

E201310000314



## FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

### Negative Declaration

 Proposed

 Final

**Name of Project:**

South Fresno Economic Development Project

**Entity or Person Undertaking Project:**

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
5469 E. Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727

**Contact:**

Kristine Johnson, Staff Analyst IV  
(559) 456-3292, Fax (559) 456-3194  
[kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org](mailto:kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org)

**Project Location:**

This project includes four different locations. Project 1 is located in Drainage Area "HH" along Drummond Avenue near Jensen and Chestnut Avenues. Project 2 is located in Drainage Area "KK" along Annadale Avenue near Highway 41. Project 3 is located in Drainage Area "AX" from Cedar Avenue to Northpoint Drive between Orange and East Avenues. Project 4 is located in Drainage Area "CQ" along North Avenue and Fig Avenue.

**Project Description:**

The Project includes four different components that will be called Project 1 through 4. Each component and its associated project description are listed below.

Project 1 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure that runs along Drummond Avenue and along property lines between Chestnut and Maple Avenues. Four businesses near Drummond Avenue do not currently have permanent storm drain service and must utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the five onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose.

Project 2 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure along Annadale Avenue between Highway 41 and Elm Avenue. Several businesses near Annadale Avenue do not currently have permanent storm drain service and two businesses must currently utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the two onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose. The development requirement to install onsite stormwater ponds on other parcels in the area would also be removed.

Project 3 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure from Basin "AX" north to Northpoint Drive. Two businesses near Northpoint Drive do not currently have permanent storm drain service and must utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the two onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose. The development requirement to install a stormwater pond on other parcels in the area would also be removed.

Project 4 - Project includes concrete curb, gutter and sidewalks, street widening, new pavement, pavement resurfacing and storm drain pipeline infrastructure along North Avenue and down Fig Avenue. The area currently has narrow streets that flood during rainy winter months making it difficult for semi-trucks and trailers to navigate the streets. Streets will be widened and storm drain infrastructure installed to help reduce transportation delays and allow for possible business expansion if the business owners choose.

E201310000314

**Finding:**

It is hereby found that the above-mentioned project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

**Initial Study:**

An Initial Study of this project was undertaken and prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines for the purpose of ascertaining whether this project might have a significant effect on the environment. A copy of the Initial Study is attached and is incorporated in this Negative Declaration by reference. The Initial Study document gives reason to support the above finding.

Date: 12-12-13

Bob Van Wyk

Bob Van Wyk, General Manager-Secretary  
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

# South Fresno Economic Development Project

## Initial Study

October 25, 2013

Prepared by:  
Kristine Johnson  
[kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org](mailto:kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org)

*Prepared pursuant to the California  
Environmental Quality Act*



**Fresno Metropolitan  
Flood Control District**

5469 E. Olive Avenue • Fresno CA 93727 • 559.456.3292 • [www.fresnofloodcontrol.org](http://www.fresnofloodcontrol.org)



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## Environmental Checklist Form

### Project Title

South Fresno Economic Development Project

### Lead Agency Name and Address

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
5469 East Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727  
<http://www.fresnofloodcontrol.org>

### Contact Person

Kristine Johnson, Staff Analyst IV  
(559) 456-3292, Fax (559) 456-3194  
[kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org](mailto:kristinej@fresnofloodcontrol.org)

### Project Location

This project includes four different locations. Project 1 is located in Drainage Area “HH” along Drummond Avenue near Jensen and Chestnut Avenues. Project 2 is located in Drainage Area “KK” along Annadale Avenue near Highway 41. Project 3 is located in Drainage Area “AX” from Cedar Avenue to Northpoint Drive between Orange and East Avenues. Project 4 is located in Drainage Area “CQ” along North Avenue and Fig Avenue.

### Project Sponsor’s Name and Address

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District  
5469 East Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727

### General Plan Designation & Zoning

Project 1 – County of Fresno, M3  
Project 2 – City of Fresno, M3  
Project 3 – City of Fresno – Currently open space/Agriculture, General Plan is M3  
Project 4 – County of Fresno – AE20

### Description of Project

The Project includes four different components that will be called Project 1 through 4. Each component and its associated project description are listed below.

Project 1 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure that runs along Drummond Avenue and along property lines between Chestnut and Maple Avenues. Four businesses near Drummond Avenue do not currently have permanent storm drain service and must utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the five onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose.

Project 2 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure along Annadale Avenue between Highway 41 and Elm Avenue. Several businesses near Annadale Avenue do not currently have permanent storm drain service and two businesses must currently utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the two onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose. The development requirement to install onsite stormwater ponds on other parcels in the area would also be removed.

Project 3 - Project includes storm drain infrastructure from Basin "AX" north to Northpoint Drive. Two businesses near Northpoint Drive do not currently have permanent storm drain service and must utilize a portion of their property to store stormwater in onsite ponding basins. Construction of storm drain pipeline infrastructure will eliminate the need for the two onsite ponding basins giving these businesses additional property to expand if they choose. The development requirement to install a stormwater pond on other parcels in the area would also be removed.

Project 4 - Project includes concrete curb, gutter and sidewalks, street widening, new pavement, pavement resurfacing and storm drain pipeline infrastructure along North Avenue and down Fig Avenue. The area currently has narrow streets that flood during rainy winter months making it difficult for semi-trucks and trailers to navigate the streets. Streets will be widened and storm drain infrastructure installed to help reduce transportation delays and allow for possible business expansion if the business owners choose.

## **Land Uses and Setting**

Fresno County is located approximately in the center of the San Joaquin Valley, stretching approximately 100 miles from the Coastal Range foothills to the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada.

Project 1 - The project will be constructed within current roads and along property boundaries in an industrial area. No buildings will be affected.

Project 2 - The project will be constructed within the Annadale Avenue street alignment in an industrial area.

Project 3 - The project will be constructed on agricultural land that is planned for a street alignment for Northpoint Drive. The surrounding property is a mixture of agriculture and industrial development.

Project 4 - The project will be constructed on North and Fig Avenue street alignments next to a large meat packing facility. The area surrounding the project is mostly agriculture and residential.

### **Previous Analysis**

2004 District Services Plan Master Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 1999111132)  
For each project location the existing basins and some of the pipelines have been studied under the 2004 District Services Plan Master Environmental Impact Report. This Initial Study focuses just on those areas that were not covered under the previous analysis. These areas are marked on the project maps as facilities/pump station/fence/steel casing relief line to be constructed.

