and agencies to provide housing and supportive services to the veterans to provide skills and transition them into self-sufficiency with being employed, paying rent, and cover all necessities.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

As mentioned herein the plan, the jurisdiction has the Veterans Village project for affordable housing to veterans and their families. The Veterans Village Outreach Center will be constructed to have other homeless services providers, organizations and agencies, to provide onsite housing and supportive services. Focusing on providing key services for participants to become self-sufficient and avoid the risks of becoming homeless or chronically homeless. The City through funding projects and activities such as the Veterans Village Outreach Center that address the needs of those that are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless aims to help low-income individual and their families. The jurisdiction intends to

assist individuals and service providers with the resources through providing decent and affordable housing opportunities. In addition to the housing aspect, opportunities to enter into life skills and other programs will assist those living within a community setting.

Finding solutions to establish a homeless shelter that meets demand it is a priority.

One of the core CDBG programs for the City is the Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance that provides housing repairs to those who own their home and need assistance to bring their homes up to codes. Most of the applicants are elderly on fixed income and single parent head of household that without receiving the grant for needed housing repairs may run the risk of losing their homes or their homes becoming beyond repair that may be condemned.

Discussion

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

Location and type of affordable housing is listed as a high priority contributing factor in our AFH, because it affects all seven (7) fair housing issues. Much of Jonesboro's affordable and rental housing is located in just two neighborhoods (north Jonesboro and Fairview). These neighborhoods have a high representation of minority and low-income individuals. This concentration of affordable housing has a disproportionate impact on protected classes and impacts their housing choice, their ability to access neighborhoods with community amenities like better schools and proximity to jobs. Affordable housing in a variety of neighborhoods.

In the recent years, there have been an increase in multifamily housing development throughout the city and especially in the impoverished area; however, being new building or duplexes may not be affordable to low-income individual seeking for affordable housing.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

A significant barrier to affordable housing remains the financial ability of the low- to moderate- income families to provide necessary funding for acquisition or for major or minor homeowner repairs, so acquisition and repair programs implemented by the city help address this obstacle. Another obstacle the City continues to face is the rising cost of materials and labor for rehabilitation projects in the community and the negative impact of that escalation on the existing program limits. The city currently administers minor and major repair programs that enable low- and moderate- income homeowners to stay in their homes in a safe and decent environment. The city continues to assist the low-income community by offering the Homeownership Assistance program to eligible first-time homebuyers. These programs continue to be very successful and in demand. The Homeowner Rehabilitation program, specifically, is a great resource and tool for qualified homeowners to apply for the grant and have their homes repair to avoid fines or losing their homes for becoming dilapidated or inhabitable.

The City enforces various zoning, permit, and parking requirements, which restricts 'free' use of land, but the city considers these regulations as being necessary to regulate safety and traffic issues for residential areas. The jurisdiction has provided for more affordable housing by allowing for relaxed lot standards; smaller lots with reduced setbacks (RS-8 Single Family District). This district allows reduced 15 foot, setbacks in front and back yards, as well as 7.5 foot, side setbacks with a lot as small as, 5,445 square feet at 50 foot, in width. The city's Zoning Code requires two parking spaces per single-family or

duplex unit.

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro continues to place major emphasis on HUD's priority to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. COJ's goals of housing, and improving the quality of life for LMI residents through the provision of needed public services, public improvements, and housing assistance programs. This year's projects and activities address these goals directly as it increases accessibility of affordable housing and the viability for potential homeownership through the provision of direct homeownership financial assistance. The city will address the sustainability of our existing affordable housing through its preservation, improvement, and rehabilitation projects. Providing grant opportunities for the underserved LMI and minority groups, fund services through public services programs, working on finding a suitable location to open a homeless shelter, and follow lead-based paint regulations are all efforts to assure the most disadvantaged residents have access to these programs and opportunities.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Jonesboro's Department of Grants & Community Development has implemented a citywide community engagement strategy that includes residents, churches, stakeholders and non-profit organizations that serve our lowest income residents. It is the jurisdiction's intention to build a model of community involvement that directly addresses poverty issues, encourages community leadership, and enables low-income neighborhoods to see marked change in the program year 2020.

2020 program year includes multiple projects that will benefit the LMI and minority persons in the city. Every year through the planning process of the plan, the City focuses on identifying community needs through its citizen's participation plan. Those comments, concerns, and community needs identified take priority in developing projects to be funded through CDBG. This year, a sidewalk project will be funded solely with CDBG program allocation. Funding nonprofit organizations through public services that service primarily minorities and LMI individuals is of importance to the City. Furthermore, the housing programs grants available to LMI individuals is a great way of servicing and providing opportunities to those underserved and with financial difficulty. Thus far, the City has not faced any obstacles to meeting the needs of residents being served within the programs mentioned herein.

Nonetheless, the obstacles of finding a place to open a shelter has been found to be challenging due to community opposition to having a homeless shelter in their neighborhood. The City and the Homeless Task Force is working together with key community leaders to overcome this obstacle and finding better

ways and solution to opening a homeless shelter within the city limits of Jonesboro.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Jonesboro is committed to the proper implementation of a balanced Community Development Program that maximizes benefits to low and moderate income persons both directly and indirectly through the improvement of their neighborhoods. Through the provision of decent and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, educational and supportive services, and the expansion of economic opportunities, the city intends to change the face of our low-income neighborhoods and provide residents with the needed resources to assist them in breaking both generational and circumstantial poverty. This year's primary focus is housing, along with a broad range of public and social services addressing the core needs of our low-income individuals.

CDBG funding makes it possible for Jonesboro to provide meaningful housing improvements, public improvement, and community restoration and development activities. It is through these activities that the City address the quality of life issues.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

According to the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X), lead based paint hazard is defined as any condition that causes exposure to lead from lead contaminated dust, lead contaminated soil or lead contaminated paint that is deteriorated or present in chewable surfaces, friction surfaces, or impact surfaces that would result in adverse human health effects. As required by Title X, the City of Jonesboro is carrying out CDBG funded activities in tandem with our Jonesboro Inspection Department. The Chief Building Official and inspectors are also certified in lead-based paint testing and removal.

Owners of properties to be rehabilitated are informed of the risks of lead based paint. As part of the rehabilitation process, the property is inspected for signs of defective paint. Defective paint in older homes that is suspected to be lead based is removed following the lead based paint standards. If there are children in the home, the parents are provided information regarding the benefits of having the children tested for lead based paint and also where they can go to get this done. When the Rehab project scope includes paint disturbance or touching paint, the RRP Certified contractor will test the paint surface for lead and if lead is found then the contractor follows Lead-Based Paint Safety Work Practices. All properties with built date unknown are assumed to have lead and SWP must be followed to avoid lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The institutional structure for implementation of the Consolidated Plan includes non-profit organizations along with other public agencies and educational institutions. The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants and Community Development is responsible for implementation of the

Consolidated and Annual Action Plans. Providing LMI individuals multiple of services and opportunity for grants enables the jurisdiction to decrease the number of poverty-level families in the city.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The city funds and coordinates with the nonprofit organizations that provide public services to benefit Jonesboro residents. The city also works with housing developers in the development of affordable housing throughout the city. Non-profit organizations are vital partners in achieving the Consolidated Plan goals.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The city will continue to offer their assistance to the Public Housing Authority in submitting applications for funding to increase Section 8 vouchers or provide additional funds for affordable housing or other housing services. The city regularly collaborates with the local PHA, participates in non-profit meetings and faith-based activities, and organizes and facilitates focus groups.

The city assists non-profit agencies in securing other state and federal funding by writing letters of support and assisting agencies to complete applications for funding.

The major strengths of the city's institutional structure is in the access to various city departments and a large number of very capable non-profit organizations who are highly competent in using available resources and leveraging funding in order to achieve the desired housing and services.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City of Jonesboro will continue to affirmatively further fair housing as set out under 24 CFR §91.220, and has prepared the AFH Plan that identifies impediments and barriers to fair housing choice, and maintains records pertaining to carrying out this certification. CDBG funding allows low-income individuals and families to be assisted in homeownership through education and matching grants for down payment and closing costs. For those who cannot afford to maintain their homes, CDBG funds will be used to provide grants for rehabilitation. The city has undertaken activities to address homeless resource center, affordable housing needs and rapid rehousing of our homeless individuals and families.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

The City of Jonesboro Department of Grants & Community Development administer the CDBG funds. Annually, the assessment of how to use funds involve the citizens' participation. It is the goal of the City to use CDBG to fund programs, projects, and services that benefit LMI individuals within the city limits of Jonesboro.

Embedded Adobe XML Form

The file <http://jonesboro.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8271109&GUID=5AB0439A-5F39-48D4-9FFC-0711E1F2DCD5> is an Adobe XML Form document that has been embedded in this document. Double click the pushpin to view.



ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title, or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal interest in the title of real property in accordance with awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progress reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles 11 and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction sub-agreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-1 33, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE Mayor
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Jonesboro	DATE SUBMITTED

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the Housing and Community Development Plan regulations, the City of Jonesboro certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

As a requirement to receiving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires participating jurisdictions, (in this case the City of Jonesboro) to develop a plan to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing. The AFH is a certification that the City is affirmatively furthering fair housing choice. The City further maintains appropriate documentation and promotes adherence to fair housing policies and procedures. The AFH was conducted using a methodology consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines and AFH assessment tool.

The certification specifically requires jurisdictions do the following:

- Complete an Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment within the **local jurisdiction**
- Outline appropriate actions to overcome the deficiencies identified in the analysis
- Maintain records reflecting the analysis and action in this regard.

Impediments to fair housing choice are defined as:

- Any action, omission, or decisions taken because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin that restrict housing choices or the availability of housing choice.
- Any action, omission, or decision that has the effect of restricting housing choices or the availability of housing choices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familiar status, or national origin.

The City of Jonesboro will continue to affirmatively further fair housing as set out under 24 CFR §91.220, and has prepared an analysis that identifies impediments to fair housing choice, and maintains records pertaining to carrying out this certification. CDBG funding allows low-income individuals and families to be assisted in homeownership through education and matching grants for down payment and closing costs. For those who cannot afford to maintain their homes, CDBG funds will be used to provide grants for rehabilitation. The city has undertaken activities to address emergency shelters and the transitional housing needs of our homeless individuals and families.

Anti-Discrimination

Funds will be administered in compliance with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d), the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3620), the Age Discrimination Act of

1975, Executive Orders 11063, 11625, 12138, 12432 and 12892, Section 504 of the (title II) and implementing regulations.

Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan

The City of Jonesboro will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, as required under §91.10 and Federal implementing regulations. The Jurisdiction has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under section 104 (d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the relocation requirements of §91.10 governing optional relocation assistance under section 105 (a) (11) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended;

Drug Free Workplace

The city will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by enacting certain requirements:

1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - b. The City of Jonesboro's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - d. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph 1;
4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph 1 that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will:
 - a. Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - b. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug status occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 4 (b) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position

title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant actively the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;

6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 4(b), with respect to any employee who is so convicted
 - a. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - b. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such proposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.
8. The City of Jonesboro has provided the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with this specific grant:

Demolition of substandard housing units, various park improvements in the city and administrative responsibilities, all in the City of Jonesboro, will be carried out from 300 South Church Street, Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas 72401.

Anti Lobbying

To the best of the City of Jonesboro's knowledge and belief:

1. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal Grant, the making of any Federal Loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement , and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the City of Jonesboro will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying, in accordance with its instructions; and
3. The city will require that the language of paragraph (n) of this certification be included in

the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly; The City of Jonesboro is in compliance with restrictions on lobbying required by 24 CFR part 87, together with disclosure forms, if required by that part.

Legal Authority

The City of Jonesboro possesses legal authority under State and Local Law to make grant submissions and to execute Community Development and Housing programs and the City Council has duly adopted or passed as an official act a resolution, motion or similar action authorizing the person identified as the official representative of the grantee to submit the Housing and Community Development Plan and amendments thereto and all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directing and authorizing the person identified the official representative of the grantee to act in connection with the submission of Housing and Community Development Plan and to provide such additional information as may be required;

Applicable Laws

The City of Jonesboro will comply with the other provisions of the Acts covering programs covered by the Housing and community Development Plan and with other applicable laws.

In accordance with the certifications as set out under 24 CFR §91.225 of the Federal Register dated January 5, 1995, the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas further certifies that:

Consistency with Plan

The housing activities to be undertaken with CDBG funds are consistent with the Consolidated Plan.

Section 3 Compliance

The City of Jonesboro, Arkansas in the administration of its Community Development Program will comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u), and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.

Signature: Harold Perrin, Mayor

Date

SPECIFIC CDBG CERTIFICATIONS

The City of Jonesboro certifies that:

Citizen Participation

The detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105 which:

1. Provides for and encourages citizen participation, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income who are residents of slum and blighted areas in which funds are proposed to be used, and provides for participation of residents in low and moderate income neighborhoods as defined by the local jurisdiction;
2. Provides citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the City of Jonesboro's proposed use of funds, as required by the regulations of the Secretary, and relating to the actual use of funds under the Act;
3. Provides for technical assistance to representatives of persons of low and moderate income that request such assistance in developing proposals, with the level and type of assistance to be determined by the City of Jonesboro;
4. Provides for public hearings to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the community development program. These responses include at least the development of needs, the review of proposed activities, and review of program performance. Hearings shall be held after adequate notice and at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, and with accommodation for the handicapped;
5. Provides for a timely written answer to written complaints and grievances, within 15 working days where practicable; and
6. Identifies how the needs of non-English speaking residents will be met in the case of public hearings where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can be reasonably expected to participate;
7. The City of Jonesboro stands ready to provide any and all necessary assistance to persons with visual or hearing impairments to assure that these individuals are fully informed and included in the Consolidated Plan process. The City shall provide assistance up to and including interpreters and persons that sign for the hearing impaired, as well as any appropriate listening devices. The City stands ready to utilize alternative media as requested.

Prior to submission of its Housing and Community Development Plan to HUD, the City of Jonesboro has:

1. Met the citizen participation requirements of §91.10; and
2. Prepared its housing and community development plan and annual use of funds in accordance with §91.1 and made its Housing and Community Development Plan submission available to the public.

Use of Funds

The jurisdiction has developed the 2020-2021 Action Plan (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities, which benefit low and moderate income families or aid in the prevention and/or elimination of slums and blight; (the projected use of funds may also include activities which the City of Jonesboro certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available); except that the aggregate use of CDBG funds received under section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and if applicable, under section 108 of the same Act, shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that not less than 70 percent of such funds are used for activities that benefit such persons during such period;

Community Development Plan

The City of Jonesboro has developed a Community Development Plan, for the period specified in the paragraph above, which identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective and requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended;

Special Assessment

The City of Jonesboro will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted in whole or in part with funds provided under section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, or with amounts resulting from a guarantee under section 108 of the same Act by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements, unless:

1. Funds received under section 106 of the housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, are used to pay the proportion of such fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of such public improvements that are financed from revenue

sources other than under Title I of that Act; or

2. For purposes of assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of moderate income, the City of Jonesboro certifies to the Secretary that it lacks sufficient funds received under section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to comply with the requirements of subparagraph (1) above;

Lead-Based Paint

The City of Jonesboro's notification, inspection, testing and abatement procedures concerning lead-based paint will comply with 24 CFR §570.608;

Excessive Force

The City of Jonesboro has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction;

Signature: Harold Perrin, Mayor

Date



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	RES-20:051	Version:	1	Name:	AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NEAIDC) FOR FUNDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Type:	Resolution	Status:			Recommended to Council
File created:	4/23/2020	In control:			Finance & Administration Council Committee
On agenda:		Final action:			
Title:	RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NEAIDC) FOR FUNDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES				
Sponsors:	Mayor's Office, Finance				
Indexes:	Contract				
Code sections:					
Attachments:	Agreement, 2020, City, NEAIDC NEAIDC - City agreement 2020, Executed Lack Comments_email for Finance 04282020				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/28/2020	1	Finance & Administration Council Committee		

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NEAIDC) FOR FUNDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission (NEAIDC) was established under ORD-86:1557 to oversee the expenditure of public funds directed to industrial development and to promote economic development; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro appoints four members to the NEAIDC of the total of seven; and,

WHEREAS, Resolution 19:165 adopted the City of Jonesboro's 2020 budget and included \$167,250 for Industrial Development in the General-Outside Agencies Fund, and \$227,500 for NEA Development in the Capital Improvements-Other/Annual Obligations Fund, for a combined total amount of \$394,750; and,

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of services provided by the NEAIDC are defined in an agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, THAT:

Section 1: This agreement is for the best interest of the residents of the City of Jonesboro.

Section 2: The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said agreement.

Section 3: The funding of \$394,750 is authorized to be provided to the NEAIDC from the 2020 budget.

Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into between the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas ("City") and the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission ("NEAIDC"), and shall be in effect from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. This agreement may be renewed by mutual agreement and subject to approval by the Jonesboro City Council.

WHEREAS, the NEAIDC was established under City Ordinance 86:1557 and City Code Section 2-447 to 2-458 to oversee the expenditure of public funds directed to industrial development and to promote economic development; and,

WHEREAS, A.C.A Section 14-176-103 authorizes cities to contract and provide funding for economic development services; and,

WHEREAS, the City appoints four members to the NEAIDC of the total of seven; and,

WHEREAS, economic development provides a valuable public purpose to the City of Jonesboro including the creation and retention of jobs, expansion of the tax base, and improvements to real property.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. The NEAIDC and its partners will promote economic development through the following activities:
 - a. Attraction of new business and industry;
 - b. Retention and expansion of existing businesses;
 - c. Workforce development initiatives, including coordination with the educational institutions within the community to promote education and training needed for local employers;
 - d. Production of marketing materials and promotional campaigns;
 - e. Building relationships with site selection consultants, business executives, and targeted business association organizations;
 - f. Building relationships with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and other state and federal agencies involved in economic development and related activities;
 - g. Facilitate infrastructure and industrial land planning and development;
 - h. Management of industrial properties owned by partner entities;
 - i. Promotion of Jonesboro's targeted industries; and,
 - j. Other services and programs associated with economic development activities.

2. The NEAIDC will provide a written report each quarter (prior to the last day of April, July, October, and January) to the City indicating progress of its activities of Section 1 and

report on the economy of Jonesboro. The NEAIDC will also provide an oral report to the City Council upon request.

3. The NEAIDC will provide a written annual report to the City prior to March 31, 2021 that will include the activities of section 1, economic data for Jonesboro, and other data as requested by the City.
4. The City agrees to provide funding of \$394,750 to NEAIDC in one installment prior to June 30, 2020, which includes \$167,250 for economic services as indicated in Section 1, and \$227,500 for capital improvements related to industrial property.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands on _____, 2020.

CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

BY: _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk

NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

BY: _____
Al M. Heringer III, Chairman

Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into between the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas ("City") and the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission ("NEAIDC"), and shall be in effect from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. This agreement may be renewed by mutual agreement and subject to approval by the Jonesboro City Council.

WHEREAS, the NEAIDC was established under City Ordinance 86:1557 and City Code Section 2-447 to 2-458 to oversee the expenditure of public funds directed to industrial development and to promote economic development; and,

WHEREAS, A.C.A Section 14-176-103 authorizes cities to contract and provide funding for economic development services; and,

WHEREAS, the City appoints four members to the NEAIDC of the total of seven; and,

WHEREAS, economic development provides a valuable public purpose to the City of Jonesboro including the creation and retention of jobs, expansion of the tax base, and improvements to real property.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. The NEAIDC and its partners will promote economic development through the following activities:
 - a. Attraction of new business and industry;
 - b. Retention and expansion of existing businesses;
 - c. Workforce development initiatives, including coordination with the educational institutions within the community to promote education and training needed for local employers;
 - d. Production of marketing materials and promotional campaigns;
 - e. Building relationships with site selection consultants, business executives, and targeted business association organizations;
 - f. Building relationships with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and other state and federal agencies involved in economic development and related activities;
 - g. Facilitate infrastructure and industrial land planning and development;
 - h. Management of industrial properties owned by partner entities;
 - i. Promotion of Jonesboro's targeted industries; and,
 - j. Other services and programs associated with economic development activities.

2. The NEAIDC will provide a written report each quarter (prior to the last day of April, July, October, and January) to the City indicating progress of its activities of Section 1 and report on the economy of Jonesboro. The NEAIDC will also provide an oral report to the City Council upon request.

3. The NEAIDC will provide a written annual report to the City prior to March 31, 2021 that will include the activities of section 1, economic data for Jonesboro, and other data as requested by the City.
4. The City agrees to provide funding of \$394,750 to NEAIDC in one installment prior to June 30, 2020, which includes \$167,250 for economic services as indicated in Section 1, and \$227,500 for capital improvements related to industrial property.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands on _____, 2020.

CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

BY: _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk

NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

BY: 
Al M. Heringer III, Chairman



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	ORD-20:012	Version:	1	Name:	ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BASE LEVEL ENGINEERING (BLE) STUDIES FOR THE ST. FRANCIS, CACHE AND L'ANGUILLE WATERSHEDS
Type:	Ordinance	Status:			Third Reading
File created:	2/26/2020	In control:			Public Works Council Committee
On agenda:		Final action:			
Title:	AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BASE LEVEL ENGINEERING (BLE) STUDIES FOR THE ST. FRANCIS, CACHE AND L'ANGUILLE WATERSHEDS				
Sponsors:	Engineering				
Indexes:					
Code sections:					
Attachments:	Cache BLE Report Cache Discovery FRR L'Anguille BLE Report L'Anguille Discovery FRR St. Francis BLE Report St. Francis Discovery FRR				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
4/21/2020	1	City Council		
4/7/2020	1	City Council	Held at one reading	
3/3/2020	1	Public Works Council Committee		

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BASE LEVEL ENGINEERING (BLE) STUDIES FOR THE ST. FRANCIS, CACHE AND L'ANGUILLE WATERSHEDS

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Arkansas has in Ark. Code Ann. § 14-268-101 et. seq., delegated the responsibility of local governmental units to adopt regulations to minimize flood losses; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has identified Special Flood Hazard Areas of City of Jonesboro in the current scientific and engineering report entitled "**The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Jonesboro, City of,**" dated September 27, 1991, with an effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated September 27, 1991; and,

WHEREAS, FEMA has also identified additional areas of flood risk within the City of Jonesboro in current scientific and engineering reports entitled "Lower St. Francis Watershed BLE Analysis", "Cache Watershed BLE Analysis" and "L'Anguille Watershed BLE Analysis"; and,

WHEREAS, the Stormwater Management Board recommends the adoption of aforementioned scientific and engineering reports for regulating development in FEMA Zone A areas and in Local Special Flood Hazard Areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Jonesboro where BLE data is available.

WHEREAS, pursuant to ACA 14-55-207, public notice was given of the City's intent to adopt said studies by

reference, and advised that three (3) copies of the documents were on file and available for public review and examination in the Office of the City Clerk; and

NOW, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO:

SECTION 1: The following scientific and engineering studies are adopted by reference: “Lower St. Francis Watershed BLE Analysis”, “Cache Watershed BLE Analysis” and “L’Anguille Watershed BLE Analysis”.

SECTION 2: These documents shall apply to all Special Flood Hazard Areas in FEMA Zone A and other areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Jonesboro where Base Level Engineering is available.



AR Highway 33 near Bisco, AR - Jocelyn Augustino/FEMA Photo by Jocelyn Augustino

Cache Watershed, AR Base Level Engineering (BLE) Results

Cache Watershed, HUC - 08020302

Clay, Craighead*, Cross*, Greene*, Jackson*, Lawrence*, Monroe*,
Poinsett*, Prairie*, Randolph*, St. Francis*, Woodruff* Counties,
Arkansas and Butler* County, Missouri*

**Spans more than one watershed. This report covers only the area within the studied watershed.*

June 2017



Project Area Community List

Community Name	CID
<i>Clay County Communities</i>	
Clay County ¹	050423
Knobel, City of	050032
McDougal, City of	050033
Peach Orchard, City of	050034
Piggott, City of ¹	050035
Pollard, City of	050036
<i>Craighead County Communities</i>	
Bono, City of	050046
Cash, Town of	050396
Craighead County ¹	050427
Egypt, Town of	050585
Jonesboro, City of ¹	050048
<i>Cross County Communities</i>	
Cross County ¹	050056
<i>Greene County Communities</i>	
Greene County ¹	050435
Lafe, Town of	N/A
<i>Jackson County Communities</i>	
Amagon, Town of	050097
Beedeville, Town of	050098B
Grubbs, City of	050101
Jackson County ¹	050096
Newport, City of ¹	050103
Tupelo, Town of	050106
Weldon, Town of	N/A
<i>Lawrence County Communities</i>	
Lawrence County ¹	050443
Sedgwick, Town of	050576
Walnut Ridge, City of ¹	050122
<i>Monroe County Communities</i>	
Brinkley, City of ¹	050155
Fargo, Town of	05X020
Monroe County ¹	050154
<i>Poinsett County Communities</i>	
Fisher, City of ¹	N/A
Poinsett County ¹	050172
Waldenburg, Town of ¹	050497
Weiner, City of ¹	050373
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.	

Community Name	CID
<i>Prairie County Communities</i>	
Biscoe, City of ¹	N/A
Prairie County ¹	050459
<i>Randolph County Communities</i>	
O’Kean, Town of	N/A
Randolph County ¹	050460
<i>St. Francis County Communities</i>	
St. Francis County ¹	050184
<i>Woodruff County Communities</i>	
Cotton Plant, City of	050231
Hunter, Town of	
McCrary, City of	050232
Patterson, City of	050274
Woodruff County ¹	050468
<i>Butler County Communities</i>	
Quilin, City of	230048
Butler, County of	290044
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.	

Table of Contents

- 1. Executive Summary 1
- 2. Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology 2
 - 2.1. Terrain..... 2
 - 2.2. Hydrology..... 3
 - 2.3. Hydraulics 4
 - 2.4. Quality Control 5
 - 2.5. Mapping 6
- 3. Submittal 7
- 4. References 8

List of Tables

- Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval..... 3
- Table 2: Manning's "n" Coefficients 5

Appendix A - WORKMAPS

- BLE Terrain & Workmap Index
- BLE Workmaps (Digital Format Only)

1. Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is currently implementing the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program across the Nation. The vision and intent of the Risk MAP program is to, through collaboration with State and Local entities, deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to mitigation actions that reduce risk to life and property. To achieve this vision, FEMA has transformed its traditional flood identification and mapping efforts into a more integrated process of more accurately identifying, assessing, communicating, planning and mitigating flood risks. Risk MAP attempts to address gaps in flood hazard data and form a solid foundation for risk assessment, floodplain management, and provide State and Local entities with information needed to mitigate flood related risks.

The FEMA Region 6 office and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) entered into a Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) partnership agreement for implementation of Risk MAP in the State of Arkansas. As part of this partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began work on a Base Level Engineering (BLE) analysis in the Cache Watershed in October 2016 to support FEMA's Discovery process and validation of effective Zone A Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing Coordinate Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery). An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program.

The source digital terrain data used for surface model development in support of H&H analysis, as well as mapping activities were leveraged from existing Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data collected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (2011 Cache and 2011 L'Angeuille), U.S. Geological Survey (2011 Bayou Meto, 2012 Upper Black, 2012 Upper White Village, 2013 Lower St. Francis, and 2015 Lower Black), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2010 White River to Newport, 2010 Greers Ferry and Red River, 2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project). The LiDAR datasets were 1-meter gridded DEM data that were reprojected to a 15 ft cell size for hydrologic processing and a 5 ft cell size for hydraulic and mapping processing.

Flood discharges for this analysis were calculated using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service, Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, ESRI's ArcGIS software, the HEC-Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) computer program, and the HEC - River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) program, version 5.0.3. Initial precipitation values were obtained, based on a watershed level, from NOAA's Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, which was then processed in ESRI's ArcGIS 10.x software into a usable format. The obtained precipitation values and resulting GIS parameters for the watershed, were then input into HEC-HMS to determine the excess rainfall that would result based on the applied conditions. This excess rainfall was then applied to a 2-D HEC-RAS model in the form of a rain on grid scenario, which was then used to compute the water surface elevations for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus flood events.

The modeled stream mile network for the Cache Watershed was compiled initially using FEMA's CNMS inventory. It was then expanded to include streams that extended upstream to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile.

2. Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology

This section provides guidance for the hydrologic, hydraulic and floodplain mapping steps required to create a BLE. The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing H&H model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing CNMS dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery).

The cost and effort for developing the data and estimates resulting from the BLE process are lower than standard flood production tasks. An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program. The large volume of data resulting from an BLE can be used for the eventual production of regulatory and non-regulatory products, outreach and risk communication and MT-1 processing. Leveraging this data outside the Risk MAP program may also be valuable to external stakeholders.

Per the the Code of Federal Regulations, once every five years, FEMA must evaluate whether the information on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) reflects the current risks. This evaluation is done by examining the existing flood boundaries for changes in study attributes and physical characteristics, as specified in the CNMS Technical Reference. Additionally, this evaluation occurs using a series of critical and secondary checks to determine the validity of the existing flood hazard areas. In addition to the need for evaluating the accuracy of Zone A mapping, newer FEMA standards also require that flood risk data be provided in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project. Particularly, FEMA Program Standard SID #29 requires that during Discovery, data must be identified that illustrates potential changes in flood elevation and mapping that may result from the proposed project scope. If available data does not clearly illustrate the likely changes, an analysis is required that estimates the likely changes. This data and any associated analyses should be shared and results should be discussed with stakeholders.

Therefore, based on these requirements, the results of the BLE process are being provided to the local Floodplain Administrators (FPAs), which allows for users to have access to a model backed Zone A study that is suitable to replace the effective Zone A products. The following sections are being supplied to document the hydrologic, hydraulic, and floodplain mapping techniques used. Regardless of the individual techniques used to perform these steps, the goal of a scalable product should be adhered to throughout the entire BLE process.

2.1. Terrain

To determine the parameters for the hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, FTN obtained Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data developed from LIDAR information that was collected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (2011 Cache and 2011 L'Anguille), U.S. Geological Survey (2011 Bayou Meto, 2012 Upper Black, 2012 Upper White Village, 2013 Lower St. Francis, and 2015 Lower Black), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2010 White River to Newport, 2010 Greers Ferry and Red River, 2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project). The bare earth DEM data was provided as 1-meter or 1/3

arc-second DEMs with varying horizontal and vertical coordinate systems. Prior to use, the DEM data was reprojected to a 15 ft cell size for hydrologic processing and a 5 ft cell size for hydraulic and mapping processing with a horizontal coordinate system of NAD 1983 State Plane Arkansas North (feet) and a vertical datum of NAVD 88 (feet). DEMs were then mosaicked into a single DEM that covered the entire watershed. The single DEM was then processed using Environmental Systems Research Institute’s (ESRI) ArcMap Geographic Information System (GIS) 10.x software and the ArcHydro toolset to develop the hydrologic parameters needed for use in the hydrologic modeling.

A terrain and workmap index has been prepared and is attached to the end of this report and included in Appendix A – Workmaps.

2.2. Hydrology

Excess runoff for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus flood events were calculated using NOAA’s Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14. This task was completed by processing raster data for the study events based on a HUC-10 level. The excess rainfall values were spatially averaged from raster data using the zonal statistics toolset in ESRI’s ArcGIS. The maximum rainfall values, based on a HUC 10 level were selected as input for the resulting HEC-HMS model.

In addition to the Atlas 14 precipitation values, ESRI’s ArcGIS software and supporting toolsets were used to process the initial terrain data, delineate drainage basins, and develop basin parameters for the study area. For this analysis, the SCS curve number method was selected to estimate losses due to varying landuse. The weighted Curve Number for the watershed was developed using the 2011 National Land Cover Database, NRCS’s SSURGO Soil Surveys and TR-55 runoff curve numbers, and ESRI’s ArcGIS software. The watershed was assumed to be at Antecedent Moisture Condition II (average moisture condition). To apply the rainfall, an SCS Type II rainfall distribution was used based to distribute the rainfall across the basin. Table 1, shown below, lists the initial and excess rainfall used for the hydrologic analysis.

Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.60	3.52
4	6.89	4.41
2	7.52	5.28
1	8.51	6.21
0.2	11.04	8.64
1-plus	10.76	8.36
1-minus	6.68	4.50

After determining the excess runoff in HEC-HMS for the watershed, it was applied to the 2-D hydraulic model as a rain on grid scenario.

2.3. Hydraulics

For all streams identified in the Cache Watershed, the BLE process uses ESRI ArcGIS software and toolsets to create the HEC-RAS layers used for geometric data development and extraction. Additionally, the hydraulic modeling and mapping for this BLE process was conducted using the USACE's HEC-RAS 5.0.3 software package.

Streams

The streamlines used for determining what areas needed to be modeled were taken from the CNMS dataset. They were then expanded to include streams that extended up to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile. These streams were then reviewed and updated to match aerial imagery and detailed topographic data, as needed.

Hydraulic mesh (2-D analysis)

Hydraulic modeling for the Cache Watershed BLE Analysis was computed using 2-D analyses to better reflect the large, flat, and interconnected floodplains. To perform this modeling, 2-D capabilities of the HEC-RAS 5.0.3 was utilized. With a 2-D model, the area is modeled using a topographic mesh rather than a series of cross sections down the longitudinal axis of the stream reach, as is done in a 1-D model. The HEC-RAS mesh consists of computational cells that are assigned elevations and roughness values along the cell faces that represent the topographic surface and frictional characteristics of the area and volumetric relationships for the cell area, respectively. The use of the 2-D model allows for more detailed resolution in water surface elevations, velocities, and flows than is possible with a 1-D model that is only capable of computing the average water surface elevations, velocities, and flows for three general regions at a cross section. Based on engineering judgement, breaklines were defined along the levees, dams, roads, culverts and elevated berms as seen on the topography. It is necessary to draw breaklines as it makes sure that the flow across the cell faces is blocked by the elevation of the structure along the break line.

Parameter Estimation

The Manning's "n" values used were based on engineering judgment and using the 2011 National Land Cover Data (NLCD) dataset. Table 2 lists the landuse and roughness coefficients used in this analysis.

Table 2: Manning's "n" Coefficients

Material Type	Manning's "n"
Open Water	0.01
Developed, Open Space	0.04
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	
Grassland/Herbaceous	0.05
Pasture/Hay	
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	
Developed, Low Intensity	0.06
Shrub/Scrub	
Cultivated Crops	
Developed, Medium Intensity	0.08
Developed High Intensity	0.10
Deciduous Forest	
Evergreen Forest	
Mixed Forest	
Woody Wetlands	

Boundary Conditions

For this BLE analysis, the downstream boundary conditions are set to be normal depth slope. The computed slope is based on topographic data from the downstream limits of the modeling.

Model Calibrations

No calibration was performed on these streams.

2.4. Quality Control

Throughout the BLE analysis, quality checks were performed. These checks included review of topographic data processing, hydrologic parameters being applied, checking for complete model coverage, adjusting the mesh cell sizes, adjusting mesh boundaries, adding breaklines along structures, as required, and review of the final mapping results.

Significant efforts were made to resolve errors found during these quality checks.

2.5. Mapping

Following the hydraulic analysis, the model results were then imported into the HEC-RAS RAS Mapper tool to map floodplain boundaries for the model extent. This tool uses a routine that develops water surface elevation grids based on the 5-foot cell size DEM from Section 2.1. For this BLE analysis, mapping results were developed for seven (7) events. These events were the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus boundaries.

Once the floodplain boundaries were created, the resulting floodplain data were smoothed and small polygons (less than 0.25 acres) and small disconnected fragments were removed. After the initial boundary edits, the resulting floodplain boundaries were merged into a single watershed based map boundary. For this BLE process, only the 1-percent-annual-chance floodplain is reported on the workmaps. Workmaps were generated to provide a graphical comparison of the effective floodplain boundaries to that of the BLE processed streams. These workmaps are provided in Appendix A – Workmaps.

Once the map boundaries were cleaned, the resulting rasters (Water Surface Elevation, Depth, etc.) were developed with the raster set to correspond in extent to the cleaned polygon boundary. This ensures that the water surface raster and the floodplain boundary are consistent with each other. The depth raster product was created by performing a raster subtraction with the water surface elevation raster and the ground DEM. Once complete, the resultant depth grids were used to perform an updated Flood Loss Analysis for the watershed using the HAZUS program.

3. Submittal

All information, data, and files for the Cache Watershed BLE process are uploaded to the FEMA MIP and provided digitally in electronic format in a directory structure provided below.

08020302\Cache Watershed BLE

\General

- Project Narrative (PDF)

\Hydraulic_Models

\08020302\08020302_CacheRiver

- HEC-RAS model

\Spatial_Files

- Cache_Watershed (file geodatabase format)

\Supplemental_Data

\CNMS_Update

- CNMS database update (file geodatabase format)

\HAZUS

- Loss Analysis project

\Appendix A - Workmaps

- Terrain and Workmap Index (PDF)
- Workmaps (PDF)
- Workmap Index (SHP format)

4. References

1. USGS. Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium. *National Land Cover Database 2011*. (<http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php>).
2. NOAA. Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Atlas 14. (<http://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/>).
3. Chow, Ven T. *Open Channel Hydraulics*. Caldwell, NJ: Blackburn, 1959. Print.
4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hydrologic Engineering Center. (September 2016). HEC-RAS River Analysis System, Version 5.0.3. Davis, California.
5. FEMA, “Guidance for Automated Engineering”, May 2016. (http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1469144112748-3c4ecd90cb927cd200b6a3e9da80d8a/Automated_Engineering_Guidance_May_2016.pdf).



Photo Courtesy: Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

Flood Risk Report

Cache Watershed, AR

HUC8 08020302

November 2017

Version Number	Version Date	Summary
1.0	11/28/2017	Initial Report Development

Preface

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program provides states, tribes, and local communities with flood risk information, datasets, risk assessments, and tools that they can use to increase their resilience to flooding and better protect their residents. By pairing accurate floodplain maps with risk assessment tools and planning and outreach support, Risk MAP transforms the traditional flood mapping efforts into an integrated process of identifying, assessing, communicating, planning for, and mitigating flood-related risks.

The Flood Risk Report (FRR) is one of the tools created through the Risk MAP program. An FRR provides non-regulatory information to help local or tribal officials, floodplain managers, planners, emergency managers, and others. Local, federal, and state officials can use the information in the FRR to establish a better understanding of their flood risk, take steps to mitigate those risks, and communicate those risks to their residents and local businesses.

The FRR serves as a guide when communities update local hazard mitigation plans, community comprehensive plans, and emergency operations and response plans. It is meant to communicate risk to officials and inform them of the modification of development standards, as well as assist in identifying necessary or potential mitigation projects. The report extends beyond community limits to provide flood risk data for the Cache Watershed.

Flood risk is always changing, and studies, reports, or other sources may be available that provide more comprehensive information. This report is not intended to be the regulatory nor the final authoritative source of all flood risk data in the watershed. Rather, it should be used in conjunction with other data sources to provide a comprehensive picture of flood risk within the project area.

Table of Contents

Preface	3
Executive Summary.....	1
About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program.....	1
About the Cache Watershed	2
Introduction.....	7
Flood Risk	7
Calculating Flood Risk.....	7
Watershed Basics	8
Project Phases and Map Maintenance	11
Background.....	11
How are FEMA’s Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?.....	12
General Flood Risk Project Phases	13
Phase Zero: Investment.....	13
Phase One: Discovery	14
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment	15
Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update.....	15
Phase Zero: Investment.....	17
Area of Interest Selection Factors	17
Base Level Engineering	20
Phase One: Discovery	22
Pre-Discovery.....	22
Discovery Meeting.....	22
Watershed Findings.....	23
Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting.....	24
Future Investments for Refinement	24
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment.....	25
Flood Risk Review Meeting	26
Next Steps.....	27
Potential Community Activities	28
Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update.....	31
Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text.....	31
Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels.....	31
DFIRM Database	32
Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)	32

Next Step: Preliminary Issuance 32

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance 33

Future Physical Map Revisions..... 34

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports.....35

Appendix II: Points of Contact.....37

Watershed 37

State Partners 37

Appendix III: Resources38

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission 38

Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)..... 38

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification 38

Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer 39

Map Service Center – Available Map Data 40

Additional Web Resources 42

Executive Summary

The Flood Risk Report has two goals: **(1) inform communities of their risks** related to certain natural hazards and **(2) enable communities to act to reduce their risk**. The information within this Risk Report is intended to assist federal, state, and local officials with the following goals:

- **Communicate risk** – Local officials can use the information in this report to communicate with property owners, business owners, and other residents about risks and areas of mitigation interest.
- **Update local hazard mitigation plans and community comprehensive plans** – Planners can use risk information to develop and/or update hazard mitigation plans, comprehensive plans, future land use maps, and zoning regulations. For example, zoning codes can be changed to provide for more appropriate land uses in high-hazard areas.
- **Update emergency operations and response plans** – Emergency managers can identify high-risk areas for potential evacuation and low-risk areas for sheltering. Risk assessment information may show vulnerable areas, facilities, and infrastructure for which continuity of operations plans, continuity of government plans, and emergency operations plans would be essential.
- **Inform the modification of development standards** – Planners and public works officials can use information in this report to support the adjustment of development standards for certain locations.
- **Identify mitigation projects** – Planners and emergency managers can use this risk assessment to determine specific mitigation projects of interest. For example, a floodplain manager may identify critical facilities that need to be elevated or removed from the floodplain.

This Risk Report showcases risk assessments, which analyze how a hazard affects the built environment, population, and local economy, to identify mitigation actions and develop mitigation strategies.

The information in this Risk Report should be used to identify areas in need of mitigation projects and to support additional efforts to educate residents on the hazards that may affect them. The areas of greatest hazard impact are identified in the Areas of Mitigation Interest section of this report, which can serve as a starting point for identifying and prioritizing actions a community can take to reduce its risks.

About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program

Flood risk is continually changing over time due to factors such as new building and development and weather patterns. The goal of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk MAP program is to work with federal, state, tribal, and local partners to identify and reduce flood risk across communities. These projects are conducted using watershed boundaries, bringing together multiple communities to identify broader mitigation actions and create consistency across the watershed. The program provides resources and support that are tailored to each community to help mitigate their risk and work towards a reduction in risk and future loss.

Through coordination and data sharing, the communities in the watershed work as partners in the mapping process. In addition to providing data, the communities can also provide insight into flooding issues and flood prevention within their areas. To prepare for a future study and assist in mitigation, FEMA provides a number of data sources that include information from the community, such as the following:

- Areas of repeated flooding and insurance claims
- Future development plans
- Areas of low water crossings
- High water marks from recent flooding events
- Areas of evacuation during high water
- Master drainage plans, flood risk reduction projects, and large areas of fill placement
- Local flood studies
- Other flood risk information

For more information about ways communities can take action or take advantage of available resources, please review the attached appendices.

Part of the data that FEMA is providing communities during the Risk MAP process is Base Level Engineering (BLE) for select watersheds. BLE is a form of hydrologic and hydraulic modeling which, when completed, can provide modeled flood hazard data in existing Zone As or where no effective flood hazard zone has been designated. Knowing the extent of flooding during the 1-percent-annual-chance flooding event supports risk reduction efforts and supports more resilient community planning. Completed BLE data is provided to watershed communities for planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities, and to inform future flood study needs.

For information on BLE in the Cache Watershed, see the Phase Zero: Investment section of this report.

About the Cache Watershed

The Cache Watershed (HUC 08020302) encompasses an area of approximately 1,956 square miles and extends across 12 counties in Arkansas (Clay, Craighead, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Monroe, Poinsett, Prairie, Randolph, St. Francis, and Woodruff) and one county in Missouri (Butler). The majority of the watershed is located in the northeastern portion of Arkansas between Crowley's Ridge and the White River. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Bono, Brinkley, Jonesboro, Newport, Piggott, and Walnut Ridge. Smaller communities include Cotton Plant, McCrory, and Weiner. The communities in the Cache Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. All of the communities listed in the table are in Arkansas, except for Butler County, MO. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

The Cache Watershed lies within the White River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas. The Cache Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley's Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the northeastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed. Upstream of Grubbs, AR, the drainage has been significantly altered from natural conditions with many of the streams being channelized. Downstream of Grubbs, there has been less alteration and

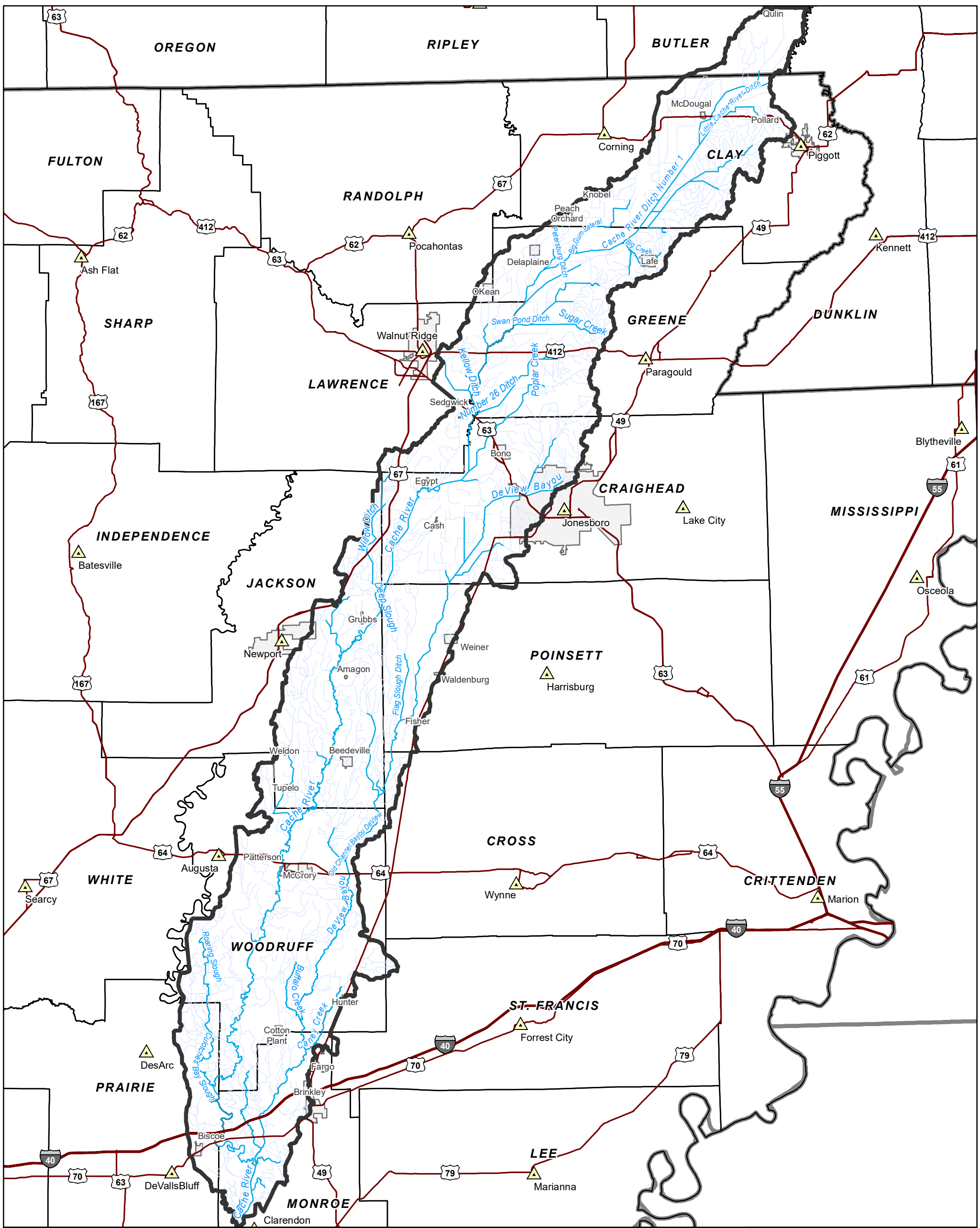
some restoration of the natural drainage. In the lower Cache Watershed, there are large areas of protected bottomland hardwood wetlands, including the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and a number of State Wildlife Management Areas. Because of the low elevation and relief of the watershed, flooding is common in those areas of the watershed not on Crowley's Ridge.

The Cache River is a tributary of the White River. Its largest tributary is Bayou DeView, which joins the Cache River just upstream of the White River. The Cache River originates in southern Missouri, entering Arkansas in Clay County. Bayou DeView originates on Crowley's Ridge in Greene County.

Table 1: NFIP Status of Project Area Communities.

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Clay	Clay County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050423	Yes	N/A
Clay	Knobel, City of	050032	Yes	N/A
Clay	McDougal, City of	050033	Yes	N/A
Clay	Peach Orchard, City of	050034	Yes	N/A
Clay	Piggott, City of ¹	050035	Yes	N/A
Clay	Pollard, City of	050036	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050427	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Bono, City of	050046	Yes	9
Craighead	Cash, Town of	050396	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Egypt, Town of	050585	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Jonesboro, City of ¹	050048	Yes	8
Cross	Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050056	Yes	N/A
Greene	Greene County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050435	Yes	N/A
Greene	Lafe, Town of	050569	No	N/A
Jackson	Jackson County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050096	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Amagon, Town of	050097	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Beedeville, Town of	050098	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Grubbs, City of	050101	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Newport, City of ¹	050103	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Tupelo, Town of	050106	Yes	N/A
Jackson	Weldon, Town of	050486	No	N/A
Lawrence	Lawrence County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050443	Yes	N/A
Lawrence	Sedgwick, Town of	050576	Yes	N/A
Lawrence	Walnut Ridge, City of ¹	050122	Yes	N/A
Monroe	Monroe County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050154	Yes	N/A
Monroe	Brinkley, City of ¹	050155	Yes	N/A
Monroe	Fargo, Town of	N/A	No	N/A
Poinsett	Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050172	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Fisher, City of ¹	050413	No	N/A
Poinsett	Waldenburg, Town of ¹	050497	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Weiner, City of ¹	050373	Yes	N/A
Prairie	Prairie County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050459	Yes	N/A
Prairie	Biscoe, City of ¹	050415	Yes	N/A
Randolph	Randolph County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050460	Yes	N/A

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Randolph	O’Kean, Town of	050271	No	N/A
St. Francis	St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050184	Yes	N/A
Woodruff	Woodruff County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050468	Yes	N/A
Woodruff	Cotton Plant, City of	050231	Yes	N/A
Woodruff	Hunter, Town of ¹	050599	No	N/A
Woodruff	McCrary, City of	050232	Yes	N/A
Woodruff	Patterson, City of	050274	Yes	N/A
Butler	Butler County, MO Unincorporated Areas ¹	290044	Yes	N/A
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.				

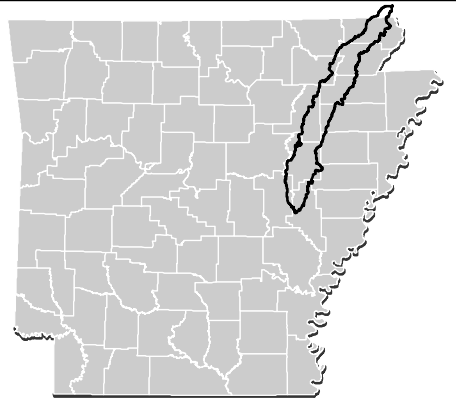


WATERSHED AND COMMUNITIES MAP

CACHE
(HUC 08020302)



0 2.5 5
Miles



Project Location

FIGURE 1

DATE: 6/27/2017

Introduction

Flood Risk

Floods are naturally occurring phenomena that can and do happen almost anywhere. In its most basic form, a flood is an accumulation of water over normally dry area. Floods become hazardous to people and property when they inundate an area where development has occurred, causing losses. Mild flood losses may have little impact on people or property, such as damage to landscaping or the accumulation of unwanted debris. Severe flood losses can destroy buildings and crops and cause severe injuries or death.

Calculating Flood Risk

It is not enough to simply identify where flooding may occur. Even if people know where a flood might occur, they may not know the level of flood risk in that area. The most common method for determining flood risk, also referred to as vulnerability, is to identify both the probability and the consequences of flooding:

Flood Risk (or Vulnerability) = **Probability x Consequences**; where

Probability = the likelihood of occurrence

Consequences = the **estimated** impacts associated with the occurrence on life, property, and infrastructure

The probability of a flood is the likelihood that it will occur. The probability of flooding can change based on physical, environmental, and/or engineering factors. These factors will also have an effect on the area that is impacted by the flood, increasing or decreasing the size of the affected area. The ability to assess the probability of a flood, and the level of accuracy for that assessment, are also influenced by modeling methodology advancements, better knowledge, and longer periods of record for the water body in question.

The consequences of a flood are the estimated effects associated with its occurrence. Consequences relate to human activities within an area and how a flood affects the natural and built environment. It is important that individuals and communities have an accurate and current understanding of their risk because anyone can be vulnerable to flooding. Individuals that are located outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) file more than 20 percent of insurance claims and receive 1/3 of disaster assistance for flooding. Having an awareness of risk can allow communities and their residents to address the potential consequences. Understanding risk can also allow for long-term development planning, opportunities for revitalization efforts, and modifications in how interaction occurs with the existing risk.

FEMA relies heavily on information and data provided at a local level for a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) mitigation interest areas that may require more detailed engineering information than currently available, and (3) determine community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on evaluations of flood risk, data need, availability of elevation data, regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community supported mitigation projects, and/or input from the federal, state, and local partners. The status of Discovery watersheds in Arkansas is shown in Figure 1.

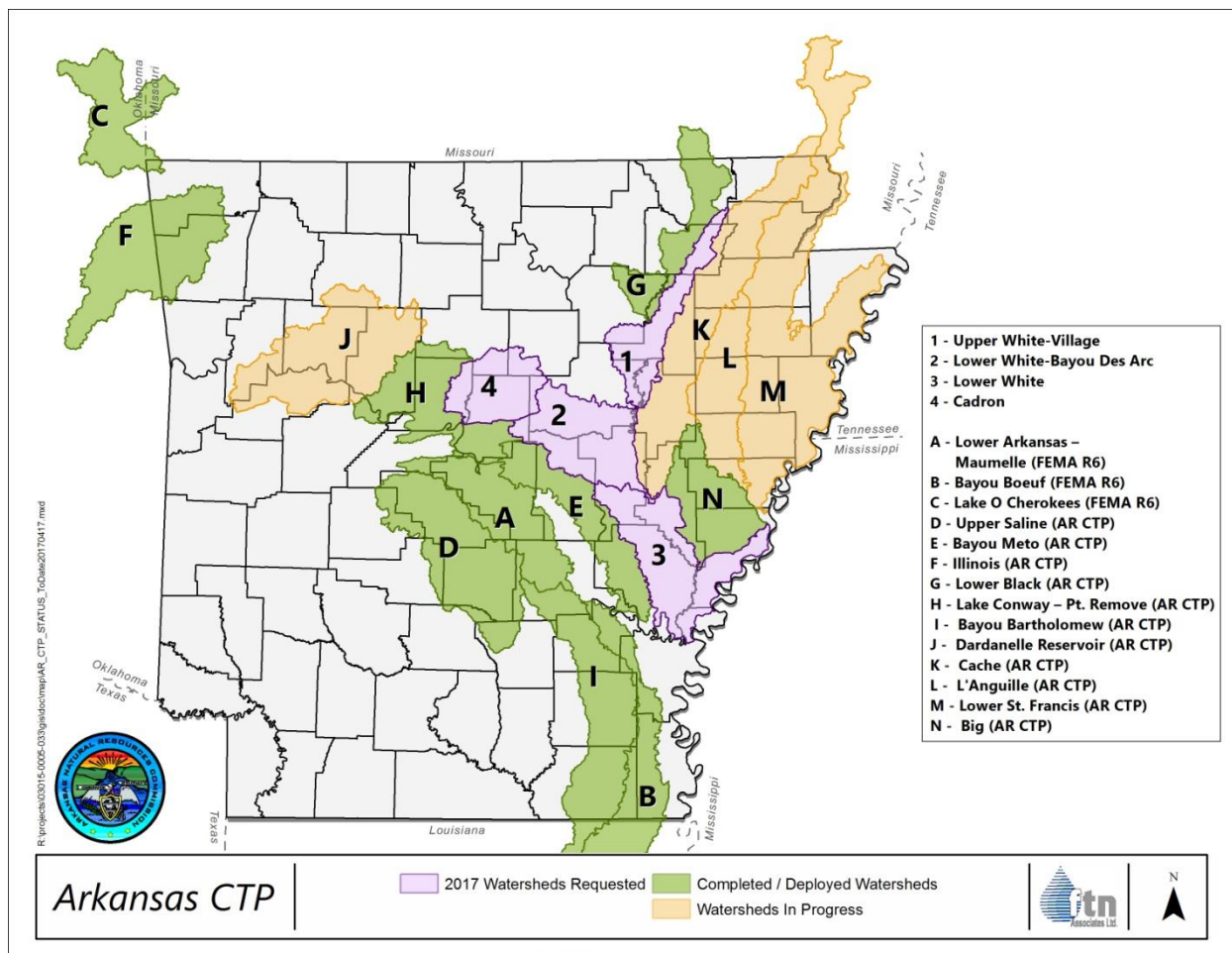


Figure 2. Arkansas CTP Discovery watershed status.

Watershed Basics

Background

The Cache Watershed (HUC8 08020302) spans from Butler County, Missouri to Monroe County, Arkansas where the Cache River flows into the downstream Lower White Watershed. A total of 42 communities are included in this Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) project, and over 1,950 square miles of study area make up the watershed. Figure 2 provides an overview of the Cache Watershed and its geographic location within the state.

Population

According to the 2010 Census, the total population of the watershed is estimated to be 56,296 people. Populations for the counties that intersect the Cache Watershed experienced an overall average population decrease of approximately 0.4 percent between the 2000 and 2010 censuses, although the largest population source, Craighead County, saw an average increase of approximate 1.6 percent. Since 2010, population growth has increased with the 2016 population estimate at 1.9 percent above the number reported in the 2010 census. Based on 2010 Census data, the major community in the watershed, Jonesboro, had a total population of 67,627 (22,447 in the watershed) in 2010 (see Table 2).

Watershed Land Use

The Cache Watershed lies within the White River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas. The Cache Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley’s Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the northeastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed. Upstream of Grubbs, AR, the drainage has been significantly altered from natural conditions with many of the streams being channelized. Downstream of Grubbs, there has been less alteration and some restoration of the natural drainage. In the lower Cache Watershed, there are large areas of protected bottomland hardwood wetlands, including the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and a number of State Wildlife Management Areas. Because of the low elevation and relief of the watershed, flooding is common in those areas of the watershed not on Crowley’s Ridge (see Table 2).

Table 2: Population and Area Characteristics ³

Risk MAP Project	Total Population in Deployed Area (2010)	Average % Population Growth/Yr. (2000-2010)	Predicted Population * (by 2021)	Land Area (mi ²)	Developed Area	Open Water
CACHE WATERSHED	56,296	-0.4%	370,644	1,956	2.1%	1.4%

³ Data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau; ESRI Demographic 5-year Projections; and National Land Cover Database

* Predicted Population by County, which may include areas outside of watershed.

National Flood Insurance Program Status and Regulation

In order to be a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), all interested communities must adopt and submit floodplain management ordinances that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP regulations. These regulations can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations and most of the community ordinance requirements are in Parts 59 and 60. The level of regulation depends on the level of information available and the flood hazards in the area. The levels are as follows:

- A: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not provided any maps or data – 60.3(a)
- B: Community has maps with approximate A zones – 60.3(b)
- C: Community has a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with Base Flood Elevations (BFE) – 60.3(c)
- D: Community has a FIRM with BFEs and floodways – 60.3(d)
- E: Community has a FIRM that shows coastal high hazard areas (V zones) – 60.3(e)

There are 35 communities in the watershed that participate in the NFIP. Of the 35 communities that participate, their level of regulations depend on the date of the effective mapping and if the community was modernized into a countywide format.

There are six incorporated communities, the Towns of Lafe, Weldon, Biscoe, O’Kean, and Hunter and the City of Fisher that are not participating in the NFIP. This means that they are not required to follow FEMA regulations; however, certain opportunities such as federal flood insurance and some forms of federal disaster assistance are not available to the residents of those areas.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

State and local governments must develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans in order to be eligible for certain types of funding. To remain eligible, communities need to update and resubmit their plans every 5 years for FEMA approval. Hazard mitigation plans are created to increase education and awareness, identify strategies for risk reduction, and identify other ways to develop long-term strategies to reduce risk and protect people and property. Eleven of the 12 counties in Arkansas in the Cache Watershed have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are in progress. Only Clay County has an existing approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (expiring in August 2017). The plans effectively allow for FEMA to assess hazards identified through local, state, and federal partnerships and mitigation action items that communities have identified.

Community Rating System

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive-based program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that communities undertake in addition to the minimum requirements they must meet when joining the NFIP. Individuals that carry flood insurance in a community that participates in the CRS program can receive a discount on their flood insurance premium. Discounts can range from 5 to 45 percent. Out of the 38 watershed communities participating in the NFIP, only two, the Cities of Bono and Jonesboro, are participating in the CRS program. The City of Bono currently is a class 9, which means that structures located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 5-percent premium discount. The City of Jonesboro is currently rated a class 8 and therefore structures located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 10-percent premium discount. Table 3 depicts NFIP and CRS participation status and provides an overview of the effective flood data availability.

Table 3: NFIP and CRS Participation ⁴

Risk MAP Project	Participating NFIP Communities/ Total Communities	Number of CRS Communities	CRS Rating Class Range	Average Years since FIRM Update (Range 1982-2017)	Level of Regulations (44 CFR 60.3)
CACHE WATERSHED	36/42	2	8-9	15.7	CFR 60.3 (a), CFR 60.3 (b), CFR 60.3 (c), CFR 60.3 (d)

⁴Data obtained from the FEMA Community Information System

Dams and Levees

As recorded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the National Inventory of Dams, 35 dams are within the portion of the counties that make up the Cache Watershed. The owners and operators of the 5 dams considered high hazard are required to develop and maintain Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to reduce the risk of loss of life and property if the dam fails. Table 4 provides the characteristics of the dams identified in the project area. There are no levees identified within the watershed.

Table 4: Risk MAP Project Dam Characteristics⁵

Risk MAP Project	Total Number of Identified Dams	Number of Dams			Number of Dams Requiring EAP	Percentage of Dams without EAP (Total)	Average Years since Inspection	Average Storage (acre-feet)
		High Hazard	Significant Hazard	Low Hazard				
CACHE WATERSHED	35	5	9	21	5	85.7%	20+	1,065

⁵ Data obtained from the ANRC State Database and USACE National Inventory of Dams

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The average age of the effective FIRMs within the Cache Watershed is almost 16 years. The oldest effective maps are for the City of Cotton Plant, which are 35 years old and have an effective date of October 12, 1982. The newest FIRMs are dated June 7, 2017, for Jackson County. While most of the communities have effective FIRMs, six communities do not have effective FIRMs or have one 11X17 panel that does not show any SFHAs.

Project Phases and Map Maintenance

Background

FEMA manages several risk analysis programs, including Flood Hazard Mapping, National Dam Safety, the Earthquake Safety Program, Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning, and the Risk Assessment Program, all of which assess the impact of natural hazards and lead to effective strategies for reducing risk. These programs support the Department of Homeland Security’s objective to “strengthen nationwide preparedness and mitigation against natural disasters.”

Flood-related damage between 1980 and 2013 totaled \$260 billion, but the total impact to our Nation was far greater—more people lose their lives annually from flooding than any other natural hazard.

FEMA, “Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)” (2015)

FEMA manages the NFIP, which is the cornerstone of the national strategy for preparing American communities for flood hazards. In the nation’s comprehensive emergency management framework, the analysis and awareness of natural hazard risk remains challenging. A consistent risk-based assessment approach and a robust communication system are critical tools to ensure a community’s ability to make informed risk management decisions and take mitigation actions. Flood hazard mapping is a basic and vital component for a prepared and resilient nation.

In Fiscal Year 2009, FEMA’s Risk MAP program began to synergize the efforts of federal, state, and local partners to create timely, viable, and credible information identifying natural hazard risks. The intent of the Risk MAP program is to share resources to identify the natural hazard risks a community faces and ascertain possible approaches to minimizing them. Risk MAP aims to provide technically sound flood hazard information to be used in the following ways:

- To update the regulatory flood hazard inventory depicted on FIRMs and the National Flood Hazard Layer

- To provide broad releases of data to expand the identification of flood risk (flood depth grids, water-surface elevation grids, etc.)
- To support sound local floodplain management decisions
- To identify opportunities to mitigate long-term risk across the nation's watersheds

How are FEMA's Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?

FEMA's flood hazard inventory is updated through several types of revisions.

Community-submitted Letters of Map Change.

First and foremost, FEMA relies heavily on the local communities that participate in the NFIP to carry out the program's minimum requirements. These requirements include the obligation for communities to notify FEMA of changing flood hazard information and to submit the technical support data needed to update the FIRMs.

Under the current minimum NFIP regulations, a participating community commits to notifying FEMA if changes take place that will affect an effective FIRM no later than 6 months after project completion.

Section 65.3, Code of Federal Regulations

Although revisions may be requested at any time to change information on a FIRM, FEMA generally will not revise an effective map unless the changes involve modifications to SFHAs. Be aware that the best floodplain management practices and proper assessments of risk result when the flood hazard maps present information that accurately reflects current conditions.

Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs). The scale of an effective FIRM does not always provide the information required for a site-specific analysis of a property's flood risk. FEMA's LOMA process provides homeowners with an official determination on the relation of their lot or structure to the SFHA. Requesting a LOMA may require a homeowner to work with a surveyor or engineering professional to collect site-specific information related to the structure's elevation; it may also require the determination of a site-specific BFE. Fees are associated with collecting the survey data and developing a site-specific BFE. Local surveying and engineering professionals usually provide an Elevation Certificate to the homeowner, who can use it to request a LOMA. A successful LOMA may remove the federal mandatory purchase requirement for flood insurance, but lending companies may still require flood insurance if they believe the structure is at risk.

FEMA-Initiated Flood Risk Project. Each year, FEMA initiates a number of Flood Risk Projects to create or revise flood hazard maps. Because of funding constraints, FEMA can study or restudy only a limited number of communities, counties, or watersheds each year. As a result, FEMA prioritizes study needs based on a cost-benefit approach whereby the highest priority is given to studies of areas where development has increased and the existing flood hazard data has been superseded by information based on newer technology or changes to the flooding extent. FEMA understands communities require products that reflect current flood hazard conditions to best communicate risk and implement effective floodplain management.

Flood Risk Projects may be delivered by FEMA or one of its Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs). The CTP initiative is an innovative program created to foster partnerships between FEMA and participating NFIP communities, as well as regional and state agencies. Qualified partners collaborate in maintaining up-to-date flood maps. In FEMA Region 6, which includes the State of Arkansas, CTPs are generally statewide agencies that house the State Floodplain Administrator. However, some Region 6 CTPs are also large River Authorities or Flood Control Districts. They provide enhanced coordination with local,

state, and federal entities, engage community officials and technical staff, and provide updated technical information that informs the national flood hazard inventory.

Risk MAP has modified FEMA’s project investment strategy from a single investment by fiscal year to a multi-year phased investment, which allows the Agency to be more flexible and responsive to the findings of the project as it moves through the project lifecycle. Flood Risk Projects are funded and completed in phases.

General Flood Risk Project Phases

Each phase of the Flood Risk Project provides both FEMA and its partner communities with an opportunity to discuss the data that has been collected and to determine a path forward. Local engagement throughout each phase enhances the opportunities for partnership, furthers the discussion on current and future risk, and helps identify local projects and activities to reduce long-term natural hazard risk.

Flood Risk Projects may be funded for one or more of the following phases:

- Phase Zero – Investment
- Phase One – Discovery
- Phase Two – Risk Identification and Assessment
- Phase Three – Regulatory Product Update

Local input is critical throughout each phase of a Flood Risk Project. More details about the tasks and objectives of each phase are included below.

Phase Zero: Investment

Phase Zero of a Flood Risk Project initiates FEMA’s review and assessment of the inventories of flood hazards and other natural hazards within a watershed area. During the Investment Phase, FEMA reviews the availability of information to assess the current floodplain inventory. FEMA maintains several data systems to perform watershed assessments and selects watersheds for a deeper review of available data and potential investment tasks based on the following factors:

Availability of High-Quality Ground Elevation Data. FEMA reviews readily available and recently acquired ground elevation data. This information helps identify development and earth-moving activities near streams and rivers. Where necessary, FEMA may partner with local, state, and other federal entities to collect necessary ground elevation information within a watershed.



If [high-quality ground elevation data](#) is both available for a watershed area and compliant with FEMA’s quality requirements, FEMA and its mapping partners may prepare engineering data to assess, revise, replace, or add to the current flood hazard inventory.

Mile Validation Status within Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS). FEMA uses the CNMS database to track the validity of the flood hazard information prepared for the NFIP. The CNMS database reviews 17 criteria to determine whether the flood hazard information shown on the current FIRM is still valid.



Communities may also inform and request a review or update of the inventory through the CNMS website at <https://msc.fema.gov/cnms/>. The [CNMS Tool Tutorial](#) provides an overview of the online tool and explains how to submit requests.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Reviewing current and historic hazard mitigation plans provides an understanding of a community's comprehension of its flood risk and other natural hazard risks. The mitigation strategies within a local hazard mitigation plan provide a lens to local opportunities and underscore a potential for local adoption of higher standards related to development or other actions to reduce long-term risk.

Cooperating Technical Partner State Business Plans. In some states, a CTP generates an annual state business plan that identifies future Flood Risk Project areas that are of interest to the state. The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission works to develop user-friendly data. In this project area, FEMA has worked closely with ANRC to develop the project scope and determine the necessary project tasks.



Communities that have identified local issues are encouraged to indicate their data needs and revision requests to the State CTP so that they can be prioritized and included in the State Business Plans.

Possible Investment Tasks. After a review of the data available within a watershed, FEMA may choose to (1) purchase ground elevation data and/or (2) create some initial engineering modeling against which to compare the current inventory, also known as Base Level Engineering (BLE) modeling.

Phase One: Discovery

Phase One, the Discovery Phase, provides opportunities both internally (between the state and FEMA) and externally (with communities and other partners interested in flood potential) to discuss local issues with flooding and examine possibilities for mitigation action. This effort is made to determine where communities currently are with their examination of natural hazard risk throughout their community and to identify how state and federal support can assist communities in achieving their goals.



The Discovery process includes an opportunity for local communities to provide information about their concerns related to natural hazard risks. Communities may continue to inform the project identification effort by providing previously prepared survey data, as-built stream crossing information, and engineering information.

For a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping, FEMA relies heavily on the information and data provided at the local level. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where the current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) areas of mitigation interest that may require more detailed engineering information than is currently available, and (3) community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on these evaluations of flood risk, data needs, availability of elevation data, Regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community-supported mitigation project, and input from federal, state, and local partners.

Possible Discovery Tasks. Discovery may include a mix of interactive webinar sessions, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Data collection, interviews, and interaction with community staff and data-mining activities provide the basis for watershed-, community-, and stream-level reviews to determine potential projects that may benefit the communities. A range of analysis approaches are available to determine the extent of flood risk along streams of concern. FEMA and its mapping partners will work closely with communities to determine the appropriate analysis approach, based on the data needs throughout the community.

These potential projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities wanting to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

Phase Two (Risk Identification and Assessment) continues the risk awareness discussion with communities through watershed analysis and assessment. Analyses are prepared to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project watershed. The new or updated analysis provides an opportunity to identify how development has affected the amount of stormwater generated during a range of storm probabilities and shows how effectively stormwater is transported through communities in the watershed.



Coordination with a community's technical staff during engineering and model development allows FEMA and its mapping partners to include local knowledge, based on actual on-the-ground experience, when selecting modeling parameters.

The information prepared and released during Phase Two is intended to promote better local understanding of the existing flood risk by allowing community officials to review the variability of the risk throughout their community. As FEMA strives to support community-identified mitigation actions, it also looks to increase the effectiveness of community floodplain management and planning practices, including local hazard mitigation planning, participation in the NFIP, use of actions identified in the CRS Manual, risk reduction strategies for repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties, and the adoption of stricter standards and building codes.



FEMA is eager to work closely with communities and technical staff to determine the current flood risk in the watershed. During the Risk Identification and Assessment phase, FEMA would like to be alerted to any community concerns related to the floodplain mapping and analysis approaches being taken. During this phase, FEMA can engage with communities and review the analysis and results in depth.

Possible Risk Identification and Assessment Tasks. Phase Two may include a mixture of interactive webinars, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Flood Risk Project tasks may include hydrologic or hydraulic engineering analysis and modeling, floodplain mapping, risk assessments using Hazus-Multi Hazard software, and preparation of flood risk datasets (water-surface elevation, flood depth, or other analysis grids). Additionally, projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities that want to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update

If the analysis prepared in the previous Flood Risk Project phases indicates that physical or meteorological changes in the watershed have significantly changed the flood risk since the last FIRM was printed, FEMA will initiate the update of the regulatory products that communities use for local floodplain management and NFIP activities.

Delivery of the preliminary FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report begins another period of coordination between community officials and FEMA to discuss the required statutory and regulatory steps both parties will perform before the preliminary FIRM and FIS report can become effective. As in

the previous phases, FEMA and its mapping partners will engage with communities through a variety of conference calls, webinars, and in-person meetings.



Once the preliminary FIRMs are prepared and released to communities, FEMA will initiate the statutory portions of the regulatory product update. FEMA will coordinate a Consultation Coordination Officer meeting and initiate a 90-day comment and appeal period. During this appeal period, local developers and residents may coordinate the submittal of their comments and appeals through their community officials to FEMA for review and consideration.

FEMA welcomes this information because additional proven scientific and technical information increases the accuracy of the mapping products and better reflects the community's flood hazards identified on the FIRMs.



Communities may host or hold Open House meetings for the public. The Open House layout allows attendees to move at their own pace through several stations, collecting information in their own time. This format allows residents to receive one-on-one assistance and ask questions pertinent to their situations or their interests in risk or flood insurance information.

All appeals and comments received during the statutory 90-day Appeal Period, including the community's written opinion, will be reviewed by FEMA to determine the validity of the appeal. Once FEMA issues the appeal resolution, the associated community and all appellants will receive an appeal resolution letter and FEMA will revise the preliminary FIRM if warranted. A 30-day period is provided for review and comment on successful appeals. Once all appeals and comments are resolved, the flood map is ready to be finalized.



After the Appeal Period, FEMA will send community leaders a Letter of Final Determination stating that the preliminary FIRM will become effective in 6 months. The letter also discusses the actions each affected community participating in the NFIP must take to remain in good standing in the NFIP.

After the preceding steps are complete and the 6-month compliance period ends, the FIRMs are considered effective maps and new building and flood insurance requirements become effective.

That is a brief general overview of a Flood Risk Project. Next, the Flood Risk Report will provide details on the efforts in the Cache Watershed.

Phase Zero: Investment

The Cache Watershed (HUC 08020302) encompasses an area of approximately 1,956 square miles and extends across 12 counties in Arkansas (Clay, Craighead, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Monroe, Poinsett, Prairie, Randolph, St. Francis, and Woodruff) and one county in Missouri (Butler). The majority of the watershed is located in the northeastern portion of Arkansas between Crowley's Ridge and the White River. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Bono, Brinkley, Jonesboro, Newport, Piggott, and Walnut Ridge. Smaller communities include Cotton Plant, McCrory, and Weiner. The communities in the Cache Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. All of the communities listed in the table are in Arkansas, except for Butler County, MO. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

The Cache Watershed lies within the White River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas. The Cache Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley's Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the northeastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed. Upstream of Grubbs, AR, the drainage has been significantly altered from natural conditions with many of the streams being channelized. Downstream of Grubbs, there has been less alteration and some restoration of the natural drainage. In the lower Cache Watershed, there are large areas of protected bottomland hardwood wetlands, including the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and a number of State Wildlife Management Areas. Because of the low elevation and relief of the watershed, flooding is common in those areas of the watershed not on Crowley's Ridge.

The Cache River is a tributary of the White River. Its largest tributary is Bayou DeView, which joins the Cache River just upstream of the White River. The Cache River originates in southern Missouri, entering Arkansas in Clay County. Bayou DeView originates on Crowley's Ridge in Greene County.

Area of Interest Selection Factors

A number of factors and criteria are reviewed for watershed selection: flood risk, age of current flood hazard data, population growth trends and potential for growth, recent flood claims, and disaster declaration history. Local data and high quality ground elevation data availability are reviewed for use in flood hazard data preparation. The Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) database is reviewed to identify areas of large unknown and unverified mileage. The Arkansas CTP, State NFIP Coordinator, and State Hazard Mitigation Officer coordinate to identify watersheds for study by FEMA.

The Cache Watershed was selected by the Arkansas CTP in coordination with FEMA Region 6, for the reasons summarized below.

- Topographic data developed from a Light Detection and Ranging System (LiDAR) is available throughout the watershed aiding in providing quality data.
- Within the State of Arkansas, losses in the watershed have exceeded \$17.5 million from 1978 through 2017, and there are approximately 2,066 policies. These reported values include entire counties which may or may not be wholly located in the watershed.
- Clay, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Poinsett, and Randolph Counties are the only counties considered modernized. St. Francis County has a countywide study; however it is older (effective date 2005). These studies were completed without quality topographic data.

- Since 2001, the Cache Watershed has had declared federal disasters in every year except 2007 and 2012. The watershed includes the City of Brinkley, which experienced severe flooding in June 2014. This flooding event was a state-declared disaster.
- The communities of Bono, Jonesboro, Cross County, Jackson County, Poinsett County, and Randolph County have claims listed as BCX Claims, which are claims that occur outside the mapped floodplain. This indicates the need for additional review to determine if the effective maps are in need of update.
- Eleven of the 12 counties in Arkansas have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are in progress. Only Clay County has an existing approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (expiring in August 2017).

Flood Risk: The Cache River and its tributaries are not strangers to flood events, with a historical record of numerous flooding events. The Cache Watershed has historically flooded and has experienced major flooding as recently as August 2016 on its tributaries as well as the Cache River. The recent major floods in every year since 2001, except 2007 and 2012, have illustrated the ongoing flood threat for the Cache Watershed.

Growth Potential: Although the Cache Watershed is largely rural in nature, it is undergoing urbanization along the US Highway 67, 63, and 412, as well as the Interstate 40 corridors. These locations include the areas around the cities of Jonesboro, Walnut Ridge, Paragould, and Brinkley.

Age of Current Flood Information: Seven of the counties in the Cache Watershed have modernized maps, whereas five of the counties have not been modernized and have maps dating back to the 1980's.

Local Data Availability. The City of Jonesboro has undertaken large studies to improve drainage throughout the City. The first phase of this study was completed in 2015 with another expected to start in 2016. These studies are to provide drainage improvement concepts and plans to help alleviate future flooding events.

Additionally, Craighead County and its communities are undergoing a Phase 2 Risk Identification and Assessment project, which is currently being performed by the Arkansas CTP.

Availability of High Quality Ground Elevation Data. As a result of FEMA's efforts in teaming with other federal and state agencies, high quality ground elevation data was available for the Cache Watershed. This data provides a great basis for hydrologic and hydraulic modeling preparation. The source and date of LiDAR coverage is included in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of Topographic Data

Watershed/ Flooding Source	Beginning and End Points of Topo Data Collection	New/Existing OR Leveraged	Accuracy & Year Acquired	Source/ Data Vendor	Contact Information	Use Restrictions
2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project	2013 - 2015	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	USACE – St. Louis District	None
2012 FEMA/USGS Lower St. Francis River	04/2012 – 05/2012	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	The National Map	None
2011 L'Anguille & Cache Watershed Area	03/2011 – 04/2011	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	http://gis.arkansas.gov	None

Coordinated Needs Management Strategy Database Review: Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) Database Review. The CNMS database indicates the validity of FEMA’s flood hazard inventory. Streams that are indicated as *Unverified* or *Unknown* in the database indicate that the information that developed the floodplain currently shown on the FIRMs is inaccessible or that a complete evaluation of the Critical and Secondary CNMS elements could not be performed. The Cache Watershed stream coverage is not homogenous across the counties that intersect the basin. The H&H analysis behind majority of the basin flood hazard information is dated and in need of an update. The current inventory within the watershed is approximately 1,305 miles. Of this mileage approximately 52 miles is considered valid, having passed the seven critical element and ten secondary element criteria reviews that had been completed. The remaining mileage is listed as unverified mileage indicating that more than 96% of the existing inventory may require further review (Figure 3).

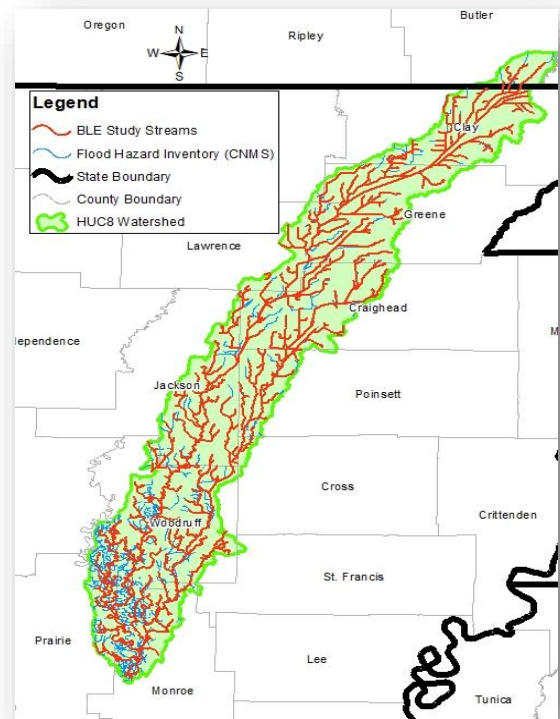


Figure 3. Flood Hazard Inventory

Unmapped Stream Coverage: FEMA and the Arkansas CTP also review the current stream coverage and compare the coverage against detailed terrain streams contributing up to 1 square mile drainage area or [National Hydrography Dataset \(NHD\)](#). The detailed terrain streams and NHD high resolution data inventoried by the US Geological Survey (USGS) Maps created at a 1:24,000 scale is used to review the water courses within the HUC8s of concern. The watershed as a whole is reviewed for additional mileage to be inventoried. The intent of this review is to identify streams and water courses where additional study may be required or to create a complete stream network for Base Level Engineering data preparation.

Base Level Engineering

The Arkansas CTP is coordinating with FEMA on Base Level Engineering (BLE). This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area.

Base Level Engineering provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared in the Base Level Engineering approach provides planning level data which is prepared to meet FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping.

FEMA Investment (2016). In Fiscal Year 2016, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP initiated Base Level Engineering on the Cache HUC8 sub basin. Figure 4 shows the network of streams that is being analyzed using the Base Level Engineering approach. The Base Level Engineering approach will provide the following items for use in the Cache Watershed:

- Hydrologic rain on grid modeling for 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1-%, 1+%, and 0.2% storm events
- Hydraulic (HEC-RAS 5.0.3) modeling for all study streams using 2-Dimensional (2D) modeling techniques.
- Floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation grids, and Flood Depth Grids for all modeled storm events.
- Approximate Mapping Change layer to distinguish areas of changes between BLE and effective mapping for 1% storm event.
- Hazus flood analysis for watershed.

The Base Level Engineering approach will prepare flood hazard information for approximately 1,635 miles adding over 300 stream miles of supplementary flood hazard information for communities throughout the basin. Once completed the Base Level Engineering information will be provided to the communities throughout the basin for planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities.

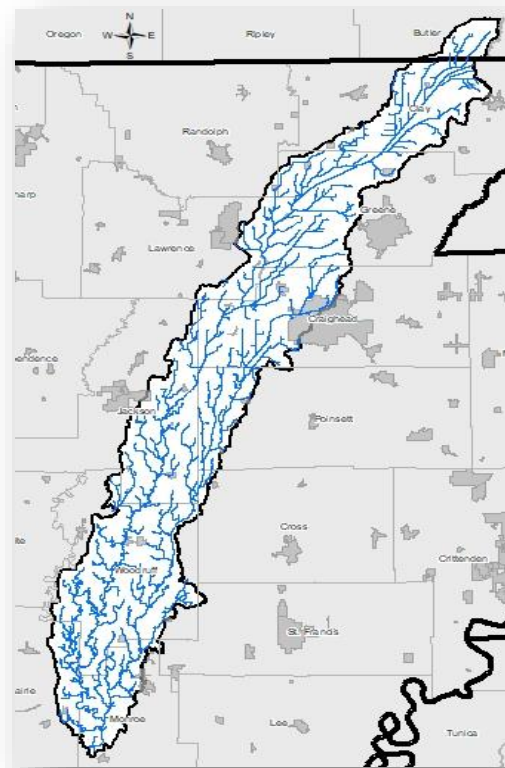


Figure 4. Base Level Engineering Study Streams

Creating BLE data is a cost effective way to provide communities with updated information on their flood risk. BLE provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared through BLE provides planning-level data that meets FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping. This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area. To create the BLE data, the

best available information was utilized. This information included terrain data, flood discharges, and hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

CNMS Validation and Assessment. FEMA has compared the BLE results to the current flood hazard inventory identified in the CNMS database. This assessment allows FEMA to compare the updated flood hazard information to the current effective floodplain mapping of the watershed communities. BLE results for Zone A Validation denoted no miles to be New, Validated, or Updated Engineering (NVUE) compliant.

Community Coordination. FEMA will share the BLE results with communities throughout the project area. Access to workshops and training to support the use of BLE for planning, floodplain management, permitting, and risk communication activities will be made publicly available to communities and other interested parties. FEMA will work with communities to review, interpret, and incorporate the BLE information into their daily and future community management and planning activities.

Follow-On Phase Project Decisions. The BLE results and the current inventory have been compared to identify any areas of significant change. If the results show large areas of change (expansions and contractions of the floodplain, increases and decreases of the computed BFEs, and increases in expected flow values), FEMA will continue to coordinate with the communities to identify the streams that should be considered if the FIRMs are updated.

To identify other streams for future refinement, community growth patterns and potential growth corridors should be discussed with FEMA. These areas of expected community growth and development may benefit from updated flood hazard information. BLE can be further refined to provide detailed study information for a FIRM update.

Areas of communities that were developed prior to 1970 (pre-FIRM areas) may include repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties. They may also be areas where redevelopment is likely to occur. Having updated flood hazard information before redevelopment and reconstruction activities take place may benefit communities by providing guidance to mitigate future risk.



FEMA and the Arkansas CTP will work with communities following the delivery of Base Level Engineering to identify a sub set of streams for update and inclusion on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps, if required. Communities may wish to review the possible areas and provide feedback once the BLE data has been received. Base Level Engineering information may be refined by local communities and submitted through the Letter of Map Revision process to refine existing flood hazard information and maintain the Flood Insurance Rate Maps throughout their community.

Phase One: Discovery

Pre-Discovery

As part of the CTP partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began the Discovery process in the Cache Watershed (08020302) in October 2016 to gather local information and readily available data to determine project viability and the need for Risk MAP products to assist in the movement of communities towards resilience. The watershed location can be seen on Figure 2.

Through the Discovery process, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP can determine which areas of the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 (HUC-8) watersheds may be examined for further flood risk identification and assessment in a collaborative manner, taking into consideration the information collected from local communities during this process. Discovery initiates open lines of communication and relies on local involvement for productive discussions about flood risk. The process provides a forum for a watershed-wide effort to understand how the included watershed community's flood risks are related to flood risk throughout the watershed. In Risk MAP, projects are analyzed on a watershed basis, so Discovery Meetings target numerous stakeholders from throughout the watershed on local, regional, State, and Federal levels.

Discovery Meeting

In July 12 and July 13, 2017, the Arkansas CTP held Discovery Meetings in this watershed to discuss the Discovery process and where the communities can go from there with future studies. The Discovery meeting provided an opportunity to present the BLE results to the communities and how they could be used for future planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities. At the meeting the communities were provided with digital copies of this Flood Risk Report, the modeling files for all of the BLE studied streams, including the floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation Grids, and Flood Depth Grids, and a short tutorial on the use of the BLE products.

