

**From:** Larry Levine [farflung@redshift.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 8:54 AM  
**To:** 100-District 5 (831) 647-7755; Lee, Kathleen M. 647-7755; Bauman, Lew x5113; Holm, Carl P. x5103  
**Cc:** Lance Monosoff; Bob Bogardus; Margaret Robbins; Cynthia Buhl; Mark Holbrook; Richard Denier; Beretti, Melanie x5285; Redman, Lynette x6038; Murdoch, Robert K. x4831  
**Subject:** Emergency Flood Preparedness and CSA #50 Reserve Funds

To:

Supervisor Dave Potter and Kathleen Lee  
County Administrator Lew Bauman  
RMA Director Carl Holm

Re: expedited use of CSA #50 reserve funds for current emergency flood control work

Dear Dave and Kathleen, Lew and Carl,

I hope you are all well, this must be a very busy season for you.

Of course many residents and business people within CSA #50 and elsewhere along the Carmel River are very concerned about the threat of flooding this winter, given all the forecasts of heavy El Nino storms, and our vivid memories of the devastating floods of 1995. At our CSA #50 committee meeting several weeks ago, we urged Carl and his colleagues to identify any projects that might still be implemented prior to the winter, which could increase flood protection for CSA #50, recognizing that we had intentionally built up our financial reserves in order to deal with special flood control opportunities that might arise. Thank you for listening, Carl, and for identifying the possibility of opening up the "flood notch" at the east end of the Odello East property, in order increase flood flows into the floodway south of the Lower Carmel River, instead of flowing into our developed north bank neighborhoods. Ever since the Philip Williams & Associates hydrology study of 2001-2, this project has been a top priority for those of us in CSA #50. Over time, the modest expense for this project had developed into the \$24 million Carmel River FREE project, hopefully scheduled to be implemented in 2018 and beyond.

Last evening we had another CSA #50 committee meeting, focused on possible improvements with this winter's storms in mind. We had a lengthy discussion of this possible short-term project, and in the end our committee unanimously endorsed this project, to extend and deepen the notch, and to move some dirt to increase the holding capacity of the Odello East floodway property, and we support devoting up to \$350,000 of CSA #50's reserve funds to implement this project, as soon as possible, and hopefully before any major storms of this 2015-16 winter season. We did this recognizing that this work would otherwise be included in the Carmel River FREE project, but that would not occur until at least 2019 or later, as we understand the plan. To us, on behalf of our residents and businesses, the immediate realization of the project would justify our current expense, to buy a few years of early protection, especially protection for this coming winter season.

We understand that Balance Hydrologics will soon complete the design work on this project, and that the project itself could be completed with just a few days work.

The principal obstacle would seem to be the necessary approvals and permits, including communication with other stakeholders. We hope that the threatening El Nino storms and potential flooding will very soon lead to a

streamlined and faster emergency permitting process of various agencies, and we have been assured that county staff are on top of that and will pursue whatever is possible.

\*\*\* I am particularly writing you today concerning the County Board of Supervisors process for approving our use of CSA #50 reserves for this current project and expense. Staff advised us that the normal process of adjusting our CSA #50 budget would require going first through the Board's Budget Committee, then to the Board, and that the Budget Committee might not be meeting until mid-January. On that calendar, we might just find that the project is ready to roll, but the delay in approval to use our reserve funds to pay for it would delay implementation, even until after major storms might already have impacted our neighborhoods and people. We are all well aware that the first floods of 1995 occurred on January 9-10.

So, I am writing to ask you all to find a way to SPEED UP the process to apply these CSA #50 reserve funds for what we consider an Emergency Flood Preparedness Project, so that the County Board's schedule does not stymie the project. The funds have come from our CSA #50 property owners, and we speak unanimously on their behalf. \*\*\*

If I can provide any more formal letter or request, or if it would be helpful for me or others to meet with anyone or attend any meeting about this, please let me know.

I hope this relatively informal and quick e-mail is adequate communication with you all, please advise if you need more from us.

With best wishes,

Larry Levine, Chair  
CSA #50 Advisory Committee  
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