OneShoreline
Building Solutions for a Changing Climate

HYBRID MEETING: IN-PERSON AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

This meeting will be held **in-person on the first floor of 1700 S. El Camino Real in San Mateo, and remotely** for public participation. Participants attending the meeting remotely via Zoom should click on the following link:

https://oneshoreline-org.zoom.us/j/85001931073

or call 669-444-9171 (Meeting ID# 850 0193 1073)

San Mateo County Flood & Sea Level Rise Resiliency District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

County Supervisors:

At-Large	Dave Pine – **Chair**
District 3	Ray Mueller

City Representatives:

Coast	Debbie Ruddock – **Vice Chair**
North	Donna Colson
Central	Adam Rak
South	Lisa Gauthier
At-Large	Marie Chuang

AGENDA October 23, 2023 4:00 PM

1. **Roll Call**

2. **Public Comment** Persons wishing to address the Board on District-related matters not on this Agenda may speak for up to two minutes; comments on Agenda items shall be heard during that item for up to two minutes.

3. **Action to Set the Agenda**

4. **Regular Business**

   A. Update on OneShoreline's Millbrae and Burlingame Shoreline Area Protection and Enhancement Project

   B. Update on San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority activities and projects

   C. Discussion of OneShoreline's winter preparedness activities

5. **Chair's Report** *

6. **CEO's Report** *

7. **Board Member Reports and Items for a Future Agenda** *

8. **Adjournment**

* There is no written staff report for this item

Meeting information, and public access and communications

- Verbal public comments will be accepted during the meeting in person or remotely. Remote comments can be submitted at the appropriate time by raising your hand via Zoom's Chat or hand raising functions, or speaking if joining by phone. Written public comments can be submitted by email to board@OneShoreline.org by noon on the meeting day – indicate the agenda item to which your comment applies and it will be read or summarized at the meeting by the Board Clerk.
- If you require assistance to participate in the meeting or wish to submit written communication to all Board Members regarding the meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board by 9:00 am on the day of the meeting.
- Public records relating to an open session item on the agenda are available at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Board meeting or at least 24 hours prior to a Special Board meeting, when these records are distributed to Board members. Public records are available at the District office at 1700 South El Camino Real, Suite 502, San Mateo, CA 94402 and at OneShoreline.org. To receive these documents electronically, please email board@OneShoreline.org.

San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District

Agenda Report

Date: October 23, 2023

To: San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District Board of Directors

From: Len Materman, CEO

Subject: Update on the Millbrae and Burlingame Shoreline Area Protection and Enhancement Project

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Recommendation:

That the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District ("OneShoreline") Board of Directors ("Board") receive an update on the District's Millbrae and Burlingame Shoreline Area Protection and Enhancement Project.

Background and Discussion:

In late 2019 and early 2020, separate studies conducted by the cities of Burlingame and Millbrae evaluated their vulnerability to sea level rise within San Francisco Bay, and explored strategies to reduce that vulnerability. Meanwhile, as discussed during last month's Board meeting, the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) has undertaken a Shoreline Protection Program to protect its perimeter from sea level rise. Soon after it was established by State legislation in 2020, OneShoreline began discussing the need to coordinate these efforts with these cities and SFO.

In January 2022, the OneShoreline Board committed $4 million to jump-start its initiative in this area of the Bay shoreline, known as the Millbrae and Burlingame Shoreline Area Protection and Enhancement Project ("Project"). Those funds, secured by OneShoreline from the State of California through a direct appropriation requested by then-Assemblymember Kevin Mullin, will enable the completion of 30% engineering designs and the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

By the spring of 2022, we engaged a consultant team of engineers and experts in California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") compliance, environmental permitting, and other disciplines. Since then, this team has completed a LiDAR flyover to update topography and bathymetry; collected data and drafted reports summarizing the Project's environmental constraints (e.g. biological/cultural resources and hazardous materials), coastal flood hazards, and inland flood hazards; completed the initial round of geotechnical borings; identified a series of Project alternatives; met with subject matter experts and environmental regulatory staff to facilitate early input on these alternatives; and conducted a feasibility analysis.

On October 10, 2023, OneShoreline initiated the CEQA process by releasing a Notice of Preparation ("NOP") for an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"). The NOP provides an overview of the scope and nature of the project and invites comments from stakeholders through November 15, 2023. Written comments on the scope of the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR can be submitted through November 15 by email to Projects@OneShoreline.org. Verbal comments can be provided during a public Scoping meeting for the project on November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Burlingame Community Center located at 850 Burlingame Avenue. More information about the project and the scoping period can be found online at OneShoreline.org/Projects/Millbrae-Burlingame.

The Project has the following three primary objectives: 1) protect areas within the cities of Millbrae and Burlingame along the Bay shoreline, creeks, and lagoons against current coastal hazards and future sea level rise as defined by OneShoreline's Bay Protection Standard; 2) enhance shoreline access, recreation, and trails; and 3) promote healthy and sustainable ecosystems proximate to the Bay shoreline. The proposed Project would include a combination of offshore and shoreline features to achieve these objectives.

Many areas of the shoreline are barely protected from an extreme tide – a condition that will worsen with sea level rise and is made plain by the number of properties in the FEMA flood zone. Furthermore, city storm drain systems are overwhelmed during major rain events, and larger atmospheric rivers and sea level rise will further decrease storm drain capacity. Sea level rise will also result in the loss of existing shoreline habitat and threatens access and trails.

To address these current and future concerns, OneShoreline's Project proposes to construct an offshore barrier with doors that can be actively managed to allow Bay water to flow in and out with normal tides while also protect shoreline areas against dangerous coastal conditions. Under current normal conditions, these doors would remain open, enabling tidal flows and fish migration. During major atmospheric rivers, extreme tides, and/or future sea level rise, the doors would close for as long as is needed to keep higher Bay water levels out of creeks and properties and create space to safely store storm-related creek flows.

This barrier would be composed of hardened and natural materials, include habitat features and potentially a trail, and would extend approximately 2.65 miles from southernmost coastal SFO location just north of Highline Canal to the southeast corner of the shoreline of Burlingame. To expand its benefits, this barrier could be extended an additional 0.6 miles further south to high ground at the northwest edge of Coyote Point within the City of San Mateo. OneShoreline's EIR will study this barrier, as well as onshore features that support the three project objectives.

At this Board meeting, we will discuss the history and status of the Project, the Project features mentioned above, and next steps in this effort.

Fiscal Impact on OneShoreline Resources:

As mentioned in the second paragraph of the Background and Discussion section above, the $4 million in State funding will enable completion of 30% engineering designs and the Draft EIR. The additional consultant costs to complete design, the EIR, and environmental permitting will need to be covered by future grants, contributions from Millbrae, Burlingame, SFO, and other agencies and asset owners benefitting from the Project. Beyond consultant costs, the Project demands substantial OneShoreline staff time. The financial costs associated with OneShoreline staff are budgeted in the approved FY 2023-24 Budget and will be included in future fiscal year budgets.

Attachments: None

San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District
Agenda Report

Date: October 23, 2023

To: San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District Board of Directors

From: Len Materman, CEO

Subject: Update on San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority activities and projects

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Recommendation:
That the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District ("OneShoreline") Board of Directors receive a presentation from the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority.

Background and Discussion:
Following major flooding in February 1998 along San Francisquito Creek in the cities of East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto, five local government entities – San Mateo County Flood Control District, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Palo Alto, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District – collectively established the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority ("SFCJPA"). Through coordinated grant funding, planning, designs, and construction, the SFCJPA implements projects to reduce the risk of flooding and provide ecosystem and recreational benefits to communities in the watershed. When OneShoreline was established on January 1, 2020, it assumed the assets, responsibilities, and obligations of the San Mateo County Flood Control District, including the Flood Control District's role as a member agency of the SFCJPA.

At this OneShoreline Board meeting, SFCJPA Executive Director Margaret Bruce will provide an update on SFCJPA projects and activities. Here is a brief summary of those projects:

- Reach 1 San Francisquito Creek project – Located between SF Bay and Highway 101 in the cities of Palo Alto and East Palo Alto, the Reach 1 project constructed new levees and floodwalls, utilized Palo Alto Golf Course land to widen the creek channel, and created over 22 acres of marsh habitat. This complex project protects significant portions of the eastern parts of East Palo Alto and Palo Alto, and involved over 50 agencies, organizations, and contractors.
- Reach 2 San Francisquito Creek project – Located between Highway 101 and the Pope-Chaucer Bridge, the Reach 2 project will start with Palo Alto's replacement of the Newell Road Bridge, which is likely to occur in 2024. In 2025, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the SFCJPA plan to lead complementary work to widen the channel upstream of Newell Road Bridge. The final component of the Reach 2 work will be replacement of the Pope-Chaucer Bridge, which is anticipated for construction in 2026.
- SAFER Bay Project - The SAFER Bay project is 7½ miles of shoreline from the southern border of East Palo Alto to the northern border of Menlo Park, where OneShoreline plans to continue shoreline protection north through Menlo Park and Redwood City (This is the area where OneShoreline recently built underground diversion structures to move floodwaters from the Bayfront Canal to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ponds). The SAFER Bay project uses a similar protection objective as the Reach 1 project, which it will connect to, and OneShoreline's Bay Protection Standard. This project will protect communities in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, as well as critical transportation, water, and energy infrastructure. CEQA documentation and preliminary design are now underway with funding from the California Department of Water Resources and the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority. These critical grants are part of a total pool of federal, state, and private funding for the project that exceeds $100 million.

Impact on OneShoreline Resources:
OneShoreline's annual financial contribution to the SFCJPA as one of its member agencies and costs associated with OneShoreline staff time and contractors related to San Francisquito Creek are covered by property taxes OneShoreline collects from this creek's Flood Zone and are included in our agency's annual Flood Zones Budget.

Attachments: None

San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District

Agenda Report

Date: October 23, 2023

To: San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District Board of Directors

From: Len Materman, CEO

Subject: Discussion of OneShoreline's winter preparedness activities

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Recommendation

That the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District ("OneShoreline") Board of Directors ("Board") receive an update on our winter preparedness activities.

Background and Discussion:

In anticipation of the upcoming rainy season, with an El Niño forecast by the National Weather Service and potentially a repeat of the major storms of the past two winters, OneShoreline has made progress on winter preparedness on several fronts. The discussion at today's Board meeting coincides with California's Flood Preparedness Week (October 21-28, 2023), an initiative of the California Department of Water Resources to support efforts across the state to inform Californians about flood risk and preparedness. Resources and more information may be found at Water.CA.gov/What-We-Do/Flood-Preparedness/Flood-Preparedness-Week.

During the storm events of last season, OneShoreline responded to flooding along several creeks including real-time early warning along five creeks, and debris removal between storms in Belmont Creek and after storms in San Francisquito Creek. The principal cause of the flooding originating from our creeks is insufficient capacity to convey stormwater largely because of the buildup of sediment and vegetation in the channels. As most of these overburdened creeks' floodplains drain through multiple jurisdictions, both the source of and remedy to this flooding involves multiple agencies.


OneShoreline consultant measures a bridge to calculate debris quantities.

Removing the causes of flooding Since OneShoreline is well-positioned to bridge the gaps between jurisdictions, and in response to these capacity constraints, we have hired consultants to develop 5-year stream maintenance permit applications to environmental regulatory agencies, including the Army Corps of Engineers, CA Department of Fish & Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and, depending on location, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Having these permits will enable local jurisdictions to periodically remove debris from constrained reaches of Atherton, Cordilleras, Belmont, San Mateo, and San Bruno Creeks that caused flooding this past winter. The consultants have completed the necessary field work, reports delineating wetlands and biological conditions, and are drafting the project description. For CEQA compliance, we plan to develop an Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration. Our objective is to secure permits in time for the cities or County to perform maintenance activities starting next summer.

Additionally, along San Bruno Creek and San Francisquito Creek, the County Department of Public Works ('DPW") on our behalf performed major vegetation management activities.

To reduce the flood threat to a mobile home park located within the Harbor Industrial Area of unincorporated San Mateo County and Highway 101, we have collaborated with Caltrans to clear sediment from approximately 1,000 feet of clogged stormwater pipe along Sem Lane that drains floodwaters to Belmont Creek downstream of the flood prone areas.


OneShoreline & Caltrans staff discuss debris removal and coordinated permits.

Providing flood warning OneShoreline operates, maintains, and is expanding its countywide Flood Early Warning System (OneShorelineEarlyWarning.onerain.com). This system has proved valuable to emergency response personnel in monitoring real-time creek and precipitation conditions in flood-prone neighborhoods, along Colma, San Bruno, San Mateo, Atherton, and Belmont Creeks which collectively drain parts of 14 cities and unincorporated County areas. This winter, we aim to establish a protocol for emergency response personnel to use our system for more informed decision-making during emergencies.

Over the past six months, OneShoreline staff and consultants worked to expand this system to the Pacific coastside of the county by:

- installing a new monitoring station on Pescadero Creek within the Town of Pescadero,
- upgrading an existing stream monitoring station to incorporate precipitation amounts,
- modifying an existing "Road May Flood" road-side flasher to transmit notifications to our system when water has encroached upon Pescadero Creek Road, and
- upgrading a radio repeater to transmit this data to the base station receiver located in Redwood City where it can be integrated into our system.

These system upgrades aim to provide over an hour of flood early warning to the community of Pescadero and allow emergency managers/residents to monitor creek levels in real-time.

Like last winter, and in partnership with the San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management, OneShoreline plans to utilize its Flood Early Warning System to issue messages through *SMC Alert* directly to every mobile phone in affected areas around Belmont Creek and San Bruno Creek, when creek water levels reach capacity with substantial rain in the forecast.

Reducing storm flooding along Colma Creek With the support of the County DPW, OneShoreline launched a construction project to maintain 15 deteriorated discharge pipes (some over 50 years old) that drain to lower Colma Creek. As part of these upgrades, we are incorporating flap gates at the outfalls of the rehabilitated drainage systems, further protecting this low-lying community from sunny-day flooding resulting from high tides.

Impact on OneShoreline Resources

There is no impact on OneShoreline resources associated with this item. The funds necessary for these activities are included in the approved OneShoreline operating budget.

Attachments: None