SUNNYVALE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT MASTER PLAN

SCH # 2015062037
Final Program Environmental Impact Report

Prepared for
City of Sunnyvale

July 2016

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City of Sunnyvale

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CHAPTER 1
Introduction and Purpose

1.1 Purpose of the Final Environmental Impact Report

This report has been prepared to accompany the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft PEIR) for the City of Sunnyvale's Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan (Master Plan or project). The Draft PEIR identified the environmental consequences associated with construction and operation of the Master Plan and a variation of the Master Plan (the Water Purification Facilities or WPF), and recommended mitigation measures to reduce significant and potentially significant impacts. This document responds to the comments on, and makes revisions to, the Draft PEIR. City staff-initiated changes to the Draft PEIR text are also included in this document. Together with the Draft PEIR, this document constitutes the Final PEIR for the project.

The Final PEIR is an informational document prepared by the lead agency that must be considered by decision-makers before approving or denying a proposed project. (CEQA *Guidelines,* Section 15090). California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) *Guidelines* (Section 15132) specify the following:

> The Final EIR shall consist of:
>
> (a) The Draft EIR or a revision of that draft.
>
> (b) Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in a summary.
>
> (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
>
> (d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in review and consultation process.
>
> (e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

This document has been prepared pursuant to CEQA and in conformance with the CEQA *Guidelines*.

1.2 Environmental Review Process

On February 29, 2016, the City of Sunnyvale (the Lead Agency) released for public review the Draft PEIR on the proposed Sunnyvale WPCP Master Plan. The required 45-day public review and comment period on the Draft PEIR closed on April 14, 2016. The City of Sunnyvale also held a public meeting to describe the findings of the Draft PEIR on March 17, 2016 at the Sunnyvale Community Center. The City undertook the following actions to inform the public of the availability of the Draft PEIR:

- A "Notice of Availability of Draft PEIR" was published in the San José Mercury News on February 29, 2016 and in the Sunnyvale Sun on March 4, 2016, and distributed to governmental agencies, interested parties, and individuals who provided scoping comments on the Notice of Preparation.
- The Draft PEIR was delivered to the State Clearinghouse on February 26, 2016.
- An email notice of the availability of the Draft EIR, which included a link to the Draft EIR, was also sent to various governmental agencies and other interested parties.
- Copies of the Draft PEIR were made available at City of Sunnyvale office, at the Sunnyvale Public Library, at the Calabazas Branch Library, the Cupertino Library and on-line on the City of Sunnyvale's website:

  http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/Departments/%20PublicWorks/PublicWorksDivisions/Engineering.aspx.

1.3 Organization of the Final PEIR

Chapter 2 of this document contains copies of comments received during the comment period and responses to those comments. Each comment is numbered in the margin of the comment letter, and the responses to all of the comments in a particular letter follow that letter. The comments are referenced alphanumerically by letter and comment number; the comment letters are coded with the initials of the commenter or agency/organization acronym. Where a response includes a change to the text of the Draft PEIR, a reference is made to Chapter 3, which contains revisions to the text of the Draft PEIR.

The following is a list of all persons and organizations that submitted comments on the Draft PEIR during the comment period:

Letter Code	Commenter
State Agencies	
SWRCB	Amanda Dwyer, California State Water Resources Control Board
RWQCB	Lila Tang, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
OPR	Scott Morgan, California Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Letter Code	Commenter
Regional and Local Agencies	
ABAG	Laura Thompson, San Francisco Bay Trail/Association of Bay Area Governments
CSCDEH	Noor Tietze, County of Santa Clara Department of Environmental Health, Vector Control District
CSCPRD	Hannah Cha, County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department
CSCRAD	Aruna Bodduna, County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department
VTA	Roy Molseed, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Organizations and Individuals	
SJWC	John Tang, San Jose Water Company
Lucas1	Libby Lucas (4/10/2016)
Lucas2	Libby Lucas (4/12/2016)
Lucas3	Libby Lucas (4/15/2016)
Lucas4	Libby Lucas (4/12/2016)
Mattos	Kevin Mattos

CHAPTER 2
Comments and Responses

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2.1 Responses to Comments from State Agencies

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SWRCB

CALIFORNIA Water Boards

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIQUEZ SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

Received
APR 14 2016
Dept of Public Works

APR 11 2016

Allison Hood
City of Sunnyvale
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Dear Ms. Hood:

MASTER PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (MASTER PLAN) FOR CITY OF SUNNYVALE (CITY); SUNNYVALE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT (WPCP) MASTER PLAN (PROJECT); SANTA CLARA COUNTYCOUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2015062037

We understand that the City is pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Master Plan at a project level. As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information on the Master Plan to be prepared at the project level.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program. The primary purpose for the CWSRF Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution, recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, provide for estuary enhancement, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state. The CWSRF Program provides low-interest funding equal to one-half of the most recent State General Obligation Bond Rates with a 30-year term. Applications are accepted and processed continuously. Please refer to the State Water Board's CWSRF website at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

SWRCB-1

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional "CEQA-Plus" environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli, at (916) 341-5855.

It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or the United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special-status species.

Please be advised that the State Water Board will consult with the USFWS, and/or the NMFS regarding all federal special-status species that the Project has the potential to impact if the Project is to be financed by the CWSRF Program. The City will need to identify whether the Project will involve any direct effects from construction activities, or indirect effects such as growth inducement, that may affect federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species that are known, or have a potential to occur in the Project site, in the surrounding areas, or in the service area, and to identify applicable conservation measures to reduce such effects. SWRCB-2

In addition, CWSRF projects must comply with federal laws pertaining to cultural resources, specifically Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The State Water Board has responsibility for ensuring compliance with Section 106, and must consult directly with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). SHPO consultation is initiated when sufficient information is provided by the CWSRF applicant. If the City decides to pursue CWSRF financing, please retain a consultant that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards (http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm) to prepare a Section 106 compliance report.

Note that the City will need to identify the Area of Potential Effects (APE), including construction and staging areas, and the depth of any excavation. The APE is three-dimensional and includes all areas that may be affected by the Project. The APE includes the surface area and extends below ground to the depth of any Project excavations. The records search request should extend to a ½-mile beyond Project APE. The appropriate area varies for different projects but should be drawn large enough to provide information on what types of sites may exist in the vicinity.

Other federal environmental requirements pertinent to the Project under the CWSRF Program include the following (for a complete list of all federal requirements please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/application_environmental_package.pdf):

A. An alternative analysis discussing environmental impacts of the Project in either the CEQA document (Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report) or in a separate report.

B. Compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act: (a) Provide air quality studies that may have been done for the Project; and (b) if the Project is in a nonattainment area or attainment area subject to a maintenance plan; (i) provide a summary of the estimated emissions (in tons per year) that are expected from both the construction and operation of the Project for each federal criteria pollutant in a nonattainment or maintenance area, and indicate if the nonattainment designation is moderate, serious, or severe (if applicable); (ii) if emissions are above the federal de minimis levels, but the Project is sized to meet only the needs of current population projections that are used in the approved State Implementation Plan for air quality, quantitatively indicate how the proposed capacity increase was calculated using population projections. SWRCB-3

C. Compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act: Identify whether the Project is within a coastal zone and the status of any coordination with the California Coastal Commission.

D. Protection of Wetlands: Identify any portion of the proposed Project area that should be evaluated for wetlands or United States waters delineation by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), or requires a permit from the USACE, and identify the status of coordination with the USACE.

E. Compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act: Identify whether the Project will result in the conversion of farmland. State the status of farmland (Prime, Unique, or Local and Statewide Importance) in the Project area and determine if this area is under a Williamson Act Contract.

F. Compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA): List any birds protected under this act that may be impacted by the Project and identify conservation measures to minimize impacts.

G. Compliance with the Flood Plain Management Act: Identify whether or not the Project is in a Flood Management Zone and include a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood zone maps for the area.

H. Compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: Identify whether or not any Wild and Scenic Rivers would be potentially impacted by the Project and include conservation measures to minimize such impacts.

SWRCB-3 cont.

Following are specific comments on the City's draft Master Plan:

1. Page 3-23 states that chloramine disinfection could be used in the WPCP. Would using this disinfection process increase salt levels in effluent? SWRCB-4
2. Page 4.7-79 states that impacts to salt marsh harvest mice habitat could occur, but would occur at a minimum level. Could this impact still lead to take of this species? SWRCB-5
3. Page 6-14 states that Master Plan and water purification facility construction would have a cumulative significant and unavoidable impact to air quality and would conflict with an air quality plan. Would a general conformity analysis be required for the Master Plan or any projects tiered from the Master Plan? SWRCB-6
4. Page 6-23 states that the Master Plan would have significant and unavoidable impacts to ruddy ducks. Is this species protected by the ESA or MBTA? Are there any possible mitigation measures that could be implemented to reduce impacts, even if impacts cannot be reduced to a less than significant level? SWRCB-7

Please provide us with the following documents applicable to the proposed Project following the City's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process: (1) one copy of the draft and final Master Plan, (2) the resolution certifying the Master Plan and making CEQA findings, (3) all comments received during the review period and the City's response to those comments, (4) the adopted Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and (5) the Notice of Determination filed with the Santa Clara County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board. SWRCB-8

Thank you for the opportunity to review the City's draft Master Plan. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5686, or by email at Amanda.Dwyer@waterboards.ca.gov, or contact Ahmad Kashkoli at (916) 341-5855, or by email at Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov.

SWRCB-8 cont.

Sincerely,

Amanda Dwyer
Environmental Scientist

Enclosures (3)

1. Clean Water State Revolving Fund Environmental Review Requirements
2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2015062037)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND

Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Report Preparation

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance

For Section 106 Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) under the National Historic Preservation Act

CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORT

The Cultural Resources Report must be prepared by a qualified researcher that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards. Please see the Professional Qualifications Standards at the following website at: *http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_9.htm*

The Cultural Resources Report should include one of the four "findings" listed in Section 106. These include:

"No historic properties affected"
(no properties are within the area of potential effect (APE; including below the ground).

"No effect to historic properties"
(properties may be near the APE, but the project will not have any adverse effects).

"No adverse effect to historic properties"
(the project may affect "historic properties", but the effects will not be adverse).

"Adverse effect to historic properties"
Note: Consultation with the SHPO will be required if a "no adverse effect to historic properties" or an "adverse effect to historic properties" determination is made, to develop and evaluate alternatives or modifications to the proposed project that could avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects on "historic properties."

RECORDS SEARCH

- A records search (less than one year old) extending to a half-mile beyond the project APE from a geographically appropriate Information Center is required. The records search should include maps that show all recorded sites and surveys in relation to the APE for the proposed project, and copies of the confidential site records included as an appendix to the Cultural Resources Report.
- The APE is three-dimensional (depth, length and width) and all areas (e.g., new construction, easements, staging areas, and access roads) directly affected by the proposed project.

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NATIVE AMERICAN and INTERESTED PARTY CONSULTATION

- Native American and interested party consultation should be initiated at the planning phase of the proposed project to gather information to assist with the preparation of an adequate Cultural Resources Report.
- The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted to obtain documentation of a search of the Sacred Lands Files for or near the project APE.
- All local Native American tribal organizations or individuals identified by the NAHC must be contacted by certified mail, and the letter should include a map and a description of the proposed project.
- Follow-up contact should be made by telephone and a phone log maintained to document the contacts and responses.
- Letters of inquiry seeking historical information on the project area and local vicinity should be sent to local historical societies, preservation organizations, or individual members of the public with a demonstrated interest in the proposed project.

Copies of all documents mentioned above (project description, map, phone log and letters sent to the NAHC and Native American tribal organizations or individuals and interested parties) must be included in the Cultural Resources Report.

Contact Information: For more information related to the CWSRF Program Cultural Resources and Requirments, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli at 916-341-5855 or Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov

PRECAUTIONS

A finding of ***"no known resources"*** without supporting evidence is unacceptable. The Cultural Resources Report must identify resources within the APE or demonstrate with sufficient evidence that none are present.

"The area is sensitive for buried archaeological resources," followed by a statement that ***"monitoring is recommended."*** Monitoring is not an acceptable option without good-faith effort to demonstrate that no known resource is present.

If ***"the area is already disturbed by previous construction"*** documentation is still required to demonstrate that the proposed project will not affect "historic properties." An existing road can be protecting a buried archaeological deposit or may itself be a "historic property." Additionally, previous construction may have impacted an archaeological site that has not been previously documented.

SHPO CONSULTATION LETTER

Submit a draft consultation letter prepared by the qualified researcher with the Cultural Resources Report to the State Water Resources Control Board. A draft consultation letter template is available for download on the State Water Board webpage at: *http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/cwsrf_requirements.shtml*

CALIFORNIA Water Boards
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS
waterboards.ca.gov

REVISED: JAN 2014

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California Environmental Quality Act Requirements

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Financial Assistance, administers the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program. The CWSRF Program is partially funded by grants from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. All applicants seeking CWSRF financing must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and provide sufficient information so that the State Water Board can document compliance with federal environmental laws. The "Environmental Package" provides the forms and instructions needed to complete the environmental review requirements for CWSRF Program financing. It is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml

LEAD AGENCY

The applicant is usually the "Lead Agency" and must prepare and circulate an environmental document before approving a project. Only a public agency, such as a local, regional or state government, may be the "Lead Agency" under CEQA. If a project will be completed by a non-governmental organization, "Lead Agency" responsibility goes to the first public agency providing discretionary approval for the project.

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

The State Water Board is generally a "Responsible Agency" under CEQA. As a "Responsible Agency," the State Water Board must make findings based on information provided by the "Lead Agency" before financing a project.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The State Water Board's environmental review of the project's compliance with both CEQA and federal cross-cutting regulations must be completed before a project can be financed by the CWSRF Program.

DOCUMENT REVIEW

Applicants are encouraged to consult with State Water Board staff early during preparation of CEQA document if considering CWSRF financing. Applicants shall also send their environmental documents to the State Water Board, Environmental Review Unit during the CEQA public review period. This way, any environmental concerns can be addressed early in the process.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The Environmental Review Unit requires the documents listed below to make findings and complete its environmental review. Once the State Water Board receives all the required documents and makes its own findings, the environmental review for the project will be complete.

- ✓ Draft and Final Environmental Documents: Environmental Impact Report, Negative Declaration, and Mitigated Negative Declaration as appropriate to the project
- ✓ Resolution adopting/certifying the environmental document, making CEQA findings, and approving the project
- ✓ All comments received during the public review period and the "Lead Agency's" responses to those comments
- ✓ Adopted Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, if applicable
- ✓ Date-stamped copy of the Notice of Determination or Notice of Exemption filed with the County Clerk(s) and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- ✓ CWSRF Evaluation Form for Environmental Review and Federal Coordination with supporting documents

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Contact Information: For more information related to the CWSRF Program environmental review process and requirements, please contact your State Water Board Project Manager or Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli at 916-341-5855 or Ahmad.Kashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov

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2.1.1 Response to Comments from California State Water Resources Control Board, Amanda Dwyer, 4/11/2016

SWRCB-1 This comment, describing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, is acknowledged.

SWRCB-2 This comment, describing the consultation duties of the State Water Board under provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and summarizing the associated information that would be needed from the City of Sunnyvale, is acknowledged.

Draft PEIR Table 3-4 (page 3-51) identifies the approvals needed to implement the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan (Master Plan). Draft PEIR Section 4.7, Biological Resources, and Section 4.14, Cultural Resources, discuss impacts to federally-listed endangered species and to cultural resources, respectively. When the City of Sunnyvale pursues Clean Water State Revolving Fund financing for particular Master Plan improvements, the City will provide suitable background reports (such as a Biological Assessment for any projects that could adversely affect species or habitat of species protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act) to support the State Water Board's consultation duties.

SWRCB-3 This comment, summarizing other environmental requirements pertinent to the Master Plan under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, is acknowledged.

When the City of Sunnyvale pursues Clean Water State Revolving Fund financing for particular Master Plan improvements, the City will prepare an "Environmental Package"[1] as part of its financing application, containing all environmental attachments (E-1 through E-10, or portions thereof) required pursuant to the type of CEQA documentation prepared for the particular Master Plan improvement. Much, but not all, of the information needed to respond is included in the Draft PEIR.

SWRCB-4 This comment questions whether using a chloramine disinfection process would increase salt levels in WPCP effluent.

As discussed on Draft PEIR page 3-13, the City proposes to stage replacement of secondary treatment facilities by using a Split Flow configuration prior to full conversion to conventional activated sludge. As described on Draft PEIR page 3-23, an interim transition to a chloramine disinfection process will only be required if the residual effluent ammonia is found to be insufficient for the extent of chloramine formation needed to limit trihalomethane (THM) formation. Split-flow configuration is

[1] An Environmental Package is one part of the four packages required by the State Water Resources Control Board for review of eligibility for funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and the Water Recycling Funding Program. Information about the SRF program and application materials is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/srf_forms.shtml.

expected to result in sufficient residual ammonia from the existing lagoon treatment process to enable chloramine formation without the addition of aqueous ammonia during most of the year. However, lagoon system performance can vary seasonally and pilot testing has not yet been performed. This project is included in the program in the event pilot testing shows that additional aqueous ammonia may be needed, for example, on a seasonal basis.

For purposes of this response it is presumed that the commenter is referring to a change in recycled water quality, as there are no water quality criteria for total dissolved solids (TDS) that would be applicable to the WPCP discharge into Moffett Channel.[2]

In response, if an external source of added ammonia were necessary to disinfect with chloramine, then a small increase in recycled water TDS would result. Typically only a few parts per million of ammonia are required, which would not result in a substantial increase over current TDS levels. It is possible that the necessary quantity of ammonia can be provided by operating the nitrification process in a way that allows a small amount of ammonia to carry through to the disinfection process, which would limit the amount of externally-sourced additional ammonia needed for adequate disinfection.

