

APPENDIX A INITIAL STUDY AND NOTICE OF PREPARATION

COUNCIL MEMBERS
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CITY OF VACAVILLE

650 MERCHANT STREET, VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95688-6908

ESTABLISHED 1850

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Date: February 4, 2010

To: Responsible and Commenting Agencies

From: Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager
City of Vacaville, Public Works Department

Subject: **Notice of Preparation – Draft Environmental Impact Report
Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek Detention Basins Project**

The City of Vacaville will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by the City of Vacaville when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials, which includes an Initial Study checklist.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

NOP Public Circulation runs from February 8, 2010 through March 9, 2010.

Please send your response to the attention of:

Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager
City of Vacaville Public Works Department
650 Merchant Street
Vacaville, CA 95688
dfaaborg@cityofvacaville.com

Signature: *Deborah Faaborg*
Deborah Faaborg
Environmental Project Manager
(707) 449-5170

Date: 2/4/2010



**CITY OF VACAVILLE
NOTICE OF PREPARATION & NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING
ALAMO CREEK AND ULATIS CREEK DETENTION BASINS PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

The City of Vacaville (City) is the lead agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek Detention Basins Project. The City will also be the project proponent constructing the detention basin projects. The proposed projects include construction of two storm water detention basins, one adjacent to Alamo Creek on a 79 acre site, and one adjacent to Ulatis Creek on a 50 acre site. Both basins would be upstream and northwest of the City within an unincorporated portion of Solano County. The detention basins would increase storm water detention along Alamo and Ulatis Creeks during peak storm events, resulting in a decrease in future flooding within the City.

Location

The Alamo Creek Detention Basin site is located on the Fairfield North U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map (revised 1980) within an unsectionalized portion of Township 6 North, Range 1 West, of the Los Putos land grant. (APNs: 124-010-210, 124-010-130, 124-160-040)
The site is accessed by Rogers Lane and is approx. ¼ mile south of Vaca Valley Road.

The Ulatis Creek Detention Basin site is located on the Mt. Vaca USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map (revised 1968) within an unsectionalized portion of Township 6 North, Range 1 West, of the Los Putos land grant. (APN: 123-100-080) The site is east of and adjacent to Bucktown Lane and is approximately ¼ mile north of Vaca Valley Road.

Finding

Based on the criteria included in the State CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15060 through 15065, the City has determined that the project may have a significant effect on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. The purpose of the EIR is to provide information to the public and decision makers about potential significant effects, feasible mitigation measures, and to describe and analyze possible alternatives.

Scoping of EIR

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been issued as a notification of the intent to prepare an EIR for the project and to provide an invitation for comments regarding the scope impact analysis in the EIR. The 30 day time frame for submittal of written comments is February 8, 2010 through March 9, 2010. A complete copy of the NOP and Initial Study Checklist is available at the City of Vacaville Public Works Department, 650 Merchant St., Vacaville, CA 95688, or on the City's web site under the Public Works Department section at www.cityofvacaville.com. Written comments should be submitted on or before 5:00 PM, March 9, 2010 to: Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager, City of Vacaville Public Works Department, 650 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688; (707) 449-5170; dfaaborg@cityofvacaville.com.

Public Meeting

Pursuant to Section 15082 (c)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Vacaville will hold a public scoping meeting to receive verbal comments from interested parties. The public scoping meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at Vacaville City Hall, City Council Chambers, 650 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688.

By: Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager

February 8, 2010

INITIAL STUDY
CHECKLIST
&
EIR SCOPING EVALUATION
for
NOTICE OF PREPARATION

ALAMO CREEK
AND
ULATIS CREEK
DETENTION BASINS PROJECT

City Planning File # 08-083
City CIP Files 804, 815 & 825

Prepared by
The City of Vacaville

February 2010

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PROJECT TITLE:

Alamo Creek & Ulatis Creek Detention Basins Project

LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS:

City of Vacaville
Public Works Department
650 Merchant St.
Vacaville, CA 95688

CONTACT PERSON AND PHONE NUMBER:

Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager
Public Works Department, Engineering Services Division
(707) 449-5170
dfaaborg@cityofvacaville.com

PROJECT LOCATION:

Solano County, California, just northwest of the City of Vacaville (City).

The Alamo Creek Detention Basin Project is located on the Fairfield North U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map (revised 1980) within an unsectionalized portion of Township 6 North, Range 1 West, of the Los Potos land grant.

APNs: 124-010-210, 124-010-130, 124-160-040

Center Point: Latitude 38° 22.4'N Longitude -122° 01.1'W

The site is accessed by Rogers Lane and is approx. ¼ mile south of Vaca Valley Road.

The Ulatis Creek Detention Basin Project is located on the Mt. Vaca USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map (revised 1968) within an unsectionalized portion of Township 6 North, Range 1 West, of the Los Potos land grant.

APN: 123-100-080

Center Point: Latitude 38° 23.1'N Longitude -122° 01.3'W

The site is east of and adjacent to Bucktown Lane and is approximately ¼ mile north of Vaca Valley Road.

GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION: Exclusive Agriculture (Solano County GP)

ZONING DISTRICT: A-40; Exclusive Agricultural District (Solano County)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARIZED:

The City of Vacaville is proposing to construct two storm water detention basins on City owned property located outside the City limits and adjacent to Alamo and Ulatis Creeks (see attached Exhibits). The properties are located in an unincorporated portion of Solano County, adjacent to the northwestern limits of the City. The City of Vacaville has historically experienced urban flooding within the urban reaches along Alamo and Ulatis Creeks. During the December 2002 and December 2005 storms, the creeks overtopped their banks and flooded established neighborhoods within the City, resulting in millions of dollars of damage to residential and commercial properties. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the detention

capacity up-stream in the creek system that conveys storm water runoff through the City of Vacaville. The construction of the detention basins will include a surrounding berm, an inlet structure to convey flood flows from the creeks into the detention basins, an outlet structure to meter the re-entry of detained flows back into the creeks, and an emergency spillway to provide for overflow storm water to re-enter the creeks should the capacity of the detention basin be exceeded. The Alamo Creek Detention Basin is proposed on a 79-acre site and is targeted for construction in 2010/2011. The Ulatis Creek Detention Basin is proposed on a 50-acre site and will be programmed for future construction based on availability of funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

Based on the preliminary evaluation of potential environmental issues in this initial study, the City of Vacaville has determined that the above project may have a significant effect on the environment. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek Detention Basins Projects. The information in this initial study checklist will provide initial project information to determine the scope of the EIR and support the Notice of Preparation for the EIR. The determination is based on the attached Initial Study and the following findings:

NOP SCOPING COMMENTS

A Notice of Preparation has been prepared and circulated for a period of 30 days, from **February 8 through March 9, 2010**. Written comments regarding the scope of the EIR should be addressed to:

City of Vacaville, Public Works Department
c/o: Deborah Faaborg, Environmental Project Manager
650 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688
dfaaborg@cityofvacaville.com

The close of the scoping and comment period is at 5:00 PM on Monday March 9, 2010

SCOPING MEETING

A scoping meeting will be held on **Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:30 PM** to solicit input from interested agencies and members of the public. A project overview will be presented followed by a public comment period. The meeting will be held at the following location:

Vacaville City Hall
City Council Chambers
650 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688

**CITY OF VACAVILLE
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST & EIR SCOPING EVALUATION**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION - OVERVIEW

The City of Vacaville is proposing to construct two storm water detention basins adjacent to Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek, in a location upstream and northwest of the City of Vacaville urban reaches. The detention basin sites are on City-owned property located in an unincorporated portion of Solano County zoned for agricultural uses. The purpose of the proposed projects is to increase the detention capacity along the creek systems that convey storm water runoff through the City of Vacaville and reduce the incidents of flooding and damage to properties during peak storm runoff flows. The project includes the construction of two storm water detention basins; each basin to include a surrounding berm, an inlet structure to convey flood flows from the subject creeks into the detention basin, an outlet pipe to meter the re-entry of detained flows back into the creek and a spillway to provide for overflow storm water to re-enter the creek should the capacity of the detention basin be exceeded.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

The project consists of two non-adjacent sites; each is proposed to have an independently operating detention basin:

Alamo Creek Detention Basin Location

The proposed Alamo Creek Detention Basin site consists of 79 acres of land located approximately 600 feet north and 1,200 feet west of the incorporated limits of the City of Vacaville in an unincorporated area of Solano County. Upper Alamo Creek runs from northwest to southeast along the southern boundary of the site, Pleasants Valley Road is located to the west of the site and cultivated and uncultivated land occurs to the north and east of the site. The property is accessed by way of a private road easement named “Rogers Lane” that extends south into the property from Vaca Valley Road. The site currently supports remnants of plum orchard. A riparian corridor composed largely of native oaks, cottonwoods and willows line the southern boundary of the site along the bank of Alamo Creek.

APNs: 124-010-210, 124-010-130, 124-160-040
Center Point: Latitude 38° 22.4’N Longitude -122° 01.1’W

Ulatis Creek Detention Basin Location

The proposed Ulatis Creek Detention Basin site consists of approximately 50 acres of land located approximately 3,600 feet northwest of the incorporated limits of the City of Vacaville in an unincorporated area of Solano County. Ulatis Creek runs from northwest to southeast along the northern boundary of the site. Open land, some vacant and some cultivated, occurs to the west, south and east of the site. Bucktown Lane borders the western edge of the property and provides access to the site from Vaca Valley Road, which is located approximately 1,400 feet to the south of the property.

APN: 123-100-080
Center Point: Latitude 38° 23.1’N Longitude -122° 01.3’W

BACKGROUND & SETTING

The City of Vacaville has historically experienced urban flooding within the urban reaches along Alamo and Ulatis Creeks. During the December 2002 and December 2005 storms, Alamo Creek overtopped its banks and flooded established neighborhoods within the City. The Peabody/Tulare area, the Southwood area located west of Peabody Road, and the area along North Alamo Drive all experienced significant flooding during the December 2005 flood event when waters reached several feet in depth and caused millions of dollars in property damage.

The City has conducted several studies to identify effective mechanisms for reducing flooding in the City's urban areas. Based on these studies, the City has completed several projects to reduce flood risk within the City of Vacaville, including:

- High flow by-pass channel along Alamo Creek: Designed to lower water surface elevations during storms with a return frequency of less than 10 years.
- Detention basin near Southwood Park: Designed to mitigate for increased flows resulting from development within the Alamo Creek Watershed.
- Detention basin off Laguna Creek: Designed to reduce peak flows in Alamo Creek during 10-year storm events.

Although the projects listed above have aided in reducing flooding during small storm events, they do not provide significant relief during moderate to large storm events. In recognition of this problem, the Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) initiated the Ulatis System Drainage Study (USDS), which updated the hydrologic and hydraulic modeling of the Ulatis Creek system and modeled flooding based on the December 2002 and December 2005 storms (*West Yost Assoc. March 2008. Ulatis System Drainage Study*). This study identified and evaluated flood control improvements, including the effectiveness of regional detention basins located upstream of the City.

Following the December 2005 storm, the City moved ahead with plans to implement the recommended regional detention facilities in the upstream tributaries of the City's creek system. The City has pursued grants and other financing opportunities to support the purchase of upstream properties that are suitably located for the design of detention facilities along the creek system that eventually flows through the City's urban reaches. The City completed construction three basins located on a 60-acre property west of the City limits along Encinosa Creek in the summer of 2008. The completed project is referred to as the Pleasants Valley Detention Basins Project and is located along Encinosa Creek, south of the Alamo and Ulatis Creek Detention Basin sites.

ALAMO CREEK DETENTION BASIN PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Alamo Creek detention basin is the highest priority basin of the two projects. This basin will significantly reduce the amount of water overtopping the banks of Alamo Creek, thereby minimizing the impact of localized flooding in the Alamo/Peabody and Twin Creeks neighborhoods of the City. During major flood events, it is anticipated that this basin will reduce private property damage by at least 25% - 50% according to a preliminary design report prepared by West Yost and Associates. For lower intensity storms, property damage should be reduced by 90% - 100%.

The Alamo Creek Detention Basin preliminary design objective is to store up to 1,000 acre-feet of storm water run-off, thereby reducing the possibility of flooding along Alamo Creek in the City of Vacaville. The basin will be designed to temporarily detain storm water runoff during moderate to high storm events and meter the flow of water back into the same system after a 24 to 48 hour detention period following storm subsidence. Development of the detention basin includes the excavation of a detention floor, foundation excavation and building of a berm to surround the basin, and construction of an inlet structure to provide for the gravity flow of water into the detention basin from Alamo Creek. It will also include the installation of an outlet pipe to meter the flow of storm water back into the creek and construction of an overflow spillway to provide for the re-entry of detained storm water into Alamo Creek in the event that the capacity of the detention basin is exceeded.

The detention basin will not impede normal and/or low flows of the creek. The proposed project will be designed to avoid and minimize impacts to Alamo Creek and the adjacent riparian area. Detention basin berms will be carefully sited to minimize riparian tree removal. Construction of the detention basin berms will require initial excavation to stable subsurface soil followed by build-up and compaction of suitable native material to create a berm along the north, east, and south sides of the basin. Vegetation consisting of elderly orchards, brush, and grasses will need to be removed to construct the berm and improve the site for project completion.

Inlet structures of articulated concrete revetment block, or a similar stabilization feature, will be constructed from the creek at the upstream location of the basin to provide for the gravity flow of storm water flows into the basin. The inlet will be located in the southwest corner of the basin. Preliminary estimates are that the inlet structure will be approximately 300-foot wide, 5-foot deep, and extend from Alamo Creek to the detention basin floor.

A 42-inch diameter concrete outlet pipe or pipes will be installed in the downstream berm of the basin to provide for metered flows back into Alamo Creek. The outlet will be backfilled with a concrete slurry mix or other non-permeable material to prevent erosion around the pipe. Energy dissipation areas at the outflow location will be lined with clean rock (riprap) or similar erosion control feature to reduce the potential for soil erosion and bank scour. Soil stabilization at the inlet and outlet structures will also be performed. The outlet will limit, but not stop, the gravity flow of storm water back to the creek. Pipe size at the outfall will effectively control flow rate by metering water exiting the basin. An emergency spillway will be constructed of concrete within the berm adjacent to the outlet pipe. The spillway will provide for the re-entry of detained storm water into Alamo Creek in the event that the capacity of the detention basin is exceeded. Disturbance within the creek channel will be limited to the inlet and the outlet structures and related erosion control features. Construction will conform to all California Regional Water Quality Control Board Best Management Practices for construction and any conditions included in the Corps of Engineers or Fish and Game permits.

The California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD), has jurisdictional authority under the California Water Code to regulate the design, construction and operation of dams and other water impoundments, including detention basins with a berm height of 6 feet or greater that impound over 50 acre-feet of water. As such, construction plans and specifications for the Upper Alamo Creek Detention Basin (which includes storage design capacity of up to 1,000 acre-feet of water) will be subject to DSOD approval.

Based on preliminary estimates, construction of the Upper Alamo Detention Basin could require the movement of 700,000 to 800,000 cubic yards of soil. Soil required for construction of the berm would be excavated from the interior of the basin; however, berm construction will use only a portion of the material and it is anticipated that a significant amount of excess soil will be hauled by truck from the site to locations unknown at this time.

All construction activities for the project, including equipment staging and soil stockpile areas are anticipated to occur within the boundaries of the project site; however, the potential for some off-site staging may be required and will need to be evaluated in the EIR if proposed. No equipment storage or staging is proposed in or near any sensitive habitat areas. Traffic will be maintained on the adjacent roadways during project construction; no road closures or detours are anticipated. Construction access to the project site will be via Rogers Lane from Vaca Valley Road. No utility relocation will be required by the project.

Staging Areas and Equipment Logistics – Alamo Detention Basin

Heavy earth moving equipment will be needed for excavation of the site. Such equipment will include but not be limited to:

- Scrapers and large bulldozers with ripper attachments
- Excavators and/or backhoes for installation of outfall pipe
- Delivery vehicles for bringing construction materials (e.g., concrete truck) to the site
- Loaders and trucks for removing the off-haul dirt
- Landscaping equipment to complete site work (e.g., hydro-seed vehicle)

The staging area location is anticipated to be on the northeast corner of the Detention Basin site, adjacent to Rogers Lane and within the basin as construction occurs.

More specific project design and construction information will be available upon completion of the Preliminary Design Report for the basin.

ULATIS CREEK DETENTION BASIN PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The second priority detention basin, which is part of the project and addresses storm related flooding is the Ulatis Creek Detention Basin. The objectives of this basin is to reduce flood damages and costs to public and private property, individuals, local businesses, and agencies by reducing storm water flows along Ulatis Creek. Once the basin has been constructed, storm water peak levels in Ulatis Creek will be minimized, with damage downstream from flooding anticipated to be reduced by up to 90%. The Ulatis Creek Detention Basin preliminary design objective is to store approximately 500 acre-feet of storm water run-off and the basin will roughly cover an area of approximately 1,500 x 1,400 feet with a depth of 22 feet from the top of the constructed berm to the base of the basin. A detailed design of the Ulatis Basin is not available at this time.

There is a high voltage electrical distribution line tower in the detention basin area as well as a Solano Irrigation District distribution pipe, which conveys agricultural water. The basin will be constructed around the existing tower site and access to the tower will be provided according to PG&E requirements. A single domestic well exists at the southwest corner of the site adjacent to Bucktown Lane; water is delivered to a residence on property adjacent and east of the site via a water line located along the south property line of the project site. The project will maintain the well and water line service unless otherwise provided for prior to construction.

The design concept and construction methods for the Ulatis Creek Detention Basin project will be similar to the Alamo Creek Basin. A 100-foot – 300-foot wide concrete revetment block upstream inlet, with a depth of 5 feet, and a downstream outlet consisting of two 48-inch diameter concrete pipes will be installed in the berm. The basin's floor and berms will be composed of suitable native material, and all berms will be designed to meet the requirements of the Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams. Disturbance within the creek

channel will be limited to construction of the inlet and outlet structures and related erosion control features. All construction methods will conform to California Regional Water Quality Control Board Best Management Practices, as well as the specific permit conditions issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the California Department of Fish and Game.

Based on preliminary estimates, construction of the Ulatis Creek Detention Basin could require the movement of approximately 500,000 to 600,000 cubic yards of soil. Soil required for construction of the berms would be excavated from the interior of the basin; however, berm construction will use only a portion of the material and it is anticipated that a significant amount of excess soil will be hauled by truck from the site to locations unknown at this time.

More specific project design and construction information will be available upon completion of the Preliminary Design Report for the basin.

ANTICIPATED PERMITS, CONSULTATIONS, AND APPROVALS - BOTH BASINS

The following permits, consultations, and approvals are anticipated to be required for the Upper Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek Detention Basins:

- **Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).**

Construction of the project would result in the filling of wetlands or other waters of the U.S. under the jurisdiction of Corps. The Corps regulates the nation's waterways and wetlands, and is responsible for implementing and enforcing Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA). Corps regulations require that any activity that discharges dredge or fill material in "waters of the U.S.", including wetlands, must obtain a Section 404 permit.
- **Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).**

The State Water Resources Control Board and the RWQCBs promulgate and enforce narrative and numeric water quality standards in order to protect water quality and adopt and approve Water Quality Control Plans. The State Board and the RWQCBs also regulate discharges of harmful substances to surface waters, including wetlands, under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. If issuance of a Section 404 permit is required, it will be subject to water quality certification under CWA Section 401. Since the project results in 1 acre or more of ground disturbance, it will be subject to preparation of a Notice of Intent and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan under CWA Section 402.
- **Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG).**

Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify the Department before beginning any activity that will do one or more of the following: 1) substantially obstruct or divert the natural flow of a river, stream, or lake; 2) substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of a river, stream, or lake; or 3) deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it can pass into a river, stream, or lake. Since the project will place riprap within a stream channel, it will be subject to a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

