

**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

**MINUTES OF THE FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

On motion of Supervisor Tavaglione, seconded by Supervisor Buster and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

**Ayes:** Buster, Tavaglione, Stone and Ashley  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** Benoit  
**Date:** June 19, 2012  
**xc:** Flood, Recorder

Kecia Harper-Ihem  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 3/3

Agenda Number:

11.5

ATTACHMENTS FILED

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY:   
DATE: 6/19/12  
MICHELLE CLACK

Dept's Recomm.:  Consent  Policy

Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy

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

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

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** June 19, 2012

**Page 2**

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.

**Notice of Determination**

To: Office of Planning and Research

Clerks for posting on

From: OS Riverside County Flood Control  
1995 Market Street

For U.S. Mail:  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

6/20/12  
Date  
Street Address:  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Initial  
Riverside, CA 92501  
Contact: Art Diaz  
Phone: 951.955.1233

County Clerk  
County of Riverside  
2724 Gateway Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507

Lead Agency (if different from above):

**SUBJECT:**

**Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2012021037

**Project Title:** Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2

**Project Location (include county)**

The Project is located within the cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, and within unincorporated Riverside County. The Project area is generally bounded to the north by Washington Avenue, to the east by Hemet Street, to the west by Stanford Street, and to the south by Whittier Avenue. The Project area may be found within Township 5 South, Range 1 East, Sections 6, 7 and 18, and Township 5 South, Range 1 West, Sections 1, 12 and 13 of the San Jacinto and Hemet 7.5' Series USGS Topographic Quadrangle map.

**Project Description**

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District proposes to construct, operate and maintain an underground storm drain (Project). The Project is comprised of a 10' x 8' reinforced concrete box, reinforced concrete pipes, re-construction of approximately 200 feet of the existing concrete lined Meridian Street Channel and minor appurtenances (i.e., connector pipes and catch basin). The facility was identified in the Little Lake Master Drainage Plan (MDP) revised in 1991, and will provide flood protection for the local area.

The Project mainline begins near the intersection of Southhampton Court and Meridian Street and continues south within Park Avenue/Meridian Street for approximately 8,700 feet to Whittier Avenue. In addition, four (4) laterals each approximately 100 feet in length are proposed to extend east along Florida Avenue, Acacia Avenue, Mayberry Avenue and Whittier Avenue. Utility services to be relocated will include cable, telephone, gas, water and sewer within the road rights-of-way.

This is to advise that the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Lead Agency) has approved the above described project on June 19, 2012 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A monitoring program table was adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings were not made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration, supporting documentation, and record of approval are available to the General Public at: The Office of the Clerk to the Board, County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501.

David Eckles  
Signature (Public Agency)

Board Assistant  
Title

6-19-2012  
Date

Date received for filing at OPR:  
Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2004

JUN 19 2012 11.5

Original Negative Declaration/Notice of Determination was routed to County Clerks for posting on.

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

6/19/12 Date GD Initial

State Clearinghouse Number: 2012021037 Contact Person: Art Diaz Telephone Number: 951.955.1233 Email: aadiaz@rcflood.org

Lead Agency and Project Sponsor: Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Address: 1995 Market Street City: Riverside Zip: 92501

Project Title and Description: Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 - The Project entails the construction and subsequent maintenance of an underground storm drain system and appurtenances within existing street and Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) rights-of-way. The Project consists of reinforced concrete box (RCB), reinforced concrete pipe (RCP), and re-construction of approximately 120 lineal feet of the District's existing concrete lined trapezoidal Meridian Street Channel. The facility was identified in the Little Lake Master Drainage Plan (MDP) revised in 1991, and will provide flood protection for the local area. The Project will begin near the intersection of Southhampton Court and Meridian Street and continue south within Park Avenue/Meridian Street for approximately 8,700 feet to Whittier Avenue. In addition, laterals are proposed extending east along Lincoln Avenue, Florida Avenue, Acacia Avenue, Mayberry Avenue and Whittier Avenue. Refer to Figures in the Initial Study for additional information. Utility services to be relocated will include cable, telephone, gas, water and sewer within the road rights-of-way. The Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD) will relocate a total of approximately 6,700 lineal feet of existing sewer and water lines prior to the construction of each stage of the underground storm drain. The utility relocations will be addressed by a separate construction contract administered by LHMWD.

Project Location: The Project is located within the cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, and within unincorporated Riverside County. The Project area is generally bounded to the north by Washington Avenue, to the east by Hemet Street, to the west by Stanford Street, and to the south by Whittier Avenue. The Project area may be found within Township 5 South, Range 1 East, Sections 6, 7, and 18 and Township 5 South, Range 1 West, Sections 1, 12, and 13 of the San Jacinto and Hemet 7.5' Series USGS Topographic Quadrangle map.

The General Manager-Chief Engineer of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has made a finding that the proposed Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Attached is an Initial Study, which supports this finding. This finding will become final upon adoption of this Mitigated Negative Declaration by the Board of Supervisors of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Refer to the Environmental Commitments & Mitigation Monitoring Program Table for a listing of the Project mitigation measures.

Signature: Warren D. Williams Dated: 6/7/12  
WARREN D. WILLIAMS  
General Manager-Chief Engineer

The Board of Supervisors of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, assembled in regular session on June 19, 2012, has determined that the Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and has adopted this Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Signature: Kecia Harper-Ihem, Deputy Dated: 6-19-12  
KECIA HARPER-IHEM  
Clerk of the Board

Attachment  
Copies to: 1) County Clerk  
2) Flood Control  
P8\146742

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2**

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS & MITIGATION  
MONITORING PROGRAM TABLE**

Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
III. Air Quality	During construction, there is potential for temporary increases in air pollution.	<b>Air MM-1:</b> The contractor shall be required to comply with the applicable provisions of SCAQMD Rule 403 and implement appropriate fugitive dust control measures including watering, stabilized construction access to reduce tracking of mud or dirt onto public roads, covering trucks hauling loose materials offsite, and street sweeping of track out.	Implement applicable dust control measures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	SCAQMD	During the construction period	Daily monitoring during project construction
III. Air Quality	During construction, there is potential to exceed SCAQMD recommended Local Significance Thresholds for particulates (i.e., PM10 and PM2.5).	<b>Air MM-2:</b> The maximum number of heavy construction equipment in operation shall not exceed seven while working within 25 meters of occupied structures (e.g., residential, commercial, schools). Heavy equipment hours of operation shall be limited to 8 hours per day while working within 25 meters of occupied structures (e.g., residential, commercial, schools).	Limit the number and daily operating hours of construction equipment near occupied structures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During the construction period	Daily monitoring during project construction

Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
III. Air Quality	During construction, there is potential to exceed SCAQMD recommended Local Significance Thresholds for particulates (i.e., PM10 and PM2.5)	<b>Air MM-3:</b> Heavy equipment idling time within 25 meters of occupied structures shall be minimized by requiring that equipment be shut off after 5 minutes when not in use (as required by the State Airborne Toxics Control Measure (Title 13, Section 2485 of the California Code of Regulations)). The contractor shall provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers onsite and provide a plan for the enforcement of this requirement.	Limit the heavy equipment idling time of construction equipment within 25 meters of occupied structures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During the construction period	Daily monitoring during project construction
III. Air Quality	During construction, there is potential to exceed SCAQMD recommended Local Significance Thresholds for particulates (i.e., PM10 and PM2.5).	<b>Air MM-4:</b> If the contractor desires to use more than seven pieces of heavy construction equipment within 25 meters of residences, businesses or schools, then the contractor shall submit an air quality analysis to the District for review and approval that demonstrates emissions would remain under the Local Significance Thresholds. The emissions from more equipment can be reduced by the contractor using CARB alternative diesel fuels and/or by reducing the number of operating hours for each piece of heavy construction equipment.	Ensure that the contractor provides an analysis demonstrating that emissions will remain under the Local Significance Thresholds, if more than seven pieces of heavy equipment is needed while working near occupied structures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During the construction period	Daily monitoring during project construction

Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
III. Air Quality	During construction, there is potential to exceed SCAQMD recommended Local Significance Thresholds for particulates (i.e., PM10 and PM2.5).	Air MIM-5: Each resident, business and/or school within 25 meters of the construction site shall be notified in writing at least three days prior to operation of heavy construction equipment near the occupied structure. The notice shall include the expected work schedule and the District's contact information. The District shall alert the construction contractor of any air quality complaints.	Ensure that the described notices are provided to each resident, business and/or school adjacent to the storm drain construction site and inform the contractor of any complaints and feasible corrective measures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During the construction period	Daily monitoring during project construction
V. Cultural Resources	During construction, there is potential to impact cultural resources.	<b>Cult MM-1:</b> If any archaeological or historical resources are discovered during project construction, all work in the area of the find shall cease, and a qualified archaeologist shall investigate the find. If any discovered archaeological or historical resources merit long-term consideration, adequate funding, as determined by the District, will be provided to collect, curate and report these resources in accordance with standard archaeological management requirements.	Excavation activities will cease if potential archaeological or historical resources are encountered. A qualified historical resources specialist will be retained to evaluate the resources.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	State Historic Preservation Officer	During excavation activities	Monitoring as needed during ground disturbance activities
V. Cultural Resources	During construction, there is potential to impact paleontological resources.	<b>Cult MM-2:</b> If any paleontological resources are discovered during project construction, all work in the area of the find shall cease, and a qualified paleontological resources specialist will evaluate the find. Any discovered paleontological resources that merit long-term consideration, shall be collected and reported in accordance with standard paleontological management requirements.	Excavation activities will cease if potential paleontological resources are encountered. A qualified paleontological resources specialist will be retained to evaluate the resources.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During excavation activities	Monitoring as needed during ground disturbance activities

Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
V. Cultural Resources	During construction, there is potential to encounter human remains.	<b>Cult EC-1:</b> Per State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, if human remains are encountered during construction, no further disturbance shall occur until the Riverside County Coroner has made a determination of their origin pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The Riverside County Coroner must be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are of Native America descent, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted within 24 hours to determine the most likely descendent for this area. Once the most likely descendent is determined, treatment of the Native American human remains will proceed pursuant to Public Resources 5097.98.	Halt construction and notify the County Coroner's Office for proper identification of any human remains found onsite. Contact NAHC to assist, if human remains are of Native American descent.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	Riverside County Coroner and NAHC	During excavation activities	Daily monitoring during excavation activities
VII. Hazards	Construction activity may uncover potentially hazardous materials	<b>Haz EC-1:</b> If previously unknown hazardous wastes or materials are encountered in the field during construction, ground disturbance activities in the vicinity of the discovery shall cease until a qualified hazardous materials management specialist can assess the potentially hazardous substances and, if necessary, develop appropriate management measures in coordination with the appropriate regulatory agencies.	If potentially hazardous materials are uncovered, cease ground disturbance near the material until a qualified hazardous materials specialist assesses the materials and provides recommendation for their treatment and disposal.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	To be determined by hazardous material specialist	During excavation activities	Daily monitoring during excavation activities



Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
VII. Hazards	Construction activity may cause wildfires.	<b>Haz MM-1:</b> When work is conducted adjacent to flammable vegetation, appropriate fire-fighting equipment (e.g., extinguishers, shovels, water trucks) shall be available onsite during all phases of project construction to help minimize the chance of human-caused wildfires. Shields, protective mats, and/or other fire preventative methods shall be used during grinding, welding, and other spark-inducing activities.	Appropriate measures will be taken to minimize human-caused fires.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During construction	During construction.
XI. Noise	The use of heavy equipment during project construction may temporarily increase noise levels within nearby residential areas.	<b>Noise MM-1:</b> Operation of heavy equipment that may impact adjacent residential structures shall be allowed only between the hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except under special circumstances approved by the District's General Manager-Chief Engineer.	Limit use of heavy equipment to between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During construction	During construction
	The use of heavy equipment during project construction may temporarily increase noise levels within nearby residential areas.	<b>Noise MM-2:</b> Each resident adjacent to the storm drain construction site shall be notified in writing three days prior to operation of heavy construction equipment near the residences. The notice shall include the expected work schedule and the District's contact information. The District shall alert the construction contractor of any noise complaints and incorporate any feasible and practical techniques that minimize the noise impacts on adjacent residences.	Ensure that the described notices are provided to each resident adjacent to the storm drain construction site and inform the contractor of any complaints and feasible corrective measures.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During construction	During construction

Issue	Potential Impact	Environmental Commitment and/or Mitigation Measure	Action	Implementing Agency	Governing Agency	Implementation Timing	Monitoring Frequency
XI. Noise	Line B Stage 2 construction activities may temporarily disrupt classes at Little Lake Elementary School (School).	<b>Noise MM-3:</b> Prior to finalizing the Line B Stage 2 construction schedule, the District shall contact the Hemet Unified School District to confirm the Little Lake Elementary School (School) closure schedule. The project construction schedule shall be based on completing most of the construction activity in front of the School while classes are not in session to the maximum extent feasible. Should the operation of heavy equipment near the School be necessary to complete the storm drain construction, the District shall require the contractor to adjust the scheduling of heavy equipment and/or to implement any feasible and practicable measures to ensure that classes are not disrupted.	Ensure that construction activity does not disrupt School classes.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During construction scheduling for Stage 2	During construction
XV. Traffic	Construction activities may impact the routes of emergency service vehicles	<b>Trans MM-1:</b> Emergency fire or medical vehicles shall have access through the Project site at all times during construction,	Contractor will ensure emergency access through construction areas at all times.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During construction	During construction
XV. Traffic	Line B Stage 2 construction activities may temporarily increase traffic congestion and interfere with access at Little Lake Elementary School (School).	<b>Trans MM-2:</b> As described in mitigation measure Noise MM-3, the project construction schedule shall be planned to avoid and minimize construction activity near the Little Lake Elementary School (School) while classes are in session. Prior to finalizing the Line B Stage 2 construction schedule or traffic control plan, the District shall contact the Hemet Unified School District to confirm the School's closure schedule, access points, and to resolve any access conflicts.	Ensure that construction activity does not significantly impede School access or cause significant traffic congestion while the School is in session.	RCFC & WCD (Design and Construction Division)	None	During preparation of traffic control plan & construction scheduling for Stage 2	During construction

**Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2**

**CEQA  
COMMENT LETTERS  
&  
RESPONSES**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 8

PLANNING

464 WEST 4<sup>th</sup> STREET, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor MS 725

SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401-1400

PHONE (909) 383-4557

FAX (909) 383-5936

TTY (909) 383-6300

RECEIVED  
FEB 29 2012*Flex your power!  
Be energy efficient!*RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

February 27, 2012

Art Diaz

Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

Little Lake MDP, Stages 1 and 2 Initial Study. Riv-74-PM 43.09

Dear Mr. Diaz,

We have completed our review for the above noted project which is comprised of the construction and subsequent maintenance of an underground storm drain system and appurtenances within existing streets. The project will begin near the intersection of South Hampton Court and Meridian Street and continue south within Park Avenue/Meridian Street for approximately 8,700 linear feet to Whittier Avenue. Our Primary concern is the project infringement onto State right-of-way at the intersection of State Route 74 (Florida Avenue) and Meridian Avenue.