In addition, if the oxidation ponds are removed from the future treatment process train, a significant decrease in average TDS can be expected, as the current evaporative losses in the ponds (a source of increased TDS) will be eliminated. Even if the ponds are retained to provide a portion of secondary treatment (e.g., under the Split Flow option), it may be possible to isolate a portion of the conventional activated sludge process effluent through the subsequent recycled water production processes, to maintain a lower TDS in the recycled water produced.

As discussed starting on Draft PEIR page 4.10-35, the City currently produces recycled water that meets Title 22 requirements for water quality and expects to produce additional recycled water similarly in compliance with Title 22 in the future.

As stated in Draft PEIR page 3-9, objectives of the Master Plan include developing process improvements to meet current and future water quality requirements and maintaining wastewater operations to meet regulatory standards during the course of implementing the Master Plan improvements. The City of Sunnyvale intends to continue to comply with RWQCB water quality limitations.

SWRCB-5 This comment questions whether the impacts to salt marsh harvest mouse habitat identified in the Draft PEIR could lead to take of the species.

[2] As discussed starting on Draft PEIR page 4.10-26, the WPCP operates under multiple National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits issued by the RWQCB. Effluent limitations for the WPCP do not include limitations on total dissolved solids (TDS), which would include salts, because WPCP effluent flows to the estuarine tidal reach of Moffett Channel. In this estuarine environment, TDS varies over a wide range of values under natural conditions (and is generally much higher than the TDS of WPCP effluent).

In response, aspects of the Master Plan could result in "take" of the salt marsh harvest mouse, as defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), in the form of loss of this species' habitat. This could occur during construction of facilities along Moffett Channel, such as construction of Diurnal Equalization Tanks and Emergency Storage basins described on Draft PEIR page 3-17. If the City seeks Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program financing for any Master Plan improvements that could affect habitat of this species, FESA consultation with the USFWS would occur prior to any activities that could result in take of this species via habitat loss.

Because the salt marsh harvest mouse is listed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as "fully protected", take in the narrower sense used by the CDFW pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act (i.e., pertaining to the injury, mortality, or handling of individual salt marsh harvest mice, rather than habitat impacts) is not permissible. This is stated on Draft PEIR page 4.7-79. As a result, Draft PEIR Mitigation Measure BIO-2g (page 4.7-85) includes measures to avoid take of individuals, and no take of the salt marsh harvest mouse as defined by the CDFW would occur.

SWRCB-6 In this comment the SWRCB questions whether a general conformity analysis under the federal Clean Air Act would be required for the Master Plan or any projects tiered from the Master Plan.

In response, the air quality analysis described in the Draft PEIR was conducted pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements and pursuant to Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines. To date, there has not been a federal action related to the Master Plan that would trigger an evaluation under the federal Clean Air Act; however, should the City of Sunnyvale pursue Clean Water State Revolving Fund financing for particular Master Plan improvements, it would prepare an Environmental Package and include a technical memorandum addressing application of the General Conformity Rule to the improvements (consistent with Item E1.1, Clean Air Act, of the State Revolving Fund environmental package application).

SWRCB-7 This comment questions whether ruddy ducks are protected by the Federal Endangered Species Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and asks if mitigation measures could be implemented that would reduce impacts even if impacts are not reduced to a less-than-significant level.

To clarify, the text on Draft PEIR page 6-23 does not indicate that the Master Plan alone would have significant and unavoidable impacts to ruddy ducks. Rather, it indicates that should restoration of Ponds 1 and 2 occur (if those ponds are converted to tidal habitats), the Master Plan would have a potentially considerable contribution to a

significant cumulative impact on this species' habitat, cumulative impacts that are driven primarily by other, larger projects.

The ruddy duck is not a rare species, and it is not protected by the state or federal Endangered Species Acts. Individual ruddy ducks are protected from take by the MBTA, but the MBTA does not regulate habitat alteration such as may occur as a result of the decommissioning of Ponds 1 and 2.

The ruddy duck occurs in the Master Plan area primarily as a nonbreeder (fall into spring) in Ponds 1 and 2. Small numbers may nest in the Master Plan area, but these represent a small fraction of the ruddy ducks that use the area. The only mitigation measures that would reduce the impact to ruddy ducks would involve maintaining large areas of managed pond(s) in the Master Plan area. Such measures may not be feasible in the long-term, as they would necessitate maintenance of levees around the ponds, including potentially raising the levees to accommodate sea-level rise. Such measures would preclude the ability to restore tidal action in Ponds 1 and 2. Tidal action restoration would provide habitat for San Francisco Bay tidal marsh species, such as the California Ridgway's rail and salt marsh harvest mouse, that are far more imperiled locally and globally than the ruddy duck. As a result, the Master Plan did not identify any feasible mitigation measures to reduce its contributions to cumulative impacts to ruddy ducks.

SWRCB-8 This comment, requesting that the City of Sunnyvale provide to the SWRCB documents associated with the CEQA process, is acknowledged.

The requested materials, including the Master Plan, will be made available online at http://www.sunnyvalecleanwater.com/, once they are approved.

Via email only: ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov

April 14, 2016
CIWQS Place ID: 259507

City of Sunnyvale
Public Works Department
456 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
ATTN: Alison Hood, Senior Engineer

SUBJECT: Comments on Draft Program Environmental Impact Report, Proposed Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan, City of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County

Dear Ms. Hood:

We appreciate the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan. We support the project objectives, particularly those related to maximizing water recycling. Our hope in providing these comments is that the EIR will facilitate our permitting processes. RWQCB-1

Antidegradation Analysis. The Draft EIR should include an antidegradation analysis that determines whether the project will comply with the State and federal antidegradation policies. For the purpose of the draft EIR, the water quality thresholds of significance include violations of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, and substantial degradation of water quality. Even if surface water and groundwater discharges were to comply with water quality objectives, they may not comply with antidegradation policies if they substantially degrade water quality. Because the Regional Water Board cannot allow degradation in some circumstances, and must make discretionary findings justifying degradation in others, a thorough antidegradation analysis is needed before the City can conclude that the Regional Water Board will be able to issue the permits necessary for the project to move forward. The antidegradation analysis should consider how increased discharge volumes, pollutant concentrations, and pollutant loads could degrade surface and groundwaters. (See State Water Resources Control Board Administrative Procedures Update No. 90-004, July 2, 1990.) RWQCB-2

Reverse Osmosis Concentrate. The Draft EIR discusses three options for managing reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate. One of them, sending concentrate to the East Bay Dischargers Authority, seems wholly unrealistic since it would involve constructing a pipeline to the East Bay. RWQCB-3

The Draft EIR discusses possibly blending the RO concentrate with existing discharges. The Draft EIR should evaluate the feasibility of compliance with whole effluent toxicity objectives and identify appropriate mitigation, as necessary, before concluding that there would be no significant adverse environmental impact. We recognize that Mitigation Measure WPF-WQ-4 calls for an RO concentrate management study, but the City cannot conclude for purposes of this EIR that deferring this analysis to a future study will mitigate this potential impact to a less-than-significant level.

RWQCB-3 cont.

Oxidation Pond Mercury. We appreciate the attention given to the potential for mercury-related impacts. However, Mitigation Measure WQ-4 appears to defer a meaningful analysis to a future study that would evaluate the potential for impacts and propose specific mitigation. Unfortunately, without more information, the City cannot now conclude for this EIR that such mitigation would reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level. At a minimum, the City should include remediation requirements within Mitigation Measure WQ-4.

Other Oxidation Pond Contaminants. The oxidation ponds have been used for wastewater treatment since 1965. Wastewater treatment and disposal was much different then, and many products in commerce at that time contained toxic pollutants that may still persist in the ponds, particularly in sediment. Dislodging these contaminants could pose significant impacts. Without more information, the City cannot conclude that there would be no significant impacts. Monitoring data are needed to fully assess the potential for impacts. Mitigation could include monitoring to characterize potential contaminants, but it must also include remediation requirements.

RWQCB-4

Please contact Marcia Liao at (510) 622-2337 or by email at marcia.liao@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions regarding the above comments.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnson for

Lila Tang
Chief, NPDES Wastewater Division

2.1.2 Response to Comments from the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lila Tang, 4/14/2016

RWQCB-1 The Regional Water Quality Control Board's support for the project objectives and intent to facilitate the permitting process by commenting on the PEIR are acknowledged.

The PEIR is a programmatic EIR. As discussed in Chapter 1, *Introduction*, of the Draft PEIR, detailed design and construction information is not currently available for the improvements described in the Master Plan; further environmental review pursuant to CEQA would occur prior to approval of individual Master Plan improvements. The Draft PEIR evaluates proposed changes at the WPCP over a 20-plus year period; the water purification facilities are 10-15 years from implementation, with additional CEQA review anticipated during 2020-2025. Draft PEIR page 3-51 lists the approvals the Draft PEIR supports. The City of Sunnyvale and the Santa Clara Valley Water District are not pursuing RWQCB approvals at this time, but either agency may seek relevant approvals from the RWQCB upon undertaking further environmental review pursuant to CEQA.

As a program EIR, the Draft PEIR formulates program-level mitigation to avoid or reduce identified adverse environmental effects. The CEQA Guidelines[1] state that "the degree of specificity required in an EIR will correspond to the degree of specificity involved in the underlying activity which is described in the EIR." The Guidelines state further, for example, that "an EIR on a construction project will necessarily be more detailed in the specific effects of the project than will be an EIR on the adoption of a local general plan or comprehensive zoning ordinance because the effects of the construction can be predicted with greater accuracy."[2] Consistent with CEQA requirements, the specificity of the program-level analysis corresponds to the level of detail that is available on the program-level components. Until it is known whether or how the City or another entity will proceed with the program-level elements, the lack of detailed project information precludes project-level analysis. Consequently, the program-level WPCP improvements (e.g., projects that depend on future water quality regulations and technological innovations planned for the future) are evaluated more generally, with the understanding that additional detail will be provided during subsequent CEQA evaluation.

The advantage of programmatic analysis is to allow earlier and more comprehensive evaluation of the WPCP, even though the implementation of some elements may depend upon a number of factors that cannot be estimated with certainty at this time. The evaluation of program-level WPCP Master Plan improvements provides a foundation of analysis to ensure that the collective impacts of these improvements, as

1 Section 15146
2 CEQA Guidelines, Section 15146(a)

well as their cumulative impacts, are adequately characterized, and that subsequent, CEQA-required impact analyses adequately delineate impacts and apply mitigation.

RWQCB-2 The comment states that the Draft PEIR should include an antidegradation analysis that determines whether the project will comply with State and federal antidegradation policies, stating that "even if surface water and groundwater discharges were to comply with water quality objectives, they may not comply with antidegradation policies if they substantially degrade water quality. Because the Regional Water Board cannot allow degradation in some circumstances, and must make discretionary findings justifying degradation in others, a thorough antidegradation analysis is needed before the City can conclude that the Regional Water Board will be able to issue the permits necessary for the project to move forward. The antidegradation analysis should consider how increased discharge volumes, pollutant concentrations, and pollutant loads could degrade surface water quality."

The commenter references the RWQCB's requirement to comply with State and federal antidegradation policies. By way of background, in 1990 the SWRCB adopted an Administrative Procedures Update (APU 90-004), which specifies guidance to the Regional Boards for implementing the state and federal antidegradation policies. Draft PEIR page 4.10-13 includes a discussion of antidegradation policies.

As indicated in **Response RWQCB-1**, the City and District are not pursuing RWQCB approvals at this time, but either agency may seek approvals, as warranted, from the RWQCB upon undertaking further project definition and environmental review pursuant to CEQA. A discussion of the water quality effects of the Master Plan and WPF, based on content of the Draft PEIR, follows, and addresses the potential need for an antidegradation analysis.

The water treatment technologies proposed in the Master Plan and the WPF (starting on Draft PEIR page 3-13) are intended and expected to improve effluent quality. As described on Draft PEIR page 4.10-32, conventional activated sludge would improve nutrient removal and new disinfection technology would be designed to control disinfection byproducts. The WPF would be consistent with the RWQCB San Francisco Basin Plan by reducing discharges to San Francisco Bay, as discussed on Draft PEIR page 4.10-39. As discussed in Draft PEIR Sections 4.10.3.4 and 4.10.3.5, the Master Plan is anticipated to operate in compliance with applicable water quality regulations.

In addition, the City and the District intend to comply with applicable water quality requirements including the City's current NPDES permits (discussed on Draft PEIR page 4.10-26) and the groundwater replenishment and other regulations identified on Draft PEIR pages 4.10-20 through 4.10-22.

Studies currently underway or proposed for the WPF are identified on Draft PEIR pages 2-8 and 2-9, and include feasibility studies, reverse osmosis concentrate management studies, operational studies, and groundwater studies. Results of these studies will inform future planning and design of the WPF.

Based on the current project definition, the Draft PEIR analyses, the commitment of the City and District, and compliance with water quality requirements, no degradation is anticipated. The District has also prepared an antidegradation analysis for the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin as part of its recent Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP; SCVWD, 2014), which is described in the Draft PEIR beginning on page 4.10-5 and described in greater detail below to highlight the available total dissolved solids (TDS) assimilative capacity of the Subbasin groundwater.

The simple antidegradation analysis was included as part of the regional and cumulative impacts analysis presented in Chapter 3 of the SNMP. This analysis demonstrates that multiple recycled water and advanced treated water projects in the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin use a minor amount of the available TDS assimilative capacity. The analysis also shows that the assimilative capacity is expected to increase (i.e., concentrations are projected to decline) for both nitrate and TDS in the Coyote Valley, and for nitrate in the Santa Clara Plain. Groundwater TDS concentrations are projected to increase in the Santa Clara Plain by 2035, but are not projected to exceed the Basin Plan objective. SNMP Chapter 3 demonstrates that the minority of the projected Santa Clara Plain TDS increase is attributable to recycled water/purified water irrigation. As described on Draft PEIR page 4.10-38, the TDS of purified water produced by the WPF would range from 20 to 40 mg/L; the overall volume-weighted average Santa Clara Plain (the relevant portion of the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin) groundwater TDS concentration is 425 mg/L (Draft PEIR page 4.10-7). As such, it is anticipated that the project will comply with State and federal antidegradation policies.

As noted in Chapter 3 of the SNMP for the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin, the simplifying assumptions made for the SNMP (e.g., instantaneous mixing, no attenuation of salts in the unsaturated zone) have the effect of overstating the rate of salt accumulation. For example, the concentration trends associated with future projections are not mirrored in observed trends from the last 15 years, yet the same S/N loading and removal processes have been ongoing.

The District has invested in the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) to substantially improve recycled water quality. The District and water retailers are engaged in a continuous effort to increase water conservation, which can further reduce the amount of salt loading. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan, if implemented, could also play a major role in reducing the importation and accumulation of salt. As improvements are made to limit conveyance losses and drainage losses and to increase outdoor water conservation, the rate of salt accumulation will slow. Similarly, employing micro-irrigation technologies and limiting fertilizer use to agronomic demands will help to reduce salt and nutrient loading.

The Recycled Water Policy and other statewide planning documents recognize the tremendous need for and benefits of increased recycled water use in California. As

stated in the Recycled Water Policy, *"The collapse of the Bay-Delta ecosystem, climate change, and continuing population growth have combined with a severe drought on the Colorado River and failing levees in the Delta to create a new reality that challenges California's ability to provide the clean water needed for a healthy environment, a healthy population and a healthy economy, both now and in the future."* As the policy notes, *"We strongly encourage local and regional water agencies to move toward clean, abundant, local water for California by emphasizing appropriate water recycling, water conservation, and maintenance of supply infrastructure and the use of stormwater (including dry-weather urban runoff) in these plans; these sources of supply are drought-proof, reliable, and minimize our carbon footprint and can be sustained over the long term."*

With the current severe drought, the benefits of recycled water use in terms of sustainability and reliability cannot be overstated. Use of recycled water in the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin is consistent with the maximum benefit of the people of Santa Clara County.

The SNMP analysis finds that recycled water use can be increased while still protecting groundwater quality for beneficial uses. Table 5-1 (included below) provided in the SNMP for the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin provides an explanation of why recycled projects are in compliance with SWRCB Resolution No. 68-16. As such, it is anticipated that the project will comply with State and federal antidegradation policies. Both the City and District look forward to further coordination with RWQCB regarding the anticipated beneficial effects of regional recycled/purified water use within the Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin.

SANTA CLARA SUBBASIN SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
TABLE 5-1 ANTI-DEGRADATION ASSESSMENT
SWRCB RESOLUTION NO. 68-16 COMPONENT ANTI-DEGRADATION ASSESSMENT

Water quality changes associated with proposed recycled water project(s) are consistent with the maximum benefit of the people of the State.	• The Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives are being met in average ambient groundwater and will continue to be met in the future
The water quality changes associated with proposed recycled water project(s) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses.	• Recycled water irrigation project(s) and other S/N loading sources will not cause average groundwater quality to exceed the SMCL for TDS or the primary MCL for nitrate-NO3.
The water quality changes will not result in water quality less than prescribed in the Basin Plan.	• Use of recycled water for irrigation to replace groundwater is consistent with the SWRCB Recycled Water Policy, which encourages increased reliance on local, drought-resistant water supplies.
The projects are consistent with the use of best practicable treatment or control to avoid pollution or nuisance and maintain the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State.	• The recycled water used for irrigation is tertiary-treated water that meets California's Title 22 unrestricted use classification. • The District is now producing up to 8 MGD advanced treated water from the SVAWPC. The City of Sunnyvale Plans to improve recycled water quality, and the City of Palo Alto has re-sleeved some sewer mains resulting in lower TDS recycled water.

SANTA CLARA SUBBASIN SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
TABLE 5-1 ANTI-DEGRADATION ASSESSMENT
SWRCB RESOLUTION NO. 68-16 COMPONENT ANTI-DEGRADATION ASSESSMENT

The proposed project(s) is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development.	• The recycled water projects are an integral part of water and wastewater master plans for the Subbasin.
Groundwater management programs are being or will be implemented to continue attaining WQOs.	• The Santa Clara Groundwater Subbasin is actively managed with numerous programs, projects, and plans to manage groundwater, as described in Appendix 4.

