



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:** September 15, 2015  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**SUBJECT:** Cooperative Agreement for Restoration of the North Campus Open Space Property, Third Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to Form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the "Cooperative Agreement for Restoration of the North Campus Open Space Property" with The Regents of the University of California to contribute \$100,000 towards the North Camp Open Space Devereux Creek Floodplain Restoration Project; and
- B. Find that the proposed action is related to organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378(b)(5).

**Summary Text:**

On January 20, 2015, your Board authorized the County Flood Control District to co-sponsor a grant application with the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County for the North Campus Open Space Devereux Creek Floodplain Restoration Project. That grant request to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Urban Streams Restoration Program (USRP) was successful and received \$939,385.

The 60+ acre floodplain at the junction of Devereux and Phelps Creeks was filled with soil from the adjacent uplands in 1965 to create a golf course that left the creek in a channelized form, added 3-10 feet of fill and significantly reduced habitat for fish and wildlife. These impacts remain and contribute to localized flooding problems for Goleta City residents living adjacent to these creeks. The proposed

project will reverse these impacts by removing approximately 350,000 cubic yards of fill from the floodplain of these creeks at the interface with Devereux Slough. The project will provide flood control benefits to the residents living north and east of the project site and restore and protect riparian, wetland and upland habitats. The project will also promote community involvement through public outreach, public access trails, and restoration activities; as well as educational programs and signage.

The flood control benefits will primarily arise after the full amount of fill soil is removed from the channel and floodplain of Devereux Creek and its tributaries. The District's involvement in the project will be in the design and review of the grading of the project to ensure improved flood control performance of the site. Over the years, poor drainage has caused flooding issues in the area. Approving this agreement also authorizes the District to contribute \$100,000 towards this project and to remain involved.

### **Background:**

Since 2003, the District has performed annual flood control maintenance along the portion of Devereux Creek that runs through the former golf course by mowing the bulrush growing within the channel and performing as-needed excavation of the sediment basin in the northern section of the golf course to maintain flow capacity so nearby residences do not flood. Because the endangered tidewater goby has taken up residence in the system, management of Devereux Creek has become complicated and the District would prefer to eliminate the need to perform annual maintenance.

CCBER has been engaging District staff over the past several years during the early planning phases of this project to ensure that the restoration goals are consistent with our needs for reducing flood hazards to nearby development. We are supportive of the shared mission of creating a self-sustaining system that will be designed to carry natural sediment flows to the ocean and eliminate the need for significant on-going management.

In addition to the recent award of the \$939,385 Urban Stream Grant, this project has also received several grants from both state and federal agencies. State contributions include \$100,000 from the Coastal Conservancy and \$1 million from the California Natural Resources Agency. Federal contributions include \$1.5 million from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant. The District would also provide \$100,000 to the project to be used for hydrologic studies and a final grading plan and the attached Budget Request Revision (BRR) allocates this money for this work. The Cooperative Agreement with UCSB outlines the roles of the agencies involved with the grant.

The District supports this project due to the flood reduction benefits it provides and the ability of a fully connected and functioning floodplain to absorb flood waters and transport sediment appropriately. In addition to providing funding to assist with the production of final grading plans and permits, the District has also committed staff time and expertise to review the project for its flood protection benefits.

### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
South Coast FZ			\$ 100,000.00
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00

**Narrative:**

A budget revision was approved on August 25, 2015 that increased funding in services and supplies to provide \$100,000 for this project. No General Fund monies will be utilized with these actions.

**Key Contract Risks**

N/A

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return three (3) originals of the Cooperative Agreement along with the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District, Attn: Christina Lopez. After the agreement has been signed by UCSB, an original agreement will be returned to the Clerk of the Board.

**Attachments:**

Contract Summary

Cooperative Agreement for the Restoration of the North Campus Open Space Property w/UCSB (3 originals)

**Authored by:**

Maureen Spencer, Environmental Services Manager, 568-3437