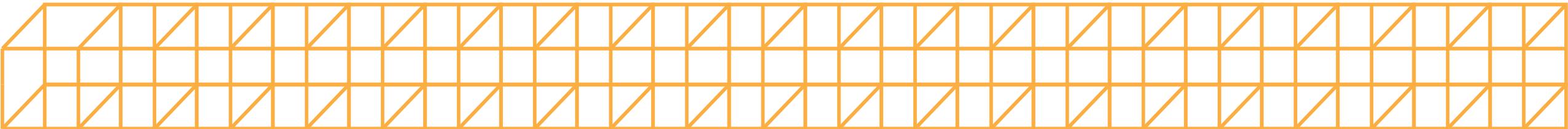

Back to Basics

How to Navigate in a Time of Changing Funding & Policy





Forge ahead.

WSB is a design and consulting firm specializing in engineering, community planning, environmental, and construction services. Our staff of over 1500 improve the way people engage with communities, transportation, infrastructure, energy and our environment. We offer services in over 50 complementary areas that seamlessly integrate planning, design and implementation. Our coast-to-coast client base is served from offices across the U.S.

We share a vision to connect your dreams for tomorrow to the needs of today – the future is ours for the making.



1500+
STAFF

50+
SERVICE AREAS

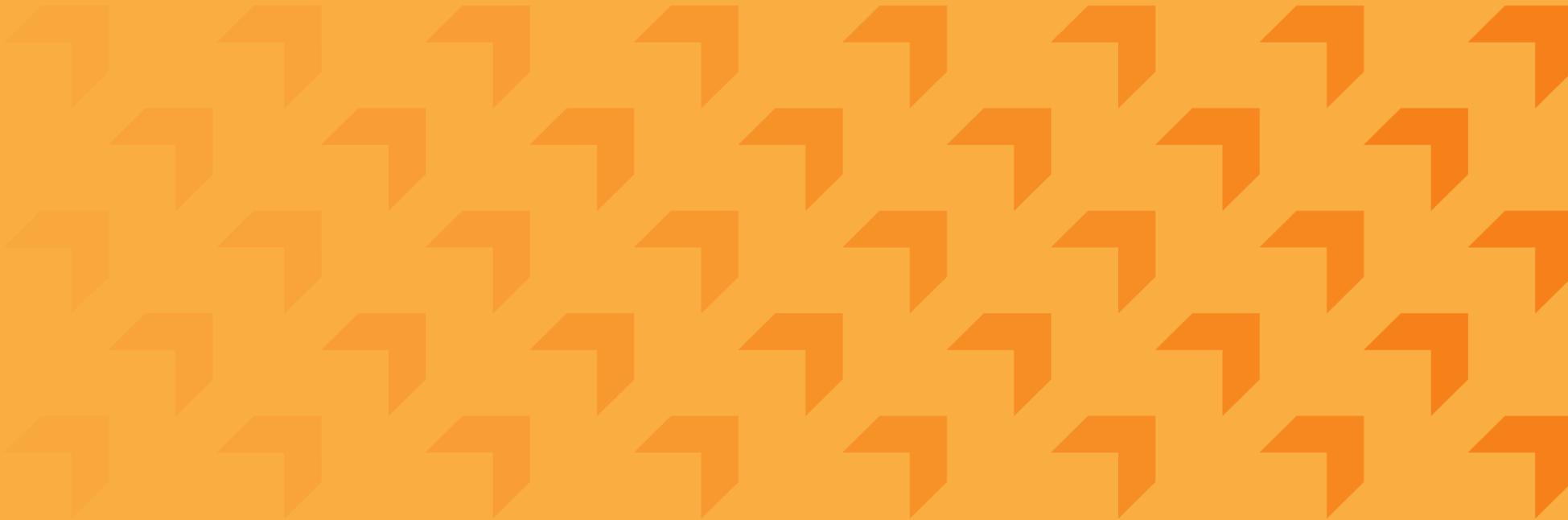
45+
OFFICES

10
STATES

Asset Management Systems | Community Planning | Construction Administration | Design-Build | Economic Development | Energy | Environmental Planning & Natural Resources | Environmental Compliance | Geographic Information Systems | Geohazard Risk Assessments | Geotechnical Engineering | Intelligent Transportation Systems | Landscape Architecture | Land Development | Management Analysis & Development | Municipal Engineering | Pavement Management/Forensics | Project Controls | Project Funding | Right of Way | Site Validation | Structures | Surveying | Transportation/Traffic | Visualization | Water Resources | Wastewater | **Emergency Management**

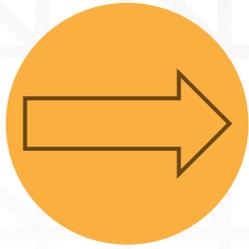
Allison Whitsitt

Director, Emergency Management

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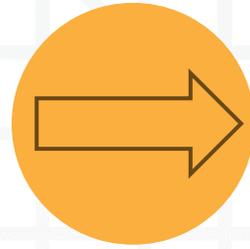
Funding Lifecycles

How does it all fit together?



Event

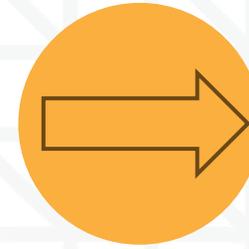
Tornado, Flood, Fire, Hurricane,
