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NOTICE OF PREPARATION of an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT and NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Interested Individuals

Subject: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting

Project Title: Cactus Basins Recharge Project

Lead Agency: San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Contact: Mr. Chris Jones
Telephone: (909) 387-9255; Cell: (626) 476-2056
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As the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD), has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the Cactus Basins Recharge Project. The proposed project is comprised of two primary components: construction and operation of the Cactus Basins Pipeline and recharge of State Water Project (SWP) water in the existing Cactus Basins. The objective of the project is to spread imported water at the existing Cactus Basins for recharge of the Rialto-Colton groundwater subbasin. Groundwater would then be withdrawn via existing wells to augment potable water supplies in the SBVMWD service area.

SBVMWD is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the EIR. Agencies should comment on the elements of the environmental information that are relevant to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project.

The proposed project description, location and potential environmental effects are summarized in this Notice of Preparation (NOP) and detailed in the Initial Study available at www.sbvwmwd.com/CactusBasinsRecharge. A public scoping meeting will be held to solicit input from interested parties on the scope and content of the EIR in conformance with Section 21083.9 of the Public Resources Code. The public scoping meeting will be held virtually:

Thursday July 21, 2022
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Access via Zoom link: <https://sbvwmwd.zoom.us/j/87488102457>

Project Location

Located in the eastern two-thirds of the San Bernardino Valley, the Crafton Hills, and a portion of the Yucaipa Valley, SBVMWD's service area covers about 353 square miles in southwestern San Bernardino County. The Cactus Basins are located in the north-central portion of the City of Rialto, in the east half of Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Section 34. The latitude/longitude of the approximate center of Cactus Basin 3 is 34.125°N/-117.388°W. The Upper Cactus Basins (3/3A, 4 and 5) are located adjacent to and south of Easton Street, adjacent to and north of Base Line Road, west of Cactus Avenue, and east of Ayala Drive. Access to the site is provided via Interstates 10, 15 and 215, and State Routes 210 and 66.

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Project Description

The proposed project includes recharge of imported water to the Cactus Basins 3/3A and 5, maintenance of basins 3/3A and 5 as related to recharge operations, and construction and operation of the Cactus Basins Pipeline. The proposed pipeline will flow under pressure to a concrete distribution structure where it will flow by gravity to a City of Rialto storm drain (buried pipe). No pump stations would be required. A concrete structure housing the flow control valves and meters will be constructed adjacent to the turnout off of the Devil Canyon Azusa Pipeline, in which SBVMWD has access to SWP water.

Potential Environmental Effects

The Initial Study for the proposed project (available at: www.sbvmd.com/CactusBasinsRecharge) describes potential impacts of the project that have been determined to be less than significant, including: aesthetics, agriculture and forestry, energy, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, and wildfire. Cultural resources, geology and soils, and Tribal cultural resources were found to be less than significant with incorporation of mitigation measures. The EIR will evaluate the direct and indirect, short-term and long-term impacts of the proposed project for the remaining environmental topics, including:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Utilities and Service Systems

Project level construction and operation effects will be analyzed for the topics noted above, and the EIR will address cumulative impacts and potential alternatives to the proposed project.

Public and Agency Review

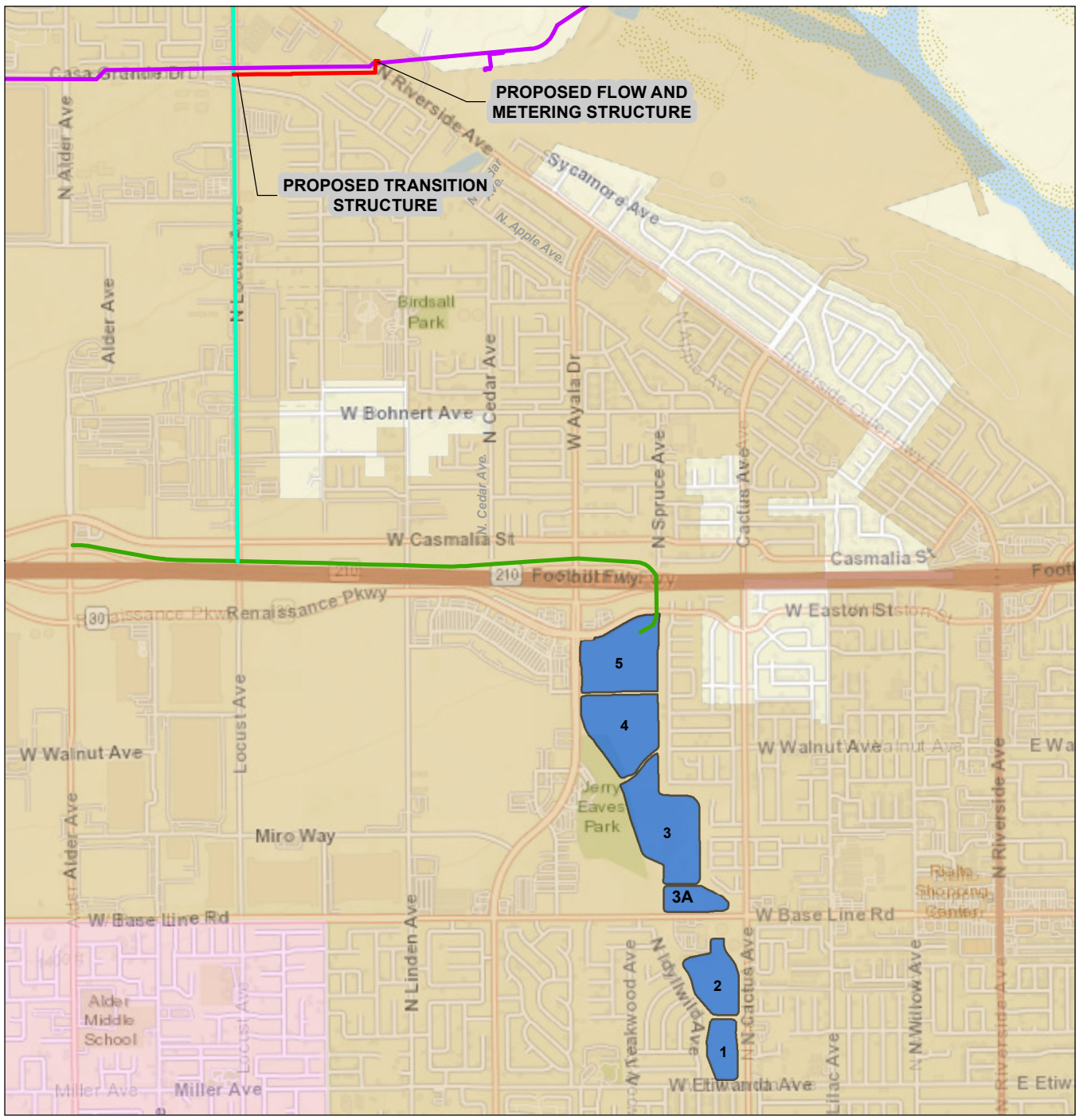
The NOP review period is July 11, 2022 to August 10, 2022. Interested parties may submit their comments on the content of the EIR to:

Mr. Chris Jones
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Phone: (909) 387-9255
Fax: (909) 387-9247
E-mail: chrisj@sbvmd.com

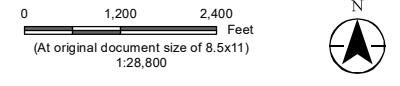
Due to the time limits mandated by State Law, your response must be received within 30 days of receipt of this notice, by 5:00 p.m. August 10, 2022. Please indicate a contact person for your organization in your response. Questions regarding this notice should be directed to Mr. Jones at the phone number and the e-mail noted above, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Si necesita asistencia con la traducción a Español, por favor comuníquese con el representante de SBVMWD, Señor Jose Macedo, (909) 387-9214.

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- Cactus Basins
 - Proposed Cactus Basins Pipeline
 - Existing Devil Canyon Azusa Pipeline
 - Existing City of Rialto Storm Drain
 - Existing San Bernadino County Storm Drain
- City Boundaries**
- Fontana
 - Rialto



<i>Project Location</i>	Prepared by DL on 2021-09-07
Riverside County, California	TR by ST on 2021-09-07
	IR by SG on 2021-09-07
<i>Client/Project</i>	185804632
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	
Cactus Basins - Recharge Project	
Notice of Preparation	

Figure No.
1

Title
Project Location

Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane California V FIPS 0405 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Stantec 2020.
 3. Background: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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