



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FORM

PROJECT NAME: SFPUC - SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Sloat Blvd from Skyline Blvd to 45th Ave and SF Zoo

CASE NUMBER: 2021-006486ENV

PROJECT TYPE:  New Facility  Replacement Facility/Equipment  
 Repair/Maintenance/Upgrade  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. EXEMPTION CLASS

- Class 1: Existing Facilities
- Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction
- Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
- Class 6: Information Collection
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. CEQA Impacts

For any box checked below, refer to the attached Environmental Evaluation Application with supporting analysis and documentation.

- Air Quality:** Would the project affect sensitive receptors (specifically schools, colleges, universities, day care facilities, hospitals, residential dwellings, or senior-care facilities)? Would project construction or operations exceed air quality screening criteria using either the SFPUC Air Quality Screening Tool or CalEEMOD?
- Noise:** Would the project conflict with the applicable local Noise Ordinance?
- Hazardous Materials:** Would the project be located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, or impact an area with known hazardous materials such as a former gas station, auto repair, dry cleaners, heavy manufacturing use, or site with underground storage tanks? If the project site is suspected of containing hazardous materials, would the project involve 50 cubic yards or more of soil disturbance?
- Soils Disturbance/Modification:** Would the project result in soil disturbance greater than 2 feet below grade in an archeological sensitive area or 8 feet in a non-archeological sensitive area?

**Slope/Geological Hazards:** If located on slopes of 20% or greater, in a landslide or liquefaction zone, does the project involve excavation of 50 cubic yards of soil or more, new construction, or square footage expansion greater than 1,000 sq. ft. outside of the existing building footprint?

**Hydrology/Water Quality:** Would the project cause flooding impacts, violate water quality standards, result in on- or off-site erosion impacts, or otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

**Biology:** Would the project have the potential to impact sensitive species, rare plants or designated critical habitat? Is the project consistent with the applicable tree protection ordinance?

**Visual:** Is the project located within or adjacent to a designated scenic roadway, or would the project have the potential to impact scenic resources that are visible from public locations?

**Transportation:** Would project construction or operation have the potential to adversely affect existing traffic patterns, transit operations, pedestrian and/or bicycle safety (hazards), or the adequacy of nearby transit, pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities?

**Historical Resources:** Is the project located on a site with a known or potential historical resource?

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION DETERMINATION**

Further Environmental Review Required.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

No Further Environmental Review Required. Project is categorically exempt under CEQA.

**Timothy Johnston** Digitally signed by Timothy Johnston  
Date: 2021.07.26 15:24:20 -07'00'

Planner's Signature

7/26/21

Date

Timothy Johnston, senior environmental planner

Name, Title

Project Approval Action: SFPUC public hearing

Once signed and dated, this document constitutes a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code.



# PUBLIC PROJECT APPLICATION

The purpose of the Public Project Application is to collect all relevant information necessary for the Planning Department to appropriately conduct environmental review. Unless otherwise specified by your liaison at Environmental Planning, please submit a completed Public Project Application, along with necessary materials to [CPC.EPIntake@sfgov.org](mailto:CPC.EPIntake@sfgov.org).

Once a project is received, you will be contacted regarding payment and/or any additional materials necessary. When payment and/or all missing materials are received; you will receive an email with the ENV case number and contact information for the assigned planner.

Please note that this application is only for projects that do not require an entitlement decision from the San Francisco Planning Commission and/or review of a building permit by Current Planning. For projects requiring an entitlement or review by Current Planning, please complete a regular Project Application and submit according to the submittal instructions outlined in the application.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

### Property Information

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Project Address: Sloat Blvd from Skyline Blvd to 45th Avenue

Block/Lot(s): N/A

### Applicant Information

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Public Agency: SFPUC

Name: Sue Chau

Phone Number: 415.554.3238

Email: [schau@sfgov.org](mailto:schau@sfgov.org)

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## REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Electronic set of plans (11x17) Please see the Department's Plan Submittal Guidelines for more information.
- Photos of proposed work areas/project site.
- Necessary background reports and supplemental applications (specified in Environmental Evaluation Screening Form)
- MTA only: Synchro data for lane reductions and traffic calming projects.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Please provide a narrative project description that summarizes the project and its purpose. If additional space is necessary, please attach a separate document with a complete project description.

SFPUC proposes to provide recycled water service to the San Francisco Zoo, which has significant non-potable water demands. The provision of recycled water to the Zoo would allow the Recreation and Parks Department to switch from groundwater to recycled water to meet the Zoo's non-potable water demands, while supporting groundwater management goals for the Westside groundwater basin.

SFPUC proposes the following:

- Installation of a 6-inch-diameter cast iron or ductile iron pipe that extends roughly 1,400 feet from the stub-out of the existing recycled water pipeline at the intersection of Skyline and Sloat boulevards to the Zoo's groundwater reservoir, located on the south side of the Sloat Blvd/43rd Avenue intersection. The pipeline trench would be approximately 2 ft wide by 5 ft deep, but would be deeper where there are utility conflicts.
- Installation of two concrete valve vaults (approximately 4 ft by 6 ft by 5 ft depth), one near the Zoo reservoir to house a flow meter, a pressure-reducing valve, and a 6-inch shutoff valve, and another near the intersection of Skyline Boulevard.
- Installation of associated communication and electrical conduits and new monitoring sensors
- Reconfiguration of the groundwater supply line to the reservoir including construction of an above ground air gap
- Upgrade of the existing Groundwater Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Groundwater Pump Station as needed.
- Installation of an 32-foot long, 1-inch diameter potable water line for an existing animal drinker. The trench would be approximately 1 foot wide and 3 feet deep.
- Minor cutting of irrigation pipes below ground surface and capping within the zoo. This would involve minimal and localized excavation (up to one foot) to expose the top of pipe.

The 10-foot-wide strip of paved road (parking lane) along the south side of Sloat Avenue would be used for staging.

**APPROVAL ACTION**

In accordance with Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, an appeal of an exemption determination can only be filed within 30 days of the project receiving the first approval action.

<b>Project Approval Action:</b>	
<b>Will the approval action be taken at a noticed public hearing?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO **
* If YES is checked, please see below. **Email CPC.EPIntake@sfgov.org the date of the approval	

**IF APPROVAL ACTION IS TAKEN AT A NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR LANGUAGE:****End of Calendar:**

CEQA Appeal Rights under Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code. If the Commission approves an action identified by an exemption or negative declaration as the Approval Action (as defined in S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31, as amended, Board of Supervisors Ordinance Number 161-13), then the CEQA decision prepared in support of that Approval Action is thereafter subject to appeal within the time frame specified in S.F. Administrative Code Section 31.16. Typically, an appeal must be filed within 30 calendar days of the Approval Action. For information on filing an appeal under Chapter 31, contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102, or call (415) 554-5184. If the Department's Environmental Review Officer has deemed a project to be exempt from further environmental review, an exemption determination has been prepared and can be obtained on-line at <http://sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=3447>. Under CEQA, in a later court challenge, a litigant may be limited to raising only those issues previously raised at a hearing on the project or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Planning Department or other City board, commission or department at, or prior to, such hearing, or as part of the appeal hearing process on the CEQA decision. Individual calendar items: This proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31.


**Individual calendar items:**


This proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31.





## ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION SCREENING FORM

This form will determine the level of environmental review required. You will be contacted by CPC.EPIntake@sfgov.org with a payment request and planner contact information.

If you are submitting an application for entitlement, please submit the Project Application with either Building Permit or Entitlement Intake Appointment.

