



**Reference: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND SCOPING MEETING  
FOR THE MCKINLEY WATER VAULT PROJECT**

### **SUBMITTING COMMENTS**

Comments and suggestions as to the appropriate scope of analysis in the EIR are invited from all interested parties. Written comments or questions concerning the EIR for the proposed Project should be directed to the City's environmental project manager at the following address by 5:00 p.m. on July 7, 2017 (Please note, public counter hours are 9:00 am – 4:00 pm). Please include the commenter's full name and address.

Scott Johnson, Associate Planner,  
City of Sacramento Community Development Department,  
300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95811  
Phone (916) 808-5842  
E-mail: srjohnson@cityofsacramento.org

### **SCOPING MEETING**

**A public scoping meeting will be held on Monday, June 19, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following location:**

**Grand Hall, Clunie Community Center  
601 Alhambra Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA 95816**

**Responsible agencies and members of the public are invited to attend and provide input on the scope of the EIR. Written comments regarding relevant issues may be submitted at the meeting.**

### **PROJECT LOCATION/SETTING**

Figure 1 Project Vicinity shows the setting of the proposed Project area in the Sacramento region. Nearby regional features include Interstate Business 80 to the west and north; the American River to the north and east, and Highway 50 to the South. The proposed MWV Project is located in East Sacramento in McKinley Park between Alhambra Boulevard, McKinley Boulevard, 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, and H Street. Figure 2 illustrates the proposed Project location.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

#### **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities (DOU) currently operates a complex combined sewer system network which serves over 200,000 residents in downtown Sacramento, River Park, Land Park, Curtis Park, Oak Park, and East Sacramento neighborhoods. The combined sewer system is the legacy collection system in Sacramento that conveys stormwater runoff and wastewater within the same pipe network. The Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge

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Elimination System (NPDES) permit is the regulatory mechanism that regulates the water quality and discharges of the combined sewer system. Staying in compliance with this permit requires the City to continually make progress toward the following level of service goals:

- No sewer outflows or street flooding during a 10-year storm event
- No property damage during a 100-year storm event

In the early 1990's, several high-intensity storms hit the Sacramento area and overwhelmed the City's combined sewer system. Following the event the Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Cease and Desist Order in 1995 which required the City to eliminate the combined sewer outflows. At the time, the City conducted numerous studies and evaluations and developed the Combined Sewer System Improvement Plan (CSSIP). The plan included 28 projects to improve the City's aging wastewater and storm drainage system. The projects identified in the CSSIP were envisioned and designed to protect the community's health, safety, and quality of life.

In 2015, the Department of Utilities updated the 1995 CSSIP. The purpose of the 2015 CSSIP Update was to identify improvement projects that would help the operation of the combined sewer system meet the level of service goals required by Regional Water Quality Control Board and the NPDES permit. The 2015 CSSIP Update also met the requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy.

To meet the ongoing compliance requirements of the NPDES permit the City is required to implement the proposed Project which is consistent with the continued improvements and rehabilitation of the combined sewer system identified in the CSSIP. Non-compliance with the NPDES permit leaves the City susceptible to lawsuits, fines, and, possibly, a Cease and Desist order. A Cease and Desist order, similar to the one received in 1995, could require the City to stop all development activities until the order is removed.

**PROPOSED PROJECT**

As identified in the 2015 CSSIP Update, the City is evaluating the proposed MWV storage facility under the sports fields of McKinley Park, to reduce flooding within the area of East Sacramento by capturing surcharging storm and sewer flows, containing them, and slowly discharging them back into the combined sewer system once capacity is available. This type of storage would aid in reducing the amount of combined sewer overflows which can release storm water and sewage flow onto surface streets meeting the overall goal of the 2015 CSIPP Update and the discharge requirements of the NPDES permit.

The proposed Project consists of the construction of a below ground combined sewer system water vault and necessary appurtenant facilities. The underground MWV storage facility includes a 1,000,000-cubic feet storage structure approximately 300-feet wide by 270-feet long, or 270-feet in diameter with a depth of approximately 40-feet. The above-ground appurtenant facilities would be located adjacent to the storage facility and contain odor control equipment and electrical and control equipment cabinets.

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The MWV would be connected, by inlet and outlet pipes, to the existing combined sewer system that surrounds McKinley Park. The 42-inch combined sewer system pipe under the jogging path along 33<sup>rd</sup> Street would be the closest to the proposed Project and is anticipated to be the location of one inlet and outlet pipe. An inlet pipe from McKinley Boulevard is also anticipated. From 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, the combined sewer system connects to the 57-inch pipeline flowing west under H Street and the park jogging path on the south side of the park.

During construction, the MWV would occupy a three- to four-acre footprint in the eastern area of McKinley Park. After construction is complete, the construction area would be returned to its original condition, and the permanent above-ground facilities would occupy an approximately 50-foot by 50-foot area of McKinley Park adjacent to the underground water vault. The MWV would be equipped with remote features and controls to allow for remote operation. Preventative maintenance activities would also be required including routine checking and periodic maintenance by DOU staff and contractors.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND SCOPE OF THE EIR**

The EIR will analyze potentially significant impacts that result from construction and operation of the proposed Project. The MWV falls within the scope of the 1997 EIR prepared for the Combined Sewer System Improvement Plan (CSSIP) and the 2035 General Plan and Master EIR (certified in 2015).

While the Project was included in the 1997 CSSIP EIR and 2035 General Plan Master EIR, the City has elected to conduct a project specific environmental analysis of the proposed Project to ensure project level detail is analyzed and provided to the public. Pursuant to section 15063(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, an Initial Study has not been prepared for the proposed project. The EIR will evaluate the full range of environmental issues contemplated for consideration under CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, as well as non-environmental issues including:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Climate Change, and Energy
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise and Vibration
- Public Services
- Recreation

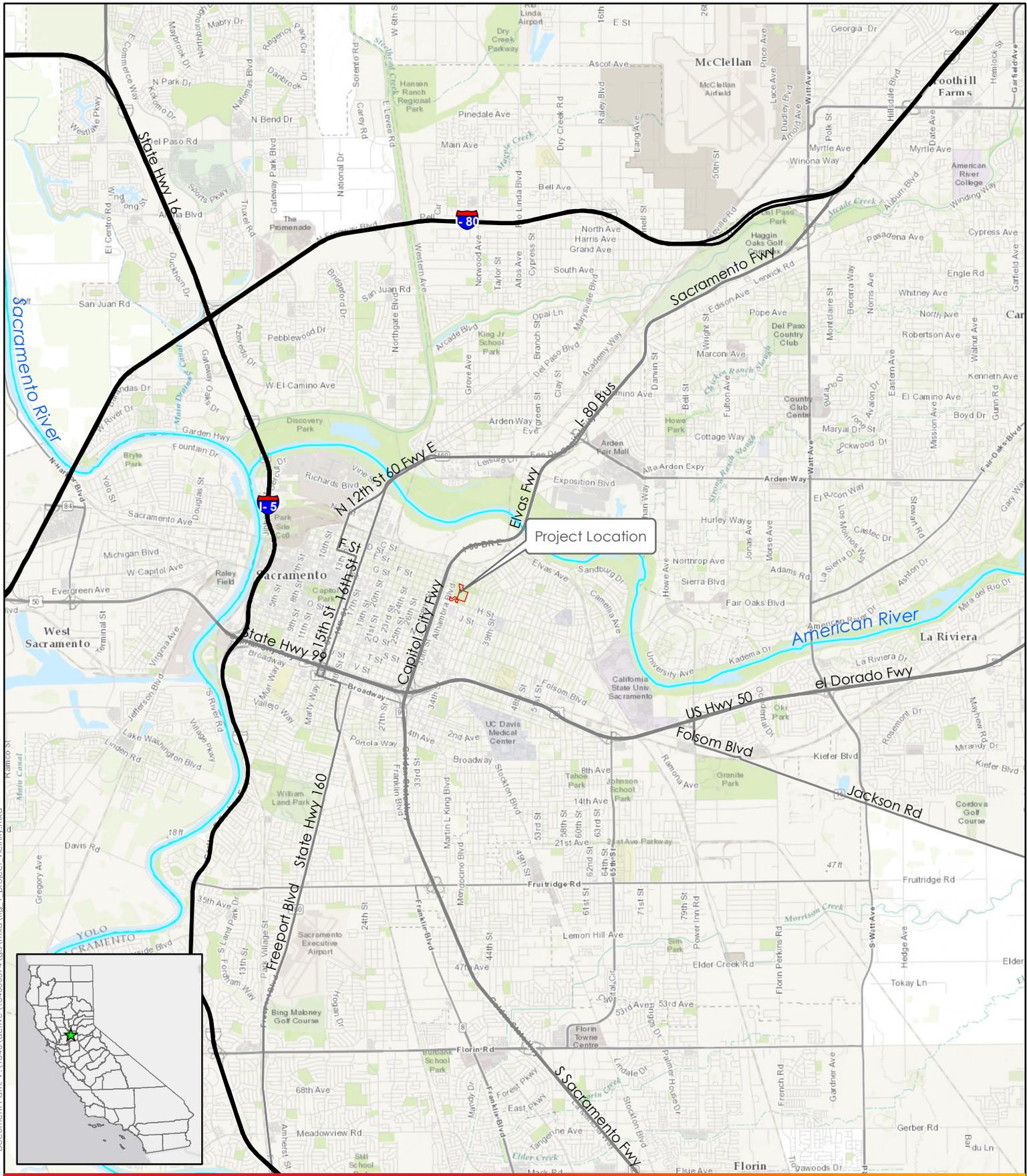
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- Transportation/Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Growth Inducement
- Cumulative Impacts

Environmental issues not contemplated for consideration due to the determination that there will be no impact include:

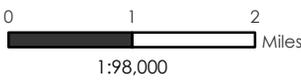
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Mineral Resources
- Population and Housing

The EIR will identify and evaluate alternatives to the proposed Project.



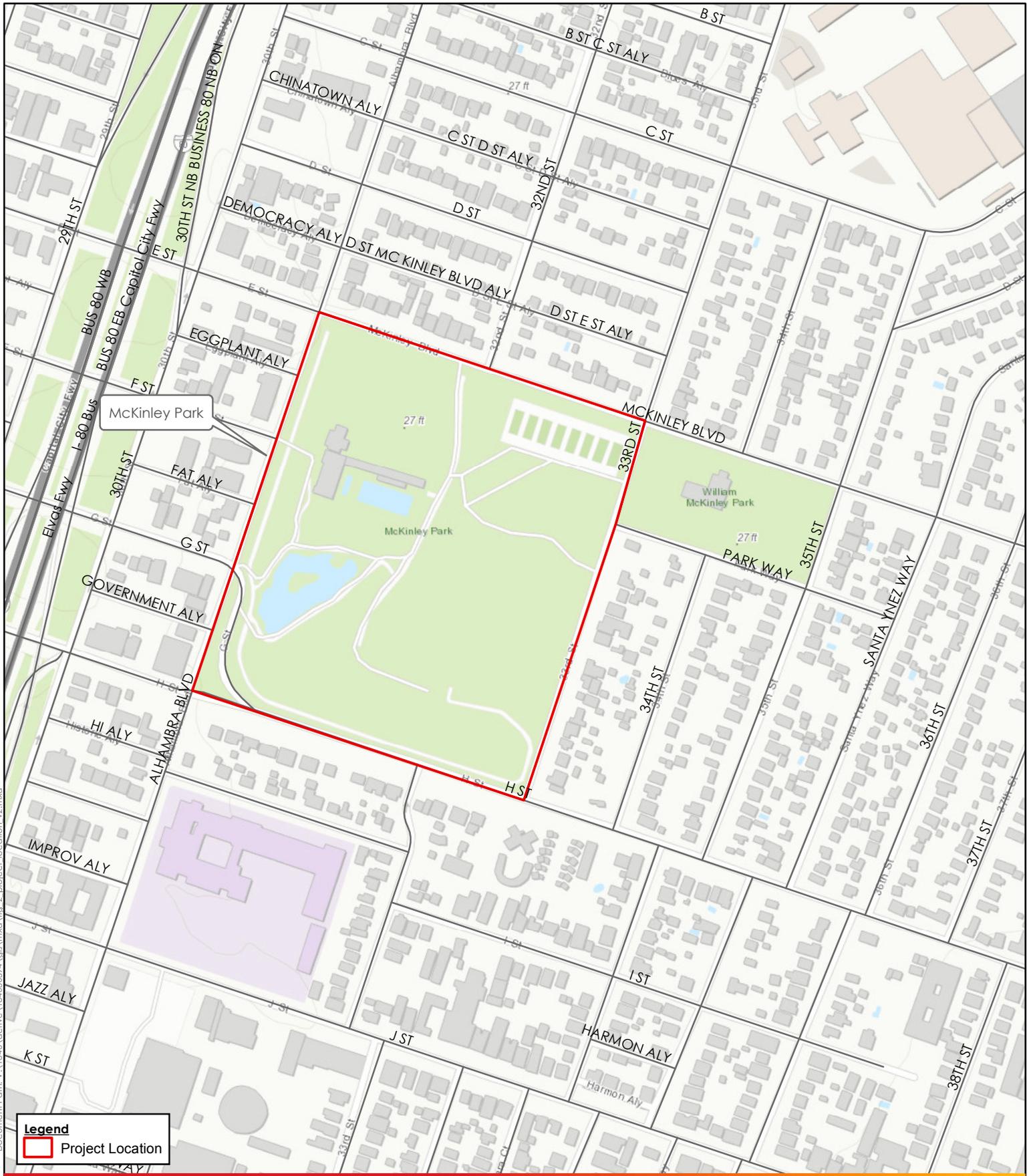
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Project: 184030594; Sources: Stantec 2017. Created By: M. Kennedy. 5/24/2017. Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL



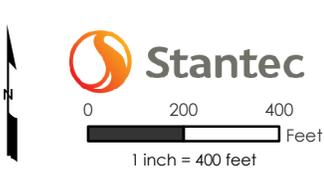
**Figure 1**  
**Project Vicinity**

City of Sacramento  
McKinley Water Vault Project



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Project: 184030594; Sources: Stantec 2017, Created By: M. Kennedy, 5/25/2017, Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL,



**Figure 2**  
**Project Location**

City of Sacramento  
 McKinley Water Vault Project