

October 08, 2024

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Proclaiming Flood Preparedness Week in Los Angeles County

The California Department of Water Resources annually declares the third or fourth week of October as California Flood Preparedness Week. Los Angeles County has experienced rainfall events that have resulted in devastating flooding and debris flows across portions of our communities, which serve as vivid reminders of the flooding threats we face and the need for preparation each year. Despite the longest megadrought period in the past 1,200 years, Los Angeles County saw extreme and above-average rainfall during the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Water Years, receiving over 220 percent and 138 percent of normal rainfall, respectively.

On December 6, 2023, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion to improve our stormwater infrastructure’s resilience to climate change and to better inform residents about flood risk mitigation. Each year, the County prepares for storm season, assuming that significant flooding may occur, and encourages residents to take similar precautions to protect their homes and businesses. The County readies its extensive network of flood control facilities, including sediment removal and restoration efforts at County reservoirs. These actions are key components of the Los Angeles County Water Plan, ensuring that our water infrastructure not only meets flood protection standards but also enhances stormwater capture capacity, groundwater recharge, and long-term water supply reliability.

Reservoir maintenance and restoration are critical due to erosion caused by increased wildfires in our area. Additional County actions include providing post-fire engineering advice to residents in recent burn areas, sending annual flood risk information mailings to residents in flood-prone communities, and offering free sandbags at Los Angeles County Fire Stations.

MOTION

SOLIS _____

MITCHELL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

HORVATH _____

Thanks to the County's ongoing participation in the National Flood Insurance Program, alongside 85 cities, most residents are eligible to purchase federal flood insurance as financial protection against flood losses. Unincorporated Los Angeles County is one of the few National Flood Insurance Program communities in California with a Class 6 or higher rating in the Community Rating System. This rating credits the County's stormwater management, floodplain management programs, emergency response efforts, and high building standards. As a result, residents in unincorporated areas can purchase flood insurance at a 20 percent discount.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors declare the week of October 19-26, 2024, as Flood Preparedness Week in Los Angeles County, encouraging residents to prepare for the upcoming storm season and learn more about flood insurance options by visiting the Ready LA County website at www.ready.lacounty.gov <<<http://www.ready.lacounty.gov>>>.

#

LPH: mcc