

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR FAIRMEAD-CHOWCHILLA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Chowchilla is circulating for public review an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Wastewater system improvements.

PROJECT LOCATION: The unincorporated Community of Fairmead located roughly in the center of the San Joaquin Valley in Madera County on the east side of State Route (SR) 99 just south of SR 152 and the Chowchilla Wastewater Treatment Facility located in Chowchilla, CA.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Fairmead is provided domestic water and light services by Madera County's Maintenance District 33. However, properties within Fairmead rely on individual septic systems for sewer service. Wastewater in the Community is disposed of through the use of onsite septic tanks and leach fields or pits. There is no sanitary sewer collection system or wastewater treatment facility in the Community, or immediately adjacent to it. Potential for contamination of groundwater supplies has caused the State and County to request that the City of Chowchilla consider connecting Fairmead to the City's existing wastewater treatment facility. This would require construction of a sewer collection system and transmission line from Fairmead to Chowchilla.

The proposed project would abandon the septic tanks and leach fields in Fairmead and direct wastewater flows through a new sewer trunk line to the City of Chowchilla's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) (Project). Approximately 175 residential connections, the Fairmead Elementary School, and a commercial property will be connected to the City of Chowchilla's WWTF. The proposed Project includes a collection system, pump station, force main and gravity main with wastewater treatment and disposal at the existing City of Chowchilla WWTF.

Construction is anticipated to begin in April 2022 and would take approximately 7 months and finish in November 2022. All pipeline segments and Project components are anticipated to be built out simultaneously.

PUBLIC REVIEW: The Chowchilla City Council is making the proposed IS/MND available to interested agencies and members of the public for review and comment. A 30-day public review period will begin on January 23rd and end at 5pm on February 23rd.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The IS/MND and separately bound appendices is available for review during regular business hours at Chowchilla City Hall at 130 S 2nd St in Chowchilla and at the Chowchilla Branch Library at 300 Kings Avenue in Chowchilla. Written comments may be submitted to Jason Rogers at the above address prior to the end of the public review period.

A meeting of the Chowchilla City Council Members will be held to consider the approval of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration at the City Hall (see address above) at ... or as soon thereafter as may be heard.

For additional information, please call Jason Rogers, Director of Public Works at (559) 665-8615.