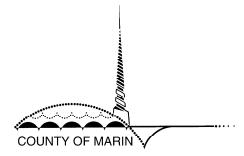


Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program

LOMA ALTA DETENTION BASIN PROJECT

Last Updated: October 24, 2016



Loma Alta Open Space



Loma Alta Open Space



Proposed Loma Alta Detention Basin within Ross Valley Watershed

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Dependent on site selection, this project proposes to modify a three-acre portion of the Loma Alta Open Space in Fairfax into a dual-use facility allowing the open space to function as an overflow water storage basin during infrequent, large flood events. Due to the limited in-channel space of the creeks, the detention basin will provide much-needed temporary water storage, which will reduce or prevent flooding within the Ross Valley watershed. The proposed detention basin will be designed to blend with the natural context of the area and will include improvements to the existing trail network to enhance the use of the open space by local residents. This detention basin was one of five initially proposed in the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program and was later reclassified as an alternate detention basin site in 2015 following the results of the Flow Reduction Study.

Project Benefits

The proposed project will alleviate flood impacts and enhance public safety during a 100-year flood event (similar to the New Year's Eve flood of 2005) by temporarily storing flood waters to reduce flooding downstream of the detention basin and working in conjunction with the bridge replacement projects as a watershed-wide flood mitigation system to reduce the risk of flooding for hundreds of homes and businesses in Ross Valley.

Project Status

The proposed project and proposed location were re-evaluated as part of the Flow Reduction Study in summer 2015 and was reclassified from a primary site to an alternate site. However, at the September 21, 2015 Advisory Board meeting, this site was retained as a primary detention basin site. Staff is evaluating further feasibility, design, and environmental review phases.

Project Cost & Funding Sources

The proposed project is estimated to cost \$1.9 million (per the 2011 Capital Improvement Plan Study for Flood Damage Reduction and Creek Manage for Flood Zone 9/Ross Valley). Proposed funding sources include Ross Valley Flood Zone 9 Storm Drainage Fee and other potential grant funding sources.

Implementing Agency & Partners

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in cooperation with Marin County Parks and Open Space Commission, Ross Valley School District, and Town of Fairfax. The implementing agency project contact is Russ Eberwein, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer (REberwein@marincounty.org).



Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program



Creeks of the Ross Valley Watershed



Flooding on Larkspur Plaza Drive, **1998**

ABOUT THE ROSS VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION & WATERSHED PROGRAM

The Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the towns/cities of Fairfax, San Anselmo, Ross, and Larkspur created the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program (Program) after the devastating flood of 2005. The Program addresses issues of flooding and environmental stewardship to protect and enhance the Ross Valley watershed and its communities. The goals of the program are to reduce the risk of flooding using a watershed-wide approach; integrate environmental restoration features with the flood mitigation projects; and leverage funds obtained through the Ross Valley Storm Drainage Fee to secure state and federal grant funding to study and construct publicly-approved projects. The proposed bridge replacement, detention basin, and in-creek projects are part of the first phase of improving the level of flood protection in the Ross Valley.



Downtown San Anselmo (Bolin Avenue) during the 1944 Flood



Downtown San Anselmo (Bolin Avenue) during the 2005 Flood

For further information about the Program and proposed projects, please visit the Program website at www.RossValleyWatersheds.org.

Requests for accommodations may be made by calling (415) 473-4381 (Voice/TTY) or 711 for the California Relay Service or by email at disabilityaccess@marincounty.org.

Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.