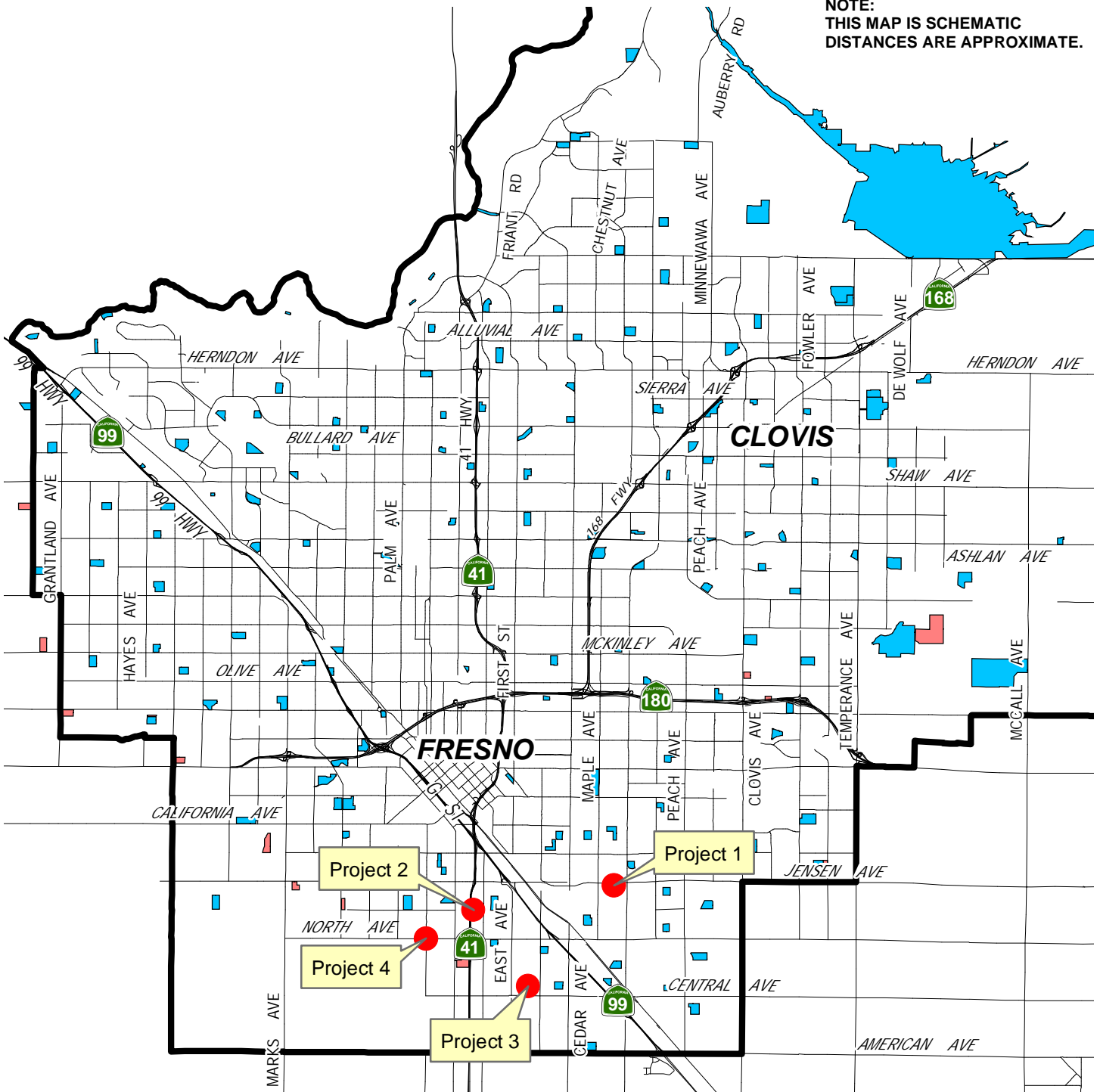
### **Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required**

None.








NOTE:  
THIS MAP IS SCHEMATIC  
DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE.



## LEGEND

-  Drainage Area Boundary
-  Existing Basin
-  Proposed Basin

## SOUTH FRESNO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LOCATIONS

Regional Map



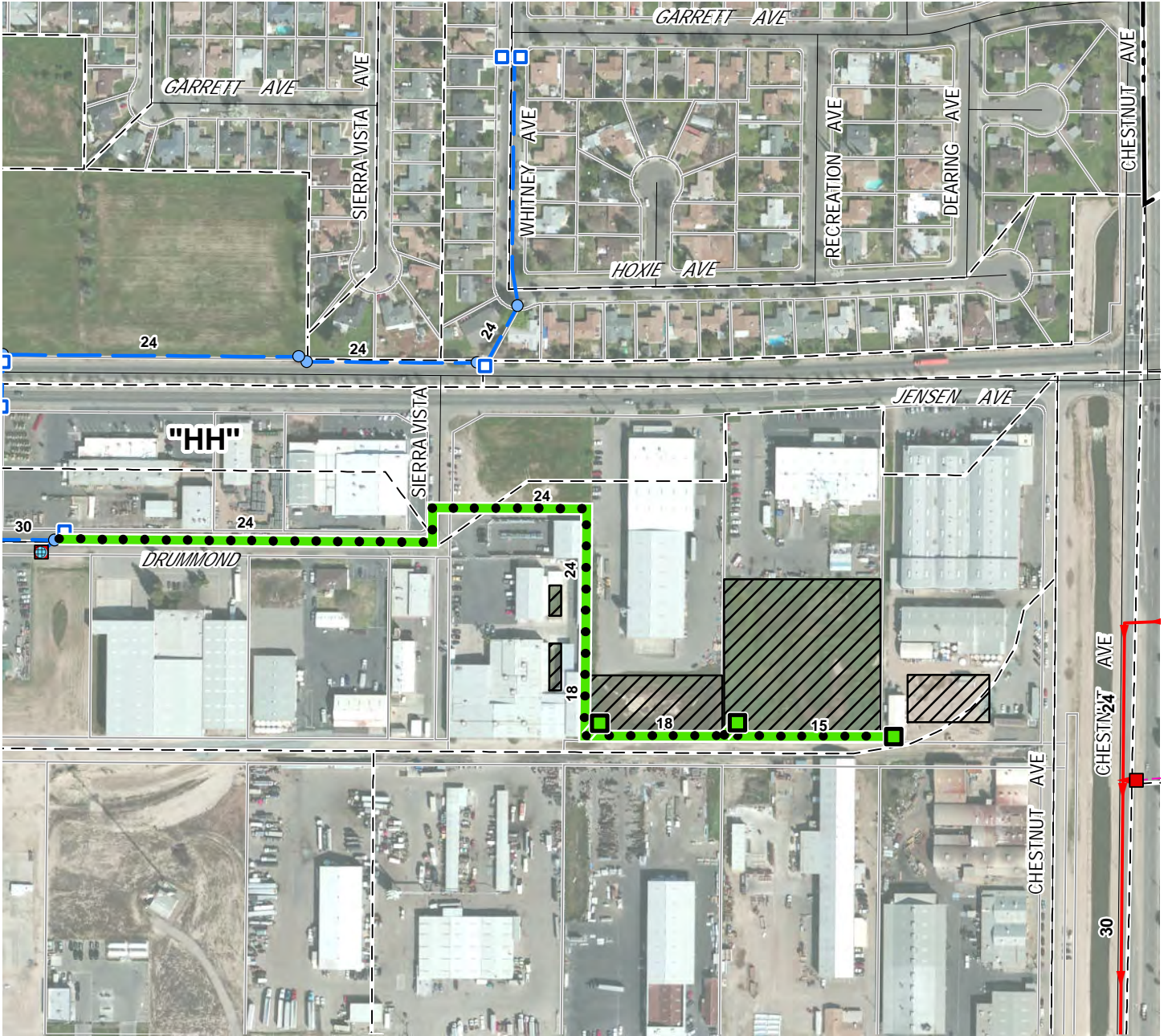
FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Prepared by: keithr






Date: 9/23/2013

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NOTE:  
THIS MAP IS SCHEMATIC  
DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE.



## LEGEND

-  Facilities To Be Constructed (2,140 ft.)
-  Existing Facilities
-  Future Facilities
-  Drainage Area Boundary
-  Temporary Pond That Could Be Removed After Construction Of Facilities



1" = 300'

## SOUTH FRESNO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Project 1



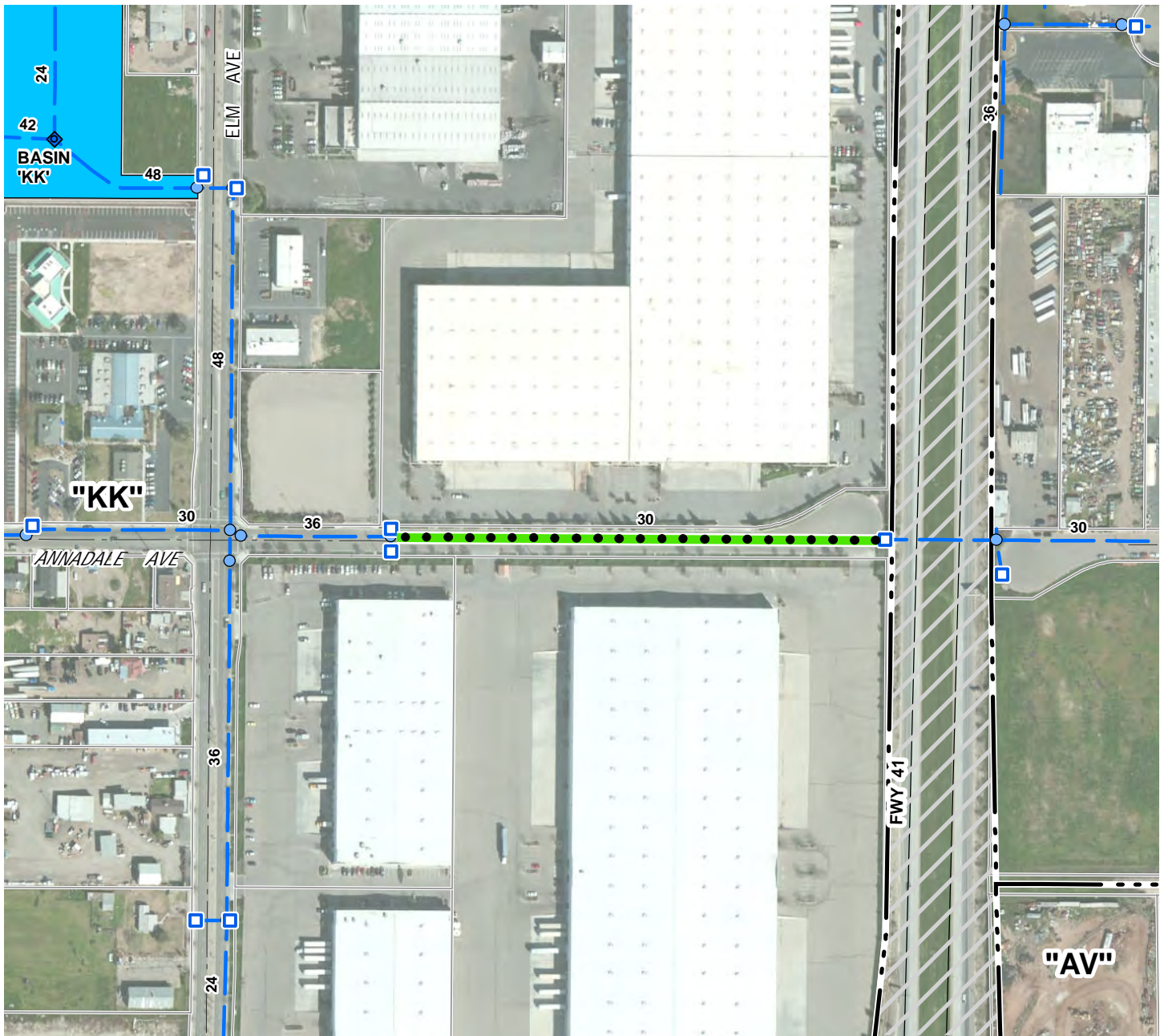
FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Prepared by: keithr




Date: 10/16/2013

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NOTE:  
THIS MAP IS SCHEMATIC  
DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE.



## LEGEND

-  Facilities to be Constructed (960 ft.)
-  Existing Facilities
-  Drainage Area Boundary



1" = 300'

## SOUTH FRESNO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

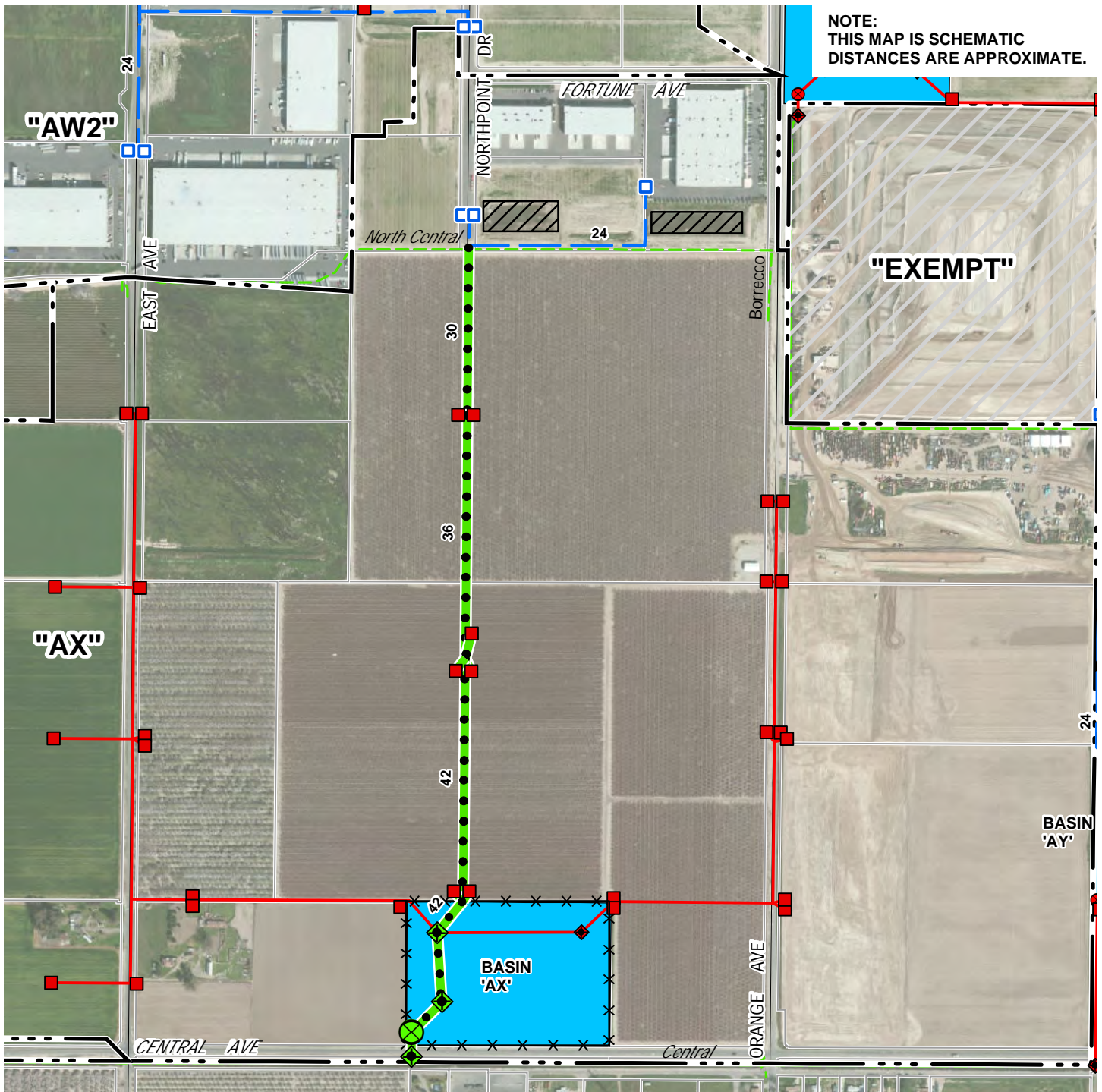
Project 2



FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Prepared by: keithr  
Date: 10/16/2013

Path: K:\Autocad\DWGS\0EXHIBIT\Budget\2013-14\EDA Grant\SFEDP (Project 2).mxd



**LEGEND**

- Facilities To Be Constructed (3,440 ft.)
- Pump Station To Be Constructed
- Fence To Be Constructed (2,870 ft.)
- Existing Facilities
- Future Facilities
- Temporary Pond That Could Be Removed After Construction Of Facilities



1 " = 600'

**SOUTH FRESNO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

Project 3

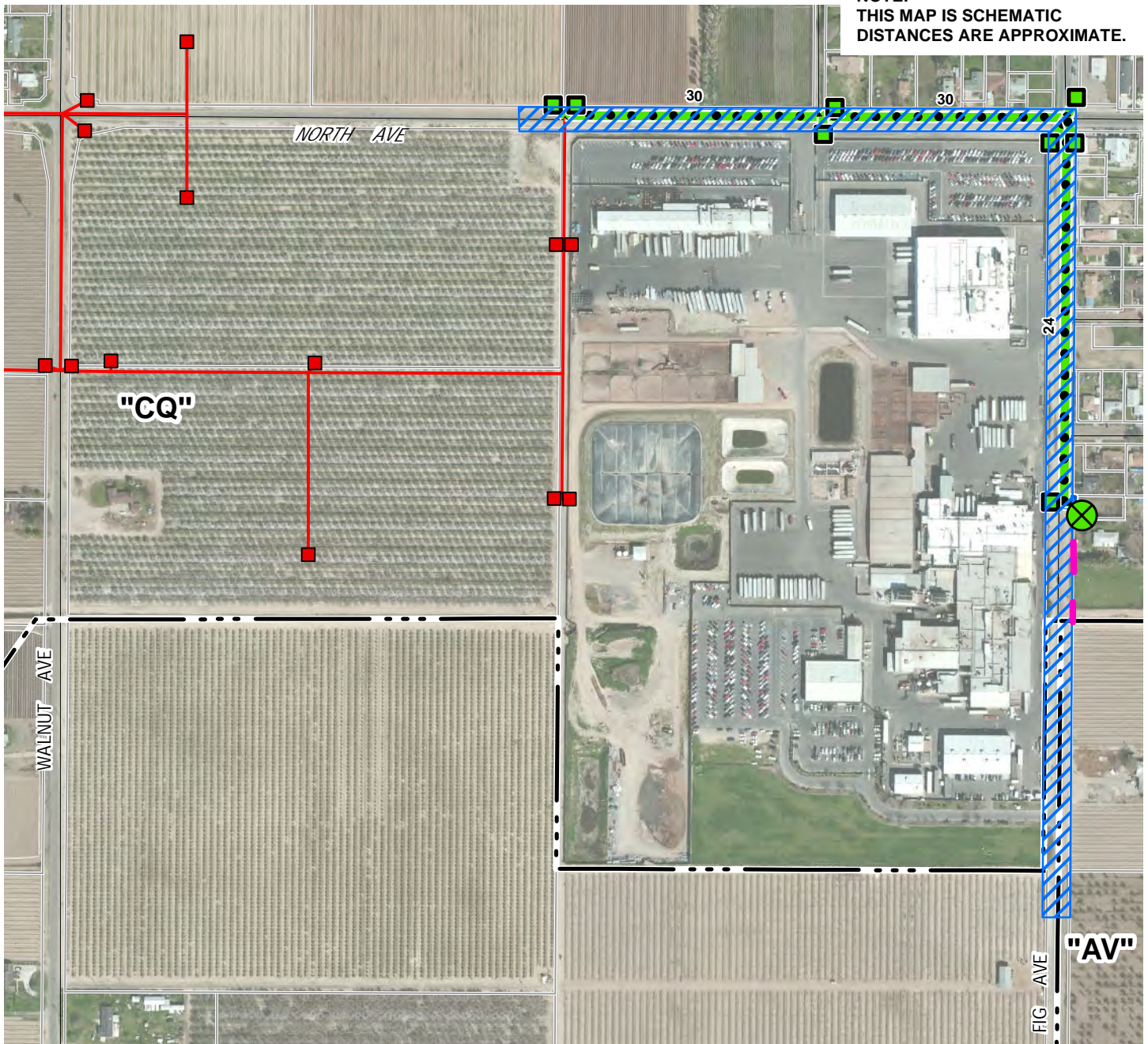


**FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**








Prepared by: keithr  
Date: 10/16/2013

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NOTE:  
THIS MAP IS SCHEMATIC  
DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE.



## LEGEND

-  Facilities To Be Constructed (2,350 ft.)
-  Pump Station To Be Constructed
-  Steel Casing Relief Line To Be Constructed
-  Existing Facilities
-  Future Facilities
-  Drainage Area Boundary
-  Street Improvements To Be Constructed (3,500 ft.)



1 " = 400 '

## SOUTH FRESNO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Project 4



FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Prepared by: keithr

Date: 10/16/2013

Path: K:\Autocad\DWGS\0EXHIBIT\Budget\2013-14\EDA Grant\SFEDP (Project 4).mxd

## Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” unless mitigated, as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources               | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions           | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning                  |   |

## Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Bob Van Wyk  
Signature

10-22-13  
Date

Bob Van Wyk, General Manager-Secretary  
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

## Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

The following information is presented for each environmental issue addressed in this section:

- A determination of whether the project would have a potentially significant impact, less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated, less than significant impact, or no impact;
- A brief explanation for each determination, including the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question;
- A description of any mitigation measures and how they would reduce an effect to a less significant level; and
- A list of all sources used in preparing the Initial Study is presented at the end of the document.

One of the following determinations is made for each environmental issue:

1. **No impact** determination is made if the impact does not apply to the project. The determination may not be explained if information in the referenced source(s) demonstrates that the impact does not apply. The no impact determination is explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards.
2. **Less than significant impact** determination is made if an effect is clearly less than significant, as documented in the explanation and referenced sources.
3. **Less than significant with mitigation** incorporation determination is made where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from a potentially significant impact to a less than significant impact.
4. **Potentially significant impact** determination is made if an effect is significant or potentially significant, or if the Lead Agency lacks information to make a finding of insignificance. If there are one or more potentially significant impact entries, an EIR is required.



# 1. Aesthetics

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	X			
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	X			
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?		X		
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?		X		

### Performance Standards:

- As necessary and possible, hours of operation for light-generating construction equipment would be restricted to between the hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

### Discussion:

- No Impact.** The Sierra foothills east of the project area are considered a scenic vista. All portions of these projects are underground except the pump stations that are approximately 6 feet tall with a footprint of 15 feet by 15 feet. Because of the small area and relatively low height, the pump stations will not have an affect on a scenic vista.
- No Impact.** No rock outcroppings, historic buildings or other significant scenic resources are located on or near the proposed project sites. There are no officially designated state scenic highways located in Fresno County. Project 3 will include the construction of a pipeline along a future street alignment where fruit trees currently exist. These trees are not considered a scenic resource. Therefore, project implementation will not result in the alteration of or damage to scenic resources. There is no impact.
- Less Than Significant Impact.** The projects are located in industrial and agricultural areas. The projects will be located underground except for two pump stations with a small footprint. The pump stations will not degrade the visual character or quality of the site because of the small size. The visual character of the site would remain almost the same after construction therefore the impact would be less than significant.
- Less Than Significant Impact.** To prevent a possible temporary effect of a new source of light or a glare from construction equipment the performance standard listed above would be implemented during construction. After construction there will be no lighting on the site.

