



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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CACHE CREEK TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) SUMMARY MINUTES

Monday, September 13, 2010 10:00 AM
County Administration Building, Atrium Training Room
625 Court Street, Woodland

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Eric Larsen at 10:00 AM

Roll Call: Eric Larsen (TAC Fluvial Geomorphologist)
Erik Ringelberg (TAC Riparian Biologist)
Tim Horner (TAC Hydrologist)

Staff: Kevin Schwartz, Tami Leathers

Consultant: Heidi Tschudin

Others: See attached sign-in sheet

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The item "Debrief of Creek Walk" was missing from the Agenda, and since it was an information item with no action required, it was deemed admissible and added to the Agenda as item 6.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Erik Ringelberg and seconded by Tim Horner to approve the minutes from the August 10, August 27, and August 30, 2010 meetings. The minutes were adopted as presented.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

5. STAFF UPDATES

5.1 Department of Water Resources – Wood Rodgers

Since there was not a representative from Wood Rodgers present, Tami Leathers read the brief statement as seen below.

1. LiDAR data capture is completed and undergoing secondary post-processing to address levee break lines, obscured and low-confidence areas and classify the data with respect to water, dense vegetation, etc. This should be completed by November 2010. This effort will also result in producing a Digital Elevation Model.
2. Field surveys for cross-sections and structures on Cache Creek have been completed and the data is being reviewed and prepared for transmittal to DWR. This data should be approved by the end of the year.
3. Work has been initiated to develop two-dimensional floodplains from the Winters Canal to the Yolo Bypass. These models are being prepared to be able to commence floodplain mapping in the Spring 2011.
4. A new hydraulic model (HEC-RAS) will be developed for Cache Creek using the LiDAR data and field survey data. The channel geometry cannot be completed until the work product from (1) is completed. The new hydraulic model is scheduled to be fully operational before June 2011.

Eric Larsen questioned whether the TAC wanted to wait for the model from DWR that will not cost anything, or to pay to have it done. Liabilities and benefits were seen for both approaches. There was general agreement to Lynnel Pollock's suggestion of obtaining the data from DWR but developing our own model – it could end up being different from the state's model but that was deemed ok. Plus, we could add sediment transport which would then cover all the tasks we are supposed to be doing with the regular HEC modeling anyway. The County is over due on the HEC modeling - supposed to run it annually and update it every five years.

5.2 Natural Resources Division – Tami/Kevin

Tami Leathers mentioned the recent Creek Walk will be discussed in a later Agenda item.

In reference to water quality, a one-time test for Cache Creek surface water is planned, in order to provide continuity in the testing schedule, pending a new contract for regular sample testing.

5.3 Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC)

Lynnel Pollock announced a Creek Clean-up Day September 25, 2010; the Nature Preserve will be one of the clean up sites.

5.4 Yolo County Resource Conservation District

Jeanette Wrynski reported on hiring of a new Director, Vegetation Management Specialist, Ravenna grass control activities, the ARRA grant audit, and the Watershed Coordinator grant application for upper Cache Creek.

5.5 Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Tami Leathers reported for Flood Control: the Capay Dam apron construction is set to start today.

6. CREEK WALK DEBRIEF

Eric Larsen reviewed the schedule. At first the walk was set for one day, a second day was added. He reported that much of the creek was covered, although much of the focus was on bridge locations. He had some suggestions for the next walk:

- Set goals for each site (continue the coordination with staff regarding stops – this was useful)
- Have quantitative data available in the field to see trends
- Have established repeat photo sites
- Make photos available for comparisons during the walk.

Tim Horner mentioned there had been much starting and stopping of the tour, modifying the agenda on the fly. But he stated he saw 80% of what he wanted to see. He felt the tug of needing more time, but at the same time recognized that prior management wanted to cut back due to the cost.

Erik Ringelberg thanked the staff for the additional information provided – he thought the staff package was useful. The field discussions were good even though the wildlife had been hard to find and view given the season. He liked having the list of priorities for the walk. He noted that from a biological monitoring standpoint, the creek walk was conducted too late in the year. Mr. Ringelberg stated that a final list of transect monitoring lines needs to be agreed upon and finalized. He also stated his desire to walk the Capay Reach when the creek is dewatered while dam repair work is occurring. There are seeps and bedrock outcroppings there with unique wildlife and habitat values.

