



PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

Carson City Extension Lateral Project

INTRODUCTION: The proposed project (Carson Extension Lateral) entails construction of approximately 4,900 lineal feet of 12-inch recycled water pipeline that will serve the users in the City of Carson and will extend the existing Carson City Mall Lateral. Installation of the project lateral would be performed by both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and West Basin Municipal Water District (WBMWD). WBMWD is the local sponsor for the proposed project. This project is a segment of the Harbor-South Bay Water Recycling Project that was addressed in a 2003 Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/MND), a 2007 Supplemental EA/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SEA/MND) and a 2009 Supplemental EA/Subsequent MND. This document serves to notify interested parties of the Corps' intent to prepare another Supplemental EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to address a modification to the Carson Extension Lateral.

LOCATION: The project area is located within the city of Carson on Main Street between Del Amo Boulevard and Carson Street in the County of Los Angeles, California. The specific pipeline location is shown on Figure 1.

PROPOSED PROJECT: The Carson Extension Lateral project would connect to the existing pipeline currently stubbed out at Main Street and Jim Dear Boulevard and will extend southerly to Carson Street. Figure 1 shows the preliminary alignment for the proposed Carson Extension Lateral. The pipeline would join the recently constructed Carson Mall Lateral in Main Street at Jim Dear Boulevard, south of Del Amo Boulevard, and continue south within Main Street. The lateral would terminate just north of the Carson Street intersection. The pipeline would cross through the Dominguez channel (also known as Torrance Lateral Channel), concrete rectangular channel that crosses Main Street as a triple-box.

The proposed pipeline would be constructed either through a "jack and bore" method (which would avoid surface disruption by using an auger to bore the pipeline underground and across to a specified location on the other side known as a receiving pit), or it will be hung on the existing bridge without impacting the concrete lined channel. The pipeline is designed with all appropriate appurtenances, including air vacuum valves at all high points, and blow off assemblies.

BACKGROUND AND AUTHORITY: WBMWD is a public agency, which distributes recycled water and imported potable water to local water utility companies and municipal water

departments. WBMWD provides imported and recycled water for 17 cities and unincorporated areas of southwest Los Angeles County.

A Master Plan was completed by WBMWD in July 2000, identifying the Project Laterals for the Recycled Water Distribution System. WBMWD also completed an Initial Study/Negative Declaration, under the CEQA for the West Basin Water Recycling Program Phase II in June 1994. The Phase II West Basin Water Recycling Program Initial Study/Negative Declaration covered portions of the proposed Project Laterals under the current WBMWD Harbor-South Bay Water Recycling Project. The project was filed as complete in May 2005.

The 2009 Final SEA/SMND addressed impacts related to construction/modification of Carson City Mall Lateral as well as other pipeline segments within southwestern Los Angeles County.

The Corps is authorized to support local infrastructure agencies in carrying out design and providing construction assistance to water-related environmental infrastructure resource protection and development projects pursuant to Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (WRDA 1992; Public Law 102-580), as amended by Section 502 of WRDA 1999 and Section 108 of the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2001, which states:

In General, The Secretary is authorized to provide assistance to non-Federal interests for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects described in subsection (c), including waste water treatment and related facilities and water supply, storage, treatment, and distribution facilities.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT COMPLIANCE: Initial characterizations of biological and cultural resources from the July 31, 2014 site visit are noted below:

Biological Resources: The biological resources of the project area are extremely limited. Most of the construction occurs within highly urbanized areas with little or no native biota. The pipeline alignment in the immediate project area is primarily on or adjacent to city streets, which further limits negative impacts to biological resources. The areas that the pipeline alignments run through are highly urbanized areas. These areas consist of ornamental and non-native trees, shrubs, and turf associated with landscaping around homes, commercial establishments, parks, and schools. No wetlands exist within the Project site.

The pipeline alignment between Del Amo Ave and Carson Street crosses over the concrete-lined Dominguez Channel. Nearly all of the Dominguez Channel is channelized and contains very little, if any, vegetation. The proposed project will not directly or indirectly affect the Dominguez Channel.

Cultural Resources: The records and literature search was conducted at the South Central Coastal Archaeological Information Center, and involved review of archeological resources

maps, historic topographic maps, and historic register lists. Historical registers, include the National Register of Historic Places (2000), the *California State Historic Resources Inventory* (2000), *the California Points of Historical Interests* (1992) and the *California Historical Landmarks* (1996).

There are no previously recorded historic properties within any of the Areas of Potential Effect (APE) of any of the branches (streets, etc.) of the proposed lateral extension. The presence of sites, all of which have either been destroyed or built upon, near an APE demonstrates the possibility that buried resources might be discovered during construction activities.

As previously noted, all branches of all lateral are within currently built environments, including buildings, parking lots, parks, schools, golf courses, and cemeteries. All roads were walked to determine that project maps and descriptions were compatible with actual existing physical environment. No cultural material was observed in any of these manifestly disturbed locations.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, and Executive Order 13084 of May 14, 1999: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments all require that government agencies consult with Native Americans to determine their interests in federal projects. A search at the California Native American Heritage Commission (CNAHC) determined that no sacred sites are recorded within the project area.

