

**FLOOD ZONE 9 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2013**

**7:00 PM**

**SAN ANSELMO TOWN HALL  
525 SAN ANSELMO AVENUE**

**MINUTES**

**Advisory Board Members Present:**

- Richard Gumbiner (RG), Chairperson
- Peter Hogg (PH)
- Patricia Rippe (PR)
- David Weinsoff (DW)
- Chris Martin (CM)

**Advisory Board Members Absent:**

- Tom McInerney
- Dan Hillmer

**Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Representatives:**

- Craig Tackabery (CT)
- Tracy J. Clay (TC)
- Jack Curley (JC)
- Felix Meneau (FM)

**Item 1. Approval of meeting minutes for August 28, 2012**

**Action by Board:** Advisory Board members reviewed the minutes and approved the minutes as corrected.

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

**Item 2. Open time for items not on the agenda**

Public comments with staff replies below were received on the following topics:

**1. Cost Benefit Analysis of the Ross Valley CIP Study Report**

One resident pointed out that there was a one foot finished floor elevation assumption within the cost benefit analysis of the Capital Improvement Plan Study Report and not an actual survey of all finished floor elevations throughout the Ross Valley.

**2. Updated cost estimates for all CIP projects**

A member of the public recognized that as we obtain more project definition and tailor projects to be more competitive, project cost estimates are increasing, as recently demonstrated through the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project application for funding through the Stormwater Flood Management Grant program (Prop 1E, Round 2) of the California Department of Water Resources. Staff described that should CIP project cost estimates increase beyond initial estimates, staff will work with flood zone partners to establish a fair cost share while continuing to keep the Advisory Board informed of any developments. Suggestions by the Advisory Board included providing a possible third party verification of project cost estimates.

## ***Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District***

### **3. Applicability of bio retention throughout the watershed to reduce flooding**

Staff reported that a member of the public recommended the Ross Valley Watershed Program pursue the use of LID to reduce flooding. The County supports LID as a method to minimize impacts to stormwater quality caused by development and reduce the rate of runoff through bio retention and reduction in impervious surfaces. However, these measures are not sufficient to significantly reduce flooding during large storms. The Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP) promotes the use of LID for development and redevelopment projects. Staff also reported that bio retention projects are under the purview of the local agency Community Development Department.

### **4. Request to remove Ross fish ladder as a stand-alone project**

A resident asked why the Ross Valley fish ladder could not be removed as a standalone project. Staff commented that there are significant impacts to properties upstream and downstream of the fish ladder that must be addressed as part of a fish ladder removal project. Fish ladder removal is part of the proposed U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "Unit 4" project. Staff reported that due to limited federal funding project progress has slowed and that Supervisor Rice recently traveled to Washington DC to request additional funds be allocated to this project.

### **Item 3. Community outreach/engagement**

Staff provided details regarding the Annual Report, Email Notifications, Storm Response, Stakeholder Meetings, and the Creek Maintenance Fact Sheet for Creekside Property Owners. (See "Staff Report")

### **Item 4. Project Status Updates**

Staff provided updates on Phoenix Lake, Memorial Park, Lefty Gomez Field, the Creek Cleaning Program, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Unit 4 Project. (See "Staff Report")

Board member Weinsoff raised the question of why a grant application for Prop 1E-Round 2 funding was submitted for the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project ahead of the Lefty Gomez and Loma Alta Detention Basin Projects if the decision making process is strictly scientific and based on the expected volume capacity of the proposed detention basins. Staff explained that opportunities for large-scale funding are also a deciding consideration as the Ross Valley Watershed Program funding was set up to provide only local matching funds and the remainder was to be obtained through outside future grants of approximately 65% of all project costs. In addition, all of the detention basins are necessary and provide a cumulative benefit to the basin as part of the watershed system designed to reduce or eliminate flood damages. In the spirit of the watershed partnership, Town of San Anselmo committed it's Public Works Director and staff, the Recreation Director, and the Town Manager who all assumed leadership on this project managing the field tests, engineering, landscape architecture, and public meetings necessary to complete the grant application and take advantage of this funding opportunity for the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program.

### **Item 5. Report on BCDC Project – Research on Bayshore Marshes in Town of Corte Madera**

Staff provided a description of the possible Ross Valley watershed benefits resulting from the \$640,000 grant award to the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) for the Estuary 2100 program.