The entire TAC was of the general consensus that holding at least two pre-walk planning sessions next year, well in advance, would be beneficial.

Ben Adamo added that driving around in the vehicles was not a good use of time. He would rather see TAC continue prior practice of end-to-end creek walk with less time at specific spots. He suggested to the County separate specific sites

and projects from the overall review of the area. Specific location issues should be handled separately.

Lynnel Pollock suggested doing a Creek Float when water flows are high enough.

Jeanette Wrynski supported the full creek walk in the future as well as conducting the creek walk earlier in the year. She mentioned the TAC would be able to better identify critical changes in the creek as they begin.

The overall consensus of the public was for future creek walks to include walking the entire creek from the Capay Dam to the I-5 Overcrossing. There was general discussion about floating the creek at a different time of the year to supplement the creek walk held pursuant to the CCRMP.

The staff will raise these issues again for the purposes of planning the 2011 creek walk.

7. CEMEX PRESENTATION

The CEMEX presentation began at approximately 10:50. Steve Greenfield of Cunningham Engineering pointed out that this proposal was an informal one, hoping to satisfactorily answer the concerns of the TAC. The presentation was a brief visual overview of the modifications proposed for the re-submittal (since the Creek Walk) for sites designated as Sites F, D and E. Each site was described by 2 slides, one a locale/vicinity photo and the other a cutaway drawing of the proposed work. Mark Mammola of CEMEX stated the purpose of the modifications is to reconstruct to 2005 topography.

TAC asked for clarifications on several items on the proposal from the representatives from CEMEX. Heidi Tschudin clarified that the agenda item is to allow each TAC member to comment on whether the applicant's revised plans adequately incorporate the TAC written comments. The TAC comments (individually and collectively) will be utilized by the County Planning Department/Floodplain Administrator in taking action on the requested amended Flood Hazard Development Permit (FHDP).

In response to questions from Tim Horner regarding the true face of the slope and where the face will be engineered vs. natural, the applicant explained that the engineering sheets don't really reflect work in the field. More will be engineered than shown on the exhibits. Member Horner expressed concerns about compaction and proposed fill material (mix of cobbles and concrete rubble).

There was discussion about characterizing the repair as an "emergency" repair. Heidi Tschudin explained that the repair is an "emergency" repair only for the purposes of the 404 permit the applicant is seeking to use. The repair is not an "emergency" from the County's perspective, and each TAC member should

ensure that from their respective TAC positions, the proposed improvements would address the violations and implement and be consistent with the CCRMP/CCIP.

There was discussion regarding the role of the TAC in the review process. Heidi Tschudin clarified that the TAC is advisory to the floodplain administrator for the purposes of the proposed FHDP amendment request from CEMEX. It was also clarified that the TAC does not need to necessarily reach a unified position on the plans, but each TAC member should comment from their position/expertise.

In response to a question, Heidi Tschudin clarified that the Floodplain Administrator for the CCAP is Dirk Brazil; however in this case the CAO's office has reached an agreement with the Planning Department to process the request.

TAC discussed their desire for a slope study analysis and the use of native material (cobble stone) or concrete for the toe. Erik Ringelberg stated that natural material (stone) should be used in the toe's construction. Eric Larson added that long-term planning should include native material (natural stone) throughout the project. CEMEX is hoping to have the technical report from their engineers by the end of this week.

The TAC agreed that they were comfortable with the proposal to return the slopes to their prior condition and that the revised plans were acceptable, assuming a slope stability analysis is provided that substantiates the proposed slopes. Regarding fill materials, the applicant clarified they are proposing to use cobbles where visible and concrete rubble below the surface. The applicant has suggested that they would use 100 percent cobbles (natural stone) if the county paid for the extra cost.

The TAC reiterated their support for 100 percent natural stone at the applicant's expense. The TAC agreed that notwithstanding the revised plans, their September 13, 2010 comment letter still stands. They will individually review the slope stability analysis as soon as it is made available, and submit separate individual supplemental comments if appropriate, to be forwarded to the Floodplain Administrator.

8. TAC RESPONSIBILITIES

This item is carried over to the next TAC meeting.

9. NEXT TAC MEETING

The next TAC meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on Monday, October 11, 2010.

Recommended items for next month's meeting:

- Review of the HEC RAS analysis

- Establishing a monitoring program

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:55 AM by Eric Larsen.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Tschudin for Cindy Tuttle, Natural Resources Coordinator
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