



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: January 12, 2021
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
Director(s)

Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010

Contact Info:

Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, (805) 568-3436

SUBJECT: Randall Road Debris Basin Project, First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and adopt the Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report, SCH No. 2019029104 (Attachment 1) for the Randall Rd. Debris Basin which has been completed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164;
- b) After considering the Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report and the Final Environmental Impact Report SCH No. 2019029104 certified by the Board of Directors on August 18th, 2020, find that no subsequent environmental review document shall be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15162 related for the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project, since there are no substantial changes proposed in the project and no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that will require major revisions to the EIR due to new or substantially increased significant impacts, and there is no new information of substantial importance showing new or substantially increased significant impacts or impacts to new or previously analyzed mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially reduce significant impacts. The certified Environmental Impact Report and associated information can be found at:
<https://santabarbara.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4614433&GUID=332DE4C7-CE18-4056-AF92-5C929A440FD0;>

- c) Certify that the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Addendum and Final Environmental Impact Report, SCH No. 2019029104, prior to the approval of the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project,
- d) Approve and adopt a Resolution (Attachment 2) making the determination that all structures located at 640 Randall Road are not necessary to be retained for flood control purposes;
- e) Approve the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project as described in the Addendum (Attachment 1) and authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and receive bids for the Project.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve the proposed Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project, to approve the Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Project, to approve and adopt a Resolution determining that the existing structures at 640 Randall Road are not needed for flood control purposes and may be disposed of, and to authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and receive construction bids for the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project.

The 2017 Thomas Fire severely impacted the watersheds above Montecito and Carpinteria. A debris basin project was proposed along Randall Road by private interests and received general support by the affected property owners in the area. The debris basin is designed to reduce potential flooding and debris flow impacts at Highway 192 and downstream infrastructure and properties.

The Board of Directors approved the Randall Road Debris Basin Project and certified the Final EIR for the Project on August 18, 2020. The Project consists of the construction and long-term periodic maintenance of a new debris basin on San Ysidro Creek. Project implementation is contingent on the acquisition of eight private parcels. Because the District has not yet acquired all eight parcels, District staff has developed a potential two-phased approach for construction of the proposed Project. District staff prepared an Addendum to the Final EIR for the Project that considers the two potential construction scenarios; phased and non-phased, with two project timelines; 1) a single construction season in 2021 as analyzed in the previously-certified Final EIR, and 2) a two-phased approach occurring in 2021 and 2022. In addition, the Addendum included minor changes in the overall project design that are proposed along the east bank of San Ysidro Creek. District staff prepared the Addendum because the Revised Project included only minor changes that would not result in any new potentially significant environmental impacts.

Basin construction will require all surface improvements to be removed, and none of the existing structures at the project site are needed for flood control purposes. As such, removal of all existing structures at 640 Randall Road will be included in the bid for the Project construction. Options for removal would include demolition, sale, or by other means arranged by the successful bidder in compliance with the bid documents.

Background:

The proposed project described in the certified Final EIR would have encompassed approximately 9.2 acres, including the creek channel, debris basin, and access areas. Since certification of the Final EIR for the project, the debris basin design has been modified to delete project components along portions of the east bank of San Ysidro Creek along with a slight reduction in the area of the portion of the debris basin east of San Ysidro Creek for a new project site area of approximately 8.5 acres.

The proposed project requires acquisition of eight parcels. The District has already acquired seven of those parcels, and District staff is currently pursuing acquisition of the final parcel. If the District does not acquire the final parcel by the construction start date in mid-2021, initial construction of the basin would be limited to five adjacent parcels (with project staging on a sixth parcel) to form a 3.2 acre basin. Contingent on acquisition of the final parcel, the remaining three parcels would be excavated in 2022 to complete the final 2.5 acres of the basin.

Updated analyses in the Addendum provides substantial evidence that the Revised Project would not result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects as compared to the Project approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 18, 2020 and analyzed in the certified Final EIR (SCH #2019029104).

No substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the Randall Road Debris Basin Project is being undertaken that would require major revisions to the EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.

No new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable due diligence at the time the EIR was certified shows:

- a. That the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project will have significant effects not discussed in the EIR for the approved project.
- b. That significant effects will be substantially more severe than previously shown.
- c. That mitigation measures or alternatives have been found feasible that would reduce significant impacts and which the County has declined to adopt, or
- d. That there are considerably different mitigation measures or alternatives that will substantially reduce significant project effects and which the County has declined to adopt.

Therefore, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21166 and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(a), an Addendum fulfills the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because although there would be minor changes and additions to the Randall Road Debris Basin Project, none of the conditions in Section 15162 requiring a new EIR have occurred. Therefore an EIR Addendum may be used to fulfill the environmental review for approval of the Revised Randall Road Debris Basin Project.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

There are no fiscal impacts with this action, however, this project is scheduled for construction in the summer of 2021. Funding for the construction of the project will be included in the FY 2021-2022 budget. This project is also included in the County's Capital Improvement Program. No General Fund monies will be utilized for this project.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to email the minute order and copy of the resolution of these actions to clopez@cosbpw.net.

Attachments:

Attachment 1. Addendum to the Randall Road Debris Basin Environmental Impact Report

Attachment 2. Resolution of Intent to Dispose of Flood Control Property at 640 Randall Road

Authored by:

Jonathan S. Frye, Engineering Manager