

# State of New Hampshire DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 33 HAZEN DR. CONCORD, NH 03305 603/271-2791

JOHN J. BARTHELMES COMMISSIONER

July 30, 2018

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the Honorable Council State House Concord, New Hampshire 03301

#### **Requested Action**

Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, the Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) requests authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Environmental Services (DES) (VC# 177894-B001) to support the Flood Hazards Program, which provides for two full-time and one part-time personnel and associated benefits necessary to support the program for the identification of river-induced public safety hazards in New Hampshire for a total amount of \$266,272.00. Effective upon Governor and Council approval through September 30, 2019. Funding source: 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the SFY 2019 operating budget as follows:

 02-23-23-236010-80920000
 Dept. of Safety
 Homeland Sec-Emer Mgmt
 100% EMPG Local Match

 072-500576
 Grants to Other State Agencies - Federal
 \$266,272.00

 Activity Code: 23EMPG 2017
 \$266,272.00

#### **Explanation**

This MOA between the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and the Department of Environmental Services (DES) is to support the Flood Hazard Program for the identification of river-induced public safety hazards. To address these initiatives under this grant, program staff will undertake several activities. Staff will develop the technical workflow for conductance of hydraulic modeling of culvert failures and analysis of the resulting impacts on critical downstream transportation and building infrastructure. This includes identification of the most vulnerable culverts on which to perform the modeling; collection, quality assessment and control, and pre-processing of model inputs; the technical setup and running of the model; and review and post-processing of the model outputs. Information will be made available to units within DES and HSEM for use in emergency operations, with technical assistance provided to agency staff.

The MOA listed above is funded from the FFY 2017 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), which was awarded to the Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grant funds are to be used to measurably improve all-hazard planning and preparedness capabilities/activities, to include mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives at the state and local level. Grant guidance and applications are available to all Emergency Management Directors and other qualified organizations in the State. Subrecipients submit applications to this office, which are reviewed by the HSEM Planning Chief, Assistant Planning Chief and Field Representatives and approved by the HSEM Director. The criteria for approval are based on grant eligibility in accordance with the grant's current guidance and the documented needs of the local jurisdictions.

EMPG is 50% federally funded by FEMA with a 50% match requirement supplied by the subrecipient. The subrecipient acknowledges their match obligation as part of Part V to the Memorandum of Agreement.

In the event that Federal Funds are no longer available, General Funds and/or Highway Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Scott Commissioner of Environmental Services

Respectfully submitted, John J. Barthelmes

Commissioner of Safety

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

## FFY'17 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program

## CFDA #97.042

## **Flood Hazards Program**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is to provide funding in the amount of \$266,272.00 to the Flood Hazards Program, which includes two full-time and one part-time personnel and associated benefits necessary to support the program of providing direct technical assistance to the New Hampshire regional planning commissions related to flood hazards geodatabase use, performing hydraulic modeling of culverts and quality control and assurance review of collected stream crossing data, annual training of stream crossing data collectors, and administration of the state stream crossing steering team. Additionally, the Flood Hazards Program provides administration of the NH Silver Jackets.

#### **II. PARTIES**

The parties to this agreement are New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (hereinafter DES) and the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (hereinafter HSEM).

#### III. AUTHORITY

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), awarded by HSEM, supports activities associated with all-hazards planning and preparedness capabilities and activities, to include mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives. This EMPG Program supports the personnel and data management necessary to assist communities and state agencies relative to site-specific issues throughout the state.

## IV. SCOPE OF WORK

The mitigation of flood hazards in New Hampshire in support of the public continues to be a priority at the state and federal levels. The priority has been to address flood risks, while engaging in hazard mitigation practices and projects that withstand increased environmental pressures and forces. A second critical component of flood mitigation in New Hampshire has focused on assessing stream crossings (culverts) to identify those that lack capacity to handle flow and accommodate river processes to help state and local governments choose crossings to replace that will maximize flood mitigation, environmental, and public safety benefits. To continue to address these initiatives under this grant, existing flood hazards program staff will undertake several activities.

