NOTICE OF PREPARATION
OF A DRAFT SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Date: September 27, 2024

To: State Clearinghouse
Responsible Agencies
Trustee Agencies
Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report for the City of Roseville Pleasant Grove Stormwater Retention Basin Project and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting

Project Title/ File Number: Pleasant Grove Stormwater Retention Basin Project

NOP Comment Period: Written comments are due to the City's Development Services –Planning Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 1, 2024.

Review Period: October 3, 2024 to November 1, 2024

Public Scoping Meeting: In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21083.9, notice is hereby given that the City of Roseville will conduct a public scoping meeting on October 22, 2024 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Martha Riley Library, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville, CA, in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 (unless noted otherwise at the facility).

Project Location: The project would be located adjacent to Pleasant Grove, near the northwestern terminus of the City of Roseville, in Placer County, California. The northern basin would include approximately 171 acres of undeveloped land between Pleasant Grove Creek (main) and a tributary flowing from Sunset Boulevard in the north. The southern basin would include approximately 348 acres of undeveloped land between Pleasant Grove Creek and Phillip Road. The project area includes the following Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs): 017-101-008, 017-101-002, 017-090-017, 017-090-054, 017-010-033, 017-010-021, 017-010-018, 017-020-011, and 017-020-009.

Lead Agency and Contact Person: City of Roseville Development Services – Planning
Jessica Lynch, Environmental Coordinator
311 Vernon Street
Roseville, CA 95678
Phone: (916) 774-5352
Email: JJLynch@roseville.ca.us

1. INTRODUCTION

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been issued to notify interested parties that a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) will be prepared and to solicit feedback on the scope and content of the analysis in the SEIR. The City of Roseville will be the lead agency. It will prepare for the Pleasant Grove Stormwater Retention Basin Project, which includes the project approvals listed in Section 4 of this NOP. A description of the project is provided in this NOP, and associated vicinity, location, and project area maps.

NOP Comment Period: Due to the time limits mandated by state law, your response to this NOP must be sent at the earliest possible date and submitted to the City, but not later than 30 calendar days after October 3, 2024 (the date this notice was first posted). Please submit comments to the City of Roseville no later than 5 p.m. on November 1 2024. Please provide written comments to:

City of Roseville Development Services – Planning
Jessica Lynch, Environmental Coordinator
311 Vernon Street
Roseville, CA, 95678
Phone: (916) 774-5352; Email: JJLynch@roseville.ca.us

Public Scoping Meeting: A public scoping meeting will be held on October 22, 2024, to receive comments from interested parties regarding the issues that should be addressed in the SEIR. The time and location of the public scoping meeting is provided on the first page of this NOP.

2. REGULATORY BACKGROUND

This NOP provides notification that an EIR will be prepared for the project and has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Division 13 Section 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq. According to the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064, an EIR must be prepared if there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the proposed project may significantly affect the environment.

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City proposes to construct and operate a new stormwater retention basin facility to address the City's current and projected flood impact mitigation needs. The retention basin would help reduce potential downstream flooding that could be caused by projects that increase impervious area within the City and in certain portions of southwest Placer County. The construction of the retention basin facility would help reduce the risk of flood hazards to downstream communities, including portions of Sutter County.

The project would consist of one or two basins, one basin would be located south of Pleasant Grove Creek and the second basin, if constructed, would be located north of the creek. Each basin would have certain typical features such as embankments, low-flow channels, outlet structures, and spillways. Access roads would be constructed to provide access to the site for construction and maintenance activities.

North Basin

The North Basin would be located north of Pleasant Grove Creek. It would have a surface area of approximately 200 acres and would have a maximum storage capacity of approximately 680 acre-feet. The basin would receive water from the Pleasant Grove Creek Tributary Four (also known as University Creek), a tributary to Pleasant Grove Creek that originates east of the project site. Water entering the basin from University Creek, and a tributary to University Creek that historically entered the site near its northeast corner, would be conveyed through the basin to the basin outlet structure by a low-flow channel. The low-flow channel would be constructed by excavation and would end at the basin outlet located along the existing realigned channel. The outlet structure would be gated in order to retain runoff until peak downstream flooding starts to recede.

