

Scotts Valley Water District

2 Civic Center Drive, Scotts Valley, California 95066

Phone: (831) 438-2363

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The project proposes improvements to the existing stormwater control measures on the site by improving water quality and increasing infiltration capacity through low impact development¹ (LID) and landscape improvement features. All LID features would be located underground, within existing landscaped areas, or flush with the existing grade of the site and would not disrupt the existing pedestrian or vehicle circulation on-site. Landscape improvements, including efficient water use and drought-tolerant plantings, between the parking aisles will reduce erosion and sedimentation, increase shade, and improve aesthetics. The proposed site modifications would include the following features to improve stormwater catchment and infiltration into the soil:

- Installation of a 3,500 square foot, 130,000 gallon runoff detention and infiltration gallery under the northwest portion of the parking lot. The gallery will feature a buried eight foot diameter detention pipe that is perforated and acts as a storage system to accept the large influx of runoff generated during a storm. The gallery will hold the runoff and allow for infiltration at a slower rate into the soil below. The parking lot in the area of the infiltration gallery will be resurfaced with pervious pavement in order to provide both LID treatment for the runoff of the northwest portion of the parking lot and allow infiltration through the infiltration gallery (refer to Figure 3.0-1).
- Installation of biofiltration systems within existing landscaped areas along the northern portion of the site.
- Redirection of runoff from the northern portion of the site into the biofiltration system, and the provision of catch basins and underdrains within the biofiltration systems to collect the treated water. The treated water will flow to the existing storm drain line, which will be diverted to the detention and infiltration gallery. There is a controlled overflow for large events to flow to the existing storm drain line in Kings Village Drive.
- Installation of three tree box filters² (two within landscaped areas on the south side of the parking aisles and one on a parking lot landscape strip on the southwest portion of the site).
- Installation of two rain gardens³ (one in each circular planter area near the transit station).
- Installation of approximately 1,000 square feet of pervious concrete or paver sidewalk pavement in the pedestrian plaza near the transit station building.

¹ Low impact development (LID) measures work with nature to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features, minimizing effective imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product.

Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency. Water: Low Impact Development.

<<http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/green>> Accessed April 17, 2015.

² A tree box filter is a container installed beneath the soil in an urban area in which trees are planted and runoff is directed into the container, where it is then filtered by soil and vegetation and is then discharged into a storm drain system. The proposed project would discharge runoff from the tree box filters into detention and infiltration areas on-site.

³ A rain garden is a shallow landscaped depression of plants and soil that captures and removes pollutants and infiltrates stormwater runoff.

- Redirection of roof leaders (at the roof eaves) on the existing transit station building to drain to the northern and southern rain gardens.
- Installation of a storm drain outlet (i.e., a scupper) near the northern and southern rain gardens to convey excess runoff from the rain garden into the existing storm drain line along Kings Village Road.
- Provision of measures to control erosion and sediment movement within existing landscaped strips in the parking lot.
- Installation of new storm drain lines to connect the new tree box planters and existing storm drain line from the Town Center Collection development on the south side of the site to the proposed detention and infiltration gallery on the northwestern portion of the site.
- Installation of a hydrodynamic (vortex) separator along the new storm drain line to provide additional treatment (trash, sediment and oil and grease removal) prior to discharge to the detention and infiltration gallery.

II. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT

The 2.69-acre project site is located at 246 Kings Village Road in the City of Scotts Valley, on the southeast corner of the Kings Village Road and Bluebonnet Lane intersection.

III. FINDING

An Initial Study has been prepared by the Scotts Valley Water District. On the basis of the Initial Study, the District has determined that the proposed project will not result in a significant effect on the environment because the mitigation and standard measures described in the Initial Study are included in the project to reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level. The mitigation and standard measures described in the Initial Study and included in the proposed project are listed below.

A. *Air Quality*

Standard Measures: The project includes the following measures, based, in part, on the MBUAPCD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, during all phases of construction to minimize dust and particulate matter emissions:

- Water all active construction areas at least twice daily. Frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure.
- Prohibit all grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph).
- Apply chemical soil stabilizers on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands within construction projects that are unused for at least four consecutive days). An alternative measure to reduce dust and soil erosion on inactive construction areas may be used.
- Apply non-toxic binders (e.g., latex acrylic copolymer) to exposed areas after cut and fill operations and hydro seed area. An alternative measure maybe utilized to reduce dust and soil erosion after cut and fill activities are complete.
- Haul trucks shall maintain at least 2'0" of freeboard.
- Cover all trucks hauling dirt, sand, or loose materials.
- Plant vegetative ground cover in disturbed areas as soon as possible.
- Cover inactive storage piles.

