

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Executive Director

Herbert I. Nakasone

SARFPA FULL AGENCY MEETING MINUTES

Members

City of Anaheim
City of Buena Park
City of Cypress
City of Fountain Valley
City of Fullerton
City of Garden Grove
City of Huntington Beach
City of Irvine
City of Newport Beach
City of Orange
City of Placentia
City of Santa Ana
City of Seal Beach
City of Stanton
City of Tustin
City of Westminster
City of Yorba Linda
County of Orange
Costa Mesa Sanitary District
O C Sanitation District
O C Flood Control District
O C Water District

June 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Attendance/Attendees:

Barbara Delgleize, SARFPA Chairwoman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Huntington Beach
Stacy Berry, SARFPA Vice-Chairwoman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Cypress
Steve Faessel, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Anaheim
Cathy Green, First Vice-President, Orange County Water District
Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
James Tyler, SARFPA Executive Committee, OC Public Works, Alt. to Supervisor Don Wagner
Kim Constantine, Council Member, City of Fountain Valley
Bruce Whitaker, Mayor, City of Fullerton
Austin Lombard, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Tustin
Rudy Emami, Public Works Director, City of Anaheim
Stephen Faessel, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Anaheim
Alyce Van Hong, Council Member, City of Stanton
Kevin O'Toole, Orange County Water District
Johnathan, Hernandez, Director, Orange County Sanitation District
James McConnell, SARFPA's Washington DC Advocate
Jordan Brandman, Director, Orange County Water District
Kelly Rowe, Director, Orange County Water District
Marwan Youssef, City Manager, City of Westminster
Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District
Nardy Khan, Infrastructure Programs, Deputy Director, OC Public Works
Herb Nakasone, SARFPA Executive Director
Pipit Widjaja, Assistant to SARFPA Executive Director
Francisco Barajas, Legislative Coordinator, OC Public Works
Jennifer Shook, OC Environmental Resources, OC Public Works
Kim Nguyen, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Garden Grove

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 4048
Santa Ana, CA 92702-4048

Email Address:

Herb.Nakasone@ocpw.ocgov.com
hinakasone22@gmail.com

Phone

(714) 647-3938
(949) 922-1852

Location

601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana CA 92701

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District.

3. Approval of May 27, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved unanimously on Motion by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Second by Cathy Green, First Vice-President, Orange County Water District.

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

4. Report from Washington D.C., Advocate Jim McConnell

- a. James McConnell reported the Budget appropriation process is moving slowly as the new administration begins to put a new budget for FY 22 together.
- b. As far as the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project, Jim reports the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has sufficient funding to continue construction of projects underway.
- c. In regards the Westminster Project, the County is now focused on the Budget approval process since the USACE will be able to release its Work Plan once the Federal Budget is approved. Funding to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Design (PED) on the Westminster Project is needed. The County is lobbying the USACE to include \$500,000.00 in the Work Plan to prepare the PED for the Westminster Project.
- d. Without the PED and the accompanying Project construction cost for the Westminster Project, Jim McConnell reports the USACE will not be able request a New Start for the Westminster Project.
- e. Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize asked Jim if he anticipated funding to arrive by the fall of this year. Jim reported funding for the Santa Ana River will continue from prior year budget appropriations but funding for the Westminster Project will require approval of the FY 22 Budget.
- f. Kelly Rowe mentioned he was pleased to see the USACE begin the process for the construction of the Santiago Creek segment of the Santa An River Mainstem and requested the County to post information on one of its Web sites for the public to review the proposed project.

5. Proposed SARFPA FY 21-22 Budget - Executive Director:

Executive Director Herbert I. Nakasone presented the proposed SARFPA FY 21-21 Budget to the General Membership as recommend for approval by the Executive Committee. Executive Director Nakasone reported the total proposed FY 21-22 Budget of \$35,850.00 is the same amount as the previous year and does not expect and additional expenditures for the upcoming Fiscal Year. The proposed Budget was available for review on the Zoom screen and was also email to all members with the meeting Notice. The yearly dues of \$1,300.00 for FY 21-22 will remain at \$1,300.00. On Motion by Stacy Berry, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Cypress and Second by Cathy Green, First Vice-President, Orange County Water District, the FY 21-22 SARFPA Budget, attached to these Minutes, was unanimously approved.

6. Election of SARFPA FY 21-22 Executive Committee:

Per the SARFPA By Laws the election for the SARFPA FY 21-22 Executive Committee was administered by Executive Director Herbert Nakasone.

- a. Executive Director Herbert Nakasone reported that the current FY 20-21 Executive Committee, acting as the Nominating Committee, recommended the existing members of Executive Committee along with the current Chairwoman and Vice-Chairwoman be nominated to serve for FY 21-22.
- b. Per the Executive Director, the FY 20-21 Executive Committee also nominated Bruce Whitaker, Mayor, City of Fullerton to be a candidate for the FY 21-22 Executive Committee.

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

- c. Executive Director Herbert Nakasone opened nominations to serve on the SARFPA Executive Committee to the General membership. No additional nominations were made from the members attending the Zoom meeting. The nominations were than Closed with no objections on Motion by Barbara Delgleize, Mayor Pro Tem City of Huntington Beach and Second by James Tyler, OC Public Works and alternate to Supervisor Don Wagner.
- d. The SARFPA members listed below were unanimously elected by the SARFPA members present to serve as the Chairwoman, Vice-Chairwoman and the Executive Committee for FY 21-22 on Motion by Cathy Green, First Vice-President, Orange County Water District and Second by James Tyler, OC Public Works, alternate for Supervisor Don Wagner.

Officers:

Barbara Delgleize, SARFPA Chairwoman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Huntington Beach
Stacy Berry, SARFPA Vice-Chairwoman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Cypress

Executive Committee Members:

Stephen Faessel, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Anaheim
Cathy Green, First Vice-President, Orange County Water District
Patrick Harper, Council Member, City of Fountain Valley
Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
James Tyler, Manager OC Public Works, Alternate for Supervisor Don Wagner
Bruce Whitaker, Mayor, City of Fullerton.

7. Report from O.C. Public Works on Santa Ana River Mainstem and Westminster Project Status:

Santa Ana River Mainstem Project:

The Santa Ana River Mainstem Project (SARP) status was reported by James Tyler, Engineering Manager, OC Public Works, and Alternate representative on SARFPA for Supervisor Don Wagner. James reported the status of the SARP using a Power Point presentation as shared on the Zoom screen as follows:

- a. James Tyler reminded everyone that the features remaining on the \$2.8 billion SARP include work at Prado Dam, bank protection through the Santa Ana Canyon and work on Santiago Creek.
- b. Projects at Prado Dam include the Norco Bluff bank protection project which was recently awarded to CJW Contractors for \$29.7 million. The other projects at Prado Dam yet to be under construction include the Alcoa Dike, River Road Dike and the Prado Dam Spillway. The Prado Dam Spillway Project is scheduled for construction in FY 22.
- c. Projects in the Santa Ana Canyon reach of the River include the recently completed AT&SF Railroad Bridge Pier Protection Project and the Reach 9 Phase 4 bank protection along the Northerly reach of the River adjacent the City of Yorba Linda. Currently underway is the bank protection project adjacent and upstream from the recently completed Reach 9 Phase 4 project. The completion of the AT&SF Railroad pier protection and the bank protection projects in the Santa Ana Canyon reach of the River now allows for the release of the design discharge from Prado Dam of 30,000 cubic feet per second (cfs).
- d. The acquisition of properties to be inundated from the raising of Prado Dam is progressing and was recently reduced to 51 properties after it was determined by

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

the USACE that 194 properties could be illuminated due to their minimum inundation potential.

- e. James reported the USACE approved the removal the 194 properties for easement acquisitions when the question was raised by Kelly Rowe, Director OCWD.
- f. James also inform Stephen Faessel, Mayor Pro Tem City of Anaheim that the continuation of Santa Ana River bike trail system adjacent the Alco Dike project desired by the Santa Ana River Conservancy is being planned to be included with the Alco Dike project.

Westminster Project:

- a. James Tyler provided a brief over view of the Westminster Project by explaining that this watershed has the second largest floodplain in Orange County after the Santa Ana River floodplain with an exposure of \$72 million in flood damages in accordance with the study conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers(USACE). The goal of this joint project between the USACE and the Orange County Flood Control District is to provide 100 year level of flood protection and removal of the existing floodplain that requires more than 5 thousand mandatory flood insurance premiums totaling in excess of \$9 million per year to residents in six impacted cites. The impacted cities include Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Garden Grove, Westminster, Seal Beach and Santa Ana.
- b. The proposed cooperative project identified as the Locally Preferred Project (LPP) will provide a 100-year level of flood protection when completed. James indicated the USACE is currently awaiting funding for preparing a Preconstruction, Engineering and Design (PED) report which is needed to seek “new start” construction funding from the Office of Management and Budget on the project. The \$500,000 funding for the PED is anticipated to be included in the FY 22 USACE Work Plan which will be release upon adoption of the FY 22 President’s Budget scheduled for adoption by October 1, 2021. Per Francisco Barajas, OC Public Works Legislative Coordinator, the Board of Supervisors have been meeting with its congressional delegation and the USACE Headquarters to secure inclusion of the \$500,000 PED funding in the USACE Work Plan for FY 22.
- c. James also reported that the OCFCD is moving ahead to construct a segment of the East Garden Grove Wintersburg flood channel in 2022, which is part of the cooperative LPP with the USACE. By moving forward on the Project, the County anticipates receiving local funding credits for its share of the project cost upon its approval by Congress.
- d. In regards AB 781 sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Daly to seek State Subvention funding, Francisco Barajas reported that the Bill has been moving through the various Assembly Committees and does not anticipate any problems.

8. Report from Executive Director Herb Nakasone:

- a. Meeting with OC Board of Supervisor Andrew Do: Herb Nakasone reported the meeting with Chairman Do included Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize, Stephen Faessel, Marwan Youssef, Francisco Barajas, and Herb Nakasone. Herb reported the meeting’s purpose was to introduce the SARFPA organization to the Chairman and to request his support for the Westminster Project. Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize conveyed to the Chairman the large number of residents in Huntington

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Beach who are paying mandatory flood insurance premiums per year and that the Westminster Project would provide the needed flood protection and remove the need for mandatory flood insurance. The Chairman voiced his support for the Westminster Project and requested SARFPA to also assist the County in seeking federal funding for the Project. Stephen Faessel mention he was pleased that the Chairman was well versed on the Project and supported its implementation.

- b. Santiago Creek Project briefing by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
Herb reported the USACE staff from the Chicago District provided a briefing on June 3, 2021 to SARFPA members on their proposed schedule to review previously prepared data on the Santiago Creek Project and initiate design on the Project. The USACE anticipates it will need a year to complete an initial design proposal. Staffs from the cities of Santa Ana, Orange and Villa Park along with the Orange County Water District and OC Public Works participated in the presentation by the USACE in the OCWD Hearing room.
- c. Executive Director Herb Nakasone reported the key SARFPA business activities such as the Budget and Election of Officers for FY 21-22 have been completed and suggested the July 22 Executive Committee meeting be cancelled. Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize along with members present concurred with the recommendation. The next SARFPA meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 23, 2021. Information on whether the meeting will be in person or via Zoom will be included in the Meeting Notice.

9. Public and Representative Comments:

No comments were received.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency