

Response to Questions on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor McKay

Question: Provide a report on June 2006 Huntington flooding regarding liability and pay outs already made. What Stormwater projects address this flooding issue?

Response: In June 2006, the County experienced severe flooding. In the Huntington area alone flooding was experienced at 160 homes. In addition, calls to Stormwater Management indicated that 234 other houses experienced structural flooding. There were 130 stormwater flooding claims filed, six were from the Huntington area and the remainder were located in other areas of the County. All claims filed as a result of the June 2006 flood event, were reviewed by the County Attorney's Office to determine the County's liability exposure. Of the 130 claims filed, 66 have been accepted and paid at over \$750,000, 54 were denied and 10 were not pursued by the homeowners. Of the 66, there are currently 14 claims still open and not yet paid. No claims have been paid to residents in the Huntington community.

In addition, 35 claims were filed as a result of sewer back ups, 14 were due to homeowner areaway drain connections to the sanitary system. Of the claims filed, 19 have been paid at over \$64,000 and two have been denied. The remainder are pending receipt of documentation supporting homeowner damages.

In Huntington, the County has encumbered approximately \$1 million for the United States Army Corp of Engineers to evaluate alternatives and complete design to the 65 percent stage. It is anticipated that completion of construction documents, permitting and construction will cost an additional estimated \$20-30 million, depending upon final design. In addition to this Huntington project, 84 houses that flooded were identified for inclusion in 63 potential projects. Of these, 24 projects are complete or in construction, and 29 are in design. Further study on 10 potential projects is required and underway. To date, approximately \$2 million has been spent or encumbered, and it is estimated an additional \$2-\$2.5 million will be required to complete the projects outside of Huntington.