



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Pending Purchase Focuses on Keeping Community Businesses in Town

Purchase of problematic building would allow for improved creek flow

San Rafael, CA – On September 19 the Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District’s Board of Supervisors approved an [option to purchase](#) for the property at 634 San Anselmo Avenue in downtown San Anselmo. The building sits across San Anselmo Creek, and its foundations are built directly into the creek bed, causing one of the primary obstructions to creek flow in Ross Valley. The District is considering this purchase as a potential flood-reduction option for the region.

Four businesses currently occupy the building: L’Appart Resto, The Ranch Salon, San Anselmo Optometry, and Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Additionally, Michael Feldman Art Gallery also occupies a neighboring building on the property. The District’s option to purchase does not immediately impact the businesses which occupy the property, nor does it immediately change the ownership of the property.

The current businesses provide valuable services to the community and, until a final decision is made, will continue to operate in their present location. Should the purchase be completed, the businesses will be provided with opportunities to relocate within San Anselmo wherever possible.

The District encourages the public to continue to support and frequent these businesses and all businesses in the Ross Valley as usual during the course of the ongoing [Ross Valley Watershed Program](#). The District is committed to working with the businesses, Town of San Anselmo and Chamber of Commerce to help keep the existing businesses up and running with the least impact possible should future relocation within the town occur.

No decisions will be made to relocate the businesses until the [San Anselmo Flood Risk Reduction Project](#) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is completed and approved. The EIR is in process with a draft expected to be released in January 2018 and the final EIR expected in April 2018. Depending on the outcome of the final EIR and if the Proposed Project Alternative is selected, the businesses may be eligible to move and claim

reimbursement of expenses beginning in May of 2018 with a target date of December 31, 2018 for all necessary moves to be completed.

If the relocations take place as a result of the project approved in the final EIR, public noticing will be available as needed to help the businesses inform their customers of any change in location or status. The Relocation Assistance Program will provide help to the affected businesses including, but not limited to, advisory services, reimbursement of expenses related to advertising, moving, re-establishment and reinstalling personal property at a new location.

Information on the Option to Purchase Agreement, previous public notices, program and project EIRs, as well as other flood mitigation information for the region, can be found on the Ross Valley Watershed website at www.rossvalleywatershed.org.

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