



Date of Notice: November 4, 2016

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

21002797

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER: Shepherd Canyon Water Main Relief Valve Emergency
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Tierrasanta

COUNCIL DISTRICTS: District 7, City of San Diego

LOCATION: This emergency project repaired a leak from a 16-inch water main relief valve located on the access path in Shepherd Canyon. Access to the canyon is off of Avenida Playa Veracruz and Antigua Blvd. Shepherd Canyon is located in the Tierrasanta Community Planning Area; Council District 7; Thomas Bros 1229 H-7; and is within in the City's Multi Habitat Planning Area (MHPA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: On September 28, 2016, a discovery was made by Park and Recreation Department personnel of a significant change in condition from an existing water leak from a relief valve along the trail in Shepherd Canyon. Upon prompt inspection of the trail condition and leaking valve, Public Utilities staff confirmed that this leak posed a safety hazard to the general public who frequently use this trail. This emergency action repaired the leak by excavating 6-7 feet to reach the pipe, repairing the valve from the associated piping, and backfilling with the existing soils. An approximately 70 sq. ft. area of disturbed habitat was temporarily impacted from the emergency repair that included excavation within the access path and the trimming of several broom baccharis (*Baccharis sarothroides*) shrubs on the edge of the access path. The broom baccharis shrubs are expected to recover within one growing season. Impacts to archeological resources were not anticipated because all soil disturbances occurred in previously disturbed/backfilled filled soils. The decomposed granite surface on the access path that was present before the repair was replaced after the valve repair. Additional erosion control measures are not required as the project did not result in impacts outside of the access path.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: STATUTORY EXEMPTION: 15269 (B&C)
EMERGENCY PROJECT**

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This emergency exemption is based on the expert opinion and findings by the Public Utilities Department. Immediate action was necessary to repair the relief valve to prevent further damage to the access path for public safety from the leak. This will also prevent further damage to habitat in the canyon from erosion as a result of the leak. Furthermore, the project meets the criteria set forth in CEQA section 15269(b&c) which allows for actions necessary to repair public services and to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

PROJECT MANAGER: Dirk Smith, Public Utilities Department
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On November 4, 2016 the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the Project Manager listed above.

Applications to appeal CEQA determination made by staff (including the City Manager) to the City Council must be filed in the office of the City Clerk within 10 business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (November 21, 2016). The appeal application can be obtained from the City Clerk, 202 'C' Street, Second Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.