

filed 8/29/14

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
ROOM 395, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LEAD CITY AGENCY
City of Los Angeles

COUNCIL DISTRICT
CD 4 - TOM LABONGE

PROJECT TITLE
ENV-2014-2105-MND

CASE NO.

PROJECT LOCATION
1540 N SKYLARK LANE

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of the demolition of an existing 3,126 square foot, 53-year old, single family dwelling and pool; and the construction of a 3,700 square foot single family dwelling, pool, garage, and retaining walls with 5 parking spaces, on a lot with an area of 29,306 square feet. There are 10 existing trees currently on site, 1 will be removed.

As proposed, the project requires an approval of a haul route to permit the importing/exporting of 2,087 cubic yards of soil.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN CITY AGENCY

Thomas Dumary III
10960 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1510
Los Angeles, CA 90024

FINDING:

The City Planning Department of the City of Los Angeles has Proposed that a mitigated negative declaration be adopted for this project because the mitigation measure(s) outlined on the attached page(s) will reduce any potential significant adverse effects to a level of insignificance

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

SEE ATTACHED SHEET(S) FOR ANY MITIGATION MEASURES IMPOSED.

Any written comments received during the public review period are attached together with the response of the Lead City Agency. The project decision-maker may adopt the mitigated negative declaration, amend it, or require preparation of an EIR. Any changes made should be supported by substantial evidence in the record and appropriate findings made.

THE INITIAL STUDY PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT IS ATTACHED.

NAME OF PERSON PREPARING THIS FORM

TITLE

TELEPHONE NUMBER

NICOLE SANCHEZ

Planning Assistant

(213) 978-3034

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE (Official)

DATE

200 N. SPRING STREET, 7th FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012



08/21/14

I-30. Aesthetics (Hillside Site Design, Undeveloped Site)

- Environmental impacts, such as alteration of existing or natural terrain may result from project implementation. However, these impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
- Grading shall be kept to a minimum.
- Natural features, such as prominent knolls or ridge lines, shall be preserved.
- The project shall comply with the City's Hillside Development Guidelines.

I-120. Aesthetics (Light)

- Environmental impacts to the adjacent residential properties may result due to excessive illumination on the project site. However, the potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
- Outdoor lighting shall be designed and installed with shielding, such that the light source cannot be seen from adjacent residential properties or the public right-of-way.

I-130. Aesthetics (Glare)

- Environmental impacts to adjacent residential properties may result from glare from the proposed project. However, the potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
- The exterior of the proposed structure shall be constructed of materials such as, but not limited to, high-performance and/or non-reflective tinted glass (no mirror-like tints or films) and pre-cast concrete or fabricated wall surfaces to minimize glare and reflected heat.

III-10. Air Pollution (Demolition, Grading, and Construction Activities)

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- All unpaved demolition and construction areas shall be wetted at least twice daily during excavation and construction, and temporary dust covers shall be used to reduce dust emissions and meet SCAQMD District Rule 403. Wetting could reduce fugitive dust by as much as 50 percent.
- The construction area shall be kept sufficiently dampened to control dust caused by grading and hauling, and at all times provide reasonable control of dust caused by wind.
- All clearing, earth moving, or excavation activities shall be discontinued during periods of high winds (i.e., greater than 15 mph), so as to prevent excessive amounts of dust.
- All dirt/soil loads shall be secured by trimming, watering or other appropriate means to prevent spillage and dust.
- All dirt/soil materials transported off-site shall be either sufficiently watered or securely covered to prevent excessive amount of dust.
- General contractors shall maintain and operate construction equipment so as to minimize exhaust emissions.
- Trucks having no current hauling activity shall not idle but be turned off.

IV-70. Tree Removal (Non-Protected Trees)

- Environmental impacts from project implementation may result due to the loss of significant trees on the site. However, the potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
- Prior to the issuance of any permit, a plot plan shall be prepared indicating the location, size, type, and general condition of all existing trees on the site and within the adjacent public right(s)-of-way.
- All significant (8-inch or greater trunk diameter, or cumulative trunk diameter if multi-trunked, as measured 54 inches above the ground) non-protected trees on the site proposed for removal shall be replaced at a 1:1 ratio with a minimum 24-inch box tree. Net, new trees, located within the parkway of the adjacent public right(s)-of-way, may be counted toward replacement tree requirements.
- Removal or planting of any tree in the public right-of-way requires approval of the Board of Public Works. Contact Urban Forestry Division at: 213-847-3077. All trees in the public right-of-way shall be provided per the current standards of the Urban Forestry Division the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services.

IV-80. Tree Removal (Locally Protected Species)

- Environmental impacts may result due to the loss of protected trees on the site. However, these potential impacts will be mitigated to less than significant level by the following measures:
- All protected tree removals require approval from the Board of Public Works.
- A Tree Report shall be submitted to the Urban Forestry Division of the Bureau of Street Services, Department of Public Works, for review and approval (213-847-3077), prior to implementation of the Report's recommended measures.

- A minimum of two trees (a minimum of 48-inch box in size if available) shall be planted for each protected tree that is removed. The canopy of the replacement trees, at the time they are planted, shall be in proportion to the canopies of the protected tree(s) removed and shall be to the satisfaction of the Urban Forestry Division.
- The location of trees planted for the purposes of replacing a removed protected tree shall be clearly indicated on the required landscape plan, which shall also indicate the replacement tree species and further contain the phrase "Replacement Tree" in its description.
- Bonding (Tree Survival):
- a. The applicant shall post a cash bond or other assurances acceptable to the Bureau of Engineering in consultation with the Urban Forestry Division and the decision maker guaranteeing the survival of trees required to be maintained, replaced or relocated in such a fashion as to assure the existence of continuously living trees for a minimum of three years from the date that the bond is posted or from the date such trees are replaced or relocated, whichever is longer. Any change of ownership shall require that the new owner post a new oak tree bond to the satisfaction of the Bureau of Engineering. Subsequently, the original owner's oak tree bond may be exonerated.
- b. The City Engineer shall use the provisions of Section 17.08 as its procedural guide in satisfaction of said bond requirements and processing. Prior to exoneration of the bond, the owner of the property shall provide evidence satisfactory to the City Engineer and Urban Forestry Division that the oak trees were properly replaced, the date of the replacement and the survival of the replacement trees for a period of three years.

V-20. Cultural Resources (Archaeological)

- Environmental impacts may result from project implementation due to discovery of unrecorded archaeological resources. However, the potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
- If any archaeological materials are encountered during the course of project development, all further development activity shall halt and:
- The services of an archaeologist shall then be secured by contacting the South Central Coastal Information Center (657-278-5395) located at California State University Fullerton, or a member of the Society of Professional Archaeologist (SOPA) or a SOPA-qualified archaeologist, who shall assess the discovered material(s) and prepare a survey, study or report evaluating the impact.
- The archaeologist's survey, study or report shall contain a recommendation(s), if necessary, for the preservation, conservation, or relocation of the resource.
- The applicant shall comply with the recommendations of the evaluating archaeologist, as contained in the survey, study or report.
- Project development activities may resume once copies of the archaeological survey, study or report are submitted to: SCCIC Department of Anthropology, McCarthy Hall 477, CSU Fullerton, 800 North State College Boulevard, Fullerton, CA 92834.
- Prior to the issuance of any building permit, the applicant shall submit a letter to the case file indicating what, if any, archaeological reports have been submitted, or a statement indicating that no material was discovered.
- A covenant and agreement binding the applicant to this condition shall be recorded prior to issuance of a grading permit.

V-30. Cultural Resources (Paleontological)

- Environmental impacts may result from project implementation due to discovery of unrecorded paleontological resources. However, the potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
- If any paleontological materials are encountered during the course of project development, all further development activities shall halt and:
- a. The services of a paleontologist shall then be secured by contacting the Center for Public Paleontology - USC, UCLA, California State University Los Angeles, California State University Long Beach, or the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum - who shall assess the discovered material(s) and prepare a survey, study or report evaluating the impact.
- b. The paleontologist's survey, study or report shall contain a recommendation(s), if necessary, for the preservation, conservation, or relocation of the resource.
- c. The applicant shall comply with the recommendations of the evaluating paleontologist, as contained in the survey, study or report.
- d. Project development activities may resume once copies of the paleontological survey, study or report are submitted to the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum.
- Prior to the issuance of any building permit, the applicant shall submit a letter to the case file indicating what, if any, paleontological reports have been submitted, or a statement indicating that no material was discovered.

- A covenant and agreement binding the applicant to this condition shall be recorded prior to issuance of a grading permit.

