

**NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Name of Project:

Collection System Improvements, District Project No. 72706-2020-05, HWY 101 Crossings Near Ignacio Blvd. Project.

Location and Description:

The Project is located at the District's Enfrente Pump Station, 333 Enfrente Road, Novato, crossing HWY 101 and the SMART Rail to 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd. Two additional HWY 101/SMART Rail gravity sewer crossings will be replaced north of Enfrente at HWY Mile Markers 18.479 and 18.854. The Project consists of replacing two gravity sewer crossings under HWY 101 and abandonment of the Enfrente Pump Station to convert to gravity flow via an underground crossing to the east side of HWY 101. The Project will result in the replacement of approximately 925 lineal feet of existing sewer and 467 of new sewer with new PVC pipe ranging in size from 12 to 24-inch diameter. The portion of the sewer within the three HWY 101/SMART crossings total approximately 1,095 lineal feet that will be within a 42-inch diameter steel casing. This work is being completed to replace two existing HWY crossings that are 70 years old and near the end of their service life. Conversion of the Enfrente Pump Station into a gravity system will result in greater reliability, decrease the need for maintenance, and reduce energy usage. The new highway crossing will reestablish a historical crossing that was abandoned in 1995. The beneficiaries of the project include the people served by the Novato Sanitary District and the people of the State of California, by eliminating the potential for discharge of sewage into nearby soils, groundwater and receiving water bodies.

Entity or Person Undertaking Project:

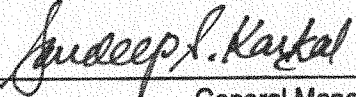
Novato Sanitary District

Staff Determination:

The District, having undertaken and completed a preliminary review of this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), finds that this work does not require further environmental assessment as the project is Categorically Exempt under State CEQA Guidelines – **Class II** (Section 15302, (c)). This determination was made because the work consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

Date: 09/19/25 Authorized Person: 

NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TITLE: Capital Projects: Collection System Improvements (HWY 101 Crossings Near Ignacio Blvd. Project), Account No. 72706.	MEETING DATE: September 8, 2025 AGENDA ITEMS NO.: 10.a.
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 Class 2 (Replacement or Reconstruction); and approve the Project – HWY 101 Crossings Near Ignacio Boulevard Project; Project No. 72706-2020-05.	
SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION: <p>District staff are working with the District's consultant NUTE Engineering, Inc. to prepare plans and specifications for this project and the project is ready to submit to CalTrans for an encroachment permit application. The Project consists of replacing two gravity sewer crossings under HWY 101 and abandonment of the Enfrente Pump Station to convert to gravity flow via an underground crossing to the east side of HWY 101. The Project will result in the replacement of approximately 925 lineal feet of existing sewer and 467 of new sewer with new PVC pipe ranging in size from 12 to 24-inch diameter. The portion of the sewer within the three HWY 101/SMART crossings total approximately 1,095 lineal feet that will be within a 42-inch diameter steel casing. This work is being completed to replace two existing HWY crossings that are 70 years old and near the end of their service life. Conversion of the Enfrente Pump Station into a gravity system will result in greater reliability, decrease the need for maintenance, and reduce energy usage. The new highway crossing will reestablish a historical crossing that was abandoned in 1995.</p> <p>As part of the encroachment permit application process, CalTrans requires that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process be complete. Staff completed the CEQA documentation and determined that the project is Categorical Exempt per State Guidelines Section 15302 (c). This determination was made because the work consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.</p> <p>Staff recommend that the Board Make California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings that the project is categorically exempt; and approve the Project – HWY 101 Crossings Near Ignacio Boulevard Project; Project No. 72706-2020-05.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT Approved by District Board on <u>Sept. 8, 2025</u>  _____ General Manager-Chief Engineer</p>	
STRATEGIC PLAN INFORMATION: This item addresses Goal 2 (Facilities) of the latest Strategic Plan.	
BUDGET INFORMATION: The Project will be funded under Account No. 72706 – Collection System Improvements. The final FY 25-26 budget includes \$4,340,000 for this Account.	
Prepared by: eb	Reviewed by General Manager: SSK

21-2025-152

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILED

SEP 29 2015

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
BY: L. Vauter, Deputy

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Suite 121
Sacramento, California 95814

From: Novato Sanitary District
500 Davidson Street
Novato, CA 94945

County Clerk of Marin County

Project Title

Collection System Improvements; Project No. 72706-2020-05, HWY 101 Crossings Near Ignacio Blvd. Project

Project Location (Specific):

The project is located at the District's Enfrente Pump Station, 333 Enfrente Road, Novato, crossing HWY 101 and the SMART Rail to 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd. Two additional HWY 101/SMART Rail gravity sewer crossings will be replaced north of Enfrente at HWY Mile Markers 18.479 and 18.122.

Project Location (City):

Novato

Project Location - County

Marin

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project

This activity consists of the discretionary approval for the project. The Project consists of replacing two gravity sewer crossings under HWY 101 and abandonment of the Enfrente Pump Station to convert to gravity flow via an underground crossing to the east side of HWY 101. The Project will result in the replacement of approximately 925 lineal feet of existing sewer and 467 of new sewer with new PVC pipe ranging in size from 12 to 24-inch diameter. The portion of the sewer within the three HWY 101/SMART crossings total approximately 1,095 lineal feet that will be within a 42-inch diameter steel casing. This work is being completed to replace two existing HWY crossings that are 70 years old and near the end of their service life. Conversion of the Enfrente Pump Station into a gravity system will result in greater reliability, decrease the need for maintenance, and reduce energy usage. The new highway crossing will reestablish a historical crossing that was abandoned in 1995. The beneficiaries of the project include the people served by the Novato Sanitary District and the people of the State of California, by eliminating the potential for discharge of sewage into nearby soils, groundwater and receiving water bodies.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project

Novato Sanitary District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project

Novato Sanitary District

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- Ministerial (Section 15073)
- Declared Emergency (Section 15071(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15071(b) and (c))
- Categorical or Statutory Exemption. State type and section number: State Guidelines Section 15302(c), replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

Reasons why project is exempt

This project meets the criteria of a Class II categorical exemption, as set forth in Section 15302 of the State Guidelines. This determination is made because the work is considered a replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

Contact Person

Sandeep K. Karkal, General Manager-Chief Engineer

Phone Number

415-892-1694

Date Received for Filing

Sandeep K. Karkal
Signature

General Manager-Chief Engineer
Title

POSTED 9/29/25 TO 10/29/25