



San Diego County Flood Control District

GOVERNING BODY

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

AGENDA ITEM ITEM

DATE: May 1, 2024

FL01

TO: Flood Control District Board of Directors

SUBJECT

CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

OVERVIEW

On January 22, 2024, the County experienced catastrophic flooding in the Spring Valley area from an extremely rare storm event. Based on a statistical analysis of historical rainfall records at this location, staff determined that the amount of rain that fell on the 22nd was considered an unprecedented storm event, an event that has a 0.1% chance of occurring in that location in any given year. Other areas of the County also experienced heavy rain and flooding.

Existing drainage infrastructure is not designed to convey stormwater flows from an event of this magnitude. Flood Control District-maintained facilities at the following nine locations were impacted and required immediate emergency response:

- 1243 & 1247 Purdy Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 2117 Ildica Court, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 9602 Casa de la Torre Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91977
- 3150 Rio Way, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 4362 & 4368 Edgewood Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91941
- 9825 Dogwood Lane, Hidden Meadows, CA 92026
- 8575 Los Coches Road, Lakeside, CA 92021
- 2544 Buena Flores, Fallbrook, CA 92028
- 402 Potter Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028

In accordance with County Administrative Code Section 402, "Emergency Preparedness," notices to proceed were issued to repair or replace damaged storm drains and any other related drainage facilities and remove mud and debris.

On April 10, 2024 (FL01), the County Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Flood Control District (Board), found there was a need for the

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

emergency repair for ongoing projects located in Casa de Oro, Lakeside and Fallbrook; ratified one new emergency contract for a project located in Fallbrook; and provided authorization to continue with ongoing emergency work. Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050, until the repairs are completed, the Board is required to determine at every regular scheduled Board meeting that there is a need to continue the emergency work. Construction costs for all listed emergency repairs is currently estimated at \$5.85 million.

As of April 8, 2024, the following six projects had been completed:

- 2117 Ildica Court, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 9825 Dogwood Lane, Hidden Meadows, CA 92026
- 1243 & 1247 Purdy Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 3150 Rio Way, Spring Valley, CA 91977
- 9602 Casa de la Torre Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91977
- 402 Potter Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028 (substantially completed)

Today's request is for the Board to find that there is a need to continue the emergency repair work at the three locations identified immediately below in accordance with Public Contract Code section 22050:

- 4362 & 4368 Edgewood Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91941
- 8575 Los Coches Road, Lakeside, CA 92021
- 2544 Buena Flores, Fallbrook, CA 92028

The three emergency contracts listed above were previously ratified by the Board at the February 7, February 28, and March 13 hearings, and additional ratification for those is unnecessary.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Find the projects are statutorily exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to Section 15269(b) of the CEQA Guidelines because the projects involve emergency repairs to publicly owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare.
2. Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050(c)(2), find that there is a need to continue the emergency sinkhole repair, clog removal, and sediment/debris removal at the three locations in Casa de Oro (1 location), Lakeside (1 location) and Fallbrook (1 location) identified in this Board letter without giving notice for bids to let a contract. **(4 VOTES)**

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The failed storm drains are publicly maintained facilities that convey rainfall runoff and flood waters off the roadways and properties in the immediate vicinity. The San Diego County Flood

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

Control District is responsible for the continued maintenance and proper function of the storm drain system in these areas. Approval of the emergency work will provide an overall benefit to the members of the residential communities and to those who use the public roads in the areas.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The emergency work will contribute to health and wellbeing sustainability benefits. The projects will reduce the risk to life and property by restoring the proper function of the storm drain system to convey runoff and flood waters, which will contribute to County of San Diego sustainability goals of protecting the health and wellbeing of local residents.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Operational Plan for the Flood Control District (District). If approved, this request will result in total costs and revenue of \$5,850,000 in FY 2023-24. The funding source is available prior year Flood Control District Fund fund balance. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

N/A

BACKGROUND

On January 22, 2024, the County experienced catastrophic flooding in the Spring Valley area from an extremely rare storm event. Based on a statistical analysis of historical rainfall records at this location, staff determined that the amount of rain that fell on the 22nd was considered an unprecedented storm event, an event that has a 0.1% chance of occurring in that location in any given year. Other areas of the County also experienced heavy rain and flooding.

Existing drainage infrastructure is not designed to convey stormwater flows from an event of this magnitude, and Flood Control District-maintained facilities at the following nine locations were impacted and required immediate emergency response:

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- 9825 Dogwood Lane, Hidden Meadows, CA 92026
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SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

In accordance with County Administrative Code section 402, “Emergency Preparedness,” notices to proceed with emergency repairs were issued to repair or replace damaged storm drains and any other related drainage facilities and remove the mud and debris.

On April 10, 2024 (FL01), the County Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Flood Control District (Board), found there was a need for the emergency repair for ongoing projects located in Casa de Oro, Lakeside and Fallbrook, ratified one new emergency contract for a project located in Fallbrook, and provided authorization to continue with ongoing emergency work. Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050, until the repairs are completed, the Board is required to determine at every regular scheduled Board meeting that there is a need to continue the emergency work. Construction costs for all listed emergency repairs are currently estimated at \$5.85 million.

As of April 8, 2024, the following six projects had been completed:

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- 9602 Casa de la Torre Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91977
- 402 Potter Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028 (substantially completed)

Emergency Project Summaries

On January 23, 2024, the District was notified that multiple sinkholes formed at 1243 Purdy Street within the unincorporated community of Spring Valley, California. The sinkholes were caused by the failure of an existing 18-inch corrugated metal storm drainpipe that travels along the shared property line between 1243 and 1247 Purdy Street. The storm drain serves as a means of conveying captured storm flows from Jamacha Road and then releasing them onto Purdy Street. The site and facility needed immediate stabilization and repair. The cost for the required work was approximately \$300,000. The project was completed on March 11, 2024.

On January 24, 2024, the District was notified that a sinkhole formed at 2117 Ildica Court within the unincorporated community of Spring Valley, California. This sinkhole was caused by the failure of an existing 13-inch by 22-inch corrugated metal arch storm drainpipe located along the property line between the homes at 2111 and 2117 Ildica Court. The storm drain serves as a means of conveying flows from the local residential area to ultimately drain into an existing open channel servicing the Spring Valley area. The site and facility needed immediate stabilization and repair. The contractor stabilized the site, built a temporary stormwater bypass, and installed a new storm drainpipe. The cost for the required work was approximately \$100,000. The project was completed on February 28, 2024.

On January 22, 2024, Flood Control field crews were monitoring an existing publicly maintained 36-inch storm drain inlet within the unincorporated community of Casa de Oro,

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

California. The inlet is located behind the residential property at 9602 Casa de la Torre Court. Upstream of the inlet is an existing privately owned and maintained school district inlet at Murdock Elementary School which became overwhelmed and clogged due to the unprecedented rain event. Mud and debris then overflowed from the school property and in turn caused a slope failure, which clogged the publicly maintained inlet downstream, then continued into a private residence and private pool. The publicly maintained inlet was buried by 6-8 feet of sediment and debris for a length of about 100 feet. The sediment and debris was removed from the publicly maintained inlet, pipe and upstream channel to allow for proper drainage. The cost for the required work was approximately \$500,000. The project was completed on March 15, 2024. A future additional improvement project is pending the La Mesa-Spring Valley school district's plan to repair the slope failure. Once the slope work is completed by the school district, the remaining improvements can be completed through the competitive bid process.

On January 25, 2024, the District was notified that a sinkhole formed at 3150 Rio Way within the unincorporated community of Spring Valley, California. The sinkhole was caused by the failure of an existing 36-inch corrugated metal storm drainpipe that travels along the back property line of 3150 Rio Way. The storm drain serves as a means of conveying flows from Lamar Street drainage system to the concrete channel north of Lamar Street servicing the Spring Valley area. The site and facility needed immediate stabilization and repair. The cost for the required work was approximately \$300,000. The project was completed on March 13, 2024.

On January 29, 2024, the District was notified that a sinkhole formed at 4362 Edgewood Court within the unincorporated community of Casa de Oro, California. The sinkhole was caused by the failure of an existing 42-inch corrugated metal drainpipe that travels along the property line of 4362 Edgewood Court. The sinkhole spread from 4362 Edgewood Court to 4368 Edgewood Court. The storm drain serves as a means of conveying flows from upstream residential areas and public roads. The site and facility needed immediate stabilization and repair. The cost for the required work was initially estimated to be \$500,000. Further investigation of the site has revealed additional damages and repair challenges that will require extensive excavation to replace the storm drain between the foundations of two homes, a swimming pool, a public sanitary sewer line, and other public utilities. These additional items of work have increased the estimated costs by \$2,300,000 to a revised total of \$2,800,000. As of April 8, 2024, the project is approximately 19% complete. To date, the contractor has been installing temporary sewer laterals and a sewer bypass line for the residents. The project is estimated to be completed by September 2024.

On February 6, 2024, the District investigated a sinkhole that formed behind a curb inlet along the storm drain alignment adjacent to the driveway of 9825 Dogwood Lane within the community of Hidden Meadows (unincorporated Escondido), California. The estimated cost for the required work was \$100,000. The sinkhole required immediate repair due to the failure of the storm drain. The final cost for the required work is \$11,456.37. The project was completed on February 12, 2024.

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

On February 13, 2024, the District investigated a sinkhole that formed behind the headwall of the storm drain facility in the parking lot of 8575 Los Coches Road within the community of Lakeside (unincorporated El Cajon), California. It required immediate repair due to the failure of the storm drain. The estimated cost for the required work is \$750,000. The notice to proceed was issued on February 15, 2024, and work began the following day. As of April 8, 2024, the project is 50% complete. The contractor has relocated utilities, excavated and removed the damaged sections of the pipe and is now invert paving all three pipes. The project is estimated to be completed by the end of April 2024.

On February 19, 2024, the District was notified that large voids had formed around an existing concrete storm drain inlet apron at 2544 Buena Flores within the unincorporated community of Fallbrook, California. The voids were caused by significant scouring and erosion that completely undermined the inlet apron. The inlet apron serves as a means of capturing flows from an upstream natural stream east of 2544 Buena Flores and conveying them into an existing 48-inch reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) network that ultimately drains to another natural creek further to the west. The facility and surrounding area need immediate stabilization and repair. The estimated cost for the required work is \$500,000. As of April 8, 2024, the project is 13% complete. To date, the contractor has completed clearing and grubbing the access route, removed fallen trees and installed a construction entrance and various BMPs. The contractor has been developing a shoring plan to safely remove the damaged facility without compromising the adjacent private properties. The repairs are estimated to be completed by the end of May 2024.

On March 11, 2024, the District was notified that sinkholes had formed in the backyard of 402 Potter Street within the unincorporated community of Fallbrook, California. Failure of the storm drain required immediate repair, and the site was secured with caution tape at the sinkhole locations. The estimated cost for the required work is \$500,000. The notice to proceed was issued on March 19, 2024, and work began the following day. As of April 8, 2024, the project is substantially complete. The contractor removed and replaced the failed section of pipe and invert paved the remainder. Site restoration is estimated to be completed by the middle of April 2024.

There is an elevated risk to public health and safety if the immediate emergency repair work is not continued and finished. This letter updates the Board on the status of repair work at all of the previously approved nine emergency locations, includes a recommendation to continue emergency contract work at three locations where work is ongoing as necessary to complete this effort.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Section 15269 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines exempts from

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES OF CASA DE ORO, LAKESIDE AND FALLBROOK (DISTRICTS: 2, 4 AND 5)

CEQA review actions consisting of the “emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare.” The projects involve emergency repairs and replacement of publicly maintained storm drain culverts that have failed and created sinkholes and other unsafe conditions on private and public property. The emergency repairs are necessary to maintain services essential to protect public health and safety and, therefore, are statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15269(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today’s proposed actions support the Sustainability Resiliency and Community Safety Strategic Initiatives in the County’s 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. These emergency repairs will restore function of the storm drain systems and eliminate the existing hazard, which will reduce the future flood hazards and allow the residents to be able to fully use the affected properties and roadways safely.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dahvia Lynch', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DAHVIA LYNCH
Interim Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A