

KING CITY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Prepared for:

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I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration assesses the potential environmental impacts and suggests appropriate mitigation measures associated with the proposed construction and operation of improvements to the King City Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) (to be referred to herein as the “proposed project”). The City of King (to be referred to herein as “the City”) shall act as Lead Agency for this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and has the responsibility for determining whether or not to certify this document upon completion.

The City has prepared this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration in order to assist in their consideration as to whether to prepare a Negative Declaration, a Mitigated Negative Declaration or an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed project.

As part of their decision-making process, the City is required to review and consider the potential environmental effects that could result from the proposed project. Together with the technical analyses applicable to this project and any other documents incorporated by reference, this analysis will serve as an initial environmental review for the proposed project. This review is required by the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) as amended (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines as well as Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA adopted by the City.

Section 15070 of the State CEQA Guidelines states that “a public agency shall prepare or have prepared a proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration for a project subject to CEQA when the Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may not have a significant effect on the environment.” Section 15064 (a) (1) states “if there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before a Lead Agency, that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, the agency shall prepare a Draft EIR.” The determination as to which environmental document is appropriate in this situation will be based upon the information and analyses contained in this Initial Study in combination with any other documents or studies which are incorporated by reference.

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration begins with Section I. Introduction and Purpose, which provides an introductory discussion of the purpose and scope of the document. Section II. Summary/Mitigation Monitoring Program summarizes the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures. This section also contains the State-mandated Mitigation Monitoring Program (pursuant to AB 3180).

Section III. Project Description provides a detailed description of the currently proposed construction and operation of improvements to the King City Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Section IV. Environmental Evaluation contains the environmental checklist required by Section 15063(d)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines. This checklist is intended to determine the nature and extent of various environmental effects of the proposed project followed by an explanation to justify the determination. Checklist items are identified as “significant”, “unknown, potentially significant”, “potentially significant and mitigated” or “not significant”.

Section V. provides the required Mandatory Findings of Significance pursuant to CEQA Section 15065. Section VI. Environmental Determination makes the final determination as to whether an EIR, Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate. Section VII. Certification provides the required Lead Agency Certification Statement. Section VIII. Correspondence provides any correspondence that are relevant to the impact assessments noted above.

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration provides a full and objective discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. In preparing this document, the City decision-makers, staff and members of the public will be fully informed as to the potential impacts and required mitigation measures associated with the proposed project. In accordance with Section 15021 of the State CEQA Guidelines, this document is intended to enable the City, as Lead Agency, to fully evaluate these environmental impacts and mitigation measures. The Lead Agency has an obligation to balance potential adverse effects of the project against a variety of public objectives, including economic, environmental and social factors, in determining whether the project is acceptable and approved for construction and operation.

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is intended to cover relevant NEPA requirements depending upon which federal agencies are involved.

Pursuant to California Public Resources Code 21082.1, the City has independently reviewed and analyzed the information contained in this Initial Study prior to its consideration and certification. The conclusions and discussions contained herein reflect their independent judgment

II. SUMMARY/MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM

1. Aesthetics

Impacts: The existing WWTP is located on a relatively flat alluvial plain north of King City. The current project facilities involve single-story structures for administrative and repair activities. The Salinas riverbed contains many large trees and thick ground vegetation which shields views of the WWTP from the adjacent US Highway 101. Given the relatively low visual profile of the existing treatment plant facility and the undeveloped nature of surrounding areas, the existing WWTP is barely visible from any developed areas in the vicinity of the existing facility.

None of the proposed project facilities will have a substantial adverse effect upon any scenic vistas nor will they degrade any existing scenic resources or the visual character or quality of its surroundings. The proposed project will not create any new sources of substantial light or glare which would affect day or nighttime views in the area.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant aesthetic impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

2. Agricultural Resources

Impacts: Active agriculture operations are ongoing in areas east, northeast and south of the existing WWTP. All of the proposed project improvements shall be located in a manner that does not directly impact these ongoing agricultural activities.

The proposed project will not directly impact any areas designated as prime farmland, unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance nor will they conflict with any areas zoned for agricultural use or covered by a Williamson Act contract. The proposed project will not result in any conversion of existing farmland to non-agricultural use. However, project construction could temporarily impact water supply pipelines and roadways within these adjacent agricultural operations (see "Mitigation Measures" below").

Mitigation Measures:

AG-1. Project construction shall be coordinated with adjacent property owners and any farm lessee/operators in order to avoid impacts to existing pipelines and roadways serving current agricultural operations adjacent to the WWTD.

AG-2. All proposed wastewater transmission and disposal systems shall be located in manner that avoids damaging buried irrigation lines, wells, risers and other agricultural infrastructure.

AG-3. Early notice of any planned closures or detours on existing roadways serving existing agricultural operations shall be provided to adjacent property owners and any farm lessee/operators. These notices should be provided no less than two weeks prior to these closures or detours. Regular updates about forthcoming closures or detours shall be provided to those impacted by these activities as well as being posted on local roadways so that adequate planning can be made for the movement of agricultural goods, equipment and personnel.

Implementation Responsibility: City of King

Monitoring Agency: City of King

Timing: During project grading or construction

3. Air Quality

Impacts: The proposed project will not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of any air quality plan, expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollution concentrations, violate any established air quality standards or result in a net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the region is in non-attainment. Given the unoccupied nature of areas adjacent to the WWTP, the proposed project will not create objectionable smoke, ash, dust or odors affecting existing residents or other persons in the immediate area. The proposed project will not generate significant greenhouse gas emissions or conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant air quality impacts, no mitigation measures are required

4. Biological Resources

Impacts: The Salinas River and its surrounding riparian habitat are located immediately west of the existing WWTP. These adjacent areas contain the dense, highly vegetated riparian habitat that could support candidate, sensitive or special status plant and/or animal species.

Given its proximity to these significant biological resources, the proposed project could result in adverse effects upon sensitive biological habitats, candidate, sensitive or special status species or may result in significant impacts to existing riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities, federally protected wetlands, or established migratory wildlife corridors. As a result, the proposed project may conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or provisions of any approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plans (see “Mitigation Measures” below”).

The existing WWTP currently operates a wastewater spray field on the western portion of the WWTP property. Treated wastewater is currently sprayed on this area but not as far as

the Salinas river habitats. The existing WWTP has incorporated several design features that are intended to reduce any potential impacts of this facility upon the adjacent Salinas River habitat including monitoring wells throughout the WWTP property which can detect any changes in groundwater quality in order to insure that off-site groundwater is not degraded. provision of a levy and setbacks in order to insure that surface water drains into off-site areas. The existing spray field adjacent to the river habitat will no longer be in operation once the proposed improvements to the WWTP are completed. This represents a beneficial impact upon biological resources within the adjacent Salinas River habitats.

Mitigation Measures:

BR-1. Prior to any construction activities, a Biological Resources Assessment shall be prepared by a qualified, local field biologist. This assessment will identify all potentially significant plant and animal species as well as any significant native habitats. This assessment will also address any potential impacts of the proposed project upon these resources as well as any measures that are capable of reducing these impacts to a level of insignificance. This assessment may also identify any potentially significant impacts that cannot be reduced to an insignificant level as well as any conflicts between the proposed project and any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or conflict with provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan or other local regional or state habitat conservation plans.

BR-2. Prior to any construction activities, the City shall secure all required state and/or federal permits relative to the proximity of the WWTP to the Salinas River and its adjacent habitats.

Implementation Responsibility: City of King

Monitoring Agency: City of King

Timing: Prior to or during project grading or construction

5. Cultural Resources

Impacts: The existing WWTP is highly disturbed and is not expected to contain any known archaeological sites, paleontological resources or historical structures.

However, significant archaeological, paleontological or historic resources may be discovered during project grading or construction. In that event, these resources will either be excavated or protected in a manner consistent with all applicable State and local laws, and all work will be halted and the resources will be evaluated by a qualified professional (see “Mitigation Measures” below”).

Mitigation Measures: The City, in 2019, adopted an updated and detailed list of mitigation measures related to cultural resources impacts that are applicable to all development applications. These measures are summarized below.

CR-1. Prior to excavation and construction on the project site, the prime construction contractor or any subcontractor(s) shall be cautioned on the legal and/or regulatory implications of knowingly destroying historic or prehistoric cultural resources or removing artifacts such as, but not limited to, prehistoric groundstone, projectile points, shell middens, or debitage, human remains, historic materials such as, but not limited to, bottles or cans and other cultural materials from the project site.

CR-2. Prior to any demolition, excavation, or construction, the Applicant shall identify a qualified archaeologist to be on call if any cultural resources are identified, or if required by the City, when project excavation of four (4') feet or greater is needed. The City shall approve the selected archaeologist prior to issuance of any permit that includes soil disturbance. When excavation of greater than four (4') feet is anticipated, a Tribal Monitor may be required.

CR-3. Prior to any soil disturbing activities to search for surface evidence of historical or prehistoric cultural resources and if a project survey has not been conducted as part of the project application process, the archaeologist shall conduct a pedestrian survey of the project site. The archaeologist shall be authorized to perform spot check monitoring of subsurface construction for potential cultural resources and analyze and evaluate those artifacts or resources that may be uncovered. The qualified archaeologist shall also have the authority to temporarily halt excavation and construction activities in the immediate vicinity (within a 50-meter radius or approximately 164 feet) of a find if significant or potentially significant cultural resources are exposed and/or adversely affected by construction operations.

CR-4. In the event of a find, reasonable time shall be allowed for the qualified archaeologist to conduct additional subsurface testing, analysis and reporting, if warranted. During this time, excavation and construction shall not be allowed in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 50-meter radius or approximately 164 feet or within a larger area as determined by the qualified archaeologist). However, activities may continue in other areas of the project site, if so determined by the qualified archaeologist.

CR-5. All cultural materials recovered as part of the testing or monitoring program shall be subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation and reporting prepared according to current professional standards.

CR-6. In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5 (e)(1)(A)(B), in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains on the project site during development, the following steps should be taken. There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the coroner is contacted to determine that no investigation of the cause of death is required. Possible indications of burials could include a layer of shells placed over the burial. If the

coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. The Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may then make recommendations to the landowner or person responsible for the excavation work, for the means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and associated grave goods as provided in the Public Resources Code.

CR-7. The applicant or their authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further disturbance.

Implementation Responsibility: City of King

Monitoring Agency: City of King

Timing: Prior to or during project grading or construction

6. Geology/Soils

Impacts: The proposed project is not expected to expose people or structures to geologic and soils hazards in areas containing the proposed project facilities. All proposed structures will be required to meet all applicable requirements contained in the City Building Code.

The proposed project facilities are not expected to expose people or structures to substantial geologic risks due to the rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking or seismic related ground failure. Given the relatively flat topography of areas containing the proposed project facilities, little in the way of landslides, substantial erosion or exposure to unstable or expansive soils are expected to occur. On-site soils are expected to be capable of supporting wastewater storage and wastewater disposal systems.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant geology/soils impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

7. Hazards/ Hazardous Materials

Impacts: The King City WWTP does not currently utilize any hazardous materials in their wastewater treatment process. This natural process involves aeration, ponding and storage of wastewater without the use of any hazardous materials.

Current operations of the WWTP will not utilize or transport any hazardous materials which are capable of creating a hazard to the public or the environment nor within one quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. These operations will not impair or interfere with implementation of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and

will not expose people or structures to significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildfires.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant hazards/hazardous materials impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

8. Hydrology/Water Quality

Impacts: Project grading and construction may potentially impact surface stormwater quality. All design measures for stormwater pollution control shall comply with the requirements of the City Municipal Code Section 17.56.100 Stormwater Pollution Prevention. These standards protect against stormwater pollution during project grading and construction.

