

FY2011 Appropriations Request Form

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier
211 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202/225-3531
Fax: 202/226-4183
Website: www.speier.house.gov

Individuals/Organizations must respond to all questions on the form. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

All appropriations project requests will be presented to and evaluated by the 12th Congressional District's Citizens Oversight Panel, made up of community leaders. **This year's panel meetings will be held on February 26, March 5 and March 12, 2010 in the 12th Congressional District.** Appointments to appear before the panel must be made through Cookab Hashemi, Chief of Staff, at 202/225-3531 or via email, Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All information provided on this form and any supporting documents will be made available to the public on the Congresswoman's website.

DEADLINE: Forms are due by Friday, February 12, 2010 @ 6:00 p.m. (P.S.T.)/9:00 p.m. (E.S.T.). Project requests submitted after that date will not be considered.

Date Submitted:

February 11, 2010

Project Name:

City of San Mateo Poplar Avenue Storm Water Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

Individual/Organization:

City of San Mateo

Located within the 12th Congressional District

Amount Requested:

\$6,100,000

Appropriations Bill/Account/Relevant Authorization law/bill/status

Committee on Appropriations – Subcommittee on Homeland Security

Local Contact:

Susanna Chan
Deputy Director of Public Works
330 W. 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 522-7308
schan@cityofsanmateo.org

Organization’s Main Activities. *(Please limit your response to 250 words and indicate whether it is a public, non-profit or private for-profit entity.)*

The City of San Mateo is a public organization of individuals dedicated to serving the San Mateo community. Our main activities include providing responsive city government and quality municipal services such as police and fire protection, sewer service, street maintenance, planning, building, parks and recreational activities, library services and general administrative support.

Please show main items in the project and total cost in a simplified chart form. *(Please include the amount of any Federal/State/Local/Private funds, including any in-kind resources.)*

Task	Cost	Source
Project Design	\$400,000	Paid with local funds
Construction Costs	\$5,500,000	Unfunded
Construction Management	\$600,000	Unfunded
TOTAL Project Cost	\$6,500,000	

Project Description, including a timeline, goals, expected outcomes and specific uses of Federal Funds. *(Your response must focus on the requested funds rather than the organization's mission and general activities. Please limit your response to 250 – 500 words.)*

Description:

In October 2001, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a Flood Insurance Rate Map for the City of San Mateo which placed portions of the City into a Special Flood Hazard Area and required affected property owners purchase flood insurance. Flood risk in San Mateo is influenced by tides in the San Francisco Bay, as well as residual flooding from storm water runoff. The City is committed to implementing flood mitigation improvements to protect local properties and remove affected homes from the current flood map.

The Poplar Avenue Pump station is not equipped with automatic emergency standby power. Without automatic backup, the pump station could cease to function in the event of a power outage, and the surrounding neighborhoods of North Shoreview and North Central San Mateo would likely flood even in a relatively common storm event. In addition, FEMA will not recognize this pumping facility until it has been outfitted with automatic standby power. This project includes rehabilitating the Poplar Avenue Pump Station to bring it up to current standards; outfitting it with an onsite, automatic power source for use in the event of power failure; providing increased pumping capacity; and upgrading antiquated equipment.

Timeline:

Time is of the essence with regards to the completion of this project. The Poplar Pump Station has received environmental clearance and has been substantially designed. Due to extreme lack of funding, the project has only been progressed to the 90% design level. The environmental clearance was obtained in 2008, and may have a "shelf-life," and become inaccurate after time. If we are unable to identify funding to complete the project prior to the expiration of the environmental clearance, we may have to start over. However, because this project is currently unfunded, a specific timeline for completion has not been established.

Goals/Expected Outcomes:

The goal of this project is to upgrade the pumping facility to current standards and increase the capacity to protect homes from flooding which could occur in a relatively common storm event. Approximately 787 parcels in the North Shoreview and North Central neighborhoods would be better protected from flooding upon completion of the project.

Specific Uses of Federal Funds:

The design phase for the Pump Station has essentially been completed. Any federal funds received would be applied towards the cost of actual construction and construction management for the project.

How will this project request serve to expand the capacity of your organization and how will your organization sustain this work beyond the federal funding? *(Your response must focus on the impact of the requested funds rather than the organization's long-term goals.)*

This project is beyond the City of San Mateo's capacity to fund. The federal funds requested will not expand or enhance the scope of the project; these funds would simply allow the project to move forward. Without the assistance of federal funding, it anticipated that these improvements will not be realized for a number of years.

Can this proposal be funded via fees levied on users of the service or via the ordinary capital budgeting process of the organization?

It is mathematically infeasible to assess or levy the costs of the pump station improvements to the affected property owners. To levy such costs onto property owners would require a California Proposition 218 process. Because flood control affects specific, identifiable parcels, the costs must be shared by only those properties which would receive those special benefits. In other words, the costs could not be spread throughout the entire City, and the 787 parcels which would be protected would be burdened with the entire cost. Given the projected construction costs, this means that to levy the project cost onto property owners would result in fees of over \$700 per year per parcel. It is very unlikely we would get the needed support from affected property owners to vote in favor of an assessment at this level.

Like many local government agencies, the City of San Mateo is lacking sufficient funds to manage the delivery of many routine services. Despite the essential need for the improvements to the Poplar Pump Station, we simply do not have adequate funds to pursue such major capital projects.

What is the local significance of this project?

The Poplar Pump Station protects the communities of North Shoreview and North Central – two of San Mateo's most underprivileged neighborhoods. For many of these families, paying bills is a challenge. Residents of the North Shoreview and North Central communities pay approximately \$1,000 - \$1,500 for flood insurance annually– almost as much as most pay for property taxes or homeowner's insurance. For many of these families, this expense has a negative impact on their ability to survive; paying this extra expense is not sustainable for this community.

In addition, the benefits of residual flood improvement projects spread beyond the areas immediately impacted. For instance, although up-stream properties may not benefit directly from downstream capacity improvements, those downstream improvements allow upstream problems to be fixed without exceeding capacity further downstream.

This project has tremendous local significance in that it is a key component of San Mateo's overall flood mitigation plan. In addition to providing immediate flood protection, completion of the improvements would move us one giant step closer to removing the North Shoreview and North Central neighborhoods from the flood zone, and ultimately help improve the long term economic stability and vitality of the neighborhoods.

How many residents of the 12th CD will benefit from this project? (i.e. jobs created, services rendered to, how many people, etc.)

These improvements will protect homes in San Mateo from residual flooding, and the families that live in the 787 homes in the vicinity of the Poplar Pump Station will benefit in a number of ways. Completing the renovation of the Poplar Pump Station is the first critical step in removing these residents from the flood zone. These homeowners are vulnerable to flooding and many currently have no choice but to purchase expensive flood insurance. Additionally, the construction of this project would create an employment opportunity for those in the local trades.

Please explain the federal interest in this proposal (i.e. meets a stated objective of federal policy, supports a federal agency, is the result of a federal law/mandate, etc.)

Part of FEMA's mission is to ensure that communities "prepare for" and "protect against" natural hazards (FEMA online, www.fema.gov).

We help FEMA and our nation fulfill this mission by:

- Identifying projects, such as the Poplar Pump Station Improvement Project, that will help prevent large scale flooding.
- Dedicating a staff person to serve as the daily community contact to educate the public on flood preparedness
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter informing residents of our latest CIP progress and FEMA flood zone news
- Creating user-friendly online systems for people to access their flood zone status

If the Poplar Pump Station ceases to function, the North Shoreview and North Central neighborhoods would experience flooding even in a relatively common storm event. In fact, this area was in jeopardy of flooding during the winter of 2008 when a PG&E power outage cut off the power supply to the station. The reliability of this station is critical to protecting the North Shoreview and North Central neighborhoods. Therefore it is in the interest of the Federal Government to support this proposal, as improvements to the pump station would directly support FEMA's mission by protecting against a local flood hazard.

List any other organizations or state/local elected officials who have expressed support for the project in writing. *(Please submit copies of support letters along with the request form.)*

Attachment 1 - letters of support from the North Shoreview Neighborhood Association and Home Association of North Central San Mateo.

Does the organization have any other funding requests for this project? *(Federal, State, Local or private request pending?)*

No.

Has the organization previously received Federal funds for this project? *(Please list any funds received [by fiscal year] and briefly describe how those funds were spent.)*

No.

Has the individual and/or organization submitted the project request to other Member offices? If so, please identify below the names of the Members of Congress and staff persons.

No.

Please attach a list of your organization's staff and board members from 2005 – 2010. (if any).

Attachment 2 – Organizational Chart 2005-Present

Please attach any additional relevant materials.

Attachment 3 – Vicinity map

Attachment 4 – Aerial photograph of project area

Attachment 5 – Pump Station watershed

Attachment 6 – Pump Station exterior

Attachment 7 – Pump Station exterior

Attachment 8 – Pump Station interior

Attachment 9 - Pump Station existing outfall pipes to Bay

Attachment 10 - Pump Station proposed improvements



RECEIVED

FEB 2 2010

CITY OF SAN MATEO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

January 29, 2010

Citizen Oversight Committee
Federal Earmark Appropriations
c/o Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, CA 94402

Re: *Support of City of San Mateo Request for Fiscal Year 2011 Federal Appropriations
for Poplar Avenue Storm Water Pump Station Rehabilitation Project*

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express our support of the City of San Mateo's application for Federal earmarked funds in Fiscal Year 2011 for the Poplar Avenue Storm Water Pump Station Rehabilitation Project.

In October 2001, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the City of San Mateo which placed portions of the City into a flood zone, including the entire North Shoreview neighborhood. Flood risk in San Mateo is influenced by tides in the San Francisco Bay, as well as residual flooding from stormwater runoff. The City is committed to implementing flood mitigation projects to remove affected homes from the FIRM, yet lacks sufficient capital funds to realize these improvements.

A large portion of the stormwater from the San Mateo Creek watershed flows to the Poplar Pump Station to be pumped out into the bay. The reliability of this pump station is critical to protecting the North Shoreview neighborhood from flooding. In addition, rehabilitation of the pump station represents one of the projects needed to remove properties in the North Shoreview neighborhood from the FEMA FIRM.

This project is beyond the City of San Mateo's capacity to fund. Without the assistance of federal funding, it anticipated that that these improvements will not be realized for many years. Please support the City's application by granting funding for this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Stacy Weiss, Secretary
North Shoreview Neighborhood Association



HOME
ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CENTRAL SAN MATEO
Martin Luther King Center 725 Monte Diablo Avenue San Mateo, CA 94401

February 9, 2010

Citizen Oversight Committee
Federal Earmark Appropriations
c/o Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, CA 94402

Re: *Support of City of San Mateo Request for Fiscal Year 2011 Federal Appropriations
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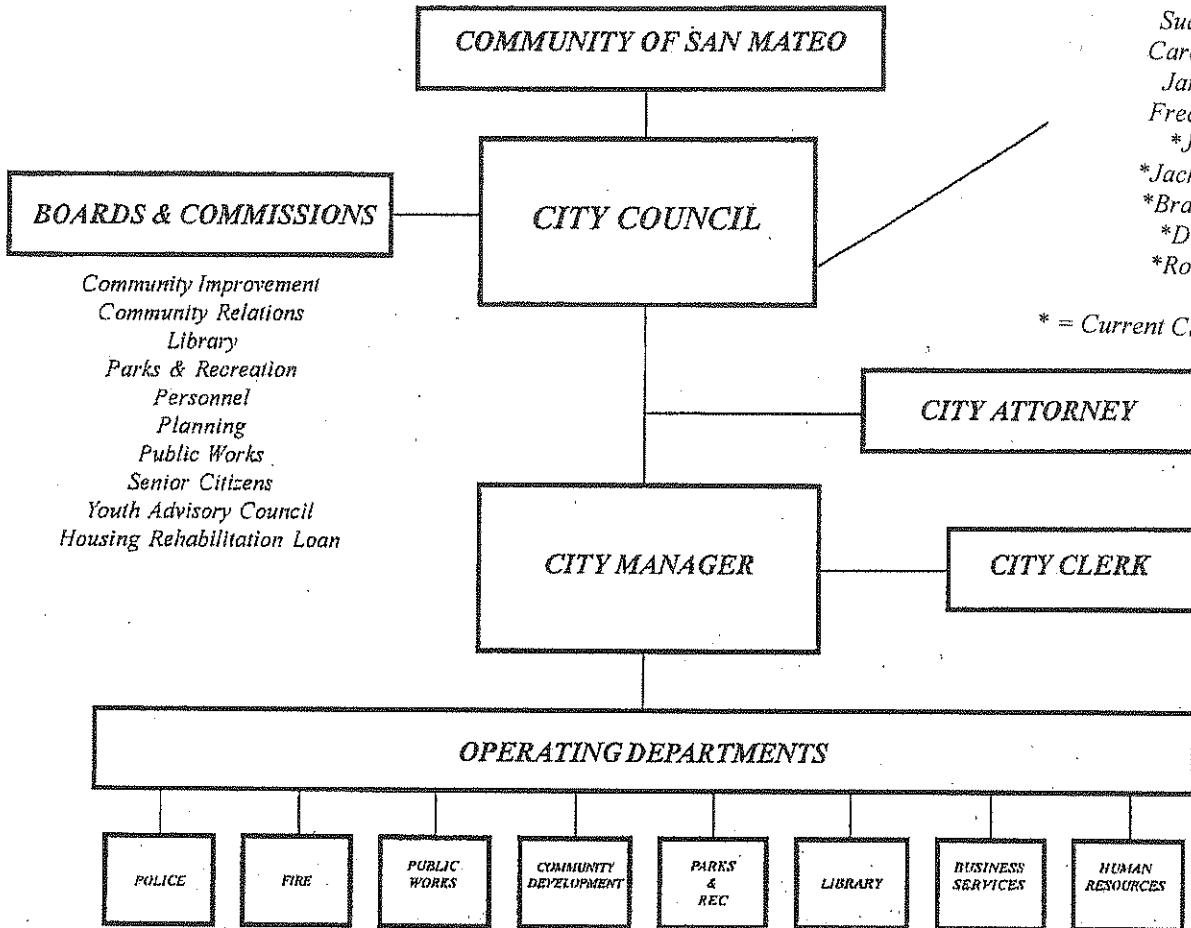
Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for this project.

Sincerely,


Bertha Sanchez, Co-President
Home Association of North Central San Mateo

CITY OF SAN MATEO ORGANIZATION

*San Mateo City Council Members
2005- Present*

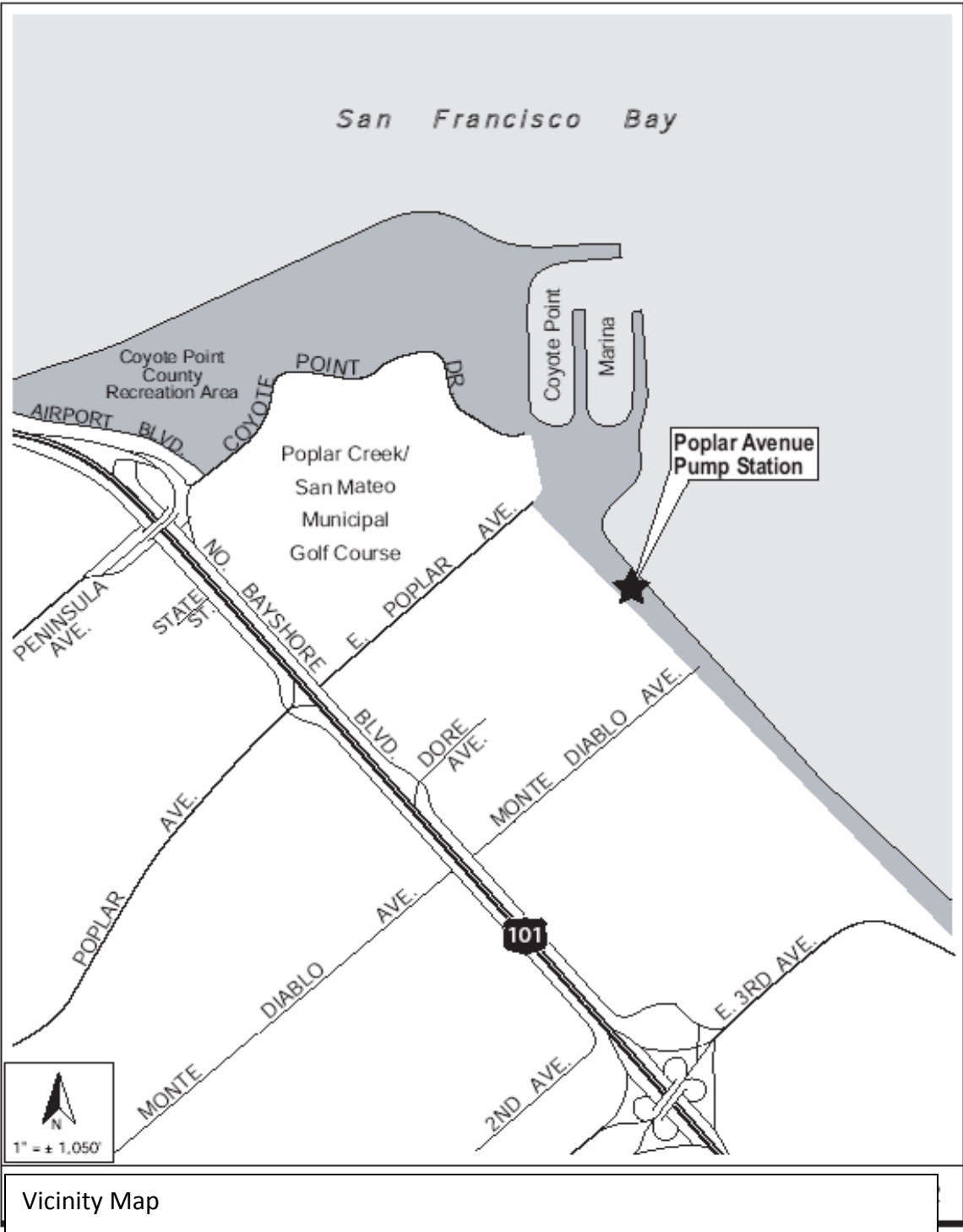


- Sue Lempert
- Carole Groom
- Jan Epstein
- Fred Hansson
- *John Lee
- *Jack Matthews
- *Brandt Grotte
- *David Lim
- *Robert Ross

** = Current City Council Member*

PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL
2005 – 2010 (former personnel shown in parentheses)

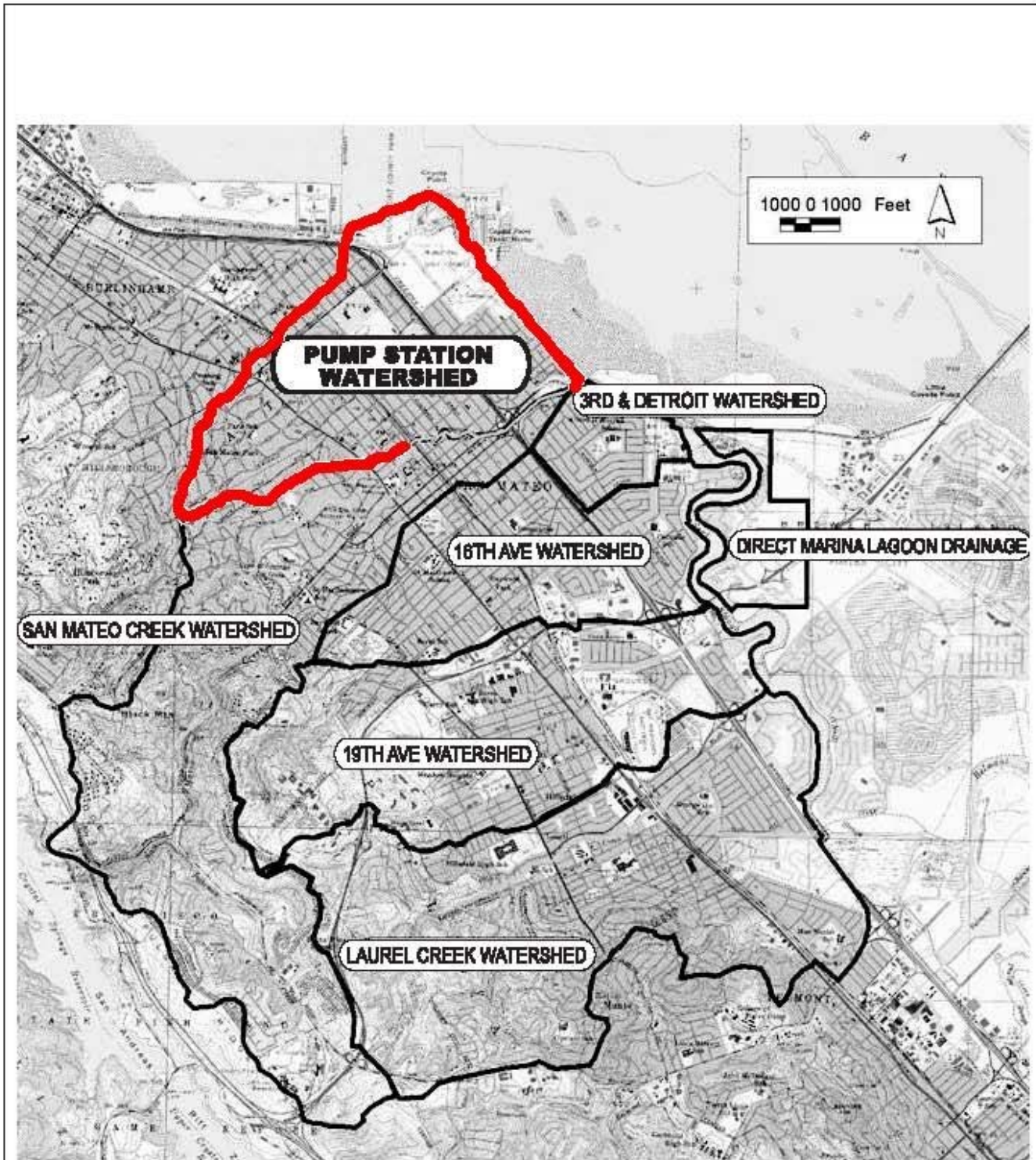
City Manager.....	Susan Loftus (Arne Croce)
City Attorney.....	Shawn Mason
City Clerk.....	Norma Gomez
Chief of Police.....	Susan Manheimer
Fire Chief.....	Dan Belville (Brian Kelly)
Director of Public Works.....	Larry Patterson
Director of Community Development.....	Lisa Grote (Bob Beyer)
Director of Parks and Recreation.....	Sheila Canzian
City Librarian.....	Ben Ocon
Finance Director/City Treasurer.....	Hossein Golestan (John deRussy)
Human Resources Director.....	Linda Spady



4



Aerial Photograph of project area



Pump Station Watershed



Poplar Pump Station Exterior



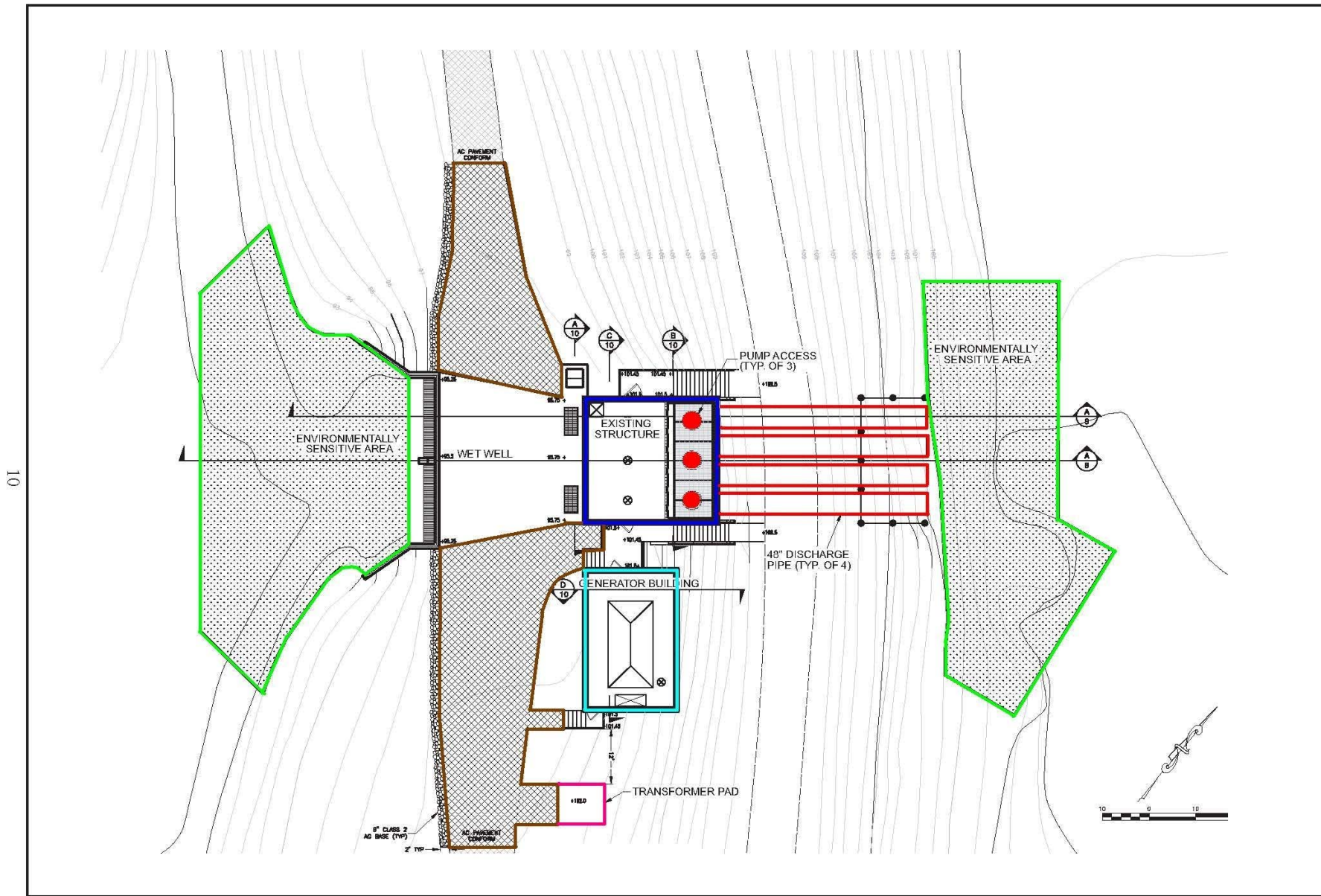
Poplar Pump Station Exterior



Poplar Pump Station Interior



Poplar Pump Station existing outfall pipes to Bay



Poplar Pump Station – Proposed Improvements