



September 27, 2023

TO: Flood Authority Members

FROM: Erika Britney, Staff and Scott Boettcher, Staff

SUBJECT: Looking Ahead: Chehalis Basin Strategy, Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District (FCZD), Future Local Projects

Following will be discussed at Thursday's Flood Authority meeting. Please feel free to contact either Erika (425/260-6640, erika.britney@icf.com) or Scott (360/480-6600, scottb@sbgh-partners.com) with questions.

Background

Following the July 2023 Flood Authority meeting, work continued looking forward to plan how to ensure the Flood Authority continues to be current, relevant, and have a positive impact on flood preparedness and mitigation in the communities served by Flood Authority members. Forward-looking activities currently span three interconnected efforts: Development of the Chehalis Basin Strategy; Collaboration with the FCZD; and compiling a list of future local projects.

Description and Proposed Activities

1. Development of the Chehalis Basin Strategy:
 - See [Process and Timeline Slides](#) Extracted from Sept. 7 meeting slides.
 - Next steps Oct 5-6 OCB Meeting/Retreat: develop baseline and tentative "Packages."
- How can the Flood Authority engage in the process?
- i. Engage with Flood Authority appointed CBB members.
(Related/Existing activity: bi-monthly updates from OCB Board members => more emphasis here)
 - ii. OCB will be thinking about the role of the FA in the long-term strategy => provide input/contribute to the vision; present vision/ideas on FA role to the CBB**.
(Related/Existing activity: FA/FCZD discussions about short and long-term collaboration and synergies)
****NOTE: FA "role" has been defined through recent [FA Survey](#) and new [FA ILA](#).**
 - iii. Contribute to Package content **and** the federal funding strategy. OCB staff will need to develop details around the Packages evaluated for the long-term strategy development. OCB also needs well-vetted projects with local partners for federal funding strategy development.
(Related/Existing activity: Development of a list of [Future Local Projects](#))

2. Collaboration with the FCZD:
 - 2023-2024 Flood season collaboration.
 - More frequent check-ins/updates.

What will this look like?

- i. Joint promotion of the annual Flood Warning System (*Stretch goal: 3,000 sign-up people!*)
 - a. Include the FCZD in list of partners.
 - b. Communications planning and update on-line materials (*also leverage OCB resources and publication of the local project success story*)
 - c. Distribute announcements to the FCZD mailing list.
 - ii. Brainstorm funding sources for Flood Warning System capital improvements
 - iii. November update/presentation from FCZD at the Nov 16, FA meeting
3. Compiling a list of future local projects (per agenda item #10):
 - Maintain the list of shovel-ready projects for when new funding is made available. *E.g., we started the 2021-2023 biennium with ~\$4M in FA local projects, mid-way new funding was made available and that number was increased to ~\$8M in FA local projects!*
 - “Real,” community supported projects integrated into the long-term Chehalis Basin Strategy.
 - List of Future Project provide a key input in the OCB Federal Funding strategy development. Projects with local partners already identified are needed to:
 - identify potential funding sources.
 - quickly respond to funding opportunities / meet timelines, etc.

Past success: North Shore Levee project => looking to replicate that success

Next Steps

4. Develop the list of Future projects.
5. Prepare communications plan for annual renewal of Flood Warning System sign-ups:
 - Collaborate and leverage resources of FCZD and OCB (Pyramid Communications).
 - Staff coordinate with Community Outreach & Education Committee on plan development and review.
 - Goal: 3,000 sign-ups
6. FCZD Presentation at 11/16/2023 Meeting.

Discussion, Ideas, Agreement