



26111 Antonio Parkway., P.O. Box 7005 Mission Viejo, CA 92690-7005 (949) 495-6400

May 13, 2020

To: Interested Parties

Subject: **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LAS FLORES LAS FLORES ENHANCED WATER RELIABILITY PROJECT**

The Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) is proposing to install approximately 2.6 miles of recycled water pipelines within existing streets and SMWD rights-of-way to would serve the existing community of Las Flores. As the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the SMWD has prepared an Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), which evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed project.

Project Location: The project would be located within Oso Parkway, Meandering Trail Road, a portion of Antonio Parkway, and in an SMWD access road located behind the residential neighborhood located at the northwest corner of Oso Parkway and Antonio Parkway. The project also involves the repurposing of the existing Las Flores Lift Station, which is located approximately 800 feet west of the intersection of Oso Parkway and Antonio Parkway. The project site is not listed in the State of California Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. See Figure 1, Project Location, for additional detail.

Project Description: The project includes installation of approximately 3,800 linear feet of 16-inch pipe and 6,390 linear feet of 8-inch pipe in residential streets and easements through previously disturbed open space. The project also involves the conversion of the Las Flores Lift Station, currently out of service, to a recycled water booster pump station, and the

rehabilitation of an approximately 3,650-foot-long 10-inch existing force main in the ROW within Antonio Parkway.

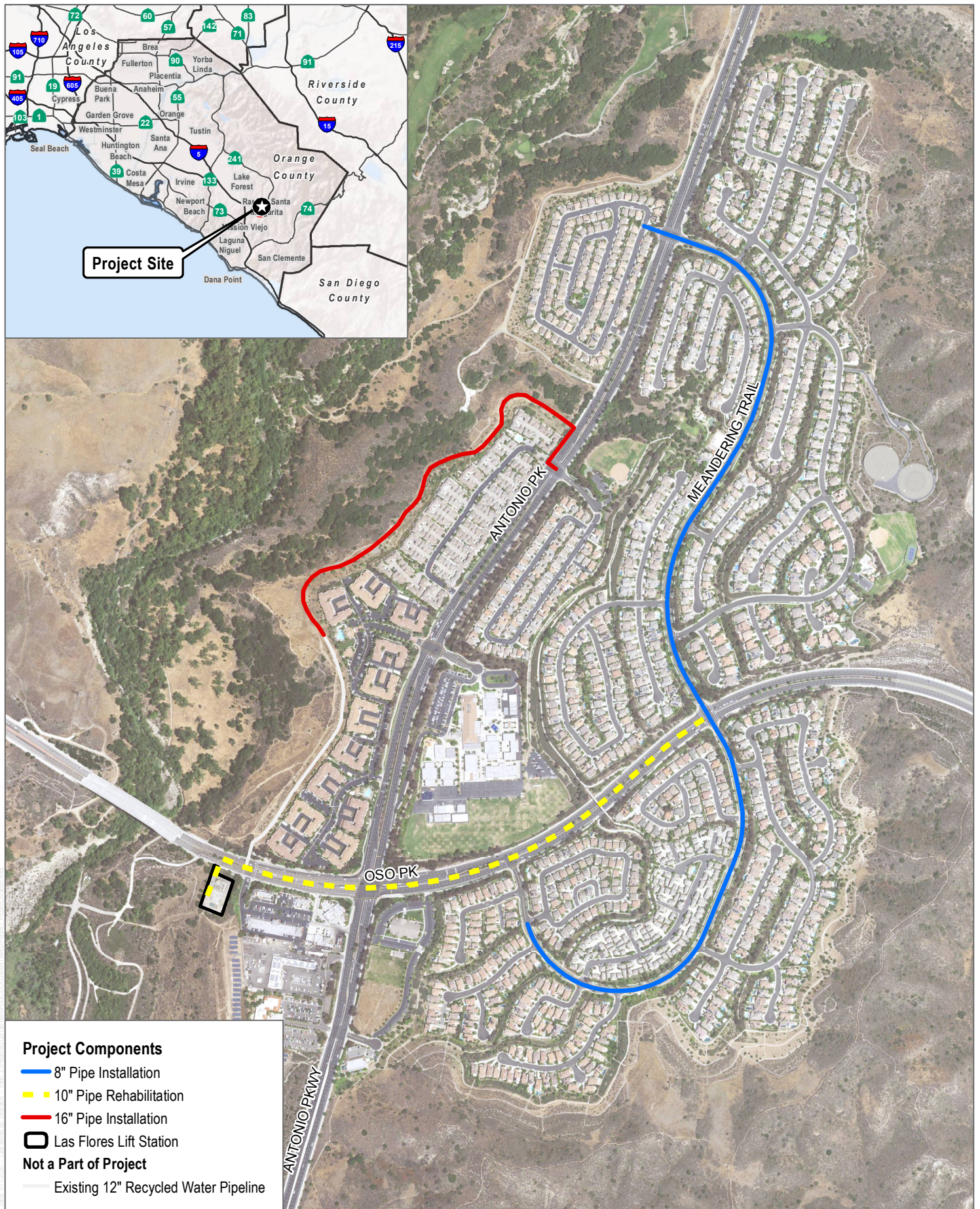
Public Review Period: The IS/MND is being made available for public review for a period of 30 days beginning May 13, 2020, and concluding June 11, 2020. The electronic version of the IS/MND may be viewed online at www.smwd.com.

Please submit comments on the IS/MND via mail or email to:

Karla Houlihan, Project Engineer
Santa Margarita Water District
26111 Antonio Parkway
Rancho Santa Margarita, California 92688
Email: karlah@smwd.com

Comments provided by email should include “Las Flores Las Flores Enhanced Water Reliability Project” in the subject line and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email. **Comments on the IS/MND must be received in writing no later than 5:00 p.m., June 11, 2020.**

A public hearing at which the project and the IS/MND will be considered has not yet been scheduled. All comments received related to issues in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is forwarded to the Board of Directors for final consideration at this future, currently unscheduled, public hearing. Once a public hearing has been scheduled, the agenda for the meeting at which the project will be considered will be posted 72 hours prior to the meeting at the District offices and online at <https://santamargaritawaterdistrictca.igmp2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>.



SOURCE: NAIP 2016; Orange County 2018

FIGURE 1

Project Location

Las Flores Enhanced Water Reliability Project