

PUBLIC MEETING

Tijeras Reuse Reservoir and Pump Station Phase 1



Jacobs

Water Authority Design Project No. 2302.003
Funding Reference No. CWSRF 151

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

Date: October 14, 2025

Time: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Place: Aperture Center, UNM Film and Digital Arts Film
Theater, 5700 University Blvd SE,
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Project Team

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (Water Authority)

- David Laughlin, PE
- Jon Ertsgaard, PE
- Diane Agnew
- Rachel Stone
- Ege Richardson, PE

Jacobs Engineering

- Allena Fernandez, PE

NV5

- Megan Rabinowich



AGENDA

- Review Project Background and Purpose
- Summary of Design Analysis Report
- Summary of the Environmental Information Document (EID)
- Public question and answer and comment



Project Background and Purpose

Reuse is a key component of our long-term water resources management plan called Water 2120: Securing our Water Future.

We can send 2-3 million gallons of reuse water into southeastern Albuquerque every day.

Water 2120: Securing Our Water Future



Project Background and Purpose

- We've been using reuse water since 2012.
- Reuse is permitted by NMED Groundwater Bureau and meets the permit standards.
- We are working to increase the amount of water we reuse for drought resiliency. This project will help us reach our goal.
- We use reuse water to cool the engines at our cogeneration power plant at the Southside Water Reclamation Plant (SWRP).
- Reuse water produced at SWRP is sufficient water quality for irrigation systems and turf.



Project Background and Purpose

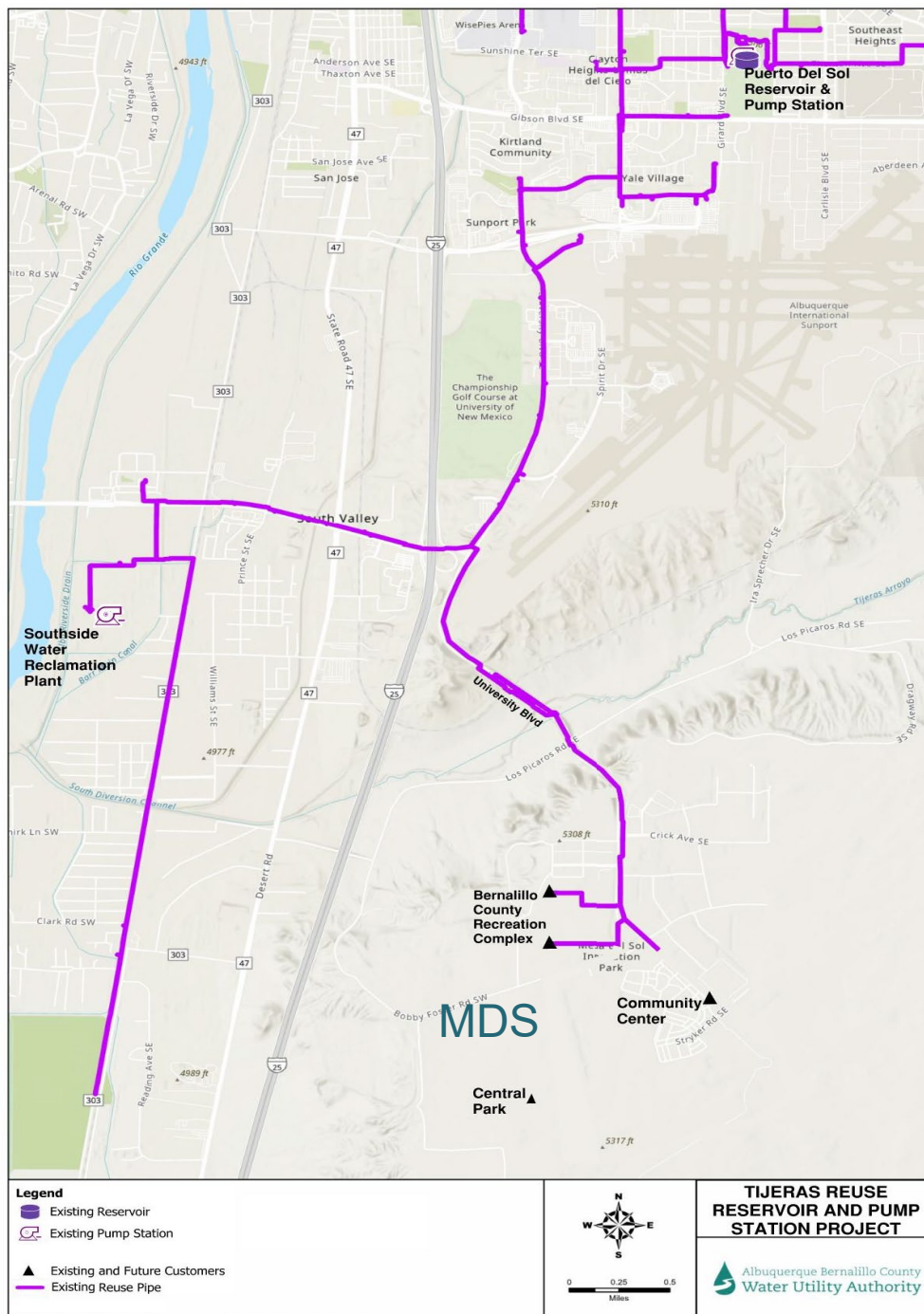
- The Water Authority has an existing water reuse distribution system that moves reuse water around the City of Albuquerque for irrigation, such as Puerto del Sol golf course.
- Reuse water is also used for playing fields, City Parks, and for landscaping in new commercial and housing developments.
- The Winrock Reuse Pipeline Extension project is in construction. The Winrock Reuse Extension line is needed to provide reuse water to Winrock Center.



Project Background and Purpose

The Water Authority plans to expand its non-potable reuse infrastructure to deliver reuse water to the Mesa del Sol (MDS) development to meet irrigation and potential industrial water demand and reduce consumption of potable water.

This project, the [Tijeras Reuse Reservoir and Pump Station \(RRPS\)](#), will construct new reuse reservoirs, piping, and a pump station facility to supply reuse water to MDS for current and future irrigation/industrial demands.

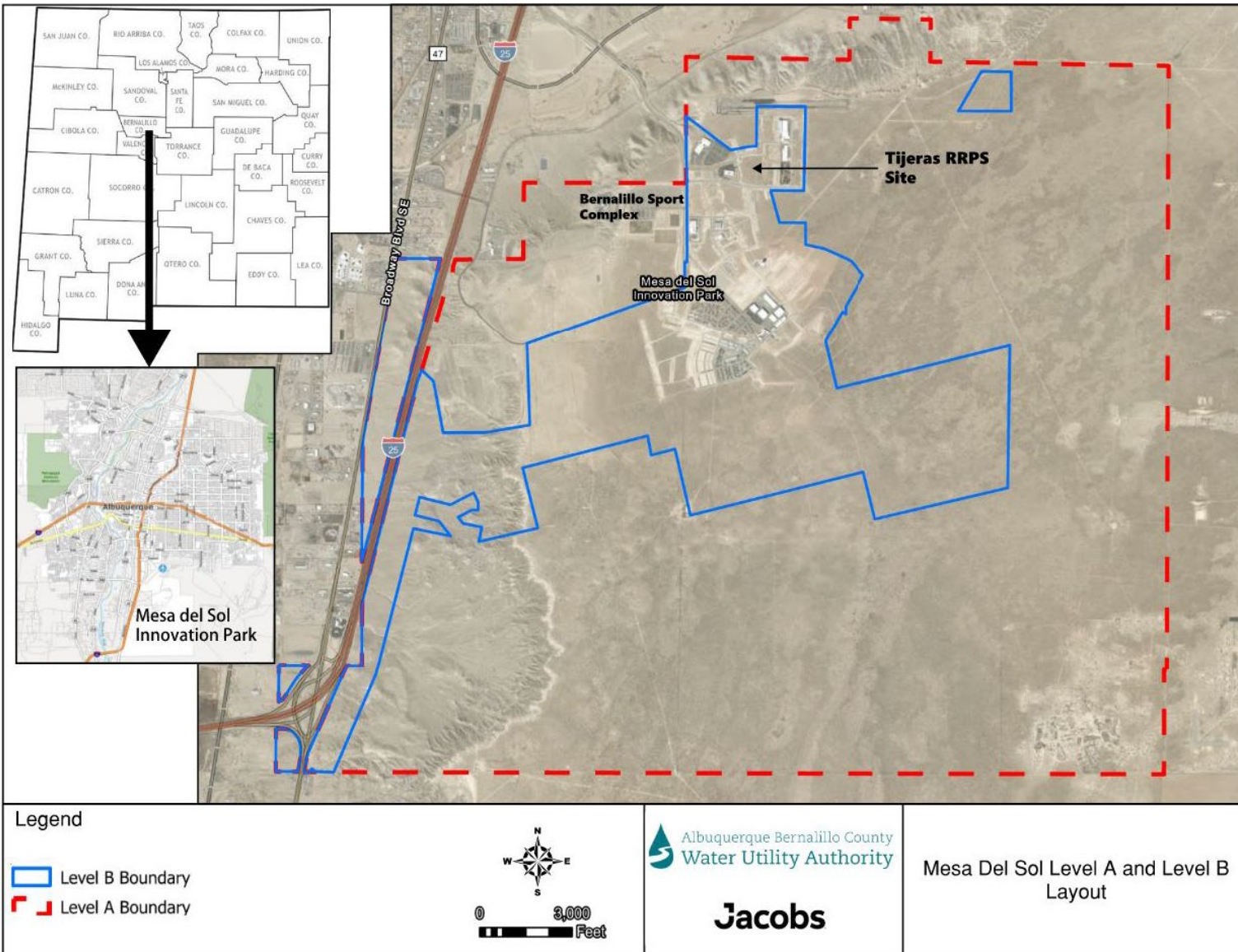


Project Background and Purpose

The growth occurring in MDS includes the expansion of the Bernalillo County Sports Complex, ongoing residential/commercial development, and potential industrial facilities.

The development of MDS is aligned with the MDS Masterplan which is planned to occur in two distinct phases:

- Level B (Blue Area) growth will occur first
- Level A (Red Area) growth area is the full build out of the development



Project Background and Purpose

Projected Reuse Water Demands

Location	Maximum Day Demand (mgd)		
MDS/Tijeras RRPS	Level B (Initial)	Additional Demand	Level A (Buildout)
Development/Irrigation	2.40	2.5	4.90
Industrial	2.3	1.7	4.00
Total MDS/Tijeras RRPS	4.70	4.20	8.90

Reuse Water Demand Areas

- Bernalillo County Rec Complex
- MDS Green Space/Parks
- Schools
- UNM
- Right-of-Way Areas
- Special Industrial Irrigation
- Special Industrial Operations



Project Background and Purpose

Project Funding:

Phase 1 of the Tijeras RRPS

- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
- Bernalillo County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Phase 2 – Water Authority Capital Improvement Plan (not part of this EID)

Phase 3 – To Be Determined

NMED Groundwater Discharge Permit DP-1308:

This Discharge Permit authorizes the Water Authority to produce Class 1A reclaimed wastewater and to discharge this reuse water to storage tanks prior to discharging it to various reuse areas on the southside of Albuquerque through sprinkler or drip landscape irrigation.



Summary of Design Analysis Report

EXISTING REUSE FACILITIES

SWRP

- Reuse Treatment System
- Reuse Pump System

Puerto Del Sol (PDS) Facility

- 2-million-gallon reuse water reservoir
- Reuse water pump station and yard piping
- Located within the PDS golf course

Reuse Transmission to MDS

- 16-inch pipe that parallels University Blvd

Reuse Distribution around MDS

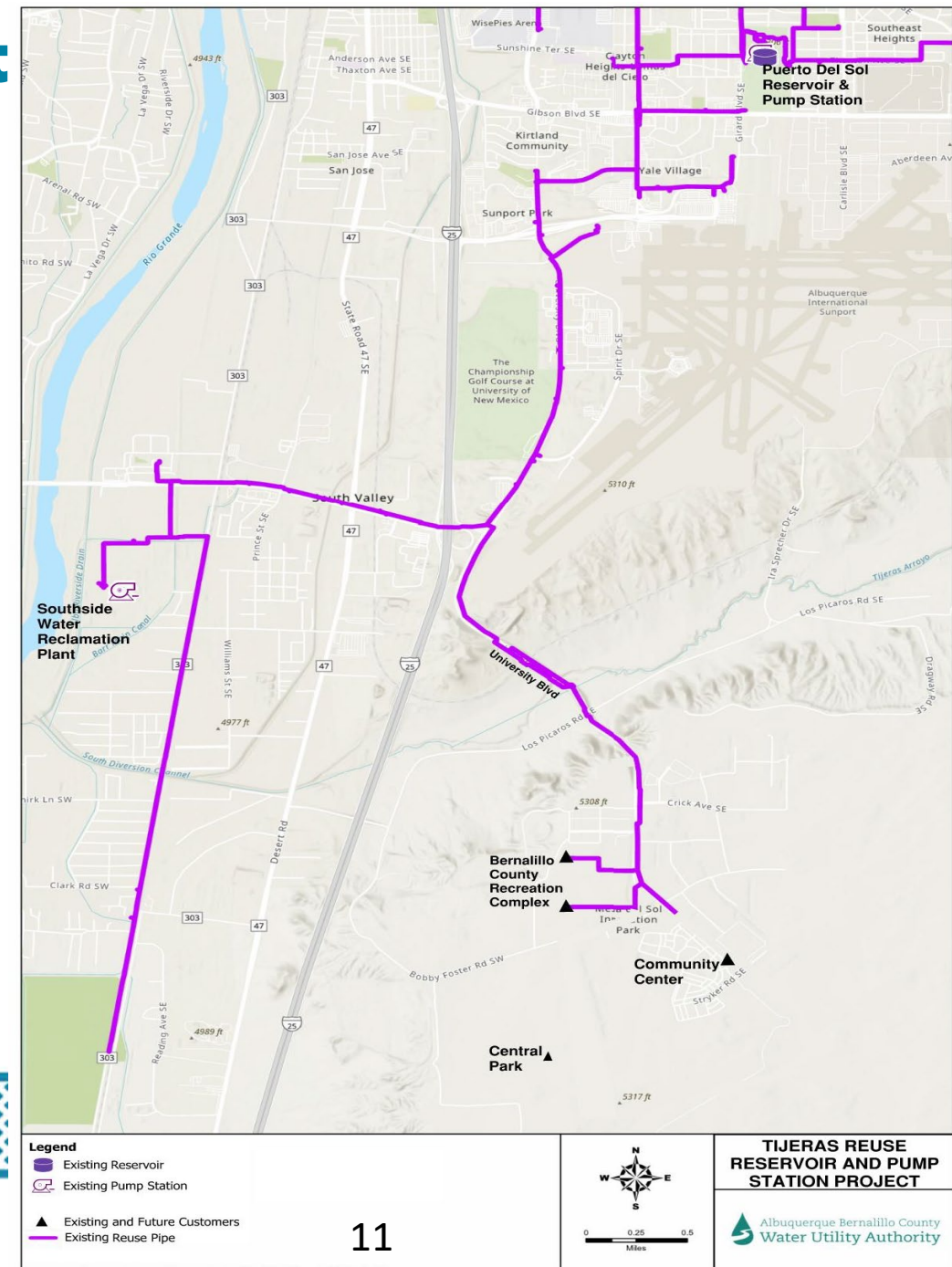
- Some pipelines exist in the area which will be used.
- Additional reuse distribution lines are planned but are not in this project.

Mesa del Sol – Fidelity Park

- No infrastructure existing

Mesa del Sol – Tijeras Reuse Reservoir and Pump Station

- No infrastructure existing



Summary of Design Analysis Report

HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

A hydraulic analysis was completed to size the new infrastructure.

Pipeline Sizes:

- Reuse Supply Pipeline to the Tijeras Reservoir – 24-inch
- Reuse Discharge Pipeline from the Tijeras Reuse Pump Station – 20-inch
- Replacement of 12-inch bottleneck pipeline in University Blvd. - 24-inch (*not part of this EID*)
- Future Parallel Reuse Pipeline in University (Rio Bravo to MDS) – 20-inch (*not part of this EID*)
 - *Required for service for MDS Level A phases*

Reservoir Size at Tijeras RRPS:

- Level B (Initial): 4-million-gallons
- Level A (Full Buildout): 4-million-gallons additional storage, 8-million-gallons (total)

Flow Control Valves (FCV):

- FCVs are needed to manage the flow of reuse water being delivered from SWRP to the reservoir at PDS and the new reservoir at Tijeras RRPS.



Summary of Design Analysis Report

HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

A hydraulic analysis was completed to size the new infrastructure based on the projected reuse water demands.

Reuse Pumps at SWRP

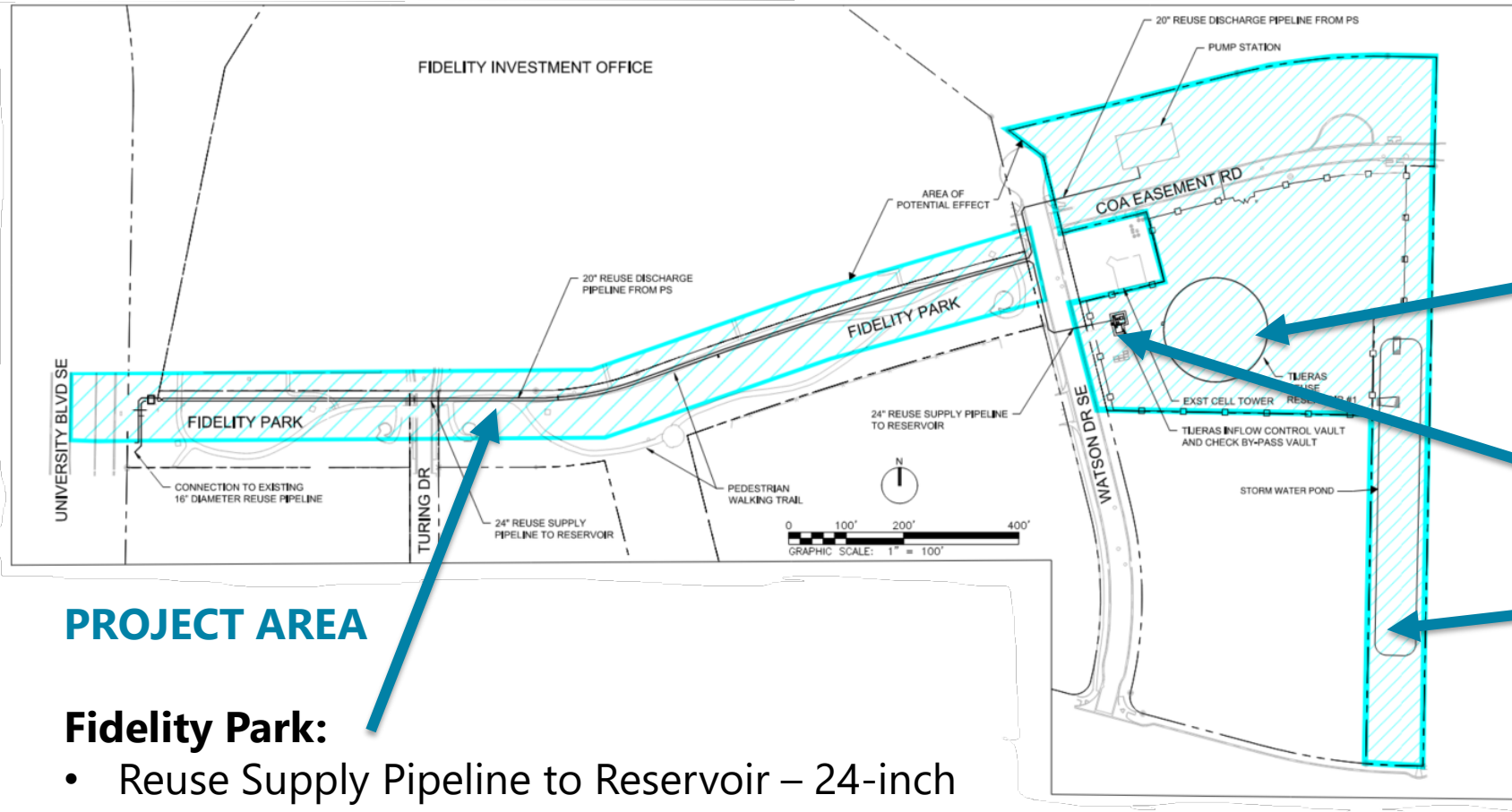
The existing pumps were evaluated, and operating scenarios were developed to integrate the Tijeras RRPS system into existing operations.

Reuse Pumps at the Tijeras RRPS

- Phase 3 -
 - Level B (initial) Reuse Irrigation Pumps
 - Space for Level B Reuse Industrial Pumps
 - Space for Level A Reuse Irrigation Pumps
 - Space for Level A Reuse Industrial Pumps
- Future -
 - Level B Reuse Industrial Pumps
 - Level A Reuse Industrial Pumps
 - Level A Reuse Irrigation Pumps



Summary of Design Analysis Report



PROJECT AREA

Fidelity Park:

- Reuse Supply Pipeline to Reservoir – 24-inch
- Reuse Discharge Pipeline from PS – 20-inch
- Replacement of landscaping and walking paths

PROJECT AREA

Tijeras RRPS Site:

- Phase 1
 - 4.0-million-gallon steel reservoir. Painted tan with a purple stripe at the bottom to denote reuse water
 - A subsurface flow control vault
 - Stormwater retention pond
 - Landscaping and irrigation
 - Fencing and gates



