



PUBLIC NOTICE

Sepulveda box culvert of the Sawtelle-Westwood Flood Control System – Bore twin tunnels for Westside Subway Extension of Purple Line Section 3.

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

BUILDING STRONG®

Public Notice No.: 408-SPL-PN-2021-0011

Permit No.: 408-SPL-2021-0011

Comment Period: 2021-03-02 to 2021-03-31

Requester: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), through the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Sepulveda box culvert of the Sawtelle-Westwood Flood Control System.

Location:

The proposed action would bore twin tunnels for the construction of a heavy rail transit subway line under the Sepulveda box culvert at the southeast intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and South Sepulveda Boulevard (near 1200 South Sepulveda Boulevard) in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. The proposed features are not inside the channel, and will therefore not require construction within the channel.

Requester's Proposed Action:

The proposed project involves using Earth Pressure Balance Tunnel Boring Machines (TBM) to bore twin tunnels. The tunnel boring activity beneath the Sepulveda Channel concrete box culvert would occur with two TBMs tunneling in parallel that are separated by more than 100 feet. The TBMs would work their way eastward approximately one week apart from one another at a rate of approximately 80-100 feet per day. The TBMs would cross beneath the Sepulveda Channel concrete box culvert at two different times which would last about one day each time. The tunneling will be approximately 27 feet below the Sepulveda Channel concrete box culvert. The existing Sepulveda Channel box culvert would not be disturbed either on the interior or on the exterior.

The purpose of the project is to improve transit travel time in order to provide more reliable transit service via future subway.

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). 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-2021-0011 and be forwarded by the comment due date of March 31, 2021. 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.

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