

Grant Activity Overview

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded GLWA a Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) scoping project grant during its FY 2023 funding period. The GLWA Grants Team reported this grant award to the GLWA Audit Committee on March 28, 2025 at its regularly scheduled meeting as part of the Grants, Gifts and Other Resources report. The BRIC scoping grant was scheduled to provide \$642,000 in BRIC Federal funding toward a total project cost of \$856,000 (which included a required \$214,000 local match by GLWA).

This scoping grant would have allowed GLWA to complete a study in preparation for a potential future BRIC construction grant of \$14 million which sought to further harden the electrical reliability at the GLWA East Side facilities of Freud, Conner, and Conner Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO).

Update

On April 8, 2025, GLWA was notified through a memo issued by the Michigan State Police (MSP), Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division that FEMA was ending the BRIC program and canceling all BRIC grants it awarded from fiscal years 2020 through 2023. The memo stated:

“We do not have information from FEMA on what this means for projects that are partially completed and/or have pending reimbursements. For any projects that have not started, we recommend you do not start them.”

At the time of notification GLWA staff were in the process of drafting a scope of work to begin the process of selecting a consultant to assist GLWA with this grant work. Therefore, GLWA has not yet incurred any direct costs related to this work.

The MSP has received no further instructions from FEMA regarding ongoing BRIC grants. Currently GLWA considers this grant “on hold” pending further communications from MSP.