

Summary: 2014 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Application – Mallard Lakes

In July 2014, the Mallard Lakes Board of Directors worked with Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. (DBF) to prepare materials in support of a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) application. The intent of the submission was to request funding assistance to elevate four specific ‘island’ buildings (Buildings 24–27) that had experienced repetitive flooding damage. The documentation included an engineering letter and a detailed cost estimate.

Purpose of the Documents

The 2014 materials were not a feasibility study, but rather supporting documentation for a grant application. The engineering letter dated July 16, 2014, certifies that the existing structures could be elevated and describes three foundation alternatives. It identifies a preferred method: cutting the existing piles, adding new pile caps and masonry piers, and reinstalling the structures at a higher elevation. The accompanying July 15, 2014 cost estimate outlines expected construction expenses totaling approximately \$333,520 per building.

Scope and Limitations

These documents addressed only four buildings and did not analyze the broader community’s flood challenges. They do not include hydrologic or environmental modeling, alternative mitigation strategies, or cost-benefit analyses required for a true feasibility study. The engineering letter and cost estimate were created to demonstrate that a technically viable project existed for FEMA’s review—not to evaluate long-term community-wide solutions or financial feasibility.

Summary Assessment

While the 2014 FEMA Hazard Mitigation materials provided useful technical background for a small subset of buildings, they do not represent a formal engineering or feasibility study for Mallard Lakes as a whole. No comprehensive, community-wide evaluation of flood mitigation options has been completed to date.