



April 8, 2021

Jeremy Arrich, Chief

Department of Water Resources

Division of Flood Management

3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170

Sacramento, California 95821

**Subject: Request to Repair DWR's Flood System Repair Project (FSRP) Critical and Serious Seepage Sites in DWR Maintenance Area 9 (SAC44/45) Stone Lake and Hood**

Dear Mr. Arrich:

The Hood Community Council (HCC) has learned through Sacramento County's current Small Communities Flood Risk Reduction Program (SCFRRP) that the left bank levee of the Sacramento River within DWR's Maintenance Area 9 (MA 9) between Freeport and Hood is highly susceptible to potential levee failures. The potential for levee failures directly adjacent to Hood are due to the presence of nine outstanding FSRP critical/serious sites within (MA 9) between Freeport and Hood, with one serious and three critical seepage sites directly adjacent to our Delta Legacy Community of Hood. These known FSRP sites not only pose eminent flood risks to our community but also to Interstate 5, portions of Elk Grove, and Point Pleasant to the east. Thus, the HCC requests timely attention and priority be given by DWR to repair these known sites within MA 9.

Similar to the nearby, downstream Delta Legacy Community of Courtland, the highest priority structural management action items, or "no-regrets" levee repairs identified in the flood risk reduction Feasibility Study Reports (FSRs) for both Courtland and Hood are repairing all known FSRP critical and serious sites, all of which are well documented by DWR dating back to February of 2013. DWR references outlined in the Sacramento County draft FSR and supporting geotechnical appendices indicate there is also a history total of 131 Past Levee Performance Problems identified for the subject MA 9 Sacramento

River left (east) bank levee between Freeport and areas just south of Hood, all pointing to eminent flood risks to our Delta Legacy Community and areas east as previously noted.

Included as a geotechnical appendix (Appendix A-2) to Sacramento County's FSR for the Delta Legacy Community of Hood, and attached hereto, is a Technical Memorandum (TM) prepared for SAFCA by GEI Consultants in May of 2017. The TM indicates a high vulnerability rating for the subject MA 9 levee between Freeport and Hood containing the numerous documented repair sites and numerous levee performance issues. The noted TM and other documented FSRP reports, and cost estimates of \$7,140,000 (in 2010 dollars) for repairing just the documented five FSRP critical sites were reviewed and discussed over two years ago on January 28, 2019, with DWR staff, SAFCA staff, and Sacramento County staff/consultants representing Hood. At the time, DWR conveyed there were sufficient Prop 1E/84 bond funds available to design, permit and construct the remediation repairs. However, DWR was seeking local partners (SAFCA and/or Sacramento County) to execute the work as DWR did not have readily available staff or in-house resources to conduct the work in a timely manner.

This letter is intended to simply remind DWR that these documented FSRP critical and serious sites require immediate, near term attention from DWR. Previous studies conducted by DWR, including pre-feasibility FSRP investigations and CVFPP evaluations suggest baseline Expected Annual Damages (EAD) values for the area protected by MA 9 south of Freeport, could be as high as \$23,538,000 (in 2010 dollars); and by repairing the noted sites such damages could be lowered to an annual inundation-reduction (IR) value as little as \$2,998,000. This represents an annual (IR) benefit of over \$20,000,000 which is favorably greater than the anticipated cost of completing the anticipated repairs (in 2010 dollars).

The known repair sites have been determined to be critical for the protection of our Delta Legacy Community of Hood as further detailed in Sacramento County's StoryMap website <http://sacdelta.stormready.org/> containing the draft FSR and supporting appendices. Please note that Hood is deemed a Disadvantaged Community (DAC), and we do not have a local maintaining agency (LMA) nor a reclamation district to represent our community. Hood is located entirely within the service boundaries of MA 9 (South) which also encompasses Stone Lakes, Point Pleasant and portions of Elk Grove.

Similar to the FSRP sites near the community of Courtland, repair of the noted FSRP sites in MA 9, particularly adjacent to Hood would be responsive to the coequal goals presented by the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan. The repairs would improve the levee and natural Sacramento River corridor infrastructure that acts to convey water in the North Delta to the Delta Cross Channel, adding to the reliability and resiliency of conveying SWP and CVP water through the North Delta. The repairs would also address the coequal goal of the Delta as an evolving place by increasing flood protection to the Delta Legacy Community of Hood and several thousand acres of farmland that produce both permanent and annual crops. The adjoining lands just east of our community within the Primary Zone of the Delta also provide valuable wildlife habitat in the nearby Stone Lake(s) National and State wildlife refuges. The HCC hereby requests DWR to seriously consider prioritizing and funding repair of the known critical repairs sites followed by the known serious sites, particularly the four sites closest to our community. Similar for the community of Courtland, we are requesting these repairs and deferred maintenance be considered by available programs that could initiate funding for planning and implementation, utilizing

Deferred Maintenance Project funding when distributed to FSRP, or other programs like the SCFRR Phase 2 – Design and Construction.

Thank you for consideration of our request. The community of Hood and Sacramento County representatives are willing to meet with you and your staff on site and/or in Hood to further discuss the necessary repairs at your earliest convenience. Please let us know your availability.

Sincerely,

Hood Community Council

Mario Moreno/Dave Welch

Attachments:

1. Community of Hood SCFRRP Feasibility Study Report Appendix A-1 – Levee Vulnerability Assessment TM prepared for SAFCA by GEI Consultants, May 2017
2. DWR Flood System Repair (FSRP) Critical and Serious Repair Site Maps for SAC44/45
3. DWR-SAFCA-Sacramento County meeting agenda of January 28, 2019 re MA 9 FSRP Critical repairs Sites

cc: Michael Sabbaghian, DWR

Dave Wheeldon, DWR

Michael Mierzwa, DWR

Mary Jimenez, DWR - Multi-Benefit Initiatives Branch

Congressman John Garamendi

State Senator Bill Dodd

Assemblyman Jim Cooper

Assemblyman Jim Frazier

Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor

MBK Engineers, Lower Sacramento North Delta Flood Protect RFMP

Pete Ghelfi, SAFCA

Melinda Terry, CCVFCA