
NOTICE OF PREPARATION

DATE: March 7, 2008

TO: Responsible Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: City of Elk Grove
Contact: Melissa D. Logue
8401 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

SUBJECT: Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Elk Grove Flood Control and Storm Drainage Master Plan

In discharging its duties under Section 15021 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the City of Elk Grove (as Lead Agency) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report, consistent with Article 9 and Section 15168 of the CEQA Guidelines, for the proposed Elk Grove Flood Control and Storm Drainage Master Plan (FC/SDMP). In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Elk Grove has prepared this Notice of Preparation to provide Responsible Agencies and other interested parties with sufficient information describing the proposal and its potential environmental effects.

The determination to prepare an Environmental Impact Report was made by the City of Elk Grove. An Initial Study has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Section 15063, which identifies the anticipated environmental effects of the project.

As specified by the CEQA Guidelines, the Notice of Preparation will be circulated for a 30-day review period. The City of Elk Grove welcomes public input during this review. In the event that no response or request for additional time is received by any Responsible Agency by the end of the review period, the Lead Agency may presume that the Responsible Agency has no response.

Comments may be submitted in writing during the review period and addressed to:

Melissa D. Logue
City of Elk Grove
8401 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

The comment period closes on April 7, 2008.

A. PROJECT LOCATION, OWNERSHIP, AND CURRENT USE

The proposed Flood Control and Storm Drainage Master Plan project site is located throughout the City of Elk Grove, within southern Sacramento County. Storm drainage within the City is conveyed through a stormwater drainage system consisting of about 400 miles of underground pipes, and 60 miles of natural and constructed channels. See **Figure 1** in the attached Initial Study for a regional location of the project site.

The City drains within 13 major watersheds, as shown in **Figure 2** in the attached Initial Study. There are nine major natural creeks or open channels that convey stormwater runoff within the City, including Deer Creek, Elk Grove Creek, the Grant Line Channel, Laguna Creek, the Laguna West Channel, the Shed A Channel, the Shed B Channel, the Shed C Channel, and Strawberry Creek. Four of the creeks convey runoff that originates outside of the City limits, including Deer Creek, Elk Grove Creek, Laguna Creek, and Strawberry Creek. All of the City watersheds ultimately drain into the Beach Stone Lakes area of Sacramento County, with the exception of the Deer Creek and Grant Line Channel watersheds, which drain to Deer Creek and ultimately to the Cosumnes River.

The majority of the City's stormwater drainage system facilities and channels are owned by the City of Elk Grove, with some portions owned privately.

Current land uses of properties adjacent to stormwater drainage system facilities and channels vary widely, and include all types of land uses present within the City, such as commercial, residential, industrial, recreational, open space, small scale agricultural, mixed-use and public facilities. Underground stormwater pipes are typically located within or adjacent to public roadways. Natural and constructed channels are typically maintained as open space, with some recreational uses, such as bicycle trails, located along the channel corridor in some areas of the City.

B. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the proposed project are to:

- Select the drainage criteria appropriate for the evaluation of existing flood control and drainage facilities and for the conceptual sizing of future facilities.
- Determine the flood control performance level of the major existing drainage facilities serving the City and identify any performance deficiencies.
- Determine the potential impacts of future development on the existing major drainage facilities.
- Conceptually identify the existing facilities upgrades and new facilities required to serve the City at buildout of the current General Plan.

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- Conceptually identify storm water quality treatment facilities for new development as required per the City's current National Pollution Discharge Elimination Standards (NPDES) permit.

C. PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

Below is a summary of recommended drainage improvements within each major watershed or study area:

Laguna Creek

- Laguna Creek Bypass Channel Extension.
- Trunk pipes for future development. Upgrade existing pipelines.

Elk Grove Creek

- Detention basins for future development.
- Upgrade existing pipelines.

East Area

- Detention basins for future development and existing deficiencies.
- Pipes and culverts for future development and existing deficiencies.
- Open channel for future development and exiting deficiencies.

Whitehouse Creek

- Upgrade existing pipeline.
- Trunk pipes for future development.

Strawberry Creek

- No improvements recommended.

Laguna West Channel

- No improvements recommended.

Laguna West Lakes

- No improvements recommended.

Lakeside

- No improvements recommended.

Laguna Stonelake

- No improvements recommended.

Shed A

- No improvements recommended.

Shed B

- Trunk pipes for future development.
- Open channels for future development

Shed C

- Open channels for future development
- Trunk pipes for future development

Grant Line Channel

- Pipes upgrades for future development and existing deficiencies.
- Detention basin upgrade for future development.
- Pump station upgrades for future development and existing deficiencies.

Deer Creek

- Detention basins for future development.

D. REQUIRED APPROVALS

City of Elk Grove: Actions that would be required from the City Council and/or City staff may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Certification of the Environmental Impact Report** prepared for the proposed Flood Control and Storm Drainage Master Plan.
- 2. Adoption of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.**
- 3. Adoption of the Flood Control and Storm Drainage Master Plan** which includes a plan defining major facilities and improvements or modifications that would be necessary to serve development within the City as anticipated under the land uses identified in the current General Plan.

Other Public Agencies: At the programmatic level, it is not anticipated that approvals, permits, etc. would be required from other public agencies. As the FC/SDMP is implemented at the project level, however, approvals, permits, etc. may be required from the following agencies:

- Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Other approvals from other public agencies may be required as the project is implemented.

E. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

See attached Initial Study. A copy of the Initial Study is also available on the City of Elk Grove's Planning Department website at: <http://www.egplanning.org/environmental/>.