



Morro Bay Water Reclamation Facility

Draft Environmental Impact Report Public Meeting

May 1, 2018
3:00 PM



Meeting Agenda

- Purpose of Meeting
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Overview and Process
- Project Overview and Description
- Review of Impacts
- Public Comment Period



Purpose of Meeting

- City of Morro Bay acting as the Lead Agency prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Morro Bay Water Reclamation Facility (WRF).
- The purpose of the public meeting is to provide stakeholders, agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide comments on the DEIR.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)



Identifies potentially
significant impacts
to the environment

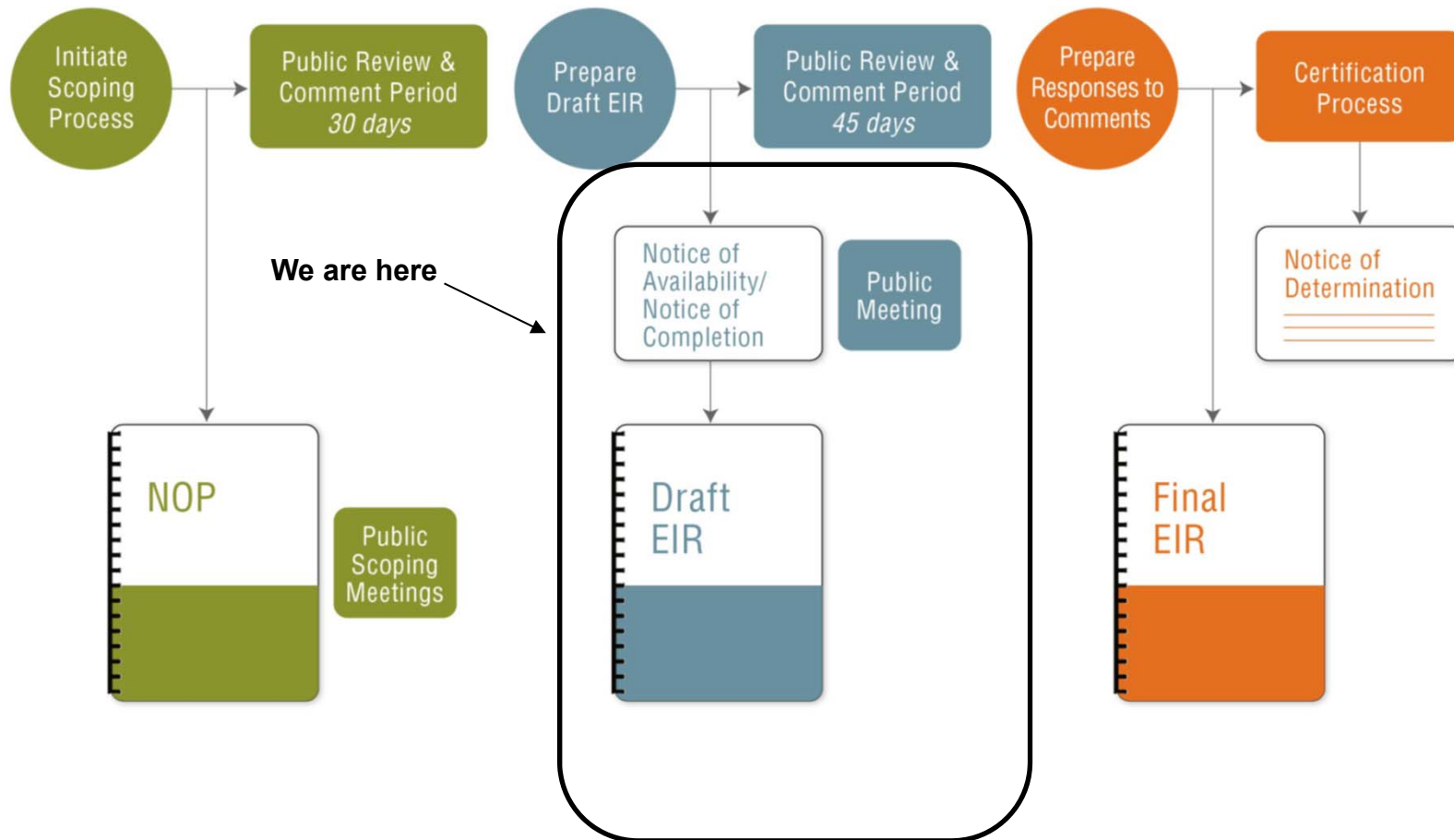


Requires public agencies
to consider impacts prior
