

Attachment 7

Disadvantaged Community Assistance

Greater Monterey County IRWM Region

*“Addressing an Urgent Water Supply Need for a Disadvantaged Community
in the Greater Monterey County IRWM Region”*

Project #1: Castroville Water Supply and Water Conservation Project

DAC Status

The Castroville Water Supply and Water Conservation Project qualifies as a DAC project under the following category in Appendix G of the 2015 IRWM Guidelines:

4. The serves an area that is contained in one or more census tracts or block groups and some (but not all) of the census tracts or block groups have an MHI of less than \$48,875

The Castroville Community Services District (CCSD) supplies water to the community of Castroville, with a customer base of about 7,000 people. The boundaries of Block Groups 1 – 4 in Census Tract 104 of the 2009-2013 ACS data comprise the approximate water service area of CCSD to the community of Castroville. We have noted a population discrepancy between the ACS data and CCSD’s customer records; while the combined population of Block Groups 1 – 4 totals 5,967, CCSD records show a customer base of 7,000. For the purposes of determining percentage of DAC, we have used the ACS Block Group data in combination with CCSD’s known customer base of 7,000. This will result in a conservative DAC estimate.

According to 2009-2013 ACS data, two out of the four block groups that comprise the CCSD service area – Block Groups 1 and 2 – qualify as DAC. Part of Block Group 1 lies outside of the CCSD service area (see map below); however, the outlying area is unpopulated agricultural land. Therefore, we can count Block Group 1’s entire population of 1,538 as CCSD customers. With a combined population of 3,050 in Block Groups 1 and 2, out of a total service area population of 7,000, the project serves a 44% DAC area. A map of the Block Groups and DACs is attached below.

Block Group	MHI	Population
Block Group 1, Census Tract 104 060530104001	\$45,313	1,538
Block Group 2, Census Tract 104 060530104002	\$46,179	1,512
Block Group 3, Census Tract 104 060530104003	\$57,348	1,651
Block Group 4, Census Tract 104 060530104004	\$54,875	1,266

Source: ACS 2009-2013 Data

The community of Castroville is primarily persons of Hispanic origin (over 90% according to US Census) who work in the agriculture industry, with over 16% unemployment rate.¹ This high unemployment rate combined with low population, and high school education of 42%,² is quite noticeable to the observer. Note that up until the 2007-2011 ACS survey period, the entire community of Castroville had been designated a DAC. The recent designations are curious to CCSD staff since some of the poorest neighborhoods in the area appear to be located within the presumably non-DAC block groups.³ The Greater Monterey County RWMG is considering conducting an MHI survey for the community of Castroville as part of its “Integrated Drinking Water and Wastewater Plan for Disadvantaged Communities” planning effort (currently underway), but in the meantime, for the purposes of this IRWM grant application, we will assume that the project serves an area that is 44% DAC.

¹ City-Data.com: <http://www.city-data.com/city/Castroville-California.html>

² Ibid.

³ Personal communication between Eric Tynan, General Manager of CCSD, and Susan Robinson, Program Coordinator for the Greater Monterey County IRWM Program. Email dated May 13, 2015.

Funding Match Waiver

The CCSD is requesting a funding match waiver for the 44% of its service area population that meets the DAC criterion. We calculated the required funding match as follows: With the assumption that 56% of the service area is non-DAC, then the required match will be 25% x 56% of the total proposal cost, or 14% of the total proposal cost. CCSD is requesting \$4,936,228 in State grant funds, and is providing \$803,572 in non-State matching funds (14% of the total proposal cost), for a total proposal cost of \$5,739,800.

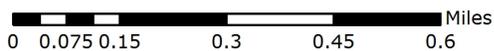
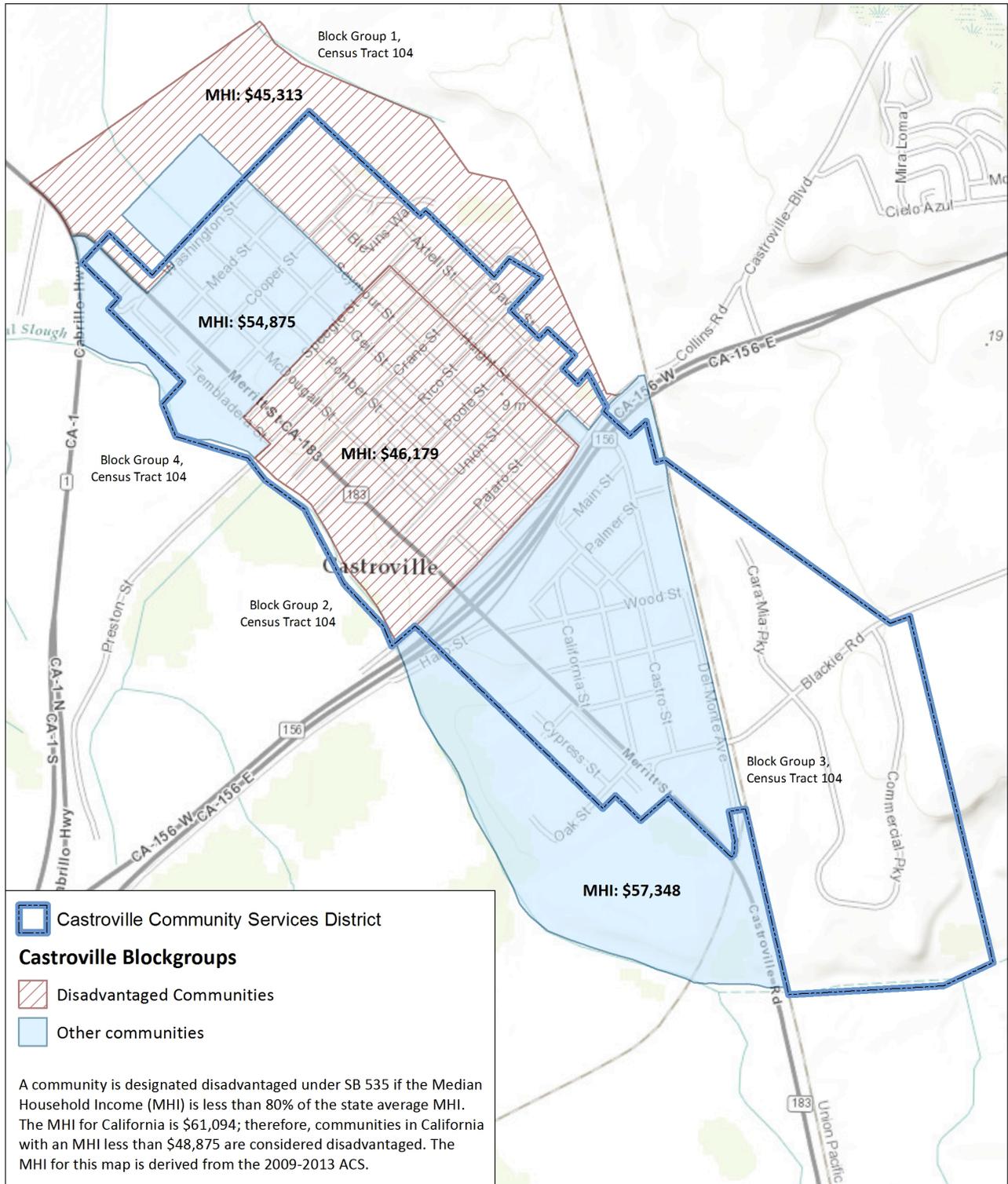
Meeting a Critical Water Supply or Water Quality Need

Seawater intrusion poses an imminent threat to the community's water supply. The District's General Manager predicts, based on historical trends that have been accelerated due to drought, that seawater intrusion will impact the community's drinking water supply likely within the year. This low-income community cannot afford to construct a new well without funding support. Without such support, the District will need to raise water rates precipitously (forcing some or many in the community to relocate), and will most likely need to truck in bottled water for its 7,000 customers as a short-term solution.

The proposed project addresses the problem of the community's impending water supply contamination by providing a new source of water from an aquifer that is not impacted by seawater intrusion, nor is likely to be impacted within the foreseeable future. The project therefore meets the following definition of critical water supply/water quality need of a DAC: "Infrastructure renovations to a public water supply system necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum quality and quantity of water." The project also addresses the Human Right to Water Policy by ensuring the provision of clean, affordable, and accessible water for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.

Castroville Community Services District

Disadvantaged Communities in Castroville, Monterey County, California



Data Sources: ACS, ESRI
 Map created by Sara Watterson, July 2015

Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant 2015