



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice

Public Notice Number: SPK-2003-00337

Date: June 3, 2008

Comments Due: July 3, 2008

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

SUBJECT: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, (Corps) is evaluating a permit application to construct the Bradshaw Road Widening project, which would result in impacts to approximately 1.016 acres of waters of the United States, including wetlands, in or adjacent to Gerber Creek and Laguna Creek. This notice is to inform interested parties of the proposed activity and to solicit comments. This notice may also be viewed at the Corps web site at <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/regulatory.html>.

AUTHORITY: This application is being evaluated under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 for structures or work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States.

APPLICANT: Sacramento County Department of Transportation
906 G Street, Suite 510
Sacramento, California 95814
Attn: John Jaeger, 916-874-7507

AGENT: Sacramento County Department of Environmental Review and Assessment
827 7th Street, Room 220
Sacramento, California 95814
Attn: Tim Hawkins, 916-874-5609

LOCATION: The project site is located along Bradshaw Road, Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 7 North, Range 6 East, MDB&M, Sacramento County, California, and can be seen on the Elk Grove 7 ½ minute USGS Topographic Quadrangle.

Latitude: South limit: 38°27'17" North
North limit: 38°29'39" North

Longitude: North limit: 121°20'4" West
South limit: 121°20'5" West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to place fill material into approximately 1.016 acres of water of the U.S. in order to conduct road widening along Bradshaw and Gerber Roads. Specifically, the proposed project would involve:

1. **Bradshaw Road Widening and Gerber Road Improvements:** This portion of the proposed project would widen Bradshaw Road, from the southern limit of Calvine Road, to the northern limit of Florin road. This proposed widening would accommodate four through traffic lanes, a raised median, bicycle lanes, a separate pedestrian walking facility (located on only one side of Bradshaw Road), and

roadside ditches. In addition, the proposed project would involve improvements along Gerber Road, extending up to 970 feet west and 1,120 feet east of Bradshaw Road. The proposed road widening and improvements would result in the placement of fill material into approximately 0.5770 acre of wetlands, including 0.0789 acre vernal pools, 0.4536 acre of seasonal wetlands and 0.0445 acre of seasonal swale.

2. **Gerber Creek Bridge:** Currently, an 8-foot by 5-foot double box culvert exists where Bradshaw Road crosses Gerber Creek, approximately 585 feet north of Gerber Road. The proposed project would involve abandoning and filling the existing box culvert and constructing a new bridge approximately 80 feet north of the existing channel. The proposed bridge would be approximately 108 feet wide to accommodate not only the proposed widening of the roadway, but also the six-lane improvements planned for the future. In addition, the applicant is also proposing to realign the roadside ditch north of Gerber Road, along the east side of Bradshaw Road. This portion of the proposed project would involve the placement of fill material into 0.184 acre of Gerber Creek.

3. **Laguna Creek Bridge:** The applicant is proposing to replace the existing bridge over Laguna Creek. This portion of the project would involve construction of an 80-foot wide bridge with two 40-foot wide spans, supported by one 2-foot diameter thick pier and two abutments. The proposed bridge would have center pilings every 5 to 7 feet for the entire width of the bridge. This portion of the proposed project would involve permanent impacts to 0.001 acre of Laguna Creek for the installation of the piers, as well as temporary impacts to 0.254 acre of Laguna Creek for the removal of the old bridge and construction of the new bridge.

Based on the available information, the overall project purpose is to accommodate the anticipated increase in traffic volumes associated with through traffic demand and the development in the area, as well as improve pedestrian and bicycle access and safety along Bradshaw Road. The applicant believes that there is a need for road widening along Bradshaw Road.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Environmental Setting. The site in question is located along Bradshaw Road, and contains approximately 2.05 acres of waters of the U.S. including wetlands, that have been identified by the Corps. The waters of the U.S. within the project area consist of 0.756 acre of seasonal wetland, 0.480 acre of vernal pool, 0.274 acre of seasonal swale, 0.136 acre of roadside ditch, 0.273 acre of intermittent stream and 0.186 acre of perennial stream.

Alternatives. The applicant has not provided information concerning project alternatives. Additional information concerning project alternatives may be available from the applicant or their agent. Other alternatives may develop during the review process for this permit application. All reasonable project alternatives, in particular those which may be less damaging to the aquatic environment, will be considered.

Mitigation. The Corps requires that applicants consider and use all reasonable and practical measures to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic resources. If the applicant is unable to avoid or minimize all impacts, the Corps may require compensatory mitigation. The applicant has proposed mitigation measures in order to avoid and minimize impacts to vernal pool crustaceans through the implementation of an erosion control and water quality protection plan. In addition, the applicant has also proposed to compensate for the loss of 0.068 acres of vernal pool habitat through the creation of 0.068 acres of vernal pools and the preservation of 0.136 acres of vernal pool habitat at an off-site location. The applicant has not provided mitigation to avoid, minimize and/or compensate for impacts to the remaining waters of the U.S. within the proposed project area.

OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS: Water quality certification or a waiver, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Central Regional Water Quality Control Board is required for this project. The applicant has not indicated they have applied for certification.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: Based on the available information, potentially eligible cultural resources may be affected by the proposed project. The Corps will initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed activity may affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. The Corps will initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as appropriate.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed project will not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as defined in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

EVALUATION FACTORS: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the described activity, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the described activity will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The activity's impact on the public interest will include application of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (40 CFR Part 230).

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS: Written comments, referencing Public Notice SPK-2003-00337 must be submitted to the office listed below on or before June 29, 2008

Lisa M. Gibson, Project Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Sacramento Office
1325 J Street, Room 1480
Sacramento, California 95814 2922
Email: lisa.m.gibson2@usace.army.mil

The Corps is particularly interested in receiving comments related to the proposal's probable impacts on the affected aquatic environment and the secondary and cumulative effects. Anyone may request, in writing, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests shall specifically state, with particularity, the reason(s) for holding a public hearing. If the Corps determines that the information received in response to this notice is inadequate for thorough evaluation, a public hearing may be warranted. If a public hearing is warranted, interested parties will be notified of the time, date, and location. Please note that all comment letters received are subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. If you have questions or need additional information please contact the applicant or the Corps' project manager Lisa M. Gibson, 916-557-5288, lisa.m.gibson2@usace.army.mil.

Attachments: 47 drawings