

**SUBMITTAL TO THE FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

207B



FROM: General Manager-Chief Engineer

SUBMITTAL DATE:
June 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 (Project)
Project No. 4-0-00265
District Three/District Three

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

1. Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project based on the findings incorporated into the January 2012 initial study and the April 2012 recirculated initial study and the conclusion that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment and that the Project is in compliance with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan;
2. Approve the Project Design and authorize the District to proceed therewith; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to deliver the Notice of Determination to the office of the County Clerk and the State Office of Planning and Research for filing within 5 working days of this Board meeting.

BACKGROUND:

See Page 2.

FINANCIAL:

N/A

WARREN D. WILLIAMS
General Manager-Chief Engineer

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. District Cost:	N/A	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. County Cost:	N/A	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net District Cost:	N/A	For Fiscal Year:	N/A

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY:
Michael R. Shetler

County Executive Office Signature

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: Michelle Clack 6/19/12
DATE

Policy
 Policy
 Consent
 Consent
 Dep't Recomm.:
 Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 3/3

Agenda Number:

11.5

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The Project consists of the proposed construction and subsequent operation and maintenance of an underground storm drain in Meridian Street/Park Avenue from approximately Southhampton Court to Whittier Avenue. In addition, laterals are proposed to extend east along Lincoln Avenue, Florida Avenue, Acacia Avenue, Mayberry Avenue and Whittier Avenue. The Project is located within the cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, and within unincorporated Riverside County.

Little Lake MDP Line B was identified in the Little Lake Master Drainage Plan (MDP) approved at a public hearing on June 5, 1990 in accordance with the requirements of CEQA and Section 18 of the District Act.

During the CEQA public review and comment period for the Project, comment letters were received from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Hemet Unified School District (HUSD), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), the Native American Heritage Commission, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians. The comment letters and the responses are enclosed with the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The project's initial study concludes that the project area has been heavily disturbed and it is unlikely that any impacts to cultural resources would occur as a result of the project. The initial study also concludes that impacts to archaeological resources were less than significant. However, to avoid or reduce potential impacts to unknown historical or archaeological resources the project incorporated mitigation measure Cult MM-1. In order to clarify this mitigation measure, the following language was added to it: "...adequate funding, as determined by the District, will be provided to collect, curate and report these resources in accordance with standard archaeological management requirements."

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District also received a letter from the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Soboba Band) on April 30, 2012, and met with its representative on May 22, 2012, to discuss concerns with tribal cultural resources. The initial study's conclusion regarding historical and archaeological resources remains the same after discussions with Soboba Band. The District, however, is committed to working with the Soboba Band and addressing the tribe's concerns. Therefore, the District has agreed to honor the Soboba's request for monitoring and a "Treatment and Disposition Agreement". Native American monitoring will be discussed in the terms of the Treatment and Disposition Agreement, which is not considered a mitigation measure pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

On June 17, 2003, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopted the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The proposed project is not within the MSHCP Criteria Area and it will not alter the land use of Public/Quasi-Public Lands. The project site does not meet the Section 6.1.2 definition of riparian/riverine areas or vernal pools, and the project area lacks suitable habitat for the Section 6.1.2 listed species. The project is not located within the Section 6.1.3 Narrow Endemic Plant Species survey area. The project is not located in proximity to an MSHCP Conservation Area such that there would be long-term edge effects such as drainage, toxics, lighting, noise, or invasive species. The project is not located within the MSHCP Section 6.3.2 plant species, burrowing owl, amphibian species, or mammalian species survey areas. Therefore, no further habitat assessments, surveys or analysis are required, and the project is consistent with the MSHCP.