

KATIE RICE

Second District

Marin County Civic Center 3501 Civic Center Drive Suite 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 415 473 7331 T 415 473 3645 F 415 473 6172 TTY KRice@marincounty.org/bos

October 19, 2018

Cynthia Jo Fowler U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District 1455 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

Dear Cynthia,

My thanks to you and the entire USACE team working on the Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project in Marin County. It is an important project that provides the community the opportunity (after decades of chronic flooding) to reduce flood risk for residences, the local business community and critical public infrastructure.

As you are aware, the EIS/EIR for the project was released on October 12, 2018 for a 45-day public review and comment period which would put close of comment on November 27. Given the complexity of the document, and the importance that community stakeholders and interested members of the public have adequate time to review the draft document and provide well informed comment, I respectfully request that the comment period for the Draft EIS/EIR for the Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project in Marin County be extended an additional 15 days to December 12, 2018 if such an extension can be made without compromising the USACE prescribed Feasibility Study process and ability to meet various required milestones.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Katie Rice

cc: Tessa Beach Ben Reder Stephen Willis From:

To:

Corte Madera

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk management Project - Request for Extension of Comment

Period

**Date:** Wednesday, October 24, 2018 12:45:48 PM

attn: Cynthia Jo Fowler

I am a Ross property owner. I am requesting that the comment period be extended to 60 days. The current 45 day period is not enough time to review, evaluate and respond to the EIS/EIR. Thanks in advance for your attention to this request. Regards,

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From: <u>Corte Madera</u>

To: Corte Madera

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Flood Control Risk Management Project - Request for extension of

Comment Period

**Date:** Saturday, October 27, 2018 7:23:31 AM

## Good morning Ms. Cadden

We appreciate your engagement with feasibility study and environmental impact statement/environmental impact report, and we understand your desire for an extended comment period. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget, and that is not something we can support.

The US Army Corps of Engineer's planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million, though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

For Corte Madera, we have in fact received a waiver for the study so that we can spend more funds and take more time than the \$3 million and 3 years allowed. But those funds and that time has already been agreed to by all parties (by our non-federal Sponsor, by the San Francisco District, and by our higher headquarters that grants the approvals in Washington DC). At this point in the life of this study, any delay (even a 15 day delay), will in fact compromise our feasibility study process and our ability to complete the study in the required amount of time.

We understand that time constraints are unwelcomed and we too try to push back on them when we can -- but in this instance, we are asking for your understanding and for your support to stick to the schedule so that we can complete the report on time and take the next step with the recommended plan.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District

1455 Market Street, 17th Floor San Francisco California, 94103

Office: 415.503.6870 Cell: 415.859.1636

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 3:54 PM

To: Corte Madera < Corte. Madera@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Flood Control Risk Management Project - Request for extension of

Comment Period

Attn: Cynthia Jo Fowler

I am a Ross property owner. I am requesting that the comment period for the EIS/EIR be extended to 60 days. The

| current 45 days does not allow enough time for me to review and respond of a thousand pages and are simply too voluminous; | The report and appendices are in excess |
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|  |   |
|  |   |

From: Corte Madera

To: <u>Corte Madera</u>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project – Request to Extend Comment Period

**Date:** Saturday, October 27, 2018 7:23:03 AM

## Good Morning Ms. Law.

We appreciate your engagement with feasibility study and environmental impact statement/environmental impact report, and we understand your desire for an extended comment period. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget, and that is not something we can support.

The US Army Corps of Engineer's planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million, though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

For Corte Madera, we have in fact received a waiver for the study so that we can spend more funds and take more time than the \$3 million and 3 years allowed. But those funds and that time has already been agreed to by all parties (by our non-federal Sponsor, by the San Francisco District, and by our higher headquarters that grants the approvals in Washington DC). At this point in the life of this study, any delay (even a 15 day delay), will in fact compromise our feasibility study process and our ability to complete the study in the required amount of time.

We understand that time constraints are unwelcomed and we too try to push back on them when we can -- but in this instance, we are asking for your understanding and for your support to stick to the schedule so that we can complete the report on time and take the next step with the recommended plan.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District

1455 Market Street, 17th Floor San Francisco California, 94103

Office: 415.503.6870 Cell: 415.859.1636

----Original Message----

From:

Sent: Friday, October 26, 2018 3:24 AM

To: Corte Madera < Corte. Madera@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project - Request to Extend Comment

Period

Attn: Cynthia Jo Fowler

Hello,

I own property on Stadium Avenue in Kentfield in the area affected by this project. I am requesting that the comment period for the EIS/EIR be extended to 60 days. There is no way that I can get through the materials, digest the information and comment within 45 days.

From: Rice, Katie

To: O"Halloran, Jaime L CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Vernon, Nancy

Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Beach, Tessa E CIV

<u>USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Kinberger, Jay H CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Kendall, Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Williams, Tony</u>; <u>Williams, Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>;

beachkuhl35@gmail.com; jchinn@townofross.org

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Letter Re: Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project (UNCLASSIFIED)

**Date:** Thursday, October 25, 2018 4:43:20 PM

Jaime,

Thank you for your reply to my letter/email of October 19 regarding the Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project which requested an extension of the public review/comment period for the Environmental Document (EIS/EIR). I appreciate and understand the time and budget constraints the District is operating under, and the fact that this same rigid planning process (eg. 3x3x3) has helped to keep the project development and study process moving forward and relatively on track. As I noted in my letter, I would not want a discretionary delay to compromise the overall schedule and potentially a future project. Hence, I respectfully accept your decision. In addition, I would like to extend my thanks to you and USACE team assigned to this project for your support in the community outreach currently underway towards providing local residents, the business community and other local stakeholders opportunity to learn about the EIS in advance of the public comment deadline. My thanks to all USACE involved in helping with this important outreach.

Sincerely,

Katie Rice

Katie Rice District 2 Marin County Supervisor 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 473.7825

----Original Message-----

From: O'Halloran, Jaime L CIV USARMY CESPN (US) < Jaime.L.O'Halloran@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 5:53 PM

To: Vernon, Nancy <NVernon@marincounty.org>; Rice, Katie <KRice@marincounty.org>

Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Benjamin.E.Reder@usace.army.mil>; Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Beach, Tessa E CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Tessa.E.Bernhardt@usace.army.mil>; Kinberger, Jay H CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Jay.Kinberger@usace.army.mil>; Kendall, Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Thomas.R.Kendall@usace.army.mil>; Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Cynthia.J.Fowler@usace.army.mil>; Williams, Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Thomas.R.Williams@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: Letter Re: Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Ms. Vernon.

As the Project Manager for the Corte Madera study I am responding on behalf of the San Francisco District to Supervisor Rice's letter.

We appreciate your understanding and consideration of the Feasibility Study process and milestone schedule, as noted in your letter. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget.

The Corps planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million (that's fed + non-Fed money), though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

For Corte Madera, we have in fact received a waiver for the study so that we can spend more funds and take more time than the \$3 million and 3 years allowed. But those funds and that time has already been agreed to by all parties (by our non-Federal Sponsor, by the San Francisco District, and by our higher headquarters that grants the approvals in DC). At this point in the life of this study, any delay (even a 15 day delay), will in fact compromise our Feasibility Study process and our ability to complete the study in the required amount of time.

We understand that time constraints are unwelcomed and we too try to push back on them when we can -- but in this instance, we are asking for your understanding and for your support to stick to the schedule so that we can complete the report on time and take the next step with the recommended plan.

I'd like to follow up with a phone call if you or Supervisor Rice would like to discuss this further. Please let me know if/when you are available for that.

Thank you.

Jaime O'Halloran Senior Project Manager U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District (415) 503-6738

----Original Message-----

From: Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 2:30 PM To: Rice, Katie <KRice@marincounty.org>

Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Benjamin.E.Reder@usace.army.mil>; Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Beach, Tessa E CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Tessa.E.Bernhardt@usace.army.mil>; O'Halloran, Jaime L CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Jaime.L.O'Halloran@usace.army.mil>; Kinberger, Jay H CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

<Jay.Kinberger@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: Letter Re: Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project

Hi Ms. Vernon. Jamie O'Halloran, the project manager for the Corte Madera Project, will respond to your request as she manages the project's schedule and budget.

Respectfully,

Cynthia

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District

1455 Market Street, 17th Floor San Francisco California, 94103

Office: 415.503.6870 Cell: 415.859.1636 From: Vernon, Nancy [mailto:NVernon@marincounty.org] On Behalf Of Rice, Katie Sent: Friday, October 19, 2018 8:23 PM To: Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US) < Cynthia. J. Fowler@usace.army.mil> Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Benjamin.E.Reder@usace.army.mil>; Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Beach, Tessa E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Tessa.E.Bernhardt@usace.army.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Letter Re: Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project Hello Cynthia, Hope all is well. Please see attached letter from Supervisor Rice. Thanks. Nancy Nancy Vernon Aide Office of Supervisor Katie Rice 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 473.7351 Website <BlockedBlockedhttp://www.marincounty.org/depts/bs/district-2/home> Newsletter <BlockedBlockedhttps://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAMARIN/subscriber/new? topic\_id=CAMARIN\_75> Facebook <BlockedBlockedhttps://www.facebook.com/D2KatieRice>

@SupervisorRice <BlockedBlockedhttps://twitter.com/SupervisorRice>

----Original Message-----

 $Email\ Disclaimer:\ Blocked Blocked https://www.marincounty.org/main/disclaimers$ 

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Email Disclaimer: Blockedhttps://www.marincounty.org/main/disclaimers

From:

Cc: Corte Madera

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project – Request to Extend Comment Period

**Date:** Saturday, October 27, 2018 7:21:44 AM

Hi Ms. Swann,

We appreciate your engagement with feasibility study and environmental impact statement/environmental impact report, and we understand your desire for an extended comment period. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget, and that is not something we can support.

The US Army Corps of Engineer's planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million, though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

For Corte Madera, we have in fact received a waiver for the study so that we can spend more funds and take more time than the \$3 million and 3 years allowed. But those funds and that time has already been agreed to by all parties (by our non-federal Sponsor, by the San Francisco District, and by our higher headquarters that grants the approvals in Washington DC). At this point in the life of this study, any delay (even a 15 day delay), will in fact compromise our feasibility study process and our ability to complete the study in the required amount of time.

We understand that time constraints are unwelcomed and we too try to push back on them when we can -- but in this instance, we are asking for your understanding and for your support to stick to the schedule so that we can complete the report on time and take the next step with the recommended plan.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District

1455 Market Street, 17th Floor San Francisco California, 94103

Office: 415.503.6870 Cell: 415.859.1636

----Original Message----

From:

Sent: Friday, October 26, 2018 3:26 AM

To: Corte Madera < Corte. Madera@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project - Request to Extend Comment

Period

Attn: Cynthia Jo Fowler

Subject: Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project - Request to Extend Comment Period

My property is located at the proposed project. Given the complexity, length and detail of the EIS/EIR it is imperative that the comment period be extended to 60 days so that we have time to get feedback from staff on our questions and concerns and to prepare our comments. The current forty-five day period is not enough time. Everyone I have spoken with in Town feels the same way. Thank you.

From: O"Halloran, Jaime L CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

To: <u>Linda Lopez</u>

Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Beach, Tessa E CIV

<u>USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Joe Chinn - Town Manager</u>; <u>Richard Simonitch</u>; <u>Fowler</u>, <u>Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Townsley</u>, <u>E S (Stu) CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Kendall</u>, <u>Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)</u>; <u>Kinberger</u>,

Jay H CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Williams, Thomas R CIV USARMY CESPN (US)

Subject: RE: Corte Madera Flood Risk DEIS/DEIR Comment Period (UNCLASSIFIED)

**Date:** Wednesday, October 24, 2018 12:22:01 PM

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Ms. Lopez,

As the Project Manager for the Corte Madera study I am responding on behalf of the San Francisco District to Mayor Kuhl and Mr. Chinn's letter.

We appreciate your engagement with the Feasibility Study, and we understand your desire for an extended comment period. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget, and that is not something we can support. We have received a similar request from Marin County Supervisor Ms. Katie Rice, and yesterday we sent a similar response.

The Corps planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million (that's fed + non-Fed money), though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

For Corte Madera, we have in fact received a waiver for the study so that we can spend more funds and take more time than the \$3 million and 3 years allowed. But those funds and that time has already been agreed to by all parties (by our non-Federal Sponsor, by the San Francisco District, and by our higher headquarters that grants the approvals in DC). At this point in the life of this study, any delay (even a 15 day delay), will in fact compromise our Feasibility Study process and our ability to complete the study in the required amount of time.

We understand that time constraints are unwelcomed and we too try to push back on them when we can -- but in this instance, we are asking for your understanding and for your support to stick to the schedule so that we can complete the report on time and take the next step with the recommended plan.

If you would like to follow up with a phone call, we are here to discuss this, as our goal is to be as open and transparent as possible, especially as we near the conclusion of this study. Please let me know if/when you are available for that.

