



**Contra  
Costa  
County**

To: Contra Costa County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors  
From: Brian M. Balbas, Public Works Director/Chief Engineer  
Date: October 5, 2021

Subject: Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Month and its Associated Program, Countywide. Project No. 7520-6B8311

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

ADOPT Resolution No. 2021/312 declaring October 2021 as Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Month; and

ACCEPT the following status report from the Public Works Department and the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (FC District) on the Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Program (CCSAP); and

DIRECT the Public Works Department and the FC District to continue with implementation and the annual campaign of a Countywide sustainable CCSAP, including a follow-up report to this Board in one year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Annual notices, outreach, and maintenance of safety features for this year is estimated to cost \$70,000 and will be funded by Flood Control Zone 3B.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **10/05/2021** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

**VOTE OF SUPERVISORS**

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor  
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor  
Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor  
Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor  
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: October 5, 2021

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Stacey M. Boyd, Deputy

Contact: Michelle Cordis, (925) 313-2381

## BACKGROUND:

On March 1, 2011, the Board of Supervisors directed the FC District to develop a sustainable and impactful outreach program to promote creek and channel safety throughout the County, after the drowning of two high school students in the Walnut Creek channel. In response, the FC District formed a CCSAP team that developed a strategy to achieve this goal.

On October 4, 2011, the Board declared October 2011 as the first Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Month, accepted the status report from the FC District on the CCSAP, approved the implementation plan, and directed the FC District to continue with implementation and initiation of an annual campaign of a sustainable CCSAP, including a follow-up report to the Board in one year.

Since then, the Board of Supervisors received and approved a status report on the Annual CCSAP and declared October as Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Month in the years 2012 through 2020. The Board of Supervisors also directed the FC District to continue with implementation and the annual campaign of a Countywide sustainable CCSAP, including a follow-up report to the Board in one year.

This past year, we refreshed the warning stencils and signs in our facilities, ensured gates and fences were secured, completed the annual outreach to schools in September, and worked with Walnut Creek Intermediate School to continue sharing our CCSAP virtually, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and remote learning environment. During this sixth year of annual collaboration, the FC District prepared a new web-based StoryMap presentation that the student leadership class shared with the entire student body. The presentation included an overview of the Walnut Creek watershed, key photos and video contrasting calm and stormy images showing hazards in the channels, past students' best art posters, and overall message to "Stay Out, Stay Alive!"

The Chief Engineer, FC District, recommends that the Board declare October 2021 as Creek and Channel Safety Awareness Month, accept the above report, and direct the Public Works Department and FC District to continue with implementation and the annual campaign of a Countywide sustainable CCSAP, including a follow-up report to this Board in one year.

## CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If this Resolution is not adopted, members of the public may not receive important information about creek and channel safety.

## CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

The FC District will continue to work with the schools and youth-based groups within the County to educate children about safety regarding creeks and flood control channels.

## ATTACHMENTS