## 2. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?		X		
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?		X		
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	X			
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	X			
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?		X		

### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Project 3 includes Prime Farmland for the section of pipe that goes from the south of Northpoint Drive to the north of the currently planned pipeline north of Basin "AX". There would be 0.18 acres of land removed from Prime Farmland when the pipeline is constructed. This area is a planned street alignment; therefore, the impact would be less than significant. All other portions of the proposed projects are not in agricultural use or designation.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas do not have Williamson Act contracts. Project 1 and 2 are zoned for industrial use. Project 3 is currently zoned for open space and agriculture, but planned for heavy industrial. Project 4 is zoned for agriculture, but the pipeline will be located along North Avenue and Fig Avenue and will not disturb any agricultural use.

- c) **No Impact.** There is no forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production within the project area, and therefore no impact will occur.
- d) **No Impact.** There is no forest land within the project area, therefore no impact will occur.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas will improve the ability to control flooding and increase groundwater recharge. Both of these benefits will improve the ability to continue agricultural uses. These projects on their own will not support the conversion of land from agricultural use to other uses.

### 3. Air Quality

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?		X		
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?		X		
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?		X		
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?		X		
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?		X		

#### Performance Standards:

- District contractors and dirt removal permittees would be required to provide dust control and cleanup of loose soils both within and outside of construction sites in accordance with San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Rule VIII for the control of fine particulate matter. Haul roads would be cleaned and swept as necessary during hauling operations.
- The District would require of its contractors or permittees to properly maintain internal combustion engines used during construction activities. The District would properly maintain all District owned and operated internal combustion engine machinery.
- Any maintenance activities that would cause or have the potential to cause fugitive emissions would be required to implement dust control measures in accordance with the District’s comprehensive Dust Control Plan.
- If objectionable odors originate at a District facility, District staff would investigate the cause of the odor immediately. When the source of the odor is identified, it would be neutralized or removed and properly disposed of in accordance with local, State and federal requirements.

#### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of Regulation VIII – Fugitive Dust Rules of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). District contractors will be required to comply with Regulation VIII while construction of the projects occurs through contract requirements.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** This project is subject to Regulation VIII (Fugitive PM<sub>10</sub> Prohibitions), Rule 4102 (Nuisance), Rule 4601 (Architectural Coatings), and Rule 4641 (Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt, Paving and Maintenance Operations).

The project will not have a significant impact on air quality once construction is complete since there will only be minimal vehicle trips to inspect and maintain the pump stations. By complying with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's rules and regulations during construction activities the project will not contribute to an air quality violation.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has jurisdiction over most air quality matters in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB). The SJVAPCD reports:

The SJVAB is classified "severe non-attainment" for the state ozone standard. The San Joaquin Valley air basin has been reclassified as "attainment" for PM<sub>10</sub>. The urbanized areas of Fresno, Bakersfield, Stockton, and Modesto are classified "attainment" and all the non-urbanized area of the SJVAB are categorized as "unclassified" for federal carbon monoxide standards. The urbanized area of Fresno is designated as "attainment" and all other areas in the SJVAB are either "attainment" or "unclassified" by the state for carbon monoxide standards.

The proposed project would generate air emissions during construction activities, which would primarily include stormwater pipeline construction. Once complete operation of the pump stations will be minimal. Consequently, the focus of the impact analysis is on construction impacts. Particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) is the primary pollutant of concern during construction activities. The SJVAPCD does not require quantification of PM emissions for construction and, instead, emphasizes implementation of effective and comprehensive dust control measures.

Another pollutant of concern for construction activity is the NO<sub>x</sub> (an ozone precursor) that is generated by heavy-duty construction equipment. Typical construction-related NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for a project of this size were estimated using URBEMIS 2002 Version 8.7 based on the equipment list for the various activities associated with the proposed project. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions were compared to the SJVAPCD threshold of significance for construction as specified in the GAMAQI and were found to be well below the thresholds. Operation and maintenance activities would be minimal, and would not be a substantial source of criteria air pollutant emissions.

- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District defines a sensitive receptor as follows: For CEQA purposes, a sensitive receptor is generically defined as a location where human populations, especially children, seniors, and sick persons are found, and there is reasonable expectation of continuous human exposure according to the averaging period for the ambient air quality standard (e.g., 24-hour, 8-hour, 1-hour). These typically include residences, hospitals, and schools. There are no sensitive receptors in the project area.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will construct pipelines and pump stations, which will not cause objectionable odors. If objectionable odors occur in the project area for any reason, FMFCD staff shall investigate the cause of the odor immediately. When the source of the odor is identified, it shall be neutralized or removed and properly disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.

## 4. Biological Resources

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b. Have a substantially adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Wildlife Service?		X		
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?		X		
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		X		
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	X			
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?	X			

### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will construct pipelines along street alignments or future street alignments. Two pump stations will also be constructed. Once complete most of the project areas will return to their existing uses as streets or will be left as open space. The pump stations will be located at FMFCD stormwater basins with a small footprint. An inspection of the project area showed no evidence of any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species. Therefore, the project will not have a substantial adverse effect on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Wetlands or other sensitive natural communities identified in local and regional plans, policies, regulations, or by state and federal agencies are not present on the proposed project areas. Therefore, the project would have no effect on such communities.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Wetlands or other sensitive natural communities identified in local and regional plans, policies, regulations, or by state and federal agencies are not present on the proposed project areas. The project will not involve hydrological interruption of any water body during the project construction or operation.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The sites are not situated within an apparent “movement corridor” for native wildlife. The proposed project will have no effect on regional wildlife movements.
- e) **No Impact.** No County ordinances protect the types of biological resources found on the project sites. Therefore, the projects will not be in conflict with Fresno County general plan policies or natural resource protection ordinances.
- f) **No Impact.** Fresno County does not have any habitat conservation plans of any kind. Therefore, the projects will not conflict with any such plan.

## 5. Cultural Resources

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?		X		
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?		X		
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		X		
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		X		

### Performance Standards:

- Prior to the start of construction, all District contractors and subcontractors for the project would be informed in writing of the potential for discover of important cultural or paleontological resources below the ground surface on the project site and legal consequences for damaging or destroying such resources. If any cultural or paleontological resources were found, the District would stop work within the area in questions and a qualified consultant would be retained by the District to evaluate the find and make recommendations for further action.
- If human remains are found during the project activities, the Fresno County Coroner would be notified immediately. The Coroner has two working days to examine the remains and 24 hours to recommend proper treatment or disposition of the remains, following the Native American Heritage Commission guidelines where appropriate.

### Discussion:

- Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas will not be located in areas known as historic resources sites. Should any previously undisclosed resource be found FMFCD will consult with a qualified archeologist prior to commencement of construction activities. The projects will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource or directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site or unique geologic feature.
- Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas will not be located in areas known as archaeological resources sites. Should any previously undisclosed resource be found FMFCD will consult with a qualified archeologist prior to commencement of construction activities. The projects will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource or directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site or unique geologic feature.
- Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas will not be located in an area with unique paleontological resources or site or with a unique geologic feature. Should any previously undisclosed resource be found FMFCD will consult with a qualified archeologist prior to commencement of



construction activities. The projects will not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site or unique geologic feature.

- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas will not be located in an area known to have human remains. Should any previously undisclosed human remains be found FMFCD will consult with a qualified archeologist prior to commencement of construction activities.

## 6. Geology and Soils

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	X			
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	X			
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	X			
iv. Landslides?	X			
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?		X		
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	X			
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-a-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	X			
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	X			

### Performance Standards:

- The District would ensure that construction projects are controlled through standard specifications. In addition, all construction activities would also be subject to City and County grading ordinances, which would control erosion. A "Removal of Borrow Material Permit" would be issued by the District and signed by any one desiring to remove soil from a District facility. Applicable provisions of the contract and permit would ensure the contractor and permittee excavate per the approved design and quantities.
- Basin slopes would be graded and maintained to minimize erosion. Should soil erosion occur, the erosion material would be kept on-site, within the excavation area, and used to repair eroded areas.
- The District would select and implement the most appropriate erosion control BMPs identified in the Construction Site Storm Water Quality Management Guidelines.

**Discussion:**

- a) The proposed projects will not expose people to substantial adverse effects because:
- i. **No Impact.** The project areas are not located in the vicinity of a known earthquake fault, as shown on the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map. There are a number of active and potentially-active faults within and adjacent to Fresno County. Although most of Fresno County is situated within an area of relatively low seismic activity by comparison to other areas of the state, the faults and fault systems that lie along the eastern and western boundaries of the county, as well as other regional faults, have the potential to produce high-magnitude earthquakes throughout the county. The principle earthquake hazard is ground shaking.
  - ii. **No Impact.** No impacts related to seismic ground shaking are anticipated because the projects will not include structures.
  - iii. **No Impact.** Liquefaction generally occurs in water saturated silts, sands, and gravels having low to medium density. Due to the depth of the groundwater table in this area and the soil types, which are either too coarse or too high in clay content, it is unlikely that liquefaction will occur.
  - iv. **No Impact.** There is no potential hazard due to landslides from the proposed projects because the project area is flat.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Pipelines will be constructed by excavating soils, installing pipeline and replacing the excavated soils. The project area will be compacted and in some cases repaved. The pump stations will be constructed partially underground and above ground. The soil around the construction area will be compacted to prevent erosion. To ensure any potential impacts are less than significant, the performance standards listed above have been incorporated into the project.
- c) **No Impact.** The projects would not be located on a geologic unit or soil this is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.
- d) **No Impact.** The projects do not include construction of structures that would create substantial risks to life or property because of expansive soil.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed projects do not consist of features that would involve the disposal of wastewater to septic systems. Therefore, no impact would occur.

## 7. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?		X		
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?		X		

### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Construction of these projects will contribute to increases in greenhouse gas emissions, but at a less than significant level. Once the construction is complete the amount of greenhouse gas emissions created by the short term construction process will stop.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will be short term construction projects, which will not conflict with a plan, policy or regulation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## 8. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?		X		
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?		X		
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	X			
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	X			
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	X			
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	X			
g. Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	X			
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	X			
i. Expose people to productive mosquito breeding habitat by improperly designing and managing large basins of water?		X		

### Performance Standards:

- The District would conduct a Phase I Preliminary Site Assessment to determine the presence of any hazardous materials prior to land acquisition.
- The District contractors would be required to notify the District of certain specified conditions relating to hazardous waste, unexpected subsurface or latent conditions, or unknown physical conditions. The

District would promptly investigate any such conditions reported to it and take appropriate action to protect public and contractor health and safety.

- The District would immediately begin the cleanup of spills or hazardous materials releases that may occur during construction. The District would notify all applicable responsible agencies as required by law.
- The District contractors would comply with the provisions of the Construction Safety Orders, Tunnel Safety Orders, confined and enclosed spaces and other dangerous atmospheres, and General Safety Orders adopted by the State Division of Industrial Safety, as set forth in Title 8 of the CCR, and applicable worker safety portions of the District or contractor standard specifications.
- Low-flow areas of basins would be designed to maintain ponded water depths that provide for mosquito fish predation on mosquito populations.
- The District would work cooperatively with the Consolidated and Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control Districts to maintain flood control facilities in a manner that discourages mosquito and midge habitat.
- The District would periodically inspect basin facilities to identify District features in need of repair (e.g., fences and pumping stations) and to ensure compliance with District ordinances prohibiting certain activities (e.g., swimming, fishing and golfing).
- The District would implement the Standard Operating Procedures for Monitoring, Maintenance and Disposal of Stormwater Basin Sediment.

#### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** During construction oil, diesel, fuel, gasoline, hydraulic fluid, and other liquid hazardous materials may be used in the project areas. Maintenance of the proposed projects could include the use of pumps, which would involve the use of diesel, oil, and grease. If spilled, these substances could pose a risk to the environment and to human health. To ensure any potential impacts are less than significant, the performance standards listed above have been incorporated into the project.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will not include any structures that would have the potential to release hazardous materials into the environment. There are not reasonably foreseeable upset or accidental conditions that would cause an impact.
- c) **No Impact.** The projects will not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste.
- d) **No Impact.** There is not a known hazardous material site located within the proposed project areas.
- e) **No Impact.** The Fresno-Yosemite International Airport, Sierra Sky Park, and the Fresno-Chandler Downtown Airport are all outside of the project areas. The projects will not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project areas.
- f) **No Impact.** There are no private airstrips in the project areas. The project will not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project areas.
- g) **No Impact.** The proposed projects are in industrial and agricultural areas and will not interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.
- h) **No Impact.** The project sites are not in a wildlands area. As part of the regular maintenance of the basins, any weeds and other vegetation that could potentially cause a fire hazard will be controlled.
- i) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will be maintained in a manner that reduces the potential mosquito breeding habitat.

## 9. Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?		X		
b. Substantially degrade groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	X			
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			X	
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X	
e. Create or contribute runoff which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	X			
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			X	
g. Place housing within a 100-year floodplain, as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	X			
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	X			
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	X			
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	X			

### Performance Standards:

- The District would file a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) State General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit if necessary.

- District contractors would comply with the requirement of the NPDES State General Permit, including implementing a stormwater pollution prevention plan if necessary.
- Projects would incorporate applicable BMPs from the District Construction and Post-Construction Stormwater Quality Management Guidelines.
- The maximum depth of any urban stormwater retention basin would provide a minimum 10 feet of vertical separation between the lowest floor of the basin and highest anticipated level of groundwater.
- The District would periodically test and remove soils as generally described in the District Services Plan and specified in the District's Standard Operating Procedures for Monitoring, Maintenance and Disposal of Stormwater Basin Sediment. The District would remove soils from accumulation areas as necessary to maintain less than District prescribed threshold concentrations of indicator contaminants and to ensure contaminant levels do not exceed hazardous waste levels, as defined in CCR Title 22. The District would adjust the frequency of testing and cleaning as increased data provide improved knowledge of constituent accumulation concentrations and rates.

**Discussion:**

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The projects will construct facilities to move stormwater to detention basins. Water will be held in the detention basin for a short period of time allowing any pollutants to settle before returning to the canal and moving downstream. This project could improve the water quality depending on the amount of time it is allowed to remain in the detention basin. The proposed project will not be implemented in a manner that will violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed projects provide facilities to move stormwater from the area to stormwater detention basins. There will be no negative effects to groundwater supplies or recharge.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will alter the drainage pattern of the area in a beneficial manner by providing additional storage for floodwaters and reduce the potential for flooding in the areas. The projects will be graded to avoid erosion and siltation. If any erosion or siltation occurs it will be repaired to prevent further problems.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will alter the drainage pattern of the area in a beneficial manner by providing additional storage for floodwaters and reduce the potential for flooding in the areas. The projects will move water to facilities designed to hold flood waters onsite and prevent flooding downstream.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project is part of a stormwater drainage system and is designed to mitigate impacts from urbanization and hold stormwater. Water will be routed through the system to prevent flooding.
- f) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The construction of stormwater pipelines and pump stations will prevent water from pooling along city streets and on private property where it could potentially pick up pollutants that could degrade water quality. Once the stormwater reaches the detention basins the water will be held for a period of time to allow any pollutants to settle. These projects will not degrade water quality.
- g) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not involve the construction of housing or structures. The project is intended to reduce flooding and hold stormwaters.
- h) **No Impact.** The project will protect downstream properties from flood flows by moving floodwaters to flood control facilities. No impact would occur.



