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# memorandum

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to Jeanie Poling, Environmental Coordinator, San Francisco Planning Department

cc

from Chris Sanchez, Senior Technical Associate; Susan Yogi, Project Manager

subject Proposed Noise Monitoring Locations for Balboa Reservoir Project

As stated in our approved scope of work for the Balboa Reservoir Project Noise and Vibration Technical Analysis (dated September 2018), ESA will collect both long-term and short-term noise monitoring of the project site and surrounding sensitive land uses. This memorandum identifies six proposed noise monitoring locations to establish existing noise levels in the project area. The purpose of the noise monitoring data to be collected, beyond establishing the baseline for CEQA analysis, is also to inform the impact assessment process specific to construction noise impacts (i.e, what would be the temporary increase in noise levels compared to those existing without the project), land use compatibility determinations for proposed residential and child care uses (not necessarily an impact under CEQA), and to calibrate/verify the assessment of roadway noise predicted by modeling.

The proposed locations are enumerated below with detail on why each location is proposed. Locations are depicted in **Figure 1, Proposed Noise Monitoring Locations**. ESA's scope of work assumes up to two long-term and four short-term monitoring locations.

## Long-Term Monitoring Locations

Long-term monitoring locations were selected to provide a spectrum of noise across the project site with distance from the predominant noise source: vehicle traffic on Ocean Avenue. Long-term monitoring locations are generally used to determine the DNL noise metric which is used for the purposes of assessing land use compatibility of the proposed project. They are also useful for demonstrating the temporal variations in noise over a 24-hour period and indicating peak noise generating periods which can differ at sites such as Balboa Reservoir that are proximate to a high school with mid-afternoon dismissal and a community college which offers many night classes.

- **Monitoring Location LT-1:** Northwest corner of project site. Location LT-1 represents the area of the project site furthest from Ocean Avenue. It also represents the noise environment of the nearest residential receptors on Plymouth Avenue.

- **Monitoring Location LT-2:** Southwest corner of the project site. Location LT-2 represents the area of the project site closest to Ocean Avenue. It also represents the noise environment of the nearest single-family residential receptors on Plymouth Avenue as well as the 1150 Ocean Avenue development to the south of the site.

## Short-Term Monitoring Locations

Short-term monitoring is useful for establishing daytime noise levels when most, if not all, of the construction activity would occur. Short-term data can also be useful for calibration of the traffic model used to determine roadway noise impacts.

- **Monitoring Location ST-1:** South border of Archbishop Riordan High School. This location was selected based on the fact that high school classrooms could be considered a noise sensitive land use. Not only could classrooms be exposed to temporary noise from construction activity but the roadway south of these classrooms would be used by vehicles for site access.
- **Monitoring Location ST-2:** Lee Avenue Access Point. This location was selected based on the fact that Lee Avenue would be a primary access point for by vehicles for site access. Additionally, the adjacent 1100 and 1150 Ocean Avenue developments represent a sensitive receptor. This location is also an egress point for Whole Foods Market and may already experience elevated noise levels.
- **Monitoring Location ST-3:** City College Multi-Use Building. While college campuses are generally not considered a noise-sensitive receptor, unlike elementary and high schools, they do include classroom uses. The Multi-Use Building is the nearest City College building to the project site. It is also adjacent to Frida Kahlo Way which would be one of the access routes into the project site for vehicle traffic.
- **Monitoring Location ST-4:** Terminus of San Ramon Way. This is a mid-point location of sensitive receptors along the western project boundary.

The above identified proposed noise monitoring locations are submitted for your review and approval prior to commencement of monitoring which should be conducted prior to the holidays and less favorable weather. Please contact Chris Sanchez or Susan Yogi should you have questions or wish to suggest alternative locations.