RWQCB-3 This comment indicates that the Draft PEIR discusses three options for managing reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate, questions the feasibility of sending concentrate to the East Bay Dischargers Authority, requests that the PEIR evaluate the feasibility of compliance with whole effluent toxicity objectives and identify mitigation, and indicates that the RO Concentrate Management study identified in Mitigation Measure WPF-WQ-4 is not sufficient to conclude the impacts are less than significant and that the study is deferral of mitigation to future studies.

Regarding the options for disposing of RO concentrate, the City has already engaged in discussions with the EBDA dischargers to explore this option. At present, the City and District have not ruled out this option, which would route RO concentrate to EBDA's system (the southern terminus of which is the Alvarado Effluent pump station in Union City) for discharge. The option of discharging RO concentrate via a wetland resulted from the March 9, 2015 RO Concentrate Management Workshop hosted by the District; the City, State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Board also participated. The workshop objectives were to inform regional stakeholders about the opportunities and constraints associated with managing RO concentrate in the South Bay and to engage with stakeholders in a thoughtful discourse about the best RO concentrate management alternatives for the District to pursue. At the workshop, both the SWRCB and RWQCB encouraged the District and others to explore multi-benefit solutions for RO concentrate management such as wetlands creation, and to consider adaptive management approaches that allow for gradual transition to the discharge of RO concentrate with subsequent ecological monitoring.

As discussed in **Response RWQCB-1**, the PEIR is a programmatic EIR and the Master Plan and water purification facilities are in early stages of planning. The degree of specificity in the Draft PEIR corresponds to the degree of specificity available for the Master Plan and the water purification facilities.

As stated in Draft PEIR page 3-9, objectives of the Master Plan include developing process improvements to meet current and future water quality requirements and maintaining wastewater operations to meet regulatory standards, including compliance with whole effluent toxicity objectives, during the course of implementing

the Master Plan improvements. The City intends to continue to comply with RWQCB water quality limitations. While additional detailed evaluation would occur in subsequent CEQA review, the Draft PEIR assumes that RO concentrate management would potentially affect water quality and identifies Mitigation Measure WPF-WQ-4, which was prepared in light of the level of detail available about the Master Plan/water purification facilities and to reflect the RWQCB's central role in developing and approving water quality limitations for the facilities described in the Draft PEIR.

CEQA establishes standards regarding reliance on such measures as future studies and plans to mitigate project impacts. CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(a)(1)(B) states that the development of mitigation measures should not be deferred and that that mitigation measures may specify performance standards that would mitigate the significant effect of the project and may be accomplished in more than one specified way. The body of case law provides clarification of the expectations stated in Section 15126.4(a)(1)(B) regarding the adequacy of mitigation measures under CEQA. Specifically, case law has established that if a mitigation measure defers development of the final details of proposed mitigation, it should include the following elements to ensure that the proposed mitigation will succeed in mitigating the identified effect:

- A list of specific contents, standards or alternative actions to be included in the future plan.
- An analysis of the effectiveness and feasibility of the measure and its potential for success in reducing or avoiding the identified impact.
- Realistic performance standards or criteria that will ensure the measure will be effective in mitigating the significant effect.
- Commitment that the project proponent will complete proposed studies and/or implement the findings of the proposed plan.
- Requirement that advancement of future site-specific project approvals be contingent on ensuring that those projects meet the success/performance criteria.
- An explanation of why proposed future studies cannot be provided at the current time.

The mitigation measures for identified impacts were reviewed in light of these comments, and the mitigation measures essentially meet these standards. The following information has been added to clarify Mitigation Measure WPF-WQ-4 (Draft PEIR page 4.10-43):

- For use of the City's existing outfall, the study will review compliance with NPDES permit requirements under conditions of blending the RO concentrate with the remaining available WPCP effluent. The studies will generally include: development of blended effluent and RO concentrate mass balance calculations and laboratory chronic toxicity testing of a range of effluent and RO concentrate blends to evaluate

compliance with the City's NPDES permit limits. The City will select a blend that meets the City's WPCP NPDES permit limits.

- For use of the EBDA outfall, the City and/or District will review discharge requirements and other institutional arrangements for participation in EBDA. This would include: development of RO concentrate mass balance calculations and laboratory testing to evaluate compliance with EBDA's combined NDPES permit requirements. The City will control the WPCP's discharge to the EBDA system such that the addition of the WPCP's effluent would not cause discharge from the combined discharge point to exceed the EBDA NPDES permit water quality-based effluent limits and toxicity requirements.

- For use of treatment wetlands, the City and/or District will coordinate with the RWQCB and other regulatory agencies, such as USACE, USFWS, CDFW, and BCDC regarding use of concentrate to support wetlands and protect receiving water quality consistent with the water quality objectives of the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). This process will generally include development of effluent calculations, pilot testing, or other mechanism acceptable to the RWQCB to identify:

  – Effluent blending ratios,

  – Use of other potential blending source waters (such as pre-blending with Bay water or stormwater),

  – Calculation of specific concentrations of constituents of concern (metals, pesticides), and

  – Identification of chronic and acute toxicity to demonstrate protection of receiving water quality.

  Using the outcomes of the studies listed, the City and/or District will select an initial approach to treatment wetlands design that would be consistent with the water quality objectives of the Basin Plan.

As stated in **Response RWQCB-1**, the City acknowledges that the RWQCB's comments are designed to facilitate the RWQCB permitting process. This program-level EIR is intended to support approval of a Master Plan by the City.

RWQCB-4 This comment characterizes Mitigation Measure WQ-4 (a study related to methylmercury) as deferral of meaningful analysis, and indicates that remediation requirements for Ponds 1 and 2 should be included in the mitigation measure. The comment also expresses concern regarding the effect on water quality of dislodging pond sediments; states that monitoring data is necessary to assess potential for impacts; indicates the need to assess the impact; and indicates that remediation requirements for ponds should be included in mitigation.

Refer to **Response RWQCB-1** regarding the uses of a Program EIR, and **Response RWQCB 3** for a discussion of CEQA standards of adequacy for mitigation measures.

As stated on Draft PEIR page 4.10-36, the extent to which increases in methylmercury generation could occur as a result of oxidation pond restoration would depend on final project design which would be evaluated in detail during project-level analysis. Similarly, the potential for other contaminants to be mobilized due to disturbance of pond sediments (potentially associated with construction in ponds or breaching of levees) would be evaluated in detail during project-level analysis. Nonetheless, the Draft PEIR assumes that this potential impact could occur, and identifies a measure to mitigate it. Mitigation Measure WQ-4 (Draft PEIR pages 4.10-36 and 4.10-37) includes future preparation of a water quality evaluation and control plan to mitigate for potential increases in methylmercury generation. As stated in the mitigation measure, the City will implement all recommendations identified in the water quality evaluation needed to preserve water quality, maintain consistency with the Basin Plan, and protect beneficial uses onsite and downstream. The Plan is required to contain measures and actions as warranted to reduce pollutant emissions and protect beneficial uses, including those related to disturbance of oxidation pond sediments.

Additionally, the Draft PEIR discusses periodic sediment sampling conducted by the City and the results of that sampling (page 4.11-10), and includes Mitigation Measure HAZ-2c (page 4.11-34), requiring preparation of a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan covering any future ground disturbing activity (which would include ground disturbing activities in the ponds). The plan will include all necessary procedures to ensure that any excavated materials and fluids from throughout the Master Plan area generated during construction are stored, managed, and disposed of in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

In response to this comment, the following additional detail about remediation measures and actions are added to Draft PEIR page 4.10-36:

> **Mitigation Measure WQ-4: Water Quality Evaluation and Control Plan for Oxidation Pond Breaching and Restoration**
>
> During design of oxidation pond breaching and/or restoration, the City, in coordination with other agencies directly involved in planning and implementing of restoration activities, shall require preparation of a water quality evaluation for the proposed levee breach and associated pond restoration activities. The water quality evaluation shall evaluate anticipated construction activities, <u>including disturbance and potential mobilization of pond sediments,</u> and anticipated changes to pond area and nearby hydrodynamics, and evaluate their potential to influence each of the water quality parameters discussed in this analysis: temperature, salinity, DO, metals, mercury, methyl mercury, phytoplankton blooms, and nuisance algae. The water quality evaluation shall consider applicable water quality standards and goals defined in the Basin Plan, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Bay Plan Policies on Water Quality, as applicable, and other

applicable water quality standards. The water quality evaluation shall provide recommendations for the minimization of each category of potential water quality pollutants described above, sufficient to ensure that downstream beneficial uses would not be adversely affected, and that applicable water quality standards would not be exceeded. The City shall implement all recommendations identified in the water quality evaluation needed to preserve water quality and maintain consistency with the Basin Plan and other applicable water quality standards and requirements, and protect beneficial uses on site and downstream. The water quality evaluation shall also identify protocols and procedures for the deployment of long-term monitoring for temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, metals including mercury, methylmercury, phytoplankton blooms, and nuisance algae, and shall, in the event of exceedance of applicable standards established to protect beneficial use by the Regional Board, identify measures and actions as warranted to reduce pollutant emissions and protect beneficial uses using an adaptive management approach. Measures and actions warranted to reduce pollutant emissions and protect beneficial uses could include, but would not be limited to, characterization, monitoring or remediation of pond sediments, changing hydraulic residence times or manipulating other factors affecting the generation or presence of methylmercury.

References

Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), 2014. *Salt and Nutrient Management Plan: Santa Clara Subbasin*. November.

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OPR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research

State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

Ken Alex
Director

April 12, 2016

Alison Hood
City of Sunnyvale
PO Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan
SCH#: 2015062037

Dear Alison Hood:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on April 11, 2016, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

> "A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

OPR-1

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base

OPR

SCH# 2015062037
Project Title Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan
Lead Agency Sunnyvale, City of

Type EIR Draft EIR

Description The City proposes to approve the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plan Master Plan for the Donald M. somers Water Pollution Control Plant. The proposed Master Plan will serve as a long-term guide for upgrading and replacing the WPCP's facilities and operations. The purpose of the Master Plan is to ensure that the WPCP can meet changing regulations, treat existing and projected wastewater flows reliably and cost-effectively, and increase recycled water production. The Master Plan yielded a preferred site plan and a series of capital improvement projects, including replacement of existing and construction of new facilities, to be phased in over the next 20 or more years at and near the WPCP. Many of the existing buildings and processes at the WPCP site would be decommissioned and replaced with new buildings and processes. Improvements planned outside of the main plant area include construction of basins and tanks for emergency water storage and relocation of Bay Trail access to Caribbean Drive. The City is also contemplating implementation of a variation of the Master Plan in partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) to produce purified water at the WPCP. Implementation of the "Water Purification Facilities" (WPF) would alter the WPCP site layout and some of the treatment processes in order to produce purified water for groundwater recharge at locations south of the WPCP.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Alison Hood
Agency City of Sunnyvale
Phone 408-730-7415 **Fax**
email
Address PO Box 3707
City Sunnyvale **State** CA **Zip** 94088-3707

Project Location

County Santa Clara
City Sunnyvale
Region
Lat / Long 37° 25' 09" N / 122° 00' 56" W
Cross Streets Carl Road and Borregas Ave
Parcel No. 110-03-023, 110-03-064
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways 237, 101
Airports Moffett Airfield
Railways Santa Clara Light Rail
Waterways
Schools Various
Land Use

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Coastal Zone; Flood Plain/Flooding; Geologic/Seismic; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Cumulative Effects

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 3; California Coastal Commission; Department of Parks and Recreation; San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission; Office of Emergency Services, California; Caltrans, District 4; Air Resources Board; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water; State Water Resources Control Board, Divison

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

of Financial Assistance; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2; Native American Heritage Commission; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Public Utilities Commission

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Date Received 02/29/2016 ***Start of Review*** 02/29/2016 ***End of Review*** 04/11/2016

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2.1.3 Response to Comments from the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Scott Morgan, 4/12/16

OPR-1 This comment listing state agencies that received the Draft PEIR and transmitting comments from the California State Water Resources Control Board is acknowledged. Responses to the California State Water Resources Control Board's comments are in Section 2.1.1 of this document (**Responses SWRCB-1** through **SWRCB-8**).

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2.2 Responses to Comments from Regional and Local Agencies

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April 13, 2016

Allison Hood, P.E.
City of Sunnyvale, Department of Public Works
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Subject: **Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)**

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Trail Project, I am pleased to submit comments on the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The San Francisco Bay Trail is a visionary plan for a shared-use bicycle and pedestrian path that will one day allow continuous travel around San Francisco Bay. Currently, 345 miles of trail have been completed. Eventually, the Bay Trail will extend over 500 miles to link the shoreline of nine counties, passing through 47 cities and crossing seven toll bridges. ABAG-1

The Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant is located directly adjacent to the Bay Trail. This section is part of a 25-mile continuous trail between East Palo Alto and San Jose. The Bay Trail in this area serves as a popular bicycle commute corridor and recreation destination. The public access also provides opportunities to learn about the water pollution control plant facility and the important functions it serves. ABAG-2

We are reviewing this Program Environmental Impact Report under the assumption that capital projects identified in the plan will be subject to subsequent environmental review covering the detailed, site-specific issues of particular projects. However, our suggested changes and additions to this document are relevant to the programmatic review in order to ensure that the proposed facility upgrades are fully understood and that issues potentially impacting the Bay Trail are clearly identified. ABAG-3

<u>Bay Trail Improvements Proposed for Fall 2016</u>

Surface improvements are planned for 2 miles of the Bay Trail though Sunnyvale in fall 2016 between the Carl Road trailhead and the Santa Clara County border. The gravel and base rock levee trail surface has become loose, resulting in poor traction. Portions of the levee have developed potholes resulting in ABAG-4

Administered by the Association of Bay Area Governments
P.O. Box 2050 • Oakland, CA 94604-2050
Phone: 510-464-7900 • Fax: 510-464-7970
Web: www.baytrail.org

difficult passage for bicyclists and pedestrians. We request that city staff continue to collaborate with Google and its contractors on this improvement project and coordinate with the proposed Master Plan facility improvements that might impact sections of resurfaced trail. ABAG-4

General Statement

The Master Plan PEIR should include a general statement about the importance of maintaining a continuous Bay Trail alignment in the context of future changes to the facilities in and around the Water Pollution Control Plant. As written, the discussion of the Bay Trail in this document does not clearly convey the current function of the Bay Trail as an important recreation and transportation corridor that provides uninterrupted travel for bicyclists and pedestrians. The Sunnyvale General Plan, the Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan, ABAG's Bay Trail Plan and the BCDC Bay Plan all strongly support a continuous and unobstructed Bay Trail alignment. ABAG-5

Closure of Carl Road and Relocation of Public Access to Bay Trail

Page 3.27 In response to the proposal to relocate the Bay Trail access at Carl Road to Caribbean Drive we would like to see more detail in the document in order to fully understand the proposed changes. The PEIR needs to ensure that the following would occur: ABAG-6

- an improved trail along the West Channel would provide direct access to existing Bay Trail and continuity would be preserved
- an appropriate number of parking spaces would be provided, including accessible spaces
- adequate room for staging
- replacement of the restroom that currently exists at the Carl Road trailhead
- directional signage

We appreciate the PEIR stating that pedestrian and bicycle access and circulation will be maintained during project construction where safe to do so and that detours will be identified for bicycles and pedestrians in all areas affected by project construction. ABAG-7

Restoration of Ponds 1 and 2

Figure 3.3 Ponds 1 and 2 are proposed for restoration following decommission, which would include the breaching of levees. The PEIR does not address the impact this action would have to the existing public loop trails that are part of the Bay Trail system, resulting in the loss of trail loop access. The plan should address this potential impact and suggest options to mitigate it, including the construction of bicycle/pedestrian bridges to span the levee breaches and maintain the loop trail configuration, or new public access in another location to mitigate for the loss of continuous public access. ABAG-8

Section 3.6	The potential impact to the Bay Trail segments around Ponds 1 and 2 described above should be added to the list of Master Plan components that fall within the jurisdiction of BCDC.	ABAG-9
Page 4.2-3	The potential impact to the Bay Trail segments around Ponds 1 and 2 described above should be added to the discussion of the pond restoration.	ABAG-10

Access Road Improvements

Figure 3.8	The PEIR should address the potential impacts to the existing Bay Trail as part of the proposed access road improvements shown on this map. This issue should also be discussed in the context to the proposed 2016 resurfacing project mentioned above.	ABAG-11

Land Uses and Recreational Resources in the WPCP Vicinity

Figure 4.2-1	Please revise this map to accurately reflect existing conditions for the Bay Trail. The trail extends west from the Carl Road trailhead along the inner levee adjacent to the Cargill Channel connecting to Moffett Field and beyond.	ABAG-12

Viewpoint Map

Figure 4.15-1	Please revise this map to accurately reflect existing conditions for the Bay Trail. The trail extends west from the Carl Road trailhead along the inner levee adjacent to the Cargill Channel connecting to Moffett Field and beyond.	ABAG-13

Please contact me at 510-464-7935 or laurat@abag.ca.gov if you have questions about this letter or the Bay Trail in general.

Sincerely,

Laura Thompson

Laura Thompson
Bay Trail Project Manager

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2.2.1 Response to Comments from the Association of Bay Area Governments, Laura Thompson, 4/13/2016

ABAG-1 This comment supplying background information about the San Francisco Bay Trail is acknowledged.

ABAG-2 This comment describing the section of the Bay Trail located adjacent to the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) is acknowledged.

ABAG-3 In this comment the commenter states the assumption that improvements identified in the Master Plan will be subject to subsequent environmental review, and notes that comments contained in the letter are relevant to understanding the proposed Master Plan improvements and to clearly identifying issues potentially affecting the Bay Trail. This comment is acknowledged.

ABAG-4 This comment requests that City of Sunnyvale staff collaborate with Google Inc. and its contractors on current and future Bay Trail resurfacing between the Carl Road trailhead and the Santa Clara County border. The comment also requests that the Master Plan improvements that might affect sections of resurfaced trail be coordinated.

