Date of Notice: July 23, 2021

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PROJECT NAME: Rancho Drive Emergency Pipe Repair

COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Skyline-Paradise Hills

COUNCIL DISTRICT: District 4

LOCATION: The Project is an emergency replacement and installation of stormwater infrastructure located near the intersection of Rancho Drive and Potomac Street. The Project site is approximately one mile east of Interstate 805 and one mile north of State Route 54, within the Skyline-Paradise Hills Community Planning Area in Council District 4. See Attachment A: Location Map.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The Project would replace a damaged 24-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that conveys stormwater under Rancho Drive which has led to stormwater washing out and creating a void under the street causing it to buckle. As a result, the storm drain infrastructure is no longer functioning near the intersection of Rancho Drive and Potomac Street and requires immediate repair. In addition to repairing the deteriorated infrastructure on Rancho Drive, the emergency Project would also install new storm drain infrastructure along Potomac Street. This new infrastructure would connect to the replacement storm drain infrastructure near the intersection of Rancho Drive and Potomac Street and will ensure the proper conveyance of stormwater into the replacement infrastructure and reduce flood risk to nearby properties. The following is a description of the Project components shown on Attachment B: Project Improvements:

Schedule
The emergency repair is expected to begin on July 26, 2021 and is estimated to take approximately 60 days to complete.

Staging and Access
Access to the Project site will occur from the existing right of way on Rancho Drive and Potomac Street. Three staging areas will be utilized. One staging area measuring approximately 88-foot by 12-foot will be created on the east side of Rancho Drive, just north of the Rancho Drive/ Potomac Street intersection. The other two staging areas will be created on the south side of Potomac Street, just east of the Rancho Drive/ Potomac Street intersection, measuring 88-foot by 12-foot and 66-foot by 12-foot, respectively.

Equipment
Equipment will include an excavator, vactor, loader, bobcat, generator, backhoe, dump truck, concrete

truck, concrete pump, sweeper, and hand tools.

Rancho Drive Below-Ground Pipe and Curb Inlet Installation

The Project would replace approximately 35 feet of existing 24-inch CMP along Rancho Drive with two 30-inch Reinforced Concrete Pipes (RCP), approximately 35 feet in length. The existing Type C curb inlet (CI) on the east side of Rancho Drive will be removed and replaced with a 21-foot long modified Type B CI. The existing Type C CI on the west side of Rancho Drive will be removed and replaced with an 18-foot long modified Type B CI. The 30-inch RCPs will be connected into the proposed Type B CI upstream and connected into the proposed Type B CI downstream with concrete.

Potomac Street Below-Ground Pipe, Curb Inlet, and Cleanout Installation

The Project also includes the replacement and addition of new storm drain infrastructure along Potomac Street. Along Potomac Street, approximately 107 feet of 21-inch Centrifugal Concrete Pipe (CCP) will be removed and replaced with 107 feet of 36-inch RCP. The RCP will connect to the 21-foot long modified Type B CI on the east side of Rancho Drive and to an existing storm drainpipe under Potomac Street. In addition, approximately 12 feet of 18-inch CCP will be removed and replaced with 12 feet of 24-inch RCP.

Proposed new structures along the north side of Potomac Street include a 10-foot long Type B CI, an 11-foot long Type B CI, an 18-foot long Type B CI, and a Type A cleanout. Along the south side of Potomac Street, a 17-foot long Type B CI is proposed. One hundred and thirty two feet of 18-inch RCP will be installed to connect the new CIs and CO to the storm drain system.

Trenching

Trenches will be excavated utilizing heavy equipment and hand tools to provide access to the storm drain structures. Excavation will be up to 8 feet deep. The trenches will be filled with 4-inches of backfill material before placing the proposed pipes. Following the installation of the storm drain, excavated areas will be filled with an appropriate backfill material and will be capped with up to 48 cubic yards of asphalt material. Approximately 65 cubic yards of concrete will be used in the Project.

Impact Anaylsis

Biological Resources

The Project is located in within the street right of way. The Project affects developed (paved street) and disturbed land covers (area between pavement and residential yards). Per San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC) Section 143.0110, Environmentally Sensitive Lands regulations (ESL) apply when any portion of the premises contains ESL. As the Project impact area is entirely withihn the public right-of-way and does not contain any sensitive biological resources and is not located within steep hillsides, coastal beaches, or sensitive coastal bluffs, there are no impacts to sensitive biological resources proposed. Additionally, the Project impact area is not mapped within a special flood hazard zone or within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area. Since the site does not contain ESL, the Project is not subject to the ESL Regulations, therefore, a Site Development Permit (SDP) is not required.

Historical, Archaeological and Tribal Cultural Resources

Based on a review of negative records search data by qualified staff in the Planning Department, the extensively disturbed Project site was determined to have a low potential for impacting historical, archaeological, or tribal cultural resources, or paleontological resources; therefore, an SDP is not required.

Wetland Impacts

No federal or state wetlands are present within the Project impact area. The Project would not include discharging or placing materials into or within USACE jurisdictional areas (Waters of the U.S.) as none are located within the Project area. The Project site is considered non-jurisdictional for USACE and a CWA Section 404 permit would not be required. As such, a CWA Section 401 water quality certification from the RWQCB would not be required. The work as proposed would not include diverting or obstructing the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; would not include changing or using any material from the bed, channel or back of any river, stream or lake or deposit debris, waste or other material that could pass into any river, stream, or lake. A Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) is not needed.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego – Mayor Appointed Designee

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: This activity is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to California Public Resources Code Sections 21080(b)(2) and (4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b) and (c).

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego Mayor Appointed Designee

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:
This emergency exemption is based on the expert opinion and findings of the Stormwater Department that immediate, specific action is necessary to avoid or minimize a threat of loss or damage to life, property, or essential public services. A damaged 24-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that conveys stormwater under Rancho Drive has led to stormwater washing out under Rancho Drive creating a void under the street which caused it to buckle. The current condition of the failed pipe and void under Rancho Drive is a danger to traffic and pedestrians and requires immediate attention before it causes harm to the public. Without the repair, Rancho Drive and Potomac Street would need to be closed which would prevent property access and impact emergency services from being provided to residents. In addition, continued seepage of stormwater through the void could endanger other utilities in the area. Furthermore, the current rate of stormwater flows from east to west on Potomac Street pose a flood risk to nearby properties. The installation of new storm drain infrastructure along Potomac Street, which would connect to the replacement storm drain infrastructure near the intersection of Rancho Drive and Potomac Street, is needed to ensure proper functionality of the replacement infrastructure and to reduce flood risk to nearby properties. Without installation of additional stormwater infrastructure along Potomac Street, a significant rain event has the potential to damage homes in the surrounding area.

The initiation of the Project on an emergency schedule is required to complete the pipe repair and mitigate impacts to public safety. The work is the minimum necessary to prevent and mitigate the emergency. This damaged CMP presents a risk to public health and safety and meets the definition of an “emergency” pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15359. Remediation efforts to repair the damage is confined to the street area and would not adversely affect biological, historical, archaeological, tribal, or paleontological resources. Thus, this emergency activity meets the criteria set forth in Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c) which allows for actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency, as well as Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(2) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b), which allows for emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain services essential to the public health, safety, or welfare.

CITY CONTACT: Bethany J. Bezak
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2781 Caminito Chollas, MS 46, San Diego, CA 92105
PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL: (619) 527-3173 / BJBezak@sandiego.gov

On July 23, 2021, the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to CEQA. This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the City Contact listed above.

Applications to appeal the CEQA determination to the City Council must be filed with the Office of the Clerk within five (5) business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (**July 30, 2021**). During the Statewide "Safer-at-Home" directive to reduce the spread of COVID-19, beginning March 19, 2020, appeals to the City Clerk must be filed by email or US Mail as follows:

1. Appeals filed via Email: Send the appeal by email to Hearings1@sandiego.gov; your email appeal will be acknowledged within 24 hours. You must separately mail the required appeal fee by check payable to the City Treasurer to: **City of San Diego Planning Department, Attn: Elena Pascual, MS 413, 9485 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123**. The appeal filing fee must be postmarked within 5 business days of the date the appeal is filed.

2. Appeals filed via US Mail: Send the appeal by US Mail to **City Clerk/Appeal, MS 2A, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**. Appeals filed by US Mail must have a United States Postal Service (USPS) postmark by the appeal deadline to be considered valid. You must separately mail the required appeal fee by check payable to the City Treasurer to: **City of San Diego Planning Department, Attn: Elena Pascual, MS 413, 9485 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123**. The appeal filing fee must be postmarked within 5 business days of the date the appeal is filed.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to file the appeal, please contact **Elena Pascual** at **EPascual@sandiego.gov**.

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

POSTED ON THE CITY'S CEQA WEBSITE

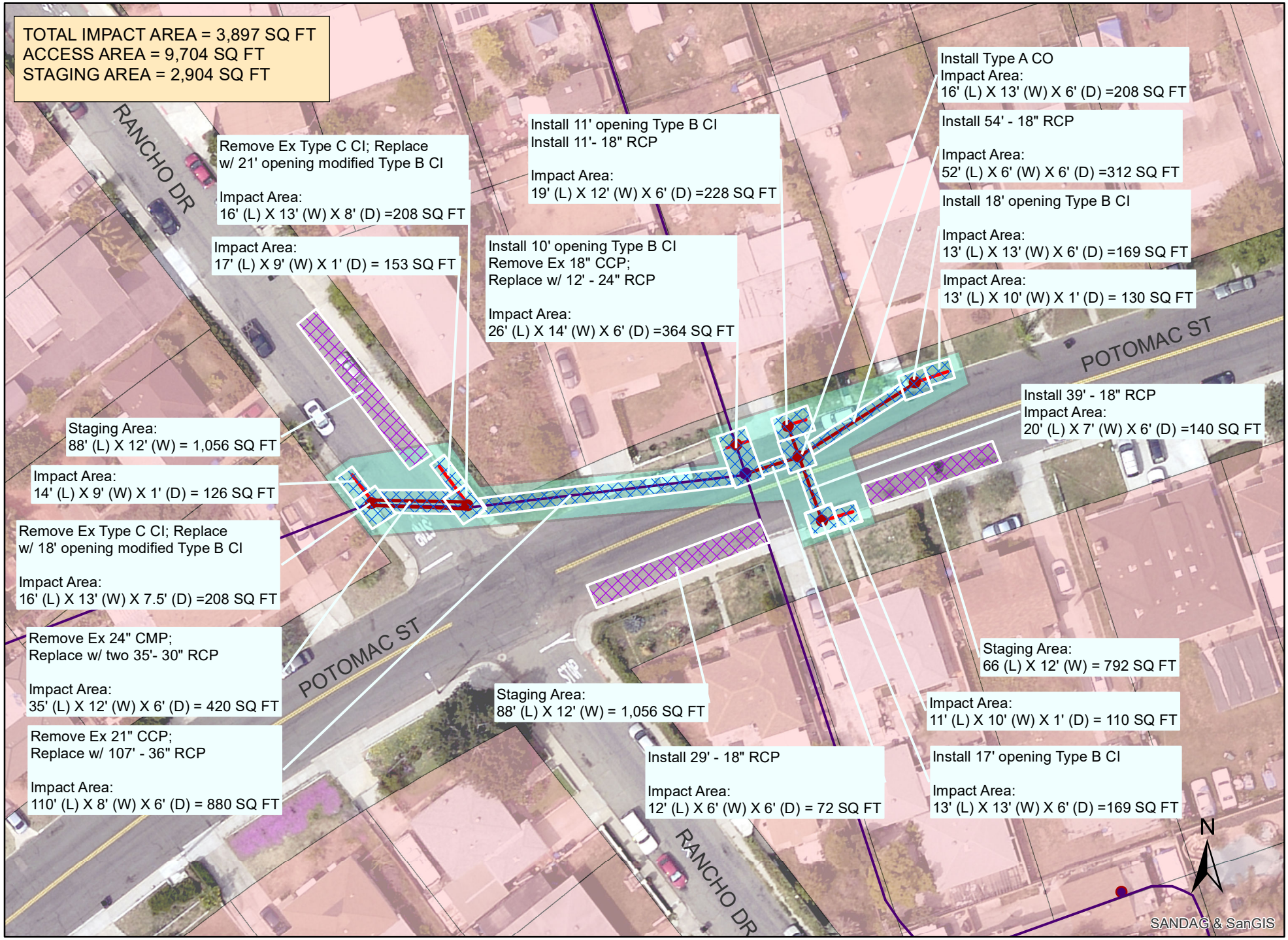
POSTED: 7/23/2021

REMOVED: _____

POSTED: E. Pascual

Rancho Drive Emergency Pipe Repair Project- Location Map

Attachment A



RANCHO DR & POTOMAC ST STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS

Attachment B