Print From

# Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Renaissance High School Water System Improvements Project

Lead Agency: Pajaro Valley Unified School District

Contact Name: Herlindo Fernandez

Email: herlindo_fernandez@pvusd.net Phone Number: 831-750-7192

Project Location: La Selva Beach, Santa Cruz County
*City* *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

See supplemental page.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

See supplemental page.

*Revised September 2011*

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

No known areas of controversy.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

County of Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency, Environmental Health Division
State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Financial Assistance
Soquel Creek Water District

## Renaissance High School Water System Improvements Project

## Summary Form – Additional Pages

**Project Description:**

The primary project goal is to provide Renaissance High School students and faculty with safe and reliable drinking water. To best meet the primary goal, the project's key objectives are:

- Supply safe and reliable drinking water;
- Comply with regulatory requirements;
- Meet the water system's O&M needs;
- Be financially viable;
- Satisfy public concerns; and
- Meet environmental requirements.

The proposed project consists of consolidating Renaissance High School's existing water system with Soquel Creek Water District's ("SqCWD") water system. The proposed project consists of a 540-foot water main, a 400-foot domestic water line, a 310-foot irrigation line, and a booster pump station. In total, these components include approximately 1,250 linear feet (0.24 miles) of new pipelines and a 112 square foot booster pump station. These components are explained in more detail below.

***Water Main***

The proposed project includes the extension of the existing SqCWD water main currently located in San Andreas Road southeast to service the School. The existing SqCWD water main currently terminates near the intersection of San Andreas Road and Sand Dollar Drive. A new, 12-inch diameter PVC C900 water main would extend from this intersection southeast approximately 540 feet along San Andreas Road. Two fire hydrants are proposed along San Andreas Road. A fire hydrant would be placed near the southernmost point of the water main to allow periodic flushing of the water main.

***Distribution Lines***

The proposed water main would terminate in front of the School property on San Andreas Road. A pair of 2-inch diameter water distribution lines (domestic & irrigation) would extend perpendicularly from the water main toward the School property. The initial reach of the distribution lines would be under the railroad tracks. On the San Andreas Road-side of the railroad tracks, two water meter boxes and two backflow prevention assemblies would be installed on school property, downstream of the steel casing underneath the railroad tracks (i.e., one water meter box and one backflow prevention assembly for the domestic water line and one for the irrigation line). The 12-inch water main would terminate approximately 4-feet southeast of the two water distribution line connection points. A 12-inch blind flange would be placed on the southeast end of the 12-inch water main, which would help facilitate a water main extension at some point in the future.

For the portion of the alignment under the railroad tracks, the two water distribution lines would be encased in a protective 62-feet long, 12-inch diameter steel casing that is centered on (and perpendicular to) the railroad tracks.

As the two water distribution lines exit the far side of the steel casing, they would extend onto the School property. The domestic distribution line would extend approximately 400 feet and tie into the School's existing domestic water system located near the northwest side of Building E. The irrigation distribution line would extend approximately 310 feet and tie into the School's existing irrigation system. A blow-off valve assembly would be installed near the end of each of the distribution lines, to facilitate periodic flushing.

### *Booster Pump Station*

Booster pumps would be placed on the distribution lines to boost the water pressure up from approximately 40-psi to approximately 90-psi, which is the average pressure required to operate the irrigation system. The two pumps as well as two pressure tanks would be housed in a small, 112 square foot (16 feet x 7 feet) structure (booster pump station). The structure would consist of a foundation and a weather enclosure; the booster pump station would not be suitable for human occupancy.

## Project Construction

### *Site Preparation and Trenching*

The project site is generally flat and consists of existing road right-of-way and public uses. The proposed project includes trenching of approximately 2,685 square feet (0.06 acres). Site preparation activities are anticipated to be completed within approximately five days and trenching activities are anticipated to be completed within 30 days. The proposed project involves approximately 650 cubic yards of cut and the same amount of fill. This estimate includes the water main, distribution lines, and booster pump station. The project would require some import or export of cut and fill materials. Sand would be imported for the utility trenches and a minimal amount of material would be exported. The water main trench would be approximately 36 inches wide; and the domestic and irrigation line trenches will be approximately 18 inches wide.

### *Jack and Bore*

As mentioned above, a portion of the distribution lines would cross the railroad tracks. This portion of the lines would be incased in a steel casing under the tracks and would be installed using “jack and bore” methods. Jack and bore is a trenchless installation method that utilizes pits and specialized equipment. This method consists of excavating one pit on each side of the railroad tracks spaced about fifty feet apart (one “sending” and one “receiving” pit). The sending pit is anticipated to be approximately 10 feet long and 24 feet wide; the receiving pit is anticipated to be approximately eight feet long and 12 feet wide. Based on these dimensions, the total area of disturbance is anticipated to be 336 square feet (0.01 acres). The “jack and bore machine,” placed in the sending pit, cuts a horizontal boring underground from the sending pit to the receiving pit, without disturbing the surface above. As the machine drills the hole, it also functions like a jack hammer to push the steel casing into place. The steel casing would be installed horizontally approximately six feet below the railroad tracks. Once the steel casing is installed, then the two water distribution lines would be placed inside the steel casing, and the annular space between the water lines and the steel casing would be properly sealed at each end of the steel casing. The steel casing is designed to protect both the water distribution lines and the railroad tracks. The jack and bore method of pipeline installation described above is required by the SCCRTC.

### *Schedule*

Construction is anticipated to occur over the course of approximately 40 days. Construction is expected to begin as early as Fall 2024. Construction activities would include site preparation, trenching, and paving. The anticipated schedule of these construction activities is as follows:

1. Site Preparation: This construction phase would last approximately 5 days.
2. Trenching: This construction phase would last approximately 30 days.
3. Paving: This construction phase would last approximately 5 days.

### *Construction Circulation and Access*

The project site is within La Selva Beach and is located on Spring Valley Road and San Andreas Road (access to the school is via Spring Valley Road). During construction, the project site would be accessed

by San Andreas Road or Spring Valley Road. There would also be traffic control required in San Andreas Road and Sand Dollar Drive during construction activities associated with water main installation, and along San Andreas Road during construction activities associated with distribution installation and jack and bore steel casing installation. It is anticipated that construction would generate approximately 10 trips per day. The exact location of the project's staging area is unknown and would be defined closer to the commencement of construction. The staging area would be located within the School parcel, within the railroad parcel, or within the right-of-way of San Andreas Road.

**Project Operation**

With the exception of fire hydrants, backflow prevention assemblies, and the booster pump station, the proposed project would be underground after construction is complete. It is not expected that operation of the proposed project would require maintenance by SqCWD on a regular basis. It is not anticipated that SqCWD would need to hire additional employees to accommodate the additional connection generated by the proposed project. The proposed project would require very few vehicle trips during operation for maintenance.

Once operational, the Renaissance High School water system will no longer exist, the School will receive all water directly from SqCWD.

**Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

***Biological Resources***

Construction of the project could result in direct and/or indirect impacts to special status species, raptors and other nesting avian species (e.g., wildlife harassment or mortality and nest abandonment), and sensitive habitats associated with construction activities (e.g., noise, dust, vegetation removal, erosion and sedimentation, and hazardous material spills).

**Mitigation Measures**

**BIO-1** Every individual working on the Project must attend biological awareness training prior to working on the job site. The training shall be delivered by a qualified biologist and shall include, at minimum, information regarding the following:

a. Location and identification of sensitive habitats and all special-status species with potential to occur in the survey area including information specific to identifying the special-status species identified above, the habitat for these species, and the project specific measures being implemented to protect these species.

b. The importance of avoiding impacts to special-status species and their habitat, and the steps necessary if any special-status species is encountered at any time.

c. Identification of the limits of work, and project-specific avoidance measures and permit conditions that must be followed.

**BIO-2** Disturbance of Monterey pine forest, oak woodland, and scrub vegetation and removal of native trees within these habitats shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible.

**BIO-3** Native vegetation that cannot be avoided shall be cut at ground level rather than removed by the roots when possible.

**BIO-4** Prior to commencement of construction, high visibility fencing and/or flagging shall be installed, with the assistance of a qualified biologist, to indicate the limits of work and the boundaries of sensitive habitat areas to be avoided.

a. The limits of work shall be designated to avoid impacts to the surrounding Monterey pine forest, oak woodland, and scrub habitat, to the maximum extent possible and to maximize native tree and shrub vegetation.

b. No work-related activity including equipment staging, vehicular access, grading and/or vegetation removal shall be allowed outside the designated limits of work.

**BIO-5** If any special-status species is identified in the project impact area at any time prior to or during construction, work shall cease immediately in the vicinity of the individual. The animal shall either be allowed to move out of harm's way on its own or a qualified biologist shall move the animal out of harm's way to a safe relocation site pursuant to all species-specific restrictions and regulations.

**BIO-6** During initial clearing, grubbing, and grading within the Monterey pine forest, oak woodland, and scrub habitat, a qualified biologist shall be present to conduct daily monitoring activities to ensure compliance with measures are in place for protection of special status species that may be encountered. After initial clearing, grubbing and grading has been completed, an alternate construction monitor may be trained and designated for execution of daily monitoring activities.

**BIO-7** Daily monitoring by the project biologist or construction monitor shall occur for the duration of project construction within the Monterey pine forest, oak woodland, and scrub habitat. Daily monitoring activities shall include the following at minimum:

a. Monitoring the work area for the presence of special-status species and verifying that individuals are properly relocated out of harm's way as needed, pursuant to all species-specific restrictions and regulations.

b. Monitoring the exclusionary fencing at the project site to verify good working condition and prevent wildlife entrapment.

c. Checking under all equipment for wildlife before use.

d. Verifying that at the end of each workday, all excavations shall be secured with a cover, or a ramp installed to prevent wildlife entrapment.

e. All trenches, pipes, culverts or similar structures shall be inspected for animals prior to burying, capping, moving, or filling.

**BIO-8** During project activities, all trash that may attract predators shall be properly contained, removed from the work site, and disposed of regularly. Following construction, all trash and construction debris will be removed from work areas.

**BIO-9** To avoid/minimize impacts to special-status amphibians, including CTS, SCLTS, and CRLF, the following measures shall be adhered to:

a. The project applicant will comply with the CESA and will coordinate with the CDFW to determine whether incidental take authorization for CTS, and SCLTS is required prior to issuance of a grading permit. If it is determined that authorization for the incidental take of these species is required from the CDFW, the project applicant will comply with the CESA to obtain a 2081 incidental take permit from CDFW prior to the issuance of a grading permit. Permit requirements typically involve the preparation and implementation of a mitigation plan and mitigating impacted habitat at a 3:1 ratio through preservation and/or restoration. The project applicant would be required to retain a qualified biologist to prepare a mitigation plan, which will include, but is not limited to, identifying avoidance and minimization measures, and identifying a mitigation strategy that includes a take assessment, avoidance and minimization measures, compensatory mitigation lands, success criteria, and funding

assurances. The project applicant would be required to implement the approved plan and any additional permit requirements.

b. The project will comply with the ESA and conduct consultation with the USFWS to determine whether incidental take authorization for CTS, SCLTS, and CRLF is required prior to issuance of a grading permit. If it is determined that authorization for the incidental take of these species is required from the USFWS, the project will comply with the ESA to obtain Section 7 or Section 10 authorization from USFWS at the project-level prior to the issuance of a grading permit. Permit requirements typically involve the preparation and implementation of a mitigation plan and mitigating impacted habitat at a 3:1 ratio through preservation and/or restoration. The project applicant would be required to retain a qualified biologist to prepare a mitigation plan, which will include, but is not limited to, identifying avoidance and minimization measures, and identifying a mitigation strategy that includes a take assessment, avoidance and minimization measures, compensatory mitigation lands, success criteria, and funding assurances. The project applicant would be required to implement the approved plan and any additional permit requirements.

c. A qualified biologist will survey the proposed work area and immediately adjacent areas 48 hours before and the morning of the onset of work activities for the presence of special-status amphibians. If any life stage of CTS, SCLTS, or CRLF is observed, construction activities will not commence until CDFW/USFWS is consulted and appropriate actions are taken to allow project activities to continue.

d. During ground disturbing and vegetation removal activities, a qualified biologist shall survey appropriate areas of the construction site daily before the onset of work activities for the presence of special-status amphibians. The qualified biologist shall remain available to come to the site if a special-status amphibian is identified until all ground disturbing activities are completed. If any life stage of CTS, SCLTS, or CRLF is found and these individuals are likely to be killed or injured by work activities, the qualified biologist shall be contacted, and work shall stop in that area until the special-status amphibian has moved on its own out of the work area and the USFWS has been contacted. Construction activities will not resume until the USFWS is consulted and appropriate actions are taken to allow project activities to continue.

e. After ground disturbing and vegetation removal activities are complete, or earlier if determined appropriate by the qualified biologist, the qualified biologist will designate a construction monitor to oversee on-site compliance with all avoidance and minimization measures. The qualified biologist shall ensure that this construction monitor receives sufficient training in the identification of special-status amphibians. The construction monitor or the qualified biologist is authorized to stop work if the avoidance and/or minimization measures are not being followed. If work is stopped, the USFWS shall be notified. The qualified biologist and the construction monitor shall complete a daily log summarizing activities and environmental compliance throughout the duration of the proposed project.

f. Only tightly woven fiber netting or similar material may be used for erosion control at the project site. Coconut coir matting is an acceptable erosion control material. No plastic mono-filament matting will be used for erosion control, as this material may ensnare wildlife, including special-status amphibians.

g. Because dusk and dawn are often the times when special-status amphibians are most actively foraging and dispersing, all construction activities should cease one half hour before sunset and should not begin prior to one half hour after sunrise.

h. To avoid or minimize impacts to special-status amphibians and their habitat, suitable habitat (i.e., ruderal areas, Monterey pine forest, oak woodland, scrub) shall be avoided to the greatest extent feasible. In addition to the high visibility fencing described in BIO -4, amphibian specific wildlife exclusion fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the project work area, where suitable habitat is present, to prevent special-status amphibians from migrating into the project area during the breeding season. A qualified biologist will supervise the installation of exclusion fencing. The status of the fencing will be monitored in accordance with BIO-4 above.

**BIO-10** To protect San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, a qualified biologist shall implement the following protection measures:

a. Within two weeks prior to commencement of development activities (including clearing and grubbing) a qualified biologist shall survey the project disturbance area to identify any woodrat nest locations that may be affected by the proposed development. All woodrat nests within the construction impact area and a 25-foot buffer shall be clearly flagged.

b. If no woodrat nests are found during the survey, no further avoidance and minimization measures for this species are necessary.

c. If woodrat nests are found, the construction contractor shall avoid the nests to the extent feasible by installing a 25-foot buffer with protective fencing or other material that shall prohibit encroachment. A reduction in the size of this buffer, or encroachment into this buffer, may be allowed if the biologist determines that microhabitat conditions such as shade, cover and adjacent food sources can be retained.

d. If avoidance of woodrat nests is not possible, a qualified biologist shall develop and implement a Woodrat Relocation Plan to be implemented prior to the commencement of construction. The plan shall include the following:

i. Trapping efforts and relocation activities shall not take place during low night temperatures (below 40 degrees Fahrenheit), inclement or extreme weather conditions.

ii. If no San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats are captured at a given nest, it shall be dismantled by hand to ground level, and the woody debris spread to reduce rebuilding.

