

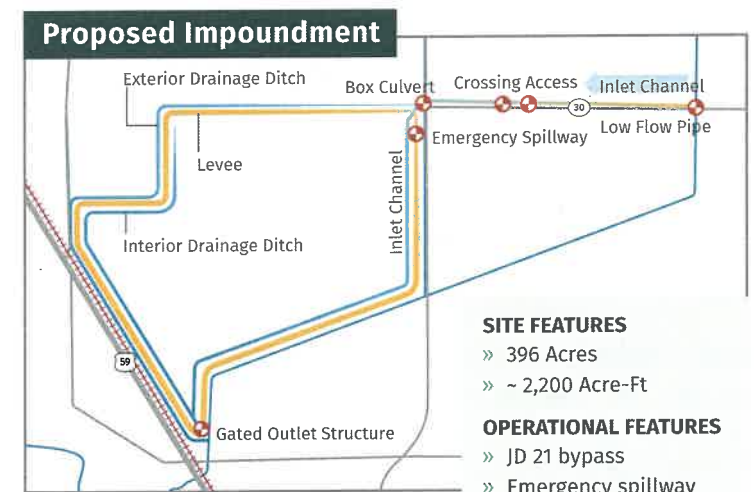
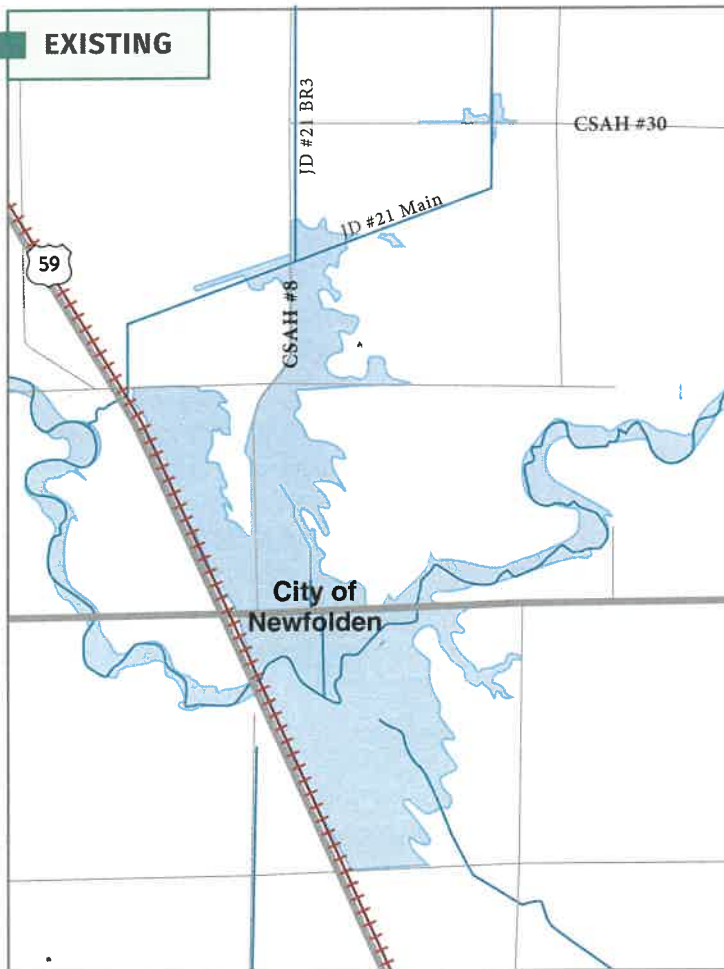
# City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project

In 2016, the City of Newfolden was mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as part of its nation-wide digital mapping initiative. As a result, almost the entire east side of Newfolden was identified as being in the 100-year floodplain.

The floodplain designation led to the creation of a Project Work Team and partnership with the Middle-Snake-Tamarac-Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD). Together we seek to mitigate the risks that floodwaters pose to the City of Newfolden, as well as the inevitable impacts the floodplain designation may have to the community.

## FLOODPLAIN MITIGATION

The Project Work Team developed a comprehensive solution to minimize the impact that a 100-year flood could pose to the City. A 396-acre proposed impoundment would be located north of the City and would prevent overland flows from Judicial Ditch 21 from entering the City by temporarily storing the water, in the event it floods.



### SITE FEATURES

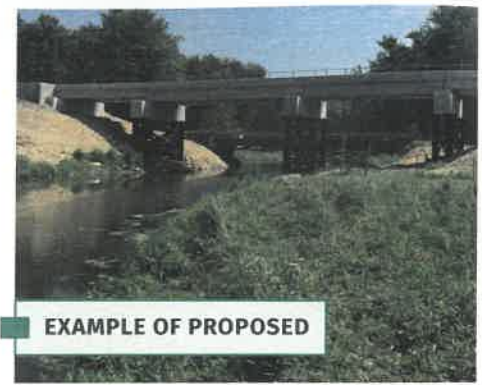
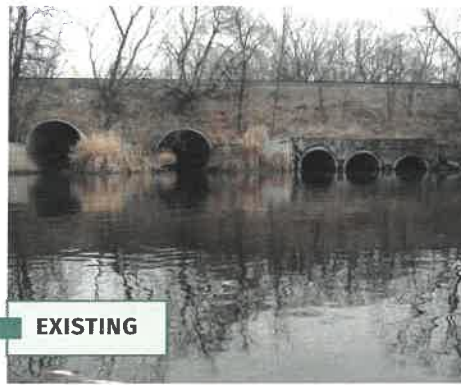
- » 396 Acres
- » ~ 2,200 Acre-Ft

### OPERATIONAL FEATURES

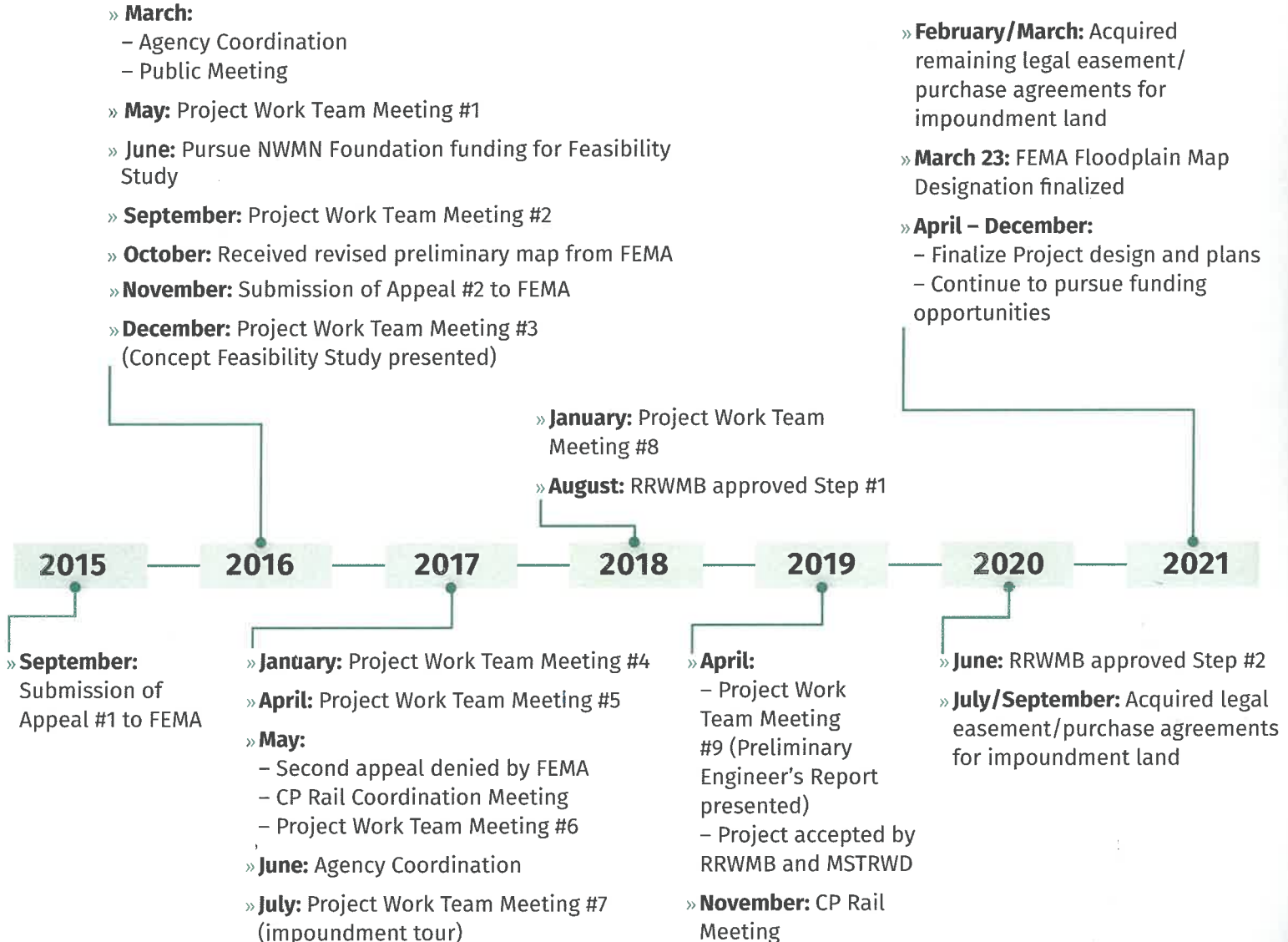
- » JD 21 bypass
- » Emergency spillway
- » Exterior drainage
- » Gated outlet to JD 21