Given adherence to these requirements, project construction will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially alter existing drainage patterns or create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water discharge systems or otherwise degrade water quality. In addition, the proposed project will not place any structures within a 100-year floodplain hazard area or expose people or structures to significant loss, injury or death involving flooding. Project facilities will not be exposed to inundation due to a seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant hydrology/water quality impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

9. Land Use/Planning

Impacts: The proposed project will not physically divide an established community nor conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project area. The proposed project will also not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

The proposed project may indirectly induce changes in land use as a result of the reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon development within areas served by the proposed WWTP facilities. The proposed project will not, however, directly cause a change in any existing or future City land use or zoning designations.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant land use /planning impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

10. Noise

Impacts: Project grading and construction is expected to generate construction noise which represents a short-term impact on ambient noise levels. The primary source of construction noise is heavy equipment including, but not limited to, trenching equipment, trucks, concrete mixers and portable generators that can reach high levels. Typically, construction-related noise levels near the construction site will be less.

Given the undeveloped nature of areas immediately adjacent to the WWTP (i.e. agricultural uses and open space), no sensitive noise receptors will be exposed to any significant change in ambient noise levels. The nearest residential uses in the area are the existing Arboleda and Mills Ranch neighborhoods located approximately three-quarters of a mile east of the WWTP.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant noise impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

11. Population and Housing

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one or two new employees. This insignificant addition of employees will not generate a significant additional demand for housing. The proposed project will not displace any people or existing housing.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant population and housing impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

12. Public Services

Impacts: The proposed project will not result in a significant addition of employees and as such will not generate any additional demand upon existing fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, other recreational facilities or other governmental services.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant public services impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

13. Recreation

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one to two new employees. This insignificant addition of employees will not generate a significant additional demand upon existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. The proposed project will not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant recreation impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

14. Transportation/Circulation

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one to two new employees. Assuming a worst-case automobile trip generation factor of four vehicle trips per employee per day, a total of eight vehicle trips per day will be added to local roadways. As such, the proposed project is not expected to generate a significant number of additional motor vehicles or off-site vehicle trips onto local roadways. Once the proposed improvements are completed, maintenance and oversight of the WWTP operations will occur without the substantial addition of cars or trucks. Since the proposed project will not result in a significant addition of employees, no additional transportation/circulation-related impacts are anticipated.

The proposed project will not cause a substantial increase in traffic which will not exceed any level of service standards on any local roadways. The proposed project will not result in any changes in air traffic patterns or exposure to local roadway hazards. Given the lack of additional vehicle trips, the proposed project will not result in inadequate emergency access or parking capacity.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant transportation/circulation impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

15. Utility/Service Systems

Impacts: The proposed improvements to the existing WWTP are intended to increase wastewater treatment capabilities of the existing WWTP. These proposed improvements will result in the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility intended to comply with new discharge requirements, produce unrestricted re-use quality recycled water and provide adequate treatment capacity for the next 20 years.

The proposed WWTP improvements will not require construction of new storm water drainage facilities nor have the need for additional water supplies. Solid waste from the WWTP is currently transported to the Marina Landfill facility near Salinas in Monterey County. This landfill currently has sufficient capacity to accept sludge generated by the WWTP improvements in compliance with federal, state and local regulations. However, future disposal of sludge from the WWTP may be transported to other landfills in the area that are licensed to accept these materials.

It should be noted that the existing WWTP has incorporated several design features that are intended to reduce any potential impacts of this facility upon the adjacent Salinas River habitat. These measures include monitoring wells throughout the WWTP property which can detect any changes in groundwater quality in order to insure that off-site groundwater is not degraded. The WWTP is also surrounded by a levy and setbacks in order to insure that surface water does not drain into off-site areas. The existing WWTP currently operates a

wastewater spray field on the western portion of the WWTP property. Treated wastewater is currently sprayed on this area but not as far as the Salinas river habitats. This spray field will no longer be in operation once the proposed improvements to the WWTP are completed. This represents a beneficial water quality impact.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant utility/service systems impacts, no mitigation measures are required.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration identifies and analyzes the proposed construction and operation of improvements to the King City Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). These proposed improvements will result in the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility intended to comply with new discharge requirements, produce unrestricted re-use quality recycled water and provide adequate treatment capacity for the next 20 years. Project construction will involve: 1) the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities which will provide 1.3 million gallons per day (mgd) of secondary treatment capacity after completion of Phase I of construction with an ultimate total facility capacity of 2.0 mgd. Current permitted capacity of the treatment plant is 1.2 mgd. As such, Phase I represents an increase of 0.1 mgd (or 100,000 gallons per day) of total facility capacity; 2) provision of tertiary treatment facilities which will produce recycled water for agricultural and landscape irrigation; 3) construction of a recycled water distribution system utilizing existing and future pipelines along San Antonio Drive with one branch along Spreckles Road and the second branch leading to the northeast industrial area of the City and 4) provision of effluent disposal facilities.

- **Secondary Treatment Facilities**

As noted above, the proposed secondary treatment facilities will be constructed in phases. Phase I will provide 1.3 million gallons of secondary treatment while completion of Phase II, that being build-out of the proposed secondary treatment facilities, will produce a total of 2.0 million gallons per day of ultimate secondary treatment capacity.

The proposed secondary treatment facilities will consist of headworks, oxidation ditches, secondary clarifiers, screw presses for biosolids dewatering and all necessary ancillary facilities. The proposed headworks will be designed to accommodate ultimate peak hour flows of 7.8 mgd after completion of Phase I of construction and will include flumes, bar screens, a grit chamber and an influent pump station with submersible pumps.

- **Tertiary Treatment Facilities**

Construction of the proposed tertiary treatment facilities will provide several beneficial uses for recycled water including agricultural irrigation, landscape irrigation, medical cannabis cultivation irrigation and industrial/process reuse. As is the case with the proposed secondary treatment components, the tertiary treatment facilities will also be constructed in phases. Phase I of construction of the proposed tertiary treatment facilities is estimated to generate a total of 665 acre-feet of reclaimed water per year while completion of Phase II, that being build-out of the proposed tertiary treatment facilities, will generate an estimated total of 1,122 acre-feet of reclaimed water per year.

In order to provide the tertiary treatment needed to produce unrestricted recycled water (per Title 22 water quality requirements), cloth media filtration and ultraviolet (UV disinfection) will be used. A new pump station near the existing sprayfield irrigation pump station will also be constructed. The new recycled water pump station will be sized

to meet the estimated future peak hour demand flows for tertiary water. In addition, a new recycled water storage pond will be constructed which will hold yearly and peak hour event wastewater storage. The existing storage pond (existing Pond 4), with a maximum volume of 15.7 million gallons, will be converted from a secondary treatment pond to a tertiary water storage pond. This conversion will require dredging the existing pond, removing the existing clay liner and adding a plastic liner. These storage facilities will accommodate 14.0 million gallons of yearly storage and a 13-hour peak hour event at build-out conditions.

- **Recycled Water Distribution System**

The proposed recycled water distribution system will include the existing 12-inch water lines that run from the existing headworks at the WWTP which will continue along San Antonio Drive. An additional 1,900 linear feet of pipeline will be installed at the treatment plant site in order to convey recycled water from the existing storage pond to these existing pipelines. Additional pipelines will also connect the two existing recycled water pipe segments along San Antonio Drive. The recycled water distribution system will then branch into two pipelines located at the intersection of San Antonio Drive and Spreckles Road. The pipeline extension along Spreckles Road will convey recycled water to the Arboleda development in the near term and to the Mills Ranch development at ultimate build-out. The pipeline extension along San Antonio Drive will carry recycled water to the northeast industrial area of the City to serve medical cannabis cultivation, a bus washing facility and existing and future landscaped areas.

- **Effluent Disposal Facilities**

During wet weather events and periods of low recycled water demand, excess effluent will require disposal. When the recycled water storage facilities are full and recycled water demand is low, secondary effluent will be pumped and disposed of either at the adjacent spray fields or in new percolation ponds (existing treatment Ponds 1A, 1B, 3, and 5). These facilities will only be utilized during the non-irrigation season.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by the proposed project, involving at least one impact that is a "Known Significant", "Unknown Potentially Significant" or "Potentially Significant and Mitigated" impact as indicated by the Environmental Checklist:

	1. Aesthetics		9. Land Use/Planning
X	2. Agricultural Resources		10. Noise
	3. Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions		11. Population/Housing
X	4. Biological Resources		12. Public Services
X	5. Cultural Resources		13. Recreation
	6. Geology/Soils		14. Transportation/Circulation
	7. Hazards/Hazardous Materials		15. Utility/Service Systems
	8. Hydrology/Water Quality		

The following checklist indicates the potential level of impact and based upon the following categories:

- Significant: Known significant environmental impacts.
- Unknown, Potentially Significant: Unknown potentially significant impacts, which require further review to determine significance level.
- Potentially Significant and Mitigable: Potentially significant impacts which can be mitigated to less than significant levels.
- Not Significant: Impacts which are not considered significant.

1.	AESTHETICS:	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				
a.	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b.	Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within view of a state scenic highway?				X
c.	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X
d.	Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

Impacts: The existing WWTP is located on a relatively flat alluvial plain north of King City. The current facilities contain single-story structures for administrative and repair activities. The Salinas riverbed, which is located immediately west of the WWTP contains many large trees and thick ground vegetation which shields views of the WWTP from the adjacent US Highway 101. Given the relatively low visual profile of the existing treatment plant facility and the undeveloped nature of surrounding areas, the existing WWTP is barely visible from any developed areas in the vicinity of the existing facility.

None of the proposed project facilities will have a substantial adverse effect upon any scenic vistas nor will they degrade any existing scenic resources or the visual character or quality of its surroundings. The proposed project will not create any new sources of substantial light or glare which would affect day or nighttime views in the area.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts to aesthetics, no additional mitigation measures are recommended.

2.	AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES:	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a.	Convert prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b.	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X

c.	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature could result in conversion of farmland, to non-agricultural use?			X	
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Impacts: Active agriculture operations are ongoing in areas east, northeast and south of the existing WWTP. All of the proposed project improvements shall be located in a manner that does not directly impact these ongoing agricultural activities.

The proposed project will not directly impact any areas designated as prime farmland, unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance nor will they conflict with any areas zoned for agricultural use or covered by a Williamson Act contract. The proposed project will not result in any conversion of existing farmland to non-agricultural use. However, project construction could temporarily impact water supply pipelines and roadways within these adjacent agricultural operations (see “Mitigation Measures” below”).

Mitigation Measures:

AG-1. Project construction shall be coordinated with adjacent property owners and any farm lessee/operators in order to avoid impacts to existing pipelines and roadways serving current agricultural operations adjacent to the WWTD.

AG-2. All proposed wastewater transmission and disposal systems shall be located in manner that avoids damaging buried irrigation lines, wells, risers and other agricultural infrastructure.

AG-3. Early notice of any planned closures or detours on existing roadways serving existing agricultural operations shall be provided to adjacent property owners and any farm lessee/operators. These notices should be provided no less than two weeks prior to these closures or detours. Regular updates about forthcoming closures or detours shall be provided to those impacted by these activities as well as being posted on local roadways so that adequate planning can be made for the movement of agricultural goods, equipment and personnel.

3.	AIR QUALITY/GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	Significant	Unknown,, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				
a.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b.	Expose of sensitive receptors to substantial pollution concentrations (emissions from direct, indirect, mobile and stationary sources)?				X
c.	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				X

d.	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				X
e.	Create objectionable smoke, ash, dust or odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X
f.	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				X
g.	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				X

Impacts: The proposed project will not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of any air quality plan, expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollution concentrations, violate any established air quality standards or result in a net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the region is in non-attainment. Given the unoccupied nature of areas adjacent to the WWTP, the proposed project will not create objectionable smoke, ash, dust or odors affecting existing residents or other persons in the immediate area. The proposed project will not generate significant greenhouse gas emissions or conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts to air quality or greenhouse gas emissions, no mitigation measures are recommended.

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				
a.	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
b.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife service?			x	
c.	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			x	
d.	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?			X	

e.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?			X	
f.	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?			X	

Impacts: The Salinas River and its surrounding riparian habitat are located immediately west of the existing WWTP. These adjacent areas contain the dense, highly vegetated riparian habitat that could support candidate, sensitive or special status plant and/or animal species. A majority of the remaining areas immediately surrounding the existing WWTP are lands that are currently the subject of ongoing agricultural operations. As such, these areas do not contain any undisturbed native habitats.

Given its proximity to these significant biological resources, the proposed project could result in adverse effects upon sensitive biological habitats, candidate, sensitive or special status species or may result in significant impacts to existing riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities, federally protected wetlands, or established migratory wildlife corridors. As a result, the proposed project may conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or provisions of any approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plans (see “Mitigation Measures” below”).

The existing WWTP currently operates a wastewater spray field on the western portion of the WWTP property. Treated wastewater is currently sprayed on this area but not as far as the Salinas river habitats. It should be noted that the existing WWTP has incorporated several design features that are intended to reduce any potential impacts of this facility upon the adjacent Salinas River habitat. These measures include monitoring wells throughout the WWTP property which can detect any changes in groundwater quality in order to insure that off-site groundwater is not degraded. The WWTP is also surrounded by a levy and setbacks in order to insure that surface water drains into off-site areas. It should also be noted that the existing spray field adjacent to the river habitat will no longer be in operation once the proposed improvements to the WWTP are completed. This represents a beneficial impact upon biological resources within the adjacent Salinas River habitats.

Mitigation Measures:

BR-1. Prior to any construction activities, a Biological Resources Assessment shall be prepared by a qualified, local field biologist. This assessment will identify all potentially significant plant and animal species as well as any significant native habitats. This assessment will also address any potential impacts of the proposed project upon these resources as well as any measures that are capable of reducing these impacts to a level of insignificance. This assessment may also identify any

potentially significant impacts that cannot be reduced to an insignificant level as well as any conflicts between the proposed project and any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or conflict with provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan or other local regional or state habitat conservation plans.

BR-2. Prior to any construction activities, the City shall secure all required state and/or federal permits relative to the proximity of the WWTP to the Salinas River and its adjacent habitats.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?			X	
b.	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?			X	
c.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X	
d.	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X	

Impacts: The existing WWTP is highly disturbed and is not expected to contain any known archaeological sites, paleontological resources or historical structures.

However, significant archaeological, paleontological or historic resources may be discovered during project grading or construction. In that event, these resources will either be excavated or protected in a manner consistent with all applicable State and local laws, and all work will be halted and the resources will be evaluated by a qualified professional (see “Mitigation Measures” below”).

Mitigation Measures: The City, in 2019, adopted an updated and detailed list of mitigation measures related to cultural resources impacts that are applicable to all development applications. These measures are summarized below.

CR-1. Prior to excavation and construction on the project site, the prime construction contractor or any subcontractor(s) shall be cautioned on the legal and/or regulatory implications of knowingly destroying historic or prehistoric cultural resources or removing artifacts such as, but not limited to, prehistoric groundstone, projectile points, shell middens, or debitage, human remains, historic materials such as, but not limited to, bottles or cans and other cultural materials from the project site.

CR-2. Prior to any demolition, excavation, or construction, the Applicant shall identify a qualified archaeologist to be on call if any cultural resources are identified, or if required by the City, when project excavation of four (4') feet or greater is

needed. The City shall approve the selected archaeologist prior to issuance of any permit that includes soil disturbance. When excavation of greater than four (4') feet is anticipated, a Tribal Monitor may be required.

CR-3. Prior to any soil disturbing activities to search for surface evidence of historical or prehistoric cultural resources and if a project survey has not been conducted as part of the project application process, the archaeologist shall conduct a pedestrian survey of the project site. The archaeologist shall be authorized to perform spot check monitoring of subsurface construction for potential cultural resources and analyze and evaluate those artifacts or resources that may be uncovered. The qualified archaeologist shall also have the authority to temporarily halt excavation and construction activities in the immediate vicinity (within a 50-meter radius or approximately 164 feet) of a find if significant or potentially significant cultural resources are exposed and/or adversely affected by construction operations.

CR-4. In the event of a find, reasonable time shall be allowed for the qualified archaeologist to conduct additional subsurface testing, analysis and reporting, if warranted. During this time, excavation and construction shall not be allowed in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 50-meter radius or approximately 164 feet or within a larger area as determined by the qualified archaeologist). However, activities may continue in other areas of the project site, if so determined by the qualified archaeologist.

CR-5. All cultural materials recovered as part of the testing or monitoring program shall be subject to scientific analysis, professional museum curation and reporting prepared according to current professional standards.

CR-6. In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5 (e)(1)(A)(B), in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains on the project site during development, the following steps should be taken. There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the coroner is contacted to determine that no investigation of the cause of death is required. Possible indications of burials could include a layer of shells placed over the burial. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. The Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may then make recommendations to the landowner or person responsible for the excavation work, for the means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and associated grave goods as provided in the Public Resources Code.

CR-7. The applicant or their authorized representative shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further disturbance.

On March 8, 2021, the City sent a notice pursuant to AB 52 which requires consultation with local Native American tribes. In response to this notice, one correspondence was received from Ms. Karen White from the Xolon Salinian Tribe (see Section VIII. Correspondence”).

6.	GEOLOGY /SOILS	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				
a.	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				X
i)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?				X
ii)	Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv)	Landslides?				X
b.	Result in substantial erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
c.	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				X
d.	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e.	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X

Impacts: The proposed project is not expected to expose people or structures to geologic and soils hazards in areas containing the proposed project facilities. All proposed structures will be required to meet all applicable requirements contained in the City Building Code.

The proposed project facilities are not expected to expose people or structures to substantial geologic risks due to the rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking or seismic related ground failure. Given the relatively flat topography of areas containing the proposed project facilities, little in the way of landslides, substantial erosion or exposure to unstable or expansive soils are expected to occur. On-site soils are expected to be capable of supporting wastewater storage and wastewater disposal systems.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts due to geology and soils, no mitigation measures are recommended.

7. HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS MATERIALS		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
f.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X

Impacts: The King City WWTP does not currently utilize any hazardous materials in their wastewater treatment process. This natural process involves aeration, ponding and storage of wastewater without the use of any hazardous materials.

Current operations of the WWTP will not utilize or transport any hazardous materials which are capable of creating a hazard to the public or the environment nor within one quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. These operations will not impair or interfere with implementation of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and will not expose people or structures to significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildfires.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials, no mitigation measures are recommended.

8. HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				X
b.	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X

c.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern on the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off-site?				X
d.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern on the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e.	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff or fail to meet the new CCRWQCB standards for stormwater control?				X
f.	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				X
g.	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal flood hazard boundary or flood insurance rate map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
i.	Expose people or structure to Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

Impacts: Project grading and construction may potentially impact surface stormwater quality. All design measures for stormwater pollution control shall comply with the requirements of the City Municipal Code Section 17.56.100 Stormwater Pollution Prevention. These standards protect against stormwater pollution during project grading and construction.

Given adherence to these requirements, project construction will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially alter existing drainage patterns or create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water discharge systems or otherwise degrade water quality. In addition, the proposed project will not place any structures within a 100-year floodplain hazard area or expose people or structures to significant loss, injury or death involving flooding. Project facilities will not be exposed to inundation due to a seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

These proposed improvements reduce or eliminate the need for the construction of new wastewater facilities or the expansion of existing facilities serving the King City area. This represents a beneficial water quality impact.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts related to hydrology/water quality, no mitigation measures are recommended.

9.	LAND USE AND PLANNING	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				

a.	Physically divide an established community?				X
b.	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c.	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X

Impacts: The existing WWTP is located approximately one mile north of the developed portions of King City. Active agricultural operations are ongoing in areas east and northeast of the WWTP. The Salinas River is located immediately west of the WWTP. Further west is US Highway 101. South of the WWTP is a combination of active agricultural operations, open space and the northern portion of King City. The nearest residential units in the area are the existing Arboleda and Mills Ranch neighborhoods located approximately three-quarters of a mile east of the WWTP. The King City General Plan designates the WWTP site as PQ – Public/Quasi Public. The City Zoning Code designates the WWTP site as M-1 Industrial District.

The proposed project will not physically divide an established community nor conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project area. The proposed project will also not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

The proposed project may indirectly induce changes in land use as a result of the reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon development within areas served by the proposed WWTP facilities. The proposed project will not, however, directly cause a change in any existing or future City land use or zoning designations.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant land use and planning impacts, no mitigation measures are recommended.

10.	NOISE	Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
	Would the project:				
a.	Expose people to, or generate, noise levels exceeding established standards in the local general plan, coastal plan, noise ordinance or other applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b.	Expose persons to or generate excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?				X
c.	Cause a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X

d.	Cause a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?					X
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Impacts: Project grading and construction is expected to generate construction noise which represents a short-term impact on ambient noise levels. The primary source of construction noise is heavy equipment including, but not limited to, trenching equipment, trucks, concrete mixers and portable generators that can reach high levels. The peak noise level for most of the heavy equipment that will be used during project construction is 70 to 95 dBA at a distance of 50 feet. At 200 feet, the peak construction noise levels range from 58 to 83 dBA. At 400 feet, the peak noise levels range from 52 to 77 dBA. These noise levels are based upon worst-case conditions. Typically, construction-related noise levels near the construction site will be less.

Given the undeveloped nature of areas immediately adjacent to the WWTP (i.e. agricultural uses and open space), no sensitive noise receptors will be exposed to any significant change in ambient noise levels. The nearest residential uses in the area are the existing Arboleda and Mills Ranch neighborhoods located approximately three-quarters of a mile east of the WWTP.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant noise impacts to adjacent areas, no mitigation measures are recommended.

11. POPULATION AND HOUSING		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
b.	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c.	Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g. through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one or two new employees. This insignificant addition of employees will not generate a significant additional demand for housing. The proposed project will not displace any people or existing housing.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts to population and housing, no mitigation measures are recommended.

12. PUBLIC SERVICES		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project result in a substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:					
a.	Fire protection?				X
b.	Police protection?				X
c.	Schools?				X
d.	Parks or other recreational facilities?				X
e.	Other governmental services? (Power)				X

Impacts: The proposed project will not result in a significant addition of employees and as such will not generate any additional demand upon existing fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, other recreational facilities or other governmental services.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts to public services, no mitigation measures are recommended.

13. RECREATION		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b.	Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one to two new employees. This insignificant addition of employees will not generate a significant additional demand upon existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. The proposed project will not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts to recreation facilities, no mitigation measures are recommended.

14. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					

a.	Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e. result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				X
b.	Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c.	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d.	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. limited sight visibility, sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?				X
e.	Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f.	Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X
g.	Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g. bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X

Impacts: The proposed project is estimated to require the addition of no more than one to two new employees. Assuming a worst-case automobile trip generation factor of four vehicle trips per employee per day, a total of eight vehicle trips per day will be added to local roadways. As such, the proposed project is not expected to generate a significant number of additional motor vehicles or off-site vehicle trips onto local roadways. Once the proposed improvements are completed, maintenance and oversight of the WWTP operations will occur without the substantial addition of cars or trucks. Since the proposed project will not result in a significant addition of employees, no additional transportation/circulation-related impacts are anticipated.

The proposed project will not cause a substantial increase in traffic which will not exceed any level of service standards on any local roadways. The proposed project will not result in any changes in air traffic patterns or exposure to local roadway hazards. Given the lack of additional vehicle trips, the proposed project will not result in inadequate emergency access or parking capacity.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant transportation/circulation impacts, no mitigation measures are recommended.

15. UTILITIES & SERVICE SYSTEMS		Significant	Unknown, Potentially Significant	Potentially Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant
Would the project:					
a.	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b.	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c.	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X

d.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e.	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f.	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g.	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Impacts: The proposed improvements to the existing WWTP are intended to increase wastewater treatment capabilities of the existing WWTP. These proposed improvements will result in the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility intended to comply with new discharge requirements, produce unrestricted re-use quality recycled water and provide adequate treatment capacity for the next 20 years. Project construction will involve: 1) the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities which will provide 1.3 million gallons per day (mgd) of secondary treatment capacity after completion of Phase I of construction with an ultimate total facility capacity of 2.0 mgd; Current permitted capacity of the treatment plant is 1.2 mpd. As such, Phase I represents an increase of 0.1 mgd (or 100,000 gallons per day) of total facility capacity; 2) provision of tertiary treatment facilities which will produce recycled water for agricultural and, landscape irrigation. Phase I of construction of the proposed tertiary treatment facilities is estimated to generate a total of 665 acre-feet of reclaimed water per year while completion of Phase II, that being build-out of the proposed tertiary treatment facilities, will generate an estimated total of 1,122 acre-feet of reclaimed water per year; 3) construction of a recycled water distribution system utilizing existing and future pipelines along San Antonio Drive with one branch along Spreckles Road and the second branch leading to the northeast area of the City and 4) provision of effluent disposal facilities. These proposed improvements reduce or eliminate the need for the construction of new wastewater facilities or the expansion of existing facilities serving the King City area. This represents a beneficial wastewater treatment impact.

The proposed WWTP improvements will not require construction of new storm water drainage facilities nor have the need for additional water supplies. Solid waste from the WWTP is currently transported to the Marina Landfill facility near Salinas in Monterey County. This landfill currently has sufficient capacity to accept sludge generated by the WWTP improvements in compliance with federal, state and local regulations. However, future disposal of sludge from the WWTP may be transported to other landfills in the area that are licensed to accept these materials.

Dewatered biosolids will be hauled off-site for further treatment or direct land application in accordance with CFR 503 requirements, the State's General Order and local County ordinances. Screenings and grit from the new headworks will be hauled to a local landfill. No screenings or grit are currently produced at the existing

WWTP. This will be a new waste stream that is not expected to impact off-site disposal facilities.

It should be noted that the existing WWTP has incorporated several design features that are intended to reduce any potential impacts of this facility upon the adjacent Salinas River habitat. These measures include monitoring wells throughout the WWTP property which can detect any changes in groundwater quality in order to insure that off-site groundwater is not degraded. The WWTP is also surrounded by a levy and setbacks in order to insure that surface water does not drain into off-site areas. The existing WWTP currently operates a wastewater spray field on the western portion of the WWTP property. Treated wastewater is currently sprayed on this area but not as far as the Salinas river habitats. This spray field will no longer be in operation once the proposed improvements to the WWTP are completed. This represents a beneficial water quality impact.

Mitigation Measures: Given the lack of potentially significant impacts associated with utilities and service systems, no additional mitigation measures are recommended.

V. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

A project may have a significant effect on the environment and thereby require a focused or full environmental impact report to be prepared for the project where any of the following conditions occur (CEQA §15065):

	Significant	Unknown Potential Significant	Potential Significant And Mitigated	Not Significant	Impact Reviewed in Previous Document
Potential to degrade: Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X		
Cumulative: Does the project have potential environmental effects impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? (Cumulatively considerable means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			X		
Substantial adverse: Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X		

- a. Mitigation measures associated the proposed King City Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion will ensure that existing habitat of a fish or wildlife species is not significantly impacted, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community or substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species.
- b. It is possible during grading and construction activities that unknown cultural resources may be unearthed, which may result in a significant impact.

Implementation of the mitigation measures for cultural resources will ensure that the proposed project would not eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

- c. Project construction has the potential to impact existing agricultural operations in areas east, northeast and south of the King City Wastewater Treatment Plant. Implementation of proposed mitigations will ensure that the ongoing agricultural operations in these areas will not be significantly impacted by project construction.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

On the basis of the facts contained within this Initial Study:


I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I find that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described in this document have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I find that the project MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I find that the project MAY have a significant environmental effect(s) that has been addressed by mitigation measures based on an earlier analysis. If at least one effect involves a potentially significant impact or a potentially significant unless mitigated, an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that need to be addressed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards or (b) have been avoided or mitigated due to the inclusion of project revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Steven Adams
City Manager
City of King

Date

VII. CERTIFICATION

I hereby affirm to the best of my knowledge, based on available information provided to me through specialist’s technical reports, public documents and original research, analysis and assessments, the statements and information contained within this environmental document are true and correct to the degree of accuracy necessary for public disclosure purposes in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21003, 21061 and 21100.