Severe Winter Storm



Damage Assessment

IA vs. PA

Damage Categories: A- Debris
Removal, B – Emergency
Protective Measures, C –
Roads/Bridges, D – Water, E –
Buildings & Equipment, F – Utilities,
G - Parks



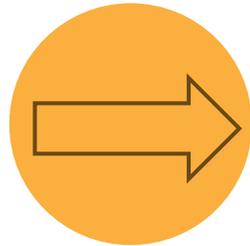
Thresholds

State Per Capita: \$1.89

County Per Capita: \$4.72

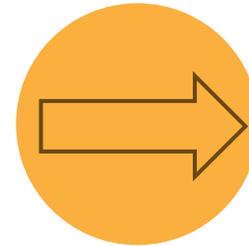
Oklahoma County ~ \$3.8 Million

State of Oklahoma ~ \$7.8



Funding Lock

1 year post event, 18 months post
event. Percentage of total disaster
cost is allocated specifically for
hazard mitigation purposes.

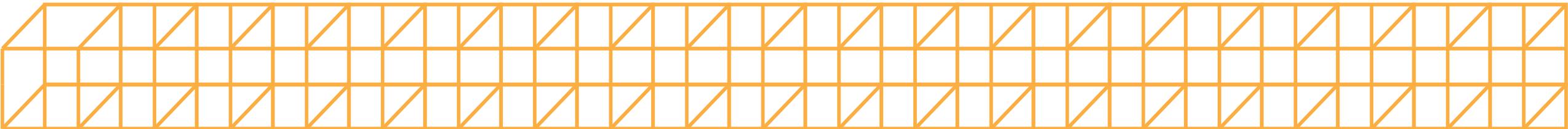


Period of Performance

Funded grants have a period of
performance ranging from 18
months- 3 years – with exceptions
for POP extensions under extreme
circumstances

Planning!

Hazard Mitigation Plans – What are they? Why do I need one?



Hazard Mitigation Plans

1. Introduction
2. Planning Process (Element A)
3. Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (Element B)
4. Capabilities & Mitigation Strategy (Element C)
5. Maintenance & Integration (Element D)
6. Update & Adoption (Element E/F)
7. High Hazard Potential Dams (Element G – Optional)

2023 Delaware County Hazard Mitigation Plan



Action Items – Grant Projects



Action Item 26	Develop Flood Warning System
Hazard(s) Addressed	Flood
Action Type	Emergency Services Activity
Priority (BCR)	High
Jurisdiction(s)	City of Stillwater
Action Narrative	Install, Replace, or Upgrade existing water level monitoring systems in area creeks in order to utilize real-time information to warn residents of impending flash flood risks.
Lead Agency	SEMA, City of Stillwater Stormwater/Floodplain Management
Implementation Timeline	12 to 60 months
Potential Funding Sources	Local/General, FEMA HMA

