Cedar River, Cedar Rapids, Iowa -- Flood Risk Management--Construction

Location
Cedar River, Cedar Rapids

State(s)
IA

Congressional District(s)
IA-1, IA-4

Status
Project was authorized for construction in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. Coordination is on-going for non-Federal Sponsor designed and constructed project features.

Description
In June 2008, the City of Cedar Rapids (City), Iowa, was devastated by a flood of record proportions. More than 1,300 city blocks of the City were flooded. The floodwaters covered 10 square miles and caused an estimated $2.4 billion in damages. On April 5, 2006, Congress authorized a feasibility study. The Feasibility Cost Share Agreement was signed on May 30, 2008. The damaged property inventory for this conducted Study counted 7,846 properties damaged by the flood. This included 6,865 residential properties, 754 commercial/industrial properties and 227 public properties. The damaged public properties included the City's Water Pollution Control Facility, police station, the potable water wells, the wastewater collection system, City Hall, the Linn County Correctional Center, and the Linn County Courthouse, along with many other critical infrastructure elements. The Feasibility Report presented several alternatives as Flood Risk Management strategies of which one was recommended as the National Economic Development (NED) Plan - Alternative 4-C.

Alternative 4-C provides protection along the east bank of the Cedar River. It includes earthen levees, floodwalls, and closure structures for a total length of 3.15 miles. This alternative has a benefit cost ratio (BCR) of 1.2 at 3.75% and 0.7 at 7.00%. The City of Cedar Rapids endorses the implementation of Alternative 4-C as part of a comprehensive FRM plan for both river banks.

The Chief's Report was signed on January 27th, 2011 and transmitted to OMB and Congress. A Design Agreement (DA) was executed on December 21, 2010 and pre-construction engineering and design (PED) began.

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The City and the Corps executed a Design Agreement Amendment to allow the provision of accelerated non-Federal funding to further the PED phase. The City has sent the Corps their entire proportionate share of estimated PED costs ($3.1M cash). The City and Corps have

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executed a Memoradum of Understanding (MOU) outlining work that City may design and construct as Work-In-Kind which is permitted in the DA. Pre-construction Engineering and Design phase activities have progressed to about 35% of completion but progress has slowed due to lack of Federal funding.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)
FY 2016: Coordination for non-Federal Sponsor designed and constructed project features is on-going using remaining non-Federal funds.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)
FY 2017: Continue coordination for non-Federal Sponsor designed and constructed project features using remaining non-Federal funds. Upon receipt of Federal construction funds, the funds would be used to execute Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), acquire real estate, and initiate construction.

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