



# Agenda

**Santa Fe River Commission Agenda**  
**Thursday, August 9, 2018 (Round House Room), 6 pm to 8 pm**  
**City Offices at the Market Station Building at the Railyard**  
**500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, NM**  
**505-955-6840**

1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2018, 2018
4. COMMUNICATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES /COMMITTEES
  - a. SF Watershed Report (Andy Otto)
5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION:
  - a. Informational Item: History of the SF River Commission (Dr. Jerry Jacobi)
  - b. Discussion Item: Moving forward Santa Fe River Commission Goals (Zoe Isaacson)
  - c. Informational Item: Assessment Santa Fe River after 1000 year storm event (M. McDonald)
  - d. Informational Item: Santa Fe Stormwater Management Strategic Plan Status Report (M. McDonald)
6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS
7. MATTERS FROM STAFF
  - a. EPA Long-term Stormwater Planning Update
  - b. Greening America's Communities Technical Assistance Letter of Interest
8. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR
9. SUB-COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION
10. ADJOURN

**Next Scheduled River Commission Meeting is September 13, 2018**  
**Captions & Packet Material are due by 10 am on September 5, 2018**  
*Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations,*  
*Contact the City Clerk's office at*  
*(505) 955-6521 five (5) working days prior to the meeting date.*

**RECEIVED AT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

**DATE:** 8/1/18  
**TIME:** 1:30 PM

Santa Fe River Commission  
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August 9, 2018

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**Santa Fe River Commission  
MINUTES  
Thursday, August 9, 2018  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chair, John Buchser, in the Roundhouse Meeting Room, Market Station Building at the Railyard, 500 Market Street, Santa Fe, NM, called the Santa Fe River Commission meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

John Buchser, Acting Chair  
Jerry Jacobi  
Dale Doremus  
F.M. Patorni  
Phil Bové  
Luke Pierpont  
Anna Hansen  
Emile Sawyer

**NOT PRESENT/EXCUSED:**

Zoe Isaacson, Excused  
Emile Sawyer  
Dale Doremus

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Melissa McDonald, River and Watershed - Staff Liaison  
Alan Hook, City Staff  
Andy Otto, Santa Fe Watershed Association  
Bob Findling, Audience  
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Ms. Hansen moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mr. FM Patorni, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2018**

**7<sup>th</sup> paragraph: ~~She had asked that in their strategic plan that they look at a different place in the river.~~**

*Mr. Jacobi moved to approve the minutes of June 12, 2018 as amended, second by Ms. Hansen, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

#### **4. COMMUNICATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES /COMMITTEES**

##### **a. SF Watershed Report – Andy Otto**

After the storm, Jr. ROTC went out to assist and picked up 23 bags of garbage. We put out a broadcast to all of our stewards and so many of them went out to pick up garbage. October 20<sup>th</sup> is our annual community clean up day. Our arroyos took a beating and we are pleased to have the added help.

Ms. Hansen asked if there is other damage besides Siler to Frenchy's bridge? Mr. Otto said that there was some damage at the upper part of Frenchy's bridge there is excessive erosion throughout the watershed. Besides the boulders that came down on the Frenchy's to Siler project, there was not any massive infrastructure damage.

Ms. McDonald said that the river weathered very well. There were a few failures but comparatively we did really well.

Mr. Patorni stated that with the rain and flood highlights the need to take care of the arroyos for drainage. Ms. McDonald stated that they are talking about that a lot, thank you for bringing it up.

#### **5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

##### **a. Information Item: History of the Santa Fe River Commission (Jerry Jacobi)**

Mr. Jacobi stated that the commission had discussed that commissioners would put together a brief bio on each member before the Mayor's attendance at this month meeting. The meeting is now scheduled for October 2018. Mr. Jacobi has been working on the report and it will be ready before the October meeting; he will have slides and will speak for approximately 15 minutes. He stated that Charlene Owen had a historical package on how River Commission got to where they are today. This information has been given to Ms. McDonald. Mr. Jacobi will talk about the River Fund, formation of the River Commission, the River Plan and Target Flow Ordinance.

Ms. Hansen offered to send pictures that she might have that will add to this presentation.

Mr. Jacobi said he needs a good slide of the map of the Watershed to Cochiti. Poop the Scoop program and information will be very helpful.

##### **b. Discussion Item: Moving forward**

Main purpose was to get us focused on meeting with the Mayor.

- Ms. Hansen said her and Alex Puglisi would like to talk about the quality of the water in the River.
- Mr. Buchser said that he will brainstorm with Mr. Jacobi and create a list of information that needs city attention as to what can be accomplished in a couple of years vs. what can be accomplished say in 20 years.

Ms. McDonald recommended that any added items outside of the shared template be coordinated with Zoe Isaacson and Jerry Jacobi. She shared in an overhead slide Long Term Goal/Objectives and subtasks.

Ms. McDonald will work on the editing of the Bios for the members. A deadline was set of September 1<sup>st</sup> to get information to Ms. McDonald. Mr. Buchser commented that Mr. Jacobi had some excellent points to include; what is the technical background as it applies to the River Commission, a sentence or two on a personal vision of where we are going.

Ms. Hansen said one of the topics states; improve dialogue between Santa Fe County and City. She feels that it should say “and staff”. She feels it is important to say that to the Mayor that City and County staff are working together.

Ms. McDonald asked; what do people feel isn’t being coordinated between the city and the county on the river? Ms. McDonald said that she is confident that the staff’s with both governmental entities have a good working relationship when it comes to the River.

Ms. Hansen said that she would like to have the commission address the question as it is repeated in the template about the city and county relationship and provided a specific example.

Ms. McDonald said as a reminder that there will be a Master Plan coming forward and she feels that the concerns that Ms. Hansen addressed should be brought forward. Ms. McDonald reiterated that the city and county staff do collaborate.

Ms. Hansen brought forward specific concerns in Santa Fe County. Ms. Hansen stated that the river goes in and out of the county through the village; they have more control over the river than the city does. That is where the water quality comes in, the amount of water that comes down through the village, quantity of water, the fact that they do the river blessing when they have water.

Ms. McDonald asked, from a city/county staff perspective, what do you think is failing or missing in that?

Ms. Hansen: The policy makers.

Ms. McDonald reiterated that they work well with their county counterparts. It might be a governing body to governing body question, but she isn’t clear on Ms. Hansen’s point as city and county staffs do talk a lot. If there were guidance on something specific they should be talking about she would like to know.

Mr. Buchser stated that for one, Buckman Diversion is one where it shows disconnect.

Ms. Hansen stated that the county definitely wants to change some things.

Ms. Hansen stated that in this last flood it shows that the city has not been paying attention to how water is flowing from the city into the county because La Cienega got devastated and part of it is the water that came from Arroyo Chamisa and Arroyo Hondo that all merged, it created a mess in La Cienega. People in La Cienega feel like the city has not been paying attention to the management of the drainage of water and spreading the water out instead of just funneling it in to these three main arteries going down Los Pinos Road.

Ms. McDonald said that is a very specific example and very clear, thank you.

Mr. Patorni asked if this is a lack of dialogue and if we could possibly change the working process to improve dialogue between Santa Fe County and City we could create a mechanism to work together. He also stated that the Commission should consider the question if the Mayor asked, what could he do for the River, we (the River Commission) should have an answer.

Ms. McDonald reiterated that the River Commission approved the Long-term Goal/Objectives template and comments should be sent to the Chair.

- c. **Informational Item: Assessment Santa Fe River after 1000 year storm event**
- d. **Informational Item: Santa Fe Stormwater Management Strategic Plan Status Report (Melissa McDonald)**

(Combined c and d.) Power Point Presentation.  
Stormwater Management Presentation (overhead projection) narrated by Ms. McDonald.

It was noted that the trails are closed right now due to the storm. City and County staff are working together to assure public safety.

Mr. Pierpont reiterated the statement Ms. McDonald made is that the river has not lost a lot of depth in the channels.

Arroyo Chamisos received the most damage. The structure didn't get damaged; issues were at the low crossing and a lot of the sediment setting in.

Acequia Trail Underpass did really great. The entire Railyard did well.  
Reprioritized areas now include: La Cieneguita, Nave Ade and West Alameda.

Mr. Pierpont said that off of West Alameda, the Sicomorro Rain Garden held up well. Ms. McDonald said that all the rain gardens held up really well.

