EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

September 12, 2024

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SOBRANTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
SCH # 2022030308

Project Applicant/Proponent: **East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)**
375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA, 94607-4240

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Sobrante Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Reliability Improvements Project (Project) is available for public review. EBMUD is the Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Project Purpose: The Sobrante WTP primarily serves customers in El Sobrante, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo, Crockett, and San Pablo. The Sobrante WTP treats water stored locally at San Pablo Reservoir, which is located north of the city of Orinda. San Pablo Reservoir stores untreated water supplied from local runoff and supplemental supply from the Sacramento River via the Freeport Regional Water Project. The Project would replace aging infrastructure, restore reliable treatment capacity, continue to meet drinking water regulations, reduce disinfection by-products, improve efficiency of maintenance operations, maintain flexibility to treat supplemental supplies, and increase treatment capacity to reliably meet future demand.

Project Location and Description: The Project is located at the existing Sobrante WTP at 5500 Amend Road in El Sobrante and the city of Richmond and in public roads in the cities of Richmond and San Pablo and unincorporated communities of El Sobrante and Rollingwood, as shown in **Figure 1**.

The proposed Project would be designed and constructed in two separate phases: Phase 1 improvements would restore treatment capacity at Sobrante WTP to 60 million gallons per day (MGD) and Phase 2 improvements would increase capacity to 80 MGD. The construction of Phase 1 improvements is schedule from 2030 to 2034. The construction of Phase 2 improvements is not firmly established and would depend on the timing of future water demands. **Figure 2** shows the proposed location and approximate footprint of the new improvements required throughout the Sobrante WTP site. The following are major improvements listed by phase.

<u>Phase 1 - Proposed Improvements at Sobrante WTP</u>

- Untreated water control valve and flow meter
- Fifth-stage flocculation for the existing two flocculation basins
- Chlorine contact basin
- Hydraulic weir in the existing clearwell
- Polymer and power building
- Two Spent-filter-backwash equalization basins
- Two Spent-filter-backwash flocculation and sedimentation basins
- Filter-to-waste equalization basin
- Two gravity thickeners
- Consolidated maintenance building
- Connecting pipelines
- Site entrance, access roads, and paving
- Stormwater retention basin
- Fencing and lighting
- Screening and landscaping
- Demolition of existing facilities

Phase 2 – Proposed Improvements at Sobrante WTP

- Rapid mix and extended influent channel
- Flocculation basin
- Sedimentation basin
- Replacement cable-vac pumping plant
- Two ozone contact basins
- Extend ozone destruct room
- Two dual-media filters
- Chemical storage building
- Two gravity thickeners
- Two blending tanks
- Solids dewatering building
- Connecting pipelines
- Demolition of existing facility

Phase 2 – Proposed Central North Aqueduct Pipeline

The Project would also require approximately 22,000 linear feet of large-diameter pipelines to convey the additional treatment capacity from Sobrante WTP to the distribution system. These pipelines would be constructed along public roads in the community of El Sobrante, city of Richmond, city of San Pablo, and community of Rollingwood, as shown in **Figure 1**.

Significant Environmental Effects: Analysis of environmental impacts associated with the Project identified potentially significant impacts in the following areas: aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, geology soils and seismicity, noise and vibration, transportation, and tribal cultural resources. With the exception of noise, impacts would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels by implementation of mitigation measures. The cumulative impacts from the Project would not be cumulatively considerable and would be less than significant with the exception of biological resources, where the cumulative impact would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels by implementation of mitigation measures. Once the Project is completed and operational, all impacts would be less than significant.

Public Review: The Draft EIR is available on EBMUD's Project website at www.ebmud.com/sowtp.

The Draft EIR is also available for public review at the following locations:

EBMUD Offices	375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607
El Sobrante Public Library	4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante, CA 94803
San Pablo Public Library	13751 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, CA 94806
Richmond Public Library	325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Public Meeting: The following public meeting is scheduled to review the Draft EIR and will start at 6:00 p.m.:

- October 10, 2024 – Virtual Meeting – Zoom link to be provided before the meeting date on Project website: www.ebmud.com/sowtp

Deadlines: The public review period is from September 12, 2024 to October 28, 2024. Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on October 28, 2024. Written comments must be submitted to Jae Park, MS 701, 375

Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607-4240, or e-mailed to sowtp.improvements@ebmud.com. Action on the EIR is currently scheduled to be taken by the EBMUD Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled Board meeting in July 2025 at 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA.

S. Terentieff

09/12/2024

Serge V. Terentieff
Director of Engineering and Construction
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Date

SVT:DJR:
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Attachments: Figure 1 Project Location
Figure 2 Sobrante WTP Conceptual Site Plan

Figure 1: Project Location

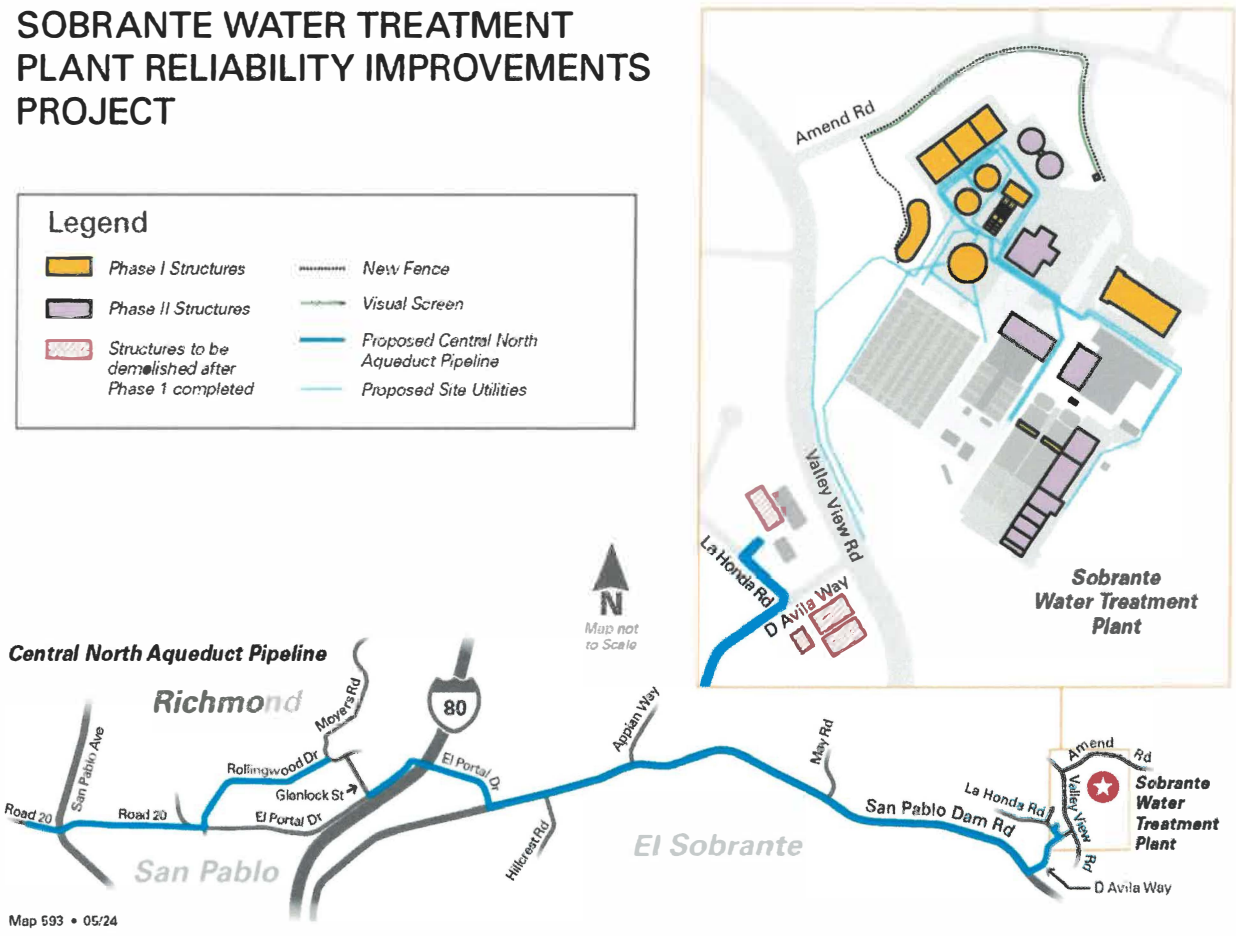


Figure 2: Sobrante WTP Conceptual Site Plan

