

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

September 3, 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Monterey has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, for the Greenbelt Fuel Reduction Project.



The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study, as well as referenced documents, are available for review on the City website at: <https://www.monterey.org/Services/Community-Development/Planning> and by appointment at the City of Monterey, Planning Office, Colton Hall, 1st Floor, 570 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940. To make an appointment, contact Christy Sabdo at the email address below.

In accordance with time limits mandated by State law, written comments on this Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study will be accepted from: September 3, 2020 through October 5, 2020. A public hearing for this project will be held on: October 27, 2020

Project Title: Greenbelt Fuel Reduction Project

Lead agency name and address: City of Monterey, 570 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940

Project Description: The proposed project would result in the managed reduction of fire fuel hazards within seven City greenbelts: (1) Skyline Forest, (2) Veteran's Park, (3) Monte Vista, (4) Carmelo Street, (5) Don Dahvee, (6) Josselyn Canyon, and (7) Fisherman Flats. The objective of the proposed project is to reduce the risk of wildfire in the seven greenbelts through fuel reduction actions undertaken by the City. These actions would be conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse environmental effects and implements goals for resource and habitat management. Managed reduction of fire fuel hazards would include, but is not limited to the following actions: thinning of vegetation to reduce woody biomass and to break-up horizontally- and vertically-continuous fuels; removal of trees, focusing primarily on dead and dying trees; trees or large tree-form shrubs (reaching 4 feet or taller at maturity) that are to be retained in defensible spaces would be trimmed or pruned to reduce both vertical and horizontal fuel continuity; removal of exotic/invasive plants to help reduce the presence of undesirable species and enhance thinning efforts aimed at reducing overall biomass levels; and prescribed grazing, utilizing goats and sheep, to thin and remove vegetation in difficult to access areas and in areas where high fire hazard conditions exist due to dry conditions. Mechanical thinning and removal of vegetation would be implemented using string and blade trimmers (i.e., weed eaters), mowers, and chainsaws. Treated fire fuel materials would either be removed from the greenbelts and disposed of in a landfill with a green waste composting program, or would be chipped and used as mulch within the greenbelts.

For reviewing agencies:

The City of Monterey requests that you review the Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting materials and provide any appropriate comments related to your agency's area of responsibility. The space below may be used to indicate that your agency has no comments or to state brief comments.

The project site is not located on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code including, but not limited to lists of hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste disposal sites, and the information in the Hazardous Waste and Substances Statement required under subdivision f) of that section.

For Additional Information / Return Comments to:

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Monterey, CA 93940
Phone: (831) 646-3758 | sabdo@monterey.org

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Note: A copy of this document, as well as informational sources referenced herein, can be reviewed at the City's website: <https://monterey.org/Services/Community-Development/Planning>