

**EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
WATER MAIN SEISMIC RETROFIT PROJECT
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Project: EVWD's Water Main Seismic Retrofit Project (the Project) consists of the replacement of approximately 35,000 linear feet (LF) of existing potable water main pipelines that are considered susceptible to damage due to ground shaking from earthquakes. The water main pipelines will be replaced with ductile iron pipe, incorporating special joints where needed, to improve resilience of the pipelines in case of a seismic event. A more detailed description of the Project is included in the Project Initial Study. A copy of the Project Initial Study is available for review at East Valley Water District's office, located at the address referenced below.

Location: The Project is located within public street rights-of-way within the City of Highland, the City of San Bernardino, and within an unincorporated portion of the County of San Bernardino, in the following streets: Pacific Street, Dwight Way, E. Bessant Street, Independent Place, Elmo Drive, Yates Street, Glasgow Avenue, Anson Street, Del Rosa Drive, Elmwood Road, Del Rosa Avenue, Osbun Road, Byron Street, Fisher Street, E. Amanda Street, Jane Street, Walker Street, Sterling Avenue, and Baseline Street. Refer also to Figures 1, 2, and 3 in the Project Initial Study, which is available for review at the District's office located at 31111 Greenspot Road, Highland, CA 92346.


Entity: East Valley Water District

The District's Board of Directors, having conducted a careful and independent review of the Initial Study for the Project, having reviewed the written comments received prior to the public meeting of the Board, and having heard at a public meeting of the Board the comments of any and all concerned persons or entities, including the recommendation of District staff, does hereby find and declare that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A brief statement of the reasons supporting the Board's findings is as follows:

Construction and operation of the Project as modified will not result in significant adverse impacts upon any threatened or endangered species of plants or animals, nor will it result in damage to or destruction of any significant examples of California history or prehistory or tribal cultural resources. Potential impacts related to historical/archaeological/paleontological/tribal cultural resources will be avoided or reduced by adhering to the terms of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (see Exhibit A, attached, which is incorporated herein by reference) throughout construction of the Project.

The Board of Directors has found that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects its independent judgment. The Initial Study was prepared by Krieger & Stewart, the District's Consulting Engineer for this project. The Initial Study may be viewed at the office of the East Valley Water District located at 31111 Greenspot Road, Highland, CA 92346.

Date: 12-19-23



Michael Moore
General Manager/CEO
EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
EXHIBIT A TO THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Section I – Introduction

Section 21081.6 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that a mitigation monitoring program be prepared prior to the approval of any project which incorporates mitigation measures as a condition of approval. Mitigation measures are generally adopted to reduce the potentially significant adverse environmental impacts of a project to a level that is less than significant. The mitigation monitoring program must ensure compliance with mitigation measures prior to and during project construction (and, if applicable, during project operation).

Since the project considered by the Initial Study for the East Valley Water District's Water Main Seismic Retrofit Project (Project) incorporates mitigation measures as a condition of approval, this mitigation monitoring and reporting program has been prepared and incorporated into the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project.

Section II – Historical and Archaeological Resources Mitigation Measures and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

As discussed in Issue V of the Project Initial Study, the Project would not result in an adverse impact upon any known historical or archaeological resources (cultural resources). This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program is intended to avoid or reduce the potential for impacts by the Project upon previously-undiscovered cultural resources that may be present in subsurface soil deposits by specifying methods and procedures for avoiding or reducing such impacts.

The following mitigation measures (**CUL-1 and CUL-2**) will be implemented in order to ensure that construction of Project facilities does not result in significant adverse impacts upon any previously-undiscovered cultural resources that may be uncovered during Project construction. Each measure is attended by a notation of the party responsible for its implementation and of the period for which it will be in effect.

CUL-1: Cultural Resources

In the event that cultural resources are discovered during Project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the Project outside the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed within Mitigation TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era finds and be provided information after the archaeologist makes an initial assessment of the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regard to significance and treatment of the find.

If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA, are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to YSMN for review and comment, as detailed within Mitigation Measure TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of Project construction and implement the Monitoring and Treatment Plan accordingly.

Responsible Party: EVWD Project Manager

Implementation Period: During Ground Disturbing Activities

CUL-2: Human Remains

In the event that any human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with Project construction, the construction contractor shall halt or divert all work within a 100-foot radius of the find and will immediately notify the San Bernardino County Coroner's Office and East Valley Water District (EVWD). Construction activities will not resume until EVWD notifies the construction contractor to resume construction activities. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 will be enforced for the duration of the Project.

Responsible Party: EVWD Project Manager

Implementation Period: During Ground Disturbing Activities

Section III – Paleontological Resources Mitigation Measures and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

As discussed in Issue VII of the Project Initial Study, there are no known paleontological resources present on or adjacent to the Project site. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program is intended to avoid or reduce the potential for impacts by the Project upon previously-undiscovered paleontological resources

that may be present in subsurface soil deposits by specifying methods and procedures for avoiding or reducing such impacts.

The following mitigation measure (**PALEO-1**) will be implemented in order to ensure that construction of Project facilities does not result in significant adverse impacts upon any previously-undiscovered paleontological resources that may be uncovered during Project construction. The measure is attended by a notation of the party responsible for its implementation and of the period for which it will be in effect.

PALEO-1: Paleontological Resources

The following measures will be implemented to protect any paleontological resources uncovered during ground disturbance during Project construction:

- If a potential paleontological resource is uncovered during Project construction, all work within a 50-foot radius of the discovery shall be halted until a qualified paleontologist evaluates the nature and significance of the find.
- If the qualified paleontologist determines that a specimen uncovered during Project construction is potentially significant, then all future ground-disturbing actions associated with the Project will be monitored by a qualified paleontological monitor.
- Specimens recovered from the Project site by the qualified paleontological monitor will be, in accordance with standard paleontological practice, identified and curated at a repository with permanent retrievable storage that will allow for additional research in the future.

Responsible Party: EVWD Project Manager

Implementation Period: During (and possibly after) Ground Disturbing Activities

Section IV – Tribal Cultural Resources Mitigation Measures and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

As discussed in Issue XVIII of the Project Initial Study, there are no known tribal cultural resources or other cultural resources on the Project site, and the Project would not result in an adverse impact upon any known tribal cultural resources. This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program is intended to avoid or reduce the potential for impacts by the Project upon previously-undiscovered tribal cultural resources that may be present in subsurface soil deposits by specifying methods and procedures for avoiding or reducing such impacts.

The following mitigation measure (**TCR-1**) will be implemented in order to ensure that construction of Project facilities does not result in significant adverse impacts upon any previously-undiscovered tribal cultural resources that may be uncovered during Project construction. The measure is attended by a notation of the party responsible for its implementation and of the period for which it will be in effect.

TCR-1: Tribal Cultural Resources

The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in Mitigation Measure CUL-1, of any pre-contact or historic-era cultural resources discovered during Project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regard to significance and treatment of the find. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA, a cultural resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall be developed by the archaeologist, in coordination with YSMN, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to said plan. The Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN for the remainder of the Project, should YSMN elect to place a monitor onsite. Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the Project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be provided to East Valley Water District for dissemination to YSMN. EVWD will consult in good faith with YSMN throughout the Project.

Responsible Party: EVWD Project Manager

Implementation Period: During Project Construction