

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 1/1A ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Meeting Location:** Sheriff's South Patrol Station, 1681 Front Street Oceano, CA

**Meeting Agenda**

1.	Welcome & Introductions	All
2.	Announcements	All
3.	Review and Approval of Past Minutes: a) Tuesday, March 19, 2024	Advisory Committee
4.	Ongoing Updates: a) Storm Response Efforts b) Annual Workplan Efforts c) Emergency Response Plan d) Other Flood Protection Planning Efforts	County Staff
5.	Emergency Watershed Protection Program - Property Buyout Option	County Staff
6.	Meadow Creek Lagoon Update and Presentation	County Staff
7.	Public Comment	All
8.	Future Agenda Items 1. Post projects levee performance update (Planned for 2025) 2. Budget Planning (Spring 2025)	Advisory Committee

Meeting agendas and attachments can be viewed at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1a>

Contact: County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department

Email: [publicworks@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:publicworks@co.slo.ca.us)

Phone: (805) 781-5252

**AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT (ADA) ACCOMMODATIONS:**

All possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities, so they may participate in the meeting. Persons who require accommodations for any audio, visual or other disability are encouraged to request such accommodation 48 hours in advance of the meeting by contacting Joey Steil at (805) 781-4076.

*The purpose of the Committee is to provide recommendations to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District regarding appropriate actions to provide flood protection for the properties within the boundaries of Flood Control Zones 1 and 1A.*

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
ZONE 1/1A ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Meeting materials can be viewed at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone1-1A>

Members Attending:

Gary Kobara (Chair)  
Linda Austin  
Stanley Ikeda  
Charlie Lackie  
Dianna Lackie

Staff and Guests Attending:

Brandon Zuniga, Public Works  
Jenny Williamson, Public Works  
Angela Ford, Public Works  
Courtney Howard, Public Works  
Karen White, Community Member

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Committee Members, staff, and guests introduce themselves.

**2. Announcements**

None

**3. Review and Approval of Past Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

County staff ask for questions or comments from the Committee; there are none.

Motion to approve: Charlie Lackie  
Seconded by: Linda Austin  
Approval: Motion passes by unanimous vote

**4. Ongoing Updates**

a) Storm Response Efforts

County staff provide a verbal update on recent storm response efforts.

Charlie Lackie: What is the status of repairs in the area of the railroad right of way.

County staff: The scope of repairs to the rock slope are currently being evaluated and

will be included as part of the Union Pacific TRM work planned for later this year.

Stanley Ikeda: What was the contract cost for this work?

County staff: The total contract cost, including the contingency amount, is approximately \$4.7M.

Dianna Lackie: Do you have any updates regarding the recent cleanup efforts in the Santa Maria River?

County staff: We have reached out to the district and are waiting for a response from the department in charge of the project. We'll hopefully have an update on this for the next meeting.

b) Annual Workplan Efforts

County staff provide a verbal update on Annual Workplan efforts.

c) Emergency Response Plan

County staff provide a verbal update on emergency response planning efforts.

d) Meadow Creek Lagoon Habitat Restoration Project

County staff provide a verbal update on the Meadow Creek Lagoon Habitat Restoration Project.

e) Other Flood Protection Planning Efforts

County staff provide a verbal update on other flood protection planning efforts.

Karen White: Does the Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed extend to Guadalupe? Does it include the whole basin?

County staff: The watershed does not extend that far south and only includes a portion of the basin.

## **5. Zone 1/1A Budget Status Update and Presentation**

County staff present on the proposed approach to the Zone 1/1A Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25 budget request and future needs ([click here](#) to view the presentation).

Dianna Lackie: Is there a way for Committee Members to access this report and presentation online?

County staff: We will send the PowerPoint presentation for Committee Members to review.

Committee Members and staff discuss the metrics and data used to determine if a community is considered disadvantaged or socially vulnerable.

Karen White: Oceano recently conducted a study that may be helpful in determining Oceano's status as a disadvantaged community.

Gary Kobara: Asks for clarification on reimbursement of the loan that the Flood Control District provided to Zone 1/1A for the emergency projects.

County staff: The Flood Control District reserves were enough to cover the upfront bills of the emergency projects. These costs will be paid back to the Flood Control District once funds from the grant have been received.

Gary Kobara: Will Zone 1/1A pay for the bulk of the Meadow Creek Project, or will other agencies help pick up the costs.

County staff: The expectation is that Zone 1/1A will fund this as a mitigation project. It's possible that these costs could be offset by future grants.

Karen White: Is the Meadow Creek Project on schedule?

County staff: The permitting agencies that are involved with the project are aware of the current timeline.

Charlie Lackie: Are there any plans or drawings for the Meadow Creek Project?

County staff: We will send these out with today's PowerPoint presentation.

## **6. Public Comment**

None

## **7. Open Forum (Questions/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items)**

Karen White: Can staff provide an overview of the construction/repairs made over recent years and how they have performed?

County staff: The District is still in recovery mode and plans to do an assessment/adaptive management strategy after the projects are complete (assuming this winter is mild).

## **8. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:48 PM

**TO: Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee**

**FROM: County Staff**

**DATE: September 17, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 4: Ongoing Updates**

**a) Storm Response Efforts**

*Arroyo Grande Creek Channel Emergency Levee Rehabilitation Phase 2 Project*

Odin Environmental Services began construction in mid-August for Phase 2B of the AG Creek Channel Emergency Levee Rehabilitation Project. The scope of this project is construction of four hydraulic barrier walls down the centerline of damaged sections of levee to protect from future seepage and erosional damages. Construction is expected to be completed by the middle of November. Staff continues to coordinate with FEMA regarding reimbursement for temporary and permanent repair work, including emergency repairs completed in January 2023, Phase 1 and Phase 2A and 2B. Two additional efforts are anticipated this fall to further improve levee integrity in and around the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) right-of-way; these include (1) installation of TRM adjacent to existing TRM on the external slope of the south levee; and (2) installation of additional rock slope protection on the internal slope of the south levee. Staff have been coordinating with UPRR representatives to acquire the necessary right-of-way certifications. Construction is anticipated to begin in early October, contingent upon UPRR project approval.

**In summary, please be advised that significant construction efforts will be going through November just upstream and downstream of the 22<sup>nd</sup> street bridge.**

**b) Annual Workplan and Maintenance Efforts**

The Annual Work Plan was submitted to the regulatory agencies in April and the District is completing its typical channel maintenance activities, including channel cross sections, hydraulic modeling, and vegetation maintenance. Pending results from the current modeling analysis, a sedimentation removal effort is anticipated Spring/Summer 2025. Staff are also working on property maintenance activities, including clearing flap gates, vegetation maintenance, goat grazing, homeless encampment removal and addressing any issues that may impact the integrity of the flood control system.

**c) Emergency Response Plan**

Last season's storms are being used as an opportunity to refine the hydrologic computer model and other predictive tools for flood monitoring. A more comprehensive update of the Emergency Response Plan will be prepared as needed after model updates and construction of the projects.

**d) Other Flood Protection Planning Efforts**

In March 2024, federal funds were appropriated under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Congressionally Directed Spending grant program to support the District's AG Creek Channel flood protection efforts. This prompted District Staff to submit an application in coordination with the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to fund a project scoping activity that will evaluate feasible flood mitigating solutions for increasing flood protection of properties surrounding the AG Creek Channel. It is anticipated that FEMA will complete their review and obligate funds in Fall 2024.

In July 2024, the District was selected for further review of the application submitted to the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. Since the original application supported the same project scoping activity as the PDM grant, the District is now coordinating with CalOES to re-scope the application to support another flood study in San Luis Obispo County.

Staff is coordinating with members of the Arroyo Grande Creek and Watershed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement to look at how to sustainably fund ongoing operation and maintenance of planned flood management projects with source sediment reduction benefits in the Corbett and Tally Ho Creek sub-watershed. This area contributes to the sediment load in Arroyo Grande Creek. The MOU members are also looking at updating the MOU and coordinating with Creek Lands on their Watershed Plan update project.

**TO: Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee**

**FROM: County Staff**

**DATE: September 17, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 5: Emergency Watershed Protection Program - Property Buyout Option**

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has allocated funds under their Emergency Watershed Protection Program Property Buyout Option (Program) to purchase and remove vulnerable structures from the floodplain on a voluntary basis. The Board of Supervisors has approved the formal funding agreement allowing the District to accept the allocated funds. Staff reviewed the Program requirements and found one landowner eligible for the Program to purchase and restore their property to support natural floodplain conditions. District Staff are currently working with the eligible landowner for their consideration of the voluntary buyout opportunity.

**TO: Zone 1/1A Advisory Committee**

**FROM: County Staff**

**DATE: September 17, 2024**

**SUBJECT: Item 6: Meadow Creek Lagoon Update and Presentation**

The District is continuing the review of the Draft Alternatives Report prepared by Stillwater Consulting which details project requirements for restoring habitat in Meadow Creek Lagoon (Alternative 3) or Arroyo Grande Creek Lagoon (Alternative 4). The Science Panel will be meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the two alternatives. District Staff expects to receive input and feedback from the Science Panel regarding the selection of a preferred alternative to move forward with 30% engineering design. An update on the outcome from the science panel meeting will be presented during the advisory committee meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.