As discussed in the Draft PEIR Chapter 1 page 1-2, detailed design and construction information is not currently available for the improvements described in the Master Plan; further environmental review pursuant to CEQA would occur prior to approval of individual Master Plan improvements. From what is currently known about the Master Plan improvements, during construction existing access to the Bay Trail in the vicinity of the WPCP would likely be disrupted (Draft PEIR page 4.2-22). In addition, a loop of the Bay Trail would be most likely permanently disrupted should restoration of Ponds 1 and 2 proceed by passive or active levee breaching (after 2035), described further in **Response ABAG-8**. The City remains committed to long-term continuity of the Bay Trail along the waterfront in the Project vicinity, and would return the trail to its prior condition after temporary disruption associated with construction of Master Plan improvements affecting the trail, such as diurnal equalization and emergency storage facilities.

ABAG-5 This comment proposes that the PEIR contain a general statement about the importance of maintaining a continuous Bay Trail alignment in the context of future changes to the facilities in and around the WPCP. It further states that the Draft PEIR does not clearly convey the current function of the Bay Trail as an important recreation and transportation corridor that provides uninterrupted travel for bicyclists and pedestrians.

In response to this comment, the following revisions on Draft PEIR page 4.2-8, have been made to more clearly convey the function of the Bay Trail:

San Francisco Bay Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail[4,5]

In 1987, Senate Bill 100 was passed into law directing the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to create a ~~trail/~~recreational and transportation corridor that was to be aligned along the Bay to provide uninterrupted travel for bicyclists and pedestrians around the perimeter of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. The Bay Trail is a multi-purpose recreational trail that, when complete, will encircle San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay with a continuous 500-mile network of bicycling and hiking trails. The Bay Trail will connect the shoreline of all nine Bay Area counties in the region. The Bay Trail provides opportunities for walking, jogging, and bicycling. The Bay Trail offers access to commercial, industrial, and residential neighborhoods, points of historic, natural and cultural interest, recreational areas such as beaches, marinas, fishing piers, boat launches, and over 130 parks and wildlife preserves. Within the project area, there is an existing entrance to the Bay Trail at the west end of Carl Road. This segment of the Bay Trail borders the WPCP to the west and north and surrounds Ponds 1 and 2. This segment of the trail is also part of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail which aims to connect the San Francisco Bay Area to Nogales, Arizona.

[5] Information in this section is derived from Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail: *EXPLORE- Follow the Anza Expedition*. Last Accessed May 12, 2016. Available at: http://www.anzahistorictrail.org/visit/explorer

Draft PEIR pages 4.2-9 and 4.2-10 have been revised to include the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail near the water purification facilities as follows:

San Francisco Bay Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

Within the groundwater replenishment facilities area, there are three separate trails that extend from the Bay Trail to the south. One portion extends to San Tomas Expressway, another follows the Lower ~~Q~~Guadalupe River Trail to approximately State Route 87, and the last portion extends along Coyote Creek to Montague Expressway. The historic trail corridor of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail roughly parallels State Route 85 in the vicinity of the water purification facilities, and intersects the Los Gatos recharge basins area as well as the southwest corner of the well injection area (National Park Service, 2016).

Draft PEIR page 4.2-26 has been revised to include the reference cited for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail near the water purification facilities:

National Park Service, 2016. *Visit – Plan Your Trip on the Anza Map*. Accessed May 18, 2016. Available at: http://www.anzahistorictrail.org/visit.

ABAG-6 This comment requests additional information regarding the relocation of Bay Trail access at Carl Road to Caribbean Drive, including preservation of continuity with the existing Bay Trail, parking spaces and staging, and restrooms and signage.

As noted above in **Response ABAG-4**, detailed design and construction information is not currently available for the improvements described in the Master Plan. While the relocated public access would include parking, sidewalk and landscaping improvements, and signage as described on Draft PEIR page 4.2-21, the City has not yet designed the relocated Bay Trail access point (shown on Draft PEIR Figure 3-10, page 3-28); however, the following additional information is currently available about planned trail access relocation:

- As described in Draft PEIR Chapter 6, *Cumulative Impacts*, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) plans to implement a flood protection project along the Sunnyvale East and West Channels, including the segment of the Sunnyvale West Channel between Caribbean Drive and the Bay Trail. Levees along the West Channel would be raised, and, similar to existing conditions, the tops of the levees would be used as maintenance roads. The maintenance road topping the west bank levee along Sunnyvale West Channel would be publicly accessible, with ramp slopes along the levee designed to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act requirements (Sanchez, pers. comm.).

- Parking spaces and staging space would be replaced; the number of parking spaces available will not decrease as compared with the existing parking at the current access point on Carl Road.

- The City does not have plans to relocate or otherwise alter the existing restroom near the Carl Road trailhead.

- Directional signage designating relocated trail access and detour routes along closed portions of the Bay Trail will be provided.

ABAG-7 This comment, expressing appreciation for pedestrian and bicycle access as well as the identification of detours for bicycles and pedestrians during project construction, is acknowledged.

ABAG-8 This comment expresses concern about the potential impacts that the breaching of levees will have on the Bay Trail system around Ponds 1 and 2 and requests that mitigation measures for the impact be identified.

The Draft PEIR addresses impacts related to recreation in Impact LU-2 (page 4.2-21). Consistent with the significance threshold, a project would have a significant impact related to recreation if it were to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated, or if the project would include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

As stated above in **Response ABAG-4**, detailed design and construction information is not currently available for the improvements described in the Master Plan; further

environmental review pursuant to CEQA would occur prior to approval of individual Master Plan improvements.

The following paragraph addressing the loop trail surrounding Ponds 1 and 2 as well as trail loop access after restoration has been added after the second paragraph on page 4.2-22 of the Draft PEIR.

> As indicated on page 3-18 of this Draft PEIR, pond restoration is in early planning stages; pond restoration would not be implemented until after 2035. Restoration would likely involve active or passive breaching of the levees surrounding the ponds. Levee breaching would disrupt the continuity of the loop surrounding these ponds. In the future, as planning progresses for decommissioning of Ponds 1 and 2, construction of the diurnal equalization tanks and emergency storage basins, and restoration, the City will coordinate with ABAG and BCDC regarding the future Bay Trail alignment in the vicinity of Moffett Channel. The City is committed to preserving the continuity of Bay Trail access through the City of Sunnyvale along this segment of shoreline.
>
> While passive or active restoration resulting in breaches of the levees around Ponds 1 and 2 would remove portions of an existing trail, because there are many other trails and other recreational resources that are available throughout the area, the increase in use of other local or regional recreation resources that may be attributable to pond restoration would not substantially deteriorate or degrade existing recreational resources.

The commenter requests that bridges be constructed to span the levee breaches and maintain trail configuration around Ponds 1 and 2. Once the diurnal equalization tanks and emergency storage basins are constructed, the levees around Ponds 1 and 2 would no longer need to be maintained for flood protection of WPCP operations. Creating bridges across levee breaches may or may not be feasible since restoration would require levee breaching and consequently the levees would no longer be maintained. Pond restoration may also provide other benefits such as moderation of sea level rise effects along the shoreline. At this stage in planning uncertainty remains regarding whether the City or another agency would manage restoration of the oxidation ponds and levees.

ABAG-9 This comment suggests that the potential impact to the Bay Trail segments from restoration around Ponds 1 and 2 should be added to the list of Master Plan components that fall within the jurisdiction of BCDC.

Draft PEIR Table 3-4 (page 3-51) lists approvals needed from BCDC which cover public access and trails within BCDC jurisdiction. The Draft PEIR does not include a table that associates components of the Master Plan with individual approvals. Determinations of the approvals associated with each Master Plan component would be included in

project-level CEQA review and environmental consultation. Draft PEIR 4.2-3 shows the potential area of BCDC jurisdiction which includes relocated trail access.

ABAG-10 This comment requests that the potential impact to the Bay Trail segments from restoration around Ponds 1 and 2 be added to the discussion of pond restoration on page 4.2-23 is noted.

Refer to **Response ABAG-8** for response to this comment.

ABAG-11 This comment requests that the PEIR address potential impacts to the existing Bay Trail from access road improvements including resurfacing.

In response, refer to Draft PEIR Impact LU-2 (page 4.2-22), which discusses access road impacts as well as **Response ABAG-4** regarding the City's commitment to preserving the continuity of the trail and its restoration to existing conditions to prevent physical deterioration of the facilities.

ABAG-12 This comment requests that edits be made to more accurately reflect existing conditions of the Bay Trail in Draft PEIR Figure 4.2-1.

In response, the revised figure can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the Text of the Draft PEIR,* under Section 4.2, Land Use and Recreation.

ABAG-13 This comment requests that edits be made to more accurately reflect the existing conditions of the Bay Trail in Draft PEIR Figure 4.15-1.

In response, the revised figure can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the Text of the Draft PEIR*, under Section 4.15, Aesthetics.

References

Sanchez, Bill, personal communication with Karen Lancelle, ESA regarding accessibility at the maintenance road topping the west bank levee along the Sunnyvale West Channel.

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CSCDEH

County of Santa Clara

Department of Environmental Health

Vector Control District
1580 Berger Drive
San Jose, CA 95112-2716
(408)918-4770 / 800-675-1155 FAX (408)298-6356
www.sccvector.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alison Hood (ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov)
DATE: March 23, 2016
SUBJECT: Comments to Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plan Master Plan PEIR Review
FROM: Noor Tietze, Scientific-Technical Services Manager

In general, the Master Plan supports the mission of Vector Control District by reducing the "wetland footprint" of its existing oxidation ponds (Pond 1 and Pond 2) by about 400 acres by implementing other solids removal techniques and systems. Decommissioning of the oxidation ponds and other plant structures and operations should be conducted in such a way as to not promote mosquito, chironomid midge and psychodid fly (drainfly) production. Organically rich standing water is rapidly exploited by these pest species and can easily cause nuisance level populations capable of dispersing into the surrounding community. CSCDEH-1

Removal of old structures above and below-ground must be conducted in such a way as to avoid creation of puddles that remain stagnant for more than five days. Pumping or siphoning out standing water will reduce these potential mosquito breeding sources. Underground structures such as vaults, pump stations, culverts, lateral pipes and catch basins are particularly difficult for District staff to locate and treat. CSCDEH-2

During the course of implementation of the Master Plan, any idle processes such as clarifiers, digesters, pump stations or other structures that hold water more than five days should be reported to the District for mosquito control inspection and treatment. CSCDEH-3

Emergent vegetation in channels (Sunnyvale West Channel, Southeast Channel, and Cargill Channel) and converted oxidation ponds that are not tidal should be managed to allow for mosquito sampling and effective treatment. Thick stands of aquatic and riparian vegetation form a barrier to mosquito control technicians ability to access and dip (sample) for mosquitoes and make it difficult to impossible to treat. Dense emergent vegetation is also known to reduce the efficacy of biological control agents, such as mosquitofish. Vegetation management should allow for at least 60-70% open water. CSCDEH-4

During the decommissioning process for the oxidation ponds, cyclical changes to water levels may encourage colonization of flood water mosquito species *Ochlerotatus squamiger* and *O. dorsalis* that are known to disperse widely as adults and are aggressive biters of plant staff and local residents. Care must be exercised in maintaining fairly constant water levels or avoid re-flooding events during the year. Creation of emergency storage basins may become a mosquito, CSCDEH-5

County of Santa Clara
Department of Environmental Health

Vector Control District
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www.sccvector.org

midge or drainfly issue if water is left stagnant for greater than five days or if frequently refilled. The District should be notified during emergency storage basin usage. CSCDEH-5

The creation of new water holding structures above and below ground should consider providing adequate access for District staff to obtain “dip samples” for survey for mosquitoes. Very deep or heavily grated structures make it difficult or impossible to sample. CSCDEH-6 CSCDEH-7

In general, the District supports the creation of wetland habitat that is fully tidal over muted tidal or impounded marshes. When functioning correctly, tidal marshes drain effectively and produce fewer mosquitoes compared to muted tidal and impounded marshes. The District recommends eventual replacement of existing oxidation ponds with fully tidal wetland habitat assuming it drains out properly. CSCDEH-8

2.2.2 Response to Comments from the County of Santa Clara Department of Environmental Health, Vector Control District, Noor Tietze, 3/23/16

CSCDEH-1 This comment states that the decommissioning of Ponds 1 and 2 and other plant structures or operations should be conducted such as to not promote mosquito/ chironomid midge/drainfly production, and that organically rich water is rapidly exploited by these organisms.

Two aspects of current Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant operations discourage mosquito, chironomid midge, and drainfly production. First, the pond ammonia levels and changing surface water levels both discourage incubation of the larvae of the organisms identified in the Vector Control District's comment. Second, drainage of tanks that are out of service is standard practice at the plant, limiting the presence of standing water available for larvae incubation. Ammonia levels in the ponds would continue to discourage growth of the identified vectors until pond decommissioning, to be evaluated in further environmental review once the pond decommissioning Master Plan improvement is better defined. The current intent of pond decommissioning is to restore the ponds as tidal habitat, which would also discourage use of the restored ponds by these organisms.

CSCDEH-2 This comment states that removal of old structures must be conducted in a way that avoids creation of puddles stagnant for more than five days.

The City of Sunnyvale's standard practice in decommissioning old structures or managing tanks that are out of service is to drain any liquid from tanks. This practice would be adhered to in the future as the Master Plan is implemented.

CSCDEH-3 This comment states that, during Master Plan implementation, processes idle for greater than five days should be reported to the Department of Environmental Health Vector Control District for vector inspection and treatment.

This comment is responded to in **Response CSCDEH-2**, above.

CSCDEH-4 This comment identifies channels with emergent vegetation, and indicates that vegetation in these channels and in converted oxidation ponds that are not tidal should be managed to allow for mosquito sampling and effective treatment. The comment also states that vegetation management should allow for at least 60-70 percent open water.

The channels identified in the letter (Sunnyvale West Channel, Sunnyvale East Channel, and Cargill Channel) are not under the jurisdiction of the City of Sunnyvale. Sunnyvale West and East Channels are under the jurisdiction of the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Cargill Channel is part of the Don Edwards

National Wildlife Refuge (as shown in Draft PEIR Figure 3-2). As noted in **Response CSCDEH-1**, the ammonia levels and the changing water elevations in Ponds 1 and 2 discourage mosquito and other vector incubation. This would continue as long as the plant operates in the split flow configuration described starting on Draft PEIR page 3-13. Once the plant is converted to full conventional activated sludge, the ponds could be decommissioned. As described on Draft PEIR page 3-18, pond restoration would be explored in partnership with regulatory and other agencies.

CSCDEH-5 This comment, stating that cyclical water level changes can result in vector population increases if water is left stagnant for greater than five days or is frequently refilled, is acknowledged.

CSCDEH-6 This comment requests that the Vector Control District be notified during emergency basin use.

As indicated in **Response CSCDEH-1**, the elevated ammonia levels in wastewater tend to inhibit larvae incubation. Use of the emergency basins occurs during emergency situations that include power outages and other major facility upset conditions as well as during major plant maintenance events. As described on Draft PEIR page 3-17, the conceptual design for the emergency basins includes a pump station whose purpose is to pump wash water back to the secondary treatment process to ensure that no stagnant water remains in the basins after use. Conceptual design of the emergency basins also includes washdown components. Given that use of the emergency basins is often unexpected and requires immediate action, notification of the Vector Control District (VCD) during emergency basins use will not be possible. However, the VCD is welcome to inspect the Plant and the surrounding grounds at its discretion.

CSCDEH-7 This comment states that design of new water holding structures above and below ground should consider providing adequate access for District staff to obtain samples.

As indicated in **Response CSCDEH-1**, the elevated ammonia levels in wastewater tend to inhibit larvae incubation. The Vector Control District staff is welcome to visit, sample, or inspect the facilities at its discretion.

CSCDEH-8 This comment, expressing Vector Control District support for creating fully tidal wetland habitat and recommending replacement of ponds with fully tidal wetland habitat assuming the habitat drains properly, is acknowledged.

As discussed in Chapter 1, *Introduction*, of the Draft PEIR, detailed design and construction information is not currently available for the improvements described in the Master Plan; further environmental review pursuant to CEQA would occur prior to approval of individual Master Plan improvements, including pond decommissioning. Additional input from other environmental regulatory agencies would also inform pond decommissioning and restoration design, as discussed on Draft PEIR page 3-18.

CSCPRD

County of Santa Clara

Parks and Recreation Department

298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, California 95032-7669
(408) 355-2200 FAX 355-2290
Reservations (408) 355-2201
www.parkhere.org

April 12, 2016

Alison Hood, Senior Engineer
City of Sunnyvale
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

SUBJECT: Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan

Dear Ms. Hood:

The County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks Department), is submitting the following comments on the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan, as related to the project's potential impacts to the countywide trails and the nearby Twin Creeks Sports Complex and Sunnyvale Baylands Park within the vicinity of the WPCP operational area. CSCPRD-1

We are reviewing this PEIR with the assumption that capital projects identified in the plan will be subject to subsequent environmental review covering the detailed, site-specific issues of particular projects. CSCPRD-2

Relationship to the *Santa Clara County Countywide Trails Master Plan Update*
The *Countywide Trails Master Plan Update* indicates the following trail routes adjacent to the project site. The DEIR should consider the routes, which offer opportunities for non-motorized transportation connections to the surrounding neighborhoods, parks, trails, and open space areas. CSCPRD-3

- ***San Francisco Bay Trail*** (Route R4) – a partially existing route designated for hiking and off-road cycling; provides a regional connection along the San Francisco Bay shoreline.
- ***Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail*** (Route R1-B) – a partially existing route designated for hiking and off-road cycling; connects Nogales, AZ to the San Francisco Bay Area.

In addition to the *Countywide Trails Master Plan Update,* the Sunnyvale General Plan, Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan, ABAG's Bay Trail Plan and BCDC Bay Plan all support a continuous Bay Trail alignment. The comments below support the San Francisco Bay Trail Project's CSCPRD-4

comments. CSCPRD-4 cont.

3.1 Location

As seen in Figure 3-3, Ponds 1 and 2 are proposed for restoration following decommission, which would include the breaching of levees. The PEIR should examine this potential impact and suggest options to mitigate it, maintain the loop trail configuration, or provide new public access in another location. CSCPRD-5

4.2 Land Use and Recreation

Figure 4.2-1 and Figure 4.15-1 should be revised to accurately reflect existing conditions for the Bay Trail. The trail extends west from the Carl Road trailhead along the inner levee adjacent to the Cargill Channel connecting to Moffett Field and beyond. CSCPRD-6

3.4.7 Support Facilities and Related Actions

The closure of Carl Road and Relocation of Public Access to the Bay Trail is described on pg. 3-27. The PEIR needs to ensure that the following would occur: CSCPRD-7

- an improved trail along the West Channel would provide direct access to the existing Bay Trail
- an appropriate number of parking spaces would be provided, including accessible spaces
- adequate room for staging
- replacement of the restroom that currently exists at the Carl Road trailhead
- directional signage

The County Parks Department appreciates that pedestrian and bicycle access and circulation will be maintained during project construction and that detours will be identified for bicycles and pedestrians in all areas affected by project construction. CSCPRD-8

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft PEIR for the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan. Please add the County Parks Department to your distribution list for the Final EIR notification. If you have additional questions, please call me at (408) 355-2228 or e-mail me at Hannah.Cha@prk.sccgov.org.

Sincerely,

Hannah Cha
Provisional Associate Planner

CC: Annie Thomson, Principal Planner

2.2.3 Response to Comments from the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department, Hannah Cha, 4/12/2016

CSCPRD-1 This comment, describing comments related to potential impacts to countywide trails, the Twin Creeks Sports Complex, and Sunnyvale Baylands Park, is acknowledged. For responses to the comment letter received from the County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department please see **Responses CSCPRD-2** through **CSCPRD-8**, below.

CSCPRD-2 This comment, requesting confirmation as to whether capital projects identified in the Draft PEIR will be subject to environmental review, is acknowledged. As described on Draft PEIR page 1-2, the City will undertake further environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) prior to approval of individual Master Plan improvements when a determination is made to implement a WPCP improvement evaluated in the Draft PEIR and conceptual design is completed and construction details developed.

CSCPRD-3 Commenter requests that the PEIR consider the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. Refer to Draft PEIR page 4.2-8 for a description of the San Francisco Bay Trail and **Response ABAG-5** for revisions to include mention of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

CSCPRD-4 This comment, expressing support for the San Francisco Bay Trail Project's comments, is acknowledged.

CSCPRD-5 Refer to **Response ABAG-8** for a discussion of both the trail loop around Ponds 1 and 2 and trail access following restoration.

CSCPRD-6 Commenter's request to revise Figures 4.2-1 and 4.15-1 are acknowledged. Refer to **Responses ABAG-12** and **ABAG-13**.

CSCPRD-7 Refer to **ResponseABAG-6** for additional information regarding Bay Trail access along the West Channel, parking spaces, room for staging, the restroom near the Carl Road trailhead, and directional signage.

CSCPRD-8 This comment, expressing appreciation for pedestrian and bicycle access as well as the identification of detours for bicycles and pedestrians during project construction, is acknowledged.

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CSCRAD

County of Santa Clara

Roads and Airports Department

101 Skyport Drive
San Jose, California 95110-1302
1-408-573-2400

April 1, 2016

Alison Hood
Senior Engineer
City of Sunnyvale, Public Works
P.O. Box 3707,
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report
Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan

Dear Ms. Hood:

The County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department appreciates the opportunity to review to the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) and is submitting the following comments.

- On page 4.3-15 of the DEIR, Mitigation Measure TR-1a: Truck Route Plan states

  "As a part of pre-construction submittals, the contractor(s) shall submit a truck route plan to the City of Sunnyvale Public Works Department for review and approval...."

  Please provide the truck route plan to the County as well for review and approval. CSCRA D-1

- Provide traffic control plan for County review, specifically if it affects traffic along Lawrence Expressway. This plan should include hours of construction, limiting usage of construction/hauling trucks to outside peak hours of traffic, i.e., no trucks between 6-9am and 3-7pm on weekdays. CSCRA D-2

- Please obtain encroachment permit for any work within the County roads right-of-way. CSCRA D-3

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact me at 408-573-2462 or at aruna.bodduna@rda.sccgov.org.

Sincerely,

Aruna Bodduna
Associate Transportation Planner

cc: MA, AP, DSC

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2.2.4 Response to Comments from the County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department, Aruna Bodduna, 4/1/2016

CSCRAD-1 This comment requests that a Truck Route Plan be submitted to the County for review and approval.

The City will provide a copy of the Traffic Control Plan to the County if routing occurs on any County owned or maintained roadway. The Traffic Control Plan is described on Draft PEIR page 4.3-15 and shall include:

- Circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts on local road circulation during road and lane closures. Flaggers and/or signage shall be used to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone.
- Controlling and monitoring construction vehicle movement through the enforcement of standard construction specifications by onsite inspectors.
- Sufficient staging areas for trucks accessing construction zones to minimize disruption of access to adjacent public rights-of-way.
- Scheduling truck trips outside the peak morning and evening commute hours to the extent possible.
- Maintaining pedestrian and bicycle access and circulation during project construction where safe to do so. If construction activities encroach on bicycle routes or multi-use paths, advance warning signs (e.g., "Bicyclists Allowed Use of Full Lane" and/or "Share the Road") shall be posted that indicate the presence of such users.
- Identifying detours for bicycles and pedestrians, where applicable, in all areas affected by project construction.
- Implementing roadside safety protocols. Advance "Road Work Ahead" warning and speed control signs (including those informing drivers of State legislated double fines for speed infractions in a construction zone) shall be posted to reduce speeds and provide safe traffic flow through the work zone.
- Coordinating construction with administrators of police and fire stations (including all fire protection agencies), and recreational facility managers. Operators shall be notified in advance of the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of detours and lane closures, where applicable.
- Storing all equipment and materials in designated contractor staging areas on or adjacent to the worksite, such that traffic obstruction is minimized.

As described in Mitigation Measures NOI-1 and WPF-NOI-1 (Draft PEIR pages 4.4-19 and 4.4-24, respectively), construction traffic to and from the project site shall be

routed via designated truck routes that use freeways to the extent possible. Trucks will not traverse Lawrence Expressway between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to reduce noise impacts to local residents.

Once the Traffic Control Plan is prepared and approved, construction trucks would be required to comply with the Plan along with other mitigation measures in the Draft PEIR designed to reduce or avoid significant traffic impacts.

CSCRAD-2 This comment, requesting that the City provide a Traffic Control Plan for the County's review, is acknowledged.

Refer to **Response CSCRAD-1**, above.

CSCRAD-3 This comment, requesting that the City obtain encroachment permits for any work done within the County roads right-of-way, is acknowledged.

In response, the City will obtain any necessary encroachment permits for individual Master Plan improvements.

From: **Molseed, Roy** <Roy.Molseed@vta.org>
Date: Wed, Mar 2, 2016 at 3:35 PM
Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan DEIR
To: "ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov" <ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov>

Alison,

VTA has no comments on the above Draft EIR. Thanks. VTA-1

Roy Molseed

VTA

(408) 321-5784

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2.2.5 Response to Comments from the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, Roy Molseed, 3/2/2016

VTA-1 This notification regarding the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's lack of comments on the Draft PEIR is acknowledged.

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2.3 Responses to Comments from Organizations and Individuals

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From: "Tang, John" <john.tang@sjwater.com>
Date: April 15, 2016 at 12:28:24 AM GMT+8
To: "ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov" <ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov>
Subject: Comments to Programmatic EIR for WPCP

Dear Ms. Hood,

This email is in reference to the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan. SJW Corp. (SJW), parent company of San Jose Water Company, offers the following comments:

1. SJW is in full support of the programmatic EIR, including the listed potable water reuse options. SJWC-1

2. SJW would like highlight several potential new options for potable water reuse for the City's consideration:

a. Using conventional activated sludge effluent as a feed source and developing the infrastructure for a new compact purification facility at the Sunnyvale site.

b. Using the purified water for indirect potable water reuse through groundwater recharge or for direct potable water reuse within the Santa Clara Valley Water District service area.

SJWC-2

SJW is considering different potable water reuse options in our near future and we applaud the City's progressive approach to ensuring sustainable water supplies in the South Bay.

SJWC-3

Best Regards,

SJW Corp.

John Tang | VP of Government Relations and Corporate Communication | San Jose Water Company | 110 West Taylor St. | San Jose, CA 95110
Email: john.tang@sjwater.com | Tel: +1 408 279-7933 | Fax: +1 408 279-7934

2.3.1 Response to Comments from the San Jose Water Company, John Tang, 4/15/2016

SJWC-1 This comment, expressing support for the Draft PEIR and for potable reuse options, is acknowledged.

SJWC-2 This comment identifies other options for potable water reuse, including conventional activated sludge with a purification facility onsite and use of purified water for indirect or direct potable reuse.

Following certification, the City will likely approve Master Plan. The City will also take action on a site plan for the WPCP that accommodates either conventional activated sludge or the water purification facilities. The City of Sunnyvale will decide whether to implement conventional activated sludge or a site layout for membrane bioreactors for secondary treatment as part of the Master Plan. The City could decide at a later date to consider implementing conventional activated sludge in combination with the water purification facilities described in the Draft PEIR, should such an alternative prove feasible and desirable which would require additional review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City could discuss direct potable reuse with the District; however, direct potable reuse was not evaluated in the Draft PEIR. Should direct potable reuse be considered in the future, additional evaluation under CEQA would be required.

SJWC-3 This comment, expressing support for the City of Sunnyvale's progressive approach regarding water supply, is acknowledged.

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From: <JLucas1099@aol.com>
Date: Sun, Apr 10, 2016 at 4:47 PM
Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR
To: AHood@sunnyvale.ca.gov

Alison Hood, Senior Engineer, City of Sunnyvale, Public Works April 10, 2016
P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

RE: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR

Dear Alison Hood,

This WPCP DEIR is a thorough document but am afraid I have not sufficient expertise to do justice to refined chemical treatment processes in the proposed upgrade to Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Master Plan. However, I would like to mention concerns as to alternatives considered in integrating expanded plant to site.

~ The relocation of Bay Trail access to Caribbean Drive along Sunnyvale West Channel needs clarification as to depth of trail setback from channel's riparian corridor, location of parking, if main East/West bay trail (not depicted on DEIR map) will clear expanded plant facilities and retain continuity to Sunnyvale Baylands Park.
As Water Pollution Control Plant is situated in parkland it is important to retain integrity of recreation uses. Lucas 1-1

~ Did not find DEIR's hydrology element detailed as to coordination of flows from intersecting channels; Sunnyvale East, Sunnyvale West, Moffett, Cargill, and Northern Channels, and Guadalupe Slough. Is the proposed road across Moffett Channel to Pond 2 going to curtail flows to and from Cargill Channel or will a bridge clear channel floodway? In high water events in Bay, where will cumulative stream over-banking go? Northern Channel carries storm runoff of Moffett Field, but unsure what happens to Lockheed complex runoff, and believe both are piped into Cargill Channel? Can Cargill Channel clear flows in tides to north, to Bay, or is its outlet to Moffett Channel, within Pollution Plant pond operations, and ultimately to Guadalupe Slough? The conjunction of this many waterways at Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant is sobering constraint. Lucas 1-2

Please ask SCVWD staff to provide DEIR with data as to each channel's estimated flow and flood elevations. Lucas 1-2

~ Biological review of waterfowl/wildlife in seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches adjacent to Moffett Field and Lockheed complex needs to be more extensive as these species most likely will migrate into restoration marshes of Pond 2 and Pond 1, as proposed R & D build-out takes place in this previously protected refugia. A Western Pond Turtle colony adjacent to Moffett's golf course was found to have 52 adults and juveniles. The burrowing owl population was diminishing at Moffett Field, but Sunnyvale's landfill had once had burrows. Lucas 1-3

~ As a cost effective wetlands creation resource, SCVWD staff did decades long study for Pond A4 marsh restoration which believe was of sufficiently high caliber that DEIR should include it in alternatives analysis. Lucas 1-4

~ As to geologic review, did not see aspect of seismic susceptibility of site and feasible levee liquefaction. If it is in DEIR please excuse this mention. Do 100 year flood elevations demand that facility be padded up? Would existing gravity flow capability of pipes entering plant be compromised by a change in plant elevation? Lucas 1-5

~ Then lastly, do have serious reservations about DEIR described proposal to inject recycled water into aquifers in Saratoga Creek watershed and adjacent to Los Gatos Creek percolation ponds. Seem to recall that as mitigation for Highway #85's elimination of San Tomas Aquino Creek sediment basin, CalTrans did attempt an injection well in Campbell, adjacent to Los Gatos Creek, that was not successful. Unsure if it was salt content in water, that bound sediments, or injection pressure head that gave marginal percolation, but trial was not evidently continued. One would hate to see these prime natural percolation sites degraded.

An alternative I shall suggest would be to send recycled water to McClellan ponds and Regnart Creek at #85 as sites that are not functioning well in replenishing groundwater resources, when studies said they should. Tom Iwamura, longterm SCVWD groundwater hydrologist, thought heavy equipment might have compacted pond substructure when they were created (in wetter conditions than advisable) which is why percolation is poor. He cited 1969 Page & Wire resistivity method of investigation that found this area, and Regnart Creek, highly favorable for groundwater recharge. Have background data to support this assumption if there is need. These sites are two thirds the distance from Sunnyvale WPCP as are Los Gatos and Saratoga Creek sites, and do not have quite the environmental constraints of those prime watersheds. Lucas 1-6

Thank you for an opportunity to attend your recent workshop on the WPCP Master Plan proposal and DEIR. Did intend to research flood analysis of Sunnyvale West and Sunnyvale East channels but ran out of time. Lucas 1-7

Libby Lucas, 174 Yerba Santa Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022

2.3.2 Response to Comments from Libby Lucas, 4/10/2016

Lucas1-1 This comment states that clarification is needed regarding trail setbacks from Sunnyvale West channel, location of parking, and regarding the connectivity of the Bay Trail to Sunnyvale Baylands Park.

Draft PEIR Figure 3-10 (page 3-28) shows the general location of the proposed 950-foot long parking area along Caribbean Drive. In response, Draft PEIR Figure 3-10, has been revised to include the Bay Trail route in the vicinity of the main plant (as shown on **Revised Figure 3-10**, in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the Text of the Draft PEIR*). As described more fully in **Response ABAG-6**, the City would replace parking spaces removed by the closure of Carl Road.

As described in **Responses ABAG-12** and **ABAG-13**, Draft PEIR Figures 4.2-1 and 4.15-1 have been revised to clearly reflect the route of the Bay Trail to the west of Sunnyvale West Channel, indicating the connectivity of the Bay Trail to points west of the WPCP. With implementation of the Master Plan, Bay Trail continuity to points east, including Sunnyvale Baylands Park, would be preserved. Impact LU-2 (on Draft PEIR page 4.2-22) describes the temporary effects of Master Plan implementation on segments of the Bay Trail in the vicinity of the WPCP. Refer to **Response ABAG-4** regarding temporary and permanent disruption of Bay Trail segments.

As described in Draft PEIR Chapter 6, *Cumulative Impacts*, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) plans to implement a flood protection project along the Sunnyvale East and West Channels, including the segment of the Sunnyvale West Channel between Caribbean Drive and the Bay Trail. Levees along the West Channel would be raised, and, similar to existing conditions, the tops of the levees would be used as maintenance roads. Based on current design of the Sunnyvale East and West Channels project (which is subject to change), the maintenance road topping the west bank levee along Sunnyvale West Channel would be publicly accessible and serve as Bay Trail access, with ramp slopes along the levee designed to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act requirements, and would be set back from the West Channel approximately 35 feet on average, pursuant to District flood and water quality protection goals (Sanchez, pers. comm.). The City will continue to coordinate with the District regarding flood control features in the vicinity of the Master Plan.

Lucas1-2 This comment generally requests clarification regarding the coordination of flows from intersecting channels near the WPCP, and then asks specific questions about the channels and stormwater flows in the area.

The commenter asks whether the proposed road across Moffett Channel to Pond 2 would curtail flows to and from Cargill Channel. The Master Plan does not propose to construct a road across Moffett Channel to Pond 2, but does include improvements to the existing access road that parallels Moffett Channel (see right half of Draft PEIR

Figure 3-8 on page 3-19). It is possible that the commenter is referencing Alternative 3, Diurnal Equalization and Emergency Storage in Pond 2, which includes an access road across Cargill Channel. Environmental impacts of this alternative are evaluated on Draft PEIR pages 7-13 and 7-14. As described on Draft PEIR page 4.9-4, Cargill Channel is contained within levees and was formerly used in the salt production process. Water from Cargill Channel is connected by siphon to SCVWD Pond A4, and is pulled into SCVWD Pond A4 by the District to control the pond's water quality. Water in Cargill Channel is thus disconnected from fluvial flows and is not expected to rise during fluvial flooding events.

The commenter questions whether runoff from Moffett Field and the Lockheed complex is routed to the Cargill Channel, and whether Cargill Channel can clear flows to the Bay. **Figure RTC-1** shows a closer view of the channels and ponds in the Master Plan vicinity, and is included here for reference. The Moffett Park area is served by two drainage systems: the City of Sunnyvale's storm drain system and the Lockheed Martin Missile and Space drainage features. Drainage from the Lockheed Martin drainage system flows north to a channel that is not connected to Cargill Channel (referred to by the commenter as the Northern Channel) but instead is emptied by a pump station that lifts water into the Sunnyvale West Channel (City of Sunnyvale, 2004). As noted above, Cargill Channel is disconnected from fluvial flows, and water from the channel is not connected to the bay via surface drainage.

