Water Sustainability Fund 2024 Status Report # 10023

PROJECT: Sargent Flood Resiliency Project – WSF Application #10023 (awarded March 15, 2023)

DATE: MARCH 21, 2025 (FIRST ANNUAL REPORT DUE ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2024)

PROJECT PROGRESS UP TO APRIL 2025:

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding is critical for the project partners (City of Sargent and Lower Loup NRD) to move forward with this project. HMGP funds ($355,412.20) for design were approved by NEMA on December 19, 2023. The Lower Loup Natural Resources District (LLNRD) entered a service contract on March 5, 2024, with JEO Consulting to complete the design. JEO has submitted, and review has been completed on, the 60% design. JEO and the LL NRD hosted an open house in Sargent to discuss the project with affected landowners and residents. The 90% design is expected to be submitted in May 2025. The design is anticipated to be completed by August 2025.

ANTICIPATED ACTIVITIES FROM NOW UNTIL NEXT ANNUAL REPORT DUE APRIL 1, 2026:

The following is the anticipated timeline of activities to be completed before the next required annual report.

- 90% Design Submitted for Review: May 2025
- 90% Design Review completed: June 2025
- Final Design Submitted: August 2025
- FEMA Review of Final Design and Approval to Construct: November 2025

ANTICIPATED CASH FLOW FOR DESIGN OF THE PROJECT:

No funds have been expended on the project to date. LL NRD staff are collecting information to be used in the Groundwater Evaluation Tool (GET) to model the effects of using groundwater irrigation wells to lower groundwater levels within the city that causes damage to basements in town.

$39,490 – The LLNRD ($7,898), the City of Sargent ($7,898) and WSF ($23,694) have design funding obligations towards this project under grant #10023.

LIKELIHOOD THAT BENEFITS PROJECTED IN APPLICATION 10023 WILL BE REALIZED:

Results of the Sargent Flooding and Drainage Study completed by Olsson in July 2020 indicate that the planned measures to be installed will provided significant reductions in damages in the city resulting from storm runoff and locally high groundwater levels.