



111 E. COMMERCIAL STREET
WILLITS, CALIFORNIA 95490
(707) 459-4601 TEL
(707) 459-1562 FAX

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and Sections 15072 and 15073 of the State Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Willits hereby gives notice that a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is available for public review and comment. The IS/MND found that the environmental effects from the proposed City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project (project) would be less than significant with mitigation.

PROJECT TITLE: City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located northeast of the City of Willits (City) center on City-owned parcels identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 007-010-01, 108-030-06, and 108-020-05 (Site). The Site is currently utilized for the Willits Groundwater System, including the Elias Replacement well, Long 20 test well, and groundwater treatment plant, and is located adjacent to the City's sewer plant.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The City of Willits (City) proposes improvements to the existing Willits Groundwater System in order to increase the City's conjunctive use capabilities and provide the City with a reliable water supply sufficient to meet community needs in the event surface water becomes untenable. Improvements would include the installation of 3,750 feet of new water line and the abandonment of 3,600 feet of existing water line within the Willits Groundwater System, upgrades to the pumps of the Elias Replacement well and Long 20 test well, arsenic pilot testing on the Long 20 test well, and the installation of a 250,000-gallon clear well (chlorine contact tank) adjacent to the west of the groundwater treatment plant, to be completed in three (3) phases.

REVIEW PERIOD: The 30-day comment period is from December 29, 2020 to January 28, 2021. All interested persons are invited to send written comments regarding this IS/MND to the City of Willits Engineering Department, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California 95490, or via email at engineering@cityofwillits.org no later than 5:30 pm on January 28, 2021.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY LOCATION: The Draft IS/MND is available for public review at: <https://cityofwillits.org/147/Engineering>

Additional information regarding the above noted item may be obtained by calling the City of Willits Engineering Department at (707) 459-4605 or via email: engineering@cityofwillits.org.

FINDINGS: The proposed City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project would result in potentially significant impacts but compliance with regulatory requirements and implementation of mitigation measures would reduce all potentially significant adverse impacts to less than significant levels.



**111 E. COMMERCIAL STREET
WILLITS, CALIFORNIA 95490
(707) 459-4601 TEL
(707) 459-1562 FAX**

LEAD AGENCY: City of Willits

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: The City Council of the City of Willits will consider the proposed project and recommendation to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration at a public hearing on a date yet to be determined. Oral comments may be presented to the City Council during the public hearing. If you challenge the plan in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Willits Engineering Department or the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matter.

s/ Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra, City Manager

Posted: 12/28/20