The results of the Discovery process is presented as part of this Flood Risk Report, a watershed scale Discovery Map and the digital data that was gathered or developed under the fiscal year 2016 CTP Agreement, EMW-2015-CA-00143, Mapping Activity Statement (MAS) 14, between FEMA and the Arkansas CTP. During Discovery, the Arkansas CTP and FEMA reached out to local communities to:

- Gather information about local flood risk and flood hazards;
- Obtain and ultimately review current and historic mitigation plans to understand local mitigation capabilities, hazard risk assessments, and current or future mitigation activities; and
- Include multi-disciplinary staff from within each community to participate and assist in the development of a watershed vision.

This document includes the portion of the Flood Risk Report that describes the Discovery process and provides the results to the watershed communities. The digital data submitted with this report contains correspondence, exhibits to be used at the Discovery meetings, GIS data, mapping documents (PDF, shapefiles, personal geodatabases and ESRI ArcGIS 10.x Map Exchange Documents [MXDs]), or other supplemental information. Graphics in this Pre-Discovery report are available as larger format graphics files for printing and as GIS data that may be printed and used at any map scale.

Watershed Findings

Engineering review of community comments:

At the Discovery meeting, Risk MAP Action Surveys were provided to each community in attendance so that general information and concerns about each community could be provided back to the Arkansas CTP. For those that did not attend the Discovery Meeting, Risk MAP Action Surveys were distributed via mail to the leaders of each community, with additional notices being distributed to secondary points of contact. Out of the 43 communities located in the watershed, only 6 were returned for engineering review. From the information provided, most communities are very proactive with purchasing equipment and improving structures to address localized drainage needs. A brief summary of the findings are summarized below:

As part of a larger project, the City of Bono, through the NRCS, completed construction on the Lake Bono Dam, which has helped with flooding in Bono. This dam is being studied as part of the ongoing Craighead County, AR Phase 2 Study.

The City of McCrory is currently working on a Mitigation Action to update the structure at 5th Street and has received mitigation grant funding in the past years to help improve the drainage of water throughout the City. The 5th Street project includes increasing capacity of the current structure. Additionally, the City has purchased equipment and is partnering with Woodruff County and the ArDOT to better maintain and improve local drainage.

Poinsett County has performed localized maintenance (improve structures, clean ditches, remove debris) to improve local drainage. Additionally, they have identified two (2) specific areas of concern. The East side of Poinsett County receives flood water from the West side of Jonesboro, while it is a flash flood type event, some homes in the low area of Trumann experience damage, and around Weiner, Waldenburg, Fisher, and Payneway, the County mentions if the Cache River had some levees in these areas, the issue of flooding would be significantly reduced. A levee analysis could be a future course of action.

The City of Jonesboro is working to perform an updated drainage study for the City, as its maps are outdated and do not appear to reflect the accurate risk. This project started from past Map Modernization efforts in Craighead County.

Hydrology: The review of hydrologic data was limited to Base Level Engineering hydrologic processing which includes Peak Discharges and partial gage analysis in the watershed. The 1-percent-annual-chance peak discharge data for Base Level Engineering analysis for the entire watershed was reviewed for any anomalies. Development, sinks, and flood control structures were noted to determine if they had an impact on the hydrology flows. Available gage information for the entire watershed was also reviewed and compared to the Base Level Engineering hydrology, when possible to identify discrepancies and possible anomalies stemming from outdated, overestimated, or underestimated sub-basin analyses.

Hydraulics and floodplain analysis: Base Level Engineering was conducted for this watershed. As a result, CNMS evaluations were conducted to compare the effective mapping to new mapping. The effective mapping was assembled from current National Flood Hazard Layer (modernized counties) and Q3 floodplain mapping data (non-modernized areas). Some noteworthy obstacles observed include the fact

that the Zone A floodplains do not match between most of the community and county boundaries, and there are discrepancies on the mapping for the 0.2% annual-chance-events throughout the watershed.

CNMS Concerns within the Watershed: It is important to note that for the watershed as a whole, most of the CNMS streams are considered unverified. Comparisons of the effective mapping to the draft Base Level Engineering results showed that the effective mapping should be revised based on better source data and processes. The three main concerns found in the area were non-digital FIRMs, vast areas of Unknown approximate studies which were not backed by technical data, and some communities that contained zero miles of detailed studies.

Non-digital FIRMs: Cross County, Craighead County, Monroe County, Prairie County, St. Francis County, and Woodruff County.

Unknown Approximate Studies: Clay County, Craighead County, Cross County, Greene County, Jackson County, Lawrence County, Monroe County, Poinsett County, Prairie County, Randolph County, St. Francis County, and Woodruff County in Arkansas and Butler County in Missouri.

Zero Miles of Detailed Study: Cross County and Prairie County (complete area). There are other parts of individual communities that do not have detail study streams within their jurisdictions.

Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting

At present, the Arkansas CTP plans to hold the Wrap-Up Meeting in association with additional advanced Base Level Engineering training throughout the area. A summary of the findings will be presented at those meeting opportunities.

Future Investments for Refinement

Watershed-wide Recommendations:

Based on comments from Poinsett County representatives, performing a more detailed analysis along the Cache River to examine if structural measures (levee, channel improvements, etc.) may be beneficial and feasible should be considered as a future possibility.

County-specific Recommendations:

Cross County, Monroe County, Prairie County, St. Francis County, and Woodruff County have non-modernized FIRMs. One goal of the Arkansas CTP is to update all non-modernized FIRMs. Once a county has been covered by Discovery and Base Level Engineering projects, it is recommended to move to Phase 2 or 3 to produce a modernized and digital FIRM with Flood Risk Products.

Currently, Craighead County is going through a Phase 2 countywide study to address existing mapping issues. This includes the City of Bono and should include, as it is completed and updated to FEMA standards, the City of Jonesboro Drainage Study.

City/Town-specific Recommendations:

There are multiple communities and /or unincorporated areas that have no detailed studies within the boundaries. It is recommended that for areas of need (population sources, possible development areas, etc) detailed studies be evaluated based on the community need and desire.

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

During the Risk Identification and Assessment Phase of a project, engineering modeling and analysis is refined to further enhance the identification of flood risk. Existing modeling has been updated using a more detailed methodology for calculating the amount of water (hydrology) expected during a storm event, plus additional detail and gage analysis.

Hydraulic models include additional refinement to the cross sections and stream crossings (Figure 5) that may restrict flow in larger events, and the channel and structure information in existing models could be improved based on field surveys.

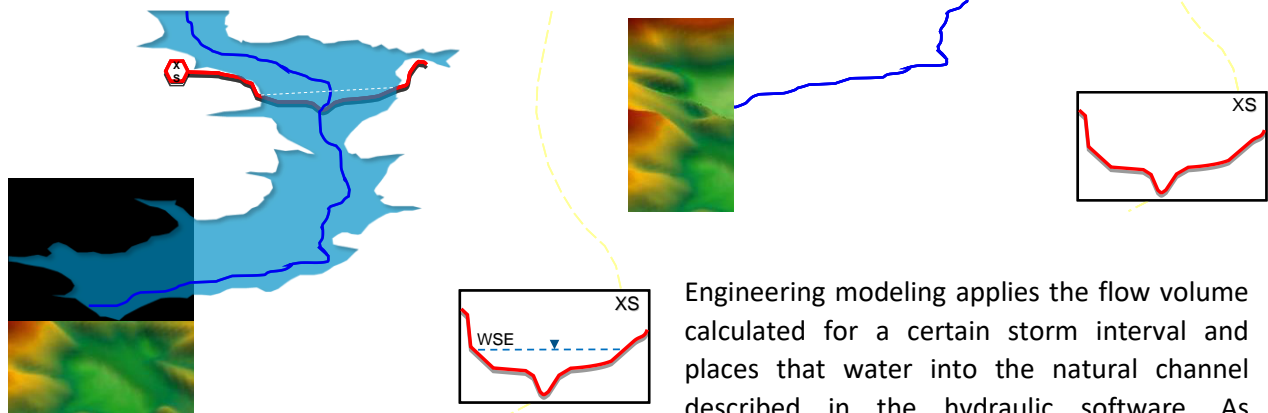


Figure 5. Hydraulic Cross-Section

Figure 6. Floodplain Mapping of Peak Water Surface Elevation

Engineering modeling applies the flow volume calculated for a certain storm interval and places that water into the natural channel described in the hydraulic software. As tributaries and other drainage features are added to the main stream, the flow volume increases downstream. The modeling calculates the peak water-surface elevation (Figure 6) determined at each cross section, and these peak values are graphically described in a profile. The peak values are then mapped on ground elevation information to produce a floodplain delineation that identifies the expected flood extent during the analyzed storm event.

These models have been used to produce a range of flood risk datasets that describe the variability of flooding within the delineated floodplain. These flood risk datasets include:

- **Water-Surface Elevation Grid** – This two-dimensional grid describes the water-surface elevation and profile for the length of the study area. Interpolated values are produced between each analyzed cross section.
- **Flood Depth Grid** – This grid provides an estimated flood depth at any location within the floodplain, allowing the variability of flood depth to be better represented for the stream channel and the floodplain areas.
- **Annual Percent Chance Grid** – This grid is produced using statistical analysis to describe multiple percentages of the chance of flooding within the determined floodplain.

- **30-Year Percent Chance Grid** – Further statistical methodology is used to determine the percent chance of flooding within a 30-year window. The 30-year window was chosen because a 30-year period is common for home mortgages.
- **Changes Since Last FIRM** – This polygon file identifies each location where modifications are identified by the revised and updated hydrologic and hydraulic analysis. Areas where floodplain widths increase/decrease, areas where floodway widths increase/decrease, and areas where flood zones have been modified are identifiable within this layer.

This phase of the project benefits greatly from community interaction and coordination with local technical and operations staff, providing an opportunity for FEMA and its mapping partners to engage local knowledge as the modeling is prepared. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to work closely with communities to identify areas where the modeling and floodplain mapping may not agree with on the ground accounts of flooding equivalent to the 1% annual chance storm event. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to use this phase to review community comments and include any available technical information prior to proceeding to the update of the Regulatory products (FIRM, FIS and DFIRM database).

The following information will be added during any Phase 2 project that may be completed in the future.

Flood Risk Review Meeting

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Flood Risk Review Meetings are scheduled for XXXX, 20XX. The first formal sharing of the modeling and mapping updates occurs at the Flood Risk Review Meeting. At this meeting, FEMA intends to continue community coordination efforts and discussions with a variety of watershed partners to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project area.

The FEMA team remains focused on reviewing the identification of flood and other natural hazard risks, areas where modifications in the flood delineations have been identified, and changes in risk assessment, working with community and technical staff throughout the analysis/assessment processes.

The team will deliver the Phase Two (Data and Engineering) data:

- Hydrological Analysis
- Hydraulic Analysis
- Resultant BLE data

The objectives of the Flood Risk Review meeting include:

- Promote local buy-in of analysis/study results
- Review Risk Identification (engineering) results with local communities
- Review the hazard mitigation plan, compared to the study findings
- Identify risk communication needs and options
- Support identified community-driven mitigation actions
- Identify and/or resolve community comments and appeals before the regulatory products are issued
- Solicit community input on results and promote buy-in of analyses prior to moving forward
- Continue developing relationships with communities

The new analysis and products will be delivered to communities in advance of this meeting, so communities will have the chance to review and assess the modeling and mapping results prior to the in-person meeting.



FEMA would like to work with communities at each project milestone to identify and address any technical concerns with the modeling results. Because this phase of the timeline is less rigid than the statutory and regulatory timelines in Phase Three, FEMA can work more closely and intimately with the communities to review and address their concerns.

Next Steps

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Once the analysis is completed, FEMA will review the areas of change before determining if a project will move forward to update the regulatory products (FIS report, FIRM, and DFIRM database). A cursory review of the modeling results indicates that this study area has significant changes in floodplain width and depth.



FEMA will work with communities after delivering the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and floodplain work maps to collect any outstanding technical inquiries within the study area. After coordinating with communities, FEMA will likely initiate the Phase Three effort to update the regulatory products.

Potential Community Activities

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

The availability of updated flood risk information provides the community a chance to review a range of possible actions that may be taken. Some possible community activities are identified below for consideration:

Stream Specific Recommendations: This section may be expanded at a later date.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Hazard Profile): The updated flood risk information provides an opportunity to review local hazard mitigation plans. The flood risk profile, hazard extent, and vulnerability assessment may be refined based on the Changes Since Last FIRM, water-surface elevation grids, flood depth grids, and percent annual chance grids. Communities should reconvene their Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to identify how these narrative sections should be refined with the additional information.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans help to:

- Protect public safety
- Prevent damage to community assets
- Reduce costs of disaster response and recovery
- Improve community capabilities
- Create safer, more sustainable development

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mitigation Strategies): Communities may review community assets, critical facilities, and other vulnerable areas within a community to identify or refine the mitigation strategies and locate future mitigation projects to reduce long-term natural hazard risk throughout the community. FEMA's publication [Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards](#) may provide some strategies and projects for the local Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to review.

Mitigation Project Scope Preparation: Each year, communities may apply for various FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants available for implementing mitigation actions. Communities may review their critical mitigation needs and opt to prepare project submittals for one of the grant opportunities FEMA offers.

PDM

The PDM grant program provides funding for hazard mitigation planning and projects on an annual basis. These funds are locally and nationally competitive. The amount of funding available annually depends on appropriations by Congress.

FMA

The FMA grant program provides funds for projects to reduce or eliminate the risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These funds are awarded on an annual basis through State allocations that are based on the number of NFIP policies in force.

HMGP

The HMGP assists in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration. HMGP funding is generally 15% of the total amount of Federal assistance provided to a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe following a major disaster declaration. If a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe has an enhanced mitigation plan, the percentage rises to 20%. These grant funds are competitive within the State receiving the allocation.

These HMA Grant Programs are managed by the State of Arkansas (grantee), which has the primary responsibility for selecting and administering the mitigation activities throughout the state. Individuals are not eligible to apply directly for HMA funds; however, communities may act as an eligible applicant or sub-applicant to apply for funding on behalf of individuals.

For specific information on available HMA grant funding and current project priorities in Arkansas, please contact the appropriate state agency.

**FMA, HMGP, and PDM Grant Programs
Arkansas Department of Emergency
Management**

Lacye Blake

Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

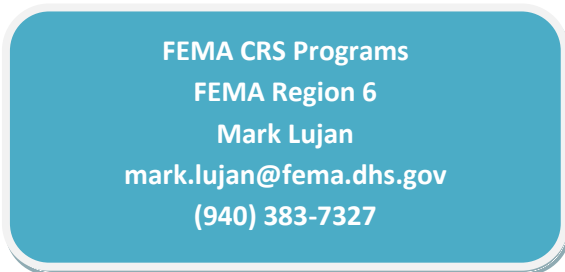
**Arkansas Natural Resources
Commission Management**

Veronica Villalobos-Pogue

Veronica.Villalobos-Pogue@arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

Community Rating System (CRS): The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Communities interested in the CRS program may contact their FEMA Region 6 CRS Coordinator or the State of Arkansas CRS Coordinator.



Adoption of Higher Standards: Community participation in the NFIP is voluntary. When a community joins the NFIP, it must ensure its adopted floodplain management ordinance and enforcement procedures meet NFIP requirements. NFIP minimum requirements include requiring permits for all development in the SFHA and ensuring that the construction materials and methods used will minimize future flood damage. Higher standards, such as freeboard, land use and zoning practices, and other approaches allow communities to minimize future damages within the community by using more restrictive building codes and requirements.

Risk Reduction Activities: The NFIP's CRS Coordinator's Manual identifies a number of activities that communities can undertake to reduce their long-term risk. Higher standards, land use planning, future conditions modeling, and other approaches are available for consideration.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Strategy: The primary objective of the SRL properties strategy is to eliminate or reduce the damage to residential property and the disruption to life caused by repeated flooding. The SRL Grant Program makes funding available for a variety of flood mitigation activities. Under this program, FEMA provides funds to state and local governments to assist NFIP-insured SRL residential property owners with mitigation projects that reduce future flood losses. Projects could include acquisition or relocation of at-risk structures and conversion of the property to open space, elevation of existing structures, or dry floodproofing for historic properties.

Public Risk Awareness and Outreach Campaigns: Communities may use the new and existing flood hazard information to develop a public information and outreach campaign for their community. Since 2010, FEMA has conducted an annual nationwide study of flood risk awareness among U.S. households. Participants overwhelmingly responded that they expect and trust flood risk information when it comes from local community officials and staff.

FEMA Region 6 has also developed the Risk Communication Guidebook for Local Officials (<http://www.riskmap6.com/guidebook.aspx>), which identifies a number of local communication activities. The Guidebook provides tools, templates, and resources for communities interested in developing a local outreach campaign; it is presented by Risk MAP project phases, similar to this report.

The CRS Coordinators Manual and the CRS Resources website (for Activity 300, available at <http://crsresources.org/300-3>) can provide additional information for communities interested in local flood hazard and risk awareness outreach campaigns.

High Water Mark (HWM) Initiative: As part of the NFIP, the HWM Initiative is a community-based program that increases residents' awareness of flood risk and encourages action to mitigate that risk.

As part of the project, communities post HWM signs in prominent places, hold a high-profile launch event to unveil the signs, conduct ongoing education to build local awareness of flood risk, and complete mitigation actions to build community resilience against future flooding.

Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

During the Regulatory Product Update Phase of a Flood Risk Project, the results produced in the previous phase are used to prepare and produce three regulatory products that are produced in a county-wide manner. This phase of the project is more regimented than previous phases, there are some statutory and regulatory timelines that must be adhered to by FEMA and the communities involved in the update areas. FEMA will remain in contact with communities throughout the process.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The engineering analysis results will be used to update the existing countywide FIS texts produced for communities during the Map Modernization effort. The narratives within the FIS text are updated to include specifics about the latest analysis and study effort within each county. Additionally, the Floodway Data Tables and Water Surface Elevations that provide look up information to community staff in their administration of the program are also updated to provide the most up to date information to the public and communities alike.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The revised FIRM data is based on a combination of new and existing engineering analyses of floodplain boundaries. The new engineering analysis for your county/parish is based on detailed analysis.

Detailed studies are mapped with a flood zone designation of "Zone AE". All mileage studied by detailed methods produces a FIRM that included Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) published on the Preliminary DFIRMs. As previously described in Phase Two, studies of this nature include field surveys, hydraulic structures, modeling calibration and multiple flood frequency profiles published in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report delivered at Preliminary DFIRM issuance.

Some detailed mileage also includes a regulatory floodway. Floodway models are prepared to review the effect that fill or encroachment may have along a stream. Floodplain and floodway evaluations are the basis for community floodplain management programs. More information on floodway modeling is available in the Phase Two section of this report.

DFIRM Database

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Communities receive an updated and standardized DFIRM Database which is a digital version of the FEMA flood insurance rate map designed for use with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software.

The DFIRM Database is designed to provide the user the ability to determine the flood zone, base flood elevation and the floodway status for a particular location using its own internal GIS staff. The DFIRM database also includes data related to the NFIP community, FIRM panels, analysis cross sections and hydraulic structure information, as well as base map information like road, and stream data for reference and local use.

Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

As part of the DFIRM update, the project team will review all LOMAs and LOMRs and make a determination of each case to: incorporate, revalidate/reissue or supersede the LOMAs and LOMRs, based on technical data.

The following Letters of Map Revision have been reviewed and categorized:

Case Number	Stream Name(s) & Community(ies)	Effective Date	Category

LOMAs for each county will also be reviewed in preparation for the preliminary issuance. Communities should be advised that ALL LOMAs will be included in the Preliminary Summary of Map Actions (Prelim SOMA) provided on the Preliminary release date.



Communities should review their map repositories for any Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA) or Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) within the stream areas being studied. These community files may provide additional information for historic map revisions that will assist in the review of the cases for incorporation.

Next Step: Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Once FEMA has received, reviewed and responded to all comments and technical data received as a result of the Flood Risk Review meeting, FEMA will prepare the preliminary FIRMs, FIS and DFIRM database for release. Preliminaries will be sent to the community Chief Executive Officer, or “CEO,” and floodplain administrator, or “FPA,” for an initial review.

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The post-preliminary process is initiated with the preliminary issuance of the FIRM, FIS and DFIRM Database. A number of activities will occur as highlighted in Figure 7 below.

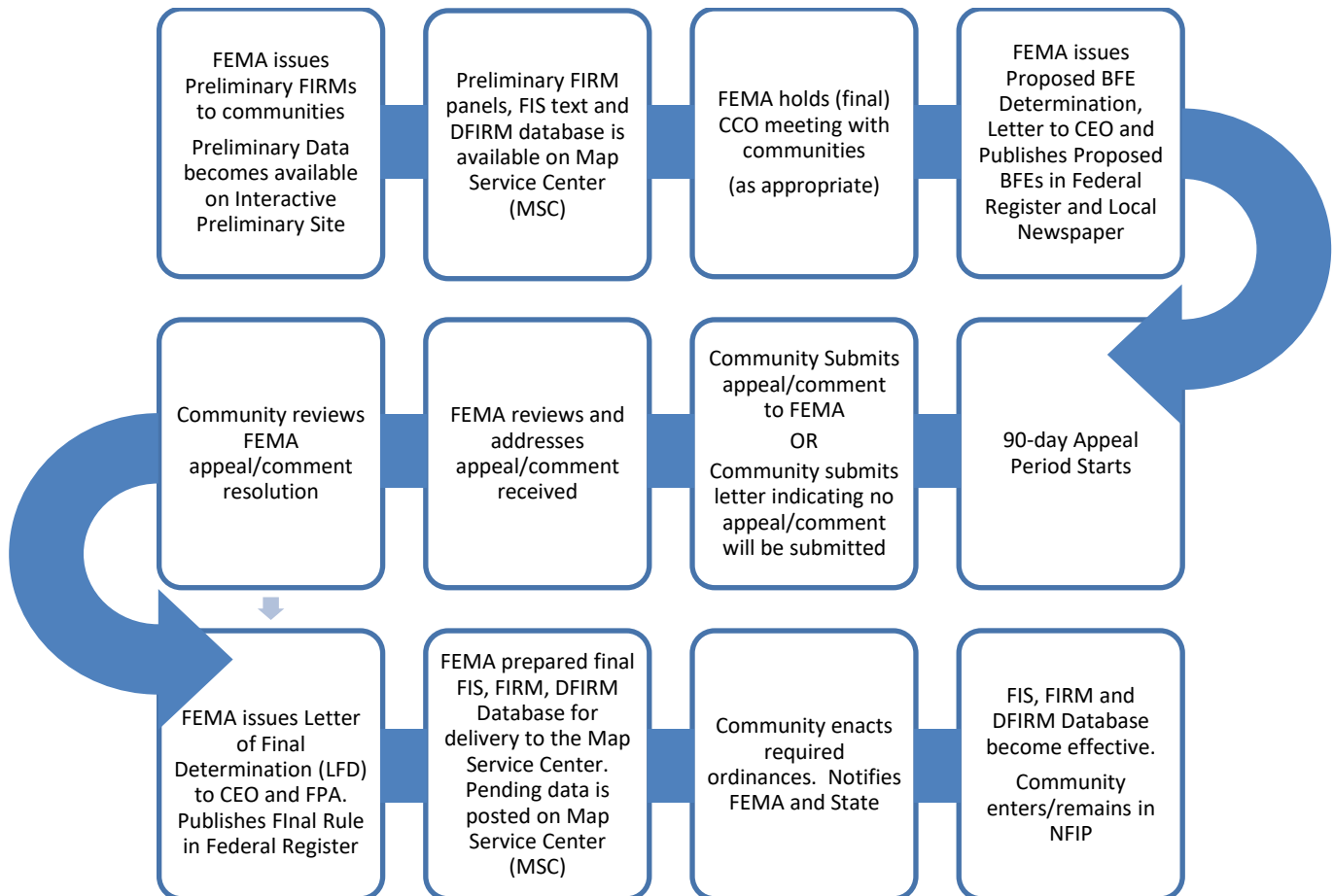


Figure 7. Post Preliminary Process

Additional information is provided for the immediate steps following preliminary issuance to provide some overview to communities prior to these activities being initiated.

Preliminary Data Available through Interactive Website. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, Preliminary Map Viewer will be available describing information available on the site.

30-Day Community Review Period. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, the initial community review is provided to communities. This informal review period generally lasts 30 days.

Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting. Following the informal review of the preliminary information, FEMA holds a more formal community coordination meeting during which community officials meet with FEMA representatives.

90-Day Appeal and Comment Period Initiated: Following the CCO meeting, FEMA will issue a letter to the Community Elected Official and Local Floodplain Administrator to inform them that FEMA is moving towards the initiation of the appeal period. FEMA will work internally to publish the Proposed BFE Determination in the Federal Register and then will publish a notice in the local newspaper two times. The letter will indicate the publication date for the notice in the Federal Register and two publication dates for a local newspaper. The appeal and comment period is initiated after the second local print date and extends 90 calendar days.

During this period, community officials or citizens may appeal the proposed BFEs and/or base flood depths based on scientific or technical data. Community officials or citizens also may submit requests for changes to other information shown on the DFIRM - flood zone boundaries, regulatory floodway boundaries, road names and configurations - during the appeal period. **Communities are responsible for the collection, review and approval of appeals that are submitted during the 90-day appeal period.**

An **appeal** is a formal objection to proposed or proposed modified BFEs or base flood depths, submitted by a community official or an owner or lessee of real property within the community through the community officials during the statutory 90-day appeal period. An appeal must be based on data that show the proposed or proposed modified BFEs are scientifically or technically incorrect.

A **comment** is an objection to or comment on any information, other than proposed BFEs or base flood depths, shown on an NFIP map that is submitted by community officials or interested citizens through the community officials during the 90-day appeal period. Comments usually involve changes to items such as road locations and road names, corporate limits updates, or other base map features.

Future Physical Map Revisions

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The release of the maps in these areas does not identify the end of coordination between the local community and FEMA. Local communities should continue their local floodplain management activities and submit Letters of Map Revision when local development alters the flood hazard in the community.

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports

The following list depicts the county- and community-specific reports contained within this appendix.

Communities
<i>CLAY COUNTY</i>
Clay County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Knobel, City of
McDougal, City of
Peach Orchard, City of
Piggott, City of ¹
Pollard, City of
<i>CRAIGHEAD COUNTY</i>
Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Bono, City of
Cash, Town of
Egypt, Town of
Jonesboro, City of ¹
<i>CROSS COUNTY</i>
Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹
<i>GREENE COUNTY</i>
Greene County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Lafe, Town of
<i>JACKSON COUNTY</i>
Jackson County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Amagon, Town of
Beedeville, Town of
Grubbs, City of
Newport, City of ¹
Tupelo, Town of
Weldon, Town of
<i>LAWRENCE COUNTY</i>
Lawrence County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Sedgwick, Town of
Walnut Ridge, City of ¹
<i>MONROE COUNTY</i>
Monroe County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Brinkley, City of ¹
Fargo, Town of

Communities
<i>POINSETT COUNTY</i>
Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Fisher, City of ¹
Waldenburg, Town of ¹
Weiner, City of ¹
<i>PRAIRIE COUNTY</i>
Prairie County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Biscoe, City of ¹
<i>RANDOLPH COUNTY</i>
Randolph County Unincorporated Areas ¹
O’Kean, Town of
<i>ST.FRANCIS COUNTY</i>
St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹
<i>WOODRUFF COUNTY</i>
Woodruff County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Cotton Plant, City of
Hunter, Town of ¹
McCrory, City of
Patterson, City of
<i>BUTLER COUNTY, MO</i>
Butler County, MO Unincorporated Areas ¹

¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.

Appendix II: Points of Contact

Watershed

Subject/Topic of Interest	Name	Contact Information
FEMA Region 6 Risk MAP Team Lead <i>Project Outreach</i>	Diane Howe Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 898-5171 Email: diane.howe@fema.dhs.gov
FEMA Project Monitor (Arkansas)	John Bourdeau Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7350 Email: John.BourdeauJr@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodplain Management Floodplain Ordinance Community Assistance Visits Higher Standards Flood Insurance 	Pedro Perez Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7365 Email: Pedro.Perez@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Rating System Flood Insurance 	Mark Lujan	Phone: (940) 383-7327 Email: mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to find and read FIRMs Letters of Map Change and Elevation Certificates Mandatory insurance purchase guidelines/ Flood zone disputes Map Service Center (MSC) & National Flood Hazard Layer 	FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)	Phone: 1-877-FEMA-MAP (336-2627) Email: FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com Live Chat: https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html

State Partners

Organization/Title	Name	Partner Location	Contact Information
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) State NFIP Coordinator	Michael Borengasser, CFM	101 East Capitol Ave, Suite 350 Little Rock, AR 72201	Phone: (501) 682-3969 Email: michael.borengasser@arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/
Arkansas Department of Emergency Management State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Lacye Blake	Building 9501 Camp Joseph T. Robinson North Little Rock, AR 72199	Phone: (512) 424-5489 Email: Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/

Appendix III: Resources

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission's (ANRC) mission is to manage and protect our water and land resources for the health, safety and economic benefit of the State of Arkansas.



The ANRC has been designated by state law as the State NFIP Coordinating Agency for Arkansas. Within ANRC- Water Resources Management Division, you will find Floodplain Management, where most of the flood-related information and flood planning and mitigation grant resources reside.

Organization	Contact Information	Website
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC)	Phone: (501) 682-1611	http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/

Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)

The AFMA is an organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the NFIP, flood preparedness, warning, and disaster recovery. The Association includes flood hazard specialists from local, state, and federal governments, the mortgage, insurance, and research communities, and the associated fields of flood zone determination, engineering, hydraulic forecasting, emergency response, water resources, Geographic Information Systems, and others.

Organization	Website
Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)	https://www.arkansasfloods.org/

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) established a national program for certifying floodplain managers. This program recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhances the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain management professionals.

The role of the nation's floodplain managers is expanding due to increases in disaster losses, the emphasis on mitigation to alleviate the cycle of damage-rebuild-damage, and a recognized need for professionals to adequately address these issues. This certification program will lay the foundation for ensuring that highly qualified individuals are available to meet the challenge of breaking the damage cycle and stopping its negative drain on the nation's human, financial, and natural resources.

CFM® is a registered trademark and available only to individuals certified and in good standing under the ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager Program.

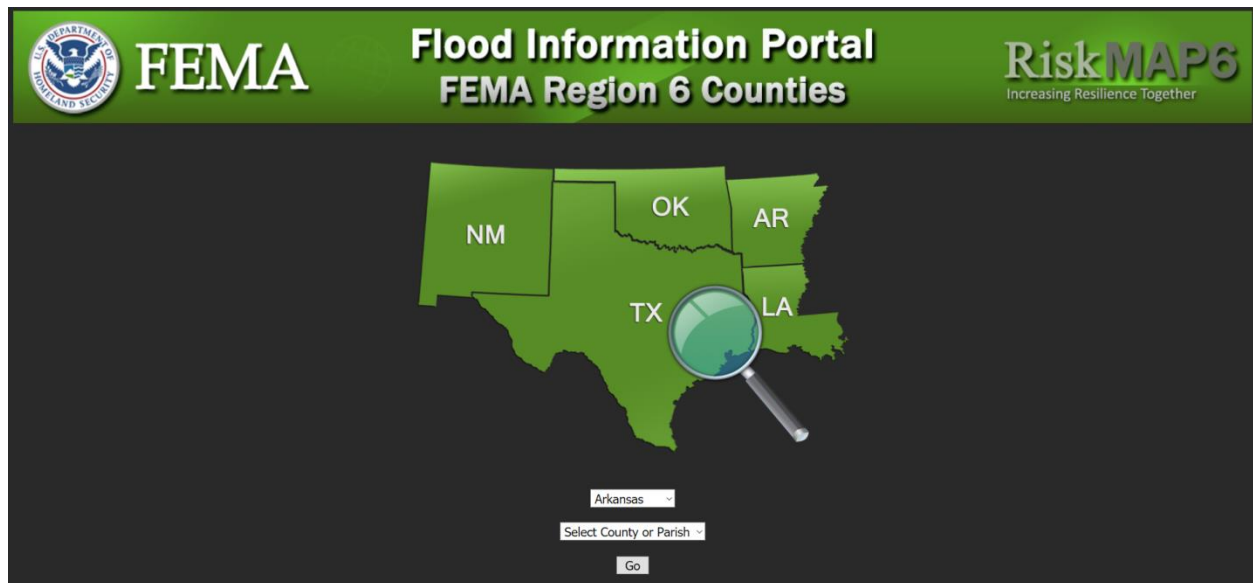
For more information, you may want to review these available CFM Awareness Videos:

- [What is the CFM Program?](#)
- [Who can be a CFM?](#)
- [What are the Benefits of a CFM?](#)

Study Materials for those interested in applying for the CFM certification can be found on the ASFPM Website at: <http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuID=215>.

For information on becoming a member and the exam application process in the State of Arkansas visit <https://www.arkansasfloods.org/cfm/>.

Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer



To support community review of the study information and promote risk communication efforts, FEMA launched an interactive web tool accessible on-line at <http://maps.RiskMAP6.com> for the project areas.

Should a study be released for review, the study data may be viewed at this website.

For more information on the Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer, refer to the Region 6 Fact sheet: [What is your Flood Risk?](#)

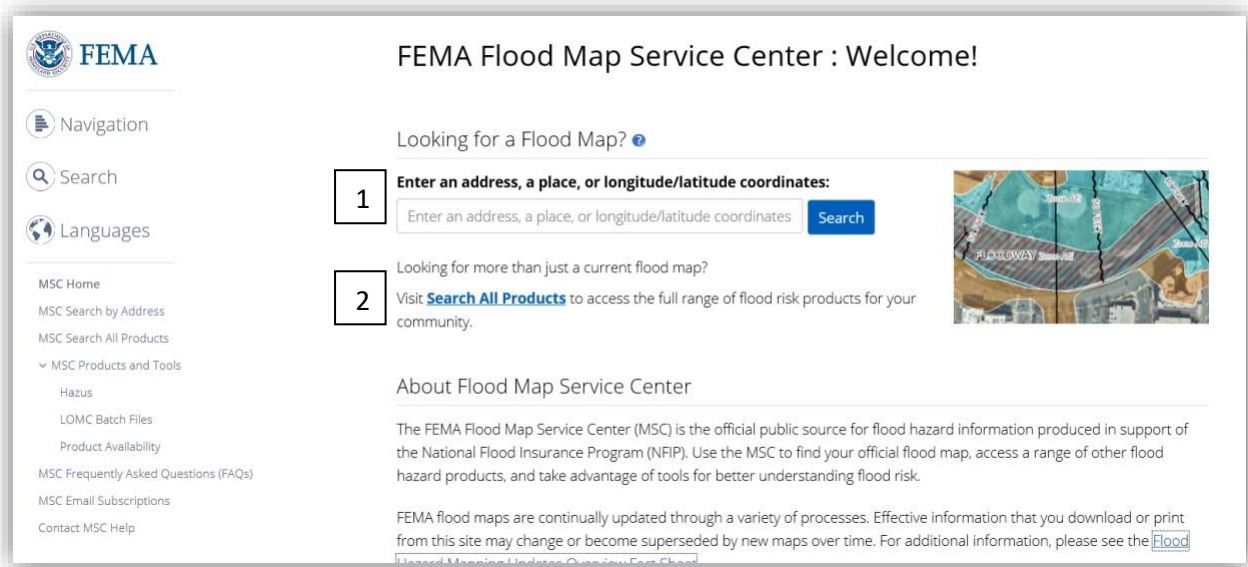
Map Service Center – Available Map Data

The [FEMA Flood Map Service Center \(MSC\)](#) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the NFIP. Use the MSC to find your official effective flood map, preliminary flood maps, and access a range of other flood hazard products.

FEMA flood maps are continually updated through a variety of processes. Effective information that you download or print from this site may change or become superseded by new maps over time. For additional information, please see the [Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet](#).

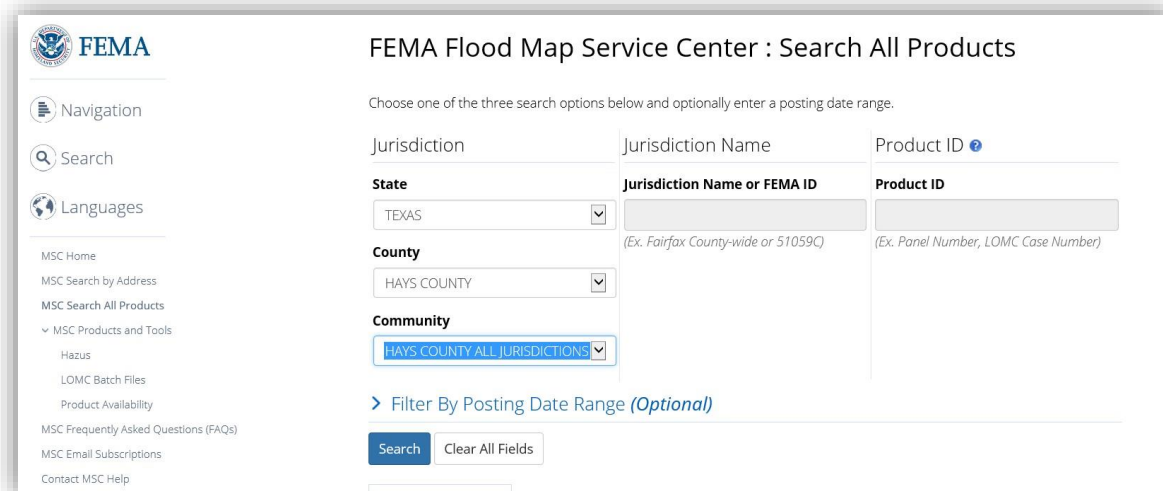
At the MSC, there are two ways to locate flood maps in your vicinity.

1. Enter an address, place name, or latitude/longitude coordinates and click search. This will provide the current effective FIRM panel where the location is shown.
2. Or [Search All Products](#), which will provide access to the full range of flood risk information available.



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website. The header includes the FEMA logo and the text "FEMA Flood Map Service Center : Welcome!". Below the header, there is a navigation menu on the left with options like "Navigation", "Search", and "Languages". The main content area features a search bar with the prompt "Looking for a Flood Map?" and a "Search" button. A red box with the number "1" highlights the search bar. Below the search bar, there is a section titled "Looking for more than just a current flood map?" with a red box and the number "2" highlighting the text "Visit [Search All Products](#) to access the full range of flood risk products for your community." To the right of this text is a small map showing a flood hazard area. Below the search bar, there is a section titled "About Flood Map Service Center" which provides information about the MSC and its role in supporting the NFIP. The text in this section is partially obscured by a red box with the number "2".

By using the more advanced search option, “Search All Products,” users may access current, preliminary, pending, and historic flood maps. Additionally, GIS data and flood risk products may be accessed through the site with these few steps.



Using the pull down menus, select your state, county, and community of interest. For this example, we selected Hays County - All Jurisdictions. After the search button is selected, the MSC will return all items in the area. There are five types of data available.

Effective Products. The current effective FIS, FIRM, and DFIRM database (if available) is available through the MSC. If users click on the available effective products, they are presented a breakdown of the available products. FIRM panels, FIS reports, LOMRs, statewide National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) data, and countywide NFHL data may be available, as indicated in the breakdown on the right of the page.

Effective Products (250)	DL ALL
▶ FIRM Panels (88)	DL ALL
▶ FIS Reports (4)	DL ALL
▶ LOMC (155)	
▶ NFHL Data-State (1)	
▶ NFHL Data-County (2)	
Historic Products (136)	DL ALL
▶ FIRM Panels (101)	DL ALL
▶ FIS Reports (1)	DL ALL
▶ LOMC (34)	

Historic Products. A range of historic flood hazard maps, FIS texts, and Letters of Map Change are available through the MSC.

Flood Risk Products. The Flood Risk Report, Flood Risk Map, and

Flood Risk Database will be made available through the MSC once they have been compiled and completed. These products are made available after the flood study analysis and mapping have been reviewed and community comments incorporated.

Additional Web Resources

FLOOD MITIGATION PLANNING	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM RESOURCES – HOW TO JOIN, SAMPLE ORDINANCES, ETC.	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD GRANT PROGRAMS	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SCHEDULES	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/Conferences.html https://www.arkansasfloods.org/



AR Highway 33 near Bisco, AR - Jocelyn Augustino/FEMA Photo by Jocelyn Augustino

L'Anguille Watershed, AR Base Level Engineering (BLE) Results

L'Anguille Watershed, HUC - 08020205

Craighead, Cross*, Lee*, Poinsett*, St. Francis* and Woodruff*
Counties, Arkansas*

**Spans more than one watershed. This report covers only the area within the studied watershed.*

June 2017



Project Area Community List

Community Name	CID
<i>Craighead County Communities</i>	
Craighead County	050427
Jonesboro, City of	050048
<i>Cross County Communities</i>	
Cherry Valley, City of	050057
Cross County	050056
Hickory Ridge, City of	050058
Wynne, City of	050060
<i>Lee County Communities</i>	
Haynes, Town of	
Lee County	050444
Marianna, City of	050124
<i>Poinsett County Communities</i>	
Fisher, City of	
Harrisburg, City of	050173
Poinsett County	050172
Weiner, City of	050373
<i>St. Francis County Communities</i>	
Caldwell, Town of	050185
Colt, City of	050186
Forrest City, City of	050187
Palestine, City of	050359
St. Francis County	050184
<i>Woodruff County Communities</i>	
Woodruff County	050468
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.	

Table of Contents

1.	Executive Summary	2
2.	Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology	3
2.1.	Terrain	3
2.2.	Hydrology	4
2.3.	Hydraulics.....	5
2.4.	Quality Control	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.5.	Mapping.....	7
3.	Submittal	8
4.	References.....	9

List of Tables

Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval	4
Table 2: Manning's "n" Coefficients	6

Appendix A - WORKMAPS

BLE Terrain & Workmap Index
BLE Workmaps (Digital Format Only)

1. Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is currently implementing the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program across the Nation. The vision and intent of the Risk MAP program is to, through collaboration with State and Local entities, deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to mitigation actions that reduce risk to life and property. To achieve this vision, FEMA has transformed its traditional flood identification and mapping efforts into a more integrated process of more accurately identifying, assessing, communicating, planning and mitigating flood risks. Risk MAP attempts to address gaps in flood hazard data and form a solid foundation for risk assessment, floodplain management, and provide State and Local entities with information needed to mitigate flood related risks.

The FEMA Region 6 office and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) entered into a Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) partnership agreement for implementation of Risk MAP in the State of Arkansas. As part of this partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began work on a Base Level Engineering (BLE) analysis in the L'Anguille Watershed in October 2016 to support FEMA's Discovery process and validation of effective Zone A Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery). An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program.

The source digital terrain data used for surface model development in support of H&H analysis, as well as mapping activities were leveraged from existing Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data collected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (2011 Cache and 2011 L'Anguille), U.S. Geological Survey (2011 Bayou Meto, 2012 Upper Black, 2012 Upper White Village, 2013 Lower St. Francis, and 2015 Lower Black), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2010 White River to Newport, 2010 Greers Ferry and Red River, 2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project). The LiDAR datasets were 1-meter gridded DEM data that were reprojected to a 15 ft cell size for hydrologic processing and a 5 ft cell size for hydraulic and mapping processing.

Flood discharges for this analysis were calculated using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service, Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, ESRI's ArcGIS software, the HEC-Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) computer program, and the HEC - River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) program, version 5.0.3. Initial precipitation values were obtained, based on a watershed level, from NOAA's Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, which was then processed in ESRI's ArcGIS 10.x software into a usable format. The obtained precipitation values and resulting GIS parameters for the watershed, were then input into HEC-HMS to determine the excess rainfall that would result based on the applied conditions. This excess rainfall was then applied to a 2-D HEC-RAS model in the form of a rain on grid scenario, which was then used to compute the water surface elevations for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus flood events.

The modeled stream mile network for the L'Anguille Watershed was compiled initially using FEMA's CNMS inventory. It was then expanded to include streams that extended upstream to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile.

2. Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology

This section provides guidance for the hydrologic, hydraulic and floodplain mapping steps required to create a BLE. The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing H&H model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing CNMS dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery).

The cost and effort for developing the data and estimates resulting from the BLE process are lower than standard flood production tasks. An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program. The large volume of data resulting from an BLE can be used for the eventual production of regulatory and non-regulatory products, outreach and risk communication and MT-1 processing. Leveraging this data outside the Risk MAP program may also be valuable to external stakeholders.

Per the the Code of Federal Regulations, once every five years, FEMA must evaluate whether the information on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) reflects the current risks. This evaluation is done by examining the existing flood boundaries for changes in study attributes and physical characteristics, as specified in the CNMS Technical Reference. Additionally, this evaluation occurs using a series of critical and secondary checks to determine the validity of the existing flood hazard areas. In addition to the need for evaluating the accuracy of Zone A mapping, newer FEMA standards also require that flood risk data be provided in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project. Particularly, FEMA Program Standard SID #29 requires that during Discovery, data must be identified that illustrates potential changes in flood elevation and mapping that may result from the proposed project scope. If available data does not clearly illustrate the likely changes, an analysis is required that estimates the likely changes. This data and any associated analyses should be shared and results should be discussed with stakeholders.

Therefore, based on these requirements, the results of the BLE process are being provided to the local Floodplain Administrators (FPAs), which allows for users to have access to a model backed Zone A study that is suitable to replace the effective Zone A products. The following sections are being supplied to document the hydrologic, hydraulic, and floodplain mapping techniques used. Regardless of the individual techniques used to perform these steps, the goal of a scalable product should be adhered to throughout the entire BLE process.

2.1. Terrain

To determine the parameters for the hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, FTN obtained Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data developed from LIDAR information that was collected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (2011 Cache and 2011 L'Anguille), U.S. Geological Survey (2011 Bayou Meto, 2012 Upper Black, 2012 Upper White Village, 2013 Lower St. Francis, and 2015 Lower Black), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2010 White River to Newport, 2010 Greers Ferry and Red River, 2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project). The bare earth DEM data was provided as 1-meter or 1/3

arc-second DEMs with varying horizontal and vertical coordinate systems. Prior to use, the DEM data was reprojected to a 15 ft cell size for hydrologic processing and a 5 ft cell size for hydraulic and mapping processing with a horizontal coordinate system of NAD 1983 State Plane Arkansas North (feet) and a vertical datum of NAVD 88 (feet). DEMs were then mosaicked into a single DEM that covered the entire watershed. The single DEM was then processed using Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) ArcMap Geographic Information System (GIS) 10.x software and the ArcHydro toolset to develop the hydrologic parameters needed for use in the hydrologic modeling.

A terrain and workmap index has been prepared and is attached to the end of this report and included in Appendix A – Workmaps.

2.2. Hydrology

Excess runoff for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus flood events were calculated using NOAA's Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14. This task was completed by processing raster data for the study events based on a HUC-10 level. The excess rainfall values were spatially averaged from raster data using the zonal statistics toolset in ESRI's ArcGIS. The maximum rainfall values, based on a HUC 10 level were selected as input for the resulting HEC-HMS model.

In addition to the Atlas 14 precipitation values, ESRI's ArcGIS software and supporting toolsets were used to process the initial terrain data, delineate drainage basins, and develop basin parameters for the study area. For this analysis, the SCS curve number method was selected to estimate losses due to varying land use. The weighted Curve Number for the watershed was developed using the 2011 National Land Cover Database, NRCS's SSURGO Soil Surveys and TR-55 runoff curve numbers, and ESRI's ArcGIS software. The watershed was assumed to be at Antecedent Moisture Condition II (average moisture condition). To apply the rainfall, an SCS Type II rainfall distribution was used based to distribute the rainfall across the basin. Table 1, shown below, lists the initial and excess rainfall used for the hydrologic analysis.

Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	NOAA ATLAS 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.55	3.68
4	6.50	4.56
2	7.24	5.26
1	7.99	5.97
2	9.84	7.74
1-plus	9.62	7.53
1-minus	6.58	4.64

After determining the excess runoff in HEC-HMS for the watershed, it was applied to the 2-D hydraulic model as a rain on grid scenario.

2.3. Hydraulics

For all streams identified in the L'Anguille Watershed, the BLE process uses ESRI ArcGIS software and toolsets to create the HEC-RAS layers used for geometric data development and extraction. Additionally, the hydraulic modeling and mapping for this BLE process was conducted using the USACE's HEC-RAS 5.0.3 software package.

Streams

The streamlines used for determining what areas needed to be modeled were taken from the CNMS dataset. They were then expanded to include streams that extended up to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile. These streams were then reviewed and updated to match aerial imagery and detailed topographic data, as needed.

Hydraulic mesh (2-D analysis)

Hydraulic modeling for the L'Anguille Watershed BLE Analysis was computed using 2-D analyses to better reflect the large, flat, and interconnected floodplains. To perform this modeling, 2-D capabilities of the HEC-RAS 5.0.3 was utilized. With a 2-D model, the area is modeled using a topographic mesh rather than a series of cross sections down the longitudinal axis of the stream reach, as is done in a 1-D model. The HEC-RAS mesh consists of computational cells that are assigned elevations and roughness values along the cell faces that represent the topographic surface and frictional characteristics of the area and volumetric relationships for the cell area, respectively. The use of the 2-D model allows for more detailed resolution in water surface elevations, velocities, and flows than is possible with a 1-D model that is only capable of computing the average water surface elevations, velocities, and flows for three general regions at a cross section. Based on engineering judgement, breaklines were defined along the levees, dams, roads, culverts and elevated berms as seen on the topography. It is necessary to draw breaklines as it makes sure that the flow across the cell faces is blocked by the elevation of the structure along the break line.

Parameter Estimation

The Manning's "n" values used were based on engineering judgment and using the 2011 National Land Cover Data (NLCD) dataset. Table 2 lists the landuse and roughness coefficients used in this analysis.

Table 2: Manning's "n" Coefficients

Material Type	Manning's "n"
Open Water	0.01
Developed, Open Space	0.04
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	
Grassland/Herbaceous	0.05
Pasture/Hay	
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	
Developed, Low Intensity	0.06
Shrub/Scrub	
Cultivated Crops	
Developed, Medium Intensity	0.08
Developed High Intensity	0.10
Deciduous Forest	
Evergreen Forest	
Mixed Forest	
Woody Wetlands	

Boundary Conditions

For this BLE analysis, the downstream boundary conditions are set to be normal depth slope. The computed slope is based on topographic data from the downstream limits of the modeling.

Model Calibrations

No calibration was performed on these streams.

2.4. Quality Control

Throughout the BLE analysis, quality checks were performed. These checks included review of topographic data processing, hydrologic parameters being applied, checking for complete model coverage, adjusting the mesh cell sizes, adjusting mesh boundaries, adding breaklines along structures, as required, and review of the final mapping results.

Significant efforts were made to resolve errors found during these quality checks.

2.5. Mapping

Following the hydraulic analysis, the model results were then imported into the HEC-RAS RAS Mapper tool to map floodplain boundaries for the model extent. This tool uses a routine that develops water surface elevation grids based on the 5-foot cell size DEM from Section 2.1. For this BLE analysis, mapping results were developed for seven (7) events. These events were the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus boundaries.

Once the floodplain boundaries were created, the resulting floodplain data were smoothed and small polygons (less than 0.25 acres) and small disconnected fragments were removed. After the initial boundary edits, the resulting floodplain boundaries were merged into a single watershed based map boundary. For this BLE process, only the 1-percent-annual-chance floodplain is reported on the workmaps. Workmaps were generated to provide a graphical comparison of the effective floodplain boundaries to that of the BLE processed streams. These workmaps are provided in Appendix A – Workmaps.

Once the map boundaries were cleaned, the resulting rasters (Water Surface Elevation, Depth, etc.) were developed with the raster set to correspond in extent to the cleaned polygon boundary. This ensures that the water surface raster and the floodplain boundary are consistent with each other. The depth raster product was created by performing a raster subtraction with the water surface elevation raster and the ground DEM. Once complete, the resultant depth grids were used to perform an updated Flood Loss Analysis for the watershed using the HAZUS program.

3. Submittal

All information, data, and files for the L'Anguille Watershed BLE process are uploaded to the FEMA MIP and provided digitally on CD/DVD in a directory structure comparable to the example provided below.

08040205\L'Anguille Watershed BLE

\General

- Project Narrative (PDF)

\Hydraulic_Models

\08020205\08020205_L'AnguilleRiver\

- HEC-RAS models

\Spatial_Files

- L'Anguille_Watershed (file geodatabase format)

\Supplemental_Data

\CNMS_Update\

- CNMS database update (file geodatabase format)

\HAZUS\

- Loss Analysis project

\Appendix A - Workmaps

- Terrain and Workmap Index (PDF)
- Workmaps (PDF)
- Workmap Index (SHP format)

4. References

1. USGS. Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium. *National Land Cover Database 2011*. (<http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php>).
2. NOAA. Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Atlas 14. (<http://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/>).
3. Chow, Ven T. *Open Channel Hydraulics*. Caldwell, NJ: Blackburn, 1959. Print.
4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hydrologic Engineering Center. (September 2016). HEC-RAS River Analysis System, Version 5.0.3. Davis, California.
5. FEMA, “Guidance for Automated Engineering”, May 2016. (http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1469144112748-3c4ecd90cb927cd200b6a3e9da80d8a/Automated_Engineering_Guidance_May_2016.pdf).



L'Anguille River Railroad Bridge Photo Courtesy: J. Randall Houpp April 2010

Flood Risk Report

L'Anguille Watershed, AR

HUC8 08020205

July 2017

Version Number	Version Date	Summary
1.0	07/10/2017	Initial Report Development

Preface

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program provides states, tribes, and local communities with flood risk information, datasets, risk assessments, and tools that they can use to increase their resilience to flooding and better protect their residents. By pairing accurate floodplain maps with risk assessment tools and planning and outreach support, Risk MAP transforms the traditional flood mapping efforts into an integrated process of identifying, assessing, communicating, planning for, and mitigating flood-related risks.

The Flood Risk Report (FRR) is one of the tools created through the Risk MAP program. An FRR provides non-regulatory information to help local or tribal officials, floodplain managers, planners, emergency managers, and others. Local, federal, and state officials can use the information in the FRR to establish a better understanding of their flood risk, take steps to mitigate those risks, and communicate those risks to their residents and local businesses.

The FRR serves as a guide when communities update local hazard mitigation plans, community comprehensive plans, and emergency operations and response plans. It is meant to communicate risk to officials and inform them of the modification of development standards, as well as assist in identifying necessary or potential mitigation projects. The report extends beyond community limits to provide flood risk data for the L'Angeuille Watershed.

Flood risk is always changing, and studies, reports, or other sources may be available that provide more comprehensive information. This report is not intended to be the regulatory nor the final authoritative source of all flood risk data in the watershed. Rather, it should be used in conjunction with other data sources to provide a comprehensive picture of flood risk within the project area.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program	1
About the L'Anguille Watershed	2
Introduction	5
Flood Risk	5
Calculating Flood Risk	5
Watershed Basics	7
Project Phases and Map Maintenance	10
Background	10
How are FEMA's Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?.....	10
General Flood Risk Project Phases	11
Phase Zero: Investment	12
Phase One: Discovery.....	13
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment	14
Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update	14
Phase Zero: Investment	16
Area of Interest Selection Factors.....	16
Base Level Engineering.....	19
Phase One: Discovery.....	21
Pre-Discovery	21
Discovery Meeting	21
Watershed Findings	22
Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting.....	22
Future Investments for Refinement.....	23
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment	23
Flood Risk Review Meeting	24
Next Steps	25
Potential Community Activities.....	26
Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update.....	30
Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text.....	30
Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels.....	30
DFIRM Database.....	30
Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)	31
Next Step: Preliminary Issuance.....	31

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance..... 32

Future Physical Map Revisions..... 33

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports..... 34

Appendix II: Points of Contact..... 35

 Watershed..... 35

 State Partners..... 35

Appendix III: Resources 36

 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission 36

 Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA) 36

 Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification..... 36

 Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer 37

 Map Service Center – Available Map Data..... 38

 Additional Web Resources 40

Executive Summary

The Flood Risk Report has two goals: **(1) inform communities of their risks** related to certain natural hazards and **(2) enable communities to act to reduce their risk**. The information within this Risk Report is intended to assist federal, state, and local officials with the following goals:

- **Communicate risk** – Local officials can use the information in this report to communicate with property owners, business owners, and other residents about risks and areas of mitigation interest.
- **Update local hazard mitigation plans and community comprehensive plans** – Planners can use risk information to develop and/or update hazard mitigation plans, comprehensive plans, future land use maps, and zoning regulations. For example, zoning codes can be changed to provide for more appropriate land uses in high-hazard areas.
- **Update emergency operations and response plans** – Emergency managers can identify high-risk areas for potential evacuation and low-risk areas for sheltering. Risk assessment information may show vulnerable areas, facilities, and infrastructure for which continuity of operations plans, continuity of government plans, and emergency operations plans would be essential.
- **Inform the modification of development standards** – Planners and public works officials can use information in this report to support the adjustment of development standards for certain locations.
- **Identify mitigation projects** – Planners and emergency managers can use this risk assessment to determine specific mitigation projects of interest. For example, a floodplain manager may identify critical facilities that need to be elevated or removed from the floodplain.

This Risk Report showcases risk assessments, which analyze how a hazard affects the built environment, population, and local economy, to identify mitigation actions and develop mitigation strategies.

The information in this Risk Report should be used to identify areas in need of mitigation projects and to support additional efforts to educate residents on the hazards that may affect them. The areas of greatest hazard impact are identified in the Areas of Mitigation Interest section of this report, which can serve as a starting point for identifying and prioritizing actions a community can take to reduce its risks.

About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program

Flood risk is continually changing over time due to factors such as new building and development and weather patterns. The goal of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk MAP program is to work with federal, state, tribal, and local partners to identify and reduce flood risk across communities. These projects are conducted using watershed boundaries, bringing together multiple communities to identify broader mitigation actions and create consistency across the

watershed. The program provides resources and support that are tailored to each community to help mitigate their risk and work towards a reduction in risk and future loss.

Through coordination and data sharing, the communities in the watershed work as partners in the mapping process. In addition to providing data, the communities can also provide insight into flooding issues and flood prevention within their areas. To prepare for a future study and assist in mitigation, FEMA provides a number of data sources that include information from the community, such as the following:

- Areas of repeated flooding and insurance claims
- Future development plans
- Areas of low water crossings
- High water marks from recent flooding events
- Areas of evacuation during high water
- Master drainage plans, flood risk reduction projects, and large areas of fill placement
- Local flood studies
- Other flood risk information

For more information about ways communities can take action or take advantage of available resources, please review the attached appendices.

Part of the data that FEMA is providing communities during the Risk MAP process is Base Level Engineering (BLE) for select watersheds. BLE is a form of hydrologic and hydraulic modeling which, when completed, can provide modeled flood hazard data in existing Zone As or where no effective flood hazard zone has been designated. Knowing the extent of flooding during the 1-percent-annual-chance flooding event supports risk reduction efforts and supports more resilient community planning. Completed BLE data is provided to watershed communities for planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities, and to inform future flood study needs.

For information on BLE in the L'Anguille Watershed, see the Phase Zero: Investment section of this report.

About the L'Anguille Watershed

The L'Anguille Watershed (HUC 08020205) encompasses an area of approximately 955 square miles and extends across six counties in Arkansas (Craighead, Cross, Lee, Poinsett, St. Francis, and Woodruff) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas between the Cache and St. Francis Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marianna, and Wynne. Smaller communities include Harrisburg, Palestine, and Weiner. The communities in the L'Anguille Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

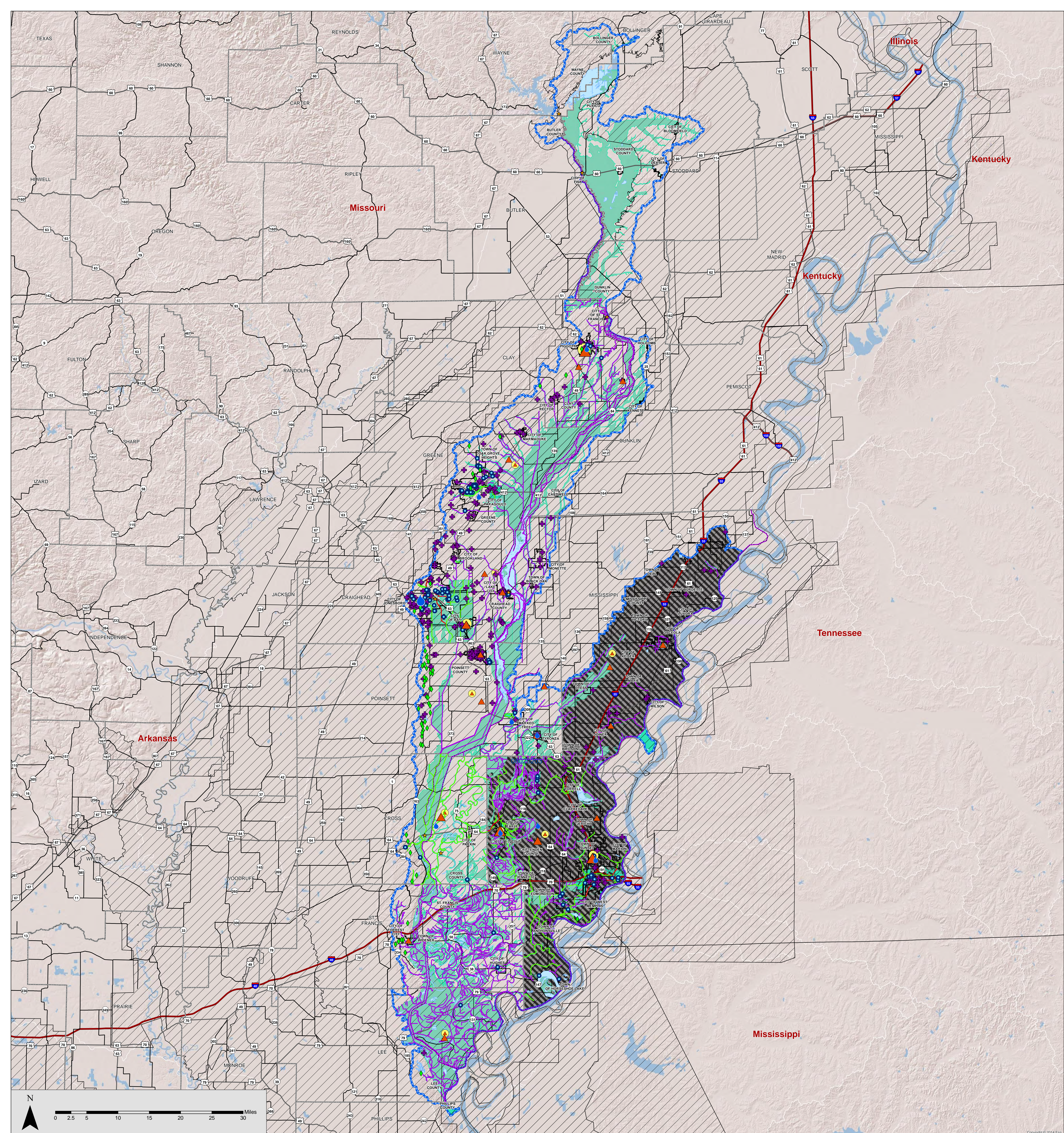
The L'Anguille Watershed lies within the St. Francis River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the east by Crowley's Ridge and on the west by the Cache Watershed and Bayou DeView. The L'Anguille Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley's Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the

eastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed.

The L'Anguille River is a tributary of the St. Francis River. Its largest tributary is First Creek, which joins the L'Anguille River just upstream of the City of Palestine. The L'Anguille River originates in northeast Arkansas in Craighead County south of Jonesboro.

Table 1: NFIP Status of Project Area Communities.

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Craighead	Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050427	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Jonesboro, City of ¹	050048	Yes	8
Cross	Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050056	Yes	N/A
Cross	Cherry Valley, City of	050057	Yes	N/A
Cross	Hickory Ridge, City of	050058	Yes	N/A
Cross	Wynne, City of ¹	050060	Yes	N/A
Lee	Lee County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050444	Yes	N/A
Lee	Haynes, Town of	N/A	No	N/A
Lee	Marianna, City of ¹	050124	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050172	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Fisher, City of ¹	050413	No	N/A
Poinsett	Harrisburg, City of	050173	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Weiner, City of ¹	050373	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050184	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Caldwell, Town of	050185	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Colt, City of	050186	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Forrest City, City of ¹	050187	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Palestine, City of	050359	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Wheatley, City of	050374	Yes	N/A
Woodruff	Woodruff County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050468	Yes	N/A
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.				

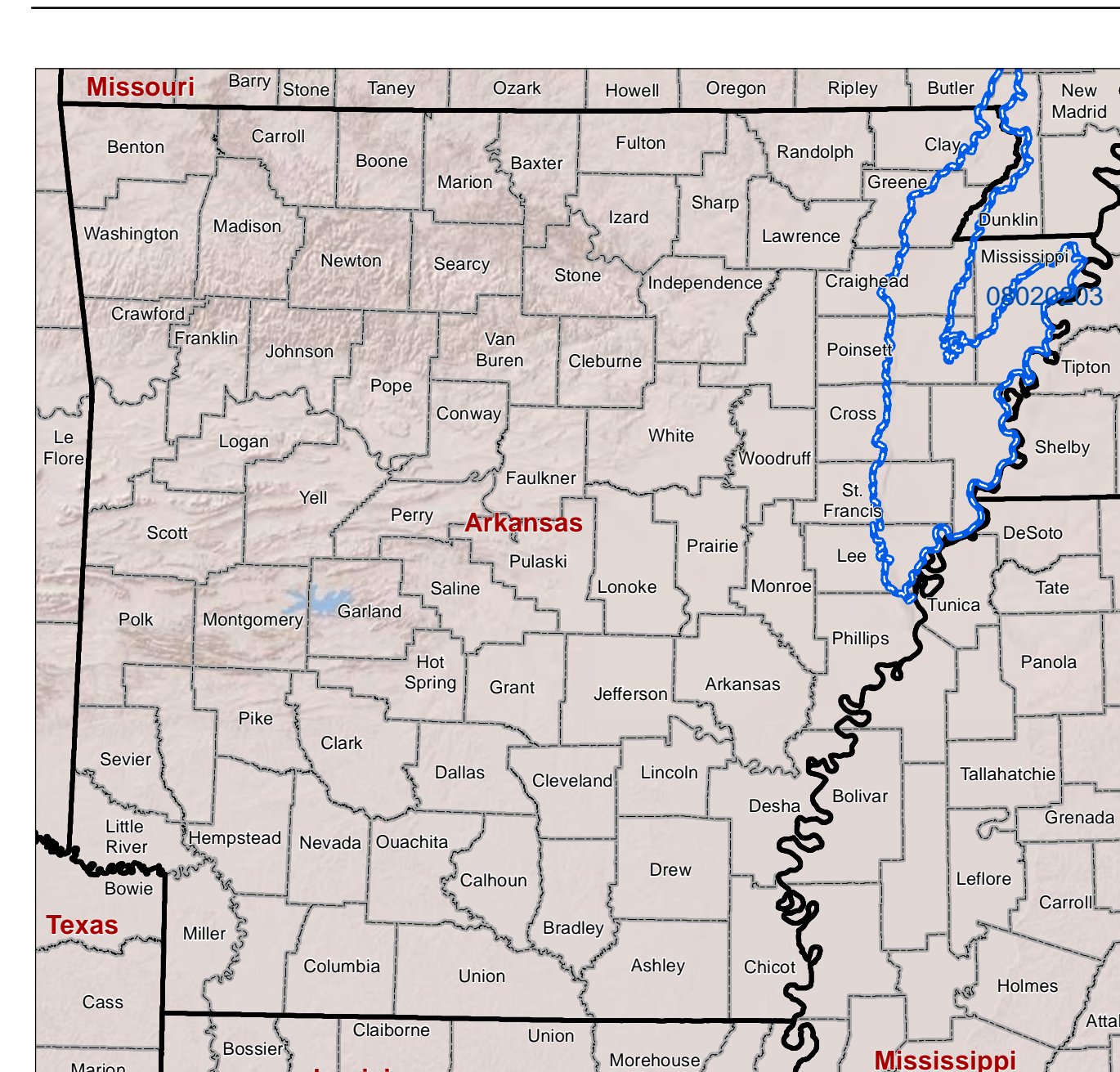


MAP SYMBOLOLOGY

- Mitigation Grant *
- Dams *
- USGS Gages *
- LOMC Locations *
- HMGP (Safe Rooms) *
- Levee *
- Local Highway
- Interstate
- State Highway
- US Highway
- Watershed
- Political Areas
- Lakes *
- Counties
- States
- Available Topographic
- Effective Flooding ***
- Zone X (Shaded)
- Zone
- Zone

- CNMS Data ***
- Valid
- Assessed
- Unverified
- Avg. Annualized Loss**
- Total Loss
- Very Low
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very High
- Claims**
- < 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 25
- > 25
- BCX Claims**
- < 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 25
- > 25
- Repetitive/Sever Repetitive Loss Claims**
- < 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 15
- 16 - 20
- > 25

WATERSHED LOCATOR



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM
Discovery Map
LOWER ST. FRANCIS WATERSHED

HUC-8 Code
08020203
 Date
7/7/2017



* Information limited to watershed extents

Introduction

Flood Risk

Floods are naturally occurring phenomena that can and do happen almost anywhere. In its most basic form, a flood is an accumulation of water over normally dry area. Floods become hazardous to people and property when they inundate an area where development has occurred, causing losses. Mild flood losses may have little impact on people or property, such as damage to landscaping or the accumulation of unwanted debris. Severe flood losses can destroy buildings and crops and cause severe injuries or death.

Calculating Flood Risk

It is not enough to simply identify where flooding may occur. Even if people know where a flood might occur, they may not know the level of flood risk in that area. The most common method for determining flood risk, also referred to as vulnerability, is to identify both the probability and the consequences of flooding:

Flood Risk (or Vulnerability) = **Probability x Consequences**; where

Probability = the likelihood of occurrence

Consequences = the **estimated** impacts associated with the occurrence on life, property, and infrastructure

The probability of a flood is the likelihood that it will occur. The probability of flooding can change based on physical, environmental, and/or engineering factors. These factors will also have an effect on the area that is impacted by the flood, increasing or decreasing the size of the affected area. The ability to assess the probability of a flood, and the level of accuracy for that assessment, are also influenced by modeling methodology advancements, better knowledge, and longer periods of record for the water body in question.

The consequences of a flood are the estimated effects associated with its occurrence. Consequences relate to human activities within an area and how a flood affects the natural and built environment. It is important that individuals and communities have an accurate and current understanding of their risk because anyone can be vulnerable to flooding. Individuals that are located outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) file more than 20 percent of insurance claims and receive 1/3 of disaster assistance for flooding. Having an awareness of risk can allow communities and their residents to address the potential consequences. Understanding risk can also allow for long-term development planning, opportunities for revitalization efforts, and modifications in how interaction occurs with the existing risk.

FEMA relies heavily on information and data provided at a local level for a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) mitigation interest areas that may require more detailed engineering information than currently available, and (3) determine community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on evaluations of flood risk, data need, availability of elevation data, regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community supported mitigation projects,

and/or input from the federal, state, and local partners. The status of Discovery watersheds in Arkansas is shown in Figure 1.

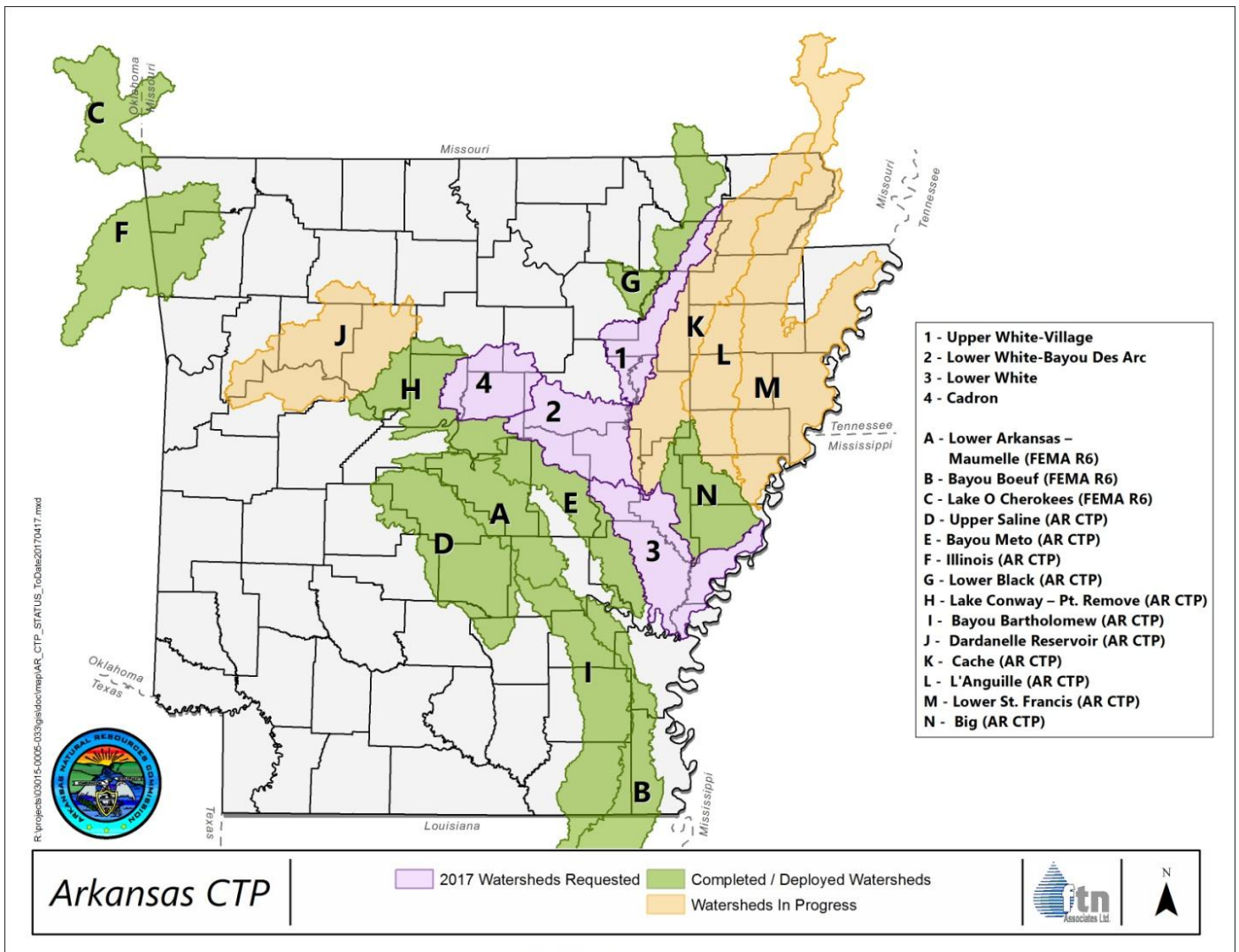


Figure 2. Arkansas CTP Discovery watershed status.

Watershed Basics

Background

The L'Anguille Watershed (HUC 08020205) encompasses an area of approximately 955 square miles and extends across six counties in Arkansas (Craighead, Cross, Lee, Poinsett, St. Francis, and Woodruff) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas between the Cache and St. Francis Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marianna, and Wynne. Smaller communities include Harrisburg, Palestine, and Weiner. The communities in the L'Anguille Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

Population

According to the 2010 Census, the total population of the watershed is estimated to be 46,226 people. Populations for the counties that intersect the L'Anguille Watershed experienced an overall average population decrease of approximately 0.6 percent between the 2000 and 2010 censuses, although the largest population source, Craighead County, saw an average increase of approximate 1.6 percent. Since 2010, population growth has increased with the 2016 population estimate at 5.7 percent above the number reported in the 2010 census. Based on 2010 Census data, the major communities in the watershed, Jonesboro and Forrest City, had total populations of 67,627 (22,447 in the watershed) and 15,328 (13,336 in the watershed), respectively in 2010 (see Table 2).

Watershed Land Use

The L'Anguille Watershed lies within the St. Francis River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the east by Crowley's Ridge and on the west by the Cache Watershed and Bayou DeView. The L'Anguille Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley's Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the eastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed (see Table 2).

Table 2: Population and Area Characteristics ³

Risk MAP Project	Total Population in Deployed Area (2010)	Average % Population Growth/Yr. (2000-2010)	Predicted Population * (by 2021)	Land Area (mi ²)	Developed Area	Open Water
L'ANGUILLE WATERSHED	46,226	-0.6%	203,817	955	2.1%	1.0%

³ Data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau; ESRI Demographic 5-year Projections; and National Land Cover Database

* Predicted Population by County, which may include areas outside of watershed.

National Flood Insurance Program Status and Regulation

In order to be a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), all interested communities must adopt and submit floodplain management ordinances that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP regulations. These regulations can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations and most of the community ordinance requirements are in Parts 59 and 60. The level of regulation

depends on the level of information available and the flood hazards in the area. The levels are as follows:

- A: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not provided any maps or data – 60.3(a)
- B: Community has maps with approximate A zones – 60.3(b)
- C: Community has a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with Base Flood Elevations (BFE) – 60.3(c)
- D: Community has a FIRM with BFEs and floodways – 60.3(d)
- E: Community has a FIRM that shows coastal high hazard areas (V zones) – 60.3(e)

There are 19 communities in the watershed that participate in the NFIP. Of the 19 communities that participate, their level of regulations depend on the date of the effective mapping and if the community was modernized into a countywide format.

There are two incorporated communities, the Town of Haynes and the City of Fisher that are not participating in the NFIP. This means that they are not required to follow FEMA regulations; however, certain opportunities such as federal flood insurance and some forms of federal disaster assistance are not available to the residents of those areas.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

State and local governments must develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans in order to be eligible for certain types of funding. To remain eligible, communities need to update and resubmit their plans every 5 years for FEMA approval. Hazard mitigation plans are created to increase education and awareness, identify strategies for risk reduction, and identify other ways to develop long-term strategies to reduce risk and protect people and property. Five of the six counties in Arkansas in the L'Angeuille Watershed have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are in progress. Lee County does not have a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plans effectively allow for FEMA to assess hazards identified through local, state, and federal partnerships and mitigation action items that communities have identified.

Community Rating System

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive-based program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that communities undertake in addition to the minimum requirements they must meet when joining the NFIP. Individuals that carry flood insurance in a community that participates in the CRS program can receive a discount on their flood insurance premium. Discounts can range from 5 to 45 percent. Out of the 17 watershed communities participating in the NFIP, only the City of Jonesboro is participating in the CRS program. The City of Jonesboro is currently rated a class 8 and therefore structures located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 10-percent premium discount. Table 3 depicts NFIP and CRS participation status and provides an overview of the effective flood data availability.

Table 3: NFIP and CRS Participation⁴

Risk MAP Project	Participating NFIP Communities/ Total Communities	Number of CRS Communities	CRS Rating Class Range	Average Years since FIRM Update (Range 1980-2011)	Level of Regulations (44 CFR 60.3)
L'ANGUILLE WATERSHED	17/19	1	8	20.1	CFR 60.3 (a), CFR 60.3 (b), CFR 60.3 (c), CFR 60.3 (d)

⁴ Data obtained from the FEMA Community Information System

Dams and Levees

As recorded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the National Inventory of Dams, 17 dams are within the portion of the counties that make up the L'Anguille Watershed. The owners and operators of the 5 dams considered high hazard are required to develop and maintain Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to reduce the risk of loss of life and property if the dam fails. Table 4 provides the characteristics of the dams identified in the project area. There are no levees identified within the watershed.

Table 4: Risk MAP Project Dam Characteristics⁵

Risk MAP Project	Total Number of Identified Dams	Number of Dams			Number of Dams Requiring EAP	Percentage of Dams without EAP (Total)	Average Years since Inspection	Average Storage (acre-feet)
		High Hazard	Significant Hazard	Low Hazard				
L'ANGUILLE WATERSHED	17	5	5	7	5	82.4%	20+	620

⁵ Data obtained from the ANRC State Database and USACE National Inventory of Dams

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The average age of the effective FIRMs within the L'Anguille Watershed is over 20 years. The oldest effective maps are for the City of Marianna, which are 38 years old and have an effective date of September 28, 1979. The newest FIRMs are dated February 4, 2011, for Poinsett County. Only the Town of Haynes has no map.

Project Phases and Map Maintenance

Background

FEMA manages several risk analysis programs, including Flood Hazard Mapping, National Dam Safety, the Earthquake Safety Program, Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning, and the Risk Assessment Program, all of which assess the impact of natural hazards and lead to effective strategies for reducing risk. These programs support the Department of Homeland Security's objective to "strengthen nationwide preparedness and mitigation against natural disasters."

FEMA manages the NFIP, which is the cornerstone of the national strategy for preparing American communities for flood hazards. In the nation's comprehensive emergency management framework, the analysis and awareness of natural hazard risk remains challenging. A consistent risk-based assessment approach and a robust communication system are critical tools to ensure a community's ability to make informed risk management decisions and take mitigation actions. Flood hazard mapping is a basic and vital component for a prepared and resilient nation.

In Fiscal Year 2009, FEMA's Risk MAP program began to synergize the efforts of federal, state, and local partners to create timely, viable, and credible information identifying natural hazard risks. The intent of the Risk MAP program is to share resources to identify the natural hazard risks a community faces and ascertain possible approaches to minimizing them. Risk MAP aims to provide technically sound flood hazard information to be used in the following ways:

- To update the regulatory flood hazard inventory depicted on FIRMs and the National Flood Hazard Layer
- To provide broad releases of data to expand the identification of flood risk (flood depth grids, water-surface elevation grids, etc.)
- To support sound local floodplain management decisions
- To identify opportunities to mitigate long-term risk across the nation's watersheds

How are FEMA's Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?

FEMA's flood hazard inventory is updated through several types of revisions.

Community-submitted Letters of Map Change. First and foremost, FEMA relies heavily on the local communities that participate in the NFIP to carry out the program's minimum requirements. These requirements include the obligation for communities to notify FEMA of changing flood hazard information and to submit the technical support data needed to update the FIRMs.

Flood-related damage between 1980 and 2013 totaled \$260 billion, but the total impact to our Nation was far greater—more people lose their lives annually from flooding than any other natural hazard.

FEMA, "Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)" (2015)

Under the current minimum NFIP regulations, a participating community commits to notifying FEMA if changes take place that will affect an effective FIRM no later than 6 months after project completion.

Section 65.3, Code of Federal Regulations

Although revisions may be requested at any time to change information on a FIRM, FEMA generally will not revise an effective map unless the changes involve modifications to SFHAs. Be aware that the best floodplain management practices and proper assessments of risk result when the flood hazard maps present information that accurately reflects current conditions.

Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs). The scale of an effective FIRM does not always provide the information required for a site-specific analysis of a property's flood risk. FEMA's LOMA process provides homeowners with an official determination on the relation of their lot or structure to the SFHA. Requesting a LOMA may require a homeowner to work with a surveyor or engineering professional to collect site-specific information related to the structure's elevation; it may also require the determination of a site-specific BFE. Fees are associated with collecting the survey data and developing a site-specific BFE. Local surveying and engineering professionals usually provide an Elevation Certificate to the homeowner, who can use it to request a LOMA. A successful LOMA may remove the federal mandatory purchase requirement for flood insurance, but lending companies may still require flood insurance if they believe the structure is at risk.

FEMA-Initiated Flood Risk Project. Each year, FEMA initiates a number of Flood Risk Projects to create or revise flood hazard maps. Because of funding constraints, FEMA can study or restudy only a limited number of communities, counties, or watersheds each year. As a result, FEMA prioritizes study needs based on a cost-benefit approach whereby the highest priority is given to studies of areas where development has increased and the existing flood hazard data has been superseded by information based on newer technology or changes to the flooding extent. FEMA understands communities require products that reflect current flood hazard conditions to best communicate risk and implement effective floodplain management.

Flood Risk Projects may be delivered by FEMA or one of its Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs). The CTP initiative is an innovative program created to foster partnerships between FEMA and participating NFIP communities, as well as regional and state agencies. Qualified partners collaborate in maintaining up-to-date flood maps. In FEMA Region 6, which includes the State of Arkansas, CTPs are generally statewide agencies that house the State Floodplain Administrator. However, some Region 6 CTPs are also large River Authorities or Flood Control Districts. They provide enhanced coordination with local, state, and federal entities, engage community officials and technical staff, and provide updated technical information that informs the national flood hazard inventory.

Risk MAP has modified FEMA's project investment strategy from a single investment by fiscal year to a multi-year phased investment, which allows the Agency to be more flexible and responsive to the findings of the project as it moves through the project lifecycle. Flood Risk Projects are funded and completed in phases.

General Flood Risk Project Phases

Each phase of the Flood Risk Project provides both FEMA and its partner communities with an opportunity to discuss the data that has been collected and to determine a path forward. Local engagement throughout each phase enhances the opportunities for partnership, furthers the discussion on current and future risk, and helps identify local projects and activities to reduce long-term natural hazard risk.

Flood Risk Projects may be funded for one or more of the following phases:

- Phase Zero – Investment
- Phase One – Discovery
- Phase Two – Risk Identification and Assessment
- Phase Three – Regulatory Product Update

Local input is critical throughout each phase of a Flood Risk Project. More details about the tasks and objectives of each phase are included below.

Phase Zero: Investment

Phase Zero of a Flood Risk Project initiates FEMA’s review and assessment of the inventories of flood hazards and other natural hazards within a watershed area. During the Investment Phase, FEMA reviews the availability of information to assess the current floodplain inventory. FEMA maintains several data systems to perform watershed assessments and selects watersheds for a deeper review of available data and potential investment tasks based on the following factors:

Availability of High-Quality Ground Elevation Data. FEMA reviews readily available and recently acquired ground elevation data. This information helps identify development and earth-moving activities near streams and rivers. Where necessary, FEMA may partner with local, state, and other federal entities to collect necessary ground elevation information within a watershed.



If [high-quality ground elevation data](#) is both available for a watershed area and compliant with FEMA’s quality requirements, FEMA and its mapping partners may prepare engineering data to assess, revise, replace, or add to the current flood hazard inventory.

Mile Validation Status within Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS). FEMA uses the CNMS database to track the validity of the flood hazard information prepared for the NFIP. The CNMS database reviews 17 criteria to determine whether the flood hazard information shown on the current FIRM is still valid.



Communities may also inform and request a review or update of the inventory through the CNMS website at <https://msc.fema.gov/cnms/>. The [CNMS Tool Tutorial](#) provides an overview of the online tool and explains how to submit requests.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Reviewing current and historic hazard mitigation plans provides an understanding of a community’s comprehension of its flood risk and other natural hazard risks. The mitigation strategies within a local hazard mitigation plan provide a lens to local opportunities and underscore a potential for local adoption of higher standards related to development or other actions to reduce long-term risk.

Cooperating Technical Partner State Business Plans. In some states, a CTP generates an annual state business plan that identifies future Flood Risk Project areas that are of interest to the state. The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission works to develop user-friendly data. In this project area, FEMA has worked closely with ANRC to develop the project scope and determine the necessary project tasks.



Communities that have identified local issues are encouraged to indicate their data needs and revision requests to the State CTP so that they can be prioritized and included in the State Business Plans.

Possible Investment Tasks. After a review of the data available within a watershed, FEMA may choose to (1) purchase ground elevation data and/or (2) create some initial engineering modeling against which to compare the current inventory, also known as Base Level Engineering (BLE) modeling.

Phase One: Discovery

Phase One, the Discovery Phase, provides opportunities both internally (between the state and FEMA) and externally (with communities and other partners interested in flood potential) to discuss local issues with flooding and examine possibilities for mitigation action. This effort is made to determine where communities currently are with their examination of natural hazard risk throughout their community and to identify how state and federal support can assist communities in achieving their goals.



The Discovery process includes an opportunity for local communities to provide information about their concerns related to natural hazard risks. Communities may continue to inform the project identification effort by providing previously prepared survey data, as-built stream crossing information, and engineering information.

For a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping, FEMA relies heavily on the information and data provided at the local level. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where the current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) areas of mitigation interest that may require more detailed engineering information than is currently available, and (3) community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on these evaluations of flood risk, data needs, availability of elevation data, Regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community-supported mitigation project, and input from federal, state, and local partners.

Possible Discovery Tasks. Discovery may include a mix of interactive webinar sessions, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Data collection, interviews, and interaction with community staff and data-mining activities provide the basis for watershed-, community-, and stream-level reviews to determine potential projects that may benefit the communities. A range of analysis approaches are available to determine the extent of flood risk along streams of concern. FEMA and its mapping partners will work closely with communities to determine the appropriate analysis approach, based on the data needs throughout the community. These potential projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities wanting to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

Phase Two (Risk Identification and Assessment) continues the risk awareness discussion with communities through watershed analysis and assessment. Analyses are prepared to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project watershed. The new or updated analysis provides an opportunity to identify how development has affected the amount of stormwater generated during a range of storm probabilities and shows how effectively stormwater is transported through communities in the watershed.



