

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration Extension of Sewer to Highway 74 Project

Eastern Municipal Water District (District) proposes to construct and operate sewer lines that will serve customers in unincorporated Riverside County located in Riverside County Planning Area 6. EMWD's existing wastewater conveyance system does not currently serve the portion of Planning Area 6 along Highway 74 that is being developed and EMWD's existing wastewater conveyance system within the City of Perris is not adequately sized to accommodate the planned growth in Riverside County's Planning Area 6. EMWD is considering two alternative alignments for the proposed Project (see map attached):

1. Alignment 1: Upsize 3,825 linear feet (LF) of existing sewer line along Johnson Avenue/South G Street from north of Case Road to 2nd Street from 12-inch to 18-inch sewer line. Construct 5,800 LF of new 15-inch gravity sewer on Highway 74 from West Ellis Avenue north through Navajo Road to Kruse Street. This alignment would fall entirely within the existing public right-of-way (ROW).

2. Alignment 2: Construct 5,660 LF of new 15-inch gravity sewer on West Ellis Avenue from Highway 74 in the west to B Street in the east. This portion of West Ellis Avenue is currently unpaved, and the new sewer line would be located within a public ROW that may not have been dedicated. Approximately 530 LF of this alignment would run through APN 330-020-009, requiring an easement.

None of the proposed Project alignments or staging areas would be located within a site that is included on a list compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Three potential construction staging area options were identified: APN 326-240-079, APN 310-123-006, and APN 310-090-014. A fourth staging area option was identified within APN 313-180-013, but this option would only be used if Alignment 2 is selected.

In accordance with Section 15072(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, this Public Notice officially notifies the general public, public agencies, and landowners that a 30-day public review period will begin on April 11, 2024. Comments on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) should focus on environmental issues and must be received by May 13, 2024. Please submit email comments to broadhej@emwd.org and written comments by mail to the following location:

Eastern Municipal Water District Attn: Joseph Broadhead P.O. Box 8300 Perris, CA 92572-8300

Email or written comments received by May 13, 2024 will be considered before the IS/MND is approved for adoption by the District's Board of Directors. A public meeting of the District's Board of Directors to take action on the IS/MND will be held following public notification of the hearing on the District's website. Regularly scheduled Board meetings take place on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the District's headquarters: Eastern Municipal Water District, 2270 Trumble Road, Perris CA 92570. Copies of the Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration are available for review at the District's headquarters (address above), online at https://www.emwd.org/public-notices, and at the Cesar E. Chavez Library, 163 E. San Jacinto, Perris CA 92570.