The commenter requests flood elevation information for the Cargill and Sunnyvale West Channels. The 100-year flood elevation (shown on Draft PEIR Figure 4.9-2, page 4.9-8) identified for the Sunnyvale West Channel and Cargill Channel in the vicinity of the Master Plan area is 11 feet above the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (FEMA, 2009).

Lucas1-3 This comment discusses the potential effects on wildlife of development at Moffett Field and the Lockheed Martin complex to the west of the Master Plan area, and notes that the Sunnyvale Landfill once had burrowing owl burrows.

The waterfowl that use the seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches adjacent to Moffett Field and the Lockheed complex are similar to those that use the oxidation ponds and that were described in the Draft PEIR Section 4.7, Biological Resources. A variety of ducks (mostly dabbling ducks), herons, and egrets, with some shorebirds occurring during lower-water conditions, use those seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches, as well as the oxidation ponds and tidal channels described in the DEIR. The seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches being referred to in this comment are not within the project area and would not be affected by the project, nor would any future development in the Moffett Field and Lockheed area be part of the Master Plan. The effects of any future development in those off-site areas would be subject to separate, project-specific environmental review.

2.3.2-3

SOURCE: Google Maps; ESA

Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan . 120457

Figure RTC-1

Channels and Ponds in the Master Plan Vicinity

The City is unaware of any specific development that is proposed in those off-site wetland/aquatic habitats and therefore it would be inappropriate to assume that they would be adversely affected in Master Plan EIR's cumulative impact analysis.

The commenter mentions Western pond turtles in the vicinity of Moffett Field. Western pond turtles have been found north of Moffett Field. Rather than that population being a discrete colony (which would suggest that those turtles would not disperse into the Master Plan area), it is our opinion that western pond turtles occupy the channels north of the Moffett Field, Lockheed, and Sunnyvale landfill as a larger, more broadly distributed population. Potential effects of the Master Plan on western pond turtles are discussed on Draft PEIR page 4.7-76. Similarly, Draft PEIR pages 4.7-76 and 4.7-77 discuss the history of use of the Sunnyvale landfill by burrowing owls (and their expected current status there). Mitigation Measures BIO-2d and BIO-2e on Draft PEIR pages 4.7-83 and 4.7-84 identify measures to avoid and minimize impacts of the Master Plan on western pond turtles and burrowing owl, respectively.

Lucas1-4 This comment states that the Draft PEIR alternatives analysis should include a District study evaluating SCVWD Pond A4 marsh restoration.

Draft PEIR Figure 3-3 (page 3-5) depicts the area managed by the City and addressed in the Master Plan. As shown, SCVWD Pond A4 is outside the Master Plan area. As discussed on Draft PEIR page 7-1, the selection of alternatives is limited to those that would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, are feasible, and would attain most of the basic objectives of the project. Factors that may be considered when addressing the feasibility of an alternative include whether the proponent can reasonably acquire, control, or otherwise access an alternative site. The Master Plan includes restoration of portions of Ponds 1 and 2 because, with implementation of a new secondary treatment process, these ponds would no longer be needed for water treatment. Restoration of SCVWD Pond A4 would not qualify as an adequate alternative for the Master Plan in two ways. First, restoration in SCVWD Pond A4 would not reduce any significant impacts identified in the Draft PEIR (which are generally associated with the construction of new facilities or with levee breaching associated with active restoration of Ponds 1 and 2). Second, SCVWD Pond A4 is owned by the District, not the City of Sunnyvale, which limits the City's ability to control or otherwise access the site.

However, Draft PEIR Chapter 7, *Alternatives*, includes analysis of Alternative 4: Diurnal Equalization/Emergency Storage in SCVWD Pond A4. This alternative is included because impacts to biological resources could be reduced relative to the Master Plan if diurnal equalization tanks and emergency storage basins are constructed closer to the main plant, not requiring widening of the access road along Moffett Channel.

Lucas1-5 This comment notes that the commenter did not see discussion of the seismic susceptibility of the site and feasible levee liquefaction, and asks whether the flood

elevations at the site require that the plant be raised. The comment also asks whether existing gravity flow capability of wastewater pipelines flowing to the plant would be compromised by a change in plant elevation.

As described on Draft PEIR page 4.8-24, the susceptibility of the site to seismic hazards, including liquefaction in the oxidation ponds, was evaluated in a geotechnical study prepared for the Master Plan. Design recommendations that account for the seismic hazards at the site were provided in the geotechnical study, and would be incorporated into the design of Master Plan improvements.

As discussed on Draft PEIR pages 4.9-32 and 4.9-33, flood protection for the main plant would be provided by construction of a floodwall around the site. Levees would provide flood protection for the diurnal equalization and emergency storage basins in Pond 1. During Master Plan planning it was determined that a floodwall was more feasible than raising the site. The floodwall would be designed at an elevation of 13.0 feet NAVD88 to meet flood protection criteria established by Santa Clara County.

Because the main plant would not be raised, implementation of the Master Plan would not affect the gravity flow capability of wastewater pipelines flowing to the plant.

Lucas1-6 This comment reads as follows:

> "Then lastly, do have serious reservations about DEIR described proposal to inject recycled water into aquifers in Saratoga Creek watershed and adjacent to Los Gatos Creek percolation ponds. Seem to recall that as mitigation for Highway #85's elimination of San Tomas Aquino Creek sediment basin, CalTrans did attempt an injection well in Campbell, adjacent to Los Gatos Creek, that was not successful. Unsure if it was salt content in water, that bound sediments, or injection pressure head that gave marginal percolation, but trial was not evidently continued. One would hate to see these prime natural percolation sites degraded. An alternative I shall suggest would be to send recycled water to McClellan ponds and Regnart Creek at #85 as sites that are not functioning well in replenishing groundwater resources, when studies said they should. Tom Iwamura, longterm SCVWD groundwater hydrologist, thought heavy equipment might have compacted pond substructure when they were created (in wetter conditions than advisable) which is why percolation is poor. He cited 1969 Page & Wire resistivity method of investigation that found this area, and Regnart Creek, highly favorable for groundwater recharge. Have background data to support this assumption if there is need. These sites are two thirds the distance from Sunnyvale WPCP as are Los Gatos and Saratoga Creek sites, and do not have quite the environmental constraints of those prime watersheds."

The District is currently conducting groundwater and engineering studies to ensure the injection or percolation of purified water for groundwater recharge would be

hydrogeologically feasible and protective of groundwater quality. The areas being evaluated for recharge with purified water were chosen based on hydrogeology and areas where recharge is needed due to substantial groundwater pumping. Pursuant to District Board policy, the District works to aggressively protect groundwater from the threat of contamination. As such, purified water used for recharge would be highly treated to ensure groundwater quality protection.

Lucas1-7 This comment, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to attend the Draft PEIR public meeting and describing the commenter's intention to research flood analysis of the Sunnyvale East and West Channels, is acknowledged.

References

City of Sunnyvale, 2004. *City of Sunnyvale Moffett Park Specific Plan*. Adopted by City Council April 27, 2004.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 2009. *Flood Insurance Rate Map, Santa Clara County, California, and Incorporated Areas.* Effective date May 18, 2009.

Sanchez, Bill, personal communication with Karen Lancelle, ESA, regarding accessibility at the maintenance road topping the west bank levee along the Sunnyvale West Channel.

From: JLucas1099@aol.com [mailto:JLucas1099@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 2:05 PM
To: Luis Jaimes; Elise Latedjou-Durand
Subject: Fwd: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR

Luis Jaimes
Elise Latedjou-Durand

Attached please find my comments on the DEIR for the proposed Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan, that have submitted to Sunnyvale Public Works this week.

Wondered if you could advise on aspect of this plant upgrade design that was unable to find in DEIR, and that is how will the main Bay Trail, from Moffett to east pass through plant to Sunnyvale Baylands Park to west and will there continue to be recreation parking for trail on Carl Road adjacent to plant? Lucas 2-1

The only 'bay' trail on DEIR site map was one that runs around Pond 2 and Pond 1, access for which it is now said will be along Sunnyvale West Channel to Caribbean Drive. Would like to know how much setback this will allow on SCVWD's Sunnyvale West Channel and if it will be sufficient. Lucas 2-2

Also am not quite sure how this Caribbean Drive access will connect with main stem Bay Trail. They are not suggesting that Bay Trail continue on Caribbean Drive are they? Hope you can perhaps clarify this aspect? Lucas 2-3

(Tried to reach Alison Hood but she is away until April 22.).

Then wonder if there is need to submit Page & Wire Resistivity Study map to Sunnyvale Public Works or is it a common reference document that you can supply for any alternative groundwater injection well review? Lucas 2-4

Thank you for assistance on these queries.

Libby Lucas

Karen Lancelle

From: JLucas1099@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 10, 2016 4:47 PM
To: AHood@sunnyvale.ca.gov
Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR

Alison Hood, Senior Engineer, City of Sunnyvale, Public Works April 10, 2016
P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

RE: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR

Dear Alison Hood,

This WPCP DEIR is a thorough document but am afraid I have not sufficient expertise to do justice to refined chemical treatment processes in the proposed upgrade to Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Master Plan. However, I would like to mention concerns as to alternatives considered in integrating expanded plant to site.

~ The relocation of Bay Trail access to Caribbean Drive along Sunnyvale West Channel needs clarification as to depth of trail setback from channel's riparian corridor, location of parking, if main East/West bay trail (not depicted on DEIR map) will clear expanded plant facilities and retain continuity to Sunnyvale Baylands Park.
As Water Pollution Control Plant is situated in parkland it is important to retain integrity of recreation uses.

~ Did not find DEIR's hydrology element detailed as to coordination of flows from intersecting channels; Sunnyvale East, Sunnyvale West, Moffett, Cargill, and Northern Channels, and Guadalupe Slough. Is the proposed road across Moffett Channel to Pond 2 going to curtail flows to and from Cargill Channel or will a bridge clear channel floodway? In high water events in Bay, where will cumulative stream over-banking go? Northern Channel carries storm runoff of Moffett Field, but unsure what happens to Lockheed complex runoff, and believe both are piped into Cargill Channel? Can Cargill Channel clear flows in tides to north, to Bay, or is its outlet to Moffett Channel, within Pollution Plant pond operations, and ultimately to Guadalupe Slough? The conjunction of this many waterways at Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant is sobering constraint.
Please ask SCVWD staff to provide DEIR with data as to each channel's estimated flow and flood elevations.

~ Biological review of waterfowl/wildlife in seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches adjacent to Moffett Field and Lockheed complex needs to be more extensive as these species most likely will migrate into restoration marshes of Pond 2 and Pond 1, as proposed R & D build-out takes place in this previously protected refugia. A Western Pond Turtle colony adjacent to Moffett's golf course was found to have 52 adults and juveniles. The burrowing owl population was diminishing at Moffett Field, but Sunnyvale's landfill had once had burrows.

~ As a cost effective wetlands creation resource, SCVWD staff did decades long study for Pond A4 marsh restoration which believe was of sufficiently high caliber that DEIR should include it in alternatives analysis.

~ As to geologic review, did not see aspect of seismic susceptibility of site and feasible levee liquefaction. If it is in DEIR please excuse this mention. Do 100 year flood elevations demand that facility be padded up? Would existing gravity flow capability of pipes entering plant be compromised by a change in plant elevation?

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An alternative I shall suggest would be to send recycled water to McClellan ponds and Regnart Creek at #85 as sites that are not functioning well in replenishing groundwater resources, when studies said they should. Tom Iwamura, longterm SCVWD groundwater hydrologist, thought heavy equipment might have compacted pond substructure when they were created (in wetter conditions than advisable) which is why percolation is poor. He cited 1969 Page & Wire resistivity method of investigation that found this area, and Regnart Creek, highly favorable for groundwater recharge. Have

background data to support this assumption if there is need. These sites are two thirds the distance from Sunnyvale WPCP as are Los Gatos and Saratoga Creek sites, and do not have quite the environmental constraints of those prime watersheds.

Thank you for an opportunity to attend your recent workshop on the WPCP Master Plan proposal and DEIR. Did intend to research flood analysis of Sunnyvale West and Sunnyvale East channels but ran out of time.

Libby Lucas, 174 Yerba Santa Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022

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2.3.3 Response to Comments from Libby Lucas, 4/12/2016

Lucas2-1 This comment requests additional information about how the Bay Trail will pass through the vicinity of the WPCP east to Baylands Park, and how access at Carl Road will be maintained.

As described on Draft PEIR page 3-27, the City proposes to close Carl Road to public access west of Borregas Avenue and relocate Bay Trail access via an enhanced access point along Caribbean Drive at the Sunnyvale West Channel. Access to the Bay Trail at Carl Road would not be maintained; instead, a similar trail spur connecting to the main east-west traversing Bay Trail would be available. See also **Responses Lucas1-1**, **ABAG-6**, **ABAG-12**, and **ABAG-13**.

Lucas2-2 This comment requests that the amount of setback of the Bay Trail access from the Sunnyvale West Channel be made available, and wonders if it is sufficient.

As discussed in greater detail in **Response Lucas1-1**, the Bay Trail access along Sunnyvale West Channel would be on top of a maintenance road and levee the District has proposed to build as part of the Sunnyvale East and West Channels Flood Protection Project. The maintenance road would be set back approximately 35 feet from the center of the Sunnyvale West Channel.

Lucas2-3 This comment expresses concern about how the new Bay Trail access will connect with the "main stem" Bay Trail, asking whether the Bay Trail would continue on Caribbean Drive.

Access to the Bay Trail would occur along the Sunnyvale West Channel, as described in **Responses Lucas2-2** and **Lucas1-1**. As described in **Response Lucas1-1**, Draft PEIR Figure 3-10 (page 3-28) is revised to include the Bay Trail and the maintenance road along Sunnyvale West Channel.

Lucas2-4 This comment, wondering if submittal of the Page and Wire Resistivity Study map to the City of Sunnyvale Public Works Division is needed, or if it is commonly made available for groundwater injection well review, is acknowledged.

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Begin forwarded message:

From: JLucas1099@aol.com
Date: April 15, 2016 at 3:39:39 AM GMT+8
To: ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov
Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR PPS comment

Alison Hood, Senior Engineer
City of Sunnyvale, Public Works
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

April 14, 2016

Dear Alison,

As additional PS comment on the DEIR for Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan, in touring site this morning continue to have serious doubts about public access to Bay Trail along SCVWD Sunnyvale Channel West from Caribbean Drive. Street parking on such a busy commute thoroughfare would be unsafe, for children especially, and there does not appear to be sufficient space for twenty or so vehicles. Lucas3-1

In past, have observed duck hunters with dogs accessing refuge ponds from Sunnyvale plant parking area. Lucas3-2

The Bay Trail has recently been resurfaced to north along Northern Channel but lacks signage, and it is not clear how bay trail passes through plant operations to connect to trail at Sunnyvale Baylands Park to east. There does not seem to be continuity along bay ponds or connectivity to Pond A4 and Guadalupe Slough. Believe full Bay Trail element needs to be mapped out accurately in DEIR as to how in interfaces with plant. Lucas3-3

Then I find similar confusion with connectivity of channels with each other and with Guadalupe Slough. It appears that Sunnyvale Channel West passes through plant operations to terminate in Guadalupe Slough. Then Moffett Channel seems to drain (unclear how flap gate operates) to Northern Channel (?) which has strong pumps to empty it into Sunnyvale Channel West, from time to time. Are these pumps screened to prevent Western Pond Turtles, Red Legged Frogs etc. from being injured or are they safely popped into Sunnyvale Channel West? As stated before, regret that have not been able to access SCVWD data on this. Lucas3-4

Then, what believe DEIR calls Moffett Channel is really Cargill Channel, which channel dead ends at road (which encircles Pond 2 and Pond) without ever reaching Sunnyvale Channel West or Guadalupe Slough? Lucas3-5

Do think circulation elements of Bay Trail as well as these four channels are essential to map out accurately in DEIR before it is possible to assess impact of Water Pollution Plant Upgrade on their continued integrity. Lucas3-6

Hope I have made these concerns sufficiently clear. Could meet to walk site or review photos if it would help.

Thank you for all considerations.

Libby Lucas

2.3.4 Response to Comments from Libby Lucas, 4/14/2016

Lucas3-1 This comment states that street parking on Caribbean Drive as part of the relocated Bay Trail access would be unsafe, and that there does not appear to be sufficient space for approximately twenty vehicles.

As described on Draft PEIR page 3-27, the proposed relocated Bay Trail access along Caribbean Drive would convert 950 feet of one existing lane to parking in combination with grading, sidewalk, and landscaping improvements. As described in Impact TR-2 (Draft PEIR page 4.3-16), the Master Plan would not introduce incompatible uses to the area or provide new roadway design features that would result in increased traffic safety hazard for vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians along nearby roadways. As discussed in greater detail in **Response ABAG-6**, parking spaces and staging space would be replaced in kind.

Lucas3-2 This comment, stating that duck hunters with dogs have been observed accessing Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge ponds from the Carl Road parking area, is acknowledged.

Draft PEIR page 4.2-9 describes the use by duck hunters of the area surrounding the WPCP under the heading "Moffett Channel."

Lucas3-3 This comment indicates that the Draft PEIR does not clearly identify how the Bay Trail passes through the WPCP to connect to the Bay Trail at Baylands Park, and states that there seems to be no continuity along ponds or connectivity to SCVWD Pond A4 or Guadalupe Slough. The comment then states the PEIR needs to accurately map the Bay Trail and how it interfaces with WPCP.

In **Responses ABAG-12** and **ABAG-13**, Draft PEIR Figures 4.2-1 and 4.15-1 have been revised to reflect existing conditions of the Bay Trail in the vicinity of the WPCP (as shown in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the Text of the Draft PEIR*). As shown in these figures, the Bay Trail passes from east (near Sunnyvale Baylands Park) to west primarily along the northern side of Sunnyvale Landfill and the main plant, adjacent to SCVWD Pond A4 and the channels adjacent to Cargill Channel. The Bay Trail turns south just west of the main plant along the east side of Sunnyvale West Channel, crosses the West Channel at Carl Road, and turns to run north along the west side of the West Channel until turning west at the first accessible levee.

Lucas3-4 This comment expresses confusion regarding the connectivity of channels near the Master Plan area, and requests additional information about whether pumps between the channels are screened to prevent injury to wildlife.

The Draft PEIR uses the term "Moffett Channel" to refer to the tidally influenced channel into which the Sunnyvale West Channel drains, and that flows into

Guadalupe Slough between the northwest corner of Pond A4 and the northeast corner of Pond 1 (as shown on Draft PEIR Figure 4.7-1, page 4.7-5).

The Master Plan does not include modifications to the pump that conveys water from the channels north of the landfill into the Sunnyvale West Channel, and therefore, any existing conditions regarding this pump and its effects on western pond turtles would not be altered by the project. Although western pond turtles are present in the channels north of the landfill, California red-legged frogs are absent from this channel and the project area.

Lucas3-5 This comment expresses confusion regarding the Moffett and Cargill Channels.

As shown on Draft PEIR Figure 3-8 (page 3-19), the Cargill Channel is isolated from Moffett Channel by a levee. As stated on Draft PEIR page 4.9-4, Cargill Channel is contained within levees, a remnant of its former use for salt production in the south Bay. Moffett Channel is separated from Cargill Channel by a levee.

Lucas3-6 This comment states that the Bay Trail and channels near the WPCP should be mapped accurately in the Draft PEIR before it is possible to assess the impact of the Master Plan.

In **Responses ABAG-12 and ABAG-13**, Draft PEIR Figures 4.2-1 and 4.15-1 have been revised to reflect existing conditions of the Bay Trail in the vicinity of the WPCP. Figure RTC-1 shows a closer view of the channels and ponds in the vicinity of the Master Plan area.

Subj: **Fwd: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR**
Date: 4/12/2016 4:35:02 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: JLucas1099@aol.com
To: jlucas1099@aol.com

Alison Hood,

Attached please find the Page and Wire map of areas found to be favorable for groundwater recharge by the resistivity method in Northern Santa Clara County, to which I referenced in my comment on injection wells.

I am submitting this by surface mail (apologize for abbreviated copy produced on home machine) as am not sure present SCVWD staff have this 'historic' data at their disposal and would like it placed in DEIR record.

Thank you very much,

Libby Lucas Libby Lucas

-----Original Message-----
From: JLucas1099@aol.com
Date: Sun, 10 Apr 2016 19:47:23 -0400
Subject: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR
To: AHood@sunnyvale.ca.gov

Alison Hood, Senior Engineer, City of Sunnyvale, Public Works April 10, 2016
P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

RE: Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) Master Plan DEIR

Dear Alison Hood,

This WPCP DEIR is a thorough document but am afraid I have not sufficient expertise to do justice to refined chemical treatment processes in the proposed upgrade to Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Master Plan. However, I would like to mention concerns as to alternatives considered in integrating expanded plant to site.

~ The relocation of Bay Trail access to Caribbean Drive along Sunnyvale West Channel needs clarification as to depth of trail setback from channel's riparian corridor, location of parking, if main East/West bay trail (not depicted on DEIR map) will clear expanded plant facilities and retain continuity to Sunnyvale Baylands Park. As Water Pollution Control Plant is situated in parkland it is important to retain integrity of recreation uses.

~ Did not find DEIR's hydrology element detailed as to coordination of flows from intersecting channels; Sunnyvale East, Sunnyvale West, Moffett, Cargill, and Northern Channels, and Guadalupe Slough. Is the proposed road across Moffett Channel to Pond 2 going to curtail flows to and from Cargill Channel or will a bridge clear channel floodway? In high water events in Bay, where will cumulative stream over-banking go? Northern Channel carries storm runoff of Moffett Field, but unsure what happens to Lockheed complex runoff, and believe both are piped into Cargill Channel? Can Cargill Channel clear flows in tides to north, to Bay, or is its outlet to Moffett Channel, within Pollution Plant pond operations, and ultimately to Guadalupe Slough? The conjunction of this many waterways at Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant is sobering constraint. Please ask SCVWD staff to provide DEIR with data as to each channel's estimated flow and flood elevations.

~ Biological review of waterfowl/wildlife in seasonal wetlands and drainage ditches adjacent to Moffett Field and Lockheed complex needs to be more extensive as these species most likely will migrate into restoration marshes of Pond 2 and Pond 1, as proposed R & D build-out takes place in this previously protected refugia. A Western Pond Turtle colony adjacent to Moffett's golf course was found to have 52 adults and juveniles. The burrowing owl population was diminishing at Moffett Field, but Sunnyvale's landfill had once had burrows.

~ As a cost effective wetlands creation resource, SCVWD staff did decades long study for Pond A4 marsh restoration which believe was of sufficiently high caliber that DEIR should include it in alternatives analysis.

~ As to geologic review, did not see aspect of seismic susceptibility of site and feasible levee liquefaction. If it is

Lucas4-1

Lucas4

in DEIR please excuse this mention. Do 100 year flood elevations demand that facility be padded up? Would existing gravity flow capability of pipes entering plant be compromised by a change in plant elevation?

~ Then lastly, do have serious reservations about DEIR described proposal to inject recycled water into aquifers in Saratoga Creek watershed and adjacent to Los Gatos Creek percolation ponds. Seem to recall that as mitigation for Highway #85's elimination of San Tomas Aquino Creek sediment basin, CalTrans did attempt an injection well in Campbell, adjacent to Los Gatos Creek, that was not successful. Unsure if it was salt content in water, that bound sediments, or injection pressure head that gave marginal percolation, but trial was not evidently continued. One would hate to see these prime natural percolation sites degraded.

An alternative I shall suggest would be to send recycled water to McClellan ponds and Regnart Creek at #85 as sites that are not functioning well in replenishing groundwater resources, when studies said they should. Tom Iwamura, longterm SCVWD groundwater hydrologist, thought heavy equipment might have compacted pond substructure when they were created (in wetter conditions than advisable) which is why percolation is poor. He cited 1969 Page & Wire resistivity method of investigation that found this area, and Regnart Creek, highly favorable for groundwater recharge. Have background data to support this assumption if there is need. These sites are two thirds the distance from Sunnyvale WPCP as are Los Gatos and Saratoga Creek sites, and do not have quite the environmental constraints of those prime watersheds.

Lucas4-1 cont.

Thank you for an opportunity to attend your recent workshop on the WPCP Master Plan proposal and DEIR. Did intend to research flood analysis of Sunnyvale West and Sunnyvale East channels but ran out of time.

Libby Lucas, 174 Yerba Santa Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022

Figure 48 Areas favorable for groundwater recharge in Northern Santa Clara County - After Page and others

Lucas 4-1 cont.

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2.3.5 Response to Comments from Libby Lucas, 4/12/2016

Lucas4-1 This comment transmits a map from a previous study identifying areas favorable for groundwater recharge in northern Santa Clara County as well as the same comments as Letter Lucas1. See **Responses Lucas1-1** through **Lucas1-7** for responses to this comment.

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From: **Kevin Mattos, Architect** <kevin@kma-architecture.com>
Date: Wed, Mar 9, 2016 at 4:21 PM
Subject: WPCP Master Plan
To: ahood <ahood@sunnyvale.ca.gov>

Hello Alison,

My client received a notice regarding the proposed Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and asked me to confirm if his property will be impacted in anyway? The property is located at **270 E. Caribbean Drive.**

If so, I would appreciate a few minutes of your time to go over any potential issues. Please let me know as soon as you can.

Mattos-1

Thank you,

Kevin

kevin n. mattos, architect
KMA architecture + design
111 w. saint john st.
suite 950
san jose ca, 95113
p: 408-999-6622
c: 408-209-6635

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2.3.6 Response to Comments from Kevin Mattos, 3/9/2016

Mattos-1 The commenter requests information regarding potential impact(s) on a property located at 270 E. Caribbean Drive.

The lead agency has previously acknowledged this comment and provided the commenter with a link to the Draft PEIR which discloses impacts of the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan. The property, which is south and east of the intersection of Borregas and Caribbean, would not be directly affected by the Master Plan as the nearest ground disturbing activity would be Bay Trail access relocation located west of Borregas. As described starting on Draft PEIR page 4.3-14, construction traffic would temporarily reduce roadway capacity and increase roadway delays, but implementation of a Temporary Traffic Control Plan would limit the extent and severity of the impact. The Construction Noise Logistics Plan (Mitigation Measure NOI-1, Draft PEIR page 4.4-19) includes the requirement that all construction vehicles and equipment, fixed and mobile, utilize the best available noise control techniques, among other noise control measures. Other impacts of the Master Plan are described in greater detail in Draft PEIR Chapter 4, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures.

CHAPTER 3
Revisions to the Text of the Draft PEIR

This chapter contains revisions to the text of the Draft PEIR for the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan, dated February 2016. Revised or new language is underlined. All deletions are shown in ~~strikethrough~~ text. Text and figure changes have been made in response to comments received on the Draft PEIR (see Chapter 2, Comments and Responses), to new information received since publication of the Draft PEIR, or to correct errata discovered in the Draft PEIR. Changes included here do not materially affect the conclusions of the Draft PEIR.

Chapter 3, Project Description

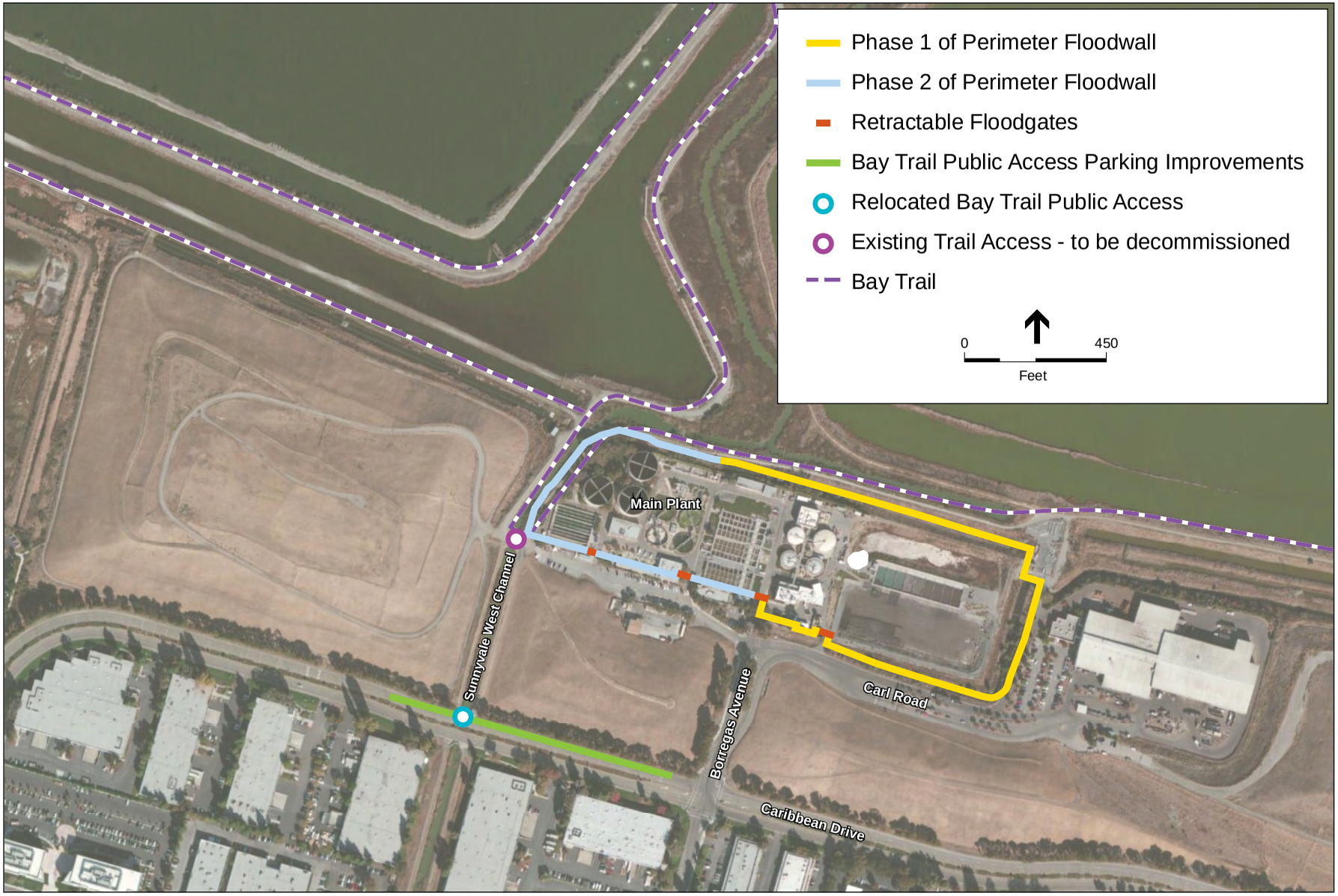
Page 3-28 In response to comment Lucas1-1, Draft PEIR Figure 3-10 is revised as shown on the following page.

Chapter 4, Environmental Setting, Impacts and Mitigation

Section 4.2, Land Use and Recreation

Page 4.2-8 In response to comment ABAG-5, the following paragraph in Section 4.2.1.3 is revised as follows:

> **San Francisco Bay Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail**[4,5]
>
> In 1987, Senate Bill 100 was passed into law directing the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to create a ~~trail~~/recreational and transportation corridor that was to be aligned along the Bay to provide uninterrupted travel for bicyclists and pedestrians around the perimeter of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. The Bay Trail is a multi-purpose recreational trail that, when complete, will encircle San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay with a continuous 500-mile network of bicycling and hiking trails. The Bay Trail will connect the shoreline of all nine Bay Area counties in the region. The Bay Trail provides opportunities for walking, jogging, and bicycling. The Bay Trail offers access to commercial, industrial, and residential neighborhoods, points of historic, natural and cultural interest, recreational areas such as beaches, marinas, fishing piers, boat launches, and over 130 parks and wildlife preserves. Within the project area, there is an existing entrance to the Bay Trail at the west end of Carl Road. This segment of the Bay Trail borders the WPCP to the west and north and surrounds Ponds 1 and 2. This segment of the trail is also part of the



SOURCE: Carollo Engineers

Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan . 120457

Figure 3-10

Other Facility Improvements (Revised)

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail which aims to connect the San Francisco Bay Area to Nogales, Arizona.

[5] Information in this section is derived from Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail: *EXPLORE- Follow the Anza Expedition*. Last Accessed May 12, 2016. Available at: http://www.anzahistorictrail.org/visit/explorer

Page 4.2-2 In response to comment ABAG-12, Draft PEIR Figure 4.2-1 is revised as shown on the following page.

Page 4.2-9 In response to comment ABAG-5, the following paragraph in Section 4.2.1.3 is revised as follows:

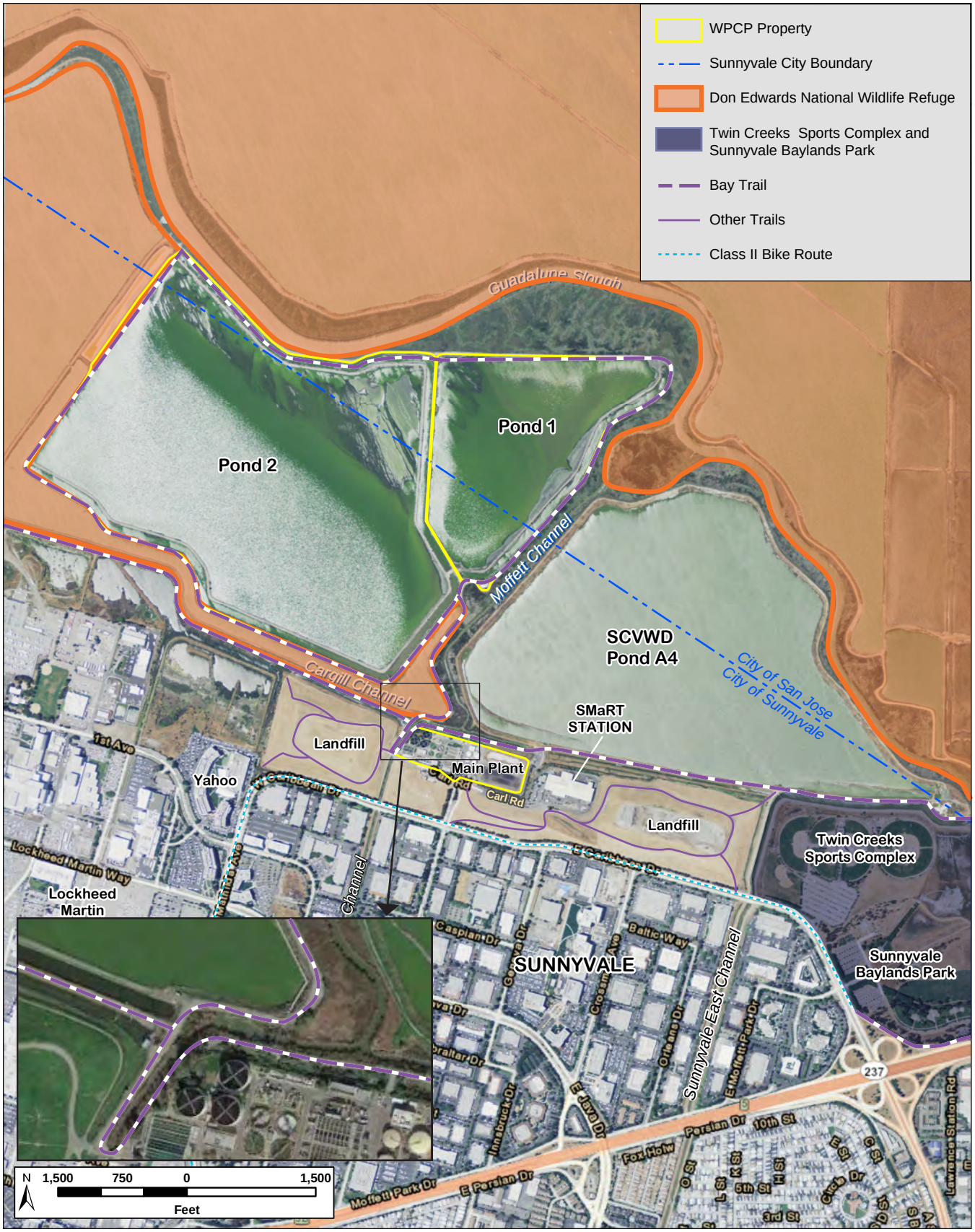
San Francisco Bay Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

Within the groundwater replenishment facilities area, there are three separate trails that extend from the Bay Trail to the south. One portion extends to San Tomas Expressway, another follows the Lower ~~Q~~Guadalupe River Trail to approximately State Route 87, and the last portion extends along Coyote Creek to Montague Expressway. The historic trail corridor of the Jan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail roughly parallels State Route 85 in the vicinity of the water purification facilities, and intersects the Los Gatos recharge basins area as well as the southwest corner of the well injection area (National Park Service, 2016).

