

Eastern Municipal Water District  
2270 Trumble Road  
P.O. Box 8300  
Perris, CA 92572-8300



## Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

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**To:** Responsible and Trustee Agencies and Interested Parties

**Lead Agency:** Eastern Municipal Water District

**Title:** San Jacinto Valley Raw Water Conveyance Facilities Project

**Review Period:** April 12, 2019 through May 13, 2019

**Project Description:** Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), as the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), is proposing to implement the San Jacinto Valley Raw Water Conveyance Facilities Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project consists of a connection to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)'s existing Inland Feeder System Eastside Pipeline (referred to as the EM-25 service connection), a flow control facility, chlorination facility, and a 60-inch diameter transmission pipeline, to convey raw water from the EM-25 connection point to EMWD's existing San Jacinto Valley Feeder Pipeline near the intersection of Kirby Street and Commonwealth Avenue in the City of Hemet. The Proposed Project would provide raw water conveyance to the San Jacinto Valley Water Banking Enhanced Recharge and Recover Project (ERRP) recharge basins located along Mountain Avenue as well as to the Integrated Recharge and Recovery Project (IRRP) ponds in the San Jacinto River in eastern San Jacinto. Construction of the Proposed Project facilities would occur within public rights-of-way, or within property or easements currently owned by EMWD, or acquired by EMWD.

EMWD is proposing the Project as the next element of the ERRP, which will enhance current and future water supplies by recharging raw (unfiltered) water imported from the State Water Project into the local groundwater aquifer. The ERRP was evaluated in a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) that was certified by EMWD in June 2018 (SCH # 2015071002). The facilities evaluated in this Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) tier off the PEIR as explained in CEQA Guidelines Section 15152. Subsequent elements of the ERRP will continue to be analyzed in future CEQA documentation.

**Project Location.** The Proposed Project is located in EMWD's service area in the County of Riverside, specifically in the incorporated Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto. The Proposed Project originates near the intersection of Warren Road and Esplanade Avenue in the City of San Jacinto, and would extend east along Esplanade Avenue in the current right of way, (or the widened right of way along the north side of Esplanade if completed by the City of San Jacinto),

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south into the City of Hemet along Sanderson Avenue, and then east in Commonwealth Avenue where it would connect to existing EMWD facilities (see **Figure 1**).

**Hazardous Waste Disclosure:** Per Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, there are no open active cases for hazardous materials sites within the Proposed Project area or within 0.25-mile of the Proposed Project components.

**Findings/Environmental Effects:** EMWD as the Lead Agency has prepared an IS/MND to provide the public and trustee and responsible agencies with information about the potential effects on the local and regional environment associated with the Proposed Project. The IS/MND describes potentially significant impacts on aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, transportation, and wildfire. Mitigation measures have been identified for these environmental topics to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Effects found to be less than significant and those with no environmental impacts are also described in the IS/MND. EMWD has reviewed and considered the Proposed Project and has determined that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. EMWD hereby proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for this Project.

**Public Review and Comment Deadline:** A 30-day public review period for the IS/MND will commence on April 12, 2019, and end May 13, 2019, for interested individuals and public agencies to submit written comments on the document. Any written comments on the IS/MND must be received by EMWD by **4:00 PM on May 13, 2019**. Comments provided by e-mail should include "San Jacinto Valley Raw Water Conveyance Facilities Project Comment" in the subject line. Copies of the IS/MND are available for review as described below.

Alfred Javier  
Director of Environmental and Regulatory Compliance  
Eastern Municipal Water District  
P.O. Box 8300, Perris, CA 92572  
CEQA@emwd.org

**Document Availability:** The IS/MND is available electronically at: <https://www.emwd.org/public-notices>. Hard copies of the IS/MND are available for public review during regular business hours at the following two local libraries and at EMWD offices:

