July 14, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Media Contact: Colette Curtis
Public Information Officer
Town of Paradise
ccurtis@townofparadise.com
530-872-6291 ext. 112

Town of Paradise issues Notice of Availability of Environmental Document for Proposed Paradise Sewer Project

Public input encouraged on Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Paradise, CA – As the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency, the Town of Paradise (Town) is seeking public input on the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft PEIR) for the proposed Paradise Sewer Project, which will provide a long-term solution for wastewater collection, transport and treatment from properties identified in the Town's proposed sewer service area (encompassed by Clark Road, Skyway and Pearson Road). This long-term wastewater solution will allow for sustainable housing and business activity in Town, supporting the community's economic recovery and vitality. The public review and comment period of 45 calendar days begins today, July 14, 2022, and will end at 5:00 p.m. PDT on August 29, 2022. All input received will be documented and addressed in the Final PEIR, anticipated to be completed this fall.

LEARN MORE AT UPCOMING IN-PERSON PUBLIC MEETINGS

For your convenience, three in-person public meetings will be held to allow attendees to learn more about the proposed Paradise Sewer Project, interact with project team members, ask questions, and submit formal comments on the Draft PEIR during the 45-day public review and comment period.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2022
6:00-7:30 P.M.	12:30-2:00 P.M. & 6:00-7:30 P.M.
Chico Old Municipal Building	Paradise Alliance Church (CMA Church)
441 Main Street	6491 Clark Road
Chico, CA 95928	Paradise, CA 95969

If you plan on attending one of these meetings and need a translator or for additional accessibility preferences, please submit a message on the project website at <u>paradisesewer.com/contact</u> (from the "Subject" dropdown menu, select "Submit a comment on the Draft PEIR"). Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service TTY and/or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2929, or 711.

DRAFT PEIR VIRTUAL ROOM

The in-person public meetings are complimented by an online virtual room that is available for review until August 29, 2022. This online tool is a convenient way to review project materials and submit comments. For more details, visit <u>paradisesewer.com</u>.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and input on the Draft PEIR are invited from all interested parties for a period of 45 days from July 14 to 5:00 pm on August 29, 2022. Printed copies of the Draft PEIR are available for public review at:

- Town Clerk at Paradise Town Hall (5555 Skyway, Paradise)
- Butte County Library, Paradise Branch (5922 Clark Rd, Paradise)
- Terry Ashe Recreation Center (6626 Skyway, Paradise)
- City Clerk at Chico City Hall (411 Main Street, Chico)
- Butte County Library, Chico Branch (1108 Sherman Avenue, Chico)
- CARD Community Center (545 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico)
- Butte County Clerk (155 Nelson Avenue, Oroville)

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. PDT August 29, 2022, via the following options:

Website: paradisesewer.com/contact

(from the "Subject" dropdown menu, select "Submit a comment

on the Draft PEIR")

Mail: Colette Curtis

Public Information Officer

Town of Paradise 5555 Skyway

Paradise, CA 95969

PROJECT OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND:

Since its incorporation in 1979, the Town has sought a formal wastewater treatment solution for the community, with service for commercial and densely populated residential areas being a priority. Failed and failing septic systems create the potential for public health and environmental concerns and have limited the Town's economic growth. Prior to the Camp Fire, which almost completely destroyed the town in 2018, Paradise was the largest unsewered community in California. Numerous studies have supported the need for a centralized wastewater treatment solution, and in its most recent study, the Town identified a proposed sewer service area. The proposed sewer service area includes the Town's commercial corridors, and as described in a 2017 study, it represented the area that had the most septic systems that had failed or were projected to fail by 2022. This area is consistent with the Proposed Project's Core Collection System area. A map of the proposed sewer service area can be found on the project website here.

The proposed Paradise Sewer Project consists of three primary components: Core Collection System, Export Pipeline System, and Extended Collection System. The Core Collection System would support the centralized businesses and housing in Town, including approximately 1,500 parcels along the Skyway, Clark Road, and Pearson Road corridors. The proposed Export Pipeline System would start at the southwestern end of the Core Collection System as a gravity sewer line and would continue



July 14, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Colette Curtis
Public Information Officer
Town of Paradise
ccurtis@townofparadise.com
530-872-6291 ext. 112

southwest approximately 18 miles to the City of Chico for connection to the Chico Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP). Other than the Town of Paradise flow, no other connections will be allowed to the export pipeline. Moreover, there would be no additional cost to Chico residents and existing Chico WPCP rate payers as a result of the Proposed Project. This long-term wastewater solution also will allow for sustainable housing and business activity in Town, supporting the community's economic recovery and vitality.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PARADISE SEWER PROJECT:

To learn more about the proposed Paradise Sewer Project or to stay updated, visit paradisesewer.com.

###