

# 2023 - 2025 BIENNIUM FUNDING REQUEST

SB 2020 - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FUNDING



## VALLEY CITY-SHEYENNE RIVER

PERMANENT FLOOD PROTECTION



“Thank you for your continued support of the Valley City Permanent Flood Protection Project. With your help we can continue to protect our city”

# CHAIRMAN SORVAAG AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE:

Valley City sits along the Sheyenne River and is the first community downstream from Baldhill Dam. During the spring of each year, the Sheyenne River swells from snow melt with water levels peaking in March and April. During the spring of 2009, our community encountered a record flood, only to repeat it with a near record flood in the spring of 2011.

- Historic Crests (Top 5)
  - \*20.69 ft                      April 13, 2009
  - 20.66 ft                        April 18, 2011
  - 20.00 ft                        April 1, 1882
  - 18.78 ft                        April 21, 1996
  - 18.09 ft                        May 1, 2022



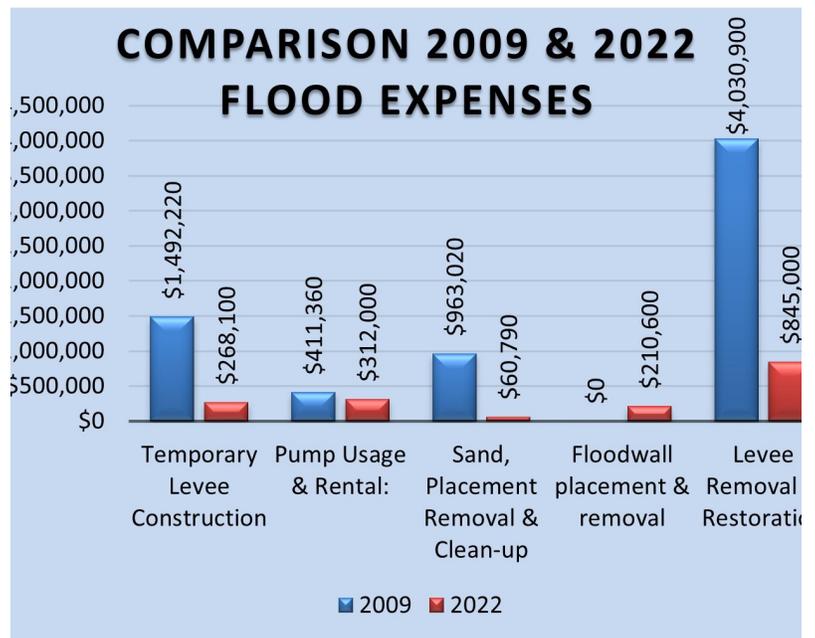
Each time our community experiences flood conditions, considerable amounts of resources are expended to combat the rising waters. With nearly back to back annual flooding events, City and community resources have been stressed financially and socially in recent years. Economic impacts are felt months and years after the flood waters have receded. Years of facility and infrastructure repair follow these floods.

To mitigate these disruptions to the community, our City is implementing permanent flood protection. The completed projects will provide permanent flood protection for our community eliminating the need for emergency flood fighting efforts for our citizens. Not needing to construct and remove emergency levees will mitigate damage to already aging city infrastructure that would be damaged by heavy construction equipment.

Once completed, the goal of our project is to protect the community from the one percent (100-year) flood event as described by the Flood Insurance Rate Maps mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

We are thankful for the legislature’s support of our flood protection project to date. Valley City has developed a long-term plan for providing permanent flood protection for the community based on the continued support from the Department of Water Resource and State Water Commission. Funding secured through passed legislative action has greatly reduced our cost to fight flood from the record flood in 2009 to the most recent flood in 2022:

	2009	2022
Temporary Levee Construction	\$1,492,220	\$268,100
Pump Usage & Rental:	\$411,360	\$312,000
Sand, Placement Removal & Clean-up	\$963,020	\$60,790
Floodwall placement & removal	\$0	\$210,600
Levee Removal & Restoration	\$4,030,900	\$845,000
Totals	\$6,897,500	\$1,696,490
Difference		\$5,201,010
		25%



## CURRENT PROGRESS

The permanent flood protection plan is outlined in multiple phases. Phase 1, completed in 2016, was centered on the area near Valley City State University (VCSU). Phase 1 funded in the 2013-2015 Legislative Biennium.



Phase 2 of permanent flood protection concentrates on a portion of the downtown area. This includes the section of Main Street which is located along the Sheyenne River in addition to protecting the area behind the power substation—critical infrastructure for the community. Construction started in the fall of 2017 and was completed in the summer of 2020. Phase 2 was funded as part of the 2015-2017 Legislative Biennium.

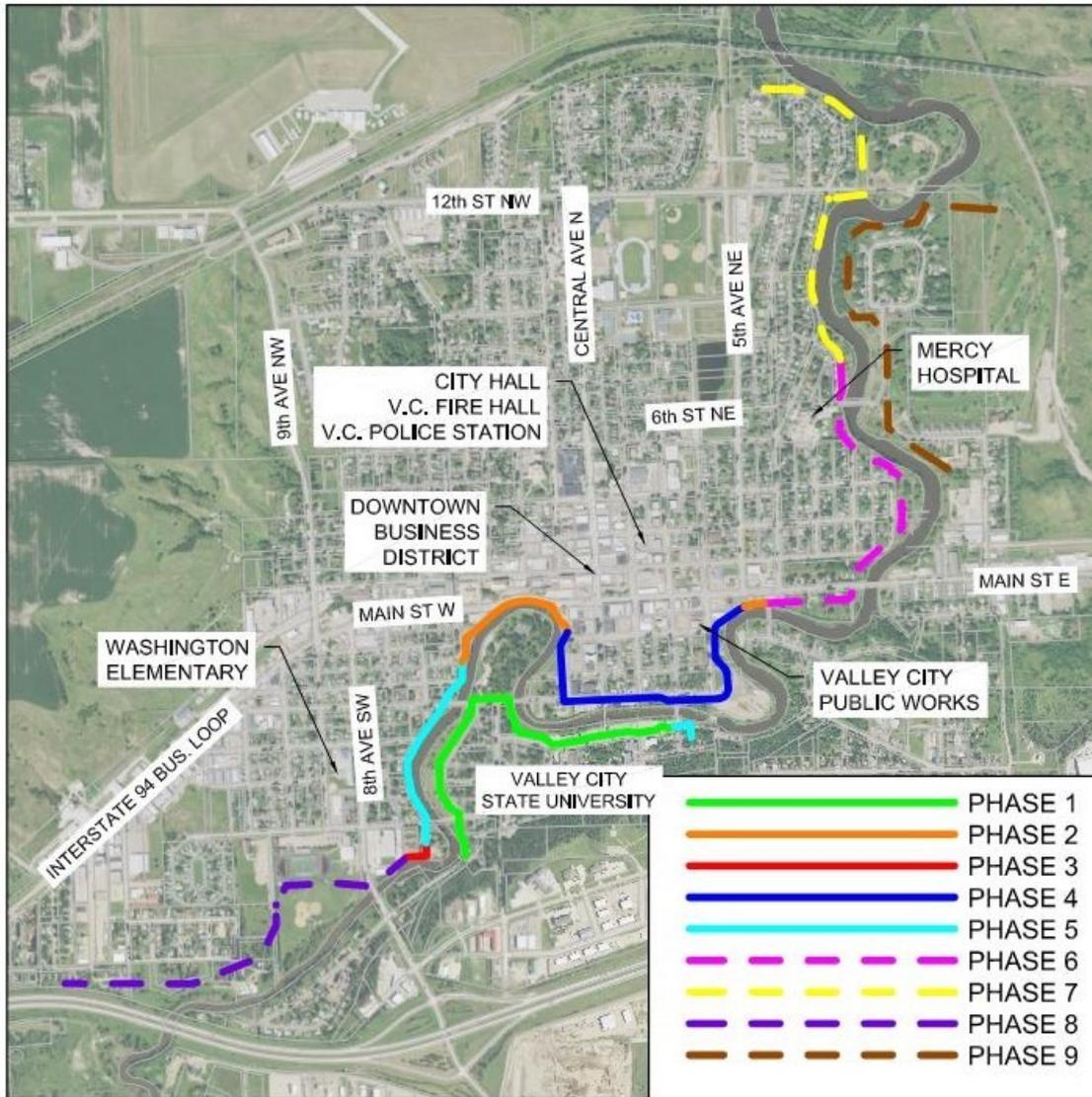
Phase 3 of permanent flood protection protects the City's Master Lift Station. The Master Lift Station is constructed on the bank of the Sheyenne River and serves the entire City. Work started in the fall of 2019 and was completed in the summer of 2020. Phase 3 was funded in the 2017-2019 Legislative Biennium.

Funding for Phases 4 and 5 have been approved in previous Legislative Biennia. These phases of the flood protection project are in the planning phase with work focused on the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) for the entire permanent flood protection system. As discussed above, only Phase 2 covers a portion of the downtown area, leaving a number of critical infrastructure components unprotected. Phase 4 focuses on building flood protection to protect this critical city infrastructure, including City Hall, the Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works, Mercy Hospital and two medical clinics. Phase 5 focuses on connecting the Phase 2 project that protects the downtown area with Phase 3 that protects the Master Lift Station. Phase 5 will protect numerous residential dwellings, a public school and other critical infrastructure.



## NEXT STEPS

Following the planning efforts for the CLOMR and Phases 4 and 5, the City will turn their focus to Phase 6 of our flood protection project. Phase 6 will continue our efforts to protect the downtown area moving our construction north to protect Mercy Hospital as well as the other critical infrastructure within this area of protection, including City Hall, the Fire Department, Police Department and local clinics.



Phase 6 concentrates on continuing the protection of Valley City through these construction activities to protect critical infrastructure and surrounding neighborhoods:

- Permanent concrete flood walls
- Removable flood walls
- Clay levees
- Storm water pump stations
- Bio-engineering stream bank restoration

## REQUEST

The City of Valley City asks for your support of Senate Bill 2020 and the funding of \$13.2 million in grant funding through the Department of Water Resources for the continued construction of the Valley City Flood Protection Project.