

**MINUTES OF THE
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 9 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD TUESDAY 7:00PM, DECEMBER 20, 2016
AT SAN ANSELMO TOWN HALL
525 SAN ANSELMO AVE, SAN ANSELMO CA, 94960**

<u>Advisory Board (AB) Members Present</u>	<u>District Staff (Staff) Present</u>
Sandra Guldman (SG)	Russ Eberwein, Senior Engineer (RE)
Richard Gumbiner (RG)	Liz Lewis, Planning Manager (LL)
Dan Hillmer (DH)	Felix Meneau, Zone Engineer (FM)
Peter Hogg (PH) – Arrived at 7:10pm	Craig Tackabery, Asst. Director of Public Works (CT)
Tom McInerney (TM), Chairperson	Tony Williams, Principal Civil Engineer (TW)
David Weinsoff (DW)	
	<u>Other Staff Present</u>
<u>Advisory Board (AB) Members Absent</u>	Sean Condry, San Anselmo DPW Director (SC)
Chris Martin	Julian Skinner, Larkspur DPW Director (JS)

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2016

Action by Board: approve meeting minutes from the September 20, 2016 meeting after corrections noted on 9th paragraph of page 2 as follows:

DH asked if review had occurred regarding selection of proposed consultant referenced in Exhibit A of draft Memorandum of Agreement, and JS answered that the City's consultant selection process had ~~not~~ been completed prior to his employment with the City.

M/S: DW/SG, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** CM, **Abstain:** None

Item 2. Open Time For Items Not On The Agenda

District staff TW provided a brief presentation of the preliminary December 15, 2016 storm data assessment, [see presentation slides](#) from the December 20, 2016 Advisory Board meeting.

Item 3. Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project Update: Phase 1 of the Hillview Neighborhood Drainage Improvements in City of Larkspur

District staff FM provided an overview of the Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project, see [Staff Report dated December 20th, 2016](#). City staff JS provided brief background on the Bon Air Road Bridge Replacement project and anticipated next steps for the Hillview Drainage Improvements.

SG asked if the crescent shaped berm on west side of Corte Madera Creek had been considered as part of the project, and JS responded that this area would be included in the survey work planned as part of Phase 1.

PH asked if the Larkspur would reimburse District for any additional funding secured through Caltrans grant as part of the Bon Air Road Bridge project component, and District Staff answered that only approximately \$80,000 would be reimbursed of the \$140,000 project cost by

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Caltrans relating only to the pump station preliminary design, with District cost share less than the difference in total project cost and what Caltrans is funding through the bridge project grant.

TM asked if MOU for this Agenda Item and included as attachment is consistent with other City/Town MOU's approved to date, and District staff answered that the MOU is consistent with other previously executed City/Town MOU's relating to the bridge projects. TM asked if funding is provided for Phase 3 and District staff answered there is no commitment for Phase 3 funding.

Public comment was provided by Peter Sullivan of Larkspur regarding observed flooding in the Hillview neighborhood during the December 15, 2016 storm event, and suggested that the crescent shaped berm to the west of Corte Madera Creek would be better served as a rainwater collection area.

Public comment was provided by Arlene Fox of Hillview neighborhood urging action on this Agenda item by the Advisory Board, that delivery trucks exacerbated flooding of garages during recent December 15, 2016 storm event, and two hours' notice of suggested sandbagging given to Larkspur residents by the police/OES was insufficient and more time should be given to residents upon anticipated flooding through improved forecasting.

Public comment was provided by Kevin Haroff, Larkspur City Council, thanking City and County staff for the coordinated effort on the project and recommending it proceed without further delay.

Action by Board: adjust the Board's previously recommended Fiscal Year 16/17 budget from \$20,000 to \$42,000 for funding Phase 1 of City of Larkspur Hillview Neighborhood Drainage Improvements in City of Larkspur.

M/S: PH/DH, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** CM, **Abstain:** None

Action by Board: recommend approval by the Board of Supervisors of a Memorandum of Agreement with City of Larkspur for the Hillview Drainage Improvements.

M/S: DH/RG, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** CM, **Abstain:** None

Item 4. Program Updates Work Plan Cost and Revenue Estimates

District staff RE presented work plan costs and revenue estimates, [see Staff Report dated December 20, 2016](#) and [presentation on Work Plan Costs and Revenue Estimates](#).

TM asked about next steps in the process, and District staff answered future meetings with the Ad-Hoc budget sub-committee and Technical Working Group will be held to discuss prioritizing the project list reflected in Attachment A so as to remain within program revenue currently available.

PH complimented staff on efforts to date in developing Attachment A, B, C, and D including the inclusion of the AACE cost ranges within Attachment A.

Item 5. San Anselmo Flood Reduction Project Selection for CEQA Review

District staff LL presented regarding the San Anselmo Flood Reduction Project selection for CEQA review, [see Staff Report dated December 20, 2016](#) and [presentation on San Anselmo Flood Reduction Project Selection for CEQA Review](#).

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DW said he cannot support recommending any option as either a “Project Description” or as backup/alternative unless it reduces flood risk in Fairfax.

District staff recommended the Advisory Board choose Option 2A as the “Project Description” for CEQA and to recommend Option 1 and Option 4A as alternatives to Option 2A. Option 2A includes the removal of Building Bridge #2 over downtown San Anselmo creek coupled with a detention basin at the Former Sunnyside Nursery site.

TM asked what implications are for this Agenda item action, and District staff answered this action is related to a CEQA disclosure process and doesn't represent selection of a project by the Advisory Board

RG asked if a different option can later be substituted to replace the original “Project Description” selection recommended today, and District staff answered yes but it would cause delay in the overall project schedule and increase the cost.

Public comments were provided by Eric Russell, Candy Mitchell, Terry Norton, Lucy Wilson, Dennis Norton, and Lise Stampfli each of Morningside neighborhood in support of Option 1 and ultimately prioritizing support for Option 2A with the that the following comments:

- Option 2A will be a timelier option than Option 1,
- Option 2A will set the stage for future implementation of Option 1 because of upstream detention at the Former Sunnyside Nursery site
- Option 1 should be placed as a top priority project to receive future grant funding opportunities

Public comment was provided by Dick Stutsman of the San Anselmo Flood Committee that hydraulic modeling proposed in the near future should be completed first before proceeding to recommend one option be selected as a basis for the “Project Description”. District staff responded that it would be possible to recommend a preferred project today and if future modeling uncovered significant unanticipated results that District staff would return to the Advisory Board with new information this Spring.

Public comment was provided by Anne Peterson of Kentfield asking if negative impacts are anticipated downstream from measures proposed within Option 2A. TM asked District staff to clarify any negative impacts anticipated from Option 2A or any other option and District staff responded the approach in developing all options was to have each able to serve as stand-alone project, and each includes potential modifications to structures and residences downstream as is anticipated to be necessary from hydraulic modeling.

Public comment was provided by Frank Egger of Fairfax requesting clarification on the difference between Project versus Program Environmental Impact Report, and any impacts from filling Sunnyside Nursery site if it had operated as a detention basin during the recent December 15th 2016 storm. District staff responded that the Program EIR and Project EIR would occur in parallel. A Project EIR is necessary to meet timeliness criteria of the former Memorial Park grant.

DW clarified it is the out-of-bank flow from creeks which will be detained inside the proposed detention basins and not all creek flow.

Public comment was provided by Pam Grant of Kentfield requesting clarification on anticipated impacts downstream from options proposed and if temporary flood barriers could be used to curb water during storm events as was recently done in San Francisco during the recent

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December 15, 2016 storm event. TM responded all impacts will be thoroughly evaluated and that a guiding principle of the program is to 'do no harm'.

Public comment was provided by Sabrina Simmons and Kyle Redford of Fairfax requesting clarification if further developing the Project and Program EIR could lead to multiple detention basin sites being implemented in Fairfax such as at the Former Sunnyside Nursery and Lefty Gomez Field and if one site such as at Lefty Gomez could forever be removed from future consideration. DW responded that without multiple detention basins in place, the Town of Fairfax will not be spared in preventing flooding as occurred during the December 31, 2005 flood which among other impacts, jeopardized emergency responders.

Public comment was provided by Laura Mina of Fairfax that more effort should be made in cleaning the creeks and pursuing other possible detention basin sites such as at the Town and Country Club in Fairfax. TM responded that significant cumulative creek cleaning efforts have been completed including through recent expansions of creek maintenance activities to include removal of concrete rubble; however, creek maintenance alone will not address major flooding.

Public comment was provided by Garril Page of San Anselmo that improvements proposed will address or reduce intermittent flooding but flood barriers proposed in some of the options and projects appear to have minimal impacts but could prevent trees from residing next to the flood barriers. , and Specific examples or photos of the proposed option and/or improvements should be provided to community groups when requesting community input on which options and/or improvements are to move forward.

TM asked Town of San Anselmo staff SC for input on the preferred option and SC expressed support for Option 2A and also recommended all options remain on the table and continue to be studied including through future 2-dimensional hydraulic modeling.

Action by Board: recommend Option 2A be used as the basis for "Project Description" in the Project CEQA document, and recommend Option 1 and Option 4A be evaluated as alternatives to Option 2A in the Project CEQA document.

M/S: SG/RG, **Ayes:** PH/TM/DH, **Nay:** DW, **Absent:** CM, **Abstain:** None

Action by Board: recommend staff complete contract negotiations with Environmental Services Associates for performing Project CEQA review at a not to exceed cost of \$400,000 and request staff proceed with taking the ESA contract to the Board of Supervisors for their authorization.

M/S: DH/PH, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** CM, **Abstain:** None

Item 6. Program & Other Project Updates

[See Staff Report dated December 20, 2016](#) for updates regarding bridges and building bridges in Fairfax, San Anselmo, and Ross including Morningside/Lower Sleepy Hollow Creek Feasibility Study, Former Sunnyside Nursery Growing Grounds, Phoenix Lake Integrated Regional Water Management Retrofit, Corte Madera Creek Unit 2, 3, and 4, Creek Maintenance Program, and Announcement of Recently Held Public and Technical Work Group Meetings.

PH commented the interim Phase 1 operation of pumping Phoenix Lake water level down to elevation 140 each April will be detrimental to recreational uses. SG asked about the structural integrity of the existing dam.

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Public comment was provided by P. Beach Kuhl of Town of Ross Council regarding his concern for what was discussed by the Advisory Board today including questions raised regarding the current condition of the Phoenix Lake dam and any need for full dam replacement.

Public comment was provided by Kathy Schaefer regarding who might assist in discussing reservoir reoperation opportunities, and District staff provided a staff contact.

Public comment was provided by Garril Page of San Anselmo regarding past MMWD correspondence from the 1980's regarding potential use of Phoenix Lake for flood reduction, several landslides reside around Phoenix Lake and possibility for human error and increased liability from use of manual flood gate operations.

Item 7. Adjourn (Next Meeting Scheduled for March 21, 2017)

The Zone 9 Advisory Board confirmed the next meeting date of March 21, 2017 and agreed to tentatively schedule meetings in 2017 during third Tuesdays in March (March 21), June, September, and December. The Advisory Board requested that a topic of alternate members to the Advisory Board be included in the next meeting Agenda.