Water would be contained within the basin by an earthen embankment approximately 14,000 feet in length. The basin outlet structure would be constructed of reinforced concrete and would be designed to regulate the release of water from the basin. Flows in excess of the storage capacity of the basin would flow over a weir on the north side of the basin where the existing ground level is close to the maximum design storage level in the basin. Additional flow control features may be incorporated to direct flows in Pleasant Grove Creek into the North Basin and/or direct University Creek flows into Pleasant Grove Creek, bypassing the North Basin, in order to use the available storage at the time when it would be expected to reduce peak downstream flooding.

South Basin

The South Basin would be located south of Pleasant Grove Creek. It would have a surface area of approximately 350 acres and have a maximum storage capacity of approximately 1,850 acre-feet. To fill the basin, water would be diverted from Pleasant Grove Creek into a bypass channel excavated into the existing floodplain. The bottom of the bypass channel would have a low-flow channel to assist with positive drainage through the system and would convey water through the bypass channel to an inlet control structure, then through the basin and outlet structure and back into Pleasant Grove Creek.

Water would be contained within the basin by an earthen embankment approximately 19,000 in length. The South Basin would have an inlet structure, an outlet structure, and a spillway. The inlet and outlet structures would be constructed of reinforced concrete and would be designed to regulate the storage of water within the basin. Flow control gates at the inlet structure would be used to admit flows when it would be beneficial to reduce downstream flooding. A gate on the outlet structure would be used to retain water until downstream flooding starts to recede. Flows in excess of the storage capacity of the basin would flow over the spillway, which would be located along the north side of the south basin where existing ground is close to the maximum design storage level in the basin.

Access Roads

Internal access roadways would be constructed to provide maintenance vehicle access between public roads and the inlet and outlet structures. The roadways would have an aggregate base and would extend along the top of the embankments of the retention basins. Additional access roads would be constructed where determined to be necessary along the streamside toe of the embankments and within the basins. The project may include reconstruction of an existing culvert crossing of Pleasant Grove Creek.

The reconstructed culvert crossing may include flow control systems to provide increased basin operational flexibility. The top of the reconstructed culvert crossing would be paved and would provide access between the South Basin and North Basin areas.

3.1 Project Location and Setting

The project would be located adjacent to Pleasant Grove Creek, near the northwestern terminus of the City of Roseville, in Placer County, California. The basins would include approximately 550 acres of undeveloped land. The project site (see Figures 1 - 3), owned by the City, primarily consists of agricultural land leased for rice and hay farming.

The project area is zoned by the City of Roseville as Planned Development (PD) and Open Space (OS), and land use within the project boundaries is designated by the City of Roseville General Plan (2020) as Public/Quasi Public (PQP). The site is located within Sections 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16 of Township 11 North, Range 5 East as depicted on the *Pleasant Grove* USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle topographic map

3.2 Project Background and Need

The Pleasant Grove Creek watershed includes approximately 46.5 square miles of partially developed land, generally sloping east to west and discharging to the Natomas Cross Canal in western Placer County. Since 1990, the City of Roseville has recognized the need for a regional stormwater facility to mitigate volumetric impacts from development areas discharging west of the City to areas within Sutter County which can experience flooding.

The City initially adopted the Pleasant Grove/Curry Creek Mitigation Fee (the Fee Program) in May of 1990 and began to collect a drainage impact fee to be used for a Citywide solution within these watersheds that would address downstream flood impacts. The hypothetical 8-day, 100-year storm event was selected based on input from downstream stakeholders and was used as the basis of the Fee Program analysis. This analysis led to the preparation of a Conceptual Design Report, which identified the Reason Farms Retention Basin facility comprised of two retention basins along Pleasant Grove Creek at the City's western boundary: one on the south side specified to store 1,850 acre-feet (AF), and one on the north side specified to store 680 AF. During storms, water would be diverted from Pleasant Grove Creek and University Creek, and their tributaries, into these north and south flood basins, and later released at an appropriate time when downstream water levels have subsided. The proposed project would not mitigate for increases in peak flow runoff due to development, as individual developments are required to mitigate peak flow rates down to pre-project levels on-site. A program-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) based on the conceptual design was certified in 2003 (State Clearinghouse No. 2002072084).