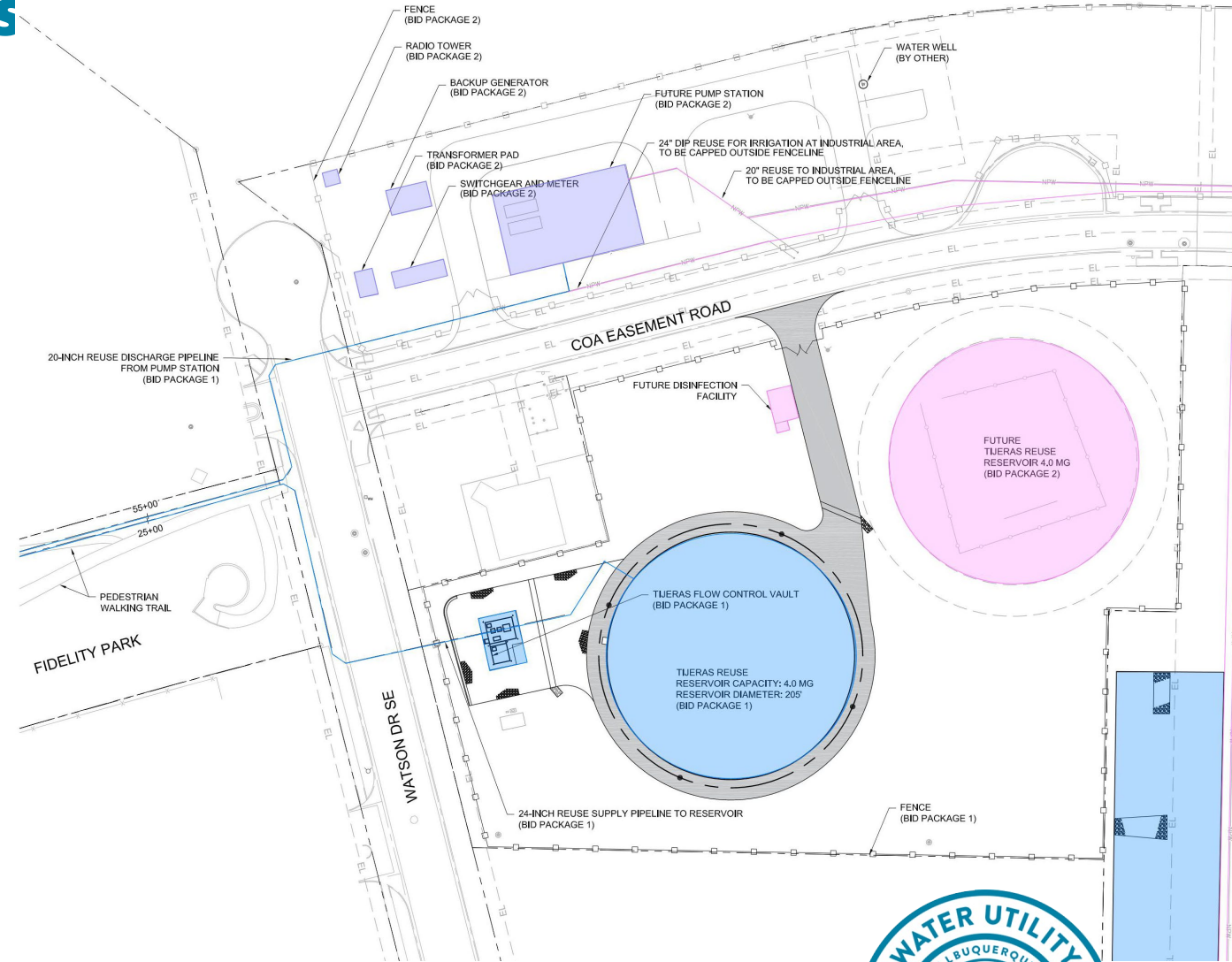
Summary of Design Analysis

Report

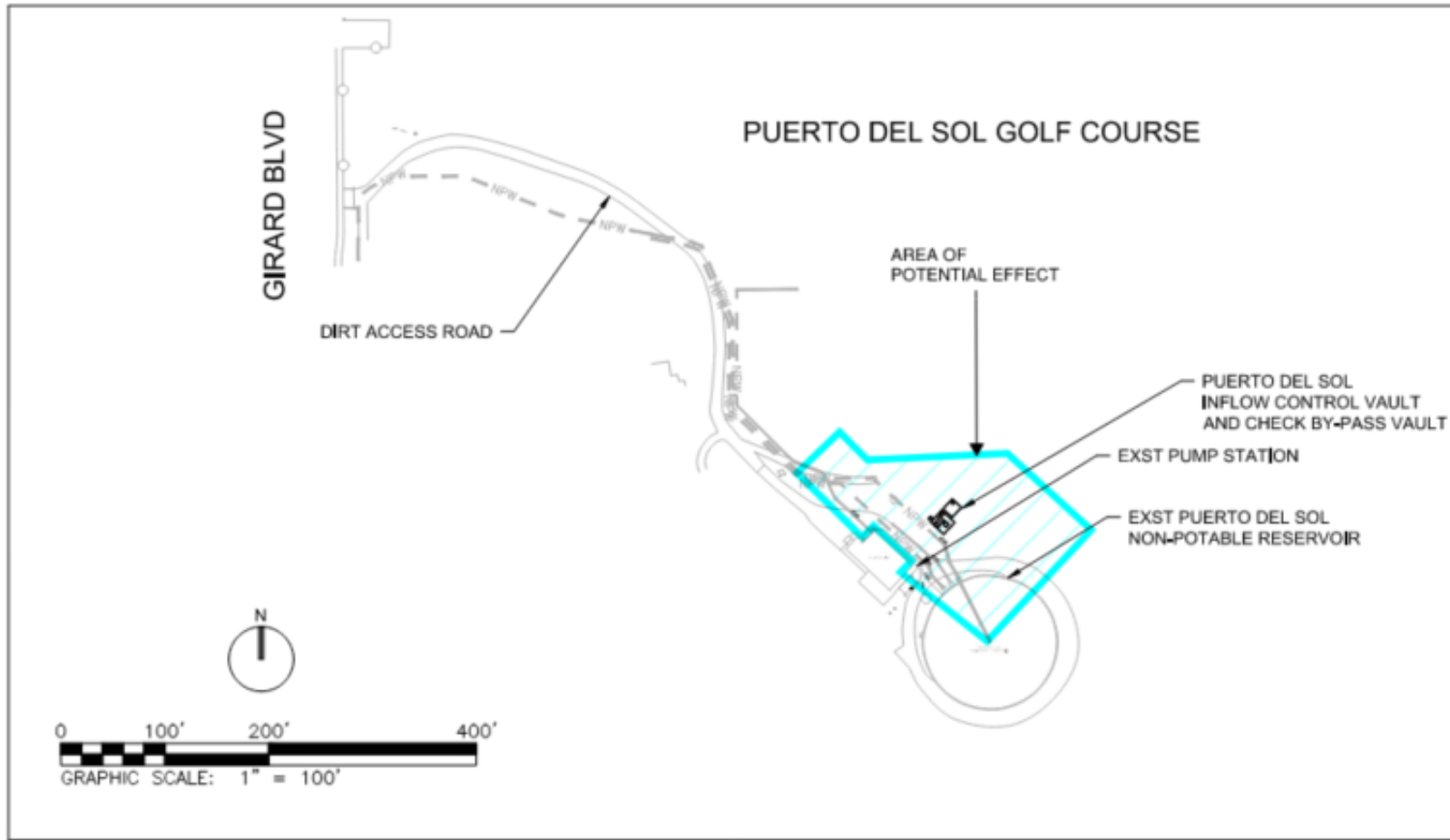
PROJECT AREA

Tijeras RRPS Site:

