

# **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Project No. 517439 SCH No.: 2020060453

# SUBJECT: MAPLE CANYON RESTORATION PROJECT

Capital Improvement Project to replace 16 storm drain systems throughout Bankers Hill that outfall into Maple Canyon and construct 1 new storm drain system within Maple Street between State Street and the downstream end of Maple Canyon. Storm Drain sizes vary between 18 to 48-inches. Project work will also include storm drain inlets, cleanouts, energy dissipators, trench resurfacing, pavement resurfacing, curb ramps, sidewalk, curb and gutter, signing and striping, retaining wall, street repair, trail improvements, and revegetation. Replacement and extension shall result in approximately 4,166 linear feet of Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) installation. In addition, retaining walls, curb ramps, street resurfacing, salvage and replacement of guard rails and streetlights where needed, traffic control, including pedestrian controls into the canyon and best management practices (BMPs), would be included as part of the project scope. The project site is located within a natural canyon near Maple Street in the Uptown Community Plan Area and City Council District 3. Applicant: City of San Diego Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

# I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

See attached Initial Study.

# II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

See attached Initial Study.

#### III. DETERMINATION:

The City of San Diego conducted an Initial Study which determined that the proposed project could have a significant environmental effect in the following areas(s): **Biological Resources.** Subsequent revisions in the project proposal create the specific mitigation identified in Section V of this Mitigated Negative Declaration. The project as revised now avoids or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects previously identified, and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report will not be required.

# IV. DOCUMENTATION:

The attached Initial Study documents the reasons to support the above Determination.

# V. MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP):

# A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

# Plan Check Phase (prior to permit issuance)

1. Prior to the issuance of a Notice To Proceed (NTP) for a subdivision, or any construction permits, such as Demolition, Grading or Building, or beginning any construction related activity on-site, the Development Services Department (DSD) Director's Environmental Designee (ED) shall review and approve all Construction Documents (CD), (plans, specification, details, etc.) to ensure the MMRP requirements are incorporated into the design.

2. In addition, the ED shall verify that <u>the MMRP Conditions/Notes that apply ONLY to the</u> <u>construction phases of this project are included VERBATIM</u>, under the heading, **"ENVIRONMENTAL/MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS.**"

3. These notes must be shown within the first three (3) sheets of the construction documents in the format specified for engineering construction document templates as shown on the City website:

# https://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/forms-publications/design-guidelines-templates

4. The **TITLE INDEX SHEET** must also show on which pages the "Environmental/Mitigation Requirements" notes are provided.

**5. SURETY AND COST RECOVERY –** The Development Services Director or City Manager may require appropriate surety instruments or bonds from private Permit Holders to ensure the long-term performance or implementation of required mitigation measures or programs. The City is authorized to recover its cost to offset the salary, overhead, and expenses for City personnel and programs to monitor qualifying projects.

# Post Plan Check (After permit issuance/Prior to start of construction)

6. PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETING IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO BEGINNING ANY WORK ON THIS PROJECT. The PERMIT HOLDER/OWNER is responsible to arrange and perform this meeting by contacting the CITY RESIDENT ENGINEER (RE) of the Field Engineering Division and City staff from MITIGATION MONITORING COORDINATION (MMC). Attendees must also include the Permit holder's Representative(s), Job Site Superintendent and the following consultants:

# **Qualified Biologist**

# Note:

Failure of all responsible Permit Holder's representatives and consultants to attend shall require an additional meeting with all parties present.

# CONTACT INFORMATION:

a) The PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT is the **RE** at the **Field Engineering Division – 858-627-**3200

b) For Clarification of ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS, it is also required to call **RE and MMC at 858-627-3360** 

**7. MMRP COMPLIANCE:** This Project, Project Tracking System (PTS) #517439 and /or Environmental Document # 517439, shall conform to the mitigation requirements contained in the associated Environmental Document and implemented to the satisfaction of the DSD's Environmental Designee (MMC) and the City Engineer (RE). The requirements may not be reduced or changed but may be annotated (i.e. to explain when and how compliance is being met and location of verifying proof, etc.). Additional clarifying information may also be added to other relevant plan sheets and/or specifications as appropriate (i.e., specific locations, times of monitoring, methodology, etc.).

# Note:

Permit Holder's Representatives must alert RE and MMC if there are any discrepancies in the plans or notes, or any changes due to field conditions. All conflicts must be approved by RE and MMC BEFORE the work is performed.

**8. OTHER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS:** Evidence of compliance with all other agency requirements or permits shall be submitted to the RE and MMC for review and acceptance prior to the beginning of work or within one week of the Permit Holder obtaining documentation of those permits or requirements. Evidence shall include copies of permits, letters of resolution or other documentation issued by the responsible agency.

United States Army Corps of Engineers 404 Authorization Regional Water Quality Control Board 401 Certification California Fish and Wildlife Section 1600 Permit

# 9. MONITORING EXHIBITS

All consultants are required to submit a monitoring exhibit to RE and MMC. The monitoring exhibit shall be a 11x17 reduction of the appropriate construction plan, such as site plan, grading, landscape, etc., marked to clearly show the specific areas including the **LIMIT OF WORK**, scope of that discipline's work, and notes indicating when in the construction schedule that work will be performed. When necessary for clarification, a detailed methodology of how the work will be performed shall be included.

# **10. OTHER SUBMITTALS AND INSPECTIONS:**

The Permit Holder/Owner's representative shall submit all required documentation, verification letters, and requests for all associated inspections to the RE and MMC for approval per the following schedule:

DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL/INSPECTION CHECKLIST					
Issue Area	Document Submittal	Associated Inspection/Approvals/Notes			
General	Consultant Qualification Letters	Prior to Preconstruction Meeting			

General	Consultant Construction Monitoring Exhibits	Prior to or at Preconstruction Meeting		
Biology	Biologist Limit of Work Verification	Limit of Work Inspection		
Biology	Biology Reports	Biology/Habitat Restoration Inspection		
Final Approval	Request for Final Approval	1 week after request		

# B. SPECIFIC MMRP ISSUE AREA CONDITIONS/REQUIREMENTS

### **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Prior to Construction** Prior to the start of construction, the owner/permittee shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of MMC that the following mitigation measures have been satisfied:

**BIO-1: Direct Impacts to Sensitive Vegetation Communities** To mitigate for direct impacts to sensitive vegetation communities, the following mitigation would be required based on the City's mitigation ratios (City of San Diego 2018).

Vegetation Community	Impacts (acres)	Ratios	Mitigation Required (acres)	Proposed Mitigation (acres)
Uplands	and the second			
Diegan Coastal	0.09	1 :1 (impact outside MHPA,	0.09	0.09
Sage Scrub		mitigation inside MHPA)		
Nonnative	1.33	0.5:1 (impact outside	0.67	0.67
Grassland		MHPA, mitigation inside		
Eucalyptus	1.90	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disturbed Habitat	0.53	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ornamental	0.64	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban/ Developed	1.37	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	5.86	n/a	0.76	0.76

Purchase of 0.76 acres of mitigation credits in the City of San Diego Habitat Acquisition Fund (HAF). Mitigation would occur within the MHPA. Payment to the HAF would be collected during discretionary approval as a project fee.

**BIO-2: Biologist Verification** The owner/permittee shall provide a letter to the City's Mitigation Monitoring Coordination (MMC) section stating that a Project Biologist (Qualified Biologist) as defined in the City of San Diego's Biological Guidelines (2018), has been retained to implement the project's biological monitoring program. The letter shall include the names and contact information of all persons involved in the biological monitoring of the project.

**BIO-3: Preconstruction Meeting -** The Qualified Biologist shall attend the preconstruction meeting, discuss the project's biological monitoring program, and arrange to perform any follow up mitigation measures and reporting including site-specific monitoring, restoration or revegetation, and additional fauna/flora surveys/salvage.

- Biological Documents The Qualified Biologist shall submit all required documentation to MMC verifying that any special mitigation reports including but not limited to, maps, plans, surveys, survey timelines, or buffers are completed or scheduled per City Biology Guidelines, Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESL), project permit conditions; California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); endangered species acts (ESAs); and/or other local, state or federal requirements.
- 2. BCME -The Qualified Biologist shall present a Biological Construction Mitigation/Monitoring Exhibit (BCME) which includes the biological documents in C above. In addition, include: restoration/revegetation plans, plant salvage/relocation requirements (e.g., coastal cactus wren plant salvage, burrowing owl exclusions, etc.), avian or other wildlife surveys/survey schedules (including general avian nesting and USFWS protocol), timing of surveys, wetland buffers, avian construction avoidance areas/noise buffers/ barriers, other impact avoidance areas, and any subsequent requirements determined by the Qualified Biologist and the City ADD/MMC. The BCME shall include a site plan, written and graphic depiction of the project's biological mitigation/monitoring program, and a schedule. The BCME shall be approved by MMC and referenced in the construction documents.

**BIO-4:** Avian Protection Requirements - To avoid any direct impacts to any species identified as a listed, candidate, sensitive, or special status species in the MSCP, including, but not limited to Cooper's Hawk, removal of habitat that supports active nests in the proposed area of disturbance should occur outside of the breeding season for these species (February 1 to September 15). If removal of habitat in the proposed area of disturbance must occur during the breeding season, the Qualified Biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey to determine the presence or absence of nesting birds on the proposed area of disturbance. The pre-construction survey shall be conducted within 10 calendar days prior to the start of construction activities (including removal of vegetation).

The applicant shall submit the results of the pre-construction survey to City DSD for review and approval prior to initiating any construction activities. If nesting birds are detected, a letter report or mitigation plan in conformance with the City's Biology Guidelines and applicable State and Federal Law (i.e. appropriate follow up surveys, monitoring schedules, construction and noise barriers/buffers, etc.) shall be prepared and include proposed measures to be implemented to ensure that take of birds or eggs or disturbance of breeding activities is avoided. The report or mitigation plan shall be submitted to the City for review and approval and implemented to the satisfaction of the City. The City's MMC Section and Biologist shall verify and approve that all measures identified in the report or mitigation plan are in place prior to and/or during construction.

**BIO-5: Resource Delineation** - Prior to construction activities, the Qualified Biologist shall supervise the placement of orange construction fencing or equivalent along the limits of disturbance adjacent to sensitive biological habitats and verify compliance with any other project conditions as shown on the BCME. This phase shall include flagging plant specimens and delimiting buffers to protect sensitive biological resources (e.g., habitats/flora & fauna species, including nesting birds) during construction. Appropriate steps/care should be taken to minimize attraction of nest predators to the site.

**BIO-6: Education** – Prior to commencement of construction activities, the Qualified Biologist shall meet with the owner/permittee or designee and the construction crew and conduct an on-site

educational session regarding the need to avoid impacts outside of the approved construction area and to protect sensitive flora and fauna (e.g., explain the avian and wetland buffers, flag system for removal of invasive species or retention of sensitive plants, and clarify acceptable access routes/methods and staging areas, etc.).

# II. During Construction

**BIO-5: Monitoring**- All construction (including access/staging areas) shall be restricted to areas previously identified, proposed for development/staging, or previously disturbed as shown on "Exhibit A" and/or the BCME. The Qualified Biologist shall monitor construction activities as needed to ensure that construction activities do not encroach into biologically sensitive areas, or cause other similar damage, and that the work plan has been amended to accommodate any sensitive species located during the pre-construction surveys. Biological monitoring will occur within designated areas during critical times such as vegetation removal, the installation of best management practices (BMPs), and fencing to protect native species, and to ensure that all avoidance and minimization measures are properly constructed and followed.

The Qualified Biologist shall document field activity via the Consultant Site Visit Record (CSVR). The CSVR shall be e-mailed to MMC on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of monitoring, the 1<sup>st</sup> week of each month, the last day of monitoring, and immediately in the case of any undocumented condition or discovery.

**BIO-6: Subsequent Resource Identification -** The Qualified Biologist shall note/act to prevent any new disturbances to habitat, flora, and/or fauna onsite (e.g., flag plant specimens for avoidance during access, etc.). If active nests or other previously unknown sensitive resources are detected, all project activities that directly impact the resource shall be delayed until species specific local, state or federal regulations have been determined and applied by the Qualified Biologist.

# III. Post Construction Measures

**BIO – 7:** In the event that impacts exceed previously allowed amounts, additional impacts shall be mitigated in accordance with City Biology Guidelines, ESL and MSCP, State CEQA, and other applicable local, state and federal law. The Qualified Biologist shall submit a final BCME/report to the satisfaction of the City ADD/MMC within 30 days of construction completion.

VI. PUBLIC REVIEW DISTRIBUTION:

Draft copies or notice of this Mitigated Negative Declaration were distributed to:

<u>Federal Government</u> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

<u>State of California</u> State Clearinghouse California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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City of San Diego Mayor's Office Councilmember Ward - District 3 City Attorney's Office **Development Services Department** Jamie Kennedy, EAS Philip Lizzi, Planning Cat Rom, Project Management Hoss Florezabihi, Engineering Jacobe Washburn, Geology Sam Johnson, MMC Engineering and Capital Projects Department Elham Lotfi Sean Paver **Planning Department** Soheil Nakhshab, Chair, Uptown Planning Group Michael Prinz, Community Planner Facilities Financing, Tom Tomlinson Scott Sandel Other Interested Parties: Sierra Club San Diego Audubon Society Mr. Jim Peugh California Native Plant Society Endangered Habitats League Wetland Advisory Board Laura Black Don Liddell John Lamb Eric Bowlby Jim Moxham Bruce Coons, Save Our Heritage Organisation Sarai Johnson, Johnson & Johnson Architecture Amie Hays and Nancy Moors, Chair & Vice Chair Bankers Hill Community Group Ann Garwood John Percy Lisa Steinhoff

# VII. RESULTS OF PUBLIC REVIEW:

- () No comments were received during the public input period.
- () Comments were received but did not address the accuracy or completeness of the draft environmental document. No response is necessary and the letters are incorporated herein.

(x) Comments addressing the accuracy or completeness of the draft environmental document were received during the public input period. The letters and responses are incorporated herein.

Copies of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program and any Initial Study material may be reviewed online at <u>www.sandiego.gov/ceqa</u>, or purchased for the cost of reproduction.

Jamie Kennedy Senior Planner Development Services Department

June 24, 2020 Date of Draft Report

December 3, 2020 Date of Final Report

Analyst: Jamie Kennedy

Attachments:

Initial Study Checklist Figure 1: Regional Location Map Figure 2: Proposed Project Vicinity Figure 3a-c: Vegetation and Sensitive Resource Impacts



Tuesday, July 21, 2020

Jamie Kennedy City of San Diego, Development Services Center 1222 First Avenue, MS 501 San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Maple Canyon Restoration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Project No. 517439

Ms. Kennedy,

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Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) has reviewed the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and associated documents for the Maple Canyon Restoration project (No. 517439) and finds there could be impacts to the historic cultural landscape of Maple Canyon, specifically areas documented as associated with Kate Sessions. By identifying and documenting the potential trees that contribute to this cultural landscape and Kate Sessions Multiple Property Listing (MPL), identified within the Uptown Community Plan Update, any impacts can likely be mitigated and the project can proceed without a full Environmental Impact Report be prepared.

There is a variety of documentation in survey forms, biographies, and archives of Kate Sessions that explain she was hired by the City of San Diego in 1910 to plant Maple Canyon, specifically to address erosion. It is also documented that she planted Palm, Eucalyptus, Fig, Citrus, Magnolias, shrubs, and vegetables here and some still survive today. Areas where Sessions' intent on the cultural landscape can still be seen are at the trailheads, in the large Queen Palms, as well as on the boundaries, and in her specific plant palette. Attached is some documentation of her design, but more investigation must be done to identify, evaluate and possibly mitigate any impact to this cultural landscape. Specifically, any remaining trees from Kate's planting of Maple Canvon must be

impact to this cultural landscape. Specifically, any remaining trees from Kate's planting of Maple Canyon must be identified and, if removed, should be replaced with two of the same. Last, the Uptown Community Plan Update identifies a Multiple Property Listing (MPL) related to Kate Sessions; Maple Canyon and its Heritage Trees should be identified and documented as part of this project, and also included when this MPL is brought forward for designation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Bruce Coons Executive Director Save Our Heritage Organisation

#### Responses

1-1) The Uptown Community Plan lists resources associated with Kate Sessions to be included in a Multiple Property Listing (MPL) as identified in the Uptown Historic Reconnaissance survey. These areas are listed in Table 10-5 of the Uptown Community Plan and described in detail in the Uptown Community Plan Area Historic Resources Survey Report (November 2016).

> The Kate Olivia Sessions Multiple Property Listing is a grouping of four geographic areas located throughout the Uptown survey area. Sixth Avenue/Balboa Park Urban Edge includes Paired Queen Palm plantings, ca. 1900, on both sides of Sixth Avenue from Upas to Elm Streets. Lark Street includes Queen Palms, in double row of triangulated planting. The Kate Sessions Mission Hills Nursery Site and the Kate Sessions Balboa Park Nursery Site would be commemorative designations only. These four sites are located outside of the project area and would remain intact. See Figure RTC-1, "Potential Resources Within the Proposed Kate Olivia Sessions Multiple Property Listing" with the location of the proposed project to show how no impact would occur to the MPL.



Figure RTC-1: Proposed Kate Olivia Sessions MPL and Maple Canyon Storm Drain Project Vicinity

# **Comment Letter 1** State of California - The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION HARS HAER SHL NR UTM: HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY -332 - A + - MA : LICOMMON NAME:......Mar's Capron..... 1. HISTORIC NAME:.....Maple Street Canyon..... 8. PREBENT UBE:.....Open Emerge...... ORIGINAL USE:.....Natura' feature..... DESCRIPTION: 7A:ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:..... 78:BRIEFLY DEBCRIEE THE PRESENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPT TON OF STRUCTURE AND DEBCRIBE ANY MAJOR ALTERATIONS FROM ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION. One-half of Maple Canyon, the area noted here, has been left relatively undeveloped except for a few residences at its Northeastern end. The canvon contains many kinds of . trees, including palm eucalyptus, fig, magnolia and ditrus. Laurel sumac is a predominant shrub. There are also many vegetables. 5. PLANTING DATE: EST:...1910..... 9.ARCHITECT: 0.BUILDER:..... 1.APPROX.FROP.SIZE(FT): FRONT....DEPTH..... OR APPROX.ACREAGE: 12.DATE(S) OF PHOTO(S): Deg 523 (Re. 4/79)

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#### Responses

1-2) The City has consulted with Historical Resources staff and referenced all known survey forms and archives of Kate Sessions including the Uptown Community Plan Area Historic Resources Survey Report MPL related to Kate Sessions (Appendix E) discussed above, as well as the Cultural Landscape Report (Appendix F). Neither appendix references Maple Canyon as a potentially significant cultural landscape associated with Sessions.

> The City also referenced the Cultural Resources Survey of the Presidio Hills, Mission Hills, and Bankers Hill Areas of San Diego, California by Dr. Ray Brandes (1981). The survey includes the survey form on Maple Canyon attached to this comment letter. The form says the original use of the canyon is a "natural feature." At the time of survey, 1980-81, the "present physical description" of the canyon was, "The canyon contains many kinds of trees, including palm, eucalyptus, fig, magnolia, and citrus. Laurel sumac is a predominant shrub. There are also many vegetables." The report states that "Kate Sessions, who planted Balboa Park, also planted Maple Canyon to beautify the city and to help prevent erosion." No specific plant palate was associated with Sessions' original planting, nor was the planting described as a landscape in the survey. Alterations to the site include "domesticated plants." Because of documented alterations, and because the original species were not mapped or identified, the original list of species planted cannot be determined.



Responses

Per the Biological Technical Report (BTR) and Addendum (Appendices C and D of this MND), select eucalyptus may have to be removed to protect the site from erosion. Characteristics in eucalyptus leaves limit the ability of other species to grow nearby. Pages 7 and 11 and photos 1.10-1.14 of the Maple Canyon BTR illustrate that storms in 2018-19 have damaged and toppled eucalyptus trees.

One queen palm in the right of way, outside of the MPL listing areas, will be impacted. No figs, magnolias, or citrus were mapped in the project area per Appendix B of the BTR. The proposed revegetation mix includes 25-30 laurel sumac plants per acre, the predominant shrub that was present in the 1981 survey.

Revegetation must comply with the San Diego Land Development Code, Landscape Standards 4.1-1.02, which requires that areas contiguous to existing native vegetation shall be planted with native materials exclusively. Ninety-eight trees, California Sycamore and Coast Live Oak, are native and planned in the revegetation area. The revegetation plan for Maple Canyon will comply with City standards, maintain public safety, as well as improve erosion control and the canyon's aesthetics.

Friday, July 24, 2020

Jamie Kennedy City of San Diego 1222 First Avenue, MS-501 San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Comments for Maple Canyon Restoration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Project No. 517439

Ms. Kennedy,

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The Maple Canyon Restoration project is a much appreciated project, to stabilize the canyon, and manage natural erosion. Our home and architectural firm were located nearby for many decades. Enjoying the natural topography and open space of Maple Canyon are still an important part of our lifestyle.

After reviewing the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) documents and reports, I am concerned that the Kate Sessions plantings and Waldo Waterman's historic flight are not identified and evaluated in the MND and reports.

Kate Sessions was hired by the common council, circa 1910, to plant Maple Canyon for beautification and erosion control. So many of her plantings have been removed in recent years. It seems important to identify the Kate Sessions planting locations from the past, current and include a plan for propagating the historic stock and replanting. The report should include identification based on aerial photography, physical evidence of stumps and a plan to replant two new plants for every one of the Kate Sessions plantings that are lost or need to be removed for this project. Special attention should be made to replace all boundary trees that were planted by Kate Sessions, at the entrances of the Maple Canyon. Kate Sessions chose plants that would support wildlife throughout the seasons and any plantings, whether replacements or new plantings, should be mindful of this tradition. There are at least two sources of information about what Kate Sessions planted, one is the Bankers Hill/Presidio/Uptown Survey, published in 1982, by the City of San Diego Planning Department. Specifically, the Maple Canyon DPR forms list some of the Kate Sessions plantings that remained at the time of the survey. A second resource is a plant pallet, compiled by Chauncy Jarabek, published in the Journal of San Diego History, at the San Diego History Center. While the Jarabek plant list does not single out the Maple Canyon plantings, it will be helpful in identifying plants when looking at historic aerials. The consultant to identify, evaluate and monitor should be a qualified professional per SOI.

4 Waldo Waterman's historic flight, or should we say swooping glide, from the south rim of Maple Canyon was a historic event on July 1, 1909. Any new plantings should replicate the open space and scenic vista that prompted Waldo Waterman to choose the site.

2-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment is an introduction to issues detailed further in the letter.

Responses

- 2-2) Please see response 1-2).
- 2-3) City staff explored the Bankers Hill/Presidio/Uptown Survey (see response 1-2) and the Journal of San Diego History. The only plant list found for Chauncy Jarabek was "A Plant Tour of Presidio Park," which has no association with Kate Sessions or with Maple Canyon.
- 2-4) Waldo Dean Waterman was born in San Diego on June 16, 1894. On July 1, 1909, at the age of 15, Waterman became the first person in the City of San Diego to fly a fixed wing aircraft. The flight was located at the northerly terminus of Albatross Street north of Maple Street, which is now Waldo Dean Waterman Park. The Waldo D. Waterman Monument is listed as San Diego Historical Resources Board (HRB) Site #106.

City staff has reviewed all material available regarding the appearance of the canyon at the time of Waterman's flight. Staff found a letter from Mr. Waterman to Mr. James Moss of the Serra Museum dated April 16, 1975, reading "Enclosed is some material on the Waterman monument at Albatross and Maple Streets...It is hoped with this in hand that the S.D. Historical Society can now take the initiative in having this spot designated as an historical landmark." The attachment that Waterman provides states, "As in all of our canyon areas planting of trees and shrubs have greatly changed their bald and barren appearance of 1909."



The removal of any remaining Kate Sessions plantings will be a loss of integrity, and have potential adverse impacts, for this important Cultural and Historic Landscape. To prevent a loss of integrity, reports and plans should be based on the Secretary of Interior Standards, Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, and Preservation Brief #36 Protecting Cultural Landscapes published by the U.S. Department of the Interior. A loss of integrity would impede historic designation of Maple Canyon and historic designation of a Kate Session Thematic District, of which Maple Canyon would be a contributor.

Respectfully yours,

Sarai Johnson

Historian Johnson & Johnson Architecture SaraiJohnson@mac.com 619-347-0379

#### Responses

The project proposes replacing select Eucalyptus trees, which were not present during Waterman's flight. Revegetation of all disturbed areas is required and regulated by the San Diego Land Development Code section 142.0403, General Planting and Irrigation Requirements, and the Landscape Standards in the Land Development Manual.

The historical monument, HRB #106, will not be impacted by the project. The project area is located south and west of the monument, which is located along a developed sidewalk at Waldo Dean Waterman Park. The project would not cause a substantive adverse change to the significance of local Historical Resources Board Site #106 pursuant to section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. No impact would occur to historical resources, and no mitigation would be required.

2-5) Please see response 1-2).

From:	Nancy Moors
To:	DSD EAS; Kennedy, Jamie
Cc:	Ann Garwood
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Comments for Maple Canyon Restoration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Project No. 517439
Date:	Friday, July 24, 2020 1:39:08 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

#### Hello Ms. Kennedy...

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My wife, Ann Garwood and I live on the northern edge of Maple Canyon. We enjoy its beauty every day. Most days we walk the canyon trail, many times inviting friends and family to join us. First timers are always amazed at the presence of this unique urban canyon located just a short mile from bustling downtown San Diego,

I attend the Bankers Hill Community Group meetings where I've listened to presentations by Canyonlands, City staff and Rick Engineering. It was only recently that we've learned of the importance of the contributions of Kate Sessions in Maple Canyon. Imagine that, the Mother of Balboa Park planted trees and other vegetation that we are so fortunate to admire every day.

I'm writing today to comment on the restoration project (#517439) planned for Maple Canyon and it's impact on the canyon and our sense of place.

My understanding is that any negative effects of the project may not be mitigated in Maple Canyon but that could happen somewhere else in the city. As the peoples advocate Michael Turko used to say..."that ain't right!". If this project has a negative affect in Maple Canyon, the city needs to make it right in Maple Canyon.

2 I also understand that Kate Sessions plantings are not being identified in order to save them from being disturbed or even worse removed. As a "restoration" project it seems reasonable that the canyon be <u>restored</u> which includes honoring the plantings of the world renown botanist and horticulturist Kate Sessions. I request that the restoration be conducted in adherence to the Secretary of Interior Standards. This will also benefit future plans for historic designation of Maple Canyon and historic designation of a Kate Sessions Thematic District of which Maple Canyon would be a contributor.

Hopefully, the people reading this email will have walked the trails of Maple Canyon and understand why residents, property owners and all who visit the canyon are so passionate about its preservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Moors 3065 Third Avenue #3 San Diego, CA 92103

- 3-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment is an introduction to issues detailed further in the letter.
- 3-2) Please see response 1-2).

From:	annm.garwood@gmail.com
To:	DSD EAS; Kennedy, Jamie
Cc:	Nancy Moors
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Comments for Maple Canyon Restoration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Project No. 517439
Date:	Friday, July 24, 2020 3:05:11 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Aloha, Ms Kennedy, I would ask that you please reread Nancy's email (below).

Please. It will take less than one minute.

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Every urban canyon in San Diego is special. Maple Canyon is so much more than just "special" for so many reasons. I hope you've had the opportunity share it's tranquility. It is indeed an urban oasis surrounded by some of the city's most dense populations.

Nancy and I first contacted the city in 2015 regarding the collapsing drainage pipe from Fourth Avenue, at Redwood. We look forward to fixing the problem, but not at the detriment of the canyon's beauty.

Ann Garwood 3065 Third Avenue #3 San Diego, CA 92103

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2020, at 10:39 AM, Nancy Moors <Nancy.MoorsSD@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Ms. Kennedy...

My wife, Ann Garwood and I live on the northern edge of Maple Canyon. We enjoy its beauty every day. Most days we walk the canyon trail, many times inviting friends and family to join us. First timers are always amazed at the presence of this unique urban canyon located just a short mile from bustling downtown San Diego,

I attend the Bankers Hill Community Group meetings where I've listened to presentations by Canyonlands, City staff and Rick Engineering. It was only recently that we've learned of the importance of the contributions of Kate Sessions in Maple Canyon. Imagine that, the Mother of Balboa Park planted trees and other vegetation that we are so fortunate to admire every day.

I'm writing today to comment on the restoration project (#517439) planned for

#### Responses

4-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment replies to and supports the issues detailed in Comment Letter 3 from Ms. Moors. Please see response 1-2).



July 24, 2020

Jamie Kennedy City of San Diego 1222 First Avenue, MS-501 San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Comments for Maple Canyon Restoration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Project No. 517439

Ms. Kennedy,

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Maple Canyon is one of San Diego's magical patchworks of urban canyons that people from San Diego and around the world enjoy every day. Residents and property owners in Bankers Hill are fortunate to have Maple Canyon in our backyard.

The last comments submitted by the Bankers Hill Community Group (BHCG) in late 2019 supported the Maple Canyon Restoration project. Our organization continues to support the project.

Since the November presentation, we have learned of the significance of Kate Sessions and her work in Maple Canyon. No mention was made of Kate Sessions' contributions to the project area at that time.

The removal of any remaining Kate Sessions plantings will be a loss of integrity, and have potential adverse impacts, for this important Cultural and Historic Landscape. To prevent a loss of integrity, reports and plans should be based on the Secretary of Interior Standards, Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, and Preservation Brief #36 Protecting Cultural Landscapes published by the U.S. Department of the Interior. A loss of integrity would impede historic designation of Maple Canyon and historic designation of a Kate Session Thematic District, of which Maple Canyon would be a contributor.

- 5-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment is an introduction to issues detailed further in the letter.
- 5-2) Please see response 1-2). No specific plant palate was associated with Sessions' planting of Maple Canyon. Sessions' planting was not described as a landscape in the 1981 survey. No cultural landscape report would be required.

The BHCG requests that a Cultural Landscape Report be conducted to aid in the restoration of plant life in the canyon affected by the project and that the City follow the Secretary of Interior Standards during the process. In addition, we request that any mitigation of negative affects be in Maple Canyon.

The BHCG looks forward to hosting a presentation by City staff and Estrada Land Planning as the project continues to move forward.

Sincerely,

Amie Hayes and Nancy Moors

Chair and Vice Chair - Bankers Hill Community Group

2

From: Sent: To: Subject:

John Percy <percyjh@gmail.com> Friday, July 24, 2020 2:52 PM DSD EAS [EXTERNAL] Maple Canyon

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

I fully support the comments made by Nancy Moors in the letter below. Please make sure this valuable natural and community resource is treated with the respect and care that it needs and deserves. Anything less would be shameful. Thank you.

John Percy

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Hello Ms. Kennedy ...

My wife, Ann Garwood and I live on the northern edge of Maple Canvon. We enjoy its beauty every day. Most days we walk the canyon trail, many times inviting friends and family to join us. First timers are always amazed at the presence of this unique urban canyon located just a short mile from bustling downtown San Diego,

I attend the Bankers Hill Community Group meetings where I've listened to presentations by Canyonlands, City staff and Rick Engineering. It was only recently that we've learned of the importance of the contributions of Kate Sessions in Maple Canyon. Imagine that, the Mother of Balboa Park planted trees and other vegetation that we are so fortunate to admire every day.

I'm writing today to comment on the restoration project (#517439) planned for Maple Canyon and it's impact on the canyon and our sense of place.

My understanding is that any negative effects of the project may not be mitigated in Maple Canyon but that could happen somewhere else in the city. As the peoples advocate Michael Turko used to say..."that ain't right!". If this project has a negative affect in Maple Canyon, the city needs to make it right in Maple Canyon.

I also understand that Kate Sessions plantings are not being identified in order to save them from being disturbed or even worse removed. As a "restoration" project it seems reasonable that the canvon be restored which includes honoring the plantings of the world renown botanist and horticulturist Kate Sessions. I request that the restoration be conducted in adherence to the Secretary of Interior Standards. This will also benefit future plans for historic designation of Maple Canyon and historic designation of a Kate Sessions Thematic District of which Maple Canyon would be a contributor.

Hopefully, the people reading this email will have walked the trails of Maple Canyon and understand why residents, property owners and all who visit the canyon are so passionate about its preservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### Responses

6-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment replies to and supports the issues detailed in Comment Letter 3 from Ms. Moors. Please see response 1-2).

From:	Lisa Steinhoff <lisa@hillcrestoptical.com></lisa@hillcrestoptical.com>
Sent:	Friday, July 24, 2020 4:48 PM
To:	DSD EAS
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Maple Canyon Restoration Project

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

I am a long time resident & business owner in the Bankers Hill community of San Diego. I understand the restoration project to replace water drainage pipes will be extensive and displace many of the established plants & trees some of which were planted by Ellen Scripps Browning the Mother of Balboa

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Park.

I request Maple Canyon to be restored after the work is complete. I request that the restoration be conducted in adherence to the Secretary of Interior Standards.

Many people in our local neighborhoods and all around San Diego come to hike the trail and enjoy this gem of San Diego. Please preserve our treasured Maple Canyon Trails

Thank you

Lisa Steinhoff

Hillcrest Optical 420 Thorn St San Diego, Ca 92103 619-298-3586 www.hillcrestoptical.com

### Responses

7-1) There is no association known between Ms. Scripps Browning and Maple Canyon. Please see response 1-2) regarding the documentation associated with Ms. Sessions.





# San Diego Canyonlands

◆ 5106 Federal Blvd. #205, San Diego, CA 92105 ◆ 619-546-7707 ◆
 ◆www.sdcanyonlands.org◆

July 24, 2020

Jamie Kennedy City of San Diego Development Services Center 1222 First Avenue, MS 501 San Diego, CA 92101 DSDEAS@sandiego.gov

Re: Comment Letter on Maple Canyon Restoration Draft MND, Project # 517439 Uptown Community Plan Area, Council District 3

#### Dear Jamie Kennedy,

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As a partner with the City of San Diego (City) in multi-year restoration planning efforts for the highly degraded Maple Canyon, San Diego Canyonlands (SDCL) has a particular interest in seeing Maple Canyon restoration undertaken with the highest standards possible and in a manner that adequately represents the interests of local neighbors and the broader community of San Diego. SDCL greatly appreciates the integrated approach to development planning the City has taken in linking infrastructure upgrades to follow on streambed rehabilitation. In particular, we are encouraged that design and permitting are currently underway for streambed rehabilitation that are in line with procedures developed specifically for this project in the *Maple Canyon Stream Rehabilitation and Restoration Design Alternatives*, a planning document produced in partnership with the City, SDCL, and the California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC). The SCC is closely observing progress on Maple Canyon restoration to see the effects of this planning work for which they provided funding support with the understanding that sustainable streambed restoration in this location would provide proof-of-concept for this SDCL-proposed approach in similar conditions throughout the region. The SCC is copied to the email submission of this comment letter.

SDCL also appreciates the willingness of Storm Water Division authorities to continue working with us to address community concerns about the Maple Canyon Draft MND. We have had in-depth and productive conversations with the Interim Director of Transportation & Storm Water Department, Andrew Kleis, and Interim Deputy Director of Storm Water Division, Sumer Hasenin, regarding details of this Draft MND. Some of Interim Deputy Director Hasenin's responses to our concerns are reiterated in this letter with her permission. As a community-based non-profit organization, SDCL focuses on conducting habitat protection and restoration of local Open Space canyon environments through activation of the local community. We look forward to continuing in productive partnership with the Storm Water Division in representing community interests and promoting habitat protection within Storm Water jurisdiction going forward.

- 8-1) Comment noted. The City understands the comment is an introduction to issues detailed further in the letter.
- 8-2) The SDD-104 design was chosen to eliminate or minimize impacts that SDD-105 outfalls would otherwise incur. Impacts from long-term maintenance are expected to be minimal as maintenance crews would use existing paths, and the project does not propose additional trails for maintenance access. The cleanouts are designed to have the high side of the cleanout flush with the slope of the terrain. Page 66 of the Biological Technical Report discusses indirect impacts from construction and operation of project features. Additionally, the areas around the cleanouts will be revegetated with native species per the approved Revegetation Plan, and once established, native plantings will surround the cleanouts and reduce visual impacts to less than significant.
- 8-3) Implementation of all BMPs will be in accordance with the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan prepared per the City's Storm Water Standards Manual and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Requirements. The design does not propose any addition to the existing trail for maintenance purposes, and any temporary construction access roads shown on the plans will be restored after construction. As stated in response 8-2, long-term maintenance is expected to be minimal, and the project does not propose additional trails for maintenance access.

Restoration of Temporary Disturbance Areas and Unaddressed Permanent Impacts

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According to Deputy Director Hasenin, the proposed storm drain system utilizing SD104 outfalls modified with uphill elbows + cleanouts is selected as a less impactful alternative to the standard SD105 outfall, resulting in necessary energy dissipation, a smaller footprint, and less visual impact. While this design may accomplish the goal of reducing flow energy that can erode the adjacent streambed, it also incurs upslope impacts, both visual impacts in the form of above ground manhole cleanouts and concrete anchors, and a potential for maintenance impacts over time. Many of the maintenance cleanouts will occur on *Environmentally Sensitive Land* (ESL) on grades over 25%. Given the higher level of importance of ESL environments, both temporary construction and long-term maintenance impacts from cleanout access on these slopes are not sufficiently examined in the Draft MND.

According to the project description, following construction temporary access trails will be reduced to the allowed 8' width and mulched to prevent erosion. Given the grade on which some of these access trails are to be constructed, a suite of BMPs may be required, in addition to mulching, for effective erosion control. Mulch can wash away in rain, or simply slough off steep slopes over time. The source and type of mulch is important to reduce the potential for importing weed seeds that can impede restoration efforts and create fire flash fuels. The wrong kind of mulch can itself present fire risk. **These issues should be examined in greater detail.** 

Of greatest concern is the unaddressed issue of maintenance access impacts. Hasenin stated that the 60degree bend cleanouts will be installed on a mild slope, near the toe of the slope, and don't require maintenance access. She added that the project does not propose any additions to the existing maintenance path for maintenance access purposes. If *new maintenance path alignments* are necessary, they should be called out and their impacts should be assessed and mitigated. If vehicular access is necessary on slopes, intensive path construction will be required. In similar canyons, cleanout maintenance has had significant impacts over time. **All grading and stabilization measures for maintenance path alignment and future maintenance needs should be addressed in the MND**.

Trenching and placing of large new pipe on steep slopes will likely produce an excess of loose soil during construction and leave in place easily eroded soil over pipes and around manholes at the end of the project. 25% grade slopes are very difficult to restore with plantings that are essential for long-term erosion control in these conditions. The potential for significant erosion off the construction site should be examined for hydrology and water quality impacts. Because this potential impact was not acknowledged under the Environmental Factors Potentially Affected checklist, this impact was not sufficiently examined as part of this Draft MND.

Due to the extreme conditions, the reliance on plantings to restore and stabilize construction impacts on steep slopes, and the high risk of invasive species disrupting restoration efforts in the disturbed soils of this project, SDCL strongly feels the 2-year establishment period for restoration will be insufficient for success of critically important plantings. Based on our own restoration experience in both Maple and similar canyons, we recommend a 5-year establishment & maintenance period for best results.

(8-3 Cont.) Section IX of the Initial Study, Hydrology and Water Quality, addresses that all areas that are trenched would be backfilled to match adjacent natural grade. All disturbed areas, including temporary construction access and staging, would be re-vegetated. The March 2018 Biological Technical Report for the project (AECOM) further details that direct impacts include installation of new storm water features such as access points and outlet features, which would be mitigated.

- 8-4) Please see response 8-3). Management of possible storm water pollution due to construction will be addressed in the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared per the City's Storm Water Standards Manual and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board requirements. Additionally, the project will be subject to storm water BMP inspection and enforcement by City staff.
- 8-5) Comment Noted. Revegetation of areas temporarily impacted by construction activities will comply with the San Diego Land Development Code, Landscape Regulations and Landscape Standards to ensure steep slopes are stabilized. Where existing, species prohibited by the Landscape Standards shall be eradicated.

#### Alternatives and Precedents

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The conditions in Maple Canyon represent an emergency situation that results in extreme downstream flooding along Pacific Highway during significant rain events. Similar erosion and streambed degradation occur in canyons throughout our region due to increased storm intensity from climate change, watershed hardening and hydromodification preventing infiltration and increasing canyon flows, and impacts from utility management in canyons. As one of the worst examples of this problem, Maple Canyon is a canary in the coal mine, a harbinger of a growing problem facing our regional canyon network. Other canyons need to have their stormwater outfalls dropped to the canyon bottom, and storm flows dissipated through infrastructure improvements coupled with sustainable streambed rehabilitation/riparian restoration. While there is community support for this approach, many in our local communities have strong concerns regarding how infrastructure upgrades will be designed and implemented.

The unsightly and disruptive SD105 outfalls that are the Storm Water standard design for canyons contribute to high flow energy and streambed disruption. But the alternative of the SD104 modification with elbows + cleanouts also has potential impacts, both aesthetic and environmental. SDCL understands how the elbows in the modified SD104 design dissipate flow energy enabling smaller diameter, and lower profile outfalls, thus reducing those impacts as compared to SD105 installations. However, angling pipe to create elbows increases pipe & trench lengths and requires a manhole cleanout at each elbow. These cleanouts create a new visual blight as they will necessarily sit above grade when situated on steep slopes. As they cannot be completely flush with the steep grade, the perched cleanouts will alter localized hydrology, possibly concentrating flow and increasing erosion. Considering these potential impacts, SDCL is concerned about the possibility for the infrastructure design in Maple Canyon to become the preferred alternative to SD105 when improving storm water infrastructure in other canyons.

Deputy Director Hasenin has provided us unequivocal assurance that the modified SD104 design with elbows + cleanouts proposed for Maple Canyon is not a new preferred alternative for canyons. Additionally, she has endorsed evaluating new alternatives to SD105, provided they meet design standards and the operation & maintenance needs for current practices. One viable alternative is storm water pipes fitted with internal ring energy dissipators, reducing the necessary pipe diameter, pipe length, and number of cleanouts while simultaneously dissipating flow energy. SDCL is willing to work closely with Storm Water to pursue additional resilient and lower-impact solutions for the future.

# (8-5 Cont.) The Landscape Standards indicate that "All disturbed open space areas... shall be maintained by the permittee for a minimum of 25 months" and that revegetation "shall be accomplished in a manner so as to provide visual and horticultural compatibility with the indigenous native plant materials." In addition, "Prior to final approval, the City Manager may require corrective action including but not limited to, replanting, the provision or modification of irrigation systems, and the repair of any soil erosion or slope slippage." The site will be monitored quarterly and maintained not less than monthly the first year and bi-monthly in year 2, in order to ensure the site is meeting success criteria.

- 8-6) Comment Noted. The City understands the comment is an introduction to issues detailed further below.
- 8-7) The tops of the cleanouts are designed with the high side of the cleanout flush with the slope of the terrain. When runoff travels down the slope and comes to the cleanout structure, it does not become concentrated. Section I, Aesthetics, indicates how proposed work would have no significant impacts to scenic vistas or other scenic resources as trenching would be filled to match the adjacent natural grade. Section IX, Hydrology and Water Quality, explains that the project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the existing area in a manner which would result in erosion. The slopes will be revegetated with native species, and once established, will provide added protection from erosion to keep the slopes stabilized. In addition, energy dissipaters help reduce exit velocities to non-erosive conditions. Impacts to Aesthetics and Hydrology and Water Quality would be less than significant.
- 8-8) Comment Noted. The City understands the commenter is willing to work closely with the City to consider lower-impact alternatives for future projects.

State and community partners who share our priorities for sustainable streambed rehabilitation in combination with appropriate storm drain outflows in canyons, as well as our specific concerns with the Maple Canyon Restoration Draft MND, include the California State Coastal Conservancy, San Diego Coastkeeper, various canyon friends groups, and local citizens. SDCL is not opposed to an MND approach for this project, but asks that the Development Services Department assess the impacts we have highlighted in this letter to assure the integrity of the Maple Canyon Restoration. Additionally, we request that future canyon outflow improvement projects include an alternatives analysis so that the impacts outlined in this letter can be avoided and the least impactful options are fully explored and implemented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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lufter Jachilds Clayton Tschudy

Executive Director clayton@sdcanyonlands.org

#### Responses

8-9) Comment noted. The City understands the comment is a conclusion to previous comments highlighted in this letter.

# INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

- 1. Project title/Project number: MAPLE CANYON RESTORATION PROJECT/517439
- 2. Lead agency name and address: City of San Diego, 1222 First Avenue, MS-501, San Diego, California 92101
- 3. Contact person and phone number: Jamie Kennedy/ (619) 446-5379
- 4. Project location: The project is located in a natural canyon (Maple Canyon) and portions of the City's Right-of -Way, which is generally bounded by Redwood St. to the North, 5th Av. to the East, Maple St. to the South, and Curlew St. to the West within the Uptown Community Plan area and Council District 3. The site is located on the USGS 7.5-minute series Point Loma quadrangle. The project is outside of the Coastal Overlay Zone.

The following are locations of the 17 storm drain improvements proposed by the project:

- 1. Brant Street and Barnson Place
- 2. Albatross Street and Olive Street
- 3. Second Avenue (south of Quince Street)
- 4. Third Avenue and Quince Street
- 5. Third Avenue (between Quince Street and Redwood Street)
- 6. Fourth Avenue and Redwood Street
- 7. Fourth Avenue and Quince Street
- 8. Third Avenue and Palm Street
- 9. Third Avenue (between Olive and Palm Street)
- 10. Third Avenue and Olive Street
- 11. Second Avenue and Olive Street
- 12. First Avenue Pedestrian Bridge
- 13. First Avenue and Nutmeg Street
- 14. Front Street (between Nutmeg Street and Maple Street)
- 15. Albatross Street and Maple Street
- 16. Curlew Street and Maple Canyon Trail
- 17. State Street and West Maple Street

See attached vicinity and location maps.

- 5. Project Applicant/Sponsor's name and address: City of San Diego Engineering and Capital Projects Department, 525 B Street, San Diego, CA 92101
- 6. General/Community Plan designation: City of San Diego Public Right-of-Way (PROW), as well as in the Open Space general and community plan designations
- 7. Zoning: The proposed project is within the OP-1-1 zone (Open Space Park) zone and unzoned public right-of-way. The project will not result in a change in any zone and is consistent with all underlying zoning regulations.

8. Description of project (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to, later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation.):

A Capital Improvement Project to replace 16 storm drain systems throughout Bankers Hill that outfall into Maple Canyon and construct 1 new storm drain system within Maple Street between State Street and the downstream end of Maple Canyon. Storm Drain sizes vary between 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, and 48-inches. Project work will also include storm drain inlets, cleanouts, energy dissipators, trench resurfacing, pavement resurfacing, curb ramps, sidewalk, curb and gutter, signing and striping, retaining wall, street repair, trail improvements, and revegetation. Replacement and extension shall result in approximately 4,166 linear feet of Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) installation. In addition, retaining walls, curb ramps, street resurfacing, salvage and replacement of guard rails and street lights where needed, traffic control, including pedestrian controls into the canyon and best management practices (BMPs), would beincluded as part of the project scope. Potholing will be used to verify utility crossings. These 'potholes' are made by using vacuum type equipment to open up small holes in the street.

Conventional excavation (open trench) method of construction will be used. Trenching would be at a width of approximately 2.5 feet to 5.5 feet and a depth of 3 to 19 feet. Trenches are dug with excavators and similar large construction equipment. Permanent impact areas for headwalls and energy dissipater installations will vary and be larger than trench widths depending on the location. Temporary construction work areas at each system would vary in width approximately 30 to 50 feet. In addition, the existing footpath through the canyon will be widened to approximately 15 feet wide, 3,000 feet long for construction access. At completion of construction the trail will be restored to a standard width of 8 feet with 2 foot mulched areas on either side to mitigate potential overgrowth of the trail. A 22,000square-foot area within the canyon that is devoid of sensitive biological resources and comprised by primarily dirt fill material is identified for staging of materials and equipment.

Temporary construction impacts to 5.86 acres of upland habitat will be revegetated with Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat container plants and hydroseed mix with intent to meet the erosion control requirements in the Landscape Standards. The revegetated habitat would provide a higher-value habitat than the impacted habitat. All revegetated areas will be required to comply with a 25-month monitoring, maintenance and reporting program to ensure the revegetation areas meet a minimum 80 percent container plant survival rate and 80% native plant material cover at the end of 25-months.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The project site is natural, undeveloped canyon that is aligned from the southwest to northeast and is surrounded primarily by single and multi-family residential development, and a smaller portion is of the site is located adjacent to open space, and commercial and office development. Existing improved public roads, primarily residential streets, serve the developed community surrounding the canyon.

The site impact area is 5.86 acres within and adjacent to Maple Canyon, which is located between Quince Street to the northeast and West Maple Drive to the southwest in the City of

San Diego, California. First Avenue passes through the middle of the project area. The proposed 12-month construction activities are located within undeveloped land in a canyon that is predominantly characterized by disturbed and ornamental vegetation. Following construction will be a 25-month revegetation effort.

Elevations within the project area range from 66 to 295 feet above mean sea level. Topography within the canyon is generally steep with a few undulating hills. However, the project area includes some areas with a gradual slope or flat land at the base of the canyon and in the surrounding developed areas. Many of the proposed activities and much of the access road traverse slopes that are greater than 25% slope with an elevation differential of 50 feet.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

United States Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit, California Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401Permit, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife Section 1600 Permit.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun?

The lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel and Jamul Indian Village of Kumeyaay Nation Native American tribes which are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area have requested consultation with the City of San Diego pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21082.3 (c). However, these tribes were notified of the opportunity to consult with the City of San Diego on the proposed project and they responded that they do not require consultation for this project. Consultation pursuant to AB 52 concluded on June 13, 2018.

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Population/Housing
	Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Public Services
	Air Quality		Hydrology/Water Quality	Recreation
$\boxtimes$	Biological Resources	$\boxtimes$	Land Use/Planning	Transportation/Traffic
	Cultural Resources		Mineral Resources	Tribal Cultural Resources
	Geology/Soils		Noise	Utilities/Service System
				Mandatory Findings Significance

**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (a) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (b) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or (MITIGATED) NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or (MITIGATED) NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

# **EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:**

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact answer should be explained where it is based on project specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis.)
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses", as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or (mitigated) negative declaration. *Section 15063(c)(3)(D).* In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Measures Incorporated", describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact		
I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:						
<ul> <li>a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</li> </ul>			$\boxtimes$			

All of the proposed work would occur either below grade or no more than five feet above finished grade for proposed concrete energy dissipaters at the downstream end of the storm drains near the base of the canyons. All trenching for replacement and new storm drain pipe would be filled to match the adjacent natural grade of the canyon and all ground disturbances would be re-vegetated with a native, non-invasive, Diegan coastal sage scrub hydroseed mix and container plants. As such, no new visual impacts occur as a result of the project. Therefore, the proposed project would have no significant impacts to public scenic vistas and no mitigation would be required.

b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				$\boxtimes$
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The project would not damage any existing scenic rock outcroppings, or historic buildings as none of these features are located within the boundaries of the proposed project. Furthermore, the project site is not located near a state scenic highway. See I. a) and V. a) for additional detail. No impact would occur.

c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?		
	surroundings?		

See answer to I. a) and I. b) above. No impact would occur.

 d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day
 or nighttime views in the area?

The project does not include any new or modified light sources such as new or replacement street lights, and the project would not utilize highly reflective materials. In addition, no substantial sources of light would be generated during project construction, as construction activities would occur during daylight hours. The project would also be subject to the City's Outdoor Lighting Regulations per Municipal Code Section 142.0740. No impact would occur.

II. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. – Would the project::

a)	Converts Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the		
	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring		

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				

The project would occur adjacent to and within a natural canyon and within paved public roads which are not zoned or mapped for agricultural use or farmland. In addition, agricultural land is not present in the vicinity of the project. No impact would occur.

b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?		$\boxtimes$
Refer to	ll. a). No impact would occur.		
C)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 1220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?		

The project would occur in adjacent to and within a natural canyon and within paved public roads which are not designated as forest land or timberland. In addition, forest land and timberland are not present in the vicinity of the project. No impact would occur.

d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?		$\boxtimes$
Refer to	ll. c). No impact would occur.		
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non- agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?		$\boxtimes$

The project does not propose a change in land use and would not result in the conversion of Farmland since no Farmland exists within, or in the vicinity, of the project boundaries. No impact would occur.

III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied on to make the following determinations – Would the project:

a)	Conflict with or obstruct			
	implementation of the applicable air		$\boxtimes$	
	quality plan?			

The proposed storm drain replacement would not involve any future actions that would generate air quality emissions as a result of the proposed use (e.g. vehicle miles traveled). However, emissions would occur during the construction phase of the project and could increase the amount of harmful pollutants entering the air basin. The emissions would be minimal and would only occur temporarily during construction. Additionally, the construction equipment typically involved in water/sewer

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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project is small-scale and generates relatively few emissions. When appropriate, dust suppression methods would be included as project components. As such, the project would not conflict with the region's air quality plan; impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

b)	Violate any air quality standard or			
	contribute substantially to an existing		$\boxtimes$	
	or projected air quality violation?			

Refer to III. b). Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

As described above, construction operations could temporarily increase the emissions of dust and other pollutants. However, construction emissions would be temporary and implementation of Best Management Practices would reduce potential impacts related to construction activities to below a level of significance. Therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standards. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.



Operation of construction equipment and vehicles could generate odors associated with fuel combustion. However, these odors would dissipate into the atmosphere upon release and would only remain temporarily in proximity to the construction equipment and vehicles. Therefore, the project would not create odors affecting a substantial number of people. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a) Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

# Direct Impacts

A Biological Technical Report (BTR) was prepared March 2018 by AECOM for the proposed project. The technical report analyzed the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed project on the biological and jurisdictional resources located in the vicinity of the project. A BTR Addendum was prepared March 2020 by Tierra Data, Inc., which provides updated information on the extent and

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	•	Incorporated	•	

type of biological resources in Maple Canyon and the extent of project impacts to these features. Direct impact numbers were updated in the BTR addendum to reflect more current biological conditions as well as a project redesign.

The project area is not located within or adjacent to the MHPA of the MSCP San Diego Subarea Plan. The proposed project will result in permanent and temporary direct impacts to upland habitat which is summarized in the table below.

Vegetation Community	Impacts (acres)	Ratios	Mitigation Required (acres)	Proposed Mitigation (acres)
Uplands				
Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub	0.09	1 :1 (impact outside MHPA, mitigation inside MHPA)	0.09	0.09
Nonnative Grassland	1.33	0.5:1 (impact outside MHPA, mitigation inside MHPA)	0.67	0.67
Eucalyptus Woodland	1.90	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disturbed Habitat	0.53	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ornamental	0.64	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban/ Developed	1.37	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	5.86	n/a	0.76	0.76

# Mitigation for Impacts to Sensitive Vegetation Communities

Mitigation for direct impacts to upland habitat will be satisfied through purchase of mitigation credits in the City of San Diego Habitat Acquisition Fund (within the MHPA).

Per the 2020 BTR Addendum, the proposed project would not result in a direct impact on a City of San Diego defined wetland and thus would not require mitigation.

The survey area supports suitable habitat for one special-status species, Cooper's hawk, an MSCP listed species. The project would temporarily and permanently impact suitable habitat (eucalyptus woodland) for this species. Significant impacts to this species would require mitigation.

Implementation of the Mitigation and Monitoring Requirements identified in Section V of this Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) would reduce potentially significant direct impacts to the upland habitat upland habitat and special status wildlife to a less than significant level. Section V also includes specific mitigation measures for potential impacts to the Cooper's Hawk.

# Indirect Impacts

The proposed project has the potential to result in significant indirect impacts to sensitive vegetation communities and Cooper's hawk. Indirect impacts may occur from the construction and operation of these project features, including fugitive dust, increased human presence in the area with the potential for trampling, vehicle tracks off the access road, soil compaction, noise, light, erosion, and dust. These indirect impacts are significant and require mitigation. Per the 2020 BTR addendum, no City jurisdictional wetlands are on site.

Implementation of the Mitigation and Monitoring Requirements identified in Section V of this MND would reduce potentially significant indirect impacts to a less than significant level.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulation or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				

Refer to IV. a) regarding direct vegetation impacts. According to the project's biological technical report the project would not directly impact any riparian habitat or any other community identified in local or regional plans, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Furthermore, the proposed project will be required to obtain permits for work within US and state jurisdictional non-wetland waters from the Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by section 404 of the Clean Water Act
(including but not limited to marsh, Image: Constal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Refer to IV. a) and b). Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede		
	the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		

Proposed project impacts are relatively small in scale, location, and timing (i.e. daylight hours). To avoid and minimize impacts, the project includes backfilling of any trenching and repair of eroded slopes to match adjacent natural grade. The project also includes a revegetation, monitoring, and maintenance plan for any ground disturbance areas with non-invasive, low water use, plant species to match the vegetation in the canyons. Per the project BTR (2018), the project site provides refuge for wildlife and may act as a local linkage, but does not function as a wildlife corridor. The project is not expected to significantly impact a wildlife corridor or alter the local movement of wildlife, and thus would not be considered significant impact under CEQA. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

e)	Conflict with any local policies or		
	ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation	$\boxtimes$	
	policy or ordinance?		

Refer to IV. a) The project is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) and is therefore not subject to the MSCP City of San Diego Subarea Plan MHPA land use agency guidelines. The project would comply with all local policies and ordinances protecting biological resources including satisfying mitigation requirements for impacts to sensitive biological

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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resources in accordance with the City of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program and the City of San Diego Biology Guidelines, which will reduce impacts to less than significant.

f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan,			
	Natural Community Conservation Plan,		$\boxtimes$	
	or other approved local, regional, or			
	state habitat conservation plan?			

Refer to IV. a), b), and e). The project would not conflict with any local conservation plans including the MSCP City of San Diego Subarea Plan. Mitigation is required for potentially significant impacts to Cooper's Hawk, an MSCP listed species, which would reduce impacts to less than significant.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in			
	the significance of an historical		$\boxtimes$	
	resource as defined in §15064.5?			

The purpose and intent of the Historical Resources Regulations of the Land Development Code (Chapter 14, Division 3, and Article 2) is to protect, preserve and, where damaged, restore the historical resources of San Diego. The regulations apply to all proposed development within the City of San Diego when historical resources are present on the premises. Before approving discretionary projects, CEQA requires the Lead Agency to identify and examine the significant adverse environmental effects which may result from that project. A project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource may have a significant effect on the environment (sections 15064.5(b) and 21084.1). A substantial adverse change is defined as demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration activities, which would impair historical significance (sections 15064.5(b)(1)). Any historical resource listed in, or eligible to be listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, including archaeological resources, is considered to be historically or culturally significant.

# Archaeological Resources

A Historical Resources Survey (HRS) for the Maple Canyon Storm Drain Repair Project was prepared by RECON (February 19, 2018). The report concludes that, based on a records search and a field survey by a qualified archaeologist and Native American observer, the possibility of significant historical resources being present within the proposed project is considered low. The report further states that the majority of the area is too steep for the presence of potentially significant prehistoric cultural resources. Additionally, the area has been disturbed during the installation of existing storm drains, construction of the trail, and by past rain events that have washed out areas surrounding the storm drains located on the slopes of the canyon. The report recommended no further cultural resources work and stated that construction monitoring is not recommended. Lastly, the report stated that Clint Linton from the lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel concurs with the recommendation not to require monitoring despite results from the Native American Heritage Commission (Attachment 1 of the HRS). Based on the conclusions and recommendations of the HRS, the project would have a less than significant impact on archaeological resources and no mitigation is required.

# Built Environment
Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
		Incorporated		

The project involves the repair and replacement of an existing underground storm drain line and would not impact any designated historic structures or resources. No impact would occur and no mitigation is required with regard to built environment resources

<ul> <li>Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to \$15064.5?</li> </ul>			$\boxtimes$	
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See response to V. a). Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique			
	paleontological resource or site or		$\boxtimes$	
	unique geologic feature?			

The project site is underlain by the San Diego geological deposit/formation/rock unit as indicated by the project's geotechnical investigation (Report of Geotechnical Investigation Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1, Allied Geotechnical Engineers, Inc., August 19, 2014) and City of the City of San Diego La Jolla Quadrangle geologic map. The City of San Diego Land Development Manual General Grading Guidelines for Paleontological Resources indicate that the San Diego Formation has a high potential for the discovery of paleontological resources. There are recorded fossil recovery sites in the San Diego Formation in the vicinity of the project site as shown on City of San Diego Paleontological Resource Maps, located in the DSD Geology Library.

San Diego Municipal Code Section 142.0501 (Paleontological Resources Requirements for Grading Activities) requires paleontological monitoring for grading that involves 1,000 cubic yards or greater and 10 feet or greater in depth, in a High Resource Potential Geologic Deposit/Formation/Rock Unit, grading on a fossil recovery site, or within 100 feet of the mapped location of a fossil recovery site. Since this project is located within 100 feet of the mapped location of a fossil recovery site, paleontological monitoring will be required during project grading. Impacts are less than significant with monitoring incorporated, and no mitigation measures are required.

d)	Disturb and human remains, including			
	those interred outside of dedicated		$\boxtimes$	
	cemeteries?			

No cemeteries, formal or informal, have been identified on or adjacent to the project site. While there is a possibility of encountering human remains during project construction activities, if remains are found monitoring would be required. In addition, per CEQA Section 15064.5(e), the California Public Resources Code (Sec. 5097.98) and State Health and Safety Code (Sec. 7050.5), if human remains are discovered during construction, work would be required to halt in that area and no soil would be exported off-site until a determination could be made regarding the provenance of the human remains via the County Coroner and other authorities as required. Compliance with state regulations would ensure impacts are less than significant and no mitigation required.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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## VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or
     based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

"Report of Geotechnical Investigation Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1" was prepared by Allied Geotechnical Engineers in August 2014. Maple Canyon is not located astride any known (mapped) active or potentially active faults. Therefore, the potential for fault ground rupture at the site is considered insignificant. In addition, the project would utilize proper engineering design and standard construction practices in order to ensure that potential impacts in this category based on regional geologic hazards would remain less than significant. Therefore, risks from rupture of a known earthquake fault would be below a level of significance.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Based on the project's geotechnical report, subsurface soils are found to be fairly uniform throughout the site; therefore, the potential of differential settlement is considered low. Additionally, when considering the distance from the project site to the nearest potential source of seismic event, it is opinion of the geotechnical consultant that ground lurching does not present a potential hazard for the proposed project. The project would also be required to utilize proper engineering design and standard construction practices to ensure that the potential for impacts from ground shaking would be below a level of significance.

iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?		$\boxtimes$	
	0 1			

The project's geotechnical investigation determined that the project site is underlain by very dense to hard formational material which is not considered susceptible to seismic-induced soil liquefaction or ground settlement. Furthermore, the investigation states that a review of the State of California Seismic Hazard Zones (2009) indicates that the site is not located within an area that is considered susceptible to soil liquefaction during a seismic event.

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iv) Landslides?
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The project's geotechnical investigation determined that project site is not located on or below any known (mapped) ancient landslides, nor is it located in an area that is susceptible to landslide hazards.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			$\boxtimes$	

Refer to VI. a). All trenching for pipe replacement would be backfilled and all disturbed areas would be revegetated with appropriate non-invasive, low water use, container plants and a hydroseed mix to control erosion. Additionally, appropriate Best Management Practices would be utilized during project construction to prevent soil erosion. As such, the project would not result in a substantial amount of soil erosion or loss of topsoil.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
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Refer to VI. a). Additionally, the project is located within City of San Diego Geologic Hazard Category 52 which is designated as "other level areas, gently sloping to steep terrain with a favorable geologic structure and low geologic risk." In addition, proper engineering design and utilization of standard construction practices would ensure that the potential impacts would be less than significant.

d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks		$\boxtimes$	
	to life or property?			

Refer to VI. a). In addition, the project's geotechnical consultant concluded in the geotechnical investigation that, in their opinion, the majority of on-site materials are considered non-expansive or to have low expansion potential.

alternative waste water disposal	e)	systems where sewers are not available				$\boxtimes$
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No septic or alternative wastewater systems are proposed since the scope of the project is to repair and replace existing public storm drain pipes. No impact would occur.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:

a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the		$\boxtimes$
	environment?		

In December 2015, the City adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) that outlines the actions that City will undertake to achieve its proportional share of State greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. The CAP is a plan for the reduction of GHG emissions in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064(h)(3), 15130(d), and 15183(b), a project's incremental contribution to a cumulative GHG emissions effect may be determined not to be cumulatively considerable if it complies with the requirements of the CAP.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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This Checklist is part of the CAP and contains measures that are required to be implemented on a project-by-project basis to ensure that the specified emissions targets identified in the CAP are achieved. Implementation of these measures would ensure that new development is consistent with the CAP's assumptions for relevant CAP strategies toward achieving the identified GHG reduction targets. Projects that are consistent with the CAP as determined through the use of this Checklist may rely on the CAP for the cumulative impacts analysis of GHG emissions.

Under Step 1 of the CAP Checklist the proposed project is consistent with the existing General Plan and Community Plan land use designations, and zoning designations for the project site because these designations allow for the replacement and repair of existing storm water facilities that do not involve expansion of these facilities. Therefore, the proposed project is consistent with the growth projections and land use assumptions used in the CAP.

Furthermore, completion of the Step 2 of the CAP Checklist for the project demonstrates that the CAP strategies for reduction in GHG emissions are not applicable to the project because it is a linear public storm drain repair project with no habitable space or operational GHG emissions, and does not require a building permit or certificate of occupancy.

Therefore, the project has been determined to be consistent with the City of San Diego Climate Action Plan, would result in a less than significant impact on the environment with respect to Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and further GHG emissions analysis and mitigation would not be required.

b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			
Refer to	o VII. a)			
VIII. HAZ	ZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would t	the project:		
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?		$\boxtimes$	

Construction of the project may require the use of hazardous materials (e.g. fuels, lubricants, solvents, etc.) which would require proper storage, handling, use and disposal; however, these conditions would not occur during routine construction within the PROW. Construction specifications would include requirements for the contractor regarding where routine handling or disposal of hazardous materials could occur and what measures to implement in the event of a spill from equipment. Compliance with contract specifications would ensure that potential hazards are minimized to below a level of significance.

or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			$\boxtimes$	
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Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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The State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker website indicates that construction of the project is located within 1,000 feet of three closed cases for Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanup sites. However, neither site was located directly within the project area. In addition, in the event that construction activities encounter underground contamination, the contractor would be required to implement section 803 of the City's "WHITEBOOK" for "Encountering or Releasing Hazardous Substances or Petroleum Products" of the City of San Diego Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction which is included in all construction documents and would ensure the proper handling and disposal of any contaminated soils in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations. Compliance with these requirements would minimize the risk to the public and the environment; therefore, impacts would remain less than significant.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?



Portions of the project alignment are within one-quarter mile of existing schools and would involve trenching or excavation activities that could result in the release of hazardous emissions if unanticipated contamination is encountered within the PROW. However, compliance with section 803 of the City's "WHITEBOOK" is required and ensures that appropriate protocols are followed pursuant to County DEH requirements should any hazardous conditions be encountered. As such, impacts regarding the handling or discovery of hazardous materials, substances or waste within close proximity of a school would be below a level of significance with implementation of the measures required pursuant to the contract specifications and County DEH oversight.

d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962 5 and as a result		$\boxtimes$
	Code section 65962.5 and, as a result,		<u> </u>
	would it create a significant hazard to		
	the public or the environment?		

See VIII. a)-c) above. Additionally, the project alignment is not on a list of hazardous materials locations compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. No impact would occur.

e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two mile of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?		
	in the project area?		

Portions of the project alignment are within the Airport Influence Area of the San Diego International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. Since the proposed project involves linear underground storm drain main repair, it would not introduce any new features that would result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the area, or create a flight hazard. No impact would occur.

f)	For a project within the vicinity of a		
	private airstrip, would the project result		

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				

The project site is not within proximity of a private airstrip. No impact would occur.

g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency		$\boxtimes$
	evacuation plan?		

Construction of the proposed project may temporarily affect traffic circulation within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) and its adjoining roads. An approved Traffic Control Plan would be implemented during construction which would allow emergency plans to be employed. Therefore, the project would not physically interfere with and adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, and no impact would occur.

h)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences		$\boxtimes$	
	are intermixed with wildlands?			

The proposed project would be located within a natural canyon. However, the proposed storm drain replacement would not introduce any new features that are combustible or would increase the risk of fire. Revegetation of the disturbed canyon areas will be completed in accordance with the brush management regulations of the San Diego Municipal Code which would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:

a)	Violate any water quality standards or		
	waste discharge requirements?		

A Drainage Study for Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1 dated June 21, 2019 (Drainage Study) was prepared for the proposed project by Rick Engineering Company, which updates a drainage report completed in May 2015 by AECOM. The Drainage Report dated May 2015 verifies to adhere to the basic objectives of the City of San Diego Drainage Design Manual which are to collect, transmit and discharge drainage in such a manner to promote public safety and provide for low maintenance by preventing property damage and providing for removal of detrimental amounts of subsurface water.

The Drainage Study also concludes that the proposed project will replace an existing deteriorating storm water drainage system that does not currently meet City of San Diego drainage requirements, with a new system of reinforced concrete storm drain piping and concrete energy dissipaters that will exceed minimum City requirements and adequately accommodate proposed storm water drainage into the canyon.

Furthermore, potential impacts to existing water quality standards associated with the proposed project would include minimal short-term construction-related erosion sedimentation, but would not include any long term operational storm water impacts. The project would be required to

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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comply with the City's Storm Water Standards Manual and all requirements of the most current Regional Water Quality Control Board municipals storm water (MS4) permit. Engineers from Engineering and Capital Projects would be responsible for compliance with all storm water regulations. The proposed project would not violate any existing water quality standards or discharge requirements, and no impact would occur.

 b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

The project does not use groundwater, nor would it create new impervious surfaces that would interfere with groundwater recharge; therefore, no impact would occur.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

See IX. a). All areas that are trenched would be backfilled to match adjacent natural grade. All disturbed areas, including temporary construction access and staging, would be re-vegetated with a non-irrigated native hydroseed mix and non-invasive, low water use container plants to minimize soil erosion. Three (3) Concrete energy dissipaters (SDD-105) and eleven (11) rip rap energy dissipaters (SDD-104) have been proposed at the outfall locations to help reduce exit velocities from the outfall to non-erosive conditions. Compliance with local, state, and federal storm water regulations would ensure that any alterations to the drainage system in Maple Canyon would reduce potential impacts from erosion or siltation to less than significant.



See IX. c). Per the project's Drainage Study, since this is a storm drain replacement project, existing impervious area as well as the hydrology of the basins is not anticipated to change. Hence, post-project runoff remains similar to pre-project runoff. The proposed project does not include any features that would increase the risk associated with flooding beyond those of existing conditions; therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

e)	Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide		$\boxtimes$	
	urainage systems of provide			

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				

See IX. c)-d). The project would be required to comply with all local and regional storm water quality standards during construction using approved Best Management Practices (BMPs), which would ensure that water quality is not degraded. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			$\boxtimes$	
See IX. (	c) - e).				
g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				$\boxtimes$
The project does not propose housing. No impact would result.					
h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area, structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?			$\boxtimes$	

The project does not propose any structures that would significantly impede flood flows as it is a linear underground storm drain repair project. Three (3) Concrete energy dissipaters (SDD-105) and eleven (11) rip rap energy dissipaters (SDD-104) have been proposed at the outfall locations to help reduce exit velocities from the outfall to non-erosive conditions. Impacts from energy dissipators to hydrology are less than significant.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:

a)	Physically divide an established		
	community?		

The project would involve replacing and installing utility infrastructure underground and would not introduce new features that could divide an established community.

b)	Conflict with any applicable land use		
	plan, policy, or regulation of an agency		
	with jurisdiction over the project		
	(including but not limited to the general		
	plan, specific plan, local coastal		
	program, or zoning ordinance) adopted		
	for the purpose of avoiding or		
	mitigating an environmental effect?		

The project would involve replacing and installing utility infrastructure underground and would be consistent with all applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the project and would not conflict with any land use plans. No impact would occur.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				

See also responses in Section IV, Biological Resources. The project is not within or adjacent to the MHPA preserve area of the City of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). Implementation of the Mitigation and Monitoring Requirements identified in Section V of this Mitigated Negative Declaration would reduce potentially significant direct and indirect impacts to the Cooper's Hawk, an MSCP listed species, to a less than significant level.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

The project is not located in an MRZ 2 classification area. The site is not large enough to allow an economically feasible aggregate mining operation (less than 10 acres). The site is not being used for the recovery of mineral resources. Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of mineral resources, and no impact would occur.

b)	Result in the loss of availability of a		
	locally important mineral resource		
	recovery site delineated on a local		$\boxtimes$
	general plan, specific plan or other land		
	use plan?		

The areas around the proposed project alignment are not designed by the General Plan or other local, state or federal land use plan for mineral resources recovery. No impact would occur.

XII. NOISE – Would the project result in:

The project would not result in the generation of operational noise levels in excess of existing standards or existing ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project. No impact would occur.

b)	Generation of, excessive ground borne		
	vibration or ground borne noise levels?		

The project would not result in the generation of operational ground borne vibration or noise levels in excess of existing standards or ambient levels. No impact would occur.

c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project	_	 _	_
	vicinity above levels existing without			$\boxtimes$
	the project?			

Refer to XII. a)-b). No impact would occur.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<ul> <li>A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above existing without the project?</li> </ul>			$\boxtimes$	

The proposed linear underground storm drain repair project would result in construction noise, but would be temporary in nature; in addition, the project is required to comply with the San Diego Municipal Code, Chapter 5, Article 9.5, (§59.5.0404 Construction Noise). This section specifies that it is unlawful for any person, between the hours of 7:00 p.m. of any day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day, or on legal holidays (with exception of Columbus Day and Washington's Birthday), or on Sundays, to erect, construct, demolish, excavate for, alter or repair any building or structure in such a manner as to create disturbing, excessive or offensive noise. In addition, the project would be required to conduct any construction activity so as to not cause, at or beyond the property lines of any property zoned residential, an average sound level greater than 75 decibels during the 12-hour period from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Noise impacts would be less than significant.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?

Portions of the project alignment are within the 60 CNEL noise contour of the San Diego International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The project, in and of itself, would not generate operational noise. Furthermore, compliance with OSHA standards will ensure the project workers would not be exposed to excessive noise levels. Therefore impacts would be less than significant.

 $\square$ 

 $\square$ 

 $\boxtimes$ 

f)	For a project within the vicinity of a		
	private airstrip, would the project		
	expose people residing or working in		$\boxtimes$
	the project area to excessive noise		
	levels?		

The project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. No impact would occur.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:

a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by		
	proposing new homes and businesses)		$\square$
	or indirectly (for example, through		
	extension of roads or other		
	infrastructure)?		

The project scope does not include the construction of new or extended roads or infrastructure, or new homes and businesses. The project would replace existing outdated storm drain infrastructure. Therefore, the project would not induce population growth nor require the construction of new infrastructure.

b)	Displace substantial numbers of		
	existing housing, necessitating the		

lssu	ıe		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
		struction of replacement housing where?					
No such	dis	placement would result, and no	impact would	occur.			
	peo	olace substantial numbers of ple, necessitating the construction eplacement housing elsewhere?				$\boxtimes$	
No such	dis	placement would result, and no	impact would	occur.			
XIV. PUBL	IC S	ERVICES					
	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service rations, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:						
	i)	Fire protection				$\boxtimes$	
	ii)	Police protection				$\boxtimes$	
	iii)	Schools				$\boxtimes$	
	iv)	Parks				$\boxtimes$	
	V)	Other public facilities				$\boxtimes$	
The project would not result in adverse physical impacts of fire facilities or adversely affect existing							

The project would not result in adverse physical impacts of fire facilities or adversely affect existing levels of fire or police services. The project would not the construction or expansion of a fire, police, school, park, or other public facility. No impact would occur.

### XV. RECREATION

<ul> <li>a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</li> </ul>				$\boxtimes$
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The project would not adversely affect the availability of and/or need for new or expanded recreational resources. No impact would occur.

b)	Does the project include recreational		
,	facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical		$\boxtimes$
	effect on the environment?		

See XIV a) and XV a). No impact would occur.

XVI.	TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would	the project?
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Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<ul> <li>a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?</li> </ul>				

The replacement, repair, and construction of storm drain infrastructure would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. Construction of the proposed project may temporarily affect traffic circulation within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) and its adjoining roads. However, an approved Traffic Control Plan would be implemented during construction such that traffic circulation would not be substantially impacted. Therefore, the project would not result in any significant transportation/traffic impact.

 b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other
 standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Construction of the proposed project may temporarily affect traffic circulation within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) and its adjoining roads. However, an approved Traffic Control Plan would be implemented during construction so that existing cumulative or individual levels of service are minimally impacted. Therefore, the project would not result in any significant permanent impact to traffic generation or level of service, and no mitigation is required.

c)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns,		
	including either an increase in traffic		
	levels or a change in location that		
	results in substantial safety risks?		

The project would not result in safety risks or a change to air traffic patterns. All work would occur underground or on the ground. No impact would occur.

d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a			
	design feature (e.g., sharp curves or			
	dangerous intersections) or		$\boxtimes$	
	incompatible uses (e.g., farm			
	equipment)?			

The replacement, repair, and construction of storm drain infrastructure would not include any design features that would substantially increase hazards or incompatible uses. Impacts would be less than significant.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				$\boxtimes$

The project would not result in inadequate emergency access; no impact would result.

f)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or		$\boxtimes$
	safety of such facilities?		

The replacement, repair, and construction of storm drain infrastructure would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities.

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

a)	Listed or eligible for listing in the		
	California Register of Historical		
	Resources, or in a local register of		$\boxtimes$
	historical resources as defined in Public		
	Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		

Refer to Section V. b). No tribal cultural resources as defined by Public Resources Code section 21074 have been identified on the project site. Furthermore, the project site was not determined to be eligible for listing on either the State or local register of historical resources. Notification, as required by Public Resources Code section 21074 was provided to the lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, Jamul Indian Village of Kumeyaay Nation on June 6, 2018. On June 13, 2018, both Native American communities responded to the City that that do not require consultation for this project. Therefore, the project will not impact Tribal Cultural Resources and no mitigation is required.

b)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth		
	in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In applying the		$\boxtimes$
	criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of		<u> </u>
	Public Resource Code section 5024.1,		
	the lead agency shall consider the		
	significance of the resource to a		
	California Native American tribe.		

No significant resources pursuant to subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1 have been identified on the project site. Please see discussion in V (a) above.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:

a)	Exceed wastewater treatment		
	requirements of the applicable		$\boxtimes$
	Regional Water Quality Control Board?		

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Construction of the proposed storm water drainage repair project would facilitate the conveyance of storm water into the City's storm water drainage system and would not affect the wastewater system. Therefore, the project would not exceed the requirements of the Regional Quality Control Board.

b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental		
	effects?		

The proposed project would result in improvements to the storm water drainage infrastructure. It would not affect the water or wastewater systems and would, not require the construction or new water or wastewater treatment facilities.



Construction of the proposed storm water drainage pipeline repair project would repair existing, and slightly extend, drainage lines in approximately the same alignment and location, and does not propose or require the construction substantial new drainage facilities. The project would not require the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities apart in addition to the project itself.

d)	Have sufficient water supplies available		
	to serve the project from existing		
	entitlements and resources, or are new		
	or expanded entitlements needed?		

Construction of the proposed project would not increase the demand for water and within the project area.

e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			$\boxtimes$
Refer to	э XVII. с)			
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?		$\boxtimes$	

Construction of the project would result in the removal of the existing outdated pipeline, but otherwise would likely generate minimal waste. Project waste would be disposed of in accordance

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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with all applicable local and state regulations pertaining to solid waste including the permitted capacity of the landfill serving the project area. Demolition or construction materials which can be recycled shall comply with the City's Construction and Demolition Debris Ordinance. Operation of the project would not generate waste and, therefore, would not affect the permitted capacity of the landfill serving the project area.

g)	Comply with federal, state, and local		
	statutes and regulation related to solid		$\boxtimes$
	waste?		

Refer to XVII. f). Any solid waste generated during construction related activities would be recycled or disposed of in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal regulations.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE -



Although the proposed project could have significant indirect impacts to sensitive biological resources, these impacts would be mitigated to a less than significant level by the mitigation measures identified in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program in Section V of the MND. These mitigation requirements are also consistent with the MSCP City of San Diego Subarea Plan. As stated in the initial study checklist, the project would result in less than significant impacts on archaeological, tribal cultural, and paleontological resources. Historical built environmental resources would not be significantly impacted by the project as stated in the Initial Study.



The City of San Diego MSCP Subarea Plan addresses cumulative impacts on biological resources throughout San Diego. Since the mitigation measures identified in Section V of the MND are consistent with the avoidance and mitigation requirements for listed species, and the mitigation ratio requirements, of the Subarea Plan, the proposed project is consistent with the Subarea Plan. As a result, project implementation would not result in any individually limited, but cumulatively significant impacts to these resources. Based on the project's consistency with the Climate Action

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Plan it would not result in cumulatively considerable environmental impacts relative to greenhouse gas emissions.

Furthermore, when considering all potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, including impacts identified as less than significant in the Initial Study Checklist, together with the impacts of other present, past and reasonably foreseeable future projects, there would not be a cumulatively considerable impact on the environment.

Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			$\boxtimes$	
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As evidenced by the Initial Study Checklist, the project does not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

## **INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST** REFERENCES

<b>Aesthetics / Neighborhood Character</b> City of San Diego General Plan; City of San Diego Land Development Municipal Code Community Plans: Uptown Community Plan
<b>Agricultural Resources &amp; Forest Resources</b> City of San Diego General Plan U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey - San Diego Area, California, Part I and II, 1973 California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) Site Specific Report:
<b>Air Quality</b> California Clean Air Act Guidelines (Indirect Source Control Programs) 1990 Regional Air Quality Strategies (RAQS) - APCD Site Specific Report:
<ul> <li>Biology</li> <li>City of San Diego, Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Subarea Plan, 1997</li> <li>City of San Diego, MSCP, "Vegetation Communities with Sensitive Species and Vernal Pools"</li> <li>Maps, 1996</li> <li>City of San Diego, MSCP, "Multiple Habitat Planning Area" maps, 1997</li> <li>Community Plan - Resource Element</li> <li>California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database, "State and Federally-listed Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Plants of California," January 2001</li> <li>California Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Database, "State and Federally-listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California, "January 2001</li> <li>City of San Diego Land Development Code Biology Guidelines</li> <li>Site Specific Report:</li> <li>Biological Technical Report for the Maple Canyon Storm Drain Project, San Diego California, prepared by AECOM, Revised March 2018.</li> <li>Biological Technical Report Maple Canyon Storm Drain Project: Addendum, prepared by Tierra Data, Inc., January 2020.</li> </ul>
Cultural Resources (includes Historical Resources and Built Environment)

- City of San Diego Historical Resources Guidelines
- City of San Diego Archaeology Library
- Historical Resources Board List
- **v**. ⊠⊠⊠∏ Community Historical Survey:  $\boxtimes$ 
  - Site Specific Report: Historical Resources Survey for Maple Canyon Storm Drain Repair Project, San Diego, California by Recon dated February 19, 2018.

VI.	Geology/Soils
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I.  $\boxtimes$ 

II.  $\boxtimes$ 

III.

 $\boxtimes$ 

IV.

 $\boxtimes$ 

 $\boxtimes$ 

 $\boxtimes$ 

 $\square$ City of San Diego Seismic Safety Study U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Survey - San Diego Area, California, Part I and II, December 1973 and Part III, 1975

Site Specific Report:

Report of Geotechnical Investigation Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1 by Allied Geotechnical Engineers, dated August 19, 2014.

Response to City of San Diego Development Services Department Review Comments dated December 19, 2016, Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1, City of San Diego, prepared by Allied Geotechnical Engineers, Inc., dated September 14, 2017

## VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Site Specific Report: Climate Action Plan Consistency Checklist for the Maple Canyon Restoration – Phase 1 (PTS No. 517439), prepared by Elham Lotfi, Associate Civil Engineer, City of San Diego Engineering and Capital Projects Department

## VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

San Diego County Hazardous Materials Environmental Assessment Listing San Diego County Hazardous Materials Management Division FAA Determination State Assessment and Mitigation, Unauthorized Release Listing, Public Use Authorized Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Site Specific Report:

IX.	
$\boxtimes$	
$\boxtimes$	

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 $\boxtimes$ 

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## Hydrology/Drainage

- Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Flood Insurance Program-Flood Boundary and Floodway Map
- Clean Water Act Section 303(b) list, http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/303d\_lists.html Site Specific Report:

Maple Canyon Drainage Report by AECOM, dated May 2015. Drainage Study for Maple Canyon Restoration Phase 1 100% Design Submittal, by Rick Engineering Company, Revised June 21, 2019

Х.
$\boxtimes$
$\boxtimes$
$\boxtimes$
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## Land Use and Planning

- City of San Diego General Plan
- Uptown Community Plan
- Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
- City of San Diego Zoning Maps
- FAA Determination:
- Other Plans:

## XI. Mineral Resources California Departme

- California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology, Mineral Land Classification 1996
- Division of Mines and Geology, Special Report 153 Significant Resources Maps
- City of San Diego General Plan: Conservation Element
- Site Specific Report:

XII.	Noise
	City of San Diego General Plan
	Community Plan
$\bowtie$	San Diego International Airport - Lindbergh Field CNEL Maps
	Brown Field Airport Master Plan CNEL Maps
Ц	Montgomery Field CNEL Maps
	San Diego Association of Governments - San Diego Regional Average Weekday Traffic Volumes
	San Diego Metropolitan Area Average Weekday Traffic Volume Maps, SANDAG
	Site Specific Report:
XIII.	Paleontological Resources
$\square$	City of San Diego Paleontological Guidelines
	Deméré, Thomas A., and Stephen L. Walsh, "Paleontological Resources City of San Diego," Department of Paleontology San Diego Natural History Museum, 1996
$\square$	Kennedy, Michael P., and Gary L. Peterson, "Geology of the San Diego Metropolitan Area, California. Del Mar, La Jolla, Point Loma, La Mesa, Poway, and SW 1/4 Escondido 7 1/2
	Minute Quadrangles," <i>California Division of Mines and Geology Bulletin</i> 200, Sacramento, 1975 Kennedy, Michael P., and Siang S. Tan, "Geology of National City, Imperial Beach and Otay
	Mesa Quadrangles, Southern San Diego Metropolitan Area, California," Map Sheet 29, 1977
	Site Specific Report:
XIV.	Population / Housing
$\square$	City of San Diego General Plan
$\square$	Community Plan
	Series 11/Series 12 Population Forecasts, SANDAG Other:
	other.
XV.	Public Services
$\boxtimes$	City of San Diego General Plan
$\bowtie$	Community Plan
XVI.	Recreational Resources
$\square$	City of San Diego General Plan
	Community Plan
	Department of Park and Recreation
	City of San Diego - San Diego Regional Bicycling Map Additional Resources:
	Additional Resources:
XVII.	Transportation / Circulation
$\boxtimes$	City of San Diego General Plan
Image: Second se	Community Plan:
	San Diego Metropolitan Area Average Weekday Traffic Volume Maps, SANDAG San Diego Region Weekday Traffic Volumes, SANDAG
$\mathbb{H}$	Site Specific Report:

39

## XVIII. Utilities

Site Specific Report:

## XIX. Water Conservation

Sunset Magazine, *New Western Garden Book*, Rev. ed. Menlo Park, CA: Sunset Magazine

# XX. Water Quality Output Clean Water Act Site Specific Rep

Clean Water Act Section 303(b) list, http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/tmdl/303d\_lists.html Site Specific Report:



Figure 1. Proposed Project Location.



Figure 2. Proposed Project Vicinity.



**Figure 3a.** Maple Canyon North – Upland and Jurisdictional Area Impacts.



Figure 3b. Maple Canyon Central - Upland and Jurisdictional Area Impacts.





760.749.2247

Figure 3c. Maple Canyon South - Upland and Jurisdictional Area Impacts.

Waters

## Maple Canyon Vegetation and Sensitive **Resource Impacts**

- Project limits
- Proposed alignment
- Grading plan
- Access route

## Impact Type

- Permanent impacts
- Temporary impacts
- (construction)
- Temporary impacts (access)

## **Jurisdictional Waters**

USACE Waters of the U.S. CDFW Streambed

## **Impacts to Jurisdictional**

USACE Waters of the U.S. impacts CDFW Streambed impacts

## **Vegetation impacts**

- Nonnative Grassland
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Eucalyptus Woodland
- Ornamental
- Disturbed Habitat
- Urban/Developed

