



## EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

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DATE: June 5, 2025

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Clifford C. Chan, General Manager 

FROM: Crystal J. Yezman, Manager of Maintenance and Construction 

SUBJECT: Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project – Update on Outreach and Comments Received on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration

### SUMMARY

The Miller Road trench soil stockpile site is located within District-owned watershed land southeast of the Upper San Leandro Reservoir near Castro Valley in unincorporated Alameda County. Since 1975, the District has used the site to store excavated material generated by pipeline construction and maintenance activities. In 2023, Alameda County communicated to the District that continued use of the site would require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) supported by appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to assess the potential environmental impacts.

In consultation with the county, a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project was released on March 20, 2025. The IS/MND was distributed to responsible agencies by mail and made available on the District's project website: [www.ebmud.com/MillerRoad](http://www.ebmud.com/MillerRoad). The deadline for public comment was extended from April 21, 2025 to May 19, 2025 in response to feedback from the community.

### DISCUSSION

The District received written comments on the Draft IS/MND from the following groups:

- Members of the public (three individuals)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council
- Alameda County Department of Transportation
- Alameda County Planning Department

A summary of the comments is provided below.

<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comments</b>
Soil Management	Concerns about soil testing, reuse of excavated soil, and potential contamination.
Water Quality	Potential impacts to water resources, including soil/water interaction and stormwater runoff.
Traffic and Safety	Comments related to truck traffic, road damage and repair, proximity to schools, and general public safety.
Wildlife and Habitat	Potential impacts on special-status species such as the Alameda whipsnake and Crotch's bumble bee, as well as broader concerns regarding habitat connectivity.
Air Quality and Dust	Requests for dust control measures and concerns about public health impacts from construction-related emissions.
Land Use & Planning	Comments related to the need for a conditional use permit to comply with Alameda County zoning requirements.
CEQA Process	Concerns about the public review process, timing, and overall adequacy of the environmental analysis.

Comment letters can be made available upon request. The attachment outlines project outreach.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Staff will prepare responses to all comments received during the public review period and incorporate responses into the Final IS/MND, which is scheduled for Board consideration on August 12, 2025. If the Board certifies the Final IS/MND, staff will proceed with submitting a CUP application to Alameda County. The next off-haul event from the Miller Road stockpile site is anticipated in 2026, with additional public outreach and coordination with Alameda County and the local community to be conducted in advance.

CCC:CJY:sd

Attachment: Summary of Project Outreach

## Summary of Project Outreach

Date	Outreach Action
Ongoing	A webpage for the Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project has been created and is continually updated with all information and documentation as it is released: <a href="https://www.ebmud.com/MillerRoad">https://www.ebmud.com/MillerRoad</a> .
<b>Development of IS/MND</b>	
July – Oct 2023	Coordination with Alameda County Planning Department on appropriate level of documentation, determination of appropriate lead agency, and development of draft Project Description.
Oct – Nov 2023	Request for Proposals advertised for professional services for preparation of the IS/MND.
March 12, 2024	Board Authorization of Agreement with Panorama Environmental, Inc. for the preparation of the Draft IS/MND.
<b>Outreach for Release of Draft IS/MND</b>	
March 6, 2025	Postcards sent to 1,180 addresses along Redwood Road that are within 500 feet on either side of Redwood Road informing residents of the upcoming release of the Draft IS/MND and public meeting dates.
March 11, 2025	Presentation of Draft IS/MND findings and outreach plan to EBMUD Planning Committee.
March 13, 2025	Outreach to inform residents of upcoming release of the Draft IS/MND and public meeting dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional 350 postcards sent to Castro Valley addresses that are within the 500 feet of the EBMUD-owned parcels comprising the Miller Road stockpile site, including nearby schools</li> <li>• Email sent to Castro Valley residents signed up to receive EBMUD emails (12,300 emails)</li> <li>• Nextdoor.com posts to 28 neighborhoods in Castro Valley (13,500 users)</li> </ul>
March 20, 2025	Draft IS/MND released for public review and comment through April 21, 2025.
March 21, 2025	Email and Nextdoor.com reminder of EBMUD presentation for the Draft IS/MND at the March 24 Castro Valley MAC meeting.
March 24, 2025	Presentation of Trench Soil Management Program background and Draft IS/MND to Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council (CV MAC).
March 31, 2025	Email and Nextdoor.com reminder of the April 3 virtual public meeting and alert of the meeting link availability on the EBMUD webpage.
April 3, 2025	Virtual public meeting held to review Draft IS/MND.
April 17, 2025	Comment period for Draft IS/MND extended to May 19, 2025 in response to feedback from community outreach.
May 19, 2025	Comment for Draft IS/MND period closed.

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