



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: 6/19/12  
Placement: Departmental  
Estimated Time: 20 minutes  
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:** Annual Maintenance Plan, Fiscal Year 2012/13 - All Supervisorial Districts

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: NA

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Find that the proposed actions are for the operation and maintenance of existing public structures, facilities or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that which presently exists and that the proposed actions are therefore exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 CCR 15301, and direct the Clerk of the Board to file the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption for each of the projects described in Section 2 of the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Annual Maintenance Plan (POST);
- b) Find that pursuant to CEQA Section 15162, no new effects will occur and no new mitigation measures would be required as a result of the project and therefore pursuant to CEQA Section 15168 (2), that the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Annual Maintenance Plan is within the scope of the project covered by the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Updated Routine Maintenance Program (01-EIR-01) approved in 2001 and no new environmental document is required.
- c) Certify that the addenda to Program EIR (01-EIR-01) contained within Sections 3 and 4 of the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Annual Maintenance Plan have been completed in compliance with the CEQA and adopt the mitigation measures included for each project as the Mitigation and Monitoring Plan;
- d) Adopt CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations included in Section 6 of the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Annual Maintenance Plan;
- e) Approve individual projects described in Sections 3 and 4 of the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Annual Plan; and

- f) Direct Staff to place the Annual Routine Maintenance Plan on the Administrative Agenda for future approvals.

**Summary Text:**

The Annual Routine Maintenance Plan consists of CEQA exempt projects and projects defined within the scope of impacts identified by the Program EIR requiring addenda for FY 2012/13.

The CEQA exempt projects are described in Section 2 of the Annual Plan and are based on CEQA Section 15301, Existing Facilities. Projects that are exempt fall into one of the following five categories:

- Removal of rubbish or other unnatural material from riparian corridors or estuaries.
- Maintenance activities in existing non-perennial, fully concrete-lined stream channels
- Clearing, repair, and replacement of such flood control devices such as check structures, drop structures, levees, sediment basins, weirs, or stream flow measuring stations
- Maintenance activities on access ways outside of estuaries and riparian corridors
- Maintenance activities on earthen channels, which have been developed to convey urban storm water, agriculture storm water, or agriculture tail water and have little or no vegetation in them.

All projects are in areas where there are no impacts to any significant resource at the site, downstream, or adjacent to the site.

The described fiscal year 2012/13 exempt projects have been exempted in prior years with Planning and Development Department's concurrence.

Projects within the scope of the Program EIR are described in Sections 3 and 4 of the Annual Plan. Each of the 34 projects are presented as an addendum to the Program EIR utilizing appropriate maintenance practices described and analyzed in the Program EIR. The mitigation measures incorporated in each of these projects become the mitigation and monitoring program to ensure that impacts are mitigated to the fullest extent feasible.

Once the Board has approved projects described in Sections 2-4 of the Annual Maintenance Plan, applications can be made to the appropriate regulatory agencies for environmental permits or approvals.

**Background:**

In December 2001, the Board of Directors adopted a revised Routine Creek Maintenance Program which included: a) Maintenance Practices and Mitigation Measures; b) associated Flood Control Policy Statements; and c) an annual planning and project approval process.

Development of the annual maintenance plan provides multiple benefits. The plan serves as a basis for demonstrating need, analyzing alternatives, proposing mitigation, and selecting the most effective and least environmentally damaging District maintenance practices. The plan also allows the District to prioritize maintenance efforts and expenditures early on which also helps in the management of individual projects.

The annual planning process, as adopted by the Board, requires that the District conduct public workshops to hear the public and other agencies' input and concerns about the proposed Annual Plan. The District provided notice of workshops in the "Santa Maria Times" and the "Santa Barbara Daily Sound" for the workshops on May 15, 2012 in Santa Maria and May 16, 2012 in Santa Barbara.

A summary of the proposed Annual Plan projects was available in our office, at the workshops, and was posted on our website. Letters announcing the workshops and the availability of the summary were mailed to individuals and organizations in the community who had previously expressed an interest. There were no attendees at the Santa C:\Users\nleerod\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\TKKK16CU\Annual Maintenance Plan FY 12-13.doc

Barbara or Santa Maria Workshops. The Final Annual Routine Maintenance Plan is also posted on the District's website.

Mandates have been discussed in previous Board letters regarding the Revised Creek Maintenance Program. The District's authority under state law allows the District to undertake these projects for the public's benefit. Several projects constructed in cooperation with the federal governments have mandated levels of maintenance associated with them. The District's projects are subject to compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
FC Funds (all zones)	\$3,679,750.00		
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 3,679,750.00	\$ -	\$ -

**Narrative:**

The costs associated with the work identified in the annual maintenance plan are included in the proposed FY 2012/13 budget under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-144 in the budget book.

As in past years, costs of maintenance projects exceed available funding in many North County flood zones. For example, in the Bradley Zone, funding is habitually below the costs associated with the work needs in that area. Those channels that are most in need of work will be addressed as funding allows. Maintenance of facilities is not a mandated activity except for engineered or improved facilities including most federally funded projects that are now owned and maintained by the Flood Control District.

Generation of the FY 2012/13 Annual Plan, as with each prior Annual Plan, provides a significant cost savings to the District through a single package of projects. Producing individual environmental documentation for each maintenance project is significantly more expensive. However, the greatest benefit derived from the Annual Plan is measured by the District's ability to streamline the state and federal environmental permit process which in turn allows the District to provide needed maintenance prior to the next storm season.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to post the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption and to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District, Attn: Christina Lopez.

**Attachments:**

- CEQA Notice of Exemption
- 2012/13 Annual Routine Maintenance Plan
- 2001 Program EIR for the Updated Routine Maintenance Program

**Authored by:**

Maureen Spencer, Operations and Environmental Manager, 568-3437