

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Executive Director

Herbert I. Nakasone

SARFPA FULL AGENCY 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

November 15, 2018 at 4:05 p.m.

Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA

Attendance/Attendees:

Jim Ferryman, SARFPA Chairman, Director, Orange County Sanitation District
Barbara Delgleize, SARFPA Vice-Chairwoman, Councilwoman, City of Huntington Beach
Stacy Berry, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Cypress
Rebecca Gomez, Councilwoman, City of Tustin
Sandra Massa-Lavitt, Councilwoman, City of Seal Beach
Keith Linker, City Engineer, City of Anaheim
Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District
Nardy Khan, Deputy Director, OC Public Works
James Tyler, Engineering Manager, OC Public Works
Justin Gollhofer, Engineer Project Manager, OC Public Works
Herbert Nakasone, SARFPA Executive Director

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

300 N. Flower, Room 756
Santa Ana CA 92703

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman Jim Ferryman, Director, Orange County Sanitation District.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Jim Ferryman, Director, Orange County Sanitation District.

3. Approval of September 27, 2018, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the September 27, 2018 meeting were approved on Motion by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Second by Stacy Berry, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Cypress.

Off Agenda Item:

At the request of Executive Director, Herb Nakasone, "Item 5A: SARFPA response to Westminster East Garden Grove, CA Flood Risk Management Study" was introduced as an emergency item. On Motion by Barbara Delgleize, Councilwoman, City of Huntington Beach and Second by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District, Item 5A was approved to be added to the Agenda.

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

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

Jim McConnell called in via telephone and reported the recent election have resulted in changing the U.S. House of Representatives from a Republican to a Democratic majority. The change in Party majority will result in changes to Committee and Sub-Committee chairmanships, such as the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and its Water Resources Sub-Committee to Democratic Representatives. Jim indicated the Water Resources Sub-Committee is especially important to Orange County since it authorizes projects, such as the Westminster Project in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Since Representative Napolitano of Los Angeles County will be the ranking Democratic member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, it is expected she will have a good chance of being the Chairman of the Committee, which should fare well with Orange County.

However, Jim indicated Orange County's new Democratic House delegates: Katie Porter, Irvine, Harley Rouda, Laguna Beach, Gil Cisneros, Fullerton and Mike Levin, San Juan Capistrano will need to be brought up to speed on the importance of supporting the Santa Ana River Main Stem Project (SAR) and the Westminster Project. Educating the new Representatives on the importance and purposes of these two major projects in Orange County will need to be communicated by the Board of Supervisors, the County staff and lobbyist, along with cities and organizations as SARFPA. Current Representatives, Ken Lowenthal and Lou Correa will also need to be reminded of the importance of these two projects.

5. Santa Ana River Mainstem Construction Status and the Westminster Watershed Study Public Meeting Schedule

Report on the Westminster East Garden Grove Flood Risk Management Study (Study) public presentations by the OC Public Works (OCPW) and the USACE was the focus of the presentation by Justin Gollhofer, Project Manager at OCPW. Since activities on the SAR reported on September 26, 2018 had not changed significantly, OCPW was asked to report on the Public Presentations made on November 7, 2018 at the City of Westminster and on November 8, 2018 in the City of Huntington Beach.

Justin provided a brief overview of the PowerPoint presentation made by the USACE at the public meetings, highlighting the following key provisions of the presentation:

- a. The goal of OCPW in the Westminster watershed is to provide 100-year level of protection to the residents and businesses.
- b. Since the Study was started in 2003, OCPW has constructed flood

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

protection projects totaling over \$100 million and is scheduled to expend another \$100 million on five additional projects over the next six years. OCPW expects credit for its expenditures towards its share of the total Westminster Watershed Project cost when authorized by Congress.

- c. The USACE is required to select a project that provides the most optimal return or the highest Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) on federal expenditures and identified as the National Economic Development (NED) plan. The Study identified the NED plan as the Minimal Channel Modifications with a BCR of 3.3 costing \$823,500 million. This NED Plan provides a 25-year level of protection.
- d. The County of Orange prefers a project with a 100-year level of protection identified as the Locally Preferred Plan (LPP). This project requires maximum channel improvements and cost \$1.467 billion with a BCR of 2.2. While the LPP has a BCR of 2.2 and less than the NED plan with a BCR of 3.3, both projects have very high BCR's and will allow Congress to authorize either project.
- e. The USACE's schedule identifies completion of the Study in mid-2020. This schedule allows the Study to be considered for Authorization in the 2020 WRDA. The Project needs to be Authorized by Congress and Appropriations included in the Federal Budget before construction can begin.

Nardy Khan, OCPW Deputy Director, reported funding the County's share of this Project is an important component for the County of Orange and will need the support of SARFPA and the cities, especially in seeking State Subvention funding.

Executive Director, Herb Nakasone, mentioned another phase of this Project that will need the attention of the County of Orange and the cities is the FEMA National Flood Insurance floodplain (NFIP) mapping related to this project. Justin Gollieher reported FEMA is scheduled to update the NFIP maps in Orange County prior to construction of many of the channel improvements and will be using the USACE Study analysis for identifying changes to the existing floodplain. The new NFIP maps may add new 100-year flood plains previously not included in the NFIP mapping and will likely result in negative reactions from residents and businesses.

5A. SARFPA Response to Westminster East Garden Grove, CA Flood Risk Management Study

Executive Director, Herb Nakasone, recommended SARFPA provide written comments to the USACE Study presented at the Public Meetings. A recommended letter to the USACE was included in the Agenda Folder for consideration by the Executive Committee. On Motion by Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Second by Stacy Berry, Mayor Pro-tem, City of Cypress, the recommend letter with copies to our new Congressional Representatives was approved.

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

6. Public and Representative Comments

Executive Director Herb Nakasone informed all in attendance, the 2019 meeting schedule was included in their Agenda folder.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. by Chairman Jim Ferryman, Director, Orange County Sanitation District.