## RAILROAD BRIDGE COMPONENT

During the FEMA mapping initiative, it was determined that several culverts that pass under the existing rail line are in need of replacement. These culverts are insufficient to convey peak water flows which may result in flooding east of the railroad tracks and potential damage to the railroad infrastructure.



## PROJECT MILESTONES



## PROJECT OUTLOOK

With input from the Project Work Team, City officials, and the Watershed staff, the Project is underway with final design, the drafting of the construction documents, gathering funding sources, and obtaining the necessary permits. The input from everyone associated with the Project thus far has been instrumental in developing the foundation for the various components and design. There will be an open house when the design is formalized, and it is anticipated that construction will begin in 2022 and continue into 2023. More information on the date and time of the open house will be given when available.

► **Who is affected by the newly mapped FEMA Floodplain?**

43 Residences are affected, multiple elevator structures, a church, park, an apartment building, and existing land that is zoned for development are all identified as in the floodplain.

► **What do I need to know if I'm within the FEMA Regulatory Floodplain?**

Flood insurance will be mandatory beginning March 23, 2021, if you have a federally backed loan (most types of mortgages, second mortgages and other secured loans). The mandatory flood insurance requirement is only if structures are located within the high-risk floodplain, not if just a portion of the lot is in the floodplain. However, your lender has the prerogative to require you to get flood insurance as a condition of the loan even if it's not a federal requirement. In those cases, you should be able to get the discounted Preferred Risk Policy for structures in the low or medium risk floodplain. Properties newly-mapped may also be eligible for a preferred risk policy. For more information on flood zones and flood insurance, visit [floodsmart.gov](http://floodsmart.gov).

► **Will the proposed Project remove the City from the newly mapped Floodplain?**

Yes, based on the current Project design, we are removing the area mapped by FEMA on the east side of Newfolden from the 1% Annual Chance floodplain pending FEMA review. The City has been working closely with the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) to determine what can be done to remove Newfolden from the 1% Annual Chance floodplain determination. Since 2015, activities have been ongoing from forming partnerships and working closely to develop a plan, acquire funding, and gain support for the impoundment and railroad bridge as a mitigation strategy.

► **Will the City need a floodplain ordinance once the Project is complete?**

The current floodplain ordinance will no longer be required by the City once the Project is constructed.

► **If the Project successfully removes the City from the floodplain, do I still need to buy flood insurance?**

Once construction of the Project is complete, a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) will be submitted to FEMA. Upon approval of the LOMR, the floodplain will be revised and the structures will no longer be identified in the floodplain and will no longer be required to obtain flood insurance. However, your lender has the prerogative to require you to get flood insurance as a condition of the loan.

► **How does the City's current floodplain ordinance impact the residents, businesses, and future growth?**

The floodplain ordinance impacts how property can be utilized. It limits the type of structure that can be constructed and, in some cases, prevents modifications to a home or business from taking place. When a new structure is constructed, it must be placed at an elevation that is one foot above the effective Base Flood Elevation (BFE). It also has a significant impact on structures that are damaged. If more than 50% of a structure is damaged due to fire, flood, or other natural disaster, the structure must be demolished and entirely reconstructed to one foot above the BFE. Buying and selling property is also greatly impacted; it can force potential property buyers to search elsewhere due to limitations placed on the property use and cost-prohibitive higher insurance premiums.

