



Community Meeting #2 – Meeting Summary

March 9, 2024

Purpose:

The purpose of the second Community Meeting for the Marin City Stormwater Plan was to share and receive input on potential flood protection projects and community-based criteria to prioritize projects.

To achieve this, the County of Marin, with support from consultant teams, Schaaf & Wheeler and Circlepoint, hosted the second of three community meetings where all members of the public were invited to learn about the plan and how to get involved. The meeting included: welcome and introductions; project overview and background; review of project concepts; scoring criteria; a community activity; facilitated questions and answers; and next steps. The meeting was conducted in English and ASL interpretation was available, but not requested by any of the attendees.

This summary provides a high-level overview of the key questions and comments that arose during the meeting. Questions and comments will be addressed at future meetings.

Attendees:

In attendance were more than twenty members of the public and three members from the taskforce. Thirteen of the attendees indicated that they are residents of Marin City or Sausalito, while other attendees indicated home addresses dispersed throughout the rest of Marin County and the greater Bay Area. There was representation from community groups like Marin City People's Plan and the Floating Homes Association, as well as several individuals from UC Berkeley.

In addition to members of the public and taskforce members, Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Marin County District 3 Supervisor, was in attendance at the meeting.

Staff members of Marin County were in attendance including Tracy Clay and Judd Goodman. Consultants, as part of the project team were also in attendance. This includes Robin Lee and Sandra Carroll from Schaaf & Wheeler and consultants from Circlepoint, Patti Ransdell, Monica Dwight, and Susan Harden, who was also the facilitator. June Farmer, community coordinator for the project, was also present.

I. Welcome and Introductions

June Farmer began the meeting by welcoming all community members. The project team was introduced, including the new project manager, Judd Goodman. Attendees were encouraged to take advantage of refreshments provided.

II. Project Overview and Background

Following the welcome, Robin Lee provided an overview of the project. She discussed the background and past events that have led to the development of this stormwater plan. The following stormwater plan goals were identified:



1. Identify projects to protect public access during flooding events
2. Recommend and prioritize improvements to reduce flood risk to Marin City with community input
3. Improve effectiveness of flood management operations
4. Integrate with Caltrans Planning (but focused on the Marin City community and not the freeway)
5. Attract additional funding sources

It was emphasized that the scope of this project is to recommend and prioritize project concepts that will reduce flood risk, attract funding, and could be implemented in the future. The project timeline was reviewed, and it was noted that the project is roughly halfway done, with a projected completion in September 2024.

III. Review of Project Concepts

Robin Lee then reviewed the project concepts proposed for the upper and lower watershed. She clarified that the primary problem in the upper watershed is drainage and the primary problem in the lower watershed is flooding. The project team has been collecting community input about the issue areas in Marin City and these have been compiled on an issue map.

The recommended concepts in the lower watershed shared were:

- Drake Pipe Upsize and Increase Inlet Capacity
- Donahue Full Bypass
- Drake Partial Bypass to Pond
- Drake Partial Bypass to Bay
- Drake and Donahue Street Raising
- Drake Watershed Detention
- New Outfall to Bay
- Maintenance and Repair

It was noted that the following concepts were considered, but not carried forward for the lower watershed for a variety of reasons:

- Ballfield Detention – is situated in the Phillips Drive watershed and does not provide detention for the Drake stormwater drainage system, which is where detention is needed to reduce flooding in the Drake/Donahue intersection
- Marin Housing Authority Detention Site – this site was found to be a historical site which would prohibit the construction of a detention system
- Phillips Drive Bolted Manholes – the Phillips Drive New Outfall to the Bay improves the Phillips Drive system and the bolted manholes are not needed
- Elevated Pedestrian Walkways – this is considered more of an intermediate step and the study is focused on improvements to mitigate the flooding first

The recommended concepts in the upper watershed shared included:



- Improve Trash Racks
- Increase Inlet Capacity
- Connect Hillside Drainage Pipes
- Replace Sandbags with Headwall
- Coordinate with Caltrans
- Hillside Management
- Landslide Stabilization
- Headwater Inlet Sedimentation Basins
- Maintenance and Repair

IV. Project Scoring Criteria

To gain an understanding of the community’s priorities, the project team sought input on the scoring criteria that will be used to rank potential project concepts. Nine proposed criteria were recommended by the task force:

- I. Flood management effectiveness
- II. How can this improve the entrance/exit to Marin City?
- III. Does this reduce flooding near our homes and buildings?
- IV. Climate change resiliency
- V. What is the impact on our community’s health?
- VI. Will this project affect our plants, air, trees, water, etc.?
- VII. Will this increase access to our recreational areas?
- VIII. Can the project be combined with green infrastructure features?
- IX. How will this impact our community during construction?

Robin noted that community members have been invited to provide input on the criteria via a survey. So far, 30 responses have been received, eighteen of which are Marin City residents. It is proposed that the nine scoring criteria will be grouped into the following three categories: flood control; environmental and community health; and construction impact.

V. Community Activity

A tabletop discussion activity was planned, but in response to community requests, a longer, large group facilitated dialogue took place (see section VI). Towards the end of that conversation, participants were invited to participate in an activity during which they ranked the criteria by placing cards numbered 1-4 into bins associated with each criteria. They were also encouraged to submit comments by writing on the cards provided to them at their tables. The criteria votes collected during the meeting are summarized below:

Criteria (with 1 being the most important and 4 the least)	1	2	3	4
Flood Management Effectiveness	5	3	1	1



Criteria (with 1 being the most important and 4 the least)	1	2	3	4
How can this improve the entrance/exit to Marin City?	1	5	2	0
Does this reduce flooding near our homes and buildings?	4	0	2	0
Climate change resiliency	4	2	1	2
What is the impact on our community's health?	1	0	3	1
Will this project affect our plants, air, trees, water, etc?	0	2	0	1
Will this increase access to our recreational areas?	0	0	0	0
Can the project be combined with green infrastructure features?	0	3	3	4
How will this impact our community during construction?	0	0	1	2

VI. Questions and Answers – Facilitated

After the presentation, meeting attendees participated in a facilitated Q&A and discussion session led by Susan Harden of Circlepoint. The goal was to hear and address questions and comments that arose throughout the meeting.

During the facilitated session, the following topics and points were raised:

- How to involve community members in the decision-making process
- Point source reduction management by Caltrans
- Desire to integrate more green infrastructure planning
- Mud build-up in the pond and the potential to dredge it, rather than pumping
- Connecting hillside drainage pipes
- Increasing capacity of the flow in the “New Outfall to Bay” concept
- Onsite rain capture
- The request for a comprehensive overview of the planning, projects, and funding sources that support addressing flooding in Marin City



- The return period of design storms that have and will be modeled in hydrologic and hydraulic simulations.
- The relationship between projects that attract funding and projects that are a priority for the community
- Water quality and health-related challenges in Marin City should be addressed
- Need for additional outfalls from Marin City
- Pond floodwall height
- Golden Gate National Recreation Area involvement with the project
- The ballfield's current usage, its utility to support flood control during storm events, and an interest in enhancing it as an asset for the community
- Modeling for draining water from Donahue out to the bay
- Creating a levee and restored wetland
- The need for recreational areas in Marin City
- The need for more community meetings
- Soil erosion on the hillside
- What are bolted manhole covers?
- Pressure capacity of pipes

VII. Next Steps

At the end of the question-and-answer session, Judd Goodman announced that he would be holding office hours for the community to stop in and ask questions and provide feedback set for Thursdays 5:30-6:30pm.

This was the second of three community meetings to discuss the Marin City Stormwater Plan. Members of the community are encouraged to remain engaged throughout the process by visiting the Project website <https://marinflooddistrict.org/marin-city-stormwater-plan/>.

Presentation

The presentation that was shared at the meeting is located at this link: <https://marinflooddistrict.org/marin-city-stormwater-plan-documents/>



For disability accommodations including from any presentation links described above please phone (415) 473-6530 (Voice), CA Relay 711, or e-mail MarinCityStormwaterPlan@MarinCounty.org. Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.