Page 4.2-22 In response to comment ABAG-8, the following paragraphs have been added to the discussion of Impact LU-2:

As indicated on page 3-18 of this Draft PEIR, pond restoration is in early planning stages; pond restoration would not be implemented until after 2035. Restoration would likely involve active or passive breaching of the levees surrounding the ponds. Levee breaching would disrupt the continuity of the loop surrounding these ponds. In the future, as planning progresses for decommissioning of Ponds 1 and 2, construction of the diurnal equalization tanks and emergency storage basins, and restoration, the City will coordinate with ABAG and BCDC regarding the future Bay Trail alignment in the vicinity of Moffett Channel. The City is committed to preserving the continuity of Bay Trail access through the City of Sunnyvale along this segment of shoreline.

While passive or active restoration resulting in breaches of the levees around Ponds 1 and 2 would remove portions of an existing trail, because there are many other trails and other recreational resources that are available throughout the area, the increase in use of other local or regional recreation resources that may be attributable to pond restoration would not substantially deteriorate or degrade existing recreational resources.



SOURCE: H.T. Harvey & Associates; adapted by ESA

Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan . 120457

Figure 4.2-1

Land Uses and Recreational Resources in the WPCP Vicinity (Revised)

Page 4.2-26 **ADD** the following text after Korve Engineering, 2006. *City of Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan*:

National Park Service, 2016. *Visit – Plan Your Trip on the Anza Map*. Accessed May 18, 2016. Available at: http://www.anzahistorictrail.org/visit.

Section 4.4, Noise and Vibration

Page 4.4-19 REVISE the third bullet of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 as follows:

- Signs shall be posted at the construction site that include construction days and hours, a day and evening contact number for the job site, and a day and evening contact number for the City or contractor in the event of problems.

Section 4.5, Air Quality

Page 4.5-19 REVISE the last bullet of Mitigation Measure AQ-2a as follows:

- Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the City or City's contractor regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and the contractor shall take corrective action within 48 hours.

Section 4.7, Biological Resources

Page 4.7-72 REVISE the first three bullets of Mitigation Measure BIO-1a as follows:

Mitigation Measure BIO-1a: Reduce Impacts on Congdon's Tarplant

- Within 2 years prior to initial ground disturbance for activities outside the main plant fenceline, the City will retain a qualified biologist, or require the contractor to retain a qualified biologist, to conduct protocol-level surveys for Congdon's tarplant in ~~the Master Plan area, including vegetated areas both within and outside the main plant fenceline~~ suitable habitat in, and within 50 feet of, the proposed construction footprint. These surveys will be conducted in accordance with the protocols established by the CDFW and CNPS, and shall coincide with the bloom period for the species (May through November).

- If Congdon's tarplant is present in the ~~Master Plan~~ survey area, the City contractor will avoid impacts on individuals of this species to the extent feasible during implementation of the Master Plan.

- If Congdon's tarplant is present near the limits of disturbance, the City contractor will maintain a buffer free from construction-related activities around the tarplant occurrence; this buffer will be at least 50 feet if feasible, but large enough to avoid indirect impacts such as dust mobilization and alteration of hydrology. The City contractor shall demarcate the buffer in the field with orange fencing. No equipment~~,~~

or vehicles~~, or personnel~~ shall be permitted within the buffer area during construction.

Page 4.7-72 **REVISE** Mitigation Measure BIO-1b as follows:

Mitigation Measure BIO-1b: Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Non-native, Invasive Species

- The City will retain a qualified biologist, or require the contractor to retain a qualified biologist, to develop an Invasive Species Management Plan to reduce the presence and spread of non-native, invasive plant species in the Master Plan area. The Invasive Species Management Plan shall be developed prior to any grading ~~activities and prior to importing any~~ or import of fill material ~~to the project areas, either within the main plant or outside of~~ outside of, or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of the main plant fenceline. Once a concrete flood wall is built around the facility, no invasive species management will be necessary for project activities within the main plant fenceline. The overarching goal of this mitigation is to halt the further expansion of existing invasive species and introduction of new invasives into sensitive habitats in project areas. The Invasive Species Management Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

  – Prior to construction outside of, or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of, the main plant fenceline, the extent and locations of invasive species occurrences will be mapped within all areas proposed to be graded, including access roads and staging areas, and within all sensitive habitats (e.g., wetlands) across the project areas~~. This mapping will include project areas both within the main plant (especially along the fenceline) and outside the main plant fenceline, such as the access roads to Ponds 1 and 2.~~

  – Areas identified to have weed infestations shall be treated prior to ground disturbance according to weed control methods detailed below:

    - Weed control treatments shall include all legally permitted herbicide, manual, and mechanical methods approved for application. The application of herbicides shall be in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations under the prescription of a Pest Control Advisor (PCA), where concurrence has been provided by the City of ~~Newark~~Sunnyvale, and implemented by a Licensed Qualified Applicator. Herbicides shall not be applied during or within 72 hours of a scheduled rain event. Where manual and/or mechanical methods are used, disposal of the plant debris will take place at an appropriate offsite location. The timing of the weed control treatment shall be determined for each plant species with the goal of controlling populations before they start producing seeds

and/or encroach into adjacent areas from rhizomatous shoots. Consultation with a qualified wildlife biologist and plant ecologist shall be required prior to weed control treatments in sensitive habitats with the intent of avoiding any adverse impacts on special-status species in the area.

- Surveying and monitoring for weed infestations shall occur over the course of any grading operations ~~along and outside~~ outside of, or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of, the main plant fenceline. Treatment of all identified weed populations shall occur at a minimum of once annually.

- Once grading ceases, invasive plant populations within all sensitive habitats (such as wetlands) that are not impacted, but that are within 200 feet of grading/construction areas located outside of or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of the main plant fenceline, shall be mapped and the ~~aerial~~ areal extent and location of invasive populations documented. Sensitive habitats ~~within 200 feet of construction areas~~ include portions of the Sunnyvale West Channel, the Cargill Channel, Ponds 1 and 2, and SCVWD Pond A4. This shall occur on an annual basis for a minimum of 3 years following grading operations.

– If, in any monitoring year, the size of existing populations within sensitive habitats expands by 20 percent or more in terms of surface area in comparison to the population size documented prior to construction, the weed control measures described above shall be implemented (inter-annual variation due to climate differences may account for as much as 10 percent of change).

– During construction activities located outside of or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of the main plant fenceline, all seeds and straw materials used on site shall be weed-free rice straw, and all gravel and fill material shall be certified weed free.

– During construction activities ~~along and outside~~ located outside of or within 20 feet of the western and northern sections of the main plant fenceline, vehicles and all equipment shall be washed (including wheels, undercarriages, and bumpers) before entering the project areas adequately to ensure that weed seeds from other sites are not transported to these construction areas. Vehicles shall be cleaned at existing construction yards or legally operating car washes. ~~The project proponent shall document all vehicles have been washed prior to commencing work.~~ In addition, tools such as chainsaws, hand clippers, pruners, etc., shall be washed before entering the work areas.

Page 4.7-80 REVISE the first bullet of Mitigation Measure BIO-2b as follows:

- Earth-moving in areas draining directly to wetlands and aquatic habitats will not occur during days when rain is occurring or predicted to occur (i.e., greater than ~~30~~40 percent chance) during the work period. This measure applies to all Project areas with potential to drain directly to wetlands or aquatic habitats, particularly in or adjacent to the Southeast Channel, the Sunnyvale West Channel, the Cargill Channel, Ponds 1 and 2, and SCVWD Pond A4.

Page 4.7-83 REVISE the fifth bullet of Mitigation Measure BIO-2c as follows:

- ~~NMFS~~ National Marine Fisheries Service personnel will be immediately notified of any observed fish mortality events associated with Master Plan activities.

Page 4.7-88 REVISE the second bullet of Mitigation Measure BIO-2h as follows:

- Prior to commencement of new activities (i.e., activities that are not currently ongoing in any given area) during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), preconstruction surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 7 days prior to the initiation of new disturbance in any given area to ensure that no active nests of species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or California Fish and Game Code will be disturbed during Master Plan implementation. During this survey, the biologist will inspect all potential nesting habitats (e.g., trees, shrubs, buildings, and various substrates on the ground) in the project area for nests. This survey will include suitable nesting substrates both within and outside the main plant fenceline. Surveys will be conducted within search radii corresponding to disturbance-free buffer zones described below for raptors (300 feet) and non-raptors (100 feet), including offsite areas adjacent to the Master Plan area (where such areas are accessible and are contained in the buffer zones).

Page 4.7-91 REVISE the second bullet of Mitigation Measure BIO-3a as follows:

- If open water and wetland habitats are present within 100 feet or less of the limits of disturbance in the Master Plan area, avoidance buffers shall be maintained between those habitats and construction areas ~~and the aquatic resources~~ that drain directly to them. These buffers should be at least 50 feet for general construction activities and 100 feet for grading, to the extent feasible. The avoidance buffers shall be designated as Environmentally Sensitive Areas and clearly identified in the field using orange fencing. No equipment, vehicles, or personnel are permitted within Environmentally Sensitive Areas. Environmentally Sensitive Areas shall be shown on Project plan sets. All Environmentally Sensitive Area fencing shall be maintained intact and in good condition throughout the duration of construction.

Page 4.7-94 REVISE the last bullet of Mitigation Measure BIO-4a as follows:

- Provide temporary irrigation to all trees in protection zones ~~using a temporary on-grade drip or bubbler irrigation system sufficient to wet the soil within tree protection zones to a depth of 30 inches per bi-weekly irrigation event~~ that may have important root systems impacted by construction.

Section 4.10, Water Quality

Page 4.10-36 In response to comment RWQCB-4, Mitigation Measure WQ-4 is revised as follows:

During design of oxidation pond breaching and/or restoration, the City, in coordination with other agencies directly involved in planning and implementing of restoration activities, shall require preparation of a water quality evaluation for the proposed levee breach and associated pond restoration activities. The water quality evaluation shall evaluate anticipated construction activities, including disturbance and potential mobilization of pond sediments, and anticipated changes to pond area and nearby hydrodynamics, and evaluate their potential to influence each of the water quality parameters discussed in this analysis: temperature, salinity, DO, metals, mercury, methyl mercury, phytoplankton blooms, and nuisance algae. The water quality evaluation shall consider applicable water quality standards and goals defined in the Basin Plan, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Bay Plan Policies on Water Quality, as applicable, and other applicable water quality standards. The water quality evaluation shall provide recommendations for the minimization of each category of potential water quality pollutants described above, sufficient to ensure that downstream beneficial uses would not be adversely affected, and that applicable water quality standards would not be exceeded. The City shall implement all recommendations identified in the water quality evaluation needed to preserve water quality and maintain consistency with the Basin Plan and other applicable water quality standards and requirements, and protect beneficial uses on site and downstream. The water quality evaluation shall also identify protocols and procedures for the deployment of long-term monitoring for temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, metals including mercury, methylmercury, phytoplankton blooms, and nuisance algae, and shall, in the event of exceedance of applicable standards established to protect beneficial use by the Regional Board, identify measures and actions as warranted to reduce pollutant emissions and protect beneficial uses using an adaptive management approach. Measures and actions warranted to reduce pollutant emissions and protect beneficial uses could include, but would not be limited to, characterization, monitoring or remediation of pond sediments, changing

hydraulic residence times or manipulating other factors affecting the generation or presence of methylmercury.

Page 4.10-43 In response to comment RWQCB-3, Mitigation Measure WPF-WQ-4 is revised as follows:

- For use of the City's existing outfall, the study will review compliance with NPDES permit requirements under conditions of blending the RO concentrate with the remaining available WPCP effluent. The studies will generally include: development of blended effluent and RO concentrate mass balance calculations and laboratory chronic toxicity testing of a range of effluent and RO concentrate blends to evaluate compliance with the City's NPDES permit limits. The City will select a blend that meets the City's WPCP NPDES permit limits.

- For use of the EBDA outfall, the City and/or District will review discharge requirements and other institutional arrangements for participation in EBDA. This would include: development of RO concentrate mass balance calculations and laboratory testing to evaluate compliance with EBDA's combined NDPES permit requirements. The City will control the WPCP's discharge to the EBDA system such that the addition of the WPCP's effluent would not cause discharge from the combined discharge point to exceed the EBDA NPDES permit water quality-based effluent limits and toxicity requirements.

- For use of treatment wetlands, the City and/or District will coordinate with the RWQCB and other regulatory agencies, such as USACE, USFWS, CDFW, and BCDC regarding use of concentrate to support wetlands and protect receiving water quality consistent with the water quality objectives of the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). This process will generally include development of effluent calculations, pilot testing, or other mechanism acceptable to the RWQCB to identify:

  - Effluent blending ratios,
  - Use of other potential blending source waters (such as pre-blending with Bay water or stormwater),
  - Calculation of specific concentrations of constituents of concern (metals, pesticides), and
  - Identification of chronic and acute toxicity to demonstrate protection of receiving water quality.

Using the outcomes of the studies listed, the City and/or District will select an initial approach to treatment wetlands design that would be consistent with the water quality objectives of the Basin Plan.

Section 4.11, Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Page 4.11-33 REVISE Mitigation Measure HAZ-2b as follows:

> For ~~any elements~~ each Master Plan improvement involving ground disturbing activities, the City (or for WPF, District) or its contractor will prepare a Health and Safety Plan in accordance with federal OSHA regulations (29 CFR 1910.120) and Cal/OSHA regulations (8 CCR Title 8, Section 5192). ~~The~~ Each Plan will be based on all ~~the~~ activities proposed ~~Master Plan improvements involving ground disturbance~~ as part of the specific project and include designated personnel responsible for implementation of the ~~Health and Safety~~ Plan. The City will require each contractor for each individual construction contract to implement ~~the~~ a Plan. ~~The~~ Each Plan will include all required measures to protect construction workers and the general public potentially exposed to hazardous materials or wastes by including engineering controls, monitoring, and security measures to prevent dangerous levels of exposure and unauthorized entry to the construction area, and to reduce hazards outside of any construction area. If prescribed contaminant exposure levels are exceeded, personal protective equipment shall be required for workers in accordance with state and federal regulations. Compliance with the ~~City's~~ Health and Safety Plan will not be construed as approval of the adequacy of the contractor's health and safety professional's qualifications or any safety measure taken in or near the construction site. The contractor will be solely and fully responsible for compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations applicable to health and safety during the performance of the construction work.

Section 4.15, Aesthetics

Page 4.15-2 In response to comment ABAG-13, Draft PEIR Figure 4.15-1 is revised as shown on the following page.

Page 4.15-21 REMOVE reference to the Santa Clara Valley Water District from the first paragraph of Mitigation Measure AES-1 as follows:

> The design of the access road and levee will include landscape plantings. Planting design will retain safety, structural integrity, and functionality of the access road and levee, and accessibility for maintenance, inspection, monitoring, and flood control. Design of the landscape plantings and vegetation management program will be coordinated with a civil engineer and landscape architect, along with ~~the District and~~ the City of Sunnyvale, to ensure that landscaping and maintenance practices chosen are ecologically compatible, feasible, and compatible with flood damage protection. The levee planting plans chosen for implementation will be certified by a registered professional engineer to ensure reliable operation and maintenance of the access road and levee and reviewed by a qualified biologist to ensure compatibility of the plants with the existing plant mosaic.

SOURCE: Google Maps; ESA

Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan . 120457

Figure 4.15-1
Viewpoint Map (Revised)

Chapter 5, Growth Inducement Potential and Secondary Effects of Growth

Page 5-22 REVISE Mitigation Measure GI-1 as follows:

> Prior to implementation of Stage 2 of the conventional activated sludge and Stage 2 of solids thickening and dewatering facilities and processes, Stage 2 of the MBR facilities and Stage 2 of WPF solids thickening and dewatering facilities, or construction of a fifth digester, the City will ~~: (1)~~ initiate a new investigation of flows and loads capacity requirements to ensure that these facilities are appropriately sized to accommodate projected capacity needs consistent with (then) adopted plans and policies~~; and (2)~~. Upon completion of construction of the above-noted facilities, the City will require that CEQA documents on development projects evaluate nitrogen deposition impacts on serpentine habitat and associated special-status species, and mitigate significant project-specific and cumulative impacts to less-than-significant levels. The analysis requirements and specific mitigation strategy(ies) will depend on the environmental setting at the time the Master Plan or WPF improvements are implemented, characteristics of the proposed development, and its relative contribution to the significant impact.

Chapter 6, Cumulative Impacts and Other CEQA Issues

Page 6-12 REVISE the first paragraph of Mitigation Measure C-TR-1 as follows:

> Prior to construction, the City's respective contractor(s) shall develop a Coordinated Transportation Management Plan, and the City and its contractor(s) shall work with other projects' contractors and appropriate County and/or City departments (e.g., Emergency Services, Fire, Police, Transportation) as needed to prepare and implement a transportation management plan for roadways adjacent to and directly affected by the Master Plan improvements or the WPF, and to address the transportation impact of the overlapping construction projects within the vicinity of the Master Plan or the WPF in the region.