



PUBLIC NOTICE

Santa Ana River – Geotechnical Boring Investigation for Mission Boulevard Bridge replacement

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

BUILDING STRONG®

Public Notice No.: 408-SPL-PN-2020-0026

Permit No.: 408-SPL-2020-0026

Comment Period: 2020-05-18 to 2020-06-17

Requester: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFCWCD), has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Santa Ana River.

Location:

The proposed action would conduct geotechnical boring investigation in the Santa Ana River under and adjacent to the Mission Boulevard Bridge near Mount Rubidoux in the City of Jurupa Valley, Riverside County, California. The proposed features are in-river, which will require construction within the channel.

Requester's Proposed Action:

RCFCWCD is proposing to conduct geotechnical and environmental boring investigation inside Santa Ana River under and near the Mission Boulevard Bridge. The proposed geotechnical field work would consist of eleven (11) exploratory boring locations in total, of which five (5) borings would be within riverbed, two (2) borings would be near the existing bridge abutments at the top of the levee, and four (4) borings would be within the bridge approach roadways. An alternative boring location for Bent 2 is proposed should the operation become infeasible due to surface water fluctuation. The proposed environmental field exploration consists of thirteen (13) boring locations in total. Eleven (11) shallow-depth borings up to 5.5-ft below ground surface will be performed concurrently with geotechnical boring investigation, of which five (5) borings would be within the riverbed near locations of the proposed footings, six (6) borings would be along unpaved shoulders of bridge approach roadways, and two (2) borings would be located at the levees. The proposed environmental boring activities would be located within the footprint of geotechnical borings. The field work would be performed between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, with 10 to 12-hour day shifts, Monday through Friday, for a duration of approximately 15 work days on site. For geotechnical boring investigation, equipment to be used on site would primarily include a track-mounted or truck-mounted drill rig, earth moving equipment such as a bulldozer or a front-end loader, support truck, and other ancillary equipment. The riverbed borings and abutment borings will be drilled to depths up to approximately 100 to 140 feet below ground surface, or to effective refusal, whichever occurs first. For environmental boring investigation, hand-auger equipment will be used at borings located in the riverbed and along shoulders of bridge approach roadways; hollow-stem auger drilling equipment will be used at levee borings. All

geotechnical borings, and environmental borings performed with hollow-stem auger, will be backfilled using cement bentonite grout mix and capped at the surface with either surrounding soils or patched with an asphalt patch if working in the existing roadways. Environmental borings performed with hand auger will be backfilled with No. 3 sand. The investigation derived waste (IDW) from the boreholes will be stored in 55-gallon steel drums. These steel drums containing IDW will be sampled and tested using laboratory analytical methods for waste characterization and properly disposed of off-site after completion of the field investigation. Appropriate avoidance and minimization measures for biological and jurisdictional resources will also be implemented during fieldwork. Access routes within the river channel will be within dry areas where no water is present, and no water crossings are proposed for the field work.

The purpose of the proposed geotechnical and environmental boring investigation is to support engineering for bridge design for replacement of the Mission Boulevard Bridge, and would be needed to prepare the plans, specifications and estimate (PS&E) of work.

Authority: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation or alteration of any USACE Civil Works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 (“Section 408”). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army’s authority under Section 408 has been delegated to the USACE, the Chief of Engineers. The Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to the USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

Limits of Section 408 Authority: A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from the USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). The compliance determination for any Section 10/404/103 permit decision associated with the proposed alteration will also address the Section 408 compliance determination. In addition, an approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

Consideration of Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties. Comments will be made part of the record, and they will be considered before permission is granted to proceed with this action. Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that would be directly or indirectly affected by the alteration described in this public notice.

Submission of Comments: Interested parties may submit, in writing, any comments concerning this proposal. Comments should reference public notice no. 408-SPL-PN-2020-0026 and be forwarded by the comment due date of June 17, 2020. Comments must be sent

to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Engineering Division, ATTN.: Priyo Majumdar, 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 930, Los Angeles, California 90017-3409. Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to Priyodarshi.Majumdar@usace.army.mil.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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