
BRIDGING CITIES

THROUGH INNOVATION & TRADITION



Be Flood-funding Ready

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Handouts and presentations are available in the conference app.

Be Flood-Funding Ready

Understanding Funding Opportunities for Iowa Communities

Presenters



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FIRM OVERVIEW



100%
EMPLOYEE-OWNED



**POSITIVELY
IMPACTING** THE LIVES
OF OTHERS SINCE 1919.



50 INDUSTRY
AWARDS SINCE 2017



\$625+ MILLION GRANTS
AND LOW-INTEREST LOANS



550+ TEAM
MEMBERS IN 19
OFFICES



IT'S MORE THAN A PROJECT,
IT'S A COMMITMENT.

OUR SERVICES



Mobility

- Urban/Rural Roadway Design
- Real Estate
- Traffic & Roundabouts
- Bridge/Structural Engineering
- Construction Services
- Aviation



Land

- Agriculture
- Environmental
- GIS
- Landscape Architecture
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning
- Surveying
- Waterfronts



Water

- Electrical Systems
- Potable Water
- Wastewater
- Water Resources
- Wetlands



Public Works

- Construction-Related Services
- Engineer of Record
- Funding
- Housing
- Industrial Parks
- Infrastructure



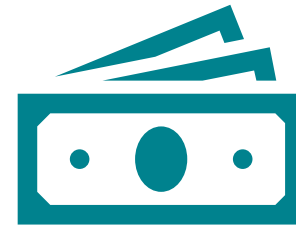
Buildings

- Architecture
- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Plumbing
- Structural

Flooding in the Midwest



Flooding is a significant concern in the Upper Midwest. Between 2020 and 2024, the region experienced more than a dozen flood-related major disaster declarations.



The resulting financial impacts have been substantial

over \$1 billion in FEMA Individual Assistance

nearly \$120 million in Public Assistance for damaged infrastructure

almost \$20 million in hazard mitigation funding

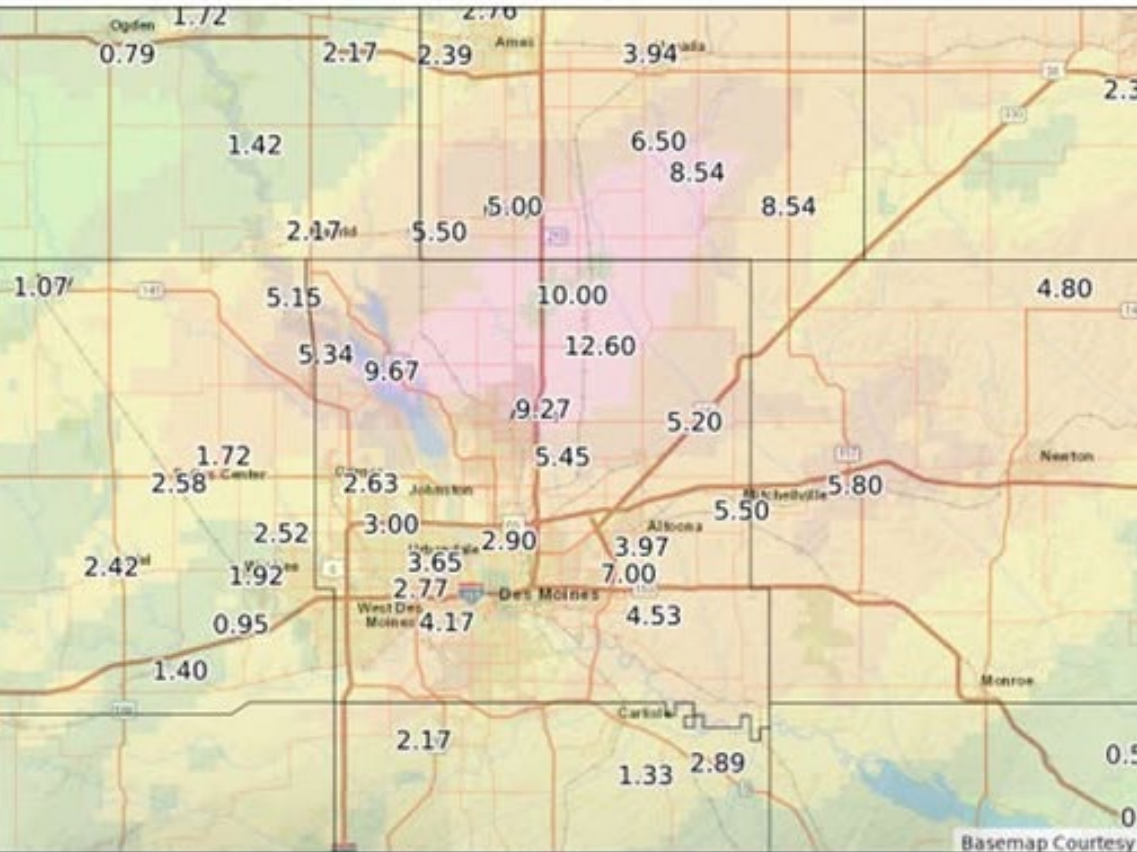


Future Weather Predictions

Derechos

Tornadoes

Flooding



WEATHER

**CENTRAL IOWA HIT BY '1,000-YEAR'
RAINFALL EVENT THAT CAUSED
DANGEROUS FLASH FLOODING**

Iowa Flooding 2026

- 12 gubernatorial disaster declarations issued between April and July 2026
- Presidential Disaster Declaration for Iowa counties that sustained significant damage between July 1 and July 4, 2026
- 35 Iowa counties included in disaster declarations
- Severe weather events occurred across spring and summer 2026
- Multiple activations of the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program
- Multiple activations of the Disaster Case Advocacy Program

Spencer, IA – June 2024

Photo courtesy of Dan Gottschalk



Cedar Rapids, IA – June 2008

Photo courtesy of USACE Rock Island District



What would your community do if flood damage exceeded your local budget tomorrow?

JUSTIN ROGERS

FOURMILE CREEK FLOODING, ANKENY | JULY 3, 2026

Before or After?

Communities have funding program options when it comes to disaster recovery and for disaster preparedness and protection.

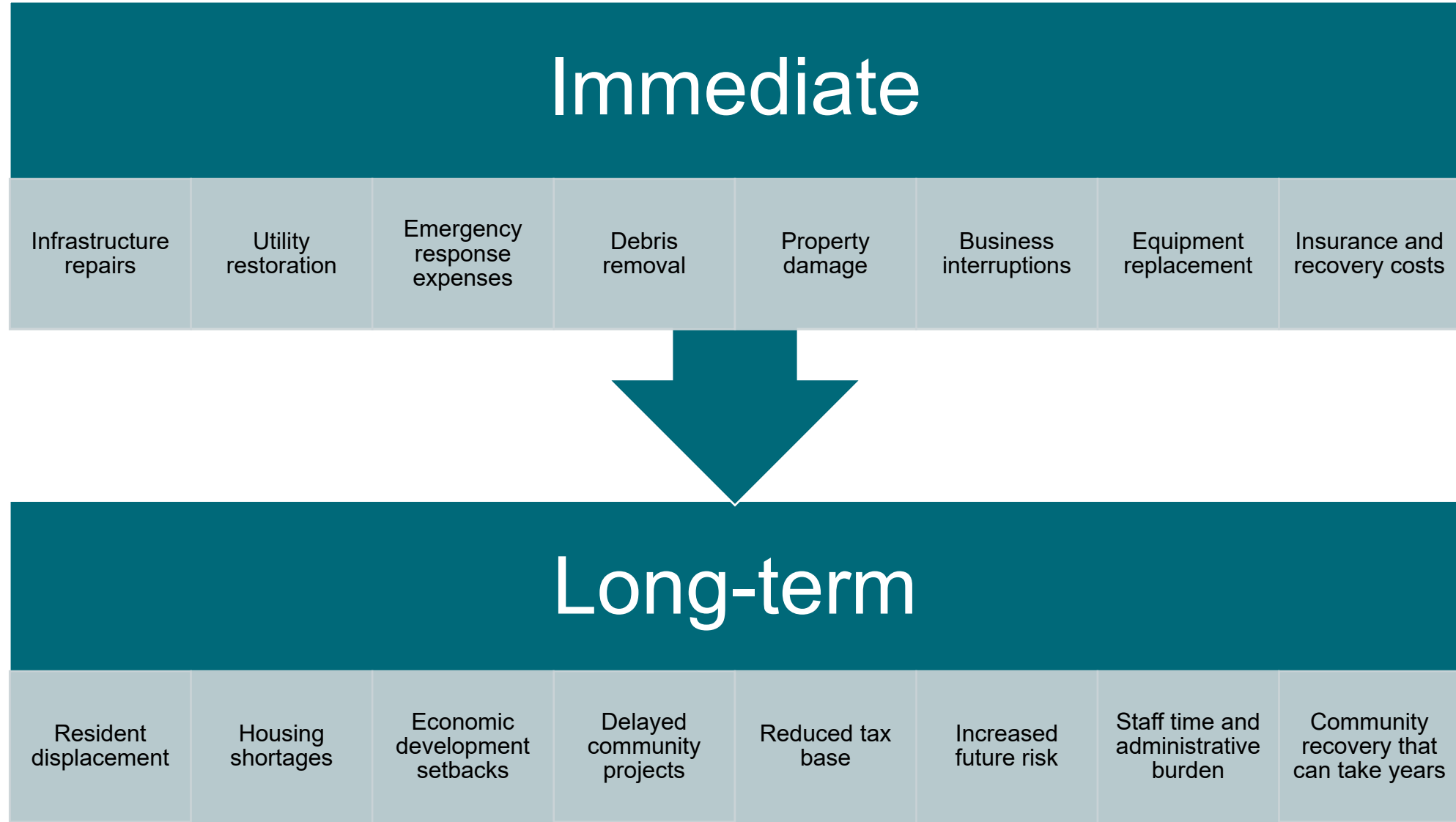
Reduction and Readiness

- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- State Revolving Fund (SRF)
- Community Development Block Grant Stormwater (CDBG)
- Congressional Earmarks

Response and Recovery

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- FEMA Public Assistance Program (PA)
- Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

The Costs of Flooding



Response and Recovery



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)



Purpose

- Reduces future disaster losses
- Helps communities rebuild stronger after disasters
- Supports long-term hazard mitigation



Eligible projects

- Property buyouts
- Structure elevations
- Drainage improvements
- Infrastructure protection



Requirements

- Presidential Disaster Declaration
- FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan

FEMA Public Assistance Program (PA)



Purpose

Respond to and recover from disasters

Repair damaged public infrastructure



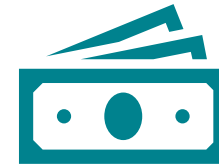
Eligible projects

Debris removal

Emergency protective measures

Roads and bridges

Utilities and public buildings



Requirements

Presidential Disaster Declaration

Costs must be **documented and tracked**

Funding is reimbursed after eligible expenses are incurred

Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)



Purpose

Long-term disaster recovery
Housing, infrastructure, and economic recovery
Rebuild stronger and more resilient communities



Eligible projects

Housing rehabilitation and reconstruction
Infrastructure repairs and improvements
Buyout programs
Economic recovery initiatives
Resilience and mitigation projects



Requirements

Following a major federally declared disaster
Must address an unmet disaster recovery need
Projects must benefit low-to-moderate income populations or meet HUD objectives
Subject to HUD regulations and reporting requirements

Reduction and Readiness



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)



Purpose

Reduce future disaster risk

Build community resilience

Invest in large-scale mitigation projects



Eligible projects

Flood control infrastructure

Stormwater improvements

Drainage upgrades

Critical facility protection

Infrastructure hardening



Requirements

FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan

Strong benefit-cost analysis

Project readiness and clear project scope



Ideal For

Construction-ready projects

Communities planning long-term resilience investments

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)



Purpose

Reduce repetitive flood losses
Protect NFIP-insured properties
Improve community flood resilience



Eligible projects

Property acquisitions (buyouts)
Structure elevations
Demolition and relocation
Floodproofing projects



Requirements

Property must be insured through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
Community must participate in the NFIP
Strong benefit-cost analysis



Ideal For

Repetitive loss properties
Severe repetitive loss properties
Frequently flooded neighborhoods

State Revolving Fund (SRF)



Purpose

Finance water infrastructure improvements
Improve water quality and resiliency
Support long-term infrastructure investment



Eligible projects

Stormwater improvements
Wastewater treatment upgrades
Drinking water system improvements
Green infrastructure
Flood and resilience-related infrastructure



Requirements

Project must meet SRF program eligibility
Included in the Intended Use Plan (IUP)



Ideal For

Stormwater management projects
Aging infrastructure replacement
Flood mitigation improvements
Water system resilience projects

Community Development Block Grant Stormwater (CDBG)



Purpose

- Reduce flooding risk
- Improve stormwater infrastructure
- Support community resilience



Eligible projects

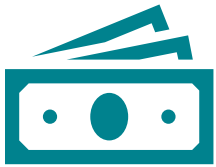
- Storm sewer improvements
- Detention and retention facilities
- Drainage system upgrades
- Green infrastructure
- Flood-prone area improvements



Requirements

- Projects must benefit low-to-moderate income populations or meet HUD objectives
- Subject to HUD regulations and reporting requirements

Congressional Earmarks



Purpose

Fund community-priority projects
Support infrastructure, resilience, and economic development
Address local needs not easily funded through traditional grant programs



Eligible projects

Flood mitigation infrastructure
Stormwater improvements
Water and wastewater systems
Road and bridge improvements
Public facility improvements



Requirements

Strong community benefit
Well-defined project scope and cost estimate
Local support and project readiness

What can you do now?



