

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
INITIAL STUDY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROJECT NUMBER: 7505-6F8267
CP# 16-49

PROJECT NAME: Contra Costa Watersheds Storm Water Resource Plan

PREPARED BY: Trina Torres 

DATE: November 18, 2016

APPROVED BY: 

DATE: 12-6-16

RECOMMENDATIONS:

☒ Statutory Exemption [Section 15262]

☐ Negative Declaration

☐ Environmental Impact Report Required

☐ Conditional Negative Declaration

The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The recommendation is based on the following: Section 15262-Feasibility and Planning Studies of the CEQA guidelines, which notes that a project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the Board of Supervisors have not approved, adopted, or funded is Statutorily Exempt from CEQA.

What changes to the project would mitigate the identified impacts: N/A

USGS Quad Sheet: multiple	Base Map Sheet #: multiple	Parcel #: N/A
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------------------

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. **Location:** The project is located Countywide [Figure 1].
2. **Project Description:** Senate Bill 985, Storm Water Resource Planning Act requires public agencies to have a storm water resource plan in place prior to applying for State grant funding for implementation of related projects.

The purpose of this project is to create a Countywide Storm Water Resource Plan (Plan) to help establish priorities and determine types of improvements necessary for various watersheds throughout Contra Costa County to meet the new State requirement.

The project will study all thirty-one (31) major watersheds and sub-watersheds in the County using the following phased methods:

Phase 1 will catalog previous planning efforts to identify opportunities and develop project concepts for dry weather runoff and stormwater capture and use. This entails researching existing plans developed by the stakeholders [Contra Costa County (County), Contra Costa Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), Contra Costa cities, towns, local residents, businesses, watershed groups, non-governmental organizations, and regulators].

Phase 2 will select an appropriate hydrologic and pollutant load reduction modeling approach, and conduct modeling to quantify various benefits, such as water supply, pollutant reduction, and flood control.

Phase 3 will develop criteria to screen publicly-owned parcels within each planning watershed for Green Infrastructure suitability.

Phase 4 will develop and publish a GIS-based web mapping application to allow screening and prioritization of potential future improvement project sites.

Phase 5 will screen public parcels and develop conceptual improvement projects for each watershed planning unit.

(CP#16-49) Initial Study-Project Description continued:

Phase 6 will further prioritize potential improvement projects, and finalize project concept designs. Prioritization will use a weighted scoring system, and will consider benefits such as:

- Water supply (including groundwater recharge);
- Water quality (including pollutant load reduction);
- Flood control;
- Habitat protection and stream restoration;
- Increased urban green space;
- Enhancement or creation of recreational areas;
- Opportunities for community involvement (including employment).

Phase 7 will create a Countywide Plan for Contra Costa cities/towns and the County/District to use when applying for State grant funding of these improvement projects.

The stakeholders will be invited to participate in the planning process.

Work on the Plan is not expected to affect facilities or appurtenances, such as roadways, right-of-ways, utility relocation, signs, or buildings. It is also not expected to have construction impacts, road or lane closures, other traffic impacts, or require traffic mitigation measures; and, work on the Plan is expected to begin as soon as possible, with completion of the Plan targeted for late 2017, in order to allow Contra Costa cities and towns, as well as the County/District, to compete for State grant implementation project funding in 2018.

This CEQA documentation covers Plan development, only. Each City and/or initiating entity will be responsible for obtaining any necessary regulatory permits and environmental clearances, including any further CEQA documentation necessary to analyze potential impacts for each project.

