



San Diego County Flood Control District

GOVERNING BODY

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Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

AGENDA ITEM ITEM

DATE: September 25, 2024

FL01

TO: Flood Control District Board of Directors

SUBJECT

**CONTINUATION OF STORM DRAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR IN THE
UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY OF CASA DE ORO (DISTRICT: 4)**

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, with an 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 September 11, 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 the ongoing project located in Casa de Oro and provided

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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 \$6.25 million.

As of June 5, 2024, the following eight 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
- 8575 Los Coches Road, Lakeside, CA 92021
- 2544 Buena Flores, Fallbrook, CA 92028

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

- 4362 & 4368 Edgewood Court, Casa de Oro, CA 91941

The emergency contract listed above was previously ratified by the Board at the February 7, 2024 hearing and additional ratification for this is unnecessary.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find the project is statutorily exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to Section 15269(b) of the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves 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 in Casa de Oro (1 location) identified in this Board letter without giving notice for bids to let a contract. **(4 VOTES)**

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The failed storm drain is a publicly maintained facility that conveys rainfall runoff and flood waters off the roadways and properties in the immediate vicinity. The San Diego County Flood Control District is responsible for the continued maintenance and proper function of the storm drain system in this area. 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 area.

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SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The emergency work will contribute to health and wellbeing sustainability benefits. The project 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) 2024-25 Operational Plan for the Flood Control District (District). If approved, this request will result in a total project construction cost (including contingencies) of \$6,250,000. 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

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On September 11, 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 the ongoing project located in Casa de Oro, 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 \$6.25 million.

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Emergency Project Summaries

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, 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, causing a slope failure that clogged the publicly maintained inlet downstream. It 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 were removed from the publicly maintained inlet, pipe and upstream channel to allow for proper drainage. The final cost for the required construction is \$350,041.67. 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 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 final cost for the required construction is \$177,568.30. The project was completed on March 11, 2024.

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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 final cost for the required construction is \$137,349.91. The project was completed on February 28, 2024.

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 final cost for the required construction is \$149,356.23. 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 revealed additional damages and repair challenges that 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 increased the estimated costs by \$2,300,000 to a revised total of \$2,800,000. As of September 12, 2024, the project is approximately 85% complete. The contractor has installed the new storm drain and replaced a damaged sewer main; site restoration continues for items displaced in order to access the underground pipes. Work is expected to be completed by the beginning of October 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 sinkhole required immediate repair due to the failure of the storm drain. The final cost for the required construction is \$11,456.37. The project was completed on February 12, 2024.

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 final cost for the required construction is \$577,790.51. The project was

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completed on April 30, 2024.

On February 19, 2024, the District was notified that large voids formed around an existing concrete storm drain inlet apron at 2544 Buena Flores within the unincorporated community of Fallbrook, California. Scouring and erosion that completely undermined the inlet apron caused the voids. 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 needed immediate stabilization and repair. The engineered shoring system to protect adjacent private properties required deeper excavation and more complex than originally anticipated. Working during the rainy season, within an active stream, required challenging access. Additionally, limited work areas required a clear water diversion system to define safe work zones within the project area. These supplementary items of work resulted in the estimated cost increases. The final cost for the required construction is \$675,963.64. The project was completed on June 5, 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 final cost for the required construction is \$319,037.72. The notice to proceed was issued on March 19, 2024, and work began the following day. The project was completed on April 10, 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 the previously approved nine emergency locations, includes a recommendation to continue emergency contract work at one location where work is ongoing as necessary to complete this effort.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Section 15269 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines exempts from 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 project involves emergency repairs and replacement of a publicly maintained storm drain culvert that has 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.

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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 system and eliminate the existing hazard that will reduce the future flood hazards and allow the residents to be able to fully use the affected properties and roadways safely.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY HARBERT
Interim Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A