

## Need to Figure Out How to Cut Flooding in Your Community?

The Help CUT Flooding TEAM could help you with free professional assistance from state/federal resources.

*Does your community experience flooding like this  
but you are not sure what to do about it?*



**Perhaps your community can get free technical assistance from a team that help Communities Understand Their Flooding To Explore Alternatives for Mitigation (Help CUT Flooding TEAM).**

The Help CUT Flood TEAM is part of the Iowa Flood Risk Management Team (comprised of Iowa DNR, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, US Army Corps of Engineers and others). This group includes representatives from state and federal agencies who bring top-notch technical resources, including advanced mapping and engineering analysis, to help communities understand their flood issues and options for mitigation.

### Why Get Assistance from the Help CUT Flooding TEAM?

- **Comprehensive Analysis:** Experts provide detailed flood risk assessments and explore various mitigation options tailored to your community's needs.
- **Collaborative Approach:** The team works closely with your community, requiring only your commitment to supply necessary information for our analysis.
- **Expertise at No Cost:** Benefit from the combined knowledge of state and federal agencies without any financial burden.

### How It Works:

The team meets regularly to discuss and prioritize communities seeking assistance. While the team does not provide direct financial aid for implementation or construction, the insights and data provided will position your community to secure funding through programs like FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance.

**If your community may benefit from such assistance, a community representative should answer the brief online survey at <https://arcg.is/0zmq8v>.**

Any questions about the Help CUT Flooding TEAM opportunity may be directed to:  
Jim Marwedel, Hazard Mitigation Program Manager  
Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department  
515-709-6857 or [jim.marwedel@iowa.gov](mailto:jim.marwedel@iowa.gov)

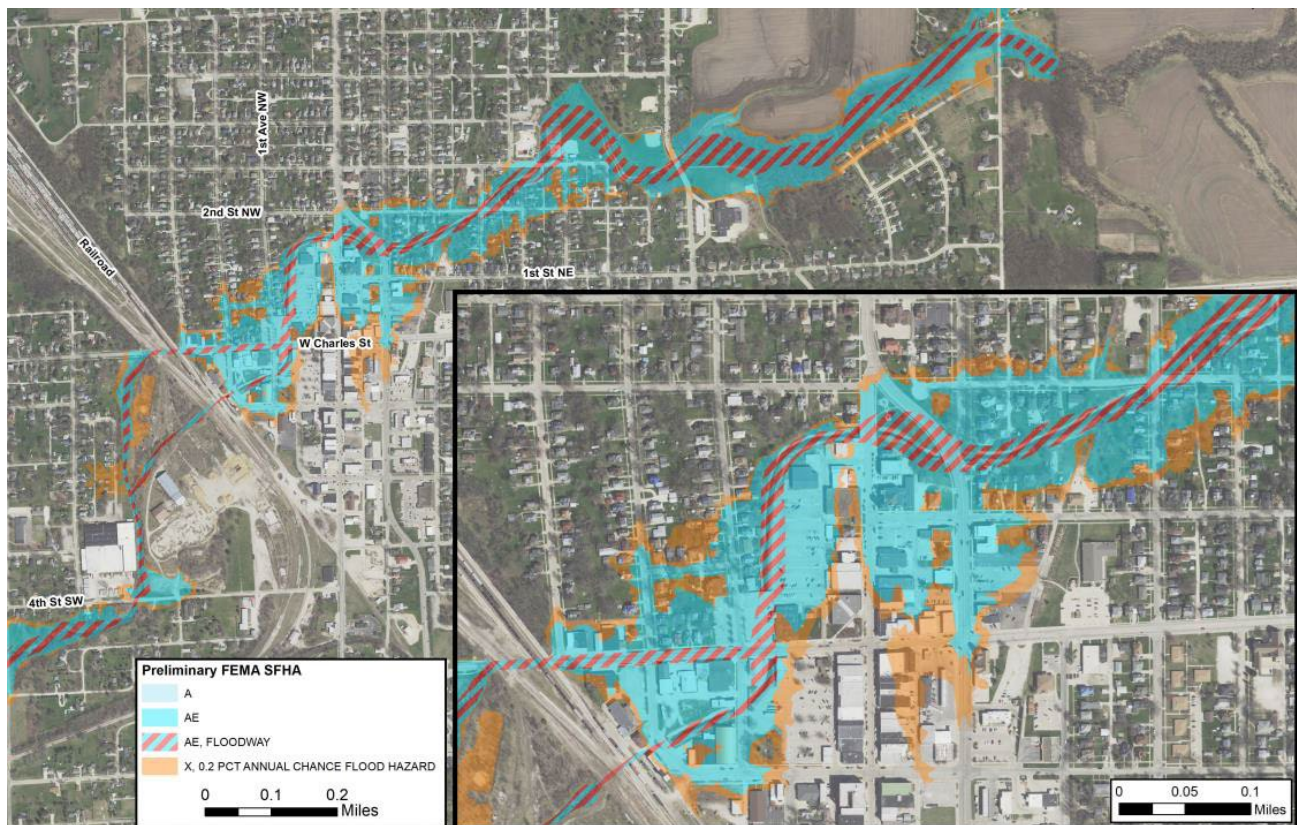
## More Information about the Help CUT Flooding Initiative

What does Help CUT Flooding provide?

Help CUT Flooding (also known as Real-Time Technical Assistance, or RTTA) identifies flood mitigation actions that a community that would be feasible for a community. The intention of the program is that it will also provide information that a community could use to move forward with implementing some of the identified possible solutions by applying for grant funding from one of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs (with application through Iowa HSEM).

What does an example look like of what a community receives through Help CUT Flooding?

The images and narrative below show a good example of the type of assistance provided. Dry Run Creek flows through a city with a population of about 6500 people. The creek goes underneath a railroad, and it was thought that the culverts under the railroad were too small and thus made the water back up and flood the downtown and other parts of the city.



The City received assistance from Help CUT Flooding (aka RTTA) to investigate what was causing the flooding and what could be done about it. An engineering firm not only looked at modifying the culverts that went underneath the railroad, but they looked at several other options to mitigate the flooding from Dry Run Creek, as shown below.



As shown in the image, the other mitigation options investigated included modification of the creek channel at various places, removal of structures so that the creek could be “daylighted”, reconstruction of a bridge, construction of levees, and creation of retention and/or detention basins (aka “reservoirs”). Then, the engineer ran through several “what if” scenarios of what if the city did different combinations of those actions – which ones would be best at making the flooding go down? They provided a report of 11 different scenarios and indicated which ones would be recommended, as illustrated in this chart:

Feature	Option										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Increased railroad culvert size	✓										
Removal of 1st Ave SW Bridge		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Removal of parking deck North of W. Charles Street		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reconfiguration & replacement of W. Charles Street Bridge		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Storage in Wings Park			✓								
Storage reservoirs upstream of Outer Rd				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lined rectangular channel, upstream of railroad					✓	✓					
Deepened & Lined rectangular channel, upstream of railroad							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deepened & Lined trapezoid channel, downstream of railroad									✓	✓	✓
Small flood wall on left side of channel upstream of railroad								✓			
Small flood wall on right side of channel upstream of railroad								✓		✓	
<b>Recommended</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>X</b>

What questions are asked in the online survey at <https://arcg.is/0zmq8v>?

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- 1) Name of the local jurisdiction with a flood issue
- 2) What floods? (homes? other buildings and what type? roads?)
- 3) Indicate on map the area impacted by flooding
- 4) How frequently does it seem that area is inundated with floodwaters?  
(Every 2 years on average? Every 3? 5? 10? etc.)
- 5) What solutions have you considered?
- 6) Other background information about the flood issue
- 7) What kind of non-monetary Technical Assistance is desired?
- 8) If a mitigation action has been suggested:
  - a) If your Local Hazard Mitigation Plan lists a mitigation action that addresses this issue, what is that action?
  - b) If not, suggest a Mitigation Action to address this issue (if you can):
  - c) What completion time frame do you expect for this Action?
  - d) What do you expect is the likely benefit of this Action compared to its cost? (low, medium or high)
  - e) If you have thought of a way to pay for any mitigation action, what potential funding source(s) have you thought of?
  - f) Potential partners to implement Action
  - g) What is the Priority of Action compared to other mitigation actions of community? (low, medium, or high)
  - h) What Position or Department in the Jurisdiction would likely be responsible for implementing the mitigation action?