to project approval



Identifies feasible
mitigation measures
and alternatives

CEQA Process for an EIR

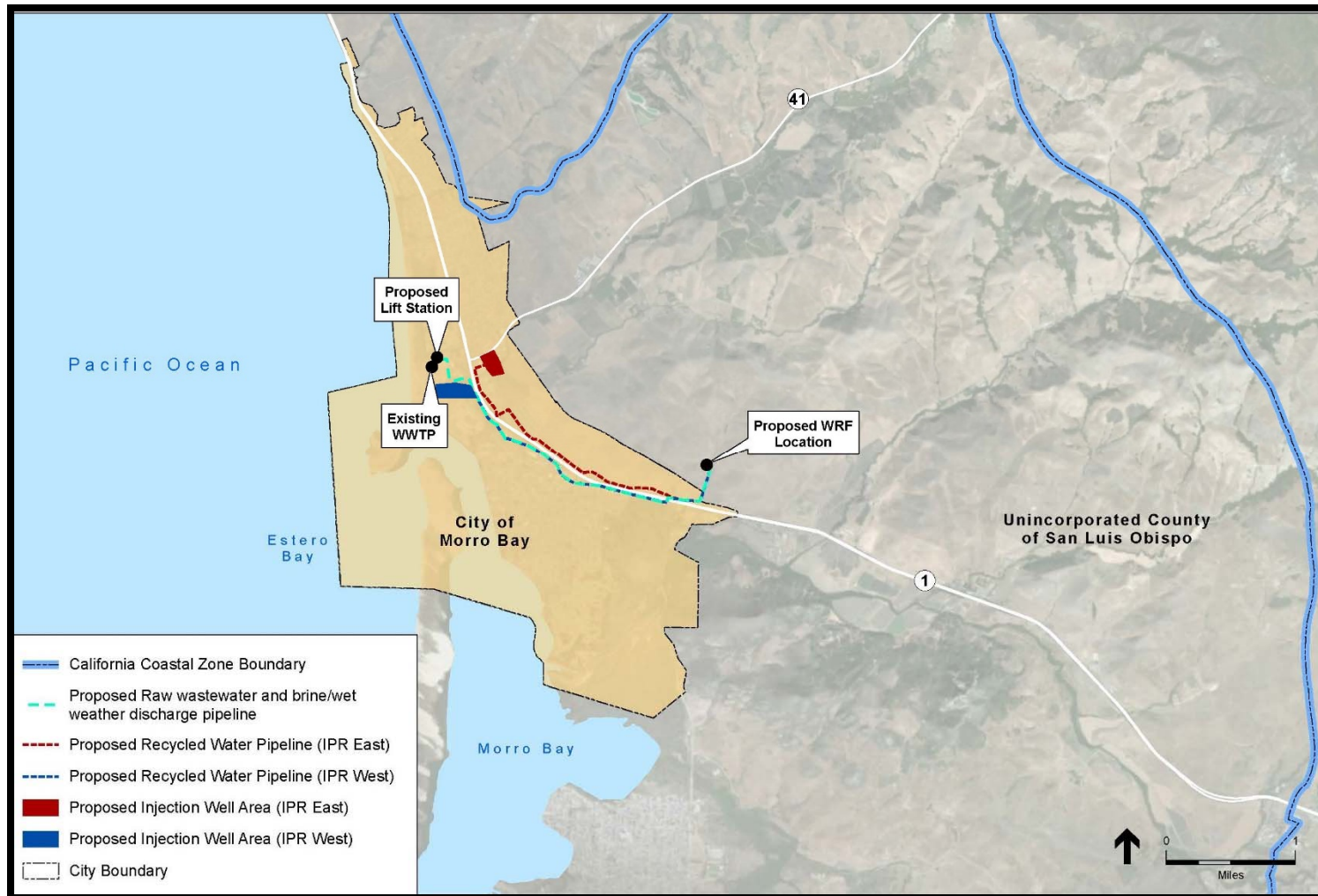




Proposed Project Overview

- Currently, the WWTP provides a blend of primary and secondary treatment for wastewater produced in the City of Morro Bay and community of Cayucos.
- To meet the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board, the Proposed Project would provide tertiary wastewater treatment services for the City and potentially additional surrounding communities or customers.
- The existing WWTP would be decommissioned and be replaced by the Proposed Project and a separate new treatment facility planned by Cayucos Sanitary District (CSD).

California Coastal Zone Boundary and Project Location





Project Objectives

Refined and adopted by City Council, October 24, 2017:

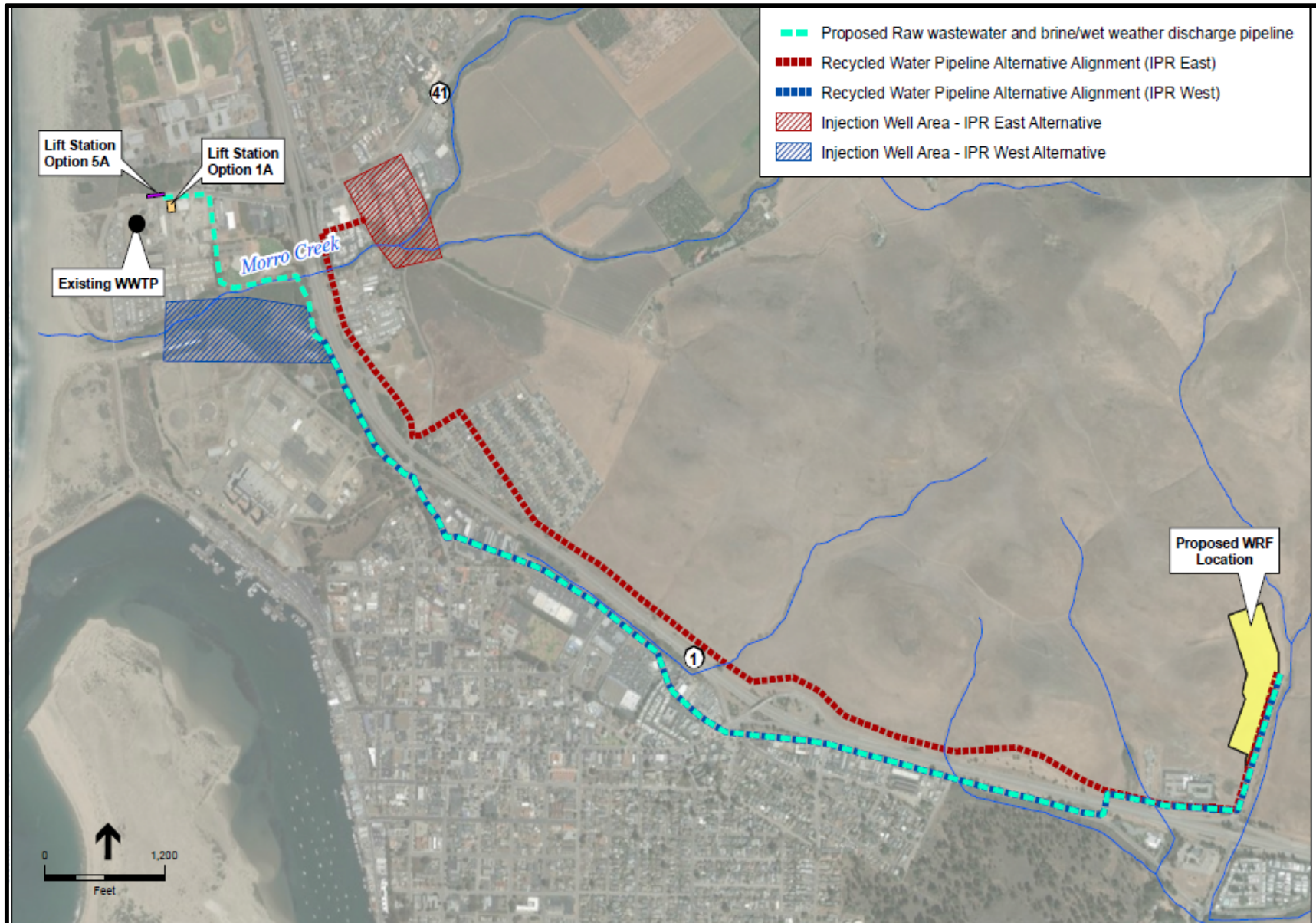
- All aspects of the WRF shall be completed ensuring economic value with a special emphasis on minimizing rate payer and City expense.
- Communicated WRF project progress including general project status, milestones, and budget/cost information to community regularly
- Produce tertiary, disinfected wastewater in accordance with the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22 requirements for unrestricted urban irrigation
- Produce reclaimed wastewater to augment the City's water supply, by direct or indirect means
- Design to minimize the impacts from contaminants of emerging concern in the future
- Design to treat contaminants of emerging concern in the future
- Ensure compatibility with neighboring land uses



