

**Notice of Availability**  
**Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**408-2020-0021**  
**Associated with the Northwest Phase II Light Rail Extension Project**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles District has finalized a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for 408-2020-0021 associated with the Northwest Phase II Light Rail Extension Project.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations allow for a Federal agency to adopt another agency's environmental assessment (40 CFR § 1506.3(c)). USACE Engineer Circular (EC) 1165-2-220 describes policy and procedural guidance for processing requests to alter USACE Civil Works projects pursuant to 33 USC Section 408. EC 1165-2-220 (Appendix D) strongly encourages USACE districts to adopt and/or incorporate by reference any NEPA documentation that may exist for the Federal project. USACE may adopt, in whole or in part, another Federal agency's draft or final EA. When adopting all or portions of another agency's EA, USACE is still responsible for developing a FONSI, as applicable, to document NEPA compliance for the Section 408 permission decision. This FONSI documents the USACE decision regarding the 408 permission request to alter the USACE Civil Works project.

The City of Phoenix (City), through the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, proposes to alter/modify the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel (ACDC), Phoenix, Arizona, and Vicinity, a USACE federally authorized Civil Works project. The proposed alteration to the USACE project involves removing a portion of the east side of the existing 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge over the ACDC, constructing a new bridge adjacent to the east side of the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge for light rail use, and installing a new 48-inch diameter, reinforced concrete pipe storm drain with an outfall junction structure connecting to the north channel wall of the ACDC at approximate station 567 +50, located east of Interstate Highway I-17 and north of W. Dunlap Avenue in the city of Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona (Section 408 Activity). The Section

408 Activity is part of the construction of the Northwest Phase II Light Rail Extension Project (Proposed Project).

In accordance with NEPA, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in September 2018 published a Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) for the Proposed Project. On February 5, 2019, the FTA issued a FONSI. In April 2020, FTA published a “Environmental Evaluation Proposed Project Changes Northwest Extension Phase II,” which in pertinent part evaluates Proposed Project changes at the ACDC, and concluded that “with the implementation of mitigation, the proposed changes would not result in any new or more severe impacts not discussed in the EA.” The USACE independently reviewed the Final EA and 2020 environmental evaluation and determined the Final EA sufficiently identifies and evaluates the environmental impacts related to the Section 408 Activity. Therefore, in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.3(c), USACE’s NEPA regulations at 33 CFR Part 230, and EC 1165-2-220, the USACE adopted FTA’s Final EA.

Click each link for the FTA’s Final EA, Environmental Evaluation, and the USACE’s FONSI:

FTA’s 2018 Final EA:

[https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/NWE\\_II\\_EA\\_2018-09-04%20with%20appendices.pdf?ver=bNQEk3W4hLJUDcCzqY28nw%3d%3d](https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/NWE_II_EA_2018-09-04%20with%20appendices.pdf?ver=bNQEk3W4hLJUDcCzqY28nw%3d%3d)

FTA’s 2020 Environmental Reevaluation:

[https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/NWEII%20Environmental%20Reevaluation\\_05272020.pdf?ver=V8PhIV8mvelGdE8GkB9MYg%3d%3d](https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/NWEII%20Environmental%20Reevaluation_05272020.pdf?ver=V8PhIV8mvelGdE8GkB9MYg%3d%3d)

USACE’s 2021 FONSI:

[https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/408\\_2020-0021%20FONSI\\_Northwest%20Light%20Rail%20Expansion%2020210920%20signed.pdf?ver=uHmRFAQQ7Q6r-BGrlvARtA%3d%3d](https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Portals/17/docs/publicnotices/408_2020-0021%20FONSI_Northwest%20Light%20Rail%20Expansion%2020210920%20signed.pdf?ver=uHmRFAQQ7Q6r-BGrlvARtA%3d%3d)

For further information, please contact Kymberly Lyons Howo, USACE Los Angeles District by electronic mail at [kymberly.l.howo@usace.army.mil](mailto:kymberly.l.howo@usace.army.mil) or by telephone at (213) 800-1024.