

Friends of the Napa River

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Dec. 10, 2002

To: Dave Dickson, MIG
cc: St. Helena Flood Protection Study Team, PWA, FONR

Re: St. Helena Flood Protection

Dear Dave,

Thanks for the opportunity to present our consultant's Philip Williams and Associates (PWA) "Comments on the St. Helena Napa River Flood Control Plan" to the St. Helena Flood Control Protection Study Team (City Engineer Myke Praul, MBK and SHG, MIG, Ann Riley from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Karen Rippey from the Army Corp. of Engineers, Vineyard Valley Mobile Home Park representatives.) At the meeting on Dec 3, 2002, at the MIG offices in Berkeley, the following observations were presented and discussed:

- The current Enhanced Minimum Plan (EMP) being proposed as the preferred project may not be adequately addressing the 'Living River Principles' (LRP). The LRP document (compiled by Leslie Ferguson) should be referenced for all aspects of the EMP. The City plans to prepare a checklist of the LRP's and evaluate the EMP in relation to these principles.
- All alternative projects to be discussed in the EIR should be discussed and evaluated in relation to the identified reach of the project (boundaries) between Zinfandel Road and Deer Park Road.
- Project plans also need to include long-term adaptive management plans and maintenance costs.
- Discussion that the river is not stable and that it is changing and discussed the TMDL limiting factor of River incision and how this relates to the Pope street bridge.
- PWA and FONR recommends that a Napa River multi-objective flood hazard reduction alternative be considered in the alternatives analysis. FONR believes that such multi-objective flood hazard reduction project would be closer to achieving the LRP and be an alternative to the EMP. A fully integrated flood management plan could be cost effective for the City. The details of such an alternative need to be further defined.
- The City is seeking avenues to overlay a comprehensive adaptive river management and restoration project over the EMP to attempt to make this alternative more restorative and multi-objective in nature from Pope Street to Pratt Street. Additional restoration approaches for the entire river corridor within the City's jurisdiction will also be explored and the City would like FONR and PWA to comment on this approach.
- There were other topics of the PWA memo discussed as well. Ann Riley suggested to MIG and MBK/SHG that they take the methodology outlined in the PWA memo and apply it to the project. MIG suggested a follow-up meeting to further discuss these important issues.

FONR suggests to allocate Measure A funds to include PWA in the design of a multi-objective flood hazard reduction project in keeping with the LRP.

We are looking forward to a cooperative approach to achieve the best possible 'Flood Hazard Reduction' project for the City of St. Helena.

Thank you



Bernhard Krevet, President