



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, 4THFLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
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ALVIN D. JAMES, DIRECTOR

August 4, 1999

Board of Directors
Corralitos Geologic Hazard Abatement District
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

AGENDA: August 17, 1999

SUBJECT: Acquisition of Properties Under the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Program

Members of the Board:

On January 12, 1999, we reported to your Board on the status of the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Program, which is for the acquisition of properties damaged by landslides resulting from the 1998 El Niño storms. This letter will provide a brief update on actions taken since that last report, and recommend that certain properties be authorized for purchase at this time.

STATUS OF REQUIRED ACTIONS

As your Board will recall, a number of actions had to be completed before we could recommend proceeding with acquisition of properties. Most important was the creation of Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts to hold title to the properties and the confirmation of Public Assistance funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to finance the required demolition of structures damaged by El Niño induced landslides. Since our January report, we have completed the bulk of the required actions; clarification of program requirements with the State Office of Emergency Services (OES) and FEMA; formation of the GHADs and; submittal of demolition bids as part of requests for demolition funding.

At this point, the primary remaining actions are (1) Completion of site reviews with Damage Survey Report (DSR) teams from OES, FEMA and the County to confirm demolition actions and to recommend funding levels, and (2) development of recommendations to your Board to proceed with property acquisitions presuming DSR funding is adequate to complete the required demolitions. OES has been very supportive of our efforts to secure demolition funding and has been instrumental in resolving communication lapses by FEMA. OES representatives have expressed a willingness to proceed with funding authorization on their own authority if FEMA does not act expeditiously. We are working actively to schedule and conclude the required site reviews.

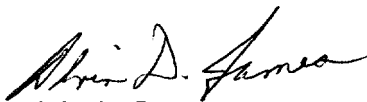
PROPERTIES NOW READY FOR ACQUISITION

There are, however, four parcels in the Corralitos Project Area which will not involve funding of demolition work and may, therefore, move forward with acquisition at this time. The owner of three parcels has indicated he will complete demolition work himself prior to selling the property to the GHAD and the fourth parcel is vacant. Since the GHAD will not be obligated to incur demolition costs on these parcels, all necessary funding is already in place to proceed to escrow.

Hazard Abatement District, authorize the Planning Director to request Landslide HMGP grant funds from OES and, in cooperation with the Real Property Division of Public Works, to open escrow for the purpose of purchasing APNs 108-371-03, 108-371-09, 108-371-11 and 108-371-12 under the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

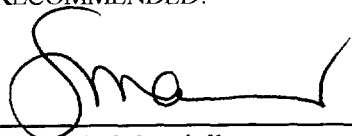
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Sincerely,



Alvin D. James
Planning Director

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

CC: Real Property