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**San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers
Authority**

Spring 2024 Newsletter

Mitigating Flood Risks. Protecting Shared Natural Treasures.



Our Land Acknowledgment to the Ramaytush Ohlone Community

We acknowledge that the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority and its projects occupy the unceded Ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. We recognize that the Ramaytush Ohlone understand the interconnectedness of all things and have maintained harmony with nature for millennia. We honor the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples for their enduring commitment to Mother Earth. As the Indigenous protectors of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. We recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. As uninvited guests, we affirm their sovereign rights as First Peoples and wish to pay our respects to the Ancestors, Elders and Relatives of the Ramaytush Community. We recognize to respectfully honor Ramaytush peoples we must embrace and collaborate meaningfully to record Indigenous knowledge in how we care for the Ancestral Ramaytush Homeland and all its people.

We are hiring!

The SFCJPA has an immediate opportunity for a Project Manager to join our team. The full position description is available on our website. Qualified applicants are requested to send a one-page cover letter and resume by April 3, 2024 to mhparker@sfcjpa.org with Project Manager Application in the subject line.

RFP Issued.

We are Seeking Consulting Support

The SFCJPA has posted a Request for Proposals for a Master Services Agreement for consulting and technical services to support the Reach 2 project. The proposals will be evaluated by a team composed of staff from each of our member agencies. We plan to bring a recommendation to the Board in April. A full description of the Scope of Work and Master Services Agreement can be found on our website at <https://www.sfcjpa.org/do-business-with-us>.

Highlights of Third-Party Independent Review of HEC-RAS Model

The [independent review](#) of the San Francisquito Creek HEC-RAS model for that is being used throughout the watershed to plan and implement projects is now available. This review confirmed that the model used as the basis for the Reach 2 project designs overestimated the channel capacity by about 25%. The review utilized an additional complementary modeling tool to assess the possible influence of overland flows in the urban area, both into and out of the creek, on the extent of flooding. This extra step confirmed the value of upgraded storm drain systems in preventing more serious flooding. This report also reviewed USGS methodology for determining flow at the Stanford rain gage and used the updated creek flow data to assess storm frequency. The New Year's Eve storm event was approximately a 30-year event.

Winter Weather Wrap-up

The SFCJPA team and our member agency colleagues were prepared for whatever storms nature could have thrown at us this winter. Fortunately, we had steady, gently soaking rains resulting in flows that never came close to reaching the creek's capacity. We're glad folks were paying attention, made their own preparations, and were ready in case of an emergency. We're all part of this creek-and-shoreline community.

Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22, 2024. This year's theme is "Planet vs. Plastics." Celebrate Earth Day all month! Consider supporting [EarthDay.org](#) and becoming informed on the movement to reduce plastic production and pollution around the world.

Recent studies and articles featured on the San Francisco Estuary Partnership website shed light on the potential impacts of plastic pollution on the San Francisco Bay. <https://www.sfei.org/projects/microplastics#:~:text=More%20than%207%20trillion%20tiny,aren't%20prepared%20to%20stop.>

Here is how to register for Earth Day in your city:

April 13, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park: <https://www.festivals.com/love-our-earth-festival-2024-51082>

April 21 Palo Alto: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Events-Directory/City-Manager/Earth-Day-Festival-2024>

Is there something you'd like to share?

Did you play in the creek as a kid? What is your favorite thing about the shoreline? We want to feature creek or shoreline related stories, poems, or photographs from our community. If you would like to share something, we will feature it on our website, or in a future newsletter. Please send your materials to mbruce@sfcjpa.org.

SFCJPA Board Meetings

Over the next several months, some board meetings may also include special 'study sessions' where project-related topics are explored in greater detail. Please check agendas and the schedule and locations for upcoming SFCJPA Board meetings. That information can be found on our website at: <https://www.sfcjpa.org/2024-board-meetings>

We have included you in our distribution because you have participated in one or more of our community meetings, your organization or community members may be impacted by the work of the SFCJPA, or you are directly involved in the SFCJPA's projects.

We do not share your contact information with anyone!

Please feel welcome to forward to anyone we may have missed.

You can unsubscribe at the link below.

San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority

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