As the owner and operator of the State Highway System (SHS), it is our responsibility to coordinate and consult with local jurisdictions when proposed development may impact our facilities. As the responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), it is also our responsibility to make recommendations to offset associated impacts with the proposed project. Although the project is under the jurisdiction of the County of Riverside due to the Project's potential impact to State facilities it is also subject to the policies and regulations that govern the SHS.

We have the following comments:

Construction Traffic Control Plan

A Traffic Control Plan is required by the developer for approval by the lead agency and Caltrans prior to construction. The plans shall be prepared in accordance with Caltrans's Manual of Traffic Controls for Construction and Maintenance Work Zones. Traffic restrictions and pedestrian / bicycle detours may also need to be addressed. All work proposed within the State Right of Way (R/W) requires lane and shoulder closure charts. All roadway features (e.g., signs, pavement delineation, roadway surface, etc.) within the State R/W must be protected, maintained in a temporary condition, and/or restored. For more information, contact the District Traffic Manager, Al Afaneh, at (909) 383-4917.

Mr. Diaz  
February 27, 2012  
Page 2

Permit Requirements

Any proposed alterations to existing improvements within State right-of-way may only be performed upon issuance of a valid encroachment permit and must conform to current Caltrans design standards and construction practices.

Review and approval of street, grading and drainage construction plans will be necessary prior to permit issuance. Information regarding permit application and submittal requirements may be obtained by contacting:

Office of Encroachment Permits  
Department of Transportation  
464 West 4th Street, 6th Floor, MS-619  
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400  
(909) 383-4526

We appreciate the opportunity to offer comments concerning this project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Joe Shaer at (909) 383-6908 or myself at (909) 383-4557 for assistance.

Sincerely,



DANIEL KOPULSKY  
Office Chief  
Community Planning/IGR-CEQA

## Response to February 27, 2012 Caltrans Letter

### State Highway 74 (Florida Avenue)

**Caltrans Comment:**

The proposed underground storm drain will follow Meridian Street and through the Florida Avenue/Meridian Street intersection. Caltrans acknowledges that Florida Avenue is a State Highway subject to their jurisdiction, and that Caltrans is a CEQA responsible agency.

*Response:*

*The CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study identified Florida Avenue as a State Highway and listed Caltrans as a responsible agency whose approval would be necessary. A copy of the final CEQA document will be forwarded to Caltrans following the District's approval.*

### Construction Traffic Control Plan

**Caltrans Comment:**

A Caltrans approved traffic control plan is required prior to construction.

*Response:*

*A traffic control plan was submitted for Caltrans review with the encroachment permit application discussed below.*

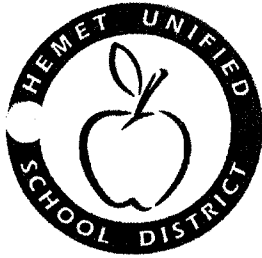
### Encroachment Permit Requirements

**Caltrans Comment:**

The proposed storm drain improvements within the State Highway can only be performed upon issuance of a Caltrans encroachment permit. The review of the construction plans will be necessary prior to permit issuance to confirm that the project conforms to current Caltrans design standards and construction practices.

*Response:*

*The District submitted an Encroachment Permit application to Caltrans on February 28, 2012 (Encroachment Permit #08-12-N-DD-0167). The Encroachment Permit will be obtained prior to starting construction within Caltrans right of way.*



Dr. Steven A. Lowder  
Superintendent

Dr. LaFaye Platter  
Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Sally Cawthon  
Assistant Superintendent  
Vincent Christakos  
Assistant Superintendent

Professional Development  
Service Center  
1791 W. Acacia Avenue  
Hemet, CA 92545  
(951) 765-5100  
Fax: (951) 765-5115

Professional Development  
Academy  
2085 W. Acacia Avenue  
Hemet, CA 92545  
(951) 765-5100  
Fax: (951) 765-6421

[www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us)

Governing Board  
Paul Bakkom  
Dr. Lisa DeForest  
Marilyn Forst  
Charlotte Jones  
Bill Sanborn  
Ross Valenzuela  
Joe Wojcik

March 12, 2012

Art Diaz  
Senior Civil Engineer  
Environmental Regulatory Services  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 955-1233

RECEIVED  
MAR 13 2012

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Re: Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Storm Drain Project  
Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Mr. Diaz,

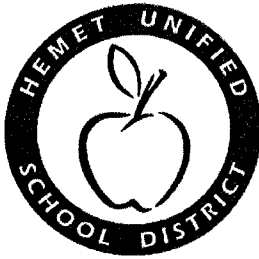
Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments for the above referenced project. The Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) has one school site within the project vicinity, Little Lake Elementary (school), located at 26091 Meridian Street. This campus fronts Meridian Street, in the Stage 2 portion of the project. Both the entrances to the parking lots and the parent and bus pick-up and drop-off are accessed from Meridian Street, where construction of the Stage 2 Project will take place.

Construction of the Stage 2 Project while school is in session would create severe congestion around the school as well as problems accessing the school. In addition, due to the close proximity of classrooms to Meridian Street, it is possible that classes may be disrupted due to construction noise. HUSD respectfully requests that construction of the Stage 2 Project is coordinated to take place while school out of session. In 2012 school is out of session from June 4, 2012 through August 17, 2012. These dates are subject to change each year.

Please contact me at (951) 765-5100 ext. 5465 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jesse Bridwell  
Facilities Planner



Dr. Steven A. Lowder  
Superintendent

Dr. LaFaye Platter  
Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Sally Cawthon  
Assistant Superintendent  
Vincent Christakos  
Assistant Superintendent

**Professional Development  
Service Center**

1791 W. Acacia Avenue  
Hemet, CA 92545  
(951) 765-5100  
Fax: (951) 765-5115

**Professional Development  
Academy**

2085 W. Acacia Avenue  
Hemet, CA 92545  
(951) 765-5100  
Fax: (951) 765-6421

[www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.hemetusd.k12.ca.us)

**Governing Board**

Paul Bakkom  
Dr. Lisa DeForest  
Marilyn Forst  
Charlotte Jones  
Bill Sanborn  
Ross Valenzuela  
Joe Wojcik

May 4, 2012

RECEIVED  
MAY 07 2012

Art Diaz  
Senior Civil Engineer  
Environmental Regulatory Services  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 955-1233

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Re: Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Storm Drain Project  
Recirculated Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study**

Mr. Diaz,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments for the above referenced project. The Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) previously commented on the original Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study (MND/IS) in a letter dated March 12, 2012. In that letter HUSD voiced concerns with this project potentially creating noise and traffic problems around Little Lake Elementary School.

The recirculated MND/IS incorporated HUSD's comments and has addressed all concerns regarding noise and traffic around Little Lake Elementary. Thank you for addressing HUSD's concerns.

If you have any questions or need anything else, please contact me at (951) 765-5100 ext. 5465 or [jbridwell@hemetusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:jbridwell@hemetusd.k12.ca.us).

