SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This First Substantial Amendment to the City of Dearborn's CDBG-DR Revised Action Plan and Unmet Needs Assessment reflect changes to the budget allocation with an additional $10,673,00 in HUD funding. The Continuing Appropriations Act 2023 (Pub. L. 117-180) approved September 30, 2022 makes available additional CDBG-DR funding for necessary expenses for activities authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 *et seq.*) (HCDA) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the "most impacted and distressed" (MID) areas resulting from a qualifying major disaster in 2021 or 2022.

The proposed new changes are reflected in the narrative and budget and calls for additional funding to be added to:

- Administration
- Planning
- Colson Palmer Stormwater Line Project
- Rain Garden Projects

There are four new additional projects added which are:

- Green Infrastructure Project
- Oakwood Infrastructure Project
- Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project
- Flood Kits for Dearborn Fire Department

The following project was deleted as follows:

- Permeable Pavement Project was deleted and a Green was added in its place.

Amendment Changes to the Action Plan

Table #1 below identifies all the changes, additions, and/or deletions (amendments) made to the CDBG-DR Action Plan and Unmet Needs Assessment submitted this past April 2023.

Table 1: Amendment Changes to CDBG-DR Action Plan

Section	Change, Additions, Deletion
1. Executive Summary – Overview Page 5	Cited Federal Register Notice (FRN) FR-6368-N-01 to reflect the additional $10,673,000 in CDBG-DR Funding.
2. Unmet Needs Assessment: Summary of Findings Page 29	1. Deleted Permeable Pavement Project and added Green Infrastructure Projects to narrative. 2. Added Oakwood Blvd. Infrastructure Project to narrative 3. Added Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project to narrative. 4. Added Flood Kits for Dearborn Fire Dept.
3. Infrastructure Unmet Need Page 49	1. Added Oakwood Blvd. Infrastructure Project to narrative. 2. Added Green Infrastructure Projects to narrative.
4. Proposed CDBG-DR Project Descriptions	1. Under Planning Activities: a. Amended planning budget amounts to:

Page 63	2. Replaced Permeable Pavement Project with Green Infrastructure Project in Table 20: Dearborn CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-A-Side Projects Table 3. Added Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project to Table 20: Dearborn CDBG-DR Mitigation Set-A-Side Projects Table 4. Replaced Permeable Pavement Project with Green Infrastructure Project to project descriptions. 4. Added Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project to project descriptions.
6. Preparedness, Mitigation and Resiliency: Funding Feasible, Cost-Effective Measures Page 67	1. Replaced Permeable Pavement Project narrative with Green Infrastructure Project narrative 2. Added Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project to narrative.
7. Preparedness, Mitigation and Resiliency: Promote Sound, Sustainable Long-Term Recovery and Resilience Planning Page 70	1. Added Oakwood Blvd Infrastructure Project to narrative. 2. Updated narrative to include 15% set aside for 2nd Appropriation $1,432,940. 3. Replaced Permeable Pavement Project with Green Infrastructure Project in narrative. 4. Added Dearborn Salina Green Schoolyard Project to narrative.

Executive Summary

Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has allocated the City of Dearborn $27,005,000 in Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant funds, as a result of the 2021 flooding disaster. These CDBG-DR funds are to be utilized to support long-term recovery and mitigation efforts following severe storms and flooding. The Dearborn Economic Development Department (EDD) will administer the CDBG-DR funding on behalf of the City of Dearborn. The CDBG-DR funding is designed to address the needs that remain after all other assistance has been exhausted. This plan details how funds will be allocated to address the remaining unmet needs in Dearborn due to the 2021 flooding disaster.

To meet disaster recovery needs, the statutes making CDBG-DR funds available have imposed additional requirements and authorized HUD to modify the rules that apply to the annual CDBG program to enhance flexibility and allow for a quicker recovery. In March 2022, HUD allocated the $16.3M in CDBG-DR to the City of Dearborn from the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022 for major disasters occurring in 2021 under FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) disaster No. 4607 through Federal Register Notice (FRN) FR-6326-N-01 Public Law 117-43[1] made on May 24, 2022. In January 2023, HUD allocated another $10.6M in CDBG-DR funds to the City of Dearborn through The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2023 through (FRN) FR-6368-N-01 Public Law 117-180[2] made on January 18, 2023 (These CDBG-DR funds are for necessary expenses for activities authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 5301 et seq.)[3] (HCDA) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the "most impacted and distressed" (MID) areas resulting from a qualifying major disaster in 2021. Based on review of the impacts from the eligible disasters, and estimates of unmet need, HUD has identified the entire City of Dearborn as the MID area.

Unmet Needs Assessment

Background

Planning Activities

All of Dearborn's planning activities will directly benefit the HUD identified MID area which includes the entire City. Each planning activity will be directly related to our proposed projects and most of the projects will take place in northeast and southeast Dearborn, which are the areas most impacted and distressed by the June 2021 flooding. Table #2 below identifies the original and amended planning activities budgets.

Table 2- Planning Activities Original and Amended Budgets

Project	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Description
Colson Palmer Phase 1	$190,000	**$348,650**	Planning activities for the Colson Palmer headwall, gates, and dewatering pumps. Funds will be utilized for project strategy and feasibility, preparation of plans, studies, training or research, engineering design activities, preparation of procurement documents for contractors, and drafting of contracts.
Colson Palmer Phase 2	$616,000	**$893,300**	Planning activities for the Colson Palmer Rehabilitation Project. Funds will be utilized for project strategy and feasibility, preparation of plans, studies, training or research, engineering design activities, preparation of procurement documents for contractors, and drafting of contracts.
Oakwood Blvd. Infrastructure Project		**$100,000**	Project Activities for Ford Project. Funds will be used for project strategy and feasibility, preparation of plans, studies, training or research, engineering design activities, preparation of procurement documents for contractors, and drafting of contracts.
Green Infrastructure	$200,000	**$200,000**	Planning Activities for Green Infrastructure Projects. Funds will be utilized for project strategy and feasibility, preparation of plans, studies, training or research, engineering design activities, preparation of procurement documents for contractors, and drafting of contracts.
Rain Gardens	$200,000	**$200,000**	Planning activities for rain gardens. Funds will be used for site selection, design activities, project strategy and feasibility, preparation of plans, studies, training or research, preparation of

The Oakwood Blvd. project also consists of significant elements to improve nonmotorized pathways for pedestrians, cyclists, and others traveling by means other than motor vehicles, and significant investments in stormwater management, including a deep storm sewer main sized to support storm and sanitary sewer separation and trees and other plantings along the pathways to help contain flooding for the surrounding area.

The project is estimated to cost over $9M, with the City of Dearborn proposing to use up to $1M in CDBG-DR funding to support elements of the project directly related to flooding mitigation based on construction costs once finalized, and Ford Motor Company / Ford Land covering the remainder of the project costs with other funding sources.

The City of Dearborn sees an opportunity to support the flooding mitigation portions of this project, enabling Ford and Ford Land to enhance multiple aspects of the project, including plantings for flooding mitigation that would not have otherwise been possible without DR funding and, using non-DR funding sources, enhancing the connectivity of this project with our West Downtown, contributing to placemaking as well as flooding mitigation. As details still being finalized for this project, we are also working to explore opportunities to reduce impermeable paved surface in exchange for permeable pavers or other solutions to increase stormwater detention/retention capacity.

HUD National Objective Code – Spot Blight

HUD Matrix Code – 03J – Water/Sewer Improvements

Green Infrastructure

Due to the cost of the implementation of permeable pavement the City is looking at other green infrastructure projects for stormwater management. Preliminary estimates for an initial permeable pavement project would cost $1.3 million for only three residential city blocks. Other types of green infrastructure projects would not be as expensive such as installing bioretention projects and would aid in flood mitigation efforts. These bioretention projects would also increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage, to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters. The City will incorporate these projects into its short-term and long-term stormwater management plans once the OHM advisors have completed the two-year comprehensive study of the City's sewer and stormwater systems.

The first phase will consist of using bioretention instead of permeable pavement on streets in the northeast and southeast areas of the city. Bioretention is a stormwater management technique where landscaped and vegetated depressions capture and slow the flow of stormwater, which allows the water to be taken up by plants and seep into the ground. This process helps to reduce the volume of stormwater run-off and improve quality by removing pollutants from the runoff. Bioretention cells, or rain gardens, are the landscaped and vegetated depressions that capture and filter stormwater runoff. These bioretention cells are a fraction (usually between one-tenth and one-fourth) of the impermeable area and may be installed in lawns, the edges of a road, or in medians. Stormwater is directed into the cells by pipes, swales, or curb openings. Usually underneath the vegetated layer is a crushed stone layer. Stormwater runoff directed to bioretention cells will percolate through the soil and stone medium, which provides filtering before infiltration to native soil, or returning through an underdrain to the stormwater drainage system. This underdrain is typically placed above the bottom of the crushed stone layer to provide positive drainage once the stone layer storage is filled.

