



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Department Name: Flood Control  
Department No.: 054  
For Agenda Of: 04/03/12  
Placement: Admin  
Estimated Tme: 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:** **Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Santa Maria River-Bradley Canyon Levee Extension Project, Fifth Supervisorial District**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: yes

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: No

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Certify that the Final Supplemental EA/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SEA/MND) #12 NGD-00000-00002, (Attachment 1) for the Santa Maria River-Bradley Canyon Levee Extension Project has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- b) Certify that the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final SEA/MND #12 NGD-00000-00002, as well as written comments received during the public comment period, prior to the approval of the project, and adopt the CEQA Findings (Attachment 2); and
- c) Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and CEQA Section 15074, adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Plan (Appendix D of the SEA/MND) for this project.

**Summary Text:**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) have prepared this Final Supplemental Environmental

Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SEA/MND) to evaluate the environmental effects of the Bradley Canyon Levee Repair Project. This Project provides for approximately 3,700 feet of reinforced Levee improvements that extend the previous 6.3 miles of work completed last year. This SEA/MND is a supplement to the Final Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration (EA/MND, August 2009) and Supplemental Design Deficiency Report (SDDR, August 2009) for the repair of 6.3 miles of the Santa Maria River Levee. The 6.3 mile levee repair project was completed by the Corps in 2011.

The Corps recently performed an additional hydraulic analysis on the Santa Maria River Levee system upstream of the Bradley Canyon confluence to update the levee design. The hydraulic analysis indicated that, should a breach occur along the upstream Santa Maria River Levee during a high flow event, flows proceeding through the breach would attack the Bradley Canyon Levee and possibly overwhelm the levee and cause it to fail.

This Final SEA/MND has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 *et seq.*), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code [PRC] 21000 *et seq.*, and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs §1500 *et seq.*). The Corps is the NEPA lead agency and the District, the local sponsor, is the CEQA lead agency.

The proposed project is basically the same work completed in the previous phases. It includes 3,700 linear feet of levee repair along Bradley Canyon Channel consisting of 1,000 linear feet of sheet pile in environmentally sensitive areas and would transition to a soil cement treatment applied to the face of the levee for the remaining 2,700 feet. The Corps will physically implement the project.

### **Background:**

Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA and acting as lead agency under CEQA, the District has worked with the Corps as they prepared the SEA/MND to evaluate the environmental impacts of the proposed levee repair project. Potentially significant impacts in the areas of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, and Transportation and Traffic and will be reduced to less than significant with mitigation. To mitigate potential significant impacts, measures such as, but not limited to, the development of an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan, Fugitive Dust Emission Control Plan, and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as well as pre-construction biological surveys and ongoing environmental monitoring during construction would be employed. With the implementation of these and other measures included in the SEA/MND, residual impacts would be less than significant.

### **Public/Regulatory Outreach:**

On September 16, 2011, the Draft SEA/MND was released for public comment. The public comment period concluded on October 25, 2011. Comment letters were received from the National Marine Fisheries Service, Native American Heritage Commission, and Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District.

Staff considered the comments and modified the SEA/MND accordingly. Comment letters and responses to comments are included in Appendix J of the SEA/MND.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

| <u>Funding Sources</u> | <u>Current FY Cost:</u> | <u>Annualized</u><br><u>On-going Cost:</u> | <u>Total One-Time</u><br><u>Project Cost</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Total                  | \$ -                    | \$ -                                       | \$ -   |

**Narrative:**

There are no fiscal impacts associated with these actions. A Local Sponsor Cost Sharing Agreement with the City of Santa Maria and a Project Partnership Agreement with the Corp will be forthcoming.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Maureen Spencer.

**Attachments:**

- 1. Proposed Final SEA/MND (#12 NGD-00000-00002) (Attachment 1)
- 2. CEQA Findings (Attachment 2)

**Authored by:** Maureen Spencer, Operations & Environmental Manager, 568-3437

