



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: April 6, 2021

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Stacy L Lawson, Senior Environmental Coordinator
s_lawson@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution No. 6394(21), Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Floradale Crossing Sewer Line Directional Drill Project and Approving the Project

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Receive and consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the proposed Floradale Crossing Sewer Line Directional Drill Project (Project) [Exhibit A to Resolution No. 6394(21)]; and
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 6394(21) adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program circulated to the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2021020258), prepared for the Project, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (attached); and
- 3) Approve the Floradale Crossing Sewer Line Directional Drill Project (Project) and Direct Staff to Implement the Project and return to City Council for approval of Project construction agreements and other items needing City Council approval; or
- 4) Provide alternate direction.

Background:

In 1974 double 8-inch ductile iron pipes (DIP) were placed under the Santa Ynez River in a 20 foot easement, to carry sewage from Vandenberg Village to the Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plan.

In 1979, a scouring event compromised the two 8-inch lines and they were replaced with a single 10-inch DIP, mounted under the existing Floradale Bridge, carrying sewage from Vandenberg Village across the Santa Ynez River, down Floradale Avenue to Central Avenue, and from there to the Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plant.

Discussion:

In the spring of 2021, Santa Barbara County plans to begin replacement of the Floradale Bridge, locating the new bridge 60 feet west of the existing bridge. The bridge replacement requires approximately 1,400 feet of the existing Vandenberg Village sewer line to be relocated. If the line were to be placed onto the new bridge, it would be encased within a 24-inch welded steel pipe, complicating necessary maintenance.

As an alternative, the City has chosen to utilize an existing 20-foot sewer line easement to place two inverted siphon sewer lines of up to 12 inches below the Santa Ynez River, using directional drilling technology. The placement of two lines will provide redundancy, facilitating maintenance of the primary line and extending the functional life of the sewer line relocation. The sewer lines will be installed below the scour depth of the Santa Ynez River and should remain in place for 50 years.

A draft Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for the Project addressing primary environmental concerns related to biological resources, water quality and cultural resources within or near the Project area. Mitigation measures are proposed to address the potential environmental impacts of the Project and reduce them to a less than significant level. (See Exhibit A to Resolution No. 6394(21) – attached.)

The Mitigated Negative Declaration has been circulated through the California State Clearinghouse, and notification has been given to Native American Tribes, as required by Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1.

Fiscal Impact:

Costs associated with the relocation and maintenance of the sewer line connection will be paid by the Vandenberg Village Community Services District. Long-term maintenance costs are anticipated to be lower than if the lines were placed on the new Floradale Bridge.

Conclusion:

The Project and its related Mitigated Negative Declaration will benefit the City and Vandenberg Village, allowing the Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plant to continue to serve Vandenberg Village's sanitary sewer processing needs using efficient, low maintenance delivery methods.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy L. Lawson, Senior Environmental Coordinator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

Christie Alarcon, Community Development Director

Charles J. Berry, Utility Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager

Attachment: Resolution No. 6394(21)