



HISTORIC  
FRANKLIN  
TENNESSEE

ITEM #10  
WRKS 02/08/2011

## MEMORANDUM

January 31, 2011

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator *Eric*  
Tom Marsh, Zoning and Development Coordinator

SUBJECT: Consideration of City of Franklin Application for Phase 1 of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) available in response to the May 2010 Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1909-DR-TN)

### Purpose

The purpose of this action is to obtain authorization from the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) to proceed with application to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) for funds available in Phase 1 of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) due to the May 2010 Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1909-DR-TN).

### Background

As previously discussed, the City of Franklin has been allocated **\$1,133,097** in Phase 1 of the HMGP due to the May 2010 Presidential Disaster Declaration due to flooding. This total includes the federal, state, and local shares broken down as follows:

- Federal share (25%) - \$849,823
- State share (12.5%) - \$141,637
- COF share (12.5%) - \$141,637.

In accordance with program guidance, the funds are to be used for activities that significantly reduce or permanently eliminate the loss of life and property from natural disasters. The City of Franklin application proposes to acquire properties in the floodplain, remove any structures on the properties, and maintain the properties in perpetual open space.

Twenty-five (25) property owners representing twenty-six (26) properties completed initial questionnaires to request that the City investigate acquiring their properties. Initial evaluation by staff narrowed the candidates to nineteen (19) properties. The notification of funds available that was received in late December brought realization that the City will probably only be able to acquire five (5) or six (6) properties with funds available in Phase 1 of the HMGP.

Staff proposed and the Board concurred with the following priorities in identifying properties for potential acquisition:

- Substantially damaged properties located in the floodplain
- Properties not substantially damaged, but in floodplain and benefit community from a mitigation standpoint
- Higher priority given to properties located actually in or close to floodway not just floodway fringe
- The relative benefit of the geographic location represent to the City.



- The anticipated long term maintenance costs.

Applications for Phase 1 of the HMGP are due to TEMA by March 31.

**Discussion**

With the previous guidance from the Board, staff has identified and recommends that the City proceed with an application for the HMGP Phase 1 to acquire five (5) properties. In accordance with the priorities listed above, each of these properties is located in the floodplain and was substantially damaged by the flood of May 2010. The properties are located in fairly close proximity to each other on opposite sides of the Harpeth River. Two (2) properties are along Thompson Alley and three (3) are at the south end of the Ewingville neighborhood. Maps are available to Board members for clarification of the location of the properties that are proposed for acquisition.

Based on the City's priorities and the funds available, these properties present potential future benefits with minimal long term maintenance costs for the City.

As a reminder, the HMGP is completely voluntary on the part of the property owner. At any point up until closing, the property owner can choose to withdraw their property from consideration. To prepare for this possibility, staff has identified additional properties from the pool of interested owners that can be substituted in the application. The exact property that would be substituted depends on the amount of funds available. If sufficient funds become available, the next properties that would be proposed for acquisition would be adjacent to others proposed for acquisition along Ewingville Drive. There are also a couple of properties of lower cost that could be substituted if funds are not sufficient to continue acquisition along Ewingville Drive.

Staff will also prepare an additional application package in case funds become available to the City of Franklin in Phase 2 of the HMGP. The deadline for Phase 2 applications is June 30.

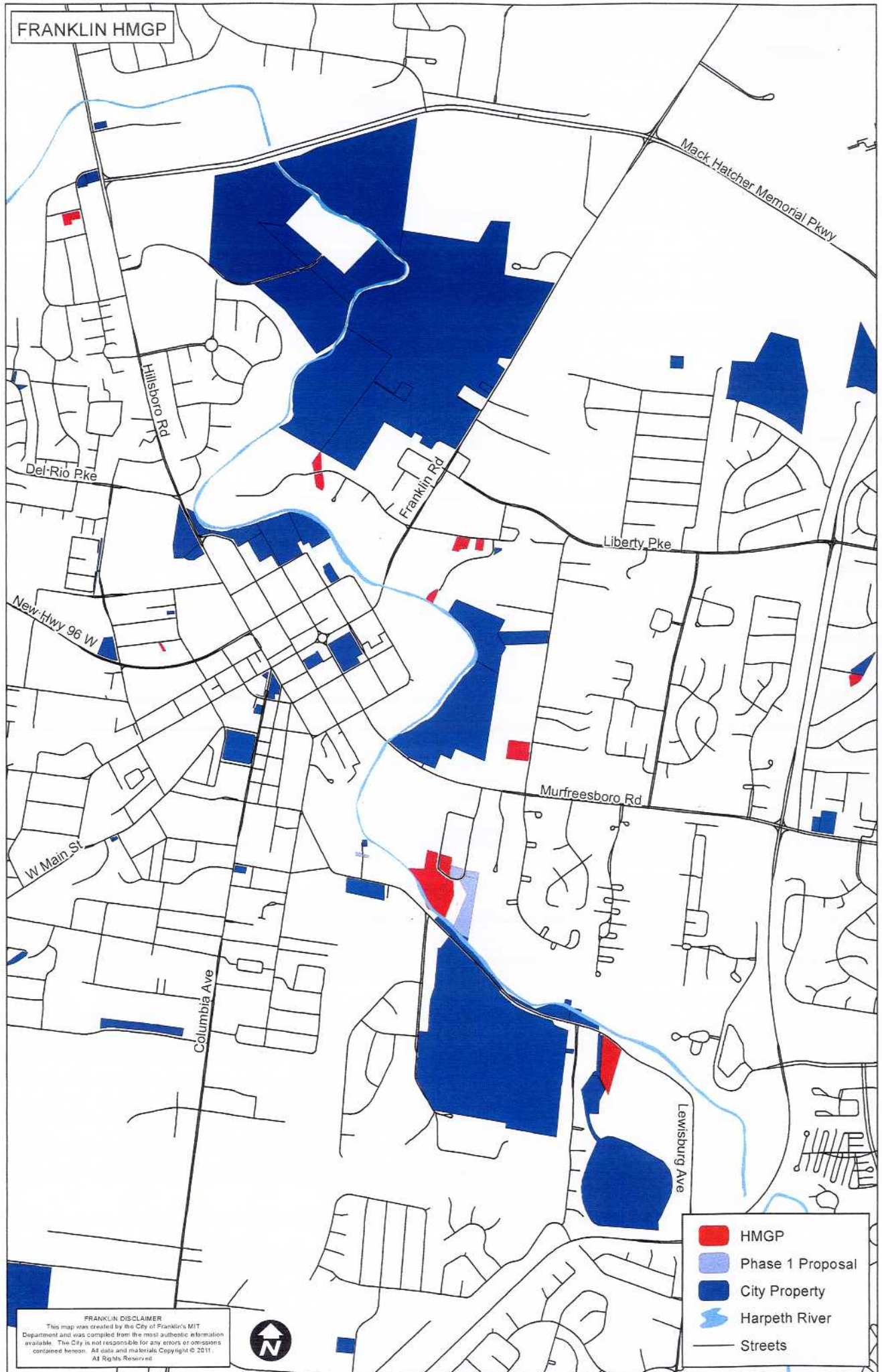
**Financial Impact**

The City must purchase the properties and then is reimbursed by FEMA. Total amount of expenses that will not be reimbursed will be at least \$141,637.

**Recommendation**

Authorize staff to submit formal application to TEMA for 2010 HMGP.

FRANKLIN HMGP



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- HMGP
- Phase 1 Proposal
- City Property
- Harpeth River
- Streets