

PAC TECHNICAL GROUP MEETING

January 13, 2010
Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
3:30 – 5:00 pm

Attendees:

Fran Borcalli, floodSAFE Yolo
Stefan Loranzato, YCFCWCD
Mark Deven, City of Woodland
Rob Aragon, Conaway Pres. Group
Dave Pratt

Tim O'Halloran, YCFCWCD
Warren Westrup, Yolo County
Mark Cocke, City of Woodland
Donna Gentile, WRA

1. USACE / DWR Project Area Tour

Fran and Mark Deven participated in the field visit of the Cache Creek Flood Risk Project on December 22nd. It was very informative for USACE and DWR to physically visit the project area. It appears that the state/federal agency staff “got the message” from the local perspective and the tour was a good to build relationships between locals and the state/federal agency staff. Michelle Williams is now the USACE contact, replacing Katie Huff. The tour provided an opportunity for locals to answer questions. Fran followed up with a written response to their questions.

2. Federal (USACE) Appropriations FY 2011

- a) Cap-to-Cap: Bill Marble and Tim O'Halloran will be attending the Washington, DC Cap-to-Cap event this year. Fran inquired what assistance they needed in preparing the appropriations request. Tim reported on appropriations planning meetings held by the local teams working on mercury and flood issues. The appropriations requests are due in February to our State representatives (Herger, Feinstein). Participating PAC staff is still discussing the amount to request in conjunction with the USACE and DWR. Fran will coordinate the Cap-to-Cap package with Lynn Johnson from the City of Woodland as requested by Mark Deven.
- b) Coordination with USACE and DWR – Fran will be coordinating with these agencies.
- c) Congressional and Senatorial Coordination – Fran will be coordinating with these agencies.
- d) Coordination with County – Tim requested a conference call between participating County and PAC staff to ensure the best communication to complete the appropriations package.

3. USACE Feasibility Study – Cache Creek Flood Risk Reduction Project

- a) PMP including scope and budget – The document including scope and budget is near completion. The PMP is essential to initiating the feasibility study. The USACE understands that we really want to move forward with the study soon. The cost sharing agreement is still pending signature. Financial support for the local cost share needs to be demonstrated to guarantee financial ability. Fran will circulate the PMP to the PAC through Donna.
- b) Timeline – Fran distributed a proposed timeline to initiate the feasibility study.
- c) Cost sharing agreement – The PMP budget includes cost sharing amounts. The total project cost stated in the PMP is \$5.5 million with a study completion date of 2017. The non-federal cost share is \$2.7 million and the local agency share is half of that amount. floodSAFE Yolo has indicated to USACE/DWR that the locals want control of project management. The PAC

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discussed that if the locals could contract out some of the work, it would cost less and speed up the completion date.

- d) Public Outreach- floodSAFE Yolo would prefer to take the lead on the public outreach with USACE/DWR's participation. The PAC should start discussing how to approach the public outreach. The PAC agreed the first step to the overall strategy would be to conduct an informal dialog with landowners. The preference would be for the PAC to conduct the meetings instead of the consultant. The purpose of the dialog is to let them know what we are doing, educate and update them on existing conditions, and receive feedback from the landowners. Hopefully a townhall-type meeting would produce productive and open discussions. floodSAFE Yolo has a contract with LucyCo to conduct the public outreach, however, their staff has changed and the PAC should discuss how this would affect the public outreach goals.

4. Update on Delta Mercury TMDL

Stefan gave an update. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Sacramento Valley Region is planning on reviewing a draft Basin Plan amendment for the Delta Mercury TMDL in April. Required responses start after the Regional Board adopts the Basin Plan amendment and it is approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and Office of Administrative Law. floodSAFE Yolo submitted comments to the Board requesting load reduction allocations. Our comments were received positively, but they have declined to apply the load reduction allocations we requested. Stefan will meet with Regional Board staff to discuss, clarify and understand their interpretation of our request.

5. CVFMP – CVFPP Management Actions

Fran reported that the Regional Conditions workshops are coming to a conclusion and a definitive date is not set for resolution of the input compiled. The next step is inclusion of management actions into the Plan. Fran feels Yolo County made a strong case for including Cache Creek related-flood issues in the Plan. The Cache Creek Settling Basin is a critical component to effecting flood reduction for Sacramento. A summarizing document on existing conditions will be released at some point. Fran will forward to the PAC when it is final.

6. Other

Mark Devin inquired about the state of the floodSAFE Yolo budget. Tim indicated he was reviewing what has been spent to date and believes there is still money remaining from last year's contributions. If need be the partners will be invoiced for the next year's support of the pilot program.

Tim reported that Fran gave a floodSAFE Yolo program update at a recent WRA Board meeting. The cities of Davis and Winters were both encouraged to participate in the floodSAFE Yolo program financially, so they can benefit from identifying solutions for potential flood risks to their cities. Both cities responded favorably to the invitation.

The PAC agreed that the new Yolo County Administrative Officer should be briefed on the floodSAFE Yolo Pilot Program at some point in the near future.

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Stefan reported on the WRA Technical Committee's process for updating the IRWMP integrated actions. A status report is expected in March or April. Cache Creek Integrated Project and the Sloughs, Canals & Creeks Management Program are two of the integrated actions being updated.

Stefan reported that he is meeting with John Pritchard, Wood Rodgers, regarding the flood plain modeling including Willow Slough, regarding blending the topographic data collected by Yolo County and DWR during last year's Lidar data capture.

7. Next PAC Meeting: February 10, 2010, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Fran Borcalli, Program Manager