October 3, 2008

To: Resident

Stein Buer, Executive Director

Re: NLIP Pre-2009 Levee Construction Activity

In December of this year, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) contractors will begin the removal and relocation of trees and vegetation located on the land (east) side of the Sacramento River east levee from the Natomas Cross Canal to just south of the Prichard Lake Pumping Plant. The objective of this work is to prepare the area for the construction of an adjacent levee in 2009 as part of the Natomas Levee Improvement Program (NLIP).

Native trees ranging from 2-10 inches in diameter and located within the project footprint are scheduled to be transplanted to areas along the levee outside of the construction footprint. The equipment used for transplanting trees will be Vermeer Spades, backhoes, front-end loaders or other machinery capable of extracting large trees. Native trees that are too large or deemed unviable for successful transplantation, as well as non-native trees and vegetation located in the project footprint, will be removed. A qualified biologist will be on-hand to monitor the contractors’ activities.

The enclosed map (Figure 1) shows the locations of the tree removal and relocation activity. In addition, this winter SAFCA will initiate the restoration of woodlands relating to NLIP impacts. This restoration will include site preparation activities such as weed and brush removal, herbicide applications and native grass drill seeding as well as tree planting (Figure 2).

Traffic impacts are anticipated to be minimal due to the nature of the activity, the location of the work and type of equipment used. However, the contractor will take any and all temporary traffic control measures necessary to ensure the safety of the public; which may include flaggers and other traffic control measures to ensure safe exit and entry of work vehicles into and out of the work area from travel lanes.
The final completion date of this work will depend on weather conditions and be no later than March 15, 2009. Detailed information about the NLIP project is available on SAFCA’s web site at www.safca.org. Click on the link “Natomas Levee Improvement Program” located under “Current Construction Projects”.

SAFCA has assigned Gualco Consulting to respond to questions or comments by the community. Please feel free to call Jay Davis or Barbara Gualco at (916) 351-0600 or email jdavis@gualco.com
Figure 1 - Tree Removal Locations
