

RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LEAD AGENCY: Running Springs Water District
31242 Hilltop Blvd. (PO Box 2206)
Running Springs, CA 92382

Contact: Ryan Gross
Tel: (909) 867-2766
email: rgross@runningspringswd.com

PROJECT TITLE: Vehicle & Equipment Storage Building Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The property proposed for development with the new storage building is an existing outdoor storage facility located on Rim of the World Highway (State Route (SR) 18), just east of the intersection of Alder Court and SR 18 in the community of Running Springs. The project site is part of an estimated 3-acre area owned by the District at this location. The site is located on the Keller Peak 7.5 Minute Series USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map in Section 31, Township 2 North, Range 2 West, SBBM. Specific geodetic location is Latitude 34° 12' 55.25" North, and Longitude 117° 07' 33.36" West.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The District is in need of a pre-engineered storage building to protect its vehicles and other operating equipment from the winter weather. The site is located on SR 18 has been selected for installation of a 40' x 70' prefabricated steel building. The building is proposed to be between 12' and 19' tall and will provide four vehicle bays and door entrances. A concrete foundation will be constructed where the existing steel shipping containers are currently located on the site. Minor site grading will be required onsite to accommodate the installation of the approximately 3,000 square foot (SF) concrete building pad/foundation and storage building.

The proposed project will not encroach within the SR 18 Right-of-Way (ROW). No improvements are needed on SR 18 since the District already has a left-turn lane for access to the existing site. According to the District average daily visits to the existing storage facility ranges between 1 and 5 trips per day and this will not change after the new storage building is completed and in use. The existing 8' tall chain-link fence will be retained. Stormwater onsite currently runs off from the project site as sheet flow to the north onto District owned property. Construction is forecast to require 3-5 months and require a crew of 5-6 employees with two pickup trucks, a boom hoist and a backhoe. Once completed the District anticipates no change in number of employees and as noted, there is also no expected change to the existing traffic flow in and out of the site.

FINDING: Running Springs Water District (RSWD) decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). RSWD has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration to evaluate the project impacts and has concluded the project will not have any significant negative impacts on the environment upon implementation of the recommended mitigation measures.

INITIAL STUDY: Copies of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration and related documents are available for public review at the RSWD's office at 31242 Hilltop Blvd., Running Springs, CA 92382 or are accessible online at <https://www.runningspringswaterdistrict.com/>. The 20-day public review period for the Initial Study begins **May 3, 2024** and ends on **May 22, 2024**. Written comments on the MND should be mailed to Mr. Ryan Gross at the following address PO Box 2206, Running Springs, CA 92382, or shall be emailed at the following email address: rgross@runningspringswd.com. **no later than May 22, 2024 at 5:00 PM**. For further information, please contact Mr. Ryan Gross at (909) 867-2766 or email.

MITIGATION MEASURES: All mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study are summarized on pages 55-56 and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a mitigation monitoring and reporting program if the Mitigated Negative Declaration is adopted.

DRAFT
Signature

Title

Date