



111 E. COMMERCIAL STREET
WILLITS, CALIFORNIA 95490
(707) 459-4601 TEL
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**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
CITY OF WILLITS GROUNDWATER RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and Section 15072 of the State Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Willits (City) hereby gives notice to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, interested parties, and the general public that the City of Willits intends to adopt an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project (Project). The City of Willits City Council will consider and make a decision on the adequacy of the IS/MND and the merits of the proposed Project.

The IS/MND is available for review electronically on the City's website at: <https://cityofwillits.org/147/Engineering>. The City accepted public comments on the IS/MND during a 30-day public review period extending September 10, 2021 to October 11, 2021. Additional information regarding the above noted item may be obtained by calling the City of Willits Engineering Department at (707) 459-4605 or via email: engineering@cityofwillits.org.

PROJECT TITLE: City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located northeast of the City center on City-owned parcels identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 007-010-01, 108-030-06, and 108-020-05 (Site). The Site is currently utilized for the Willits Groundwater System, including the Elias Replacement well, Long 20 well (proposed for connection to the system as part of this project), and groundwater treatment plant, and is located adjacent to the City's wastewater plant.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The City proposes improvements to the existing Willits Groundwater System in order to increase the City's conjunctive use capabilities and provide the City with a reliable water supply sufficient to meet community needs in the event surface water becomes untenable. Improvements would include the installation of 3,750 feet of new water line and the abandonment of 3,600 feet of existing water line within the Willits Groundwater System, the installation of a pump and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) facility to manage the Long 20 well, establishment of power to the Long 20 well pump and SCADA facility, arsenic pilot testing on the Long 20 well, and the installation of a 250,000-gallon clear well (chlorine contact tank) adjacent to the west of the groundwater treatment plant.

MEETING DATE/TIME: November 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM

MEETING LOCATION: City Council Chambers 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490 and/or conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 or any subsequent Order related to conducting the public meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



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In order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the City of Willits is currently conducting public meetings pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended certain requirements of the Brown Act and the way the public can participate during the public meetings. Participation in the public meeting will be allowed pursuant to applicable Executive Orders at the time of the public meeting. Participation is expected to be through electronic means as posted on the City Council meeting agenda for the November 10, 2021 regular meeting. This allows the City to adhere to social distancing requirements, follow the Governors' Executive Order N-29-20 and provide a way for the public to provide public comment live during the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, electronic copies of the staff report and agenda will be available on the City's website at <http://www.cityofwillits.org/AgendaCenter>. To request information or provide comments, please contact the Engineering Department at engineering@cityofwillits.org.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: The City Council will receive a staff presentation, consider public comments and decide to either adopt, not adopt, or modify the IS/MND.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: The City of Willits encourages all interested parties to participate in the Public Hearing and to comment on the issues being discussed. Members of the public may participate and provide public comment as follows:

- Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to the Engineering Department, engineering@cityofwillits.org or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, November 9, 2021. All public comments received will be provided to City Council and uploaded to the City's website in advance of the meeting.
- Oral public comments may be presented to the City Council via teleconference during the public hearing. To address the Commission during the live meeting please find the meeting-specific link to the teleconference included on the agenda for the November 10, 2021 City Council meeting that will be posted on the City's website.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

s/ Brian Bender, City Manager

Posted: 10/28/21