The City of San Diego
MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 26, 2018

TO: Distribution

FROM: Travis Whitney, Associate Planner, Transportation & Storm Water Department

SUBJECT: City of San Diego Master Storm Water System Maintenance Program (MMP) Substantial Conformance Review for Nestor Creek Channel Maintenance Project; MMP Map 131, PTS #: TBD and I/O # 11003345

The Transportation & Storm Water Department (T&SWD) formally requests your Department's expedited substantial conformance review (SCR) and written approval to conduct maintenance activities associated with Map 131 of Nestor Creek, within the Otay Mesa Community Plan Area.

PROPOSED MAINTENANCE

The site-specific individual assessments for the proposed maintenance which accompany this cover letter have been prepared in conformance with the modified Master Storm Water Systems Master Maintenance Program (MMP) and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), as verified in the SCR Checklist (Attachment 2). The enclosed documents do not identify any new potentially significant environmental impacts that have not already been identified, addressed and/or mitigated by the required conditions set forth in the associated Master Site Development Permit (SDP No. 1134892) and PEIR (Project No. 42891/SCH No. 2004101032). Therefore, the proposed maintenance in Map 131 would substantially conform to the MMP, existing SDP and environmental document.

As required, the following documents have been included for your review related to the proposed maintenance:

Application (Form DS-3032) **(Attachment 1)**
Substantial Conformance Review (SCR) checklist with the following appendices **(Attachment 2)**
- Individual Maintenance Plan (IMP) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix A)**
- Individual Biology Assessment (IBA) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix B)**
- Individual Historical Assessment (IHA) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix C)**
- Individual Hydraulic and Hydrology Assessment (IHHA) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix D)**
- Individual Water Quality Assessment (IWQA) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix E)**
- Individual Noise Assessment (INA) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix F)**
- Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP) for Nestor Creek **(Appendix G)**
- Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) **(Appendix H)**

Storm Water Checklist (Form DS-560) **(Attachment 3)**

Supplemental Discretionary Project Application (Form DS-3035) **(Attachment 4)**
Public Notice Package **(Attachment 5)**

In addition, a CD containing the following documents are attached for your reference:

MMP **(Attachment 6)**
Final PEIR for the MMP **(Attachment 7)**
Master SDP **(Attachment 8)**

Scope of Work

Consistent with the MMP, the Nestor Creek Channel Maintenance Project (Project) includes the mechanized removal of sediment, vegetation, trash and debris using equipment operated within and adjacent to the affected creek segment on a recurring basis. The maintenance is intended to restore the original conveyance capacity of the channel to provide flood control for the protection of life and property. The maintenance would not include any modification that would change the character, scope, or size of the original channel design, and would not increase the conveyance capacity of the channel beyond its as-built condition.

Project Location and Regional Setting

The Map 131 segment of Nestor Creek channel is located in the Otay Mesa West community in the City of San Diego east of Interstate 5 and north of State Route 905 (Figure 1). The channel runs through an urban area between 30th Street and the San Diego and Imperial Valley railroad tracks (Figures 2 and 3). The channel is located in un-sectioned lands in Township 18 South, Range 2 West on the Imperial Beach U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Figure 2).

The channel segment, staging area, and loading area in Map 131 (Reaches 11 and 12) is zoned RM-1-1 (Residential-Multiple Unit), RS-1-6 (Residential-Single Unit), and IL-2-1 (Industrial-Light). Additionally, portions of the project are located within the Special Flood Hazard Areas Subject to Inundation by the 1% Annual Chance Flood as well as the 0.2% Annual Chance Flood areas. The channel is within the Otay Hydrologic Unit and Otay Valley Hydrologic Area. The site is not located within or adjacent to the City's Multiple Species Conservation Program's (MSCP) Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). No part of this channel segment is within the City of San Diego or California Coastal Commission's Coastal Overlay Zone.

To facilitate the Individual Hydrology and Hydraulic Assessment (IHHA) prepared for the maintenance, the Nestor Creek channels were subdivided into separate reaches. The IHHA for the Nestor Creek evaluated a total of 12 "reaches" that cover MMP Maps 131, 132, 133, and 134. This application only covers Map 131 (Reaches 11 and 12). A more detailed discussion specific to the Map 131 channel is provided below.

<u>Nestor Creek, Map 131, Reach 11 and 12</u>

Reach 11 extends west from Reach 12 and is located east of Interstate 5 and the San Diego and Imperial Valley railroad tracks in the Otay Mesa West community. The channel runs west

between Reach 12 and the railroad (north of the Trolley Industrial Center), and turns north parallel to the railroad tracks southeast to the end of the maintenance area. This section is channelized, trapezoidal, and primarily concrete-lined on the bottom and both banks. Reach 11 has dimensions of 6-10 feet wide at the bottom, 18-31 feet wide at the top, and 6-8 feet deep. The western 150 feet of the channel maintenance area in Reach 11 is earthen bottom instead of concrete-lined. Reach 11 receives storm flow from Reach 12 and adjacent areas. Reach 11 discharges to the west via a concrete pipe spanning below the railroad tracks. Dense marsh grasses and reeds covered the ground within and around the channel; other vegetation included willows and castor bean. The portion of Reach 11 crossing the railroad tracks is not proposed for maintenance per the IHHA.

Reach 12 runs between an undeveloped lot to the north and Trolley Industrial Center at 1330 30th St. to the south. It is channelized, trapezoidal, and concrete-lined on the bottom and both banks, with similar dimensions to that of Reach 12. Dense marsh grasses and reeds cover the ground within and around the channel; other vegetation includes willows (*Salix* spp.) and castor bean (*Ricinus communis*). Reach 12 receives storm flow from a culvert beneath 30th Street and adjacent areas, and flows into Reach 11. In total, the length of the channel maintenance area in Reaches 11 and 12 is approximately 1,150 feet.

Maintenance Methodology

An Individual Maintenance Plan (IMP), included as Appendix A, was prepared for the proposed maintenance in accordance with the MMP. The IMP identifies the limits of maintenance and describes the methodology to be used within each channel. Applicable mitigation measures from the PEIR and protocols from the MMP are included in the IMP. The following summary highlights key components of the IMP.

Map 131

Maintenance in Map 131 is expected to remove up to 1,290 cubic yards of material over an approximately 14-day period in order to restore the original capacity of the channel to convey storm water. The maintenance area includes 1,000 linear feet of concrete bottom and 150 linear feet of earthen bottom channel. Equipment involved in the maintenance will include a front-end loader, track steer, excavator, and dump truck. Diversion pumps will be placed at the upstream and downstream ends of the maintenance area. In conjunction with MMP protocol WQ-2 listed in the IMP, water will be pumped around the maintenance area in a pipe and discharged downstream of the maintenance area.

The front-end loader and track steer will be lowered into the channel by the excavator from a vacant lot located approximately mid-point on the north side of the drainage. This access and staging area would be accessed from 30th Street. The front-end loader and track steer will push material to the excavator operating in the central access point and staging area. The excavator will transfer the material to a dump trucks for disposal at an authorized disposal site.

Street sweepers will sweep adjacent public rights-of-way and immediate truck loading sites nightly. Per MMP protocol WQ-2 outlined in the IMP, previous to any rain event and upon completion of the maintenance any sandbags placed will be removed and the equipment will be transported back to the City yard.

CONCLUSION

Proposed Maintenance

The SCR Checklist concludes that the proposed maintenance is consistent with the requirements of both the MMP and PEIR.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by e-mail *at* twhitney@sandiego.gov or phone at *(619) 527-7545.*

Sincerely,

Travis Whitney
Associate Planner

Attachments:

1. Application (Form DS-3032):
2. Substantial Conformance Review Checklist with Appendices A-H
3. Storm Water Checklist (Form DS-560)
4. Supplemental Discretionary Project Application (Form DS-3035)
5. Public Notice Package
6. MMP (on CD)
7. Final PEIR (on CD)
8. Master SDP (on CD)

Figure 1: Regional Location Map
Figure 2: Project Vicinity Map
Figure 3: USGS Vicinity Map
Figure 4: Channel Segment Location Map

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