Coordination with a community's technical staff during engineering and model development allows FEMA and its mapping partners to include local knowledge, based on actual on-the-ground experience, when selecting modeling parameters.

The information prepared and released during Phase Two is intended to promote better local understanding of the existing flood risk by allowing community officials to review the variability of the risk throughout their community. As FEMA strives to support community-identified mitigation actions, it also looks to increase the effectiveness of community floodplain management and planning practices, including local hazard mitigation planning, participation in the NFIP, use of actions identified in the CRS Manual, risk reduction strategies for repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties, and the adoption of stricter standards and building codes.



FEMA is eager to work closely with communities and technical staff to determine the current flood risk in the watershed. During the Risk Identification and Assessment phase, FEMA would like to be alerted to any community concerns related to the floodplain mapping and analysis approaches being taken. During this phase, FEMA can engage with communities and review the analysis and results in depth.

Possible Risk Identification and Assessment Tasks. Phase Two may include a mixture of interactive webinars, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Flood Risk Project tasks may include hydrologic or hydraulic engineering analysis and modeling, floodplain mapping, risk assessments using Hazus-Multi Hazard software, and preparation of flood risk datasets (water-surface elevation, flood depth, or other analysis grids). Additionally, projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities that want to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update

If the analysis prepared in the previous Flood Risk Project phases indicates that physical or meteorological changes in the watershed have significantly changed the flood risk since the last FIRM was printed, FEMA will initiate the update of the regulatory products that communities use for local floodplain management and NFIP activities.

Delivery of the preliminary FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report begins another period of coordination between community officials and FEMA to discuss the required statutory and regulatory steps both parties will perform before the preliminary FIRM and FIS report can become effective. As in the previous phases, FEMA and its mapping partners will engage with communities through a variety of conference calls, webinars, and in-person meetings.



Once the preliminary FIRMs are prepared and released to communities, FEMA will initiate the statutory portions of the regulatory product update. FEMA will coordinate a Consultation Coordination Officer meeting and initiate a 90-day comment and appeal period. During this appeal period, local developers and residents may coordinate the submittal of their comments and appeals through their community officials to FEMA for review and consideration.

FEMA welcomes this information because additional proven scientific and technical information increases the accuracy of the mapping products and better reflects the community's flood hazards identified on the FIRMs.



Communities may host or hold Open House meetings for the public. The Open House layout allows attendees to move at their own pace through several stations, collecting information in their own time. This format allows residents to receive one-on-one assistance and ask questions pertinent to their situations or their interests in risk or flood insurance information.

All appeals and comments received during the statutory 90-day Appeal Period, including the community's written opinion, will be reviewed by FEMA to determine the validity of the appeal. Once FEMA issues the appeal resolution, the associated community and all appellants will receive an appeal resolution letter and FEMA will revise the preliminary FIRM if warranted. A 30-day period is provided for review and comment on successful appeals. Once all appeals and comments are resolved, the flood map is ready to be finalized.



After the Appeal Period, FEMA will send community leaders a Letter of Final Determination stating that the preliminary FIRM will become effective in 6 months. The letter also discusses the actions each affected community participating in the NFIP must take to remain in good standing in the NFIP.

After the preceding steps are complete and the 6-month compliance period ends, the FIRMs are considered effective maps and new building and flood insurance requirements become effective.

That is a brief general overview of a Flood Risk Project. Next, the Flood Risk Report will provide details on the efforts in the L'Angeuille Watershed.

Phase Zero: Investment

The L'Anguille Watershed (HUC 08020205) encompasses an area of approximately 955 square miles and extends across six counties in Arkansas (Craighead, Cross, Lee, Poinsett, St. Francis, and Woodruff) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas between the Cache and St. Francis Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marianna, and Wynne. Smaller communities include Harrisburg, Palestine, and Weiner. The communities in the L'Anguille Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

The L'Anguille Watershed lies within the St. Francis River Basin and is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the east by Crowley's Ridge and on the west by the Cache Watershed and Bayou DeView. The L'Anguille Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley's Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the eastern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed.

The L'Anguille River is a tributary of the St. Francis River. Its largest tributary is First Creek, which joins the L'Anguille River just upstream of the City of Palestine. The L'Anguille River originates in northeast Arkansas in Craighead County south of Jonesboro.

Area of Interest Selection Factors

A number of factors and criteria are reviewed for watershed selection: flood risk, age of current flood hazard data, population growth trends and potential for growth, recent flood claims, and disaster declaration history. Local data and high quality ground elevation data availability are reviewed for use in flood hazard data preparation. The Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) database is reviewed to identify areas of large unknown and unverified mileage. The Arkansas CTP, State NFIP Coordinator, and State Hazard Mitigation Officer coordinate to identify watersheds for study by FEMA.

The L'Anguille Watershed was selected by the Arkansas CTP in coordination with FEMA Region 6, for the reasons summarized below.

- Topographic data developed from a Light Detection and Ranging System (LiDAR) is available throughout the watershed aiding in providing quality data.
- Within the State of Arkansas, losses in the watershed have exceeded \$11.2 million from 1978 through 2017, and there are approximately 1,970 policies. These reported values include entire counties which may or may not be wholly located in the watershed.
- Poinsett County is the only county considered modernized. St. Francis County has a countywide study; however it is older. Craighead County has Preliminary FIRM maps dated 01/29/2010. All of these studies were completed without quality topographic data.
- Since 2001, the L'Anguille Watershed has had declared federal disasters in every year except 2007, 2012, and 2014.

- The communities of Jonesboro, Wynne, Cross County, and Poinsett County have claims listed as BCX Claims, which are claims that occur outside the mapped floodplain. This indicates the need for additional review to determine if the effective maps are in need of update.
- Five of the six counties in the watershed have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are in progress. Lee County does not have a Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Flood Risk: The L'Anguille River and its tributaries are not strangers to flood events, with a historical record of numerous flooding events. The L'Anguille Watershed has historically flooded and has experienced major flooding as recently as January 2016 on its tributaries as well as the L'Anguille River. The recent major floods in every year since 2001, except 2007, 2012, and 2014, have illustrated the ongoing flood threat for the L'Anguille Watershed.

Growth Potential: Although the L'Anguille Watershed is largely rural in nature; it is undergoing urbanization along the Interstate 40 and US Highway 79 and 64 corridors. These locations include the areas around the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marianna, and Wynne.

Age of Current Flood Information: Poinsett County is the only county considered modernized. St. Francis County has a countywide study; however it is older (effective date 2005). Craighead County has Preliminary FIRM maps dated January 2010. All of these studies were completed without quality topographic data.

Local Data Availability. The City of Jonesboro has undertaken large studies to improve drainage throughout the City. The first phase of this study was completed in 2015 with another expected to start in 2016. These studies are to provide drainage improvement concepts and plans to help alleviate future flooding events.

Additionally, Craighead County and its communities are undergoing a Phase 2 Risk Identification and Assessment project, which is currently being performed by the Arkansas CTP.

Availability of High Quality Ground Elevation Data. As a result of FEMA's efforts in teaming with other federal and state agencies, high quality ground elevation data was available for the L'Anguille Watershed. This data provides a great basis for hydrologic and hydraulic modeling preparation. The source and date of LiDAR coverage is included in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of Topographic Data

Watershed/ Flooding Source	Beginning and End Points of Topo Data Collection	New/Existing OR Leveraged	Accuracy & Year Acquired	Source/ Data Vendor	Contact Information	Use Restriction s
2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project	2013 - 2015	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	USACE – St. Louis District	None
2012 FEMA/USGS Lower St. Francis River	04/2012 – 05/2012	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	The National Map	None
2011 L’Anguille & Cache Watershed Area	03/2011 – 04/2011	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	http://gis.arkansas.gov	None

Coordinated Needs Management Strategy Database Review: Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) Database Review The CNMS database indicates the validity of FEMA’s flood hazard inventory. Streams that are indicated as *Unverified* or *Unknown* in the database indicate that the information that developed the floodplain currently shown on the FIRMs is inaccessible or that a complete evaluation of the Critical and Secondary CNMS elements could not be performed. The L’Anguille Watershed stream coverage is not homogenous across the counties that intersect the basin. The H&H analysis behind majority of the basin flood hazard information is dated and in need of an update. The current inventory within the watershed is approximately 615 miles. Of this mileage 142 miles is currently considered valid, mainly due to modernized inventory. The remaining mileage is a mixture of unverified and unknown mileage indicating that more than 75% of the existing inventory may require further review.

Unmapped Stream Coverage: FEMA and the Arkansas CTP also review the current stream coverage and compare the coverage against detailed terrain streams contributing up to 1 square mile drainage area or [National Hydrography Dataset \(NHD\)](#). The detailed terrain streams and NHD high resolution data inventoried by the US Geological Survey (USGS) Maps created at a 1:24,000 scale is used to review the water courses within the HUC8s of concern. The

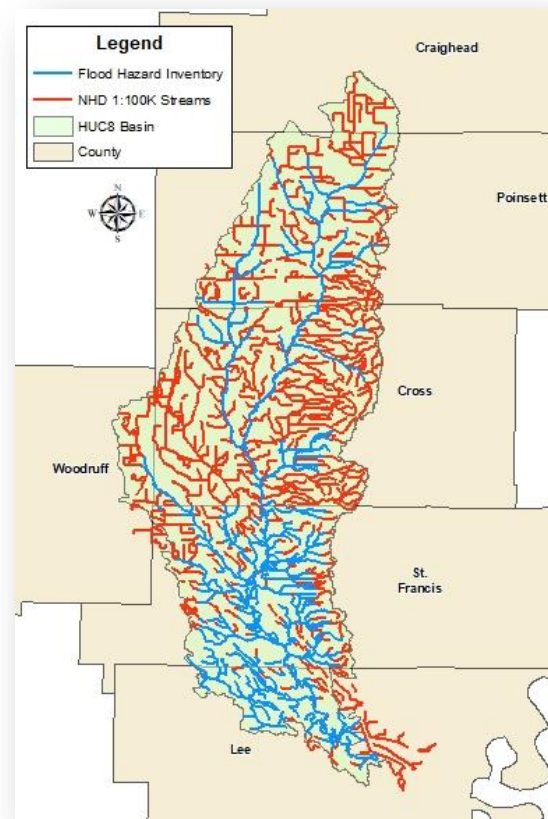


Figure 3. Flood Hazard Inventory

watershed as a whole is reviewed for additional mileage to be inventoried. The intent of this review is to identify streams and water courses where additional study may be required or to create a complete stream network for Base Level Engineering data preparation.

Base Level Engineering

The Arkansas CTP is coordinating with FEMA on Base Level Engineering (BLE). This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area.

Base Level Engineering provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared in the Base Level Engineering approach provides planning level data which is prepared to meet FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping.

FEMA Investment (2016). In Fiscal Year 2016, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP initiated Base Level Engineering on the L'Anguille HUC8 sub basin. Figure 4 shows the network of streams that is being analyzed using the Base Level Engineering approach. The Base Level Engineering approach will provide the following items for use in the L'Anguille Watershed:

- Hydrologic rain on grid modeling for 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1-%, 1+%, and 0.2% storm events
- Hydraulic (HEC-RAS 5.0.3) modeling for all study streams using 2-Dimensional (2D) modeling techniques.
- Floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation grids, and Flood Depth Grids for all modeled storm events.
- Approximate Mapping Change layer to distinguish areas of changes between BLE and effective mapping for 1% storm event.
- Hazus flood analysis for watershed.

The Base Level Engineering approach will prepare flood hazard information for approximately 1,060 miles adding over 445 stream miles of supplementary flood hazard information for communities throughout the basin. Once completed the Base Level Engineering information will be provided to the communities throughout the basin for planning, risk communication, floodplain management and permitting activities.



Figure 4. Base Level Engineering Study Streams

Creating BLE data is a cost effective way to provide communities with updated information on their flood risk. BLE provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared through BLE provides planning-level data that meets FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping. This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area. To create the BLE data, the best available information was utilized. This information included terrain data, flood discharges, and hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

CNMS Validation and Assessment. FEMA has compared the BLE results to the current flood hazard inventory identified in the CNMS database. This assessment allows FEMA to compare the updated flood hazard information to the current effective floodplain mapping of the watershed communities. BLE results for Zone A Validation denoted no miles to be New, Validated, or Updated Engineering (NVUE) compliant.

Community Coordination. FEMA will share the BLE results with communities throughout the project area. Access to workshops and training to support the use of BLE for planning, floodplain management, permitting, and risk communication activities will be made publicly available to communities and other interested parties. FEMA will work with communities to review, interpret, and incorporate the BLE information into their daily and future community management and planning activities.

Follow-On Phase Project Decisions. The BLE results and the current inventory have been compared to identify any areas of significant change. If the results show large areas of change (expansions and contractions of the floodplain, increases and decreases of the computed BFEs, and increases in expected flow values), FEMA will continue to coordinate with the communities to identify the streams that should be considered if the FIRMs are updated.

To identify other streams for future refinement, community growth patterns and potential growth corridors should be discussed with FEMA. These areas of expected community growth and development may benefit from updated flood hazard information. BLE can be further refined to provide detailed study information for a FIRM update.

Areas of communities that were developed prior to 1970 (pre-FIRM areas) may include repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties. They may also be areas where redevelopment is likely to occur. Having updated flood hazard information before redevelopment and reconstruction activities take place may benefit communities by providing guidance to mitigate future risk.



FEMA and the Arkansas CTP will work with communities following the delivery of Base Level Engineering to identify a sub set of streams for update and inclusion on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps, if required. Communities may wish to review the possible areas and provide feedback once the BLE data has been received. Base Level Engineering information may be refined by local communities and submitted through the Letter of Map Revision process to refine existing flood hazard information and maintain the Flood Insurance Rate Maps throughout their community.

Phase One: Discovery

Pre-Discovery

As part of the CTP partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began the Discovery process in the L'Anguille Watershed (08020205) in October 2016 to gather local information and readily available data to determine project viability and the need for Risk MAP products to assist in the movement of communities towards resilience. The watershed location can be seen on Figure 2.

Through the Discovery process, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP can determine which areas of the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 (HUC-8) watersheds may be examined for further flood risk identification and assessment in a collaborative manner, taking into consideration the information collected from local communities during this process. Discovery initiates open lines of communication and relies on local involvement for productive discussions about flood risk. The process provides a forum for a watershed-wide effort to understand how the included watershed community's flood risks are related to flood risk throughout the watershed. In Risk MAP, projects are analyzed on a watershed basis, so Discovery Meetings target numerous stakeholders from throughout the watershed on local, regional, State, and Federal levels.

Discovery Meeting

In July 2017, the Arkansas CTP will hold Discovery Meetings in this watershed to discuss the Discovery process and where the communities can go from there with future studies. The Discovery meeting will also provide an opportunity to present the BLE results to the communities and how they can be used for future planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities. At the meeting the communities will be provided with digital copies of this Flood Risk Report, the modeling files for all of the BLE studied streams, including the floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation Grids, and Flood Depth Grids, and a short tutorial on the use of the BLE products.

The results of the Discovery process will be presented as part of this Flood Risk Report, a watershed scale Discovery Map and the digital data that will be gathered or developed under the fiscal year 2016 CTP Agreement, EMW-2015-CA-00143, Mapping Activity Statement (MAS) 15, between FEMA and the Arkansas CTP. During Discovery, the Arkansas CTP and FEMA will reach out to local communities to:

- Gather information about local flood risk and flood hazards;
- Obtain and ultimately review current and historic mitigation plans to understand local mitigation capabilities, hazard risk assessments, and current or future mitigation activities; and
- Include multi-disciplinary staff from within each community to participate and assist in the development of a watershed vision.

This document includes the portion of the Flood Risk Report that describes the Discovery process and provides the results to the watershed communities. The digital data submitted with this report contains correspondence, exhibits to be used at the Discovery meetings, GIS data, mapping documents (PDF, shapefiles, personal geodatabases and ESRI ArcGIS 10.x Map Exchange Documents

[MXDs]), or other supplemental information. Graphics in this Pre-Discovery report are available as larger format graphics files for printing and as GIS data that may be printed and used at any map scale.

Watershed Findings

This section of the report will be completed in more detail at the conclusion of the Discovery project.

Engineering review of community comments:

Hydrology: The review of hydrologic data was limited to Base Level Engineering hydrologic processing which includes Peak Discharges and partial gage analysis in the watershed. The 1-percent-annual-chance peak discharge data for Base Level Engineering analysis for the entire watershed was reviewed for any anomalies. Development, sinks, and flood control structures were noted to determine if they had an impact on the hydrology flows. Available gage information for the entire watershed was also reviewed and compared to the Base Level Engineering hydrology, when possible to identify discrepancies and possible anomalies stemming from outdated, overestimated, or underestimated sub-basin analyses.

Hydraulics and floodplain analysis: Base Level Engineering was conducted for this watershed. As a result, CNMS evaluations were conducted to compare the effective mapping to new mapping. The effective mapping was assembled from current National Flood Hazard Layer (modernized counties) and Q3 floodplain mapping data (non-modernized areas). Some noteworthy obstacles observed include the fact that the Zone A floodplains do not match between most of the community and county boundaries, and there are discrepancies on the mapping for the 0.2% annual-chance-events throughout the watershed.

CNMS Concerns within the Watershed: It is important to note that for the watershed as a whole, most of the CNMS streams are considered unverified. Comparisons of the effective mapping to the draft Base Level Engineering results showed that the effective mapping should be revised based on better source data and processes. The three main concerns found in the area were non-digital FIRMs, vast areas of Unknown approximate studies which were not backed by technical data, and some communities that contained zero miles of detailed studies.

Non-digital FIRMs: Craighead County, Cross County, Lee County, St. Francis County, and Woodruff County.

Unknown Approximate Studies: Craighead County, Cross County, Lee County, Poinsett County, Prairie County, St. Francis County, and Woodruff County in Arkansas.

Zero Miles of Detailed Study: Cross County (complete area). There are other parts of individual communities that do not have detail study streams within their jurisdictions.

Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting

This section of the report will be completed at the conclusion of the Discovery project.

Future Investments for Refinement

This section of the report will be completed at the conclusion of the Discovery project.

- Watershed-wide Recommendations:
- County-specific Recommendations:
- City/Town-specific Recommendations:

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

During the Risk Identification and Assessment Phase of a project, engineering modeling and analysis is refined to further enhance the identification of flood risk. Existing modeling has been updated using a more detailed methodology for calculating the amount of water (hydrology) expected during a storm event, plus additional detail and gage analysis.

Hydraulic models include additional refinement to the cross sections and stream crossings (Figure 5) that may restrict flow in larger events, and the channel and structure information in existing models could be improved based on field surveys.

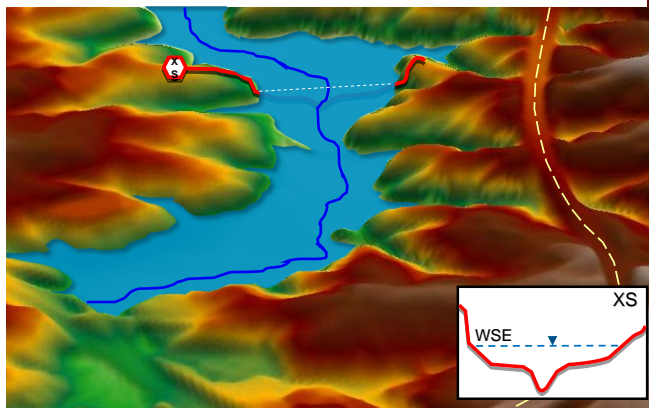


Figure 6. Floodplain Mapping of Peak Water Surface Elevation

The modeling calculates the peak water-surface elevation (Figure 6) determined at each cross section, and these peak values are graphically described in a profile. The peak values are then mapped on ground elevation information to produce a floodplain delineation that identifies the expected flood extent during the analyzed storm event.

These models have been used to produce a range of flood risk datasets that describe the variability of flooding within the delineated floodplain. These flood risk datasets include:

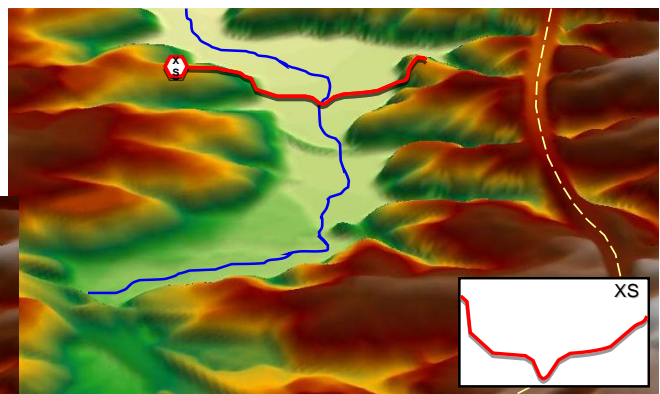


Figure 5. Hydraulic Cross-Section

Engineering modeling applies the flow volume calculated for a certain storm interval and places that water into the natural channel described in the hydraulic software. As tributaries and other drainage features are added to the main stream, the flow volume increases downstream. The

- **Water-Surface Elevation Grid** – This two-dimensional grid describes the water-surface elevation and profile for the length of the study area. Interpolated values are produced between each analyzed cross section.
- **Flood Depth Grid** – This grid provides an estimated flood depth at any location within the floodplain, allowing the variability of flood depth to be better represented for the stream channel and the floodplain areas.
- **Annual Percent Chance Grid** – This grid is produced using statistical analysis to describe multiple percentages of the chance of flooding within the determined floodplain.
- **30-Year Percent Chance Grid** – Further statistical methodology is used to determine the percent chance of flooding within a 30-year window. The 30-year window was chosen because a 30-year period is common for home mortgages.
- **Changes Since Last FIRM** – This polygon file identifies each location where modifications are identified by the revised and updated hydrologic and hydraulic analysis. Areas where floodplain widths increase/decrease, areas where floodway widths increase/decrease, and areas where flood zones have been modified are identifiable within this layer.

This phase of the project benefits greatly from community interaction and coordination with local technical and operations staff, providing an opportunity for FEMA and its mapping partners to engage local knowledge as the modeling is prepared. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to work closely with communities to identify areas where the modeling and floodplain mapping may not agree with on the ground accounts of flooding equivalent to the 1% annual chance storm event. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to use this phase to review community comments and include any available technical information prior to proceeding to the update of the Regulatory products (FIRM, FIS and DFIRM database).

The following information will be added during any Phase 2 project that may be completed in the future.

Flood Risk Review Meeting

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Flood Risk Review Meetings are scheduled for XXXX, 20XX. The first formal sharing of the modeling and mapping updates occurs at the Flood Risk Review Meeting. At this meeting, FEMA intends to continue community coordination efforts and discussions with a variety of watershed partners to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project area.

The FEMA team remains focused on reviewing the identification of flood and other natural hazard risks, areas where modifications in the flood delineations have been identified, and changes in risk assessment, working with community and technical staff throughout the analysis/assessment processes.

The team will deliver the Phase Two (Data and Engineering) data:

- Hydrological Analysis
- Hydraulic Analysis
- Resultant BLE data

The objectives of the Flood Risk Review meeting include:

- Promote local buy-in of analysis/study results
- Review Risk Identification (engineering) results with local communities
- Review the hazard mitigation plan, compared to the study findings
- Identify risk communication needs and options
- Support identified community-driven mitigation actions
- Identify and/or resolve community comments and appeals before the regulatory products are issued
- Solicit community input on results and promote buy-in of analyses prior to moving forward
- Continue developing relationships with communities

The new analysis and products will be delivered to communities in advance of this meeting, so communities will have the chance to review and assess the modeling and mapping results prior to the in-person meeting.



FEMA would like to work with communities at each project milestone to identify and address any technical concerns with the modeling results. Because this phase of the timeline is less rigid than the statutory and regulatory timelines in Phase Three, FEMA can work more closely and intimately with the communities to review and address their concerns.

Next Steps

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Once the analysis is completed, FEMA will review the areas of change before determining if a project will move forward to update the regulatory products (FIS report, FIRM, and DFIRM database). A cursory review of the modeling results indicates that this study area has significant changes in floodplain width and depth.



FEMA will work with communities after delivering the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and floodplain work maps to collect any outstanding technical inquiries within the study area. After coordinating with communities, FEMA will likely initiate the Phase Three effort to update the regulatory products.

Potential Community Activities

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

The availability of updated flood risk information provides the community a chance to review a range of possible actions that may be taken. Some possible community activities are identified below for consideration:

Stream Specific Recommendations: This section may be expanded at a later date.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Hazard Profile): The updated flood risk information provides an opportunity to review local hazard mitigation plans. The flood risk profile, hazard extent, and vulnerability assessment may be refined based on the Changes Since Last FIRM, water-surface elevation grids, flood depth grids, and percent annual chance grids. Communities should reconvene their Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to identify how these narrative sections should be refined with the additional information.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans help to:

- Protect public safety
- Prevent damage to community assets
- Reduce costs of disaster response and recovery
- Improve community capabilities
- Create safer, more sustainable development

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mitigation Strategies): Communities may review community assets, critical facilities, and other vulnerable areas within a community to identify or refine the mitigation strategies and locate future mitigation projects to reduce long-term natural hazard risk throughout the community. FEMA's publication [Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards](#) may provide some strategies and projects for the local Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to review.

Mitigation Project Scope Preparation: Each year, communities may apply for various FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants available for implementing mitigation actions. Communities may review their critical mitigation needs and opt to prepare project submittals for one of the grant opportunities FEMA offers.

PDM

The PDM grant program provides funding for hazard mitigation planning and projects on an annual basis. These funds are locally and nationally competitive. The amount of funding available annually depends on appropriations by Congress.

FMA

The FMA grant program provides funds for projects to reduce or eliminate the risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These funds are awarded on an annual basis through State allocations that are based on the number of NFIP policies in force.

HMGP

The HMGP assists in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration. HMGP funding is generally 15% of the total amount of Federal assistance provided to a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe following a major disaster declaration. If a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe has an enhanced mitigation plan, the percentage rises to 20%. These grant funds are competitive within the State receiving the allocation.

These HMA Grant Programs are managed by the State of Arkansas (grantee), which has the primary responsibility for selecting and administering the mitigation activities throughout the state. Individuals are not eligible to apply directly for HMA funds; however, communities may act as an eligible applicant or sub-applicant to apply for funding on behalf of individuals.

For specific information on available HMA grant funding and current project priorities in Arkansas, please contact the appropriate state agency.

**FMA, HMGP, and PDM Grant Programs
Arkansas Department of Emergency
Management**

Lacye Blake

Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

**Arkansas Natural Resources
Commission Management**

Veronica Villalobos-Pogue

Veronica.Villalobos-Pogue@arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

Community Rating System (CRS): The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Communities interested in the CRS program may contact their FEMA Region 6 CRS Coordinator or the State of Arkansas CRS Coordinator.

FEMA CRS Programs
FEMA Region 6
Mark Lujan
mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov
(940) 383-7327

Arkansas CRS Programs
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
Whitney Montague
whitney.montague@arkansas.gov
(501) 682-1611

Adoption of Higher Standards: Community participation in the NFIP is voluntary. When a community joins the NFIP, it must ensure its adopted floodplain management ordinance and enforcement procedures meet NFIP requirements. NFIP minimum requirements include requiring permits for all development in the SFHA and ensuring that the construction materials and methods used will minimize future flood damage. Higher standards, such as freeboard, land use and zoning practices, and other approaches allow communities to minimize future damages within the community by using more restrictive building codes and requirements.

Risk Reduction Activities: The NFIP's CRS Coordinator's Manual identifies a number of activities that communities can undertake to reduce their long-term risk. Higher standards, land use planning, future conditions modeling, and other approaches are available for consideration.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Strategy: The primary objective of the SRL properties strategy is to eliminate or reduce the damage to residential property and the disruption to life caused by repeated flooding. The SRL Grant Program makes funding available for a variety of flood mitigation activities. Under this program, FEMA provides funds to state and local governments to assist NFIP-insured SRL residential property owners with mitigation projects that reduce future flood losses. Projects could include acquisition or relocation of at-risk structures and conversion of the property to open space, elevation of existing structures, or dry floodproofing for historic properties.

Public Risk Awareness and Outreach Campaigns: Communities may use the new and existing flood hazard information to develop a public information and outreach campaign for their community. Since 2010, FEMA has conducted an annual nationwide study of flood risk awareness among U.S. households. Participants overwhelmingly responded that they expect and trust flood risk information when it comes from local community officials and staff.

FEMA Region 6 has also developed the Risk Communication Guidebook for Local Officials (<http://www.riskmap6.com/guidebook.aspx>), which identifies a number of local communication activities. The Guidebook provides tools, templates, and resources for

communities interested in developing a local outreach campaign; it is presented by Risk MAP project phases, similar to this report.

The CRS Coordinators Manual and the CRS Resources website (for Activity 300, available at <http://crsresources.org/300-3>) can provide additional information for communities interested in local flood hazard and risk awareness outreach campaigns.

High Water Mark (HWM) Initiative: As part of the NFIP, the HWM Initiative is a community-based program that increases residents' awareness of flood risk and encourages action to mitigate that risk.

As part of the project, communities post HWM signs in prominent places, hold a high-profile launch event to unveil the signs, conduct ongoing education to build local awareness of flood risk, and complete mitigation actions to build community resilience against future flooding.

Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

During the Regulatory Product Update Phase of a Flood Risk Project, the results produced in the previous phase are used to prepare and produce three regulatory products that are produced in a county-wide manner. This phase of the project is more regimented than previous phases, there are some statutory and regulatory timelines that must be adhered to by FEMA and the communities involved in the update areas. FEMA will remain in contact with communities throughout the process.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The engineering analysis results will be used to update the existing countywide FIS texts produced for communities during the Map Modernization effort. The narratives within the FIS text are updated to include specifics about the latest analysis and study effort within each county. Additionally, the Floodway Data Tables and Water Surface Elevations that provide look up information to community staff in their administration of the program are also updated to provide the most up to date information to the public and communities alike.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The revised FIRM data is based on a combination of new and existing engineering analyses of floodplain boundaries. The new engineering analysis for your county/parish is based on detailed analysis.

Detailed studies are mapped with a flood zone designation of “Zone AE”. All mileage studied by detailed methods produces a FIRM that included Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) published on the Preliminary DFIRMs. As previously described in Phase Two, studies of this nature include field surveys, hydraulic structures, modeling calibration and multiple flood frequency profiles published in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report delivered at Preliminary DFIRM issuance.

Some detailed mileage also includes a regulatory floodway. Floodway models are prepared to review the effect that fill or encroachment may have along a stream. Floodplain and floodway evaluations are the basis for community floodplain management programs. More information on floodway modeling is available in the Phase Two section of this report.

DFIRM Database

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Communities receive an updated and standardized DFIRM Database which is a digital version of the FEMA flood insurance rate map designed for use with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software.

The DFIRM Database is designed to provide the user the ability to determine the flood zone, base flood elevation and the floodway status for a particular location using its own internal GIS staff. The DFIRM database also includes data related to the NFIP community, FIRM panels, analysis cross sections and hydraulic structure information, as well as base map information like road, and stream data for reference and local use.

Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

As part of the DFIRM update, the project team will review all LOMAs and LOMRs and make a determination of each case to: incorporate, revalidate/reissue or supersede the LOMAs and LOMRs, based on technical data.

The following Letters of Map Revision have been reviewed and categorized:

Case Number	Stream Name(s) & Community(ies)	Effective Date	Category
	To be completed at a later date.		

LOMAs for each county will also be reviewed in preparation for the preliminary issuance. Communities should be advised that ALL LOMAs will be included in the Preliminary Summary of Map Actions (Prelim SOMA) provided on the Preliminary release date.



Communities should review their map repositories for any Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA) or Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) within the stream areas being studied. These community files may provide additional information for historic map revisions that will assist in the review of the cases for incorporation.

Next Step: Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Once FEMA has received, reviewed and responded to all comments and technical data received as a result of the Flood Risk Review meeting, FEMA will prepare the preliminary FIRMs, FIS and DFIRM database for release. Preliminaries will be sent to the community Chief Executive Officer, or “CEO,” and floodplain administrator, or “FPA,” for an initial review.

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The post-preliminary process is initiated with the preliminary issuance of the FIRM, FIS and DFIRM Database. A number of activities will occur as highlighted in Figure 7 below.

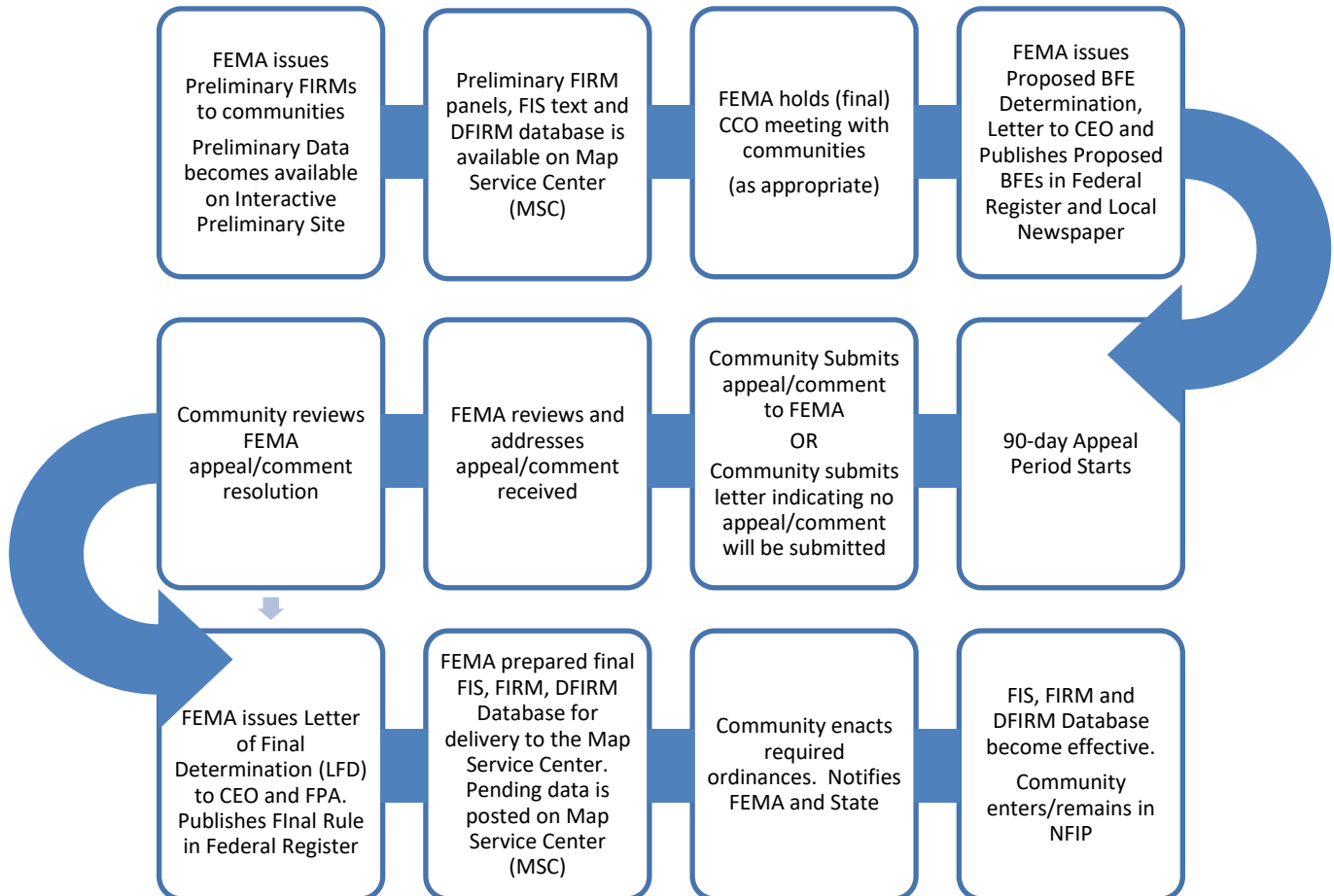


Figure 5. Post Preliminary Process

Additional information is provided for the immediate steps following preliminary issuance to provide some overview to communities prior to these activities being initiated.

Preliminary Data Available through Interactive Website. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, Preliminary Map Viewer will be available describing information available on the site.

30-Day Community Review Period. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, the initial community review is provided to communities. This informal review period generally lasts 30 days.

Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting. Following the informal review of the preliminary information, FEMA holds a more formal community coordination meeting during which community officials meet with FEMA representatives.

90-Day Appeal and Comment Period Initiated: Following the CCO meeting, FEMA will issue a letter to the Community Elected Official and Local Floodplain Administrator to inform them that FEMA is moving towards the initiation of the appeal period. FEMA will work internally to publish the Proposed BFE Determination in the Federal Register and then will publish a notice in the local newspaper two times. The letter will indicate the publication date for the notice in the Federal Register and two publication dates for a local newspaper. The appeal and comment period is initiated after the second local print date and extends 90 calendar days.

During this period, community officials or citizens may appeal the proposed BFEs and/or base flood depths based on scientific or technical data. Community officials or citizens also may submit requests for changes to other information shown on the DFIRM - flood zone boundaries, regulatory floodway boundaries, road names and configurations - during the appeal period. **Communities are responsible for the collection, review and approval of appeals that are submitted during the 90-day appeal period.**

An **appeal** is a formal objection to proposed or proposed modified BFEs or base flood depths, submitted by a community official or an owner or lessee of real property within the community through the community officials during the statutory 90-day appeal period. An appeal must be based on data that show the proposed or proposed modified BFEs are scientifically or technically incorrect.

A **comment** is an objection to or comment on any information, other than proposed BFEs or base flood depths, shown on an NFIP map that is submitted by community officials or interested citizens through the community officials during the 90-day appeal period. Comments usually involve changes to items such as road locations and road names, corporate limits updates, or other base map features.

Future Physical Map Revisions

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The release of the maps in these areas does not identify the end of coordination between the local community and FEMA. Local communities should continue their local floodplain management activities and submit Letters of Map Revision when local development alters the flood hazard in the community.

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports

The following list depicts the county- and community-specific reports contained within this appendix.

Communities
<i>CRAIGHEAD COUNTY</i>
Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Jonesboro, City of ¹
<i>CROSS COUNTY</i>
Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Cherry Valley, City of
Hickory Ridge, City of
Wynne, City of ¹
<i>LEE COUNTY</i>
Lee County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Haynes, Town of
Marianna, City of ¹
<i>POINSETT COUNTY</i>
Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Fisher, City of ¹
Harrisburg, City of
Weiner, City of ¹
<i>ST. FRANCIS COUNTY</i>
St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Caldwell, Town of
Colt, City of
Forrest City, City of ¹
Palestine, City of
<i>WOODRUFF COUNTY</i>
Woodruff County Unincorporated Areas ¹

¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.

Appendix II: Points of Contact

Watershed

Subject/Topic of Interest	Name	Contact Information
FEMA Region 6 Risk MAP Team Lead <i>Project Outreach</i>	Diane Howe Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 898-5171 Email: diane.howe@fema.dhs.gov
FEMA Project Monitor (Arkansas)	John Bourdeau Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7350 Email: John.BourdeauJr@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodplain Management Floodplain Ordinance Community Assistance Visits Higher Standards Flood Insurance 	Pedro Perez Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7365 Email: Pedro.Perez@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Rating System Flood Insurance 	Mark Lujan	Phone: (940) 383-7327 Email: mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to find and read FIRMs Letters of Map Change and Elevation Certificates Mandatory insurance purchase guidelines/ Flood zone disputes Map Service Center (MSC) & National Flood Hazard Layer 	FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)	Phone: 1-877-FEMA-MAP (336-2627) Email: FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com Live Chat: https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html

State Partners

Organization/Title	Name	Partner Location	Contact Information
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) State NFIP Coordinator	Michael Borengasser, CFM	101 East Capitol Ave, Suite 350 Little Rock, AR 72201	Phone: (501) 682-3969 Email: michael.borengasser@arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/
Arkansas Department of Emergency Management State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Lacye Blake	Building 9501 Camp Joseph T. Robinson North Little Rock, AR 72199	Phone: (512) 424-5489 Email: Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/

Appendix III: Resources

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission's (ANRC) mission is to manage and protect our water and land resources for the health, safety and economic benefit of the State of Arkansas.



The ANRC has been designated by state law as the State NFIP Coordinating Agency for Arkansas. Within ANRC- Water Resources Management Division, you will find Floodplain Management, where most of the flood-related information and flood planning and mitigation grant resources reside.

Organization	Contact Information	Website
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC)	Phone: (501) 682-1611	http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/

Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)

The AFMA is an organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the NFIP, flood preparedness, warning, and disaster recovery. The Association includes flood hazard specialists from local, state, and federal governments, the mortgage, insurance, and research communities, and the associated fields of flood zone determination, engineering, hydraulic forecasting, emergency response, water resources, Geographic Information Systems, and others.

Organization	Website
Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)	https://www.arkansasfloods.org/

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) established a national program for certifying floodplain managers. This program recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhances the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain management professionals.

The role of the nation's floodplain managers is expanding due to increases in disaster losses, the emphasis on mitigation to alleviate the cycle of damage-rebuild-damage, and a recognized need for professionals to adequately address these issues. This certification program will lay the foundation for ensuring that highly qualified individuals are available to meet the challenge of breaking the damage cycle and stopping its negative drain on the nation's human, financial, and natural resources.

CFM® is a registered trademark and available only to individuals certified and in good standing under the ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager Program.

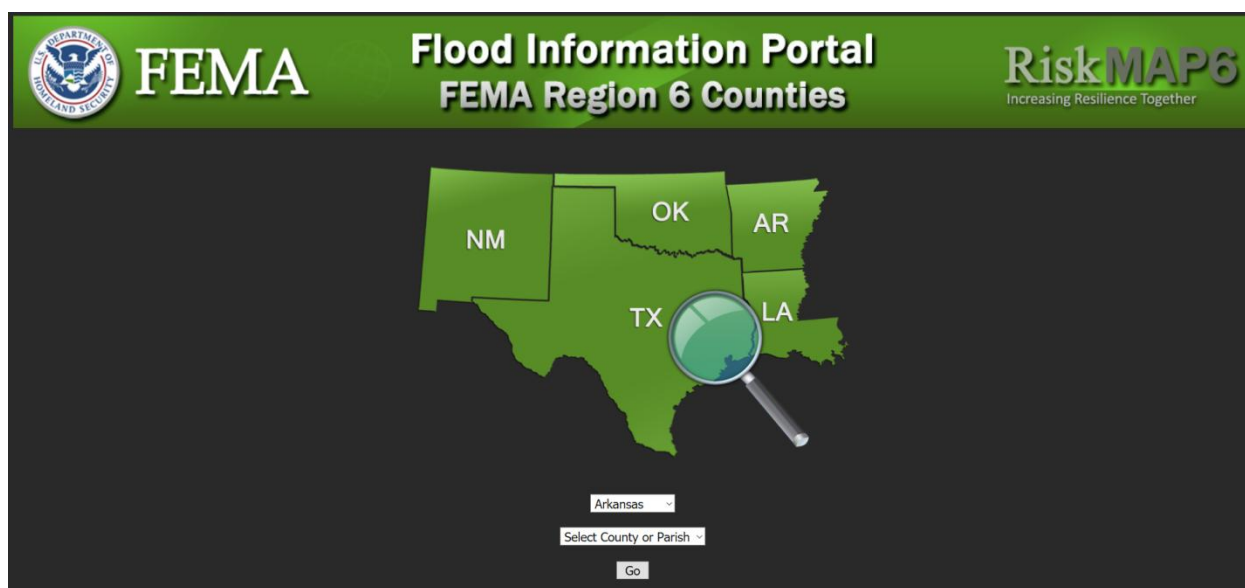
For more information, you may want to review these available CFM Awareness Videos:

- [What is the CFM Program?](#)
- [Who can be a CFM?](#)
- [What are the Benefits of a CFM?](#)

Study Materials for those interested in applying for the CFM certification can be found on the ASFPM Website at: <http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuID=215>.

For information on becoming a member and the exam application process in the State of Arkansas visit <https://www.arkansasfloods.org/cfm/>.

Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer



To support community review of the study information and promote risk communication efforts, FEMA launched an interactive web tool accessible on-line at <http://maps.RiskMAP6.com> for the project areas.

Should a study be released for review, the study data may be viewed at this website.

For more information on the Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer, refer to the Region 6 Fact sheet: [What is your Flood Risk?](#)

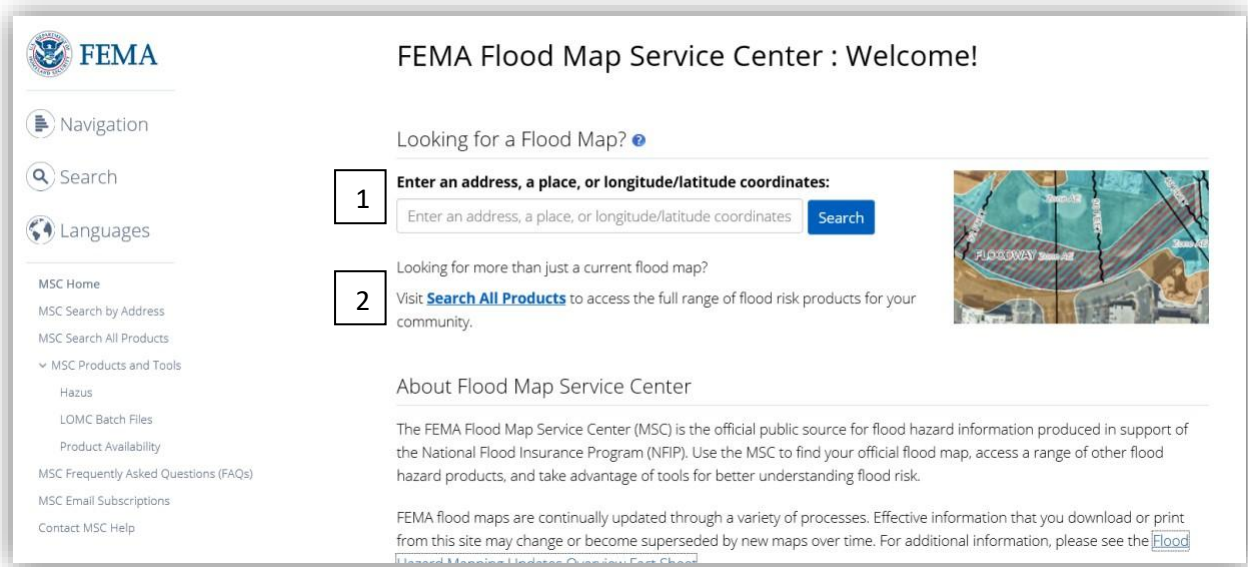
Map Service Center – Available Map Data

The [FEMA Flood Map Service Center \(MSC\)](#) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the NFIP. Use the MSC to find your official effective flood map, preliminary flood maps, and access a range of other flood hazard products.

FEMA flood maps are continually updated through a variety of processes. Effective information that you download or print from this site may change or become superseded by new maps over time. For additional information, please see the [Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet](#).

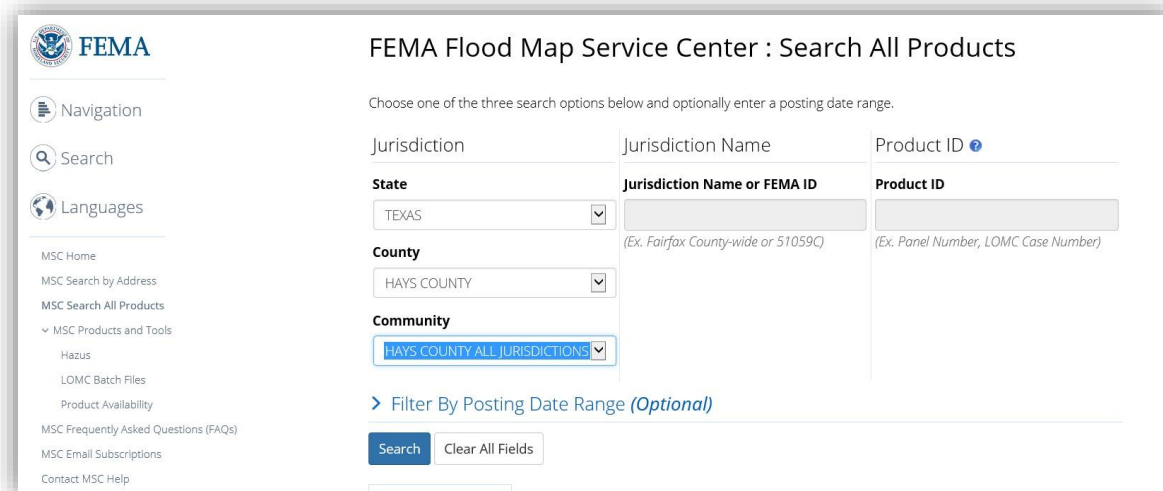
At the MSC, there are two ways to locate flood maps in your vicinity.

1. Enter an address, place name, or latitude/longitude coordinates and click search. This will provide the current effective FIRM panel where the location is shown.
2. Or [Search All Products](#), which will provide access to the full range of flood risk information available.



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) homepage. The page title is "FEMA Flood Map Service Center : Welcome!". On the left is a navigation menu with options like "Navigation", "Search", "Languages", "MSC Home", "MSC Search by Address", "MSC Search All Products", "MSC Products and Tools" (with sub-items: Hazus, LOMC Batch Files, Product Availability), "MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)", "MSC Email Subscriptions", and "Contact MSC Help". The main content area has a heading "Looking for a Flood Map?" followed by a search box with a "Search" button. A red box with the number "1" highlights the search box. Below the search box is a link "Search All Products" with a red box and the number "2" next to it. To the right of the search box is a small map showing a flood hazard area. Below the search box is a section titled "About Flood Map Service Center" which contains text about the MSC's role and a link to the "Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet".

By using the more advanced search option, “Search All Products,” users may access current, preliminary, pending, and historic flood maps. Additionally, GIS data and flood risk products may be accessed through the site with these few steps.



Using the pull down menus, select your state, county, and community of interest. For this example, we selected Hays County - All Jurisdictions. After the search button is selected, the MSC will return all items in the area. There are five types of data available.

Effective Products. The current effective FIS, FIRM, and DFIRM database (if available) is available through the MSC. If users click on the available effective products, they are presented a breakdown of the available products. FIRM panels, FIS reports, LOMRs, statewide National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) data, and countywide NFHL data may be available, as indicated in the breakdown on the right of the page.

Effective Products (250)	DL ALL
▶ FIRM Panels (88)	DL ALL
▶ FIS Reports (4)	DL ALL
▶ LOMC (155)	
▶ NFHL Data-State (1)	
▶ NFHL Data-County (2)	
Historic Products (136)	DL ALL
▶ FIRM Panels (101)	DL ALL
▶ FIS Reports (1)	DL ALL
▶ LOMC (34)	

Historic Products. A range of historic flood hazard maps, FIS texts, and Letters of Map Change are available through the MSC.

Flood Risk Products. The Flood Risk Report, Flood Risk Map, and

Flood Risk Database will be made available through the MSC once they have been compiled and completed. These products are made available after the flood study analysis and mapping have been reviewed and community comments incorporated.

Additional Web Resources

FLOOD MITIGATION PLANNING	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM RESOURCES – HOW TO JOIN, SAMPLE ORDINANCES, ETC.	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD GRANT PROGRAMS	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SCHEDULES	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/Conferences.html https://www.arkansasfloods.org/



Huxtable Pumping Station Photo Courtesy: US Army corps of Engineers

Lower St. Francis Watershed, AR Base Level Engineering (BLE) Results

Lower St. Francis Watershed, HUC - 08020303

Clay, Craighead*, Crittenden *, Cross*, Greene*, Lee*, Mississippi*,
Phillips*, Poinsett*, St. Francis* Counties, Arkansas and, Bollinger*,
Butler*, Dunklin*, Stoddard*, and Wayne* Counties, Missouri*

**Spans more than one watershed. This report covers only the area within the studied watershed.*

June 2017



Project Area Community List

Community Name	CID
Arkansas	
<i>Clay County Communities</i>	
Clay County ¹	050423
Greenway, City of	050031
Nimmons, Town of	050332
Piggott, City of ¹	050035
Rector, City of	050366
St. Francis, City of	050037
<i>Craighead County Communities</i>	
Bay, City of	050045
Black Oak, Town of	050389
Brookland, City of	050047
Craighead County ¹	050427
Jonesboro, City of ¹	050048
Lake City, City of	050049
Monette, City of	050350
<i>Crittenden County Communities</i>	
Anthonyville, Town of	050512
Clarkedale, Town of	050513
Crawfordsville, City of	050317
Crittenden County ¹	050429
Earle, City of	050054
Edmondson, Town of	050409
Gilmore, Town of	050245
Horseshoe Lake, Town of	055057
Jennette, Town of	050514
Jericho, Town of	050515
Marion, City of	050345
Sunset, Town of	050476
Turrell, City of	050370
West Memphis, City of	050055
<i>Cross County Communities</i>	
Cross County ¹	050056
Parkin, City of	050059
Wynne, City of ¹	050060
<i>Greene County Communities</i>	
Greene County ¹	050435
Oak Grove Heights, City of	050510
Paragould, City of	050085

<i>Lee County Communities</i>	
Lee County ¹	050444
<i>Mississippi County Communities</i>	
Bassett, Town of	050489
Birdsong, Town of	050516
Blytheville, City of ¹	050140
Burdette, Town of	050602
Dell, Town of	050490
Dyess, Town of	050143
Joiner, City of	050145
Keiser, City of	050146
Luxora, City of	050148
Marie, Town of	050150
Mississippi County ¹	050452
Osceola, City of	050151
Victoria, Town of	050491
Wilson, City of	050153
<i>Phillips County Communities</i>	
Phillips County ¹	050166
<i>Poinsett County Communities</i>	
Lepanto, City of ¹	050174
Marked Tree, City of	050175
Poinsett County ¹	050172
Trumann, City of	050176
Tyronza, City of	050371
<i>St. Francis County Communities</i>	
Forrest City, City of ¹	050187
Hughes, City of	050188
Madison, City of	050189
St. Francis County ¹	050184
Widener, Town of	055023
Missouri	
<i>Bollinger County Communities</i>	
Bollinger County ¹	290787
<i>Butler County Communities</i>	
Butler County ¹	290044
Fisk, City of ¹	290045
<i>Dunklin County Communities</i>	
Cardwell, City of	290125
Dunklin County ¹	290122
Holcomb, City of ¹	290127
Kennett, City of ¹	290129

<i>Stoddard County Communities</i>	
Bloomfield, City of	290423
Dexter, City of ¹	290424
Dudley, City of	290615
Puxico, City of	290428
Stoddard County ¹	290845
<i>Wayne County Communities</i>	
Wayne County ¹	290449
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.	

Table of Contents

1.	Executive Summary	1
2.	Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology	2
2.1.	Terrain	2
2.2.	Hydrology	3
2.3.	Hydraulics.....	7
2.4.	Quality Control	10
2.5.	Mapping.....	10
3.	Submittal	11
4.	References	12

List of Tables

Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Missouri 2-D Area)	4
Table 2: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (West 2-D Area)	5
Table 3: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Northeast 2-D Area)	5
Table 4: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Southeast 2-D Area)	6
Table 3: List of rainfall at different recurrence interval (1-D Study streams)	6
Table 2: Manning's "n" Coefficients	9

Appendix A - WORKMAPS

BLE Terrain & Workmap Index
BLE Workmaps (Digital Format Only)

1. Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is currently implementing the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program across the Nation. The vision and intent of the Risk MAP program is to, through collaboration with State and Local entities, deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to mitigation actions that reduce risk to life and property. To achieve this vision, FEMA has transformed its traditional flood identification and mapping efforts into a more integrated process of more accurately identifying, assessing, communicating, planning and mitigating flood risks. Risk MAP attempts to address gaps in flood hazard data and form a solid foundation for risk assessment, floodplain management, and provide State and Local entities with information needed to mitigate flood related risks.

The FEMA Region 6 office and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) entered into a Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) partnership agreement for implementation of Risk MAP in the State of Arkansas. As part of this partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began work on a Base Level Engineering (BLE) analysis in the Lower St. Francis Watershed in October 2016 to support FEMA's Discovery process and validation of effective Zone A Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing Coordinate Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery). An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program.

The source digital terrain data used for surface model development in support of H&H analysis, as well as mapping activities were leveraged from existing Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data collected by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (2012 L'Anguille and Lower St. Francis Watershed Area), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project, 2014 Cape Girardeau-Stoddard Co., 2014 Stoddard-Mississippi Co., 2016 USACE_MVS_MO [Butler_Ripley], 2009 Duck Creek LiDAR datasets), and the United States Geological Survey (2012 Upper Black, 2013 Lower St. Francis, 2012 Dunklin County, 2012 Wappapello datasets, USGS 1/3 arc-second DEMs). The LiDAR datasets were 1-meter gridded DEM data that were reprojected to a 15 ft cell size for hydrologic processing and a 5 ft cell size for hydraulic and mapping processing in 1D areas and 15 ft cell size for 2D areas.

Flood discharges for this analysis were calculated using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service, Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, ESRI's ArcGIS software, the HEC-Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) computer program, and the HEC - River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) program (versions 4.1 or 5.0.3). Initial precipitation values were obtained, based on a watershed level, from NOAA's Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14, which was then processed in ESRI's ArcGIS 10.x software into a usable format. The obtained precepitation values and resulting GIS parameters for the watershed, were then input into HEC-HMS to determine the excess rainfall that would result based on the applied conditions. For 2-D study areas, this excess rainfall was then applied to a 2-D HEC-RAS model in the form of a rain on grid scenario, which was then used compute the water surface elevations for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent

plus flood events. For 1-D study areas, a traditional HEC-HMS model was produced. In areas of were then inserted in HEC-RAS to model water surface elevations.

The modeled stream mile network for the Lower Saint Francis Watershed to include streams that extended upstream to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile.

2. Base Level Engineering (BLE) Methodology

This section provides guidance for the hydrologic, hydraulic and floodplain mapping steps required to create a BLE. The BLE process involves using best available data and incorporating automated techniques with existing H&H model development procedures to produce quality flood hazard boundaries and secondary products (Water Surface Elevation grids, Depth grids, etc.) for multiple recurrence intervals. The purpose and intent of the BLE process is to validate existing Zone A flood boundaries within the existing CNMS dataset and provide updated flood risk data in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project (Discovery).

The cost and effort for developing the data and estimates resulting from the BLE process are lower than standard flood production tasks. An important goal of the BLE process developed by FEMA is the scalability of the results. Scalability means that the results of an BLE cannot only be used for CNMS evaluations of Zone A studies but also leveraged throughout the Risk MAP program. The large volume of data resulting from an BLE can be used for the eventual production of regulatory and non-regulatory products, outreach and risk communication and MT-1 processing. Leveraging this data outside the Risk MAP program may also be valuable to external stakeholders.

Per the the Code of Federal Regulations, once every five years, FEMA must evaluate whether the information on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) reflects the current risks. This evaluation is done by examining the existing flood boundaries for changes in study attributes and physical characteristics, as specified in the CNMS Technical Reference. Additionally, this evaluation occurs using a series of critical and secondary checks to determine the validity of the existing flood hazard areas. In addition to the need for evaluating the accuracy of Zone A mapping, newer FEMA standards also require that flood risk data be provided in the early stages of a Flood Risk Project. Particularly, FEMA Program Standard SID #29 requires that during Discovery, data must be identified that illustrates potential changes in flood elevation and mapping that may result from the proposed project scope. If available data does not clearly illustrate the likely changes, an analysis is required that estimates the likely changes. This data and any associated analyses should be shared and results should be discussed with stakeholders.

Therefore, based on these requirements, the results of the BLE process are being provided to the local Floodplain Administrators (FPAs), which allows for users to have access to a model backed Zone A study that is suitable to replace the effective Zone A products. The following sections are being supplied to document the hydrologic, hydraulic, and floodplain mapping techniques used. Regardless of the individual techniques used to perform these steps, the goal of a scalable product should be adhered to throughout the entire BLE process.

2.1. Terrain

To determine the parameters for the hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, FTN obtained Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data developed from LIDAR information that was collected by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (2011 L'Anguille and Lower St. Francis Watershed Area), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Crittenden_Cross, Game-Fish, Mississippi-Lauderdale, Monroe_Lee-

Phillips, Phillips_Desha, Poinsett_Craighead_Greene, and St. Francis_Lee, Cape Girardeau-Stoddard Co., Stoddard-Mississippi Co., USACE_MVS_MO [Butler_Ripley], Duck Creek, LiDAR datasets), The United States Geological Survey (FEMA_VI_Upper_Black_Watershed, FEMA_VI_Lower_St_Francis_Watershed, Dunklin_MO, Wappapello datasets, and 1/3 arc-second elevation data). The bare earth DEM data was provided as 1-meter, 1/3 arc-second, or 1/9 arc-second DEMs with varying horizontal and vertical coordinate systems. Prior to use, the DEM data was resampled to a 5- and 15-foot cell size, where possible, with a horizontal coordinate system of NAD 1983 State Plane Arkansas North (feet) with a vertical datum of NAVD 88 in feet. DEMs were then mosaicked into a single DEM that covered the entire watershed. The single DEM was then processed using Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) ArcMap Geographic Information System (GIS) 10.2.2 software and the ArcHydro toolset to develop the hydrologic parameters needed for the time of concentration and longest flow path lengths required for developing flow estimates.

A terrain and workmap index has been prepared and is attached to the end of this report and included in Appendix A – Workmaps.

2.2. Hydrology

Excess runoff for the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus flood events were calculated using NOAA's Precipitation Frequency Data Server (PFDS) for Atlas 14. This task was completed by processing raster data for the study events based on a HUC-10 level. The excess rainfall values were spatially averaged from raster data using the zonal statistics toolset in ESRI's ArcGIS. The maximum rainfall values, based on a HUC 10 level were selected as input for the resulting HEC-HMS model.

In addition to the Atlas 14 precipitation values, ESRI's ArcGIS software and supporting toolsets were used to process the initial terrain data, delineate drainage basins, and develop basin parameters for the study area. In addition, drainage points were obtained around the basin in such a way that there is a point upstream of the confluences in each of the stream and also at the downstream. In addition, drainage points were also created on the top of structures. Drainage basins for each of these drainage points were then established.

For this BLE analysis, the SCS Cuper Number Method was used for the Loss Method due to varying landuses. For the curve number calculations, the weighted Curve Numbers were developed using the 2011 National Land Cover Database, NRCS's SSURGO Soil Surveys, TR-55 runoff curve numbers, and ESRI's ArcGIS software. The watershed was assumed to be at Antecedent Moisture Condition II (average moisture condition).

The SCS Lag Method was used for the Transform Method. As this is not considered a detailed analysis, this method uses imperial methods to develop representative parameters for each subwatershed. Additionally, the SCS Type II rainfall distribution was used to distribute the rainfall across the basin. Table 1, shown below, lists the initial and excess rainfall used for the hydrologic analysis.

As this analysis uses both 1-D and 2-D analyses, additional details regarding the hydrologic modeling are described below:

1-D: Upon completion of the base hydrologic data, a complete hydrologic model was developed based on HUC-10 boundaries using the parameters discussed above and reach routing techniques. The routing method used for this project is the Modified Puls Routing Method. Storage-discharge relationships for each reach were developed by establishing an initial HEC-RAS model. The HEC-RAS model consisted of a reach for each drainage basin, and each reach was represented by 2 - 4 cross sections with flows ranging from 5 cfs to 400,000 cfs (upper limit varies based on size of stream). Cross sections were drawn initially using an automated routine based on the stream sinuosity. However, these cross sections were then refined manually to account for structures and other obstructions that might impact the flow of water downstream. Additionally, the hydraulic routing model used normal depth slope methods for the downstream boundary condition.

Once all parameters were developed, a final HUC 10 basin HEC-HMS model was produced, with the resulting flows being reviewed and then incorporated into the hydraulic modeling.

2-D: Upon completion of the base hydrologic data, the hydrologic model was run to determine the excess rainfall that would be translated to runoff. As the SCS Curve Number method was used, some of the initial rainfall is determined to remain. This is referred to as initial abstraction. Initial abstraction is the fraction of the storm depth after which runoff begins. After determining the excess runoff in HEC-HMS for the watershed, this information was then applied to the 2-D hydraulic model as a rain on grid scenario.

Tables 1 - 5, shown below, lists the initial and excess rainfall used for the various model extents shown in the hydrologic analysis.

Table 1: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Missouri 2-D Area)

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	Missouri 2D area	
	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.44	3.18
4	6.66	4.24
2	7.66	5.14
1	8.71	6.12
0.2	11.42	8.71
1-plus	11.27	8.57
1-minus	6.53	4.13

Table 2: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (West 2-D Area)

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	West 2D Area	
	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.39	3.24
4	6.39	4.15
2	7.17	4.85
1	7.97	5.6
0.2	9.96	7.53
1-plus	9.97	7.55
1-minus	6.23	4.03

Table 3: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Northeast 2-D Area)

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	Northeast 2D Area	
	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.46	3.32
4	6.49	4.23
2	7.27	5.0
1	8.11	5.76
0.2	10.09	7.63
1-plus	10.2	7.72
1-minus	6.27	4.05

Table 4: List of rainfall and peak runoff volume at different recurrence interval (Southeast 2-D Area)

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	Southeast 2D Area	
	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)	Excess Volume (in)
10	5.44	3.62
4	6.45	4.53
2	7.23	5.28
1	7.98	6.02
0.2	9.95	7.89
1-plus	9.93	7.85
1-minus	6.29	4.37

Table 5: List of rainfall at different recurrence interval (1-D Study streams)

Recurrence Interval (% chance)	1D Area
	NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall (in)
10	5.51
4	6.48
2	7.25
1	8.04
0.2	9.98
1-plus	9.76
1-minus	6.48

2.3. Hydraulics

For 1D and 2D areas, all streams identified in the Lower St. Francis Watershed, the BLE process uses ESRI ArcGIS software and toolsets to create the HEC-RAS layers used for geometric data development and extraction. Additionally, the hydraulic modeling and mapping for this BLE process was conducted using the USACE's HEC-RAS software package, versions 4.1 (1D) and 5.0.3 (2D). Figure 1. Study Areas provides additional details as to the location of each of the study zones.

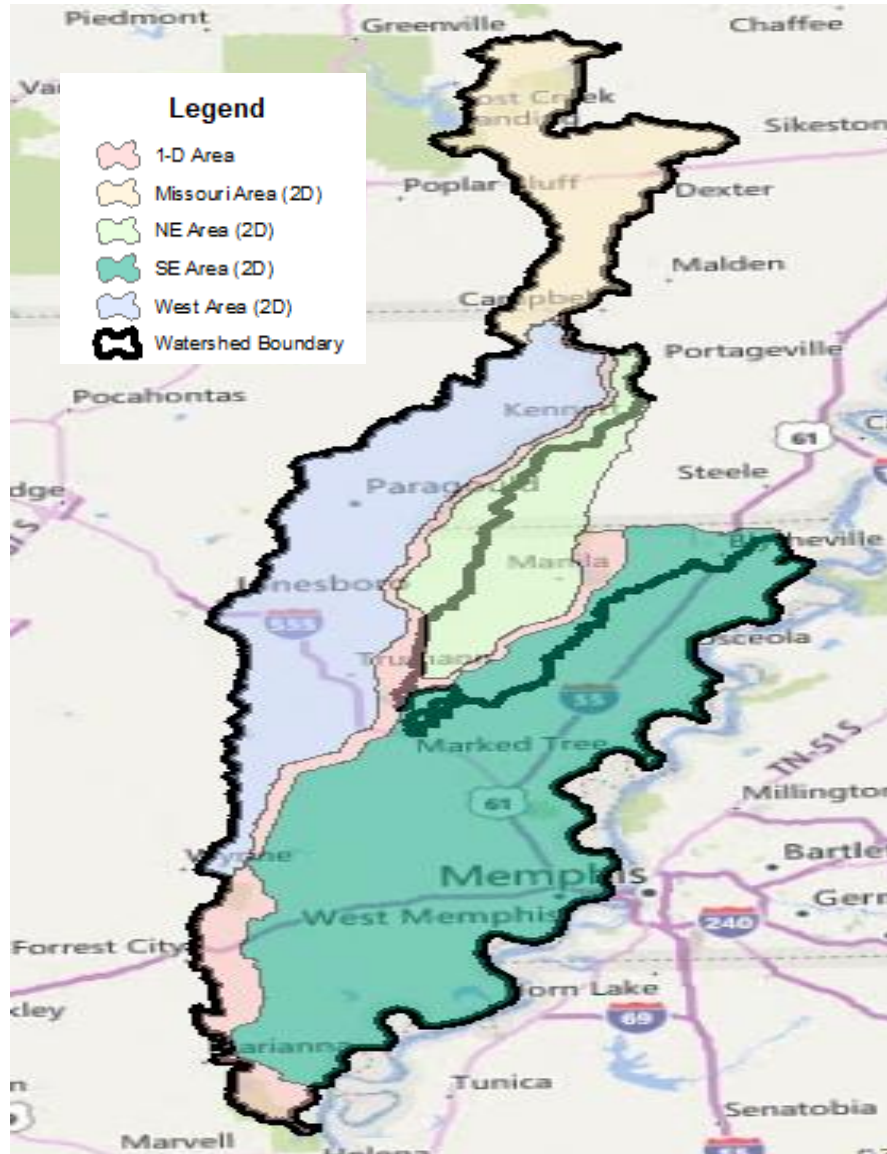


Figure 1. Study Areas

Streams

The streamlines used for determining what areas needed to be modeled were taken from the CNMS dataset. They were then expanded to include streams that extended up to a contributing drainage area of approximately 1 sq. mile. These streams were then reviewed and updated to match aerial imagery and detailed topographic data, as needed.

Cross Sections (1-D analysis)

1-D: For the remaining streams, the hydraulic approach for BLE analysis for the Dardanelle Reservoir watershed consisted of using the terrain data described in Section 2.1, in combination with the hydrology discharges computed Section 2.2, to establish water surface elevations using 1-D steady state analysis. HEC-RAS 4.1.0 was chosen to compute water surface elevations on a stream by stream basis within the watershed. ESRI's ArcGIS computer program and supporting HEC-GeoRAS toolset were also used to establish streams, cross section layouts and stationing, assign Manning's "n" values to cross sections, and to develop all input files for the HEC-RAS program.

Initial cross section layouts were developed using an automated routine based on the stream sinuosity. These cross sections were then edited manually, as needed, and additional cross sections were placed upstream and downstream of structures and along the top of the structure, considering bridges or culverts will impact the flow of water downstream. Cross sections were also placed across easily identifiable watershed dams, as the number of dams located on a stream was minimal. Additionally, attempts were made to ensure that cross sections contained all flows modeled (particularly the 0.2- and 1%-plus-annual-chance events); however, due to the possibility of basin overflows or common floodplains, there are some cross sections that may have vertical extensions.

The channel banks used in the hydraulic models were based on offsetting the main channel stream centerline by a 30-ft interval. After testing sensitivity of the bank station locations, it was determined that the manual adjustment of the bank stations to more realistic locations was not warranted at this time. Likewise, the reach lengths were determined by offsetting the stream centerline by a 150-ft interval. This approach was again used to allow for more automated processes to be conducted to more efficiently develop the hydraulic modeling.

Significant effort was made to start all tributaries below the receiving water surface elevations but this was not always achieved, particularly in wide, flat floodplains where small tributaries ran parallel to large streams or where road crossings or dams interfered with cross section alignments.

2-D: Hydraulic modeling for the Cache Watershed BLE Analysis was computed using 2-D analyses to better reflect the large, flat, and interconnected floodplains. To perform this modeling, 2-D capabilities of the HEC-RAS 5.0.3 was utilized. With a 2-D model, the area is modeled using a topographic mesh rather than a series of cross sections down the longitudinal axis of the stream reach, as is done in a 1-D model. The HEC-RAS mesh consists of computational cells that are assigned elevations and roughness values along the cell faces that represent the topographic surface and frictional characteristics of the area and volumetric relationships for the cell area, respectively. The use of the 2-D model allows for more detailed resolution in water surface elevations, velocities, and flows than is possible with a 1-D model that is only capable of computing the average water surface elevations, velocities, and flows for three general regions at a cross section. Based on engineering judgement, breaklines were defined along the levees, dams, roads, culverts and elevated berms as seen on the topography. It is necessary to draw breaklines as it makes sure that the flow across the cell faces is blocked by the elevation of the structure along the break line.

Parameter Estimation

The Manning’s “n” values used were based on engineering judgment and using the 2011 National Land Cover Data (NLCD) dataset. Table 6 lists the landuse and roughness coefficients used in this analysis.

Table 6: Manning's "n" Coefficients

Material Type	Manning's "n"
Open Water	0.01
Developed, Open Space	0.04
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	
Grassland/Herbaceous	0.05
Pasture/Hay	
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	
Developed, Low Intensity	0.06
Shrub/Scrub	
Cultivated Crops	
Developed, Medium Intensity	0.08
Developed High Intensity	0.10
Deciduous Forest	
Evergreen Forest	
Mixed Forest	
Woody Wetlands	

Boundary Conditions

For this BLE analysis, the downstream boundary conditions are set to be normal depth slope. The computed slope is based on topographic data from the downstream limits of the modeling.

Model Calibrations

No calibration was performed on these streams, although streams with gages were reviewed for consistency with respect to estimated and observed discharges and gage heights.

2.4. Quality Control

Throughout the BLE analysis, quality checks were performed. These checks included review of topographic data processing, hydrologic parameters being applied, checking for complete model coverage, adjusting the mesh cell sizes, adjusting mesh boundaries, adding breaklines along structures, as required, and review of the final mapping results.

2.5. Mapping

Following the hydraulic analysis, the model results were then imported into the HEC-RAS RAS Mapper tool to map floodplain boundaries for the model extent. This tool uses a routine that develops water surface elevation grids based on the elevation datasource. For this BLE analysis, mapping results were developed for seven (7) events. These events were the 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, 0.2-percent-events and the 1-percent-minus and 1-percent plus boundaries.

Once the floodplain boundaries were created, the resulting floodplain data were smoothed and small polygons (less than 0.25 acres) and small disconnected fragments were removed. After the initial boundary edits, the resulting floodplain boundaries were merged into a single watershed based map boundary. For this BLE process, only the 1-percent-annual-chance floodplain is reported on the workmaps. Workmaps were generated to provide a graphical comparison of the effective floodplain boundaries to that of the BLE processed streams. These workmaps are provided in Appendix A – Workmaps.

Once the map boundaries were cleaned, the resulting rasters (Water Surface Elevation, Depth, etc.) were developed with the raster set to correspond in extent to the cleaned polygon boundary. This ensures that the water surface raster and the floodplain boundary are consistent with each other. The depth raster product was created by performing a raster subtraction with the water surface elevation raster and the ground DEM. Once complete, the resultant depth grids were used to perform an updated Flood Loss Analysis for the watershed using the HAZUS program.

3. Submittal

All information, data, and files for the Lower St. Francis Watershed BLE process are uploaded to the FEMA MIP and provided digitally in electronic format in a directory structure provided below.

08020303\Lower St. Francis Watershed BLE

\General

- Project Narrative (PDF)

\Hydraulic_Models

\<HUC-8>\<Stream Name>\ *(St. Francis River and 2D models)*

- HEC-RAS models

\<HUC-10>\<Stream Name>\

- HEC-RAS models

\Spatial_Files

- Lower St. Francis_Watershed (file geodatabase format)

\Supplemental_Data

\CNMS_Update\

- CNMS database update (file geodatabase format)

\HAZUS\

- Loss Analysis project

\Mapping\

- BLE Mapping files (multiple events)

\Workmaps

- Terrain and Workmap Index (PDF)
- Workmaps (PDF)
- Workmap Index (SHP format)
- Community Map Index (if needed)

4. References

1. USGS. Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium. *National Land Cover Database 2011*. (<http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php>).
2. NOAA. Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Atlas 14. (<http://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/>).
3. Chow, Ven T. *Open Channel Hydraulics*. Caldwell, NJ: Blackburn, 1959. Print.
4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hydrologic Engineering Center. (January 2010). HEC-RAS River Analysis System, Version 4.1.0. Davis, California.
5. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Hydrologic Engineering Center. (September 2016). HEC-RAS River Analysis System, Version 5.0.3. Davis, California.
6. FEMA, "Guidance for Automated Engineering", May 2016. (http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1469144112748-3c4ecd90cb927cd200b6a3e9da80d8a/Automated_Engineering_Guidance_May_2016.pdf).



Marked Tree Siphon, 2013 Photo Courtesy of Melissa Brawner

Flood Risk Report

Lower St. Francis Watershed, AR

HUC8 08020203

December 2017

Version Number	Version Date	Summary
1.0	12/29/2017	Initial Report Development

Preface

The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program provides states, tribes, and local communities with flood risk information, datasets, risk assessments, and tools that they can use to increase their resilience to flooding and better protect their residents. By pairing accurate floodplain maps with risk assessment tools and planning and outreach support, Risk MAP transforms the traditional flood mapping efforts into an integrated process of identifying, assessing, communicating, planning for, and mitigating flood-related risks.

The Flood Risk Report (FRR) is one of the tools created through the Risk MAP program. An FRR provides non-regulatory information to help local or tribal officials, floodplain managers, planners, emergency managers, and others. Local, federal, and state officials can use the information in the FRR to establish a better understanding of their flood risk, take steps to mitigate those risks, and communicate those risks to their residents and local businesses.

The FRR serves as a guide when communities update local hazard mitigation plans, community comprehensive plans, and emergency operations and response plans. It is meant to communicate risk to officials and inform them of the modification of development standards, as well as assist in identifying necessary or potential mitigation projects. The report extends beyond community limits to provide flood risk data for the Lower St. Francis Watershed.

Flood risk is always changing, and studies, reports, or other sources may be available that provide more comprehensive information. This report is not intended to be the regulatory nor the final authoritative source of all flood risk data in the watershed. Rather, it should be used in conjunction with other data sources to provide a comprehensive picture of flood risk within the project area.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program	1
About the Lower St. Francis Watershed	2
Introduction	5
Flood Risk	5
Calculating Flood Risk	5
Watershed Basics	7
Project Phases and Map Maintenance	11
Background	11
How are FEMA’s Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?.....	11
General Flood Risk Project Phases	12
Phase Zero: Investment	13
Phase One: Discovery.....	14
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment	15
Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update	16
Phase Zero: Investment	17
Area of Interest Selection Factors.....	17
Base Level Engineering.....	21
Phase One: Discovery.....	23
Pre-Discovery	23
Discovery Meeting	23
Watershed Findings	23
Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting.....	26
Future Investments for Refinement.....	26
Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment	26
Flood Risk Review Meeting	28
Next Steps	29
Potential Community Activities.....	30
Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update.....	34
Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text	34
Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels	34
DFIRM Database.....	34

Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) 35

Next Step: Preliminary Issuance..... 35

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance..... 36

Future Physical Map Revisions..... 37

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports..... 38

Appendix II: Points of Contact..... 41

 Watershed..... 41

 State Partners..... 41

Appendix III: Resources 42

 Arkansas Natural Resources Commission 42

 Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA) 42

 Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification 42

 Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer 43

 Map Service Center – Available Map Data..... 44

 Additional Web Resources 46

Executive Summary

The Flood Risk Report has two goals: (1) inform communities of their risks related to certain natural hazards and (2) enable communities to act to reduce their risk. The information within this Risk Report is intended to assist federal, state, and local officials with the following goals:

- Communicate risk – Local officials can use the information in this report to communicate with property owners, business owners, and other residents about risks and areas of mitigation interest.
- Update local hazard mitigation plans and community comprehensive plans – Planners can use risk information to develop and/or update hazard mitigation plans, comprehensive plans, future land use maps, and zoning regulations. For example, zoning codes can be changed to provide for more appropriate land uses in high-hazard areas.
- Update emergency operations and response plans – Emergency managers can identify high-risk areas for potential evacuation and low-risk areas for sheltering. Risk assessment information may show vulnerable areas, facilities, and infrastructure for which continuity of operations plans, continuity of government plans, and emergency operations plans would be essential.
- Inform the modification of development standards – Planners and public works officials can use information in this report to support the adjustment of development standards for certain locations.
- Identify mitigation projects – Planners and emergency managers can use this risk assessment to determine specific mitigation projects of interest. For example, a floodplain manager may identify critical facilities that need to be elevated or removed from the floodplain.

This Risk Report showcases risk assessments, which analyze how a hazard affects the built environment, population, and local economy, to identify mitigation actions and develop mitigation strategies.

The information in this Risk Report should be used to identify areas in need of mitigation projects and to support additional efforts to educate residents on the hazards that may affect them. The areas of greatest hazard impact are identified in the Areas of Mitigation Interest section of this report, which can serve as a starting point for identifying and prioritizing actions a community can take to reduce its risks.

About the FEMA Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Program

Flood risk is continually changing over time due to factors such as new building and development and weather patterns. The goal of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk MAP program is to work with federal, state, tribal, and local partners to identify and reduce flood risk across communities. These projects are conducted using watershed boundaries, bringing together multiple communities to identify broader mitigation actions and create consistency across the watershed. The program provides resources and support that are tailored to each community to help mitigate their risk and work towards a reduction in risk and future loss.

Through coordination and data sharing, the communities in the watershed work as partners in the mapping process. In addition to providing data, the communities can also provide insight into flooding issues and flood prevention within their areas. To prepare for a future study and assist in mitigation,

FEMA provides a number of data sources that include information from the community, such as the following:

- Areas of repeated flooding and insurance claims
- Future development plans
- Areas of low water crossings
- High water marks from recent flooding events
- Areas of evacuation during high water
- Master drainage plans, flood risk reduction projects, and large areas of fill placement
- Local flood studies
- Other flood risk information

For more information about ways communities can take action or take advantage of available resources, please review the attached appendices.

Part of the data that FEMA is providing communities during the Risk MAP process is Base Level Engineering (BLE) for select watersheds. BLE is a form of hydrologic and hydraulic modeling which, when completed, can provide modeled flood hazard data in existing Zone As or where no effective flood hazard zone has been designated. Knowing the extent of flooding during the 1-percent-annual-chance flooding event supports risk reduction efforts and supports more resilient community planning. Completed BLE data is provided to watershed communities for planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities, and to inform future flood study needs.

For information on BLE in the Lower St. Francis Watershed, see the Phase Zero: Investment section of this report.

About the Lower St. Francis Watershed

The Lower St. Francis Watershed (HUC 08020203) encompasses an area of approximately 3,024 square miles and extends across ten counties in Arkansas (Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Lee, Mississippi, Phillips, Poinsett, and St. Francis) and three counties in Missouri (Butler, Dunklin, and Stoddard) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas and southeast portion of Missouri between the St. Francis and Mississippi Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marion, Paragould, Trumann, and West Memphis. Smaller communities include Brookland, Earle, Osceola, and Piggott. The communities in the Lower St. Francis Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

The Lower St. Francis Watershed is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the east by Crowley's Ridge and on the west by the Mississippi River. The Lower St. Francis Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed.

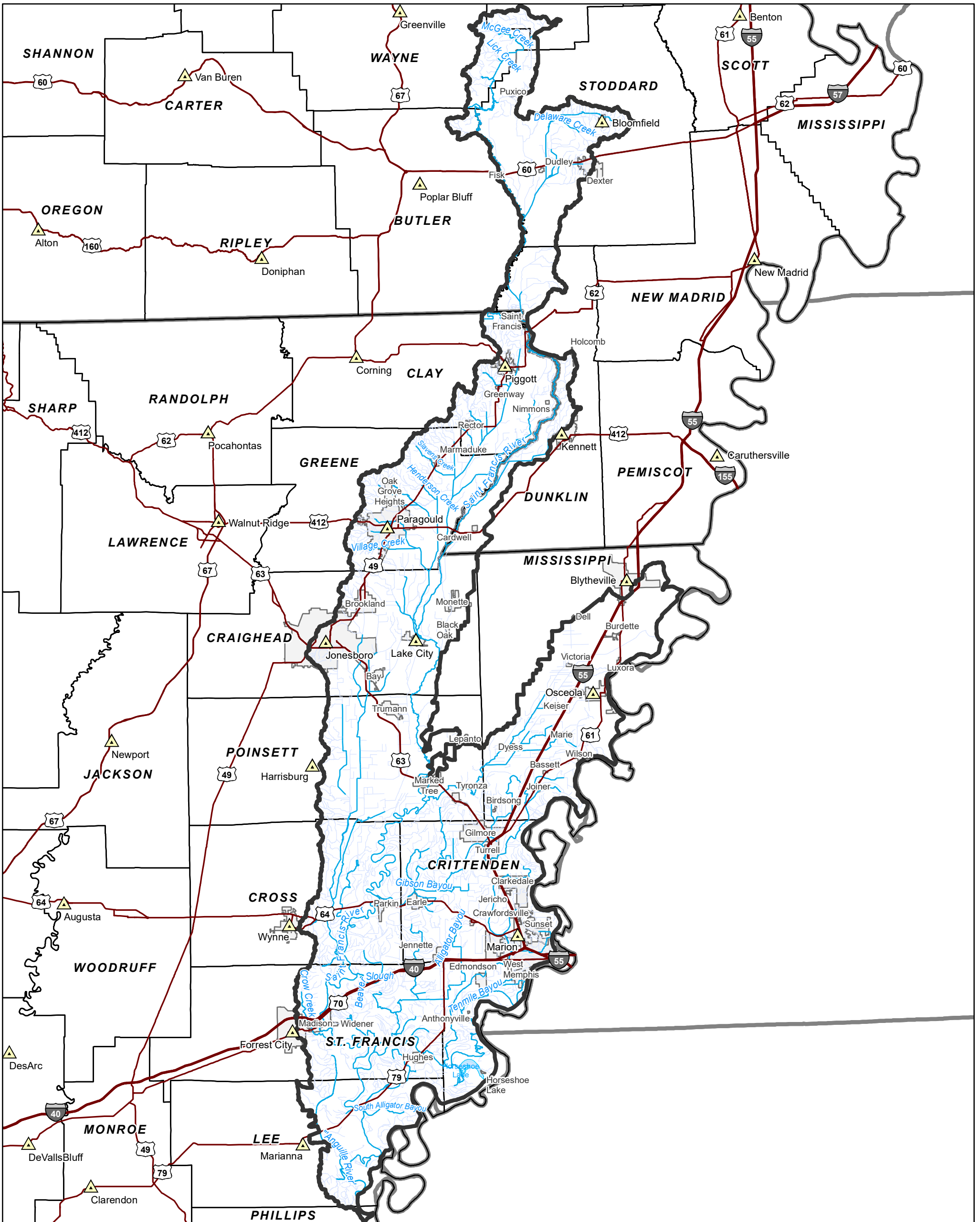
The Lower St. Francis River is a tributary of the Mississippi River. Its largest tributaries are Gibson Bayou and North Alligator Bayou. The Lower St. Francis River originates in southeast Missouri.

Table 1: NFIP Status of Project Area Communities.

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Arkansas Counties and Communities				
Clay	Clay County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050423	Yes	N/A
Clay	Greenway, City of	050031	Yes	N/A
Clay	Nimmons, Town of	050332	Yes	N/A
Clay	Piggott, City of ¹	050035	Yes	N/A
Clay	Rector, City of	050366	Yes	N/A
Clay	St. Francis, City of	050037	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050427	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Bay, City of	050045	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Black Oak, Town of	050389	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Brookland, City of	050047	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Jonesboro, City of	050048	Yes	8
Craighead	Lake City, City of	050049	Yes	N/A
Craighead	Monette, City of	050350	No	N/A
Crittenden	Crittenden County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050429	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Anthonyville, Town of	050512	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Clarkedale, Town of	050513	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Crawfordsville, City of	050317	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Earle, City of	050054	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Edmondson, Town of	050409	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Gilmore, Town of	050245	No	N/A
Crittenden	Horseshoe Lake, Town of	055057	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Jennette, Town of	050514	No	N/A
Crittenden	Jericho, Town of	050515	No	N/A
Crittenden	Marion, City of	050345	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	Sunset, Town of	050476	No	N/A
Crittenden	Turrell, City of	050370	Yes	N/A
Crittenden	West Memphis, City of	050055	Yes	7
Cross	Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050056	Yes	N/A
Cross	Parkin, City of	050059	Yes	N/A
Cross	Wynne, City of	050060	Yes	N/A
Greene	Greene County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050435	Yes	N/A
Greene	Oak Grove Heights, City of	050510	Yes	N/A
Greene	Paragould, City of	050085	Yes	N/A

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Arkansas Counties and Communities				
Lee	Lee County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050444	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Mississippi County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050452	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Bassett, Town of	050489	No	N/A
Mississippi	Birdsong, Town of	050516	No	N/A
Mississippi	Blytheville, City of ¹	050140	Yes	9
Mississippi	Burdette, Town of	050602	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Dell, Town of	050490	No	N/A
Mississippi	Dyess, Town of	050143	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Joiner, City of	050145	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Keiser, City of	050146	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Luxora, City of	050148	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Marie, Town of	050150	No	N/A
Mississippi	Osceola, City of	050151	Yes	N/A
Mississippi	Victoria, Town of	050491	No	N/A
Mississippi	Wilson, City of	050153	No	N/A
Phillips	Phillips County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050166	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050172	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Lepanto, City of ¹	050174	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Marked Tree, City of	050175	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Trumann, City of	050176	Yes	N/A
Poinsett	Tyronza, City of	050371	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹	050184	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Forrest City, City of ¹	050187	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Hughes, City of	050188	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Madison, City of	050189	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	St. Francis County ¹	050184	Yes	N/A
St. Francis	Widener, Town of	055023	No	N/A
Missouri Counties and Communities				
Bollinger	Bollinger County Unincorporated Areas ¹	290787	Yes	N/A
Butler	Butler County Unincorporated Areas ¹	290044	Yes	N/A
Butler	Fisk, City of	290045	Yes	N/A
Dunklin	Dunklin County Unincorporated Areas ¹	290122	Yes	N/A
Dunklin	Cardwell, City of	290125	Yes	N/A
Dunklin	Holcomb, City of	290127	Yes	N/A

County	Community Name	Community Identification Number (CID)	Participating Community?	CRS Rating
Missouri Counties and Communities				
Dunklin	Kennett, City of	290129	Yes	N/A
Stoddard	Stoddard County Unincorporated Areas ¹	290845	Yes	N/A
Stoddard	Bloomfield, City of	290423	Yes	N/A
Stoddard	Dexter, City of	290424	Yes	N/A
Stoddard	Dudley, City of	290615	Yes	N/A
Stoddard	Puxico, City of	290428	Yes	N/A
Wayne	Wayne County Unincorporated Areas ¹	290449	Yes	N/A
¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.				



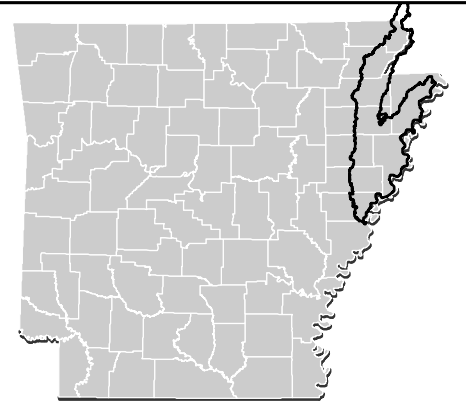
WATERSHED AND COMMUNITIES MAP

LOWER ST. FRANCIS
(HUC 08020203)



0 2.5 5
Miles

- County Seat
- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- City Limits
- County Boundary
- Major Reaches of Watershed
- Other Waters
- Large Waterbody
- Watershed



Project Location

FIGURE 1

DATE: 6/27/2017

Introduction

Flood Risk

Floods are naturally occurring phenomena that can and do happen almost anywhere. In its most basic form, a flood is an accumulation of water over normally dry area. Floods become hazardous to people and property when they inundate an area where development has occurred, causing losses. Mild flood losses may have little impact on people or property, such as damage to landscaping or the accumulation of unwanted debris. Severe flood losses can destroy buildings and crops and cause severe injuries or death.

Calculating Flood Risk

It is not enough to simply identify where flooding may occur. Even if people know where a flood might occur, they may not know the level of flood risk in that area. The most common method for determining flood risk, also referred to as vulnerability, is to identify both the probability and the consequences of flooding:

Flood Risk (or Vulnerability) = **Probability x Consequences**; where

Probability = the likelihood of occurrence

Consequences = the **estimated** impacts associated with the occurrence on life, property, and infrastructure

The probability of a flood is the likelihood that it will occur. The probability of flooding can change based on physical, environmental, and/or engineering factors. These factors will also have an effect on the area that is impacted by the flood, increasing or decreasing the size of the affected area. The ability to assess the probability of a flood, and the level of accuracy for that assessment, are also influenced by modeling methodology advancements, better knowledge, and longer periods of record for the water body in question.

The consequences of a flood are the estimated effects associated with its occurrence. Consequences relate to human activities within an area and how a flood affects the natural and built environment. It is important that individuals and communities have an accurate and current understanding of their risk because anyone can be vulnerable to flooding. Individuals that are located outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) file more than 20 percent of insurance claims and receive 1/3 of disaster assistance for flooding. Having an awareness of risk can allow communities and their residents to address the potential consequences. Understanding risk can also allow for long-term development planning, opportunities for revitalization efforts, and modifications in how interaction occurs with the existing risk.

FEMA relies heavily on information and data provided at a local level for a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) mitigation interest areas that may require more detailed engineering information than currently available, and (3) determine community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on evaluations of flood risk, data need, availability of elevation data, regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community supported mitigation projects,

and/or input from the federal, state, and local partners. The status of Discovery watersheds in Arkansas is shown in Figure 1.

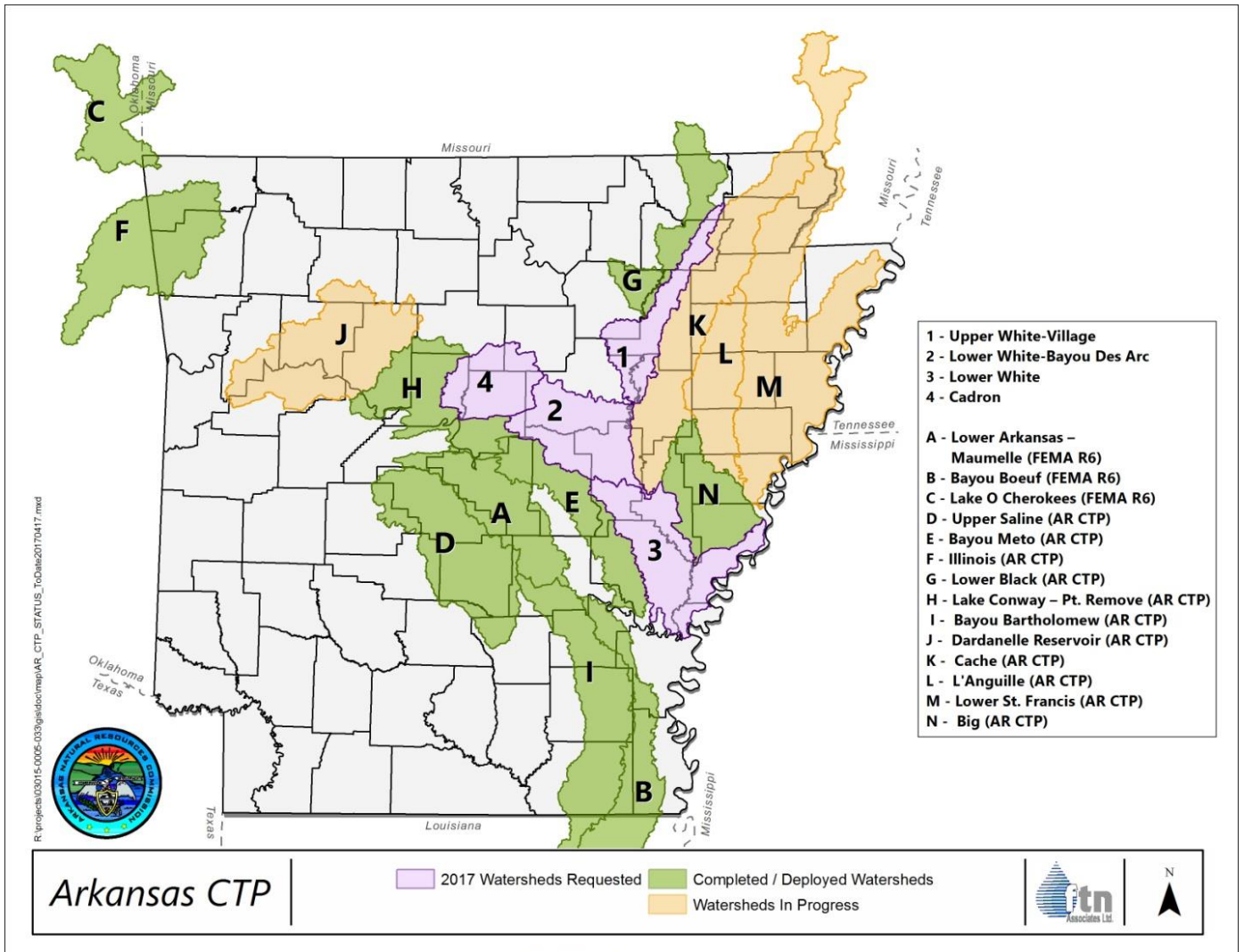


Figure 2. Arkansas CTP Discovery watershed status.

Watershed Basics

Background

The Lower St. Francis Watershed (HUC 08020203) encompasses an area of approximately 3,024 square miles and extends across ten counties in Arkansas (Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Lee, Mississippi, Phillips, Poinsett, and St. Francis) and three counties in Missouri (Butler, Dunklin, and Stoddard) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas and southeast portion of Missouri between the St. Francis and Mississippi Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marion, Paragould, Trumann, and West Memphis. Smaller communities include Brookland, Earle, Osceola, and Piggott. The communities in the Lower St. Francis Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

Population

According to the 2010 Census, the total population of the watershed is estimated to be 198,628 people. Populations for the counties that intersect the Lower St. Francis Watershed experienced an overall average population decrease of approximately 0.15 percent between the 2000 and 2010 censuses, although the largest population source, Craighead County, saw an average increase of approximate 1.6 percent. Since 2010, population growth has increased with the 2016 population estimate at 3.3 percent above the number reported in the 2010 census. Based on 2010 Census data, the major communities in the watershed, Jonesboro and West Memphis, had total populations of 67,627 (22,447 in the watershed) and 26,245, respectively in 2010 (see Table 2).

Watershed Land Use

The Lower St. Francis Watershed is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the west by Crowley’s Ridge and on the east by the Mississippi River. The Lower St. Francis Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels except for Crowley’s Ridge, a geological ridge formation that makes up the northwestern border of the watershed. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed.

Table 2: Population and Area Characteristics ³

Risk MAP Project	Total Population in Deployed Area (2010)	Average % Population Growth/Yr. (2000-2010)	Predicted Population * (by 2021)	Land Area (mi ²)	Developed Area	Open Water
LOWER ST. FRANCIS WATERSHED	198,628	-0.15%	490,275	3,024	3.3%	1.5%

³ Data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau; ESRI Demographic 5-year Projections; and National Land Cover Database

* Predicted Population by County, which may include areas outside of watershed.

National Flood Insurance Program Status and Regulation

In order to be a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), all interested communities must adopt and submit floodplain management ordinances that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP regulations. These regulations can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations and most of the community ordinance requirements are in Parts 59 and 60. The level of regulation depends on the level of information available and the flood hazards in the area. The levels are as follows:

- A: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not provided any maps or data – 60.3(a)
- B: Community has maps with approximate A zones – 60.3(b)
- C: Community has a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with Base Flood Elevations (BFE) – 60.3(c)
- D: Community has a FIRM with BFEs and floodways – 60.3(d)
- E: Community has a FIRM that shows coastal high hazard areas (V zones) – 60.3(e)

There are 50 communities in the watershed in Arkansas that participate in the NFIP. Of the 50 communities that participate, their level of regulations depend on the date of the effective mapping and if the community was modernized into a countywide format.

There are 12 incorporated communities in the Arkansas portion of the Lower St. Francis Watershed that are not participating in the NFIP. This means that they are not required to follow FEMA regulations; however, certain opportunities such as federal flood insurance and some forms of federal disaster assistance are not available to the residents of those areas.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

State and local governments must develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans in order to be eligible for certain types of funding. To remain eligible, communities need to update and resubmit their plans every 5 years for FEMA approval. Hazard mitigation plans are created to increase education and awareness, identify strategies for risk reduction, and identify other ways to develop long-term strategies to reduce risk and protect people and property. Two of the counties in Arkansas in the Lower St. Francis Watershed have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are complete. Lee County does not have a Hazard Mitigation Plan. Seven counties in Arkansas have plans that are in progress. The plans effectively allow for FEMA to assess hazards identified through local, state, and federal partnerships and mitigation action items that communities have identified.

Community Rating System

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive-based program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that communities undertake in addition to the minimum requirements they must meet when joining the NFIP. Individuals that carry flood insurance in a community that participates in the CRS program can receive a discount on their flood insurance premium. Discounts can range from 5 to 45 percent. Three communities of the 50 Arkansas communities participating in the NFIP are participating in the CRS program. The City of West Memphis is currently rated a class 7 and therefore structures located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 15-percent premium discount. The City of Jonesboro is currently rated a class 8 and therefore structures located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 10-percent premium discount. The City of Blytheville is currently rated at a class 9 and therefore structures

located both inside and outside of the SFHA are eligible for a 5-percent premium discount. Table 3 depicts NFIP and CRS participation status and provides an overview of the effective flood data availability.

Table 3: NFIP and CRS Participation for Communities in Arkansas⁴

Risk MAP Project	Participating NFIP Communities/ Total Communities	Number of CRS Communities	CRS Rating Class Range	Average Years since FIRM Update (Range 1980-2011)	Level of Regulations (44 CFR 60.3)
LOWER ST. FRANCIS WATERSHED	50/60	3	7-9	10.8	CFR 60.3 (a), CFR 60.3 (b), CFR 60.3 (c), CFR 60.3 (d)

⁴ Data obtained from the FEMA Community Information System

Dams and Levees

As recorded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the National Inventory of Dams, 17 dams are within the portion of the counties that make up the Lower St. Francis Watershed. The owners and operators of the 5 dams considered high hazard are required to develop and maintain Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to reduce the risk of loss of life and property if the dam fails. Table 4 provides the characteristics of the dams identified in the project area.

There are multiple levees within the watershed that are associated with the St. Francis River and the Mississippi River. Some are accredited while the majority is not for one reason or another. Table 5 provides the characteristics of the levees identified in the project area.

Table 4: Risk MAP Project Dam Characteristics⁵

Risk MAP Project	Total Number of Identified Dams	Number of Dams			Number of Dams Requiring EAP	Percentage of Dams without EAP (Total)	Average Years since Inspection	Average Storage (acre-feet)
		High Hazard	Significant Hazard	Low Hazard				
LOWER ST. FRANCIS WATERSHED	17	5	5	7	5	82.4%	20+	620

⁵ Data obtained from the ANRC State Database and USACE National Inventory of Dams

Table 5: Risk MAP Project Levee Characteristics⁶

Levee Segment Name	Levee System Name	Flooding Source	Authorization Type	Length	USACE Inspection Rating
Big Lake, Oak Donnicks and St. Francis East Levee	Big Lake and St. Francis Floodway East System	St. Francis River	USACE Constructed & Maintained	122.47	Minimally Acceptable
MO-AR Line to Mouth of St. Francis River @ MS River Levee - 46/49+60 to 218/0+00	Commerce MO - St. Francis River System	Mississippi River	USACE Constructed & Maintained	156.55	Minimally Acceptable
Inter-River Levee	Inter-River Levee System	St. Francis River	USACE Constructed & Maintained	31.13	N/A
Ditch 81 - Right Bank	St. Francis East to Big Lake West System	St. Francis River	USACE Constructed & Maintained	2.56	Unacceptable
SF River LB and RHC Little River RB in AR			USACE Constructed & Maintained	61.45	Unacceptable
St. Francis River Levee, Left Bank 0/5+00 to 15/11+00			USACE Constructed & Maintained	15.01	Unacceptable
St. Francis River Levee, Left Bank 15/11+66 to 31/42+25			USACE Constructed & Maintained	16.86	Unacceptable
St. Francis River Levee, Left Bank 26/50+00 to 43/43+00			USACE Constructed & Maintained	16.87	Unacceptable
Eight Mile Creek Levee, Right Bank 43/28+00 to 45/24+00			West Bank St. Francis Floodway System	St. Francis River	USACE Constructed & Maintained
SF River WB in Craighead, Poinsett & Cross Counties	USACE Constructed & Maintained	63.1			Unacceptable
St. Francis City Levee	USACE Constructed & Maintained	1.5			Unacceptable
St. Francis River Levee, Right Bank 1/44+72 to 38/23+33	USACE Constructed & Maintained	44.22			Unacceptable
St. Francis River Levee, Right Bank 38/23+33 to 45/13+00	USACE Constructed & Maintained	6.94			Unacceptable

⁶ Data obtained from the USACE National Levee Inventory

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The average age of the effective FIRMs within the Lower St. Francis Watershed is over 10 years. The oldest effective maps are for the City of Wynne, which are 37 years old and have an effective date of August 15, 1980. The newest FIRMs are dated August 3, 2016, for Clay County.

Project Phases and Map Maintenance

Background

FEMA manages several risk analysis programs, including Flood Hazard Mapping, National Dam Safety, the Earthquake Safety Program, Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning, and the Risk Assessment Program, all of which assess the impact of natural hazards and lead to effective strategies for reducing risk. These programs support the Department of Homeland Security's objective to "strengthen nationwide preparedness and mitigation against natural disasters."

Flood-related damage between 1980 and 2013 totaled \$260 billion, but the total impact to our Nation was far greater—more people lose their lives annually from flooding than any other natural hazard.

FEMA, "Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)" (2015)

FEMA manages the NFIP, which is the cornerstone of the national strategy for preparing American communities for flood hazards. In the nation's comprehensive emergency management framework, the analysis and awareness of natural hazard risk remains challenging. A consistent risk-based assessment approach and a robust communication system are critical tools to ensure a community's ability to make informed risk management decisions and take mitigation actions. Flood hazard mapping is a basic and vital component for a prepared and resilient nation.

In Fiscal Year 2009, FEMA's Risk MAP program began to synergize the efforts of federal, state, and local partners to create timely, viable, and credible information identifying natural hazard risks. The intent of the Risk MAP program is to share resources to identify the natural hazard risks a community faces and ascertain possible approaches to minimizing them. Risk MAP aims to provide technically sound flood hazard information to be used in the following ways:

- To update the regulatory flood hazard inventory depicted on FIRMs and the National Flood Hazard Layer
- To provide broad releases of data to expand the identification of flood risk (flood depth grids, water-surface elevation grids, etc.)
- To support sound local floodplain management decisions
- To identify opportunities to mitigate long-term risk across the nation's watersheds

How are FEMA's Flood Hazard Maps Maintained?

FEMA's flood hazard inventory is updated through several types of revisions.

Community-submitted Letters of Map Change. First and foremost, FEMA relies heavily on the local communities that participate in the NFIP to carry out the program's minimum requirements. These requirements include the obligation for communities to notify FEMA of changing flood hazard information and to submit the technical support data needed to update the FIRMs.

Under the current minimum NFIP regulations, a participating community commits to notifying FEMA if changes take place that will affect an effective FIRM no later than 6 months after project completion.

Section 65.3, Code of Federal Regulations

Although revisions may be requested at any time to change information on a FIRM, FEMA generally will not revise an effective map unless the changes involve modifications to SFHAs. Be aware that the best floodplain management practices and proper assessments of risk result when the flood hazard maps present information that accurately reflects current conditions.

Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs). The scale of an effective FIRM does not always provide the information required for a site-specific analysis of a property's flood risk. FEMA's LOMA process provides homeowners with an official determination on the relation of their lot or structure to the SFHA. Requesting a LOMA may require a homeowner to work with a surveyor or engineering professional to collect site-specific information related to the structure's elevation; it may also require the determination of a site-specific BFE. Fees are associated with collecting the survey data and developing a site-specific BFE. Local surveying and engineering professionals usually provide an Elevation Certificate to the homeowner, who can use it to request a LOMA. A successful LOMA may remove the federal mandatory purchase requirement for flood insurance, but lending companies may still require flood insurance if they believe the structure is at risk.

FEMA-Initiated Flood Risk Project. Each year, FEMA initiates a number of Flood Risk Projects to create or revise flood hazard maps. Because of funding constraints, FEMA can study or restudy only a limited number of communities, counties, or watersheds each year. As a result, FEMA prioritizes study needs based on a cost-benefit approach whereby the highest priority is given to studies of areas where development has increased and the existing flood hazard data has been superseded by information based on newer technology or changes to the flooding extent. FEMA understands communities require products that reflect current flood hazard conditions to best communicate risk and implement effective floodplain management.

Flood Risk Projects may be delivered by FEMA or one of its Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs). The CTP initiative is an innovative program created to foster partnerships between FEMA and participating NFIP communities, as well as regional and state agencies. Qualified partners collaborate in maintaining up-to-date flood maps. In FEMA Region 6, which includes the State of Arkansas, CTPs are generally statewide agencies that house the State Floodplain Administrator. However, some Region 6 CTPs are also large River Authorities or Flood Control Districts. They provide enhanced coordination with local, state, and federal entities, engage community officials and technical staff, and provide updated technical information that informs the national flood hazard inventory.

Risk MAP has modified FEMA's project investment strategy from a single investment by fiscal year to a multi-year phased investment, which allows the Agency to be more flexible and responsive to the findings of the project as it moves through the project lifecycle. Flood Risk Projects are funded and completed in phases.

General Flood Risk Project Phases

Each phase of the Flood Risk Project provides both FEMA and its partner communities with an opportunity to discuss the data that has been collected and to determine a path forward. Local engagement throughout each phase enhances the opportunities for partnership, furthers the discussion on current and future risk, and helps identify local projects and activities to reduce long-term natural hazard risk.

Flood Risk Projects may be funded for one or more of the following phases:

- Phase Zero – Investment
- Phase One – Discovery
- Phase Two – Risk Identification and Assessment
- Phase Three – Regulatory Product Update

Local input is critical throughout each phase of a Flood Risk Project. More details about the tasks and objectives of each phase are included below.

Phase Zero: Investment

Phase Zero of a Flood Risk Project initiates FEMA’s review and assessment of the inventories of flood hazards and other natural hazards within a watershed area. During the Investment Phase, FEMA reviews the availability of information to assess the current floodplain inventory. FEMA maintains several data systems to perform watershed assessments and selects watersheds for a deeper review of available data and potential investment tasks based on the following factors:

Availability of High-Quality Ground Elevation Data. FEMA reviews readily available and recently acquired ground elevation data. This information helps identify development and earth-moving activities near streams and rivers. Where necessary, FEMA may partner with local, state, and other federal entities to collect necessary ground elevation information within a watershed.



If [high-quality ground elevation data](#) is both available for a watershed area and compliant with FEMA’s quality requirements, FEMA and its mapping partners may prepare engineering data to assess, revise, replace, or add to the current flood hazard inventory.

Mile Validation Status within Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS). FEMA uses the CNMS database to track the validity of the flood hazard information prepared for the NFIP. The CNMS database reviews 17 criteria to determine whether the flood hazard information shown on the current FIRM is still valid.



Communities may also inform and request a review or update of the inventory through the CNMS website at <https://msc.fema.gov/cnms/>. The [CNMS Tool Tutorial](#) provides an overview of the online tool and explains how to submit requests.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Reviewing current and historic hazard mitigation plans provides an understanding of a community’s comprehension of its flood risk and other natural hazard risks. The mitigation strategies within a local hazard mitigation plan provide a lens to local opportunities and underscore a potential for local adoption of higher standards related to development or other actions to reduce long-term risk.

Cooperating Technical Partner State Business Plans. In some states, a CTP generates an annual state business plan that identifies future Flood Risk Project areas that are of interest to the state. The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission works to develop user-friendly data. In this project area, FEMA has worked closely with ANRC to develop the project scope and determine the necessary project tasks.



Communities that have identified local issues are encouraged to indicate their data needs and revision requests to the State CTP so that they can be prioritized and included in the State Business Plans.

Possible Investment Tasks. After a review of the data available within a watershed, FEMA may choose to (1) purchase ground elevation data and/or (2) create some initial engineering modeling against which to compare the current inventory, also known as Base Level Engineering (BLE) modeling.

Phase One: Discovery

Phase One, the Discovery Phase, provides opportunities both internally (between the state and FEMA) and externally (with communities and other partners interested in flood potential) to discuss local issues with flooding and examine possibilities for mitigation action. This effort is made to determine where communities currently are with their examination of natural hazard risk throughout their community and to identify how state and federal support can assist communities in achieving their goals.



The Discovery process includes an opportunity for local communities to provide information about their concerns related to natural hazard risks. Communities may continue to inform the project identification effort by providing previously prepared survey data, as-built stream crossing information, and engineering information.

For a holistic community approach to risk identification and mapping, FEMA relies heavily on the information and data provided at the local level. Flood Risk Projects are focused on identifying (1) areas where the current flood hazard inventory does not provide adequate detail to support local floodplain management activities, (2) areas of mitigation interest that may require more detailed engineering information than is currently available, and (3) community intent to reduce the risk throughout the watershed to assist FEMA's future investment in these project areas. Watersheds are selected for Discovery based on these evaluations of flood risk, data needs, availability of elevation data, Regional knowledge of technical issues, identification of a community-supported mitigation project, and input from federal, state, and local partners.

Possible Discovery Tasks. Discovery may include a mix of interactive webinar sessions, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Data collection, interviews, and interaction with community staff and data-mining activities provide the basis for watershed-, community-, and stream-level reviews to determine potential projects that may benefit the communities. A range of analysis approaches are available to determine the extent of flood risk along streams of concern. FEMA and its mapping partners will work closely with communities to determine the appropriate analysis approach, based on the data needs throughout the community. These potential projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities wanting to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

Phase Two (Risk Identification and Assessment) continues the risk awareness discussion with communities through watershed analysis and assessment. Analyses are prepared to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project watershed. The new or updated analysis provides an opportunity to identify how development has affected the amount of stormwater generated during a range of storm probabilities and shows how effectively stormwater is transported through communities in the watershed.



Coordination with a community's technical staff during engineering and model development allows FEMA and its mapping partners to include local knowledge, based on actual on-the-ground experience, when selecting modeling parameters.

The information prepared and released during Phase Two is intended to promote better local understanding of the existing flood risk by allowing community officials to review the variability of the risk throughout their community. As FEMA strives to support community-identified mitigation actions, it also looks to increase the effectiveness of community floodplain management and planning practices, including local hazard mitigation planning, participation in the NFIP, use of actions identified in the CRS Manual, risk reduction strategies for repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties, and the adoption of stricter standards and building codes.



FEMA is eager to work closely with communities and technical staff to determine the current flood risk in the watershed. During the Risk Identification and Assessment phase, FEMA would like to be alerted to any community concerns related to the floodplain mapping and analysis approaches being taken. During this phase, FEMA can engage with communities and review the analysis and results in depth.

Possible Risk Identification and Assessment Tasks. Phase Two may include a mixture of interactive webinars, conference calls, informational tutorials, and in-person meetings to reach out to and engage with communities for input. Flood Risk Project tasks may include hydrologic or hydraulic engineering analysis and modeling, floodplain mapping, risk assessments using Hazus-Multi Hazard software, and preparation of flood risk datasets (water-surface elevation, flood depth, or other analysis grids). Additionally, projects may include local training sessions, data development activities, outreach support to local communities that want to step up their efforts, or the development of flood risk datasets within areas of concern to allow a more in-depth discussion of risk.

Phase Three: Regulatory Products Update

If the analysis prepared in the previous Flood Risk Project phases indicates that physical or meteorological changes in the watershed have significantly changed the flood risk since the last FIRM was printed, FEMA will initiate the update of the regulatory products that communities use for local floodplain management and NFIP activities.

Delivery of the preliminary FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report begins another period of coordination between community officials and FEMA to discuss the required statutory and regulatory steps both parties will perform before the preliminary FIRM and FIS report can become effective. As in the previous phases, FEMA and its mapping partners will engage with communities through a variety of conference calls, webinars, and in-person meetings.



Once the preliminary FIRMs are prepared and released to communities, FEMA will initiate the statutory portions of the regulatory product update. FEMA will coordinate a Consultation Coordination Officer meeting and initiate a 90-day comment and appeal period. During this appeal period, local developers and residents may coordinate the submittal of their comments and appeals through their community officials to FEMA for review and consideration.

FEMA welcomes this information because additional proven scientific and technical information increases the accuracy of the mapping products and better reflects the community's flood hazards identified on the FIRMs.



Communities may host or hold Open House meetings for the public. The Open House layout allows attendees to move at their own pace through several stations, collecting information in their own time. This format allows residents to receive one-on-one assistance and ask questions pertinent to their situations or their interests in risk or flood insurance information.

All appeals and comments received during the statutory 90-day Appeal Period, including the community's written opinion, will be reviewed by FEMA to determine the validity of the appeal. Once FEMA issues the appeal resolution, the associated community and all appellants will receive an appeal resolution letter and FEMA will revise the preliminary FIRM if warranted. A 30-day period is provided for review and comment on successful appeals. Once all appeals and comments are resolved, the flood map is ready to be finalized.



After the Appeal Period, FEMA will send community leaders a Letter of Final Determination stating that the preliminary FIRM will become effective in 6 months. The letter also discusses the actions each affected community participating in the NFIP must take to remain in good standing in the NFIP.

After the preceding steps are complete and the 6-month compliance period ends, the FIRMs are considered effective maps and new building and flood insurance requirements become effective.

That is a brief general overview of a Flood Risk Project. Next, the Flood Risk Report will provide details on the efforts in the Lower St. Francis Watershed.

Phase Zero: Investment

The Lower St. Francis Watershed (HUC 08020203) encompasses an area of approximately 3,024 square miles and extends across ten counties in Arkansas (Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Lee, Mississippi, Phillips, Poinsett, and St. Francis) and three counties in Missouri (Butler, Dunklin, and Stoddard) in the northeastern portion of Arkansas and southeast portion of Missouri between the St. Francis and Mississippi Rivers. The major communities in the watershed include portions of the cities of Forrest City, Jonesboro, Marion, Paragould, Trumann, and West Memphis. Smaller communities include Brookland, Earle, Osceola, and Piggott. The communities in the Lower St. Francis Watershed and their NFIP status are listed in Table 1. The watershed and its communities are shown on Figure 2.

The Lower St. Francis Watershed is located in northeastern Arkansas bounded on the east by Crowley's Ridge and on the west by the Mississippi River. The Lower St. Francis Watershed consists of flat, low-lying areas with numerous interconnected channels. During past events, local communities have experienced flooding issues, some of which are due to localized development in and around the floodplain and while other issues are due to the nature of the watershed.

The Lower St. Francis River is a tributary of the Mississippi River. Its largest tributaries are Gibson Bayou, Little River, and North Alligator Bayou. The Lower St. Francis River originates in southeast Missouri.

Area of Interest Selection Factors

A number of factors and criteria are reviewed for watershed selection: flood risk, age of current flood hazard data, population growth trends and potential for growth, recent flood claims, and disaster declaration history. Local data and high quality ground elevation data availability are reviewed for use in flood hazard data preparation. The Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) database is reviewed to identify areas of large unknown and unverified mileage. The Arkansas CTP, State NFIP Coordinator, and State Hazard Mitigation Officer coordinate to identify watersheds for study by FEMA.

The Lower St. Francis Watershed was selected by the Arkansas CTP in coordination with FEMA Region 6, for the reasons summarized below.

- Topographic data developed from a Light Detection and Ranging System (LiDAR) is available throughout the watershed aiding in providing quality data.
- Within the State of Arkansas, losses in the watershed have exceeded \$22.8 million from 1978 through 2017, and there are approximately 1,680 policies. These reported values include entire counties which may or may not be wholly located in the watershed.
- Cross and Lee Counties are the only counties not considered modernized. Craighead and Cross Counties have Preliminary FIRM maps dated 01/29/2010 and 06/26/2009, respectively. Mississippi, Phillips, and St. Francis Counties have countywide maps, but they are older. All of these studies were completed without quality topographic data.
- Since 2001, the Lower St. Francis Watershed has had declared federal disasters in every year except 2004, 2007, 2012, and 2013.
- The communities of Blytheville, Jonesboro, Lepanto, Marked Tree, Marion, Paragould, Trumann, West Memphis, Wynne, Crittenden County, Cross County, and Poinsett County

have multiple claims listed as BCX Claims, which are claims that occur outside the mapped floodplain. This indicates the need for additional review to determine if the effective maps are in need of update.

- Two of the ten counties in the watershed have Hazard Mitigation Plans that are approved. Seven counties have Plans that are in progress. Lee County does not have a Plan.

Flood Risk: The Lower St. Francis River and its tributaries are not strangers to flood events, with a historical record of numerous flooding events. The Lower St. Francis Watershed has historically flooded and has experienced major flooding as recently as January 2016 on its tributaries as well as the Lower St. Francis River. The recent major floods in every year since 2001, except 2004, 2007, and 2012, have illustrated the ongoing flood threat for the Lower St. Francis Watershed.

Growth Potential: Although the Lower St. Francis Watershed is largely rural in nature; it is undergoing urbanization along the Interstates 40 and 55 and US Highway 63 corridors. These locations include the areas around the cities of Jonesboro, Forrest City, and West Memphis.

Age of Current Flood Information: Cross and Lee Counties are the only counties not considered modernized. Craighead and Cross Counties have Preliminary FIRM maps dated 01/29/2010 and 06/26/2009, respectively. Mississippi, Phillips, and St. Francis Counties have countywide maps, but they are older. All of these studies were completed without quality topographic data.

Local Data Availability. The City of Jonesboro has undertaken large studies to improve drainage throughout the City. The first phase of this study was completed in 2015 with another expected to start in 2016. These studies are to provide drainage improvement concepts and plans to help alleviate future flooding events.

Additionally, Craighead County and its communities are undergoing a Phase 2 Risk Identification and Assessment project, which is currently being performed by the Arkansas CTP.

Availability of High Quality Ground Elevation Data. As a result of FEMA's efforts in teaming with other federal and state agencies, high quality ground elevation data was available for the Lower St. Francis Watershed. This data provides a great basis for hydrologic and hydraulic modeling preparation. The source and date of LiDAR coverage is included in Table 5.

Table 6. Summary of Topographic Data

Collection	Beginning and End Points of Topo Data Collection	New/Existing OR Leveraged	Accuracy & Year Acquired	Source/ Data Vendor	Contact Information	Use Restrictions
2014 AR-MO LIDAR Project	2013 - 2015	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	USACE – St. Louis District	None
2014 Cape Girardeau-Stoddard Co. LIDAR Project	2013 - 2014	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	The National Map / Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2014 Stoddard-Mississippi Co. LIDAR Project	2014 - 2015	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	The National Map / Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2016 USACE MVS MO LIDAR Project (Butler & Ripley Cos.)	2016	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2009 Duck Creek LIDAR Project	2009	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	The National Map / Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2012 Upper Black LIDAR Project	2012	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	The National Map	None
2013 Lower St. Francis LIDAR Project	2013	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	Arkansas GIS Office	None
2012 Dunklin County LIDAR Project	01/2012	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	The National Map / Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2012 Wappapello datasets LIDAR Project	2012	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	None
2012 FEMA/USGS Lower St. Francis River	04/2012 – 05/2012	Existing	QL3 (Vert. Acc. 11.8 cm)	Public domain	Arkansas GIS Office	None
2011 L'Anguille Watershed Area	03/2011 – 04/2011	Existing	QL2 (Vert. Acc. 9.25 cm)	Public domain	Arkansas GIS Office	None
USGS 1/3 arc-second	N/A	Existing	Unknown	Public domain	The National Map	None

Coordinated Needs Management Strategy Database Review: Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) Database Review

The CNMS database indicates the validity of FEMA’s flood hazard inventory. Streams that are indicated as *Unverified* or *Unknown* in the database indicate that the information that developed the floodplain currently shown on the FIRMs is inaccessible or that a complete evaluation of the Critical and Secondary CNMS elements could not be performed. The Lower St. Francis Watershed stream coverage is not homogenous across the counties that intersect the basin. The H&H analysis behind majority of the basin flood hazard information is dated and in need of an update. The current inventory within the watershed is approximately 3,750 miles. Of this mileage 768 miles is currently considered valid, mainly due to modernized inventory. The remaining mileage is a mixture of unverified and unknown mileage indicating that more than 79.5% of the existing inventory may require further review.

Unmapped Stream Coverage: FEMA and the Arkansas CTP also review the current stream coverage and compare the coverage against detailed terrain streams

contributing up to 1 square mile drainage area or [National Hydrography Dataset \(NHD\)](#). The detailed terrain streams and NHD high resolution data inventoried by the US Geological Survey (USGS) Maps created at a 1:24,000 scale is used to review the water courses within the HUC8s of concern. The watershed as a whole is reviewed for additional mileage to be inventoried. The intent of this review is to identify streams and water courses where additional study may be required or to create a complete stream network for Base Level Engineering data preparation.

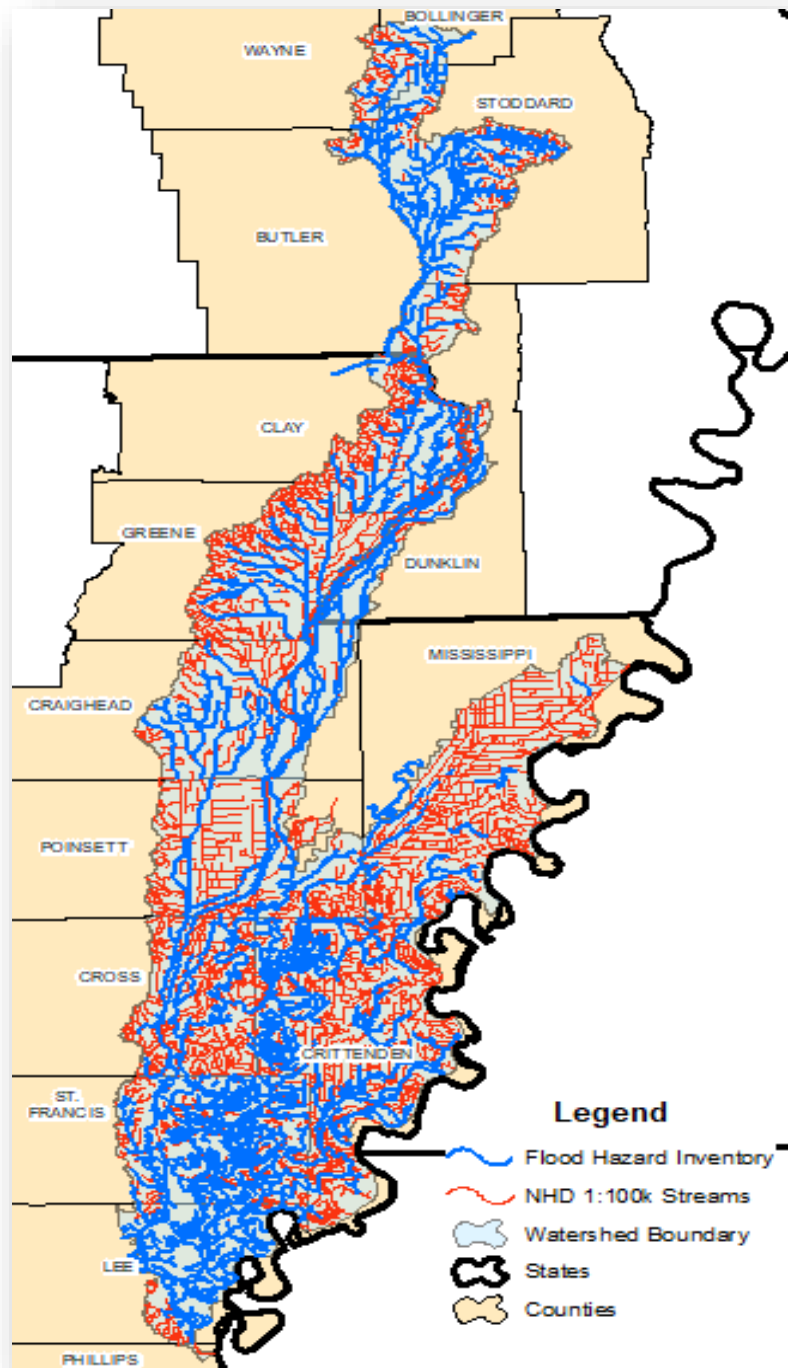


Figure 3. Flood Hazard Inventory

Base Level Engineering

The Arkansas CTP is coordinating with FEMA on Base Level Engineering (BLE). This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area.

Base Level Engineering provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared in the Base Level Engineering approach provides planning level data which is prepared to meet FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping.

FEMA Investment (2016). In Fiscal Year 2016, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP initiated Base Level Engineering on the Lower St. Francis HUC8 sub basin. Figure 4 shows the network of streams that is being analyzed using the Base Level Engineering approach. The Base Level Engineering approach will provide the following items for use in the Lower St. Francis Watershed:

- Hydrologic rain on grid modeling for 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1-%, 1+%, and 0.2% storm events
- Hydraulic (HEC-RAS 4.1.0) modeling for all study streams using 1-Dimensional (1D) modeling techniques, and hydraulic (HEC-RAS 5.0.3) modeling for all study streams using 2-Dimensional (2D) modeling techniques.
- Floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation grids, and Flood Depth Grids for all modeled storm events.
- Approximate Mapping Change layer to distinguish areas of changes between BLE and effective mapping for 1% storm event.
- Hazus flood analysis for watershed.

The Base Level Engineering approach will

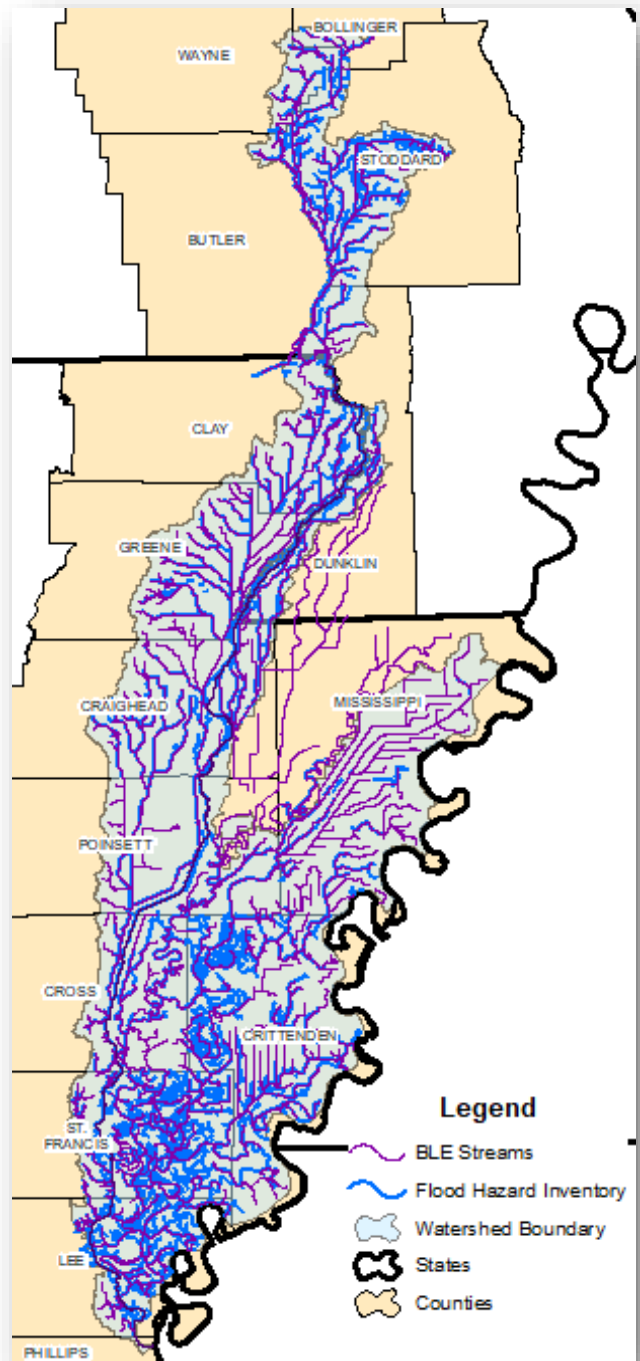


Figure 4. Base Level Engineering Study Streams

prepare flood hazard information for approximately 3,195 miles which reduces 555 stream miles in total but adds more detailed flood hazard information for communities throughout the basin. Once completed the Base Level Engineering information will be provided to the communities throughout the basin for planning, risk communication, floodplain management and permitting activities.

