

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ZONE 9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Members Present

Wayne Peterson, Chairperson, Member, County At-Large
Andy Pease, Member, City Council
Matt Horn, Vice Chairperson, Member, City Staff
Dave Romero, Alternate, City At-Large
Jon Hall, Alternate, County At-Large

1. Introductions and roll call

Wayne Peterson calls the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. Quorum established.
Introductions of attendees present.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes - August 08, 2018

Motion by: **Andy Pease**
Second by: **Wayne Peterson**

The Committee approves the August 08, 2018 meeting minutes (5-0-0), as amended.

3. Ongoing Reports and Updates

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

There are no SGMA updates from the County of San Luis Obispo or the City of San Luis Obispo.

- Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Updates

Brian Nelson, City Engineer, reports that on August 21, 2018, the Board of Supervisors approved the certification of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the Mid-Higuera Bypass Project. The County will proceed with the permitting process for the Final Supplemental EIR. With the Final Supplemental EIR approval, the consultant, Wallace Group, will proceed with the revegetation plan. Wallace Group is currently working on the 30% Design with an anticipated submittal to the City during the week of October 15, 2018. An exhibit outlining the main 7 project elements for improving flow is attached. The preferred bridge alternative for the Bianchi Lane Bridge replacement has been selected and will be a two span, concrete bridge. A temporary bridge will be used to maintain access to the west side of creek and the Madonna property during the Bianchi Bridge replacement. The Bianchi Lane Bridge will be raised and widened. The consultant is on schedule to complete the Final Design by June 2019. In the Final Supplemental EIR,

the existing bridge was not determined to be a resource of historical significance and will be demolished.

- Creek Maintenance Updates

Freddy Otte, City Biologist, reports that visual assessments of debris or blockages were carried out from Cuesta Park to Elks Lane in the main stem of the San Luis Obispo Creek and from Isabella to Laguna Lake on Prefumo Creek. The California Conservation Corp (CCC) cleared the entire section of Prefumo Creek from Los Osos Valley Road to Laguna Lake. Silt removal activities in Prefumo Creek were completed on 10/09/2018 with a removal of 1300 cubic yards of material. The CCC performed one day of creek maintenance in the Spanish Oaks neighborhood during the week of 11/30/2018. The tree contractor has completed assigned activities in 5 large threat locations. Additional visual assessments for San Luis Obispo Creek from Elks Lane to Los Osos Valley road will be completed in the upcoming weeks. An additional week of CCC availability will be utilized once priority areas are identified. The complete list of priority locations is currently being developed.

A member of the public asked a question about the assessment of the Filipponi Ecological Area, owned by the City, located in the County. Freddy reported that it was last assessed 2-3 years ago and will be visually assessed pending priorities and availability.

Freddy Otte reports on Creek Day, which occurred on September 29, 2018. There were 47 volunteers during Creek Day. The largest challenge to Creek Day is homeless encampments limiting the locations that volunteers can access in the creek due to safety.

- Arundo Removal Updates

Jon Hall, Land Conservancy, reports that arundo removal is started on 10/08/2018. Property owners are currently being contacted. Jon Hall noted progress has been made annually due to the decrease in both the incidence of arundo and required resources in each subsequent year.

4. Endorsement of City of San Luis Obispo's Annual Work Plan – Fiscal Year 2019-20

Mladen Bandov, County Engineer, reports that the City submitted the annual work plan and budget request to the County.

Matt Horn, City Engineer, reports that the Annual Work Plan contains three items requested from Zone 9 - General Creek Maintenance, Silt Removal, Mid Higuera Bypass Project. Compared to the prior fiscal year, an additional \$5,000 for general creek maintenance will assist in completing the work. The \$50,000 requested for silt removal is primarily used for engineering design, plans, and specifications, and permit requirements. The \$90,000 requested for the Mid Higuera will be used to complete the plans and specifications and for permitting costs.

Motion by: **Andy Pease**

Second by: **Dave Romero**

The Committee endorses the Annual Work Plan and FY 2019-20 Budget Request (5-0-0).

5. Discussion of FEMA flood mapping updates to San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed

Mladen Bandov, recalled that at the August 08, 2018 Zone 9 meeting, several members of the public voiced concerns about the frequency of flooding on Buckley Road at Vachell Lane and the East Fork of the San Luis Obispo Creek. To address flooding in this area, County prepared alternatives to study the frequency of flooding, the backwater conditions and potential vegetation removal with the objective of reducing flooding frequency from a high frequency to a low frequency. One alternative is to perform a \$7,000- 10,000 limited scope study of the area that will rerun the City's hydrologic and hydraulic models for smaller storms with the deliverable of some recommendations or solutions coinciding with the Waterway Management Plan. Another alternative is to await results from upcoming efforts from FEMA. Recently County Staff attended a kickoff meeting with FEMA Region IX and their contractor Stantec who will be updating floodplain modeling and mapping at four different locations within the county. One of which includes the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed south of the City. The kickoff meeting presentation and a summary of the upcoming FEMA efforts were provided in the October 10, 2018 agenda packet. This entire FEMA effort for the four study areas is free to the County and City and results will be released near June 2020.

Matt Horn, City Engineer, reported that the City is currently developing a 2D flood model that studies San Luis Obispo Creek from Madonna Road to Froom Creek. The study compliments the FEMA efforts for the San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed with results likely available to FEMA September 2019 to February 2020.

Mladen Bandov and County Staff will update the Committee at the next meeting that summarizes the objectives and budget of a County run program for identifying priorities and performing creek maintenance activities south of the city limits.

City Staff will complete a site assessment of the Filipponi Ecological Preserve to visually assess threats within the creek.

Mladen Bandov invited Committee members and the Public to participate in the FEMA data collection process by providing data, photos, etc. to FEMA to aid FEMA in their efforts.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Future Agenda Items

- County Run Project and Creek Maintenance Program
- Bob Jones Pathway Extension
- Election Appointments

Wayne Peterson adjourns the meeting at 3:15 PM