



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 • San Francisco, CA 94103 • Fax (415) 558-6409

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

AND AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Hearing Date: **Thursday, January 5th, 2017**
 Time: **Not before 12:00 PM (noon)**
 Location: **City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 400**
 Case Type: **Environmental (Draft Environmental Impact Report)**
 Hearing Body: **Planning Commission**

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Project Address: Various
 Cross Street(s): Calaveras Road/Interstate 680
 Block /Lot No.: Various
 Zoning District(s): Various
 Plan Area: Alameda County General Plan and
 East County Area Plan; Alameda Watershed
 Management Plan

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Case No.: 2015-004827ENV
 Building Permit: Not Applicable
 Applicant/Agent: SFPUC
 Telephone: 415-554-2474
 E-Mail: ASivyer@sfgwater.org

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A draft environmental impact report (EIR) has been prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department in connection with this project. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) proposes to implement the Alameda Creek Recapture Project (ACRP) project to recapture water that the SFPUC will release from the Calaveras Reservoir and bypass around the Alameda Creek Diversion Dam (ACDD) when the SFPUC implements the instream flow schedules required as part of the regulatory permits for future operations of Calaveras Reservoir. The project is located in Alameda County, within the Sunol Valley on watershed lands owned by the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) and managed by the SFPUC. The ACRP is one component of the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program, which has the overall objective of improving the reliability of the regional water system that serves drinking water to 2.6 million people in the Bay Area.

The ACRP is a key element in achieving the SFPUC's adopted goals for water supply and water delivery reliability, including maintaining the SFPUC's ability to supply water during droughts, system maintenance periods, and in the event of water supply problems or transmission disruptions in the system. The primary goal of the ACRP is to recapture the water that would have otherwise been stored in Calaveras Reservoir due to the release and bypass of flows from Calaveras Dam and the ACDD, respectively, to meet instream flow requirements, thereby maintaining the historical annual transfers from the SFPUC's Alameda watershed to the regional water system. The ACRP would be operated in conjunction with future operations of the new Calaveras Dam, which is currently under construction and scheduled for completion in spring 2019; permits for future operation of the new dam require that the SFPUC implement instream flow schedules to support fisheries resources in Alameda Creek through bypasses around the ACDD and releases from Calaveras Reservoir.

The proposed project would recapture the bypasses and releases below the ACDD and Calaveras Dam from an existing quarry pit (Pit F2) in the Sunol Valley, in which Alameda Creek water collects through subsurface seepage. Aggregate extraction from Pit F2 was discontinued in 2007, and the pit is currently used only to store and manage water to support active mining in other nearby quarry pits. Using the proposed ACRP facilities described below, the

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SFPUC would pump water from Pit F2 and transfer the water to existing regional water system facilities in the Sunol Valley for municipal use. Pit F2 is located south of Interstate 680, east of the main channel of Alameda Creek, and between the confluence of Alameda Creek and San Antonio Creek and the confluence with Arroyo de la Laguna. The recapture operation of the ACRP would be conducted within the CCSF's existing pre-1914 appropriative water rights. The volume of recaptured water would be tracked daily to ensure the operation is conducted within these water rights.

The ACRP would require that SFPUC construct several improvements in and around Pit F2 to pump the recaptured water from the quarry pit and convey it to existing water supply infrastructure in the Sunol Valley. The proposed project components include: four turbine pumps mounted on barges that would float on the water surface of Pit F2 and be attached to the shore using a mooring system; four flexible discharge pipelines extending from each turbine pump to a new pipe manifold located on shore; a new pipeline connection between the pipe manifold and the existing Sunol Pump Station Pipeline; throttling valves; a flow meter; an electrical control building; and an electrical transformer and overhead power lines. No construction would occur in the bed, bank, or channel of Alameda Creek. The proposed project has an 18-month construction schedule, from fall 2017 through spring 2019.

The project site is not included on any of the list[s] compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

DRAFT EIR: The Draft EIR describes the adverse environmental effects that would result from the proposed construction, design, and operation of the ACRP. With implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Draft EIR, all project impacts would be less than significant and the project's contribution to cumulative impacts would not be cumulatively considerable. The Draft EIR including a detailed project description is available for public review and comment on the Planning Department's website at <http://www.sf-planning.org/sfcegadocs> [or <http://www.sf-planning.org/puccases>].

The purpose of the public hearing is for the Planning Commission and Department staff to receive comments on the adequacy of the EIR. The Planning Commission will not respond to any of the comments or take action on the project at this hearing. Certification of the Final EIR will be considered at a later hearing. Contact the planner below if you wish to be on the mailing list for future notices.

Public comments on the Draft EIR will be accepted from November 30, 2016 to 5:00 p.m. on January 17, 2017.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Planner: Chris Thomas; Telephone: (415) 575-9036; E-Mail: christopher.thomas@sfgov.org

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PROCEDURES

Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Commission or the Department. All written or oral communications, including submitted personal contact information, may be made available to the public for inspection and copying upon request and may appear on the Department's website or in other public documents.

Only commenters on the Draft EIR will be permitted to file an appeal of the certification of the Final EIR to the Board of Supervisors.

CDs and paper copies of the Draft EIR are available at the Planning Information Center (PIC) counter on the first floor of 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, and referenced materials are available for review by appointment (call the planner listed below). Written comments should be addressed to Lisa M. Gibson, Acting Environmental Review Officer, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103, or emailed to lisa.gibson@sfgov.org. Comments received at the public hearing and in writing will be responded to in a Draft EIR Responses to Comment (RTC) document.