



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: Public Works  
Department No.: 054  
For Agenda Of: September 22, 2009  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
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 McGolpin, Director of Public Works Department: 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Tom Fayram, Deputy Director of Flood Control: 568-3436  
Mike Emmons, County Surveyor: 568-3020  
**SUBJECT:** Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project (Public Works Project No. SC8042)  
Second Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

Authorize the Chair of the Board of Directors to accept two Easement Deeds from the City of Santa Barbara for flood control improvements adjacent to the Santa Barbara Railroad Depot, (County Assessor's Parcel Numbers 033-010-013 & -014; 033-041-012 & -013; and 033-042-014, -017 & -018) by authorizing the Clerk of the Board to execute the Certificates of Acceptance attached thereto.

**Summary Text:**

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project is located within Mission Creek from Canon Perdido Street to Cabrillo Boulevard in the City of Santa Barbara. The project will reduce flooding and property damage to the surrounding area by improving and widening the Mission Creek flood control channel within the project boundaries.

Acceptance of the Easements will convey permanent flood control easements from the City of Santa Barbara, and the City of Santa Barbara Redevelopment Agency to the County's Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The easements will allow for the installation, operation and maintenance of a flood control culvert and related public improvements adjacent to the Union Pacific State Street Railroad Depot.

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**Background:**

Mission Creek has been modified, encroached upon, realigned, and improved over the years as development has occurred. In its current configuration the creek can only contain the flow from a 5 or 8 year storm event. Consequently, during larger flood events the creek overflows and inundates many developed properties adjacent to the creek downstream of Canon Perdido Street. That area has suffered flood damage several times in the last 30 years, including during the 1995 and 1998 winter storms.

The project will improve and widen the creek channel in order to increase flood flow capacity to 3,400 Cubic Feet per second, (approximately a 20-year storm event) thus reducing flooding and property damage to the surrounding areas. In addition, the old concrete walls will be removed or replaced, non-native invasive plants will be removed and replaced with native riparian species, and natural creek bed improvements will be made to enhance the endangered species habitat for Steelhead Trout and the Tidewater Goby.

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project is a joint project between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“Corps”), the Flood Control District (“District”), and the City of Santa Barbara (“City”).

This portion of the Project is scheduled in two phases. The first phase was the installation of a box culvert under the Union Pacific Railroad tracks at Chapala Street, which work was completed in January of 2009.

The second phase (which is covered by the subject Easements) consists of a sub-surface channel scheduled to be installed in the future as matching funds (State or Federal) are secured.. On December 16, 2008, the Santa Barbara City Redevelopment Agency appropriated up to \$2.5M that could be used to as a match for the development and construction of this portion of the project.

When constructed the north end of the new sub-surface channel will connect to an existing culvert installed by Caltrans that runs under the 101 Freeway to Montecito Street. From that point the new culvert will pass underneath Montecito Street, through the City and RDA property, connect to the recently installed box culvert at the railroad tracks then reconnect to Mission Creek below the Depot.

The proposed box culvert and sub-surface channel will act as an auxiliary bypass channel to be utilized during heavy periods of flow, improving water conveyance in Mission Creek, and minimizing potential flooding. Those facilities will be used, owned, and maintained by the District.

These improvements will represent a significant accomplishment in the implementation of the Lower Mission Creek Project, and be of great benefit to the City and County in their efforts to control flooding along Mission Creek, and thus benefit the surrounding properties.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** Budgeted: Yes.

Narrative: There is no charge for the easement. The District will return to your Board for approval of construction budgeting as necessary.

This project is also included in the County’s Capital Improvement Program.

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**Staffing Impacts:** None

**Special Instructions:**

After Board action, distribute as follows:

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Original Easement Deeds  | Surveyor's Division, Attn: Jeff Havlik |
| 2. Copies of Easement Deeds | Clerk of the Board Files               |
| 3. Minute Order             | Flood Control, Attn: Christina Lopez   |
| 7. Minute Order             | Surveyor's Division, Attn: Jeff Havlik |

The Real Property Section of the Surveyor's Division will deliver the original Easement Deeds to the County Recorder's office for recordation. Once the Easement Deeds have been recorded, Real Property will return the recorded original Easement Deeds to the Clerk of the Board. Real Property will keep copies of the Easement Deeds in its files and provide copies to the Flood Control District and the City of Santa Barbara.

**Attachments:**

Two Easement Deeds with Exhibits

**Authored by:**

Jeff Havlik, Real Property Section, Surveyor's Division, Public Works: 568-3073

**cc:**

Jon Frye; Public Works Flood Control