



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

| |
|--|
| RECEIPT NUMBER: E202510000156 |
| STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable) |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| LEAD AGENCY CITY OF FRESNO | LEAD AGENCY EMAIL | DATE 06/17/2025 |
| COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING FRESNO COUNTY | DOCUMENT NUMBER E202510000156 | |

PROJECT TITLE
BRITTEN AVENUE SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT PLANNING STUDY

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PROJECT APPLICANT NAME CITY OF FRESNO DEPT. OF PUBLIC UTILITIES | PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL | PHONE NUMBER (559) 621-1624 |
| PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 1626 E. STREET | CITY FRESNO | STATE CA |
| | | ZIP CODE 93721 |

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

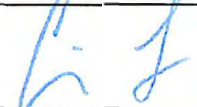
CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

| | | | |
|---|------------|----|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR) | \$4,123.50 | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) | \$2,968.75 | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW | \$1,401.75 | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt from fee | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption (attach) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CDFW No Effect Determination (attach) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy) | | | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) | \$850.00 | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee | \$50.00 | \$ | <u>50.00</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION | | \$ | <u>0.00</u> |

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

| | |
|---|---|
| SIGNATURE X  | AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Cierra Loera Deputy Clerk |
|---|---|

County of Fresno
Clerk's Office
James A. Kus

Elections Department
(559) 600-8683

Clerk Services Department
(559) 600-2575

Finalization 2025012095
6/17/2025 03:28 PM
CCR572887 Cloera

| Description | Fee |
|---------------------------|---------|
| EIR Administrative Fee | |
| Time Recorded: 3:28 PM | |
| Recording Fee: | \$50.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Amount Due | \$50.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Paid | |
| Credit Card | \$50.00 |
| #316714484 | |
| Amount Due | \$0.00 |

F202510000156

THANK YOU
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

E202510000156

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PLEASE POST FOR 30 DAYS

FROM: City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities—Utilities Engineering & Planning
1626 E. Street
Fresno, California 93721-3604

TO: X Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street – First Floor Lobby
Fresno, California 93721

Office of Planning & Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

FILED
JUN 17 2025
TIME 3:29 pm
FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
By _____ DEPUTY

Project Title: Britten Avenue Sewer Extension Project Planning Study

Project Location: East of South Cherry Avenue, between Central Avenue and American Avenue

Project Location - city: City of Fresno **Project Location - county:** County of Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Residents of the Britten Avenue Community (Community) are presently relying upon individual septic systems and leach fields for sewage disposal. Water quality samples collected from the taps of three homes in the Community contained nitrate and/or uranium levels meeting or exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for drinking water. The source for the nitrate is likely residential septic tanks and fertilizer runoff from neighboring agricultural areas, whereas the uranium originates from natural deposits in the groundwater aquifer. Maintaining individual septic systems is also more costly per capita than connection to a regional sewer collection system. Due to the higher per capita cost to maintain the systems and their current age and condition, the Community desires to connect to the City's sewer collection system. Connection to a regional sewer collection system also reduces the chances a leaking septic system may contaminate groundwater and nearby wells.

The Community is identified as a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) under the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Financial Assistance Criteria. As such, the sewer improvements are eligible for 100 percent grant funding through the California State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

Prior to proceeding with any construction of sewer improvements, a planning study (Project) must be completed. The Project involves documentation preparation, 90% plans, specifications, project cost estimates, and environmental documentation that will address the system's water quality and water distribution deficiencies. The City of Fresno, as the Lead Agency for the Project, is also preparing and submitting a planning application to SWRCB to fund the Project.

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Beneficiaries of the project would be: City of Fresno
Department of Public Utilities
1626 E. Street
Fresno, CA 93706

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Fresno
Department of Public Utilities
1626 E. Street
Fresno, CA 93706

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial - PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
- Declared Emergency - PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
- Emergency Project - PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
- Categorical Exemption - §15306, Class 6: Information Collection
- Statutory Exemption – PRC § 15262: Feasibility and Planning Studies
- Other _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project focuses on information collection, feasibility studies, and planning activities necessary for securing construction funding for the sewer improvements. It is exempt under both categorical and statutory exemptions:

Categorical Exemption

Section 15306 - Information Collection (Class 6): This exemption includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities that do not cause significant disturbance to environmental resources. These activities may be conducted solely for information-gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to actions not yet approved, adopted, or funded by a public agency.

Statutory Exemption

Section 15262 - Feasibility and Planning Studies: Projects that involve only feasibility or planning studies for potential future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded by an agency, board, or commission are exempt from preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration. However, consideration of environmental factors is still required. This exemption does not apply to plans that would have legally binding effects on subsequent activities.

The City will use Self Help Enterprises (SHE) to perform the tasks of the Project, which includes preparation of financial, technical, and environmental packages including 90% design plans, construction specifications, project cost estimates, environmental review that will address the system's water quality and wastewater deficiencies, and preparation of an application for construction funding. SHE will also conduct community outreach, and information gathering such median household income, and other demographic information relating to the Community. The Project includes a Preliminary Engineering Report which consists of design and environmental review. The Project is essentially a feasibility study to determine project viability and continuity for construction. These activities involved

E2025/0000156

in the Project are not expected to trigger new environmental concerns since they involve data collection and document preparation.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Debbie Khounsavath **Full telephone no.** (559) 621-1624

Signature: Debbie Khounsavath **Date:** 6/12/2025

Printed Name and Title: Debbie Khounsavath, Planner II
Department of Public Utilities—Utilities Engineering & Planning

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by applicant

If filed/signed by applicant:

Attach certified document of exemption finding (check if attached)

**CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL & STATUTORY EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY AND STATUTORILY EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 18 AND 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

CONTACT: Debbie Khounsavath, Planner II
City of Fresno – Department of Public Utilities
1626 E. Street
Fresno, CA 93706
Phone: 559-621-1624
Email: Debbie.khounsavath@fresno.gov

PROJECT TITLE: Britten Avenue Sewer Extension Project Planning Study (Project)

PROJECT LOCATIONS: South Cherry Avenue, between Central Avenue and American Avenue, in Fresno County, 119.7795488°W 36.6733598°N

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Residents of the Britten Avenue Community (Community) are presently relying upon individual septic systems and leach fields for sewage disposal. Water quality samples collected from the taps of three homes in the Community contained nitrate and/or uranium levels meeting or exceeding the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for drinking water. The source for the nitrate is likely residential septic tanks and fertilizer runoff from neighboring agricultural areas, whereas the uranium originates from natural deposits in the groundwater aquifer. The Community desires to connect to the City's sewer collection system.

The Community is identified as a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) under the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Financial Assistance Criteria. As such, the sewer improvements are eligible for 100 percent grant funding through the California State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

Prior to proceeding with any construction of water improvements, a planning study (Project) must be

completed. The Project involves preparation of financial, technical, and environmental packages including 90% plans, construction specifications, project cost estimates, and environmental documentation that will address the system's water quality and wastewater deficiencies. The City of Fresno, as the Lead Agency for the Project, is also preparing and submitting a planning application to SWRCB to fund the Project.

The Project is exempt under Section 15306/Class 6 and Section 15262 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Under Section 15306/Class 6, projects are exempt from CEQA requirements when they consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

Under Section 15262, a project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. This section does not apply to the adoption of a plan that will have a legally binding effect on later activities.

The City will use Self Help Enterprises (SHE) to perform the tasks of the Project, which includes preparation of financial, technical, and environmental packages including 90% design plans, construction specifications, project cost estimates, environmental review that will address the system's water quality and wastewater deficiencies, and preparation of an application for construction funding. SHE will also conduct community outreach, and information gathering such median household income, and other demographic information relating to the Community. The Project includes a Preliminary Engineering Report which consists of design and environmental review. The Project is essentially a feasibility study to determine project viability and continuity for construction. These activities involved in the Project are not expected to trigger new environmental concerns since they involve data collection and document preparation. Thus, the entirety of the Project is exempt under Sections 15306/Class 6 and 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines.

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2, apply:

(a) Location

The Project is not located in a sensitive environment or an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern as designated by federal, state, or local agencies.

- (b) Cumulative Impact** The Project will not have a cumulative negative impact over time that is significant.
- (c) Significant Effect** The Project will not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. All work will be limited to information collection and planning studies.
- (d) Scenic Highways** The Project will not result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. The Project is not located near scenic highways.
- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites** The Project is not located on a hazardous waste site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.
- (f) Historical Resources** The Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The well site where the filter package and concrete pad being added is not considered historical resources.

Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, a categorical and statutory exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

Date: March 25, 2025

Prepared by: Debbie Khounsavath