

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812

FROM:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: 2016098222

PROJECT NUMBER: C-06-8258-110

PROJECT TITLE: Wastewater Treatment Plant Critical Improvements Project (Project)

PROJECT LOCATION: The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is located at 601 Canal Boulevard in Richmond, Contra Costa County, California.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is a Responsible Agency for the Project. The State Water Board's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program is financing the Project. The purpose of the Project is to enable the City of Richmond (City) to replace aging and unreliable infrastructure, comply with future discharge regulations, and upgrade or replace non-functioning or obsolete treatment processes with efficient, adaptable, and reliable systems. Additionally, improvements for the aeration system will reduce health and safety impacts from aerosols created by the existing mixers.

Work at the WWTP will include implementation of the Project, which will upgrade the grit removal system, aeration system, and secondary clarifier. Upgrades at the grit removal system would include construction of a new screening and vortex grit removal system to replace the non-functioning existing gravity grit chambers. Construction activities include demolition of the existing grit basin structure and construction of a new screening/grit structure that would include a fine screening, two (2) vortex grit basins, and new Parshall flumes for flow measurement.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT: The State Water Board has approved SRF financing for the Project described above on January 26, 2021 and determined that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The City of Richmond (City) will be carrying out the Project.

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION STATUS:

Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 19, section 15302)

Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 19, section 15303)

REASON WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The Project has been determined to meet the requirements of the exemption(s) selected above and will not have a significant impact on water quality. The Project consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. The Project also includes limited new construction at the existing WWTP to improve plant safety and its ability to reliably meet the WWTP's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements.

LEAD AGENCY: City

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Katy Rodgers

PHONE NUMBER: (925) 932-1710

A record of financing approval for the Project is available to the general public at the State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance at 1001 I Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Pursuant to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Code, Section 711.4(d)(1), the CDFW environmental review filing fees do not apply to exempt projects.

Signature: _____ Date: 01/26/2021

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