




MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

FROM: Randy Rydel, Financial Services Manager 

DATE: February 23, 2022

RE: Truck Road Emergency Bank Stabilization Project, Prj No. 720008
Supplemental Budget Request, ID # 3611-2022

Requested Action

Enclosed for your review and consideration is a 2022 supplemental budget request for the above referenced project.

Background and Purpose

Truck Road is at risk of damage in the next highwater due to rapid North Fork Nooksack River erosion. The river has eroded over 270' of riverbank during and after the November 2021 floods bringing the river perilously close to Truck Road. This road acts as an emergency bypass for Mt Baker Hwy and is a resource the County relies on to ensure services to up-river communities.

An emergency contract was awarded, in accordance with the Whatcom County Executive's Proclamation of Emergency for flooding in Whatcom County dated November 14, 2021, to Trimaxx Construction Inc. to build the project. Additionally, a supplement to Herrera Environmental Consultants was executed to support design and construction of the project.

There is adequate budget authority in the FCZD fund for these expenditures, however this supplemental budget request is needed to restore the budget authority so other projects in the original budget can be advanced as planned.

The site is an expansion of an existing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) project from the 2020 Superbowl Flood. Future work will be required for environmental mitigation and final repair to the road.

Funding Amount and Source

This supplemental budget request will authorize \$1,400,000 of expenditure authority for construction of the first phase of this project (emergency) and design of the final phase (mitigation and road repair).

A presidential disaster has been declared for the November 2021 Flooding. FEMA has approved the initial damage assessment at this site as eligible for reimbursement through the Public Damage Assistance Program (PDA). FEMA will reimburse 75% federal. The remaining 25% will be split evenly between the Road and FCZD funds. Often the state will contribute 12.5% towards FEMA PDA projects, however the state has not confirmed if this will be the case for the November 2021 flood event.

Please contact Paula Harris at extension 6285 if you have any questions regarding this contract.

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Public Works

Flood Control Zone District

Suppl ID # 3593 Fund 169 Cost Center 720008 Originator: Christina Schoenfelder

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 2 2022 Add'l FTE Add'l Space Priority 1

Name of Request: Truck Road Emergency Bank Stabilization Project

X  2/22/22
 Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) Date

| Costs: | Object | Object Description | Amount Requested |
|--------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | 4333.8704 | FEMA Military | (\$1,050,000) |
| | 6630 | Professional Services | \$100,000 |
| | 7380 | Other Improvements | \$1,300,000 |
| | 8301.108 | Operating Transfer In | (\$175,000) |
| | Request Total | | \$175,000 |

1a. Description of request:

Additional funds needed to construct emergency riverbank stabilization project to protect Truck Rd. Funds will also be used for designing an environmental mitigation project to offset project impacts.

1b. Primary customers:

The traveling public that utilize Truck Road both as a rural local access road and an emergency bypass for SR 542 (Mt. Baker Hwy)

2. Problem to be solved:

The Project will limit lateral river erosion from damaging Truck Road during the next high water event.

3a. Options / Advantages:

This proposed project is consistent with a recent alternatives analysis conducted for the project area in coordination with agencies, stakeholders, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

3b. Cost savings:

If the project is not constructed now there is a high likelihood that the road will be damaged during the next high water event this spring. Damage to the roadway will not only be more costly to repair, but may also pose a safety risk to the traveling public and will impact services due to a prolonged road closure.

4a. Outcomes:

Truck Road will remain open and will continue to serve as a transportation resource to upriver communities.

4b. Measures:

Project is constructed as planned.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Whatcom County Public Works Engineering

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

Paula Harris, Whatcom County River & Flood Manager and Christina Schoenfelder, Project Engineer.

6. Funding Source:

A presidential disaster has been declared for the November 2021 Flooding. FEMA has approved the initial damage assessment at this site as eligible for reimbursement through the Public Damage Assistance Program (PDA). FEMA will reimburse 75% federal. The remaining 25% will be split evenly between the Road and FCZD funds.

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Public Works

Flood Control Zone District

Supp'l ID # 3593

Fund 169

Cost Center 720008

Originator: Christina Schoenfelder

Often the state will contribute 12.5% towards FEMA PDA projects, however the state has not confirmed if this will be the case for the November 2021 flood event.

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Public Works

Natural Resources

Suppl ID # 3595 Fund 169 Cost Center 813002 Originator: Gary Stoyka

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 2 2022 Add'l FTE Add'l Space Priority 1

Name of Request: 2022 PIC Agricultural Cost Share

X  2/23/2022
 Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) Date

| Costs: | Object | Object Description | Amount Requested |
|--------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | 7190 | Other Miscellaneous | \$21,000 |
| | Request Total | | \$21,000 |

1a. Description of request:

This SBR will provide funding for additional farm best management practices cost-share projects in coastal drainages in support of the Whatcom County Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program. Through an interlocal agreement with the Whatcom Conservation District (WCD), the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) provides \$21,000 to agricultural cost-share projects in 2022. The extreme weather events in November 2021 led to manure storage capacity concerns for many farmers in Whatcom County. In order to help prevent discharges from manure storage facilities and potential impacts to downstream shellfish beds, partners contributed to an emergency cost-share program managed by the WCD. This emergency cost-share program provided financial assistance to farmers for pumping, transporting and storing manure in alternative storage facilities. In order to quickly access funds, emergency allowances were provided through existing cost-share funds in the interlocal agreement between the FCZD and WCD. This SBR will provide additional funding for the cost-share program to ensure that both emergency manure transfer and standard best management practice cost-share projects can be completed in 2022.

1b. Primary customers:

Landowners with farm animal operations in Whatcom County. To be eligible for cost-share funds, the landowner must have a farm plan that provides protection of water quality in Whatcom County waterways.

2. Problem to be solved:

Whatcom County has two shellfish growing areas that have seasonal closures due to poor water quality in the fall and winter months. The Whatcom County PIC Program works with local, state, tribal, and federal partners to reduce fecal bacteria in surface waters to improve and protect water quality and reopen and maintain year-round access to shellfish harvest. Fecal bacteria sources include human and animal waste. Whatcom County partners with the WCD to provide community outreach, technical assistance, and financial assistance programs to landowner with agricultural operations in Whatcom County. These programs support water quality protection through farm planning and implementation of best management practices on sites with agricultural operations.

November 2021 historic flooding in combination with heavy rainfall levels caused some Whatcom County livestock manure storage facilities to reach or overtop capacity. In order to prevent discharges to surface waters that could impact Whatcom County surface water quality, the WCD is coordinating emergency manure pumping, hauling, and storing at alternate manure storage facilities to address over topping risk.

Application of manure during winter months is not advised because pasture grass and other forage species are dormant during this time frame and not able to take up manure derived nutrients. Additionally, manure derived pathogens are more readily transported offsite through overland flow of water during this time of year. In this way, emergency winter application of manure in the vicinity of waterbodies has the potential to cause manure discharges into nearby ditches, streams, and rivers.

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Public Works

Natural Resources

Suppl ID # 3595

Fund 169

Cost Center 813002

Originator: Gary Stoyka

Whatcom Clean Water Program (WCWP) partners are collaborating to address this environmental emergency through a pilot water quality protection initiative that seeks to quickly and efficiently remove, transport, and store livestock manure in safe locations before ongoing winter rainfall and new flooding events place additional pressure on already strained manure facilities.

This SBR will provide additional funding for the cost-share program to ensure that both emergency manure transfer and standard best management practice cost-share projects can be completed in 2022.

3a. Options / Advantages:

The local agricultural community has been working with the Whatcom Conservation District and other local, state, and federal agencies to find ways to prevent the discharge of manure into our waterways. The Washington Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Health (United States Environmental Protection Agency grant funds), and Washington Conservation Commission contributed funds to the effort. Cost-share funds in the Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District interlocal agreement were used as an immediate stop gap funding tool to support this emergency need. This request would provide additional funding to support the emergency manure transfer without sacrificing funding for standard cost share projects which are integral to the long-term stewardship program. Thus, this request addresses both immediate and long term needs for water quality protection.

3b. Cost savings:

The agricultural community and Conservation District identified transferring manure from nearly full storage facilities to other storage facilities in the County that are not currently in use as the most cost-effective measure to deal with this problem. Additionally, this approach provides protection from further emergency closures to downstream shellfish harvest the potential associated economic impacts on tribal and commercial harvest.

4a. Outcomes:

Manure transferred from nearly full manure storage facilities to facilities with sufficient capacity to safely store liquid manure until it can be safely applied to fields or another acceptable disposal method. Standard agricultural best management practices to support long-term stewardship actions.

4b. Measures:

Amount of manure transferred. Number of agricultural BMPs installed/implemented.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Whatcom Conservation District

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

Corina Cheever, Whatcom Conservation District, responsible for implementing cost-share program

6. Funding Source:

Flood Control Zone District Fund (813003)