Planning and
Environmental Review
David Defanti, Director
Community Development Department

County Executive
Ann Edwards

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
NOTICE OF PREPARATION

MARCH 25TH, 2022

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR HOOD COMMUNITY SEPTIC CONVERSION (PLER2021-00127)

Sacramento County will be the CEQA Lead Agency for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a project known as Hood Community Septic Conversion. This Notice of Preparation has been sent to responsible and trustee agencies and involved federal agencies pursuant to Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines. Agencies should comment on the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to the agencies' statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. The project description, location, and the probable environmental effects are contained in the attached materials and may also be viewed online at:

https://planningdocuments.saccounty.net/ViewProjectDetails.aspx?ControlNum=PLER2021-00127

Please send your Agency's response to this Notice to:

Joelle Inman, Environmental Coordinator
Office of Planning and Environmental Review
827 7th Street, Room 225, Sacramento, CA 95814

or via e-mail at: CEQA@saccounty.net.

Your response should include the name of a contact person in your agency.

Two scoping meetings will be conducted in association with this project; one will be tailored for the general public and one will be tailored for other agencies.

- The public meeting will take place at 6pm on April 5th, 2022; the zoom link is here: https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1611655899
- The agency meeting will take place at 10am on April 5th, 2022; the zoom link is here: https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1602369424

Specific questions about the project should be directed to Kimberly Asbury, Project Manager, at (916) 874-6141 or asburyk@saccounty.net for further information.

PROJECT TITLE: HOOD COMMUNITY SEPTIC CONVERSION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2021-00127

PROJECT PROPONENT: SACRAMENTO AREA SANITATION DISTRICT (SASD)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

If the project were to receive grant funding, SASD would extend public sewer service to up to 141 parcels (52 are vacant, 76 are residential, and 13 are non-residential) in the community of Hood. SASD would conduct additional outreach to the 141 residences in the neighborhood. If the property owners are interested in connecting to public sewer they would sign an agreement requiring them to abandon their existing septic system in accordance with the County Environmental Management Department (EMD)'s guidelines. Abandonment would require the existing septic tank to be pumped, the tank bottom to be punctured, and the tank to be filled with sand, gravel, concrete, or other approved material to the surface elevation. The residence would then be connected to the public sewer and the residence would become a customer of SASD & Regional Sanitation. Scope of work for connection of private residences to the public sewer is limited to the septic tank and below-grade pipe installation and does not involve any work to homes or above-ground structures.

1.1 Construction Methods

Construction is to occur within existing County right-of-ways (ROW). The timeline for construction is estimated to last approximately twelve months. County ROW for all of the streets is approximately 40 feet, but the expected footprint of construction would be significantly less. Construction will occur during regular working hours and may require temporary lane closures while in progress. Construction methods may include open trench and/or directional drilling; however, it is not known at this time which method the contractor will choose. It will be left to the discretion of the contractor when and where to use either construction method.

1.1.1 Open Cut Trench

An open cut trench is the conventional method for installing shallow lengths of pipe. Typically, this type of construction involves utilizing an excavator, trenching machine, or manual digging to establish a trench in which the pipe will be laid. The trench base usually requires reinforcement such as sand or gravel and is checked for proper slope alignment. The pipe is then placed in the open trench and back fill material such as Class 2 aggregate base, or controlled density fill is used to cover the pipe.

1.1.2 Horizontal Directional Drilling

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) is used for long lengths of pipe and consists of two general stages: pilot hole drilling and reaming and pull back. The pilot hole is created with a non-rotating drill string with an asymmetrical leading edge. The asymmetry allows for steering bias and the non-rotating drill string allows the steering bias to be held in a specific position while drilling. The drill string can, however, be rolled when a change of direction is needed. As the pilot hole is drilled, periodic readings are taken of the leading edge by a probe. These measurements are used to calculate the coordinates of any point along the pilot hole relative to the surface. Once the pilot hole is finished, enlarging the hole through the reaming process is typically necessary. Reaming for smaller diameter piping can be accomplished during pipe installation and consists of attaching reamers to the end of the drill string and then pulling the components back through the pilot hole. Prefabricated pipe is attached behind the reaming assembly or drill string and pulled through the widened hole.

