

MARIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE SIX ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2008

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item 1: Open Time for Items not on the Agenda

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Zone By-Laws

Because of changes in the law, it is necessary that each Flood Control Zone, in addition to the Flood Control District as a whole, adopt its own By-Laws. To assist the Zones, the Board of Supervisors developed a set of legally satisfactory generic By-Laws and all the other Flood Control Zones have so far adopted these with the addition of an annual meeting date. A copy thereof is included in the meeting packet for your review.

Action: After discussion, the Board will vote on adoption of By-Laws.

Agenda Item 3: Report on Zone Activities

Green Can Program: In an attempt to reduce the quantity of leaves and yard litter being washed into the storm drain system, Zone Six funded extra Green Can pick-ups for the months of November and December. Ordinarily, Green Cans are picked up every other Friday in Zone Six. The Zone paid for Green Cans to be picked up on the off weeks. A letter was sent to all Zone residents announcing this program and encouraging residents to make use thereof in lieu of raking their yard leaves and litter into the street. The total cost of the program was \$1,536.93 and 9.25 tons of yard waste were picked up.

Questionnaire Response: The Zone sent a questionnaire to all Zone residents asking about any drainage problems. A total of 434 questionnaires were mailed and 85 were returned or almost 20%. Most respondents did not list any problems but there were three problems that did get mentioned by several: the birdbath at the Las Flores - Mirada intersection, the creek adjacent to the railroad, and the creek between El Prado and Mirada.

Meeting with City DPW: Zone Staff met with staff from the San Rafael DPW to discuss issues, problems and possible joint efforts. City staff reported that there are few drainage problems in the Zone and they rarely receive calls in that regard from Zone residents. As with the questionnaire responses, vegetation management in the creek between El Prado and Mirada was identified as a possible Zone activity.

Action: This is an informational item only. No action required.

Agenda Item 4: Future Zone Activities and Projects

Because the Redwood Village Subdivision cut off the last source of flooding there are no remaining major flooding problems in Zone Six and the Zone has been relatively dormant since 2000. As a result, the Zone's reserves have built up to over \$250,000 and it is thus in a position to consider taking on some new activities and/or projects. However, what those

might be is not immediately obvious and that is why the questionnaire was sent out. Based on the responses to the questionnaire some possibilities might include:

- A project, possibly in conjunction with the City, to eliminate the birdbath at the Las Flores - Mirada intersection.
- A vegetation management program for the creek between El Prado and Mirada.
- A formal evaluation of the creek adjacent to the railroad and development of a maintenance plan.
- There are three underground drainage systems in the vicinity of the 101 off-ramp, McDonalds and A&W. These have not been inspected in many years and, while they are still functioning, their condition is unknown. The Zone could fund the videoing of these systems.
- Participation in the development of the Watershed Management Plan for the Las Gallinas watershed.
- The Joint Powers Agreement between Zone Six and the City requires the City to reimburse the Zone for “- - - *total direct administrative costs* - - -” up to \$1,500 a year. Given the current financial situation of all governments including the City, perhaps the Zone could forgo such reimbursement in the future.
- While the City is responsible for the maintenance of the creek between El Prado and Mirada, this responsibility pertains only to keeping the creek open for the passage of water, i.e., the removal of obstructions to flow. Neither the City nor the Zone is responsible for maintaining the banks of the creek. Accordingly, over the years the banks have been lined (revetted) by the property owners using a variety of methods and materials and many of these revetments are old and approaching the end of their serviceable life. Although undertaking a project to replace/repair these old revetments is beyond the Zone’s financial capabilities, the Zone might consider doing some of the generic tasks necessary for any work in a creek. This might include development of a revetment design(s) in accordance with current regulatory requirements, carrying out any necessary environmental review, and getting approval from some/all of the regulatory agencies. If such were done then a property owner wishing to repair/replace a revetment could use the design and thus avoid the expense of preparing same and taking it through the approval process.

Action: This is a discussion item only. No action required.

Agenda Item 5: Video on Advisory Board Legal Requirements

The Board of Supervisors has prepared a short video on the legal requirements of County policies, the Public Records Act and the Brown Act relating to meetings and actions of Commissions, Boards and Committees. All members thereof are required to view the video so they have the training and information they need to comply with the legal requirements.

Action: After viewing the video, Advisory Board members will sign an acknowledgement form stating they have done so.