Ms. McDonald offered to accept any comments or concerns from the commissioners by e-mail. A view of the map which shows updates on the past storm is updated and placed on the website. She also described the clean up plan that is being followed. There is a map for each district and how it got affected. This is the first storm that tested our green infrastructure and it worked well. (LID – Low Impact Development)

Included were slides on the New Stormwater Plan and Ms. McDonald spoke to the slide content. The Stormwater Project Funding was a strong point that they wanted the Governing Body to understand. Items under this slide of importance; Private Developers, Stormwater Fees, Other Grant Funding Sources and EPA's involvement identifying possible sources to meet new MS4 requirements.

FM Patorni: What is the impact of the developer? He wanted to address urban growth in general.

Ms. McDonald stated that the city does not build any city infrastructure. Las Soleras builds its own infrastructure. Developers build majority of road and we inherit them.

Ms. Hansen: But you have to approve them.

Ms. McDonald: Stated she agreed and understands and wanted this group to know that the city does not build roads. We accept roads and we approve roads and I definitely believe that is an issue and they did discuss at the recent Public Works Committee. It is definitely ok to bring it up but reiterated she wanted everyone to understand that the city doesn't build the roads.

Ms. Hansen: In the county we approve development and the problem, Las Soleras as an example, their development plan and what they are doing with the arroyos and roads there have to stay in harmony with mother nature. If you want to start changing arroyos and changing the water flow and then we have a storm event it is going to go where it wants to go and where it has gone for years. As policy makers, I recognize that.

Mr. Bové said that the third phase of Cerrillos Road is coming up and hopes that DOT is looking at the drainage concerns.

Ms. Hansen said that at the County they have been talking about penalty fees and she feels that the City and County should enter in to that discussion regarding developers. Ms. Hansen provided information on areas where it clearly shows they are in violation.

Ms. McDonald said that at all times they should contact David Pike at the city and inform his department of violations. They can be fined and the city can decide on what action needs to be taken, they can be charged. There are different neighborhood agreements that get signed and it differs also on individual lots.

Ms. Hansen said that there is SBA money (loans) since the city and county have been declared as a disaster area. Ms. Hansen will forward the e-mail to Ms. McDonald with this information.

Ms. McDonald said that they are looking at FEMA Hazard Mitigation grants and working with other funding sources, EPA, FHWA, FEMA and other federal agencies to get more grants/money. The Water Division has been more successful in obtaining funds; we have not been as successful for stormwater in the past. EPA is putting a guide for the city and they are also including us in federal plans that will help us get more funding.

Alan Hook: Emphasized that in land use, the private developers monies coming in vs. the stormwater fees, those two are not directly tied, they are disconnected. Hopefully in the future our storm water fee or our funding, whatever the source may be is directly related to land use permit processing, land use codes, etc.

Ms. McDonald added, this will not happen overnight, there are a lot of data gaps at the county and the city and that is part of the coordination with the county; we need to look at assessing things in a different way. That is what we are learning in this

process. The good news is it is all coming together as we continue to discuss with city/county.

Ms. McDonald explained the three modules New MS4 included in power point:

- Organizational Analysis
- Model Update (1998)
- EPA technical assistance. Need LID Guidebook.

Ms. McDonald said another important element is that we need to come up with design criteria. Steve Mogenson from NMDOT noted that in July 2018 they put out a newly revised NMDOT guidebook that focuses on LID and green infrastructure. The City Engineering Division is looking at that as they go with the NMDOT standards when they do improvements a lot of times. They consider it adopted by the city and we are investigating more. These new criteria, which are a very thick manual, detail why we have to have culvert sizing. A lot of people think we just need green infrastructure and we need low impact development but we also need to deal with the culverts and roads and more that is grey infrastructure, it needs to be a combination.

Ms. McDonald noted that the GIS update are all new data sets available, they are putting them out to beta groups or consultants who are doing projects. We are asking consultants to actually run the two different models and see what they think. The good news is the data sets that were created work in all the models.

