

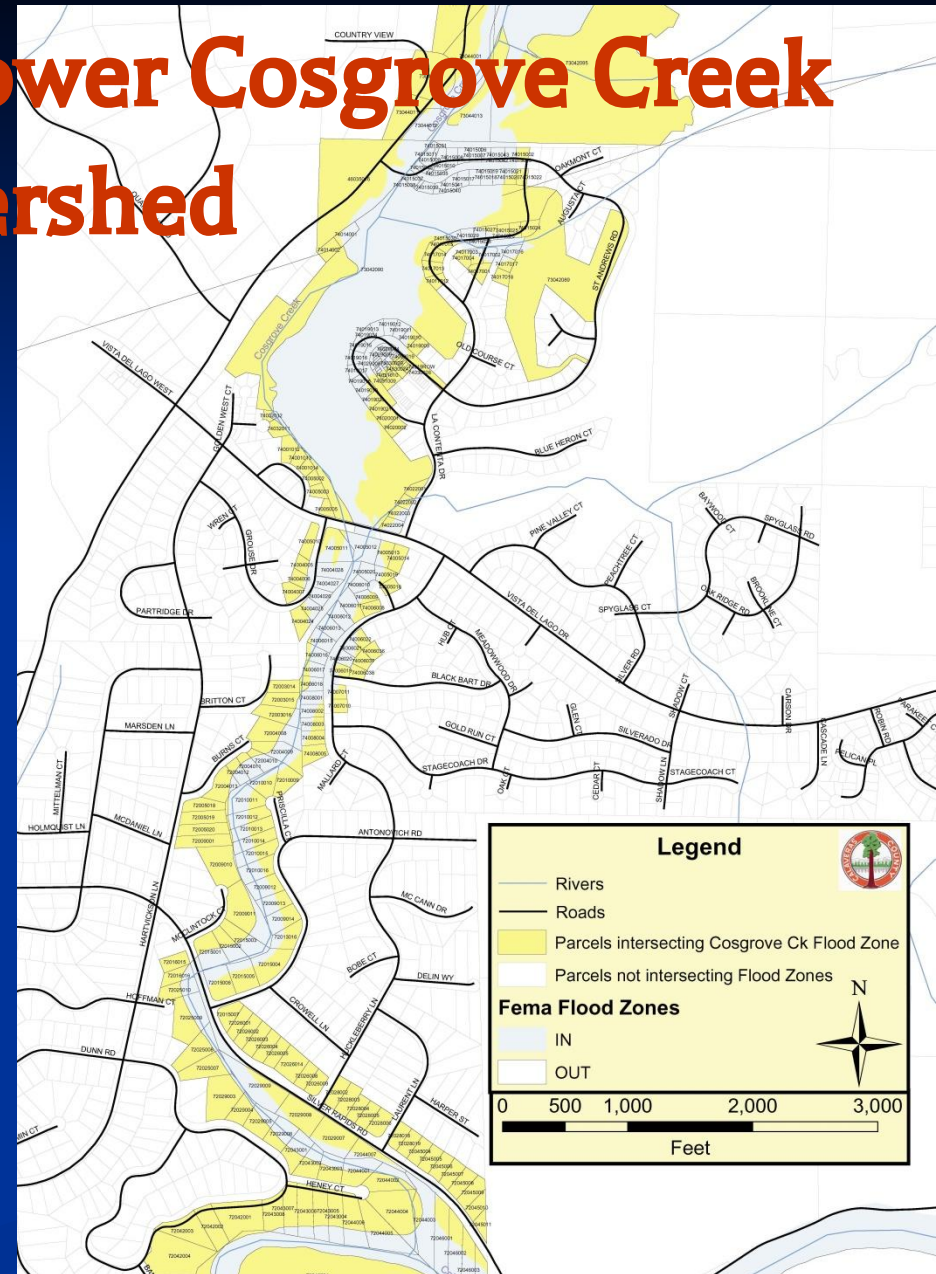


County Government's Role in Flood Control

the first in a series of study sessions presented by Public Works

Conditions in the Lower Cosgrove Creek Watershed

- 100+ existing structures within the historic 100-year floodplain
- Development-induced hydrologic changes are widening the floodplain
- Deferred channel maintenance is decreasing channel flow capacity
- Flood-related damage in five of the last ten years



Current County Policy

“Flood Damage Prevention” Ordinance. The stated purpose is to minimize losses due to flood conditions by provisions designed to:

- B. Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- C. Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- G. Ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and
- H. Ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

Board Direction is Requested

- *To respond to the immediate problem.* Routine channel maintenance to re-establish flow capacity.
- *To develop and implement long-term plans for flood control in the Cosgrove Creek watershed.* Pursue funding and construction of detention basins.
- *To determine County government's role in flood control for watersheds throughout the County.* Should we pursue formation and funding of a flood control district?

Channel Maintenance

A one-mile segment of Cosgrove Creek extending from St. Andrews to Silver Rapids needs immediate attention to:

- Remove invasive vegetation
- Remove accumulated sediment
- Repair bridge scouring
- Install and repair erosion controls



Channel Maintenance Issues

- Lead agency
- Property rights
- Permitting
- Timing and workload
- Funding



Conditions in the Lower Cosgrove Creek Watershed

- The public holds no legal interest in Cosgrove Creek.
- La Contenta Golf Course holds legal interest in $\frac{1}{2}$ of segment requiring maintenance.
- Majority of deferred maintenance occurs along and immediately downstream of La Contenta Golf Course



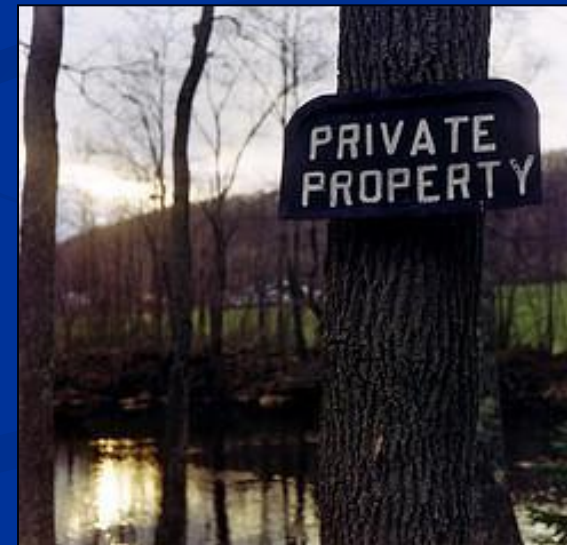
Channel Maintenance Issues

- *Lead agency.* Calaveras County does not have a flood control district or any other entity with authority/responsibility for maintaining natural drainages. The County did adopt a “flood damage prevention” ordinance and named the building official as the floodplain administrator.
- Property Rights
- Permitting
- Timing and workload
- Funding



Channel Maintenance Issues

- Lead agency
- *Property rights.* The public holds no legal interest in Cosgrove Creek. At a minimum, rights of entry are needed.
- Permitting
- Timing and workload
- Funding



Channel Maintenance Issues

- Lead agency
- Property rights
- *Permitting*
 - Streambed Alteration Permit
 - Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit
 - RWQCB 401 Certification
 - CEQA
- Timing and workload
- Funding



Channel Maintenance Issues

- Lead agency
- Property rights
- Permitting
- *Timing and workload.* Work must be completed during low flow conditions and prior to October 15. With a position vacancy rate exceeding 20%, adding this project to the front of the cue will delay delivery of other projects.
- Funding



Channel Maintenance Issues

- Lead agency
- Property rights
- Permitting
- Timing and workload
- *Funding.*
 - Work within 200 feet of bridges is eligible for federal hazard mitigation grant funds
 - An additional \$25,000 will be needed for work between the bridges

Phase I Recommendations Immediate Action

- County to assume responsibility for routine channel maintenance for this season and assign task to Public Works:
 - Secure necessary rights of entry
 - Secure necessary permits
 - Schedule and coordinate the work
- Board to determine source of additional funds for channel maintenance

Phase II Recommendations

Designate lead agency with responsibility for flood control issues in Cosgrove Creek, including:

- Perform routine channel maintenance
- Enforce existing “flood damage prevention” ordinance
- Submit “*Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*”
- Secure funding for detention basin(s)

Phase III Recommendations

- Weigh private property interests and responsibilities for channel maintenance versus County government role
- Modify ordinance to reflect current Board policy
- Consider formation of flood control district that would be responsible for the following tasks:
 - Establish policies for channel maintenance
 - Secure appropriate rights of way for existing drainages
 - Update floodplain maps
 - Coordinate implementation of grading ordinance and Phase II NPDES for water quality protection
 - Regulate small dams
 - Design, permit and construct detention basin(s)
 - Secure funding through grants, benefit assessments, and development impact mitigation fees



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