

Assembly California Legislature



MARC LEVINE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TENTH DISTRICT

June 6, 2013

Mark W. Cowin, Director
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

RE: Letter of Support for the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project

Dear Mr. Cowin:

I am writing to express my support for the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project in the Town of San Anselmo. An application for funding was submitted by the Town of San Anselmo in partnership with the Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in Round 2 of the Stormwater Flood Management Grant program (Proposition 1E). This project is a key component of the District's plan to contain the 100 year flood in San Anselmo and the entire Ross Valley watershed.

The Memorial Park Detention Basin Project is a multi-benefit project that envisions daylighting and restoring a creek buried in a culvert, reducing water consumption, and enhancing the recreational facilities of the park in addition to the new flood control function.

The people of the Ross Valley have experienced loss from flooding many times in the past 100 years. Damaging floods occur at least once every ten years here. Most recently, on December 31, 2005, a 100 year flood caused an estimated \$90 million in damages to public and private property.

After the flood, the communities in the valley decided to move forward together in a watershed-wide effort to solve the flooding problem. In a 2007 mail ballot measure, the property owners demonstrated their commitment to progress by electing to assess themselves a fee for partially funding needed measures. The fee raises \$44 million over 20 years and will provide a local match for grant funding.

The Ross Valley flood control program is a regional program that looks to develop solutions to flooding while enhancing riparian habitat, improving water quality, and improving public access to creeks wherever possible. It was created as an integrated regional water management program that is in line with state and federal water resource initiatives and goals and particularly with the Proposition 1E funding goals.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

If you have additional questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me or Joan Lubamersky of my staff at (415) 479-4920.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Levine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

MARC LEVINE
Assemblymember, 10th Assembly District

ML/jl

✓ cc: Tracie Billington, Branch Chief
IRWM Grants/Financial Assistance Branch