

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Executive Director

Herbert I. Nakasone

SARFPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Members

City of Anaheim
City of Buena Park
City of Cypress
City of Fountain Valley
City of Fullerton
City of Garden Grove
City of Huntington Beach
City of Irvine
City of Newport Beach
City of Orange
City of Placentia
City of Santa Ana
City of Seal Beach
City of Stanton
City of Tustin
City of Westminster
City of Yorba Linda
County of Orange
Costa Mesa Sanitary District
O C Sanitation District
O C Flood Control District
O C Water District

January 23, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA

Attendance/Attendees:

Art Perry, SARFPA Executive Committee; Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Stacy Berry, SARFPA Executive Committee; Councilwoman, City of Cypress
Cathy Green, SARFPA Executive Committee; Director, Orange County Water District
George Brietigam, Councilman, City of Garden Grove
Bruce Whitaker, Councilman, City of Fullerton
Kelly Rowe, Director, Orange County Water District
Jordon Broadman, Director, Orange County Water District
Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District
Ahmad Zahra, Director, Orange County Water District, Councilman, City of Fullerton
Denis Bilodeau, Manager, County of Orange
Keith Linker, Engineer, City of Anaheim
Herbert Nakasone, Executive Director, SARFPA

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 4048
Santa Ana, CA 92702-4048

Email Address:

Herb.Nakasone@ocpw.ocgov.com
hinakasone22@gmail.com

Phone

(714) 647-3938
(949) 922-1852

Location

601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana CA 92701

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 4:00 p.m. by Herb Nakasone, SARFPA Executive Director.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District.

3. Approval of November 21, 2019, Full Agency Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the November 21, 2019, Full Agency Meeting were approved on a Motion by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Second by Cathy Green, Director, Orange County Water District.

4. Report from Washington D.C., Advocate Jim McConnell

Jim McConnell provided a verbal report by telephone via speaker phone. His report is summarized as follows by Executive Director Herb Nakasone:

- a. Congress is currently spending most of its time on the impeachment proceedings and have not yet passed an Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2021. The deadline for formulating the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget is October 1, 2020.
- b. The appropriations provided in Fiscal Years 2019-20 for the Santa Ana River Mainstem (SARP) has sufficient funds for the U.S. Army Corps of

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Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles District's Prado Dam projects, it has scheduled to award in FY 2020.

- c. In regard to the Westminster East Garden Grove Project Report, Jim indicated May 2020 is the new completion date for the Chief's Report.
- d. In addition, based on the time spent on the Impeachment activities and 2020 being an election year, Jim indicated he is not certain Congress will be able to formulate a 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director, Herb Nakasone reported on the following items:

- a. Executive Director Herb Nakasone reported the scheduled meeting with Congressman Lowenthal on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 went very well, with the Congressman aware of the Westminster Project and supporting the goal of including the USACE Project in the next WRDA. Attending the meeting were City of Huntington, Councilwoman, Barbara Delgleize, Orange County Water District, Director, Cathy Green, City of Cypress, Councilwoman, Stacy Berry, City of Fountain Valley, Councilman, Patrick Harper, City of Westminster, Public Works Director, Marwan Youssef and SARFPA Executive Director Herb Nakasone.
- b. Herb Nakasone indicated the Orange County Public Works (OCPW) staff has requested a letter of support be sent to the USACE and the County of Orange on the recently released Integrated Feasibility Report Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report dated December 2019, prepared by the USACE and the County of Orange. A draft Letter of Support attached to the Agenda was recommended by the Executive Director be sent to the USACE and the County of Orange under the Executive Director's signature. With no objection, the Executive Committee on a Motion by Orange County Water District, Director, Cathy Green and Second by Costa Mesa Sanitary District, Director, Art Perry the Executive Director was directed to send a finalized letter as recommended.

6. Santa Ana River Mainstem (SARP) Construction Status

Due to scheduling conflicts, the OC Public Works Staff were unable to present the status report. Executive Director, Herb Nakasone provide a brief overview of the changes that have occurred on the SARP and the Study since our Executive Committee meeting on November 21, 2019. Herb indicated the following changes were indicated in the OCPW prepared status report:

- a. In regard to the overall schedule on the SARP, the construction start of the Santiago Creek Feature on the Lower Santa Ana River has been delayed from Fiscal Year 2023 to a date yet to be determined.
- b. The construction of the bridge protection on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad bridge has been restarted after a stop work was requested by the BNSF due to the heavy rail traffic over the bridge during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season.
- c. The \$15 million soil cement levee embankment project on the South side of the Santa Ana River along the 91 Frwy upstream from the Weir Canyon

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Bridge has been completed.

- d. The grouted stone embankment protection project on the Northerly side of the Santa Ana River in the City of Yorba Linda has been delayed due to the non-performance and dismissal of the original contractor by the USACE. The USACE is in the process of obtaining a new contractor to complete the work. OCPW has been removing construction debris and abandon material from the work site and recreation trail adjacent the River.
- e. The County of Orange continues to acquire properties behind Prado Dam to allow for the construction modification to the Prado Dam Spillway. The County is negotiating with the USACE to reduce the number of flood easement acquisitions averaging 750 square feet per property on portions of back yards behind small single-family dwellings. The County has identified 182 properties that meet these criteria.

6a. Status of the Westminster Watershed Feasibility Study (Study):

- a. The Draft Feasibility Report Shows the \$484 million National Economical Development (NED) Plan with a Benefit Cost Ratio of 4.2 and \$1.224 billion for the Locally Preferred Plan (LPP) with a Benefit Cost Ratio of 2.0. The Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Westminster East Garden Grove, CA Flood Risk Management Study is currently out for public review with comments due on February 7, 2020. SARFPA is submitting a comment letter to the USACE and the County of Orange.
- b. The Chiefs Report, which is the final report by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is scheduled for completion by May 2020. This is the report submitted to Congress for inclusion in the Water Resources Development Act which authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Orange County Flood Control District to proceed with the Westminster Watershed projects.

7. Public and Representative Comments

No comments received.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m. by SARFPA Executive Director, Herb Nakasone.

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