Environmental Topic	Information	Applicable to Proposed Project?	Notes/Requirements
<b>1a. General</b>	Estimated construction duration (months):	N/A	
<b>1b. General</b>	Does the project involve replacement or repair of a building foundation? If yes, please provide the foundation design type (e.g., mat foundation, spread footings, drilled piers, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>2. Transportation</b>	Does the project involve a child care facility or school with 30 or more students, or a location 1,500 square feet or greater?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, submit an Environmental Supplemental- <a href="#">School and Child Care Drop-Off &amp; Pick-Up Management Plan</a> .
<b>3. Shadow</b>	Would the project result in any construction over 40 feet in height?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, an initial review by a shadow expert, including a recommendation as to whether a shadow analysis is needed, may be required, as determined by Planning staff. (If the project already underwent Preliminary Project Assessment, refer to the shadow discussion in the PPA letter.)  An additional fee for a shadow review may be required.
<b>4. Biological Resources</b>	Does the project include the removal or addition of trees on, over, or adjacent to the project site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes:  Number of existing trees on, over, or adjacent to the project site:  _____  Number of existing trees on, over, or adjacent to the project site that would be removed by the project:  _____  Number of trees on, over, or adjacent to the project site that would be added by the project:  _____
<b>5a. Historic Preservation</b> 	Would the project involve changes to the front façade or an addition visible from the public right-of-way of a structure built 45 or more years ago or located in a historic district?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, submit a complete <a href="#">Historic Resource Determination</a> Supplemental Application. Include all materials required in the application, including a complete record (with copies) of all building permits.
<b>5b. Historic Preservation</b>	Would the project involve demolition of a structure constructed 45 or more years ago, or a structure located within a historic district?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, a historic resource evaluation (HRE) report will be required. The scope of the HRE will be determined in consultation with <a href="mailto:CPC-HRE@sfgov.org">CPC-HRE@sfgov.org</a> .

 Please see the [Property Information Map](#) or speak with Planning Information Center (PIC) staff to determine if this applies.

Environmental Topic	Information	Applicable to Proposed Project?	Notes/Requirements
<b>6. Archeology</b> 	Would the project result in soil disturbance/modification greater than two (2) feet below grade in an archeologically sensitive area or eight (8) feet below grade in a non-archeologically sensitive area?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If Yes, provide depth of excavation/disturbance below grade (in feet*):  <i>*Note this includes foundation work</i>
<b>7. Geology and Soils</b> 	Is the project located within a Landslide Hazard Zone, Liquefaction Zone or on a lot with an average slope of 20% or greater?  ----- Area of excavation/disturbance (in square feet): <b>Disturbance - 2,800 sf</b> ----- Amount of excavation (in cubic yards): <b>520</b> -----	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	A geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional must be submitted if one of the following thresholds apply to the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The project involves:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ excavation of 50 or more cubic yards of soil, or</li> <li>○ building expansion greater than 1,000 square feet outside of the existing building footprint.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The project involves a lot split located on a slope equal to or greater than 20 percent.</li> </ul> <i>A geotechnical report may also be required for other circumstances as determined by Environmental Planning staff.</i>
<b>8. Air Quality</b> 	Would the project add new sensitive receptors (specifically, schools, day care facilities, hospitals, residential dwellings, and senior-care facilities) within an Air Pollutant Exposure Zone?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, the property owner must submit copy of initial filed application with department of public health. More information is found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>9a. Hazardous Materials</b>	Would the project involve work on a site with an existing or former gas station, parking lot, auto repair, dry cleaners, or heavy manufacturing use, or a site with underground storage tanks?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, submit a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prepared by a qualified consultant.
<b>9b. Hazardous Materials</b> 	Is the project site located within the Maher area and would it involve ground disturbance of at least 50 cubic yards or a change of use from an industrial use to a residential or institutional use?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, submit a copy of the <a href="#">Maher Application Form</a> to the Department of Public Health. Also submit a receipt of Maher enrollment with the Project Application.  For more information about the Maher program and enrollment, refer to the Department of Public Health's <a href="#">Environmental Health Division</a> .  <i>Maher enrollment may also be required for other circumstances as determined by Environmental Planning staff.</i>



Bureau of Environmental Management  
525 Golden Gate Avenue, 6th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
T 415.934.5700  
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July 22, 2021

Mr. Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division  
San Francisco Planning Department  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: CEQA Exemption Request  
San Francisco (SF) Zoo Recycled Water  
Pipeline Project  
Project Number: 10037519  
COA: 10037519 0001 25960 232148 20711

Dear Timothy:

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) requests review of the proposed SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project (Project) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The SFPUC requests San Francisco Planning Department – Environmental Planning Division (EP) concurrence that the proposed Project is categorically exempt under CEQA Section 15302, Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures). Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. Examples of this exemption include water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction.

The following analysis demonstrates the proposed Project would not result in adverse environmental effects and provides support for our recommendation that the proposed activities are categorically exempt under CEQA. The Project would be conducted in compliance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations and under contractual provisions prohibiting work in violation of applicable regulations and plans.

Information regarding the purpose and need for the Project, a description of proposed activities, and an assessment of the potential for environmental effects are provided below.

**London N. Breed**  
Mayor

**Sophie Maxwell**  
President

**Anson Moran**  
Vice President

**Tim Paulson**  
Commissioner

**Ed Harrington**  
Commissioner

**Newsha Ajami**  
Commissioner

**Michael Carlin**  
Acting  
General Manager

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## **BACKGROUND**

SFPUC proposes to provide recycled water service to the San Francisco Zoo, which has significant non-potable water demands. The provision of recycled water to the Zoo would allow the Recreation and Parks Department to switch from groundwater to recycled water to meet the Zoo's non-potable water demands, while supporting groundwater management goals for the Westside groundwater basin. The project would connect the Westside Recycled Water Facility with the SF Zoo in order to replace the use of groundwater at the Zoo.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Project would involve the installation of the following components.

- Installation of a 6-inch-diameter cast iron or ductile iron pipeline from stub-out of the existing recycled water pipeline (at the intersection of Skyline and Sloat boulevards) to the Zoo's existing, underground, groundwater reservoir (located on the south side of the Sloat Boulevard/43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue intersection). The new pipeline would be approximately 1,400 linear feet long and located entirely along the paved portion of Sloat Boulevard. The pipeline trench would be approximately 2 feet wide and 5 feet deep, but would be deeper if there are conflicting utilities; the maximum depth at utility crossings would be 7 feet where the new pipe would be located under an existing 20-inch water pipeline on Sloat Boulevard.
- Installation of two concrete valve vaults (approximately 4 feet wide by 6 feet long and 5 feet deep), one near the Zoo reservoir to house a flow meter, a pressure-reducing valve, and a 6-inch shutoff valve, and another near the intersection of Sloat Boulevard/Skyline Boulevard.
- Installation of associated communication and electrical conduits and new monitoring sensors.
- Reconfiguration of the groundwater supply line to the reservoir including construction of an above ground air gap, to meet regulatory standards. This would involve rerouting a short length of the pipeline from



underground next to the reservoir to above grade adjacent to the reservoir wall and into a penetration in the roof of the reservoir.

- Upgrade of the existing Groundwater Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Groundwater Pump Station as needed.
- Installation of a 32-foot long, 1-inch diameter potable water line for an existing animal drinker. The trench would be approximately 1 foot wide and 3 feet deep.
- Minor cutting of irrigation pipes below ground surface and capping within the zoo. This would involve minimal and localized excavation (up to one foot) to expose the top of pipe.

### **Pipeline Trenching and Installation / Vault Installation**

The new pipeline and vaults would be installed using the open trench construction technique (“cut and cover”). In open-trench construction, the first step is to saw cut around the pavement to be excavated. The pavement is then broken up and hauled to a facility for recycling. The soil is removed to the desired depth and the bottom compacted. Pipeline trenches would be approximately up to 2 feet wide and up to 5 feet deep and would be deeper (maximum 7 feet) if there are conflicting utilities. Vault excavations would be 6 feet by 8 feet by 6 feet (width, length and depth). Per Occupational Safety and Health Administration Standards, the walls of trenches more than 5 feet deep would be shored on both sides to prevent cave-ins. Open trenches would be covered with steel plates at the end of each day.

After the base of the trench or excavation is compacted, a sand layer is placed, the pipeline or vault is installed, and the trench is backfilled with imported sand and/or native soil to the bottom of the pavement base. In general, approximately 4.5 feet of backfill would be placed above the highest point of the pipeline.

An approximately 100- to 120-foot long trench would be opened at one time for the pipeline work. Approximately 200 to 250 feet of pipeline can typically be installed in a five-day work week.

Following completion of this work, final repaving of affected streets would be conducted to SFPW standards and according to Public Works Code.

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 4 of 10

## **Project Duration and Schedule**

The Project would be initiated upon completion of the environmental review process and construction contract approval and award. The proposed work would be completed in approximately ten weeks. Project activities would primarily be conducted between 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Although not anticipated, periodic evening and weekend work may be required.

## **Project Equipment**

The proposed Project would require use of the following pieces of equipment:

- Sawcutting Machine
- Dump Truck
- Utility Truck
- Excavator
- Grinder
- Paver
- Loader/Backhoe
- Water Truck
- Flatbed Truck
- Pickup Truck
- Roller
- Concrete Mixer
- Delivery Truck
- Generator

Two work crews of four members each would be required to complete the proposed Project.

Backhoe, dump trucks, and flatbed trucks, would be needed to install the pipelines and complete the necessary preliminary pavement renovation. Up to approximately eight passenger vehicles would be used to transport work crew members to and from the Project site each day.

Equipment and debris removed from the Project alignment would either be recycled or disposed of according to the provisions of the San Francisco Construction and Demolition Debris Recovery Ordinance.

## **Site Access and Staging**

The south parking lane of Sloat Boulevard would be used for staging of equipment and materials. Work crew passenger vehicles may be parked on side streets or in other areas to minimize use of on-street parking spaces along the Project alignment.

The SFPUC and the Project construction contractor would coordinate with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to minimize

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 5 of 10

disruption and delay of traffic movement and transit service on the Project streets.

### **SFPUC STANDARD CONSTRUCTION MEASURES**

The SFPUC requires the Standard Construction Measures issued July 1, 2015 (on file at the Environmental Planning Division) be implemented for all projects, as applicable. These measures would be applied to this Project as well.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION**

#### **Aesthetic**

The proposed pipeline, vaults, and other appurtenances would be installed below grade and, as indicated above, the road surface would be restored to SFPW standards upon completion of the work. Minor above-ground activities, including the reconfiguration of the groundwater supply line to the reservoir to include an above-ground air gap would minimally change the visual quality of the site and its surroundings. Therefore, the Project would not result in any permanent changes to the aesthetic environment. During construction, construction materials such as pipeline sections and excavated soils would temporarily be stored on the street. Some excavated soils would be visible in the work areas of the zoo, including where trenching would be needed near the animal drinker. Due to the short duration of Project construction activities along the Project alignment and within the zoo, the change in the aesthetic environment would be temporary and short term. Therefore, adverse effects to aesthetics would not be anticipated.

#### **Air Quality**

Emissions of dust and air pollutants during Project construction would be temporary along the construction route. A maximum of 5 construction haul vehicles per hour is assumed, associated with the delivery of equipment and materials, and hauling of soils and construction debris.

The SFPUC has estimated the criteria air pollutants emitted during Project construction based on the maximum number of pieces of equipment that might be operating at one time. A total of approximately 95 construction-related truck trips would be required during the approximately 10-week-long construction period.

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
 Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
 CEQA Exemption Request  
 SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
 Page 6 of 10

As shown in **Table 2** below, the estimated average daily criteria pollutants during Project construction would be below the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) pollutant thresholds.

**Table 2. Project Criteria Pollutant Emissions**

Chemical	Project Criteria Emissions (lbs/day) <sup>1,2</sup>	May 2017 Draft BAAQMD Thresholds (lbs/day) <sup>4</sup>
<b>Total Days<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>50</b>	
PM10	0.52	54
PM2.5	0.48	82
NOx	11.96	54
ROG	1.21	54

**Table Notes:**

- 1) Criteria emissions include all onsite construction emissions and onroad truck emissions for the full truck trip length. Worker commute trip emissions are excluded as negligible.
- 2) Daily average emissions are calculated as the quantity of emissions divided by the total number days for each phase and the Project as a whole.
- 3) Total days are calculated as the total number of days between the Project start date and end date.
- 4) Average daily emissions are compared to these threshold values. These values may be edited if the CEQA Guidance changes.

The Project alignment is not located within an Air Pollutant Exposure Zone (APEZ), as defined in the City's Clean Construction Ordinance (as amended).

Per SFPUC Standard Construction Measure Number 2, the Project would adhere to the substantive requirements of the Clean Construction Ordinance. Requirements include limiting idling to two minutes, properly maintaining and tuning equipment, using alternative sources of power instead of portable diesel engines where feasible, maintaining an equipment inventory, and installing signs for public awareness. In addition, the Project would comply with the City Dust Control Ordinance, per SFPUC Standard Construction Measure Number 2. The ordinance requires watering during excavation to minimize dust emissions and minimizing ground-disturbing activities.

Given the Project would generate minimal dust, criteria pollutants emissions from Project construction would be below BAAQMD thresholds, and the Project would be of short duration thereby further reducing exposure to emissions, adverse effects to air quality are not anticipated.

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 7 of 10

## **Biological Resources**

The Project alignments would be located in urban/paved areas; therefore, species of concern or critical habitat would not be expected to be present. No vegetation or trees would be removed or trimmed as part of the Project. Therefore, adverse effects to biological resources would not be expected.

## **Cultural Resources**

As the Project would occur within the public right-of-way and would not include installation of any new surficial features or alter any historic building or structure (the reservoir was built in 2001), the Project would have no potential to result in impacts to historic built environment features.

A City Archaeologist conducted the archeological review for the Project and found the proposed work locations would have high to very high sensitivity for near surface prehistoric archaeological resources based on a report of discovery of buried shell midden during excavations in the late 1970s or early 80s. Project excavations could encounter archaeological resources.

SFPUC Standard Construction Measure 9, Archaeological Measure 1 (Unanticipated Discovery) and Archaeological Measure 2 (Archaeological Monitoring) are included in the Project to address the potential for archaeological discoveries during construction. Archaeological Measure 1 requires that the work crews be informed of the potential to encounter archaeological resources and resource protection and assessment measures to be implemented in the event of a discovery during construction.

Archaeological Measure 2 requires archaeological monitoring and preparation of an Archeological Monitoring Plan (AMP). The AMP is to be a brief memorandum focused on prehistoric resources and shall state the accidental discovery and monitoring requirements. Under the AMP, archaeological monitoring by a qualified archaeologist would be required during excavations for the recycled water line and the two concrete vaults. The archaeological awareness training must be repeated at the beginning of work if the monitor will not be present full time.

With the inclusion of these measures, no adverse effects to archaeological resources are anticipated.

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 8 of 10

## **Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Geotracker and Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Envirostor databases were reviewed by SFPUC staff. No leaking underground (fuel) storage tank (LUST) cleanup sites were identified along or in the vicinity of the Project alignment. The Project locations are not located within the Maher zone.

The SFPUC and its contractor would comply with SFPUC Standard Construction Measure Number 6 in the Project, which requires appropriate treatment, containment and removal of hazardous materials (soil, groundwater or vapor), should they be encountered during Project activities.

Therefore, adverse effects related to potential exposure of workers or the public to hazardous materials would not occur.

## **Noise**

The proposed Project alignment consists of residential uses on the north side of Sloat Boulevard and the zoo property on the south side of Sloat Boulevard. While some short-term and intermittent noise would be generated as a result of Project activities, the noise would be comparable to other small construction projects and ambient noise levels associated with city streets. Furthermore, the Project would adhere to the substantive requirements of the San Francisco Noise Control Ordinance (Article 29 of the San Francisco Police Code). As discussed in the Project Description above, Project activities would primarily be conducted between 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Although not anticipated, evening and weekend work may be required. Nonetheless, due to the limited duration of the Project and temporary nature of the pipeline replacement activities, adverse noise effects would not be expected.

## **Recreation**

The Project is adjacent to and within the zoo. Project activities would not interfere with use of the zoo as work would occur primarily on roadways, with limited irrigation system work within the zoo that would not affect existing exhibits. Public access to the zoo, its parking, and its exhibits would be maintained without interruption. Therefore, adverse effects on recreation resources would not be anticipated.

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 9 of 10

## **Transportation**

Traffic generated by Project construction would have a maximum of 5 truck trips per hour over the course of construction along the Pipeline alignment. Project activities would require temporary use of traffic lanes, parking lanes and/or bus stops during construction and for equipment and materials staging. These activities could temporarily delay or require rerouting of through traffic including bus lines. The project follows and/or crosses multiple municipal bus and bike routes in the neighborhood. Any necessary detours and/or rerouted bus lines would be clearly identified. On-street parking spaces temporarily occupied by the Project would be made available at Project completion.

Sloat Boulevard consists of two eastbound and two westbound lanes. Work would occur only in the eastbound lanes and at least one eastbound lane of traffic would be open during construction. Local access to the zoo would be maintained at all times. Open trenches would be covered with steel plates at the intersections and along transit routes during evenings and weekends. As required, encroachment permits would be obtained from SFMTA and/or SFPW for work that encroaches on City streets or sidewalks (i.e., lane closures) or requires relocating transit services and all conditions of any such permits would be implemented.

In general, parking lane, travel lane, and sidewalk closures are subject to review and approval by the SFMTA. The SFMTA review and approval process considers other construction projects in the vicinity; pedestrian, bicyclist, transit and traffic operations; and specific land uses along the Project corridor. Per Standard Construction Measure Number 4 and consistent with the requirements of SFMTA's Blue Book, the contractor would implement traffic control measures to maintain traffic and pedestrian circulation on streets affected by Project construction.

Based on the number of vehicles and construction equipment to be used during Project activities and the short duration of work along Project segments, transit routes in the area of the Project should not be substantially delayed or traffic impeded, and adverse effects to transportation are not anticipated.

## **Water Quality**

No construction work would take place within waters of the United States or of the State. During construction, pollutants such as sediment and oils could be discharged to storm drains during storm events if they are entrained in

Timothy Johnston, MP, Senior Environmental Planner  
Environmental Planning Division, San Francisco Planning Department  
CEQA Exemption Request  
SF Zoo Recycled Water Pipeline Project  
Page 10 of 10

stormwater runoff. The project would adhere to the City's Construction Site Runoff Control Ordinance (Article 4.2 of the San Francisco Public Works) that requires all projects to implement best management practices to prevent the discharge of sediment, non-stormwater and waste runoff from construction sites. Additionally, pursuant to SFPUC Standard Construction Measure Number 3, the contractor would implement erosion and sedimentation controls (i.e., gravel bags and silt fence for storm drain inlet protection) tailored to the site. These controls would ensure that Project activities do not alter any drainage patterns or adversely affect water quality. As the Project would be required to comply with local water quality requirements, adverse effects to water quality would not be anticipated.

### **CEQA COMPLIANCE/RECCOMENDATION**

Based on the description of the proposed activity and evaluations above, the SFPUC recommends EP determine the proposed Project is categorically exempt under CEQA, CEQA Section 15302, Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures). Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. Examples of this exemption include water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed ;project, please contact Sue Chau, Environmental Project Manager, at [Schau@SFWater.org](mailto:Schau@SFWater.org).

Sincerely,



Karen Frye, AICP, Acting Bureau Manager  
Bureau of Environmental Management

cc: Barbara Palacios, SFPUC Project Manager  
Sue Chau, SFPUC Senior Environmental Project Manager