For phase two, the City will explore other green infrastructure projects. In the aftermath of the 2021 flooding disaster, the City contracted with OHM Advisors to do a comprehensive study of the City's sewer and stormwater systems to find ways to mitigate recurring flood challenges. OHM Advisors will be studying and collecting information and using it to predict how upgrades to the sewer/stormwater system can reduce flooding. This will help the city in the development of a stormwater management plan, including developing short-term and long-term solutions to flooding utilizing both grey and green infrastructure improvements. The final report is not slated to be done until October 2024. EDD will look at the final report to see how we can implement CDBG-DR green infrastructure projects via OHM's recommendations from the final study. Conventional grey stormwater infrastructure quickly drains stormwater to rivers and streams, increasing peak flows and flood risk. Green infrastructure can mitigate flood risk by slowing and reducing stormwater discharges.

In 2019, Congress enacted the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act, which defines green infrastructure as "the range of measures that use plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspiration stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters." [4] Examples at the urban scale could include a rain barrel up against a house, a row of trees along a major city street, or greening an alleyway. Neighborhood scale green infrastructure could include acres of open park land, planting rain gardens or constructing a wetland. At the landscape or watershed scale, examples could include protecting large open natural spaces, riparian areas, wetlands or greening steep hillsides. When green infrastructure systems are installed throughout a community, city or across a regional watershed, they can provide cleaner air and water as well as significant value for the community with flood protection, diverse habitat, and beautiful green spaces.

HUD National Objective Code – Low Mod Area (LMA)

HUD Matrix Code 03I – Flood Drainage Improvements

Flood Kits for Dearborn Fire Dept.

HUD Matrix Code 03I – Flood Drainage Improvements and Tree Projects

Green Schoolyards Plan: Salina Schools

Cities across America are seeking to transform asphalt-covered school grounds into park-like green spaces that improve children's well-being, learning, and play while contributing to their communities' ecological health and climate resilience. The Dearborn Green Schoolyards initiative is a result of the nation's commitment to clean air, clean water, and clean energy sources for all citizens. The focus is to continue to conserve environmental resources and to educate students and the community through nature-based learning. Green Schoolyards are outdoor environments that strengthen local ecological systems, provide learning opportunities, and foster a wide range of play and social opportunities while enhancing health and well-being. These schoolyards include trees, gardens, rain gardens, landscaping and play spaces, and resources designed for the students and the community. The features will also help better manage stormwater runoff that can flood the streets and overwhelm stormwater systems as well as protect the Rouge River watershed.

The Children & Nature Network defines green schoolyards as multi-functional school grounds, designed by and for the entire school community, that include places for students, teachers, parents, and community members to play, learn, explore and grow.[7] During out of school time, these schoolyards are ideally for community use.

CDBG-DR funds will be used to help fund the Dearborn Salina School Green Schoolyard Projects. The Salina Intermediate and Elementary Schools are located in southeast Dearborn. The Salina Intermediate School was built in 1920 and has had several additions over the years. Currently, this school houses 4th through 8th grade students. The newer Salina Elementary School was built next door to the intermediate school and houses pre-school through 3rd grade students. The Dearborn Green Schoolyards: Salina Schools Project calls for the installation of garden pavilions, courtyard pavilions, playscapes, landscaping, rain gardens, pollinator gardens, and trees.

This project at Salina Schools will be done over three phases and CDBG-DR funds will be used for the 1st phase. This first phase will consist of the removal of concrete and asphalt where needed for an interior courtyard pavilion with landscaping, a garden pavilion, two nature playscapes, rain gardens, pollinator gardens, and a landscaped parking buffer with trees. These green infrastructure elements will help ease pressure on the neighborhoods stormwater system by intercepting stormwater before it can reach a catch basin and instead allow it to be naturally absorbed into the ground.

HUD National Objective Code – Low Mod Area (LMA)

HUD Matrix Code 03I – Flood Drainage Improvements and Tree Projects

Amended CDBG-DR Projects Budgets

Table #3 lists Dearborn Proposed CDBG-DR Projects Budget Table which identifies the 1st Appropriation budget and 2nd Appropriation budget.

Table 3: DEARBORN PROPOSED CDBG-DR PROJECTS BUDGET

CDBG-DR Grant Allocation	1st Appropriation	2nd Appropriation	TOTAL BUDGET
Administration **Timeline:** We are required to have the CDBG-DR program completed within six years of the allocation of funding. Dearborn is preparing to complete our work at least one year ahead of schedule, while allowing pivot points in a strategy based on opportunities identified in or citywide study and opportunities to collaborate with neighboring communities such as Detroit, where such collaboration would amplify the impact of our efforts in Dearborn. Our general approach is as follows:	**$816,000**	**$533,650**	**$1,349,650**

• **Construction**	**$ 192,700**	**$2,702,560**	**$615,000**	**$3,317,560**
• **Contingency**				
Colson Palmer Stormwater Line Phase 2 (Rehabilitation) **Colson-Palmer (Phase 2) timeline months 36 through 48:** Installation of CDBG-DR Project Improvements begins and outreach to the community to keep them informed of project updates.		-	-	-
Colson Palmer Phase 2				
• **Construction**	**$13,950,400**			
• **Contingency**	**$ 637,500**	**$8,057,440**	**$6,340,460**	**$14,397,900**
Oakwood Blvd. Infrastructure Project **(Stormwater Line Replacement)** **Oakwood Blvd Infrastructure Project timeline months 36 through 48:** Construction of new stormwater line.				
Ford Project				
· **Construction**	**$800,000**			
· **Contingency**	**$200,000**		**$1,000,000**	**$1,000,000**
Flood Kits for Dearborn Fire Department **Flood Kits Project timeline months 36 through 48:** Procurement of flood kits and store in Dearborn Fire Dept. warehouse.			**$150,000**	**$150,000**
Green Infrastructure (Mitigation Set-Aside) **(Replacing Permeable Pavement Project)** **Green Infrastructure Projects timeline months 19 through 48:** Installation of CDBG-DR Project Improvements begins and outreach to the community to keep them informed of project updates.				
Green Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
	$2,375,000	-	-	-

TOTAL CDBG-DR		**$16,332,000**	**$10,673,000**	**$27,005,000**
GRAND TOTAL CDBG-DR FUNDS	**$27,005,000**			

Dearborn CDBG-DR Mitigation Set Aside Plan

According to Section IV.A.2 CDBG-DR mitigation set aside in the FRN FR-6326-N-01 "the Appropriations Act requires HUD to include in any allocation of CDBG-DR funds for unmet needs an additional amount of 15 percent for mitigation activities ("CDBG-DR mitigation set aside")." For purposes of grants under this notice, mitigation activities are defined as those activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage, to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters. The 15% mitigation set aside for the 1st appropriation is $2,131,500 and the City intends to spend approximately $3,450,000 (or 21%) on mitigation activities.

In FRN FR-6368-N-01 for the 2nd Appropriation of CDBG-DR funding, the 15% mitigation set-aside amount is $1,430,760 and the City intends to spend $1,432,940 or 17.93% towards mitigation activities. The grand total for all of the mitigation activities is $4,882,940 which is 18.08% of the total $27,005,000 CDBG-DR allocation. $615,600 will be added to Green Infrastructure Projects, $537,340 will be added to rain gardens, and $280,000 will be added to the Dearborn Salina School Green Schoolyard Project.

"Unlike recovery activities where grantees must demonstrate that their activities "tie back" to the specific disaster and address a specific unmet recovery need for which the CDBG-DR funds were appropriated, activities funded by CDBG-DR mitigation set-aside do not require such a "tie-back" to the specific qualified disaster that has served as a basis for the grantee's allocation. Instead, grantees must demonstrate that activities funded by the CDBG-DR mitigation set-aside meet the provisions included as (1) through (4) in the prior paragraph, to be eligible."

The mitigation projects the City has chosen to pursue came out of Dearborn's 2018 Stormwater Toolkit and can be implemented right away. These projects also align with the City of Dearborn's current administration's desire to pursue green infrastructure while we await the final sewer/stormwater study from OHM Advisors. Based on our CDBG-DR allocation, these are the projects identified for the mitigation set aside listed below in Table #4.

