

**FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 1 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**JUNE 4, 2020**

**STAFF REPORT**

**Item 1. Closed Session**

Conference with legal counsel regarding pending litigation pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). Name of Case: Diaz v. County of Marin and Findley v. County of Marin. Marin County Superior Court, Case No. CIV1904088 (Diaz) and Case No. CIV1904089 (Findley).

Reconvene in Open Session.

Announcement from Closed Session.

**Item 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 5, 2020**

**Recommended Action:** Approve minutes.

**Item 3. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda**

Comments will be heard for items not on the agenda (limited to three minutes per speaker).

**Item 4. Staff Update on 2020 Construction Projects**

a) Novato Creek Sediment Removal

This quadrennial maintenance sediment removal operation is within Novato Creek, Warner Creek and Arroyo Avichi which maintains the project design flood conveyance capacity while minimizing potential flooding within the Novato area. The sediment removal extents consist of 5,630 linear feet of Novato Creek from Diablo Avenue to 500 feet downstream of the SMART Rail Bridge, 1,780 linear feet of Warner Creek from Diablo Avenue to its confluence with Novato Creek, and 680 linear feet of Arroyo Avichi Creek from South Novato Blvd to its confluence with Novato Creek. Sediment from this operation will be beneficially reused as part of the District's long -term plan to restore tidal wetlands in the historic Deer Island Basin and Novato Baylands and prepare for sea level rise by constructing ecotone flood control levees and transition zone habitats. Temporary storage areas include the Novato Creek levees, the West Basin Cross Levee and the District-owned parcel at Marsh Drive, Novato. Some of the sediment will be used to re-establish tidal marsh elevations within Heron's Beak Pond next to Novato Creek. The sediment will be spread in thin lifts of along the edge of the pond to creek new floodplain and to help adapt existing levees to sea level rise.

Depending on available zone budget and actual contractor bids. The project has been structured where the base bid includes sediment removal within Novato Creek upstream of Redwood Boulevard and within Warner and Arroyo Avichi Creeks, and a bid alternate consist of the remaining sediment removal downstream of Redwood Boulevard to 500 feet downstream of the SMART Rail Bridge.

Final jurisdictional permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board and Department of Fish and Wildlife are expected in early June.

During past maintenance events, project completion time was four months with a typical jurisdictional permit work window from June 15 to October 15. The estimated work start

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date is July 6. The estimated total cost for construction for both the base bid and the bid alternate, plus contingency is \$1,540,000 and is available in current fiscal year Flood Zone 1 budget. Project updates will be posted to [www.marinwatersheds.org](http://www.marinwatersheds.org)

### b) Simmons Slough Water Management System

The project involves installation of a new pump station at the current site of a portable pump at the downstream end of Simmons Slough at Novato Creek across from Bel Marin Keys. The project includes upgrades to several water management structures upstream of SR 37. Staff are working with PG&E to install new power lines to the proposed pump station. The construction work has to be completed by Fall 2020 with a final completion date for the project for reporting extended by one year until early 2021 and the project is currently on-track to meet this schedule, provided construction bids this spring come in within budget. The Zone has \$1.45 million available through the State grant.

As part of the grant conditions, the enhancement of at least three acres of wetlands is included in the overall project scope. The District has an Agreement with Marin Audubon (Audubon) to provide them with \$45,000 (\$40,000 is grant reimbursable) of funding to purchase and install native plants and enhance wetlands over three acres of the Audubon property in northern Simmons Slough. The Agreement includes a provision for Audubon to perform visual monitoring over a five-year period.

### **Item 5. Schedule 2020 Meeting Dates**

District staff anticipate another meeting may be needed on or near November 5 after Simmons Slough Water Management Project and the Novato Creek Sediment Removal Project construction is completed and final costs are known. At that time, Lynwood Pump Station's reconstruction can be discussed with a better understanding of actual available funding.

Additional special meetings may be called by the District Manager when District business needs so dictate. Special meetings may also be called at the request of the Advisory Board Chair.