



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DIVISION OF WATER AND
SEWERS

December 16, 1986

LARRY L. COMARSH
Division Manager

Transportation & Community Development
Committee
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Update Report on City's Levee System

SUMMARY

This report summarizes the repair and improvement activities which were undertaken as a result of the February, 1986 storm and also discusses the level of flood protection afforded the City by its existing levee system.

BACKGROUND

FLOOD WORK COMPLETED

The February, 1986 storm inflicted localized damage at several points on the Sacramento River and American River levees. Repairs have been completed by the Corps of Engineers at all of these damaged areas and the levees have been restored to the same or a better condition than existed before the February storm.

The State Department of Water Resources has also completed a project to install subdrains on the land side of the Sacramento River levee in the Pocket Area in an effort to reduce the formation of water boils which occur each year at certain points in this area.

The City has completed projects to install flood gates in the Arcade Creek levee at Rio Linda Boulevard and at the U.P.R.R. near the Natomas East Main Drain. Flood gates have also been installed at the Natomas East Main drain at Main Avenue and in the Dry Creek levee at the U.P.R.R.. The North levee of Arcade Creek has been extended across Hagginwood Park and the Beach Lake levee has been reinforced.

The above projects, although they will eliminate weak points in the City's flood protection system, will not in themselves increase the carrying capacity of the system.

FLOOD WORK CONTINUING

Surveys of high water marks during the February, 1986 storm indicate that freeboard remaining on some of the secondary levees protecting the City

was minimal. Levees which had less than 3 feet of freeboard were as follows:

1. Dry Creek Levee 2 ft.
2. East and West Levee
of Natomas East Main Drain 1 ft.
3. North Levee Arcade Creek 2 ft.
4. South Levee of Natomas
Cross Canal 1 ft.
5. Beach Lake Levee 2 ft.

The above levees are all Corps Project Levees with the exception of the Beach Lake Levee which was constructed by the City. These levee freeboards resulted from a storm runoff event now estimated by the Corps of Engineers as a 65 year frequency, and are less than the FEMA standard requiring 3 feet of freeboard with a 100 year storm. Accordingly FEMA may redraw their flood rate maps as though the levees did not exist which would place a substantial portion of the City in the 100 year flood plain, even if the major levees on the American and Sacramento Rivers can meet FEMA standards, which the Corps of Engineers feels is doubtful. A meeting between the City and County staff and FEMA representatives is planned for January 6, 1987 at which time the responsibilities of the various agencies for levee certification will be discussed and a tentative course of action formulated for the City Council's review and approval.

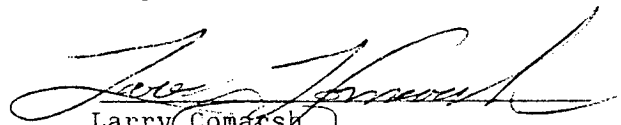
FINANCIAL

None.

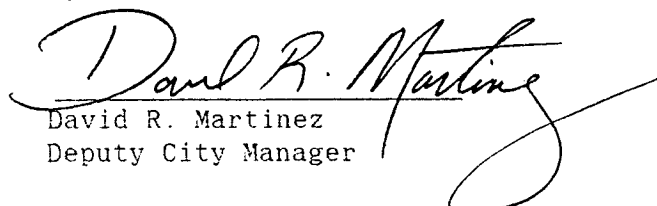
RECOMMENDATION

This report is for information only.

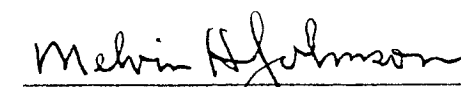
Respectfully submitted,


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