



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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October 28, 2022

VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA_2022_0929_001

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

Subject: Moffett Federal Airfield Fleet Maintenance Facility Project, Santa Clara County

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the September 28, 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 technical Section 106 report prepared by Stantec dated September 14, 2022.

The proposed undertaking, as described, involves a limited set of improvements at the eastern portion of the Eastside Airfield area of MFA. These improvements involve an expanded maintenance facility for the Google bus fleet, consisting of new tents and trailers like the existing tents and trailers on the site, as well as associated parking enhancements and utility upgrades.

The project site currently includes four maintenance tents and office trailers installed in 2018. The undertaking would add four new maintenance tents near the existing bus surface parking lot, a prefabricated bus washing building, an expanded trailer complex, expanded bus and private vehicle parking, and utility connections. The existing tents and office trailers may also be retrofitted as part of the FMF for seismic load and utilities connections. Installation of these features will include limited ground disturbance.

NASA identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking that encompasses includes the project footprint in the Eastside Airfield area and the expanded NAS Sunnyvale Historic District and additional areas. The area with the

potential for direct physical effects is limited to the project footprint, defined by the area where work is occurring. The vertical APE extends approximately 8 feet below grade, which accounts for any utility upgrades in the project footprint.

No known archaeological resources are located within the project footprint; however, a small portion of the project footprint to the northeast is within an area of heightened historic-era archaeological sensitivity. The APE contains several contributors to the National Register-listed U.S. Naval Air Station Sunnyvale, California (NAS Sunnyvale) Historic District, including East MF 1002 (Aircraft Parking Apron), which is in the project footprint, and others within the immediate vicinity of the bus fleet maintenance facility (FMF), including Hangar 3 (individually eligible) and Building 69.

The Undertaking will result in some alterations to East MF1002 (Aircraft Parking Apron), including installation of utilities and painting of striping for the expanded parking. Disturbance from utility installation will be restored to match pre-project conditions upon completion of construction, painted striping would not physically alter the gridded surface of MF1002, and minor alterations caused by the Undertaking would not affect the historic character or integrity of MF1002 or the spatial or visual relationships among the contributing elements to the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District. The components of the FMF are removable, and the current Undertaking continues and extends use of the area with the same type of prefabricated, removable structures.

No archaeological resources are known to exist in the APE. Although this area is extensively disturbed and previously surveyed with no evidence of cultural materials or sites, NASA acknowledges that potential materials may be extant and an archaeology monitor will be present during construction activities in the areas that overlap with, and are adjacent to, the identified area of archaeological sensitivity. 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 upon this analysis, NASA determined that the undertaking d have No Adverse Effect to historic properties. 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.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer