



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Brian Eber
Storm Water Program Manager**

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**Phone: 815-967-7061
Email: brian.eber@rockfordil.gov**

CITY TAKES NEXT STEP IN ACQUIRING FUNDS FOR KEITH CREEK MITIGATION PROJECT

ROCKFORD, IL. – April 5, 2010 - The Finance and Personnel Committee has passed a resolution, which was later adopted by the full City Council, which will allow the City of Rockford Public Works Department the ability to apply for a \$1,000,000 disaster recovery grant from the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

If the application is approved the grant dollars would be applied towards the project costs associated with the first phase of the Keith Creek Mitigation project including the demolition of the first 36 vacant homes in the flood-prone neighborhood.

Tonight's resolution is the final step in the formal grant application process with DCEO and allows the city to submit the formal application only. This application is part of a larger project to reduce flood risk to the remaining businesses and homeowners along Keith Creek.

The city has committed to removing the 112 homes in the Keith Creek neighborhood in order to develop green space and a more sustainable storm water management plan for Keith Creek. This would drastically reduce the flood risk to the remaining homes and businesses.

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