



Pinnacle Peak West Area Drainage Master Study Update

Flood Hazard Modeling Results and Flood Risk Reduction Guide Available Online

The final results of the flood hazard modeling throughout the Pinnacle Peak West (PPW) study area are available online on the Flood Control District of Maricopa County's (FCD) website at <http://gis.fcd.maricopa.gov/apps/PPW-ModelResults>. The website is best viewed in Chrome or Safari internet browsers. The site shows predicted water depths for a 100-year storm event, which is the equivalent of 4 to 5 inches of rainfall within 24 hours and has a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. Residents can search for their property address or zoom in on their community to view the flooding depths and flow rates. If you have difficulty navigating the site or understanding the results, please contact PPW Project Manager Theresa Pinto at (602) 506-8127 or tmp@mail.maricopa.gov.

Reduce Your Flood Risk: A Resource Guide is now available on the FCD website at <http://www.fcd.maricopa.gov/downloads/flooding/Reduce-Flood-Risk.pdf>. The guide includes useful information about how flood risk is determined and floodplain maps are developed, steps you can take to reduce flood risks to your property and minimize financial losses if a flood occurs, the permitting process for those who live in a floodplain, and what to do when a major storm hits.

Residents Learn About Flood Risks and Weigh in on Options

In May 2015, two public meetings were held for residents to learn about the flood risks in their community, and to provide input on the options to minimize regional flood risks identified in the study area. The meetings were well-attended, with 89 people attending the public meeting for the Rawhide Wash focus area and 78 people attended the public meeting for the Northwest Watersheds area.

The study team also met with 18 homeowners associations throughout the study area this past summer to provide the flood hazard results for their communities, information on how the study results will be used and next steps in the study process, and how residents can help protect themselves from flood risks.

Rawhide Wash Flood Mitigation Options Being Evaluated

Based on the community's input and concerns about flooding, as well as the technical analysis of the flood risks, the Flood Control District and its partners are moving forward in evaluating structural flood control mitigation options to control floodwater in Rawhide Wash and minimize flood risks to residents. The No Action option will also move forward for evaluation and comparison with possible Build options.

Structural flood control measures will be evaluated to control and direct floodwater at the wash apex northwest of Happy Valley and Hayden roads, and to contain stormwater along the wash channel downstream and prevent breakout flows and erosion. Currently, the study team is completing a sediment analysis in Rawhide Wash, which will help determine which structural measures will be

feasible. In addition, a wall and levee analysis is being finalized to help identify where existing walls and levees may need to be built or re-constructed to hold back floodwater during large storm events. The condition of the existing walls is being evaluated, and involves a process to drill small holes on the wash side of existing property walls to measure the depth of the wall footings. The study team anticipates completing this initial technical analysis by the end of February.

Once this evaluation is complete, the study team will have an understanding of which types of flood mitigation structures could be effective, and will begin developing and evaluating potential flood control concepts. We expect to present potential concepts for the community's review and input at a public meeting this spring.



Wall along Rawhide Wash

Rawhide Wash Community Stakeholder Group Established

A Community Stakeholder Group (CSG) has been established to evaluate and provide input on potential flood mitigation options to control flood hazards and minimize flood risks in Rawhide Wash. The first meeting of the CSG was held on Oct. 22. The group is composed of representatives from homeowners associations, the State Land Department (a major landowner in the area) and community organizations in the area. The CSG serves as a focus group to help refine ideas and informational materials for Rawhide Wash flood mitigation alternatives before presenting them to the broader community for input, and members serve as a liaison between the Flood Control District (FCD) and their respective communities and organizations to help inform their neighbors and members about the study progress and findings. If you live near Rawhide Wash and your community is not yet participating in this group, please contact us to arrange for a representative.

Floodplain Redelineation Process Moving Forward for Northwest Watersheds Area

The Flood Control District will be proceeding with an application to FEMA to re-delineate two existing floodplains within the Northwest Watersheds portion of the study area, known as Fans 5 and 6. The

study modeling results showed a much smaller area prone to flooding than represented by the existing regulatory floodplain boundaries.

To prepare the application, the study team is conducting an additional hazard modeling analysis to further refine and verify the new floodplain boundaries. We anticipate sending the floodplain re-delineation application to FEMA in 2016. FEMA will then review and provide comments on the proposed redelineation, and will prepare revised maps and related documents for a formal community review and comment period. If your property is affected by the proposed floodplain re-delineation, you will be notified about opportunities to provide input as part of that process.

Following this review period, FEMA is expected to formally adopt the new floodplain maps. The FEMA process to review and adopt new regulatory floodplain maps typically takes one to four years, once an application for floodplain re-delineation is submitted, but could take longer, depending on the number of map re-delineation applications received from other communities. FCD does not control this process once it's submitted to FEMA.

If approved, the re-delineation will result in smaller floodplains and would likely eliminate mandatory flood insurance requirements for many homeowners, although a handful may see their premiums increase.

Next Public Meeting Planned

The next public meeting for the study is anticipated in spring 2016 for the Rawhide Wash focus area. The purpose of the meeting is to review and seek the community's input on potential flood mitigation concepts to minimize flood risks in Rawhide Wash. No additional meetings are planned for the Northwest Watersheds focus area as part of this study. However, public meetings will be held as part of a separate floodplain re-delineation process.

Contact Us

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