

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 1 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MAY 5, 2016

STAFF REPORT

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 3, 2016

Recommended Action: Approve minutes.

Item 2. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda

Comments will be heard for items not on the agenda (limited to three minutes per speaker).

Item 3. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunity - Home Elevation Program

In order to determine which neighborhoods would benefit most from the FEMA Mitigation Funding, District staff conducted a review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), which are based on a 100-year flood event, and any existing structure elevation data. Novato Creek Watershed neighborhood/areas that are predicted to experience 100-year flood inundation were identified. Note that in most cases, only portions within close proximity to Novato Creek and its tributaries are affected, not necessarily the entire neighborhood listed. The following neighborhoods with homes that may be below the FEMA 100-year flood elevation were invited to apply for this grant as part of this round of funding:

- Nave Gardens
- Green Point – west
- Black Point
- Bel Marin Keys

Elevation projects are considered automatically cost-effective by FEMA if they are located in the FEMA 100-year floodplain and cost less than or equal to \$175,000 (local multiplier may be applied using industry-accepted cost and pricing guides for construction). Meeting the cost-effective standard is only a minimum requirement to be eligible for the program and doesn't mean that the project is automatically funded. The entire FEMA budget for Marin County is \$4 million and therefore the number and amount per home is subject to FEMA cost limits depending on the number of home applications and soft costs.

Item 4. Zone Engineer's Report on Major Project Status

a. **Deer Island Flood Detention Basin Final Design**

The District received five proposals from qualified consultants and conducted interviews. Based on the submittals and interviews, Staff has tentatively selected a preferred consultant for the project to bring forward for recommendation to the BOS for final approval. We are working on a final contract and expect to make a recommendation to the BOS at their May 17th meeting. Construction for this partially grant-funded project is anticipated to be complete by 2019, possibly beginning as early as summer 2017.

b. **Novato Creek Sediment Removal - 2016**

The planning and permitting process for the Novato Creek 2016 Sediment Removal is moving forward. If cost-effective and environmentally permissible, a goal is to beneficially

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reuse the sediment removed from the creek in order to begin construction of levees. The permit applications have been submitted to the relevant federal and state agencies and the District expects to receive permit authorization by the end of May. Additional environmental review for the proposed beneficial sediment re-use was deemed necessary and is currently being conducted. A Subsequent Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SIS/MND) was produced to supplement the 2008 IS/MND and the 2012 amendment. The SIS/MND is expected to be released to the public on April 22. Construction is anticipated to take place between this July and October.

Item 5. Public Comment on Novato Creek Flood Control Dredging Project Subsequent Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

Comments will be heard from the public concerning the above referenced SIS/MND (Item 4.b) which covers proposed modifications to the project. The modifications include only changes to the transport and placement of dredge material from Novato Creek; there are no proposed changes to the dredging aspect of the project along Novato Creek.

The SIS/MND will be released for public review on April 22 and will be available for comment for 30 days in the Marin County Department of Public Works (MCDPW). Written comments will be accepted by the MCDPW until the close of the public review period on May 23. Comments by FAX or E-mail may not be able to be confirmed as officially received and accepted before the end of the comment period deadline. **Commenters are advised to mail written comments postmarked on or before the end of the 30 day comment period** to the attention of Dave Nicholson at Marin County Department of Public Works, 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 304, San Rafael, CA 94903. Copies of the Negative Declaration are available at, and may be obtained from, the Marin County Department of Public Works, (415) 473-6528, 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 304, San Rafael, California, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Negative Declaration will also be accessible online at <http://www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/environmental-review>. Copies of all documents incorporated by reference into the Negative Declaration are also available for public review at the Department of Public Works or the Marin County Community Development Agency. A copy of the SIS/MND will also be sent to the Novato and South Novato branches of the Marin County Library for public review.

Item 6. Watershed Program Update

- c. Update on Novato Watershed Program Projects and Costs
The list of project types for which we intend to seek funding is being finalized as we talk with our partners and stakeholders. Staff will provide an update at the meeting.
- d. Polling/Election Update
We anticipate that polling will commence at the end of April. Polling will be conducted by GRA. We are contracting with Harris & Associates to analyze funding methodology with a parcel tax measure and a stormwater fee measure.
- e. Outreach Activities
We are planning public presentations to the Rotary Club of Novato on May 20th as well as to the Novato Branch of Sons In Retirement (SIRS) this fall. In addition, we are working with the Novato City Manager to schedule a presentation to the City Council. We will share the date when it has been confirmed.

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Item 7. Review Draft Budget for FY 2016-17

The Zone 1 budget for FY 2016-2017 (begins July 1, 2016 and ends June 30, 2017) will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at a hearing this spring. The proposed budget summary will be presented to the AB by staff for review. For reference, last year's recommended budget is also attached.

Recommended Action: Recommend Board of Supervisors approve budget.

Item 8. Next Meeting

The following meeting schedule for the remainder of the calendar year is proposed:

August 4 - review polling results and discuss election.

November 10 - updates on 2016 Novato Creek Sediment removal, Deer Island Flood Detention Basin Final Design, winter preparedness activities, and election.

