



**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

**Submitted on:**  
**(COB Stamp)**

**Department Name:** PW/Flood Control  
**Department No.:** 054  
**Agenda Date:** February 24, 2026  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**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 Director: Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director  
Contact: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director – Flood Control  
**SUBJECT:** **Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4, First 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:**

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and Authorize the Chair to sign plans and specifications for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4;
- b) Find that the bid received for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 from Nationwide Contracting Services, Inc. was non-responsive and reject this bid from the bid opening on January 8, 2026;
- c) Award, approve, and authorize the Chair to execute the construction contract for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4, in the amount of \$13,099,889 to the lowest responsible bidder Granite Construction Company (a local vender), subject to the provisions of documents and certifications, as set forth in the plans and specifications applicable to the project and as required by law;
- d) Authorize the Public Works Director or designee to approve changes or additions to the work being performed under the Construction Contract for a contingency amount not to exceed \$667,494 and plus an addition amount of \$310,000 for supplemental work items for a total not to exceed authorization of \$14,077,383 to complete the work within the scope of the Agreement for the Lower Mission Creek Project Reach 4;

- e) Authorize the Public Works Director, or designee, to execute a Task Order under the existing Contract for Construction Engineering Services (BC24-295) with Filippin Engineering (a local vendor) to provide construction management and inspection services for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4, in an amount of \$833,918 plus a 10% contingency amount of \$83,392 to a total not to exceed amount of \$917,310;
- f) Determine that the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 to be carried out is for the benefit of a single zone;
- g) Approve Budget Revision Request (BJE No. 0010900) to transfer appropriations of \$1,100,000 in Public Works South Coast Flood Zone fund from Services and Supplies to Capital Assets for the Lower Mission Creek Project (3/5 vote required); and
- h) Find that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines section 15162, no substantial changes are proposed, there are no substantial changes in circumstances and no new information of substantial importance regarding environmental effects of the project or feasibility of mitigation measures and, therefore, this action is within the scope of the project covered by the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project as well as the Findings, and Statement of Overriding Considerations approved and adopted by the Board on May 10, 2011, and therefore, no subsequent environmental document is required. The Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement, and associated information can be found at:  
<http://santabarbara.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=874496&GUID=D14C4C9B-DEDF-48CB-AB30-D52A228FB5A2>

**Summary Text:**

This item requests approval of the project plans (Attachment A), project specifications (Attachment B), award of the construction contract (Attachment C), approval of the construction management, inspection Task Order (Attachment D), and approve Budget Revision Request -BJE No. 0010900 (Attachment E), and reject a non-responsive bid for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project, Reach 4.

On January 8, 2026, five bids were opened for the project. Nationwide Contracting Services, Inc. submitted the lowest bid but was determined to be non-responsive due to omissions in required bid forms, which clearly state that failure to provide required responses will result in a finding of non-responsiveness.

In accordance with Section 3-1.04 of the Special Provisions and Public Contract Code Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 2, the District evaluated the bids received and determined that Granite Construction Company submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid in the amount of \$13,099,889. The Engineer's construction cost estimate for the base contract was \$10,000,000. The District determined the low bid to be reasonable, as recent bid prices have increased significantly due to higher material and labor costs. Accordingly, staff recommends awarding the contract to Granite Construction Company.

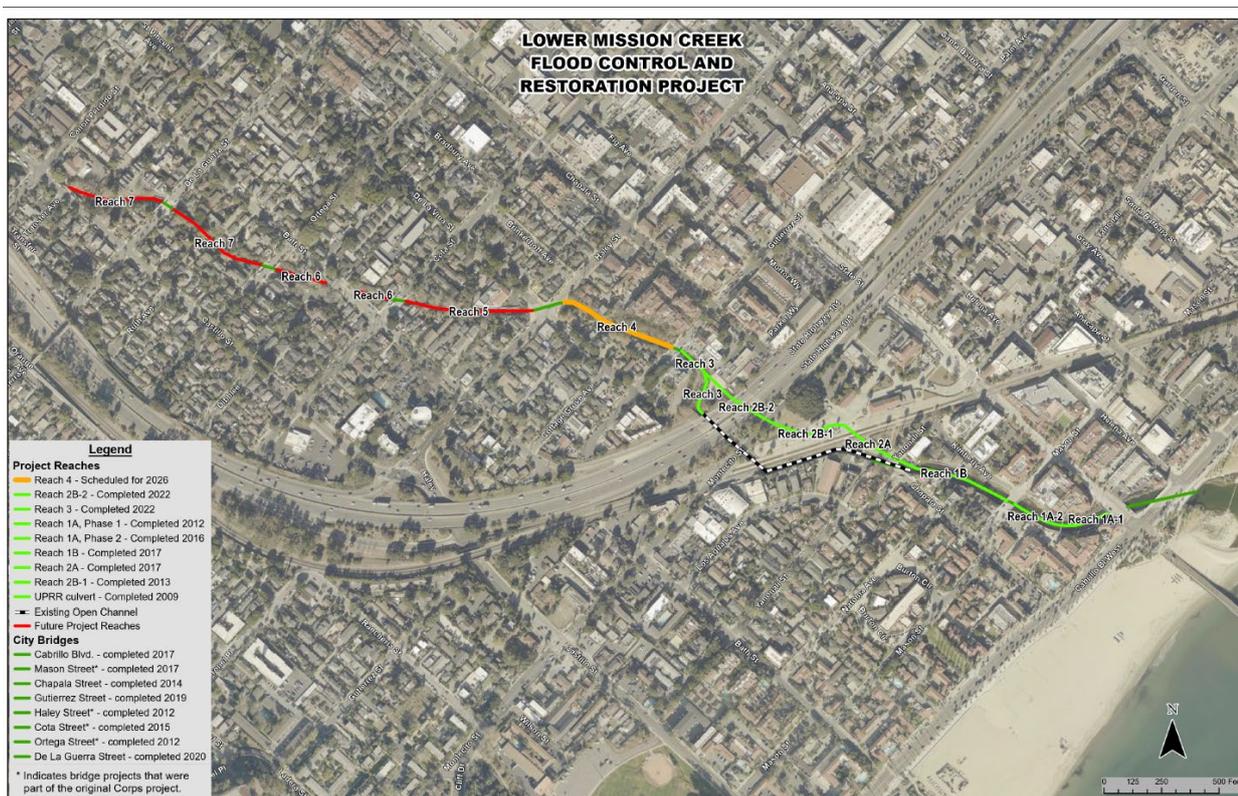
In June 2025, the Board approved as-needed construction engineering services agreements with Filippin Engineering for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028. Work is authorized through individual Task Orders, each not to exceed \$500,000 without separate Board approval.

**Discussion:**

The proposed project will continue construction of the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project, located within the City of Santa Barbara (City). This reach includes a full block of creek improvements extending from Gutierrez Street to Haley Street.

Flood control improvements completed in 2022 - including the new bypass culvert beneath Highway 101—have already demonstrated benefits. During the heavy storms of 2023 and 2024, the completed improvements prevented flooding in areas downstream of US 101 that were previously impacted by similar sized storm events in 1995 and 1998, including the train station and West Beach neighborhood.

The proposed improvements to Mission Creek in this reach would increase channel capacity to approximately 3,400 cubic feet per second, providing an estimated 20-year level of flood protection. Overall, the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project encompasses approximately the final 1.4 miles of Mission Creek, extending from the Canon Perdido Street Bridge to the Cabrillo Boulevard Bridge near the creek outlet.



**Background:**

The Project is a Federal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) project and has been under development since the 1960s. The City and the District, acting as local sponsors for the federal project, worked with the community in the 1990s to develop the current project that addresses flood control concerns and environmental issues.

In 2001, the City certified the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) and approved the project for Lower Mission Creek as did the Corps (subsequent to the City's approval). Since that time, federal funding for construction has not come forward and the

City and the District have been working on finding opportunities to construct elements of the project as funding options arise. To date, the following project elements have been completed:

**Flood Control District Work**

Union Pacific Railroad Culvert work (2009)  
 Reach 2B-1 (2013)  
 Reach 1A-1 (2012)  
 Reach 1A-2 (2016)  
 Reach 1B (2017)  
 Reach 2A (2017)  
 Reach 2B-2 (2022)  
 Reach 3 (2022)

**City Work**

Haley – De La Vina Bridge (2012)  
 Ortega Street Bridge (2012)  
 Chapala Street Bridge (2014)  
 Cota Street Bridge (2015)  
 Mason Street Bridge (2017)  
 De La Guerra Bridge (2020)

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Partially

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Funding Source	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Total
South Coast FZ	\$5,675,000	\$9,319,693	<b>\$14,994,693</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,675,000</b>	<b>\$9,319,693</b>	<b>\$14,994,693</b>

To fund the project, this action also includes approval of a budget revision (BJE-0010900) transferring \$1,100,000 in the Public Works South Coast Flood Zone Fund from Services and Supplies to Capital Assets, which, when combined with the existing adjusted project budget of \$5,000,000, results in total available appropriations of \$6,100,000 for FY 2025–26. Project costs will be funded by the South Coast Flood Zone and expended over two fiscal years, with an estimated \$6,100,000 in FY 2025–26 and \$9,665,000 in FY 2026–27, which will be included in the recommended budget.

Approval of the recommended actions will authorize construction and construction management services for the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Reach 4 in a combined amount not to exceed \$14,994,693. This amount consists of a construction contract not to exceed \$14,077,383 with Granite Construction Company, including a base contract amount of \$13,099,889, a \$667,494 contingency, and \$310,000 for supplemental work items, and a construction engineering services Task Order not to exceed \$917,310 with Filipin Engineering, which includes a base amount of \$833,918 and an \$83,392 contingency.

Based on the current project worksheet and anticipated use of contingency and supplemental work items, the estimated contract expenditures are approximately \$5,675,000 in FY 2025–26 and \$9,319,693 in FY 2026–27, for a combined estimated contract total of \$14,994,693 across both fiscal years. Actual expenditures will depend on construction progress and field conditions and may vary within the Board-approved not-to-exceed amounts.

This project is included in the Capital Improvement Program and will be funded through the Public Works South Coast Flood Zone and budgeted in Workday under Fund FD-2610, Program PG-3005,

Project PRJ-000416 (SC8042), Spend Category SC-8400). No General Fund monies will be utilized for work associated with these actions.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of Board to email signed copies of the plan title sheet, signature page of the specifications, signature page of the Agreement with Granite Construction Company, and minute order. Attn: Christina Lopez.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – Project Plans

**Attachment B** – Project Specifications

**Attachment C** – Construction Contract

**Attachment D** – Copy of Task Order w/Filippin Engineering (BC 24-295)

**Attachment E** – BRR (BJE No. 0010900)

**Contact Information:**

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