



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Public Works



Date: September 12, 2016
Board Meeting Date: October 18, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors, Acting as the Governing Board of the San Mateo County Flood Control District

From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

Subject: Colma Creek Flood Control Channel Maintenance Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Acting as the Governing Board of the San Mateo County Flood Control District, adopt a resolution:

- A) Certifying the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration dated June 2016 for the Colma Creek Flood Control Channel Maintenance Project; and
- B) Approving the Colma Creek Flood Control Channel Maintenance Project and authorizing the Director of Public Works to proceed with preparation of any required plans and specifications, procurement, issuance of work, and awarding of contracts in the performance of maintenance activities identified in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

BACKGROUND:

Your Board established the Colma Creek Flood Control Zone and subzones (Zone) of the San Mateo County Flood Control District in 1964, for the purpose of financing and constructing the various flood control improvements that comprise of the Colma Creek flood control channel (Channel). The Channel provides flood protection for residents and businesses in the communities near the channel in South San Francisco, Colma, and Daly City. The primary objective of the Colma Creek Flood Control Channel Maintenance Project (Project) is to conduct maintenance activities as necessary over a five year period along approximately 5.4 miles of Zone constructed Channel to provide the designed flood conveyance capacity. Routine maintenance activities within the Channel and Channel infrastructure are necessary to maintain the flood control functions as originally designed. A majority of the routine maintenance activities for the channel require environmental and regulatory permits. The Department determined that

working to obtain multi-year (five-year) permits would be beneficial for maintaining the channel.

District staff met with representatives from several regulatory agencies to review channel conditions, propose routine maintenance activities, and discuss California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and permitting requirements for future maintenance activities. At the request of the regulatory agencies, the District has conducted various technical investigations and studies, which are summarized in a report developed by Horizon Water and Environment (Horizon). One result of this work is the finding that localized sediment removal is necessary along an approximate 0.6-mile segment of the Channel to maintain its capacity and local storm drain functionality. This work has been incorporated into the Project.

DISCUSSION:

The Project would primarily include removing localized sediment along the channel bed in the concrete-lined portion of the channel, and repairing or replacing degraded culverts and blocked culvert outfalls. Other routine maintenance activities included in the Project are: vegetation management on channel banks and bed (including removal of invasive species vegetation); repair or maintenance of concrete/hardened channel banks and bed; installation and maintenance of trash capture devices; removal of accumulated debris; installation and repair of fences; repair of access roads; and graffiti removal. The proposed maintenance activities would generally occur in the City of South San Francisco and Town of Colma.

To complete the environmental permitting for the Project, the Department authorized Horizon, through an existing on-call services agreement, to perform work to secure five-year permits from the regulatory agencies and prepare the Initial Study (IS) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). Issuance of the regulatory permits is in progress, and is expected to be completed by December 2016. The IS/MND for the Project has been completed and it identified potential adverse effects during the outlined maintenance activities. Those effects will be reduced to less than significant levels through the implementation of specific mitigation measures as identified in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, pursuant to Section 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code.

A 30-day public review period was completed in compliance with the provisions of CEQA. One comment letter, dated July 6, 2016, was received from the California Department of Transportation. A Memorandum detailing the District's response to comments was prepared and is attached as Exhibit "A" to the resolution. The response to comments and associated clarifications do not affect the IS/MND conclusions that the Project would not have any significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no changes to, or recirculation of, the IS/MND were necessary.

The certification of the IS/MND and the adoption of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program as conditions of Project approval will ensure compliance with all CEQA requirements. The IS/MND is available for review at:

http://publicworks.smcgov.org/colma-creek. A hard copy of the IS/MND is available for review in the Department of Public Works. The Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Program is attached as Exhibit "B" to the resolution.

In order to proceed with maintenance activities, we are requesting that your Board approve the Project and authorize the Director of Public Works to proceed with preparation of any required plans and specifications, procurement, issuance of work, and awarding of contracts in the performance of maintenance activities identified above, in the IS/MND, and the Project.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

Approval of this action contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of an Environmentally Conscious Community by maintaining the integrity and capacity of the flood control facility and adjacent infrastructures for the benefit of the public.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated Project cost over the five-year period is \$1,500,000.00, which will be financed by Zone Funds. The estimated annual costs are as follows:

•	FY 2016-17	\$300,000
•	FY 2017-18	\$550,000
•	FY 2018-19	\$300,000
•	FY 2019-20	\$200,000
•	FY 2020-21	\$150,000

There is no fiscal impact associated with certifying the IS/MND. The approximate staff and consultant costs to comply with the regulatory agencies' requests for information, preparation of permit application documents, and development of the IS/MND document have exceeded \$300,000 to date.

There is no impact to the General Fund.