

# **FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 9 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**JUNE 21, 2016**

**SAN ANSELMO TOWN HALL**

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2016**

**Action by Board:** Advisory Board members will review meeting minutes from the April 19, 2016 meeting, make corrections, and approve the minutes as corrected.

### **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. Program and Project Updates:**

#### **Upcoming Public Meetings:**

- **Sleepy Hollow Creek Flood Improvements Project Meeting (Morningside Neighborhood)**  
To be held on July 7, 2016 at the Isabel Cook Community Center located at 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. in San Anselmo to discuss the study purpose, scope, and schedule.
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Corte Madera Creek Flood Control Project (Units 2, 3, & 4)**  
To be held in either late-July or early-August to discuss the approach for identifying and further refining possible flood risk reduction alternatives along Corte Madera Creek from Ross to Kentfield. Additional meetings will be held later in the summer or early-fall to gain feedback from the public on the specific alternatives being given further consideration. Meeting details, including dates, times, and location, to be announced in advance and posted to the [County Calendar](#).
- **Sunnyside Nursery Site Neighborhood Meeting**  
A neighborhood meeting will be held this summer to discuss the District's interest in and investigation of the site for possible use as a detention basin and other improvements, including opportunities for public access and recreation. Meeting details, including dates, times, and location, to be announced in advance and posted to the [County Calendar](#).

#### **Sleepy Hollow Creek Flood Improvements Project (Morningside Neighborhood)**

The Advisory Board recommended on December 15, 2015 that Stetson Engineers perform a study of the Morningside Neighborhood area. The scope of the work includes completing field surveying, hydraulic modeling, and conceptual design work to contain the 25-year flood from above Broadmoor Avenue to below Mountain View along Sleepy Hollow Creek.

Survey work to support the study has begun and a neighborhood meeting will be held on July 7 to discuss project goals, scope, and schedule, as well as to get the community's input and answer their questions. (See *Upcoming Public Meetings* in this staff report for details.)

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

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Corte Madera Creek Project (Units 2, 3, and 4)

Understand more about the project and keep informed of the latest by visiting the project webpage at: [http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents\\_and\\_reports/USACECorteMaderaCreekProject.html](http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents_and_reports/USACECorteMaderaCreekProject.html)

This project includes a feasibility-level design of improvements to Corte Madera Creek from Sir Francis Drake Bridge in Ross to the downstream end of the concrete channel in Kentfield to contain flood flows. The Project Design Team (PDT) for the Corte Madera Creek Units 2, 3 and 4 Project consist of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – San Francisco Office (USACE) and the District.

This spring the District commenced with surveys of properties along Corte Madera Creek to enable hydraulic modeling of potential alternatives taking place this summer. Environmental review of potential alternatives will be performed concurrent with the development of alternatives.

A creek walk was held on April 20 to meet with community members and walk the creek near the Lagunitas Bridge to discuss possible opportunities and project constraints.

Marin County Public Works has also started overseeing construction on the Corte Madera Creek Multi-Use Pathway Improvements from College of Marin parking lot in Kentfield north to the Ross town limit at the Kentfield Rehabilitation Hospital. Approximately 1,400 feet of the pathway, which parallels the Corte Madera Creek channel, will be widened from 6 feet to 10 feet. Marin County Public Works is incorporating a low impact development feature consisting of a new approximately 1,200 foot long vegetated swale within the Corte Madera Creek Multi-Use Pathway Improvements currently under construction, with design review for the vegetated swale provided by the Marin County Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program.

The District participated in a community meeting convened by Jared Huffman on April 25 to discuss project goals, benefits, and schedule, and to answer attendees' questions.

Opportunities for engagement this summer will include additional community meetings and creek walks to help shape the selection of a locally preferred alternative for the project. (See *Upcoming Public Meetings* in this staff report for details.) A draft environmental document to provide an assessment of potential impacts associated with the project will be presented to the public this fall for review and comment.

### Phoenix Lake Integrated Regional Water Management Retrofit Project

Understand more about the project and keep informed of the latest by visiting the project webpage at: [http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents\\_and\\_reports/documents-reports.html](http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents_and_reports/documents-reports.html)

This project will modify an existing Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) dam and reservoir for use as a flood control facility. Currently, multiple feasibility studies are in process to evaluate the suitability of the dam and reservoir for this purpose and to estimate the cost.

