

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

To: Agencies and Interested Parties

From: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

Date: April 8, 2010

Subject: **Notice of Availability of a Draft Relocation Assistance Plan for the Natomas Levee Improvement Program, Phase 3 and Phase 4a Landside Improvements Projects (Sacramento River East Levee Reaches 5A – 9B and Reaches 10-15)**

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) is the state lead agency for the subject project in the Natomas Basin in Sacramento and Sutter Counties, California. SAFCA is soliciting input from interested agencies and the public on the Natomas Levee Improvement Program (NLIP) Phase 3 and Phase 4a Landside Improvements Projects (Project) Draft Relocation Assistance Plan (Draft Plan). The Draft Plan covers the Sacramento River East Levee Reaches 5A – 9B and Reaches 10-15.

PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The purposes of this notice are to:

1. Briefly describe the Projects and the contents of the Draft Plan that is available for review; and
2. Solicit input by May 10, 2010, from interested agencies and from interested organizations and individuals about the contents and scope of the Draft Plan.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Projects are part of a multi-phase comprehensive flood control program being implemented by SAFCA to provide urban-standard (“200-year”) flood protection to the Natomas Basin (or Basin) in Sacramento and Sutter Counties by improving the perimeter levee system around the Basin. This program, referred to as NLIP, was initially evaluated in SAFCA’s programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on Local Funding Mechanisms for Comprehensive Flood Control Improvements for the Sacramento Area (State Clearinghouse # 2006072098) which the SAFCA Board approved in April 2007. Volume II of that EIR contained a project-level evaluation of the initial phase of the NLIP consisting of improvements to the Natomas Cross Canal (NCC) south levee (Phase 1 Project).

By approval of Resolution No. 07-105 adopted on November 29, 2007, the SAFCA Board of Directors (Board) certified the *Final EIR on the Natomas Levee Improvement Program Landside Improvements Project*; adopted Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, Mitigation Measures, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and approved the Phase 2 Landside Improvements Project.

The Board, by adoption of Resolution No. 09-022 on January 29, 2009, certified the *Final Supplemental EIR on the NLIP Landside Improvements Phase 2 Project*; adopted Findings and a Statement of

Overriding Considerations, Mitigation Measures, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and approved the Modifications to the Phase 2 Project.

The Board, by adoption of Resolution No. 09-059 on May 21, 2009, certified the *Final EIR on the Natomas Levee Improvement Program Landside Improvements Phase 3 Project*; adopted Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, Mitigation Measures, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and approved the Phase 3 Project.

The Board, by adoption of Resolution No. 09-156 on November 13, 2009, certified the *Final EIR on the Natomas Levee Improvement Program Landside Improvements Phase 4a Project*; adopted Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, Mitigation Measures, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and approved the Phase 4a Project.

The above referenced environmental documents are available on SAFCA's website at www.safca.org/Programs_Natomas.html. The Phase 1 Project was completed in 2007 and 2008; the Phase 2 Project is currently under construction; the Phase 3 Project and Phase 4 Project construction is about to begin.

DRAFT PLAN

Summary:

The Draft Plan has been prepared to address the relocation requirements of the NLIP Phase 3 and Phase 4a Projects for Sacramento River East Levee Reaches 5A-9B and Reaches 10-15. It provides an assessment of relocation needs, identifies the replacement resources available to address these needs, and outlines the policies and guidelines that SAFCA will follow in providing assistance to the displaced households.

Background:

The SAFCA Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 99-001 on January 21, 1999, establishing rules and regulations for business and residential relocation assistance for SAFCA projects. The resolution requires that all federally funded projects follow the requirements of 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 24, Entitled "Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally Assisted Programs" (Federal Uniform Act). The Federal Uniform Act does not require a relocation plan for a project with less than 15 relocations.

In addition, Resolution 99-001 requires that all relocations on "non-federally" funded projects be administered in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth in the statutes and regulations established by the California Relocation Assistance Law, California Government Code Section 7260 et seq and the California Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Guidelines, Title 25, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 6, Section 6000 et seq. ("State Guidelines"). The State Guidelines require a relocation plan for any project with relocation.

Discussion:

SAFCA has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) concerning funding and/or crediting for costs associated with the NLIP. Among other things, the USACE/SAFCA agreement requires SAFCA to follow the Federal Uniform Act for all right of way acquisitions and relocations. In addition, SAFCA has also entered into a funding agreement with the

California Department of Water Resources (DWR). Among other things, the DWR/SAFCA agreement requires SAFCA to follow the State Guidelines for all right of way acquisitions and relocations.

The Phase 3 and Phase 4a Projects for the Sacramento River East Levee Reaches 5A-9B and Reaches 10-15 are anticipated to require approximately twelve residential and two business relocations. The Draft Plan addresses the needs created by these relocations and provides a framework for meeting these needs by assessing the adequacy of the replacement resources that are available in the surrounding area and outlining the process for assisting displaced households.

Accordingly, the Draft Plan includes the following information:

1. A description of the Projects;
2. An ongoing assessment of the relocation needs of the households / businesses affected by the Projects;
3. Replacement housing resources available in the surrounding area;
4. A description of other relocation efforts in the surrounding area that may affect SAFCA's relocation program;
5. Temporary housing availability; and
6. An outline of the relocation program

A number of residential relocations have already occurred as part of the Phase 2 Project. These relocations were identified in the project specific environmental documents, were accomplished in accordance with the relocation assistance plan published and approved by the SAFCA Board in August of 2009, and were approved by the SAFCA Board as part of final settlements with the displaced persons. All relocation assistance services were completed per the Federal Uniform Act and the State Guidelines.

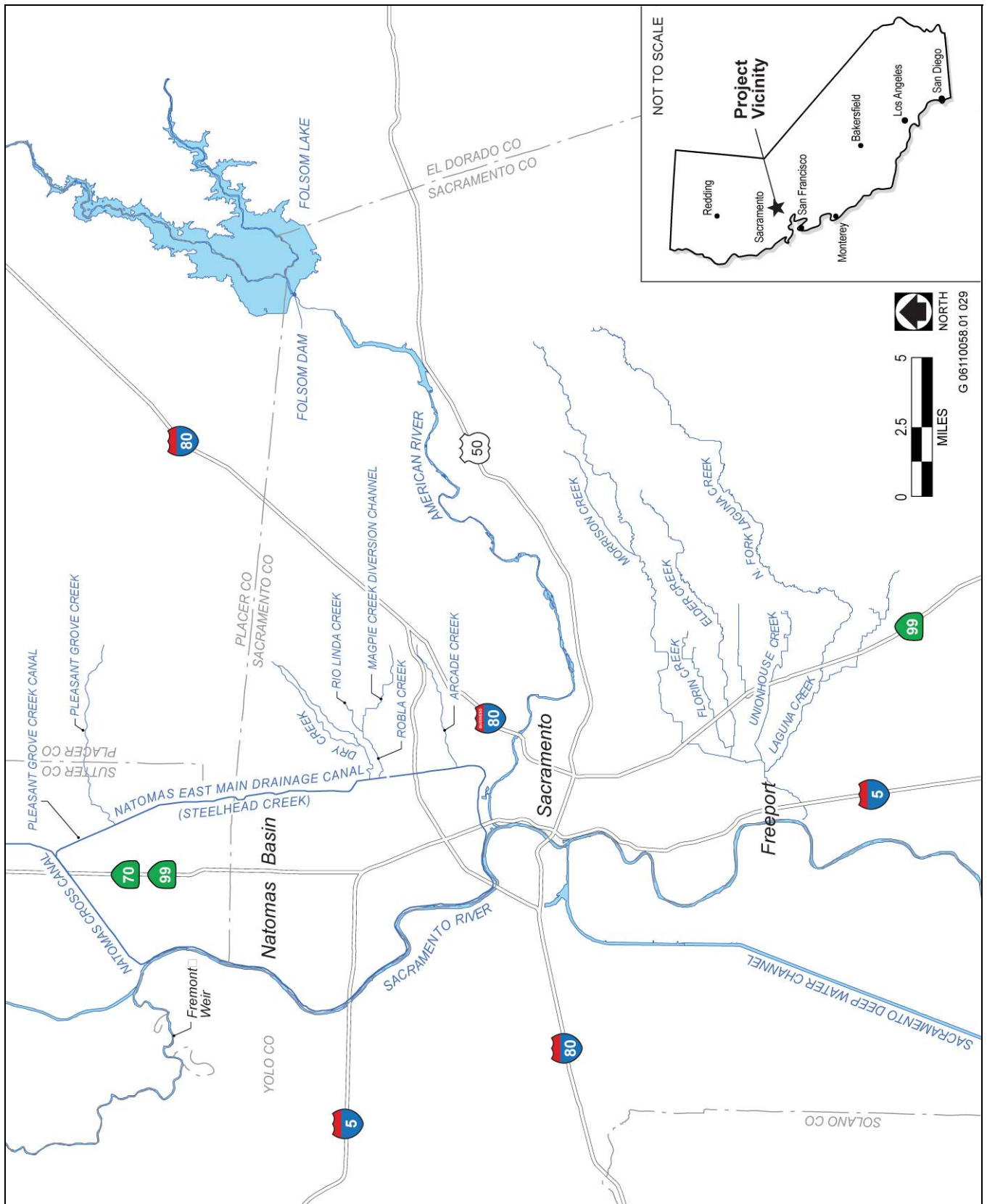
Circulation of the Draft Relocation Assistance Plan:

Per the State Guidelines, the Draft Plan is being made available to the public for a mandatory thirty (30) day review period. Any comments regarding the Draft Plan will be included as an addendum to the Draft Plan and addressed prior to submission of the Final Plan to the SAFCA Board for approval.

PROVIDING COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN

Interested parties may provide written comments on the Draft Plan to SAFCA. **Written comments must be provided to SAFCA at the earliest possible date, but must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2010.** Comments provided by e-mail should include "NLIP Phase 3 and Phase 4a Draft Relocation Assistance Plan" in the subject line and should also include the name and address of the sender. Please send all written and/or e-mail comments to:

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Source: CaSil, Adapted by AECOM (EDAW) in 2007

Project Location Exhibit