



Department of Public Works

- Environmental & Construction • Flood Control
- Operations • Solid Waste Management
- Surveyor • Transportation

Gerry Newcombe
Director

Date: May 22, 2015

To: Interested Agencies, Organizations and Individuals

Subject: Notice of Preparation (NOP) - Environmental Impact Report

Project Title: Rimforest Storm Drain Project

Applicant: San Bernardino County Flood Control District

The County of San Bernardino (County), proposes to construct and maintain a series of drainage facilities in the community of Rimforest, to address historic erosion and landsliding problems that have led to significant property loss in southern Rimforest. The San Bernardino County Flood Control District (SBCFCD) will be preparing environmental documents in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). To ensure that all environmental issues are identified and adequately addressed in the EIR, the SBCFCD encourages interested parties to submit written comments. To ensure that all environmental issues are identified and adequately addressed in the EIR, the SBCFCD encourages interested parties to submit written comments.

The proposed project is located in the community of Rimforest, in the San Bernardino Mountains near Lake Arrowhead, approximately six miles north of the City of San Bernardino in the County of San Bernardino, California (see attached Figure). Phase 1 of the proposed project would intercept the largest part of runoff to be diverted under the proposed project, and result in a 64 percent reduction (in runoff). Improvements constructed under this phase would convey mountainside runoff from an area of approximately 51 acres, and deliver this runoff to Little Bear Creek. This phase of the proposed project includes approximately 0.8 mile of flood control improvements, comprised of approximately 0.2 mile of channel/basin, and approximately 0.6 mile of pipe culvert and appurtenances. Phase 2 of the proposed project would divert runoff from 16 acres of the interior portion of the community of Rimforest and result in a 30 percent reduction (in runoff). This phase includes installation of a culvert system to direct runoff from Pine Avenue, which runs parallel to the south of SR-18, and under SR-18 to join flows diverted by Phase 1 in Little Bear Creek. The Phase 2 culvert system would include street inlets and storm drains within Rimforest to facilitate the diversion of flows along Pine Avenue. A culvert system would be installed through an existing lumber yard off Pine Avenue, connecting to the main culvert system along Pine Avenue. The existing storm drain catch basins and pipes along Apache Trail would be left in place and would continue to convey a small amount of stormwater runoff through the community of Rimforest to the existing output location at the landslide area in southern Rimforest.

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Construction of the proposed project may require phasing and could potentially occur over multiple four-to-five month-long periods since work may not be feasible to accomplish all in one summer period. Hours of operation during construction would be limited to daylight hours. No construction activities would occur during snow months. Operation and maintenance of the proposed project would include but is not limited to the following activities: Slope stabilization, where necessary to maintain the integrity of flood conveyance facilities; Removal of sediment from the retarding basins to maintain detention capacity; Regular inspection of facilities for wear and damage; Repair of facilities as needed; and Maintenance of vegetated landscape buffers.

Written comments or questions regarding the scope and content information for the EIR should be postmarked no later than **June 22, 2015**. A public informational workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at County Fire Station #91, Conference Room, 301 South state Highway 173, Lake Arrowhead, CA. SBCFCD personnel and environmental consultants will be available to answer questions regarding the project and the EIR process. EIR comments should be sent to: Nancy J. Sansonetti, AICP, Senior Planner, Environmental Management Division, San Bernardino County Department of Public Works, 825 East Third Street, Room 123, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0835. A copy of the NOP and Initial Study is available at the address listed above, or on the internet at http://www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/public_notices.asp. You may also contact the Department of Public Works at (909) 387-8109 to obtain a copy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Annesley Ignatius".

ANNESLEY IGNATIUS, P.E.
Deputy Director — Environmental & Construction

