

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 9 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD TUESDAY 7:00PM, APRIL 19, 2016
AT SAN ANSELMO TOWN HALL
525 SAN ANSELMO AVENUE**

<u>Advisory Board (AB) Members Present</u>	<u>District Staff (Staff) Present</u>
Sandra Goldman (SG)	Neal Conatser, Ross Valley Program Manager (NC)
Richard Gumbiner (RG)	Russ Eberwein, Senior Engineer (RE)
Dan Hillmer (DH)	Felix Meneau, Zone Engineer (FM)
Peter Hogg (PH)	Raul M. Rojas, District Engineer (RR)
Chris Martin (CM)	Craig Tackabery, Asst. Director of Public Works (CT)
Tom McInerney (TM), Chairperson	
David Weinsoff (DW)	<u>Others Present</u>
	Sean Condry, San Anselmo Public Works Director
	Connie Gazaway of CH2M Engineers (CG)

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2015

Action by Board: after corrections noted on fifth paragraph of page 2 and final paragraph of page 7, approve December 15, 2015 meeting minutes as corrected.

M/S: DW/SG, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** None, **Abstain:** None

Item 2. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda

Public comment was provided by Ross Asselstine of San Anselmo regarding that the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program cost estimates should be updated, use of 2005/06 storm to develop the program measures should have also incorporated other storms such as the 1982 storm, and program approach should be improved by developing a full plan and not simply a partial solution.

Public comment was provided by Christopher Lang of Fairfax regarding that Fairfax Town Hall almost flooded, big tanks should be used to hold back water, white hill community or other flatter areas of the watershed should be pursued to address flooding, and permeable parking lots should be constructed such as at Canyon Village and several others.

Public comment was provided by Suzuki Cady of Fairfax regarding: her support for the meeting and the film recording currently underway by College of Marin students, request for increased responsiveness and transparency including timelier release of meeting minutes to assist in addressing failed website grade by the Marin Grand Jury Report, suggestions for recording future meetings, and references to the State of California superior drainage solutions.

Public comment was provided by Warren Karlenzig of San Anselmo regarding: a guidance document from FEMA in December which includes reference to Low Impact Development and Green infrastructure, California Proposition 1 contains over \$7 billion in funding for water projects including for flood protection measures, joint funding should be pursued to address storm-water runoff and similar issues, and Town of Fairfax upcoming Earth Day event from 10 AM to 2 PM will host a Green Infrastructure booth.

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Public comment was provided by Kathy Schaefer of San Anselmo regarding: ten year work plan is approaching its fifth year, promotion of integrated flood management and risk based programs as has been successfully implemented in Europe and China, and proposal to form a blue ribbon committee for further program developments.

Public comment was provided by Pamela Grant of Kentfield: requesting the budget sub-committee review the expenditure details provided to her by District staff, stating that litigation fees were included in past program expenses, stating that residents are charged for the storm drainage fee and also to repair damages after a flood, and requesting that residents subjected to floods be surveyed and contacted for their input.

TM asked District staff to address comments from public regarding miscalculation of flood model used to develop the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program, and for District staff to describe grant opportunities involving development of Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Infrastructure projects. District staff responded that the flood model documentation can be updated to better describe differences between 100 year design 'storm' versus a 100 year design 'flood/flow' and that a draft memorandum will soon be finalized and available from RossValleyWatershed.org. District staff also discussed that Hazard Mitigation Grant Program structure elevation program is latest FEMA grant opportunity most linked directly to Flood Control efforts, and grants related to Storm Water Quality may be more suitably led by another local partner known as the Marin County Storm Water Pollution Prevent Program (MCSTOPPP). District staff agreed to follow up with MCSTOPPP on LID grant opportunities and will provide updates during the next Advisory Board meeting including after performing additional correspondence with Mr. Karlenzig.

DW asked District staff to respond regarding the grand jury report failed website grade. District staff responded that it is possible the grand jury provided the program a failing website grade because they could not locate the program 'Special District' website of RossValleyWatershed.org within the numerous 'Special Districts' in existence when searching through MarinCounty.org. The District is taking the website grand jury report seriously and will continue to look for ways to improve public accessibility to the RossValleyWatershed.org program website in the future.

Item 3. Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program Update

a) Department of Water Resources Grant: Analysis of Replacement Project Alternatives

A presentation was made by Connie Gazaway of CH2M, serving as consultant to District, regarding the Department of Water Resources grant and analysis of replacement alternatives to the Memorial Park Multi-Use Detention Basin (see [presentation from the April 19, 2016 Zone 9 Advisory Board](#) and CH2M Consultant [Draft Technical Memorandum: Analysis of Project Alternatives for Department of Water Resources Grant](#)).

PH requested the project cost estimate confidence levels be included in the final report to Department of Water Resources.

DW asked if certain measures for the alternative measure groupings could be mixed and matched, and District staff answered that they could be.

TM asked if other measures not described in any of the alternative measure groupings might still be included in final report to DWR, and District staff answered yes and that project alternative

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measures will continue to be discussed at the next Advisory Board June meeting.

Public comment was received by Frank Egger of Fairfax regarding the need for additional public comment opportunities following agenda items, removal of Lefty Gomez Field from consideration as a detention basin alternative to Memorial Park grant replacement, a request that consultants seek out institutional knowledge of historic flooding locations such as along Park Road.

Public comment was provided by Ross Asselstine of San Anselmo regarding a request that more than 72 hours notice be provided for reviewing large public documents, additional outreach is needed prior to project grant awards such as the Memorial Park project, and that Lefty Gomez benefits are questionable as stated in the draft memorandum "Analysis of Replacement Project Alternatives".

Public comment was provided by Mr. Harning of Fairfax regarding flood program employed in St Louis Missouri (Forest Park and Barnes Hospital).

Public comment was provided by Ross Perry as the one-third owner of Sunnyside Nursery in Fairfax requesting a copy of the Sunnyside Nursery Property appraisal report paid for by the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program. He expressed concern for correspondence received during negotiations with the program that the sale could take 18 to 24 months and was dependent on ground exploration results obtained by District.

Public comment was provided by Pamela Grant of Kentfield regarding: if Ross school has been evaluated for use as a potential detention basin site, cars should be provided notice in Kentfield when street sweeper plans to sweep the street, and that she is interested in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program structure elevation grant opportunity.

Public comment was received by Amy Caldwell of San Anselmo promoting green roofs, cisterns, rain gardens, permeable landscaping, wetland enhancement and restoration, and low cost assistance to raise homes and property; in lieu of proposed detention basins.

Public comment was provided by Arlene Fox of Larkspur requesting the Hillview Drainage Improvement Project as part of the Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project be expedited.

Public comment was provided by Ford Greene of San Anselmo regarding: suggestion to mitigate flooding because complete solutions are unavailable, encouragement to proceed with Morningside option specified in draft memorandum of Analysis of Replacement Project Alternatives in part because it is the lowest cost option and because this area frequently floods, and a request for District staff to provide additional details regarding creek maintenance program outcomes.

Public comment was provided by Diane De Marlie of Fairfax regarding: Healdsburg and Arizona have had safety issues regarding use of detention basins, detention basins should be constructed in locations where there is no potential hazard to life or property in the event of failure, and Lefty Gomez site should no longer be considered as a detention basin.

Public comment was provided by Janusz Kolodziejczyk of Fairfax regarding: detention basin at Lefty Gomez will not prevent flooding in San Anselmo and Ross, Lefty Gomez as a detention basin is described as reaching 75% potential target flow reduction in Fairfax yet how is this possible if no final detention basin depth has been determined, and further technical details should be provided to the public regarding equations, input data, software versions, storm durations, calibration values, and uncertainty of the program hydrology and hydraulic model.

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DW agreed to sit down with Mr. Kolodziejczyk with optional District support to discuss his technical concerns.

PH suggested further effort be made to obtain consensus on how to quantify the Ross Valley flooding problem.

Public comment was provided by Warren Karlenzig that more effort needs to be made to promote Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure such as along Miracle Mile, Sorich and Deer Parks, and that detention basins may indeed be needed.

TM responded that Town of San Anselmo has held multiple meetings regarding support of Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure including having adopted past Town ordinances.

Public comment was provided by Ross Asselstine of San Anselmo that he is awaiting answer relating to hydrology and hydraulic model questions asked to the District three weeks ago.

Action by Board: Recommend that the four project alternatives described in the technical memorandum Analysis of Project Alternatives for DWR Grant be presented to DWR for consideration of receiving grant funds originally intended for the Memorial Park Project.

M/S: DW/CM, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** None, **Abstain:** None

b) Creek Maintenance Program

District staff held a presentation regarding creek maintenance in Flood Control Zone 9, (see [presentation made during the April 19, 2016 Zone 9 Advisory Board](#) and [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).)

CM commented on observed sediment accumulation within Corte Madera Creek near Lagunitas Road Bridge upstream and within original Corps channel project since the bridge was replaced by the Town of Ross. District will evaluate this location and discuss it during this season's upcoming Creek Committee meetings.

DW commented Town of Fairfax Town Manager suggests increasing the annual Creek Vegetation Maintenance Program budget to \$100,000 annually.

c) Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project (Dredge) Phase 1 Proposal: Hillview Neighborhood Drainage Improvements (Larkspur)

District staff discussed the Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project / Hillview Neighborhood Drainage Improvement Project, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

Public comment was provided by Frank Egger of Fairfax regarding Corte Madera Creek not having been dredged in eight years and Larkspur residents have observed water encroaching on creek banks. PH responded that bathymetric survey data shows sections of creek have been stable over the past ten years.

PH commented it may be more cost effective to place new drainage line adjacent to existing Corte Madera Creek berm instead of underneath paved Harvard Drive.

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District staff said they would follow-up with City staff if placing drainage adjacent to the berm could be investigated as a potential alternative.

d) FEMA Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunities

District staff discussed the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

PH asked it be made clear to homeowners that they will need to front initial project costs before FEMA will reimburse them.

e) Announcement of Upcoming Public Meetings

District staff announced upcoming public meetings, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

Item 4. Project Status Updates:

a) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Corte Madera Creek Project (Units 2, 3, and 4)

Keep informed of the latest by visiting the project webpage at:

http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents_and_reports/USACECorteMaderaCreekProject.html

District staff provided updates to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Corte Madera Creek Project, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

Public comment was provided by Garril Page of San Anselmo that suspended sediment was not factored into original Corps design of Units 1-3 and, as a result, flooding has ensued between 1982 and 2006.

Public comment was provided by Kathy Schaefer of San Anselmo regarding the following information which was provided by District staff:

- year 2022 is the base year assumption for when Phoenix Lake is assumed to be in operation for the project
- District staff will follow up regarding the bike path project along Corte Madera Creek
- the final report from Corps will be available to the public and will incorporate Stetson scope of work described in the June 16, 2015 Flood Control Zone 9 Staff Report
- non-structural measures will be considered within the project alternatives

b) Bridge Replacements in Fairfax, San Anselmo, and Ross

1) Azalea Avenue Bridge Replacement in Town of Fairfax

Visit the project website <http://fairfaxbridges.com/about/azalea-avenue-bridge> for more information on the project and any upcoming public meetings.

District staff provided update to the Azalea Avenue Bridge Replacement in Town of Fairfax, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

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2) Bridge Replacements in Town of San Anselmo

Visit the project webpage sananselmobridges.org for more information on the projects and any upcoming public meetings.

District staff provided updates to Building Bridge 2, Nokomis and Madrone Avenue, and Center/Sycamore Avenue Bridge Replacements in Town of San Anselmo, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

3) Winship Avenue in Town of Ross

Visit the project webpage townofross.org/publicworks/page/winship-bridge-replacement-project for more information on the project and any upcoming public meetings.

District staff provided updates to the Winship Avenue Bridge Replacement in Town of Ross, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

c) Detention Basins

1) Phoenix Lake IRWM Retrofit Project

District staff provided updates to the Phoenix Lake Integrated Regional Water Retrofit Project, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

Public comment was received from Kathy Schaefer of San Anselmo regarding when updated project cost estimates would be presented to assist in determining if the project will be viable, and District staff responded the cost estimates are expected to be available during the summer.

2) San Anselmo Flood Protection Project

See item 3.a) above.

3) Lefty Gomez Dual-use Detention Basin

District staff provided updates to the Lefty Gomez Dual-use Detention Basin Facility, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

4) Loma Alta Dual-use Detention Basin

District staff provided updates to the Loma Alta Dual-use Detention Basin Facility, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

5) Deer Park Dual-use Detention Basin

District staff provided updates to the Deer Park Dual-use Detention Basin Facility, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

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6) Former Nursery Growing Grounds Detention Basin

District staff provided updates to the Former Nursery Growing Grounds Detention Basin Facility, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

d) Morningside Neighborhood Flood Study (New Item)

District staff provided updates to Morningside Neighborhood Flood Study, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

Item 5. Annual Budget (FY 2016-2017) & Work Plan:

District staff presented the annual Fiscal Year 2016/17 proposed budget, see [Staff Report dated April 19, 2016](#).

RG asked if any budget proposed in FY 16/17 will involve Green/Low Impact Development alternatives, and District staff responded that District staff has met with Warren Karlenzig regarding tools and methods which may be used for identifying possible Green/LID projects.

PH asked why another bathymetric survey was included in the proposed FY 16/17 budget, and District staff answered this was added to the proposed budget in the event it was deemed necessary during geomorphic dredge study currently underway.

TM asked if elevation surveys is proposed in this year's budget, and District staff answered that \$200,000 was shown within Program section of Fiscal Year 2016/17 regarding elevation surveys throughout the Ross Valley.

DW asked if creek maintenance budget can be increased for FY 16/17 later in the fiscal year, and District staff answered that budget can be amended in the summer if needed after performing creek assessment.

Public comment was provided by Ross Asselstine of San Anselmo suggesting projects and programs be pursued such as: flood proofing, backflow prevention, permit fee waivers for house remodels that address flooding issues, addition of survey control points within flood prone neighborhoods, seismic strengthening of Phoenix Lake dam, and creek health improvement measures.

Action by Board: recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the budget for FY 2016-2017.

M/S: RG/CM, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** None, **Abstain:** None

Item 6. Adjourn (Next Meeting Scheduled for June 21, 2016)

The Zone 9 Advisory Board confirmed the next meeting date of June 21, 2016.