

PUBLICATION DATE: June 27, 2022

Loleta Community Services District

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Loleta Community Services District (LCSD) has prepared a Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft-IS/MND) for the Loleta Community Services District Water Storage Tank Replacement Project.

Project Location: The project is located in the town of Loleta, California, southwest of the intersection of US Highway 101 and Loleta Drive. The existing water storage tank to be removed is located on Assessor's parcel number (APN) 309-042-025. Two aboveground portions of the existing water main would be removed on APN 309-042-030, a privately owned parcel, using hand tools. The two proposed new water storage tanks would be located on a recently created parcel owned by LCSD. The approximately 0.61-acre parcel was recently relinquished to LCSD for this project by the County of Humboldt. An APN has not yet been assigned to the new parcel. A new water main would be installed along Loleta Drive to connect the new water tanks to the distribution network.

Description of Project: LCSD proposes to construct two new water storage tanks to replace the existing water storage tank and to meet current and future water storage needs for the community. The new tanks would comply with current seismic and structural codes and provide LCSD with a more secure source of water storage for the foreseeable future. LCSD would construct approximately 1,400 feet of new below-ground 12-inch diameter PVC water main to connect the new water tanks to the existing pressure distribution system. The new water main would be installed along the south side of Loleta Drive within the County right-of-way where it would tie into the existing pressure distribution system near the Loleta Fireman's Pavilion. LCSD would demolish the existing water tank and remove all aboveground piping and appurtenances. LCSD would remove the two exposed portions of the existing water main between the redwood tank and the distribution system, which the project will make defunct, and the remainder of the water main would be capped and abandoned in place below ground. Regarding operations, the proposed project would alter the location of LCSD's water storage and conveyance infrastructure but would not change the type of ongoing operations.

Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): LCSD, as Lead Agency for the proposed project, has discretionary authority over the primary project proposal. To implement this project, LCSD may need to obtain, at a minimum, the following discretionary permits/approvals from other agencies:

- California State Water Resources Control Board Drinking Water State Revolving Fund – Financing approval
- County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department – Coastal Development Permit
- California Department of Transportation – Encroachment Permit
- North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board – Construction General Permit

The Draft-IS/MND and related reference documents are available for review on the World Wide Web at the following address: <https://bit.ly/3NVkZkr>.

The public comment period begins on June 27, 2022 and will end on July 27, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Written comments can be emailed (generalmanagerlcsd@gmail.com) or mailed to the attention of Manuel Fonseca, General Manager, Loleta CSD, PO Box 236, Loleta, CA 95551.

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