

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Jackson Street Improvement Project from Avenue 50 to Avenue 52

Lead Agency: City of Indio

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Project Location: Indio Riverside
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The City of Indio proposes to improve a portion of Jackson Street, Avenue 50, and Avenue 52 to its ultimate General Plan configuration as well as construct drainage improvements consistent with the City's Master Drainage Plan. The Jackson Street Improvement Project from Avenue 50 to Avenue 52 generally includes widening Jackson Street from three travel lanes to four travel lanes and adding sidewalk, bike lane, curb and gutter, and drainage improvements per the City of Indio's Master Drainage Plan. The improvements along Jackson Street south of Avenue 50 are primarily within the County of Riverside. All improvements are consistent with the City's and Riverside County's General Plan Road Classifications. Three new traffic signals are proposed at the intersections of Avenue 50 Avenue 51, and Avenue 52. There is an existing local market (L&G Desert Store) located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Jackson Street and Avenue 50. An adjacent 1-acre unpaved lot provides parking for the market customers. The proposed improvement will include paving and striping the existing lot, along with driveway cuts for lot access.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

See Attachment for Mitigation Measures.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

SCH Summary Form Attachment

Mitigation Measures

Biological Resources:

MM BIO 1. Burrowing Owl Surveys: A qualified biologist shall conduct two take-avoidance pre-construction burrowing owl surveys onsite. The survey area shall include the construction area and adjacent areas within 500 feet of the construction limits, or to the edge of the property if less than 500 feet. The first shall occur between 14 and 30 days prior to ground disturbance, and the second survey shall occur within 24 hours of ground disturbance. The survey should locate suitable burrows and determine whether the burrows are occupied by burrowing owl. If burrowing owls are detected, the City shall consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine what course of action is needed, such as the use of exclusion devices (if applicable) to discourage owls from using burrows that are believed to be in jeopardy of being impacted by implementation of the Project.

MM BIO 2. Roosting Bat Survey: Construction activities including palm tree removals shall be avoided during the bat breeding season of February 1 to August 31 to limit potential impacts to roosting/foraging habitat for common and special-status bat species. If construction work including palm tree removals cannot avoid the period from February 1 to August 31, then pre-construction surveys for common and special-status bat species shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 7 days and no more than 14 days prior to any palm tree removal or construction activities. Survey shall be done during the appropriate time of day (e.g., dawn or dusk) to maximize detectability to determine if bat species are roosting near the work area. Survey methodology may include visual surveys of bats (e.g., observation of bats during foraging period), inspection for suitable habitat, bat sign (e.g., guano), or use of ultrasonic detectors (e.g., Anabat, etc.). The type of survey will depend on the condition of the potential roosting habitat. If no bat roosts are found, then no further study is required. If bat species are found to be roosting within 100 feet of the project impact area, a 100-foot buffer zone will be established around the active roost. Construction activities shall not occur within the 100-foot buffer zone. Construction-related lighting shall not be used within the 100-foot buffer zone. Combustion equipment, such as generators, pumps, and vehicles are not to be parking nor operated within the 100-foot buffer zone. Construction personnel shall not enter the 100-foot buffer zone. If the active roost is in a tree identified for removal, the tree removal shall be delayed until a qualified biologist determines the roost to no longer be active. Tree removal shall follow a two-day process, as outlined herein or as otherwise modified by the Project biologist.

Day 1: Contractor must only trim the outermost fronds (no more than 50 percent of the palm fronds) using chainsaws only (no dozers, backhoes, cranes, or other heavy equipment, other than to provide access for tree cutters using chainsaws).

Day 2: The palm tree must be felled. Day 2 activities must occur the day immediately following the Day 1 activities. To accomplish this, work may need to be phased and Day 1/Day 2 steps can be repeated. Should bats emerge during the tree trimming, trimming activities must temporarily cease at the individual tree until bats are no longer actively emerging from the tree.

MM BIO 3. Nesting Bird Survey: Vegetation removals shall not occur between February 1 to August 31 to avoid impacts to potentially nesting migratory birds. Vegetation includes native and ornamental trees and brush. If vegetation removals cannot be limited to the non-breeding

season of September 1 to January 31, a qualified biologist shall survey potential nesting sites within the Project footprint and immediately adjacent to the Project limits no more than three (3) days prior to the start of work or as otherwise deemed necessary at the discretion of the qualified biologist. If active nests birds are identified, the area shall be avoided until a qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged and the nest is no longer active. Avoidance will involve a 500-foot buffer zone for birds of prey and a 100- to 300-foot buffer zone for songbirds. Avoidance buffers may be reduced with the use of noise attenuation barriers at the discretion of the qualified biologist. Vegetation removals may occur between September 1 to January 31 without a pre-construction nesting bird survey (barring requirements of the other biological mitigation measures). A qualified biologist will conduct a training program for Project and construction personnel prior to grading. The training will include a description of the species of concern and their habitats, the general provisions of the Endangered Species Acts (FESA and CESA) and the CVMSHCP, the need to adhere to the provisions of the acts and the CVMSHCP, the penalties associated with violating the provisions of the acts, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve the species of concern as they relate to the proposed Project, and the access routes to and Project site boundaries within which the Project activities must be accomplished.

Cultural Resources:

MM CR 1: Should any cultural and/or archaeological resources be inadvertently discovered during construction, construction activities within a 60-foot radius of the discovery shall immediately halt and shall be moved to other parts of the Project site and a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted to determine the significance of the resource(s). The qualified archaeologist shall have the discretion to modify the avoidance area while the resource(s) are being evaluated. If the find is determined to be an historical or unique archaeological resource, as defined in California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5 (State CEQA Guidelines), avoidance or other appropriate measures shall be implemented.

MM CR 2: If human remains are uncovered at any time, all activities in the immediate area of the find shall be halted by the City or its contractor and the County Coroner shall be notified immediately pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the Coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner shall proceed as directed in Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines.

MM GEO 1: Prior to construction, a paleontological resource mitigation program (PRIMP) shall be prepared by a qualified professional paleontologist to indicate where and how often construction monitoring will be required for the Project. The PRIMP will utilize the results of this Project's paleontological technical memorandum possibly refined by the results of geotechnical borings to specify the steps to be taken to mitigate impacts to paleontological resources. These steps may include but are not limited to a Worker's Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training prior to the start of Project-related ground disturbance and presented in-person to all field personnel to describe the types of fossils that may be found and the procedures to follow if any are encountered. Monitoring is currently recommended for any ground-disturbing activities, particularly for the installation of traffic signals, drainage improvements, and utility relocation and/or replacement as these activities will occur at greater depths.

The PRIMP will provide details about fossil collection, analysis, and preparation for permanent curation at an approved repository. A report of findings, including an itemized inventory of

recovered specimens, should be prepared upon completion of the procedures and consistent with the standards outlined in the PRIMP.

Noise:

MM NOI 1: To prevent construction-related noise from disturbing sensitive receptors within proximity to the Project, construction hours shall be limited to the most restrictive hours contained in the City of Indio Municipal Code and County Ordinance: 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays for activities conducted between October 1st and April 30th. For construction activities conducted between May 1st and September 30th, construction shall be limited to 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. No construction shall be allowed on Sundays or government holidays.

MM NOI 2: To minimize noise impacts resulting from poorly tuned or improperly modified vehicles and construction equipment, all vehicles and construction equipment shall be equipped with operating mufflers and shall maintain equipment engines in good condition and in proper tune per manufacturers' specifications to the satisfaction of the City of Indio. Equipment maintenance records and equipment design specification data sheets shall be kept on site during construction. Maintenance records shall be submitted monthly to the City of Indio. Compliance with this measure shall be subject to periodic inspections by the City of Indio.

MM NOI 3: To inform potential sensitive receptors of the pending Project construction, the City of Indio shall give written notification to immediately adjacent property owners and tenants that front the Project site 30 days prior to the start of construction. The written notification shall include a tentative construction schedule and contact information for use by the public if specific noise issues arise.

MM NOI 4: Consistent with GP Policy NE-2.6, the City shall incorporate noise-reducing paving materials, such as open-grade asphalt, into the Project's roadway improvement plans.

Traffic and Transportation:

MM TRAFFIC 1: A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) shall be prepared by the contractor and jointly approved by Indio's Public Works Department and County of Riverside Transportation Department prior to initiation of construction activities to maintain safe traffic flow on local streets and permit adequate access by emergency vehicles. The TMP shall specify, as applicable, the designated haul route(s) and staging area(s) for construction activities, traffic control procedures, alternate routes in the event road closure is required, emergency access provisions, adequate sign postings, detours, provisions for local access to private property fronting the alignment, and permitted hours of construction. As deemed applicable by the City and County, the contractor shall coordinate with local police, schools, emergency personnel, etc.