CITY OF FRESNO NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The City of Fresno (City) is the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Van Ness Avenue Water Transmission Grid Main Project (Project). The Project would include construction of approximately 0.55 miles of replacement water distribution mains within Van Ness Avenue between Divisadero Street and Merced Street in Downtown Fresno, California. The Project would also relocate all services to existing buildings that Front Van Ness Avenue that are currently served by water mains in the alleys between Van Ness and Fulton Street and between Van Ness and L Street.

This Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (NOI) is to inform the public that the City has prepared an Initial Study to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project, and has concluded that the Project would not have a significant effect on the environment. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be approved for this project. City of Fresno staff have reviewed the Initial Study for the project, and based upon substantial evidence in the record, finds that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment with implementation of mitigation measures. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) can be viewed at the City's Department of Public Utilities Public Counter/Room 4019, located on the 4th floor of City Call, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721-3624, or accessed online at <u>https://www.fresno.gov/cityclerk/notices-publications/</u>.

The City invites written public comment on the IS/MND between February 15, 2022 and March 17, 2022. Please mail written comments to Beth Field, Professional Engineer, Utilities Planning and Engineering, 2101 G Street, Building A, Fresno, CA 93706, or email comments to Beth.Field@fresno.gov. A public City Council hearing for the project is tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., in the City Council Chambers located at 2600 Fresno Street, Second Floor. It should be noted that the approval of a Mitigated Negative Declaration does not constitute approval of the project under consideration. The decision to approve or deny the project will be made separately.