



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY AND PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Comment Period: August 13, 2021 to September 12, 2021

Direct comments to: Mr. Priyodarshi Majumdar (see below)

Notice of Preparation

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR ALTERATION/MODIFICATION TO TUCSON DIVERSION CHANNEL, PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, FOR THE OLD NOGALES INTERCEPTOR SEWER AUGMENT PROJECT

In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, WestLand Resources for Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD), through Pima County Regional Flood Control District, has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to alter and/or modify the Tucson Diversion Channel (TDC) by installing one steel casing pipe with three HDPE carrier pipes for sanitary sewer underneath TDC (Requester's Proposed Action) in the city of Tucson, Pima County, Arizona. The Los Angeles District of the Corps is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Requester's Proposed Action. Specifically, the Requester's Proposed Action entails installing approximately 93 feet of a 60 inch diameter steel casing pipe underneath Tucson Diversion Channel. The casing pipe would be installed via jack-and-bore method at a minimum depth of 2 feet under the channel. This casing pipe would carry three HDPE sanitary sewer pipes of varying diameters up to 28 inches. The jack and bore excavation pits for construction purposes would be outside of the channel footprint. Access for construction vehicles is available from existing roads and parking lots on both north and south side of the channel. No construction equipment will go directly above the channel.

Construction staging and material placement will be in the construction right of way along railroad property, to the north and south of the TDC.

The Corps is requesting comments pertaining to the Requester's Proposed Action from federal, state, local agencies, and interested public that would lead to the determination by decision makers on the preparation of a Finding of No Significant Impact or whether an Environmental Impact Statement would be required.

The Corps is the lead Federal agency for the Requester's Proposed Action. The Environmental Assessment is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), Federal laws and regulations, Executive Orders, and Corps' policies. Comments received will be considered in determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required or whether a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) can

be issued.

The purpose of the new sewer line would be to redirect flow from an existing 10-inch sewer, service the existing state prison, and accommodate future flows from several proposed developments (private, State and County), and the newly constructed E. Aerospace Parkway. This project is needed to facilitate an increase in capacity for the sewer transmission pipe as development occurs because the existing sewer system is not adequate to support demands with proposed development. The Requester's Proposed Action would result in less than significant individual and cumulative effects on the environment, social, or cultural resources, with implementation of standard avoidance and minimization measures. The excavation pits for jack and bore operation would be outside of the TDC footprint, and the casing pipe would be installed underneath the TDC thus entailing minimal ground disturbance. Construction of the Requester's Proposed Action would not result in the permanent loss of waters of the United States.

The Requester's Proposed Action would be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Structural modifications would not result in the removal or destruction of historic properties protected under the National Historic Preservation Act. The Requester's Proposed Action would be in compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. A separate Section 404 permit pursuant to the Clean Water Act would not be required for the Requester's Proposed Action.

All comments must be received by 5 p.m. on September 12, 2021.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Priyodarshi Majumdar at (213) 452-3661. Comments should be sent to:

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