NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR THE SAN ANSELMO FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood Control District) will be preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the San Anselmo Flood Risk Reduction Project (Project). The Project involves implementing various flood risk reduction measures in Fairfax and San Anselmo to achieve a 25 year level of flood protection, located in central eastern Marin County.

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

- Increasing creek and floodplain capacity to convey floodwaters.
- Removing or modifying buildings to convey floodwaters
- Enlarging some channels through the removal or modification of existing obstructions to flow.
- Reducing peak discharge and attenuating flows by increasing floodplain detention storage

This Project is part of the overall Ross Valley Watershed and Flood Risk Reduction Program that includes approximately 180 potential elements 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 elements provide flood risk reduction on a watershed-wide scale.

Project construction is estimated to occur over portions of two years in 2019 and 2020. In addition to certification of this EIR, regulatory permits from State and Federal agencies are required to construct these projects. Additional details about the Project 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 project-level EIR, pursuant to the State Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15161). This EIR will evaluate the following topical issues, but will focus on some issues more than others:

| Aesthetics and Visual Resources | 6) Geology, Soils, and Seismicity | 11) Population and Housing |
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| 2) Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions | 7) Hazards and Hazardous Materials | 12) Public Services and Utilities |
| 3) Biological Resources | B) Hydrology and Water Quality/Climate 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 San Anselmo Flood Risk Reduction Project 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 Project elements are available on the Program website: http://www.marinwatersheds.org/rossvalleywatershed-org/.

To maximize public involvement a public scoping session meeting is planned for Thursday, April 20, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the San Anselmo Town Hall, 525 San Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo, CA 94960. A presentation on the Project will begin at 7:10pm. Informational stations about the Project will be available for review and input before the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and after the meeting until 9:00 p.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 Project. Hard copies of the scoping session materials will not be distributed in advance of the meeting; however can be found on the Ross Valley Watershed 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.

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 May 8, 2017**. Commenters are advised to mail written comments (postmarked on or before May 4) 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

<u>EnvPlanning@marincounty.org</u> before the end of the comment period deadline. Please direct questions about the Project description to Liz Lewis, Planning Manager in the Department of Public Works at (415) 473-7226 or <u>lizlewis@marincounty.org</u>.

Rachel Reid, Environmental Planning Manager











The San Anselmo Town Hall 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.