

# NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF EIR & NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

## 1. Project Title:

East Side Regional Park and Groundwater Recharge Project

## 2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

City of Visalia  
Community Development Department  
315 East Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291

## 3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

### Lead Agency Contact

Doug Damko, Project Manager  
Community Development Department  
(559) 713-4268

### CEQA Consultant

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group  
Rick Darnley, Project Manager  
Mary E. Beatie, Environmental Phase Manager  
130 North Garden Street  
Visalia, CA 93291  
(559) 636-1166

## 4. Project Location:

The Project site is located on the north side of State Route 198, between the Road 148 extension and Road 152 as shown on the attached Project Area Exhibit.

## 5. Description of Project:

The City of Visalia proposes to design and construct the East Side Regional Park and Groundwater Recharge Project. The Project design area includes approximately 269 acres. The total Project area to be potentially effected includes approximately 290 acres. The intent of the Project is to co-locate regional park amenities amongst functional recharge basins. Build-out of Tower Street as a new arterial roadway just east of the SCE power lines is also proposed. The Project site is located on the north side of State Route 198, between the Road 148 alignment and Road 152, and extending north to State Route 216.

## 6. Introduction and Purpose:

The City of Visalia is announcing its intention to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to address the potential environmental effects of the implementation of a proposed regional park and groundwater recharge basin project. Specific or precise project components or their design and locations will be determined through future public workshops to be held by the Lead Agency as part of the project process.

The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Notice of Scoping (NOS) is to provide public agencies, interested organizations, and members of the public the opportunity to comment on the scope and content of the EIR.

## 7. Potential Environmental Impacts:

The EIR will analyze potential environmental impacts associated with construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed project. Specific areas of analysis will include all resource categories included in Appendix G to the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, as follows: aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, greenhouse gases and global climate change, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards, hydrology and water quality, land use, energy and mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems.

If you feel there are specific significant impacts that could result from the project we invite you to describe the nature of those impacts, as well as offer feasible and reasonable mitigation for that impact that should be considered in the EIR. As the terms are defined in CEQA, the EIR is required to assess impacts for which there is substantial evidence or fair argument of its potential to be significant and will also identify reasonable and feasible mitigation measures that may help avoid or reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

## 8. Public Involvement

The public is invited and is encouraged to participate in the public process to determine the scope of the environmental document. You may do so by submitting written comments which must be received by the Environmental Consultant noted above by no later than January 22, 2015, 5:30 PM

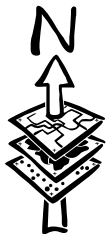
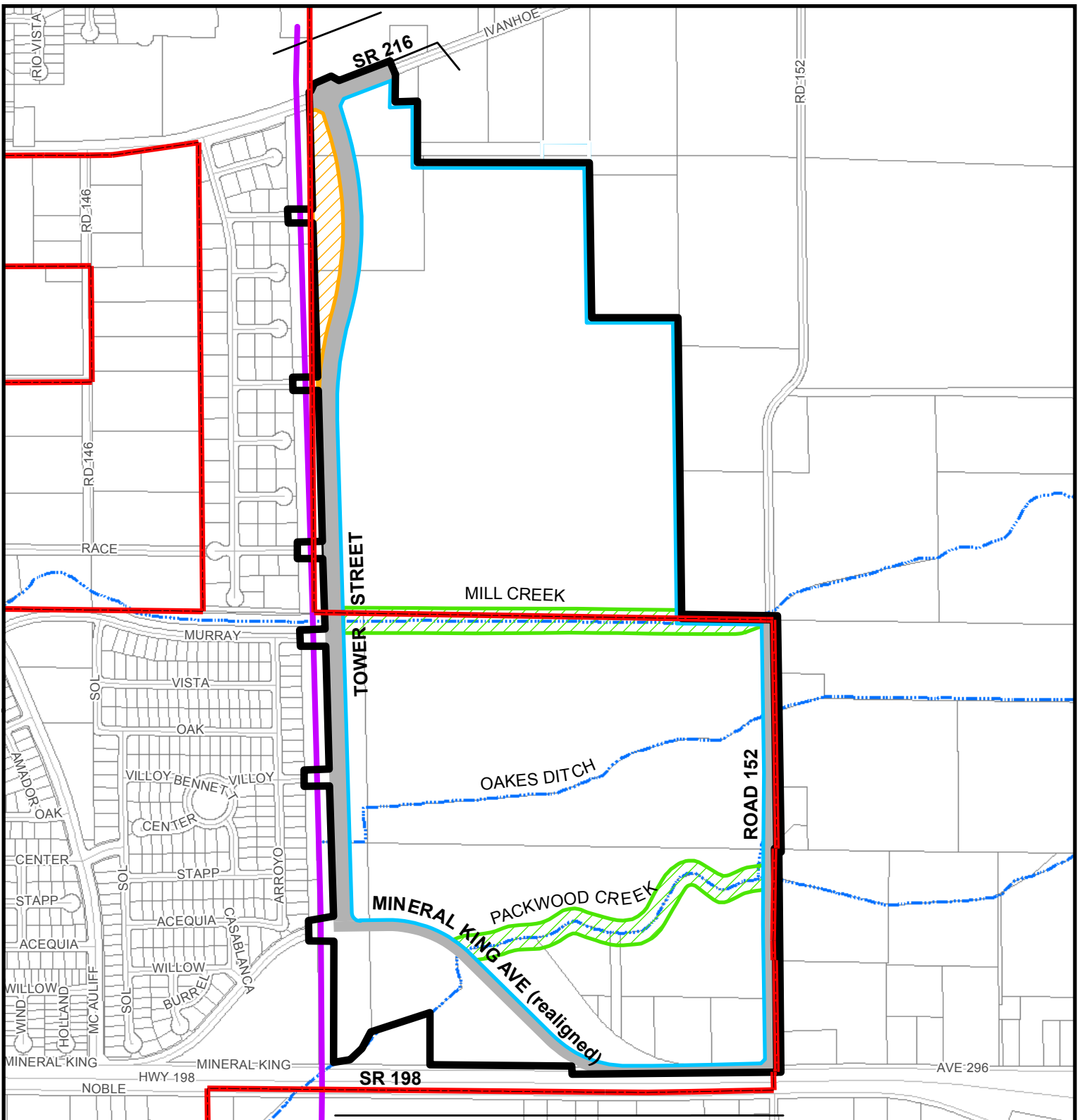
Any comments and/or recommendations regarding the possible environmental impacts, mitigation measures or project alternatives which you believe should be addressed in the environmental analysis are welcomed and encouraged. In order that the environmental analysis can most effectively address your concerns, written comments, at a minimum, shall identify:

- a. The substantial evidentiary basis for potentially significant environmental issues, suggested reasonable and feasible mitigation measures and/or feasible alternatives to be explored in the draft environmental analysis that would reduce impacts to less than significant; and
- b. If you are a public agency, including, as defined by the CEQA Guidelines, a Responsible Agency or a Trustee Agency that may have resources affected by the project, please provide a description of any project reviews, permit approvals, or other processing that may be required by your agency to implement the project.








In addition to the opportunity to submit written comments, a Public Scoping Meeting is being conducted to provide an opportunity to learn more about the proposed project and to express oral comments about the content of the environmental analysis. The scoping meeting will be held at the following time and location:

**January 22, 2015**  
**Meeting begins at 5:30 PM**  
**Visalia City Council Chambers**  
707 West Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291

Attachment: Project Area Exhibit



SCALE: 1" = 800'

-  Planned Park & Recharge Basins Area
-  Planned Perimeter Streets Area
-  Creeks with Designated Waterway Setback Area
-  Potential Greenway Trail Expansion Area
-  Area Potentially Effected by Project (290 Acres)
-  SCE Rector Power Lines & Planned Greenway Trail
-  City Limits



**EAST SIDE REGIONAL  
PARK & RECHARGE BASINS  
Project Area Exhibit**