



## **Flood Project E-Update** **December 20, 2007**

### **Preserve and Enhance Our Quality of Life**

**Army Corp of Engineers (Corps)** - Senior Flood Project staff members met several times in the last few weeks with the Corps in Sacramento regarding challenges to the flood project timetable. The fact that the Corps has been operating under a "Continuing Resolution" rather than an approved budget has limited their ability to enter into new contracts or amend existing contracts, compromising their ability to meet the established planning timeframes. The draft Chief's Report is still to be completed in late August 2008.

In other news, Tim Kelleher, the Corps Project Manager for the Truckee River Project, is moving to the San Francisco District and a new Project Manager, Chan Modini, is scheduled to be on board as of January 20, 2008. An interim Project Manager (Jim Baker) is working with the Flood Project until that date.

### **Improve Regional Collaboration**

**Reno-Sparks Indian Colony TRAction Project** – In December, the Board of County Commissioners approved a TRAction Project Development Agreement for construction of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Levee. The Flood Project (1/8 cent sales tax) will be contributing \$1.72 million to the project, with \$3.5 million coming from Wal-Mart. An additional \$1 million in land easements will be contributed to the project by the Colony, and the Washoe County Public Works Department will contribute in-kind services to oversee the construction of the project. An Agreement Signing Ceremony is scheduled for January 7, 2008 at 1:30 pm. The ceremony will be held at Fisherman's Park off of Galetti Way. Invitations will be sent via email and telephone. Groundbreaking is expected in early March.

**Hidden Valley TRAction Project** - Naomi Duerr, Paul Urban and Mimi Fujii-Strickler met with Washoe County Public Works and HDR Engineering for an update on the proposed project components in preparation for a late January stakeholder meeting.

**Reno Bridges TRAction Project** - Paul Urban and Kerri Williams, City of Reno Public Works, met with CH2MHill, the consultants for the Reno Bridges Project on revising the bridge cost estimates for the Locally Preferred Plan.

**Lower Truckee River Restoration** - Doug DuBois, Land Acquisition Manager and Danielle Henderson, Natural Resource Manager met with The Nature Conservancy and toured possible restoration sites along the Lower Truckee River area.

Danielle also met with Victor Villarreal, Sparks Planner, about the River Restoration projects which are in their sphere of influence. This was an ad hoc meeting to strengthen communication on this project.

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** – At the November TAC meeting, Randy Mellinger, Sparks City Assistant Manager was unanimously elected to fill the chair position and Dan St. John, Washoe County Public Works Director, the Vice-Chair position for one year. The TAC reviewed the Working Group recommendations for the Flood Mitigation Ordinance drafted by the City of Reno. All items discussed were brought before the FPCC at their December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Working Group** - Paul Urban presented the Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) comments on the proposed revisions to the Flood Storage Mitigation Ordinance from their November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. As there were no additional comments, the next step will be legal review of the ordinance.

**Southeast Connector Road** - Paul Urban provided the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) with GIS information for the Southeast Connector Road and discussed how to incorporate the current Locally Preferred Plan (LPP) into this route selection model.

**Storey County** – Naomi Duerr and Paul Urban met with Storey County officials to discuss amending the Flood Project Cooperative Agreement and Storey County's perspective on proposed changes to the Flood Storage mitigation ordinances for Critical Flood Zone #1. Storey County officials were supportive of the proposed changes.

**Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe** - Naomi Duerr, Director and Paul Urban, Project Manager met with representatives from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe to discuss recent Flood Project developments and concerns the Tribe has expressed regarding the stability of the river bed during floods. Additional modeling work may be required to address the Tribe's concerns.

### **Improve Government Efficiency and Financial Stability**

**Flood Funding Study RFQ** – Flood Project staff met with the study team to review and score the "Statements of Qualification" submitted by the six competing firms. Two firms were selected to participate in an oral interview process in December. Following the oral interviews, FCS Group/CH2MHill has been selected to begin negotiations on the scope of work and budget for the project. The final agreement for the project is expected to be considered by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) at their January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Lockwood Restoration Project** - The Flood Project Coordinating Committee (FPCC) approved the Lockwood Restoration Project as a TRAction Project with about \$500K to be contributed by the Flood Project's 1/8 cent sales tax. The FPCC recommended presenting the Lockwood proposal to a joint meeting of the Washoe County and Storey County Boards of Commissioners prior to forwarding it to the BCC for consideration. Doug DuBois, Land Acquisition Manager, met with Public Works on the Lockwood restoration site in preparation for demolition of the existing structures.

**Edison Way Properties** - Doug DuBois met with UNR Cooperative Extension to look at the potential for their occupancy of the property owned by the Flood Project at 195 Edison.

**Bristlecone Property** - Doug DuBois and Patty Paulson, Relocation Specialist, met with the Bristlecone occupants to look at possible alternative sites to relocate the Bristlecone Family Services.

## **Provide Excellent Public Services**

**Takings Seminar** - Mimi Fujii Strickler, Outreach Manager is working on a date of January 31<sup>st</sup> for a second Takings Seminar. The seminar is being designed to address “The Takings Doctrine and the No Adverse Impact Approach to Floodplain Management.” One session for elected and appointed officials is planned for the morning, with another geared toward planning staffs, developers and the general public in the afternoon. The planned site for the seminar is the Mills Lane Justice Center, third floor classroom.