

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

November 21, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance/Attendees:

Bruce Whitaker, SARFPA Chairman, Council Member, City of Fullerton
Janice Lim, SARFPA Executive Committee, Council Member, City of Yorba Linda
Frances Marquez, SARFPA Executive Committee, Council Member, City of Cypress
Pat Burns, Director, Orange County Sanitation District
Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Kathleen Treseder, Council Member, City of Irvine
Keith Linker, City Engineer, City of Anaheim
Jake Ngo, City Engineer, City of Westminster
Chris Olsen, Executive Director of Engineering, Orange County Water District
James Tyler, SARFPA Executive Committee, OC Public Works, Alt. to Supervisor Don Wagner
Herb Nakasone, Executive Director, Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

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(949) 922-1852

Location

601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana CA 92701

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Call to Order at 4:06 pm by Chairman Bruce Whitaker, Council Member City of Fullerton.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance: As requested by Chairman Bruce Whitaker, Pledge of Allegiance was led by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District.

3. Approve Minutes of September 26, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting

At the request of Chairman Bruce Whitaker, the Minutes were Approve on Motion by Pat Bruns, Director, Orange County Sanitation District and Second by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District. Abstention from Bruce Whitaker, Council Member, City of Fullerton.

4. Santa Ana River Mainstem and Westminster Project Status - James Tyler, Flood Programs Manager, OC Public Works.

James reported on the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project by a Power Point presentation utilizing the large screen available in the Orange County Water District Hearing Room. A printed copy of James' Power Point presentation was also made available to all members and guest present.

Santa Ana River Mainstem Project:

- a. James indicated the SARP is a joint project between the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD), the

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Riverside Flood Control District (RFCD) and the San Bernardino Flood Control District (SBFCD). The three flood control districts are identified as the Local Sponsors each of whom have signed a Local Cooperative Agreement with the USACE outlining their commitment and responsibilities in the implementation of the SARP.

- b. James identified the major features of the SARP on the Santa Ana River as the Seven Oaks Dam in San Bernardino County, the Prado Dam at the boundaries of Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties and the Lower Santa Ana River in Orange County. James reported Seven Oaks Dam and the Lower Santa Ana River features of the SARP are completed. The remaining construction features of the SARP underway as reported by James are three dike protection projects behind Prado Dam, the raising of the Prado Dam Spillway and improvements to the Santiago Creek Project in Orange County.
- c. The current construction completion dates and their cost of the three-dike protection features behind Prado are as follows:
 - FY 24-25: Norco Bluffs (\$29.7 M)
River Road Dike (\$18.1M)
Alcoa Dike – Phase 2 (\$30.8M)
 - FY 25: Begin construction on raising the height of the Prado Dam Spillway (1.35B)
 - FY 32: Construction Completion (All Features). James pointed out the start of construction of the Prado Dam Spillway is subject to acquisition of all real estate of properties behind Dam
 - FY 31-36: 5-year Monitoring & Fiscal Close Out
- d. James reported the one remaining property acquisition behind Prado Dam is under eminent domain discussions and the Edison Company power line utility relocations negotiations are currently under discussion with the Edison Company.
- e. Santiago Creek: The \$141M project is currently under Engineering Design Review (EDR) for Submittal to HQ USACE. James indicated Representative Correa has introduced language into the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to allow construction features at the Santiago Creek water percolation basins in the City of Orange to proceed separately from the lower Creek improvements. This addition to WRDA allows the USACE to prepare alternative designs on the lower Santiago Creek to address the request for the preservation of trees voiced by property adjacent the lower Santiago Creek.
- f. James reported the reimbursement process of the USACE to the OCFCD for real estate acquisition has hindered the OCFCD to continue property acquisitions. James indicated while the USACE has agreed to pay for the property acquisitions at Prado Dam, the OCFCD is first required to acquire the properties utilizing its funds and be reimbursed by the USACE upon approval of the acquisition cost. Due to delays in approval of the acquisition cost due to the USACE lengthy approval process, the County is also requesting HQ USACE to allow USACE Division level approval authority to \$20 million illuminating the approval of HQ USACE thereby accelerating the reimbursement approval process. In addition, the County is also requesting USACE authority to reimburse eminent domain deposits when there is an Order of Possession.

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- g. As reported by James, the USACE in their recent maintenance inspection of the SARP, it discovers a segment of the SARP westerly levee in the vicinity of I-5 and SR 22 freeways (Reach 5) was lower than the specified design height. According to James, the error was due to the dedication of excess OCFCD property behind the levee to another County Department who removed the levee to build a parking area for its operation. Due to the OCFCD actions, the OCFCD will design and construct a new levee to meet the required levee design height.

Westminster East Garden Grove Project:

James reported no new information was available on the Westminster East Garden Grove Project.

5. Report from Executive Director- Herb Nakasone

Executive Director Herb Nakasone provided a briefing on the purpose and function of the Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency (SARFPA) to remind members of their role in serving on SARFPA. Herb included an outline of his presentation in the folder provided to each member attending the meeting. The outline includes the key provisions of the SARFPA Bylaws which identifies its management structure and the manner by which SARFPA administers its activities. Herb suggested members may use the outline to explain the function and purpose of SARFPA when asked by their colleagues. The outline of Herbs presentation is attached to these Minutes.

6. Public and Representative Comments

Members thanked Bruce Whitaker, Council Member, City of Fullerton for his service as SARFPA Chairman and his many years serving on SARFPA's Executive Committee.

7. Adjournment – Chairman

Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Bruce Whitaker, Council Member, City of Fullerton at 5:02 pm.

Minutes attested by:

Herb Nakasone, Executive Director
Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Attachment: Outline of presentation by Herb Nakasone

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To: SARFPA Members

From: Herb Nakasone, Executive Director

The Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency (SARFPA) is a Joint Power Agency formed December 31, 1974 whose purpose is to:

1. Disseminate information on the flood hazard potential of the Santa Ana River and feasible plans for mitigating the flood threat
2. Solicit congressional authorization and appropriations for works of improvements
3. Provide information on the federal flood-insurance program as it relates to the flood hazard potential of the Santa Ana River
4. Participate to the extent feasible in the development of plans for mitigation of the flood threat.

Agency membership:

Mailing Address

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1. Participation in the 22 member Agency is voluntary
2. The Agency shall have a general meeting twice a year on the fourth Thursday in the months of June and November
3. The annual assessment for members shall be established by adoption of a Budget in the June meeting of the Agency.

Phone

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

FY 2024-25 Executive Committee:

1. Bruce Whitaker, Chairman, Council Member, City of Fullerton
2. Pat Burn, Vice-Chairman, Director, OC Sanitation District
3. Patrick Harper, Council Member, City of Fountain Valley
4. Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
5. James Tyler, Flood Programs Manager, OC Public Works, Alternate for Supervisor Don Wagner
6. Janice Lim, Council Member, City of Yorba Linda
7. Cathy Green, President, OC Water District
8. Francis Marquez, Council Member, City of Cypress

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