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June 25, 2020

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LOS ANGELES RIVER AND ARROYO SECO LOW FLOW DIVERSION PROJECT

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and Article 7 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, the City of Los Angeles (City), Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering (Engineering) has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project described below. Pursuant to CEQA, the City identified no potentially significant impacts and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City is proposing to construct five (5) Low Flow Diversion (LFD) systems: two (2) LFD systems would divert dry-weather flows which discharge to the Reach 1 of the Arroyo Seco, which runs upstream to downstream from West Holly Avenue, Pasadena to the Los Angeles River (LA River) and three (3) LFD systems would divert the dry-weather flows which discharge to Reach 2 of the LA River, which runs upstream to downstream from Figueroa Street in Los Angeles to Carson Street in Long Beach. Thus, the *Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Low Flow Diversion Project* (Project) would capture dry-weather flows from the prioritized stormwater outfalls, which have been identified to have high levels of bacteria, before discharge into adjacent water bodies and divert the dry-weather flows to sanitary sewers for treatment at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant (HWRP). The Project consists of installing storm drain diversions and pipelines, trash collection structures, maintenance holes, junction structures, diversion structures with weirs, pretreatment units, pump stations, pressurized pipes, valve and meter vaults, power supplies for pump stations, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, and instrumentation. The intent of the Project is to help improve water quality and help meet total maximum daily load (TMDLs) requirements of the Los Angeles River and its tributaries (including the Arroyo Seco) by diverting the dry-weather flows. Construction is anticipated to start Winter 2021 and end in Fall 2022, for an approximate 18-month duration. Construction mitigation measures are discussed in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Other than regular maintenance, there are no other operational activities associated with this Project.

PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING: The Project consists of five (5) distinct Project sites in the City and are categorized as being adjacent to the Arroyo Seco or LA River. The attached **Figure 1** and **Figure 2** depict the location of the LFD Project sites adjacent to the Arroyo Seco and LA River, respectively. The following describes the location and setting of the five Project sites:

- **Figueroa Street LFD:** This LFD system would divert dry-weather flows which would discharge to the Arroyo Seco river. The Project is adjacent to the City's Sycamore Grove Park at the southeast corner of N. Figueroa Street and S. Avenue 49 in the Highland Park area of the Northeast Los Angeles Community Plan Area. The area immediately surrounding the Project is urbanized and developed with Sycamore Grove Park to the north, S. Avenue 49 to the east, and the State Route

110 (SR 110), also known as the Arroyo Seco Parkway, to the southeast. The Project site is currently an unpaved access road that is gated to restrict vehicular access.

- **Via Marisol LFD:** This LFD system would divert dry-weather flows which would discharge to the Arroyo Seco river. The Project is in the public right-of-way on the northside Via Marisol between Monterey Road and the SR 110. The Project is in the Highland Park area of the Northeast Los Angeles Community Plan. This Project site is bounded by the City's Hermon Dog Park to the north, Monterey Road to the east, residential uses to the south, and the SR 110 on ramps and offramps to the west.
- **Rose Street LFD:** This LFD system would divert dry-weather flows which would discharge to the Reach 2 of the LA River. The Project site is in the public right-of-way on the northside of 2nd Street between Alameda Street and Rose Street in the Artists-in-Residence District, also known as the "Arts District", of the Central City North Community Plan Area. This Project site is bounded by residential uses to the north, Rose Street to the east, a Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) building to the south, and Alameda Street to the west.
- **Mission Road LFD:** This LFD system would divert dry-weather flows which would discharge to the Reach 2 of the LA River. The Project site is in the public right-of-way on Mission Road between Cesar Chavez Avenue and the US-101 freeway ramps in the Boyle Heights Community Plan Area. This Project site is bounded by Cesar Chavez Avenue to the north, US-101 on/off ramps, a private commercial property to the west, and a California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) easement to the east.
- **Palmetto Street LFD:** This LFD system would divert dry-weather flows which would discharge to the Reach 2 of the LA River. The Project site is at the intersection of Palmetto Street and Santa Fe Avenue within the public right-of-way in the "Arts District" area of the Central City North Community Plan Area. This site is surrounded by commercial and light manufacturing land uses. The Project site is bounded by commercial land uses to the north, "Lucky Brand" commercial offices to the east, Santa Fe Avenue to the south, and light industrial and commercial uses to the west.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project will be circulated for a twenty (20) day public review period, beginning on June 25, 2020 and ending on July 14, 2020.

A hard copy of the document is available to review at the address listed below by appointment only. Please contact Lauren Rhodes of the Bureau of Engineering at lauren.rhodes@lacity.org to schedule an appointment. Also, the document can be viewed on the Bureau of Engineering website at: <http://eng.lacity.org/techdocs/emg/projects.htm>

All comments must be submitted, in writing, no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 14, 2020 by mail, email, or fax to Lauren Rhodes:

Mail

Lauren Rhodes
City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
Bureau of Engineering

1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600
Mail Stop 939
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Email

Lauren Rhodes at
lauren.rhodes@lacity.org

Please include "**LAR-AS LFD
IS/MND Project Comments**" in
the subject line.

Fax

Lauren Rhodes at the office fax
number

(213) 847-0656



Figure 1. Low Flow Diversion Project Sites adjacent to the Arroyo Seco

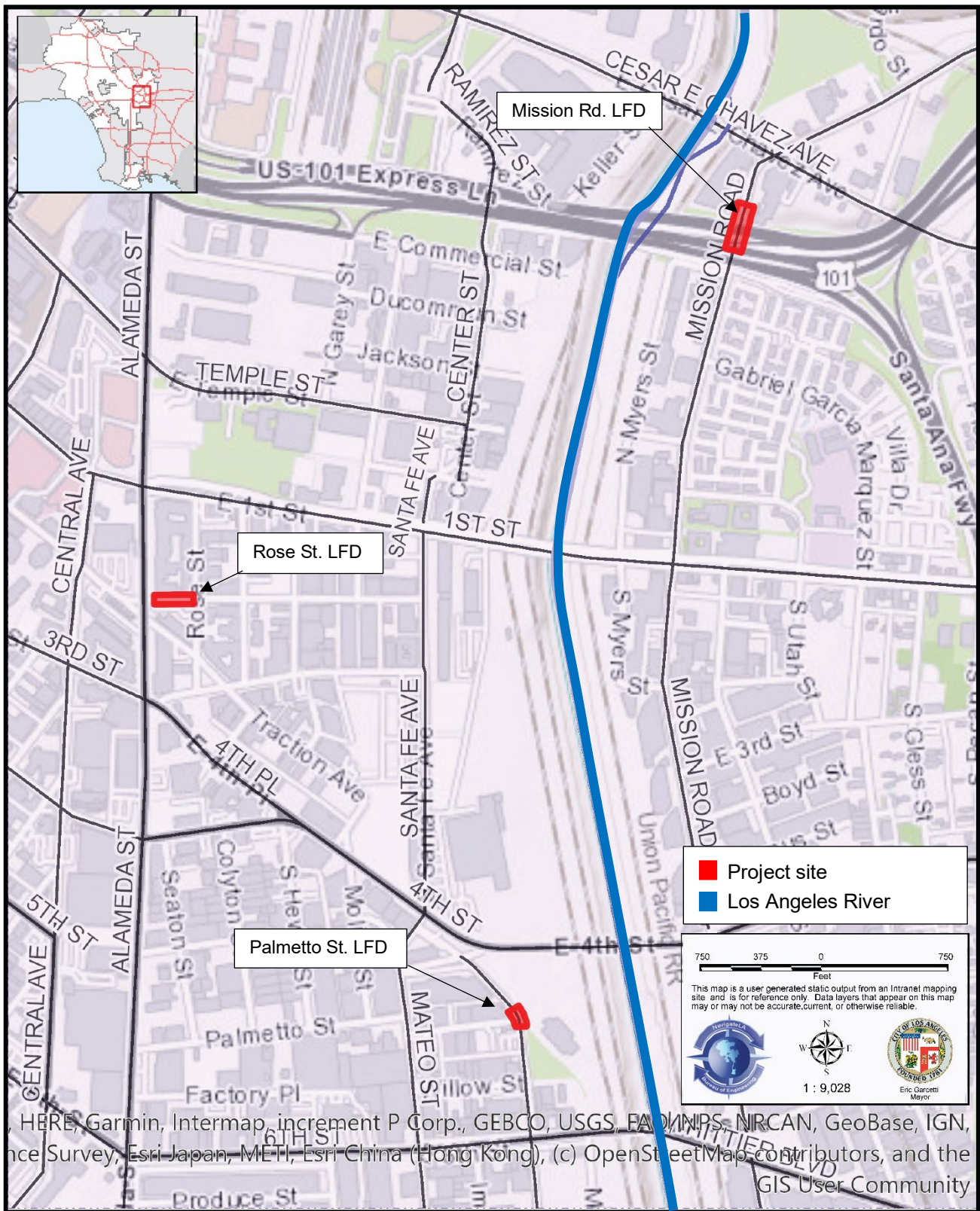


Figure 2. Low Flow Diversion Project Sites adjacent to Los Angeles River