

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

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### NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

June 21, 2018

Stanislaus County  
Planning and Community Development Department  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3400  
Modesto, CA 95354  
(209) 525-6330

#### WHAT IS BEING PLANNED?

Stanislaus County (County), in cooperation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), proposes to install sanitary sewer mains and laterals in three separate unincorporated neighborhoods within West Modesto in Stanislaus County, California. The purpose of the project is to allow property owners to abandon their existing septic tanks and connect to a public sewer system. The new sewer infrastructure will connect into the City of Modesto's existing public sewer system.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The County has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. The studies within the Initial Study with Proposed Negative Declaration show it would not significantly affect the quality of the environment. Circulation of the document occurred May 4, 2018, through June 4, 2018. This notice is to advise you that the preparation of the final document with response to public comments has been completed and is available for you to review on the County's website at <http://www.stancounty.com/planning/cdbg/index.shtm>. The Final Initial Study with Negative Declaration will be formally considered for adoption at the County Board of Supervisors meeting on **July 17, 2018, at 6:30 P.M.** or soon thereafter.

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**The following notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the County.**

#### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 17, 2018 the County will submit a request to HUD for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under program 14.288, to undertake a project known as the West Modesto Sewer Infrastructure Project for the purpose of installing sanitary sewer mains and laterals in three separate unincorporated neighborhoods within West Modesto in Stanislaus County, California. Funding for the project is estimated to be \$1,271,380.24.

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The County has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at Stanislaus County Planning and Community Development Department, 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, CA 95354 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the County Planning and Community Development Department. To submit comments, please contact Ana San Nicholas, Community Development Program Manager, at the Stanislaus County Planning and Community Development Department or by email at sannicolasa@stancounty.com. All comments received by **July 12, 2018** will be considered by the County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The County certifies to HUD that Angela Freitas, Certifying Officer, in her capacity as Director of the Planning and Community Development Department consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the County to use Program funds.

## **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the County's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the County; (b) the County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at One Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104-4430. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Angela Freitas, Director,  
Planning & Community Development Department

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