Sincerely,

Jesse Bridwell  
Facilities Planner



## Response to March 12 and May 4, 2012 Hemet Unified School District Letter

### Little Lake Elementary School

#### Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) Comment:

The HUSD March 12, 2012 letter stated that the construction of the Line B Stage 2 project while Little Lake Elementary School (School) is in session could create severe traffic congestion. Construction activity in front of the School while school is in session also has the potential to disrupt classes due to increased noise levels.

#### *Response:*

*The CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study was revised and recirculated to better address potential construction impacts near the school. The District's intent to complete construction in front of the School while classes are not in session during the summer of 2014 was clarified. Additional mitigation measures were developed to address potential impacts if some construction activity is needed while the School is in session. The May 4, 2012 HUSD letter confirms that their concerns with the Line B, Stage 2 construction have been addressed.*



**South Coast  
Air Quality Management District**  
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

**E-MAILED: MARCH 21, 2012**

March 21, 2012

Mr. Art Diaz, Project Manager, [adiaz@rcflood.org](mailto:adiaz@rcflood.org)  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water  
Conservation District  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

**Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) for the Proposed Little Lake  
MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Storm Drain Project**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comments are meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final CEQA document.

In the project description, the lead agency proposes the construction, operation and maintenance of approximately 8,800 lineal feet of underground storm drain facilities and the reconstruction of approximately 20 lineal feet of the existing Meridian Street Channel. In addition, approximately 42,500 cubic yards of soil will be exported during Phase 2 of the proposed project. The proposed project is estimated to be completed within approximately 11 months with completion estimated in 2013.

In the Draft MND, the lead agency has analyzed air quality impacts including regional and greenhouse gas (GHG) air quality impacts using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). Based on the proposed construction activities, the AQMD staff also recommends that the lead agency evaluate localized construction air quality impacts since it is noted under Surrounding Land Uses on page 2 and in an aerial map inspection that several residences are located along route(s) of the proposed project. Therefore, AQMD staff requests that the lead agency evaluate localized air quality impacts<sup>1</sup> to ensure that any nearby sensitive receptors located within one-quarter mile of the project site are not adversely affected by the on-site construction activities that are occurring in close proximity.

**In the event that the lead agency's revised CEQA document demonstrates significant adverse air quality impacts the AQMD staff recommends that the lead agency require mitigation that could minimize or eliminate significant air quality impacts pursuant to**

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<sup>1</sup> Localized Significance Thresholds guidance can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/LST/LST.html>

Mr. Art Diaz,  
Project Manager

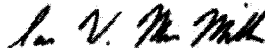
2

March 21, 2012

CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 and/or §15070 in addition to the mitigation described on page 28 of the Draft MND.<sup>2</sup> Additional comments are included in the attachment.

Please provide the AQMD with written responses to all comments contained herein prior to the adoption of the Final MND. The AQMD staff is available to work with the lead agency to address these issues and any other air quality questions that may arise. Please contact Gordon Mize, Air Quality Specialist – CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3302, if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,



Ian MacMillan  
Program Supervisor, Inter-Governmental Review  
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

IM:GM  
Attachment

RVC120217-02  
Control Number

---

<sup>24</sup> Mitigation measure suggestions can be found at [http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM\\_intro.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM_intro.html)

**Construction Mitigation Measures**

- ❖ Should the lead agency determine that project construction impacts exceed the SCAQMD recommended significance threshold for NOx (see also cover letter comment concerning localized construction impacts), the AQMD staff recommends the following additional mitigation measures during the projected 11-month construction period to further reduce NOx impacts, if applicable and feasible.

Recommended Additions:

- Require the use of 2010 and newer diesel haul truck (e.g., material delivery trucks and soil import/export). If the lead agency determines that 2010 model year or newer diesel trucks cannot be obtained, the lead agency shall use trucks that meet EPA 2007 model year NOx and PM10 emission requirements.
- During project construction, all internal combustion engines/construction equipment operating on the project site shall meet EP-Certified Tier 2 emissions standards, or higher according to the following:
  - ✓ Project start to December 31, 2014: All off road diesel-powered construction equipment greater than 50 hp shall meet Tier 3 off road emissions standards. In addition, all construction equipment shall be outfitted with BACT devices certified by CARB. Any emissions control device used by the contractor shall achieve emissions reductions that are no less than what could be achieved by a Level 3 diesel emissions control strategy for a similarly sized engine as defined by CARB regulations.
  - ✓ A copy of each unit's certified tier specification, BACT documentation, and CARB or SCAQMD operating permit shall be provided at the time of mobilization of each applicable unit of equipment.
  - ✓ Encourage construction contractors to apply for AQMD "SOON" funds. Incentives could be provided for those construction contractors who apply for AQMD "SOON" funds. The "SOON" program provides funds to accelerate clean up of off-road diesel vehicles, such as heavy duty construction equipment. More information on this program can be found at the following website:  
<http://www.aqmd.gov/tao/Implementation/SOONProgram.htm> .
  - ✓ Prohibit all vehicles from idling in excess of five minutes, both on- and off-site;
  - ✓ Reroute construction haul trucks away from congested streets or sensitive receptors areas.
  - ✓ Provide temporary traffic controls such as a flag person, during all phases of construction to maintain smooth traffic flow.
  - ✓ Provide dedicated turn lanes for movement of construction trucks, and equipment on- and off-site.

For additional measures to reduce off-road construction equipment, refer to the mitigation measure tables located at the following website:  
[www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM\\_intro.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM_intro.html) .

## **Response to March 21, 2012 South Coast Air Quality Management District Letter**

### Localized Significance Thresholds

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Comment:

The SCAQMD March 21, 2012 letter recommends the analysis of localized construction air quality impacts since several residences are located along the proposed Project. The SCAQMD requests that their Localized Significance Thresholds guidance be used to evaluate potential air quality impacts to ensure that sensitive receptors within one-quarter mile of the project site are not adversely impacted by construction activities. In the event that impacts are significant, the SCAQMD staff recommends that mitigation be required in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines.

*Response:*

*The CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study was revised and recirculated to better address potential localized air quality impacts associated with construction near sensitive receptors. The additional air quality analysis showed that the expected level of construction activity and equipment would not exceed the recommended localized thresholds. If additional construction equipment is needed, there is potential to exceed the thresholds for particulates (i.e. PM10 and PM2.5). Thus, additional mitigation measures were developed to address potential impacts if there is a need to use a number of construction equipment that could exceed the localized thresholds. A draft copy of the additional air quality analysis and mitigation measures were provided to the SCAQMD. The SCAQMD staff concurred that the additional analysis was adequate.*



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH  
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



KEN ALEX  
DIRECTOR

RECEIVED  
MAY 07 2012

May 4, 2012

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Art Diaz  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Little Lake MNP Line B, Stages 1 and 2  
SCH#: 2012021037

Dear Art Diaz:

The enclosed comment (s) on your Mitigated Negative Declaration was (were) received by the State Clearinghouse after the end of the state review period, which closed on March 19, 2012. We are forwarding these comments to you because they provide information or raise issues that should be addressed in your final environmental document.

The California Environmental Quality Act does not require Lead Agencies to respond to late comments. However, we encourage you to incorporate these additional comments into your final environmental document and to consider them prior to taking final action on the proposed project.

Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions concerning the environmental review process. If you have a question regarding the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number (2012021037) when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

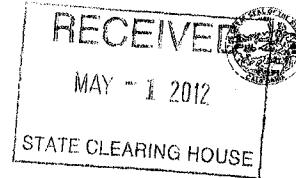
Scott Morgan  
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures  
cc: Resources Agency

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364  
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
 (916) 653-8251  
 Fax (916) 657-5390  
 Web Site [www.nahc.ca.gov](http://www.nahc.ca.gov)  
 ds\_nahc@pacbell.net

3/19/12  
 late  
 e



April 30, 2012

Mr. Art Diaz, Project Planner

**Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

1995 Market Street  
 Riverside, CA 92501

SC# 2012021037

Re: SCH#2005004148 CEQA Notice of Completion; Supplemental/Subsequent draft Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the for the "Little Lake MNP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project;" located near the Community of Hemet, Riverside County, California.

Dear Mr. Diaz:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the State of California 'Trustee Agency' for the protection and preservation of Native American cultural resources pursuant to California Public Resources Code §21070 and affirmed by the Third Appellate Court in the case of EPIC v. Johnson (1985: 170 Cal App. 3<sup>rd</sup> 604).

This letter includes state and federal statutes relating to Native American historic properties of religious and cultural significance to American Indian tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties' under both state and federal law. State law also addresses the freedom of Native American Religious Expression in Public Resources Code §5097.9.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA – CA Public Resources Code 21000-21177, amendments effective 3/18/2010) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as 'a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance.' In order to comply with this provision, the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE), and if so, to mitigate that effect. The NAHC did not conduct a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search within the 'area of potential effect (APE) due to the inadequacies of the United States Geological Service (USGS) coordinates.

The NAHC 'Sacred Sites,' as defined by the Native American Heritage Commission and the California Legislature in California Public Resources Code §§5097.94(a) and 5097.96. Items in the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory are confidential and exempt from the Public Records Act pursuant to California Government Code §6254 (r).

Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries of cultural resources or burial sites once a project is underway. Culturally affiliated tribes and individuals may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). We strongly urge that you make contact with the list of Native American Contacts on the attached list of Native American

contacts, to see if your proposed project might impact Native American cultural resources and to obtain their recommendations concerning the proposed project. Pursuant to CA Public Resources Code § 5097.95, the NAHC requests cooperation from other public agencies in order that the Native American consulting parties be provided pertinent project information. Consultation with Native American communities is also a matter of environmental justice as defined by California Government Code §65040.12(e). Pursuant to CA Public Resources Code §5097.95, the NAHC requests that pertinent project information be provided consulting tribal parties. The NAHC recommends *avoidance* as defined by CEQA Guidelines §15370(a) to pursuing a project that would damage or destroy Native American cultural resources and Section 2183.2 that requires documentation, data recovery of cultural resources.

Furthermore, the NAHC if the proposed project is under the jurisdiction of the statutes and regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (e.g. NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321-43351). Consultation with tribes and interested Native American consulting parties, on the NAHC list, should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq*), 36 CFR Part 800.3 (f) (2) & .5, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CSQ, 42 U.S.C 4371 *et seq.* and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013) as appropriate. The 1992 *Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including cultural landscapes. Also, federal Executive Orders Nos. 11593 (preservation of cultural environment), 13175 (coordination & consultation) and 13007 (Sacred Sites) are helpful, supportive guides for Section 106 consultation. The aforementioned Secretary of the Interior's *Standards* include recommendations for all 'lead agencies' to consider the historic context of proposed projects and to "research" the cultural landscape that might include the 'area of potential effect.'

Confidentiality of "historic properties of religious and cultural significance" should also be considered as protected by California Government Code §6254( r) and may also be protected under Section 304 of he NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C., 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APEs and possibility threatened by proposed project activity.

Furthermore, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, California Government Code §27491 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for inadvertent discovery of human remains mandate the processes to be followed in the event of a discovery of human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery'.

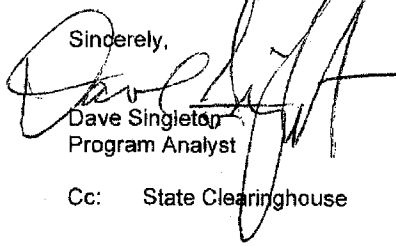
To be effective, consultation on specific projects must be the result of an ongoing relationship between Native American tribes and lead agencies, project proponents and their contractors, in the opinion of the NAHC. Regarding tribal consultation, a relationship built around regular meetings and informal involvement with local tribes will lead to more qualitative consultation tribal input on specific projects.

Finally, when Native American cultural sites and/or Native American burial sites are prevalent within the project site, the NAHC recommends 'avoidance' of the site as referenced by CEQA Guidelines Section 15370(a).



If you have any questions about this response to your request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (910) 653-6251.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Singleton", is written over the typed name and title.

Dave Singleton  
Program Analyst

Cc: State Clearinghouse

Attachment: Native American Contact List



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH  
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



KEN ALEX  
DIRECTOR

May 25, 2012

RECEIVED  
MAY 31 2012

Art Diaz  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: Little Lake MNP Line B, Stages 1 and 2  
SCH#: 2012021037

Dear Art Diaz:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on May 23, 2012, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan  
Director, State Clearinghouse

**Document Details Report  
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

**SCH#** 2012021037  
**Project Title** Little Lake MNP Line B, Stages 1 and 2  
**Lead Agency** Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation

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**Type** MND Mitigated Negative Declaration  
**Description** The Project entails the construction and subsequent maintenance of an underground storm drain system and appurtenances within existing streets and Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District right-of-way. The Project consists of a reinforced concrete box (RCB) reinforced concrete pipes (RCP), and re-construction of approximately 200 lineal feet of the District's existing concrete lined trapezoidal Meridian Street Channel. The Project will begin near the intersection of Southhampton Court and Meridian Street and continue south within Park Avenue/Meridian Street for approximately 8,700 lineal feet to Whittier Avenue.

---

**Lead Agency Contact**

**Name** Art Diaz  
**Agency** Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation  
**Phone** 951 955 1233 **Fax**  
**email**  
**Address** 1995 Market Street  
**City** Riverside **State** CA **Zip** 92501

---

**Project Location**

**County** Riverside  
**City** Hemet  
**Region**  
**Lat / Long**  
**Cross Streets** Southhampton Ct, Florida Ave, Acacia Ave, Mayberry Ave, Whittier Ave  
**Parcel No.**  
**Township** 2 **Range** 6 **Section** 22 **Base** SBB&M

---

**Proximity to:**

**Highways** Hwy 74  
**Airports**  
**Railways** UPRR  
**Waterways** Meridian Street Channel  
**Schools** Little Lake ES  
**Land Use** Low Density Residential, Community Commercial, Rural Residential, and Hillside Residential

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**Project Issues** Noise; Traffic/Circulation; Air Quality; Biological Resources

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**Reviewing Agencies** Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 6; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Office of Emergency Management Agency, California; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 8; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 8; Native American Heritage Commission; Public Utilities Commission

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**Date Received** 04/24/2012 **Start of Review** 04/24/2012 **End of Review** 05/23/2012

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## Response to April 30, 2012 Native American Heritage Commission Letter

### Native American Sacred Sites

Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Comment:

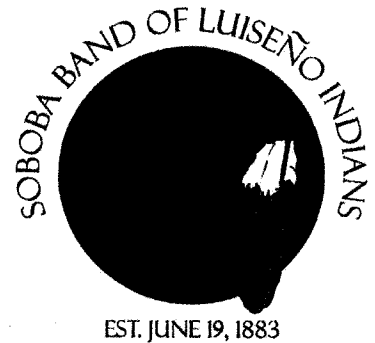
The NAHC comment letter was received after the comment period closed on the circulation of the original Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study. The NAHC letter states that the NAHC did not conduct a Sacred Lands File Search and they recommend early consultation with Native American tribes in the area.

