

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-447

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY ADOPTING (1) THE FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (SCH # 2024030871) AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM AND (2) APPROVE A PURCHASE ORDER FOR FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE SAND CANYON SEWER RELOCATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Agency) proposes to install a new sewer line in the Santa Clara Riverbank to replace the existing sewer within the river bed (Project); and

WHEREAS, the existing sewer pipe is owned and maintained by the Agency which is located in the Santa Clara River. The Agency proposes to relocate the sewer pipe to the riverbank and construct access roads per the County of Los Angeles Standards. The Project also includes soil cement bank protection along a portion of the northern riverbank. Upon completion, the proposed sewer system will be transferred to County of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, it is in the Agency's best interest that the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors, on behalf of the Agency, authorize its General Manager to authorize a purchase order in the amount not-to-exceed of \$350,000 to Alliance Land Planning & Engineering for final design services; and

WHEREAS, the Agency, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prepared an Initial Study for the Project to identify potentially significant effects on the environment which would result from the Project, and the Initial Study concluded that these impacts can be avoided or reduced to a level of insignificance with adoption and implementation of certain mitigation measures therein identified and listed; and

WHEREAS, based on the Initial Study, a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) (State Clearinghouse No. 2024030871) and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) were prepared in accordance with CEQA, which finds that any potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed project would be sufficiently mitigated to a level of insignificance with implementation of mitigation measures for biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, and tribal cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15072(b), on March 22, 2024, the Agency mailed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt the Draft MND to all responsible and reviewing agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, and members of the public that have requested notice; the Agency also published the NOI in the Santa Clarita Valley's *The Signal*, a newspaper of general circulation; and

WHEREAS, as required by CEQA Guidelines section 15072(d), the NOI to adopt the Draft MND was concurrently posted by the Clerk of the Board of Directors for the County of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15073, the Draft MND was circulated for at least 30 days, from March 22, 2024 to April 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Agency received two (2) written comments from state reviewing agencies during the comment review period and responses have been prepared and included in the Final MND; and

WHEREAS, all the requirements of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines have been satisfied in connection with the preparation of the Final MND, which is sufficiently detailed so that all of the potentially significant environmental effects of the Project, as well as feasible mitigation measures, have been adequately evaluated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors does hereby find and determine as follows:

SECTION 1. RECITALS. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as substantive findings of this Resolution.

SECTION 2. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT. As a decision-making body for the Project, the Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final MND, comments received, and other documents contained in the administrative record for the Project. Based on the Board of Directors' independent review and analysis, the Board of Directors finds that the MND and administrative record contain a complete and accurate reporting of the environmental impacts associated with the Project, and that the MND has been completed in compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, including CEQA Guidelines sections 15070, 15071, and 15073.

SECTION 3. FINDINGS ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. Based the Final MND, the Board of Directors finds that all environmental impacts of the Project are either less than significant or can be mitigated to a level of less than significant under the mitigation measures outlined in the Final MND and the MMRP. The Board of Directors finds that, based on the imposition of mitigation measures, there is no substantial evidence in the administrative record supporting a fair argument that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. The Board of Directors finds that no new significant environmental impacts have been identified in the Final MND and any changes to the Final MND in response to comments or otherwise do not constitute substantial revisions requiring recirculation under CEQA Guidelines section 15073.5. The Board of Directors further finds that to the extent any mitigation measures were revised after the public review period had concluded, these revised mitigation measures are equivalent or more effective in mitigating environmental impacts already identified in the Draft MND and that the change or addition does not itself cause any potentially significant impact.

SECTION 4. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION. The Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts the Final MND as the Lead Agency.

SECTION 5. ADOPTION OF THE MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM. In accordance with Public Resources Code section 21081.6, the Board of Directors hereby adopts the MMRP. In the event of any inconsistencies between the Mitigation Measures as set forth in the Final MND and the MMRP, the MMRP shall control.

SECTION 6. APPROVAL OF FINAL DESIGN SERVICES. Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors does authorize its General Manager to accept said proposal and does therefore authorize the Agency's General Manager to issue a Purchase Order to Alliance Land Planning & Engineering for the Final Design of the Sand Canyon Sewer Relocation Project, for an amount not-to-exceed \$350,000.

SECTION 7. LOCATION AND CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS. The documents and materials associated with the Project and the Final MND that constitute the record of

proceedings on which these findings are based can be requested from the Custodian of Record located at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. The Custodian of Record is the Board Secretary April Jacobs.


SECTION 8. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION. The Board of Directors hereby directs staff to prepare, execute, and file a Notice of Determination with the Los Angeles County Clerk's office and the Office of Planning and Research within five (5) working days of adoption of this Resolution.



President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, and that at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on October 1, 2024 the foregoing Resolution No. SCV-447 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: October 1, 2024



Secretary