- i) **No Impact.** The proposed projects do not involve the construction of a levee or dam. Therefore, no impact will occur.
- j) **No Impact.** The proposed project sites are not within an area subject to inundation by a seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

## 10. Land Use and Planning

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Physically divide an established community?	X			
b. Conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	X			
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	X			

### Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The projects include constructing underground pipeline and two pump stations at existing stormwater basin properties. These facilities will not physically divide an established community.
- b) **No Impact.** The projects are in compliance with Fresno County General Plan Goal PF-E: “To provide efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally-sound storm drainage and flood control facilities that protect both life and property and to divert and retain storm water runoff for groundwater replenishment.” The project would result in an environmental benefit to the area by providing additional stormwater facilities necessary to protect existing and planned land uses in the area.
- c) **No Impact.** No habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan of any kind has been proposed for Fresno County. Therefore, the project will not conflict with any such plan.

## 11. Mineral Resources

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?		X		
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?		X		

### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Any material excavated from the sites will be re-used within the project area for construction purposes. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project areas are not large enough to interfere with the availability of locally important mineral resource. The site is not delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.

## 12. Noise

Would the project result in:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?		X		
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?		X		
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?		X		
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?		X		
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	X			
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	X			

### Performance Standards:

- As necessary, construction operations shall be limited to between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM.
- All construction equipment would be properly maintained according to the manufacturers' specifications.
- All gas- or diesel-powered construction equipment would be equipped with required control technology.
- Routine maintenance and repair of construction equipment would not be allowed within 300 feet of a residence (except emergency repairs).
- Construction site access would be located away from residences to the extent consistent with traffic safety and efficient site circulation.

### Discussion:

- Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects could cause intermittent and temporary increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinities. Noise produced by construction activities could impact surrounding uses. Construction vehicle traffic traveling to the project locations would also generate an increase in noise. Due to implementation of the construction and operation performance standards and the short-term nature of construction activities, construction noise impacts would be considered less than significant.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Groundborne noise is usually associated with construction activities such as extraordinary compaction and pile driving. The proposed project is not anticipated to include these types of construction. People will not be exposed to, and the projects would not generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the proposed projects will not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. All activities in the project areas will be short-term activities while construction is ongoing. Once construction is complete the only activity on the sites would be occasional maintenance activities.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects could cause intermittent and temporary increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinities. Noise produced by construction activities could impact surrounding uses. Construction vehicle traffic traveling to the project locations would also generate an increase in noise.

The above design and construction activities performance standards would be incorporated into the projects, and implemented as required to reduce construction noise impacts. Due to implementation of the construction and operation performance standards and the short-term nature of construction activities, construction noise impacts would be considered less than significant.

- e) **No Impact.** People will not be exposed to excessive noise levels as a result of these projects. Once construction is complete the only activity on the sites would be occasional maintenance activities.
- f) **No Impact.** There are no private airstrips in the project areas. People will not be exposed to excessive noise levels within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

### 13. Population and Housing

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Induce substantial population growth either in an area, directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?		X		
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?		X		
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?		X		

**Discussion:**

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Development in this area will be governed by the County of Fresno and City of Fresno in conformance with the General Plans. This project will construct pipelines and two pump stations to prevent possible flooding and to hold stormwater for recharge purposes. The project would not induce population growth because this project is an extension of an existing system that is designed to serve existing and planned development. This is also not considered significant because drainage service alone will not support the development of land with urban uses.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas are not located on land with homes on the property, so it will not displace existing housing.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project areas are not located on land with homes on the property, so it will not displace existing housing.

## 14. Public Services

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities or need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Fire protection?	X			
b. Police protection?	X			
c. Schools?	X			
d. Parks?	X			
e. Other public facilities?	X			

### Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased need for fire protection services.
- b) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased need for police protection services.
- c) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased need for schools.
- d) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased need for park facilities.
- e) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased need for public facilities.

## 15. Recreation

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	X			
b. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	X			

### Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** Since the projects do not include the development of residential, commercial or industrial facilities the proposed project will not result in an increased use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed projects will not include recreational facilities or require additional recreational facilities because it will not include residential, commercial or industrial facilities.



## 16. Transportation/Traffic

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?		X		
b. Conflict with an applicable congestions management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?		X		
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?		X		
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?		X		
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?		X		
f. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?		X		

### Performance Standards:

- Appropriate traffic control measures, including flagged controls, designated construction traffic routes, and signage would be utilized during construction activities to provide a safe and smooth flow of traffic. Traffic obstructions would be minimized, and free passage of traffic would be maintained whenever possible. Closure of any intersecting streets or roads would only occur with the approval of the traffic authority of the governmental unit having jurisdiction. District contractors would notify the appropriate police and fire departments of the location of the work in advance of any road closing.
- As necessary, construction-related truck movement would be limited to between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Saturday.
- Vehicle access would be provided and maintained in good condition for residences and businesses affected by construction activities. Pedestrian access to all properties along the line of work would be provided whenever possible and necessary, with construction fencing placed as necessary to provide pedestrian safety.
- The District would perform pre- and post-construction visual inspections along haul routes of major projects to determine road conditions.

**Discussion:**

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would result in short-term increase in traffic from construction-related trips. However, appropriate traffic safety controls and designated construction-related traffic routes would be utilized during construction activities to provide a safe and smooth flow of traffic.

As required by performance standards incorporated into the project, as necessary, construction-related truck movements would be limited between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. In addition, closure of any intersecting streets or roads would only occur with the approval of the traffic authority of the governmental unit having jurisdiction.

Operation and maintenance of particular elements of the proposed projects would generate brief temporary increases in traffic from routine maintenance and site inspections. This increase in traffic would not be substantial. Therefore, the impact would be considered less than significant.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will not result in additional population within the project area or additional businesses, so it would not conflict with the applicable congestions management program.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will not involve air traffic or structures that would change air traffic. No changes would occur that would cause substantial safety risks.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects will not change transportation design features or create incompatible uses. Project 4 includes street widening which will improve the transportation design features.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** As required by performance standards incorporated into the projects, the proposed projects activities would not result in impacts to emergency access. Therefore, this impact would be considered to be less than significant.
- f) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects would not increase the existing population, and does not involve any elements that would conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation.

## 17. Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	X			
b. Require or result in construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	X			
c. Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	X			
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which services or may serve the project, that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	X			
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	X			
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	X			

### Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** No wastewater will be generated by the proposed projects. If heavy rains occur the stormwater system will move water to a stormwater retention basin to prevent flooding downstream.
- b) **No Impact.** No new water supply or wastewater treatment facility will be needed for these projects.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed projects involve the construction of stormwater facilities to contain projected flood waters. The project will not create the need for other stormwater facilities.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed projects do not include the need for a water supply. Therefore, no impact on water supplies is anticipated.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed projects do not include the need for a wastewater treatment provider. Therefore, no impact on wastewater treatment capacity is anticipated.

- f) **No Impact.** Soil excavated from the proposed projects will be used as fill material within the project areas. Therefore, no impact on solid waste disposal facilities is anticipated.
  
- g) **No Impact.** Soil excavated from the proposed project will be used as fill material within the project areas.

## 18. Mandatory Findings of Significance

	No Impact	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Potentially Significant Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?		X		
c. Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		X		

### Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the information presented in this Initial Study, the proposed projects will not degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of major period of California history or prehistory.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the information presented in this Initial Study, the proposed projects will not result in any significant cumulative impacts. Performance standards incorporated into the projects will keep the effects to a less than significant level.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the information presented in this Initial Study, the proposed projects will not result in any significant cumulative impacts. Performance standards incorporated into the projects will keep the effects to a less than significant level.

