

City of Fresno  
Fresno Metropolitan Water Resources Management Plan Update EIR  
**Fact Sheet**

**Welcome**

This fact sheet has been prepared for scoping meetings associated with the Fresno Metropolitan Water Resources Management Plan (Metro Plan) Update Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Two scoping meetings are being held for the project (September 16<sup>th</sup> 2:30 pm - 4pm and 6pm - 8pm). The information being presented at both meetings will be the same, and interested parties need only attend one of the meetings.

Please sign in, pick up meeting handouts, and fill out and turn in a speaker card if you wish to speak at this meeting. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive project-related notices, please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet. The agenda for each meeting includes: (1) a presentation of the Fresno Metro Plan Project; (2) information about California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and EIR process and schedule; and (3) the gathering of agency and public input on the scope and content of the Metro Plan Update EIR.

**Project Summary**

The City of Fresno (City) will be the Lead Agency to prepare an EIR for the Metro Plan Update or proposed project. The City would like to know your views (or the views of your agency) as to the scope and content of the environmental information and analysis that should be contained in the Metro Plan Update EIR.

The overall objective of the Metro Plan Update is to supply sufficient and reliable water supplies to meet the demands of existing and future customers through buildout of the applicable Fresno General Plan. The study area for the Metro Plan Update includes the existing city limits and City of Fresno Sphere of Influence (SOI) area designated by the 2025 Fresno General Plan. Because the City is in the process of updating its general plan, the EIR will analyze the project with regard to the adopted general plan in effect at the time of consideration of certification of the EIR.

The purpose of the Metro Plan Update is to update and refine the 1996 Fresno Metropolitan Water Resources Management Plan (1996 Metro Plan) taking into consideration available new data and accommodating physical and institutional changes which have occurred since the 1996 Metro Plan was prepared. The completed Metro Plan Update would facilitate future water resources decisions and utility planning, and would satisfy requirements for potential State funding. Implementation of the City's recommended water supply program would result in a significant shift in the use of available water resources and an increase in diversity in the City's water supply portfolio which will enhance the City's overall water supply reliability. Implementation of the Metro Plan Update involves near-term and long-term water projects including, surface water treatment and storage facilities; a raw water intake; groundwater supply, storage and recharge facilities; recycled water treatment and distribution facilities; water distribution pipelines; and increased water conservation measures.

The EIR will be designed to function as both a program-level EIR for the overall Metro Plan Update (including future projects) and a project-level EIR for proposed near-term projects (construction anticipated by 2018).

## Purpose of the Scoping Meetings

The purpose of this meeting is to receive public and agency input on the scope and content of the Metro Plan Update EIR. If you have input on the scope of the environmental analysis and would like to speak at this meeting, please fill out a speaker card. If you do not wish to speak, you can fill out a comment form and leave it with a staff person or take it with you and mail it to the address on the form. You do not need to use a form to submit your comments on the EIR. You can mail or e-mail your comments on the scope of the EIR analysis to the address provided below.

## EIR Process and Next Steps

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) was published by the City of Fresno on September 6, 2013. The NOP provides information on: the project background; proposed project objectives and project description; and potential environmental effects proposed to be evaluated in the EIR. Copies of the NOP will be available at each meeting or they can be obtained at the following locations:

- City website - [www.fresno.gov/water](http://www.fresno.gov/water) (go to “Important Documents”)
- City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities Water Division, 1910 East University Avenue, Fresno, CA 93703-2988
- City of Fresno City Hall, 2600 Fresno Street, 4th Floor, Room 4019, Department of Public Utilities Administration, Fresno CA 93721
- County of Fresno Central Library, 2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno CA 93721

The NOP public response period will end on October 14, 2013. Please submit written comments on the scope of the environmental analysis at the earliest possible date, but **no later than 5 p.m. on October 14, 2013** to:

Brock Buche, Project Manager  
City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities, Water Division  
1910 East University Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93703-2988  
(559) 621-5325  
[FresnoMetroPlan@esassoc.com](mailto:FresnoMetroPlan@esassoc.com)

At the end of the public response period, the City of Fresno will consider all comments received (including those provided at this scoping meeting) from interested persons, organizations, and agencies in preparing the environmental analysis to be included in the EIR. A Draft EIR will be prepared and circulated for a 45-day public comment period. During the Draft EIR public response period, agencies and the public will have an opportunity to review the analysis in the Draft EIR and provide comments on its adequacy either in writing or orally at a public meetings. At the close of the 45-day public response period, the City will prepare written responses to all oral and written comments received and will prepare a Final EIR. The Draft EIR, Final EIR, and other supporting documentation will be provided to the City Council for consideration in certifying the EIR as adequate under CEQA and in approving or denying the Metro Plan Update.