



Town of Black Mountain

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Josh M. Harrold

Asst. Town Manager
Jessica Trotman

Town Clerk
Savannah Parrish

September 5, 2023

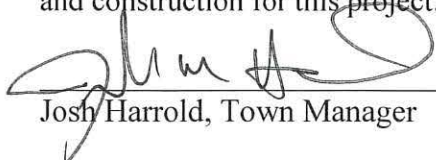
PRESS RELEASE

RE: Black Mountain Stormwater Construction Grant- North Bank Swannanoa River Floodbench & Constructed Wetlands Project # SRP-SW-ARP-0026

In February 2023, the Town of Black Mountain received \$5 million in ARPA LASII funding for the Swannanoa Floodplain Project identified in the Stormwater Master Plan Update. The LASII grant funding pays all costs associated with developing and constructing this project. The original project location included the North Bank of the Swannanoa River from Hwy 9 to I-40 near the Community Gardens. In August 2023, the town solicited requests for qualifications for engineering firms to assist with the project. During the process, firms expressed varying concerns regarding the project scope and proposed timelines. Timelines are beyond the control of the town and all LASII construction projects in this grant must be completed and closed by the end of 2026. Failing to meet the required federal deadlines creates financial risk for the Town. Due to the timeframe of the funding and project deadlines required by the federal government, the Town has determined pursuing this project at the original location is unachievable. The town issued a cancellation notice for engineering proposals on August 18, 2023, which is attached to this press release.

To ensure a successful project for all stakeholders, the granting authority has allowed the town to complete an alternate project that is similar in nature which is also identified in the Stormwater Master Plan. The new project area will encompass two locations which are both located on town owned property. The first location will be on E. State near Hemphill Road and the second will include the property behind Riverwalk Park. The project will mitigate flood risks within the project area and downstream, reduce the erosive forces and provide water quality treatment during the more frequent storms. The constructed wetlands will also provide enhanced public spaces, protect public infrastructure, create wildlife habitat in addition to flood storage and water quality improvements. These nature-based solutions provide the same type of benefits as the original project, but involve fewer property owners, which reduces the lengthy and complex process of acquiring easements under the federal regulations.

The Town will work with on-call engineers to develop a scope for the new project locations to present to NCDEQ for approval. Once the scope is approved, the town will invite proposals for administration and construction for this project.



Josh Harrold, Town Manager

/ s: Josh Harrold, Town Manager

CC: Town Council/ Jessica Trotman, Planning Director/Assistant Town Manager/ Angela Reece, Project Manager



TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN

Solicitation Addendum

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

Project Name: Black Mountain Stormwater Construction Grant- North Bank Swannanoa River Floodbench & Constructed Wetlands Project
SRP-SW-ARP-0026

Solicitation Description: SRP-SW-ARP-0026- Floodbench LASII

Solicitation Due Date and Time: **This RFQ Solicitation has been Cancelled**

Addendum Number: **2- FINAL-CANCELLATION**

Addendum Date: 08/18/2023

Contact: [Angela Reece, MPA, Project & Facilities Manager]
[angela.reece@tobm.org | 828-419-9300 x 315]

This addendum is for informational purposes only.

Due to the nature and amount of questions regarding this solicitation, under direction of the granting authority and counsel, the Town of Black Mountain has determined it is prudent to **cancel this RFQ solicitation at this time.**

The Town thanks all firms for their time and effort in participating in this solicitation thus far and would encourage them to consider a future proposal for this work.

A new RFQ will be solicited and available on the Town's website at <https://www.townofblackmountain.org/Bids.aspx> in the very near future.

END