iii. For occupied nests, the existing woodrat nest shall be dismantled and the woody debris, including cached food and nesting material, carried to the nearest suitable relocation site outside the project footprint and used to build an artificial shelter.

iv. Sites for artificial shelters shall be located as near as possible to the original nest location and no closer than 20 feet from existing woodrat nests and other artificial shelters. Choose the best available microhabitat, ideally in a location with sun and shade and if possible under the same species of tree or shrub as was present at the original nest location. Relocation sites shall contain biologically-suitable habitat features (e.g. stands of poison oak, coast live oaks, and dense native brush).

v. When releasing woodrats, the occupied live-trap shall be placed against the entrance to the artificial shelter, opened, and the woodrat allowed to enter, ideally on its own accord. After the individual enters, the entrance shall be loosely but completely plugged with dirt and leaf duff to encourage it to stay, at least for the short-term.

vi. If occupied nests were relocated, monitoring shall be conducted for 30 days after relocation is completed and include infrared and motion activated cameras, or other monitoring methods, and an occupancy assessment. A report on San Francisco dusky-

footed woodrat nest monitoring shall be provided to County Environmental Planning within 30 days following the end of the monitoring period and shall include the methods and results of trapping and relocation, occupancy determinations, monitoring methods, and discussion of any remedies that may be needed.

**BIO-11** To avoid/minimize impacts to nesting birds the following measures shall be adhered:

a. If removal of trees/vegetation, grading activity, or other use of heavy equipment begins outside of the February 1 to August 31 breeding season, there will be no need to conduct a preconstruction survey for active nests.

b. If removal of trees/vegetation, grading activity, or other use of heavy equipment is to commence between February 1 and August 31, a survey for active bird nests shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within two weeks prior to the start of such activity. The survey area shall include the survey area, and a survey radius around the survey area of 50 feet for MBTA birds and 250 feet for birds of prey.

c. If no active nest of a bird of prey or MBTA bird is found, then no further avoidance and minimization measures are necessary.

d. If active nest(s) of MBTA birds or birds of prey are found in the survey area, the following avoidance buffers shall be adhered to unless otherwise advised by CDFW or USFWS: Avoidance buffer of 50 feet for MBTA birds and 250 feet for birds of prey shall be established around the active nest(s). The biologist shall monitor the nest and advise the applicant when all young have fledged the nest. Removal of vegetation, grading activity, or other use of heavy equipment may begin after fledging is complete.

e. If the biologist determines that a smaller avoidance buffer will provide adequate protection for nesting birds, a proposal for alternative avoidance/protective measures, potentially including a smaller avoidance buffer and construction monitoring, may be submitted to USFWS and CDFW for review and approval prior to removal of vegetation, grading activity, or other use of heavy equipment.

f. If removal of vegetation, grading activity, or other use of heavy equipment stops for more than two weeks during the nesting season (February 1 - August 31) a new survey shall be conducted prior to re-commencement of construction.

**BIO-12** To avoid/minimize impacts to special-status bats the following measures shall be adhered to:

a. To the extent practical limbing/tree removal operations should occur between September 15 and November 1 to avoid bat maternity roosts and winter hibernacula. If tree limbing/tree removal operations must occur outside the period of September 15 through November 1 a survey for bats shall be conducted by a qualified biologist.

b. Prior to commencement of construction related activities including tree trimming and removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for bats as follows:

    i. The biologist shall determine if bats are utilizing the site for roosting. For any trees/snags/buildings that could provide roosting space for cavity or foliage-roosting bats, potential bat roost features shall be thoroughly evaluated to determine if bats are present. Visual inspection and/or acoustic surveys shall be utilized as initial techniques.

    ii. If roosting bats are found, the biologist shall develop and implement acceptable passive exclusion methods in coordination with or based on CDFW recommendations. If feasible, exclusion shall take place during the appropriate windows (September 15

and November 1) to avoid harming bat maternity roosts and/or winter hibernacula. (Authorization from CDFW is required to evict winter hibernacula for bats).

iii. If established maternity colonies are found, a buffer shall be established around the colony to protect pre-volant young from construction disturbances until the young are no longer reliant upon the roost for survival.

iv. If a tree is determined not to be an active roost site for roosting bats, it may be immediately limbed or removed as follows:

1. If foliage roosting bats are determined to be present, limbs shall be lowered, inspected for bats by a bat biologist, and chipped immediately or moved to a dump site.

