

## CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** County Clerk  
County of Humboldt  
825 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Office of Planning Research  
State Clearinghouse

**FROM:** City of Eureka, Lead Agency  
Development Services - Planning  
Kristen M. Goetz, Principal Planner  
531 K Street  
Eureka, CA 95501-1165  
(707) 441-4160  
[planning@eurekaca.gov](mailto:planning@eurekaca.gov)

**PROJECT TITLE:** 2023 Annual Water Improvement and Pavement Rehabilitation

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** City of Eureka Public Works - Engineering

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Water Improvements:

I Street at: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, Sonoma, Humboldt, Trinity, Huntoon, Henderson, Russ, and Harris Streets

H Street at Henderson, Russ, Harris, Everding, Hodgson, FH 3370, Manzanita, Madrone, and Willow Streets

2<sup>nd</sup> Street at: E, F, G, H, and I Streets

3<sup>rd</sup> Street at F, H, and I Streets

Pavement Rehabilitation: See Project description for locations.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Water Improvements:

The City of Eureka is proposing installation of new water valve clusters which will consist of removing old valve clusters and replacing with new valve clusters. The new valves will tie into the existing asbestos cement water main pipes. New paving and concrete collars will occur around the finished product.

A 10' x 10' hole will be excavated around the existing valve clusters. The excavated material will be temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the hole, and then used as backfill for the excavated holes. The bottom 6-inches of the hole will be bedded with compacted class 2 aggregate base.

The hole will then be backfilled with excavated material and native subsoil and paved to match the existing grade. Excess spoils within paved areas will be hauled offsite at the end of each day and prior to forecasted precipitation, and disposed of at a permitted disposal site, to be approved by the City prior to the start of construction.

In order to remove and replace the existing valve clusters, a section of water main will need to be shut off and drained. The volume of water to be discharged is minimal. This volume of water being discharged to the sanitary sewer will be at a controlled rate as approved by the City Engineer. It is not expected significant amounts of groundwater would be encountered, but if groundwater is encountered, it will be discharged in the same manner as other project water. It is expected one valve cluster will be installed daily.

Before the new valve clusters are installed they will be swabbed for disinfection in accordance with AWWA C600, C651 and C900 and then connected to the existing water mains. These standards call for the lines to be flushed at a velocity of at least 2.5 feet per second to remove any dirt or debris left from construction; the discharge that enters into the sewer drainage system will be at a controlled rate as approved by the City Engineer.

#### Pavement Rehabilitation:

Removal and replacement of existing asphalt street surfacing will occur on Fairway Drive from Ridgecrest Drive to south city limits, on 2nd Street from C Street to H Street and on 3rd Street from C Street to G Street. Removal and replacement will also take place on portions of D Street from 1st Street to 3rd Street, E Street from 1st Street to 4th Street, F Street from 3rd Street to 4th Street, G Street from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 4th Street, and on H Street from 2nd Street to 3rd Street. Existing pavement will be ground down 0.2' and will be replaced with new pavement. An additional 0.1' overlay of asphalt street surfacing will take place on all streets except for G Street and H Street.

Roadway reconstruction will take place on F Street from 1st Street to 3rd Street and E Street from 2nd Street to the alley north of 3rd Street. Existing pavement will be ground down to the subgrade and one to two feet of subgrade will be removed and replaced with new class 2 aggregate base and asphalt pavement. All work will be confined to the existing right-of-way.

For all locations except Fairway Drive, paving is expected to occur approximately one month after valve installation. Construction on Fairway Drive is expected to take two weeks.

#### Overall Project:

Typical construction equipment to be used on this project will include the following: back hoe, excavator, skid steer, flat bed delivery truck, paver, compactor and water truck.

During construction, the contractor will be required to employ standard best-management practices to ensure minimal disruption to traffic, nearby residences and businesses, and to minimize environmental impacts. Traffic control will be implemented per a traffic control plan approved by the City. General circulation and access will be maintained in the area of construction throughout the project. There may be temporary lane shifts, short-term road closures with available detours, and one-way controlled traffic. The contractor will allow all

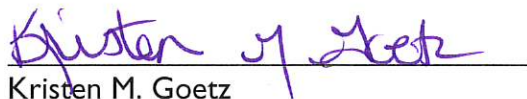
emergency vehicles through construction areas as to not hinder their response to the hospital, but overall public access within the construction area will be maintained as well when feasible. The City will provide pre-construction notice to impacted businesses, residents, and, as is normal practice, will provide public service announcements to inform the public about the planned construction activities.

Erosion control will be implemented per an Erosion Control Plan developed by the contractor and approved by the City, and will require cleanup of the construction site at the end of each day such that the site is maintained in an orderly fashion and ensures public safety. If the contractor obtains additional staging areas that result in total project disturbance of more than one acre, the contractor will be required to prepare and comply with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan in accordance with Construction General Permit Order 2009-0009-DWQ, as well as obtain any required land use entitlements (such as conditional use permits or coastal development permits) required for the staging areas.

Construction is planned to start in June 2023 and is expected to take until the end of October 2023.

**EXEMPTION FINDINGS:** The City of Eureka, as Lead Agency, has determined the proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15301, Existing Facilities, Class I, of the CEQA Guidelines. Class I exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed project qualifies for this exemption because it involves the repair and maintenance of water valve clusters, and paving within established right-of-way. Various Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to protect water quality and reduce the potential for pollution associated with construction activities. Further, the Lead Agency has determined the use of the Class I categorical exemption is not barred by one of the exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The material supporting the above finding is on file with City of Eureka Public Works- Engineering. Copies of the documents related to the evaluation of this project are available for review upon request at the City of Eureka, 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristen M. Goetz  
Principal Planner, City of Eureka

April 12, 2023  
Date