



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

To: Public Agencies, Interested Parties, and Sonoma County Clerk
Project Title: Geysers-Delta Pond Connection/Diffuser Improvements Project
Lead Agency: City of Santa Rosa, Transportation and Public Works Department, 69 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Contact: Andy Wilt
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Review Period: May 26, 2021 to June 24, 2021

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the City of Santa Rosa has prepared this notice to inform agencies and interested parties that it is releasing an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the City's Geysers-Delta Pond Connection/Diffuser Improvements Project.

Project Location: The project site, known as the Delta Pond, is located in a rural area west of downtown Santa Rosa and is surrounded by agricultural fields and two waterways, Santa Rosa Creek and Laguna de Santa Rosa. California State Route 116 travels north to south approximately 1.4 miles west of the project site. The site is identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 130-040-008, 130-210-028, 130-040-014.

Project Description: The City is proposing to conduct improvements to the Delta Pond connection during the dry season to meet the City's desired recycled water conveyance capacity of 50 million gallons per day. In addition, sediment that has built up over the permitted effluent diffusers within Santa Rosa Creek will be removed by dredging sediment from and around the diffuser's nozzles. An existing gravel access road from Willowside Road would be improved as a part of the Proposed Project.

Environmental and Land Use Setting: The project site encompasses approximately 25 acres of land and waterway, and consists of a generally flat surface comprised mainly of low-lying vegetation such as grasses, trees, shrubbery, riparian corridor, and waterway. The project site includes the eastern portion of the existing Delta Pond where the Geyser connection improvements would be undertaken and the immediate surrounding area that would be used for staging, the Santa Rosa Creek where dredging in the area around the existing effluent diffuser would take place as well as the areas adjacent to the stream work that would be used for staging this portion of the project, and upgrading an existing gravel access road. The County General Plan designates the Delta Pond as Commercial within the City limits, while the remaining portion of the project site is designated as a Land Extensive Agriculture District (LEA) and Public Quasi Public (PQP). The Delta Pond portion of the project site is zoned Rural Residential – 40 (RR-40) by the City and the remaining portion of the project site is zoned by the County as LEA and Public Facilities District (PF).

Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration: Pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City has conducted an initial study to evaluate potential environmental impacts of the project. Based on City policies, standard conditions, technical studies prepared for the project and other prior environmental documentation related to the project site and

vicinity, the Initial Study concludes that mitigation measures can be incorporated into the project to address potential impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology and water quality, thereby reducing potential impacts to a less than significant level.

Document Availability and Public Comments: A 30-day public review period will extend from May 26, 2021 to June 24, 2021. The IS/MND will be available for public review online at <http://cippublic.srcity.org/CIPList.html>. A copy of the IS/MND will be also posted to the State Clearinghouse at <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/>. Agencies and interested parties may provide written comments on the IS/MND for the project. Comments may be directed to the attention of Andy Wilt, 69 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401, AWilt@srcity.org.