

CITY OF PORTERVILLE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Porterville (City) plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Hope Elementary School Water System Improvements Project (Project). The public hearing will be held on October 21, 2025, at 6:30 PM or shortly thereafter at the City Council Chambers located at 291 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257.

Hope Elementary School, located east of the intersection of South Indiana Street and West Teapot Dome Avenue and south of the City, is served by a single active well that is in exceedance of acceptable maximum contaminant levels for nitrate. As a result, Hope Elementary School now seeks to consolidate with the City's existing water system. To do this, new water mains connecting the school to the City's water system would be constructed along South Indiana Street and West Teapot Dome Avenue. Additionally, a 4-inch water meter and backflow preventer would be installed at the school site, providing the school with the ability to use the new water main for domestic water use, irrigation, and fire flow. A water tank existing on-site would be removed and the existing well would be destroyed. In total the Project would:

- Construct approximately 6,550 linear feet (LF) of 12-inch water main along South Indiana Street from West Teapot Dome Avenue to West Scranton Avenue, connecting to City facilities in West Scranton Avenue;
- Construct approximately 5,300 LF of 12-inch water main along West Teapot Dome Avenue to from the frontage of Hope Elementary School to Newcomb Street, connecting to City facilities in Newcomb Street;
- Install 23 1-inch water services and meters for future connections to residents along South Indiana Street and West Teapot Dome Avenue;
- Horizontal Directional Drilling for approximately 1,345 LF of 12-inch water main under State Route (SR) 65 along Project alignment in route to Newcomb Street;
- Install a 4-inch service connection at Hope Elementary School;
- Install a 4-inch backflow preventer at Hope Elementary School;
- Install a 4-inch water meter and box at Hope Elementary School;
- Remove an existing water tank at Hope Elementary School;
- Result in destruction/abandonment of the existing well at Hope Elementary School;
- Install fire hydrants at least every 500 feet along proposed water main alignment, except where no structure is present; and
- Result in approximately 1,100 LF of dead end main along West Teapot Dome Avenue from South Indiana Avenue to Hope Elementary School. Dead end mains are those which are not connected to another part of the water system.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared, describing the degree of potential environmental impacts of the Project. The City has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this Project and has determined that they will be less than significant with mitigation. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review upon written notice to 291 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257, the City's website and CEQANet. The public review period during which the City will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on September 12, 2025, and end on October 12, 2025. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Claudia Calderon, Community Development Director, 291 N. Main Street Porterville, California 93257, or at ccalderon@ci.porterville.ca.us.