

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Planning and Development Services

TO: David L. Corliss, City Manager

FROM: Amy Miller, Long-Range Planner

CC: Scott McCullough, Planning and Development Services Director
Sheila Stogsdill, Assistant Planning Director

Date: For March 26, 2013 meeting

RE: Charter Agreement for Lower Kansas Watershed RiskMAP Project

Staff from Planning and Development Services and Public Works' Stormwater Division has attended meetings with Kansas Division of Agriculture's (KDA) Water Resources Division and their contractors since Fall 2012 regarding a new mapping project for the Lower Kansas Watershed. The program aims to identify, map and assess local flood risks in the watershed. The project is being funded as part of the Cooperating Technical Partnership that KDS has with FEMA.

This project will produce new or updated Hydrologic and Hydraulic Studies of certain tributaries in Lawrence that will result in new Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) and FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the community. The tributaries being studied are Maple Gove, Country Club, Brook Creek, Burroughs Creek, Deerfield and Baldwin Creek. Staff expects to have preliminary maps available for review in 2014.

As part of the project, FEMA and KDA require the city to sign a charter agreement. The charter agreement provides an overview of the project, describes the roles of the partners (KDA, FEMA, local communities), and details the products of the project. The City's main role in the project is to provide guidance and information to the partners, review data throughout the project and provide feedback, and adopt any revised FIRMs at the end of the project. The charter does not necessarily bind the city to perform in any specific way.

Action:

Authorize Mayor to sign project charter for RiskMAP project for Lower Kansas watershed.