- Check wheels of all exiting trucks for loose dirt and install wheel washers, or other management practices, at the exits of the construction areas.
- Pave all roads on construction sites after completion of construction activities.
- Sweep streets if visible soil material is carried out from the construction site.
- Post a publicly visible sign which specifies the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond to complaints and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District shall be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).
- Limit the area under construction at any one time.
- Limit the idling of construction vehicles and equipment to five minutes or less.

B. *Biological Resources*

Mitigation Measures: The following mitigation measures will be implemented during construction to avoid abandonment of raptor and other protected migratory birds nests:

MM BIO 1-1: Construction shall be scheduled to avoid the nesting season to the extent feasible. The nesting season for most birds extends from February through August.

MM BIO 1-2: If it is not possible to schedule demolition and construction between September and January, pre-construction surveys for nesting birds shall be completed by a qualified ornithologist to ensure that no nests will be disturbed during project implementation. This survey shall be completed no more than 14 days prior to the initiation of construction activities during the early part of the breeding season (February through April) and no more than 30 days prior to the initiation of these activities during the later part of the breeding season (May through August). During this survey, the ornithologist will inspect all trees and other possible nesting habitats immediately adjacent to the construction areas for nests. If an active nest is found sufficiently close to work areas to be disturbed by construction, the ornithologist, in consultation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, will determine the extent of a construction-free buffer zone to be established around the nest, typically 250 feet, to ensure that raptor or migratory bird nests will not be disturbed during project construction.

C. *Cultural Resources*

Mitigation Measures: The following project-specific mitigation measures will be implemented during construction to avoid significant impacts to unknown subsurface cultural resources:

MM CUL-1.1: Contractors shall be advised that the project site is within an area of moderate to high sensitivity for archaeological resources. If, during any phase of project construction, archaeological resources or human remains are discovered, work shall be halted within a 50-foot radius of the find. Work shall not be resumed until the find has been evaluated and potential significance determined by a qualified professional archaeologist. If the qualified archaeologist determines that any finds are significant, then the City of Scotts Valley and the qualified archaeologist shall determine the appropriate course of action.

MM CUL-1.2: In the event that human remains are discovered, the provisions outlined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 shall be implemented. This would require consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), if the remains are Native American. The NAHC will identify the most likely descendants, and the descendants will make recommendations regarding proper burial, which will be implemented in accordance with Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines.

D. Hydrology and Water Quality

Mitigation Measures:

MM HYD-1.1: The following project-specific measures, based on RWQCB BMPs, have been included in the project to reduce construction-related water quality impacts. All mitigation measures would be implemented prior to the start of earthmoving activities on-site and would continue until the completion of construction activities.

- Burlap bags filled with drain rock shall be installed around storm drains to route sediment and other debris away from the drains.
- Earthmoving or other dust-producing activities shall be suspended during periods of high winds.
- All exposed or disturbed soil surfaces shall be watered at least twice daily to control dust as necessary.
- Stockpiles of soil or other materials that can be blown by the wind shall be watered or covered.
- All trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials shall be required to cover all trucks or maintain at least two feet of freeboard.
- All paved access roads, parking areas, staging areas, and residential streets adjacent to the construction sites shall be swept daily (with water sweepers).
- Vegetation in disturbed areas shall be replanted as quickly as possible.
- All unpaved entrances to the site shall be filled with rock to knock mud from truck tires prior to entering City streets. A tire wash system may also be employed at the request of the City.

Standard Measures: The following measures, based on the RWQCB Best Management Practices (BMPs) and the City requirements, are included in the project to ensure compliance with NPDES permit requirements to reduce post-construction water quality impacts.

- When the construction phase is complete City of Scotts Valley will be notified that all elements of LID and/or water quality treatment have been installed, and construction materials and waste have been properly disposed of for the project site.

- All post-construction Treatment Control Measures (TCMs) will be installed, operated, and maintained by qualified personnel retained by the SVWD. On-site inlets will be cleaned out at a minimum of once per year, prior to the wet season.
- The SVWD will keep a maintenance and inspection schedule and record to ensure the TCMs continue to operate effectively for the life of the project. Copies of the schedule and record must be provided to the City upon request and must be made available for inspection on-site at all times.

E. Noise

Standard Measures: The following standard measures are included as part of the project to reduce or avoid short-term noise impacts.

- Noise generating activity shall be restricted to between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on weekdays unless otherwise approved in writing by the City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director. The construction schedule shall be sent to the neighbors and library in advance to notify them of the schedule of noise-generating activities.
- All internal combustion engine driven equipment shall be equipped with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.
- The Water District will designate a representative to receive and respond to local complaints regarding construction noise at the project site.
- Noise generating activity shall comply with the City of Scotts Valley Municipal Code.

Signature:
Piret Harmon, General Manager

Date: