

MEMORANDUM

To: City of San Pablo Council Members

From: Ronalyn Nonato, Assistant Engineer

Subject: Annual Progress Report of the City Flood Management Plan -
2016 Community Rating System (CRS) Recertification

Date: September 21, 2016



CITY OF SAN PABLO
City of New Directions



Please receive the Annual Progress Report of the City of San Pablo Flood Management Plan for 2015 recertification of the Community Rating System (CRS) flood insurance premium resident discount.

Background

As a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System, the City of San Pablo is required to annually evaluate the implementation of the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Flood Management section. Acceptance of this report is a component of the City's participation in the NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS).

The CRS program was implemented as a voluntary program for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management activities exceeding the minimum NFIP standards. CRS rewards communities that promote flood awareness and actively implement flood-protection measures with reduced flood insurance premiums. The CRS provides insurance discounts in 5 percent increments for each of 10 rating classes, with Class 1 being the highest. A community accrues points to improve its CRS class rating and receive increasingly greater insurance rate discounts through engaging in any of 19 creditable activities, organized under the following four categories:

- Public Information
- Mapping and Regulation
- Flood Damage Reduction
- Warning and Response

Maintaining and implementing the subject Flood Management Plan of the LHMP is a creditable activity, helping the City achieve a CRS Class 8 rating resulting in a 10 percent discount on flood insurance policies issued within the City.

The CRS was implemented in 1990 with 300 communities. Per FEMA's latest March 2014 update, the number of CRS communities has grown to 1,229. Although CRS communities represent only 5 percent of the over 22,000 communities participating in the NFIP, more than 67 percent of all flood insurance policies are written in CRS communities.

Introduction

On February, 6, 2012, the San Pablo City Council passed Resolution 2012-018 adopting the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). The City's LHMP is Annexed to the Association of Bay Area Government's (ABAG) Multi-jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP), which expired last March 2016. Since ABAG will eventually remove their MJHMP program, the City chose to move forward and Annex with the Contra Costa County MJHMP. The County will begin updating their MJHMP plan next month and is scheduled to submit their first draft to FEMA in March 2017. During this gap, the City will still be able to apply for federal hazard mitigation grants but would not be awarded a grant until the City's LHMP is in place. Hazard mitigation grant applications begin in October and typically take several months to be awarded. Hence, the opportunity to receive hazard mitigation grants has not been compromised. Also in the event of an emergency disaster, the City would still be able to receive emergency federal grants. Today, the City of San Pablo staff continues to meet and track the implementation of the LHMP until a new plan with the County is in place.

This report is an evaluation of progress made in implementation of the Flood Management Section of the LHMP. Key City staff contributed to identify and prioritize mitigation strategies appropriate for the City. Staff involved included the City Manager, Planning Division Manager, Public Works Director, Chief Building Official, and the Disaster Preparedness Coordinator (Police Department). The City Manager oversaw Department/Division heads in the process. The Planning representative addressed issues related to land use, structures and environmental resources; the Engineering (Public Works) representative addressed public utilities, infrastructure, drainage, public right-of-way, streets and roads; the Building representative addressed construction and building code requirements; and the Police Department representative addressed public safety and emergency response. Representatives from the Finance Department, Information Technology Division and Maintenance Division were invited for input in their areas of expertise, as appropriate. Through this coordination, general priorities, infrastructure, services, and potential funding sources for both existing and future hazard mitigation strategies were discussed. Representatives involved reviewed the mitigation strategy spreadsheet finalized in the sub-regional workshops and designated priorities for mitigation. The comments received from each representative were incorporated into the spreadsheet.

Review of the Flood Management Plan

For credit under the Community Rating System, this memo must be distributed to the media through the City website and be made available to the public. Copies of this report and the 2012 LHMP Strategies are available for review at the San Pablo City Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo California 94806. A notice of its availability is being posted on the City's website.

Objective, Action Plans, Status and Recommendation.

The following identifies the flood mitigation goals, objectives and actions developed from the information in the flood sections of the LHMP. The flood mitigation objectives, action plans, status and recommendations were developed to represent a vision of long term hazard reduction or enhancement of the City's existing capabilities. This is organized in six general action pan objectives.

1. Objective: Enforce Building Codes, General Plan, and Zoning Ordinances of the City of San Pablo, which will prevent or minimize damage to residential and commercial structures from flooding.
 - LHMP Strategy Number Action Plan: Infra d-1, d-2, d-4, d-8. Hsng h-3, h-6, h-7. Econ f-6. Envi a-4, a-5, a-8. Land c-2, c-3, c-4.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Development Services and Public Works Department.
 - Also see attached FY 2015-17 City Council Adopted Priority Workplan under Infrastructure policy area, Administration/Operations excerpt.
 - Status: Ongoing. All permit applications are reviewed to comply with City regulations.
 - Recommendation: Continue to enforce the most current codes, plans and ordinances.
2. Objective: Flooding public information outreach.
 - LHMP Strategy Number Action Plan: Hsng a-1, h-4, h-5, h-10, k-3, k-7. Econ f-1. Govt d-9. Envi a-4, a-5. Land c-2.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Development Services and Engineering Services Division.
 - Status: Ongoing. The City is continuously mailing informational flooding brochures, notices and guidebooks related to the CRS outreach requirement in an annual basis. City staff has been attentively providing flooding information to residential and commercial inquirers.
 - Recommendation: Continue to help the public gain more knowledge about the flooding risks and prepare them in flooding occurrences.
3. Objective: Improve flood information mapping by conducting studies and surveys of "hot spots" to help develop City projects and improve efficiency in the stormdrain maintenance plan.
 - LHMP Strategy Number Action Plan: Infra d-1, d-2. Govt c-20, d-4, d-5, d-10. Envi a-2.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Public Works Department.
 - Status: Ongoing. With the City's ongoing stormdrain maintenance cleanup, City projects and project coordination with other agencies and private developers, the City captures valuable information about flooding locations to improve the City's database and mapping system. In addition, the City conducts needed studies and installs monitoring devices such as the creek gauge in Wildcat Creek at Vale Rd., which transmits data to a private company, who posts it on a website.
 - Recommendation: Maintain the level of involvement in acquiring flooding information in projects and other coordination efforts.

4. Objective: Coordinate with other Public Utility Agencies to gain knowledge from each agency's projects and new system developments to better prepare in an event of a flood.
 - LHMP Strategy Number Action Plan: Infra d-4, d-5. Govt c-13, c-20, d-3, d-5, d-9, d-10. Envi a-2, a-5. Land c-3.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Public Works Department.
 - Status: Ongoing. The City is regularly participating in Public Utility meetings with other Public Utility agencies to coordinate projects, policy changes, infrastructure improvements and etc. The City also has installed an alert and warning system for flooding events to quickly warn public agencies and its residents.
 - Recommendation: Engage in constant communication with other utility agencies to streamline permit applications for projects and maintenance exertions to mitigate flooding.

5. Objective: Continue stormdrain systems (pipes, ditches, swales, etc.) maintenance efforts to ensure maximum capacity and avoid flooding.
 - LHMP Strategy Number Action Plan: Infra d-7.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Public Works Department
 - Status: Ongoing. The City Public Works Maintenance Division actively cleaning and maintaining stormdrain systems in an annual basis. The City hired new crew members to help with the upkeep of the stormdrain maintenance.
 - Also see attached FY 2015-17 City Council Adopted Priority Workplan under Infrastructure policy area, Street Maintenance excerpt.
 - Recommendation: Continue the rigorous efforts in maintenance the stormdrain systems, survey/inspect defective infrastructures and update the stormdrain database as a reference for future improvement projects.

6. Objective: Reduce flooding hazard and ensure the safety of potable drinking water through public infrastructure improvements.
 - LHMP Strategy Number: Infra d-1, d-4, d-5, d-6, d-7, d-8, d-9, d-16, d-17.
 - Responsible Department/Agency: City of San Pablo Public Works Department.

Creek and stormdrain system upgrades: Current Capital Improvement Projects

- Also see attached FY 2015-17 City Council Adopted Priority Workplan under Infrastructure policy area, Capital Improvement Projects excerpt.

- a. Yuba Ave. Drainage Diversion Project (YUB-DRN)
 - Status: The project was successfully completed on December 2015. Funding source came from local City funding.

- b. Replace Drain Pipe Under Hillcrest Road (HIL-DRN)
 - Status: The project was successfully completed on October 2015. Funding source came from local City funding.

- c. Subdrain Inspection/Cleaning by Princeton Plaza (PPZ-SDR)
 - Status: The project was successfully completed on November 2015. Funding source came from local City funding.
- d. Monitor/Replace Hydraulaugers by Princeton Plaza (PPZ-HYD)
 - Status: The project was successfully completed on December 2015. Funding source came from local City funding.
- e. Randy Lane Drainage Relocation (RLN-DRN)
 - Status: The study to determine drainage resolutions for the site's drainage problem is complete. Project is moving forward to the design phase with anticipation of required permits from the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Army Corp of Engineers and other regulatory agencies. The project is planned to begin construction by July 2016 and anticipated end of construction is by the end of August 2016. Funding source is coming from local City funding.
- f. El Portal Road Settlement
 - Status: The project is in the stage of data gathering to assess the cause of the problem. Geotechnical investigations are being conducted and a hydrology/hydraulic study may be needed. The repair project is planned to begin by July 2016 and anticipated end of construction is by the end of August 2016. Funding source may either come from local City funding, Contra Costa County and/or East Bay Municipal Utility District.
- g. Wildcat Creek Restoration Evaluation behind Plaza San Pablo (Circle S) site (PW 606)
 - Status: The preliminary draft plans are complete. All Plaza San Pablo project phases 1 to 4 must be completed (currently on phase 3 and 4 plan review) before we can begin this project; this project is phase 5. The City is still seeking funding sources for this project. More project information can be found at city website: <http://www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=1232>
- h. Wildcat Creek Daylighting at Davis Park (PW 579-1, monitoring) – on-going
 - Status: The project was successfully completed in 2013 with a budget of \$2.97 million and is now being monitored (for 10 years) through a regulatory permit condition. Funding source came from State of California Proposition 84 River Parkways Grant.
- i. Stormdrain System Upgrades & Replacements (PW 524) – on-going
 - Status: Has begun evaluations and maintenance program development. Funding source came from local City funding and Measure J.
- Recommendation (**for all CIP projects**): Continue to actively seek funding for planned projects and pursue joint projects with other agencies to alleviate existing flooding conditions.

Attachment/s:

1. FY 2015-17 City Council Adopted Priority Workplan, Policy Area Infrastructure excerpt. Full Workplan copy can be accessed at:
<http://www.sanpabloca.gov/index.aspx?nid= 1362>.