

ENGINEER'S AGENDA
City of Mapleton Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at 6:00 pm

- 1.0 City Engineer**
 - 1.1 Meridian Grove and Bishop's Addition Drainage Improvements**
 - 1.1.1 Project Status
 - 1.2 Levee Recertification**
 - 1.2.1 Letter to FEMA
 - 1.3 Cass County Highway 11 Reconstruction**
 - 1.3.1 Update on Status
 - 1.4 FEMA 6th Avenue Street Repairs**
 - 1.4.1 Engineering Invoice #1420 - \$1,125.00

May 12, 2011

Jeanine D. Petterson
FEMA Region VIII Mitigation Division Director
US Department of Homeland Security
Region VIII
Denver Federal Center, Building 710
P.O. Box 25267
Denver, CO 80225-02667

**RE: REQUEST TO AMEND THE CURRENT PROVISIONALLY ACCREDITED LEVEE AGREEMENT
MAPLETON, NORTH DAKOTA**

Dear Ms. Petterson,

Last fall, the City of Mapleton entered into a Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL) agreement with FEMA for the Mapleton Levee. As part of the agreement, the City must provide documentation to FEMA by December 1, 2012, showing that the levee meets the criteria set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Section 65.10 (44 CFR 65.10).

The City of Mapleton understands the obligations of the PAL Agreement and, although difficult, will spend the funds necessary to show compliance with all federal regulations and requirements. We have hired an engineering consultant to assist us with the certification, and remain very confident that our levee meets the standards for accreditation.

The City is concerned, however, that to date, a preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) has not been released for the City of Mapleton. Because of this, the City does not know what the profile of the base flood (100-yr) will be along the levee. This could delay the certification for many reasons. For instance, a minimum levee freeboard height is required in 44 CFR 65.10; however, it is not possible to compare the existing levee elevation to the water surface elevation that will be enforced on the new DFIRM. Also, the profile must be known to properly conduct a geotechnical analysis to show levee performance against the base flood.

For the above reasons, the new Base Flood Elevation (BFE) at each point along the levee must be known before the City can provide documentation that the levee meets 44 CFR 65.10 requirements. If the new BFE is assumed for the purpose of moving forward with the certification, it is possible that the levee may be analyzed and certified against a water surface profile lower than what will be shown on the new DFIRM. If this were the case, the funds spent analyzing the levee and writing reports would be wasted and need to be repeated. Furthermore, if the DFIRM is released too late, there may not be time to remedy minor deficiencies or complete the engineering analysis before the PAL agreement expires. This could be financially devastating to the residents of Mapleton.

The City is also concerned to have learned that the Southeast Cass Water Resource District has discovered significant issues with the unsteady-state models being used for the new Cass County, ND

Flood Insurance Study (FIS). This fact gives the City additional hesitation to expend funds on the certification.

To be clear, the City does not deny that it is responsible for meeting all aspects of the PAL agreement. However, we feel that we cannot move forward with the certification if the water surface profile on the new DFIRM is still a moving target. Therefore, we respectfully request that the PAL agreement be put on hold until a locally acceptable preliminary DFIRM is released. Once the map is released, we request 19 months to provide all documentation, since we are just over 5 months into the current 24-month PAL agreement.

Please let the City know the determination of this request within 30 days so we can plan accordingly. We are confident that we can work through this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark Anderson
Mayor, City of Mapleton

Cc: Eric Hillman, City Council, City of Mapleton
Brandon Oye, Moore Engineering
Jeff Klein, State of North Dakota NFIP Coordinator
Julie Prescott, State Mapping Coordinator
Nancy Steinberger, FEMA Region VIII
Dana Werner – USACE – St. Paul District
Senator Conrad's Washington, DC, Office
Senator Hoeven's Washington, DD, Office
Representative Berg's, Washington, DC, Office



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City of Mapleton
P O Box 9
Mapleton, ND 58059-0009

Invoice number 1420
Date 05/27/2011

Project 15895 FEMA 6th Avenue Street Repairs

Professional Services

FEMA 6th Avenue Street Repairs

2010 Work

Project Engineer 6.25 hours X \$110.00 per Hour = \$ 687.50

2011 Work

Professional Engineer 3.50 hours X \$125.00 per Hour = \$437.50

Description	Total Billed
000 Bidding and Construction	1,125.00
Total	1,125.00
Invoice total	1,125.00