



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: July 7, 2015
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 Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for the Las Vegas/San Pedro Creeks
Drainage Improvement Project, Second Supervisorial District

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 a Cooperative Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation to accept \$60,000 contribution towards the cost to develop a Conditional Letter of Map Revision as submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the drainage improvements associated with the Las Vegas/San Pedro Creeks Drainage Improvement Project; and
- B. Find that the recommended action to execute a Cooperative Agreement is a fiscal activity not constituting a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act as set forth in 14 CCR 15378(b)(4).

Summary Text:

The Flood Control District and Caltrans are the lead funding agencies in delivering the Las Vegas/San Pedro Creeks Drainage Improvement Project to reduce a regional recurrent flooding problem in the Goleta area. The project consists of several major elements, some of which are currently under construction and others are scheduled to start later in 2015 and 2016.

The project limits of the Las Vegas/San Pedro Creeks Drainage Improvement Project fall within a special flood hazard area or 100-year floodplain. A Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) is the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) formal review and comment as to whether a

proposed project complies with the minimum National Flood Insurance Program's floodplain management criteria. The Flood Control District and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) propose to enter into this Cooperative Agreement to share the engineering and processing costs associated with obtaining a CLOMR from FEMA for this joint project. The CLOMR will allow FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to be amended to reflect changes to the floodplain as a result of the project.

A vicinity map and the location of each element are shown on Exhibit A. The Flood Control District has been working with a consultant on portions of the CLOMR for the last year and a half and will continue until the project is complete and the CLOMR is accepted by FEMA.

Background:

Serious flooding in the Goleta area occurred in 1995 and again several times since on Las Vegas and San Pedro Creeks above U.S. 101. This flooding was a result of the culverts at Calle Real, U.S. 101 and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) being overwhelmed and flood waters backing up into the adjacent residential areas. In addition to the flooded homes and businesses, U.S. 101 has been closed several times due to flooding. U.S. 101 is a critical transportation corridor for the County, especially during natural disaster emergencies, for moving equipment, material, and general emergency response.

As a result, the District led a multi-agency coordinated effort to address the issue. The agencies involved include the Flood Control District, City of Santa Barbara, City of Goleta, Caltrans, UPRR, and several permitting agencies. As a part of the effort, the District was the lead agency for initiation and completion of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for all elements of the project. On October 4, 2011, your Board certified the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) #11-NGD-0000-00008 for the project and on April 10, 2012 and August 19, 2014; Addendums to the MND were approved. In addition, Addendum #3 is scheduled for Board approval today. Concurrently, Caltrans was the lead agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and secured funding for the work to replace the culverts under U.S. 101 which are currently under construction.

Final design of the UPRR replacement railroad bridges has been completed and District staff has secured the regulatory permits needed for the work. UPRR commenced construction in April of this year and their work is nearing completion. Further, by separate Board action, contracts will be authorized for execution to construct the floodwall and conform grading (Element C per Attachment A). This work is expected to begin this September.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

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Costs associated with developing a CLOMR for this project have been included in last year's budget as well as this year's adopted budget for FY 2015-16 in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-302 in the budget book. The \$60,000 from Caltrans will offset these costs.

This project is also included in the Capital Improvement Plan on page D-141.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return all three originals of the Cooperative Agreement along with the minute order to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez. Once Caltrans has executed and signed the originals, the Flood Control District will return an original agreement to the Clerk of the Board.

Attachments:

Exhibit A – Project Elements

Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans (3 originals)

Authored by:

Jonathan Frye, Civil Engineering Manager, 568-3444

Exhibit A