## Performance Standards

FMFCD has developed various performance standards that are routinely implemented during the construction and operation of FMFCD projects, as applicable. Therefore, the standards are considered to be part of the project, rather than mitigation measures. The performance standards that are applicable to the project are as follows:

- As necessary and possible, hours of operation for light-generating construction equipment would be restricted to between the hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.
- District contractors and dirt removal permittees would be required to provide dust control and cleanup of loose soils both within and outside of construction sites in accordance with San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Rule VIII for the control of fine particulate matter. Haul roads would be cleaned and swept as necessary during hauling operations.
- The District would require of its contractors or permittees to properly maintain internal combustion engines used during construction activities. The District would properly maintain all District owned and operated internal combustion engine machinery.
- Any maintenance activities that would cause or have the potential to cause fugitive emissions would be required to implement dust control measures in accordance with the District's comprehensive Dust Control Plan.
- If objectionable odors originate at a District facility, District staff would investigate the cause of the odor immediately. When the source of the odor is identified, it would be neutralized or removed and properly disposed of in accordance with local, State and federal requirements.
- Prior to the start of construction, all District contractors and subcontractors for the project would be informed in writing of the potential for discover of important cultural or paleontological resources below the ground surface on the project site and legal consequences for damaging or destroying such resources. If any cultural or paleontological resources were found, the District would stop work within the area in questions and a qualified consultant would be retained by the District to evaluate the find and make recommendations for further action.
- If human remains are found during the project activities, the Fresno County Coroner would be notified immediately. The Coroner has two working days to examine the remains and 24 hours to recommend proper treatment or disposition of the remains, following the Native American Heritage Commission guidelines where appropriate.
- The District would ensure that construction projects are controlled through standard specifications. In addition, all construction activities would also be subject to City and County grading ordinances, which would control erosion. A "Removal of Borrow Material Permit" would be issued by the District and signed by any one desiring to remove soil from a District facility. Applicable provisions of the contract and permit would ensure the contractor and permittee excavate per the approved design and quantities.
- Basin slopes would be graded and maintained to minimize erosion. Should soil erosion occur, the erosion material would be kept on-site, within the excavation area, and used to repair eroded areas.
- The District would select and implement the most appropriate erosion control BMPs identified in the Construction Site Storm Water Quality Management Guidelines.
- The District would conduct a Phase I Preliminary Site Assessment to determine the presence of any hazardous materials prior to land acquisition.
- The District contractors would be required to notify the District of certain specified conditions relating to hazardous waste, unexpected subsurface or latent conditions, or unknown physical conditions. The District would promptly investigate any such conditions reported to it and take appropriate action to protect public and contractor health and safety.

- The District would immediately begin the cleanup of spills or hazardous materials releases that may occur during construction. The District would notify all applicable responsible agencies as required by law.
- The District contractors would comply with the provisions of the Construction Safety Orders, Tunnel Safety Orders, confined and enclosed spaces and other dangerous atmospheres, and General Safety Orders adopted by the State Division of Industrial Safety, as set forth in Title 8 of the CCR, and applicable worker safety portions of the District or contractor standard specifications.
- Low-flow areas of basins would be designed to maintain ponded water depths that provide for mosquito fish predation on mosquito populations.
- The District would work cooperatively with the Consolidated and Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control Districts to maintain flood control facilities in a manner that discourages mosquito and midge habitat.
- The District would periodically inspect basin facilities to identify District features in need of repair (e.g., fences and pumping stations) and to ensure compliance with District ordinances prohibiting certain activities (e.g., swimming, fishing and golfing).
- The District would implement the Standard Operating Procedures for Monitoring, Maintenance and Disposal of Stormwater Basin Sediment.
- The District would file a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) State General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit, if necessary.
- District contractors would comply with the requirement of the NPDES State General Permit, including implementing a stormwater pollution prevention plan if necessary.
- Projects would incorporate applicable BMPs from the District Construction and Post-Construction Stormwater Quality Management Guidelines.
- The maximum depth of any urban stormwater retention basin would provide a minimum 10 feet of vertical separation between the lowest floor of the basin and highest anticipated level of groundwater.
- The District would periodically test and remove soils as generally described in the District Services Plan and specified in the District's Standard Operating Procedures for Monitoring, Maintenance and Disposal of Stormwater Basin Sediment. The District would remove soils from accumulation areas as necessary to maintain less than District Prescribed threshold concentrations of indicator contaminants and to ensure contaminant levels do not exceed hazardous waste levels, as defined in CCR Title 22. The District would adjust the frequency of testing and cleaning as increased data provide improved knowledge of constituent accumulation concentrations and rates.
- As necessary, construction operations shall be limited to between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM.
- All construction equipment would be properly maintained according to the manufacturers' specifications.
- All gas- or diesel-powered construction equipment would be equipped with required control technology.
- Routine maintenance and repair of construction equipment would not be allowed within 300 feet of a residence (except emergency repairs).
- Construction site access would be located away from residences to the extent consistent with traffic safety and efficient site circulation.
- Appropriate traffic control measures, including flagged controls, designated construction traffic routes, and signage would be utilized during construction activities to provide a safe and smooth flow of traffic. Traffic obstructions would be minimized, and free passage of traffic would be maintained whenever possible. Closure of any intersecting streets or roads would only occur with the approval of the traffic authority of the governmental unit having jurisdiction. District contractors would notify the appropriate police and fire departments of the location of the work in advance of any road closing.
- As necessary, construction-related truck movement would be limited to between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Saturday.
- Vehicle access would be provided and maintained in good condition for residences and businesses affected by construction activities. Pedestrian access to all properties along the line of work would be

provided whenever possible and necessary, with construction fencing placed as necessary to provide pedestrian safety.

- The District would perform pre- and post-construction visual inspections along haul routes of major projects to determine road conditions.

## **Names of Persons Who Prepared or Participated in the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist**

### **FMFCD Staff**

FMFCD staff that participated in preparing and reviewing the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist included:

Bob Van Wyk, General Manager-Secretary  
Daniel Rourke, Environmental Resources Manager  
Kristine Johnson, Staff Analyst IV



FILED

Attachment C

Print Form

E201310000314

DEC 12 2013

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK

To:

Office of Planning and Research

U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

By

Street Address:

1400 Tenth St., Rm 113

Sacramento, CA 95814

From DEPUTY

Public Agency: Fresno Met Flood Control District

Address: 5469 E Olive Ave

Fresno, CA 93727

Contact: Kristine Johnson

Phone: 559-456-3292

County Clerk

County of: Fresno

Address:

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address:

Contact:

Phone:

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): 2013101076

Project Title: South Fresno Economic Development Project

Project Applicant: Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

Project Location (include county): Drummond/Chestnut Ave, Annadale/Hwy 41, Cedar/Northpoint Dr, North/Fig Ave

Project Description:

This project includes 4 different locations where stormwater pipeline, pump stations and street improvements will be constructed to provide stormwater drainage to several areas without current services. 1 - includes storm drain infrastructure that runs along Drummond Ave and along property lines between Chestnut & Maple Aves. 2 - includes storm drain infrastructure along Annadale Ave between Highway 41 & Elm Ave. 3 - includes storm drain infrastructure from Basin AX north to Northpoint Drive. 4 - includes concrete curb, gutter & sidewalks, street widening, new pavement, pavement resurfacing & storm drain pipeline infrastructure along North & Fig Aves.

This is to advise that the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District has approved the above (input checked) Lead Agency or (input unchecked) Responsible Agency

described project on Dec 11, 2013 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

- 1. The project [input unchecked] will [input checked] will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. [input unchecked] An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. [input checked] A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [input unchecked] were [input checked] were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [input unchecked] was [input checked] was not adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [input unchecked] was [input checked] was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings [input checked] were [input unchecked] were not made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, 5469 E Olive Avenue, Fresno CA 93727

Signature (Public Agency): [Signature] Title: General Manager - Secretary

Date: 12-12-13 Date Received for filing at OPR: