



Date of Notice: December 6, 2019

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER: Roselle Invasive Removal / Project #648786

COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Torrey Pines

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 1

LOCATION: Southwest of Sorrento Valley Road, northeast of Roselle Street, and west of Interstate 5. The project consists of removal of invasive plants at the following work areas: (1) along the upper western bank of the earthen channel and within the concrete channel of Soledad Canyon Creek located west of Sorrento Valley Road and east of 11045-10920 Roselle Street, (2) along the northwest corner of the concrete channel segment located east of Roselle Street between 11055-11065 Roselle Street, and (3) within the western end of the earthen channel located at the corner of Dunhill Street and Roselle Street directly south of 11010 Roselle Street.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Mayoral Approval to allow removal of invasive species, trash and debris from Soledad Canyon Creek Channel, Flintkote Channel, and Dunhill Channel to benefit the overall habitat quality within the creeks and increase visibility within and surrounding the channel corridor. It is anticipated that work would take place in Winter 2019. After the initial round of invasive removal, bi-annual follow-up maintenance would take place outside the bird nesting season (March 15-September 15) to remove any invasive species re-sprouts. Bi-annual maintenance would be conducted for up to two years following the initial round of removal. Two methods would be used for removing invasive species: (1) flush cut (with herbicide treatment as appropriate) and (2) trim to three feet (with herbicide treatment as appropriate). The soil and roots would not be disturbed. Minor trimming of native plants may be needed to allow access. Any trimming of native plants would be overseen by a qualified biologist to ensure there would be no impacts to the health of the plant. The total size of the invasive species removal area is approximately 0.09 acres.

Implementation of the project to remove invasive plants is expected to occur over a 3-day period. The proposed work areas will be accessed by foot. All work would be completed by hand using mechanized and non-mechanized hand tools (e.g. chainsaws, loppers). Cut vegetation would be placed in bags, hand carried out of the channel and loaded onto a pickup truck. Located more than 50 feet away from any wetland habitat, mechanized equipment (e.g. loader, skidsteer) may be used to transfer bags of cut vegetation into dump trucks for disposal at the landfill or greenery as appropriate. All staging areas would be located in previously developed, paved street right-of-ways, or disturbed land. The dump truck and mechanized equipment will not enter the channel. Equipment (dump truck and mechanized equipment) and removed vegetation will not be stored in the staging areas overnight.

Based on information provided in a Biological Resources Memorandum prepared by Dudek (September 2019), the proposed project would potentially impact 0.09 acres, including 0.05 acre of disturbed wetland (invasive-dominated), 0.02 acre of ornamental plantings, and <0.02 acre of disturbed lands. No special-status plants were identified within the proposed project area and all impacts would be limited to

invasive species. No special-status wildlife species were identified during the reconnaissance surveys. However, the site is adjacent to riparian habitat with potential to support least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), and Ridgway's rail (*Rallus obsoletus*). Work would not occur within the breeding seasons of these species (March 15 to September 15) and a full-time qualified monitoring biologist would sweep all work areas prior to the start of vegetation trimming and/or removal activities to ensure no wildlife species were present. Should work be scheduled to occur between January 15 and March 14 of any given year, nesting surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist within suitable habitat and the appropriate measures will be taken should nesting birds be identified in the project vicinity. Therefore, no impacts would occur to environmentally sensitive lands.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).

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

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The City of San Diego conducted an environmental review that determined the project would not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) which consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, and Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), which allows for minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The project does not trigger any of the exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 in that no cumulative impacts were identified; no significant effects on the environment were identified; the project is not adjacent to a scenic highway; no historical resources would be affected by the action; and the project was not identified on a list of hazardous waste sites pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

PROJECT MANAGER: Catherine Rom, DPM III
MAILING ADDRESS: Development Services Department
1222 1st Avenue, MS 301
San Diego, CA 92101
PHONE NUMBER: (619) 446-5277

On December 6, 2019, the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the City Project Manager listed above.

Applications to appeal CEQA determination to the City Council must be filed in the office of the City Clerk within 10 business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (**December 20, 2019**). The appeal application can be obtained from the City Clerk, 202 'C' Street, Second Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

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

POSTED: December 6, 2019

REMOVED: _____

POSTED: M. Herrmann