
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DRAFT EIR/EA)

PROJECT TITLE: California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Within the former Fort Ord and bisected by the boundary of the City of Seaside and County of Monterey, California (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 031-052-002-000 and 031-152-005-000)

CEQA Lead Agency: California Department of Veterans Affairs

NEPA Lead Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), with the assistance from the Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division (DGS), is the lead agency responsible for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC) Project. The proposed project will receive federal funding and, therefore, a joint CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (CEQA/NEPA) document is being prepared, consisting of an EIR in satisfaction of CEQA and an Environmental Assessment (EA) in satisfaction of NEPA. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) is acting as lead agency in accordance with the requirements of NEPA.

Notice is hereby given that the State of California (State), the California Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division (DGS), on behalf of CalVet and the USDVA, is seeking written comment on the Draft EIR/EA on proposed project in accordance with CEQA and NEPA. The 45-day public review period will begin on April 16, 2019 and end on May 31, 2019. This review period is established for the purpose of receiving written comments on the accuracy and adequacy of the Draft EIR/EA together with other information relative to the environmental effect of the proposed project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would involve the adoption and implementation of the CCCVC 2015 Master Plan for the cemetery site and the construction and operation of Phase 2 of the CCCVC. The primary purpose of the CCCVC 2015 Master Plan is to create a comprehensive, long-term development plan that identifies and addresses all issues related to the development of the CCCVC. The 2015 Master Plan outlines a process and strategy for the implementation of the entire CCCVC, including utility constraints, architectural and design concepts, environmental issues, a signage plan, grading and geotechnical considerations, landscaping needs, phasing and associated cost estimates. The 2015 Master Plan includes a phased approach to build-out that would serve the anticipated needs of veterans for the next hundred years. As a result, the full build-out of the 2015 Master Plan is analyzed in the EIR/EA at a programmatic level. Phase 2 of the 2015 Master Plan is anticipated to be constructed in late 2019/early 2020; therefore, it is analyzed at project level in the EIR/EA. Phase 2 would include the development of approximately 4.4 acres adjacent to the existing Phase 1 development. The purpose of Phase 2 of the 2015 Master Plan is to accommodate burials anticipated for the next 10 years. Phase 2 would include burial facilities of both in-ground cremains and crypts, as well as supporting roads and infrastructure and two memorial walls.

ADDRESSES WHERE A COPY OF THE DRAFT EIR/EA IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW:

Monterey County Public Library
Seaside Branch
550 Harcourt Avenue
Seaside, California 93955

California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery
Administrative Building
2900 Parker Flats Cut-Off Road
Seaside, California 93955

THE DRAFT EIR/EA CAN ALSO BE FOUND ONLINE AT:

Project Website: <https://www.cccvcproject.com/resources>

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: April 16, 2019 THROUGH May 31, 2019

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The Draft EIR/EA identifies impacts in the following resource areas that are either less than significant or are potentially significant but can be mitigated to a less-than-significant level: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural and Tribal Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Public Services, Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice, Transportation, Utilities and Service Systems.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The Draft EIR/EA did not identify any significant and unavoidable impacts.

QUESTIONS/INFORMATION:

Pursuant to the public participation goals of CEQA and NEPA, DGS will host a Public Meeting during the public review period to discuss the environmental analysis conducted and presented in the EIR/EA. Interested parties, including public agencies, are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more about the proposed project and the environmental review process, to express any concerns about the proposed project, and offer suggestions regarding the environmental impacts, including any mitigation measures and alternatives. The date, time, and location of the scoping meeting are listed below.

Date: May 14, 2019
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Location: Community Center at Soper Field
220 Coe Avenue
Seaside, CA 93955

The meeting will be in an open house format. Agencies and individuals may attend the scoping meeting at any time to obtain information on the proposed project, ask questions of project team members, and provide comments. Comment forms will be available for those who wish to submit written comments during or following the meeting. Prepared written comments will be accepted during the meeting, as well as throughout the 45-day public review period.

Comments can be provided in two ways: 1) by U.S. mail, or 2) by electronic mail (email). Comments provided by email should include “**CCCVC Project Draft EIR/EA Comments**” in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter should be contained in the body of the email.

Please send all comments via mail to:

Terry Ash, Senior Environmental Planner
Department of General Services, Real Estate Division
Project Management and Development Branch, Environmental Services
947 Cass Street, Suite 5, Monterey, CA 93940

OR via email to:

cccvcproject@ddaplanning.com
(subject line: “**CCCVC Project Draft EIR/EA Comments**”)