The District, in collaboration with MMWD staff, is preparing feasibility-level design and cost estimates for the dam retrofit alternative. Stetson Engineers will prepare technical memos evaluating options for modifying or replacing the spillway and outlet works for the dam. These options will be presented to the public for comment upon completion of the feasibility studies and prior to the selection of a final design. We currently anticipate this to occur this fall.

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

### **Sunnyside (Nursery) Detention Basin Project**

The District has been in discussions with owners of the former “Sunnyside Nursery Growing Grounds” property to explore the possible purchase of the site. At this time negotiations between the property owners and District are in progress, but no formal agreement has been approved by either party.

Should an agreement be reached, we would further evaluate the site for potential flood risk reduction and other multi-benefit improvements and there would be ample opportunities for the community to review and be involved with helping shape conceptual alternatives which may be considered for the site.

As part of the evaluation of the site for stormwater storage during flood events, the District is prepared to contract with soils engineers to test the underlying soils and environmental conditions as we work to help determine the feasibility of the site. Therefore, there may be trucks, contractors and equipment on site performing tests beginning this summer.

### **FEMA Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunity (Structure Raising & Building Bridge Number #2)**

Last fall, the California Valley and Butte Fires led to the declaration of a major disaster. As a result, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has made available hazard mitigation assistance to the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The District submitted two separate applications on June 16 for Zone 9. One is to use this funding for potential home elevation projects and the other is to raise Building Bridge #2 in downtown San Anselmo.

For the home elevation projects, 85 homeowners from Zone 9 submitted the required paperwork for eligibility consideration for this program. Under this program, individual homeowners can raise their homes above the FEMA base flood elevation with 75% of their eligible costs reimbursed by the federal government. Application costs are potentially reimbursable at this same rate if the grant is awarded. Application costs per house were estimated to be \$1,000.

### **Item 4. Green Infrastructure (GI) & Low Impact Development (LID) Discussion**

At its last meeting, the Advisory Board asked that staff place an item on the agenda for a discussion of green infrastructure (GI) and low impact development (LID). Upon the request of staff, Dan Cloak of Dan Cloak Environmental Consulting, former and current consultant to Marin County Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP), will provide an overview of what GI and LID are, how they are used, and provide examples of current applications in the Ross Valley Watershed.

Staff will also discuss opportunities for implementing and funding GI and LID in the Ross Valley Watershed, including the upcoming Stormwater Resource Planning effort led by MCSTOPPP. MCSTOPPP recently provided design review to Marin County Public Works in order to facilitate the addition of a LID feature consisting of an approximately 1,200 foot long vegetated swale within the Corte Madera Creek Multi-Use Pathway Improvements currently under construction.

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

**Item 5. Department of Water Resources Grant (former Memorial Park grant): Analysis of Replacement Project Alternatives for San Anselmo Flood protection Projects**

The San Anselmo Flood Protection Project originally included a multi-use detention basin at Memorial Park in San Anselmo, but a voter initiative passed in November 2015 removed it from further consideration. A grant from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) was awarded to the Memorial Park Project and the grant can be transferred to a different project if it meets the requirements of the grant.

At the April 19, 2016 meeting, the Advisory Board recommended that the four project alternatives described in the technical memorandum Analysis of Project Alternatives for DWR Grant be presented to DWR for consideration of receiving grant funds originally intended for the Memorial Park Project. Since the last Advisory Board meeting, staff have meet with DWR to explain the analysis of replacement projects and confirm the requirements for transferring the grant to a different project. At this Advisory Board meeting, Planning Manager Liz Lewis will present next steps, opportunities for public involvement and input, and District/Town roles and responsibilities as we move forward with a recommendation of a preferred project or set of projects for the use of grant funds.

**Item 6. Adjourn (Next Meeting Scheduled for September 20, 2016)**

At the December 15, 2015 meeting of the Flood Control Zone 9 Advisory Board, September 20<sup>th</sup> was selected as the next meeting date following today's meeting. The third Tuesday in December (i.e., December 20, 2016) was also set as a future Advisory Board meeting date.