406 Mitigation

- *Damage Requirement
- *Cost Effective (BCA)
- *Technical Feasibility
- *Permanent Work
- *Environmental Compliance
- *Eligibility





How It All Fits Together

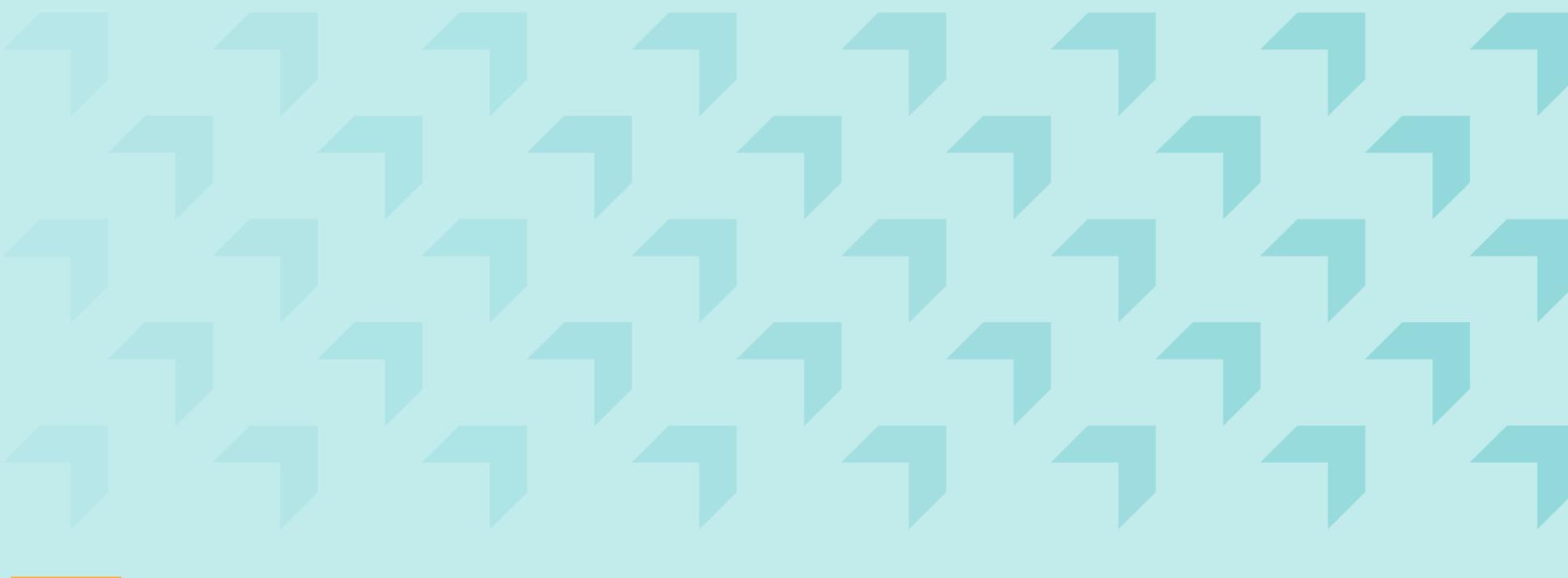


Where does funding come from?

- *Disaster Declarations - % of funding moved to mitigation programs
- *Congressional Appropriation - Informed by damage events, communicated needs of communities
- *Other Federal Programs – HUD, DHS, USDA, DOC

How can I be ready to apply?

- *Know where you need to mitigate
- *Make a priority list
- *Gather documentation & information
- *Discuss/budget for match purposes



FEMA Today

Like Oklahoma weather.....

What Does Not Change?

- Natural disaster events with major impacts
- Crumbling, aging infrastructure
- Repairs/upgrades due to population growth, damage, age or a combination of all



What Do Grants Require?

- Documentation
- Explanation
- Benefit of Cost
- Responsible Use of Funds



So, What Do We Do?

- Document damage
- Document impact
- Document cost
- Document maintenance
- DOCUMENT-for EVERY disaster impact



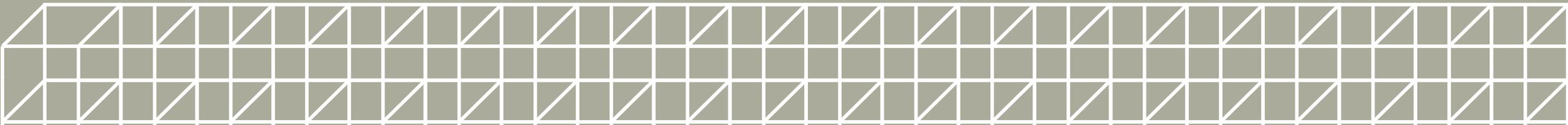
Be LOUD

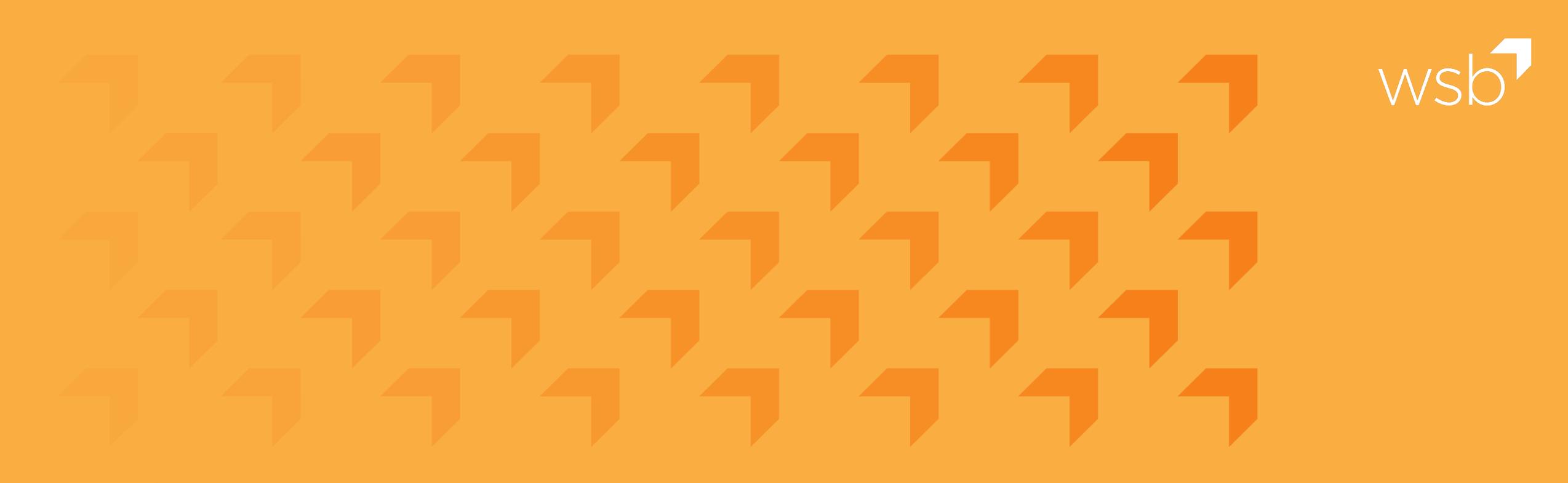
- Talk to your departments
- Educate your elected officials
- Discuss impacts & need with state and federal representatives





Bottom Line:
Do what is best for your community – no matter what is happening at the state/federal level



A repeating pattern of orange, 3D-style arrows pointing up and to the right, set against a solid orange background.

Keep Calm, It Will All Likely Change Again.