Table 4: DEARBORN CDBG-DR MITIGATION SET-A-SIDE PROPOSED PROJECTS TABLE

Mitigation Set-Aside			
Green Infrastructure	-	-	
• Construction	$2,375,000	-	
• Contingency	$ 800,000	-	
		$3,215,600	
Mitigation Set-Aside			
Rain Gardens		-	
• Construction	$957,340	-	
• Contingency	$180,000	**$1,137,340**	
Mitigation Set-Aside	-	-	
Tree Planting		-	
• Planting	$200,000		
• Contingency	$ 50,000	**$ 250,000**	

stormwater runoff in mostly commercial areas, which include a significant number of large and small businesses in northeast Dearborn. Since the City will only be utilizing its own property, maintenance of these gardens would be done by the City's Public Services Division in the Department of Public Works.

HUD National Objective Code – Low Mod Area (LMA)

HUD Matrix Code 03I – Flood Drainage Improvements and Tree Projects

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Trees - Trees are widely accepted to help mitigate flooding effects by interrupting rainfall as it travels to the ground, drawing water from the soil through root systems, and evaporation from leaves. Additionally, trees bring a range of other benefits to urban communities including mitigating heat island effects and improving air quality, city aesthetics, and community mental health. Tree coverage—similar to flood vulnerability, air quality and other public health concerns—is typically unequally distributed along socioeconomic and racial lines, creating an important environmental justice issue. For example, American Forests assigns a "tree equity score" at the census block level based on tree canopy cover, climate, demographic and socioeconomic data. In a map American Forests created, it found lower scores in Dearborn's northeast and southeast ends, the same neighborhoods that are particularly hard hit by flooding events[10].

Dearborn would like to utilize CDBG-DR funds to expand our urban forestry programs as a flood mitigation tool. The city is looking at planting trees in city parks, on city easements, and vacant city-owned lots. If the city does utilize its own vacant property, it will be held in the city inventory and maintained by the city as well. The funds would may also be used to purchase abandoned or unused lots, remove any concrete, and then forest and hydroseed the new land. If the city does purchase property for the purpose of planting trees, then these properties will remain in city inventory as well as be maintained by the city. The city may also employ the use of tree box filters where needed in more urban settings. A tree box filter is a stormwater treatment system widely implemented along sidewalks, street curbs, and car parks. They usually consist of a tree planted in soil, contained in a small, square concrete box. Tree box filters are used to control the volume and amounts of pollutants entering the local waters ways by providing areas where water can collect and naturally infiltrate or seep into the ground. The Friends of the Rouge, a non-governmental and local non-profit organization, has also provided the city with information regarding other options besides the use of tree box filters. When implementing this program, the city will work with its own Public Services Division of PWF and Friends of the Rouge to implement best practices when it comes to tree planting. The tree planting program would focus projects in the northeast and southeast neighborhoods particularly at risk for severe flooding.

Our tree planting projects will help augment several of the City's existing tree programs. Currently, the city maintains a tree selling program to residents, including free delivery, planting, and a one-year warranty. Additionally, Dearborn's PWF partners with the Friends of the Rouge to plant approximately 1,000 trees each year. According to internal figures and United States Forestry Services projections, the city's existing tree canopy has intercepted over 1.2 million gallons of water and prevented over 400,000 gallons of runoff since 2020.
https://treeequityscore.org/map/#12.36/42.31457/-83.21341

HUD National Objective Code – Low Mod Area (LMA)

HUD Matrix Code 03I – Flood Drainage Improvements and Tree Projects

Dearborn Green Schoolyards: Salina Schools - Urban Planners, architects, and city officials are looking to nature-based solutions to better absorb water in our urban areas. In cities where open space is scarce, playgrounds have become increasingly looked at as an opportunity to reduce flooding. Green infrastructure elements incorporated into a schoolyard can create a safe and usable area for children and others while reducing impermeable surfaces and managing stormwater runoff thereby reducing the rate and volume of stormwater entering the sewer system. According to the Community Schoolyards Initiative at Trust for Public Land (TPL) most of the nation's 90,000 public schoolyards are covered in asphalt.[11] Cities across America have begun to uproot this asphalt in favor of greener schoolyards. TPL alone has helped transform more than 200 schoolyards in New York City over the last 30 years. One new playground in Queens with newly installed green infrastructure will capture about 655,000 gallons of stormwater a year.[12] The Berkeley, California-based non-profit Green Schoolyards America has been collaborating with schools on similar projects around the world for over a decade.

The City of Dearborn now has their own green schoolyards program known as the Dearborn Green Schoolyards initiative. The focus is to continue to conserve environmental resources and to educate students and the community through nature-based learning. This initiative for Dearborn's Pubic Schools will include trees, gardens, rain gardens, landscaping and play spaces, and resources designed for students and the community. EDD would like to become a part of this initiative and use a portion of our CDBG-DR funding to help with green stormwater infrastructure elements for the Salina Schools. The two Salina Schools are located in southeast Dearborn, an area severely impacted by the 2021 flooding, and their plan calls for the installation of garden pavilions, courtyard pavilions, nature playscapes, landscaping, rain gardens, pollinator gardens, and trees throughout the school campus.

The green infrastructure elements in this plan will help with stormwater mitigation by helping to capture and filter stormwater on site rather than end up in the sewer/stormwater system. The Dearborn Green Schoolyards: Salina Schools Project will be done over three phases and CDBG-DR funds will be used for the 1st phase. This first phase will consist of the removal of concrete and asphalt where needed for an interior courtyard pavilion with landscaping, a garden pavilion, two nature playscapes, rain gardens, pollinator gardens, and a landscaped parking buffer with trees.

HUD National Objective Code – Low Mod Area (LMA)

In addition to the planning activities, Dearborn will fund the Colson Palmer and Ford infrastructure projects to address unmet recovery and mitigation needs associated with general infrastructure and public facilities. The grant funds will allow the city to construct infrastructure that is directly benefiting individuals and the larger community. Dearborn's proposed major infrastructure project, Colson Palmer Stormwater Line, does 'tie-back" to the June 2021 flooding. During the 2021 storm, the water level of the Rouge River reached 583 ft., 9 feet higher than average and 4 ft. above the water elevation that the Colson Palmer stormwater line was designed to keep the river water from flowing back into the storm sewer network. Backflow from the Rouge River prevented stormwater from draining into the river and forced the stormwater to back up into the sewer system and then forcing water to back up into homes. The Oakwood Blvd Infrastructure Project will also tie-back to the June 2021 flooding. Neighborhoods and businesses around Oakwood Blvd did experience flooding and this project will update the sewer and stormwater system in this area and help to decrease flooding issues in the future.

Both FRN's requires HUD to include in any CDBG-DR funding allocation an additional 15 percent for mitigation activities ("CDBG-DR mitigation set aside") funds for unmet needs. The 15% set aside for Dearborn is $4,050,750. Dearborn is proposing to use 17.93%, or $4,882,940 of its CDBG-DR funding for mitigation activities. A majority of this funding, 66%, or $3,175,000, will be used for the Green Infrastructure Project. The city will implement this CDBG-DR project on streets and areas in the northeast and southeast of Dearborn that were the most distressed and devastated from the June 2021 flooding event.

The green infrastructure, rain garden, tree planting, and Dearborn Green Salina School Schoolyard Projects will help build resiliency against future disaster events in Dearborn because they are very effective mitigation tools to fight against natural hazard risks including climate-related risks such as severe flooding. These mitigation set-aside projects are already being utilized around Dearborn. Businesses, schools, and homes have already implemented their own rain garden projects and tree planting is ongoing through programs offered by the city and in partnership with FOTR. New permeable pavement projects are being completed utilizing the city's annual CDBG funding. The rain gardens, tree planting, green infrastructure, and Dearborn Salina School Green Schoolyard Projects will be considered mitigation projects.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public Comment Period & Public Hearing for Substantial Amendment 1

The Substantial Amendment to the DR Action Plan was posted on the on the DR webpage in English and Arabic at https://cityofdearborn.org/disaster-recovery. The Dearborn DR email account to solicit comments was found at DearbornDR@dearborn.gov. A legal public notice regarding the comment period and public hearing was published in the Arab American News and the Dearborn Press & Guide newspaper in regards to the Dearborn Substantial Amendment to CDBG-DR Action Plan. In addition to the DR Substantial Amendment being posted at several City libraries, the City also promoted the reading and commenting on the Substantial Amendment through a press release and outreach on social media. The press release was also emailed out 1,100 contacts that included media, internal employees and the general public. The City's Neighborhood Liaison also promoted the comment period and public hearing at the citizen-led Tree Advisory Committee. She also distributed the press release to the Federation of Neighborhood Associations (represents 10 neighborhood associations), Southwest Outer Drive Association, Concerned Residents of South Dearborn and Hemlock, Garrison Row Condo Association, City Beautiful Commission, and Disabilities Concern Commission. The CDBG-DR Grant Manager also promoted the comment period and public hearing at a meeting with Salina Schools.

The public hearing regarding the Substantial Amendment to the CDBG-DR Draft Action Plan was held on September 5, 2023 at 6:00p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Four City employees, the Chief of Staff to Mayor, a City Council Member, and seven residents attended. There were also four press and media organizations in attendance. A total of six citizens made comments.

The following provides a summary of the September 5, 2023 public hearing, DR email, and written comments.

Public Hearing Comments

1. Citizen One Comment: Lost everything in basement during the last flood. Had to pay for everything lost. Mayor and City Council should be here. Have no access to cable or Facebook to find out about these meetings.

Answer: The City publish all public notices in two local newspapers, information is available at all public libraries and at the Dearborn Administrative Center, on the city website and has a dedicated email address where you can submit questions and ask for information. The City will look at better ways to outreach those with no access to internet and social media.

b. Comment: What will this do for residents?

Answer: City looked at FEMA data as a part the process of choosing projects. Northeast and southeast Dearborn were designated by HUD as a Most Impacted and Distressed Area (MID). When Colson Palmer Stormwater Line was built the outfall at the Rouge River was above the water but now is frequently underwater due to development and climate change. Rehabilitation of the Colson Palmer Line alone will impact about 25,850 residents in northeast Dearborn. Our mitigation projects which include green infrastructure, rain gardens, trees, and the Salina Green Schoolyards Project will delay stormwater into the system. The DR Grant Manager will be reaching out to you to provide information regarding our projects.

2. Citizen Two Comment: Mayor talked about backflow preventers. He also talked about a backflow prevention system for neighborhoods. Many trees were removed when the City did the sewer and stormwater separation project.

Comment: Would like to put sump pump in basement but power goes out every time there is a storm. Sump pumps needs power to work. There is no tree trimming done by City and minimal effort by DTE to offset power outages. Would like to see the City Planners and engineers proactive in addressing DTE's shortcomings and slow response to the frequent power outages that are occurring. City should look at a program for low-cost sump pump installation for homeowners.

Answer: Thank you for your comments. As of now there will be no direct assistance to homeowners under the CDBG-DR program. The City took a two-pronged approach in regards to projects funded with CDBG-DR funds. 1) expansion of the stormwater system capacity; and 2) delay of stormwater into the stormwater system. The infrastructure projects will help with stormwater systems ability to hold water and not back up into the sewer system. The rehabilitation of the Colson Palmer Stormwater Line, once completed, will lessen flooding issues for almost 26,000 residents in northeast Dearborn, a quarter of Dearborn's population. The proposed mitigation projects of green infrastructure, rain gardens, and trees will reduce the overall amount of stormwater runoff from entering the stormwater system when heavy rain and flooding events occur. In addition to the infrastructure and mitigation work being done with CDBG-DR funds the City contracted with OHM Advisors to do a comprehensive study of the City's sewer and stormwater systems to find ways to mitigate recurring flood challenges. OHM Advisors will be studying and collecting information and using it to predict how upgrades to the sewer/stormwater system can reduce flooding. This will help the city in the development of a stormwater management plan, including developing short-term and long-term solutions to flooding. The final report is scheduled to be done in October 2024.

3. **Citizen 3**

Comment: Home flooded three time within the last 10 years. Fear using the basement as in the past. While the east end experienced two floods in 2021 did Salina Schools area also suffer similarly? Understand that green space will eventually help neighborhood but area has too much concrete and relying on aged infrastructure that needs to be addressed now.

