



City of Merced  
678 W 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

February 20, 2025

**Attention: Interested Persons**

**Reference: Notice of Availability of the City of Merced Wastewater Collection System Master Plan Update Draft Environmental Impact Report**

**Project Location**

The City of Merced Wastewater Collection System Master Plan Update (Program) is located in the City of Merced (City) and is comprised of the Vision 2030 General Plan (2030 General Plan) Specific Urban Development Plan (SUDP)/Sphere of Influence (SOI) areas. Communities such as Celeste, University of California (UC) Merced Campus, and University Community area were considered as well as service to the Bellevue, University, and other community plan areas within the Program Study Area.

**Project Description**

The City's 2030 General Plan identifies wastewater infrastructure as crucial for meeting the growing potable and non-potable water needs of the SUDP/SOI. The 2022 Wastewater Collection System Master Plan (WCSMP) outlines wastewater infrastructure development to increase the system's average dry weather flow capacity to 27.2 million gallons per day and serve approximately 130,922 equivalent dwelling units. The Program includes six Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs 1-6) for interim and future capacity. The Program also includes North Merced and South Merced Major Improvements and Minor Program Improvements for sewer extensions and the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Expansion Projects for improving and expanding the existing WWTF. The North Merced and South Merced Major Improvements, Program Minor Improvements, and WWTF Expansion Projects are part of the programmatic analysis, which evaluates the environmental impacts of future projects. Construction on the CIPs 1-6 is expected to start in 2026.

**Notice of Availability and Public Review Period**

Notice is hereby given that City staff will post this Notice of Availability (NOA) on the City of Merced website at <https://www.cityofmerced.org/departments/engineering/sewer-master-plan/sewer-master-plan>. The RDEIR will be available for public review at the City's Planning and Public Works Department and the Merced County Library Main Branch during regular business hours.

**Public Review Period: March 1, 2025 to April 28, 2025 (Comment period ends – 5:00 p.m. Monday April 28, 2025).**

As Lead Agency, the City of Merced has completed the NOA for the Project. Comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Written comments should be submitted to:

Ken Elwin, PE, City of Merced Public Works Director  
678 W 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
E-mail: [elwink@cityofmerced.org](mailto:elwink@cityofmerced.org)

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If you have any questions concerning the Project environmental review process, please contact Ken Elwin at (209) 385-6800.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Elwin", written over a horizontal line.

**Ken Elwin, PE**

City of Merced Public Works Director

E-mail: [kelwin@cityofmerced.org](mailto:kelwin@cityofmerced.org)

Phone: (209) 385-6800