

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
WALNUT CREEK WATER TREATMENT PLANT PRETREATMENT PROJECT
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
SCH # 2022020573**

**Project Applicant/Proponent: East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)
375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA, 94607-4240**

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant Pretreatment Project (Project) is available for public review. EBMUD is the Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Project Purpose: The Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is the primary water treatment plant serving approximately 225,000 customers in EBMUD's East-of-Hills service area, which includes portions of Pleasant Hill, portions of Walnut Creek, Alamo, Lafayette, Danville, Blackhawk, and San Ramon Valley communities. The Walnut Creek WTP primarily treats Mokelumne River water stored in the Sierra foothills at Pardee Reservoir, but also treats water stored locally in Briones Reservoir. EBMUD can also pump and treat water from the Sacramento River via its Freeport facility, as well as from neighboring water agencies through untreated water agency interties during planned and unplanned outages, as well as during droughts. The proposed Project would add pretreatment facilities to the Walnut Creek WTP that would allow EBMUD to more reliably treat a broader range of untreated Pardee and Briones Reservoir water resulting from high rainfall runoff, wildfires, algae blooms, climate change and emerging contaminants, and improve the ability to treat supplemental supplies from Freeport or the interties during planned and unplanned outages and during future droughts. The Project would also improve treated water taste and odor by removing organics and by adding ozone treatment and increase the Walnut Creek WTP capacity to meet planned future demands, improve water system reliability and operational flexibility, and allow for the potential decommissioning of the Lafayette Water Treatment Plant.

Project Location and Description: The Walnut Creek WTP is located at 2201 Larkey Lane in Walnut Creek on an approximately 50-acre site in the City of Walnut Creek, CA. The Project also includes improvements at the Lafayette WTP, an approximately 24-acre site located in the City of Lafayette, CA. The Walnut Creek WTP is bounded by Alfred Avenue to the east, the Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail to the north, and Acalanes Ridge Open Space to the south and west (see **Figure 1**). The Lafayette WTP, located at 3848 Mt. Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette, is bounded by Mt. Diablo Boulevard to the south and west, Temple Isaiah to the east, and State Route 24 to the north (see **Figure 2**).

The proposed Project would be designed and constructed in two separate phases as detailed below. The Phase 1 improvements include new pretreatment and ozone facilities that would allow the Walnut Creek WTP to more reliably treat a broader range of untreated water quality up to a capacity of 125 MGD, while the Phase 2 pretreatment improvements would include additional pretreatment and ozone facilities that would allow EBMUD to treat up to 160 MGD. EBMUD plans to construct the Phase 1 improvements from 2027 to 2030. The construction timing of the Phase 2 improvements is not firmly established but would depend on untreated water quality conditions in the future and the timing of future demands. **Figure 3** shows the proposed location and approximate footprint of the new pretreatment facilities and ancillary improvements required throughout the Walnut Creek WTP site. Hydraulic changes at the Walnut Creek WTP would require modification of weir structures at the Lafayette WTP, at the locations shown in **Figure 4**.

Phase 1 - Proposed Improvements at Walnut Creek WTP

- North ballasted flocculation basins
- North intermediate ozone pumping plant
- North intermediate ozone contactor
- Ozone generation building
- Liquid oxygen (LOX) storage area
- North pre-ozone pumping plant
- Combined reclaimed metering vault
- North ozone gas destruct vault
- Solids dewatering building and truck loading facility
- Thickened solids blending tanks
- Two gravity thickeners
- Thickened solids pumping plant
- Solids transfer pumping plant
- Electrical facilities building
- Consolidated maintenance building
- North ozone gas quenching vault
- Chemical storage building extension
- Hydrogen peroxide station
- Large diameter buried pipelines
- Paved roadways
- Paved parking
- Retaining walls
- Security fencing and cameras
- Stormwater facilities
- Lighting
- Redirected social footpaths
- Demolition of existing process and maintenance facilities
- Revegetation including new trees and hydroseeding

Phase 2 – Proposed Improvements at Walnut Creek WTP

- South ballasted flocculation basins
- South intermediate ozone pumping plant
- South intermediate ozone contactor
- South pre-ozone pumping plant
- South ozone gas destruct vault
- Two gravity thickeners
- Thickened solids pump station
- South ozone gas quenching vault
- Large diameter buried pipelines

Proposed Improvements at Lafayette WTP

The Project would also require raising the height of two hydraulic weirs located at the Lafayette WTP to increase the water pressure in the Lafayette Aqueducts No. 1 and No. 2 to accommodate the hydraulic requirements to serve the new pretreatment processes at the Walnut Creek WTP. The following Lafayette WTP improvements would take place at the same time as the Phase 1 Improvements at the Walnut Creek WTP.

- New Lafayette Weir No. 1

- Retaining wall
- Demolition of existing Lafayette Weir No. 1
- Modification of existing Lafayette Weir No. 2 to increase height by 10 feet
- New large diameter buried pipelines
- Revegetation including new trees and hydroseeding

Significant Environmental Effects: Analysis of environmental impacts associated with the Project identified potentially significant impacts in the following two areas: Noise and Vibration and Transportation. With the exception of Noise and Vibration, impacts would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels by implementation of mitigation measures. Except for Noise and Vibration, cumulative impacts are either found not to be significant or are mitigated to less-than-significant levels with implementation of mitigation measures. Once the Project is completed and operational, all impacts would be less than significant.

Public Review: The Draft EIR is available on EBMUD’s Project website at www.ebmud.com/wcwtppretreatment.

The Draft EIR is also available for public review at the following locations:

EBMUD Offices	375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607
Walnut Creek Public Library	1644 North Broadway, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Lafayette Library	3491 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549

Public Meeting: The following public meeting is scheduled to review the Draft EIR and will start at 6:00 p.m.:

- October 19, 2023 – Virtual Meeting – Zoom link to be provided before the meeting date on Project website: www.ebmud.com/wcwtppretreatment

Deadlines: The public review period is from September 29, 2023, to November 13, 2023. Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on November 13, 2023. Written comments must be submitted to Chien Wang, Associate Civil Engineer, M/S #701, 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607-4240, or e-mailed to wcwtp.pretreatment@ebmud.com. Action on the EIR is currently scheduled to be taken by the EBMUD Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled Board meeting in June 2024 at 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA.



Olujimi O. Yoloye
Director of Engineering and Construction
East Bay Municipal Utility District

9/28/2023

Date

OOY:DJR:cw
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Attachments: Figure 1 Walnut Creek WTP Project Location
Figure 2 Lafayette WTP Project Location
Figure 3 Walnut Creek WTP Conceptual Site Plan
Figure 4 Lafayette WTP Conceptual Site Plan

Figure 1: Walnut Creek WTP Project Location

WALNUT CREEK WATER TREATMENT PLANT PRETREATMENT PROJECT WALNUT CREEK, CA

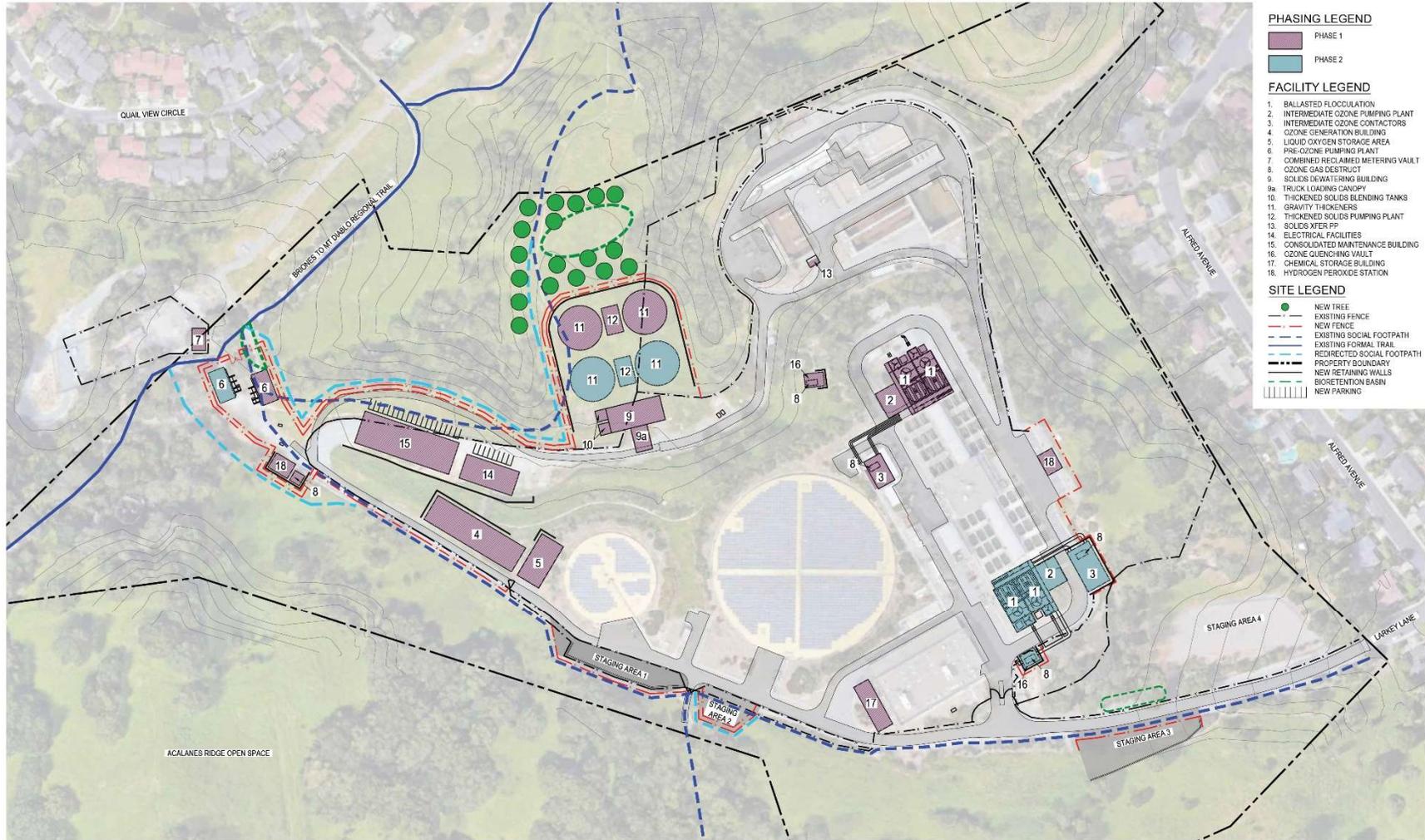


Figure 2: Lafayette WTP Project Location

**WALNUT CREEK WATER TREATMENT
PLANT (WTP) PRETREATMENT PROJECT:
LAFAYETTE WTP MODIFICATIONS
LAFAYETTE, CA**



Figure 3: Walnut Creek WTP Conceptual Site Plan



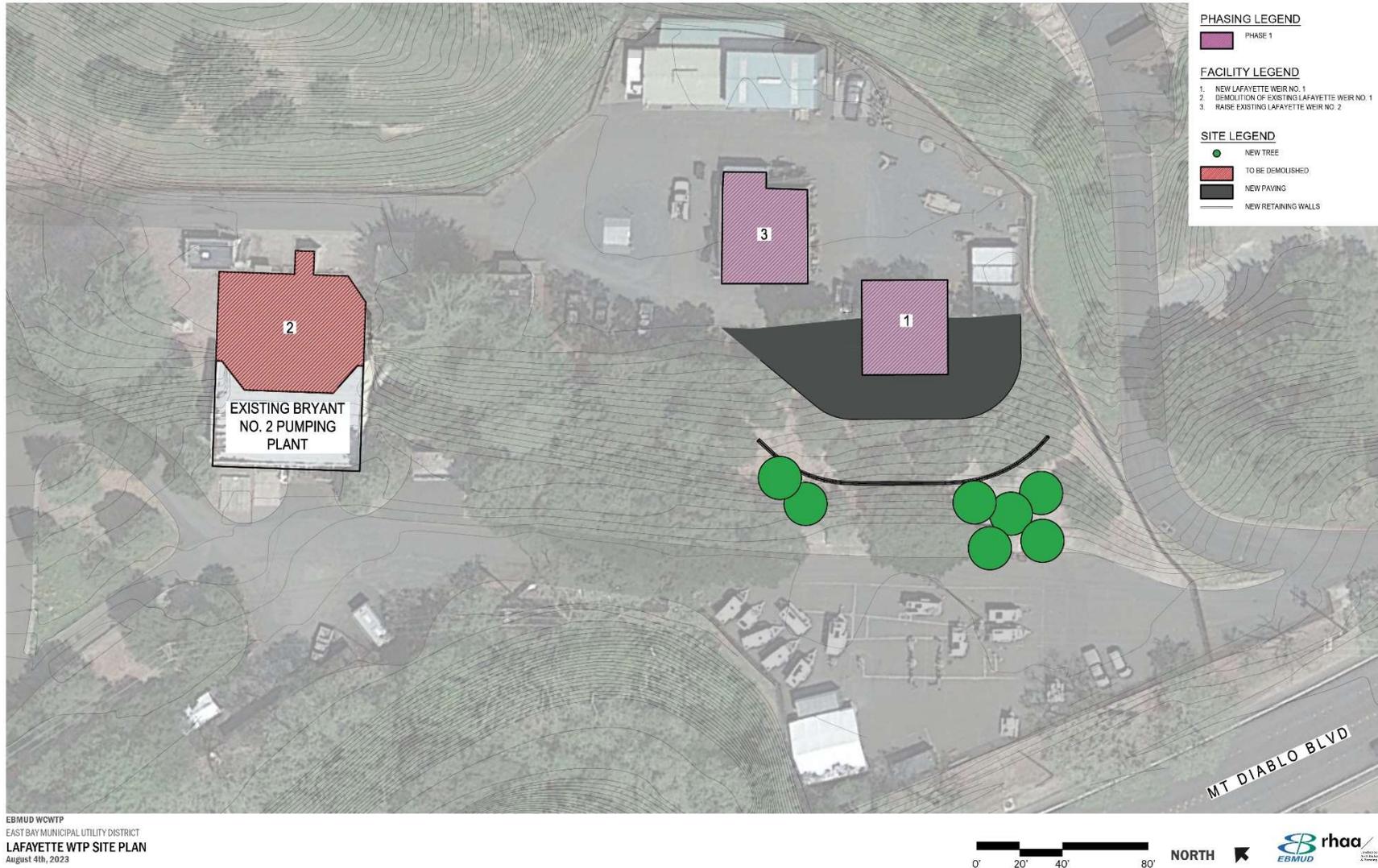
EBMUD WCWTP
 EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
WCWTP SITE PLAN
 AUGUST 15th, 2023



NORTH ↑



Figure 4: Lafayette WTP Conceptual Site Plan



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LAFAYETTE WTP SITE PLAN
August 4th, 2023