2. Alternately, limbs may be lowered and left on the ground until the following day, when they can be chipped or moved to a dump site. No logs or tree sections shall be dropped on downed limbs or limb piles that have not been in place since the previous day.

**BIO-13** To compensate for disturbance of sensitive habitats, and to comply with the Santa Cruz County General Plan Policy 5.1.12, the area of temporarily disturbed sensitive habitat shall be replaced in-kind at a minimum restoration to impact ratio of 1:1. A site-specific Habitat Restoration Plan shall be developed by a qualified biologist or restoration professional, and shall include the following minimum elements:

a. Identification of areas on site where temporary disturbance and re-establishment of native habitat shall occur. All areas temporarily disturbed as a result of the project shall be restored to pre-project contours to the maximum extent possible and re-vegetated with native plant species appropriate to the habitat disturbed.

b. A tree inventory assessment including the species, size, and locations of all trees intended for removal.

c. All native trees removed shall be replaced in-kind at a minimum 1:1 ratio. Non-native trees removed shall be replaced at a minimum 1:1 ratio by native tree species appropriate to the surrounding habitat.

d. A site-specific planting plan intended to inform the re-vegetation efforts. Local plant stock shall be used whenever possible. The plant pallet should include native species common to the surrounding native habitats that are being restored.

***Cultural Resources***

Although not anticipated, there is the potential for inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or human remains, which may result in potential inadvertent damage or disturbance during construction.

**Mitigation Measures**

**CR-1** If archaeological resources are unexpectedly discovered during construction, work shall be halted within 50 meters (±160 feet) of the find until it can be evaluated by a qualified professional archaeologist in collaboration with a Native American representative. If the find is determined to be significant, appropriate mitigation measures shall be formulated and implemented by PVUSD in coordination with a qualified professional archaeologist in collaboration with a Native American representative.

**CR-2** If human remains are unexpectedly discovered during construction, work shall be halted within 50 meters (±160 feet) of the find. The County Coroner shall be notified in accordance with provisions

of Public Resources Code 5097.98-99 in the event human remains are found and the Native American Heritage Commission shall be notified in accordance with the provisions of Public Resources Code Section 5097 if the remains are determined to be of Native American origin. The Commission will designate a Most Likely Descendant who will be authorized to provide recommendations for management of the Native American human remains. (California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98; and Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5.

***Noise***

Although noise impacts to nearby sensitive receptors during construction would be temporary, based on the proximity of the nearest receptor and the rate that noise diminishes, construction activities would likely exceed the County's noise related threshold.

**NSE-1** All equipment shall be properly maintained and all internal combustion engine-driven equipment shall be equipped with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment. Equipment engine shrouds shall be closed during equipment operations. The applicant shall require all contractors, as a condition of contract, to maintain and tune-condition all construction equipment to minimize noise emissions. Additionally, all stationary noise generating equipment (e.g., compressors) and equipment staging areas shall be located as far as possible from adjacent residential receivers.

**NSE-2** The project contractor shall designate a "disturbance coordinator" responsible for responding to any complaints about construction noise. The disturbance coordinator will be responsible for notifying neighboring residences of planned construction schedules at least 72 hours in advance. The disturbance coordinator's telephone number shall be posted at the project site and included in the notice. All noise complaints shall be sufficiently examined and promptly addressed.

***Tribal Cultural Resources***

Although not anticipated, there is the potential for inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or human remains, which may result in potential inadvertent damage or disturbance during construction

**Mitigation Measures**

Please see mitigation measures **CR-1** and **CR-2** included in **Cultural Resources**.