



TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: NORMA J. CAMACHO

CEO BULLETIN

Week of September 16 – 22, 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Upper Berryessa Creek Flood Risk Management Project Community Meeting**
- 3 Update on the Partnership with Our City Forest to Replace Lawns in Santa Clara County**
- 3 Fluoridation to begin at Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant**
- 4 32nd Annual Coastal Cleanup Day**

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS

None to Report

Board Policy EL-7: Communication and Support to the Board

The BAOs inform and support the Board in its work.

Further, a BAO shall:

Inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established.

Report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Upper Berryessa Creek Flood Risk Management Project Community Meeting

On Monday, September 12, 2016, the water district and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) hosted a neighborhood meeting for Milpitas residents regarding the Upper Berryessa Creek Flood Risk Management Project. Construction of this project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2016.

The Upper Berryessa Creek Flood Risk Management Project encompasses approximately 2.2 miles of Berryessa Creek from Calaveras Boulevard to Interstate 680 and prevents potential damages from a 100-year flood event exceeding \$528 million (2011 value). A 100-year flood has a one- percent chance of occurring in any given year or the likelihood of occurring once every 100 years. Approximately 500 businesses and homes would be affected.

Meeting notices were sent to over 500 residents and businesses and notifications were provided to local homeowner associations near the project site. The purpose of the meeting was to engage and update the community on the current status of the project and to listen to any public concerns.

Director Santos attended this meeting and welcomed the public with opening comments and remarks. USACE staff presented information on the project's background and benefits, schedule and key construction features. The majority of the meeting allotted time for public comments and questions.

Project Details

The Upper Berryessa Creek Flood Risk Management Project offers an opportunity to increase flood protection and stabilize the channel banks. Upper Berryessa Creek has a history of flooding, having experienced major events within the project area in 1982, 1983, and 1998. To date, the creek has a 25 percent chance of flooding each year.

Main Project features include:

1. Enlarged trapezoidal channel to increase flow capacity during storm events;
2. Bank protection including riprap at base and vegetated erosion control blankets on upper bank;
3. Replacement of existing Union Pacific Railroad trestle bridges located north of Montague Expressway and the confluence with Piedmont Creek;
4. Floodwalls on west bank south of Montague Expressway and between Los Coches and Piedmont creeks;
5. Maintenance roads on both sides of channel; and
6. Planting of wetlands vegetation in channel to replace removed vegetation.

For further information, please contact Ngoc Nguyen at (408) 630-2632.

Update on the Partnership with Our City Forest to Replace Lawns in Santa Clara County

On September 22, 2015, the board authorized the CEO to execute an agreement with Our City Forest (OCF) to provide \$340,000 to fund OCF's Lawn Conversion Program (Program).

The Program, also known as the Lawn Busters Program, is designed to provide a low cost, expedient option for low-income, elderly, disabled or veteran homeowners and institutions within disadvantaged communities throughout Santa Clara County.

In targeting these hard-to-reach sectors, the Program is intended to help the water district meet its short-term drought response goals as well as its long-term water conservation goals. By partnering with OCF, the water district is able to leverage resources to implement the Program in the most cost-effective way.

The water district provides OCF \$2.00 for each square foot of lawn conversion; up to 170,000 square feet. Homeowners/clients are required to pay \$100-\$500/1,000 square feet of converted turf, depending on the package of services selected.

OCF funds the remainder of the Program and employs AmeriCorps service members to comprise the majority of its employees for this Program. OCF, which was selected by the Corporation for National and Community Service (the federal administrator for AmeriCorps programs across the country) to receive a Programming and Service Award, received \$214,000 in federal grant funding for its AmeriCorps service members working on this Program.

OCF projects that by end of the current agreement, it will have successfully completed 79 individual turf conversion projects, totaling 79,706 square feet of turf grass removed. As the original target in the agreement was to convert 170,000 square feet of irrigated turf grass, OCF will achieve only about 50 percent of the original target due to unforeseen staffing and vehicle constraints arising from less than anticipated lot sizes.

With a reconfiguration of its staff schedule and tasks, OCF is now managing the Program more efficiently and successfully. In order to achieve its original target, OCF formally requested an extension of the term of the agreement for an additional year and is confident that it can reach its turf conversion target by September 30, 2017. The agreement is currently in the process of being extended to September 30, 2017, or until funding is depleted, whichever occurs first.

For further information, please contact Garth Hall at (408) 630-2750.

Fluoridation to begin at Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant

Construction is nearing completion of the fluoridation facilities at the Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant. Areas served by the treatment plant will begin receiving fluoridated water starting as soon as December 5, 2016.

Additionally, because the Penitencia Water Treatment Plant will be off-line for eight months, areas typically served by Penitencia will begin to receive fluoridated water from the Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant at the same time.

Under guidance from the California Division of Drinking Water, required notification procedures are taking place. A notification letter from California's State Dental Director Jayanthe V. Kumar

and Santa Clara County Public Health Officer Sara Cody will be mailed to all prescribing dentists, physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and pharmacists in Santa Clara County. This letter will advise that residents living in ZIP codes that receive any level of fluoridation should not be prescribed additional fluoridation supplements in the form of tablets or drops.

A special contact number has been set up by the State of California Department of Public Health to answer the public's questions about fluoride in drinking water. Health and dental inquiries about fluoride should be directed to 1-(844)-435-8420.

Each of the three water retailers affected by this change, San Jose Water Company, San Jose Municipal Water System, and the City of Milpitas, are informing their customers directly. A majority of San Jose Water Company's service area will remain unfluoridated at this time. Consumers served by San Jose Municipal Water System will experience no change as the system has been fluoridated since the 1960s. The entire city of Milpitas, which is also served with fluoridated water from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, will now be fully fluoridated.

The water district's website is updated with current information on fluoridation:
<http://www.valleywater.org/services/Fluoridation.aspx>.

In addition, the water district will be finalizing an informational flyer, placing ads in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese newspapers, issuing a news release, and posting information on the water district's social media sites.

For further information, please contact Chris Elias at (408) 630-2379.

32nd Annual Coastal Cleanup Day

The water district, in partnership with the Creek Connections Action Group, coordinated another successful countywide cleanup event on Saturday, September 17, 2016.

From Palo Alto to Gilroy, 43 sites participated in this year's Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD). A total of 1,883 volunteers cleaned 60.75 miles of creek and shoreline removing approximately 27.5 tons of trash and over three tons of recyclables.

In 2015, CCD had fifty confirmed cleanup sites throughout Santa Clara County. However, the number of volunteers increased by fifty-four individuals, along with an additional three tons of trash and almost two tons of recyclables removed from our waterways compared to last year's results. This year's Coastal Cleanup Day was the largest volunteer attendance to date.

The volunteer turnout included water district Director Linda LeZotte, who co-hosted a site in San José on Ross Creek. Additionally, the water district's Water Education Program sponsored a cleanup site behind the water district headquarters along a stretch of Guadalupe River. In addition to water district employees and local residents, executive managers, Interim CEO Norma Camacho and Deputy Ravi Subramanian, joined in the clean-up effort at this site.

Other participating organizations included San José Fairmont, San Jose Sailing Club, GreenTown Los Altos, Grassroots Ecology, Rotary Club of San Jose, Forest Hill Elementary, various Boy/Girl and Cub Scout troops, South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition, West Valley Clean

Water Program, Star Fellowship, and various other cities and agencies.

Some of the interesting items found this year include a DVD of Jersey Shore: Season 1, carpet padding, books, large knife, shopping carts, bike frames, suitcase, half a laptop, bucket with dry cement, weapon prop, milk crate, irrigation timers, wood, tires, mattresses, three vacuum cleaners, sixty whiskey bottles, porcelain toilet tank, pressure cooker, van seat, bowling ball, wood pallet, wedding cake topper, shovel, propane tank, homemade PVC rocket, Chinese lanterns, baby stroller, rat traps, lawn chairs, soccer balls, shotgun shell (live), garbage can lids, trays, bag of new hypodermic needles, mustache tape, and a heart shaped stuffed animal.

For further information, please contact Chris Elias at (408) 630-2379.

.....