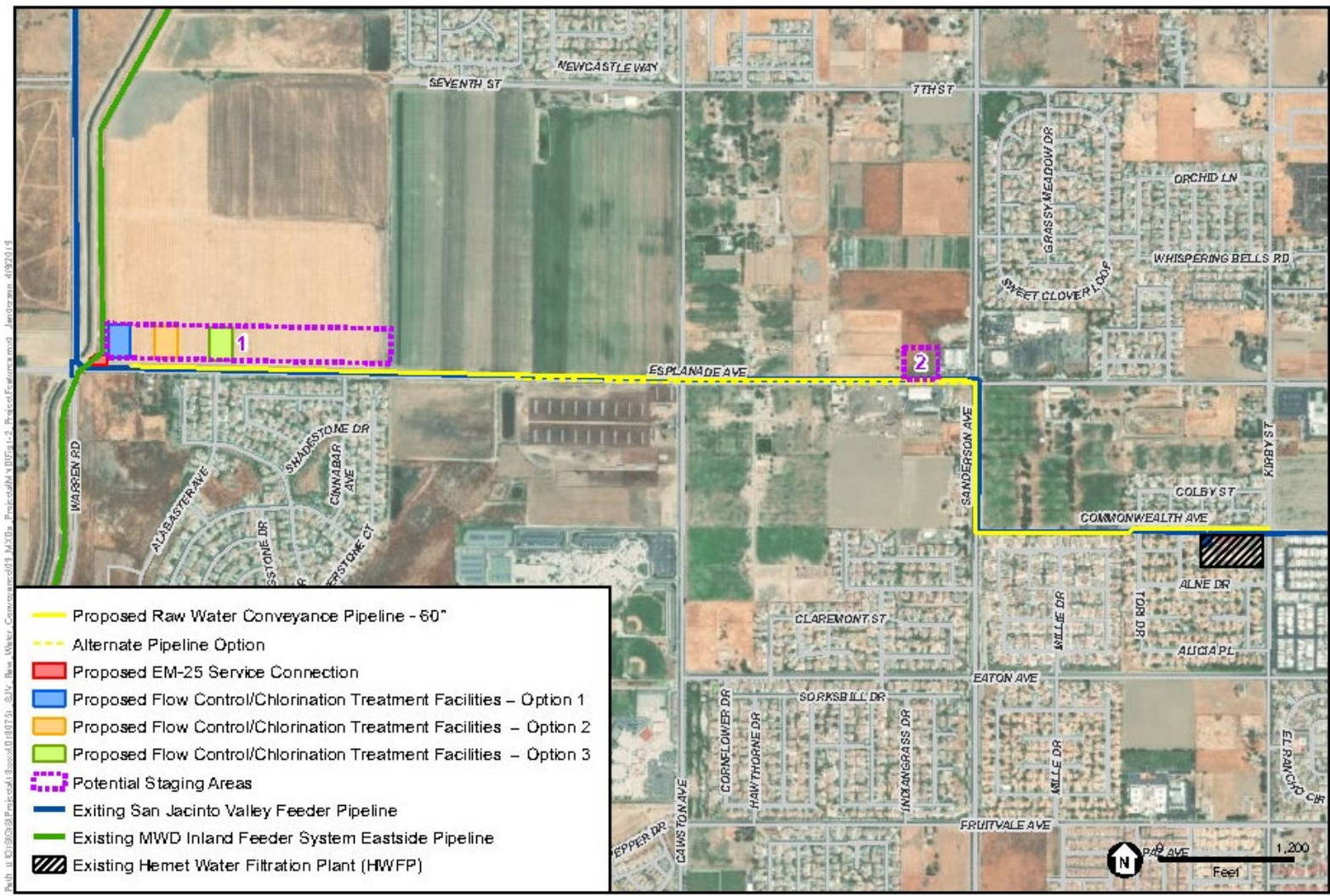
San Jacinto Public Library  
595 S San Jacinto Ave  
San Jacinto, CA 92583

Hemet Public Library  
300 E Latham Ave  
Hemet, CA 92543

EMWD  
2270 Trumble Road  
Perris, CA 92570

**Public Meeting:** The EMWD Board of Directors will consider the adoption of the IS/MND at its meeting on June 19, 2019, at 9:00 AM at 2270 Trumble Road, Board Room, Perris, CA 92570. For more information, please contact Alfred Javier at (951) 928-3777, Ext 6327.

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SOURCE: Mapbox

San Jacinto Valley Raw Water Conveyance  
**Figure 1**  
 Project Features