V-40. Cultural Resources (Human Remains)

- Environmental impacts may result from project implementation due to discovery of unrecorded human remains.
- In the event that human remains are discovered during excavation activities, the following procedure shall be observed:
 - a. Stop immediately and contact the County Coroner: 1104 N. Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA 90033. 323-343-0512 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) or 323-343-0714 (After Hours, Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays)
 - b. The coroner has two working days to examine human remains after being notified by the responsible person. If the remains are Native American, the Coroner has 24 hours to notify the Native American Heritage Commission.
 - c. The Native American Heritage Commission will immediately notify the person it believes to be the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American.
 - d. The most likely descendent has 48 hours to make recommendations to the owner, or representative, for the treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the human remains and grave goods.
 - e. If the descendent does not make recommendations within 48 hours the owner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from further disturbance, or;
 - f. If the owner does not accept the descendant's recommendations, the owner or the descendent may request mediation by the Native American Heritage Commission.
- *Discuss and confer* means the meaningful and timely discussion careful consideration of the views of each party.

VI-10. Seismic

- Environmental impacts to the safety of future occupants may result due to the project's location in an area of potential seismic activity. However, this potential impact will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
 - The design and construction of the project shall conform to the California Building Code seismic standards as approved by the Department of Building and Safety.

VI-20. Erosion/Grading/Short-Term Construction Impacts

- Short-term erosion impacts may result from the construction of the proposed project. However, these impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
 - The applicant shall provide a staked signage at the site with a minimum of 3-inch lettering containing contact information for the Senior Street Use Inspector (Department of Public Works), the Senior Grading Inspector (LADBS) and the hauling or general contractor.
 - Chapter IX, Division 70 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code addresses grading, excavations, and fills. All grading activities require grading permits from the Department of Building and Safety. Additional provisions are required for grading activities within Hillside areas. The application of BMPs includes but is not limited to the following mitigation measures:
 - a. Excavation and grading activities shall be scheduled during dry weather periods. If grading occurs during the rainy season (October 15 through April 1), diversion dikes shall be constructed to channel runoff around the site. Channels shall be lined with grass or roughened pavement to reduce runoff velocity.
 - b. Stockpiles, excavated, and exposed soil shall be covered with secured tarps, plastic sheeting, erosion control fabrics, or treated with a bio-degradable soil stabilizer.

VI-50. Geotechnical Report

- - Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report, prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, to the Department of Building and Safety, for review and approval. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any soil strength loss, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity, and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include, but are not limited to: ground stabilization, selection of appropriate foundation type and depths, selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures.
 - The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.

VI-60. Landslide Area

- Environmental impacts may result due to the proposed project's location in an area with landslide potential. However, these potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measures:
- Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report, prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, to the Department of Building and Safety, for review and approval. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any landslide and soil displacement, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity, and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include, but are not limited to: ground stabilization, selection of appropriate foundation type and depths, selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures.
- The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.

VII-10. Green House Gas Emissions

- The project will result in impacts resulting in increased green house gas emissions. However, the impact can be reduced to a less than significant level through compliance with the following measure(s):
- Only low- and non-VOC-containing paints, sealants, adhesives, and solvents shall be utilized in the construction of the project.

VIII-10. Explosion/Release (Existing Toxic/Hazardous Construction Materials)

- Due to the age of the building(s) being demolished, toxic and/or hazardous construction materials may be located in the structure(s). Exposure to such materials during demolition or construction activities could be hazardous to the health of the demolition workers, as well as area residents, employees, and future occupants. However, these impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
- **(Asbestos)** Prior to the issuance of any permit for the demolition or alteration of the existing structure(s), the applicant shall provide a letter to the Department of Building and Safety from a qualified asbestos abatement consultant indicating that no Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACM) are present in the building. If ACMs are found to be present, it will need to be abated in compliance with the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Rule 1403 as well as all other applicable State and Federal rules and regulations.
- **(Lead Paint)** Prior to issuance of any permit for the demolition or alteration of the existing structure(s), a lead-based paint survey shall be performed to the written satisfaction of the Department of Building and Safety. Should lead-based paint materials be identified, standard handling and disposal practices shall be implemented pursuant to OSHA regulations.
- **(Polychlorinated Biphenyl – Commercial and Industrial Buildings)** Prior to issuance of a demolition permit, a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) abatement contractor shall conduct a survey of the project site to identify and assist with compliance with applicable state and federal rules and regulation governing PCB removal and disposal.

VIII-40. Hillside Construction Staging and Parking Plan

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- Prior to the issuance of a grading or building permit, the applicant shall submit a Construction Staging and Parking Plan to the Department of Building and Safety and the Fire Department for review and approval. The plan shall identify where all construction materials, equipment, and vehicles will be stored through the construction phase of the project, as well as where contractor, subcontractor, and laborers will park their vehicles so as to prevent blockage of two-way traffic on streets in the vicinity of the construction site. The Construction Staging and Parking Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- No construction equipment or material shall be permitted to be stored within the public right-of-way.
- If the property fronts on a designated Red Flag Street, on noticed "Red Flag" days, all the workers shall be shuttled from an off-site area, located on a non-Red Flag Street, to and from the site in order to keep roads open on Red Flag days.
- During the Excavation and Grading phases, only one truck hauler shall be allowed on the site at any one time. The drivers shall be required to follow the designated travel plan or approved Haul Route.
- Truck traffic directed to the project site for the purpose of delivering materials, construction-machinery, or removal of graded soil shall be limited to off-peak traffic hours, Monday through Friday only. No truck deliveries shall be permitted on Saturdays or Sundays.
- All deliveries during construction shall be coordinated so that only one vendor/delivery vehicle is at the site at one time, and that a construction supervisor is present at such time.
- A radio operator shall be on-site to coordinate the movement of material and personnel, in order to keep the roads open for emergency vehicles, their apparatus, and neighbors.

- During all phases of construction, all construction vehicle parking and queuing related to the project shall be as required to the satisfaction of the Department of Building and Safety, and in substantial compliance with the Construction Staging and Parking Plan, except as may be modified by the Department of Building and Safety or the Fire Department.

VIII-70. Emergency Evacuation Plan

- Environmental impacts may result from project implementation due to possible interference with an emergency response plan. However, these potential impacts will be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
- Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall develop an emergency response plan in consultation with the Fire Department. The emergency response plan shall include but not be limited to the following: mapping of emergency exits, evacuation routes for vehicles and pedestrians, location of nearest hospitals, and fire departments.

IX-20. Stormwater Pollution (Demolition, Grading, and Construction Activities)

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- Sediment carries with it other work-site pollutants such as pesticides, cleaning solvents, cement wash, asphalt, and car fluids that are toxic to sea life.
- Leaks, drips and spills shall be cleaned up immediately to prevent contaminated soil on paved surfaces that can be washed away into the storm drains.
- All vehicle/equipment maintenance, repair, and washing shall be conducted away from storm drains. All major repairs shall be conducted off-site. Drip pans or drop clothes shall be used to catch drips and spills.
- Pavement shall not be hosed down at material spills. Dry cleanup methods shall be used whenever possible.
- Dumpsters shall be covered and maintained. Uncovered dumpsters shall be placed under a roof or be covered with tarps or plastic sheeting.

XII-20. Increased Noise Levels (Demolition, Grading, and Construction Activities)

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- The project shall comply with the City of Los Angeles Noise Ordinance No. 144,331 and 161,574, and any subsequent ordinances, which prohibit the emission or creation of noise beyond certain levels at adjacent uses unless technically infeasible.
- Construction and demolition shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday, and 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturday.
- Demolition and construction activities shall be scheduled so as to avoid operating several pieces of equipment simultaneously, which causes high noise levels.
- The project contractor shall use power construction equipment with state-of-the-art noise shielding and muffling devices.

XVI-30. Transportation (Haul Route)

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- The developer shall install appropriate traffic signs around the site to ensure pedestrian and vehicle safety.
- **(Non-Hillside):** Projects involving the import/export of 20,000 cubic yards or more of dirt shall obtain haul route approval by the Department of Building and Safety.
- **(Hillside and Subdivisions):** Projects involving the import/export of 1,000 cubic yards or more of dirt shall obtain haul route approval by the Department of Building and Safety.
- **(Hillside Projects):**
- All haul route hours shall be limited to off-peak hours as determined by Board of Building and Safety Commissioners.
- The Department of Transportation shall recommend to the Building and Safety Commission Office the appropriate size of trucks allowed for hauling, best route of travel, the appropriate number of flag people.
- The Department of Building and Safety shall stagger haul trucks based upon a specific area's capacity, as determined by the Department of Transportation, and the amount of soil proposed to be hauled to minimize cumulative traffic and congestion impacts.
- The applicant shall be limited to no more than two trucks at any given time within the site's staging area.

XVI-50. Inadequate Emergency Access

- Environmental impacts may result from project implementation due to inadequate emergency access. However, these impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level by the following measure:
- The applicant shall submit a parking and driveway plan to the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Transportation for approval that provides code-required emergency access.