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Forming walls on critical flood protection infrastructure at Minot's Water Treatment Plant

Minot, N.D. - Construction crews are reaching an early milestone on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)-Water Treatment Plant flood protection project, with upcoming concrete pours to form a critical pump station. Thanks in part to a mild winter, contractors have been able to continue below grade work, including the foundation and walls associated with the Eighth Avenue Lift Station.

"The concrete pour today will form two of the 10 walls needed for the lift station," said Dan Jonasson, City of Minot public works director. "Over the next couple of weeks we anticipate using about 250 cubic yards of concrete to develop this critical structure. As a key component of this project, the Eighth Avenue Lift Station would handle storm water runoff, should a flood occur, allowing the dry side of the floodwalls to remain dry. Next to the floodwalls themselves, this is probably one of the most important pieces of this particular portion of flood protection."

The Eighth Avenue Lift Station will be capable of handling 18,000 gallons per minute of rain/storm water in the event of a future flood. The lift station building will house three massive pumps required to operate, and is a 2,000 square foot structure.

Along with the pump station, crews this winter have focused their efforts on moving, replacing or installing pipes to handle raw water from city wells, treated water from the plant, and storm water runoff. More than a dozen pipelines of various sizes criss-cross the area around the Water Treatment Plant. All play a role in how Minot's Water Treatment Plant takes care of regional needs.

"Minot's Water Treatment Plant is truly a regional resource, as it provides safe, reliable water for numerous communities in north central North Dakota," said Jonasson. "We're pleased that by protecting this critical piece of infrastructure, we are protecting one of the most important parts of our everyday life, our water source."

The City of Minot's contract for this portion of flood protection construction is with Wagner Construction for almost \$25 million. The HMGP-Water Treatment Plant Project is designed to prevent future floods from contaminating and interrupting the potable water supply production and transmission at the Minot Water Treatment Plant. This work includes the construction of approximately 1,720 linear feet of concrete floodwalls on the south side of the Mouse River, near the plant. These floodwalls will tie into two new temporary roadway closure structures at 16th Street SW and Water Treatment Plant Road (12th Street SW). Earthen levees, a new pump station and the adjustment of intake structures at the treatment plant are also part of the project.

The HMGP-Water Treatment Plant Project will provide for protection to the flood of record, plus freeboard. Protecting the plant with these funding sources is being done as an independent utility project.

The various government partners on the project are sharing the costs. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through FEMA allows for a federal share of 75% of actual costs, with the State of North Dakota's share at 10% and the City of Minot's share at 15%.

For additional information or questions related to this project, please contact Mark Lyman, at 857-7205 or mlyman@odney.com or Bob Lindee, at 857-4727 or pio@minotnd.org.

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