



Washington Street Sewer Bypass Project

Responses to Comments

prepared by

Castroville Community Services District

11497 Geil Street

Castroville, California 93660

Contact: Eric Tynan, General Manager

prepared with the assistance of

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

2511 Garden Road, Suite C-250

Monterey, California 93490

January 2023

Responses to Comments on the Draft IS-MND

This section includes comments received during the circulation of the Draft Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) prepared for the Castroville Community Services District’s (District) Washington Street Sewer Bypass Project (project).

The Draft IS-MND was circulated for a 32-day public review period that began on December 8, 2022 and ended on January 9, 2023. One comment letter was received from the California Department of Transportation on January 9, 2023, shown on page 2.

The responses to each comment identify first the number of the comment letter, and then the number assigned to each issue (Response 1.1, for example, indicates that the response is for the first issue raised in comment Letter 1).

California Department of Transportation

CALTRANS DISTRICT 5
50 HIGUERA STREET | SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
(805) 549-3101 | FAX (805) 549-3329 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



January 9, 2023

MON/VAR
SCH#2022120156

Eric Tynan, General Manager
Castroville Community Services District
11499 Geil Street
Castroville, CA 95012

COMMENTS FOR THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) – WASHINGTON STREET SEWER BYPASS PROJECT, MONTEREY COUNTY, CA

Dear Mr. Tynan:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 5, Development Review, has reviewed the Washington Street Sewer Bypass Project MND which proposes the installation of a 24-inch trunk sewer main within Caltrans right of way at State Route 1 and State Route 183 in Castroville. Caltrans offers the following comments in response to the MND:

1. All work in, on, under, over, or affecting State highway right of way is subject to a Caltrans encroachment permit. For more information regarding the encroachment permit process, please visit our Encroachment Permit Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/district-5-programs/d5-encroachment-permits>.
2. Depending on the complexity of the project improvements requiring an encroachment permit, Caltrans Oversight may be the more appropriate avenue for project review and approval by Caltrans. The District Permit Engineer has been granted authority by Caltrans to make this decision. Please consult with the District Permit Engineer Eileen Stephens at Eileen.Stephens@dot.ca.gov to determine the most appropriate Caltrans project permitting system.
3. All work will need to conform to the Caltrans Encroachment Permits Manual, Chapter 600. Additional utility installation requirements, which may apply, are found in Chapter 17 of the Project Development Procedures Manual. Deviations to Caltrans Encroachment Permit Policies may require an exception. This requirement and process will be outlined by the District Permit Engineer in your pre-submittal conference.

- 4. General Basis of Horizontal and Vertical Control - Caltrans datums shall be used and observed for the construction of the proposed improvements. All plans shall be in US feet and follow the datums as follows: • Vertical Basis: NAVD 88 • Horizontal: NAD83 Zone 3 Santa Cruz County, Zone 4 Monterey and San Benito County, and Zone 5 San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara County. At least two recorded, Caltrans monuments must be referenced in the surveying basis.
- 5. All non-operational or vacated pipes shall be removed. The District Permit Engineer may grant waivers to this requirement based on an engineering evaluation.
- 6. Plans shall conform to the Caltrans Plans Preparation Manual and Encroachment Permit Construction Plan Set outline. You will need to show all existing facilities and utilities in plan and profile where your scope of work is located.
- 7. All future documents will be subject to additional evaluation and approval at the time of their review. As part of future evaluation, issues involving or impacting the State right of way may require additional mitigation due to pertinent issues such as cultural resources, environmental justice, water quality, hydrology, etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed project. If you have any questions, or need further clarification on items discussed above, please contact me at (805) 835-6543 or christopher.bjornstad@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Christopher Bjornstad

Chris Bjornstad
Associate Transportation Planner
District 5 Land Development Review

Letter 1

COMMENTER: Chris Bjornstad, Associate Transportation Planner, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

DATE: January 9, 2023

Response 1.1

The commenter provides a brief summary of the project and outlines Caltrans requirements and recommendations for the project, which include encroachment permit and Caltrans Oversight requirements, conformance with Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual Chapter 6000 and Project Development Procedures Manual Chapter 17, use of Caltrans datums, removal of all non-operational or vacated pipes, and conformance of plans to the Caltrans Plans Preparation Manual and Encroachment Permit Construction Plan Set outline.

The District will comply with Caltrans requirements for the portion of the proposed project located within the State highway right of way, and will follow the required procedures to obtain a Caltrans encroachment permit.

The project would result in construction of a new 24-inch sewer main, which would bypass the existing sewer line. The existing sewer line would remain in place and be used as an overflow or standby line. As such, the project would not result in any non-operational or vacated pipes.

Response 1.2

The commenter states all future documents will be subject to additional evaluation and approval at the time of their review and notes that additional mitigation for certain issues, such as cultural resources, environmental justice, water quality, and hydrology may be required.

This comment is noted. As indicated in Section 2.5, *Cultural Resources*, of the Draft IS-MND, Mitigation Measure CR-1 would be required to address potentially significant cultural resources impacts associated with the project. This mitigation measure would include implementation of procedures in the event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing work. As indicated in Section 2.10, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, of the Draft IS-MND, impacts to hydrology and water quality would be less than significant and would not require implementation of mitigation measures under CEQA. An environmental justice analysis is provided in Section 3.14, *Environmental Justice*, of the Draft IS-MND. This analysis determines that, although Castroville is a minority community, no adverse environmental justice impacts would occur because localized construction impacts would not be disproportionately high, and the provision of an upgraded wastewater system would be a benefit to all Castroville community members.