



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: Flood Control
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: 05/15/07
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FROM: Department Phillip M. Demery, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

SUBJECT: Grant Applications for the Gobernador Debris Basin Modification Project, First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: No

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: No

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

- a) Concur with the grant application for \$1.1 million with the California Department of Fish and Game to fund costs for the construction phase of the Gobernador Debris Basin Modification Project to improve the outlet works for better performance of the basin as a flood control facility and allow fish passage; and
- b) Authorize the Flood Control District to apply for other grants that may become available to help fund the construction phase of this project.

Summary Text:

The National Marine Fisheries Service has requested that the Flood Control District consider options to modify the Gobernador Debris Basin to provide a more suitable condition for fish passage. Gobernador Creek has been identified by fish studies as having prime potential to re-establish habitat for steelhead trout. This project aligns well with the Flood Control needs of the area, as the Gobernador Debris Basin traps a large amount of fine silts and sands that takes up valuable space in the basin. This project meets two goals, one of fish passage, and the other improved flood control operations.

The California Departmental of Fish and Game is currently accepting grant applications for their Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP). The FRGP focuses on funding projects that restore anadromous salmonid habitat with the goal of ensuring the survival and protection of coho salmon, steelhead trout, Chinook salmon, and cutthroat trout in coastal watersheds of California. The Flood

Control District previously applied for and was awarded \$156, 805 in FRGP funds for the Gobernador Debris Basin Modification Project in 2004, however the costs for the project exceed the available funding and therefore the District forfeited the grants funds and now plans to re-apply for a much larger amount of funds for the project.

The Flood Control District is requesting \$1.1 million in grant funding from the California Department of Fish and Game to help pay for this project. In addition, the Flood Control District is also requesting authority to apply for other grants that may become available to fund the construction phase of the project.

Background:

The Gobernador Debris Basin was constructed by the US Army Corps of Engineers on Gobernador Creek in 1971 after the Romero Fire to protect downstream landowners and resources from debris flows and flooding. Although effective in controlling debris, the structure accumulates large amounts of fine sediment increasing the need for maintenance and higher costs. In addition, the design of the basin restricts upstream migration by fish. The Flood Control District has worked cooperatively with federal, state and local government agencies, and non-governmental organizations to develop a multi-objective design for modification of the facility to address these two issues.

The project will modify the basin by replacing the earthen embankment, grouted rock spillway, and concrete low flow discharge pipe with a natural bottom open channel and concrete restrictor walls. These modifications will improve the basin's function by passing sediment through the basin while retaining the more critical, larger debris as well as improve fish passage.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Narrative:

Costs for this project were included in the proposed FY 2007-08 budget under the Design Cost Center of the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department. Construction costs will begin next fiscal and continue into FY 2008-09.

Obtaining grant funding is necessary to construct this project due to high construction costs.

This project is included in the Capital Improvement Program on page B-166.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of this action to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez.

Authored by: Jon Frye, Civil Engineer Manager, 568-3444

cc: