

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Executive Director

Herbert I. Nakasone

SARFPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 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

March 24, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Attendance/Attendees:

Patrick Harper, SARFPA Vice-Chairman, Council Member, City of Fountain Valley
Bruce Whitaker, SARFPA Executive Committee, Mayor, City of Fullerton
James Tyler, SARFPA Executive Committee, OC Public Works, Alt. to Supervisor Don Wagner
Jon Peat, Mayor, City of Cypress
Jake Ngo, Public Works Director, City of Westminster
Tri Ta, Mayor, City of Westminster
Charlie Nguyen, Council Member, City of Westminster
Kim Constantine, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fountain Valley
Kelly Rowe, Director, Orange County Water District
Mike Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District
Kevin O'Toole, Orange County Water District
Steve Myrter, Public Works Director, City of Seal Beach
Keith Linker, Principal Engineer, City of Anaheim
Jonathan Hernandez, Director, OC Sanitation District, Council Member, City of Santa Ana
Pipit Widjaja, OC Public Works
Catherine Lapid, Flood Programs, OC Public Works
Penny Lew, Flood Programs, OC Public Works
Herb Nakasone, Executive Director, Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

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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 Patrick Harper, SARFPA Vice-Chairman and Mayor, City of Fountain Valley.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Johnathan Hernandez, Director, Orange County Sanitation District and Council Member City of Santa Ana.

3. Approval of January 27, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the January 27, 2022 Zoom Agency Meeting were unanimously approved on Motion by Jon Peat, Mayor, City of Cypress and Second by Jonathan Hernandez, Director, Orange County Sanitation District.

4. Federal and State Legislative Report: OC Public Works Staff

- a. Francisco Barajas, OC Public Works Legislative Coordinator reported the OC Public Works staff is working on initiating legislation to seek funding for the State Subvention Program. The currently adopted State Subvention Program reimburses seventy percent of the local government's share of a federal

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funded water resources project such as the Westminster East Garden Grove (WEGG) project. However, the State Subvention Program does not have sufficient funding and needs legislation to fund the program. OC Public Works staff is working on gathering a coalition of local governments with similar subvention funding needs to initiate legislation to fund the Subvention Program.

- b. In regards Federal legislation, Francisco reported OC Public Works is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to have funding included in the proposed Presidents 2021-22 Budget to accomplish the Planning Engineering Design (PED) Report for the Westminster East Garden Grove (WEEG) Project. The PED Report is needed for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to consider initial funding of the WEGG Project.

5. Adoption of preliminary SARFPA Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget: Executive Director

Executive Director Herb Nakasone presented a preliminary SARFPA FY 2022-23 Budget for review by the Executive Committee for its consideration and recommendations. A copy of the Preliminary Budget is attached to these Minutes. Executive Director Herb Nakasone indicated the proposed Budget was identical to the current FY 2021-22 Budget with sufficient income to cover the proposed expenditures. The Executive Committee concurred in proceeding to have the Proposed FY 2022-23 SARFPA Budget be submitted for approval during the May Executive Committee Meeting.

6. Santa Ana River Mainstem and Westminster Project Status: James Tyler, OC Public Works

Santa Ana River Mainstem Project (SARP):

- a. James Tyler provided an update of the SARFP activities by reporting the Seven Oaks Dam and the Lower Santa Ana River features, which are two of the major features of the SARFP are essential completed with the exception of Santiago Creek project. The activities at Prado Dam are the remaining major features of the SARFP to be accomplished.
- b. Construction contracts were recently awarded in the Prado Dam basin for the Norco Bluffs, Alcoa Dike and River Road Dike projects.
- c. The Prado Dam spillway project is currently under design and scheduled for construction in FY 24.
- d. Projects in the Santa Ana River Canyon between Weir Canyon Road and Prado Dam recently completed were the Reach 9 Phase 4, Reach 9 Phase 5A bank protection projects and the AT and SF Railroad Bridge modification construction project. The Reach 9 Phase 5B bank protection project is scheduled for completion in July 2022.
- e. Property acquisition continues in the Prado Basin with 87 properties acquired and 25 remaining.
- f. Besides property acquisitions in the Prado Dam basin, utility relocations are required for the Edison Company along with seven other utilities owned by the cities of Chino, Corona, Norco, Eastville, and Special Districts SAWPA, IEUA and JCSD. Edison's relocations are the most costly and estimated to be \$142.5 million.

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The other seven utility relocations are estimated to be \$2.4 million. The utilities need to be relocated before construction is completed.

- g. The \$170 million Santiago Creek project in the lower Santa Ana River is undergoing a Design Review by the USACE. A presentation by the USACE to the Orange County Water District and the City of Santa Ana is scheduled on March 30, 2022.
- h. Due to a potential transfer of the management of the Prado Dam feature of the SARFP to the Tulsa Corps of Engineers District, the schedules for the Prado Dam projects may need to be adjusted. In regards the construction start of the Prado Dam spillway project, James indicated the local USACE has not provided any updated information.
- i. Mike Markus of the Orange County Water District understood the USACE allows for a 10,000 cfs gate release from Prado Dam and inquired on the potential for the change in discharges from Prado Dam upon completion of channel improvement downstream of the Dam. James Tyler indicated the potential exist for increases of outlet flows up to 30,000 cfs may be possible but changes to the USACE's Prado Dam operational manual will need to be amended before an increase in flows can be initiated.

Westminster East Garden Grove Project:

- a. James reminded SARFPA members the WEGG Project is intended to remove the largest remaining floodplain in Orange County from the 74 square mile watershed. James used Power Point slides for his presentation as explained below.
- b. The WEGG is a federally authorized Waters Resources project to be constructed under the direction of the USACE as a joint project between the USACE and the Orange County Flood Control District.
- c. The WEGG Project needs to receive appropriations(funding) from Congress before the USACE is allowed to initiate construction.
- d. The USACE needs to have \$500,000 included in the upcoming Presidents Budget to prepare a Planning Engineering Design(PED) Report which is need by the Office of Management and Budget to consider the Project as a New Start for Federal Appropriations.
- e. Francisco Barajas reports OCPW staff is working with the County's lobbyist to secure funding in the next Presidents Budget for preparation of the PED.
- f. James reported the County is continuing to schedule construction projects on reaches of the WEGG utilizing local funding in anticipation of receiving credit towards an anticipated USACE federally funded project.
- g. In regards to the possibility of removing portions of the FEMA floodplain as County projects are completed, OC Public Works staff reported incremental floodplains could be removed once channel improvements are completed on the East Garden Grove Wintersburg Channel between the tide gates and the 405 freeway.

7. Report from Executive Director Herbert Nakasone:

- a. Audit Status: The Audit on SARFPA annual financial records by the County Auditor is underway as required by the Joint Powers Agreement and should be completed by the May 26, 2022 SARFPA meeting.

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- b. SARFPA's Joint Powers Agreement: Herb Nakasone informed the Executive Committee that the SARFPA Joint Powers Agreement sets forth the purpose of SARFPA as an organization whose purpose is to seek funding for the Santa Ana River Main Stem Project and is an organization whose membership is voluntary. The members are generally Cities and Special Districts who receive flood protection and floodplain benefits from the construction of the Santa Ana River Main Stem Project.

The members may terminate the Joint Powers Agency upon reaching the goal of funding the completion of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project.

Herb Nakasone stated this report is for informational purpose and no action is need at this time.

8. Public and Representative Comments:

No comments were received from the Public or from SARFPA Representatives present.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM by Vice Chairman Patrick Harper, Mayor, City of Fountain Valley.

Attachment:

- Preliminary SARFPA FY 2022-23 Budget

SANTA ANA RIVER FLOOD PROTECTION AGENCY - FUND 787

ACCOUNT	FY 2021-22 BUDGET	FY 2021-22 Actuals as of March 31, 2022	FY 2021-22 Year End Projection	FY 2022-23 Proposed Budget
EXPENDITURES				
1900 Prof & Specialized Service	1,300	-		1,300
Executive Director	18,000	13,500	18,000	21,000
Washington DC Advocate / Other	6,000	3,000	3,000	-
1911 CWCAP	500	164	275	500
1912 Treasurers Investment Charges	50	30	50	50
2700 Transportation & Travel - Meetings	5,000	-	-	5,000
Total Services and Supplies	30,850	16,694	21,325	27,850
Increase To Reserve	4,328	-	-	10,675
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS	35,178	16,694	21,325	38,525
REVENUES				
Beginning Fund Balance Available	6,178	1,850	1,850	9,525
6610 interest	400	259	400	400
7130 Contrib From Other Agencies	28,600	27,300	28,600	28,600
Decrease to Reserve	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FINANCING	35,178	29,409	30,850	38,525
Ending Fund Balance Available	-	12,714	9,525	-
General Reserve Balance	60,349	64,677	64,677	75,352
REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS				
Members	22	22	22	22
Annual Membership Dues	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Income for the year for Memberships	28,600	28,600	28,600	28,600