

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND)

Lead Agency: Mission Springs Water District
66575 Second Street
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

Contact: Eric Weck
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Project Title: Mission Springs Water District Street Improvements for the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility Project

State Clearinghouse Number: Not yet assigned

Project Location: The Mission Springs Water District (MSWD or District) service area is located in southern California within the northwestern portion of the Coachella Valley. The project will occur within various compacted dirt roadways located north, east, and south of the Nancy Wright Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility along 19th Avenue, Little Morongo Road, and 20th Avenue. The roadway improvements would occur only along the northern, western, and southern boundaries of MSWD's Nancy Wright Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility. The project is located within the USGS Topo 7.5-minute map for Desert Hot Springs, CA, and is located in Section 14, Township 3 South and Range 4 East. The approximate GPS coordinates of the project area are 33.907441°, -116.529286°

Project Description:

The proposed project involves the installation of 1.08 miles or 5,700 LF of paved roadway along the boundaries of the District's Nancy Wright Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility (Wright RWRf), in place of the existing roadway condition, which is simply compacted dirt. As part of the District's continued development of the Wright RWRf, the City of Desert Hot Springs conditioned the District to complete paving of the compacted dirt roadways that serve the site. Thus, the District will serve as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the proposed project, which would involve installation of asphalt pavement along the Wright RWRf's boundaries on 19th Avenue, Little Morongo Road, and 20th Avenue. The purpose of the project is to improve the paved roadway network in the City of Desert Hot Springs to accommodate the Wright RWRf's development, reduce fugitive dust generation from automobiles traveling on the existing dirt roadways, and enhance access to future development in the area that may be served by these roadway improvements.

Finding:

The District's decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on the information in the project Initial Study, the District has made a *preliminary* determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be the appropriate environmental determination for this project to comply with CEQA.

Initial Study:

A copy of the Initial Study and all other material which constitutes the record of proceedings upon which the District based its decision to adopt this MND may be obtained at District office at 66575 Second Street Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240 and is available at the District's website: <https://www.mswd.org/>. The CEQA-required public review period of the Initial Study/MND September 12, 2025 and ends on October 14, 2025 (30+days ending on a standard business day). Written comments on the Initial Study were submitted to Eric Weck at the mailing address listed above no later than October 14, 2025 by 5:00 PM. Mr. Wright may be contacted at eweck@mswd.org or 760.329.6448 ext. 122.

Mitigation Measures:

All mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study are summarized on pages 113-118 and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a mitigation monitoring and reporting program if the MND is adopted.

DRAFT
Signature

Title

Date