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Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 9:31 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Flood Protection, Item 8b on tonights Board mtg Agenda

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Zone 7 Board and Staff: A comment on tonights agenda item 8b.

I note your Item 8b on your agenda for tonight's Board meeting is for help with flood issues, including “. . . early storm/flood warning . . .” You may want to discuss the importance of early notification/warning.

Recent news article on the Spanish mega flood (30” rainfall, >than the average ANNUAL rainfall) said that with a 2 hour earlier flood warning many of the >200 dead would be alive. A reminder of the importance of notifying early. Warning **TIME** is important.

A mega flood on Arroyo del Valle 150 sq mi watershed means Del Valle Reservoir would overflow (uncontrollable outflow) the emergency spillway lip, like it did the Oroville Reservoir spillway lip a few years ago.

A mega size storm of ANNUAL size above DVRes would be a >21” rainfall storm. DVRes is designed to, & nicely has for >50 years, contain a 17” 3 day storm. Contain means releasing <7,500 cfs, which is just below Arroyo del Vale channel capacity. — — Uncontrolled outflow above 7,500 cfs and Arroyo del Valle floods. At this point DVRes inflow is (per USACOE 1961 design, & as built) ~23,500 cfs. Way more than 7,500 cfs. Unfortunately we can now expect such storms 2–3 times more often, hence this comment.

It takes <3 hours for uncontrollable mega flood water from DVRes to flow down Arroyo del Valle channel and flood west Pleasanton. DWR notifies us when they make flood releases, and presumably will when uncontrolled flow starts. So add 2-3 hours to DWR notified time and you have the “warning” **TIME** that folks living in the ~10,000 acre west Pleasanton floodplain could get before getting wet feet. Pretty short time. What is it?

I live in Pleasanton. My wife drove thru a foot of water on Santa Rita Rd in 1955. I once built a raft to get to grade school in 1940s, learned about reservoir flood hyetographs and hydrographs & FEMA in 1950s, and worked planning reservoirs and on flood watch team & onsite flood responder, at DWR in 1960s as a professional Civil Engineer. In 1970s wrote for the County EIR the detrimental effects of gravel pits on groundwater, and their beneficial use for flood control. I don't like floods.

Bottom line. Tonight you may want to address the warning **TIME** issue with the 8b consultant. Are they familiar with the three ways Zone 7 can use to estimate (& warn/notify) the **TIME** a mega flood will flood Pleasanton? The three: assume DWR/Feds will tell us; use realtime internet data; and, likely the best,

use a HEC reservoir flood routing model. (I recognize Arroyo Mocho & other drainage areas also contribute to the 400 sq mi Valley watershed area runoff.)

Since, fortunately, Zone 7 can rather easily use/do all three ways this winter, you might, if necessary, want to have the consultant work with Zone 7 to actually use ways 2 & 3. And work with Pleasanton re public warning times. — — My experience is that DWR has one of the best state flood warning system in USA. And, the Delta Field Division is top notch and will notify promptly after they are told or determines time & size of uncontrolled DVRes flood outflow. But, who at DWR determines, the hour when it will, & how is it determined?? And DFD may not be aware that when water overflows spillway lip, the devastation caused because the uncontrolled outflow cfs & volume may very suddenly TRIPLE.

It would be prudent for Zone 7 to estimate the time when mega flooding could/would occur without relying only on State notifications.

Most respectful regards,
Ken Henneman 12/18/24