



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOINT COUNCIL AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 14, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
Chairperson and Boardmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department
Housing and Redevelopment Division, Community Development
Department

SUBJECT: Agency Board Approval Of Grant Of Easement At Railroad Depot
And Council Introduction Of Ordinance Approving Grant Of
Easement On City Property Near The Moreton Bay Fig Tree For
The Lower Mission Creek Project

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving a Grant of Easement to Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Lower Mission Creek Project; and
- B. That the Agency Board approve the Grant of Easement to Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Lower Mission Creek Project and authorize the Executive Director to execute the easement.

BACKGROUND

In the last 100 years, records indicate that Lower Mission Creek has flooded 23 times, with significant flood damage occurring in 1995. As a result, the Federal Government has authorized flood work and prevention measures on several occasions.

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project (Project) is intended to reduce flooding on the lower portions of Mission Creek. The Project spans from Cabrillo Boulevard, approximately 1.3 miles up to Canon Perdido Street along the Mission Creek corridor (Attachment 1).

The project includes channel widening for better water conveyance, improving aquatic habitat, and restoration of native plant and tree species. Currently, Mission Creek's capacity can handle an 8-year rain event. This Project will increase capacity to at least a 20-year event.

The Project Environmental Impact Study and Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) was finalized in September 2000. On December 4, 2001, Council adopted Resolution No. 01-137, approving the EIS/EIR in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

On December 11, 2007, the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Board, (County Flood Control District) authorized proceeding with the acquisition of the easements necessary for the Project.

DISCUSSION

The easements specific to this discussion are for the portion of the Project in the area of the historic Santa Barbara Railroad Depot (Railroad Depot). The project crosses six parcels owned by the Redevelopment Agency (RDA), and one parcel owned by the City, dedicated as the Moreton Bay Fig Tree Park (Fig Park) (Attachment 2).

In January 2009, the County Flood Control District completed the construction of a box culvert and sub-surface channel element of the Project under the Union Pacific Railroad tracks at Chapala Street. The proposed easements are for a subsequent increment of sub-surface flood control improvements to connect this box culvert to an existing culvert, previously installed by Caltrans, that runs under the 101 Freeway at Montecito Street. The new improvements will pass underneath Montecito Street, through a portion of the Fig Tree Park to the RDA property at the Railroad Depot, and to the recently installed box culvert at the railroad tracks. The new box culvert is currently scheduled to be constructed later this year by the County Flood Control District.

Eventually, these Project box culverts, along with planned additional upstream improvements, will act as an auxiliary bypass channel to be utilized during heavy periods of flow, improve water conveyance in Mission Creek, and minimize potential flooding. In December 2008, the RDA Board appropriated up to \$2.5 million to be used for the Project.

The RDA and the Parks and Recreation Department have reviewed the District's plans, and are recommending that the necessary easements be granted. The County will formally accept the offers of easement dedication after approval and execution by the Council and the RDA.

If the proposed new easements are approved as recommended, the box culvert and sub-surface channel installations will be utilized and maintained by the County Flood Control District.

Joint City Council and Redevelopment Agency Agenda Report
Agency Board Approval Of Grant Of Easement At Railroad Depot And Council
Introduction Of Ordinance Approving Grant Of Easement On City Property Near The
Moreton Bay Fig Tree For The Lower Mission Creek Project
July 14, 2009
Page 3

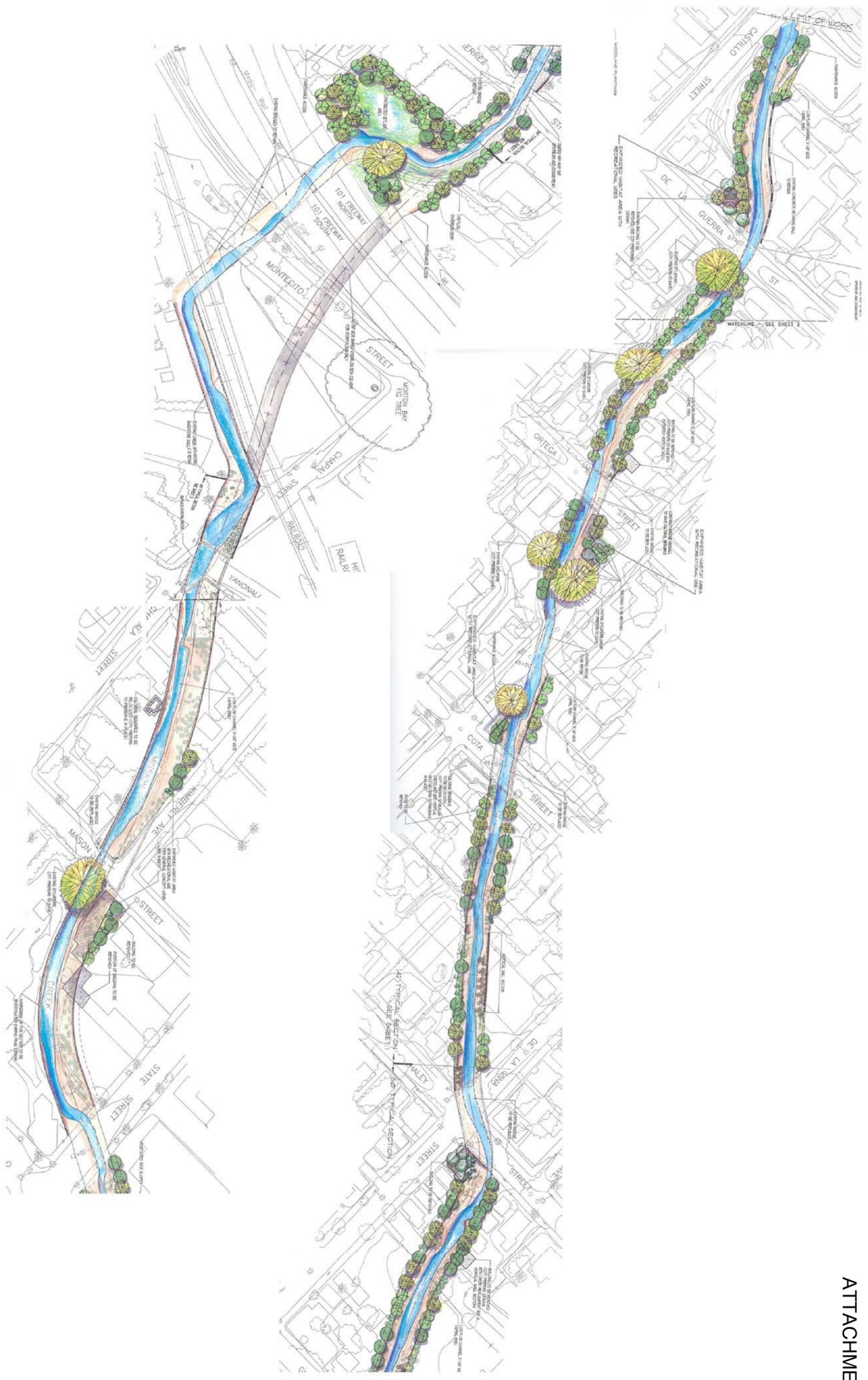
These improvements will represent a significant accomplishment in the implementation of the Project and be of great benefit to the City and County in their efforts to control flooding along Mission Creek.

ATTACHMENTS: 1) Overall LMC Project Improvement Limits
2) Parcel map showing RDA and Moreton Bay Fig Tree easements

PREPARED BY: Pat Kelly, Assistant Public Works Director/DT/kts
Brian Bosse, Housing and Redevelopment Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director
Paul Casey, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office



LOWER MISSION CREEK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT
OVERALL PROJECT IMPROVEMENT LIMITS

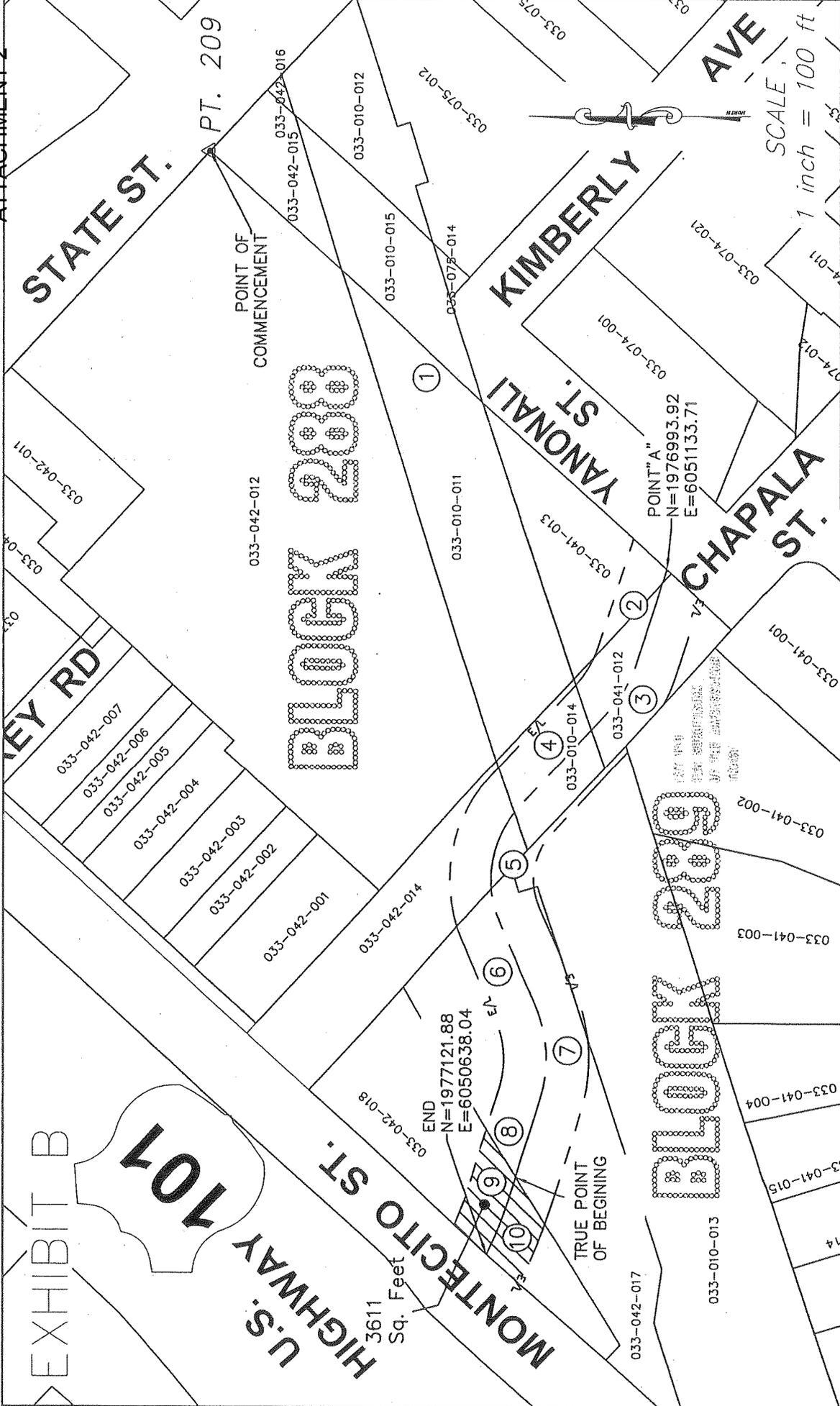


Drawn By: _____
Date: _____

FIGURE 1

EXHIBIT B
HIGHWAY 101

U.S. HIGHWAY 101
3611
Sq. Feet



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

60' FLOOD CONTROL EASEMENT
 MISSION CREEK
 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 FEBRUARY 2008
 APN 033-042-018

THIS MAP WAS PREPARED BY ME, OR
 UNDER MY DIRECTION, IN
 CONFORMANCE WITH PROFESSIONAL
 LAND SURVEYORS ACT.

Edmund R. Villa
 EDMUND R. VILLA
 DATE 5/22/08