



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: PW/Flood Control
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: June 10, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District
FROM: Department Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Director Flood Control, (805) 568-3436
SUBJECT: FY 2025-26 Flood Control Projects Authority to Advertise and Receive Bids, Second, Fourth and Fifth Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and receive bids for the following projects:
- i. Blosser Basin Improvements Project (Project No. SM8310), District 5;
 - ii. Bradley Channel Improvements Project Phase 1 (Project No. SM2183), District 5;
 - iii. Hospital Channel Concrete Repair Project (Project No. SC2501), District 2;
 - iv. Orcutt-Solomon Basin Outlet Modifications Project (Project No. OR2401), District 4; and
- b) Determine that the advertising for and receipt of bids is an administrative and fiscal activity which will not result in physical changes in the environment and therefore the action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to obtain authority to advertise and receive bids for four (4) projects:

- 1) Blosser Basin Improvements Project (Project No. SM8310)

- 2) Bradley Channel Improvements Project Phase 1 (Project No. SM2183)
- 3) Hospital Channel Concrete Repair Project (Project No. SC2501)
- 4) Orcutt-Solomon Basin Outlet Modifications Project (Project No. OR2401)

Both the Blosser Basin Improvements and Bradley Channel Improvements Projects are included in the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), are currently in detailed design, and scheduled to begin construction in 2026.

The Hospital Channel Concrete Repair and Orcutt-Solomon Basin Outlet Modifications Projects have been identified by the Flood Control District's (District) maintenance staff as priority projects for which engineering design plans need to be developed, advertised, and bid. These projects are scheduled to begin in 2025 and 2026, respectively.

Background:

Blosser Basin is the last stop for water to be released through the Santa Maria Levee into the river. Its function is vital for storing and releasing stormwater flows from the flat plane of Santa Maria. The Basin has a large storage capacity, however, has several feet of dead space that cannot be released to the river. District staff is designing a permanent pump system to empty all water in the basin. The outcome will give the District maintenance staff better ability to draw down the basin in advance of storm events, and as needed to carry out routine maintenance of the basin. Once designs are advanced, the District will proceed with the appropriate CEQA analysis and documentation to present to the Board. This project is scheduled to be advertised in spring of 2026. Blosser Basin is in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

The Bradley Channel serves a critical role in and around the City of Santa Maria. There are two sections of the existing channel that are not concrete lined, which requires an increased level of maintenance, and a third section that is in poor condition which has undergone numerous point repairs by the District. These three sections of Bradley Channel are planned to be phased incrementally. Currently, the District is finalizing designs for the Phase 1 Project, adjacent to Magellan Drive and north of Donovan Road. The project construction is scheduled to start in summer 2026. Once designs are advanced, the District will proceed with the appropriate CEQA analysis and documentation to present to the Board. Bradley Channel is in the Fourth & Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

The Hospital Channel Concrete Repair Project is a maintenance driven project to repair recently discovered channel lining damage at an existing facility. The channel was constructed in 1960 and has served as a waterway connection north of and to Atascadero Creek. Prewinter inspection identified an area of the sloped concrete panels on the easterly channel (behind Goleta Water District) have dislodged from the channel concrete bottom. The project has been fast tracked to attempt to accomplish the repair this summer as part of the District's Annual Routine Maintenance Program. Hospital Channel is in the Second Supervisorial District.

In the past few years, the Orcutt Solomon Basin on Orcutt Creek has become a substantial maintenance issue due to woody debris clogging the outlet and/or fine material clogging the discharge pipe which causes build up and deposition of fine materials in the basin. When this happens the District's staff must remove material deposited to restore capacity. The District is moving forward with design to complete this repair project during summer of 2026 as part of the District's Annual Routine Maintenance Program. Orcutt Solomon Basin is in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The recommended action to authorize the advertisement and to receive bids for four Flood Control District projects do not have immediate fiscal implications, as no funding commitments or contract awards are being made at this stage. These actions enable the District to initiate the competitive bidding process, which supports refined cost estimates and project schedules, and prepares the projects for timely construction based on project schedules.

Advertising costs are included in the FY 2024-25 adopted budgets for the applicable Flood Control Zones, as detailed on page D-334 of the County Budget Book under the Flood Control District and Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department.

No general fund money will be utilized for these projects.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of Board to email a copy of the minute order of these actions to Christina Lopez at clopez@countyofsb.org.

Authored by:

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