



## FLOOD PROJECT COORDINATING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE: May 9, 2008**

**DATE:** May 1, 2008

**TO:** Flood Project Coordinating Committee Members

**FROM:** Naomi Duerr, Director, Truckee River Flood Management Project, 850-7420  
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**SUBJECT:** Accept Truckee River Flood Management Project Status Report for April 2008

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### **SUMMARY**

A status report on the activities related to the Truckee River Flood Management Project for the month of April 2008 is provided herein.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

The most recent status report was presented to the FPCC at their April 11, 2008 meeting.

### **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

#### **Corps Activities**

**Environmental Impact Study (EIS)** - The Corps alerted us to a significant date change to the EIS public release from July 1 to August 1. This represents a delay of at least one month that will most likely affect the overall project schedule. The Corps remains committed to completing the Chief's Report by the end of this year as promised.

**Recreation Plan** - Chan Modini, Project Manager for the Corps, has identified a Corps Recreation Planner (Valerie Sewell) to act in a consultant capacity on the Recreation Plan currently being developed by the Flood Project. Valerie will be working in coordination with Flood Project staff to convey Corps examples of plans authorized by Congress for funding. Flood Project staff will continue to work with Stantec Consulting along with Reno, Sparks and Washoe County Parks' Managers and planners to conceive and create the Truckee River Corridor Recreation Plan.

**Partnering Session with Senior Staff from the Sacramento District of the Army Corps of Engineers** - Flood Project Staff along with Flood Project Coordinating Committee (FPCC) members, Working Group, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members and the public met with

**AGENDA ITEM #9A**

Colonel Chapman and other Senior ACOE Staff on Thursday, April 17, 2008. The primary topics discussed at the meeting included an update on the Truckee River Flood Project key upcoming milestones, project schedule, project cost, schedule for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Alternate Formulation Briefing (AFB) meetings, the need for congressional support or legislation, and future directions.

### **TRAction Projects**

**North Truckee Drain Traction Project** - Flood Project staff worked with the City of Sparks on the sewer bill insert for the “River Flood Protection Rate” that includes the North Truckee Drain TRAction Project. The final insert along with FAQ’s (Frequently Asked Questions) started the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>. This information is also available on the front page of the City of Sparks’ website at [www.ci.sparks.nv.us](http://www.ci.sparks.nv.us) and the Truckee River Flood Project website at [www.truckeeflood.us](http://www.truckeeflood.us)

**Reno Bridges TRAction Project** - At the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the FPCC approved an increase in the TRAction project award to the City of Reno for the Downtown Bridges Visioning Project in an amount not-to-exceed \$185,000, for a total award amount of \$785,000. The award authorizes the use of the 1/8 cent sales tax for this work. A request will be taken to the Washoe County Commission May 13<sup>th</sup> to amend the agreement with the City of Reno to increase the amount of the award.

### **Local Sponsors/Collaborative Efforts**

**Southeast Connector Road** - Paul Urban worked with Stantec Consulting to provide the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) an expanded model that includes the Huffaker Detention Area. This important modeling expansion for the Southeast Connector Road provides a more complete view of the proposed road area.

**Aesthetics Design Committee** - The Committee met April 22<sup>nd</sup> to continue a visioning process on future Flood Project hardscapes. This included “branding”, inclusion of surrounding aesthetics and discussion of possible help from a consultant. This information was reported to the Working Group April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** - The regularly scheduled meeting held April 25<sup>th</sup> was primarily an update on the Flood Funding Study. FCS and CH2MHill, the benefits engineering firm working on the study, facilitated this. It included preliminary findings and a description of the process so far. A similar update will be presented at the May 9<sup>th</sup> FPCC meeting. The Draft Flood Zone Mitigation Ordinance was also discussed and the TAC conveyed their agreement with the changes from 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a foot variance to zero.

**Working Group** - The Working Group discussion on the Draft Flood Zone Mitigation Ordinance included a number of legal questions by Greg Salter that will need to be answered prior to moving the ordinance forward. Other items of discussion included the Flood Funding Study, Corps timeline changes and a report by the Aesthetic Design Committee.

**River Parkway** - An initial meeting was held April 30<sup>th</sup> by Flood Project Staff with City of Reno, Sparks and Washoe County Parks, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Great Basin Institute, and Stantec Consulting to begin a dialogue about future possibilities for the property currently occupied by Bristlecone. This area is part of the River Parkway and presents multi-use potential for recreation and environmental education.

**Flood Storage Mitigation Model Code Development** – The Project Management Team (PMT) met to discuss the Working Group’s concerns presented at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting with the variance on the draft ordinance. The PMT agreed to include a zero increase in flood levels for the ordinance. The next step will be to move this forward to the attorneys for Reno, Sparks and Washoe County to develop the legal language for the ordinance.

**Regional Hydrologic Model Request for Proposal (RFP)** - At the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the FPCC approved issuance of a RFP to develop a regional hydrologic model for the Flood Project. The purpose of the regional hydrologic model is to provide a tool or several tools to implement a floodplain management plan for the Truckee Meadows, an item required by the Corps of Engineers for their participation in the Truckee River Flood Project. The RFP will be taken to the Board of County Commission to approve the issuance of the RFP May 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Funding**

**Flood Funding Study** - FCS and CH2MHill updated the Finance Subcommittee at the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. They conveyed their progress on data collection and will be back for a two hour workshop at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Finance Subcommittee meeting to present possible funding scenarios. Outreach for the Flood Funding Area Study continues with more than half of the SCAC, NAB, and CABs in the area receiving the Flood Funding Study presentation. The plan is to provide follow-up briefings to the advisory groups once the consultants have concluded their work.

**Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Funding** - Director Duerr formulated language as a “placeholder” for WRDA for the Flood Project’s funding request. This is in response to the House of Representatives’ proposal to initiate another WRDA authorization bill, immediately after the bill passed just last year by Congress. Typically, WRDA bills are only authorized every other year.

### **Land Acquisition/Land Management**

**Relocation Services Request For Proposal** - The FPCC approved issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for relocation services associated with flood project acquisitions. A tenant relocation budget of \$2.7 million was approved by the Flood Project Coordinating Committee on January 11, 2008. Through the proposed RFP process, a staff partner team will select a relocation consultant to implement the relocation program and budget. The approved tenant relocation budget will be forwarded to the Board of County Commission to make the appropriate budget adjustments to implement the relocation program and to accept the report.

### **Outreach**

**Earth Day** - Flood Project Staff “manned” a booth at the Earth Day celebration held at Idlewild Park Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. The message to the public focused on the overall project goals with an emphasis on river restoration and the TRAction projects. To assist in better targeting future outreach activities, the public was informally surveyed to determine what they already know about the Flood Project. This information will be used to identify future messages to the public.

**Truckee River Tour** – Paul Urban was the spokesperson for the Flood Project on a professional tour of the Truckee River by Janet Carson-Phillips April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Flood Project focus was on the downtown area bridge projects.

**Staff/Personnel Update**

**Licensed Engineer Position** - Interviews for this position are in the final stages.

**Fiscal Compliance Officer** – Interviews for this position are complete. Trish Yohey will be joining the Flood Project in about a week.

**Administrative Assistant** - Interviews for this position are in the final stages.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Flood Project Coordinating Committee (FPCC) accept this status report on the Truckee River Flood Management Program

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the FPCC wish to implement the staff recommendation, a simple motion to approve the recommendation would suffice.

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