*Response:*

*Based on the date of the letter, it appears that the NAHC letter is based on the Recirculated MND/IS that did not specifically address cultural resources since those issues were addressed in the original document. The NAHC record search was conducted and referenced in the original MND/IS. The project site does not contain recorded cultural resource sites, sacred sites and is located within previously disturbed and developed areas. In addition, the MND provides a number of measures to address the inadvertent discovery of buried resources should they be uncovered during excavation. Therefore, the NAHC comments have been adequately addressed. Furthermore, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians submitted written comments that are enclosed herein.*

April 30, 2012

Attn: Environmental Regulatory Services I  
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501



**Re: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Little Lake MDP  
Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Storm Drain Project**

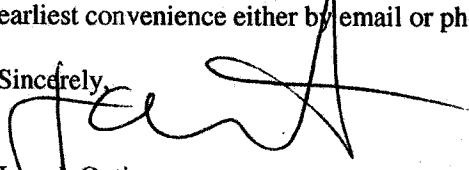
The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians appreciates your observance of Tribal Cultural Resources and their preservation in your project. The information provided to us on said project has been assessed through our Cultural Resource Department, where it was concluded that although it is outside the existing reservation, the project area does fall within the bounds of our Tribal Traditional Use Areas. This project location is in close proximity to known village sites and is a shared use area that was used in ongoing trade between the Luiseno and Cahuilla tribes. Therefore it is regarded as highly sensitive to the people of Soboba.

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians is requesting the following:

1. To initiate a consultation with the Project Developer and Land owner.
2. The transfer of information to the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians regarding the progress of this project should be done as soon as new developments occur.
3. Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians continues to act as a consulting tribal entity for this project.
4. Working in and around traditional use areas intensifies the possibility of encountering cultural resources during the construction/excavation phase. For this reason the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians requests that a Native American monitoring component be included as a mitigation measure for the negative declaration. The Tribe is requesting that a Treatment and Dispositions Agreement between the developer and The Soboba Band be provided to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District prior to the issuance of a grading permit and before conducting any additional archaeological fieldwork
5. Request that proper procedures be taken and requests of the tribe be honored (Please see the attachment)

The Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians is requesting a face-to-face meeting between the Riverside County Flood Control and the Soboba Cultural Resource Department. Please contact me at your earliest convenience either by email or phone in order to make arrangements.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Ontiveros  
Soboba Cultural Resource Department  
P.O. Box 487  
San Jacinto, CA 92581  
Phone (951) 654-5544 ext. 4137  
Cell (951) 663-5279  
[jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov](mailto:jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov)

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 09 2012

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Cultural Items (Artifacts).** Ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony reflect traditional religious beliefs and practices of the Soboba Band. The Developer should agree to return all Native American ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony that may be found on the project site to the Soboba Band for appropriate treatment. In addition, the Soboba Band requests the return of all other cultural items (artifacts) that are recovered during the course of archaeological investigations. When appropriate and agreed upon in advance, the Developer's archeologist may conduct analyses of certain artifact classes if required by CEQA, Section 106 of NHPA, the mitigation measure or conditions of approval for the project. This may include but is not limited or restricted to include shell, bone, ceramic, stone or other artifacts.

The Developer should warehouse and all items to unexcavated Native American ceremonial and cultural artifacts that may be found on the project site. Upon completion of authorized and mandatory archeological analysis, the Developer should return said artifacts to the Soboba Band within a reasonable time period agreed to by the Parties and not to exceed 90 days from the initial recovery of the items.

#### **Treatment and Disposition of Remains**

(The Soboba Band shall be allowed, under California Public Resources Code § 5097.98 (a), to (1) inspect the site of the discovery and (2) make determinations as to how the human remains and grave goods shall be treated and disposed of with appropriate dignity.

The Soboba Band, as MLD, shall complete its inspection within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notification from either the Developer or the NAHC, as required by California Public Resources Code § 5097.98 (a). The Parties agree to discuss in good faith what constitutes "appropriate dignity" as that term is used in the applicable statutes.

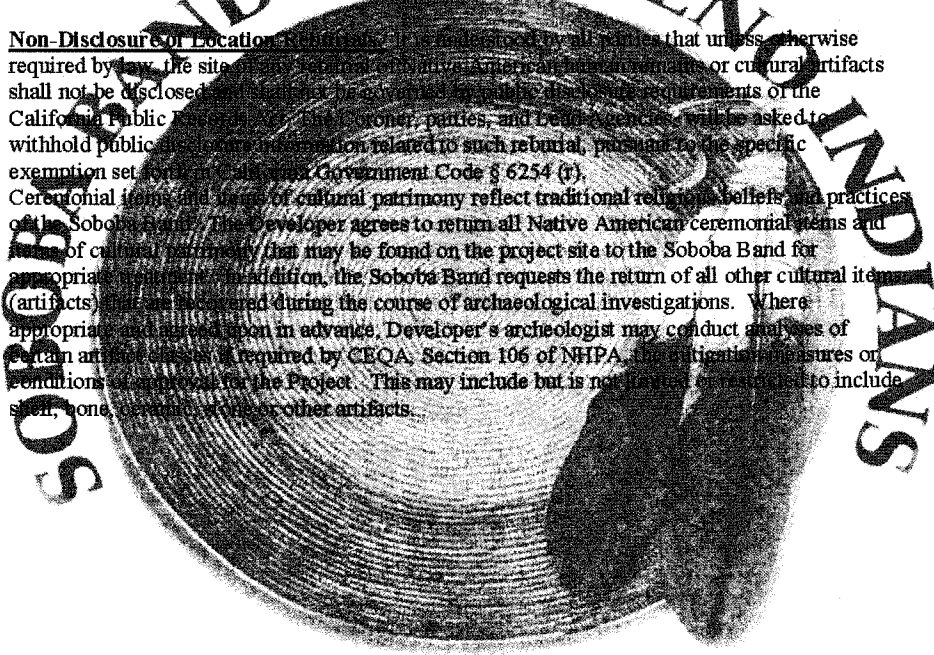
Reburial of human remains shall be accomplished in compliance with the California Public Resources Code § 5097.98 (A) and (B). The Soboba Band, as the MLD in consultation with the Developer, shall make the final discretionary determination regarding the appropriate disposition and treatment of human remains.

All parties are aware that the Soboba Band may wish to rebury the human remains and associated ceremonial and cultural items (artifacts) on or near, the site of their discovery, in an area that shall not be subject to future subsurface disturbances. The Developer should accommodate on-site reburial in a location mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

The term "human remains" encompasses more than human bones because the Soboba Band's traditions periodically necessitated the ceremonial burning of human remains. Grave goods are those artifacts associated with any human remains. These items, and other funerary remnants and their ashes are to be treated in the same manner as human bone fragments or bones that remain intact.

**Coordination with County Coroner's Office.** The Lead Agencies and the Developer should immediately contact both the Coroner and the Soboba Band in the event that any human remains are discovered during implementation of the Project. If the Coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American, or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, the Coroner shall ensure that notification is provided to the NAHC within twenty-four (24) hours of the determination, as required by California Health and Safety Code § 7050.5 (c).

**Non-Disclosure or Location Restrictions.** If mandated by all parties that unless otherwise required by law, the site of any human remains or cultural artifacts shall not be disclosed to the public. The requirements of the California Public Information Act, the Coroner, parties, and lead agencies, will be asked to withhold public information related to such rebuttal, pursuant to the specific exemption set forth in California Government Code § 6254 (f). Ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony reflect traditional religious beliefs and practices of the Soboba Band. The Developer agrees to return all Native American ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony that may be found on the project site to the Soboba Band for appropriate treatment. In addition, the Soboba Band requests the return of all other cultural items (artifacts) that are discovered during the course of archaeological investigations. Where appropriate, and in advance, Developer's archeologist may conduct analyses of certain artifacts as required by CEQA. Section 106 of NHPA. The mitigation measures or conditions proposed for the Project. This may include but is not limited to include shell, bone, ceramic, stone, or other artifacts.



## **Response to April 30, 2012 Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians letter**

### Native American Monitoring and procedures

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Soboba Band):

The Soboba Band's letter states that the project area falls within the Tribal Traditional Use Areas, is in close proximity to known village sites, and was a shared use area used for trade between the Luiseño and Cahuilla tribes. Therefore, the project area is highly sensitive to the Soboba Band. The Soboba Band's letter requests consultation, transfer of information, Native American monitoring, and that proper procedures be followed regarding artifacts, human remains, and reburials.

*Response:*

*See attached District response letter dated May 31, 2012.*



WARREN D. WILLIAMS  
General Manager-Chief Engineer



1995 MARKET STREET  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501  
951.955.1200  
FAX 951.788.9965  
www.rcflood.org

RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

May 31, 2012

Mr. Joseph Ontiveros  
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians  
Soboba Cultural Resource Department  
Post Office Box 487  
San Jacinto, CA 92581

Dear Mr. Ontiveros:

Re: Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2  
Project No. 4-0-00265

Thank you for your letter dated April 30, 2012 commenting on the District's Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Storm Drain project (Project). Please note that the CEQA comment period for the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Project closed on March 19, 2012. Thus, the above letter was not received in time to address the Soboba Band's concern prior to revising and recirculating the MND for comment on April 25, 2012. Nonetheless, the District is committed to working with the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians to ensure that Tribal Cultural Resources are not significantly impacted during Project construction.

As requested, the District met with you on May 22, 2012 to discuss the Tribal Cultural Resources concern and how to best address the Soboba Band's request for monitoring and a "Treatment and Dispositions Agreement". In response to the meeting, the District has agreed to honor the Soboba Band's request for Tribal monitoring for the construction of the Stage 1 project. The Tribal monitoring will be addressed in a Treatment and Dispositions Agreement (Agreement) to be executed by the District and the Soboba Band prior to starting construction of Stage 1. The Tribal monitoring requirements will also be covered in the construction specifications. The Soboba Band's comment letter as well as this response will be included in the final CEQA document to be adopted by the District's Board.

We look forward to working with you on the Agreement and during the project construction process. To help ensure that the construction is not delayed, your timely assistance in providing a draft agreement for a public works project and in the review and approval of the agreement will be greatly appreciated.

The proposed project and MND are tentatively scheduled to be approved by the District's Board on June 19, 2012. Should you have any further questions, please call Randy Sheppard at 951.955.1306 or me at 951.955.1233.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arturo Diaz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ARTURO DIAZ  
Senior Civil Engineer

cc: Stuart McKibbin  
Bob Cullen  
Mike Wong

RS:AD:mcv  
P8\147042

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

AUTHORIZATION TO BILL

TO BE FILLED OUT BY SUBMITTING AGENCY

DATE: 3/12/2012

BUSINESS UNIT/AGENCY: FLOOD CONTROL - FCARC

ACCOUNTING STRING:

ACCOUNT: 526410

FUND: 25140

DEPT ID: 947460

PROGRAM:

AMOUNT: \$2,101.50
\$ 64.00 - Doc Handling Fee
\$2,165.50

REF: CEQA Notice of Determination Posting, Little Lake Line B, Stage 1 and Stage 2

THIS AUTHORIZES THE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER TO ISSUE AN INVOICE FOR PAYMENT OF ALL FEES FOR THE ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS INCLUDED: 7

AUTHORIZED BY: Lisa McFarland (with signature)

PRESENTED BY: Art Diaz

CONTACT: Lisa McFarland (951) 955-8454

TO BE FILLED OUT BY COUNTY CLERK

ACCEPTED BY:

DATE:

DOCUMENT NO(S)/INVOICE NO(S):



# PUBLIC NOTICE

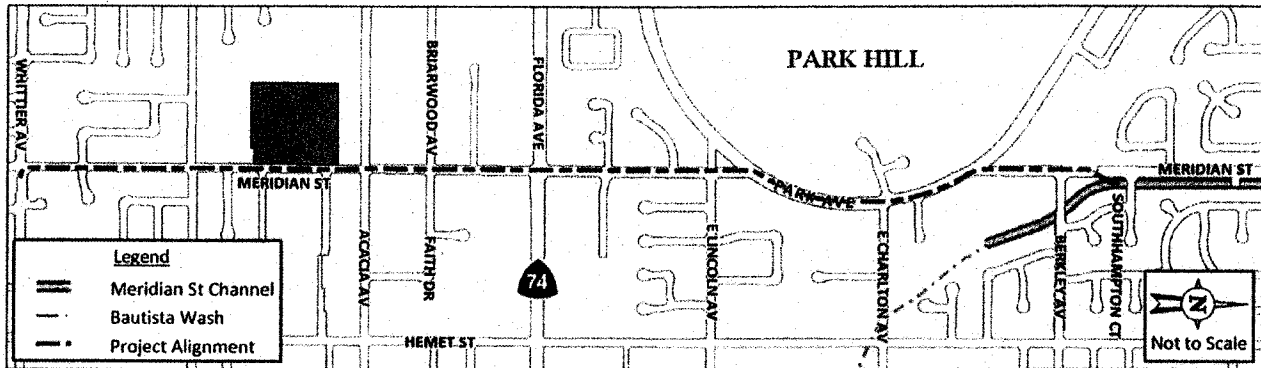
FILED  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

APR 25 2012

LARRY W. WARD, CLERK  
By \_\_\_\_\_



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LITTLE LAKE MDP LINE B, STAGES 1 AND 2 STORM DRAIN PROJECT



### PROJECT INFORMATION

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD) is proposing the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 8,800 lineal feet of underground storm drain facilities, and re-construction of approximately 120 lineal feet of the existing Meridian Street Channel in the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto and unincorporated Riverside County. The project will provide flood protection for the local area.

### REASON FOR PUBLIC NOTICE

The RCFC&WCD previously circulated a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Draft CEQA Initial Study (MND/IS) for the Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 project (Project). The RCFC&WCD has revised portions of the MND/IS related to potential air quality, biological resources, noise, and traffic impacts. Pursuant to Section 15073.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, the RCFC&WCD is re-circulating the revised portions of the IS and the proposed MND for another 30-day comment period prior to adoption and Project approval by the RCFC&WCD Board.

### INFORMATION AVAILABLE

A copy of the Recirculated MND/IS is available for viewing at:

- RCFC&WCD  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA, 92501

- Online:  
On the District's website at [www.rcflood.org](http://www.rcflood.org), under the "Public Notices" section of the homepage

Removed:  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk  
Neg Declaration/Nic Decl  
Filed per P.R.C. 214  
POSTED  
APR 25 2012  
Riverside, State of California Dept.