Thank you.

Jaime O'Halloran Senior Project Manager U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District (415) 503-6738

----Original Message-----

From: Linda Lopez [mailto:llopez@townofross.org]

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 1:38 PM

To: Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (US) < Cynthia. J. Fowler@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Reder, Benjamin E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Benjamin.E.Reder@usace.army.mil>; Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Beach, Tessa E CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Tessa.E.Bernhardt@usace.army.mil>; Joe Chinn - Town Manager <jchinn@townofross.org>; Richard Simonitch

<rsimonitch@townofross.org>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Flood Risk DEIS/DEIR Comment Period

Ms. Fowler-

Please see the attached letter from the Town of Ross regarding the Corte Madera Flood Risk Management Project DEIS/DEIR comment period. Thank you.

## Linda

Linda Lopez Town Clerk/Administrative Manager Town of Ross P.O. Box 320 Ross, CA 94957 (415) 453-1453 ext. 105 llopez@townofross.org

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: <u>Toms, Christina@Waterboards</u>

To: <u>Corte Madera</u>

Cc: Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US); Lichten, Keith@Waterboards; Fernandez, Xavier@Waterboards;

Fairley, Nicole@Waterboards

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Corte Madera Creek draft EIS/EIR

Date: Thursday, November 8, 2018 2:03:56 PM

## Hi Cynthia,

Thanks for getting back to us and for taking the time to explain the details of the situation. We'll be sure to submit our comments on the document by the original deadline.

Best, Christina

----Original Message-----

From: Corte Madera [mailto:Corte.Madera@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 4:44 AM

To: Toms, Christina@Waterboards < Christina. Toms@Waterboards.ca.gov>; Corte Madera

<Corte.Madera@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Lichten,

Keith@Waterboards <Keith.Lichten@waterboards.ca.gov>; Fernandez, Xavier@Waterboards

<Xavier.Fernandez@waterboards.ca.gov>; Fairley, Nicole@Waterboards <Nicole.Fairley@Waterboards.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Corte Madera Creek draft EIS/EIR

Good Morning Ms. Toms.

We appreciate your engagement with feasibility study and environmental impact statement/environmental impact report, and we understand your desire for an extended comment period. We are in fact at a point in the study process when extending the comment period would jeopardize the project timeline and budget, and that is not something we can support.

The US Army Corps of Engineer's planning process is a very rigid one at this point in history. That has not always been the case, as you know, given the long history of the Corte Madera Creek project/study. Historically, studies could go on for many years and spend millions upon millions of dollars. Now, for better or worse, we are strictly held to 3 years and \$3 million, though in some instances we are able to justify a time and / or funding extension.

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Thank you.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District 1455 Market Street, 17th Floor

Cynthia Jo Fowler Regional NEPA Technical Specialist Environmental Planning A United States Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District

1455 Market Street, 17th Floor San Francisco California, 94103

Office: 415.503.6870 Cell: 415.859.1636

----Original Message----

From: Toms, Christina@Waterboards [mailto:Christina.Toms@Waterboards.ca.gov]

Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 5:48 PM

To: Corte Madera <Corte.Madera@usace.army.mil>; Fowler, Cynthia J CIV USARMY CESPN (USA)

<Cynthia.J.Fowler@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Willis, Stephen M CIV USARMY CESPN (US) <Stephen.M.Willis2@usace.army.mil>; Lichten,

Keith@Waterboards < Keith.Lichten@waterboards.ca.gov>; Fernandez, Xavier@Waterboards

<Xavier.Fernandez@waterboards.ca.gov>; Fairley, Nicole@Waterboards <Nicole.Fairley@Waterboards.ca.gov>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Corte Madera Creek draft EIS/EIR

Hi Cynthia,

I'm writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to request a roughly onemonth extension to the comment period for the Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Draft EIS/EIR. Given the size of the document, the Thanksgiving holiday on Nov 22-23, and staff workloads, we would appreciate an additional month of time to complete our review and obtain input from senior management. Thanks for your consideration.

Best,

Christina

Christina Toms

Senior Environmental Scientist

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

1515 Clay St., Ste. 1400, Oakland, CA 94612

office 510-622-2506 <tel:510-622-2506> | mobile 510-847-7670 <tel:510-847-7670>

Christina.Toms@waterboards.ca.gov <mailto:Christina.Toms@waterboards.ca.gov>