Planning



Engineering



Funding



Implementing



Prevention



Planning

Documentation

- News articles
- Photos
- Damages and costs

Maintain a current Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Does your county have a plan? Is it adopted?
- Is your project listed?
- <https://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/media/588/download?inline>

Identify flood risks and vulnerable assets

Align resilience goals with community priorities

Engineering

- Complete feasibility studies
 - BCA Toolkit
 - Flood study
 - Floodplain management
- Preliminary design
- Final design
- Get cost estimates



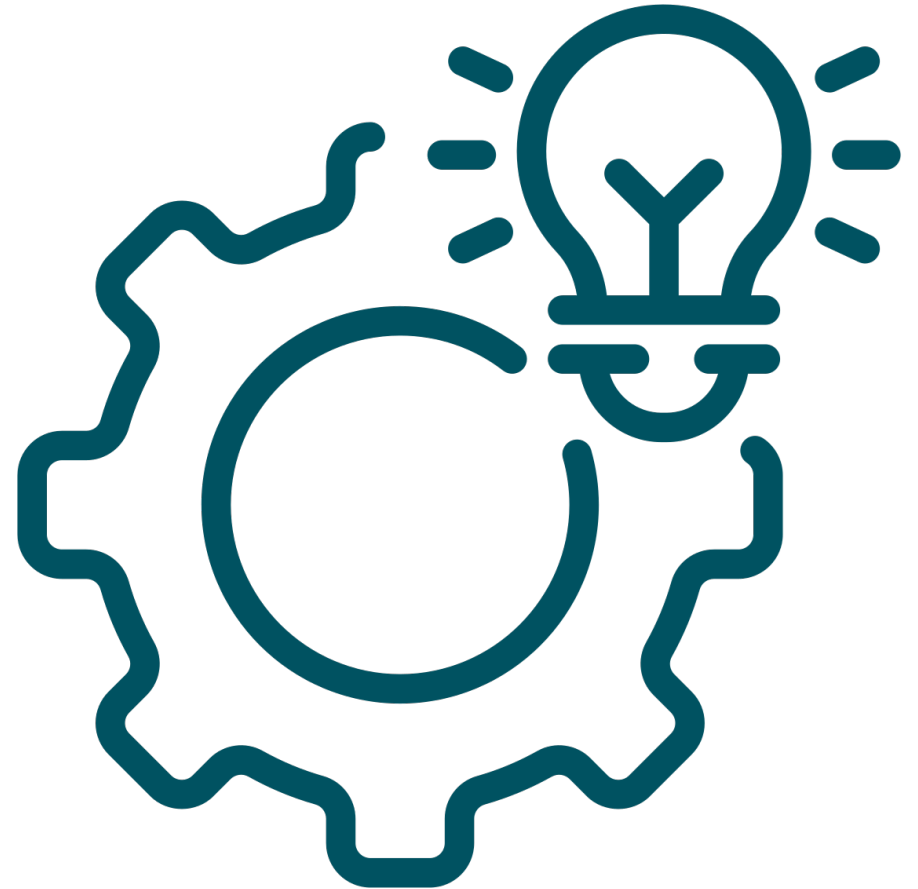
Funding

- Match projects to the right funding source
- Identify what you will need funding for
 - Planning
 - Design/Engineering
 - Applications
 - Administration
- Understand funding requirements
 - Local match
 - Environmental and historic preservation reviews
 - Community support and stakeholder buy-in
- Layer grants and loans when possible
- Monitor annual funding opportunities



Implementing

- Establish project timelines
- Maintain documentation
- Coordinate roles and responsibilities
- Track costs and project outcomes
- Prepare
 - Acquisition
 - Changing construction ordinances
 - Adding stormwater utility



Prevention

- Understand future flood risks
- Incorporate resilience into local planning
- Evaluate vulnerable infrastructure
- Identify adaptation strategies
- Support long-term community sustainability



Resources

- Ready Iowa - <https://ready.iowa.gov/disasters-emergencies/floods>
- Hazard Mitigation Status:
<https://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/media/588/download?inline>

Follow-up Questions

Let's continue the conversation.



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