



City Council Agenda Item Staff Report

CITY OF SAN BRUNO

DATE: April 11, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Jovan D. Grogan, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Ann Mottola, Community Services Director
Matthew Lee, P.E., Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Receive Written Update on the City's Response Efforts to the Late 2022 to 2023 Winter Storms

BACKGROUND:

This report is to provide an update on the City's response efforts to the Late 2022 to 2023 winter storms. The information provided in this report is as of the time it was produced and may be subject to change.

In late December 2022 and early January 2023, California began experiencing severe winter storms related to a series of atmospheric river systems causing record rainfall. This event brought high winds, substantial precipitation, flooding, and other safety hazards across San Mateo County and neighboring regions. These storms have continued into April.

Typically, before each rainy season and significant weather event, City staff undertake various storm preparation activities. This includes trash/debris removal, inspection/cleaning of catch basin grates and storm drain trash capture devices, resupply of the City's free sandbag station and other preparatory tasks.

In response to this storm event, the City activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Monday, January 3, 2023, to redeploy City resources and personnel to perform essential functions and ensure public safety by working to protect infrastructure. If evacuations were needed, the City designated the San Bruno Senior Center as a temporary evacuation point (TEP) and stood ready to open the TEP at a moment's notice.

As the rain subsided, the City deactivated the EOC on Thursday, January 12, 2023, with the EOC ready to be reactivated, as needed. The City remains under a Local State of Emergency. The City also continues to identify and assess both short-term and long-term repairs to storm-related damage.

DISCUSSION:

While the major rain has stopped and the flooding has subsided, the City continues to proactively respond to infrastructure damage and implement repairs as quickly as is feasible from the event. As of March 28, 2023, the City's finance department has calculated storm-

related expenditures (i.e., staff time and other storm expenses) to be approximately \$1,008,100. The total cost for all infrastructure repairs is currently estimated at \$1,000,000 as of March 28, 2023 (Table 1).

Table 1 – Preliminary Winter Storm Damage Assessment

Site No.	Damage Type	Complete	Preliminary Cost Estimate
1	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	Potential Hazard Mitigation Repair
2	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	N/A
3	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	N/A
4	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	N/A
5	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	N/A
6	Large Sink Hole	100%	\$35,619
7	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	Potential Hazard Mitigation Repair
8	Mud Hill Slide	N/A	N/A
9	RO Streetlight Outage	N/A	N/A
10	Large Sink Hole	80%	\$852,000
11	Small Sink Hole	100%	\$0
12	Downed Radar Speed Sign	0%	\$10,000
13	Mud Hill Slide	0%	N/A
14	Manhole Depression	5%	\$50,000
15	Sump Pump Failure	100%	\$8,000
16	Damaged Guard Rail	100%	\$5,567
17	Downed Street Light Arm, Depressed Sidewalk	100%	\$14,638
18	Downed Street Light	100%	Cost incorporated with Site 17
19	RO Streetlight Outage	N/A	N/A
20	6'-8' of Silt	100%	\$15,850
TOTAL			\$991,674

With the current assessment of the preliminary damage, over 85 percent of the preliminary cost estimate amount shown above is related to repairs to failures of the City's storm water system, particularly a sinkhole and failure of a 54-inch stormwater drainpipe at the north west corner of Skyline Boulevard and Sneath Lane. As of March 28, 2023, the City is still in the process of completing the repairs. Staff is also continuing to investigate and determine an engineering repair for a sunken manhole in the 2600 block of Oakmont Drive. The recommendation from the geotechnical consultant is to perform borings and a review of the subsurface conditions in order to develop recommendations to bridge the sinkhole and support the roadway. Cost to perform this exploratory work is estimated at \$16,025.

At approximately 5:30 p.m. on March 9, 2023, three Eucalyptus trees fell on the 3rd base line at Diamond 3. The backstop, 3rd base line fence and 3rd base dugout were severely damaged. The 3rd base bleachers have been structurally compromised and the infield light pole along 3rd base along with the lights have been damaged beyond repair. A tree is currently sitting on the pathway and the City is unable to determine if some of the asphalt will need to be repaired. The City will be meeting with a contractor during the last week of March to determine repair costs and timeframe, and the fallen Eucalyptus tree will be removed as part of the tree work being done on Crystal Springs Road. City Staff is awaiting an estimate for repair costs and timeframe estimate for work at Diamond 3. The fallen Eucalyptus tree will be removed as part of the tree work being done on Crystal Springs Road to be complete by April 14.

On March 21, 2023, during another large storm with high winds, the City experienced additional tree-related incidents including:

- Eucalyptus trees down on wires behind 2300 Valleywood Drive. The fallen and leaning trees have been removed.
- The Cedar and Redwood trees located between City Hall and Fire Station 51 lost several branches. The Redwood tree has since been removed and the Cedar tree has been pruned.
- A pine tree fell at the Crestwood Pump Station cutting their power. The City has since removed the tree and had four additional trees removed.
- At 1421 Crestwood Drive a tree fell along the back fence and came close to power lines and damaged the Crestwood Pump Station pump lift arm (Picture 1). PG&E has since been out to cut the tree away from the power lines. The City is currently scheduling the removal of the rest of the tree.



Picture 1

Staff also recently discovered that the fallen tree near the Senior Center which caused a power outage to the facility also caused a short circuit to the traffic signal at Crystal Springs Road and Cunningham Way. The processor and other equipment in the traffic control cabinet are in need of replacement due to the high voltage wire causing the shortage. Staff are working on a solution to ensure the intersection is fully functional again.

On April 2, 2023, another Eucalyptus tree failed near 2306 Valleywood Drive, which occurred on the uphill slope of City property (Pictures 2 and 3). A tree limb also fell in the backyard of this same property which caused a power outage in the area. The City immediately began working with the occupants and neighboring properties. The City has been collaborating with PG&E and a contractor for the removal of the failed Eucalyptus tree. The removal of this tree required utilizing a large crane, paid for by PG&E. The City is preparing to enter into a contract for additional emergency tree removal work to remove additional trees in this Eucalyptus grove on the City-owned parcel behind 2300 through 2326 Valleywood Drive.



Picture 2



Picture 3

As the City continues its winter storm-related recovery efforts, a focus continues on reimbursement recovery for the substantial storm-related costs, which, as indicated in Table 1 above, have amassed to approximately \$1,000,000 as of March 28, 2023, with a large portion of it currently attributing to one project. To assist with reimbursement recovery efforts, the City has engaged with professional consulting firm, Kermani Consulting Group, to provide disaster cost recovery and grant management support for the 2023 storm disasters under the State of California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) programs (FEMA-4683-DR-CA/CDAA 2023-01). Alongside Kermani Consulting Group, the City has already begun application processes and discussions with both CalOES and FEMA and continues to move forward with reimbursement recovery efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Since the winter storms began in late 2022, public infrastructure repairs are currently estimated at \$1,000,000. As of March 28, 2023, expenditures (i.e., staff time and other storm expenses)

are totaled at approximately \$1,008,100. As described above, the City has engaged with Kermani Consulting Firm to provide reimbursement recovery and grant management support from Federal/State disaster funds, however, if these efforts are unsuccessful, the storm-related expenditures will be funded by the General Fund Emergency Reserves.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

There is no environmental impact. The informational update is not considered a "Project" per CEQA Guidelines and therefore no further environmental analysis is required.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive written update on the City's response efforts to the late 2022 to 2023 winter storms.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City remains under a Local State of Emergency and the EOC remains deactivated but is ready to be reactivated as needed. There are no alternatives to the current recommended actions proposed at this time.

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

DATE PREPARED:

April 6, 2023

DISTRIBUTION:

None.