May 13, 2020

Dear Hallwood Resident:

In January 2019, Yuba County met with the Hallwood community to provide an update on efforts to reduce the area’s flood risk. As you may recall, the County identified the potential for the Goldfield’s North Training Wall to fail during high water events. To reduce near-term flood risk, the County worked with Teichert Aggregates to repair 2000 linear feet of the North Training Wall embankment, a project that was completed in early 2019. However, a more permanent fix is needed to reduce flood risk over the long-term and meet FEMA requirements.

In coordination with the County, Yuba Water Agency hired MBK Engineers to evaluate projects to reduce long-term flood risk. These potential alternatives were shared at the January 2019 community meeting. Going forward, the County is coordinating with my organization, the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA), to continue work on potential alternatives, and ultimately manage the design, CEQA analysis, financing, permitting, and construction of the preferred project. Late last year, Yuba Water Agency awarded TRLIA a $500,000 grant to fund preliminary engineering, design and environmental work. Since 2005, TRLIA has completed nearly $500 million of levee improvements within Yuba County and is pleased to lend its expertise to the Hallwood project.

In early January 2020, TRLIA hired the team of Wood Rodgers-ENGEIO to support civil and geotechnical engineering, the team of FlowWest-HDR to provide ecological design services, and GEI for required environmental permitting work. Currently the project team is coordinating right-of-entry permission to collect necessary environmental, geotechnical and survey data, and evaluating hydraulic and hydrologic modeling.

In coming months, the project team will continue preliminary design and engineering efforts and aggressively pursue potential funding sources, to include State grants. The team will also consider how to address future O&M costs of the completed project.

We look forward to meeting with the community over the summer to provide more information on progress. Given the current “shelter in place” restrictions due to COVID-19, we will conduct the meeting online, if needed. In the meantime, please feel free to visit TRLIA’s website at www.trlia.org, and contact Public Outreach Coordinator Kim Floyd at (916) 838-2666, or kim@floydcommunications.com, if you have questions.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to reduce flood risk for your community.

Sincerely,

Paul Brunner, P.E.
Executive Director