

ZONE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SUMMARY NOTES OF THE WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, May 3, 2018
4:00 p.m.

Directors present:

President Greci
Director Palmer
Director Figuers (absent)

Staff Present:

Valerie Pryor, Carol Mahoney, Joe Seto, Jeff Tang

President Greci called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

1. There were no comments from the public.
2. **Update on the Stream Management Master Plan (SMMP) Amendment**

Zone 7 Associate Engineer, Jeff Tang, provided a presentation detailing an overview of recent activities regarding the amendment. Major changes from the 2006 version of the Stream Management Master Plan (SMMP) include: Creation of a valley-wide hydrologic and hydraulic model, review of existing projects, creation of new projects based on the new modeling information, recommendations for removal of projects based on completion, modification, or other issues, and updating of costs. Some projects in the 2006 SMMP were included to support and show coordination with the planning efforts from external agencies. For example, projects that involved the installation of trails only, were not recommended to be included in the latest amendment or cost estimates. Another change is with respect to “localized” flooding projects that have some benefit to localized areas, such as the J-lines in Dublin, but do not benefit the overall flood system. These projects are proposed to be funded at 50% of estimated costs to allow for partnerships with local floodplain managers and to seek grants. Likewise, a proposed project in Reach 12, which drains to the San Joaquin Valley, is recommending a landowner grant assistance program, similar to what was implemented by the Board on Arroyo de la Laguna. Staff have been meeting with regulatory agencies and local floodplain managers regarding the proposed amendment over the past few years and during model development. Staff intends to discuss the latest modifications with the stakeholders prior to seeking Board approval.

Director Palmer inquired if the trails only projects would just be removed or coordinated with local parks districts, to which Mr. Tang replied that it had always been the intent of Zone 7 that the trails and other recreational features would have been funded and maintained by organizations that had recreation as a part of their mission. Zone 7 will continue to coordinate with the park districts and make the access roads along the Zone 7 owned section of channels available for access and trails, where appropriate.

Director Greci wanted clarification on the relationship of the Medeiros Parkway Project and the flooding caused by Holmes Street bridge – particularly how Zone 7 could coordinate with the City of Livermore. Mr. Tang explained that the city does not have plans to replace the bridge at

this time, and replacement of the bridge would be necessary to facilitate the downstream project in Granada Reach. Carol Mahoney added that the implementation of the Medeiros Parkway project would reduce flood risk at Holmes Street bridge. Director Greci inquired about the cost differences between the 2006 plan and the amendment. Mr. Tang pointed out that the 2006 SMMP included project costs from all elements proposed in a project regardless of whether they were Zone 7's responsibility or others. The Amendment is seeking to clarify those projects and elements that would be the financial responsibility of Zone 7. Other elements could also be funded through grants. Director Greci stated that Zone 7 needs to have strong interaction with the other responsible agencies to help all involved understand the challenges of managing the stream system for stormwater flow, erosion, and environmental concerns. He stated that we need to focus on slowing the speed of flow down to prevent erosion and flooding – particularly through the Chain of Lakes projects, but also through upstream areas.

A member of the public, Mr. Dennis Gambs, asked if projects would be developed from the geomorphic study that is a part of the EPA grant funding for that section of Reach 10 of the SMMP on the Arroyo de la Laguna. Mr. Tang indicated that results for this geomorphic evaluation would inform later discussions, but that the hope was that this could lead to future opportunities for grants or collaboration on a solution. Mr. Gambs suggested that Zone 7 should take a proactive role in channel stabilization on the Arroyo de la Laguna by preventing further down-cutting and erosion through systematic solutions like the Chain of Lakes detention.

Director Palmer asked about the projects that were considered “localized” and how those could be funded. She asked if these could be considered under Proposition 1 or other grant funding. Ms. Mahoney stated that the latest grant round for Proposition 1 was focusing on disadvantaged communities, but that staff continue to monitor grant opportunities. Ms. Palmer also stated that Zone 7 will need to continue to create project elements that are permissible through regulatory agencies. She stated she was concerned that land-use agencies and private developers are not taking stormwater and flooding seriously enough, which is where the Liaison Committee meetings could be of use in creating a valley-wide plan that delineates roles and responsibilities with respect to streams and development projects – especially since Zone 7 ultimately receives the blame for the challenges created by development.

Director Greci added that the land-use planning agencies should work more closely with Zone 7 if, for no other reason, than to minimize future emergencies. He also noted that developers are passing the cost of long-term maintenance on to those that buy or rent, when some of the solutions could be as simple as leaving room for streams to meander and stormwater to spread out.

Mr. Gambs stated that he would like to see the source of funding for each project in the final document and that the long-term maintenance costs should be balanced with the needs.

3. No verbal reports were provided.

President Greci adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.