Creating BLE data is a cost effective way to provide communities with updated information on their flood risk. BLE provides an opportunity for FEMA to produce and provide non-regulatory flood risk information for a large watershed area in a much shorter period of time. The data prepared through BLE provides planning-level data that meets FEMA's Standards for Floodplain Mapping. This approach prepares multi-profile hydrologic (how much water) and hydraulic (how is water conveyed in existing drainage) data for a large stream network or river basin to generate floodplain and other flood risk information for the basin area. To create the BLE data, the best available information was utilized. This information included terrain data, flood discharges, and hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

CNMS Validation and Assessment. FEMA has compared the BLE results to the current flood hazard inventory identified in the CNMS database. This assessment allows FEMA to compare the updated flood hazard information to the current effective floodplain mapping of the watershed communities. BLE results for Zone A Validation denoted no miles to be New, Validated, or Updated Engineering (NVUE) compliant.

Community Coordination. FEMA will share the BLE results with communities throughout the project area. Access to workshops and training to support the use of BLE for planning, floodplain management, permitting, and risk communication activities will be made publicly available to communities and other interested parties. FEMA will work with communities to review, interpret, and incorporate the BLE information into their daily and future community management and planning activities.

Follow-On Phase Project Decisions. The BLE results and the current inventory have been compared to identify any areas of significant change. If the results show large areas of change (expansions and contractions of the floodplain, increases and decreases of the computed BFEs, and increases in expected flow values), FEMA will continue to coordinate with the communities to identify the streams that should be considered if the FIRMs are updated.

To identify other streams for future refinement, community growth patterns and potential growth corridors should be discussed with FEMA. These areas of expected community growth and development may benefit from updated flood hazard information. BLE can be further refined to provide detailed study information for a FIRM update.

Areas of communities that were developed prior to 1970 (pre-FIRM areas) may include repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties. They may also be areas where redevelopment is likely to occur. Having updated flood hazard information before redevelopment and reconstruction activities take place may benefit communities by providing guidance to mitigate future risk.



FEMA and the Arkansas CTP will work with communities following the delivery of Base Level Engineering to identify a sub set of streams for update and inclusion on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps, if required. Communities may wish to review the possible areas and provide feedback once the BLE data has been received. Base Level Engineering information may be refined by local communities and submitted through the Letter of Map Revision process to refine existing flood hazard information and maintain the Flood Insurance Rate Maps throughout their community.

Phase One: Discovery

Pre-Discovery

As part of the CTP partnership, the ANRC and its contractor, FTN Associates, Ltd. (FTN), began the Discovery process in the Lower St. Francis Watershed (08020205) in October 2016 to gather local information and readily available data to determine project viability and the need for Risk MAP products to assist in the movement of communities towards resilience. The watershed location can be seen on Figure 2.

Through the Discovery process, FEMA and the Arkansas CTP can determine which areas of the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 (HUC-8) watersheds may be examined for further flood risk identification and assessment in a collaborative manner, taking into consideration the information collected from local communities during this process. Discovery initiates open lines of communication and relies on local involvement for productive discussions about flood risk. The process provides a forum for a watershed-wide effort to understand how the included watershed community's flood risks are related to flood risk throughout the watershed. In Risk MAP, projects are analyzed on a watershed basis, so Discovery Meetings target numerous stakeholders from throughout the watershed on local, regional, State, and Federal levels.

Discovery Meeting

In July 12 and July 13, 2017, the Arkansas CTP held Discovery Meetings in this watershed to discuss the Discovery process and where the communities can go from there with future studies. The Discovery meeting provided an opportunity to present the BLE results to the communities and how they could be used for future planning, risk communication, floodplain management, and permitting activities. At the meeting the communities were provided with digital copies of this Flood Risk Report, the modeling files for all of the BLE studied streams, including the floodplain boundaries, Water Surface Elevation Grids, and Flood Depth Grids, and a short tutorial on the use of the BLE products.

The results of the Discovery process was presented as part of this Flood Risk Report, a watershed scale Discovery Map and the digital data that was gathered or developed under the fiscal year 2016 CTP Agreement, EMW-2015-CA-00143, Mapping Activity Statement (MAS) 16, between FEMA and the Arkansas CTP. During Discovery, the Arkansas CTP and FEMA reached out to local communities to:

- Gather information about local flood risk and flood hazards;
- Obtain and ultimately review current and historic mitigation plans to understand local mitigation capabilities, hazard risk assessments, and current or future mitigation activities; and
- Include multi-disciplinary staff from within each community to participate and assist in the development of a watershed vision.

This document includes the portion of the Flood Risk Report that describes the Discovery process and provides the results to the watershed communities. The digital data submitted with this report contains correspondence, exhibits to be used at the Discovery meetings, GIS data, mapping documents (PDF, shapefiles, personal geodatabases and ESRI ArcGIS 10.x Map Exchange Documents [MXDs]), or other supplemental information. Graphics in this Pre-Discovery report are available as larger format graphics files for printing and as GIS data that may be printed and used at any map scale.

Watershed Findings

Engineering review of community comments:

At the Discovery meeting, Risk MAP Action Surveys were provided to each community in attendance so that general information and concerns about each community could be provided back to the Arkansas CTP. For those that did not attend the Discovery Meeting, Risk MAP Action Surveys were distributed via mail to the leaders of each community, with additional notices being distributed to secondary points of contact. Out of the 60 communities located within the watershed in Arkansas, only 10 were returned for engineering review. From the information provided, most communities are very proactive with purchasing equipment and improving structures to address localized drainage needs. A brief summary of the findings is summarized below:

As part of a the BLE projects associated with this watershed, it is noted that the effective mapping in many areas does not reflect what the BLE mapping is showing. It appears from review of the BLE mapping, it would be beneficial to the communities in areas that have not been modernized to be updated with the better information.

Poinsett County has performed localized maintenance (improve structures, clean ditches, remove debris) to improve local drainage. Additionally, they have identified an area of concern. Around Payneway along Highway 14 and Interstate 555 experiences flooding, and the County mentions if the levee along the St. Francis River was extended further downstream, then the issue of flooding would be significantly reduced. A levee analysis could be a future course of action.

The City of Jonesboro is working to perform an updated drainage study for the City, as its maps are outdated and do not appear to reflect the accurate risk. This project started from past Map Modernization efforts in Craighead County.

The City of Earle provided the following areas as points of concern due to flooding. From review many of these appear to be localized drainage issues, possibly due to inadequate storm sewer capacities, or simply localized low areas.

- Cartwright Street from Bailey to Patterson
- 3rd Street from Commerce to Central
- Applo Acre subdivision: Shephard St, Shirra Ave, Armstrong St
- At the city park around Desha and Tennessee Street
- Bailey Street from 2nd to 3rd Street
- Barton and 2nd Street intersection
- Main and Exchange Street intersection
- Park and 2nd Street intersection

The City of West Memphis provided the area around Oliver Avenue (East of the intersection with Avalon Street) as a point of concern due to flooding. From review of the BLE data, the new information shows an increased floodplain extent in this area.

Hydrology: The review of hydrologic data was limited to Base Level Engineering hydrologic processing which includes Peak Discharges and partial gage analysis in the watershed. The 1-percent-annual-chance peak discharge data for Base Level Engineering analysis for the entire watershed was reviewed for any anomalies. Development, sinks, and flood control structures were noted to determine if they had an impact on the hydrology flows. Available gage information for the entire watershed was also reviewed and compared to the Base Level Engineering hydrology, when possible to identify discrepancies and possible anomalies stemming from outdated, overestimated, or underestimated sub-basin analyses.

Hydraulics and floodplain analysis: Base Level Engineering was conducted for this watershed. As a result, CNMS evaluations were conducted to compare the effective mapping to new mapping. The effective mapping was assembled from current National Flood Hazard Layer (modernized counties) and Q3 floodplain mapping data (non-modernized areas). Some noteworthy obstacles observed include the fact that the Zone A floodplains do not match between most of the community and county boundaries, and there are discrepancies on the mapping for the 0.2% annual-chance-events throughout the watershed.

CNMS Concerns within the Watershed: It is important to note that for the watershed as a whole, most of the CNMS streams are considered unverified. Comparisons of the effective mapping to the draft Base Level Engineering results showed that the effective mapping should be revised based on better source data and processes. The three main concerns found in the area were non-digital FIRMs, vast areas of Unknown approximate studies which were not backed by technical data, and some communities that contained zero miles of detailed studies.

Non-digital FIRMs: Craighead County, Cross County, Lee County, and St. Francis County in Arkansas and Bollinger County, Dunklin County, and Stoddard County in Missouri.

Unknown Approximate Studies: Clay County, Craighead County, Crittenden County, Cross County, Greene County, Lee County, Mississippi County, Phillips County, Poinsett County, and St. Francis County in Arkansas and Bollinger County, Butler County, Dunklin County, Stoddard County, and Wayne County in Missouri.

Zero Miles of Detailed Study: Cross County (complete area). There are other parts of individual communities that do not have detail study streams within their jurisdictions.

Discovery Wrap-Up Meeting

At present, the Arkansas CTP plans to hold the Wrap-Up Meeting in association with additional advanced Base Level Engineering training throughout the area. A summary of the findings will be presented at those meeting opportunities.

Future Investments for Refinement

Watershed-wide Recommendations:

Based on comments from Poinsett County representatives, performing a more detailed analysis along the St. Francis River to examine if structural measures (levee, channel improvements, etc.) may be beneficial and feasible should be considered as a future possibility.

County-specific Recommendations:

Cross County, Lee County, and St. Francis County have non-modernized FIRMs. One goal of the Arkansas CTP is to update all non-modernized FIRMs. Once a county has been covered by Discovery and Base Level Engineering projects, it is recommended to move to Phase 2 or 3 to produce a modernized and digital FIRM with Flood Risk Products.

Currently, Craighead County is going through a Phase 2 countywide study to address existing mapping issues. This includes the City of Bay and should include, as it is completed and updated to FEMA standards, the City of Jonesboro Drainage Study.

Clay County, Crittenden County, Greene County, Mississippi County, and Poinsett County have modernized FIRMs. However, those studies were conducted on lesser detailed terrain data, and as such could be revised as well.

City/Town-specific Recommendations:

There are multiple communities and /or unincorporated areas that have no or only minor amounts detailed studies within their boundaries. It is recommended that for areas of need (population sources, possible development areas, etc) detailed studies be evaluated based on the community need and desire.

Phase Two: Risk Identification and Assessment

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

During the Risk Identification and Assessment Phase of a project, engineering modeling and analysis is refined to further enhance the identification of flood risk. Existing modeling has been updated using a more detailed methodology for calculating the amount of water (hydrology) expected during a storm event, plus additional detail and gage analysis.

Hydraulic models include additional refinement to the cross sections and stream crossings (Figure 5) that may restrict flow in larger events, and the channel and structure information in existing models could be improved based on field surveys.

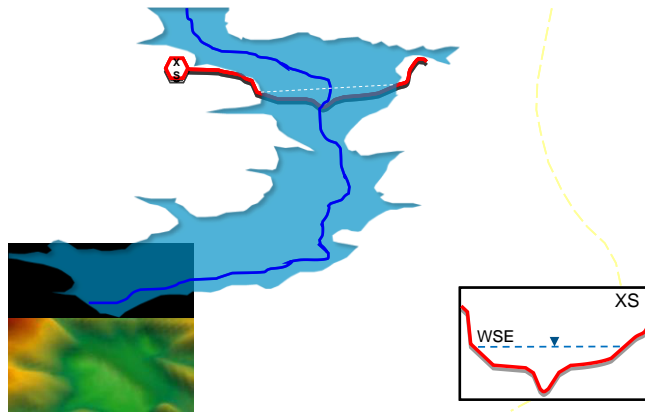


Figure 6. Floodplain Mapping of Peak Water Surface Elevation

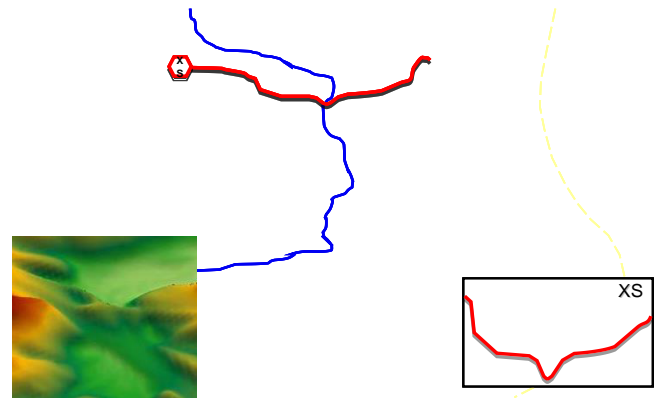


Figure 5. Hydraulic Cross-Section

Engineering modeling applies the flow volume calculated for a certain storm interval and places that water into the natural channel described in the hydraulic software. As tributaries and other drainage features are added to the main stream, the flow volume increases downstream. The

modeling calculates the peak water-surface elevation (Figure 6) determined at each cross section, and these peak values are graphically described in a profile. The peak values are then mapped on ground elevation information to produce a floodplain delineation that identifies the expected flood extent during the analyzed storm event.

These models have been used to produce a range of flood risk datasets that describe the variability of flooding within the delineated floodplain. These flood risk datasets include:

- **Water-Surface Elevation Grid** – This two-dimensional grid describes the water-surface elevation and profile for the length of the study area. Interpolated values are produced between each analyzed cross section.
- **Flood Depth Grid** – This grid provides an estimated flood depth at any location within the floodplain, allowing the variability of flood depth to be better represented for the stream channel and the floodplain areas.
- **Annual Percent Chance Grid** – This grid is produced using statistical analysis to describe multiple percentages of the chance of flooding within the determined floodplain.
- **30-Year Percent Chance Grid** – Further statistical methodology is used to determine the percent chance of flooding within a 30-year window. The 30-year window was chosen because a 30-year period is common for home mortgages.
- **Changes Since Last FIRM** – This polygon file identifies each location where modifications are identified by the revised and updated hydrologic and hydraulic analysis. Areas where floodplain widths increase/decrease, areas where floodway widths increase/decrease, and areas where flood zones have been modified are identifiable within this layer.

This phase of the project benefits greatly from community interaction and coordination with local technical and operations staff, providing an opportunity for FEMA and its mapping partners to engage local knowledge as the modeling is prepared. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to work

closely with communities to identify areas where the modeling and floodplain mapping may not agree with on the ground accounts of flooding equivalent to the 1% annual chance storm event. FEMA and the Arkansas CTP would like to use this phase to review community comments and include any available technical information prior to proceeding to the update of the Regulatory products (FIRM, FIS and DFIRM database).

The following information will be added during any Phase 2 project that may be completed in the future.

Flood Risk Review Meeting

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Flood Risk Review Meetings are scheduled for XXXX, 20XX. The first formal sharing of the modeling and mapping updates occurs at the Flood Risk Review Meeting. At this meeting, FEMA intends to continue community coordination efforts and discussions with a variety of watershed partners to review the effects of physical and meteorological changes within the project area.

The FEMA team remains focused on reviewing the identification of flood and other natural hazard risks, areas where modifications in the flood delineations have been identified, and changes in risk assessment, working with community and technical staff throughout the analysis/assessment processes.

The team will deliver the Phase Two (Data and Engineering) data:

- Hydrological Analysis
- Hydraulic Analysis
- Resultant BLE data

The objectives of the Flood Risk Review meeting include:

- Promote local buy-in of analysis/study results
- Review Risk Identification (engineering) results with local communities
- Review the hazard mitigation plan, compared to the study findings
- Identify risk communication needs and options
- Support identified community-driven mitigation actions
- Identify and/or resolve community comments and appeals before the regulatory products are issued
- Solicit community input on results and promote buy-in of analyses prior to moving forward
- Continue developing relationships with communities

The new analysis and products will be delivered to communities in advance of this meeting, so communities will have the chance to review and assess the modeling and mapping results prior to the in-person meeting.



FEMA would like to work with communities at each project milestone to identify and address any technical concerns with the modeling results. Because this phase of the timeline is less rigid than the statutory and regulatory timelines in Phase Three, FEMA can

work more closely and intimately with the communities to review and address their concerns.

Next Steps

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

Once the analysis is completed, FEMA will review the areas of change before determining if a project will move forward to update the regulatory products (FIS report, FIRM, and DFIRM database). A cursory review of the modeling results indicates that this study area has significant changes in floodplain width and depth.



FEMA will work with communities after delivering the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis and floodplain work maps to collect any outstanding technical inquiries within the study area. After coordinating with communities, FEMA will likely initiate the Phase Three effort to update the regulatory products.

Potential Community Activities

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Two project in this watershed.

The availability of updated flood risk information provides the community a chance to review a range of possible actions that may be taken. Some possible community activities are identified below for consideration:

Stream Specific Recommendations: This section may be expanded at a later date.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Hazard Profile): The updated flood risk information provides an opportunity to review local hazard mitigation plans. The flood risk profile, hazard extent, and vulnerability assessment may be refined based on the Changes Since Last FIRM, water-surface elevation grids, flood depth grids, and percent annual chance grids. Communities should reconvene their Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to identify how these narrative sections should be refined with the additional information.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans help to:

- Protect public safety
- Prevent damage to community assets
- Reduce costs of disaster response and recovery
- Improve community capabilities
- Create safer, more sustainable development

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Mitigation Strategies): Communities may review community assets, critical facilities, and other vulnerable areas within a community to identify or refine the mitigation strategies and locate future mitigation projects to reduce long-term natural hazard risk throughout the community. FEMA's publication [Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards](#) may provide some strategies and projects for the local Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to review.

Mitigation Project Scope Preparation: Each year, communities may apply for various FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants available for implementing mitigation actions. Communities may review their critical mitigation needs and opt to prepare project submittals for one of the grant opportunities FEMA offers.

PDM

The PDM grant program provides funding for hazard mitigation planning and projects on an annual basis. These funds are locally and nationally competitive. The amount of funding available annually depends on appropriations by Congress.

FMA

The FMA grant program provides funds for projects to reduce or eliminate the risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These funds are awarded on an annual basis through State allocations that are based on the number of NFIP policies in force.

HMGP

The HMGP assists in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration. HMGP funding is generally 15% of the total amount of Federal assistance provided to a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe following a major disaster declaration. If a State, Territory, or federally recognized tribe has an enhanced mitigation plan, the percentage rises to 20%. These grant funds are competitive within the State receiving the allocation.

These HMA Grant Programs are managed by the State of Arkansas (grantee), which has the primary responsibility for selecting and administering the mitigation activities throughout the state. Individuals are not eligible to apply directly for HMA funds; however, communities may act as an eligible applicant or sub-applicant to apply for funding on behalf of individuals.

For specific information on available HMA grant funding and current project priorities in Arkansas, please contact the appropriate state agency.

**FMA, HMGP, and PDM Grant Programs
Arkansas Department of Emergency
Management**

Lacye Blake

Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

**Arkansas Natural Resources
Commission Management**

Veronica Villalobos-Pogue

Veronica.Villalobos-Pogue@arkansas.gov

(501) 683-6700

Community Rating System (CRS): The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Communities interested in the CRS program may contact their FEMA Region 6 CRS Coordinator or the State of Arkansas CRS Coordinator.

FEMA CRS Programs
FEMA Region 6
Mark Lujan
mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov
(940) 383-7327

Arkansas CRS Programs
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
Whitney Montague
whitney.montague@arkansas.gov
(501) 682-1611

Adoption of Higher Standards: Community participation in the NFIP is voluntary. When a community joins the NFIP, it must ensure its adopted floodplain management ordinance and enforcement procedures meet NFIP requirements. NFIP minimum requirements include requiring permits for all development in the SFHA and ensuring that the construction materials and methods used will minimize future flood damage. Higher standards, such as freeboard, land use and zoning practices, and other approaches allow communities to minimize future damages within the community by using more restrictive building codes and requirements.

Risk Reduction Activities: The NFIP's CRS Coordinator's Manual identifies a number of activities that communities can undertake to reduce their long-term risk. Higher standards, land use planning, future conditions modeling, and other approaches are available for consideration.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Strategy: The primary objective of the SRL properties strategy is to eliminate or reduce the damage to residential property and the disruption to life caused by repeated flooding. The SRL Grant Program makes funding available for a variety of flood mitigation activities. Under this program, FEMA provides funds to state and local governments to assist NFIP-insured SRL residential property owners with mitigation projects that reduce future flood losses. Projects could include acquisition or relocation of at-risk structures and conversion of the property to open space, elevation of existing structures, or dry floodproofing for historic properties.

Public Risk Awareness and Outreach Campaigns: Communities may use the new and existing flood hazard information to develop a public information and outreach campaign for their community. Since 2010, FEMA has conducted an annual nationwide study of flood risk awareness among U.S. households. Participants overwhelmingly responded that they expect and trust flood risk information when it comes from local community officials and staff.

FEMA Region 6 has also developed the Risk Communication Guidebook for Local Officials (<http://www.riskmap6.com/guidebook.aspx>), which identifies a number of local communication activities. The Guidebook provides tools, templates, and resources for communities interested in developing a local outreach campaign; it is presented by Risk MAP project phases, similar to this report.

The CRS Coordinators Manual and the CRS Resources website (for Activity 300, available at <http://crsresources.org/300-3>) can provide additional information for communities interested in local flood hazard and risk awareness outreach campaigns.

High Water Mark (HWM) Initiative: As part of the NFIP, the HWM Initiative is a community-based program that increases residents' awareness of flood risk and encourages action to mitigate that risk.

As part of the project, communities post HWM signs in prominent places, hold a high-profile launch event to unveil the signs, conduct ongoing education to build local awareness of flood risk, and complete mitigation actions to build community resilience against future flooding.

Phase Three: Regulatory Product Update

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

During the Regulatory Product Update Phase of a Flood Risk Project, the results produced in the previous phase are used to prepare and produce three regulatory products that are produced in a county-wide manner. This phase of the project is more regimented than previous phases, there are some statutory and regulatory timelines that must be adhered to by FEMA and the communities involved in the update areas. FEMA will remain in contact with communities throughout the process.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Text

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The engineering analysis results will be used to update the existing countywide FIS texts produced for communities during the Map Modernization effort. The narratives within the FIS text are updated to include specifics about the latest analysis and study effort within each county. Additionally, the Floodway Data Tables and Water Surface Elevations that provide look up information to community staff in their administration of the program are also updated to provide the most up to date information to the public and communities alike.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panels

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The revised FIRM data is based on a combination of new and existing engineering analyses of floodplain boundaries. The new engineering analysis for your county/parish is based on detailed analysis.

Detailed studies are mapped with a flood zone designation of “Zone AE”. All mileage studied by detailed methods produces a FIRM that included Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) published on the Preliminary DFIRMs. As previously described in Phase Two, studies of this nature include field surveys, hydraulic structures, modeling calibration and multiple flood frequency profiles published in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report delivered at Preliminary DFIRM issuance.

Some detailed mileage also includes a regulatory floodway. Floodway models are prepared to review the effect that fill or encroachment may have along a stream. Floodplain and floodway evaluations are the basis for community floodplain management programs. More information on floodway modeling is available in the Phase Two section of this report.

DFIRM Database

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Communities receive an updated and standardized DFIRM Database which is a digital version of the FEMA flood insurance rate map designed for use with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software.

The DFIRM Database is designed to provide the user the ability to determine the flood zone, base flood elevation and the floodway status for a particular location using its own internal GIS staff. The DFIRM database also includes data related to the NFIP community, FIRM panels, analysis cross sections and hydraulic structure information, as well as base map information like road, and stream data for reference and local use.

Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

As part of the DFIRM update, the project team will review all LOMAs and LOMRs and make a determination of each case to: incorporate, revalidate/reissue or supersede the LOMAs and LOMRs, based on technical data.

The following Letters of Map Revision have been reviewed and categorized:

Case Number	Stream Name(s) & Community(ies)	Effective Date	Category
	To be completed at a later date.		

LOMAs for each county will also be reviewed in preparation for the preliminary issuance. Communities should be advised that ALL LOMAs will be included in the Preliminary Summary of Map Actions (Prelim SOMA) provided on the Preliminary release date.



Communities should review their map repositories for any Letters of Map Amendment (LOMA) or Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) within the stream areas being studied. These community files may provide additional information for historic map revisions that will assist in the review of the cases for incorporation.

Next Step: Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

Once FEMA has received, reviewed and responded to all comments and technical data received as a result of the Flood Risk Review meeting, FEMA will prepare the preliminary FIRMs, FIS and DFIRM database for release. Preliminaries will be sent to the community Chief Executive Officer, or “CEO,” and floodplain administrator, or “FPA,” for an initial review.

Steps Post Preliminary Issuance

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The post-preliminary process is initiated with the preliminary issuance of the FIRM, FIS and DFIRM Database. A number of activities will occur as highlighted in Figure 7 below.

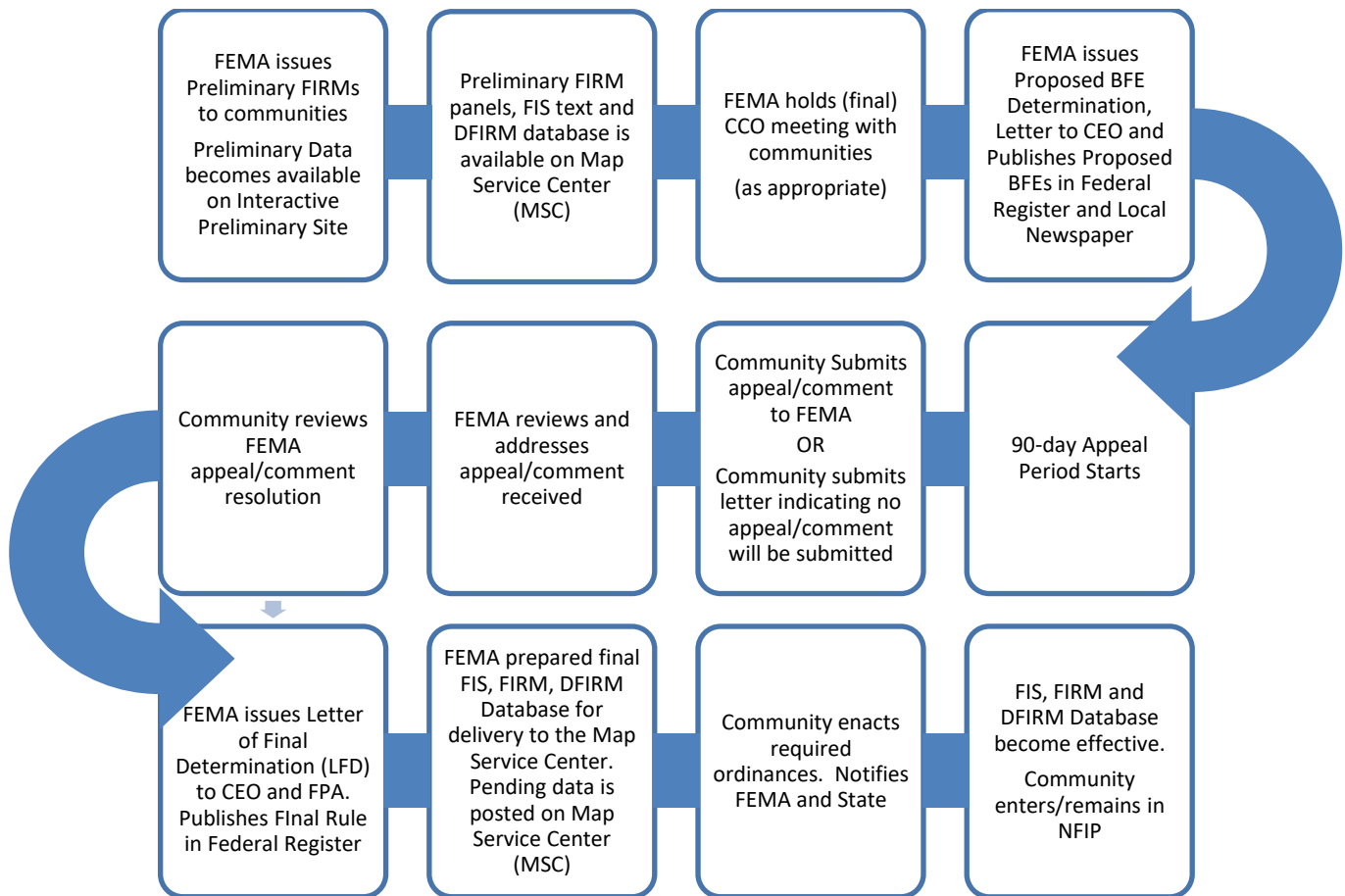


Figure 7. Post Preliminary Process

Additional information is provided for the immediate steps following preliminary issuance to provide some overview to communities prior to these activities being initiated.

Preliminary Data Available through Interactive Website. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, Preliminary Map Viewer will be available describing information available on the site.

30-Day Community Review Period. For FIRMs that are based on FEMA-contracted studies/mapping projects, the initial community review is provided to communities. This informal review period generally lasts 30 days.

Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting. Following the informal review of the preliminary information, FEMA holds a more formal community coordination meeting during which community officials meet with FEMA representatives.

90-Day Appeal and Comment Period Initiated: Following the CCO meeting, FEMA will issue a letter to the Community Elected Official and Local Floodplain Administrator to inform them that FEMA is moving towards the initiation of the appeal period. FEMA will work internally to publish the Proposed BFE Determination in the Federal Register and then will publish a notice in the local newspaper two times. The letter will indicate the publication date for the notice in the Federal Register and two publication dates for a local newspaper. The appeal and comment period is initiated after the second local print date and extends 90 calendar days.

During this period, community officials or citizens may appeal the proposed BFEs and/or base flood depths based on scientific or technical data. Community officials or citizens also may submit requests for changes to other information shown on the DFIRM - flood zone boundaries, regulatory floodway boundaries, road names and configurations - during the appeal period. **Communities are responsible for the collection, review and approval of appeals that are submitted during the 90-day appeal period.**

An **appeal** is a formal objection to proposed or proposed modified BFEs or base flood depths, submitted by a community official or an owner or lessee of real property within the community through the community officials during the statutory 90-day appeal period. An appeal must be based on data that show the proposed or proposed modified BFEs are scientifically or technically incorrect.

A **comment** is an objection to or comment on any information, other than proposed BFEs or base flood depths, shown on an NFIP map that is submitted by community officials or interested citizens through the community officials during the 90-day appeal period. Comments usually involve changes to items such as road locations and road names, corporate limits updates, or other base map features.

Future Physical Map Revisions

This section may be completed at a later date if the Arkansas CTP and FEMA decide to proceed with a Phase Three project in this watershed.

The release of the maps in these areas does not identify the end of coordination between the local community and FEMA. Local communities should continue their local floodplain management activities and submit Letters of Map Revision when local development alters the flood hazard in the community.

Appendix I: Community-Specific Reports

The following list depicts the county- and community-specific reports contained within this appendix.

Communities
ARKANSAS COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES
CLAY COUNTY
Clay County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Greenway, City of
Nimmons, Town of
Piggott, City of ¹
Rector, City of
St. Francis, City of
CRAIGHEAD COUNTY
Craighead County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Bay, City of
Black Oak, Town of
Brookland, City of
Jonesboro, City of
Lake City, City of
Monette, City of
CRITTENDEN COUNTY
Crittenden County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Anthonyville, Town of
Clarkedale, Town of
Crawfordsville, City of
Earle, City of
Edmondson, Town of
Gilmore, Town of
Horseshoe Lake, Town of
Jennette, Town of
Jericho, Town of
Marion, City of
Sunset, Town of
Turrell, City of
West Memphis, City of

Communities
ARKANSAS COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES
CROSS COUNTY
Cross County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Parkin, City of
Wynne, City of
GREENE COUNTY
Greene County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Oak Grove Heights, City of
Paragould, City of
LEE COUNTY
Lee County Unincorporated Areas ¹
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY
Mississippi County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Bassett, Town of
Birdsong, Town of
Blytheville, City of ¹
Burdette, Town of
Dell, Town of
Dyess, Town of
Joiner, City of
Keiser, City of
Luxora, City of
Marie, Town of
Osceola, City of
Victoria, Town of
Wilson, City of
PHILLIPS COUNTY
Phillips County Unincorporated Areas ¹
POINSETT COUNTY
Poinsett County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Lepanto, City of ¹
Marked Tree, City of
Trumann, City of
Tyronza, City of

Communities
ARKANSAS COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES
ST. FRANCIS COUNTY
St. Francis County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Forrest City, City of ¹
Hughes, City of
Madison, City of
St. Francis County ¹
Widener, Town of
MISSOURI COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES
BOLLINGER COUNTY
Bollinger County Unincorporated Areas ¹
BUTLER COUNTY
Butler County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Fisk, City of
DUNKLIN COUNTY
Dunklin County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Cardwell, City of
Holcomb, City of
Kennett, City of
STODDARD COUNTY
Stoddard County Unincorporated Areas ¹
Bloomfield, City of
Dexter, City of
Dudley, City of
Puxico, City of
WAYNE COUNTY
Wayne County Unincorporated Areas ¹

¹ Community is located within more than one HUC8 watershed.

Appendix II: Points of Contact

Watershed

Subject/Topic of Interest	Name	Contact Information
FEMA Region 6 Risk MAP Team Lead <i>Project Outreach</i>	Diane Howe Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 898-5171 Email: diane.howe@fema.dhs.gov
FEMA Project Monitor (Arkansas)	John Bourdeau Risk Analysis Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7350 Email: John.BourdeauJr@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodplain Management Floodplain Ordinance Community Assistance Visits Higher Standards Flood Insurance 	Pedro Perez Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch	Phone: (940) 383-7365 Email: Pedro.Perez@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Rating System Flood Insurance 	Mark Lujan	Phone: (940) 383-7327 Email: mark.lujan@fema.dhs.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to find and read FIRMs Letters of Map Change and Elevation Certificates Mandatory insurance purchase guidelines/ Flood zone disputes Map Service Center (MSC) & National Flood Hazard Layer 	FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)	Phone: 1-877-FEMA-MAP (336-2627) Email: FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com Live Chat: https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html

State Partners

Organization/Title	Name	Partner Location	Contact Information
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) State NFIP Coordinator	Michael Borengasser, CFM	101 East Capitol Ave, Suite 350 Little Rock, AR 72201	Phone: (501) 682-3969 Email: michael.borengasser@arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/
Arkansas Department of Emergency Management State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Lacye Blake	Building 9501 Camp Joseph T. Robinson North Little Rock, AR 72199	Phone: (512) 424-5489 Email: Lacye.Blake@adem.arkansas.gov Web Page: http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/

Appendix III: Resources

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

The Arkansas Natural Resources Commission's (ANRC) mission is to manage and protect our water and land resources for the health, safety and economic benefit of the State of Arkansas.



The ANRC has been designated by state law as the State NFIP Coordinating Agency for Arkansas. Within ANRC- Water Resources Management Division, you will find Floodplain Management, where most of the flood-related information and flood planning and mitigation grant resources reside.

Organization	Contact Information	Website
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC)	Phone: (501) 682-1611	http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/

Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)

The AFMA is an organization of professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the NFIP, flood preparedness, warning, and disaster recovery. The Association includes flood hazard specialists from local, state, and federal governments, the mortgage, insurance, and research communities, and the associated fields of flood zone determination, engineering, hydraulic forecasting, emergency response, water resources, Geographic Information Systems, and others.

Organization	Website
Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA)	https://www.arkansasfloods.org/

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Certification

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) established a national program for certifying floodplain managers. This program recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhances the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain management professionals.

The role of the nation's floodplain managers is expanding due to increases in disaster losses, the emphasis on mitigation to alleviate the cycle of damage-rebuild-damage, and a recognized need for professionals to adequately address these issues. This certification program will lay the foundation for ensuring that highly qualified individuals are available to meet the challenge of breaking the damage cycle and stopping its negative drain on the nation's human, financial, and natural resources.

CFM® is a registered trademark and available only to individuals certified and in good standing under the ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager Program.

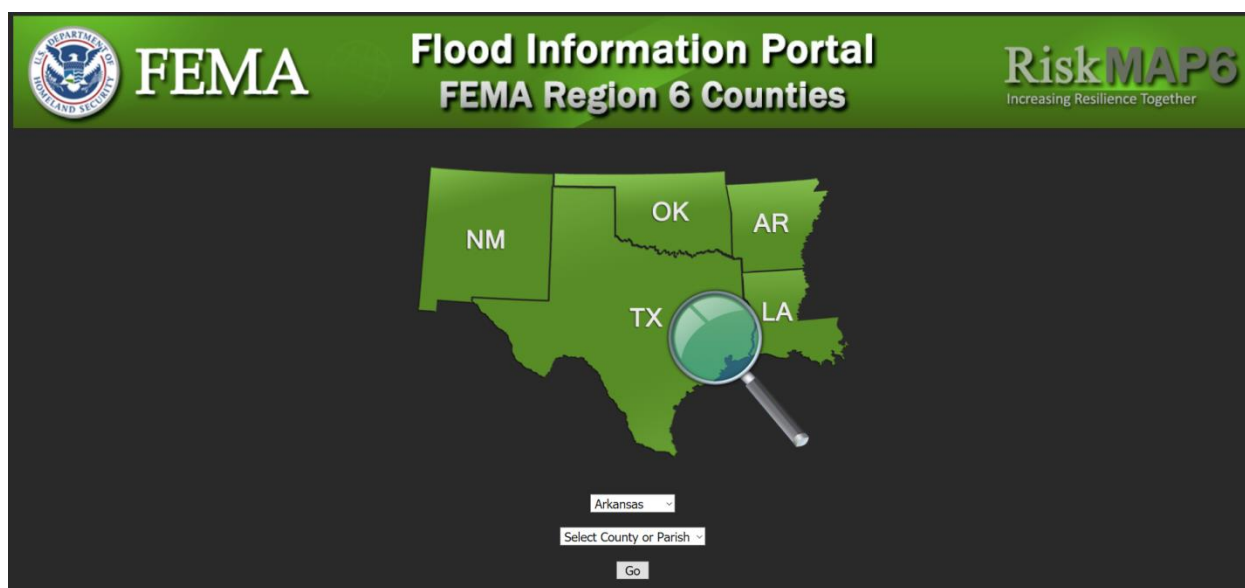
For more information, you may want to review these available CFM Awareness Videos:

- [What is the CFM Program?](#)
- [Who can be a CFM?](#)
- [What are the Benefits of a CFM?](#)

Study Materials for those interested in applying for the CFM certification can be found on the ASFPM Website at: <http://www.floods.org/index.asp?menuID=215>.

For information on becoming a member and the exam application process in the State of Arkansas visit <https://www.arkansasfloods.org/cfm/>.

Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer



To support community review of the study information and promote risk communication efforts, FEMA launched an interactive web tool accessible on-line at <http://maps.RiskMAP6.com> for the project areas.

Should a study be released for review, the study data may be viewed at this website.

For more information on the Interactive Preliminary Data Viewer, refer to the Region 6 Fact sheet: [What is your Flood Risk?](#)

Map Service Center – Available Map Data

The [FEMA Flood Map Service Center \(MSC\)](#) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the NFIP. Use the MSC to find your official effective flood map, preliminary flood maps, and access a range of other flood hazard products.

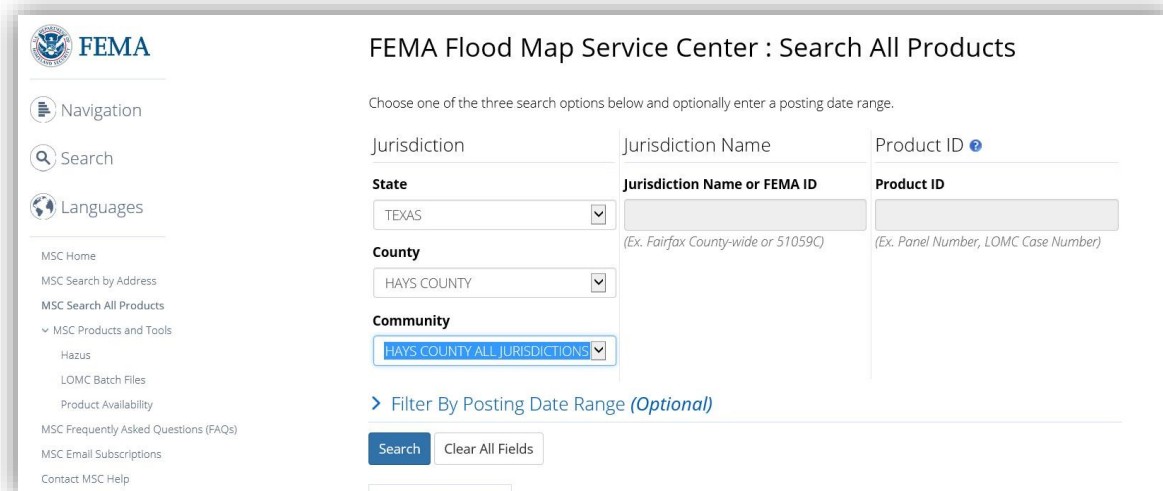
FEMA flood maps are continually updated through a variety of processes. Effective information that you download or print from this site may change or become superseded by new maps over time. For additional information, please see the [Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet](#).

At the MSC, there are two ways to locate flood maps in your vicinity.

1. Enter an address, place name, or latitude/longitude coordinates and click search. This will provide the current effective FIRM panel where the location is shown.
2. Or [Search All Products](#), which will provide access to the full range of flood risk information available.

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) homepage. The page title is "FEMA Flood Map Service Center : Welcome!". On the left is a navigation menu with options: Navigation, Search, Languages, MSC Home, MSC Search by Address, MSC Search All Products, MSC Products and Tools (with sub-items: Hazus, LOMC Batch Files, Product Availability), MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), MSC Email Subscriptions, and Contact MSC Help. The main content area features a search prompt "Looking for a Flood Map?" with a blue question mark icon. Below this is a search box with a "Search" button. A red box with the number "1" highlights the search box. To the right of the search box is a small map showing a flood hazard area. Below the search box is a link "Looking for more than just a current flood map?" with a red box and the number "2" highlighting it. Below this is a link "Visit Search All Products to access the full range of flood risk products for your community." Further down is a section titled "About Flood Map Service Center" with a paragraph of text and a link to the "Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet".

By using the more advanced search option, “Search All Products,” users may access current, preliminary, pending, and historic flood maps. Additionally, GIS data and flood risk products may be accessed through the site with these few steps.



Using the pull down menus, select your state, county, and community of interest. For this example, we selected Hays County - All Jurisdictions. After the search button is selected, the MSC will return all items in the area. There are five types of data available.

Effective Products. The current effective FIS, FIRM, and DFIRM database (if available) is available through the MSC. If users click on the available effective products, they are presented a breakdown of the available products. FIRM panels, FIS reports, LOMRs, statewide National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) data, and countywide NFHL data may be available, as indicated in the breakdown on the right of the page.

Effective Products (250)		DL ALL
▶	FIRM Panels (88)	DL ALL
▶	FIS Reports (4)	DL ALL
▶	LOMC (155)	
▶	NFHL Data-State (1)	
▶	NFHL Data-County (2)	
Historic Products (136)		DL ALL
▶	FIRM Panels (101)	DL ALL
▶	FIS Reports (1)	DL ALL
▶	LOMC (34)	

Historic Products. A range of historic flood hazard maps, FIS texts, and Letters of Map Change are available through the MSC.

Flood Risk Products. The Flood Risk Report, Flood Risk Map, and

Flood Risk Database will be made available through the MSC once they have been compiled and completed. These products are made available after the flood study analysis and mapping have been reviewed and community comments incorporated.

Additional Web Resources

FLOOD MITIGATION PLANNING	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM RESOURCES – HOW TO JOIN, SAMPLE ORDINANCES, ETC.	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD GRANT PROGRAMS	http://www.adem.arkansas.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/
FLOOD WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SCHEDULES	http://www.floodplain.ar.gov/Conferences.html https://www.arkansasfloods.org/