### WHAT CAN BE DONE

Any comments or concerns about the Project, Recirculated MND/IS, can be submitted in writing no later than **May 24, 2012**. Written responses should reference the "Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project". The District's Board is tentatively scheduled to consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration at 1:30 p.m. on June 12, 2012.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please submit any written comments to:

- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501  
Attn: Environmental Regulatory Services I

Questions can be directed to:

- Art Diaz: 951.955.1233 or email [aadiaz@rcflood.org](mailto:aadiaz@rcflood.org)

# THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

3450 Fourteenth Street  
Riverside, CA 92501-3878  
951-684-1200  
951-368-9018 FAX

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION  
(2010, 2015.5 C.C.P)**

Publication(s): Press-Enterprise

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF


Ad Desc.: /

I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am an authorized representative of THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE, a newspaper in general circulation, printed and published daily in the County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California, under date of April 25, 1952, Case Number 54446, under date of March 29, 1957, Case Number 65673, and under date of August 25, 1995, Case Number 267864; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instructions of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

04/25/2012

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: April 25, 2012  
At: Riverside, California

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSRVTN  
1995 MARKET ST  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

Ad Number: 0000785875-01

P.O. Number:

Ad Copy:

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LITTLE LAKE  
MDP LINE B, STAGES 1 AND 2 STORM DRAIN  
PROJECT**

The Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District) is proposing the construction, operation, and maintenance of an underground storm drain system and re-construction of approximately 120 lineal feet of the existing concrete lined Meridian Street Channel. The proposed project is located within the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto and unincorporated Riverside County and will begin near the intersection of Southhampton Court and Meridian Street and continue south within Park Avenue/Meridian Street for approximately 8,700 lineal feet to Whittier Avenue. In addition, laterals are proposed extending east along Lincoln Avenue, Florida Avenue, Acacia Avenue, Mayberry Avenue and Whittier Avenue. When constructed, the project will provide flood protection for the local area. In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the District previously prepared and circulated a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study (MND/IS) for this project, which evaluated potential environmental impacts of this project. As a result of the initial public review period, the District has revised portions of the MND/IS related to potential air quality, biological resources, noise, and traffic impacts. Pursuant to Section 15073.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, the District is re-circulating the revised portions of the IS and the proposed MND for another 30-day comment period prior to adoption and Project approval by the District's Board. Based on the revised IS and the incorporation of additional mitigation measures, District staff has concluded that all potentially significant environmental effects will be avoided or mitigated to below a level of significance and has prepared a MND. This public notice is to solicit any questions, concerns, or comment about the project or the MND/IS. A copy of the recirculated MND/IS is available for viewing at: the District's office located at 1995 Market Street Riverside, CA, 92501 or online at [www.rcflood.org](http://www.rcflood.org), under the "Public Notices" section of the home page. Any comments or concerns about the proposed project, or the recirculated MND/IS, can be submitted in writing no later than May 24, 2012. The District's Board is tentatively scheduled to consider the MND at 1:30 p.m. on June 12, 2012. Written responses should reference the "Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project". Please submit any written comments to the District at the address above and to the attention of Environmental Regulatory Services. Questions can be directed to Ari Diaz: 951.955.1233 or email [eadiaz@rcflood.org](mailto:eadiaz@rcflood.org). 4/25

**CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

(Original copy, duly executed, must be attached to original at the time of filing)

I, Maryann Meyer, do hereby certify that I am not  
(NAME AND TITLE)  
a party to the within action or proceeding; that on 2-16-12, I posted a  
(DATE)  
copy of the following document:

**GIVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR  
THE LITTLE LAKE MDP LINE B, STAGES 1 AND 2 STORM DRAIN PROJECT IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

by posting at Riverside County Clerk-Recorder

2720 Gateway Drive

Riverside, CA 92507

Date: 2-16-12

Meyer  
(Signature)

# PUBLIC NOTICE



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE

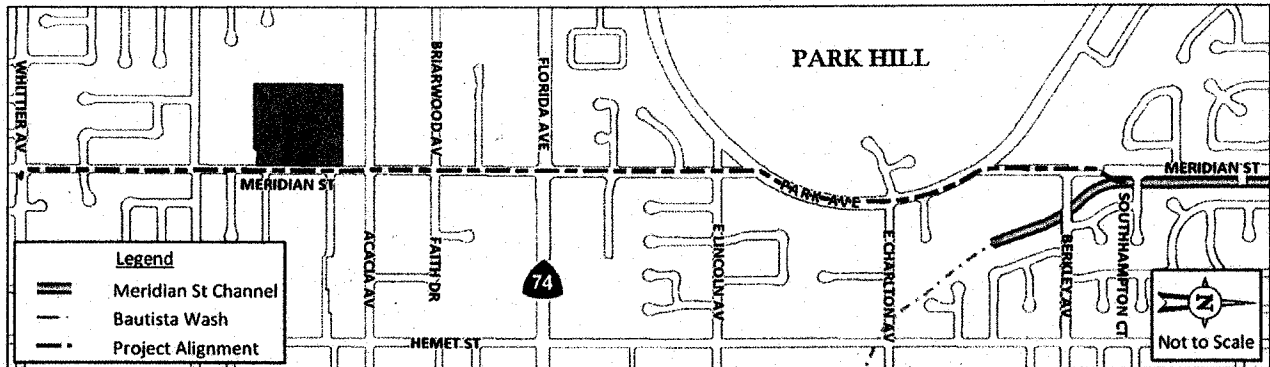
### LITTLE LAKE MDP LINE B, STAGES 1 AND 2 STORM DRAIN PROJECT

FILED  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

FEB 16 2012

LARRY W. WARD, CLERK

By *M. Meyer*  
M. Meyer  
Deputy



#### PROJECT INFORMATION

The Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD) is proposing the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 8,800 lineal feet of underground storm drain facilities, and re-construction of approximately 200 lineal feet of the existing Meridian Street Channel in the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto and unincorporated Riverside County. The project will provide flood protection for the local area.

#### REASON FOR PUBLIC NOTICE

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, RCFC&WCD has conducted an Initial Study for this project, which evaluates potential impacts this project may have on the environment. The result of this study shows this project will not significantly impact the environment and a Mitigated Negative Declaration is proposed for this project. This public notice is to solicit any questions or concerns about the project.

#### INFORMATION AVAILABLE

A copy of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for viewing at:

- RCFC&WCD  
1995 Market Street  
Riverside, CA, 92501

- Online:

On the District's website at: [www.rcflood.org](http://www.rcflood.org), under the "Public Notices" section of the home page.

COUNTY CLERK  
Neg Declaration/Nic Declaration  
Filed per P.C. 21152  
POSTED

FEB 16 2012

Removed  
County of Riverside, State of California  
Dept.

#### WHAT CAN BE DONE

Any comments or concerns about the Proposed Project, Initial Study, or Mitigated Negative Declaration, can be submitted in writing no later than **March 21, 2012**. Written responses should reference the "Little Lake MDP Line B, Stages 1 and 2 Project". The District's Board is tentatively scheduled to consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration at 1:30 p.m. on April 10, 2012.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please submit any written comments to:

- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
1995 Market Street, Riverside, CA, 92501  
Attn: Environmental Regulatory Services I

Questions can be directed to:

- Art Diaz: 951.955.1233 or email [aadiaz@rcflood.org](mailto:aadiaz@rcflood.org)

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3450 Fourteenth Street  
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PROOF OF PUBLICATION  
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02/21/2012

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: February 21, 2012  
At: Riverside, California



FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSRVTN  
1995 MARKET ST  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

Ad Number: 0000738727-01

P.O. Number:

Ad Copy:

PUBLIC NOTICE

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LITTLE LAKE MDP LINE B, STAGES 1 AND 2 STORM DRAIN PROJECT

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