

Lower and Upper Fourmile – Meeting held Dec. 10, 2013, approximately 50-60 attendees

Key Issues Discussed

- **Creek Flow** – Perceived as currently running harder than pre-flood conditions
- **Right of Entry** – Concerns in general
- **Debris** – Large trees are down and unstable trees may come down
- **Utility Damage** – Exposed lines reported on Fourmile Canyon Drive
- **Banks & Alignment** – Significant areas of elevation and channel change
- **Roads** – Culvert damage and sizing concerns

Fourmile Canyon Drive to Wallstreet

Issues	Discussion Summary
Perceived imminent dangers/concerns	The creek is flowing harder than usual Unstable trees which may fall
Accesses & Roads	New accesses need to be established for residents to access their properties.
Right of Entry	Concerns about signing Right of Entry forms. Many would prefer not to give agencies and contractors free reign to come on their property, concerned about what may done to their property without their permission if they sign the form, who will come on and when. Property owners would like advance notice of when someone is coming and what work will be done.
Debris	Many downed and uprooted trees all throughout this creek segment. Because of the additional flooding and high winds this time of year, there is strong concern that many of the unstable trees are in a position upstream that they can come down and come downstream causing further damage. Sporadic dumping zones have informally been created throughout the area where people have been depositing debris removed from the creek and properties.
Utility Damage	There are exposed utility lines all up and down Fourmile Canyon Drive.
Creek Banks & Alignment	Fourmile Creek has changed directions and elevations, impacted property boundaries and in some places the creek has risen in elevation by 5-6 feet, whereas in other areas it is now much lower in elevation than where it was. There is lots of undulation throughout this area. The creek is in a different elevation around the Whispering Pines Church and surrounding historic structures. Because of damage that has occurred there is little room for the creek or road to get through where it had previously been. This is the issue for the inability of many homes to return to their previous locations as well. There is still flooding and standing water throughout the canyon on individual properties.

Community Outreach Kickoff Summaries

	<p>Residents noted that the creek is flowing harder than usual for this time of year as if it were spring run-off.</p>
<p>Agency Coordination & Information</p>	<p>A single point of contact is needed for reliable information. Residents are experiencing lots of back and forth communications with flood insurance companies, different government agencies and other parties. Between all of these communications there is very little information being provided to property owners regarding what needs to be done for rebuilding purposes.</p> <p>Residents need information about where the road will be permanently located and how it will be made safer to avoid future flooding.</p> <p>The community would like to remain informed about the requirements (such as NEPA) that will need to be addressed for recovery.</p> <p>Some residents asked questions about how they would be engaged about the future redevelopment of this area, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the historic character of Salina and Wallstreet be preserved? • An opportunity exists to possibly reimagine the identity of this area. Architects, planners and others should come together with the community to discuss ideas about what's possible for rebuilding while preserving the historic community identity. Can the county help facilitate this process of visioning our future? The recovery effort should be aligned with the future vision that the community embraces and that citizens' support.
<p>Upstream/Downstream Impacts</p>	<p>Because of the unreliability of information and lack of actions taking place in an expedient manner, residents feel like they need to take actions on themselves, but are worried about how what they do could impact a downstream neighbor. Conversely, residents are worried about what those are doing upstream from them with or without the proper permitting and/or oversight.</p>

0-600 Gold Run Road

Issues	Discussion Summary
<p>Debris</p>	<p>Culverts are backed up with woody debris, rocks and mud. There is concern that culverts that were put in by the county in 2009 are the wrong sizes - 3 large culverts too big, thus collecting debris and damming the waterways causing the creek to divert around them. Small culverts broke away, but caused less damage.</p> <p>The creek above addresses 217 is blocked by the culverts.</p> <p>There is too much debris for culverts to be replaced.</p> <p>Living trees along the creeks and telephone poles along the creeks dammed the waterways. When replacing telephone poles be aware of the placement.</p> <p>Be aware of where propane tanks are placed as these floated down the waterways!</p> <p>The upper creek is blocked by debris and the lower creek is blocked by rocks and boulders</p> <p>Contractor issues: Prior to the flood, Xcel cut trees and left them in the creek.</p>

Community Outreach Kickoff Summaries

	<p>Luke's has a contract to rebuild the roads and is pushing debris into the streams instead of disposing it.</p>
Access & Roads	<p>Residents shared many concerns over rebuilding roads and access points including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide enough grade is needed across from the school to accommodate parking. • Parking needs to be made for the café property. • The road to Salina is too steep and narrow and should be increased in size. <p>Residents are concerned about costs for cleanup and road repairs.</p>
Banks & Alignment	<p>The creek channel has diverted and changed through the influx of silt and rock and the building of roads. Concerns voiced about the narrow areas of the streams, in the spring these areas will probably not have runoff capacity and will divert again. Recent road grading is narrowing the creek and leaving little or no creek channel. By mill Creek (1870's) the creek is 4 times wider that it previously was. The creek is too shallow or too narrow in some places.</p>
Upstream/Downstream Impacts	<p>Residents are concerned about spring runoff. Culverts are missing and it is imminent that the area will flood in the Spring. They also discussed stabilizing the terrain up Ingram Gulch.</p> <p>It is great to use local materials but causing more of a problem? Is area becoming progressively unstable as we tap "virgin" land?</p> <p>The county has come onto some property and has removed previously placed stabilization installed by the property owners.</p> <p>The county has bulldozed remaining trees on property leaving no vegetation for stabilization.</p>

Lower Fourmile Canyon

Issues	Discussion Summary
Actions Taking Place or Planned in the Near-term	<p>Temporary roads have been developed. Residents have removed debris and fixed flood damage on their own properties such as driveways.</p> <p>The Fire Department cut downed trees to sizes that would not get caught in culverts if additional flooding were to occur.</p>
Debris	<p>Three types of debris, which each has its own needs in order to be removed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Debris which individuals can remove on their own 2) Large debris which requires heavy machinery for removal 3) Debris positioned in a way that cannot be removed by individuals or machinery, such as being intertwined amongst itself or in tree roots. Additional concerns regarding debris include:

Community Outreach Kickoff Summaries

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debris is built up in non-residential locations such as Betasso and Benjamin Open Space areas. • Debris piles created during the immediate flood response phase that have not been removed • Debris raising the creek bed levels • Debris that residents can move, but have nowhere to place piles for pick up - roads with narrow or no shoulders • Several residents in the segment are elderly and cannot remove debris and do repairs to their own property • Debris frozen to the ground and very difficult to remove.
Access & Roads	The cost of access bridges to private owners is expensive since they have to be built to transportation standards; the approximate cost is \$100,000/bridge, which is times-two for both the temporary bridge and permanent one. This seems cost prohibitive since a property may only be worth \$200,000 and incurring that type of cost doesn't make much sense.
Creek Banks & Alignment	<p>Residents concerned about erosion problems with downed trees which re-directs stream (denoted on maps).</p> <p>Overall, creek bed is higher throughout this area. Large tree hazards that are undercut and can affect the stream in the future throughout the flood corridors.</p>
Septic & Water Quality	Concern about water seepage through mine tailings in the water shed area. Will there be any heavy metal testing?
Agency Coordination & Information	One resident requested a conflict resolution process be designed between the county and residents. Further the resident requested that when conflicts arise and are resolved that the county publish information on the issue and resolution.
Upstream/Downstream Impacts	Residents are concerned that the roadways will be destroyed again during spring runoff.

Upper Gold Run

Issues	Discussion Summary
Actions Taking Place or Planned in the Near-term	<p>Residents coordinating with agencies as much as possible, but continue to have questions on what they are permitted to do, as well as what will be the size, structure, and location of permanent county rebuilding for elements such as roads, culverts, power lines, and the stream.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary access points have been developed. • Volunteer crews have moved debris, but placed it in a poor location. • A culvert was replaced with assistance of a road crew

Community Outreach Kickoff Summaries

- Residents worried their work to stabilize homes might be lost to permanent road construction, requested that the county Land Use and Transportation Department staff members visit their sites now to give them advice on what to do to shore up their foundations and rock walls where they are near the roads.
- One owner is rebuilding a rock wall to stabilize the bank near the property's home. The owner is not sure how much work to do to align with the permanent road and other rebuilding.
- One owner spent \$25K to secure the home from falling in the creek. Another \$25K will need to be spent but would come close to the old road ROW. The owner would like to know what is permitted.

Debris

Trees and natural woody debris remain in the channel. Silt buildup has increased the width of the creek, so the runoff channel is bigger. Because the ground is still saturated, older trees continue to fall, endangering homes and structures.

Access & Road

Residents concerned with many issues around road rebuilding. While the group is anxious for permanent roads to be constructed they seek to include key input into planning. Issues cited as important include:

- Concern over expanding the width of the road for bike lanes,
- Considering the aesthetics of new roads,
- Road height to connect to access points,
- Burying power lines.
- Residents cited concern over drivers becoming stuck on the narrow winter roads before the permanent roads are built.

Septic & Water Quality

Residents discussed the importance of ensuring the groundwater is safe, as it all comes from wells. Residents would like help monitoring for contamination. They would like to know where water is tested and how they can get help with testing their water.

Agency Coordination & Communication

There is some concern over the broad nature of the Right of Entry form. Residents want to ensure signing the form will not open them up to liability issues.

It is important to residents to be informed with ongoing rebuilding activities. They request information to be shared with residents through multiple channels (i.e., email, website, flyers) to ensure new information is received. Residents would like direct communication regarding next steps rather than being asked to go to a website.