

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FLOOD ZONE 1 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MAY 6, 2010

STAFF REPORT

The following is a staff report for the items listed on the Agenda for Flood Zone #1 Advisory Board (AB) meeting on May 6, 2010:

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2009

Action by Board: Advisory Board members will review meeting minutes from the May 7, 2009 meeting, make corrections, and approve minutes as corrected.

Item 2. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda

Comments will be heard for items not on the agenda.

Item 3. Project Update

a. Novato Watershed Program

The web site content for the watershed program is close to completion and the site (www.marinwatersheds.org) should be fully operational by the end of this summer. The site has received rave reviews from users and agencies for its detailed maps and focused content.

Staff is working with local Districts and the City of Novato to identify issues and needs. A summary of this information will be presented at the first technical work group meeting scheduled for this September. The primary topic for discussion at this Technical Work group meeting will be a discussion of a lower Novato Creek Flood Control and Restoration approach. This conceptual approach would evaluate opportunities to improve flood protection, sediment transport and restore wetland habitat. The discussion will also focus on upcoming grant opportunities to support watershed planning efforts.

b. Vineyard Creek Flood Control Improvements Project

Construction for Vineyard Creek Flood Control Improvements Phase II was completed last October. As required under the project's environmental permits, 5 years of vegetation and geomorphic monitoring and adaptive management is being conducted. Shelterbelt Builders, Inc. completed installation of native riparian vegetation and its associated irrigation system on the Phase II project site early this month. At the end of last year Shelterbelt submitted the required annual plant survivorship report for plants that were installed following the first phase of construction, and recommended and implemented appropriate plant replacement strategies. A new contract is required to continue the vegetation monitoring as mandated by our permit conditions. We will bundle this effort with the on-going vegetation monitoring and reporting efforts at Novato Creek Phase 8.

Kamman Hydrology and Engineering, Inc. performed baseline geomorphic monitoring last summer and submitted their annual report with site-specific management recommendations. No contract modifications are required to complete geomorphic monitoring requirements.

c. Novato Creek Maintenance Dredging

In anticipation of the next maintenance dredging of Novato Creek in summer 2012, staff has started the search for dredge disposal sites. Several prospective sites have been identified and contacts with representatives of the sites have been made. If practical, a long-term disposal site capable of receiving sediment from multiple dredging episodes will be developed. Economics, logistics and timing for the next dredge episode are the controlling factors influencing this search. We anticipate environmental and conceptual level engineering consulting services will be required for this task.

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Item 4. Annual and Preventative Maintenance Plan

Zone 1 has approximately 18 miles of creek to maintain and every year performs brush trimming and debris removal. The zone spends around \$200,000 per year on creek maintenance alone. The work is contracted through the Marin Conservation Corps. Zone 1 also provides preventive maintenance to four pump stations and tidegates at Arroyo San Jose and Rush Creek. This summer Cheda #1, Lynwood #1, Lynwood #2, and Farmer's pumps and motors will be reconditioned at a estimated cost of \$110,000. In addition, the outfall pipe at Cheda will be replaced due to its deteriorating condition at an estimated cost of \$30,000.

Item 5. Zone 1 Budget FY 10-11

Staff will present the Zone 1 FY2010-11 budget. The Advisory Board will be asked to review and provide a recommendation to the BOS in regards to approval.

Item 6. Schedule Next Meeting

Advisory Board members will set a date for the next meeting.