

September 16, 2008

Board of Supervisors
Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Civic Center
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Professional Services Agreement with the Urban Creeks Council for the creation of a Streamside Management Program for Landowners in Flood Control Zone 9/Ross Valley, Supervisorial District 2, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Execute Agreement

SUMMARY: Much of the creekside property in the Ross Valley is privately owned. The responsibility for maintenance and care of Fairfax/San Anselmo/Corte Madera Creek and their tributaries therefore lies with the private landowners along the creeks. Many are faced with erosion problems, debris-catching and invasive vegetation, and flooding. The options for solving these problems, and the regulatory permitting process that goes with them, can often seem like a daunting challenge for private landowners.

The Urban Creeks Council (UCC) is a non-profit organization that provides a service to private property owners to assist them with creek bank erosion and vegetation maintenance. Inherent in their approach is the care for, and enhancement of, riparian habitat. Under this contract, Flood Zone 9 will fund the UCC to provide guidance to property owners on methods and materials to remedy problems, provide guidance in securing the permits for carrying out the work if needed, and recommend competent, experienced licensed contractors or professional engineers as appropriate.

The program has 3 major areas of focus:

1. **Direct Landowner Assistance** - Provide detailed, site-specific recommendations on erosion control, flood risk mitigation, and habitat enhancement for a minimum of 50 landowners with creekside properties in the Ross Valley watershed one year.
2. **Public Information Program** - Help landowners understand the complexity of the Bay Area's creek systems, the impacts humans have had on creek ecology, and the challenges inherent in living with such dynamic systems. Through this, they help to develop a realistic

understanding of the limits of flood protection efforts for structures located in floodplains.

3. **Concentrated Assistance** – Address stream issues on a scale larger than individual properties and provide continuing support for streamside neighborhoods as appropriate. The Flood Control District will review all requests for work with the UCC to rank and prioritize the requests.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funds in the amount of \$50,000 are available in Flood Control Zone 9 Professional Services Account, 23781-6219011000-5210100, as part of the Ross Valley Flood Control and Watershed Program authorized by your Board on April 15, 2008.

REVIEWED BY:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Auditor Controller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Counsel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Very truly yours,

Tracy J. Clay
Principal Engineer
**MARIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

cc: Ross Valley Town/City Public Works Directors
Ross Valley Town/City Managers
Flood Control Zone 9 Advisory Board Members

Attachment: Professional Services Agreement – 4 copies
Purchase Requisition No. 16012898