Answer: Thank you for your comments: The entire City of Dearborn was impacted by the flooding but City and FEMA data shows that the northeast and southeast were the hardest hit areas of the City. Based on this data we will be spending most of the CDBG-DR funding in these areas. The rehabilitation of the Colson Palmer Stormwater Line, once completed, will lessen flooding issues for almost 26,000 residents in northeast Dearborn, a quarter of Dearborn's population. In addition to the infrastructure work being done with CDBG-DR the City contracted with OHM Advisors to do a comprehensive study of the City's sewer and stormwater systems to find ways to mitigate recurring flood challenges. OHM Advisors will be studying and collecting information and using it to predict how upgrades to the sewer/stormwater system can reduce flooding. This will help the city in the development of a stormwater management plan, including developing short-term and long-term solutions to flooding. The final report is scheduled to be done in October 2024.

4. **Citizen 4**

Comment: Aware that City is no longer offering cost sharing for installing rain gardens. Could City consider tax incentive to encourage residents to make more rain gardens and/or rain barrels or do a renewed push for homeowners to do these things themselves?

Answer: Thank you for your comments. The City, in partnership with Friends of the Rouge, will coordinate outreach in the spring of 2024 to Dearborn residents, youths, and other stakeholders for Rain Garden 101 courses, Master Rain Gardener courses, and Stormwater Specialist Training courses. Promotion of these courses is to generate interest and participation in rain gardens. These courses will be taught by Friends of the Rouge and will take place in Dearborn in 2024.

5. **Citizen 5**

Comment: Has there been any discussion about using available public spaces to install solar fields? We also have a lot of wasted space with private abandoned properties contributing to floodwater run-off. Would like to see some of that land integrated into a sustainable infrastructure plan to make us less dependent on DTE and its terrible response to storm damage.

Answer: Thank you for your comments. The use of our CDBG-DR has to tie directly back to the flooding that occurred in 2021 or for projects that will help mitigate future flooding occurrences. For our green infrastructure, rain garden, and tree planting projects we will be looking implementing them in City parks, City-owned vacant property, and in the City medians. New construction does require a stormwater mitigation plan but as far as existing private property is concerned the City will be encouraging use of rain gardens and other green practices to help mitigate stormwater run-off.

6. **Citizen 6**

Comment: Concerned about the system's ability to handle stormwater. Any solution will be years in planning and execution. Part of this plan should be preventative such as back water valves/gates to prevent water from entering the home when the system is overwhelmed. Another part of the plan should to set aside funding for reimbursement for losses. Those who are in areas prone to flooding or have a history of being flooded be top priority.

Answer: Thank you for your comments. As of now there will no direct assistance to homeowners under the CDBG-DR program. The City took a two-pronged approach in regards to projects funded with CDBG-DR funds. 1) expansion of the stormwater system capacity; and 2) delay of stormwater into the stormwater system. The infrastructure projects will help with stormwater systems ability to hold water and not back up into the sewer system. The rehabilitation of the Colson Palmer Stormwater Line, once completed, will lessen flooding issues for almost 26,000 residents in northeast Dearborn, a quarter of Dearborn's population. The proposed mitigation projects of green infrastructure, rain gardens, and trees will reduce the overall amount of stormwater runoff from entering the stormwater system when heavy rain and flooding events occur. In addition to the infrastructure and mitigation work being done with CDBG-DR funds the City contracted with OHM Advisors to do a comprehensive study of the City's sewer and stormwater systems to find ways to mitigate recurring flood challenges. OHM Advisors will be studying and collecting information and using it to predict how upgrades to the sewer/stormwater system can reduce flooding. This will help the city in the development of a stormwater management plan, including developing short-term and long-term solutions to flooding. The final report is scheduled to be done in October 2024.

[13] USGCRP, *2018: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States: Fourth National Climate Assessment*, Volume II [Reidmiller, D.R., C.W. Avery, D.R. Easterling, K.E. Kunkel, K.L.M. Lewis, T.K. Maycock, and B.C. Stewart (eds.)]. U.S. Global Change Research Program, Washington, DC, USA, 1515 pp. doi: 10.7930/NCA4.2018

[14] *Welcome to NFIP Direct.* Retrieved from https://my.nfipdirect.fema.gov/

[15] Lawn Care Blog | Lawn Love. *How Much Does It Cost to Plant a Tree?* - https://lawnlove.com/blog/cost-to-plant-tree/#:~:text=Average%20costs%20to%20plant%20a%20tree%20in%202023&text=The%20average%20cost%20of%20tree,landscaper%20or%20arborist%20plant%20it