



185 Commerce Circle
Sacramento, CA 95815

voice (916) 929-4006
fax (916) 929-4160

www.arfcd.org

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Cyril A. Shah
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Tamika L'Ecluse

Item 6
General Manager
Timothy R. Kerr, P.E.

DATE: January 10, 2020

TO: Board of Trustees
American River Flood Control District

FROM: Tim Kerr, General Manager

SUBJECT: District Outlook for 2020

This purpose of this memo is to provide a description of topics and activities that are a high priority for the General Manager for 2020. These topics are as follows:

1. District Transition to By-District Elections
2. Headquarters Facility Re-Roof Project
3. State DWR Grant Funded Activities
4. Arcade Creek and American River Erosion Contracts
5. Homeless Camp Operation and Maintenance Standards

District Transition to By-District Elections – The District currently employs an at-large system to elect its Board members. The Board of Trustees expressed its intent to transition to a by-district election system. Staff plans to prioritize efforts to research election re-structuring, review consultants, and obtain 2020 census data and bring the information to the Board over the coming months. The Board will be engaged in the selection of consultants and review and selection of various mock-ups of the proposed election Districts.

Headquarters Facility Re-Roof Project - The designs for the new roof on the Headquarters facility are nearly complete. Staff will be working with the architect and design engineers to complete the design and incorporate all necessary roof and drainage features. The design will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to being advertised for bid. The Board will then select a suitable contractor from the list of responsive and responsible bidders. Staff will participate in contract management with the architect and provide regular updates to the Board throughout the construction project.

State DWR Grant Funded Activities – The District is engaged in numerous efforts with the assistance of State Department of Water Resources grant funds. The grants are intended to help Local Maintaining Agencies obtain or keep existing Federal Rehabilitation and Inspection Program eligibility. Our District is using Deferred Maintenance Project grant funds to locate and inspect levee pipes. Some of that funding will also be used to properly abandon a District levee pipe in the south levee of the American River near Interstate-5. This work needs to be complete by June 30, 2020. The District is also participating in the Flood Maintenance Assistance Program grant and is approved to receive \$219,000 for new equipment and hazardous tree removal. That money is expected to be received early in 2020.

Arcade Creek and American River Erosion Contracts – Four erosion sites along Arcade Creek need to be repaired. Staff hopes to be underway with designs for the repairs soon and will then obtain the necessary regulatory permits. It is still possible that the work could be conducted by in-house staff and rental construction equipment but staff would like to reserve the option for hiring a construction contractor for some of the sites if necessary. All designs, environmental, and construction documents will be brought to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Homeless Camp Operation and Maintenance Standards – The District is situated in a densely populated urban area. With that setting comes a high occurrence of pedestrian foot traffic along and across the levees for people living in camps in the region's creeks and waterways. In some instances, the camps get located on the levee footprint, slope, or even crown. District staff has noted a substantial increase in the magnitude of the number of camps in the last 5 years. This

increased camp presence and foot traffic has caused damage to the levees and impacted staff efficiency and workload. Efforts to date to adjust to the new conditions on the levees include working with law enforcement to relocate camps to conduct routine operations and maintenance, remove massive amounts of trash and debris, and repair levee damage from camp excavations into the levee. District staff has coordinated regionally with all other impacted agencies to formulate best management practices on how we can still get our essential work done on the levees. In 2020, staff seeks to develop Operation and Maintenance Standards for how we work in and amongst homeless encampments on the levees. Where the levees had previously been expected to be operated and maintained in an impeccable condition for the residents of Sacramento, we now need to adjust our approach to provide the best possible levee conditions while acknowledging the levees are overlain with a dense camping population and all of their belongings and effluent. The new Standards need to prioritize:

1. The safety of District personnel
2. Engineering thresholds for levee damage or conditions that when exceeded warrant camp removal by law enforcement
3. A clear definition of how much trash removal is the responsibility of the Levee District as opposed to some other municipal agency with a role in waste management for residents

Staff believes this set of O&M Standards is essential to hold the line on the present condition of the levees and not allow them to further degrade due to being overwhelmed by changing societal conditions impacting the public's infrastructure.