



Memorandum

TO: RULES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

FROM: Betsy Shotwell
John Stufflebean

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: February 13, 2008

Approved

Date

2/14/08

SUBJECT: SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT FY 2009 – FEDERALLY PARTNERED PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rules and Open Government Committee accept the Santa Clara Valley Water District's (SCVWD) FY 2009 – Federally partnered projects in the City of San José's jurisdiction and approve the City's mutual request for funds through the appropriation process. A one-week turnaround to City Council is requested in order to make the February 29 deadline for submittal.

OUTCOME

That the Rules and Open Government and City Council have the opportunity to review the federal appropriations requests of the SCVWD and approve the City's joint submittal of appropriations requests for these projects for FY 2009.

BACKGROUND

The City Council reviewed and recommended on January 8, the City's Legislative Priorities for 2008, which included proposed City sponsored federal appropriations for FY 2009. On February 11, the City Manager received correspondence from the SCVWD detailing the District's appropriations requests for FY 2009 in the City's jurisdiction. They also submitted a letter from Senator Dianne Feinstein's office stating that due to the increase in needs throughout the State, her office is requesting that FY 2009 appropriation requests to her be coordinated with all project partners to demonstrate that the projects have regional significance. Therefore, the SCVWD is sending this request to all of their project partners throughout the county for their support in the appropriations submittal process.

ANALYSIS

The following are projects in the City's jurisdiction identified for submittal:

Coyote Creek Watershed Study

Project Description: The Study will examine ways to provide flood protection for San Jose, Milpitas, and Morgan Hill, including a major portion of the Silicon Valley's high-tech area, in an environmentally acceptable way that maximizes stream and environmental restoration and recreational opportunities. The project seeks to provide flood protection for numerous cities in Santa Clara County in the Coyote Creek Watershed and will safeguard the communities of San Jose, Milpitas and Morgan Hill from potential flood damages of \$138 million (2001 dollars).

The project is located in the Coyote Creek watershed which encompasses most of the eastern valley's foothills, the City of Milpitas and portions of the Cities of San Jose and Morgan Hill. The project enjoys extensive local support with the Santa Clara Basin Watershed Management Initiative, Clean Water Fund, Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter, Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition, Clean South Bay, Federation of Fly Fishers-Northern California Council, and Home Builders Association of Northern California all supporting the project.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$100,000 U.S Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Coyote/Berryessa Creek Flood Protection Project

Project Description: The project provides extensive flood protection to the area downstream of Montague Expressway in Milpitas and San Jose where potential damages from a 1 percent flood exceed \$250 million. The project consists of two phases of construction; one dealing with reaches of Coyote Creek, completed in 1996, and the other providing flood protection along Berryessa Creek, occurring in the Berryessa Creek watershed which drains a 22 square mile area in the City of Milpitas and a portion of the City of San Jose.

The original project composed by the Corps of Engineers in 1998 consisted primarily of a trapezoidal concrete lining that was met with vehement opposition by the local community. The Corps and District are currently pursuing a General Reevaluation Report that will provide flood protection in an environmentally sensitive way that is acceptable to the local community. Completion of the project is critical for the local community as Berryessa Creek floods on average once every four years inflicting serious damage to local residents and businesses. Project features stemming from the reevaluation study will include setback levees and floodwalls to preserve sensitive areas, appropriate aquatic and riparian habitat restoration and fish passage and sediment control structures to limit turbidity and protect and enhance water quality.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$1.6 million, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Guadalupe River Flood Control Project

Project Description: The project provides flood protection to downtown San Jose's technology and commercial industries and neighborhoods; protects and improves the water quality of the river, and preserves and enhances the river's habitat, fish and wildlife while providing significant recreational benefits.

The project extends through downtown San Jose from Interstate 880 to Interstate 280 and protects the area from \$576 million in damages from a one percent flood. The project is part of a multi-phased flood protection project along the Guadalupe River and is an integral component to downtown San Jose's revitalization efforts. Flood protection works includes: channel widening, bridge replacement; underground bypass box culverts, streambed erosion protection features, and terraces as well as on and off-site environmental remediation.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$10 Million, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study

Project Description: The project will provide tidal and fluvial flood protection in the Bay, including approximately 42,800 acres, 7,400 homes and businesses including major highways, parks and airports. According to estimates, the project will provide \$34.5 million (1981 dollars) in flood protection.

The project is being pursued in conjunction with the South San Francisco Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project, which upon completion will provide the largest restored wetlands on the West Coast thereby greatly increasing the health of the San Francisco Bay. This will provide significant habitat to numerous endangered species and migratory birds, will greatly increase water quality in the region which will have effects throughout the state, and will provide tidal and fluvial flood protection to communities around the South Bay area.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$2.8 million, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigation

Upper Guadalupe Flood Protection Project

Project Description: The Upper Guadalupe River Flood Protection project will provide flood protection for 7,500 homes in Santa Clara County with potential damages from a 100-year flood event exceeding \$280 million. The project will also provide long-term environmental benefits for fish and wildlife habitat. The total project cost is currently estimated at

\$256 million, of which the Santa Clara Valley Water District will provide approximately \$99 million.

This critical flood control/environmental restoration project extends from Southern Pacific Railroad downstream of Willow Street to Blossom Hill Road in the City of San Jose. All proposed flood protection improvements include long-term environmental benefits for fish and wildlife habitat and continuous creekside trail access. Specifically, the project will provide extensive environmental benefits including restoring fish passage for migrating salmon and Steelhead Trout, greatly increased riparian habitat and the restoration of 6.4 miles of native vegetation in the riparian corridor. The City of San Jose, the Guadalupe River watershed and surrounding areas will benefit greatly from this project.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$8.3 Million, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Upper Penitencia Creek Flood Protection Project

Project Description: The Upper Penitencia Creek Flood Protection project will provide flood protection to over 5,000 homes, schools and businesses in the communities of San Jose and Milpitas and surrounding areas, with potential damages from a 100-year flood exceeding \$455 million. The project includes modified floodplains, levees, floodwalls and bypass channels along the Upper Penitencia Creek. The area the project serves is prone to extensive flooding as the creek has the capacity to carry a less than a 10 year flood event. In fact, significant flooding has occurred along the creek often taking a devastating toll on the local community. The creek has topped its banks in 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1995 and 1998.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$262,000, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

San Jose Area Water Reclamation and Reuse Program

Project Description: The San Jose Area Water Reclamation and Reuse Program will increase water supply reliability and protect endangered species by reducing wastewater discharges into San Francisco Bay through the recycling of wastewater.

The program contains 105 miles of pipeline and three pumping stations that provide a reliable, constant supply of high quality recycled water for industry and irrigation to support sustainable urban water use and protect the Silicon Valley's economy. The program also decreases the amount of treated effluent discharged into the San Francisco Bay, preserving and protecting the salt marsh habitat of two federally listed endangered species. The program is critical to the region as it provides the San Jose area with a high quality and reliable water supply. The system serves over 530 customers and delivers approximately 8,600 acre-feet per year of recycled water.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$8 million, Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Santa Clara County Advanced Recycled Water Treatment Plant

Project Description: The South Bay Advanced Recycled Water Treatment Facility involves constructing a treatment plant to purify approximately 6 to 8 million gallons of wastewater per day.

The plant would use state of the art technology including microfiltration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet light disinfection to purify wastewater and convert it for non-potable, and possible potable, uses by the local community. This project would allow for 2 to 5 billion gallons of high quality water to be used in the Cities of San Jose, Santa Clara, and Milpitas.

This project would help address critical water supply needs in the Santa Clara County watershed, which in recent years has faced operating shortfalls due to severe drought and restrictions on water dispersal from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta due to endangered species concerns.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$1 million, Corps of Engineers, Construction General, Section 219.

South San Francisco Bay Emergency Port Access Project

Project Description: The Santa Clara Valley Water District is supporting the creation of a South San Francisco Bay Emergency Port Access project. As part of this effort, the District is requesting that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers initiate a reconnaissance study on the dredging of a navigation channel in the South San Francisco Bay. The proposed navigation channel would provide ingress and egress routes out of the South San Francisco Bay Area during catastrophic events including earthquakes or other natural or manmade disasters.

In the event of an earthquake or other disaster damage to the region's surface transportation network would be extensive. A Bay Area Association of Governments study shows that over 1,700 roads would likely be closed resulting in the closure of all transbay bridges and the Bay Area Rapid Transit System making it difficult, if not impossible, for the continued movement of goods and commerce and emergency supplies in and out of the south bay community.

Fiscal Year 2009 Request: \$100,000, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

OUTREACH

- Criteria 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater.
(Required: Website Posting)

- Criteria 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This document will be posted on the City's website for the February 20 Rules and Open Government Committee meeting where Council and the public have the opportunity to comment.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

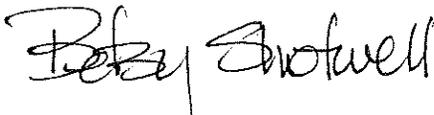
The City Council will be informed as to the status of all of the City's Federal appropriations requests as part of the regular Intergovernmental Relations legislative updates.

COORDINATION

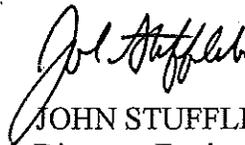
This memorandum was coordinated with the City's lobbying firm of Patton Boggs, LLP in Washington D.C., the City Attorney's Office, and the SCVWD.

POLICY ALIGNMENT

The measures identified are consistent with the City of San Jose's 2008 Legislative Guiding Principles adopted by the City Council on December 18, 2007.



BETSY SHOTWELL
Director, Intergovernmental Relations



JOHN STUFFLEBEAN
Director, Environmental Services

For more information, contact: Betsy Shotwell, Director of IGR at 408-535-8270, or John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services Department at 408-535-8560