

City of Woodland  
Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2015 – Revised  
**Flood Control Advisory Committee (FCAC)**

1. Roll Call

Present: Kevin Cowan, David Cullen, Skip Davies, Al Eby, Evelia Genera, Nancy Lea, Eric Paulsen, Lynnel Pollock, Beth Robbins, Dean Simeroth, Ken Trott

Absent: Mike Adams, Eric Alfaro, Robert Ullrey, Mary-Ann Warmerdam

Staff Present: Tim Busch, Brent Meyer, Ken Hiatt, Lynn Johnson, Greg Meyer

2. Public Comment

NONE

3. Committee and Staff Comments

NONE

4. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from June 16, 2015 were approved as revised. Minutes from September 22, 2015 were approved.

5. Army Corps Cost Review of Alternatives 2A and 2C

Alternative 2A – There are no structures impacted with 2A, but flowage easements would be required at roughly 80% of the cost of the property. There is concern over what kind of crops can be planted in an area that has been flooded. The state cannot support 2A because of the impacts to the settling basin and the mercury transport has not been analyzed yet.

Alternative 2C – We have finally received the cost data on this alternative, 300 GB of data. It will take some time to review.

At this time we have ‘80% confidence costs’ with 2A at \$220 million and 2C at \$560 million. The difference is largely due to the impacts on the Cache Creek Settling Basin and how the sediment and an existing levee are handled.

The City wants to compare features similar in both 2A and 2C to see what is the same and what is different to determine if we can bring down the costs on 2C. The state also wants to evaluate the sediment and the mercury transport for both alternatives. The

USCACE's policy is that we cannot dispute the unit price of their costs estimates, but we can change quantities where justified. This will take some time to figure out.

#### 6. Cache Creek Settling Basic Mercury Issues & Impacts on Alternatives

The Cache Creek Settling Basin is the largest single source point of mercury going into the Delta. Methyl mercury is the result of mercury coming into contact with water and carbon and then that is what gets into the food chain. The mercury content in the settling basin is about 1/10th of the federal limit so you can take it out of the settling basin and use it for other purposes. If our flood solution in any way touches the settling basin, then that puts us into the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) and their tmdl requirements. The RWQCB has said that a conveyance channel into the bypass may be considered a new point discharge which would be problematic. Alternative 2A was designed to accommodate heavy water flow into the settling basin. The State will not support this alternative unless they know how this increase in flow will impact the settling basin. Current regulation requires that at least 30% of the sediment in the settling basin be removed annually. The trap efficiency of the Cache Creek Settling Basin is 60-70%. Under Alternative 2A, the CCSB will accumulate sediment at a somewhat increased rate thus requiring DWR to do their maintenance earlier than planned.

DWR will be contracting with UC Davis to use their sediment modelling to determine how sediment would be impacted with increased flood flows, i.e., existing condition compared to Alternatives 2A and 2B. This will help determine how best to work with the RWQCB on the issue.

#### 7. Timeline and Next Steps on Alternatives

The Army Corp Pause letter was requested from the City to allow additional analysis on Alternatives 2A and 2B. It looks better for the Army Corp for us to "stop the clock" and do the analysis in an attempt to get better cost data and to avoid a negative cost/benefit.

The length of the pause is most likely six months. The UC Davis Study on mercury is expected in July 2016. The "Pause" cannot cross into the next federal fiscal year so August would need to be the latest that we can resume with the Army Corp. The Pause letter is scheduled for City Council consideration on December 15th.

There is a \$170,000 contract with Wood Rogers to do the Cache Creek Settling Basin Study. We are finalizing the scope for the first task of the UFRR work.

The Committee requested that the City continue to monitor progress of the study to ensure timely completion.

There was some discussion of a Corp Study Waiver, but doing a waiver creates some risk that the Cache Creek Feasibility Study would get taken out of the federal queue.

8. Next Meeting

TBD

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.