



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

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DIRECTOR

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SUBJECT: Private Property Drainage Assistance Pilot Program Phase II

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve and authorize the President to execute the Resolution Setting a Pilot Program Phase II for County Assistance Towards Drainage Improvements Projects on Private Property.

SUMMARY: On December 3, 2019, your Board approved the private property drainage assistance pilot program and set aside \$400,000 as a one-time allocation for this pilot program. The purpose of the pilot program is to provide financial assistance to private property owners to improve private culverts that serve the public interest. These private culverts located within private property are the responsibility of the property owner to maintain; however, maintenance of these deteriorating culverts may be cost prohibitive and therefore, simply not done. This pilot program is intended to assist as many property owners as possible to improve their private drainage infrastructure.

Since inception of the pilot program, a total of nine (9) applications were received. Two (2) of the applications met the criteria outlined in the pilot program and the applicants were reimbursed accordingly. The other seven (7) applications were denied because the proposed scope of work was outside of the program criteria, including replacing driveway culverts, excavation and replacement, etc.

After reviewing the efficacy of the pilot program through nearly two years, we identified opportunities to modify the program criteria to improve our ability to assist as many property owners as possible. Staff is recommending the following changes be made to the pilot program resolution, while keeping all other existing criteria unchanged.

- 1) Expand acceptable project scope items to include full removal and replacement of existing culverts with equal or increased diameter pipe.
- 2) Clarify that driveway culverts are excluded from the pilot program.
- 3) Keep reimbursement rate at fifty percent (50%) of the total cost of the improvements; however, lower the maximum reimbursement amount to \$30,000 per parcel, with an exception for condo units, which will have a maximum reimbursement amount of \$50,000 per parcel.
- 4) To account for emergency situations, include conditions for approval of retroactive applications if work is completed within ninety (90) days of application submittal and with proper documentation.

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The amount of funds remaining from the initial set aside for this pilot program is \$357,788. This amount will roll over into the Pilot Program Phase II where the updated criteria will improve our ability to assist property owners improve their private drainage infrastructure.

EQUITY IMPACT: The Pilot Program Phase II is available for consideration to all property owners located within unincorporated areas of Marin County. Assessment of each application is based on the criteria set forth in the pilot program without regard to race, national origin, or income status of the property owner.

FISCAL IMPACT: There will be no increase to the General Fund net county costs as a result of this action. The existing available budget of \$357,788 is available in Miscellaneous Special Project Fund (1010) Drainage Assistance Pilot Program Project (41EDRAINP).

REVIEWED BY:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Wong

Senior Civil Engineer

C: Qiana Davis
Eric Miller

Attachment: Resolution for County Drainage Assistance Pilot Program Phase II