Regardless, the needs of your communities remain.

FEMA is Awarding Funds for the Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Programs

Throughout September 2025, FEMA will award billions of dollars in federal funding to state, local, tribal and territorial partners. Non-disaster grant program funds will be obligated and awarded on a rolling basis as they are approved and processed. This money empowers state, local, tribal and territorial governments to manage their response to emergencies like fires, floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

This announcement comes after a critical evaluation of all grant programs and recipients to root out waste, fraud and abuse and deliver accountability for the American taxpayer. Under the Trump-Vance Administration, recipients of grants will no longer be permitted to use federal funds to house illegal immigrants at luxury hotels, fund climate change pet projects or empower radical organizations with unseemly ties that don't serve the interest of the American people.

Details

Earlier in Fiscal Year 2025, FEMA published funding opportunities for various non-disaster grant programs. Now, FEMA has begun awarding grants, starting with the National Dam Safety Program, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (Multistate and Individual State), the Community Assistance Program – State Support Services Element, Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System Readiness, and the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium. FEMA will award funds for additional grant programs over the coming days.

Next Steps

FEMA will issue award notifications using FEMA Grants Outcomes ([FEMA GO](#)). Awards will be issued with funding holds, as is standard practice, until individual projects are approved. Once awards are issued, FEMA will work with grantees thereafter to help ensure that approved projects appropriately reflect activities that align with the funding notice's goals and objectives.



Engage

Everything we know about mitigation involves utilization of various resources



Utilize Plans

Get involved with planning across other departments/jurisdictions



Get Creative

Think outside of the box – 406 mitigation



Stay Aware

Keep apprised of changes in policy/funding streams and be quick to utilize

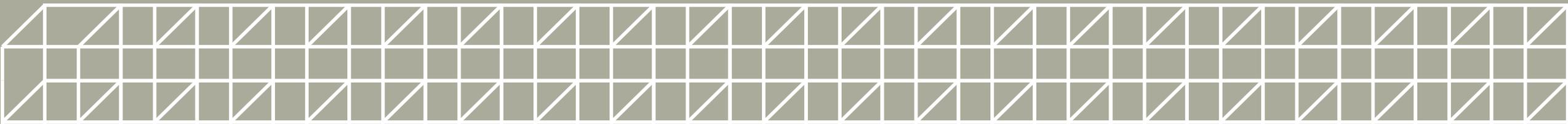


Exercise

Don't wait until its too late – put into practice now what you will do later.

