



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: PW/Flood Control
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: June 4, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District
FROM: Department
Director(s) Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director – Flood Control, (805) 568-3436
SUBJECT: 2024 Flood Control Projects Authority to Advertise, First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and receive bids for the following projects:
- 1) Cieneguitas Channel Repair Project (Project No. 24STM1-SC13)
 - 2) Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project (Project No. 23STM1-S05C)
 - 3) Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 - Access (Project No. SC8042); and
- b) Determine that the advertising for and receipt of bids is an administrative and fiscal activity which will not result in changes in the environment and therefore the action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to obtain authority to advertise and receive bids for three (3) projects:

- 1) Cieneguitas Channel Repair Project (Project No. 24STM1-SC13)
- 2) Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project (Project No. 23STM1-S05C)
- 3) Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 - Access (Project No. SC8042)

As part of the continued response to the 2023 and 2024 winter storm events, the Flood Control District (District) has identified two remaining emergency projects (County Projects 24STM1-SC13 and 23STM1-S05C) to be performed prior to the next winter season.

The Cieneguitas Channel Repair Project is a permanent repair project to Cieneguitas Channel upstream of Modoc Road in Santa Barbara. During the 2024 winter storms, portions of the existing concrete channel became damaged and multiple sections experienced failures, prompting an emergency temporary repair by the District in February 2024. The Cieneguitas Channel Repair Project will examine, repair, and replace the damaged portions of the channel to return it to its full operating capacity prior to the next winter season.

During the 2023 winter storms, the debris rack at the Lower Mission Creek bypass structure underneath US-101 near De La Vina Street and West Gutierrez Street in Santa Barbara was damaged. The bypass structure experienced high flows and debris accumulated on the debris rack, permanently damaging it. As part of the 2023 winter response, the District removed the debris from the rack and bypass. The debris rack was analyzed and ultimately removed due to damage. The Lower Mission Creek Reach 2B-2 Debris Rack Repair Project will construct a new debris rack at this location. The design for the debris rack is currently underway.

The District also has a third, non-emergency, project identified for construction this year. With the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 currently planning for construction in the next few years, a project is required to gain access for construction. The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Reach 4 – Access is located on the northwest corner of the Gutierrez Street bridge, near 401 Chapala Street in Santa Barbara.

These projects will be bid in accordance with Public Contract Code which requires competitive bidding to advertise, receive bids, and award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Background:

On January 9, 2023, a storm (23STM1) severely impacted Santa Barbara County and a Federal Disaster (DR-4683-CA) was declared. On February 4, 2024, a storm (24STM1) once again severely impacted Santa Barbara County and a Federal Disaster (DR-4769-CA) was declared with sediment and debris laden conditions in rivers, creeks, and basins across the County.

The emergency projects need to be completed to protect public health and safety and to lessen the future threat of additional damage. These project sites need to be returned to operational capacities and allow for future sediment and flows.

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project is a federal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project and has been under development since the 1960s. The City of Santa Barbara and the District, acting as local sponsors for the federal project, worked with the community in the 1990s to develop the current project that addresses flood control concerns and environmental issues.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

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Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

Advertising costs are included in the South Coast Flood Zone FY 2023-24 adopted budget, as reflected in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-331 in the budget book. Construction costs are included in the FY 2024-25 proposed budget for the South Coast Flood Zone. The department is actively working with the Office of Emergency Management and the County Executive Office to pursue state and federal reimbursement for eligible costs associated with the 23STM1 and 24STM1 emergencies.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of Board to email a copy of the minute order of these actions to Christina Lopez at clopez@countyofsb.org.

Authored by:

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