- **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Compliance.**
 For projects with federal funding, permits or approvals, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, includes provisions for protection of significant archaeological and historical resources. The administering agency for the Section 106 process is the federal lead agency and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Due to the Federal funding involved (potentially) with both projects, FEMA is the lead agency for consultation under Section 106 as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation process.
- **Section 7 Consultation under the Federal Endangered Species Act.**
 Under Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the federal agency that is conducting, funding, or permitting an action (i.e., Corps) must consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to ensure that the proposed action will not jeopardize endangered or threatened species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Due to the Federal funding involved (potentially) with both projects, FEMA is the lead agency for consultation under Section 7 and will prepare a biological assessment (BA) to address potential adverse effects on the federally threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle and California red-legged frog as part of the NEPA documentation.
- **Approval of the Construction Plans and Specifications by Division of Safety of Dams.**
 Both the Alamo Creek and Ulatis Creek Detention Basins fall under the jurisdiction of the DSOD due to the proposed berm heights and storage capacity of the basins. As such, approval of the construction plans and specifications by the DSOD will be required for both basins.
- **Encroachment Permit from Solano County, Department of Public Works.**
 The proposed project will require an encroachment permit from Solano County, Department of Public Works for access to the project sites from Vaca Valley Road.

PROJECT ACTION BY CITY OF VACAVILLE

The Project Action will be by the City Council when they approve the design concept for each basin and authorize staff to proceed with construction drawings. Prior to such action, the City Council will certify the Final Environmental Impact Report, consider the information in the EIR, make findings, and incorporate required mitigation measures into the project approval. Based on priorities, funding and construction schedules, it is anticipated that there will be a separate project action for each basin.

CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

Right-of-Way

The City owns the project site in fee title. No right-of-way acquisition would be required for the project.

Related Projects

As described earlier in this document, the City has completed several projects to reduce flood risk within the City of Vacaville, including:

- High flow by-pass channel along Alamo Creek: Designed to lower water surface elevations during storms with a return frequency of less than 10 years.
- Detention basin near Southwood Park: Designed to mitigate for increased flows resulting from development within the Alamo Creek Watershed.
- Detention basin off Laguna Creek: Designed to reduce peak flows in Alamo Creek during 10-year storm events.
- Pleasants Valley Detention Basins: Constructed in 2008 and designed to detain peak flows from Encinosa Creek prior to entering the Alamo Creek and storm drain system.

Each of these projects incrementally addresses reduction in flood hazards within the City of Vacaville and each project functions independently from the proposed Alamo and Ulatis Detention Basins.

Local Agency Coordination

As CEQA Lead Agency, the City has coordinated with Solano County staff and determined that it is not subject to the following Solano County approvals or permits:

- Improvement Plan Approval
- Grading Plan Approval or Permit
- Tree Removal Permit
- Conditional Use Permit

In accordance with California Government Code Section 65402, the City has notified Solano County of the proposed project and requested that Solano County conduct a conformity determination of the proposed project with the Solano County General Plan. The City received no response from Solano County in the specified 40-day review period. As provided for in California Government Code Section 65402, failure of a planning agency (Solano County) to report within 40 days after the matter has been submitted, conclusively deems the project in conformity with all applicable portions of the adopted plan (Solano County General Plan).

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

AESTHETICS

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	X			
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?			X	
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or the quality of the site and its surroundings?	X			
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

EIR Scope

The projects are located in the unincorporated agricultural area located northwest of the City of Vacaville. Both sites are located adjacent to mature riparian corridors and surrounded by agricultural and rural residential uses. The projects will involve the excavation of both sites and the construction of berms above existing grade. The berms will be seeded with annual grasses and the basin floors may be seasonal wetlands or cultivated fields depending on groundwater conditions after construction.

Questions A-C:

Because the projects involve construction that will change the horizon line for views of and across the project sites, there is a potential for impacts to nearby properties and to the visual character of the area. Therefore, Aesthetics and Visual Resources **will be analyzed in the EIR.**

Questions D:

The constructed project will not have lighting or features that create glare and thus will not result in an impact in these categories. **No further evaluation of this issue is required.**

AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES

Would the project:

Would the project: Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural uses?	X			
b) Conflict with any existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	X			
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in the Public Resources Code section 12220(g)). Timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526). Or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104 (g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?			X	

EIR Scope

The Alamo site is 79 acres and is identified as Prime Farmland, if irrigated. Approximately 47 acres has been used as orchard and an additional 25 acres is non-native grassland that was previously used for agriculture. The remaining acreage (approx. 7 acres) is comprised of riparian and seasonal drainage habitat. Construction of the Alamo Creek detention basin would temporarily remove vegetation and topsoil from approximately 63 acres of lands designated as prime farmland. Topsoil will be removed in disturbed areas, reserved, and re-spread on the site to support revegetation. The project intends that resulting basin would allow for approximately 47 acres to be used as agricultural or wetland habitat depending on groundwater conditions after construction; however, it is unclear whether the soils will continue to qualify as prime farmland after construction. In addition, a portion of the Alamo site may still be subject to Williamson Act contracts; although these contracts are currently in non-renewal status and the proposed municipal use may automatically void further applicability of these contracts.

The Ulatis site is 50 acres and is identified as Prime Farmland, if irrigated. Approximately 45 acres is non-native annual grassland that was previously used for agriculture. The remaining approx. 8 acres is primarily comprised of riparian/seasonal drainage habitat. Construction of the basin would temporarily remove vegetation and topsoil from approximately 37 acres of lands designated as Prime Farmland. Topsoil will be removed in the disturbed areas, reserved, and re-spread on the site to support revegetation. The project intends that the resulting basin would allow for approx. 34 acres to be used as agricultural or wetland habitat depending on

groundwater conditions after construction; however, it is unclear whether the soils will continue to qualify as prime farmland after construction.

Questions A, B & D:

Due to the circumstances described above related to the Prime Farmland designation and the status of Williamson Act contracts, a complete analysis of impacts to agricultural resources **will be included in the EIR**, including discussion to support the conclusion for question E.

Questions C & D:

The project sites do not have any timberland, forestland or zoning of forestland or timberland. The riparian habitat removal associated with the project will be addressed in the EIR under the biology section. For this reason, the forestland/timberland environmental category **will not be further analyzed in the EIR**.