The EPA technical assistance model, the EPA was wanting to make sure that whatever they did worked nicely with what we had going on with our strategic plan so city staff did extensive coordination. They identified from their experience that one of the things the city needs is an LID Guidebook so that our Engineers, Land Use Planners and our development community know what is expected when we get this MS4. We tried to find projects that would be implemented in the next five years and take pieces of those and do green infrastructure 30% designs on top of them and they are going in to an LID book that we can give to our Engineers, Land Use Planners and Developers and say, "this is a direction you may want to go in."

Mr. Hook asked if the new LID Guidebook that has been provide to the city by EPA is that also in coordination with the new NMDOT guidebook and guidelines?

Ms. McDonald stated that EPA worked closely with NMDOT on theirs. Ours is more visual and directed towards individual case studies. The NMDOT guidebook talks about the importance of green infrastructure in sections where it talks about calculating rainfalls and the importance of infiltration. They spent a lot more time detailing specs on culvert sizing, etc. There will be processing of everything that is being done, this is the beginning and input is important.

Ms. McDonald stated that they are looking in to doing a departmental educational training where we can develop out what do we really need. That would include private sector, public works, public utilities and wastewater. That is future and not included in this plan but it is the start to say this is important and necessary. Also, in discussing federal funding when they identified stormwater,



it has not been good in getting grants and what can we do to get funding to make this work. They have not New Mexico Environment: Emile Sawyer - GIS and – will also include Santa Fe County.

Ms. Hansen shared her appreciation for this information, thank you.

**6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

- Appointments will be staggered.
- Mr. Jacobi made mention of an article in High Country News that doesn't reflect the true Santa Fe River. The edition is August 6, 2018. The cover is the article but doesn't say anything about the river.
- Ms. Hansen stated that she called the Secretary for Homeland Security to ask for funding.

**7. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

- a. EPA long-term Stormwater Planning Update
- b. Greening America's Communities Technical Assistance Letter of Interest

**8. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR**

None

**9. SUB-COMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSION**

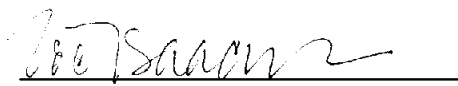
None

**Next Scheduled Meeting: September 13, 2018**

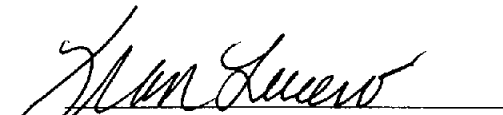
**10. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the River Commission the River Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

**SIGNATURE PAGE:**

  
~~John Buchser, Chair~~

Joe Isaacson, Chair

  
Fran Lucero, Stenographer



# Stormwater Management Update

Presentation to the Public Works Committee  
August 6, 2018

Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director

John Romero, Engineering Division Director

Leroy Pacheco, PE, River Watershed and Trails Section Supervisor

Melissa McDonald, River and Watershed Coordinator



## Agenda

- Storm July 30, Infrastructure Assessment Summary
- Stormwater Management Strategic Plan Update



## Storm Assessment Summary

- Very intense storm and failures to be expected
- Cleanup across the City began night of storm.
  - All roads passable by Wednesday, most culverts cleared by Saturday. Effort ongoing, new rains change situation.
- Investments in infrastructure performed well!
  - The Santa Fe River
  - Arroyo de los Chamisos
  - New Acequia Trail Underpass
  - Railyard
  - Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Design
- Reprioritized areas now include: La Cieneguita, Nava Ade and West Alameda