3. Does it appear that any feature of the project will generate significant public concern?

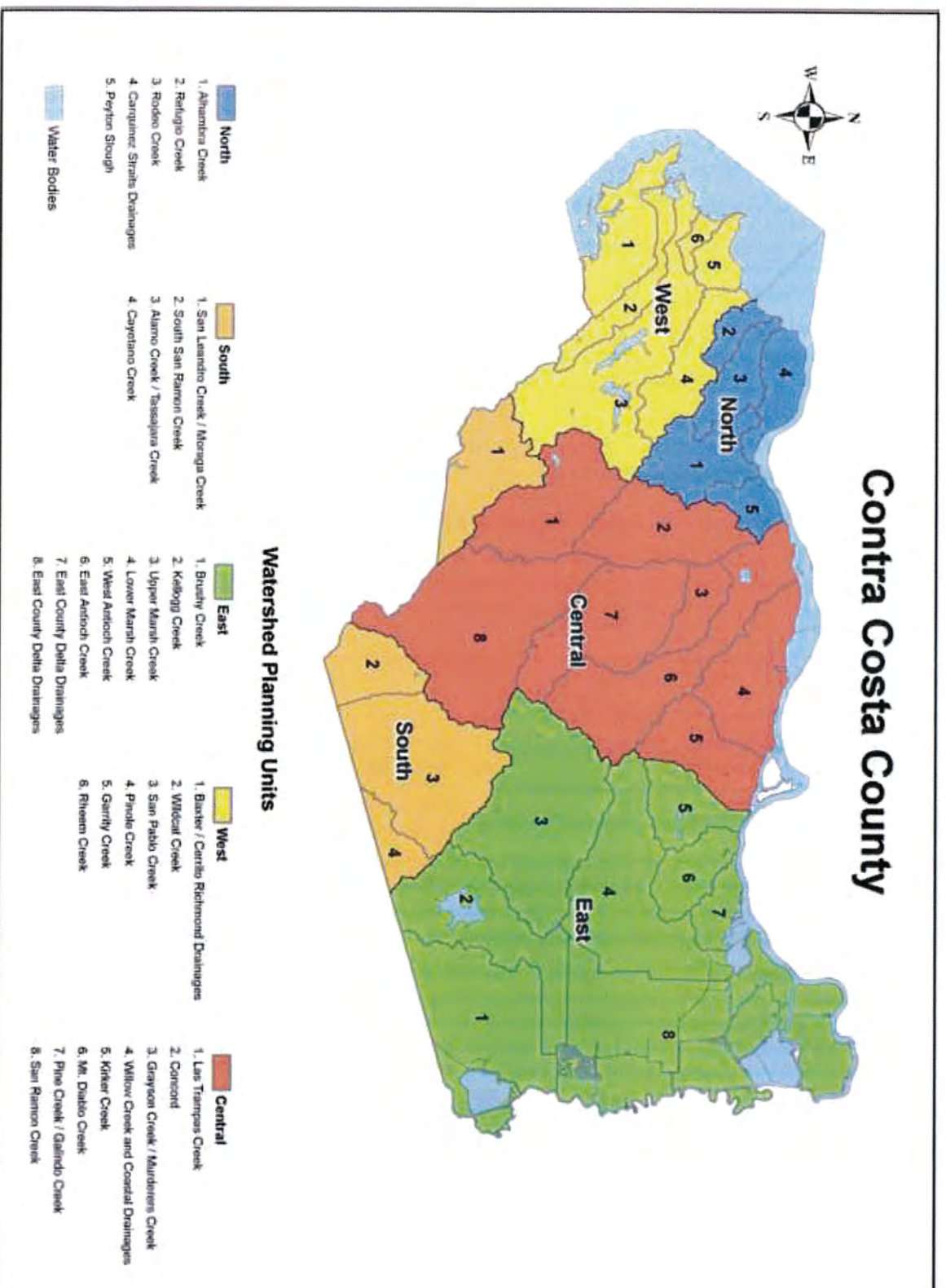
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ maybe (Nature of concern):

4. Will the project require approval or permits by other than a County agency?

☒ Yes ☐ No

California State Water Resources Control Board

5. Is the project within the Sphere of Influence of any city? Yes, multiple.



Contra Costa Watersheds Storm Water Resource Plan, Countywide

CP#16-49, Project No. 7505-6F8267

Figure 1

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

☒ County Clerk
County of: Contra Costa

From: Contra Costa County
Dept. of Conservation & Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Project Title: **Contra Costa Watersheds Storm Water Resource Plan**
Project No. 7505-6F8267 / CP# 16-49

Project Applicant: **Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

Project Location – **Specific:** Contra Costa County Watersheds

Project Location: Countywide

Project Location – County: **Contra Costa**

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: Senate Bill 985, Storm Water Resource Planning Act requires public agencies to have a storm water resource plan in place prior to applying for State grant funding for implementation of related projects.

The purpose of this project is to create a Countywide Storm Water Resource Plan (Plan) to help establish priorities and determine types of improvements necessary for various watersheds throughout Contra Costa County to meet the new State requirement.

The project will study all thirty-one (31) major watersheds and sub-watersheds in the County using the following phased methods:

Phase 1 will catalog previous planning efforts to identify opportunities and develop project concepts for dry weather runoff and stormwater capture and use. This entails researching existing plans developed by the stakeholders [*Contra Costa County (County), Contra Costa Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), Contra Costa cities, towns, local residents, businesses, watershed groups, non-governmental organizations, and regulators*].

Phase 2 will select an appropriate hydrologic and pollutant load reduction modeling approach, and conduct modeling to quantify various benefits, such as water supply, pollutant reduction, and flood control.

Phase 3 will develop criteria to screen publicly-owned parcels within each planning watershed for Green Infrastructure suitability.

Phase 4 will develop and publish a GIS-based web mapping application to allow screening and prioritization of potential future improvement project sites.

Phase 5 will screen public parcels and develop conceptual improvement projects for each watershed planning unit.

Phase 6 will further prioritize potential improvement projects, and finalize project concept designs. Prioritization will use a weighted scoring system, and will consider benefits such as:

- Water supply (including groundwater recharge);
- Water quality (including pollutant load reduction);
- Flood control;
- Habitat protection and stream restoration;
- Increased urban green space;
- Enhancement or creation of recreational areas;
- Opportunities for community involvement (including employment).

Phase 7 will create a Countywide Plan for Contra Costa cities/towns and the County/District to use when applying for State grant funding of these improvement projects.

NOE continued
CP#16-49

Contra Costa Watersheds Storm Water Resource Plan
Proj. No. 7505-6F826

The stakeholders will be invited to participate in the planning process.

Work on the Plan is not expected to affect facilities or appurtenances, such as roadways, right-of-ways, utility relocation, signs, or buildings. It is also not expected to have construction impacts, road or lane closures, other traffic impacts, or require traffic mitigation measures; and, work on the Plan is expected to begin as soon as possible, with completion of the Plan targeted for late 2017, in order to allow Contra Costa cities and towns, as well as the County/District, to compete for State grant implementation project funding in 2018. This CEQA documentation covers Plan development, only.

Each City and/or initiating entity will be responsible for obtaining any necessary regulatory permits and environmental clearances, including any further CEQA documentation necessary to analyze potential impacts for each project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: **Contra Costa County**

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: **Contra Costa County Public Works Department**

Exempt Status:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080(b) (1); 15268; | <input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)); | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Statutory Exemption, Section 15262 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)); | <input type="checkbox"/> General Rule of Applicability [Article 5, Section 15061 (b)(3)] |

Reasons why project is exempt: Section 15262-Feasibility and Planning Studies of the CEQA guidelines, which notes that a project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the Board of Supervisors have not approved, adopted, or funded is Statutorily Exempt from CEQA..

Lead Agency Contact Person: **Trina Torres - Public Works Dept.** Area Code/Telephone/Extension: **(925) 313-2176**

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

☐ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING

I declare that on _____ I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

Signature

Title

Applicant:

Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Trina Torres
Environmental Services Division
Phone: (925) 313-2176

Department of Fish and Game Fees Due

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EIR - \$3,078. ²⁵ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neg. Dec. - \$2,216. ²⁵ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeMinimis Findings - \$0 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk - \$50 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation & Development - \$25 |

Total Due: \$ 75.00

Total Paid \$ _____

Receipt #: _____