

# Disaster Recovery

SUBJECT: Update to City Council

PRESENTATION DATE: August 24, 2015

PRESENTER: Bret Waters

# Overview

- Disaster Recovery Grants Terms
- Waldo Canyon Fire Federal Disaster 4067
- Black Forest Fire Federal Disaster 5027
- Summer 2013 Flooding
- September 2013 Flooding Federal Disaster 4145
- Spring 2015 Flooding Federal Disaster 4229
- August 2015 Flooding

# Disaster Recovery Grants Terms

- Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)
  - Used to reimburse the costs of fighting wildfires
- FEMA Public Assistance (PA)
  - Used to assist communities in recovering after a federally-declared disaster
- FEMA Individual Assistance (IA)
  - Used to assist homeowners in recovering after a federally-declared disaster
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program and Exigent Program
  - Used to assist communities in restoring and protecting waterways on public and private properties

# Waldo Canyon Fire: 2012

- **June 23 – July 10, 2012: (Federal Disaster 4067)**
  - Two people killed
  - 347 homes destroyed
  - Flying W Ranch destroyed
  - Over 32,000 people evacuated
  - 18,247 acres burned in El Paso County, Pike National Forest, and City of Colorado Springs
  - Type I Incident Management Team response
- **Type of Disaster Declaration:** Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAG), Public Assistance (PA)
  - \$2.69 million in damage and response costs submitted for FMAG and PA
    - \$2.34 million received from FMAG and PA
    - \$66,550 received from State of Colorado
  - \$8.8 million appropriated by City of Colorado Springs for fire and flood safety improvements.

# Waldo Canyon Fire Recovery

- 288 homes rebuilt/under permit to rebuild — 83.5% \*
- Federal Financial Assistance:
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program
  - U.S. Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER)
  - FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
  - FEMA Public Assistance Program
- State Assistance:
  - Great Outdoors Colorado
- Local Funding:
  - \$8.8 million Waldo Canyon Fire Supplemental Appropriation
  - City budget used for grant matches, \$362,683
  - Other local funding, \$290,484



# Black Forest Fire: 2013

- **June 11 – 20: Black Forest Fire (Federal Disaster 5027)**
  - Two people killed
  - 488 homes destroyed
  - 14,280 acres burned
  - NOT in Colorado Springs: City provided mutual aid
  - Type I Incident Management Team response
- **Type of Disaster Declaration:** Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAG)
  - \$787,938 Submitted for reimbursement from State and Federal
    - \$374,207 received from State
    - \$103,433 City share
    - \$310,298 pending from FMAG



# Summer Flash Flooding: July 1 – September 9, 2013

- Five rain events on Waldo Canyon Fire Burn Scar
- Manitou Springs inundated: homes destroyed and damaged
  - Highway 24 Business Loop severely damaged and closed
- One person killed in flood waters on HWY 24
  - Several people washed downstream
- One person killed in Colorado Springs on Sand Creek
  - Not related to the Waldo Canyon Fire Burn Scar



# Mid-September Flooding: September 11 – 15, 2013

- **Flash Flooding (Federal Disaster 4145)**
  - Affected several areas in Colorado Springs and across El Paso County
  - One person killed on Fountain Creek
  - 503 homes damaged
  - City parks and trails damaged
  - U.S. Highway 24 closed 17 times during the 2013 monsoon season
- **Type of Disaster Declaration:** FEMA Public Assistance (PA) and Individual Assistance (IA)
  - \$10 million in damage submitted to FEMA for PA
    - \$3.5 million qualified for reimbursement from FEMA PA
  - \$8.2 million from NRCS EWP/Exigent Funding
  - \$1.3 million from State of Colorado from grants/match contribution
  - \$2 million appropriated by City of Colorado Springs for grant matches and repairs not covered under the declaration
  - \$2.5 million contributed by City for NRCS EWP/Exigent grant match
  - \$750,000 paid by City for Manitou Incline repairs



# 2013 Flooding (4145)

- Federal Financial Assistance
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service
    - Emergency Watershed Protection Program
    - Exigent Program
  - FEMA Public Assistance Program
- State Assistance
  - Matching grants (12.5%) for FEMA Public Assistance
  - Matching grants (12.5%) for NRCS EWP
  - GOCO for Manitou Incline repair, Blodgett Peak restoration, Harlan Wolfe Park restoration
  - Flood gage installation on Camp Creek and upgrade in Garden of the Gods
- Local Funding
  - \$5.3 million in appropriations from City Budget for grant matches and emergency repairs

# 2014

- Substantial rain in July on two occasions
  - No significant damage
- Remnants of Hurricane Simon in October
  - No significant damage
- Installed larger sediment catchment structures around the Waldo Canyon Fire Burn Scar
- Channel improvements in Cheyenne Creek neighborhood
- Repairs to roads and park infrastructure along Gold Camp Road and High Drive
- Improved storm water channels
- Partnered with the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control, and Greenway District for stream channel assessments of:
  - Upper Fountain Creek from Woodland Park to America the Beautiful Park
  - Cheyenne Creek from Forest Service land to confluence with Fountain Creek



# Spring 2015 Flooding

- **Continuous rains/inundation (Federal Disaster 4229)**
- **Type of Disaster Declaration:** FEMA Public Assistance (PA)
  - \$14.3 million in damages submitted to FEMA PA
  - Process to determine qualifications for reimbursement has only begun
- Hillslope sloughing/landslides in several locations threatening homes
- Sinkholes developed where underground storm water pipes failed
- All Waldo sediment catchment basins filled
  - Sediment debris being “repurposed” to make channel and hillslope improvements in Rockrimmon
- Red Rock Canyon Open Space damaged and closed...reopened on July 3rd
- Foothills Trail (Garden of the Gods) and Pikes Peak Greenway Trail severely damaged and closed in several locations
- Stream banks eroded, threatening homes, roads, and utilities infrastructure

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# Spring 2015 Flooding (4229)

- City of Colorado Springs \$5 Million Appropriation
  - \$4 million for emergency repairs to Rockrimmon channel and clearing of sediment debris catchment basins
  - \$1 million for emergency repairs to parks
- State of Colorado Appropriations
  - None to date
- Federal Government Appropriations
  - FEMA Public Assistance Program assessment is ongoing

# August 10, 2015 Flooding

- **Inundation from the Waldo Canyon Fire Burn Scar:**
  - South Douglas Creek from the Flying W Chuckwagon through the Alpine Autism Center and Stonegate Rd in Mountain Shadows
  - Camp Creek through Glen Eyrie to Garden of the Gods and Pleasant Valley neighborhood
  - Williams Canyon into Manitou Springs had heavy flows into Canon Avenue and through the city
- This was the first true “flash flood” from sustained rains in one location on the burn scar above Colorado Springs
  - Mitigation and debris catchment basins/nets functioned well
  - No fatalities or injuries reported
  - Several swift water and vehicle rescues performed
- Damage assessments continue to be performed
- Not expected to qualify for State or Federal disaster declaration

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# Questions