

**Storm Drain Oversight Committee**  
December 13, 2006 Meeting Summary

Attendees:

<b>SDC Members Present</b>		<b>City Staff</b>	
John Melton, Chair	John Tarlton, Vice-Chair	Matt Brunnings	Glenn Roberts
Stepheny McGraw	Richard Whaley	Amy Javelosa-Rio	Mike Sartor
Rod McNall		Matt Raschke	Joe Teresi

**Agenda Item I – Roll Call**

The meeting opened with roll call at 9:00. The full committee was present.

**Agenda Item II – Old Business**

Richard Whaley moved to approve the minutes from November 1, 2006, and Stepheny McGraw seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item III – Oral Communications**

No members of the public requested to address the Committee. John Melton commented on the outcome of the Policy and Services Committee meeting on December 12, 2006. He said the outcome was that the staff recommendation was forwarded to the full Council. The Utilities Advisory Commission’s (UAC) oversight role was expanded to include the reclaimed water system, but not the storm drain utility. Council will have to amend the UAC charter ordinance in order to effect the change.

**Agenda Item IV – New Business**

John Melton gave a synopsis of the inflationary scenarios presented in Joe Teresi’s memorandum. The group then discussed the construction cost inflation rate since the original cost estimates were prepared in 2004. John Tarlton noted that his land development business has seen 50% increases in construction costs between 2004 and 2006. Rod McNall pointed out that the Santa Clara Valley Water District has reportedly experienced increases of approximately 13% per year. Stepheny McGraw asked if there was any historical precedence for these cost increases. John Tarlton said that he was not aware of such a precedent. After a brief discussion, the Committee reached a consensus on two long-term funding scenarios for planning purposes. The first scenario would include an initial cost increase of 30% to bring the 2004 cost estimates to the present and a subsequent inflation rate of 10% per year for the future. The second scenario would include an initial increase of 50% and a subsequent inflation rate of 15% per year.

The Committee then discussed the project priority list. Joe Teresi presented Table 1 from the memorandum and explained why the initial budget priorities differed from the priority order developed by the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC). The differences were due to the “pay-as-you-go” funding limitation with an effort to evenly distribute the projects geographically over time. With respect to the priority list with limited funds, John Tarlton emphasized that it is important that projects be scalable. There was some discussion about the priority of the Southgate project. Dick Whaley noted that the area was built in 1925, and that Mariposa Avenue has flooded for as long as he could remember.

Stepheny McGraw noted that the Clara Drive project served a relatively small area especially compared to the Matadero Pump Station project. Dick Whaley expressed strong support for funding the Matadero

Pump Station project due to the strategic importance of the station in the storm drain system and the advanced age of the existing equipment. John Melton suggested that the Matadero project could be moved above Clara Drive on the priority list. John Tarlton then asked about the need for the Channing/Lincoln trunk line project. Joe Teresi explained that it will provide benefits to a widespread geographic area and will intercept a lot of storm runoff that causes ponding problems on Embarcadero Road.

John Tarlton suggested that on Alma Street, where there are significant ponding issues, that the storm drain utility partner with the street resurfacing project to create underground retention basins that would collect storm runoff and get it off of the roadway. Mike Sartor confirmed that Alma Street south of California Avenue is tentatively scheduled for resurfacing in 2008. John Tarlton also suggested scaling back the Channing/Lincoln trunk line project by 1/3 to help ensure funding the Matadero Pump Station improvements and the innovative Alma Street work he proposed. Stepheny McGraw suggested that the innovative projects fund could also be used for the Alma Street underground retention basins or “burritos” (a layer of drain rock wrapped in geotextile fabric) as they were described. The Committee reached a consensus on a modified project priority list that would reduce the Channing/Lincoln trunk project by one third, move the Matadero Pump Station improvements above Clara Drive on the project priority list and reduce the scope of the Alma project to a number of innovative solutions to be constructed as part of the upcoming street resurfacing project.

John Melton noted that Committee’s charter is to report to Council on the use of the funds from the 2005 property owner-approved fee increase. At the next meeting, the Committee will review the FY 2005-06 year-end Storm Drainage Fund financial report and review the revised funding plan scenarios and project priority list. Following that meeting, the Committee will prepare a memo to Council with a warning about the funding shortfalls for the proposed storm drain capital improvement program. The target date for the next meeting was set as January 17, 2007.

#### **Agenda Item V – Adjournment**

At 10:30 am the meeting was adjourned.

Matt Raschke  
December 21, 2006