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DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

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GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

JOHN A. FANTHAM  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS



AGENDA : AUGUST 25, 1998

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## COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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August 13, 1998

### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: PAJARO RIVER WATERSHED RESOLUTION

Members of the Board:

As you are aware, Assemblymember Keeley has been very active in the legislature regarding the recurrent flooding along the Pajaro River. Realizing that the problem is regional in nature, he authored Assembly Bill 1986, the "Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority Act." The Act would establish a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) comprising the four counties and water agencies that contribute runoff to the river. Following the introduction of the bill to the Assembly, some of the proposed members of the JPA voiced their opposition to it on the grounds that the political bodies involved already possess the authority to enter into agreements to address problems of common concern and a state mandated authority is unnecessary.

Assemblymember Keeley challenged the proposed JPA members to reach agreement on how best to proceed towards resolving the flooding issues. To that end, the Santa Clara Valley Water Agency sponsored a meeting in Gilroy on July 30, 1998, and invited representatives from the proposed JPA and the Army Corps of Engineers. The result of that meeting is the resolution before your Board today.

The proposed resolution provides a framework and time line for the development of a multi jurisdictional study to assess the nature of flood risks throughout the Pajaro River watershed. The targeted time line to determine the scope and financing for the study has been coordinated to coincide with the results of an initial appraisal of the watershed being prepared by the Corps of Engineers. Assemblymember Keeley has reviewed the proposed resolution and is satisfied that the agreement will be able to accomplish the goals defined in the Assembly Bill.

It is therefore recommended that your Board adopt the Resolution of Intent to Develop an Agreement to Assess the Nature of Flood Risks throughout the Pajaro River Watershed Basin.

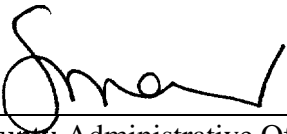
Yours truly,

  
JOHN A. FANTHAM  
Director of Public Works

DJH:mg

Attachment

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Administrative Officer

copy to:      Assemblymember Fred Keeley  
                 Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County  
                 Board of Supervisors, San Benito County  
                 Board of Supervisors, Monterey County  
                 Zone 7 Board of Directors  
                 Santa Clara Valley Water District  
                 San Benito County Water Agency  
                 Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
                 United States Army Corps of Engineers  
                 Public Works

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

On the motion of Supervisor  
duly seconded by Supervisor  
the following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP AN AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE A  
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL STUDY TO ASSESS THE NATURE OF FLOOD  
RISKS THROUGHOUT THE PAJARO RIVER WATERSHED BASIN

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is empowered by law to plan, develop, maintain, and provide facilities and services for the management of flood waters; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with other government agencies throughout the Pajaro River Basin, desires to provide participation in a regional effort to assess the nature of flood risks within the Pajaro River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to accomplish the aforesaid purposes by expressing an intent to work cooperatively to define acceptable strategies to improve flood protection throughout the Pajaro River Watershed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz hereby:

- (1) Agrees to participate in an intergovernmental working group consisting of appropriate local governmental entities in San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties; and
- (2) Agrees to consider appropriate participation in the development of a reconnaissance study to define the nature of flood risks throughout the Pajaro River Watershed for future use in mitigating these risks including consideration of a) making financial contributions for studies; b) developing of grant funding applications and /or c) entering into interagency agreements to undertake studies; and
- (3) Agrees to work within the following targeted time line for the attainment of the goals, as stated herein:

ACTIVITYTARGETED TIME LINE

- |    |  |                  |
|----|--|------------------|
| a) | Working group participation                              | August 1998      |
| b) | Negotiated flood risk reconnaissance study parameters    | October 1998     |
| c) | Negotiated agreements for reconnaissance study financing | December 1998    |
| d) | Start of study   | To be determined |
| e) | Completion of study                                      | To be determined |
| f) | Evaluation of study recommendations                      | To be determined |
| g) | Negotiated implementation of study recommendations       | To be determined |

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District-Zone 7, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this o day f 1998, by the following vote:

AYES : DIRECTORS

NOES: DIRECTORS

ABSENT: DIRECTORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

D. McRae 8-1-98  
~~Chief~~ Assistant County Counsel

Distribution: County Counsel  
Public Works