AIR QUALITY

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	X			
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	X			
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	X			
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	X			
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	X			
f) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment or conflict with the applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	X			

EIR Scope

The proposed project is located in northern Solano County, which is part of the Sacramento Valley air basin. The Sacramento Valley air basin is regulated by the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD). Construction of both basins will require the use of large equipment and the movement of a significant quantity of soil. Construction activities and related traffic would result in air quality emissions that may exceed established standards and there may also be cumulative issues related to greenhouse gas emissions and global climate change. A complete analysis of the impacts to air quality **will be included in the EIR**.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	X			
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	X			
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	X			
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	X			
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	X			
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	X			
g) Result in the introduction or spread of any noxious weeds?	X			

EIR Scope

Both detention basin projects have the potential to significantly impact sensitive habitat and specific listed species. Construction could result in potential habitat loss and impacts to riparian areas. Impacts to biological resources **will be addressed in the EIR.**

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	X			
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	X			
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	X			
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	X			

EIR Scope

Both detention basin sites are located adjacent to creek environments, a setting known to have a high probability for buried cultural resources. In addition, the sites have the potential to contain remnant historic features related to the region's agricultural heritage. The region and immediate area in and around Vacaville have proven to contain significant buried Native American resources. Preliminary and more detailed investigations on both sites have revealed that there is a potential for significant impact resulting from the projects. Therefore, impacts to cultural resources **will be addressed in the EIR**.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map as issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. 				X
• Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
• Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
• Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?			X	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X

EIR Scope

Land slopes in the project area are generally less than one percent. Surface soils in the project area consist primarily of unconsolidated alluvial sediments and are characterized as loams and clay loams. According to the online California Department of Conservation, California Geologic Survey Official Earthquake Fault Maps (California Department of Conservation 2007) issued in compliance with the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, the project site is not located within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The nearest active fault is the Great Valley Fault located approximately 5 miles east of the project site. As depicted in Figures 9-1 and 9-2 of the Safety Element of the City of Vacaville General Plan (City of Vacaville 1990 as amended through 2004), the project site is located in an area designated as least susceptible to landslides and very low to low liquefaction potential.

A geotechnical investigation will be prepared for both detention basin projects and project design details will be based on the recommendation of geotechnical engineers. The City will implement all recommendations and measures contained in the geotechnical report, City standards, and standard engineering practices to minimize impacts related to geology and soils. Additionally, both basins will be developed with oversight from DSOD to ensure proposed features meet DSOD safety requirements.

Answers to Checklist Questions

Question A

The project site is not located within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone and the nearest active fault is approximately 5 miles away. The proposed project would be constructed in compliance with standard engineering requirements. There would be no impact; therefore, **further analysis in the EIR is not required.**

Question B

Construction of the proposed project would involve site grading. This would expose soils at the site. Soil erosion and topsoil loss would be limited by implementing standard the dust control measures and the requirements of the NPDES permit (to be analyzed in the Water Quality Section of the EIR). The proposed project would be constructed in accordance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System general permit requirements; the construction contractor would be responsible for developing and implementing a SWPPP. The SWPPP would identify BMPs to address soil stabilization, sediment control, wind erosion control, and vehicle tracking control. Because these erosion control mitigation measures are included in the City's standard specifications, are addressed in other impact categories of the EIR and would be implemented during project construction, these impacts are considered less than significant under the category of Geology and Soils and **will not be further analyzed in the EIR.**

Question C

As discussed above under Question A, the project site is not located in or adjacent to an active fault zone or in an area of substantial seismic hazard. Therefore, the proposed project would have little potential to result in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. There would be no impact and **no analysis required in the EIR.**

Question D

The nature of the site's subsurface soils is being evaluated as part of the geotechnical investigation for the project. Because the City is committed to implementing all of the recommendations and measures contained in the geotechnical investigation, City standard practices, and standard engineering practices to minimize the risk of loss of life and property associated with the siting of facilities on expansive soils, this impact would be considered less than significant and will **not be further analyzed in the EIR.**

Question E

The proposed project does not include the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. There would be no impact and **no further analysis in the EIR.**

Based on the above summary of geologic and soils issues and the fact that the implementation of City standards which are also included as mitigations under the EIR issues of Water Quality and Air Quality, it has been determined that further **analysis of Geology and Soils impacts in the EIR is not necessary.**

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Cause a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?			X	
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X

EIR Scope

As part of the Phase 1 Environmental Assessment conducted for the Alamo project site, additional testing was recommended for agricultural pesticides and an above ground tank. The Phase 1 Environmental Assessment conducted for the Ulatis site also recommended additional testing for agricultural pesticides. Further hazardous materials testing and clean-up are governed by state and federal statutory requirements, which constitute a government program, which serves as a mitigation, thereby eliminating the need for further CEQA evaluation. The City will comply with applicable state and federal statutory requirements. Based on this information, hazards and hazardous materials **will not be evaluated in the EIR.**

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	X			
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
g) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures, which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
i) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

EIR Scope

The project area is part of a larger watershed that drains the eastern Vaca Mountains. Both Alamo and Ulatis Creeks originate in the Vaca Mountains and travel through the City of Vacaville, serving as primary storm drainage features. Significant urban flooding has occurred in established neighborhoods during 100 year and 500 year flood events due to stormwater overtopping the banks of both Ulatis and Alamo Creeks within the City of Vacaville. The proposed detention basins will provide flood reduction for these areas and reduce erosion further downstream in the watershed.

Question A

Because construction activities could temporarily result in the substantial increase in discharge of pollutants to onsite stormwater, the project could result in potential significant short-term construction-related water quality standard violations. **This issue will be addressed in the EIR.**

Question B

Surface water would be detained temporarily in the stormwater basins and would then be slowly released. Groundwater supplies and recharge would not be affected by project construction or operation and therefore **this issue will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

Questions C, D, and E

The proposed detention basin projects would have a beneficial impact on local drainage patterns. Both detention basins have been sized to handle the storm water volume generated from a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. During periods of high flow, the proposed detention basins would store flood flows, relieving pressure on downstream reaches of Ulatis and Alamo Creeks, and reducing the potential for these creeks to overtop their banks and flood adjacent residential development. When stream capacity permits, flood flows would be metered back into Encinosa Creek. The proposed projects would detain peak storm flows in an off-line facility with the intent to reduce flood volume and velocity, thereby reducing downstream erosion flood potential. The projects help maintain the capacity of the City's storm drain system by detaining a percentage of flood flows during peak storm events. Since the project is intended to improve conditions itemized in questions C, D & E, there is no impact and **these issues will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

Question F

The proposed project does not include housing. The project would not place housing in a 100-year floodplain hazard area. There is no impact and therefore **this issue will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

Questions G and H

With the exception of the detention basin berm and inlet and outlet structures, no structures would be constructed as part of the proposed projects. The basins, including the inlet and outlet structures are intended to reduce downstream flooding by temporarily detaining peak flood flows during 100 year and greater flood events. The intent of the projects is to improve flood protection of people and property downstream along Ulatis and Alamo Creeks. Since the project is intended to improve conditions itemized in Questions G and H, there is no impact and **these issues will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

Question I

No portion of the project sites are subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. There would be no impact and therefore **this issue will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
b) Physically divide an established community?				X

EIR Scope

The project sites are located outside of the City limits of the City of Vacaville in an unincorporated portion of Solano County. The project area land use is identified as Exclusive Agriculture in the Solano County General Plan. Adjacent land uses surrounding the sites carry the same land use designation. The Solano County zoning for the project site is A-40, Exclusive Agricultural District.

Questions A and B

The proposed project includes the development of regional detention basins on an abandoned orchard site located adjacent to an established residential neighborhood. The project would not conflict with current or planned agricultural land uses in the project vicinity nor would the project physically divide an established community.

The City has notified Solano County of the proposed project and requested that Solano County conduct a conformity determination of the proposed project with the Solano County General Plan. Failure of Solano County to reply to this request within the specified time period has conclusively deemed the project in conformity with all applicable portions of the adopted Solano County General Plan General Plan (California Government Code Section 65402). **Land Use setting and regulations will be disclosed in the EIR to demonstrate that the conclusion of no impact is appropriate.**

MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?				X

EIR Scope

According to the Geology and Soils Background Report prepared for the Solano County General Plan Update (EDAW 2006), mineral resources in Solano County include calcium, clay, mercury, sand and gravel, and stone. The project site is not located in a mineral resources zone as described by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Mineral Land Classification Report SR 146 (EDAW 2006). No important mineral resources are known to occur on the project sites; **this subject will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

NOISE

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
- Construction noise?	X			
- Traffic noise?	X			
b) Expose persons to or generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	X			
c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			X	
d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			X	
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

EIR Scope

Questions A and B

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would expose adjacent residences to short-term increases in ambient noise levels and the potential for groundbourne vibration. Noise levels related to off haul truck trips would also have the potential to impact properties adjacent to haul routes. **These issues will be analyzed in the EIR.**

Questions C and D

Although not believed to be a significant impact, the potential for long-term operational noise associated with maintenance and use of the site **will be reviewed in the EIR to verify the initial conclusion of a less than significant impact.**

Questions E and F

The proposed project is not within an airport land use plan or located within two miles of a public airstrip. The nearest airport, the Nut Tree Airport, is located approximately 3.5 miles east of the project. Therefore, this environmental category will **not be analyzed further in the EIR.**

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

EIR Scope

The proposed project is the construction and operation of two regional storm water detention basins. The purpose of the project is to increase the detention capacity along the creek systems that convey storm water runoff through the City and thereby reduce the threat of property damage and personal injury related to flooding.

Question A, B and C

The proposed project does not involve the construction of homes or businesses and does not result in the alteration of General Plan land use designations within the City or make available new lands for development as a result of flood reduction. There are no existing residences on the properties and there for there is no displacement or need for replacement housing. Since this project does not impact any of these categories, there will be **no further analysis in the EIR.**

PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Fire protection?			X	
b) Law enforcement?			X	
c) Schools?				X
d) Parks?			X	
e) Other public facilities?				X

EIR Scope

Questions A and B

The detention basin projects are within the unincorporated area of the County of Solano. Construction activities may create short-term issues related to traffic and fire hazard. Long-term operation may result in occasional law enforcement and fire response. Although not believed to be a significant impact, the potential for short and long term impacts to fire and police service **will be reviewed in the EIR to verify the initial conclusion of a less than significant impact.**

Questions C and E

The proposed projects would not result in a direct increase in residences or population in the City of Vacaville; therefore, the projects would not increase a demand for school or library services; these categories **will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

Question D

The project may include incidental public access opportunities that will be examined in the EIR. The projects are not intended to serve as developed recreational sites and therefore are not considered parks or recreational facilities for either the City or the County. Although the incidental public access is not anticipated to result in significant impacts, this use **will be addressed in the EIR to verify the initial conclusion of a less than significant impact.**

RECREATION

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

EIR Scope

See response to Question D in the Public Services Section above. The project does not increase population and therefore does not create new demand or result in deterioration of park facilities. **The EIR will review the incidental public access use of the detention basin sites to determine any resulting impacts.**

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			X	
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance of safety of such facilities ?				X

EIR Scope

Questions A, B and D

Project construction will involve the delivery of excavation equipment, employee trips, and trips related to haul trucks transporting soil from the site. Since short-term construction traffic could influence the operation and safety of nearby roadways, these categories of impact **will be analyzed in the EIR.**

In addition, the potential for project traffic to impact roadway integrity has been a concern on prior detention basin projects and therefore **will be analyzed in the EIR.**

Questions C, E, and F

The proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan and would not result in changes in air traffic patterns. Therefore, this impact category will not be analyzed in the EIR. Emergency access will be reviewed under the Public Services topic in the EIR. Parking is proposed with the project to support maintenance activities and the incidental, docent led public access; since access will be controlled to within parking limitations, this will not be an issue. No policies, plans, or programs are in effect for alternative transportation that would be affected by the proposed projects and the projects are not located where there would be decreased performance or safety for such facilities resulting from the project. For the reasons stated above, these environmental categories **will not be analyzed in the EIR.**

UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant impact	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant impact	No impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

EIR Scope

The proposed project is the development of two regional storm water detention basins. The project does not include or involve any components related to solid waste or wastewater. No City or Solano County utilities extend to the project site. An SID irrigation pipeline traverses the Ulatis site. A PG&E high voltage line also traverses the Ulatis site and a support tower is located within the proposed basin. The SID line will either be removed or re-located as necessary to continue to provide irrigation service. The Ulatis basin design will provide for access to the tower as prescribed by PG&E.

Questions A, B, C, D, and E

The proposed project does not involve wastewater. The project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements nor would the project require or result in the expansion of wastewater treatment facilities. Any irrigation of mitigation planting or future agricultural uses would be supplied by the SID water, which is available to the sites. There would be no impact in these categories and therefore these subjects **will not be analyzed in the EIR**.

Questions F and G

The proposed project would not require solid waste disposal and therefore would not need to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations regarding solid waste. There would be no impact in this category and therefore this subject **will not be analyzed in the EIR**.

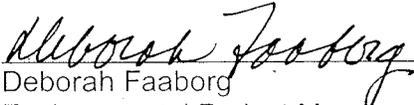
MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Environmental Issue	Potentially significant	Less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated	Less than significant	No impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	X			
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	X			
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	X			

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) is required.



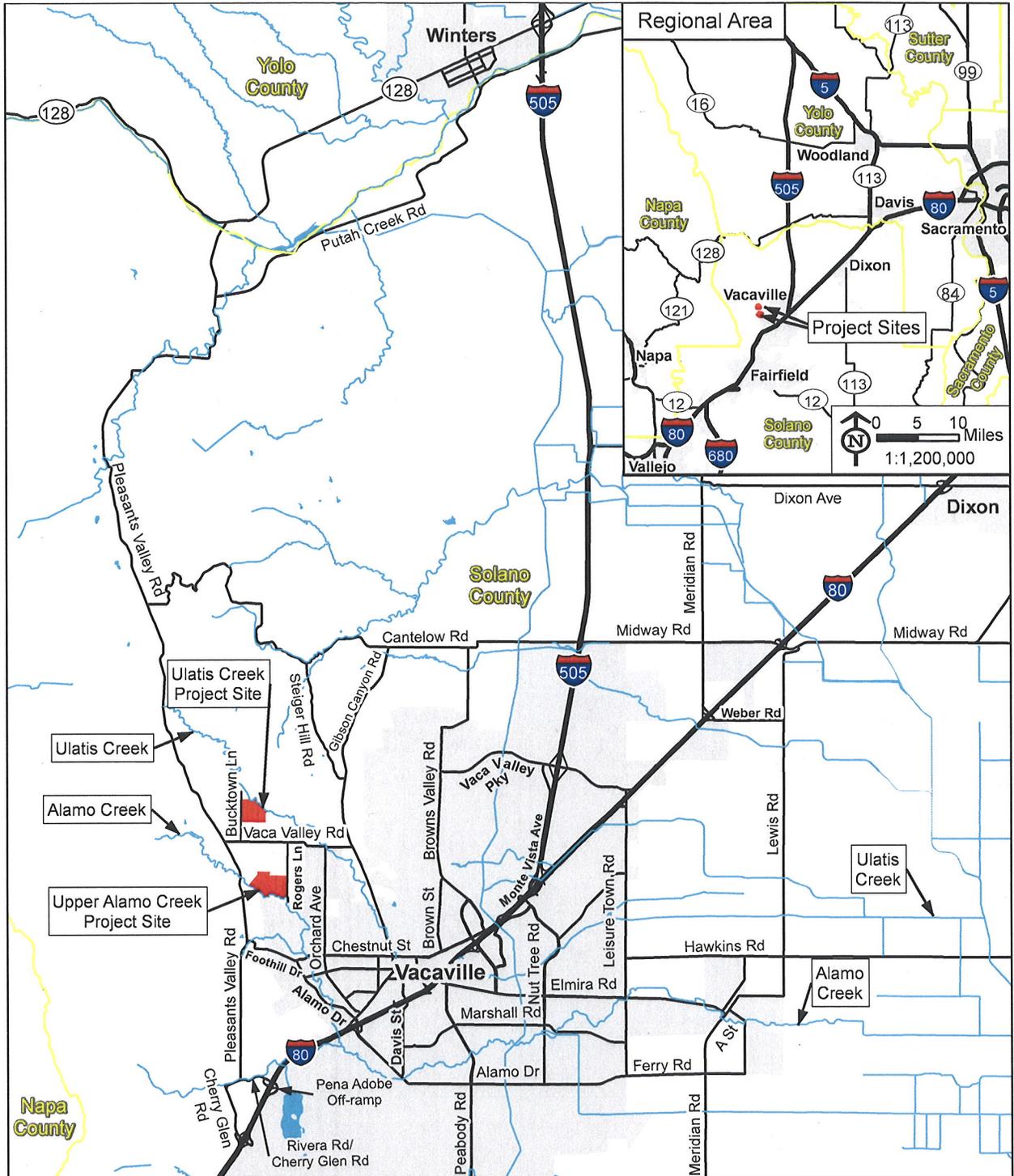
 Deborah Faaborg
 Environmental Project Manager
 City of Vacaville Public Works Department

2/4/2009

 Date

Attached Exhibits:

- Regional & Vicinity Location
- Preliminary Site Plan of Alamo Creek Basin
- Preliminary Site Plan of Ulatis Creek Basin



UPPER ALAMO CREEK AND ULATIS CREEK DETENTION BASINS PROJECTS

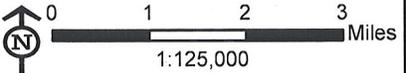
- Project Site
- Urban Area
- County Boundary
- Interstate
- Major Road
- Creek



