
File No.: 17-0255

Agenda Date: 4/25/2017

Item No.: *7.1.

SUPPLEMENTAL BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

Recommended Position on Federal Legislation: HR 1269 (LaMalfa) - Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act, Support Request for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program, *and S 698 (Cantwell) - National Landslide Preparedness Act.

REASON FOR SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM:

The District's staff analysis and recommendation to support S 698 (Cantwell) - National Landslide Preparedness Act was not made in time for the original board agenda memo submission date.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Adopt a position of support on HR 1269 (LaMalfa) - Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act;
- B. Adopt a position of support for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program;
and
- C. *Adopt a position of support on S 698 (Cantwell) - National Landslide Preparedness Act.

SUMMARY:

***S 698 (Cantwell) - National Landslide Preparedness Act**

Recommendation: Support

Priority Recommendation - 2

This legislation establishes a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards and establishes a national 3D Elevation Program.

The bill establishes a National Landslide Hazards Reduction Program under the Department of the Interior. The program's intent is to identify and understand landslide hazards and risks, reduce losses from landslides, to protect communities at risk of landslide hazards, and help improve communication and emergency preparedness, including by coordinating with communities and entities responsible for infrastructure that are at risk of landslide hazards.

The program will establish an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Landslide Hazards which will

coordinate with Federal agencies to identify, map, assess, and research landslide hazards, respond to landslide events, and coordinate with States and Indian tribes to identify regional and local priorities.

A national strategy for landslide hazards and risk reduction in the United States will be developed, and a national landslide database will be developed. Landslide hazard and risk preparedness resources will be developed for communities working to improve landslide hazard preparedness.

As part of the program, the early warning system for flash floods and debris flow warning system will be expanded and emergency response activities will be established for rapid deployment of Federal scientists, equipment, and service to areas impacted by a significant landslide event.

The legislation establishes a 3D Elevation Program to provide 3D elevation data coverage for the United States. 3D elevation data is 3D high-resolution data.

Finally, a grant program may be provided to State, local, and tribal governments to research, map, assess, and collect data on landslide hazards.

Status:

S 698 was introduced on March 22, 2017 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation committee.

Importance to the District:

The Casa Loma landslide is located above the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Chesbro Reservoir. The National Landslide Preparedness Act may provide additional data to understand the hazard and risk it poses to the reservoir.

Pros:

- Creates an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Landslide Hazards which will coordinate with Federal agencies to identify, map, assess, and research landslide hazards, respond to landslide events, and coordinate with States and Indian tribes to identify regional and local priorities.
- Creates a national strategy for landslide hazards and risk reduction in the United States and a national landslide database.
- Expands the early warning system for flash floods and debris flow.
- Establishes a 3D Elevation Program.
- Establishes a grant program to research, map, assess, and collect data on landslide hazards.
- Research and data from this program may benefit the District in providing data to assess the risk that the Casa Loma landslide poses to Chesbro Reservoir.

Cons:

None identified at this time.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this item.

CEQA:

The recommended action does not constitute a project under CEQA because it does not have a potential for resulting in direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Rick Callender, 408-630-2017