



Flood Project E-Update

November 8, 2007

Improve Public Safety, Health and Security

Flood Expo -The third annual Flood Expo was held at the Wilbur May Museum on Wednesday, November 7th. The Expo marks the start of “Flood Season” and offered free instructional presentations, booths from more than 30 agencies, organizations, and vendors, and Seymour the Sandbag. Flood Expo featured information on protecting property, preventing environmental health hazards that often result from floods, weather warning systems, and federal, state, county, city and local resources available to victims of flood damage. Local media coverage included Channel 4 and 8, KTHX, KJZS, KRZQ and KURK radio, plus a live broadcast of the UNR Cooperative Extension “Water Works” program on Channel 4. This free event received kudos from both the attendees and participants thanks to the planning efforts of staff and the wonderful participation from those working in the flooding field.

Working Group - Paul Urban, Project Manager, held a workshop for the Working Group on Flood Storage Mitigation for “Critical Flood Zone #1” for the purpose of developing recommended language for a model floodplain mitigation ordinance for the region.

Improve Government Efficiency and Financial Stability.

Edison Way Properties - The Truckee River Flood Project (TRFP) acquired three additional properties on Edison Way north of Mill Street. The three newly acquired parcels are located at 125, 155, and 185 North Edison Way and will add to the river parkway segment of the project. The land purchase is part of the FPCC’s “Early Land Acquisition Plan” for the Truckee River Flood Project. Thus far, the Flood Project has acquired a total of 12 parcels totaling 139 acres at a cost of \$46 million. The acquired parcels will become a part of the river parkway segment of the Flood Project that will provide flood storage and additional recreational opportunities for the community.

Army Corp of Engineers - Drawings and cost estimates of bridges and floodwalls for the Downtown Reno TRAction project were sent last week to the Army Corp of Engineers. The cost estimates are in the Microcomputer Aided Cost Engineering System (MCACES) format for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

Excellent Public Service

Make A Difference Day - More than 50 volunteers from the Flood Project, Great Basin Institute, Nevada Conservation Corps, Reno Food Bank and local community members celebrated this day on Saturday, October 27 by clearing brush and garbage at the flood project’s property at 1725 S. McCarran (Bristlecone). This was an effort to discourage beaver damage of cottonwoods, encourage native plant growth, reduce fire hazards, and remove invasive plant species.

UNR Environmental Policy class – Flood Project Director Duerr provided an evening seminar on the Truckee River Flood project and careers in environmental service for a 40-member UNR class in Environmental Policy.

Leadership Academy – Flood Project director Naomi Duerr provided the 30 Leadership Academy participants with information on Nevada water law and the Truckee River Flood Project.

Attendees asked many questions and were truly engaged and upbeat during the discussion. (Handing out candy always helps!)

Improve Regional Collaboration

US 395 Improvements - Danielle Henderson, Natural Resource Planner, attended the first meeting of the US 395 widening project (from Moana to I-80) Aesthetics Stakeholder Working Group. The purpose of this group is to look at making aesthetic improvements to both hardscape and landscape along this corridor during the construction effort. Flood project staff has been invited to participate because of the potential impact to the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) TRAction project.

Human Resources

Natural Resource Manager – Danielle Henderson joined the Flood Project as the Natural Resource Manager as of October 22nd. Danielle earned her bachelor's degree in biology from the University of New Mexico and went on to earn her master's degree in hydrology from the University of Nevada, Reno. Formerly with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Danielle comes to the Flood Project with 10 years of experience in natural resource management.

Public Information Officer – The Flood Project completed the selection process for the new Public Information Officer (PIO). With almost nine years of experience as a PIO with the County, Susie Kapahee joined the Flood Project on November 5th. In addition, Susie's professional experience includes more than fifteen years in the field of marketing and public relations for various financial institutions.