## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Thousand Oaks Community Development Department has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND 2019-70483) for the following project.

**Project Nos.:** Development Permit (DP) 2019-70457

Oak Tree permit (OTP) 2019-70624; and

Mitigated Negative Declation (MND) 2019-70483

**Location:** West side of Hill Canyon Road, approximately 1.75 miles south of

the intersection of Santa Rosa Road and Hill Canyon Road, and approximately 330 feet northwest of the treatment ponds at the Hill

Canyon Treatment Plant (HCTP)

APN: 667-0-120-160

**Applicant:** City of Thousand Oaks, Community Development Department

Project Contact: Jessica M. Magaña

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## **Project Description**

The Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (COSCA), a joint powers authority consisting of the City of Thousand Oaks (City) and the Conejo Recreation and Park District (CRPD), and the City's Public Works Department are proposing the Conejo Canyons Bridge Project (project), composed of a new bridge which would span Arroyo Conejo Creek in Hill Canyon, and an associated access road to connect the eastern side of the new bridge to the existing Hill Canyon Road. The western end of the proposed bridge would be positioned to tie into the existing Hill Canyon fire road which descends into the canyon from the north end of Rancho Conejo Drive. The east end of the proposed bridge would connect to Hill Canyon Road through construction of a short, new access road. The project site is located on approximately 0.61 acre of a larger 495-acre parcel within the Open Space (O-S) zone district and General Plan land use designation of Existing Parks, Golf Courses, Open Space.

The purpose of the new bridge is to improve access to existing open space areas for outdoor recreationists as well as City and COSCA staff vehicles. The proposed bridge would connect existing trails and access roads on either side of the creek and would provide a key link in the trail system between the Conejo Canyons and Wildwood open space areas. It would provide trail users safe access between Wildwood Park and Conejo Canyons by allowing them to

remain on the existing Hill Canyon trail and Arroyo Conejo trail rather than utilizing Hill Canyon Road. Additionally, the bridge would provide COSCA Park Rangers better accessibility to open space areas in support of maintenance and resource management. It would provide emergency vehicular access out of Hill Canyon as well as a direct route for City Public Works vehicles between the City's Municipal Service Center at the north end of Rancho Conejo Boulevard and the City's HCTP.

The City of Thousand Oaks has performed a comprehensive evaluation of the potential impacts for this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and has determined there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project may have a potentially significant impact which cannot be reduced to a less than significant level with the adoption of mitigation measures. This Notice is to advise interested parties that the City of Thousand Oaks intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project identified above.

A 30-day public review period for the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin **October 14, 2021 and end November 15, 2021**. The document is available for public review at the City of Thousand Oaks, Planning Division, 2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 or on the City's website at:

https://www.toaks.org/departments/community-development/planning/environmental-impact.

Any comments on this Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received by the Community Development Department office in writing by **5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2021**.

Signature:

Publication Date: October 14, 2021

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