Connection of residences to the public sewer would likely be made utilizing the HDD method. Vertical Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this work would be 1 to 5 feet in depth and the diameter of the pipe connecting to the sewer would likely be 4 inches in diameter. This work would occur from County ROW

and would extend into the front yard and/or side yard of the residential properties. None of the existing structures would be affected by construction, and are therefore not included in the APE.

ENTITLEMENTS:

The project consists of providing public sewer service to the community of Hood, in the unincorporated County, that currently relies on individual septic systems. To implement the project the following related actions must receive a Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) sphere of influence amendment and annexation to incorporate the Hood community into the SASD/Regional Sanitation service area. The Project would require a request to LAFCo to amend the service boundaries of SASD and Regional Sanitation to provide wastewater services to the Project, and would require LAFCo review, proceedings, and action. LAFCo has the sole authority to act to approve, modify and approve, or disapprove the proposal. The proposal is consistent with LAFCo goals (GC 56033.5) to provide adequate municipal sewer services to an identified disadvantaged unincorporated community, as defined by Section 79505.5 of the Water Code.

ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE SETTING:

The Project area is located within the community of Hood, which is located south of the City of Sacramento and west of the City of Elk Grove along the Sacramento River and therefore the western border of the County of Sacramento. The community is bounded by agricultural parcels to the north, east, and south and Sacramento River to the west. In addition, the project area extends along Hood Franklin Road from the community of Hood to the community of Franklin to allow for the extension of a 4" sewer force main to Hood.

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS/EIR FOCUS:

The analysis in the EIR will describe existing conditions, describe the legal and regulatory framework relevant to the Project, describe standards of significance to be used in analysis, and describe analysis methodologies. A high-level review of the Project and of the environmental resources in the study area has resulted in the identification of potential categories of environmental effect. The descriptions below are not exhaustive, and other sections and discussions may be included if further research indicates that their inclusion is warranted. As the analyses progress and the extent of impacts to the categories is determined, appropriate CEQA alternatives will be included for analysis.

Air Quality Project-related emissions analyzed may include toxic air contaminants, ozone precursors, and particulates. The analysis will include discussions of emissions resulting from construction-related activities and emissions resulting from operational activities of the completed Project.

Biological Resources The Project will be analyzed to identify areas where proposed changes may affect biological resources. The analysis will discuss impacts to general wildlife populations and habitats, but will focus on special-status species and particularly sensitive habitats, including wetlands. The Project will also be analyzed to determine if it would conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) or other approved local, regional, State or federal plan for the conservation of habitat.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Project-related greenhouse gas emissions will be quantified and analyzed for the cumulative impacts to climate change. The probable impacts to the Project as a result of climate change will also be examined.

Cultural Resources A cultural resources evaluation will be prepared to determine if there are any archeological or historic resources onsite and the EIR will evaluate potential impacts on any identified cultural resources.

Geology and Soils The Project has the potential to result in geological and soil impacts during construction. The EIR will analyze these potential impacts and identify all applicable mitigation measures.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials Hazardous materials sites, if any, will be identified in the vicinity of the proposed Development Area. Project compatibility with any existing hazardous materials sites will be examined. In addition, potential construction-related impacts of the Project regarding the potential spill of hazardous materials will also be examined.

Hydrology and Water Quality Areas of potential flooding will be identified and drainage patterns will be examined within the watersheds affected by the Project. The Project will be analyzed for impacts to the existing hydrologic environment, in particular how the Project would impact the hydrologic environment surrounding the two water crossings. Agencies involved with flood control issues will be consulted. These may include, but are not limited to the California State Department of Water Resources, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB), the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA), Reclamation District 1000 (RD-1000) and the Sacramento County Department of Water Resources. The potential impacts of the Project on water quality will also be examined, which includes construction-related impacts (e.g., erosion of exposed soil).

