

NOTICE OF PREPARATION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

This is to inform the general public that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District (Corps) has preliminarily determined that the following project proposal could be adequately evaluated under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Proposal Title: Hansen Dam Baseball Field Renovation

Proposed Federal Action:

Los Angeles City would perform improvements at the three baseball fields used by the Pacoima Little League under the City's recreation lease with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Lease Number DACW09-1-69-45 and Supplemental Agreement No. 3). The Corps is reviewing this proposed construction activity for potential effects to Flood Control, Traffic, Recreation, and other environmental parameters.

In 1991, the existing baseball fields were constructed of turf and grass and have not been improved since. The proposed renovations include:

- Two new restrooms with sewer connections to replace portable toilets,
- New ADA-compliant asphalt parking spaces,
- New bleachers (at each of the three fields),
- New chain-link fencing (at each of the three fields),
- Landscaping improvements including mulched area and shade trees,
- Renovations of existing dugouts (at each of the three fields),
- Renovations of turf and infields (at each of the three fields), and
- Repair and adjustment of irrigation systems and installation of some new irrigation.

Once renovations are complete, the two Little League diamonds would measure 60-feet between bases, and the standard field diamond would measure 90-feet between bases. The work is slated to take up to 9 months, with construction beginning during Fall, 2012.

Location:

The three baseball fields are located on City-leased lands at Hansen Recreation Area in the Pacoima region of Los Angeles, CA, at both sides of Dronefield Avenue just east of Osborne Street and west of the Hansen Dam/Flood Control Basin.

Public Involvement:

The Corps is inviting the general public to submit comments on potential environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the proposal. The public comment period on preparation of an EA for the proposal described above will extend from September 18-October 17, 2012, and the Corps will consider all submissions received on or before October 17. Please direct emailed or written comments to Carvel Bass, at carvel.h.bass@usace.army.mil or at 915 Wilshire Boulevard, Ste. 11098, Los Angeles, CA, 90017. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Carvel

Bass, Ecologist, Asset Management Division, US Army Corps of Engineers, at (213) 452-3392.

The Corps will actively consider any comments timely received. The results of this consideration would be reflected in a memorandum for record placed in the Administrative Record, unless consideration of the comments was reflected directly in the EA, either through a modification of the document prompted by the comments or an appendix to the EA articulating responses to the comments. Once the EA is complete and if a FONSI is determined to be appropriate based upon the analysis contained in the EA, pursuant to the last cause of 33 CFR § 230.11, a separate notification will be sent to concerned agencies, organizations and to the interested public stating that the FONSI is available for review. If significant effects on the quality of the human environment are subsequently identified and can not be mitigated to a less than significant level, the Corps will initiate preparation of an EIS and afford the public opportunities to participate in the environmental review process.