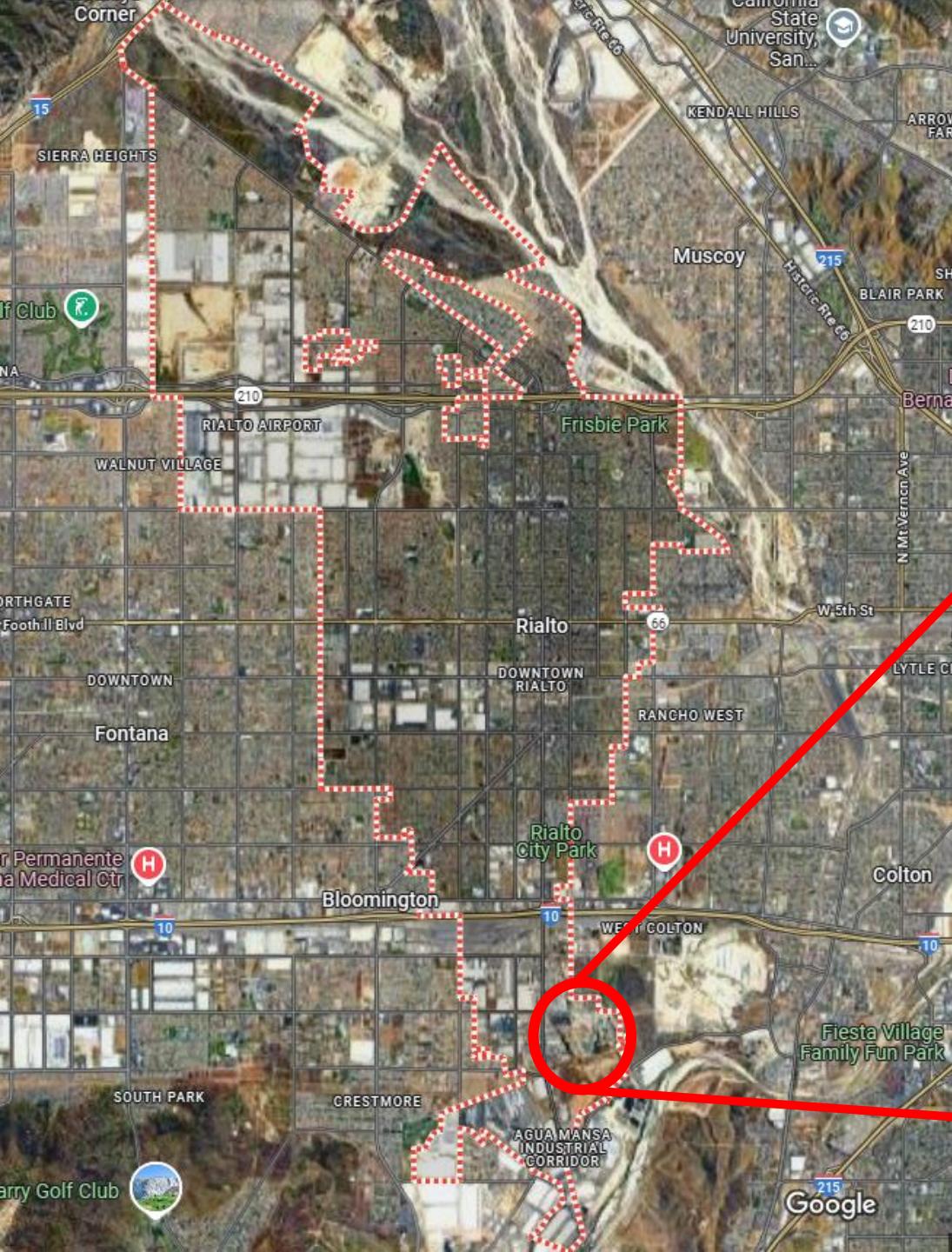




Public Hearing to Adopt Mitigation Negative Declaration for the Dr. June Hayes and Deborah Robertson Habitat Nature Center

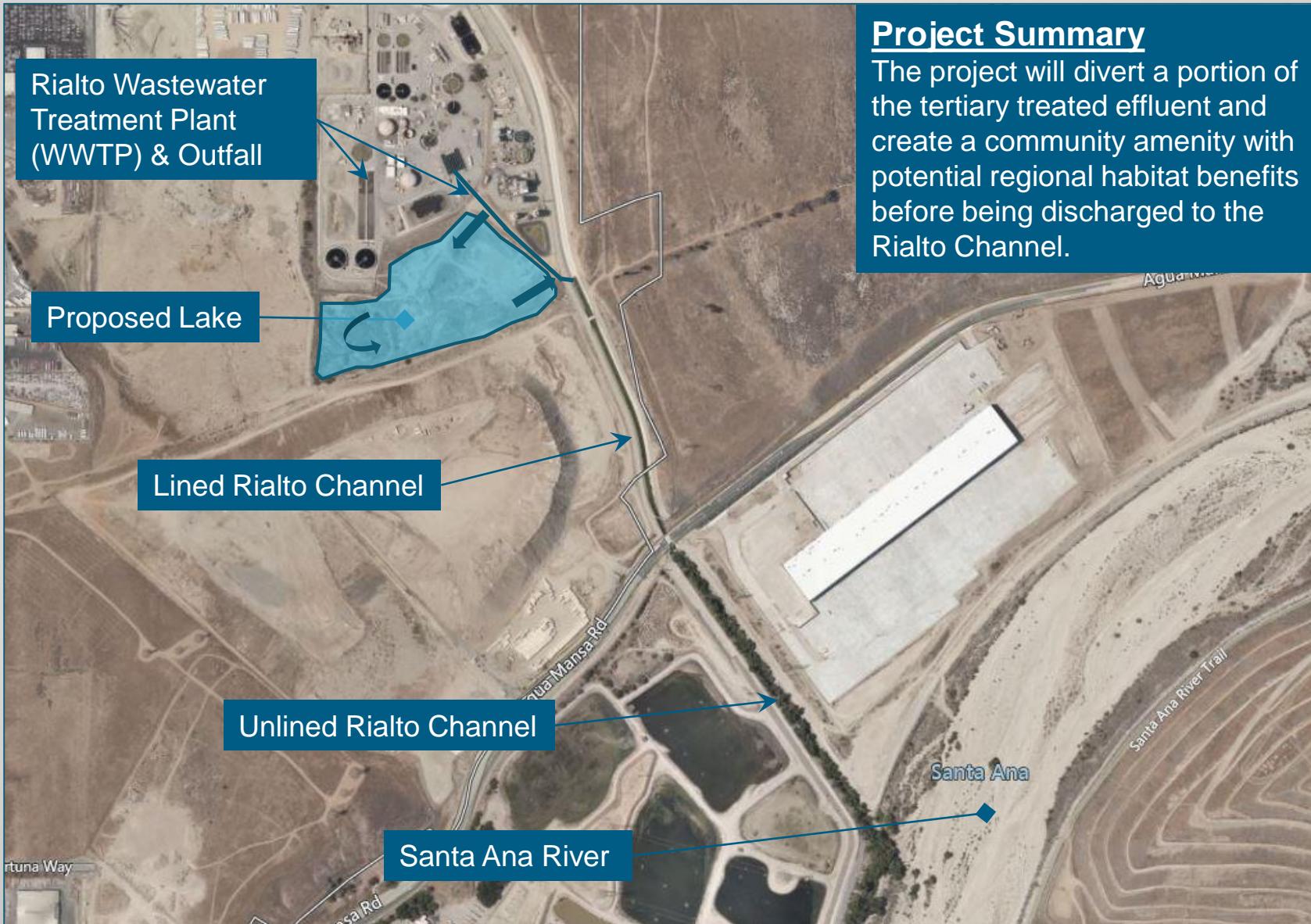


Project Vicinity



City of Rialto
Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dr. June Hayes and Deborah Robertson Habitat Nature Center



Conceptual Design

Community Benefits

- Water Feature
- Walking Trails
- Education
- Bird Watching (Pacific Flyway)

Habitat Benefits

- Creation of Wetlands Habitat
- Control of flows to Rialto Channel
- Removal of Invasive Fish Species
- Potential to reduce temperatures in the Rialto Channel



CEQA Process

- Notice of Intent to adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) issued on February 8, 2024.
- Draft Initial Study/MND (IS/MND) prepared and circulated for public review on February 15, 2024.
- Public comment period closed on March 18, 2024; one comment letter received from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW).
 - April–June 2024: City consulted with DFW and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).
 - Draft IS/MND revised based on feedback from DFW and FWS.

Next Steps

- Should Council authorize approval of the MND for submittal to EPA.
 - EPA reviews the MND for CEQA-Plus compliance.
 - A Final Environmental Determination may be issued by EPA.
- Grant funds and construction cannot proceed until Final Environmental Determination by EPA.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council/Rialto Utility Authority conduct a Public Hearing to consider adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Dr. June Hayes and Deborah Robertson Habitat Nature Center by adopting Resolutions approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the project, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).