

**REVISED NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
FOR THE
ROSS VALLEY WATERSHED FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

The Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood Control District) will be preparing a Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Ross Valley Watershed Flood Risk Reduction Program (Program). The Program involves implementing various flood risk reduction measures throughout the Ross Valley Watershed to achieve a 100-year level of flood protection, located in central eastern Marin County.

The Program proposes several flood reduction measures (measures) designed to reduce flood risk in the watershed. Proposed measures include:

- Increasing creek and floodplain capacity to convey floodwaters.
- Enlarging some channels through the removal or modification of existing obstructions to flow.
- Reducing peak discharge and attenuating the flows by increasing floodplain detention storage.
- Flood preparedness including regular creek maintenance and structure modification
- Community flood education including emergency alerts, stream monitoring, and flood response checklists and information

The Program includes approximately 180 potential measures to increase the capacity of Corte Madera Creek and its tributaries as well as up to five or more detention basins located throughout the watershed. When implemented in concert, these measures provide flood risk reduction on a watershed-wide scale.

Construction duration and timing will vary depending on the measures selected for implementation. No specific projects or measures encompassed in the Program and evaluated in the PEIR will be approved as a direct outcome of the Board's certification of the Final PEIR. Subsequent CEQA analysis, as appropriate and regulatory permits are required to construct projects within the Program. Additional details about the Program measures are provided online at <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/rossvalleywatershed-org/>.

The Flood Control District is the lead agency, pursuant to the State Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15050) for the preparation of an EIR. This EIR is being prepared by the Flood Control District in accordance with CEQA, the State of California CEQA Guidelines, and County Environmental Impact Review Guidelines. This EIR is being prepared as a program-level EIR, pursuant to the State Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168). The proposed measures that are evaluated at the Program level will require additional environmental documentation once site-specific measure designs are determined. This EIR will evaluate the Program as a whole with respect to all of the following topical issues, but will focus on some issues more than others:

1) Aesthetics and Visual Resources	6) Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	11) Population, Housing, and Employment
2) Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions	7) Hazards and Hazardous Materials	12) Public Services and Utilities
3) Biological Resources	8) Hydrology and Water Quality/Climimate Change	13) Parks and Recreation
4) Cultural Resources	9) Land Use and Planning	14) Transportation, Circulation and Parking
5) Energy, Mineral, Forest and Agricultural Resources	10) Noise	

To ensure that the EIR for this Ross Valley Watershed Flood Risk Reduction Program is thorough and adequate, and meets the needs of all agencies reviewing it, we are soliciting comments on specific issues to be included in the environmental review. Public comments on the scope of issues to be evaluated in the EIR are encouraged. Details of the proposed Program measures are available on the Program website: <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/rossvalleywatershed-org/>.

To maximize public involvement, and due to the fact that the previous meeting was cancelled because of a significant weather event, we rescheduled the scoping session meeting to **Thursday, February 16, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Marin Art and Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Ross, CA 94957**. A presentation on the Program will begin at 6:10pm. Informational stations about the Program will be available for review and input before the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and after the meeting until 8:30p.m. Public agencies, community groups and interested members of the public are invited to attend this meeting and present oral or written comment on the proposed Program. Hard copies of the scoping session materials will not be distributed in advance of the meeting; however can be found on the Program website, <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/rossvalleywatershed-org/>, and will be available in hard copy at the scoping

session. You may also subscribe to the Program website and receive notices about future meetings and new information posted to the site.

The Notice of Preparation comment period deadline has also been extended. If you wish to comment during the Notice of Preparation (NOP) comment period, or if you cannot attend the scoping meeting, we will accept written comments about the scope of the environmental report until the close of the NOP comment period at **4:00 p.m. on February 24, 2017**. Commenters are advised to mail written comments (postmarked on or before February 24, 2017) to the attention of Rachel Reid, Environmental Planning Manager at 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 308, San Rafael, CA 94903. Comments can also be submitted via email to EnvPlanning@marincounty.org before the end of the comment period deadline. Please direct questions about the Program description to Tonya Redfield, Capital Planning and Project Manager in the Department of Public Works at (415) 473-2941 or tredfield@marincounty.org.



Rachel Reid,
Environmental Planning Manager



The Marin Art and Garden Center is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require American Sign Language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or if you require this document in an alternate format (example: Braille, Large Print, Audiotape, CD-ROM), or if you require other accommodations to participate in this meeting, you may request them by calling (415) 473-2255 (voice/TTY) or 711 for the California Relay Service or e-mailing disabilityaccess@marincounty.org at least **four working days** in advance of the event.