



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND AVAILABILITY OF A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Upper Santa Ana River Tributaries Restoration Project and Mitigation Reserve Program

Location: San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
380 East Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Date/Time: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 / 2:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend a public hearing on the Upper Santa Ana River Tributaries Restoration Project and Mitigation Reserve Program (proposed project). The hearing is being held in accordance with California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3 (California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines), Section 15090. The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) as lead agency has prepared the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed project in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines. The Board of Directors will be considering approval of the proposed project and the EIR.

Project: The proposed project has two components that would be implemented by Valley District: the restoration of four Santa Ana River tributaries (Tributaries Restoration Project) and a Mitigation Reserve Program. The Tributaries Restoration Project would construct and maintain four tributary restoration sites in the cities of Riverside and Jurupa Valley and in Riverside County. The four restoration sites along the Santa Ana River are Anza Creek, Old Ranch Creek, Lower Hole Creek, and Hidden Valley Creek. The proposed project would improve the ecological condition of habitat for Santa Ana sucker and jurisdictional aquatic resources by restoring existing channels, creating new channels, restoring the associated floodplain, enhancing the existing riparian and floodplain habitats, and controlling nonnative invasive species. The Mitigation Reserve Program would account for and track the development of conservation/mitigation values created by the restoration projects (i.e., credits) and application of those values to future project permit requirements. The purpose of the Mitigation Reserve Program is to develop a common understanding and legal framework for the conservation/mitigation values created by Valley District. In addition to the four restoration sites, an additional site, Evans Creek, may be considered for implementation of additional restoration activities.

Available Information: A copy of the Final EIR is available for public review at the Valley District office, local libraries, and the Valley District and project websites:

Valley District, 380 E Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

Arlanza Public Library, 267 Philbin Ave, Riverside, CA 92503

Louis Robidoux Library, 5840 Mission Boulevard, Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

Valley District project website: <http://www.sbvmd.com/Upper-SAR-Restoration>

Upper Santa Ana River project website: <http://www.uppersarhcp.com/documents>

CEQA Information: A CEQA Final EIR (SCH#2018071024), dated November 2019, was prepared for the proposed project pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15080, et seq. The EIR identifies potentially significant but mitigable impacts on biological resources; cultural resources; geology, soils, seismicity, and paleontological resources; noise, and tribal cultural resources. All other impacts are considered less than significant. The EIR did not identify significant and unavoidable impacts.

Public Hearing and Comment: Valley District will conduct a public hearing at 380 E Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408 on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 2:30 p.m. as part of the CEQA approval process. The public hearing will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by opportunity for public comments and questions. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing and to present written and/or oral comments. Letters must be received on or before the date of the hearing or can be submitted at the hearing via mail, fax, or email to:

*Heather Dyer, M.S., M.B.A., Senior Water Resources Project Manager
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
380 E Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408
Fax: (909) 387-9747, Email: heatherd@sbymwd.com*

Valley District's office hours are Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Any questions regarding this project may be directed to Heather Dyer at (909) 387-9256 or heatherd@sbymwd.com.

Specific language translators can be made available at the hearing. To obtain translation services, please contact Heather Dyer at (909) 387-9256 or heatherd@sbymwd.com by November 13, 2019.