

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FLOOD ZONE 3 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MARCH 18, 2021

STAFF REPORT

Item 1. Announcement of Advisory Board Vacancies

On March 16 the District Board of Supervisors was asked to schedule appointments on April 27, 2021 for two seats due to the upcoming term expiration of Linda Rames and one vacancy due to the passing of Robert Burton. Due to the increasing activity level of Zone 3 in 2021 advisory board members should anticipate attending approximately three meetings per year to guide zone decision-making at major upcoming milestones.

The application to the advisory board can be found at this website:

<https://apps.marincounty.org/BosBoardsCommissions/boardpage.aspx?BrdID=33&return=default.aspx>

Item 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: September 30, 2020

Review minutes at this link: https://www.marinwatersheds.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/FCZ3_AB-Mtg_Draft-Minutes_093020.pdf

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. Zone 3 FY 2021-22 Baseline Budget Review

The County Administrator's Office requested that the zones recommend a baseline operations budget for the beginning of each fiscal year that does not include major project expenses. Baseline budgets are intended to be relatively consistent year to year. Major project expenditures will require separate actions from the AB and District BOS to adjust the budget as needed. As usual, the approved budget may always be adjusted as necessary as priorities and cost estimates for projects and studies planned for this coming fiscal year are more clearly identified. Staff will review the proposed Flood Zone 3 Baseline Budget for FY 2021-2022 at the meeting. It can be viewed here: https://www.marinwatersheds.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/Proposed%20FY%202021-22%20Baseline%20Budget%20Zone%203_0.pdf

Line Item descriptions available here: https://www.marinwatersheds.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/Zone%203%20Budget%20Details%20FY%202021-22_0.pdf

Submission of the baseline budget is due on March 19th, and if a recommended baseline budget is not submitted by then the current year budget will be entered for next year. Staff will provide updates on projects, budget adjustments, and expenditures at each advisory board meeting.

Recommended Action: Recommend the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed Zone 3 Baseline Budget for FY 2021-22.

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Item 5. Marin City People's Plan Update

The Marin City People's Plan (<https://marincitypeoplesplan.com/>) is working on a grant funded pilot project at the First Missionary Baptist Church on Drake Ave in Marin City. The pilot project is looking at implementing and maintaining low impact design (LID) techniques.

This work is in close proximity to a site where Zone 3 has been for many years cleaning a trash rack at a drainage inlet before, during, and after storms, and in 2016 installed a sandbag wall at the recommendation of Wood Rodgers to reduce potential for stormwater overflows into the Church. District staff recommend that Zone 3 continue to clean the trash rack and maintain the sandbags, and incorporate potential modifications to the inlet as part of Comprehensive Watershed and Flood Mitigation Plan (see Item 6c) in collaboration with the Church and the People's Plan.

Item 6. Zone 3 Project Updates in Marin City

a. FEMA 2017 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Marin City Stormwater Detention Pond Flood Infrastructure Improvements

On June 23, 2020, the Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) received award of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through CalOES for \$337,500 (Phase I of a larger grant) to be used for design, permitting and preparation of plans and specifications for construction for Marin City Stormwater Pond improvements. These improvements include a new drainage culvert under 101 in addition to a floodwall along a portion of the Marin City Pond. These improvements are proposed in partnership with a larger community led project for restoration of the Marin City pond and development of a community park. Additional funds beyond the FEMA grant are being provided by Flood Zone 3. Phase II of the FEMA grant will be for construction and will be authorized by FEMA once Phase I of the project is completed and has been approved by FEMA.

On December 16, 2020, staff posted a Request for Proposals (RFP) and three proposals were received on January 28, 2021. The proposals were reviewed and scored by District Staff and CalTrans in February 2021 and BKF Engineering was recommended as the preferred consultant to furnish the professional services.

The project scope with BKF includes preliminary and final design for the flood reduction project, permitting and preparation plans and specifications for construction. As noted above, additional funds, currently identified as Phase II of the FEMA grant plus Zone 3 funds would be needed for actual construction of the project. If either updated project cost estimates or actual project bids show the project construction cost to be significantly greater than the funded amounts, then the project will be put on hold until additional can be found.

BKF's Team is comprised of experts in the fields of hydraulic, geotechnical, permitting and civil engineering and has proven experience with the design and permitting of complex civil engineering projects and has experience working with CalTrans. The cost for these professional services is \$773,000 with \$337,500 of the costs being recoverable through the FEMA grant award and the remaining \$435,500 coming from Flood Control Zone 3 funds.

On March 16, the Board of Supervisors are expected to award the contract to BKF. It is estimated that the design work will be completed by March 2022, with intermediate results of this work to be presented at meetings with Shore Up Marin City and the Flood Zone 3 advisory board.

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The major elements of BKF's scope of work are:

- Review of Studies Conducted To-Date, including the [Wood-Rodgers 2017 study](#).
- Conduct additional hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) analysis for the watershed and pond including recommending changes to the existing ICM flood model, and evaluating potential project alternatives to be provided by [Audubon California](#) (Audubon) and [Shore Up Marin City](#) (SUMC). This task will be completed in coordination with Marin City Community Service District and other stakeholders.
- Geotechnical Analysis and Design for the proposed boring under Highway 101 to improve drainage out of the pond to the bay.
- Preparation of Draft and Final Design Reports and Easements outlining updated H&H, geotechnical work, and analysis of Audubon and SUMC proposed wetland designs, and identification of required easements and associated draft agreements.
- Preparation of Project Description and Permitting, including CEQA, and preparing required regulatory agency permit and encroachment permits applications.
- Preparation of 65%, and as part of a later Phase II (if awarded) 100% Plans and Specifications for Construction.

b. Interim Flood Plan

Wood Rodgers is currently working to identify stormwater capacity deficiencies of the existing pipe system, develop temporary flooding mitigation measures and limitations, and aid the District in the development of an interim flood plan to temporarily relieve the flooding at the intersection of Donahue Street and Drake Avenue while the planning process described in Item 6c is underway. Wood Rodgers will develop up to two emergency response alternatives using different combinations of street flooding mitigation measures such as placing sandbags, installing temporary flood barriers, deploying portable pumps, pedestrian detours, and segments of elevated walkways. The hydraulic model developed in the Marin City Drainage Study is being modified to assess the flood mitigation effectiveness of each alternative. If portable pumping is needed, Wood Rodgers will investigate logistics such as potential vendors, fueling options, and viable pump discharge locations. High-level deployment costs and flood mitigation effectiveness for each alternative will be developed and documented.

A technical memorandum on this effort is expected from Wood Rodgers this month. An additional task is being scoped to look at the feasibility of directing pump discharges to the storm drain system on Donahue to discharge at the Waldo Point side of U.S. 101. The results of these assessments will be reviewed with the advisory board at a meeting in May.

Meanwhile the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is discussing development of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) with Shore Up Marin City and District staff, and the results of Wood Rodgers' work could fold into this larger planning effort. Emergency Action Plan Guidebook: <https://www.marinwatersheds.org/resources/publications-reports/emergency-action-plan-guidebook>. USACE is applying for \$100k+ in USACE staff time to help prepare the EAP, with applications due at the end of this month. Their proposed workplan includes involvement by Caltrans, EPA, and possibly NOAA. They should know by the end of the year whether the process gets funded, and once it starts in 2022 it is expected to take approximately a year. This means, however, that the Zone would need to proceed with interim measures this coming winter independent of the EAP.

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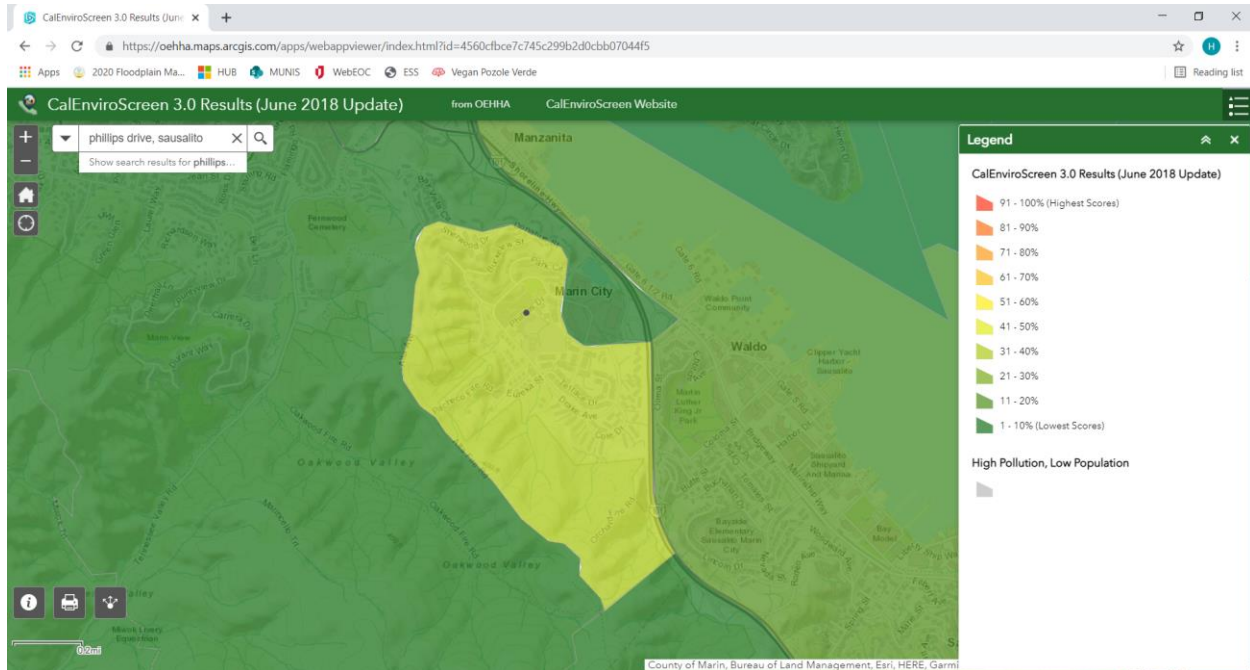
c. Proposed Marin City Comprehensive Watershed and Flood Mitigation Plan

Staff is working with the Marin City CSD, the Marin City People's Plan Steering Committee, Shore Up Marin City, and the Zone 3 advisory board to get feedback on a potential flood mitigation planning scope that builds on work identified in the Wood Roger's drainage study, People's Plan, the [Southern Marin Watershed Guide](#), and Shore Up Marin City wetland restoration plans. Once finalized the scope of work would be advertised for consultants to submit proposals. At least one resident representative of Marin City will be on the consultant selection panel.

This study would be folded into the 2023 update of the Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (see Item 9 for more information). More details on the scope and estimated cost will be provided in May when feedback is incorporated. The current draft scope includes:

- 1) Establishing a Local Task Force to guide the planning process, with representatives to be determined by the local community, but would likely include invitations to Zone 3, Marin City CSD, Shore Up Marin City, Marin County Fire Department, Marin County Environmental Health, the Marin City People's Plan, California Audubon, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Caltrans, and EPA.
- 2) Reviewing drainage priorities from studies conducted to date, including the Wood Rodgers 2017 study and subsequent work, BKF's work to be underway soon, 2015 Marin City Community-Based Transportation Plan, the Marin City People's Plan, 1992 Marin City Community Plan and associated EIR, 1984 Richardson Bay Special Area Plan, Sierra Club and Sausalito Historical Society mapping for the upper watershed. A memo would be drafted to summarize opportunities and to identify additional studies needed to complete any priority tasks.
- 3) Review an environmental site assessment of reported unassessed Superfund sites, top priority being at Phillips Drive. The District is also working with the State, County, and EPA to review existing environmental cleanup data for Marin City and finalize the scope of this assessment. Links to the State of CA database available at this website: <https://www.marinwatersheds.org/resources/publications-reports/marin-city-preliminary-environmental-data>. Screen shot of CalEnviroScreen on following page.
- 4) Refinement of up to two alternatives (consisting of several complementary mitigation actions) from the Wood Rodgers study as well as development of new alternatives to maintain access through Donahue Street, Drake Avenue, and Phillips Drive in 10-year floods, as well as address unmet maintenance and rehabilitation needs of existing public and private facilities in the Marin City watershed. A technical memorandum about the alternatives would be presented to the Task Force and advisory board.
- 5) List potential mitigation measures in the upper watershed to reduce debris flow and erosion risk, open channel measures to reduce flooding and erosion risk, stormwater detention measures, storm drain system additions and upgrades within the Marin City watershed as well as investigating feasibility of sending storm drainage down Donahue to Waldo Point, sediment removal, tidal flood barriers, structure elevation/floodproofing, green infrastructure to treat roadway runoff and other mitigations of stormwater pollution sources.
- 6) A Comprehensive Watershed and Flood Mitigation Plan that describes the history of flooding and existing infrastructure, existing studies, recommendations from the Task Force, summarizes items 1-5 listed above and provides cost estimates for top priorities along with documentation of priorities and next steps.

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[CalEnviroScreen](#) screen shot, March 15, 2021, showing higher pollution burden than surrounding areas based on available state and federal government sources.

Item 7. Shore Up Marin City Update

Shore Up Marin City (<http://www.shoreupmarin.org/>) will present to the advisory board on their recent projects and proposed public outreach activities and request for \$300,000 in funding. See details here: <https://www.marinwatersheds.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/Marin%20City%20Services%202021.pdf>.

Item 8. Annual and Preventive Maintenance Work Program

- a. **Pump Stations** – individual pumps and motors are scheduled for major maintenance on a six-year interval at each of the zone’s pump stations. The goal of this work is to increase pump life expectancy 5-10 years. In addition to major maintenance, preventative maintenance at all pump stations also takes place every year and includes the inspection, testing, and as-needed replacement of electrical and mechanical components. Major preventive maintenance is scheduled this summer at Crest Marin, Shoreline, and Ryan Creek Pump Station. If more funding than is in the proposed baseline budget is needed to address urgently identified maintenance needs when the scheduled pumps are assessed, the advisory board will receive an update.
- b. **Enhanced Drainage Maintenance in Marin City** – in response to concerns about the condition of a ditch behind several properties between Dutton Ct and Drake Ave in Marin City, the Conservation Corps North Bay will be conducting exploratory digging and clean-up this summer. Additionally, the storm drain inlet at the end of this system on Pacheco St was vactored in March. Marin City CSD is coordinating with the private property owners for permission as the Flood District does not have an easement along this drainage. The redevelopment plans for the area do dedicate a drainage easement for public use, but staff have not found evidence that any agency has yet accepted the easement. As a potential outcome of flood mitigation planning in Item 6c the advisory board could consider

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acceptance of this easement. District staff are also working with the Public Works Road Maintenance division on inspecting and vactoring pipelines identified as being full of sediment and debris in the 2017 Drainage study and within public right of way.

- c. **Creek Stage and Precipitation Gages** – to support emergency response and watershed planning staff will look at installing water level monitors in Marin City starting next fall. Contract work to install gages will utilize an existing county budget for emergency preparedness, not Zone 3 funds. Real-time gage data would be viewed at marin.onerain.com.
- d. **Vegetation and Sediment Removal** – the District will complete fire fuel reduction vegetation management early this summer on properties where the Zone has easements and/or fee title to perform these activities. During late summer and early fall, the Conservation Corps North Bay typically performs vegetation maintenance for the purpose of increasing flow conveyance capacity in the channels in Zone 3. Due to severe limitations on the linear extent of in-creek work that can be performed annually District wide (5000 linear feet total) under the District's 2017-2022 Regional Water Quality Control Board permit for programmatic creek maintenance a very limited number of sites will be maintained including trimming of vegetation and removal of solid waste this year. Sediment removal needs will be evaluated in April.

Item 9. Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The County and agency partners are working on an update to the Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan due in 2023. Upcoming tasks in 2021 of interest to the Zone include an updated Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and a public meeting (TBA) to seek input regarding flood hazards for the Plan. The 2018 version of the plan can be viewed here: <https://www.marinwatersheds.org/resources/publications-reports/2018-2023-marin-county-multi-jurisdictional-local-hazard-mitigation>

Item 10. Schedule Next Meetings

Staff will reach out to the advisory board this spring with dates that work for watershed stakeholders including the Marin City Community Services District, Shore Up Marin City, the Marin City People's Plan, and the City of Mill Valley. The next meeting would review the results of the Interim Flood Plan, proposed scope and budget for the Comprehensive Watershed and Flood Mitigation Plan, and receive an update on the Mill Valley Flood and Storm Drain Management Plan which was scheduled to be presented to City Council on March 15.