

City of
SACRAMENTO
Community Development

DATE: May 7, 2020

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY/INTENT TO APPROVE THE DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

PROJECT: 2020 Temporary Groundwater Substitution Water Transfer

COMMENT: May 8, 2020 to June 9, 2020

LOCATION: The City of Sacramento provides wholesale and retail water service within the City of Sacramento's water rights place of use. Dudley Ridge Water District, Kern County Water Agency, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, County of Kings, Palmdale Water District, and Alameda County Water Agency (collectively the "Buyers") manage and operate facilities for the distribution of State Water Project (SWP) water to customers in each respective agency's service area. Transfer water will be made available in the Lower American River, conveyed to the southern Delta via the American and Sacramento Rivers, pumped into the California Aqueduct through the Department of Water Resources' Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant, and delivered to the Buyers via State Water Project facilities.

The City of Sacramento, Community Development Department, Environmental Planning Services has completed preparation of a Draft Negative Declaration for the 2020 Temporary Groundwater Substitution Water Transfer project and intends to present the document for adoption as part of project review.

The document is now available for a 30-day public review and comment period. The comment period is from **May 8, 2020 to June 9, 2020**.

The Draft Negative Declaration is available online at:

www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Environmental/Impact-Reports

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Sacramento is participating with five other regional water agencies in a regional water transfer project to provide up to 18,500 acre-feet of water to Buyers in 2020. As part of a regional water transfer led by the City, Golden State Water Company (GSWC) will temporarily transfer up to 2,500 acre-feet of its pre-1914 water rights water supplies that have been quantified and are made available on a perpetual basis by the United States Bureau of Reclamation under a contract. The water demands that would otherwise be served by GSWC's delivery of this surface water to its customers will instead be satisfied by increased groundwater pumping by GSWC. That pumping will occur within existing historical baselines and the requirements of an existing groundwater management plan administered by the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA). The transfer water will be exported by DWR using existing State Water Project (SWP) facilities during the summer and fall of 2020. However, the transfer water may be temporarily stored in San Luis Reservoir for later delivery to an individual Buyer's service area.

Written comments regarding the Draft Negative Declaration should be received by the Community Development Department, **NO LATER THAN 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020** when the public counter closes. Written comments should be submitted to:

Scott Johnson, Associate Planner
Community Development Department
300 Richards Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95811
Email: sjohnson@cityofsacramento.org
Tel: (916) 808-5842

If you have questions about the environmental review process, please call Scott Johnson. If you have questions about the project, please contact Brett Ewart, Senior Engineer (Dept of Utilities) at (916) 808-1725.