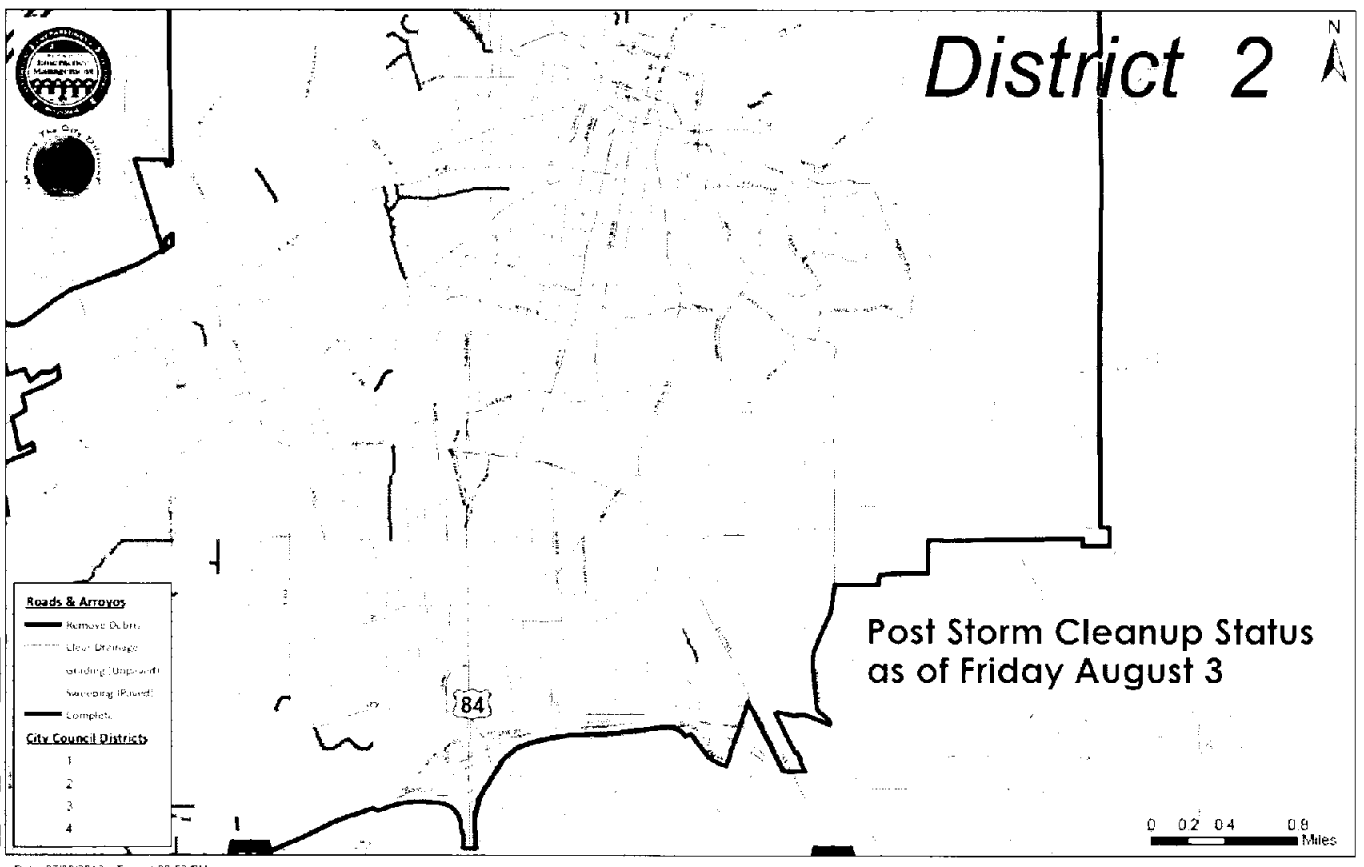
## Post Storm Cleanup Status as of Friday August 3

# District 1



Roads & Arroyos	
	Remove Debris
	Clear Drainage
	Grading/Unpaved
	Sweeping/Gravel
	Complete
City Council Districts	
1	
2	
3	
4	

0 0.4 0.8 1.6 Miles



## Post Storm Cleanup Status as of Friday August 3

**Roads & Arteries**

———— Remove Debris

----- Clear Drainage

Grading (Unpaved)

Sweeping (Paved)

———— Complete

**City Council Districts**

1

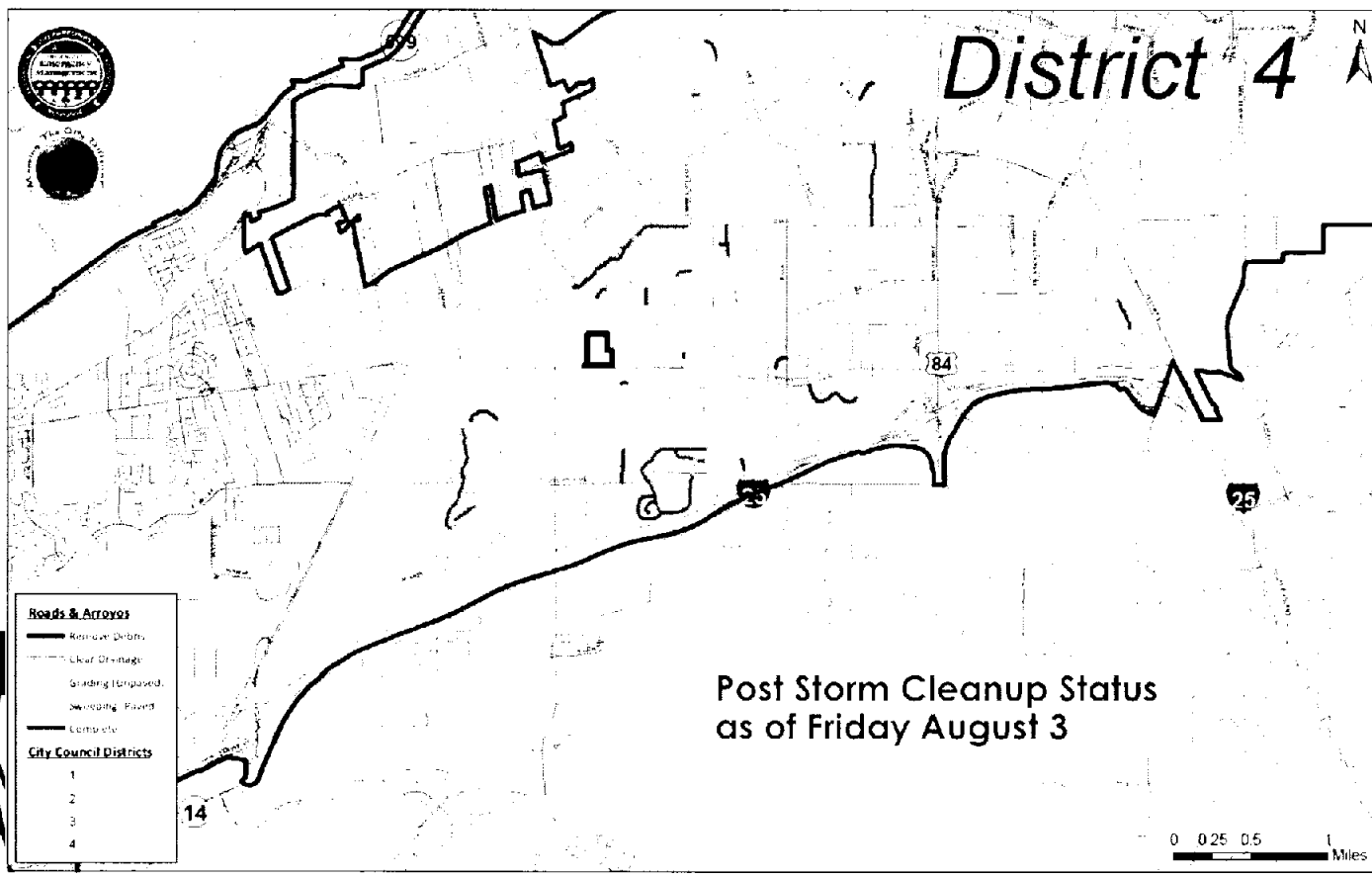
2

3

4

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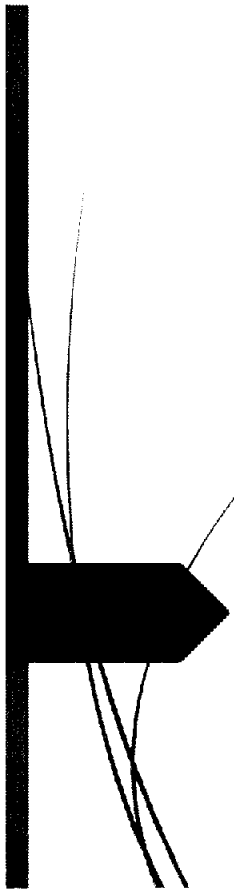
Rio Road LID Performed Well in the Storm



Nava Ade Arroyo after Storm



Nava Ade Arroyo after repairs Saturday August 2



# Stormwater Management Plan



## Drivers for New Stormwater Plan

- Last Drainage Management Plan completed in 1998
- City Council Resolution 2016-25 directed new planning
- New EPA MS4 Permit (erosion and water quality)
- Annexation and development
- Changing character of rain events



## Stormwater Planning Overview

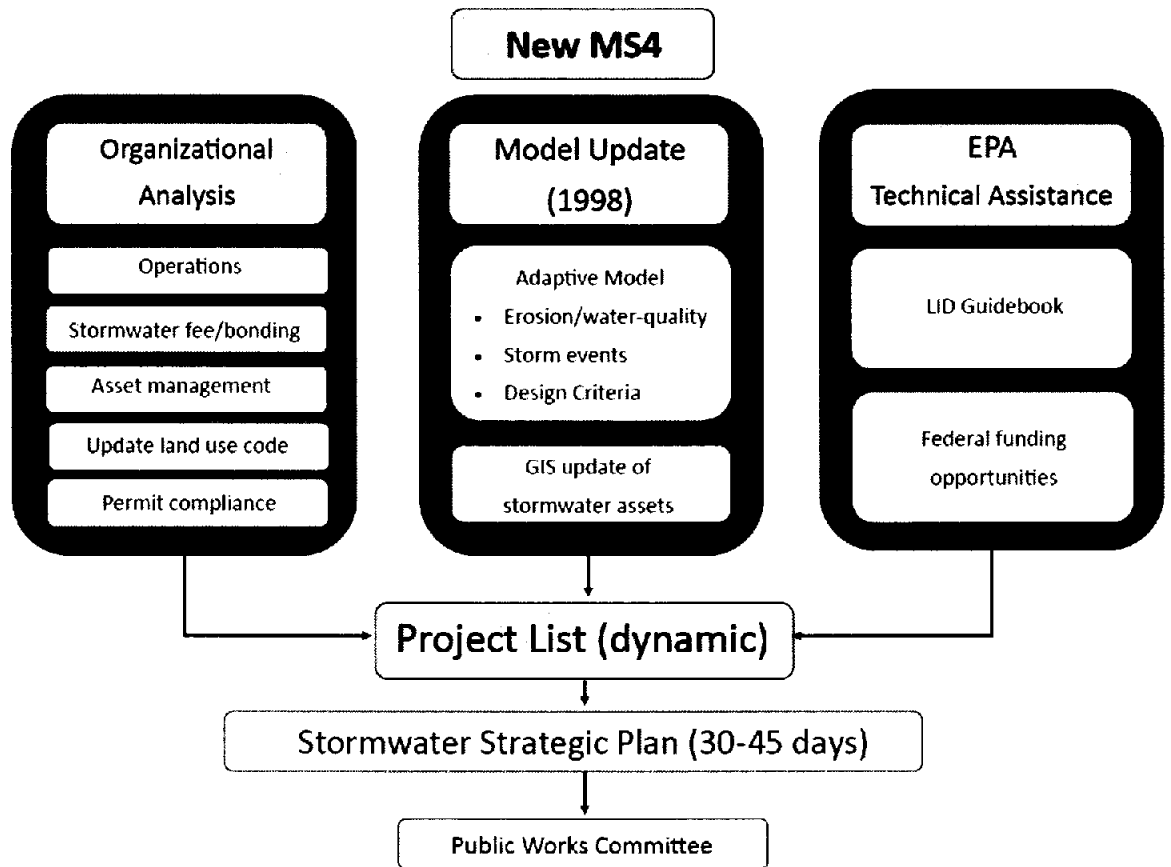
- Stormwater management involves complex issues
- Planning process develops understanding and tools on city's organization, areas of responsibility and jurisdiction, funding, and design with emphasis on sustainability
- Plan coupled with field assessments will provide recommendations to comprehensively and sustainably manage stormwater across the City



## Stormwater Project Funding

- Funding for Stormwater projects comes from three sources
  - **Private Developers** (Land Use) design and construct public infrastructure that city later owns and operates
  - **Stormwater fee** can currently be bonded against- range is \$5M to \$10M/ depending on rate/term
  - Other grant funding sources - FHWA, FEMA, etc.
  - EPA will help identify other possible sources available to meet new MS4 requirements







# Thank you!

Regina Wheeler, Public Works Director

John Romero, PE, Engineering Division Director

Leroy Pacheco, PE, River Watershed and Trails Section Supervisor

Melissa McDonald, RLA, River and Watershed Coordinator