



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Chino is considering a recommendation that the project herein identified will have no significant environmental impact in compliance with Section 15070 of the State CEQA guidelines. A copy of the **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** and the **ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**, which support the proposed determination, are available for review on the City of Chino website as described below under **Availability of Document**.

Project Title: Benson Reservoir Replacement and Improvements Project

State Clearinghouse Number: To be assigned

Project Applicant: City of Chino Public Works Department

Project Contact Person: Chi Wai Chan, Associate Engineer

Telephone Number: (909) 334-3329

Email: cchan@cityofchino.org

The City of Chino (City), as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has prepared and plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Benson Reservoir Replacement and Improvements Project (project). The City is hereby notifying agencies and members of the public that may be interested in the project as to the availability of the Draft MND, and the procedures for public review and comment on the document.

Project Location: The project is located in the northern portion of the City of Chino within a 4.5-acre parcel at 11840 South Benson Avenue, Chino, California.

Project Description: The City provides potable water service to approximately 89,000 customers through 23,000 active metered service connections. One source of the City's water supply is the Benson Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The project entails constructing and operating a replacement reservoir for the existing Benson Reservoir within the City's Benson WTP complex, connecting the replacement reservoir to the system, and demolishing the existing reservoir. The replacement reservoir would be a concrete cylindrical tank located in the northwestern corner of the site. The replacement reservoir is planned to have a capacity of 7.85 million gallons (MG), an increase in size from the existing 1.5 MG reservoir. The larger reservoir would expand the City's water-storage capabilities and enhance the system's operational flexibility, furthering the City's ability to provide a reliable source of water to its customers. The increase in size would be realized by constructing a tank with a larger diameter (172 feet) and taller height (58.25 feet). Additional site improvements would be constructed to connect the replacement reservoir to the City's water system and enable proper operation and maintenance of the facility.

Environmental Effects: The MND identifies potentially significant impacts with respect to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, noise, and tribal cultural resources. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project that either avoid the project's impacts or reduce them to less-than-significant levels.

Disclosure of Sites Listed Under Government Code Section 65962.5: The project site is not identified on the list of hazardous materials site under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

Availability of Document: A draft of the MND is being made available for public review commencing on March 12, 2026, and ending on April 12, 2026. The MND and supporting appendices are available for review on the City of Chino's website using the following link:

<https://www.cityofchino.org/591/Environmental-Documents>

Comments: The City will be accepting written comments on the MND for consideration prior to adoption of the document. **Comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 12, 2026**, and can be submitted by mail to:

City of Chino
Public Works Department
13220 Central Avenue
Chino, California 91710
Attn: Chi Wai Chan

Comments will also be accepted by email to Chi Wai Chan at cchan@cityofchino.org. Please include "Benson Reservoir Project MND Comments" in the email subject line.

Notice Date: March 12, 2026



Chi Wai Chan, Associate Engineer