October 5, 2010

Board of Directors Flood Control and Water Conservation District 105 East Anapamu Street, Suite 407 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Subject: 10/05/2010 Board Meeting, Administrative Agenda Item No. A-14

Cooperative Agreement with the City of Goleta for Construction of

Improvements on San Jose Creek

Dear Members of the Board,

I am submitting this letter to you today on behalf of myself and my neighbors who reside or work in the floodplain area north of Highway 101 adjacent to San Pedro and Las Vegas Creeks in the City of Goleta. As the staff report for the subject agenda item indicates, significant flood events have occurred in our area over time.

This includes severe flooding in 1995, 1998 and 2001 that damaged a number of homes and businesses and stopped traffic on Calle Real and Highway 101. The approximate 170 parcels located within our floodplain are served by bridges that can convey less than a ten-year flood event.

By contrast, as noted in the staff report, the San Jose Creek floodplain in the Capacity Improvement Project Area has approximately 190-200 parcels served by a bridge and channel that currently can convey a 25-year return period event.

We appreciate the not-to-exceed amount of \$5 million in funding that staff is recommending the County provide to the City of Goleta for the San Jose Creek Capacity Improvement Project. We support staff's recommendation that funding be capped at this amount, albeit with some reluctance, acknowledging the benefits that will be provided to our neighbors in Old Town when this project is finally completed.

It is our understanding that this cap is necessary in order for the County to fund other priority projects, including capacity improvement projects on San Pedro Creek and Las Vegas Creek that will protect our area. We feel these improvements are long overdue and as deserving of County funding. We thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Wignot Fairview Area Neighbors 6155 Verdura Avenue Goleta, CA 93117