Steven Adams
City Manager
City of King

4/23/21

Date

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE



DATE: March 8, 2021

TO: **Salinan Tribe**
Salinan Tribe of San Luis Obispo, Monterey and San Benito
ATTN: John Burch
7070 Morro Road, Suite A
Atascadero, Ca 93422

Salinan Tribe
Salinan Tribe of San Luis Obispo, Monterey and San Benito
ATTN: Fred Segobia, MLD Lead
46451 Little Creek Court
King City, Ca 93930-9781

Xolon Salinan Tribe Council
ATTN: Karen White, Council Chair
P.O. Box 7045
Spreckels, Ca 93926

TYPE OF NOTIFICATION

CEQA Tribal Consultation List (AB 52) – Per Public Resources Code §21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2

General Plan (SB 18) -Per Government Code §65352.3

General Plan **General Plan Element**
 Specific Plan **Specific Plan Amendment**

REQUIRED INFORMATION

Project Title:

Local Government/Lead Agency: City of King Contact Person:
Street Address: 212 South Vanderhurst Street City: King City Zip Code: 93930
Phone No.: (831) 385-3281
Email Address: ohurtado@kingcity.com and dliberto@kingcity.com

Specific Area Subject to Proposed Action

County: Monterey City: King City

Project Description: The proposed improvements will result in the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility intended to comply with new discharge requirements, produce unrestricted re-use quality recycled water and provide adequate treatment capacity for the next 20 years. Project construction will involve: 1) the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities which will provide 1.3 million gallons per day (mgd) of secondary treatment capacity after completion of Phase I of construction with an ultimate total facility capacity of 2.0 mgd. Current permitted capacity of the treatment plant is 1.2 mpd. As such, Phase I represents an increase of 0.1 mgd (or 100,000 gallons per day) of total facility capacity; 2) provision of tertiary treatment facilities which will produce recycled water for agricultural and landscape irrigation; 3) construction of a recycled water

PLEASE NOTE: RECIPIENTS OF THIS NOTICE HAVE THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE ABOVE DATE TO REQUEST A CONSULTATION.

distribution system utilizing existing and future pipelines along San Antonio Drive with one branch along Spreckles Road and the second branch leading to the northeast industrial area of the City and 4) provision of effluent disposal facilities.

Project Location: The WWTP is located north of the City limits, on the east side of Highway 101.

PLEASE NOTE: RECIPIENTS OF THIS NOTICE HAVE THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE ABOVE DATE TO REQUEST A CONSULTATION.

From: xolon.salinan.heritage@gmail.com,
To: dliberto@kingcity.com,
Cc: dhxolonaakletse@gmail.com, dwaeir@aol.com, ohurtado@kingcity.com,
Subject: Re: Roundabout Intersection-Broadway St
Date: Mon, Dec 14, 2020 8:41 pm

Good Evening,

Thank you Mr. Woods, I did receive the attachments.

Yes, you are correct, many disturbances throughout the years of economic development.

In addition, throughout the years, many cultural resources have been destroyed and stolen as well.

This is our history, we can never get back.

We agree with recommendations, however CR-5, we would recommend, if any discoveries are observed or possibly no alternative but to collect the resources, we would like to be informed of these discoveries.

in addition, if these cultural resources must be stored or curated, we only recommend SLOCAS.

The days of the museums, collecting our precious history, will be over very soon.

Thank you for your time,

Regards,

Karen R White

Xolon Salinan Tribe

On Mon, Dec 14, 2020 at 11:14 AM Doreen Liberto-Blanck <dliberto@kingcity.com> wrote:

Good Morning Karen,

You should have received an email with an attachment from Doug Wood, environmental consultant, addressing your concerns. Please call me at 805.441.5892 or email me if you have any questions.

All the best,

Doreen

From: Karen White <xolon.salinan.heritage@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 28, 2020 12:25 PM
To: Doreen Liberto-Blanck <dliberto@kingcity.com>
Cc: Donna Haro <dhxolonaakletse@gmail.com>; Donna Haro <xolonaakletse@aol.com>
Subject: Roundabout Intersection-Broadway St

Good Day Ms. Liberto,

Thank you for the information, pertaining to Road modification on BroadwaySt, San Antonio Dr and San Lorenzo Park Rd.

Could you provide a map of this location?

This area falls within the ancient tribal lands of the Xolon Salinan Tribe.

We do not know of any specific sensitive sites within this project, however Salinas River is not far from this location.

Our ancestors had a tendency to habitat close to water tributaries.

How much ground disturbance and penetration depth will be incurred?

Thank you,

Karen R White, Council Chair

Xolon Salinan Tribe

Douglas Wood & Associates, Inc.

Land Use Planning / Governmental Relations / Environmental Analysis

December 8, 2020

Hello Ms. White.

At the request of Doreen Liberto-Blanck of the City of King, I am responding to your email dated November 28, 2020 concerning your questions related to the proposed roundabout facility. Our firm is the environmental consultant to the city for this project. The information provided below is intended to respond to your questions within your email.

1. Location Map - I have attached three maps delineating the location of the proposed roundabout facility which is located at the intersection of Broadway Street, San Antonio Dr., San Lorenzo Park Road and U.S. Highway 101.
2. Potential for Cultural Resources - Our cultural resources consultant, Cultural Resource Management Services of Paso Robles has indicated to the City that the area of the potential effect of the proposed roundabout has been significantly disturbed by the previous construction of U.S. Highway 101 as well as the construction of the roadways intersecting at this location. They have further indicated that any cultural resources discovered during construction of the roundabout would most definitely not be "in situ" (i.e. not at their original location) and certainly not in a pristine condition. In fact, given the amount of previous disturbance in the area, there is a very low probability that any cultural resources would be encountered during the construction of the proposed roundabout. The cultural resources consultant also conducted a records search which disclosed that no cultural archaeological resources have been previously discovered in the project area. Their walk over surveys of the entire project area also encountered no cultural resources thereby reinforcing their other conclusions.
3. Mitigation Measures - In spite of these conclusions, the City's environmental documentation for the roundabout project includes seven mitigation measures that were adopted by the City in 2018 which are applied to every development proposal submitted to the City including the proposed roundabout facility. These measures, which are attached, are intended to mitigate any potential impacts to cultural resources in the event they are encountered during project grading. These measures are intended to cover any potential circumstances that could occur during this project's grading and construction.
4. Ground Disturbance - According to the City Engineer, approximately 3.14 acres of surface area will be disturbed during construction of the proposed roundabout facility. The depth of cut for the new pavement section will be approximately two feet.

It is my hope that the above information response to your request. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (805) 544-1680 or via text at dwaeir@aol.com if you have any additional questions or concerns. Thank you.

Doug Wood
President
Wood & Associates, Inc.

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