UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Yockey/Newland Storm Drain Project
City of Garden Grove, California

PROPOSED ACTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9 is considering authorizing the award of up to $556,000 in grant funds to the City of Garden Grove for the construction of Phase I of the Yockey/Newland storm drain. Phase I of this storm drain would be approximately 1,800 feet in length and would extend from the Westminster Channel to Lomay Avenue along Newland Street in the City of Garden Grove. The entire storm drain project would be 11,700 feet in length and would extend from the Westminster Channel to Stanford Avenue.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The purpose and need for the proposed project is to alleviate flooding which periodically occurs in the southwest portion of the City of Garden Grove. In 1991, a master drainage plan was prepared and this portion of the City was identified as the area with the greatest storm drain deficiency. It is also not in a flood zone and cannot quality for National Flood Insurance Program funds. In 2002 and 2003, Congress appropriated funds to assist the City of Garden Grove address its current flooding problems. EPA is now considering awarding these funds to the City for the proposed project.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to examine the environmental impacts of the proposed project. The EA includes detailed analyses of a wide variety of potential impacts including effects on land uses, water resources, air quality, living resources, cultural resources, socioeconomic conditions and environmental justice, aesthetics and noise considerations. The EA concludes that the project will not have significant impacts on these resources. Of particular note, the project is not expected to adversely affect listed endangered or threatened species since the project area is urbanized and does not include suitable habitat for such species. With regards to cultural resources, the presence of historic properties was considered but none were found in the project area. The EA also notes that discharges such as stormwater runoff would be subject to NPDES permitting requirements which would control pollutants in the discharges. The EA also includes a discussion of alternatives which were considered including the no action alternative. Overall, based on the information in the EA, EPA has determined that the action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the environment. Consequently, EPA has made the decision to prepare this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and to not prepare an Environment Impact Statement (EIS).

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PUBLIC REVIEW

A public review copy of the EA is available at the EPA, Region 9 website at: http://www.epa.gov/region9/nepa/epa-generated.html.

A copy of the EA and unsigned FONSI can also be found at the following locations:

EPA Region 9 (WTR-5)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Contact: Eugene Bromley at (415) 972-3510

City of Garden Grove
Engineering Division
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92842
Contact: Mark Uphus at (714) 741-5191

Garden Grove Regional Library
11200 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840
Hours: Monday - Thursday: 10 AM - 9 PM
Friday and Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday: 12 noon - 5 PM
Telephone (714) 530-0711

Public comments on the EA and FONSI must be submitted to EPA, Region 9 postmarked no later than March 26, 2007. Comments may submitted by letter, fax or email to:

Eugene Bromley
EPA Region 9 (WTR-5)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Fax: (415) 947-3549
email: bromley.eugene@epa.gov

EPA will review, consider and respond to all comments received concerning the EA and FONSI during the comment period. EPA will take no administrative action on the EPA-funded project described above prior to expiration of this comment period, and EPA's review and response to any comments received. After EPA assesses any comments received, those comments, EPA's responses and this FONSI will be forwarded to the Regional Administrator for review and signature.

This FONSI is final upon signature of the EPA, Region 9 Regional Administrator. If signed, it will not be recirculated for review, but will be available to any individual upon request.

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Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator
EPA, Region 9

Date