- Phase 1 (blue)
 - 4.0-million-gallon steel reservoir. Painted tan with a purple stripe at the bottom to denote reuse water
 - A subsurface flow control vault
 - Stormwater retention pond
 - Irrigation and Landscaping
 - Solar power system to power landscaping controller
- Phase 3 (purple)
 - Reuse Pump Station (includes Level B irrigation pumps, electrical and yard piping)
 - Landscaping and Irrigation
 - Fencing and gates
- Future (pink)
 - 4.0-million-gallon steel reservoir. Painted tan with a purple stripe at the bottom to denote reuse water
 - Possible Supplemental Disinfection
 - Reuse Pump Station (industrial and Level A irrigation)



Summary of Design Analysis Report



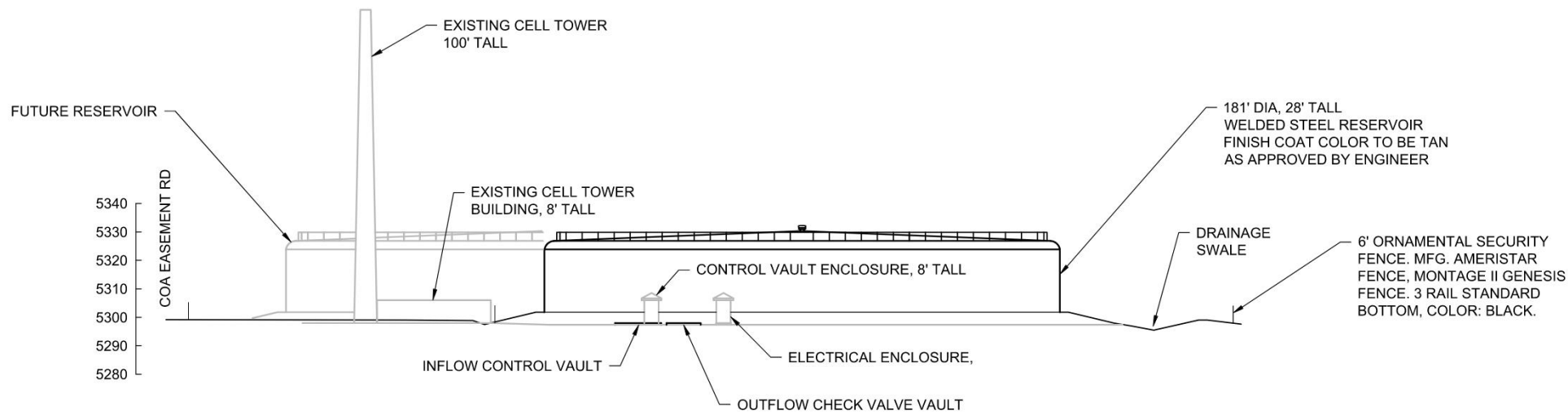
PROJECT AREA

PDS Site:

- Phase 1
 - A subsurface flow control vault
 - Stormwater retention pond
 - Landscaping and irrigation replacement



Summary of Design Analysis Report



EAST ELEVATION



10/17/202

Summary of Design Analysis Report

Anticipate Construction Impacts

Puerto Del Sol (PDS) Facility

- Construction may impact access for golfers for specific "holes"
- Irrigation impacts are minimal. Contractor responsible for ensuring irrigation system is maintained during construction.
- Landscaping will be replaced

Reuse Transmission in University Blvd

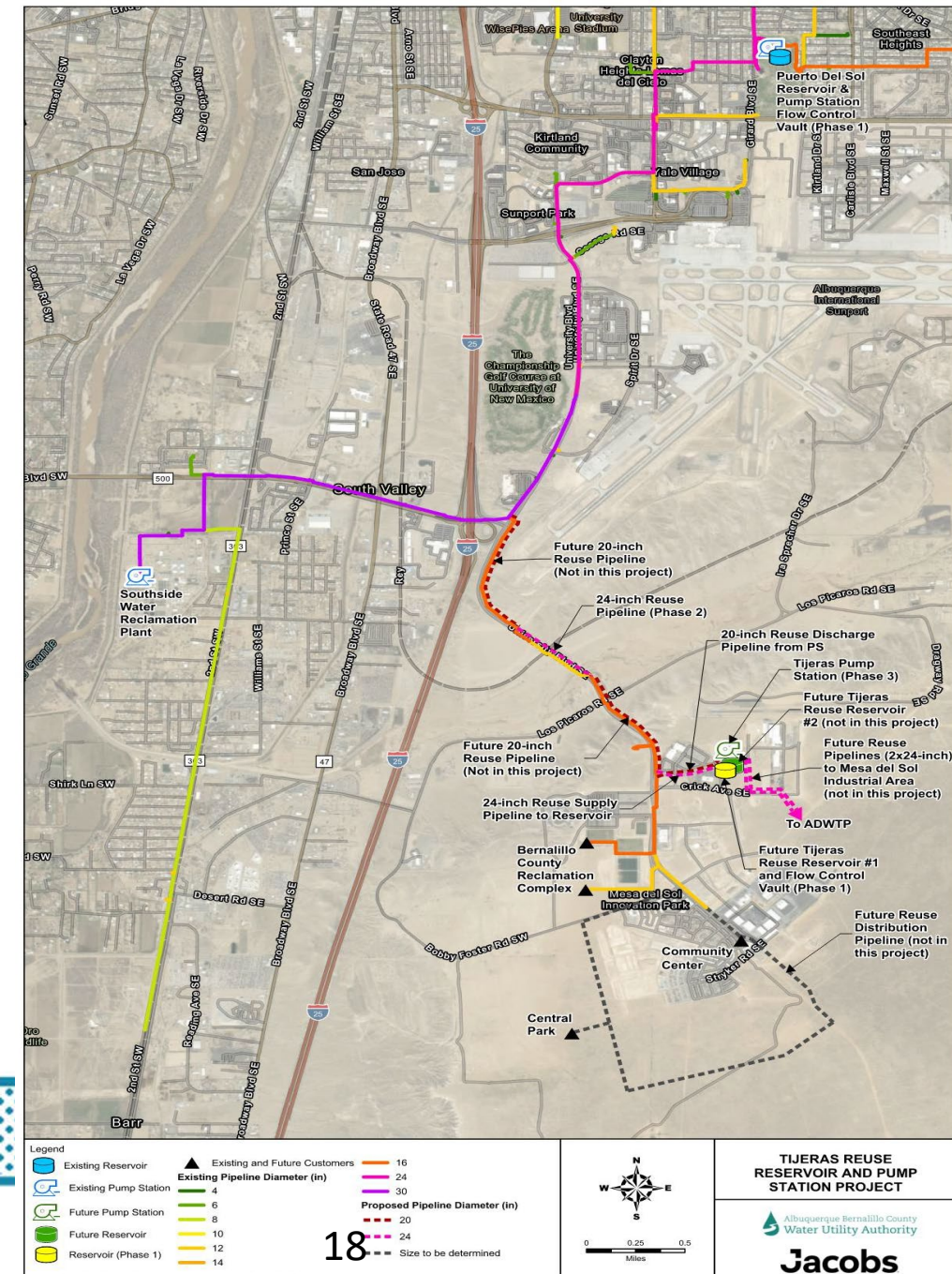
- Road single lane closure anticipated for traffic during pipeline connection.
- Contractor will be responsible for site conditions and to limit dust in the area.

