

May 1, 2013

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

**Draft Environmental Impact Report
City of Galt Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Master Plan
and Immediate Improvements Project**

Description of the Proposed Project

The City of Galt (City) proposes to prepare and implement a Facilities Master Plan for the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located at 10059 Twin Cities Road in Galt, California. In addition, the City proposes to construct the first phase of work identified in the Facilities Master Plan, the Immediate Improvements. The City has directed the preparation of a focused Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft Program EIR) in compliance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to analyze the potential environmental effects of these actions.

Facilities Master Plan

The purpose of the Facilities Master Plan is to define a cost effective way for the City's WWTP to be upgraded and expanded in the coming years to meet the City's anticipated wastewater treatment demands and regulatory compliance requirements through buildout of the City's 2030 General Plan. The specific project objectives are to:

- ▲ meet the City's anticipated wastewater treatment demands through buildout of the City's 2030 General Plan;
- ▲ improve the WWTP's ability to meet current and anticipated regulatory requirements; and
- ▲ improve the WWTP's treatment reliability and operating efficiency.

The Facilities Master Plan would attain these project objectives by adding structures and equipment to improve treatment and capacity, along with related piping and electrical systems. Some existing buildings would also be expanded. Nearly all improvements would be located within the disturbed footprint of the existing approximately 17-acre WWTP site; all improvements would be located within the City's 298-acre property. However, construction activities could result in disturbance of up to 35 acres to the south and west of the existing WWTP. This area represents the potential area of new disturbance; actual disturbance would likely be much less. The capacity of the WWTP would be increased to approximately 6.0 million gallons per day (mgd) to accommodate 2030 General Plan-projected population growth. The General Plan projects that the City will grow from approximately 24,000 in 2010¹ to approximately 51,300 in 2030².

The Facilities Master Plan would include removal of the effluent flow meter located immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of the effluent storage reservoir at the outfall to Skunk Creek, and relocation of the flow meter within the footprint of the WWTP (south of the storage reservoir). In addition, existing pumps adjacent to the storage reservoir would likely be replaced, and an existing pipe at the Skunk Creek outfall may be retired and/or removed.

Immediate Improvements

The purpose of the Immediate Improvements is to meet the effluent limitations for ammonia, nitrate, and arsenic in the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for operating the WWTP, referred to as the NPDES Permit for purposes of this document, which was renewed by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley RWQCB) in

¹ U.S. Census Bureau. 2012. State and County QuickFacts. <<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/0628112.html>>.

² City of Galt. 2009 (April). 2030 Galt General Plan Policy Document Final. Galt, CA. <<http://www.ci.galt.ca.us/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=913>>.

September 2010 (NPDES No. CA0081434, WDRs Order No. R5-2010-0099). The NPDES permit and a related Time Schedule Order (Order No. R5-2010-0100-01) require that the new effluent limits be met no later than September 2015. The Immediate Improvements include additional ammonia and nitrate removal capacity, increased arsenic removal, and expansion of the existing control building laboratory.

Significant Effects

The focused Draft Program EIR concludes that the City of Galt WWTP Facilities Master Plan, including the Immediate Improvements, could result in significant or potentially significant adverse effects on the environment in the following areas prior to the adoption and implementation of mitigation measures: agricultural resources, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, terrestrial and aquatic biological resources, hydrology and water quality, and archaeological resources. After implementation of recommended mitigation measures, one significant and unavoidable impact would remain related to the loss of Important Farmland.

Where the Draft EIR May Be Obtained

1. **Online:** The focused Draft Program EIR may be viewed and/or downloaded from the City of Galt website: <http://www.ci.galt.ca.us/index.aspx?page=783>.
2. **City of Galt Planning Department:** Bound or CD copies of the focused Draft Program EIR are available by contacting the City of Galt Planning Department, 495 Industrial Drive, Galt, CA 95632 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or by calling (209) 366-7230.
3. **Galt Public Library:** Copies of the focused Draft Program EIR are available for review at the Galt Marian O. Lawrence Public Library, located at 1000 Caroline Ave Galt, CA 95632, during library hours.

Public Review Period

The public review period for the focused Draft Program EIR begins on May 1, 2013 and ends on June 17, 2013. Please submit written and/or e-mail comments on the adequacy of information in the Draft Program EIR by 5:30 p.m. June 17, 2013 to:

Sandra Kiriu, Community Development Director City of Galt Planning Department
495 Industrial Drive
Galt, CA 95632
Telephone: (209) 366-7230
Fax: (209) 744-1642
Email: skiriu@ci.galt.ca.us

All comments received during the public review period will be made part of the public record and responded to in the Final EIR.

Public Meeting

The lead agency, the City of Galt, intends to certify and adopt the Final EIR at a public meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on August 6, 2013 in the Galt City Council Chambers located at 380 Civic Drive, Galt. Further information can be obtained by contacting Sandra Kiriu, Community Development Director, per the contact information provided above.