

**NOTICE OF INTENET TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Franklin County Water District is circulating for public review an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Improvements.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Located in and around the unincorporated Community of Franklin-Beachwood.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Franklin County Water District (District) proposes sewer line and wastewater treatment plant improvements that will bring the District's aging infrastructure to its permitted State standard and prevent potential unsanitary conditions (Project). Portions of the District's sewer collection system are severely deteriorated and in need of replacement or rehabilitation. The proposed Project area includes other segments of the District's wastewater collection system as a contingency in the event that additional sewer pipe segments are found to be in need of repair.

Proposed improvements to the sewer line consist of a combination of spot repairs, the Traditional construction method of dig and replace, and the Trenchless method of cured-in-place pipe (CIPP).

Proposed improvements to the sewer line consist of the rehabilitation and replacement of sewer mains, as well as upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) to add an extended aeration activated sludge facility, and the construction of additional evaporation/percolation ponds.

Existing evaporation/percolation Pond No. 3 is proposed to be decommissioned for the construction of the new extended aeration activated sludge facility. In this proposed preferred project scenario, the existing lift station will remain in place. Approximately 51 linear feet of 12-inch pipe will be required to convey influent wastewater from the lift station to the aerated lagoon reactor. One clarifier will be required to handle the plant's design flow of 0.6 MGD, while the other will be provided for redundancy. Settled sludge will be recirculated back to the aeration basin or wasted to a sludge drying bed. Treated effluent will be conveyed to the facility's evaporation/percolation ponds.

Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2022 and would take approximately one year, finishing in January 2023.

**PUBLIC REVIEW:** Franklin County Water District is making the proposed IS/MND available to interested agencies and members of the public for review and comment. A 30-day public review period will begin on February 14, 2020 and end at 5 PM on March 16,2020.

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY:** The IS/MND and separately bound appendices is available for review during regular business hours at the Franklin County Water District Office, 2115 Drake Ave in Merced, CA 95384. Written comments may be submitted to Brenda Wey at the above address prior to the end of the public review period.

A meeting of the Franklin County Water District Board of Directors will be held to consider the approval of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration at the District Office (see address above) at 5:30 PM, March 26, 2020 or as soon thereafter as may be heard.

For additional information, please call Brenda Wey, General Manager at (209) 723-1535.

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE