

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: November 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Amendment to Cooperating Technical Partners Mapping Activity Statement; Polk County MAS # SW.7.SF.4

Background: The District is currently engaged in updating the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood insurance maps in eastern Polk County. The project was originally scoped for digital conversion of the currently effective maps, without any new studies, due to funding constraints. In the period since the original scoping was conducted, FEMA has made available additional funds that can be used to strategically update some of the currently effective maps with new studies. New studies can take advantage of LiDAR terrain data acquired by the District in 2005 and in 2007, which will provide an important improvement to the accuracy of the flood hazard mapping, particularly in areas of new and pending development. The Lake Marion and Lake Snell watersheds were identified as the best alternatives for detailed modeling updates. These watersheds met the requirement of rapid growth and the majority of the study area is contained within both SFWMD and Polk County boundaries.

How this helps meet the District's 10 year Strategic Plan: This effort supports the District's water resources, flood control and restoration missions, as well as providing detailed data in support of the District's land stewardship of the Lake Marion Creek/Snell Creek Management Area.

Funding Source: This is an amendment to contract 4600000257 with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Flood Map Modernization in Polk County, to extend the term of the contract from December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2010, and to increase funding in the amount of \$335,000, as reimbursement to the District, for which funds are subject to a future Governing Board amendment of the FY09 budget. Total FEMA funding for this project after this amendment would be \$585,000, with District's in-kind contribution of already existing data and project management support.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: The existing, approved flood-hazard mapping project in Polk County is managed by the Stormwater Improvement Division of the Regulation Department.

What concerns could this Board item raise: Resulting changes to the flood risk maps may determine, in some areas, a greater risk than previously identified in the current maps, or it may remove areas from a flood risk zone due to new and better drainage. All changes to the flood hazard zones affecting structures will be carefully documented and justified to respond to public inquiry during the map review phase of the project and address public concerns.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item: This item will improve the quality of flood-hazard mapping. At the same time it will provide the additional benefit of hydrologic and hydraulic studies that will contribute to the District's stewardship and land management planning for the Lake Marion Creek/Snell Creek Management Area.