Land Use The EIR will be examined to determine consistency with land use policies/ordinances/plans that have been adopted in order to avoid environmental effects. The Project's impact relative to the planned and existing land use environment will also be disclosed.

Population and Housing The proposed Project is not expected induce any direct unplanned population growth as the Project does not include any proposed residential land uses. Additionally, the proposed Project is not expected to displace any people or housing. However, the Project proposes to extend sewer lines beyond the existing SASD service area. In order to connect to the community of Hood, the project would necessitate the extension of sewer lines along Hood Franklin Road for approximately five (5) miles. The potential of the extension of sewer lines to induce growth will be analyzed in the EIR.

Noise The Project has the potential to expose the public to additional noise levels on a temporary basis. The EIR will estimate noise impacts associated with the construction of the proposed project.

Public Utilities The Project would extend sewer lines to the community of Hood. The EIR would analyze whether the extension of service would overextend existing sewer facilities. The proposed Project would not construct residential land uses that would increase demand on water or energy services.

Transportation Though the project would not result in an increase in population that would result in additional Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) during operation, the EIR would analyze the impacts of the Project on VMT in compliance with Senate Bill 743 due to the movement of construction equipment, materials, and workers to the project site as well as the potential increase in miles traveled by Hood residents due to detours along Hood Franklin Road. In addition, the EIR will analyze the potential impact to emergency access and circulation due to the potential closures of Hood Franklin Road during construction.

Tribal Cultural Resources A cultural resources evaluation will be prepared to determine if there are any tribal cultural resources onsite. In addition, AB 52 consultation will be initiated by the County. The EIR will evaluate potential impacts on any identified or potentially undiscovered tribal cultural resources.

Wildfire During operation, the Project would be entirely below ground and would not increase the likelihood of wildfire. The EIR would discuss the potential of the Project to increase the risk of accidental wildfire ignition during construction.

TOPIC EXCLUDED FROM FURTHER ANALYSIS IN THE EIR:

Aesthetics All proposed Project actions would occur below ground. Construction activities would result in temporary aesthetic impacts but, at termination of construction-activities, the Project area would be returned to pre-project aesthetic conditions. This topic will not be addressed in the EIR.

Agricultural and Forestry Resources The proposed Project would not convert any Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland to developed uses, and would not encroach on any other protected resource lands such as those under Williamson Act contracts. Thus, the proposed Project would not result in a potentially significant impact on agricultural resources, and this topic will not be addressed in the EIR. Potential implications of future development would be addressed in the Growth Inducement Section of the EIR. The Project area does not contain zoning districts designated for forest or timberland, and the project site does not contain forest lands or timberland. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with forestland zoning or result in the loss or conversion of forestland to non-forest uses and would result in no impacts to these resources. This topic will not be addressed in the EIR.

Airports The Project consists of below-ground utilities extension lines and is not within an Airport Land Use Plan. This topic will not be addressed in the EIR

Mineral Resources There are no active mines or known mineral resource zones occurring within the city limits or within the plan area. Therefore, the proposed Project would not result in the loss or availability of a known mineral resource or mineral resource recovery site and would result in no impacts to these resources. This topic will not be addressed in the EIR.

Public Services The Project does not propose the construction of residential land uses that would increase population in the area and therefore increase demand on existing libraries, schools, parks, and police and fire services. This topic will not be addressed in the EIR.

INTENDED USES OF THE EIR:

The Sanitation District Board will use the information contained in the EIR to evaluate the Project and render a decision to approve or deny the requested entitlements. Responsible and other agencies may also use the EIR for their own discretionary approvals associated with the Project.

Table NOP-1: Subsequent Permits, Approvals, Review, and Consultation Requirements

Agency	Approval
SASD	Final Environmental Impact Report Certification
SASD	Project Approval
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District	Fugitive Dust Prevention and Control Plan
Regional Water Quality Control Board – Central Valley Region	NPDES Waste Discharge Permit Section 401 Certification

Plate-1: Project Location

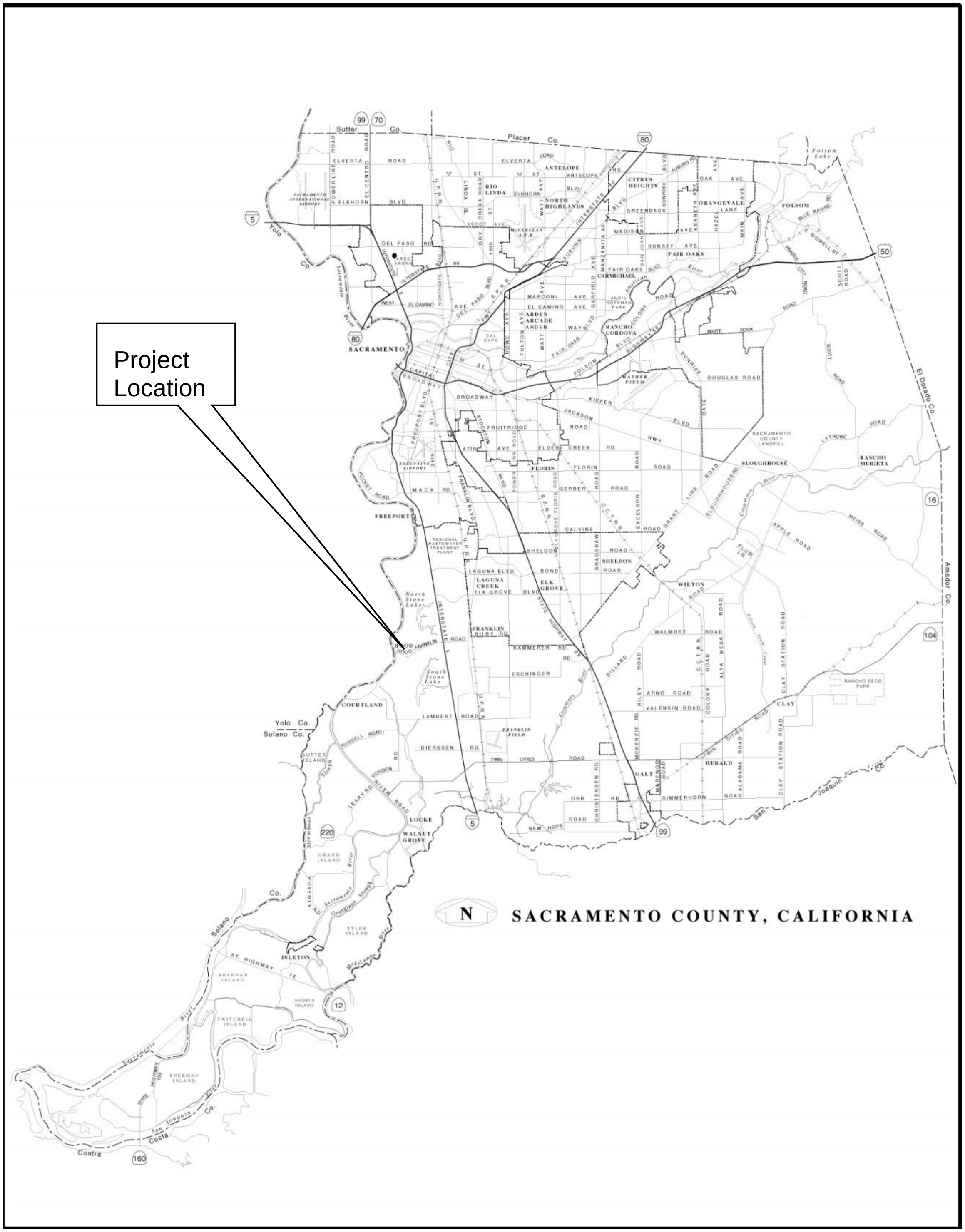
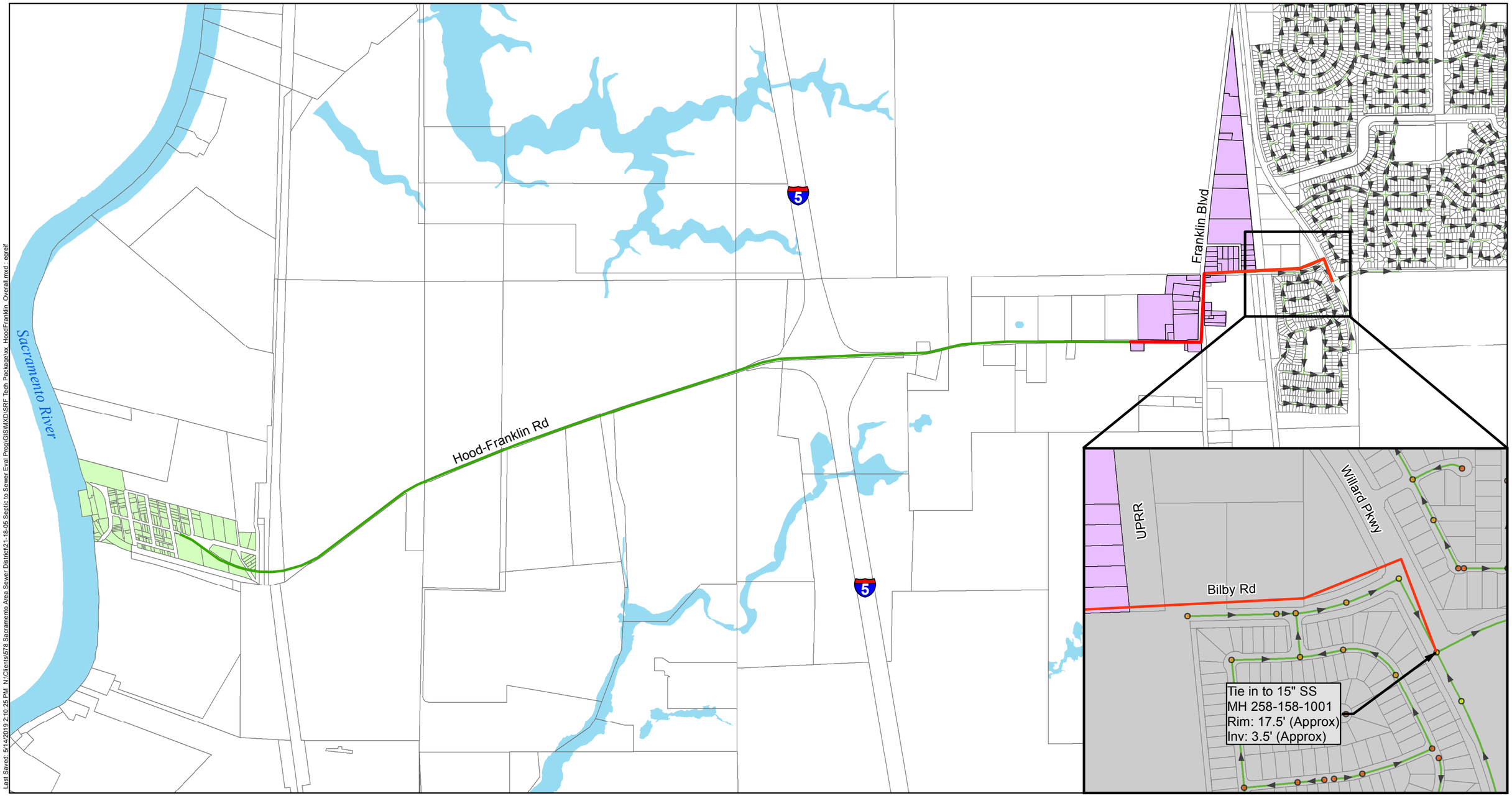


Plate-2: Project Site



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Symbology

- Hood Community
- Franklin Community
- Proposed SSFM (serves Hood only)
- Proposed SSFM (serves both communities)
- Existing Sewer

N

0 800 1,600

Scale in Feet

SACRAMENTO AREA SEWER DISTRICT

WEST YOST ASSOCIATES

Hood and Franklin Combined Force Main

Sacramento Area Sewer District
Septic to Sewer
Evaluation Project

Plate-2: Project Site