

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

September 19, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA

Attendance/Attendees:

Barbara Delgleize, SARFPA Executive Committee, Vice-Chairwoman; Councilwoman, City of Huntington Beach
Art Perry, SARFPA Executive Committee; Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Cathy Green, SARFPA Executive Committee; Director, Orange County Water District
Patrick Harper, SARFPA Executive Committee; Councilman, City of Fountain Valley
James Tyler, SARFPA Executive Committee; Engineering Manager, OC Public Works, Third District Alternate
Kelly Rowe, Director, Orange County Water District
Ahmad Zahr, Director, Orange County Water District, Councilman, City of Fullerton
Jordan Brandman, Director, Orange County Water District
Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District
Keith Linker, City Engineer, City of Anaheim
Marwan Youssef, Director of Public Works, City of Westminster
Nabil Saba, Engineer Manager, City of Santa Ana
Mona Shadia, Administrative Director, Supervisor Chaffee's office
Herbert Nakasone, Executive Director, SARFPA

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Location

300 N. Flower, Room 756
Santa Ana CA 92703

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 4:05 p.m. by Vice-Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize, Councilman, City of Huntington Beach.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Marwan Youssef, Director of Public Works, City of Westminster.

3. Approval of June 27, 2019, Full Agency Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the June 27, 2019, Full Agency Meeting were approved on a Motion by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Second by Cathy Green, Director, Orange County Water District.

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

Jim McConnell, who is under contract with the Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency (SARFPA), provided his report via the telephone as follows:

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- a. The Energy and Water Appropriations Bills have been placed on hold for the moment due to funding disagreement between the President and Congress on the Border Wall. Jim believes Continuing Resolutions will be adopted by Congress to keep the government funded until FY 2019-20 Appropriation Bills are adopted.
- b. Jim also reports that sufficient funding has been included in the current fiscal year to fund the Santa Ana River Mainstem (SARP) projects currently underway, and the funding for the Westminster Watershed Feasibility Study (Study). Jim indicated he will be meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the near future and will have more to report at our next meeting.
- c. Vice Chairwoman Barbara Delglieze reported to Jim that several SARFPA members had met with Representative Rouda on July 1, 2019, at his local office in Newport Beach, to convey SARFPA's interest in the Westminster East Garden Grove-Wintersburg Federal Flood Protection Project (Project) and requested his support for the Project. Representative Rouda acknowledged his interest in the Project based on discussions he had with the County of Orange staff and is committed towards supporting the Project for inclusion in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). Jim reported he has worked with Representative Rouda's new Chief of Staff, Andrew Noh and indicated Andrew is a very competent individual who is knowledgeable of the legislative process and will be helpful in assisting the County in including the Project in the WRDA.

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director, Herb Nakasone reported on the following items:

- a. July 1, 2019 meeting with U.S. Representative Rouda. The meeting was held at Representative Rouda's local office in Newport Beach with the following SARFPA members in attendance: Huntington Beach Councilwoman, Barbara Delglieze; Orange County Sanitation District Director, James Ferryman; City of Fountain Valley Councilman, Patrick Harper; City of Westminster Councilman, Chi Charlie Nguyen; City of Westminster Public Works Director, Mawan Youseff; Orange County Water District Director, Cathy Green; and SARFPA Executive Director Herb Nakasone. SARFPA members indicated to Representative Rouda the need for removing the existing floodplain in the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove and Santa Ana by implementing the Project, currently being proposed by the USACE and the County of Orange. Representative Rouda indicated he is aware of the Project and the need for including the it in the next federal WRDA and agreed as a member of the Water Resources and Environment Sub-Committee to take the lead in introducing the Project.
- b. Future meetings with U.S. Representative Lowenthal. Executive Director Herb Nakasone recommended scheduling a meeting with U.S. Representative Lowenthal to convey SARFPA's interest in the federal Project proposed by the USACE and the County of Orange, and for the Representative's support of the Project for inclusion in the next WRDA. SARFPA members agreed a meeting would be appropriate and suggested

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the Executive Director schedule such a meeting and include SARFPA city representatives directly affected by the Project.

- c. July 26, 2019 Prado Dam Tour. Executive Director Herb Nakasone reported the Prado Dam Tour held on July 26, 2019, included the following SARFPA members: Anaheim Councilman, Steve Faessel, Orange County Water District Director and Fullerton Councilman, Ahmad Zahra; City of Stanton Councilwoman, Hong Alyce Van; Outside attendees: Mona Shadia, Policy Advisor, Fourth District Office, Pamela Galera, Director of Parks, City of Anaheim, David Shawver, Chairman, Orange County Sanitation Department; and members of the Orange County Sheriff's Emergency Operations Center: Kevin McArthur, Senior Emergency Management Program Coordinator, Grace Zambrana, Harmon Ward, Pei Lee, Richard Nelson and Ross Caouette. The tour included a briefing of the dam construction and its operations during storm events. The tour also included walking onto the dam's large concrete spillway, the ten-story gate structure and its operation by the USACE during major storm flows, and its coordination with the storm discharge releases of Seven Oaks Dam in the foothills of San Bernardino County. The tour terminated with lunch at the Green River Golf Course after a drive by of the flood protection improvements underway at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad Bridge to accommodate the increase of flows resulting from the upgraded Prado Dam.
- d. SARFPA August 12, 2019 letter to USACE on the Project. A copy of the August 12, 2019 SARFPA letter to the USACE supporting the implementation of the Project signed by SARFPA Chairman James Ferryman and SARFPA Vice-Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize is attached.

6. Santa Ana River Mainstem (SARP) Construction Status and the Westminster Watershed Feasibility Study (Study)

James Tyler, Engineering Manager, OC Public Works (OCPW) provided an update on the status of Santa Ana River Mainstem (SARP) as follows:

- a. The projects currently underway in FY 19 are the BNSF bridge upgrades in the Santa Ana River Canyon and two remaining embankment improvement projects identified as Phase 4 and Phase 5b along Reach 9 of the Santa Ana River. The BNSF bridge upgrade project is estimated to cost \$71 million and is scheduled for completion in FY 2022.
- b. Construction projects in FY 20 scheduled by the USACE behind Prado Dam are the Norco Bluffs (\$50M), the River Road Dike (\$20M) and the Alcoa Dike-Phase 2 (\$10M) projects.
- c. For FY 21 the USACE anticipates initiating the Santiago Creek Project (\$134M) and improvements to the Prado Dam Spillway (\$70M).
- d. Prado Dam property acquisition continues to be pursued by the County and is currently working towards acquisitions by 2023 to meet the USACE schedule for completion of improvements at Prado Dam.

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6a. Status of the Westminster Watershed Feasibility Study (Study):

James Tyler indicated the USACE continues to work on completing the Study and is scheduled to have the Study completed by January of 2020. In anticipation of the Study being completed in January 2020, the County is coordinating with its Orange County U.S. Congressional delegation to have the Study and its recommended Project included in the WRDA.

7. Public and Representative Comments

No public comments were received.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. by Vice-Chairwoman Barbara Delgleize, Councilwoman, City of Huntington Beach.

Attachments:

1. Letter to USACE
2. Presentation by James Tyler, Manager OCPW on SARP and the Study

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