



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

In accordance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, this notice is to inform public agencies, County residents and the general public that the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), now administered by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (LACDPW), has completed an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the following proposed project:

Project Title: Sunset Upper Debris Basin Dam Modification

Project Description: The proposed Sunset Upper Debris Basin Dam Modification Project involves increasing the height of the dam, which, in turn, would increase the capacity of the associated debris basin to provide enhanced flood and debris protection to downstream land uses. The existing Sunset Upper concrete arch dam that forms the debris basin is 28.7 feet high and 181 feet wide, and its spillway (in the center of the dam) is 75 feet wide. The project would increase the height of the Sunset Upper concrete arch dam by a maximum of 5 feet on top of the existing dam. The existing protective fences would be removed during construction and reinstalled, and the trash rack cage behind the spillway would be extended by 5 feet. The existing access road crossing the southern end of the dam would be raised by varying amounts up to 4.8 feet over a distance of approximately 104 linear feet to match the increased dam elevation. The Sunset Upper Debris Basin, located behind the Sunset Upper Dam, currently has a capacity of 20,000 cubic yards (cy). Implementation of the proposed Project would provide an additional 8,000 cy of debris basin storage capacity.

The LACFCD defines two subareas within each debris basin to describe the basin limits and interior work areas/capacity: (1) 25% contact line/mowing contact line (i.e., 25 percent of design capacity), and (2) the 100% contact line (i.e., the design capacity). With proposed Project implementation, the 100% contact line and 25% contact line would increase by 9,002 sf and by 3,279 sf, respectively, along the edges of the existing contact lines. Therefore, the areas within the expanded contact lines would be subject to potential inundation. The existing permits with resource agencies related to long-term debris basin maintenance activities would require amendments subsequent to proposed Project implementation to reflect the expanded 25% and 100% contact lines. The project site is not identified on any hazardous materials list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. The tentative construction schedule for the proposed Project has an anticipated start date in mid-April 2014 and completion by October 2014 (6- to 7-month construction period). Operation and maintenance of the proposed Project would be the same as the existing condition.

Project Location: The Sunset Upper dam and debris basin (Project site) are located on County-owned property within the City of Burbank and in the Verdugo Mountains. The Project site is located in the upper portion of Sunset Canyon, north of the terminus of Country Club Drive, and is surrounded by undeveloped hillside areas.

Public Review Period: **Wednesday, March 6, 2013 through Friday, April 12, 2013**

Lead Agency: Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Contact Person: Ms. Grace Yu, PE, LEED AP
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Water Resources Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 2nd Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Availability of Mitigated Negative Declaration: The IS/MND and all referenced documents will be available for public review at the LACDPW office listed above between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Thursday. The document can also be reviewed online at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/CEQA/Sunset/> and at these City of Burbank libraries – Burbank Central Library (110 North Glenoaks Boulevard) and Buena Vista Branch Library (300 N. Buena Vista Street) – during business hours.

Methods of Submitting Comments: Please submit any comments on the IS/MND to Ms. Grace Yu at the above listed address or email to: gyu@dpw.lacounty.gov before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 2013.