



CITY OF ESCONDIDO  
PLANNING DIVISION  
201 NORTH BROADWAY  
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025-2798  
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## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

CASE NO.: ENV15-0010 "Spruce Street Drainage Improvements"

DATE ISSUED: December 24, 2015

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: December 29, 2015 – January 27, 2016

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located within a tributary of Escondido Creek in the City of Escondido, San Diego County, California. The channel (the proposed project area) begins north of the intersection of South Spruce Street and West 3rd Avenue as a concrete-lined channel and conveys drainage west (downstream) before going underground at South Spruce Street. The channel daylights west of the intersection of West Grand Avenue and South Spruce Street as an earthen channel and flows west through a short culvert under West Valley Parkway, and then continues as an earthen channel until it drains into Escondido Creek (a concrete-lined flood-control channel).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The channel located between 3rd Avenue and the flood control channel of Escondido Creek has a long history of being chronically wet with standing water, thus creating a breeding habitat for mosquitoes, particularly in the upstream concrete-lined portion of the proposed project area. As a result, the existing channel has experienced a long history of flooding and vector control issues, resulting in impacts related to flood control, public health and safety, and water quality. The City is using the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health funding grant to implement a variety of drainage improvement activities to eliminate vector breeding and nuisance water issues that have existed within the channel. In implementing the proposed drainage improvements, the City also would integrate design characteristics intended to offset or minimize environmental impacts through a variety of beneficial improvements to the earthen drainage features that provide habitat, water quality, and aesthetic value. Drainage improvement activities would include repairs and improvements such as removing silt and vegetation through the following measures: concrete and earthen channel dredging; culvert clean-out; installation of permanent manholes, concrete wingwalls, and sediment traps; vegetation clearing and trimming; access road clearing; and revegetation using drought-tolerant native plants.

**APPLICANT:** City of Escondido

An Initial Study has been prepared to assess this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act and Guidelines, Ordinances and Regulations of the City of Escondido. The Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file in the City of Escondido Planning Division and can be viewed on the City of Escondido web Site at: <http://www.escondido.org/planning.aspx>. Further information may be obtained by contacting Jay Paul at the Planning Division, telephone (760) 839-4537 or [jpaul@escondido.org](mailto:jpaul@escondido.org).

**Findings:** The findings of this review are that the Initial Study identified effects related to biological and cultural resources that might be potentially significant. However, revisions in the project plans and/or mitigation measures agreed to by the applicant would provide mitigation to a point where potential impacts are reduced to less than a significant level.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Petrek".

Jay Petrek  
Director of Community Development