

Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District
1 East Road
Sausalito, CA 94965

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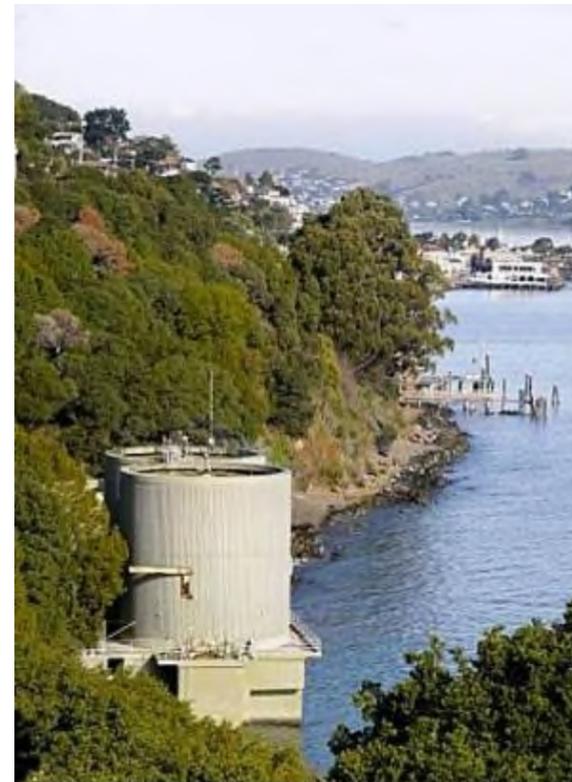
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Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District



Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District (SMCSD), in coordination with the National Park Service (NPS), is in the planning process to upgrade the SMCSD's wastewater treatment facility at Fort Baker in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. This project would upgrade the wastewater treatment facility, thereby improving the quality of water discharges and improving the SMCSD's ability to prevent sanitary sewage spills into the San Francisco Bay. This would be accomplished by constructing a headworks primary treatment upgrade, increased secondary treatment capacity and upgraded tertiary treatment system. The headworks component would be added to the existing primary treatment system to remove grit and other debris before the effluent is treated by downstream processes. The secondary treatment upgrades would reduce possible wet-weather related by-passes by refurbishing the treatment towers/pumps which would regulate flow storage to minimize peak flow rates. The tertiary upgrades would replace and increase capacity of the effluent sand filters, thereby ensuring improved water quality discharging into the Bay. In addition, the project would add needed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant administrative office space by converting an existing on-site residence for SMCSD personnel. All of the proposed improvements would occur within an existing 4.8-acre easement with NPS and most would be constructed within the existing 2.0-acre facility footprint, with the exception of a 0.1-acre addition for relocation of an existing access road.



Kurt Rogers / The Chronicle

Environmental Assessment/Initial Study

The SMCSD and the NPS have prepared an Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) per the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to examine the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

The EA/IS describes the purpose and need for the project, and presents a detailed description of the various components that would comprise the project. The EA/IS includes an analysis of the existing environment that could be affected by the project, the potential impacts from construction and operation, and measures proposed to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential adverse impacts on the environment.

Among the key topics addressed in the EA/IS includes the project's potential impacts on coastal and marine resources, water resources, cultural resources, wildlife and vegetation, air quality and greenhouse gases, and geology and soils.

The EA/IS also discusses the various alternatives that were considered for the project, and the rationale for the determination of the project as the preferred alternative.

Project Purpose and Need

This project has been developed to improve regulatory compliance, ADA accessibility, reliability, performance, and to reduce wet weather blending events. To achieve these goals, the existing wastewater facility would be upgraded with the addition of a new headworks primary treatment facility, increased secondary treatment capacity, and upgraded tertiary treatment. The need for the project is driven by the following current conditions:

- The current primary, secondary, and tertiary wastewater treatment facilities need to be upgraded to achieve regulatory compliance with both federal and state agencies.
- The facilities need to be upgraded to improve the quality of the water discharging into San Francisco Bay and prevent bypass events.
- The current facility lacks sufficient administrative and meeting space for SMCSD personnel.

Project Objectives

The objectives for this project include the following:

- Eliminate possible sanitary sewer overflows.
- Comply with US Environmental Protection Agency and Regional Water Quality Control Board requirements.
- Improve primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment of wastewater.
- Improve the quality of wastewater that is discharged into the San Francisco Bay.
- Provide upgraded treatment facilities with minimal disruption of existing site and impacts to natural environment.
- Address environmental concerns by siting new and upgraded treatment facilities in a manner that minimizes impacts to natural communities.
- Provide additional administrative office space on-site to address ADA compliance issues without requiring new construction.

Project Location



Public Review Period

The purpose of the public review period for this EA/IS is to provide the opportunity to comment on the adequacy and completeness of the environmental analysis. Copies of the EA/IS will be available at the Sausalito Public Library, the Marin City Library, and online at the NPS website listed below.

Comments should be submitted no later than December 13, 2013. You can submit comments online at the project website printed below. Comments can also be mailed to the following address:

Mr. Craig Justice
SMCSD
1 East Road
Sausalito, CA 94965
SMCSD – Treatment Plant Upgrade Project

It is our practice to make all comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. If you would like us to withhold this from disclosure,

please state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. If you use the website, check the box “*keep my contact information private.*” We will honor your request, but please be aware that we may still be required to disclose names and addresses under federal law.

What Happens Next?



The SMCSD and NPS will review and consider all comments received on the adequacy and completeness of the EA/IS. After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, the SMCSD and NPS may: (1) grant environmental approval to the project (a Finding of No Significant Impact under NEPA, and a Mitigated Negative Declaration under CEQA), (2) undertake additional environmental studies, or (3) revise the proposed project. If the project is granted environmental approval and funding is appropriated, the SMCSD could design and construct all or part of the proposed project.

Submit Comments at the Project Website: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/SMCSD_Upgrade

Join the Park Email List: <http://www.nps.gov/goga>; and click “**Join Our Email List**”