



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Pursuant to Section 15085 and 15087(a), Title 14, California Code of Regulations, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, the City of Newport Beach is providing notice that it has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report to assess the potential environmental effects associated with the following project:

Lower Newport Bay Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) Construction Project

The proposed project is located within Lower Newport Harbor, Newport Beach, California.

The purpose of this notice is to notify any interested parties that the Lead Agency, the City of Newport Beach, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Lower Newport Bay Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) Construction Project ("Project"), and to solicit comments on the environmental issues and alternatives addressed in the DEIR (California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines §15082).

Project Description: The goal of the proposed Project is to improve navigation in Newport Harbor and identify a safe and effective disposal location to manage dredged sediments. Natural processes result in the movement and accumulation of sediment within Newport Harbor which must be dredged periodically to maintain channel depth for safe navigation. The Federal Channels are maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The remainder of the Harbor is managed and maintained by the City and Orange County. USACE conducts annual bathymetric surveys to determine the amount of sediment that has accumulated in the Federal Channels and to assess the need for maintenance dredging. The most recent sediment sampling effort conducted in 2018 and 2019 determined that most of the material was determined suitable for disposal at a permitted open ocean location (or nearshore). However, dredging in the Main Channel and channel offshoots will expose some sediment that has been determined to be unsuitable for ocean disposal and therefore requires an alternate disposal location. Therefore, dredging of these areas is not feasible without also identifying a practicable management option for the unsuitable sediment.

To manage the unsuitable material, the City proposes to construct a CAD facility in the central portion of the Lower Harbor between Bay Island, Lido Isle and Harbor Island where dredged sediment unsuitable for open ocean disposal or nearshore placement can be contained. Clean material suitable for beach nourishment generated from constructing the CAD facility will be transported and disposed at an approved open ocean disposal site or along the nearshore ocean beaches. The City is also proposing to allow maintenance dredging in sections of Newport Harbor outside the Federal Channels to re-establish safe navigation.

Environmental Impacts: With the incorporation of mitigation measures, the proposed Project would result in either no project-level impacts or less-than-significant project-level impacts to the following resource areas: aesthetics; agriculture and forestry resources; biological resources; cultural resources; energy; geology and soils; greenhouse gas emissions; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; mineral resources; noise; population and housing; public services; recreation; transportation; tribal

cultural resources; utilities and service systems; and wildfire. The project would not result in significant and unavoidable impacts.

Document Availability: The DEIR and technical appendices are available for public review beginning December 4, 2020 and ending January 20, 2021. The DEIR is available on the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/ceqa. It is also posted on the State Clearinghouse's website at <https://ceganet.opr.ca.gov/2019110340/2>.

Hard copies of the DEIR and technical appendices are available at the following Newport Beach Public Library locations:

Central Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
Newport Beach, California 92660

Crean Mariners Library
1300 Irvine Avenue
Newport Beach, California 92660

Balboa Library
100 East Balboa Boulevard
Newport Beach, California 92661

Corona del Mar Library
410 Marigold Avenue
Corona del Mar, California 92625

In addition, hard copies of the DEIR and technical appendices are available for review at the City of Newport Beach Public Works Department counter which is located in the Civic Center at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California 92660.

Please submit all comments or other responses to this notice in writing by mail or e-mail no later than January 20, 2021 to:

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100 Civic Center Drive,
Newport Beach, California 92660
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(949) 644-3043