Project Components

- **TREATMENT:** Proposed new WRF
- **COLLECTION:** New lift station and conveyance pipeline for raw/treated wastewater flows to/from the WRF
- **DISTRIBUTION:** New recycled water pipeline from WRF to new groundwater injection wells (two alternative areas)
- **INDIRECT POTABLE REUSE:** Recharge advanced-treated recycled water to Morro Valley Groundwater Basin; extract groundwater from existing City production wells
- **DECOMMISSION:** Decommissioning of existing WWTP

Proposed Project



Contents of Draft EIR

- Analysis of Direct, Indirect and Cumulative impacts to resources required by CEQA:
 - Aesthetics
 - Air Quality
 - Agriculture & Forestry
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Geology, Soils & Seismicity
 - GHG Emissions & Energy
 - Hazards & Hazardous Materials
 - Hydrology & Water Quality
 - Land Use & Planning
 - Noise
 - Environmental Justice
 - Public Services
 - Traffic & Transportation
 - Tribal Cultural Resources
 - Utilities & Service Systems
- Growth Inducement
- Alternatives Analysis

Impact Analysis Methodology

1. Baseline environmental conditions established
2. Impacts due to project construction and operation are evaluated
3. Regulatory requirements and mitigation measures are considered
4. Significance determinations are made for each project impact:
 - **Class I. Significant and Unavoidable**: An impact that cannot be reduced to below the threshold level given reasonably available and feasible mitigation measures.
 - **Class II. Significant but Mitigable**: Can be reduced to below the threshold given mitigation measures.
 - **Class III. Not Significant**: Impact may be adverse but does not exceed threshold level and does not require mitigation.
 - **Class IV. Beneficial**: An effect that would reduce existing environmental problems or hazards.
 - **No Impact**



Class I. Significant and Unavoidable

- Cultural Resources

- PROJECT COMPONENT:

- Ground disturbance during construction of pipelines and wells, and general operational maintenance

- POTENTIAL RESOURCE IMPACT

- Historical, archaeological, paleontological resources and human remains

- MITIGATION MEASURES (CUL-1 through CUL-14)

- Avoidance of resources through project re-design
 - Recovery and Treatment Plans
 - Monitoring and Mitigation Plans
 - Monitoring for resources during construction
 - Inadvertent discovery procedures



Class II. Significant but Mitigable

- **Aesthetics**
- **Air Quality**
- Agriculture & Forestry
- **Biological Resources**
- **Cultural Resources**
- **Geology, Soils & Seismicity**
- GHG Emissions & Energy
- **Hazards & Hazardous Materials**
- **Hydrology & Water Quality**
- Land Use & Planning
- **Noise**
- Environmental Justice
- Public Services
- **Traffic & Transportation**
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities & Service Systems

Alternatives Analysis for CEQA

Purpose:

“...an EIR must describe a reasonable range of alternatives to a project that could feasibly attain most of the basic project objectives, and would avoid or substantially lessen the project’s significant environmental effects.” (Draft EIR, page 6-1)

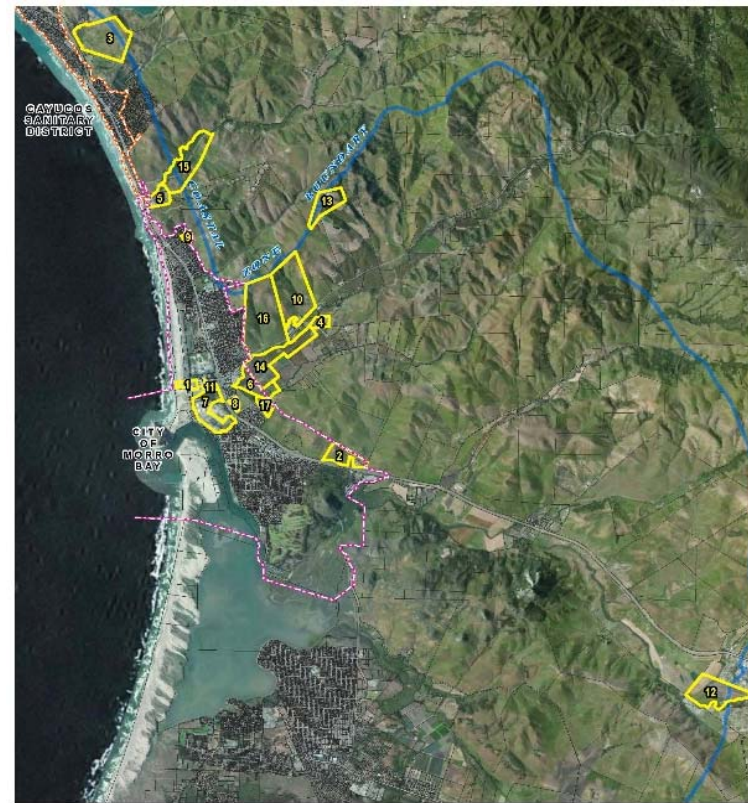
Considerations in selecting alternatives:

- Ability to meet project objectives
- Ability to lessen significant environmental effects
- Feasibility

“Feasible” means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors. (Draft EIR, page 6-1)

Alternatives Considered During Project Development (before CEQA)

- WRF Location Alternatives
 - 17 sites considered
 - Joint Venture between CSD and Morro Bay
 - Joint Venture with Los Osos



Map #	Site Name	Map #	Site Name
1	CHANDLERVILLE	9	CHANDLERVILLE
2	CHANDLERVILLE	10	CHANDLERVILLE
3	CHANDLERVILLE	11	CHANDLERVILLE
4	CHANDLERVILLE	12	CHANDLERVILLE
5	CHANDLERVILLE	13	CHANDLERVILLE
6	CHANDLERVILLE	14	CHANDLERVILLE
7	CHANDLERVILLE	15	CHANDLERVILLE
8	CHANDLERVILLE	16	CHANDLERVILLE
		17	CHANDLERVILLE

City of Morro Bay
Cayucos Sanitary District
Los Osos Sanitary District

Alternatives Considered During Project Development (before CEQA)

- Corporation Yard Alternative
 - Not included at WRF site
- Lift Station Location Alternative
 - 8 locations considered
- Recycled Water Reuse Alternatives
 - Urban Irrigation
 - Agricultural Irrigation
 - Commercial Uses

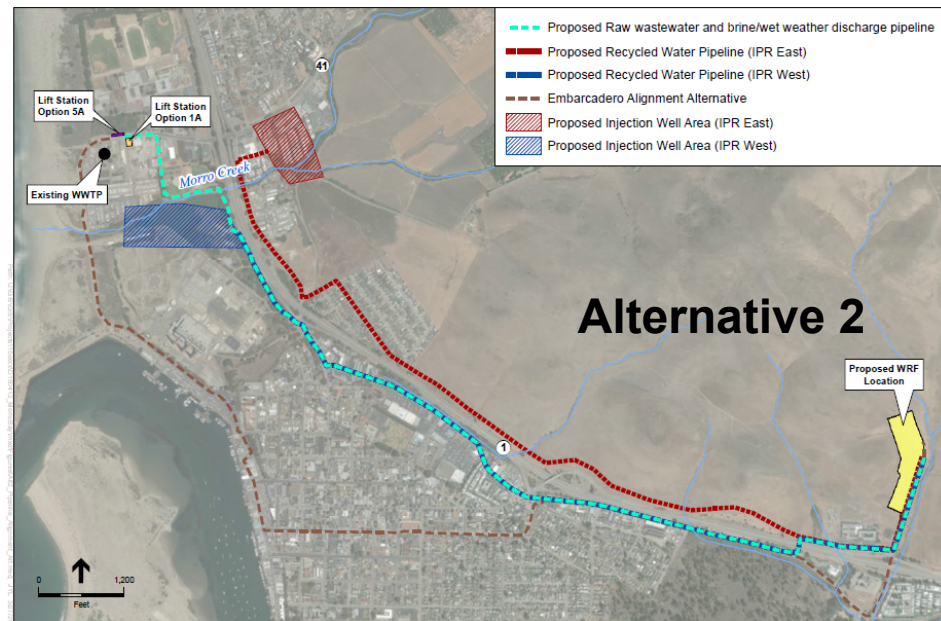
Project Alternatives

- **Alternative 1: No Project Alternative**
 - Required by CEQA “...to allow decision makers to compare the impacts of approving the proposed project with the impacts of not approving the proposed project.” (Draft EIR, page 6-11)
 - Continued operation of the existing WWTP
 - Requires upgrades to meet State standards for wastewater treatment and water quality
 - Requires elevation of facilities for flood-proofing
 - Requires a Coastal Development Permit from CCC

Project Alternatives

- **Alternative 2: Pipeline Alignment Alternative**

- Considered another pipeline alignment to see if impacts to cultural resources could be lessened.
- May affect fewer cultural sites but still significant impacts.
- Greater impacts to air quality and traffic due to a longer pipeline through areas with more development



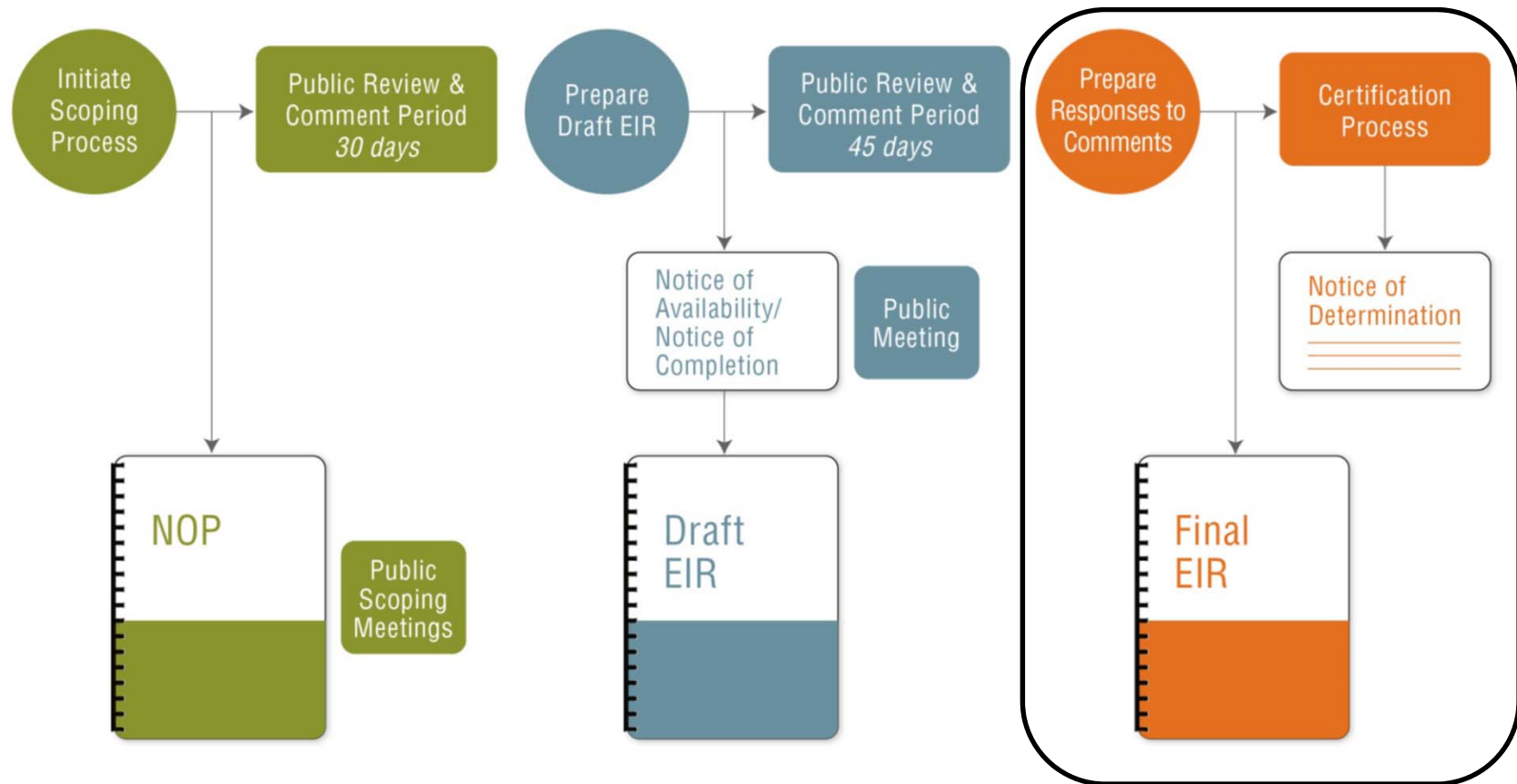
Project Alternatives

- Alternative 3: WRF Design Alternative
 - Remove advanced treatment facilities to reduce WRF size, footprint, and energy consumption.
 - No guarantee footprint would be reduced.
 - No significant effects would be measurably reduced.
 - All mitigation measures for the project would still apply.
 - Key objectives for providing recycled water and augmenting water supply would not be met.

Project Alternatives

- Environmentally Superior Alternative
 - *“The environmentally superior alternative is the alternative identified as meeting most of the basic project objectives and resulting in the fewest or least severe combination of significant environmental impacts.” (Draft EIR, page 6-15)*
 - When compared to the feasible alternatives, the proposed project meets all project objectives, reduce costs to City related to construction, and has less severe impacts to resources.
 - The proposed project is environmentally superior.

Next steps in CEQA Process





Public Comment Period

- The Draft EIR public comment period closes on Friday **May 18, 2018**.
- The Draft EIR and other project information can be downloaded from <http://morrobaywrf.com/>
- Submit comments tonight or send comments to:

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