

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment Hurricane Sandy Proposed Recapitalization Project Rebuild USCG Station Sandy Hook, New Jersey

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) intends to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposal to rebuild shore facilities at Station Sandy Hook, New Jersey, pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and the Coast Guard's NEPA implementing procedures (COMDTINST M16475.1D). The EA will also fulfill the requirement for project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 CFR Part 800). The 2013 Disaster Assistance Supplemental Act (P.L. 113-2) appropriated funds to rebuild USCG shore facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and to prevent damage from future storms by replacing damaged facilities with those that are hurricane and flood resilient.

Proposed Action: The USCG proposes to repair and rebuild structures at the waterfront at USCG Station Sandy Hook, including repairs or replacement of the wharf, piers, breakwaters, floating docks, groin, utilities, and boat ramp to return them to pre-Hurricane Sandy conditions. The boat basin will also be dredged. The existing non-historic Multi-Mission Station Building (MMB) will be demolished and a new storm-resistant MMB will be constructed. A new Boat Maintenance Facility (BMF) will be constructed and the existing non-historic BMF will be demolished. The existing Small Arms Firing Range (SAFR) will be demolished and a new indoor SAFR constructed. The new SAFR will include space for administrative functions, classroom space, toilet/shower rooms, virtual range, ammunition/weapon storage, and facility support spaces. It will serve all USCG units located in the Sector New York Area of Operations (AOR) and will have the capacity to serve operational partners. Damaged non-historic housing units may also be demolished. Building 103 (Exchange/ESD) is also proposed for demolition to allow room for new construction. USCG will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to avoid and/or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties at the site. The Proposed Action includes options to construct additional housing and a combined Exchange and Community Center.

Alternatives will be evaluated by the USCG in the EA, including the No Action Alternative and the above-described Proposed Action. The USCG may consider other reasonable alternatives identified during the public scoping process.

The EA will describe the need for the project, the alternatives, and the environmental impacts of the alternatives. The EA will also contain a comparative analysis of the alternatives, a statement of the environmental significance of the impacts of the alternatives, and a list of the agencies and persons consulted during EA preparation. The EA will serve as a concise public document to briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining the need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Public Scoping Period: The Coast Guard is seeking public input on the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. Please submit your written comments by October 20, 2013, via USPS mail, fax, or electronic mail to:

Lynn Keller, EI, PMP
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
USCG SILC EMD (det) Oakland
1301 Clay Street, Suite 700N
Oakland, CA 94612
510-637-5513 (fax)
Lynn.M.Keller@uscg.mil