

MONTEREY PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Board of Education

DATE: March 5, 2007

ITEM: **INFORMATION:** Update on Storm Water Drainage Issues at Colton School

BACKGROUND:

When Colton School was built in the 1950s, plans show an existing drainage flow on the west side of the campus being retained as a path for storm runoff from the school as well as the neighborhoods. Construction of Walter Colton Drive altered the natural flow down this very steep hill, but drains under the roadway allowed water to flow. Development above the school and other changes made the system fail to carry water away from homes and an adjacent property was flooded in 1998.

An open-ditch system built after that incident has worked to prevent other flooding, but concerns have arisen about water seepage near the road and capacity of the existing downstream pipes. In 2006 the City of Monterey approved a five-lot subdivision on property sold by the Diocese of Monterey.

MPUSD staff has worked with the City and developer of that subdivision to find a permanent solution to the drainage needs of the school and the neighborhoods that will protect the adjacent property and eliminate an ongoing, costly maintenance responsibility for the school district. The drainage is the responsibility of the district and legal counsel has reviewed this issue.

We are in the process of preparing cost estimates and we have applied to Monterey's Neighborhood Improvement Program for financial assistance on this project. The overall funding of this project would be the responsibility of the school district. Until the engineering is complete and cost estimates are prepared, the cost is unknown. Staff believes this project can be funded from the deferred maintenance funds.

DISCUSSION:

A tentative plan has been achieved that will include several elements:

1. Water entering Colton School from above will flow from the City's existing storm water pipe into a new buried pipe down to Walter Colton Drive.
2. A new pipe or pipes will carry water under the access road and connect with existing pipes leading down the hill.
3. At the bottom of the hill, the existing pipes will be connected to a new underground drain pipe that will cross under the new

subdivision and flow back into the main drainage channel which is located near Quarry Park.

4. The existing system will remain in place to handle any incidental runoff and the affected properties. Homeowners will assume maintenance and ownership of the existing ditch system.

RECOMMENDATION:

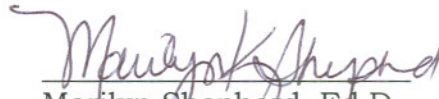
Presented to the Governing Board for information at this time and action at a later date to consider accepting a new easement on the property below the school.

PREPARED BY:

 2/28/07

Thomas Woodruff,
Chief Business Officer

APPROVED BY:



Marilyn Shepherd, Ed.D.,
Superintendent