Mesa del Sol – Fidelity Park

- Road closed to through traffic during pipeline installation for Turing Drive & Watson Drive.
- Contractor will be responsible for site conditions and to limit dust in the area.
- Some landscaping and trees will be removed. Landscaping will be replaced.
- Contractor responsible for ensuring irrigation system is maintained during construction.

Mesa del Sol – Tijeras RRPS

- Contractor will be responsible for site conditions and to limit dust in the area.



10/17/2025

Summary of Design Analysis Report

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Phase 1:

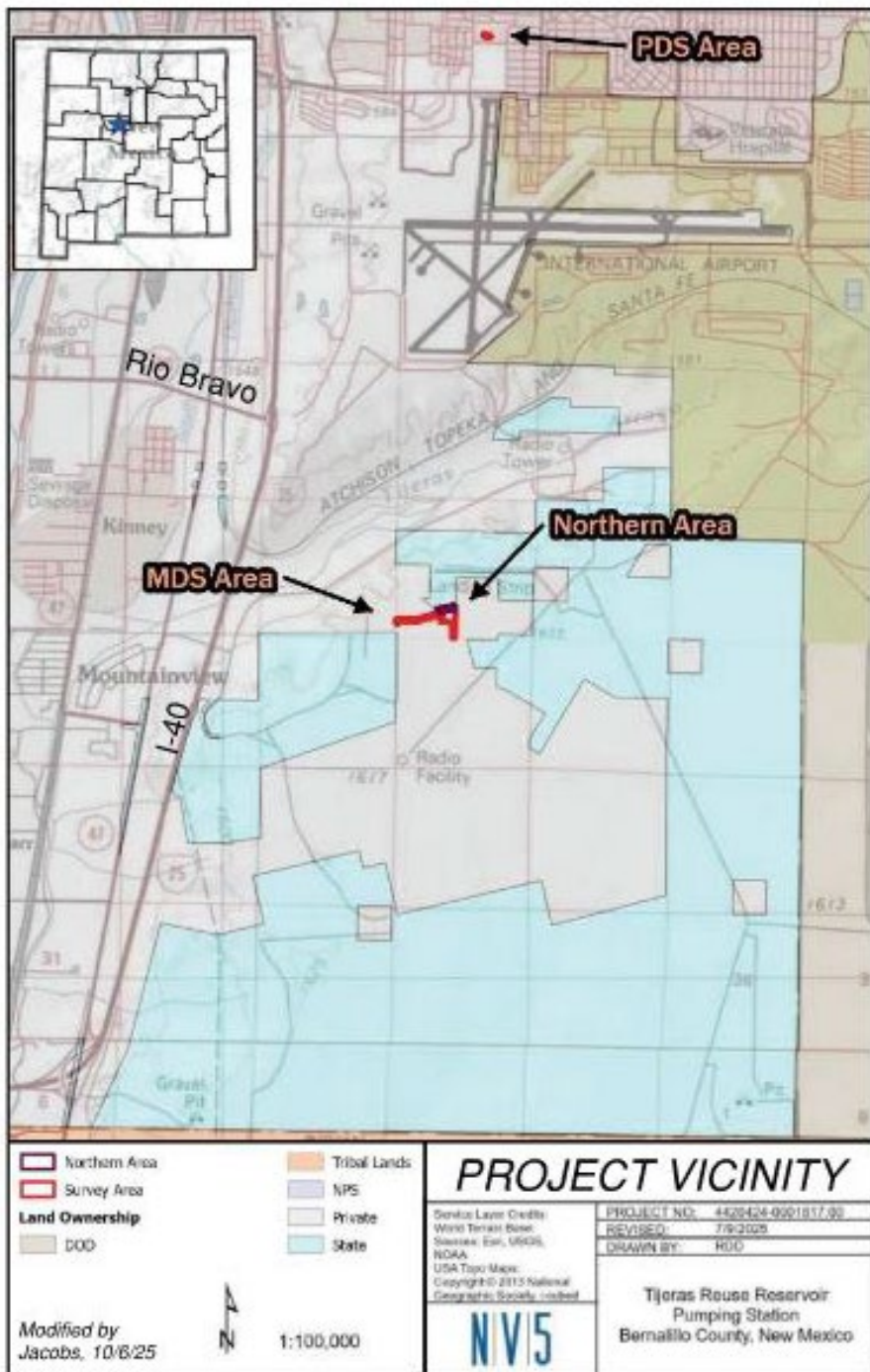
Project-Phase	Schedule
Design	June-2024--January-2026
Bidding-Phase	February-2026--March-2026
Award-Construction-Contract	April-2026
Construction-Period-Start	May-2026
Construction-Material-Procurement	June-2026
Construction-Mobilization	July-2026
Construction-Complete	November-2027
Construction-Closeout-and-Record-Drawings	February-2028



Summary of the EID

The EID process evaluated the following major areas of this project.

