

CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: County Clerk
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Office of Planning Research
State Clearinghouse

FROM: City of Eureka, Lead Agency
Development Services - Planning
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PROJECT TITLE: Myrtle Avenue Improvements 2024 (Project No. ED-23-0024)

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Eureka Public Works - Engineering

PROJECT LOCATION: Myrtle Avenue between 6th and Harrison Streets

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project consists of replacing sections of the waterline, sewer line spot repairs and asphalt on Myrtle Avenue. The waterline maintenance portion of the project consists of replacing 4,662 linear feet (.88 miles) of 6-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch diameter asbestos cement pipe with C900 pipe that will tie into the existing asbestos cement pipe, as well as replacing multiple water service lines and 13 water gate valve assemblies. The sewer line spot repair maintenance portion of the project consists of replacing sections of 10-inch diameter vitrified clay pipe with 10-inch diameter PVC, and replacing sewer laterals.

The water pipeline will be installed by a trenchless method called pipe bursting. This method allows the new pipe to be pulled through the existing pipe. This method will require launching and receiving pits to be excavated at both ends of where the new pipe is being installed. The sewer spot repairs pipelines are to be installed by conventional trenching methods within a two-foot-wide trench at a minimum depth of four feet to a maximum depth of five feet. All trenching will occur within the paved area of Myrtle Avenue. A total cubic yard of material excavated will be minimal. Once the new piping is installed, the material and backfill will be placed back into the trench. Excavated material will temporarily be stockpiled adjacent to the trench. The bottom six inches of the trench will be bedded with compacted class 2 aggregate base. The trench will then be backfilled with native subsoil and paved to match the existing grade of the road. 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

The existing waterline will need to be drained from both ends for multiple section of this line. The volume of water to be discharged into the sanitary sewer is +/- 11,910 gallons. The discharge to the sanitary sewer will be at a controlled rate as approved by the City Engineer. A significant amount of groundwater is not expected to be encountered, but any groundwater will be discharged in the same manner as described.

Once the new waterline is completed, testing, flushing and disinfection in accordance with AWWA C600 and C651 will occur. These standards call for first filling the line, conducting a pressure test, then flushing the line at a velocity of at least 2.5 feet per second to remove any dirt or debris left from construction, then disinfecting the line and finally flushing out the line once more to remove excess chlorine and other disinfecting agents. The discharge rate into the storm drainage system will be at a controlled rate as approved by the City Engineer. Removal and replacement of existing asphalt street surfacing of the one westbound driving lanes and the bike lane located on the north side of Myrtle Ave will then take place. Existing pavement will be ground down two-tenths (0.20) and will be replaced with new pavement. All work will be confined to the existing right of way and roadway prism. This project will not result in a widening of the roadway.

Construction is expected to move at an average rate of 200 feet per day for mainline work and grinding and paving is estimated to take ten days to complete. Approximately 10 linear feet of trench will typically be exposed at a time. At the end of sewer and waterline construction, any section of open trench will be covered with steel plates until paving can commence. Typical construction equipment to be used on this project include one or more of the following: back hoe, excavator, skid steer, hydraulic power pack, flat bed delivery truck, dump truck, paver, compactor, sweeper and water truck.

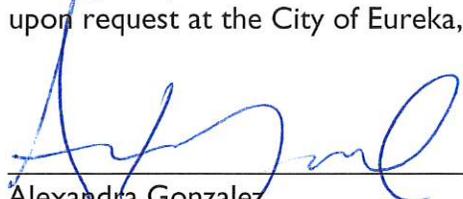
During construction, the contractor will be required to employ standard best management practices (BMPs) to ensure minimal disruption to traffic, nearby residences and businesses, and to minimize environmental impacts. Traffic control will be implemented per a traffic control plan approved by the City. General circulation and access will be maintained in the area of construction throughout the project. There will be temporary lane shifts, short-term road closures with available detours, and controlled traffic; the contractor will allow all emergency vehicles through construction areas to not hinder their response time, but overall public access within the construction area will be maintained. The City will provide pre-construction notices to impacted businesses, residents, and as is normal practice, will give public service announcements that inform the public of the planned construction activities.

Erosion control will be implemented per an Erosion Control Plan developed by the contractor and approved by the City, and cleanup of the construction site at the end of each day such that the site is maintained in an orderly fashion and public safety is ensured will be required. 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.

Construction is planned to start the month of April 2024 and is expected to take until the end of November 2024.

EXEMPTION FINDINGS: The City of Eureka as Lead Agency has determined that the above described activity is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Lead Agency has further determined that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to a Class I categorical exemption (Section 15301), which 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 project involves repair and maintenance to the existing water main, sewer main, driving lanes, and bike lane (north side only) on Myrtle Avenue within the existing roadway prism with no expansion of the roadway's existing capacity. The use of BMPs and preparation of an Erosion Control Plan will ensure there are no offsite environmental impacts resulting from the project. As a result, the Lead Agency has determined that use of the 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 the 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.



Alexandra Gonzalez
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January 30, 2024

Date