

Public Notice  
Notice of Exemption



**To:** Santa Clara County  
Clerks Office, Business Division  
70 West Hedding Street  
San Jose CA 95110

**From:** Santa Clara Valley Water District  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose CA 95118-3686  
Telephone (408) 265 2600

**Project Title:** Environmental Sampling for the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project

**Project Location—Specific:** The project is located along the nine mile stretch of Coyote Creek, on Reaches 6, 7, 8, between Montague Expressway and Tully Rd. in San Jose, California.

**Project Location-City:** San Jose

**Project Location-County:** Santa Clara County

**Project Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to conduct hazardous materials investigations to explore subsurface conditions, perform pertinent laboratory testing, and identify any hazardous conditions on the project site.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Santa Clara Valley Water District

**Name of Agency or Person Carrying Out Project:** Santa Clara Valley Water District

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial [§ 21080(b)(1); 15268];
- Declared Emergency [§ 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)];
- Emergency Project [§ 21080(b)(c); 15269(b)(c)];
- Categorical Exemptions [§ 15306, Class 6, Information Collection]
- Statutory Exemptions [n/a].

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15306:

Class 6 consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

None of the conditions noted under the CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 would occur.

**Description of Project:** Valley Water proposes to conduct hazardous substance liability assessment (HSLA) investigations directed toward exploring subsurface conditions and obtaining samples for laboratory testing. Subsurface explorations would include 61 HSLA sampling soil borings initially with additional borings to be drilled as needed. The drill cuttings and fluids would be contained in 55-gallon steel drums that would be stored on-site and analytically tested prior to off-site disposal.

The HSLA sampling borings would be drilled between depths of 2 feet and 10 feet using hand augering and direct push technologies (DPT). Hand augering would be used up to the first five feet of each boring. The remaining 5 feet (if required) would be drilled using DPT.

Equipment anticipated to be utilized would include a hand auger, DPT, and Shelby tube samplers.

The proposed work would be completed within 2 weeks for Reach 6, 2 weeks for Reach 7, and 2 weeks for Reach 8 (total of 6 weeks).

**Lead Agency:** Santa Clara Valley Water District  
**Contact Person:** Andrew Martin

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension**  
(408) 630-2160

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date: 6/27/2024

Title: Andrew Martin, Associate Environmental Planner

cc: CEQA Administrative Record