In 2004, the City purchased approximately 1,750 acres of land known as the Reason Farms/Warnick properties using development impact fees collected in the Fee Program since its inception in 1990. Since that time, further studies and refined design alternatives identified excess land areas which would be underutilized in achieving the project's mitigation needs. This allowed for the sale of approximately 480 acres for other uses, and the dedication of approximately 218 acres as an environmental preserve now known as the Al Johnson Wildlife Preserve. The remaining land for the Pleasant Grove Stormwater Retention Basin Project site totals approximately 1,052 acres.

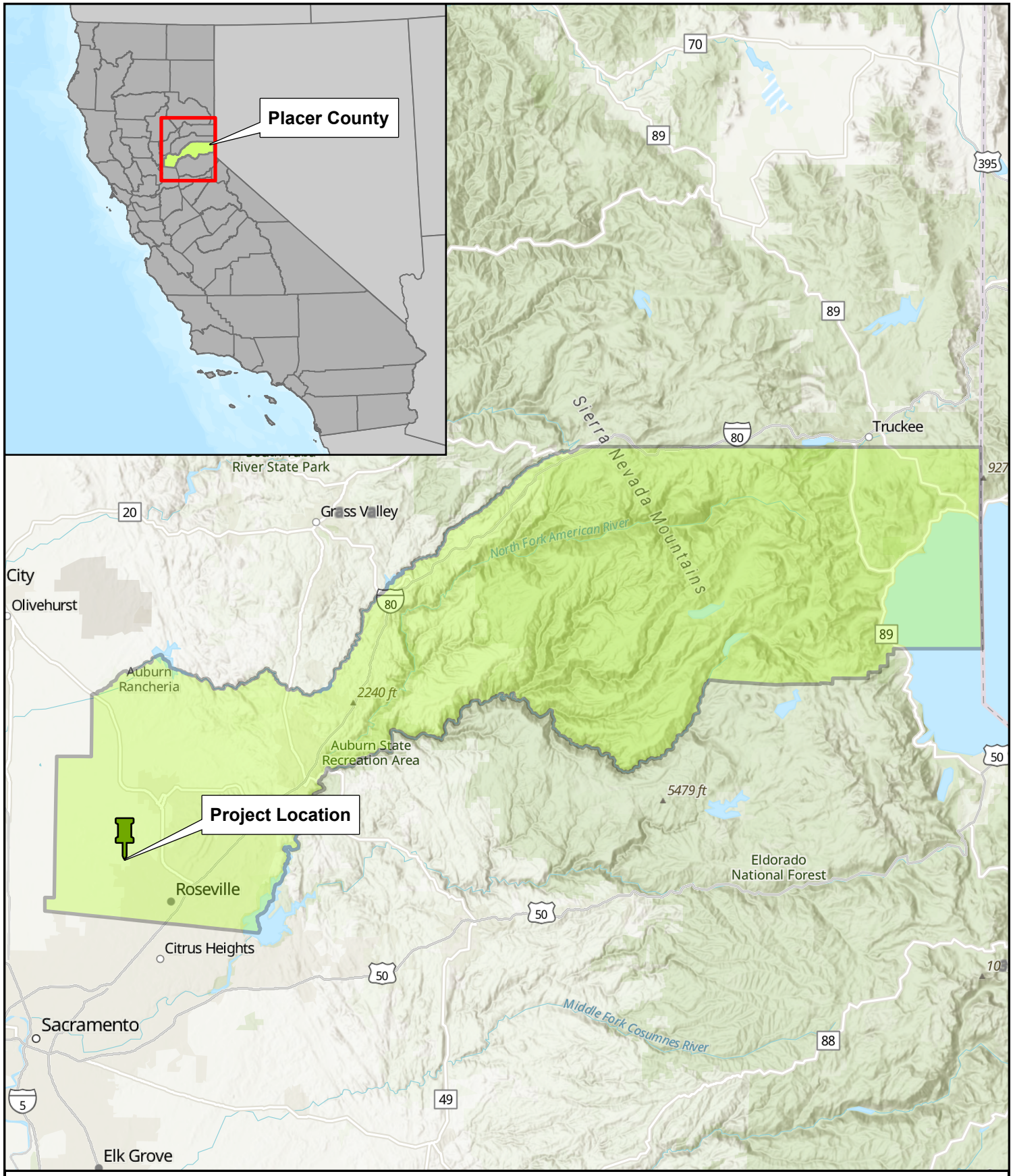

FIGURE 1

PROJECT VICINITY

PLEASANT GROVE STORMWATER RETENTION BASIN PROJECT

PLACER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 2024

0 2.5 5 10

Miles

NORTH

WOOD RODGERS

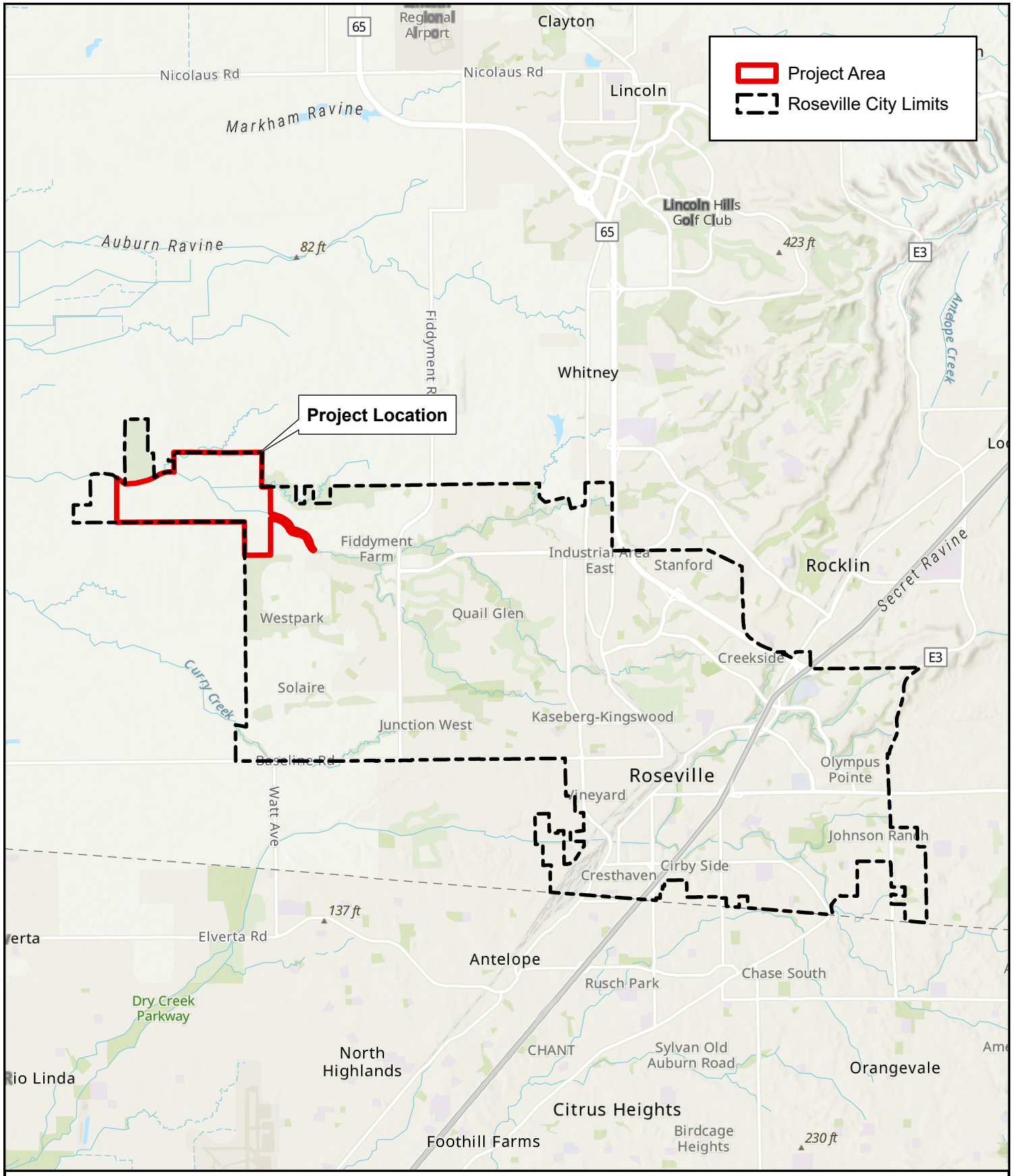

FIGURE 2

PROJECT LOCATION

PLEASANT GROVE STORMWATER RETENTION BASIN PROJECT

PLACER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 2024

0 5 10 20

Miles

NORTH

WOOD RODGERS

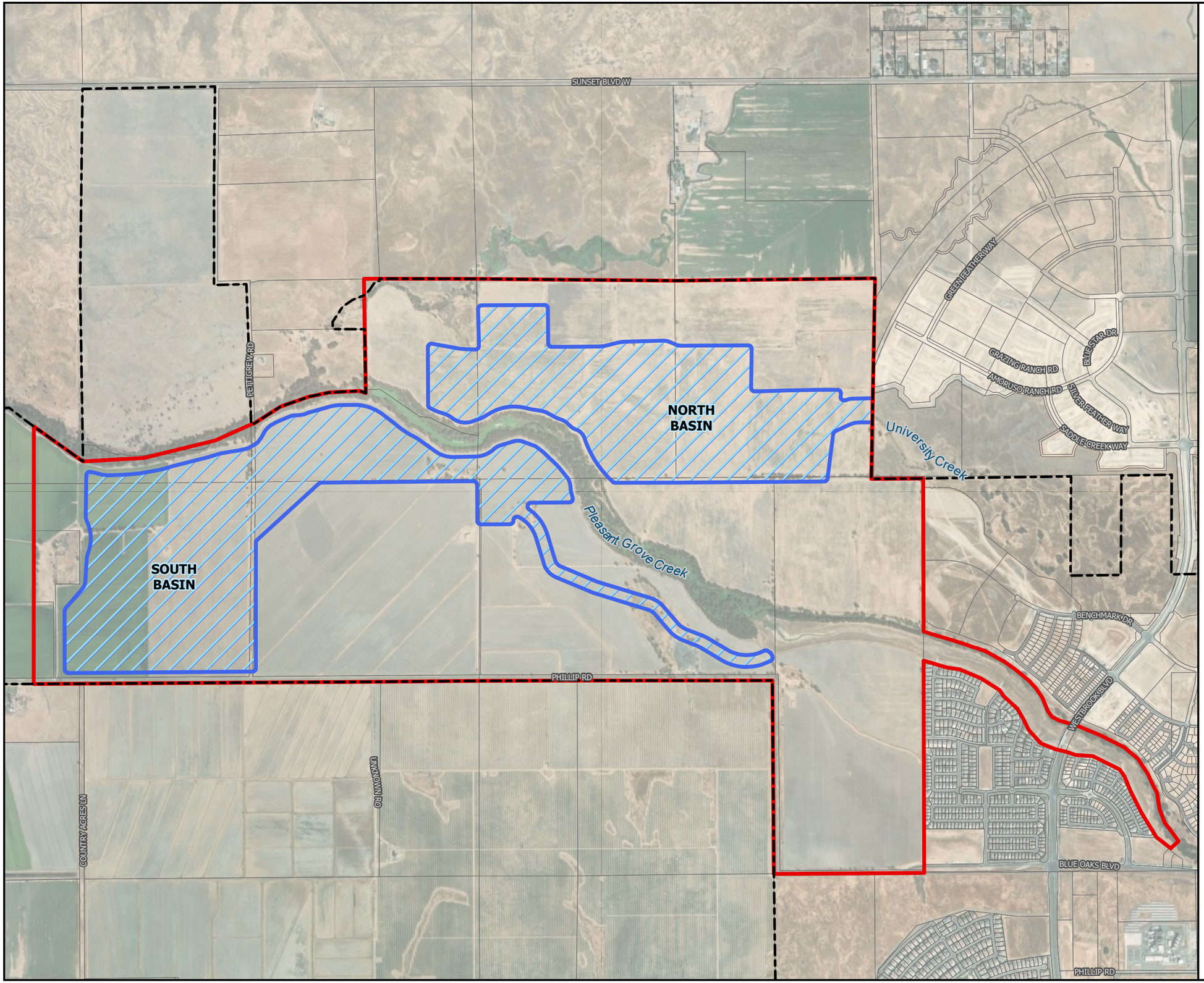

FIGURE 3

PROPOSED PROJECT AREA

PLEASANT GROVE STORMWATER RETENTION BASIN PROJECT

CITY OF ROSEVILLE
PLACER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
SEPTEMBER 2024

