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Exempt per Gov't Code 6103

RETURN TO: Natalie Palacio
Irvine Ranch Water District
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92619-7000
949-453-5300

FILED

FEB 14 2022

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: [Signature] DEPUTY
County Clerk's Filing Stamp

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
(State Guidelines 15062)

TO: Orange County Clerk-Recorder
County Administration South
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

FROM: Irvine Ranch Water District (Applicant & Lead Agency)
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92619-7000
(949) 453-5300

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FEB 14 2022
HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER
DEPUTY

Project Name: Trunk Sewer Relocation within San Diego Creek near SR-133
Project Location: SR-133 bridge crossing over San Diego Creek (see Figure)
County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The State of California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) is currently in the design phase of its project to widen a bridge structure over the San Diego Creek to accommodate widening State Route 133 in the city of Irvine. After reviewing CalTrans' preliminary design sketch of the widened bridge structure, it appears that the bridge's proposed pier foundation conflicts with IRWD's existing 36-inch vitrified clay pipe trunk sewer. IRWD plans to perform five pothole excavations to verify the horizontal and vertical location of the existing trunk sewer. This information will be utilized to aid in the design of a project to relocate a segment of IRWD's trunk sewer to avoid interference with Caltrans' proposed bridge pier foundation.

For the exploratory pothole excavation work a lightweight excavator will access the site through a paved bike trail and existing ramp on the north side to the creek bottom. Where there are changes in grade within the creek bed, temporary ramps may be constructed using native soil materials, and large boulders may be temporarily relocated in order to access the site. Excavations will be approximately 4.5 feet long by 2 feet wide

by 6 feet deep based on as-built drawings. Actual field conditions may differ. Pothole excavations will be backfilled using native soil materials, and temporary access ramps will be removed, returning the site to original conditions. Proposed activities will be within the Caltrans' temporary impact area limits which is covered under its Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Permits are being secured for the pothole excavation work through the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. No vegetation will be removed or disturbed as part of this exploratory work.

Name of Public Agency Approving
and Carrying out this Project:

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD)
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618

Contact Person: Natalie Palacio, Water Resources Specialist

Area Code 949

Phone 453-5499

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec 21080(b)(1); (State Guidelines Sec. §15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec 21080(b)(3); State Guidelines Sec. §15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec 21080(b)(4); (State Guidelines Sec. §15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines Sec. §15301)
- Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines Sec. §15302)
- Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines Sec. §15303)
- Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines Sec. §15306)
- Statutory Exemption State code number (State Guidelines §15282)

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Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to the "categorical exemption rule." The geotechnical investigations are categorically exempt under the "information collection rule", which is outlined in CEQA Guideline 15306 and states that activities are exempt that consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

Submission of this form is optional. Local agencies may file this form with the county clerk pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). The filing of the notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project under Public Resources Code Section 21167(d). Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

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FEB 14 2022

Natalie Palacio
Staff Member Responsible for Preparation

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BY: [Signature] DEPUTY

Leslie Bonkowski
District Secretary

2/11/2022

Date

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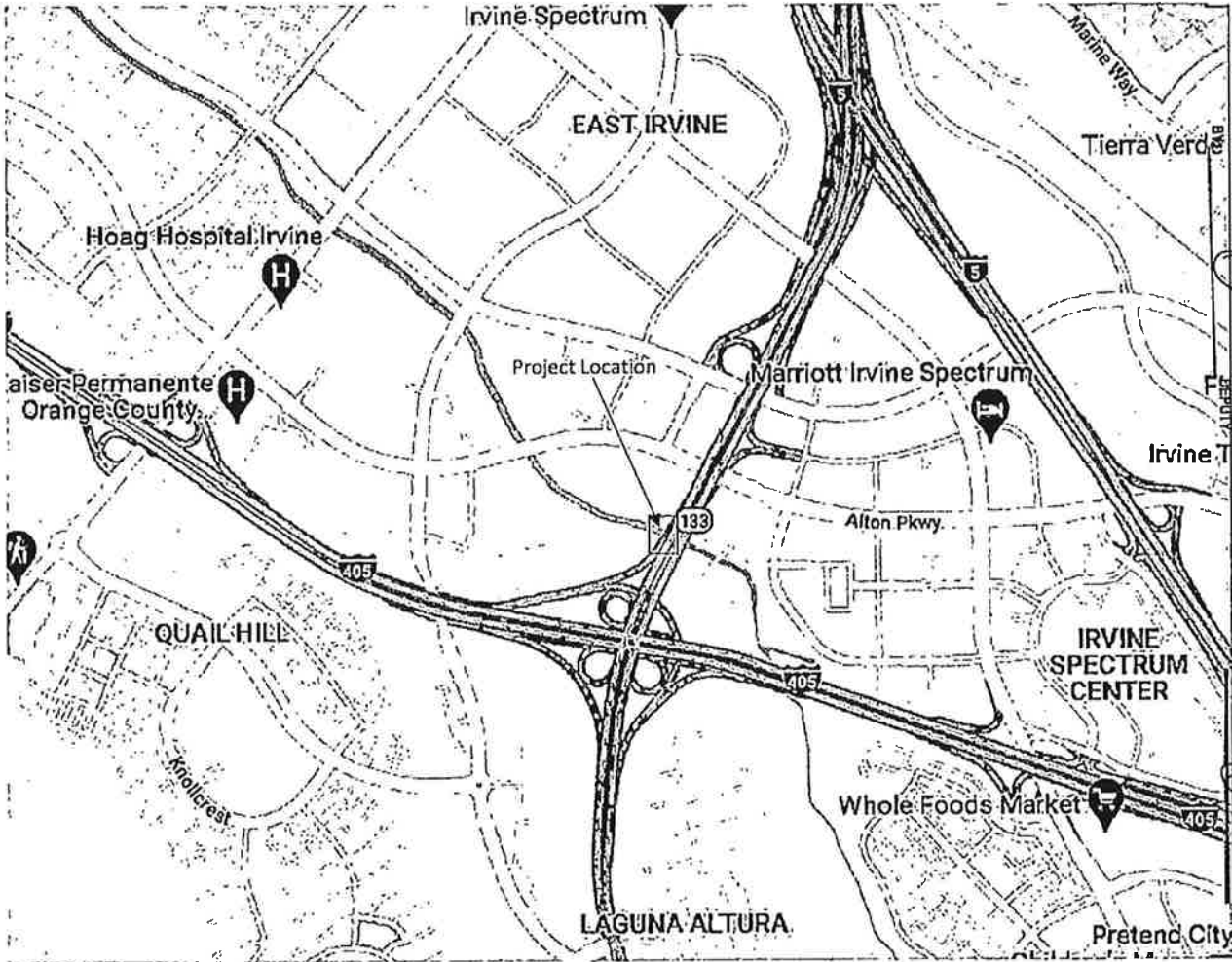
FEB 14 2022

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Exhibit "A" Trunk Sewer Relocation within San Diego Creek near SR-133



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