



Department of Public Works

- Flood Control
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Interim Director

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA)/ NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT CARBON CANYON CHANNEL FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA

The San Bernardino County Flood Control District (District) has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the construction and maintenance of flood control improvements to the Carbon Canyon Flood Control Channel in the City of Chino Hills, California from an existing interim channel to an ultimate condition channel (See attached Figure 1: Regional Location) (Project). The Project goal is to reduce the risk of flooding during a 100-year storm event by increasing the capacity and conveyance of the District-maintained facility. The site is generally located within an area characterized as urbanized, primarily with single family residences to the north and south of the channel. There is a large Southern California Edison (SCE) right-of-way (ROW) south of the channel, intersecting the channel in two locations. There is a church complex at the west end of the channel (Chino Valley Community Church) as well as a recreational field with irrigated grass and ornamental plants that borders Little Chino Creek. There are commercial uses at the east end near Pipeline Avenue. The Project area covers approximately 4,850 linear feet in length and 150 feet in width where the existing interim channel already exists.

The Project consists of construction of an approximately 4,800-linear foot-long flood control channel, including a 4,200-foot long trapezoidal channel with concrete side slope and articulating block invert, a 50-foot long double concrete box, and a 560-foot long rectangular concrete channel. The improved channel will replace an undersized earthen channel. The channel will include two transition structures which will transition existing rectangular concrete channels to the improved channel and will also consist of a riprap junction structure with English Channel which joins from the northwest. The channel improvements will allow for increased flows to be conveyed within District ROW.

The channel will have a partially permeable invert 40 feet wide, 15 feet deep, and side slopes of 1.5:1. The side slopes will be concreted to prevent erosion and decrease the friction for high flows. The channel invert will consist of a 30-foot wide open cell articulating block surface in the middle with a 5-foot strip of concrete along each edge parallel to the walls. These outside strips will allow larger flows to move faster to help reduce the friction created by vegetation growth which provides for the redevelopment of natural habitat within the channel as it occurs now. The use of articulating block on the invert may increase the amount of permeability in the bottom of the channel as compared to the existing rock invert. An articulating block surface provides a hard armor surface that is an alternative to rip rap and consists of a matrix of individual concrete blocks placed together to form an erosion-resistant overlay with specific hydraulic performance. Overall, this design will allow the channel to convey storm water and reduce the chances of flooding, as well as allow vegetation to continue to grow in the bottom of the channel.

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Access for construction equipment and personnel would occur from the either end of the channel. Two equipment staging areas for Project construction are proposed and are adjacent to the existing channel: a smaller one at the west end of the channel, and a larger one more centrally located further east (Figure 2). Construction activities include mobilization, clearing and grubbing, soil and debris removal, rough grading, fine grading, and concrete side and invert wall paving. Construction equipment expected to be used for this Project includes air compressors, cement and mortar mixers, concrete saws, cranes, excavators, graders, pavers, rollers, rubber-tired dozers, backhoes, water trucks, concrete delivery trucks, and pumps.

Overall, the Proposed Project is expected to be completed within 10 months (maximum 12 months) of the initial construction start, expected to be in 2021. Construction activities would occur Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (daylight hours). Maintenance would consist of intermittent trash and debris removal along with possible mowing, if needed. This is similar to maintenance currently conducted for the channel.

The Draft MND details the proposed project; evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the operation and maintenance of the proposed project; identifies those impacts that could be significant; and presents mitigation measures, which avoid, minimize or mitigate these impacts. As provided for by CEQA Section 21064.5, a MND may be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when the project will not result in significant environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated to a level below significance.

The draft MND is available for public review on the District project website: http://www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/public_notices/public_notices.asp; additionally, copies of the draft MND are also available at the County office listed below.

In accordance with CEQA, a good faith effort has been made during the preparation of this draft MND to contact affected agencies, organizations, and individuals who may have an interest in this project. In reviewing the MND and initial study, affected public agencies and the interested public should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects on the project area are proposed to be avoided or mitigated.

Comments may be made on the draft MND in writing before the end of the comment period. Following the close of the public comment period, the County Board of Supervisors will consider this MND and comments thereto in determining whether to certify the environmental document. Written comments on the draft MND should be sent to the following address no later than **June 26 2020**. (Please note: due to increase in telecommuting during the Covid-19 crisis, an e-mail response is preferred. Thank you!)

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San Bernardino County's Board of Supervisors will consider this document for approval and certification during a future public hearing.