- Proposed Project Area
- Roseville City Limits
- Parcels
- Preliminary North Basin Area
- Preliminary South Basin Area

0 500 1,000 2,000
Feet

NORTH

WOOD RODGERS

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The 2006 Fee Program update included additional development areas within the City, and incorporated changes to the hydrologic methodology within the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (PCFCWCD) Stormwater Management Manual (SWMM). These changes resulted in reduced mitigation volume requirements for development occurring after the SWMM changes. It was determined at that time that the southern basin alone would be sufficient to retain and mitigate all City impacts computed in that analysis, and the northern basin was removed from the Fee Program. The Fee Program was updated again in 2018 to re-verify land use assumptions and to include new specific plan growth areas within the City. New development growth areas added since the inception of the Fee Program necessitated evaluation of additional/modified design alternatives to explore where additional storage volume could be created within the north and/or south basins. A total maximum storage volume of approximately 3,800 AF between both basins was theorized as part of those efforts. Staff commenced another update to the Fee Program in summer 2023 to again re-verify land use assumptions, incorporate additional new development areas within the City, and to further evaluate the capacity for mitigation volume beyond the needs of the City which may be available for south Placer County developments.

Current volume estimates demonstrate the need to store approximately 2,550 AF of runoff in the 8-day, 100-year storm event to mitigate past and future City developments within the watershed. Proponents of certain developments within the watershed in south Placer County have also expressed interest in expanding the retention facility to mitigate those project impacts via participation in the Fee Program and contribution towards operation and maintenance costs. Current estimates for those certain Placer County development mitigation storage needs total approximately 655 acre-feet. The 2023 Fee Program update will refine and confirm the final volumetric mitigation needs for both City and participating Placer County developments.

3.4 Project Objectives

The proposed project is intended to provide retention storage to mitigate potential downstream flooding impacts that could be caused by entitled projects and future projects within the City of Roseville. The proposed project would also provide retention storage associated with other identified areas in south Placer County, subject to agreements with the appropriate entities. Specific goals identified by the City include:

1. To provide retention storage for some or all of the incremental increase in runoff volume resulting from the City of Roseville's currently entitled and future development projects that generate runoff flowing through Sutter County.
2. To provide retention storage for the proposed West Roseville Specific Plan and the remainder of the MOU area and potentially for a portion of the Northwest Rocklin Annexation Area.
3. To provide retention storage for the city of Roseville Pleasant Grove Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant treated effluent.
4. To meet the above objectives in a manner consistent and compatible with other goals and policies of the City of Roseville's General Plan, the Placer County General Plan, the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the Placer Legacy Project and the Wildlife Agencies.
5. To provide opportunities for open space and passive recreation near City boundaries.
6. To provide a low maintenance facility with a minimal amount of construction (excavation and/or fill placement)

7. To minimize the number of property owners who could be negatively affected by project implementation (property acquisition and construction).

The proposed project is not intended to and would not mitigate for peak flow rates emanating from specific development projects, since the City of Roseville requires development projects to incorporate mitigation to reduce the post-development peak rate of runoff to no more than the pre-development runoff rate in areas where it is shown that such detention is hydraulically beneficial to downstream properties. (In certain locations throughout the City, detention is not desirable because it would increase the overall peak flow of the basin; such development projects are designed to expedite drainage through the system so as not to coincide with the peak flow of the basin.)

3.5 Project Components

Along with the preservation of Pleasant Grove Creek, the design of the proposed stormwater retention facility is anticipated to include at least one retention basin with earthen embankments, bypass channel, low flow channel, emergency spillway, automated inlet and outlet weir or sluice gate structures, SCADA monitoring and communication, ALERT stream level and precipitation gauges, sediment removal access and staging areas, maintenance access roads, and pedestrian paths. Other amenities such as a parking area, landscape and irrigation, fencing, and informational signage may also be included as appropriate. As previously described, the South Basin would have a surface area of approximately 350 acres and be constructed using a combination of excavation and compacted fill embankments. The North Basin would have a surface area of approximately 200 acres and be constructed using excavation to realign the north tributary and compacted fill embankments. The volume of excavation and height of embankments would be designed to achieve the desired storage volume and to meet operating parameters.

The City has invested approximately $12.8M to date on property acquisition and planning efforts for the proposed mitigation site. Funding for this Project will come from existing mitigation fees collected as part of the Fee Program, currently with a balance of approximately $14M. The City will additionally be exploring opportunities for grant funding, and construction of the project may be phased if necessary.

4. POTENTIAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS REQUIRED

Elements of the project would be subject to permitting and/or approval authority of other agencies. As the lead agency pursuant to CEQA, the City is responsible for considering the adequacy of the SEIR and determining if the project should be approved. The SEIR will require the following actions from the City of Roseville:

- Certification of the SEIR

Potential permits and approvals required from other agencies include:

Federal

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency (USFWS) Endangered Species Act (ESA) approval for potential take authorization of federally listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plant species including vernal pool invertebrates and western pond turtle.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Endangered Species Act approval for potential take authorization of federally listed threatened or endangered anadromous fish species.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) approval for dredge and fill activities within waters of the U.S. throughout the PGSRB area.
- Section 401 of the CWA, Water Quality Certification approval for dredge and fill activities within waters of the U.S. and State – Administered by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

State

- California Fish and Wildlife Department (CDFW) Fish and Game Code (FGC) Section 1602, Streambed Alteration Agreement for project effects to CDFW jurisdiction habitats. The City may also request a long term 1602 Agreement for routine maintenance of stormwater facilities in the PGSRB Area.
- CDFW FGC Section 2081 California Endangered Species Act (CESA) approval for take authorization of state listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plant species including Swainson's hawk, tricolored blackbird, and Bogg's lake hedge hyssop.
- California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams compliance. Includes approval of application for construction of the project and compliance with inspection requirements.
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region Notice of Intent and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.
- State Reclamation Board Encroachment Permit
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) Encroachment Permit
- Division of Safety of Dams – Approval of Plans and Specs for the Construction of a Dam and Reservoir.

Local

- Placer County Air Pollution Control District (PCAPCD) Construction Emission/Dust Control Plan.
- City of Roseville Tree Permit (TP).

Regulatory Approvals and Agreements

No other regulatory agency approvals are required for adoption of the SEIR document. However, future facilities constructed in compliance with the proposed SEIR document would require potential approvals and agreements, as applicable.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND SCOPE OF THE SUBSEQUENT EIR

The SEIR will analyze program level potentially significant impacts that result from construction and operation of the proposed Project. The SEIR would evaluate the full range of environmental issues contemplated for consideration under CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines including:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology & Water Quality
- Mineral Resources
- Noise and Vibration
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities / Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Cumulative Impacts

- Land Use and Planning

These issue areas will be discussed further in the SEIR, providing a description of the existing setting, potential impacts of the proposed project, potential cumulative effects, and feasible and practicable mitigation measures will be recommended to reduce any identified potentially significant impacts.

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Section 15126.6), the SEIR will describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project that are capable of meeting most of the projects' objectives and would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. The SEIR will also identify any alternatives that were considered but rejected by the lead agency as infeasible and briefly explain the reasons why. The SEIR will provide an analysis of the No-Project Alternative and will also identify the environmentally superior alternative.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ANALYSIS

As required by CEQA, the SEIR will evaluate the cumulative impacts of the project. As stated in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15065(a)(3), projects should be evaluated to determine whether the project's impacts are "cumulatively considerable," which means that the "incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past project, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects."

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A public scoping meeting will be held by the City to inform interested parties about the proposed project, and to provide agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide comments on the scope and content of the SEIR. The meeting time and location are provided below:

October 22, 2024
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Martha Riley Library, Meeting Room 1 & 2
1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd.
Roseville, CA 96747