



# County of San Mateo Water Management Agency

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO



# The Need: Flood Control

- December 2014/January 2015 storms
- Bay Area Council Report – Surviving the Storm
  - Infrastructure deficiencies
  - 80% of regional damage predicted in San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Marin counties



Photo by Mark Robinson -- <https://flic.kr/p/dvxstK>



# The Need: Flood Control

- Specific Areas of Concern
  - Bayfront Canal
  - Belmont Creek
  - Broadmoor/Western Daly City
  - Cupid's Row, San Bruno
  - Linda Mar, Pacifica
- FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) Tidal Update: San Mateo, Foster City, Redwood City, San Bruno
  - Public pressure to act



# The Need: Sea Level Rise

- San Mateo County is ground zero, bayside and coastside
  - 20% of value of property loss in California predicted to be in San Mateo County



*Surfer's Beach, El Granada*



# The Need: Stormwater

- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Requirements



# The Need: Groundwater

- Westside Basin
- San Mateo Plain
- Numerous small aquifers on the coastside



# Existing Capacity

- C/CAG oversees NPDES compliance
- BAWSCA represents potable water agencies in three counties
  - Investigating groundwater management and desalinization
- **Currently no agency in the County oversees regional flood control and emerging sea level rise issues**
- San Mateo County Flood Control District operates in Colma Creek, San Bruno, and San Francisquito Creek watersheds only
  - Limited funding
- Most cities do not have staff capacity to address water issues

# What Other Counties Are Doing

- NPDES – typically managed by the County Flood Control District
- Groundwater – multiple governance approaches, if any
- Flood Control – primarily County run districts

		Stormwater	Groundwater	Flood Control	Watershed	Water Supply
<b>Alameda</b>	Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	x		x		
<b>Contra Costa</b>	Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	x		x		
<b>Marin</b>	Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	x		x		
<b>Napa</b>	Napa Flood Control and Water District	x		x	x	x
<b>Santa Clara</b>	Santa Clara Valley Water District			x	x	x
<b>Solano</b>	Multi-jurisdictional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Sonoma</b>	Sonoma County Water Agency	x	x	x		x

# Need for Water Management Agency

- Regional nature of watersheds and flood control
  - Water does not respect jurisdictional boundaries
- Current infrastructure is inadequate and in need of replacement
- Funding is difficult
  - Increase grant funding competitiveness
  - Regional approach to grant opportunities
    - Integrated Regional Water Management Grants
    - Proposition 1
- Develop concentrated expertise

# Structure of Organization

- Use existing Flood Control District
- County to fund initial “start-up” costs - \$1M to \$2M per year
- Create Advisory Committee comprised of city representatives



# What Would We Do: Assessment, Planning, Coordination

- Concentrate on **regional flood control** and **sea level rise** planning issues
- Work with County Office of Sustainability in completing a **sea level rise vulnerability assessment**
- Facilitate **project planning**
  - Identify regional projects
  - Serve in a coordinating role as requested in such areas as
    - Bayfront Canal
    - Belmont Creek
    - Levee enhancements



# What Would We Do: Assessment, Planning, Coordination

- Identify **revenue opportunities**
  - Seek **grant funds** with a dedicated grant writer
  - **Benefit Assessment Districts**
  - **Infrastructure Financing Districts**
  - Evaluate creation of **countywide revolving fund**
- Evaluate for future **countywide revenue measure**
- Coordinate work with
  - **C/CAG** (NPDES Compliance)
  - **BAWSCA / County Environmental Health** (Groundwater Management)



**Thank you**

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO



**Questions?**