**Letter from the Chair**

Management by committee. I am sure most of you have heard that expression before, but I doubt it brings good thoughts to your mind. You aren’t likely to find it in any management best seller either. So you might be surprised to hear me say – “we need more meetings”. Which we don’t! What I am really saying is, “we need more participation by committee.”

The FMA Board just held its biannual retreat where, among other things, we went over and updated our Strategic Plan. In assessing what we have and haven’t been doing well, it quickly became apparent that we are reaching the point where the Board can no longer manage the activities of the organization by itself. Although it was never our plan to do so, it seems that most of the Board members are pretty hands-on when it comes to our activities and no one wants to give it up. Another problem we have had as an organization is to ask for your help and then not follow up to get you engaged. I am committing to you, this will no longer happen! The time has come where we have to ‘let go’ if we want to continue to grow as an organization.

You will soon be receiving an email describing opportunities to participate in a variety of committees. We want to encourage each of you to consider where you might best fit in and then jump in with both feet and help make things happen. We are looking for leaders and doers. If you like organizing events, it may be on the Conference Planning, Professional Development or Luncheon Committees. If you love to chat, text, tweet (or even write), it may be on the Social Media or

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FEDERAL NEWS

For an Update of the latest disaster declarations visit:
https://www.fema.gov/disasters

USACE has decided to extend the deadline for public comments on the draft Engineer Circular for implementing EO 11988 from 30 January 2017 to 1 May 2017. See more at:

Information on Flood Insurance Reform – Rates and Refunds

For information on Fiscal Year 2017 Budget issues visit:

STATE NEWS - CALIFORNIA

For information regarding the Oroville Spillway, including current information on the situation, public information lines and additional information resources including photos and videos visit:
http://www.water.ca.gov/oroville-spillway/index.cfm

1. Draft Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Update Released

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) has released a draft 2017 update to the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) for public review. The public is invited to submit comments on the update through March 31, 2017, as well as an accompanying draft Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report (SPEIR)

The 2017 CVFPP Update emphasizes the need for long-term multi-benefit projects rather than single-purpose flood management projects. For example, both the draft 2017 CVFPP Update and SPEIR include strategies to integrate and improve ecosystem functions with flood risk reduction projects.

The draft 2017 CVFPP Update lists the State’s investment in flood management activities since 2012. California has invested approximately $20 million in regional flood management planning, flood risk management, flood risk reduction projects, operations and maintenance, and emergency response programs. The draft update also presents a strategy for prioritizing the State's proposed $21 billion investment in flood management over the next 30 years, along with itemized costs of these investments.

The draft 2017 Update and SPEIR are available on the DWR website.

To view prior CVFPB monthly meetings visit the CVFPB web site at: www.cvfpb.ca.gov/meetings/2016-2/

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