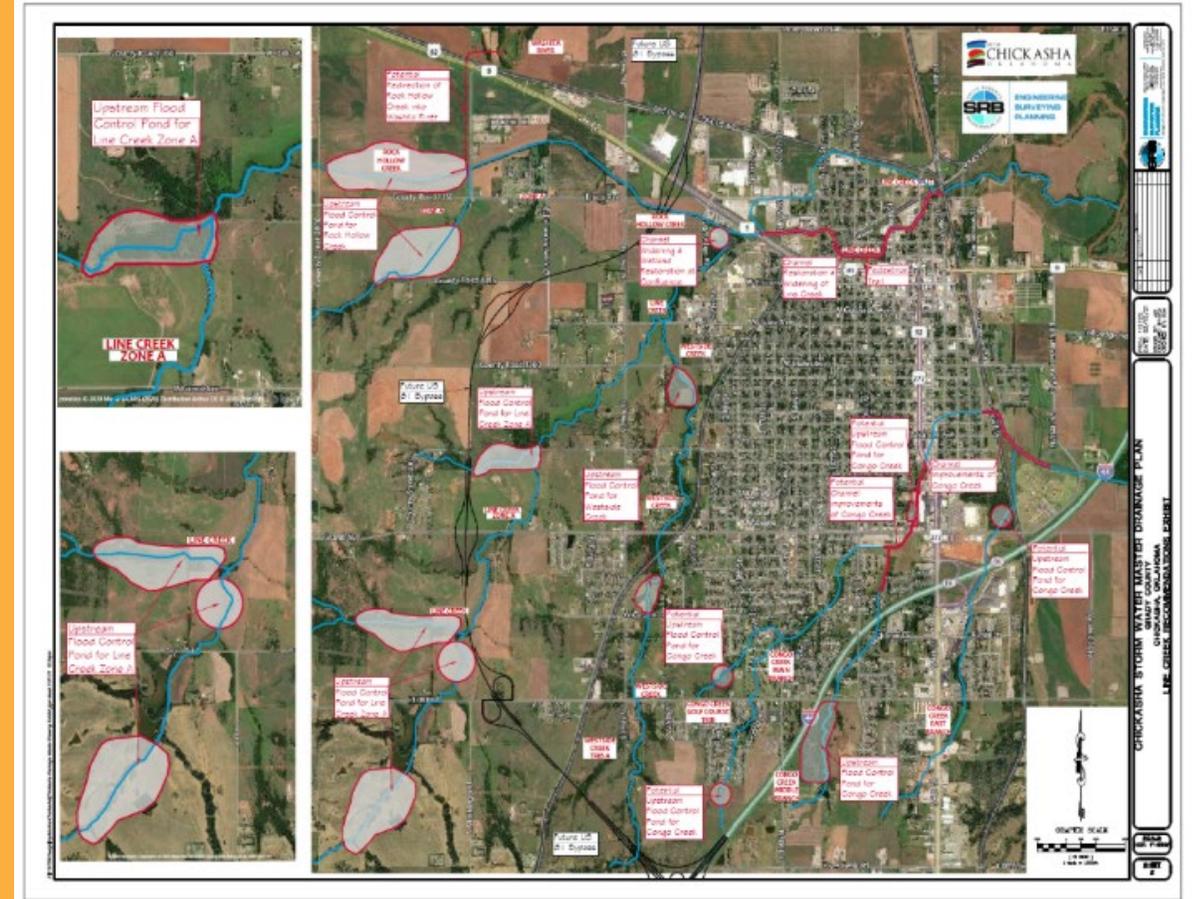


Case Studies: City of Stillwater & City of Chickasha



City of Chickasha - HMGP

- Comprehensive flood risk assessment
- Development of sustainable mitigation strategies
- Infrastructure improvements
- Community education and engagement initiatives
- Exploration of multi-purpose solutions



Overview:

Historic flooding has plagued the City of Chickasha with over 11 incidents of major flooding over the years. Intense rainfall events cause localized ponding, street flooding and major inundation across various locations in the City.

City officials have conducted numerous studies over the years, but no comprehensive solution has been discovered and developed, until 2024.

Intent:

The City of Chickasha partnered with WSB to review, implement and execute previous studies in an ambitious project, originally intended to be a nationally competitive BRIC application. Partnering with surrounding jurisdictions, the County, and Tribal partners, City of Chickasha applied for a HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) and was awarded funds to begin working on phasing this project.

Status:

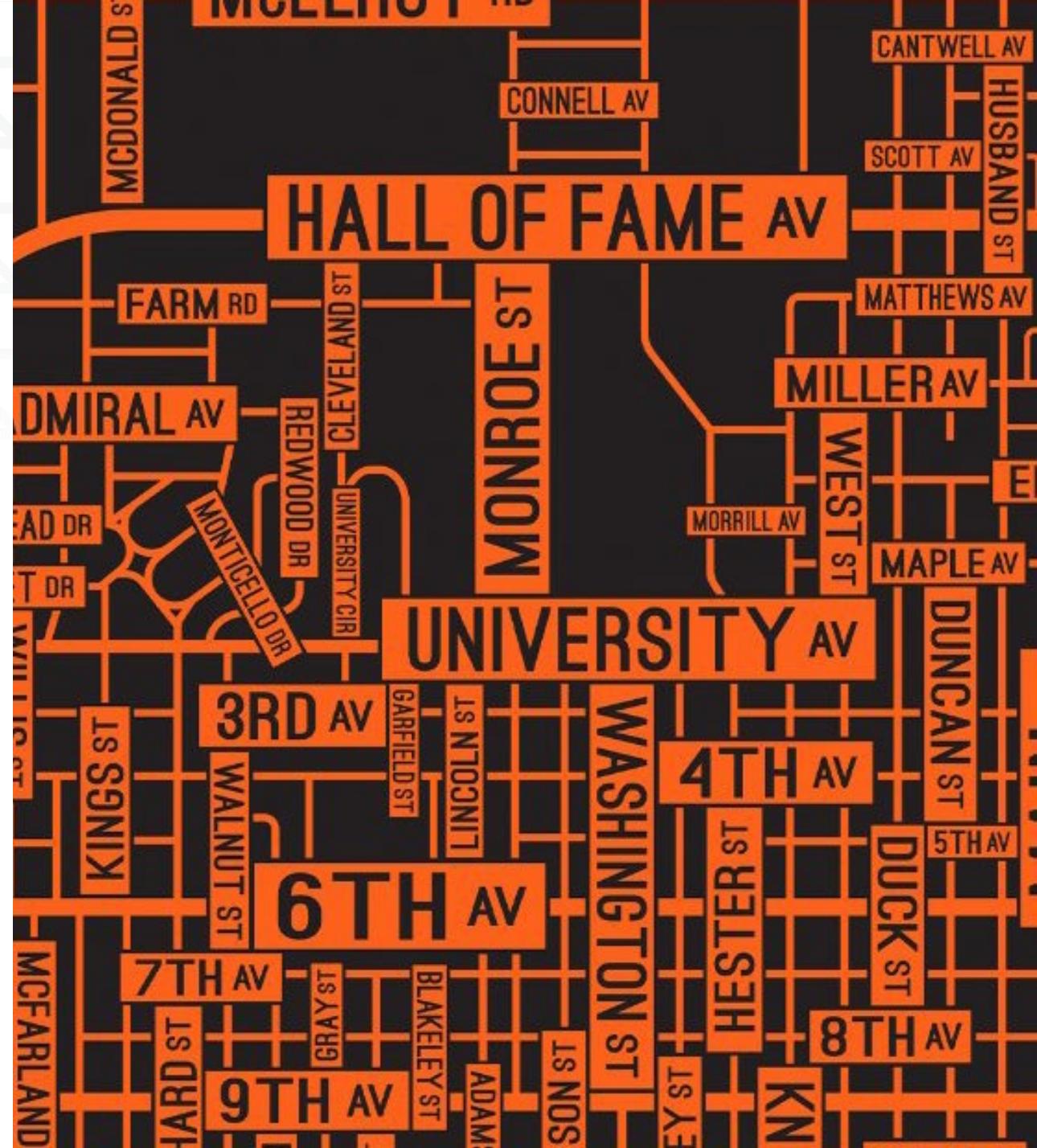
With the cancellation of the BRIC program, application for a nationally competitive award via BRIC has been replaced by identifying various smaller projects within the watershed that may be funded individually. City officials continue to share their progress and funding needs with state & federal representatives to locate additional funding solutions.



City of Stillwater

- Self-contained diesel generator & transfer switch at the water treatment plant.
- Mobile generator for utilization at any pump station to support the municipal water system in case of power failure.
- Stillwater Master Drainage Plan
- Severe Repetitive Loss property acquisition
- Enhancement of Stillwater Regional Water System

Total = \$68.5 million



Additional Hazard Mitigation Plan Usage:

Leverage HMP for CRS 600 series points

Build out of comprehensive GIS system to identify, track & archive completed HM projects

Future Use:

Expansion of GIS system for use of daily situational awareness, response sensitive applications and historic damage assessment catalogue

Additional FEMA funded work within the City as population increases

Leverage of HM plan for citizen awareness, current business owner utilization and future business opportunities





THANK YOU

Allison.Whitsitt@wsbeng.com