► **Why is the impoundment located north of the City?**

An impoundment site is chosen based on topography across the landscape, its ability to capture runoff, and if there are landowners willing to sell some of their land. There were 11 impoundment sites originally identified in 2016 as potential alternatives. From those 11 sites, the existing impoundment location was the only site that met all the design requirements. It prevents overland runoff from entering the City, is large enough to store a significant amount of water, reduces local and downstream flooding, and the current landowners are open to participating in a solution.

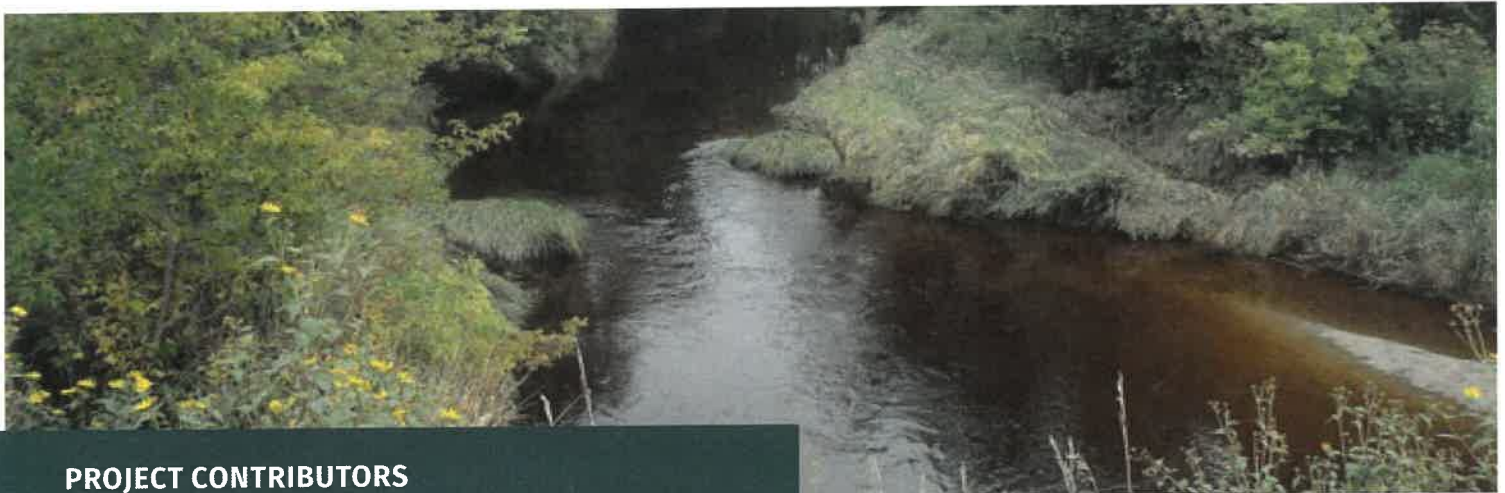
## FAQS

### ► **Why do we need the impoundment and the new railroad bridge?**

The impoundment and railroad bridge each provide flood protection for the City but when combined, completely remove the east side of the City from the 1% Annual Chance Floodplain. If only one of the Project components was to be implemented, there would still be a chance of flooding from either the Middle River or overland flows from the north during the 1% Annual Chance flood.

### ► **Will the impoundment have a permanent pool or will it be drawn down?**

The impoundment will not be operated to have a permanent pool. The water levels within the impoundment could fluctuate throughout the warmer months depending on if there are rainfall events that produce runoff. It is anticipated that the majority of the storage will occur during the spring snowmelt but it is not uncommon to see water being held after a large summer or fall rainfall. If water is held within the impoundment, it will not be stored for a duration longer than 30 days. Once high water or flooding downstream has subsided, water will begin releasing to the Middle River. The only locations where there may be permanent water will be in the borrow pit areas. These areas are where clay material is excavated to build the levee.



## PROJECT CONTRIBUTORS

**CITY OF NEWFOLDEN**

**MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT**

**CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY**

**RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**MNDNR FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM**

**HDR - DESIGN FIRM**

**CONTRACTOR - TBD**

Developed by

