

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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CHRIS SNEDDON
Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 8, 2026

To Honorable Board of Supervisors and Board of Directors of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District

From: Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director DS
CS

Subject: Replacing the Public Works Director's Report on Emergency Actions from Impacts on Flooding and Storms Board Letter scheduled for the 1/13/26 Board Meeting

The recommended actions in the board letter will now include actions by the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District and Water Conservation District.

Additional recommended actions are shown below in red:

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and review a report from the Public Works Director regarding emergency actions taken pursuant to Resolution No. 19-327 and Public Contract Code section 22050 related to emergency operations responding to flooding, storms, debris removal and transportation projects following the recent late December 2025 and early January 2026 (25STM3) storm events and the necessity of the action and the reasons the emergency will not permit delay resulting from competitive solicitation of bids;
- b) Determine that there is a need to continue the emergency actions ordered by the Public Works Director (4/5 vote required);
- c) Direct staff to return to the Board at the next regular meeting, or every 14 days in the case of consecutive weekly regular meetings, to allow the Board to review the emergency action and determine whether there is a need to continue the emergency action, by a 4/5 vote, until the actions are terminated; and
- d) Determine that these emergency actions were found by the Board to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(d) and Section 15301(c) on January 13, 2026. A Notice of Exemption was filed on this basis on January 7, 2026, and the proposed action is within the scope of that Notice of Exemption (Attachment C).

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Receive and review a report from the Public Works Director regarding emergency actions taken pursuant to Resolution No. 19-327 and Public Contract Code section 22050 related to emergency operations responding to flooding, storms, debris removal of Flood Control facilities and projects following the recent late December 2025 and early January 2026 (25STM3) storm events and the necessity of the action and the reasons the emergency will not permit delay resulting from competitive solicitation of bids;
- b) Determine that there is a need to continue the emergency actions ordered by the Public Works Director (4/5 vote required);
- c) Direct staff to return to the Board at the next regular meeting, or every 14 days in the case of consecutive weekly regular meetings, to allow the Board to review the emergency action and determine whether there is a need to continue the emergency action, by a 4/5 vote, until the actions are terminated; and
- d) Determine that these emergency actions are statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(d) for actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment E) with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors on that basis.

Other changes to the board letter include:

1. Updated language to reflect both agencies,
2. fiscal analysis information for Flood Control was added, and
3. attachments D and E for Flood Control were added.

AA/EEO Employer

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Mostafa Estaji, Transportation

Julie Hagen, Finance and Administration
Jeanette Gonzales-Knight/Martin Wilder, Resource Recovery and Waste Management
Aleksandar Jevremovic, County Surveyor

Walter Rubalcava, Water Resources