First, the Flood Hazards Program will provide direct technical assistance to all nine (9) regional planning commissions (RPC) and any contractors who perform hazard mitigation plan updates. The purpose of such assistance is to ensure a seamless transition to using the flood hazards geodatabase as the authoritative layer for all flood hazard information in the local hazard mitigation

update planning process. Such assistance will include direct guidance on use of the geodatabase, and assistance in development of a workflow and business process for each RPC and contractor. Program staff will incorporate and engage HSEM hazard mitigation staff as part of this process. Program staff will also maintain the geodatabase, and update it with new flood information subsequent to flood events that impact any portion of the state, to ensure that it is always up-to-date. Staff may assist in conducting visits with select towns to update database information as appropriate.

Second, the Flood Hazards Program will perform hydraulic modeling of culvert failures to identify downstream transportation and building infrastructure that could be at risk from such failures. This effort will focus on modeling for culverts in New Hampshire deemed to be at greatest risk for failure, using the screening hydraulic modeling workflow currently being developed by the New Hampshire Geological Survey (NHGS). Model outputs will be made available to units within NHDES and HSEM for use in emergency operations, and staff will be available to provide technical assistance on use of the data in the identification of critical infrastructure identified as at-risk through the model output.

Third, the Flood Hazards Program will administer the multi-agency Silver Jackets, which will include completion of a project that will develop the damage assessment plan and post-disaster recovery strategy in support of Silver Jackets' role as the implementation mechanism for State Disaster Recovery Plan Recovery Support Function (RSF) #6. Additionally, staff will work with all Silver Jackets members to identify, apply for, and conduct future Silver Jackets collaborative projects that address New Hampshire's state flood risk management priorities.

Fourth, the Flood Hazards Program will lead stream crossing assessment efforts statewide, including (1) perform all quality control assurance review for collected data, (2) provision of data management and technical expertise support to all state agencies and organizations involved with the collection of stream crossing data in New Hampshire, (3) training of data collectors, (4) provision of results to HSEM and state and local partners, and (5) serve as administrator of the state stream crossing steering team, the multi-agency collaborative that guides this work in New Hampshire.

Fifth, the Flood Hazards Program will, in collaboration with the NHDES Dam Bureau, collate delineated dam failure inundation areas downstream of dams that are currently stored in paper form, and digitize them into digital form, in ArcGIS format. Conducting this work, in order to make the data more readily available in support of state emergency operations, has been a long-term goal of both HSEM and the NHDES Dam Bureau. While some of these inundation areas have been digitized, not all of them have, and this task will emphasize the expansion of the number of dam failure inundation areas that exist in digital form. Additionally, LiDAR data has been made available for most areas of the State recently. As the dam failure inundation areas were drawn prior to the existence of LiDAR, program staff will investigate the feasibility of updating the delineations through the use of LiDAR in the hydraulic modeling outputs from the culvert failure initiative.

Additionally, the Flood Hazards Program will provide technical support, as needed, to state agencies to ensure that sound science and technical accuracy are incorporated into state efforts to address flood-based hazard preparedness policies and to provide the technical support needed to implement such policies. This assistance can include conducting infrastructure and resource vulnerability assessments as necessary.

V. Funding

HSEM agrees to provide financial assistance from the FFY 2017 EMPG Program in the amount of \$266,272.00 to DES in support of the tasks listed above, in accordance with Section IV. The financial assistance to be provided by HSEM under this MOA requires that DES provide a 50% matching contribution of the total project amount. The match requirement of \$266,272.00 will be met by DES through the DES Dam Bureau, dam operations appropriation.

DES shall maintain financial records, supporting documents, and all other pertinent records for a period of three (3) years. In these records, DES shall maintain documentation of the 50% cost match required by this grant and agreed upon by DES.

Payments shall be made by HSEM to DES quarterly through submittal of invoices for services rendered. DES agrees to document \$266,272.00 in matching expenditures.

## VI. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this agreement by providing notice to the other thirty (30) days prior to termination.

## **VII. DURATION**

This agreement shall continue in effect from October 1, 2018 until September 30, 2019, unless terminated earlier by either party.

#### VII. AGREEMENT

In WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement, which shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire approve the agreement.

## NH Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott Commissioner

8-14-18

Date

#### NH Department of Safety

John J. Barthelmes Commissioner

NH Department of Safety, HSEM

E. Plummer, Director Perry 2018 Date

Approved by the Attorney General this \_29 day of \_August execution and substance. \_\_\_\_, 2018, as to form,

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL