



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Armando Quintero, Director

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November 30, 2022

VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA_2022_1101_001

Mr. Jonathan Ikan
Center Cultural Resources Manager
NASA Ames Research Center
Mail Stop 213-8
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Subject: Minor Projects at Moffett Federal Airfield, Hangar 2 / Hangar 3 Precinct, Santa Clara County

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the November 1, 2022, letter initiating consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306108), as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. Along with the letter, NASA submitted a Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Report prepared by Environmental Science Associates (ESA) dated August 2022.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves a limited set of improvements at the eastern portion of the Eastside Airfield area of MFA, consisting of three small utility projects in the vicinity of Hangars 2 and 3.

Project 1 – Hangar 2 [REDACTED] Communications Conduit

Project 1 would connect Hangar 2 to the existing telecommunications conduits [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Project 2 – Hangar 2 [REDACTED] Conduit

Project 2 would be [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Average HDD bore depth would be approximately 3 feet below grade, but could be up to 15 feet below grade. An excavator would be used to break through and remove concrete to open a hole for HDD boring. Following completion of HDD boring and conduit installation, the hole would be backfilled and repaved to match existing grade and surface. If dewatering is required at the manholes, water would be tested and would be pumped into the sanitary sewer if quality is acceptable, or off-hauled for safe disposal.

Project 3 – California Air National Guard (CAANG) Airside Switch

Project 3 would install new switchgear [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. The switchgear would consist of a new 15kV selector switch housed inside an [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Following completion of HDD boring and utility installation, excavations would be backfilled and repaved to match existing grade and surface. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] no ground disturbance would occur in this location. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NASA identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking that encompasses areas that may be affected by both temporary and permanent construction activities. The APE is located within the NRHP-listed U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California (NAS Sunnyvale) Historic District, but does not include the entire boundary of the district due to the project's limited scale. The APE includes all areas of proposed ground-disturbing activity, including the entirety of the three project footprints and 50-foot buffer around those footprints to account for staging and construction access. The APE consists of approximately 2.3 acres. Depth of ground disturbance may change as the undertaking is developed, but most trenching will occur to a depth of 3 feet and would not exceed 6 feet. Average HDD bore depth would be

approximately 3 feet below grade, but could be up to 15 feet below grade. The vertical APE extends up to 15 feet below grade for a maximum depth.

No known archaeological resources are in the project footprint; in addition, the APE is in an area of low archaeological sensitivity. The APE contains several contributors to the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District, including Hangars 2 and 3 (also individually eligible), Building 55, and East MF1002 (Aircraft Parking Apron).

NASA determined that only Project 1 would involve any physical alteration to one of the contributors to the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. The physical alterations to Hangar 2 involved in Project 1 are extremely minor in the overall scale of Hangar 2 and the larger NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. The creation of the entry point into Hangar 2 is necessary to maintain the use of the building. The project activities discussed above for the three minor projects would not diminish the integrity of any of the significant characteristics of Hangar 2, Hangar 3, Building 55, East MF1002, or the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. Furthermore, no archaeological resources are known to exist in the APE. The area is extensively disturbed and previously surveyed with no evidence of cultural materials or sites. If any materials are discovered during construction, all work will cease and the NASA ARC Inadvertent Discovery Policy, Standard Operating Procedure 8 in the ICRMP, will be followed. Based on this assessment, NASA ARC has made a finding that the undertaking will result in No Adverse Effect.

After reviewing the information submitted, the SHPO offers the following comments.

- This project qualifies as an undertaking with the potential to affect historic properties.
- The APE is sufficient to take direct and indirect effects of the undertaking into account.
- Identification and evaluation efforts are sufficient for this consultation.
- The SHPO has no objection to the proposed Finding of No Adverse Effect.
- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, NASA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact State Historian Mark Beason, at (916) 445-7047 or mark.beason@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer