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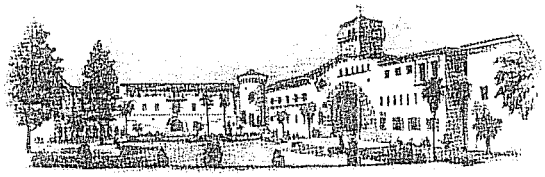


COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION COMMENDING
TOM FAYRAM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
FOR SECURING $46 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR THE SANTA MARIA LEVEE

WHEREAS, the Santa Maria Levee was designed and built by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) from 1959 to 1963 and is owned and operated by the County of Santa Barbara Department of Public Works' Flood Control District.

WHEREAS, the 26-mile levee was constructed as a compacted sand berm with a rock face in order to provide flood protection to the Santa Maria Valley and to the City of Santa Maria.

WHEREAS, the levee has a history of succumbing to damage due to flooding of the Santa Maria River and was not certified by the ACOE to provide protection from a 100-year flood.

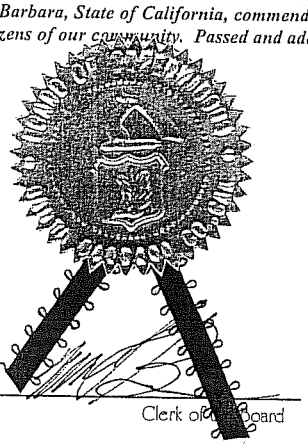
WHEREAS, Tom Fayram has worked tirelessly over the past several years to ensure that the levee was effectively stabilized until a long-term permanent solution could be realized.

WHEREAS, Tom Fayram and his staff traveled to Washington D.C. several times to meet with Representatives Lois Capps and Elton Gallegly, as well as Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer in order to discuss the levee project and obtain federal funding to repair the levee.

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2009, the ACOE announced that it made $40.2 million in funding available for the Santa Maria Levee repair project. Combined with the previously approved $6.7 million for repairs, the project is now fully funded over its construction period and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2011.

WHEREAS, Tom Fayram's unwavering commitment to ensure funding for this project will result in construction of a levee that will protect over 100,000 residents living within the City of Santa Maria, including a residential housing tract and school, which are located directly across the portion of the levee that is threatened.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, commend Tom Fayram for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the citizens of our community. Passed and adopted this 12th day of May, 2009.



ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

_____ Supervisor - 1st District

_____ Supervisor - 2nd District

_____ Supervisor - 3rd District

_____ Supervisor - 4th District

_____ Supervisor - 5th District