



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Planning &  
Development  
Department No.: 053  
For Agenda Of: May 17, 2011  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from: N/A  
Vote Required: No Vote Required

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Glenn Russell, Ph.D. Director, Planning and Development  
Director(s) (805) 568-2085  
Contact Info: Alice McCurdy, Deputy Director, Development Review South  
(805) 568-2518  
**SUBJECT: Flood Control Goleta Slough Dredging/Desilting 11EMP-00000-00003  
Second Supervisorial District**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: No

**Recommended Actions:**

Receive and file this report on Emergency Permit 11EMP-00000-00003, which authorized the dredging/desilting of approximately 9,000 cubic yards of sediment from the flood control basin within San Pedro Creek, a tributary of Goleta Slough (Assessor Parcel Numbers 071-200-022 & 071-200-023). A copy of the Emergency Permit is enclosed.

**Summary Text:**

Section 35-171 of the Coastal Zoning Ordinance (Article II) authorizes the Director of the Planning and Development Department (P&D) to temporarily defer the permit requirements of Article II and issue an Emergency Permit when emergency action is warranted by a person or public agency. Section 35-171.6 of Article II requires the Director to submit a written report describing the emergency action to the Board of Supervisors and the California Coastal Commission after issuing an Emergency Permit.

P&D issued an Emergency Permit (11EMP-00000-00003) to the County Flood Control District on March 25, 2011, to remove approximately 9,000 cubic yards of sediment from the San Pedro Creek Basin within the Goleta Slough. Due to the recent storms in Santa Barbara County and the predicted rain events, the basins had the potential to become full of sediment, potentially flooding Highway 217, the airport, and surrounding properties. Tidal influence did not allow for typical sediment transport in these areas and any further sediment in these basins had the potential to continue filling in upstream. San Pedro Basin was approximately 70% full for a length of 1,000 feet downstream of James Fowler

Road with approximately 9,000 cubic yards of sediment to be removed. The sediment was removed and stockpiled in the upland area adjacent to the basin; samples were tested for use as beach replenishment material at Goleta Beach County Park.

Pursuant to Article II Section 35-171.3.3 an emergency permit does not constitute an entitlement and Section 35-171.5.3. requires approval of the normally required permit. Dredging and desilting of the creek channels of the Goleta Slough normally requires a Minor Conditional Use Permit and a Coastal Development Permit. Processing these permits would typically take six months or longer depending upon environmental review. The Emergency Permit allowed the Flood Control District to immediately begin desilting in the creek channel, thereby reducing the immediate flood hazard potential and minimizing risks to health, safety and property posed by flooding. The Emergency Permit was conditioned to complete the work by April 22, 2011, consistent with emergency authorization by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

On November 18, 2010, the Flood Control District submitted an application for a Minor Conditional Use Permit (10CUP-00000-00041) and Coastal Development Permit (10CDP-00000-00102) to allow the continuance and update of its ongoing flood control maintenance activities within the Goleta Slough and its tributary creeks, including the San Pedro Creek Basin. P&D has been processing this application and anticipates taking the project to the County Zoning Administrator in approximately two to three months. Rather than requiring the District to submit a separate application, the activities permitted by this emergency permit have been incorporated into the project description of the ongoing Minor Conditional Use Permit application.

The project is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, including the Coastal Land Use Plan and Article II. In addition, the Emergency Permit included conditions to ensure that the project complied with policies regarding noise, erosion and sediment control, and water quality protection.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

County costs for preparing the Emergency Permit are reimbursed by the applicant in conformance with the current Board approved fee resolution. Permit revenues are budgeted in Departmental Revenues of the Development Review South Division on page D-330 of the adopted 2010-2011 fiscal year budget.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

N/A

**FTEs:**

N/A

**Special Instructions:**

N/A

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**Attachments:**

Emergency Permit 11EMP-00000-00003

**Authored by:**

Julie Harris (805) 568-3518

**cc:**