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Contact: Curt Aikens (530) 701-6800

Corps Awards Stimulus Funds for Marysville Levee Improvements

Marysville – The Yuba County Water Agency announced today that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded \$9.25 million in stimulus funds for repairs to the Marysville Ring Levee, a 7.5 mile long levee that protects the City of Marysville from flooding. These funds will allow the Corps to begin construction on the project next year. When complete, the improvements to the entire Marysville Ring Levee will raise the level of flood protection for the City of Marysville to a 200-year level or higher. A 200 year flood is classified as a flood event with a half of one-percent chance of occurring in any given year.

Yuba County Water Agency Chairman Sid Muck said today, “We’re truly appreciative of the support that our Congressman Wally Herger, and U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein have provided for this project. Their commitment to this community has never wavered.”

All of the repairs to the Marysville Ring Levee will be undertaken by the Corps of Engineers under the authority of the Yuba Basin Project, a federal levee strengthening program authorized by Congress in 1999 and reauthorized in 2007. The Yuba Basin Project is designed to strengthen over 40 miles of levees in the southern portion of Yuba County (Reclamation District 784) and Marysville.

The Corps of Engineers is working closely with the State of California, the Yuba County Water Agency, Marysville Levee Commission and the City of Marysville on its construction plans. Construction is scheduled to begin next year on the first segments of the Marysville Ring Levee, with all of the repairs completed in approximately 3 to 5 years, depending upon the availability of additional federal funding, weather conditions and other factors. Total project costs are estimated at \$40-50 million.

Upon learning of the award, Marysville Levee Commission Chairman Jerry Crippen said, “We’re pleased with the Corps’ commitment to the repairs for Marysville. Our flood risk in this area is real, and so we’re relying upon the Corps to begin construction as soon as possible.”

The \$9.25 million in stimulus funds are authorized by the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Public Law 111-5).