AREA WEST
ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

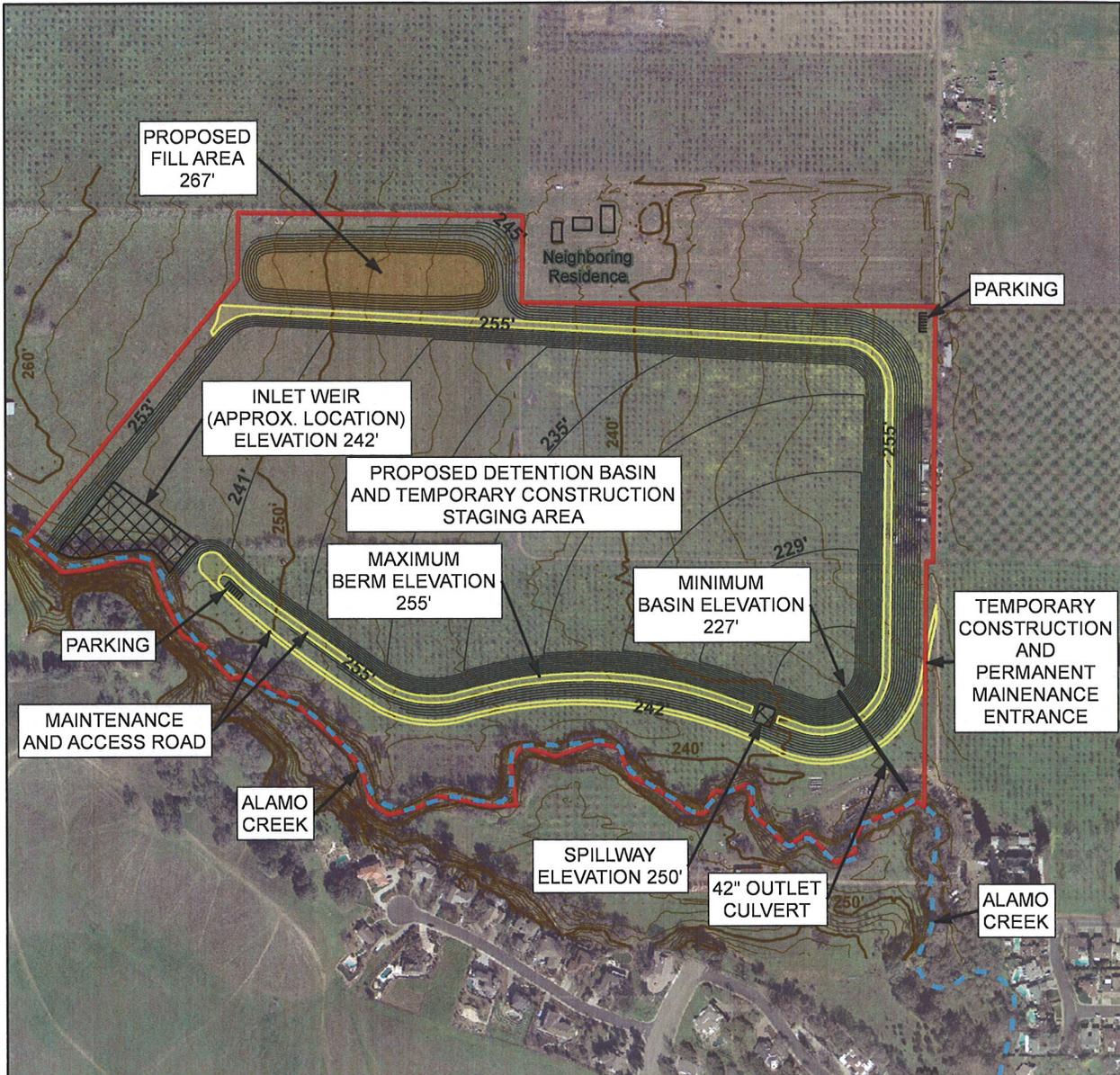


VACAVILLE



0 1 2 3 Miles
1:125,000

City of Vacaville | Upper Alamo and Ulatis Detention Basins | CEQA | Project Description Section | 9-19-09
 Data Sources: City of Vacaville streets (2009); ESRI StreetMap North America (2008)

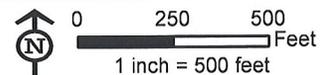


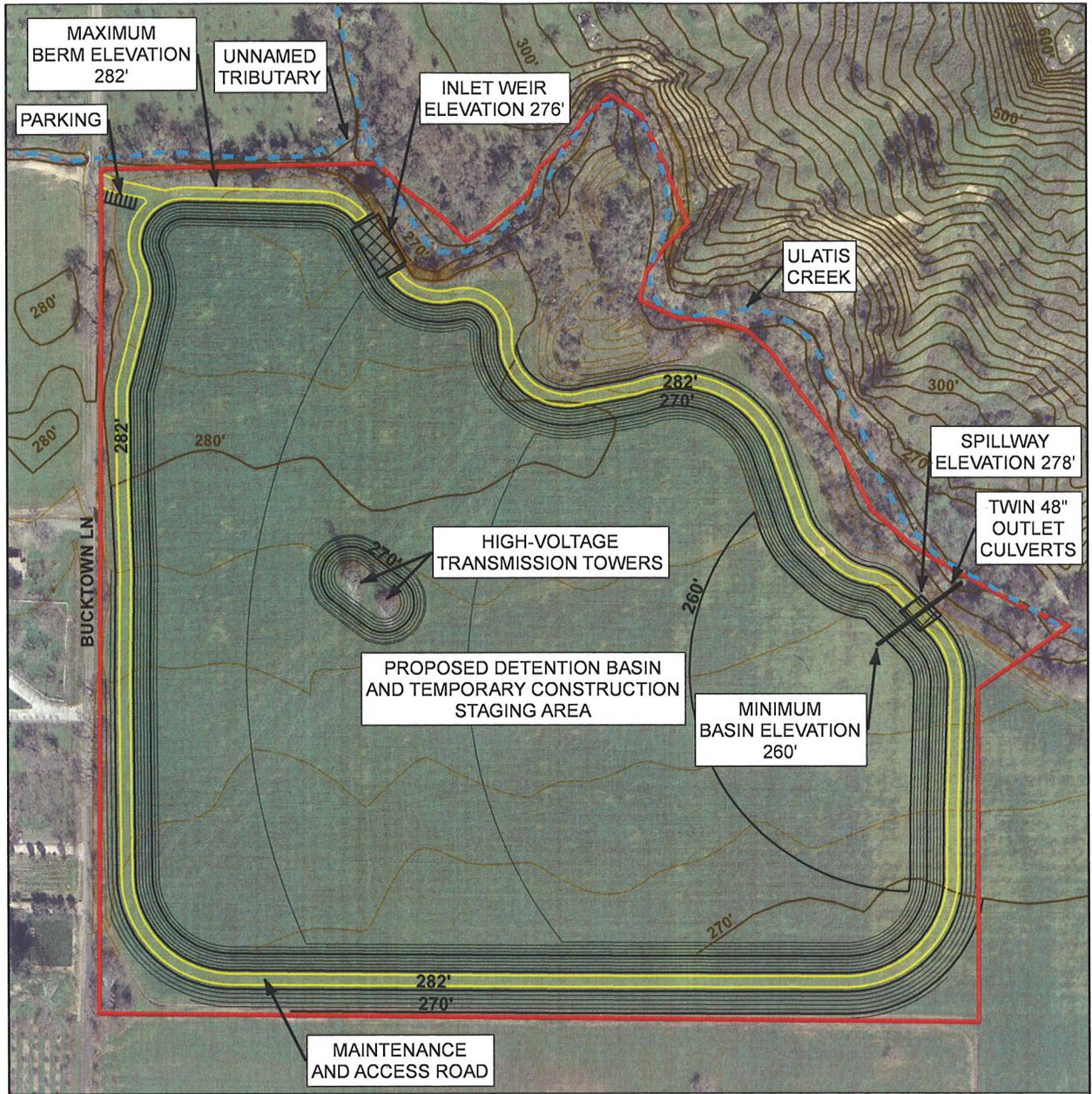
UPPER ALAMO CREEK AND ULATIS CREEK DETENTION BASINS PROJECTS

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Project Site Boundary | <u>Proposed Project Design</u> |
| Creek Centerline | 2-Foot Contour |
| <u>Existing Topography</u> | Culvert |
| 10-Foot Contour | Fill Area |
| 2-Foot Contour | Maximum Berm Elevation and Access Road |
| Inlet Weir or Spillway | |



City of Vacaville | Upper Alamo and Ulatis Detention Basins | CEQA | Project Description Section | 8-31-09
 Data Sources: Area West Environmental, Inc. wetland resources (2009);
 City of Vacaville preliminary design drawing (2009), topography and creek centerline (2008),
 and aerial photograph (2005)





UPPER ALAMO CREEK AND ULATIS CREEK DETENTION BASINS PROJECTS

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Project Site Boundary | <u>Proposed Project Design</u> |
|  Creek Centerline |  10-Foot Contour |
| <u>Existing Topography</u> |  2-Foot Contour |
| For clarity, 2-foot contours are shown within the project site only. |  Culvert |
|  10-Foot Contour |  Maximum Berm Elevation and Access Road |
|  2-Foot Contour |  Inlet Weir or Spillway |

NOTE: The diagram shows the overall configuration at a maximum possible size to ensure that environmental analysis adequately covers all potential impacts. The detailed design of the basin may result in modifications/adjustments to basin elements.



City of Vacaville | Upper Alamo and Ulatis Detention Basins | CEQA | Project Description Section | 8-31-09
 Data Sources: Area West Environmental, Inc. wetland resources (2009);
 City of Vacaville preliminary design drawing and topography (2008), and aerial photograph (2005)