1. Environmental Setting
2. Land Use
3. Floodplains
4. Wetlands
5. Water Resources
6. Air Quality
7. Biological Resources
8. Archeological, Cultural, and Historic Resources
9. Socioeconomic/ Environmental Justice
10. Noise



Summary of the EID

Potential Impacts

- **Floodplains** – project area is in Flood Zone X (outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary). No impacts anticipated.
- **Wetlands** – there are no wetlands or Waters of the U.S. in the project area.
- **Water Resources** – there is no surface water in the project area and no connection to groundwater is anticipated.
- **Air Quality** – short-term fugitive dust during construction is expected but long-term impacts are not anticipated. Dust abatement in accordance with City of Albuquerque fugitive dust regulations. No long-term air pollution will result from the project.
- **Archeological, Cultural, and Historic Resources** – survey findings were negative and no effects on cultural resources are anticipated (SHPO concurrence).
- **Socioeconomic/ Environmental Justice** –no impacts anticipated.



Fidelity Park



Tijeras RRPS – Reservoir Area



Tijeras RRPS – Pump Station Area



Puerto Del Sol



Summary of the EID

Biological Resources

- No critical habitat for threatened and endangered species present in the project area
- Need for mitigation of impacts to migratory birds during construction
- WA has coordinated with USFWS and NMGFD to implement best management practices to minimize potential impacts to migratory birds, burrowing owls, prairie dogs, and bats during construction, including regular surveys for active nests.



Summary of the EID

Biological Resources

- Project will disturb landscaped areas (Fidelity Park and PDS Golf Course) and an undeveloped, sparsely vegetated parcel. All disturbed or removed landscaping will be replaced.
- Vegetation removal and clearing activities to be scheduled outside of the migratory bird and burrowing owl breeding seasons.



Summary of the EID

General Migratory Bird BMPs

BIRD-1: Construction activities should be sequenced to avoid impacts to migratory birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC §703). Actions that directly kill, harm, or destroy birds, their eggs, or active nests should be avoided.

BIRD-2: If nesting birds, burrowing owls, or related concerns arise in the field, construction staff shall notify WRD immediately to determine appropriate next steps.

BIRD-3: Vegetation removal and clearing activities should be scheduled outside of the migratory bird and burrowing owl breeding seasons, defined as April 15 to July 15, to the greatest extent practicable.

- If work is necessary between April 15 – July 15, Water Authority Water Resources staff will notify USFWS.
- If work is necessary between April 15 – July 15, Water Authority Water Resources staff should be notified and a pre-construction clearance survey should be scheduled a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of vegetation removal and clearing activities.
- If breeding birds or nests are observed, the Water Authority Water Resources staff will coordinate with the USFWS to establish an appropriate buffer (typically 30 to 75-meters) around nests will be established until all nestlings have fledged and left the area.



Photo. Northern mockingbird in the Fidelity Park portion of the Project Area



Summary of the EID

Species of Concern BMPs – Burrowing Owl

BURROW-1: All construction activities should avoid impacts to Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*), a species of concern protected under the MBTA and New Mexico statute §17-2-14 (NMSA 1978), to the greatest extent possible.

BURROW-2: Burrowing owls may be active on the project site year-round. The burrowing owl nesting season is from March 1- July 31; construction during nesting season should be avoided if possible. If active burrows are identified during the pre-construction survey, and it is outside of the breeding season of March 1- July 31, then WRD should be notified.

BURROW-3: An initial survey to identify active and inactive burrows should be conducted at least 30 days prior to construction. On-going surveys by a permitted biologist should occur to ensure owls do not move into newly created or unoccupied burrows, as required by USFWS and NMGF. If active burrows are observed and it is outside of the breeding season of March 1- July 31, Water Authority Water Resources staff should be notified to coordinate next steps with USFWS, prior to construction activities.



Photo. Burrowing Owl

Burrowing owl, Kenny Seals/USFWS, Public Domain,
<https://www.fws.gov/media/burrowing-owl-11>



Summary of the EID

Species of Concern BMPs – Burrowing Owl



Photo. Burrowing Owls

Parliament of Burrowing Owls, Jenny Ross, Copyrighted, All Rights Reserved - Used by Permission,
<https://www.fws.gov/media/parliament-burrowing-owls>

BURROW-3 (cont): If active burrows are observed and it is outside of the breeding season of March 1- July 31, Water Authority Water Resources staff should be notified to coordinate next steps with USFWS, prior to construction activities.

- Occupied active burrows within the Project area shall be fully avoided by construction activities with a 75-meter (250-foot) buffer until the owl has left the area. Water Authority Water Resources staff will work with USFWS on relocation plans.
- Inactive burrows should be filled immediately following survey to discourage owls from occupying the site.

BURROW-4: Burrowing owls may occupy prairie dog holes, other small mammal burrows, or human-made structures, including storm drains, berms, irrigation canals, and roadside features. The creation of man-made “burrows” should be avoided to discourage new owl inhabitants. An initial survey to identify potential burrows should be conducted at least 30 days prior to construction. On-going surveys by a certified biologist should occur to ensure owls do not move into newly created or unoccupied burrows, as required by USFWS and NMGF.

- No disturbance or destruction of prairie dogs, other burrowing animals, or their burrows shall occur without prior consultation between Water Authority Water Resources staff and the USFWS.

BURROW-5: The construction contractor shall clearly delineate and maintain all project boundaries, including staging areas.



Summary of the EID

CONSULTATION, COORDINATION, AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Agencies Consulted

- Department of Interior, National Park Service
- Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- EPA, Region VI, Air Planning Section
- EPA, Source Water Protection Branch/Groundwater Section
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
- New Mexico Game and Fish
- NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau
- NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau
- NMED Drinking Water Quality Bureau
- NMED Air Quality Bureau
- NMED Solid Waste Bureau
- NM Office of the State Engineer
- NM Department of Transportation
- NM Department of Agriculture
- Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
- City Councilor Nichole Rogers
- County Commissioner Frank Baca
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control District
- City of Albuquerque, Planning Dept



Public Question, Answer, & Comment

Additional public input (comments and questions) will be accepted after the meeting until **October 31, 2025**. To share comments and questions:

Mail: Attn: Tijeras Reuse Reservoir and Pump Station
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