



**Notice of Preparation
Ventura River (VR-1) Levee Rehabilitation Project
Environmental Impact Report
September 9, 2020**

The Ventura County Public Works Agency – Watershed Protection (VCPWA – WP) is soliciting input from interested persons and agencies regarding the scope and content of the Ventura River (VR-1) Levee Rehabilitation Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the VCPWA – WP requests: 1) review of the project description provided in the detailed Notice of Preparation (NOP), and 2) comments on the proposed Project and environmental issues. The EIR analyses will inform the VCPWA – WP when considering approval of the Ventura River (VR-1) Levee Rehabilitation Project (VR-1 Project or proposed Project) and other Responsible and Trustee Agencies to support their discretionary actions related to the proposed Project.

The proposed Project involves structural improvements to the existing VR-1 levee to correct deficiencies identified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), achieve compliance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) levee certification requirements and Corps levee permit requirements, and thereby increase the level of protection to residents and businesses in the City of San Buenaventura (commonly known as Ventura) located within the one percent annual chance (also known as the 100-year) flood zone. The proposed Project objectives include: constructing new, upgrading existing, and maintaining levee structures to provide improved flood protection; achieving compliance with FEMA certification requirements and extending the levee’s capital service life. Based on initial biological and cultural surveys and a preliminary evaluation of potential impacts, VCPWA – WP has determined that preparation of an EIR is warranted to evaluate the proposed Project. The EIR will provide a complete, objective analysis of the proposed project design for the VR-1 Project.

VCPWA – WP invites you and other interested persons and organizations to submit comments on the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Please focus your scoping comments on the issues to be considered, including environmental concerns, feasible ways in which project impacts may be minimized (mitigation measures), and potential alternatives to the proposed project.

Scoping comments can be submitted in one of the following ways:

Submittal by Mail	Submittal by E-mail
Ventura County Public Works Agency - Watershed Protection Attn: VR-1 Project 800 S. Victoria Ave., #1600 Ventura, CA 93009	VR1.info@ventura.org. <i>Please remember to include your name and return address in the email message.</i>

Comments must be postmarked by October 8, 2020.

For current project information, please refer to the proposed project website page (<https://www.vcpublicworks.org/wp/venturariverlevee/>). The project description, location, and potential environmental effects are outlined in a detailed Notice of Preparation available on these websites. If you do not have internet access or for general questions regarding the VR-1 Project, please contact Tyler Barns at (805) 654-2064.