



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

Armando Quintero, Director

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer

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March 28, 2024

Refer to HRSA_2024_0215_001

Mr. Adam Down
Mental Health Project Manager
Contra Costa County Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553-4825

Re: Request for Section 106 Review of HRSA funded project to renovate buildings for Oak Grove Mental Health Facility, 1034 Oak Grove Road, Concord, CA. Contra Costa County project #WH380A.

Dear Mr. Down:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) received the consultation submittal for the above referenced undertaking for our review and comment pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The regulations and advisory materials are located at www.achp.gov. In a response to your initial letter, the SHPO responded requesting clarification on Contra Costa County's delineation of the APE. Izaak Tompkins responded by email on March 18, 2024, providing that information.

Undertaking

The proposed project will renovate two existing building interiors, improve exterior facades, and will involve utility relocations and a stormwater treatment bioswale.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Contra Costa County delineated the APE as a 1.43 acre site where the two buildings will be renovated, and where utility relocation (trenching), and storm drain improvement may occur.

- Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1), I have no comments on Contra Costa County's APE.

Identification of Historic Properties

Contra Costa County's efforts to identify historic properties included a records search at Northwest Information Center, a pedestrian archaeological survey, and consultation with Native Americans. The records search indicated that no sites had been previously recorded within the project's APE. A cultural resources pedestrian survey conducted by HELIX did not identify any potential archaeological properties, and identified one potential architectural historic property, a building constructed between 1964 and 1966, that was evaluated for inclusion in the NRHP.

Contra Costa County received a Sacred Lands File search report on the APE from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) that was *negative*. In the course of Tribal notification to Native American groups identified by the NAHC, Contra Costa County consulted with Wilton Rancheria and agreed to have a representative of Wilton Rancheria give a Cultural Awareness Training to on-site staff and the construction crew before the commencement of construction activities.

Determination of Eligibility to the NRHP

- Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(c)(2), Contra Costa County determined that the building at 1034 Oak Grove Road, Concord, CA, built from 1964-1966, is not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A-D. **I concur.**

Finding of Effect

- Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1), Contra Costa County has made a finding of No Historic Properties Affected. **I do not object.**

We appreciate Contra Costa County's efforts to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and look forward to continuing this consultation. If you have questions please contact Susan Negrete, State Historian II, with the Local Government & Environmental Compliance Unit at susan.negrete@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J Polanco', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Adam Down, adam.down@cchealth.org



Contra Costa County
Public Works
Department

Brian M. Balbas, Director

Deputy Directors
Stephen Kowalewski, Chief
Allison Knapp
Warren Lai
Carrie Ricci
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February 15, 2024

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

RE: Request for Section 106 Consultation
Oak Grove Mental Health Facility Renovation
1034 Oak Grove Road, Concord, Contra Costa County
County Project Number: WH380A
Federal Identification Number: CE146542

Dear Ms. Polanco,

The Contra Costa County Public Works Department, Environmental Services Division (County), on behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and its local agency representative Contra Costa Health Services, is requesting consultation of a new undertaking under 36 CFR 800 for the renovation of vacant buildings located at 1034 Oak Grove Road in Concord, Contra Costa County for a mental health facility (project location map attached).

The request is a condition of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services federal grant (Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending) for construction projects that will serve as lead for Section 106 compliance, although responsibility has been officially delegated to Contra Costa County (delegation letter attached).

The undertaking complies with NEPA by the nationwide Programmatic Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (Renovation, Expansion, New Construction, and Improvements to Existing Medical Center Facilities [Nationwide], November 2010, HRSA) but stipulates a historic evaluation for renovations of buildings over 50 years old (attached).

"Accredited by the American Public Works Association"

255 Glacier Drive Martinez, CA 94553-4825

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Contact Information

Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
Djuana D Gibson, Grants Management Specialist
Office of Federal Assistance Management, Division of Grants Management Office
dgibson@hrsa.gov
(301) 443-3243

Agency Representative:

Adam Down, MH Project Manager
Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services
adam.down@cchealth.org
(925) 348-6839

Description of Undertaking and Area of Potential Effects (APE)

The approximate 1.5-acre parcel consists of two buildings, paved parking lot, landscaping and recreation areas. The buildings were constructed at different times: the larger building was constructed and expanded between 1959 and 1966, and the smaller building was constructed sometime between 1993 and 2002. The interior and exterior of the buildings will be renovated which includes structural reinforcement, new electrical work, new HVAC equipment, and exterior façade improvements.

The project also includes landscaping and utility improvements such as irrigation and lighting systems, tree removals/replacements, utility relocations, fencing, and stormwater treatment bioswale as well as replacement of the existing sidewalks to meet current ADA standards and resurfacing the existing parking lot. Ground disturbance includes a total of approximately 1,550 linear feet at varying widths up to 18 inches wide and depths up to 5 feet deep for the landscape and utility improvements. On-site storm drain improvement may occur in the existing parking lot along the north side of the parcel which would include a trench of approximately 400 linear feet, 20 inches wide and up to 8 feet deep. The project may also require off-site ground disturbances up to 7 feet below Oak Grove Road for sewer (approximately 40 linear feet, 18 inches wide) and storm drain improvements (approximately 85 linear feet, 24 inches wide) depending on the health of existing infrastructure (APE map and improvement plans attached).

The aerial photograph review indicated that the APE appeared to be in agricultural use as early as 1946, including a building on-site; Oak Grove Road was already constructed. By 1958, the proposed project area was cleared of most of its trees, and the

aforementioned building appears to have been removed. Between 1959 and 1968, two buildings, a parking lot, a basketball court, and a small field were constructed on the project site; by 1979, the parcels surrounding the proposed project area to the north, south, east, and west are developed with residential uses. The on-site buildings appear in photographs until 2009. Conditions within the APE remained largely constant from at least 2009-2020.

Historical records review indicate that the property has been used for a skilled nursing facility from the mid-1950s until late 1980s when the use changed to residential psychiatric facility for adolescents and continued with similar uses until 2012 when the use changed to residential and day treatment programs for teens and young adults.

Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2024-2025.

We request your comments on the adequacy of the APE for this undertaking.

Identification of Historic Properties

A cultural resources assessment was conducted of the undertaking by the County's consultant, Helix Environmental Planning (HELIX), which included a historic resource evaluation of the buildings (attached) and summarized below:

Archival Research

A records search conducted at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) revealed that three cultural resource investigations have been conducted within a 0.25-mile radius of the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), and that one of these studies encompassed at least part of the currently proposed APE. Records at the NWIC also revealed that no cultural resources have been recorded within a 0.25-mile radius of the APE. Further details are included in Section 4 of the attached report.

Native American Consultation

A search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) indicated that there are no recorded occurrences of Native American sacred sites or human remains in the APE and vicinity. HELIX sent letters to 20 Native American contacts that were recommended by the NAHC as potential sources of information related to cultural resources in the APE and vicinity.

An email response was received on September 8, 2023, from the Confederated Villages of Lisjan Nation requesting a copy of the final CHRIS records search and draft Environmental Impact Report for this project, along with the SLF results and any additional archaeological reports. The attached cultural resources assessment report was submitted to the tribe on February 15, 2024.

An email response was received on September 15, 2023, from Wilton Rancheria confirming that the project is located within tribal ancestral and culturally affiliated territory but considering there would be no ground disturbance they would not like to share the exact details of these records. However, County staff realized that there will be ground disturbance for landscape and utility improvements, and therefore, the County followed up with Wilton Rancheria by email notifying them of this information along with the cultural resources assessment report and project plan sheets showing features that would result in ground disturbance. Based on this information, the tribe requested monitoring of ground disturbing activities. The County requested a meeting with the tribe to review the ground disturbance features which primarily consisted of trenching. On January 26, 2024, County and HELIX staff and the project architect and engineer representatives met with two members of the Wilton Rancheria to discuss project details. Considering the depths of trenches would average 3 feet up to a maximum of 5 feet, the tribe determined that monitoring would not be necessary but provided their Inadvertent Discovery Treatment Plan to include in the work protocol. While updating the cultural resources assessment report of this meeting and confirming ground disturbance details with the project engineer, it was learned that potential additional trench activities may occur up to 8 feet. The County notified the tribe of this additional information to determine if there were any concerns. The tribe responded that they be allowed to give a Cultural Awareness Training to on-site staff and construction crew at the kick-off/prior to construction. This concluded tribal consultation.

As of the date of this report, no other responses to the tribal outreach have been received.

Further details of the Native American consultation are included in Section 4.3 and Appendix C of the attached report.

Surveys

HELIX archaeologists surveyed the entirety of the APE. Ground visibility was poor (nearly 0%), as most of the area is a paved lot with two large buildings, a basketball court, and an athletic field. Survey of the APE revealed no visible native soil, with the entirety of the APE having been developed or landscaped. The survey did not identify any archaeological cultural resources within the APE. Further survey details are included in Section 5.0 of the attached report.

Historical Resources Evaluation

HELIX's Senior Architectural Historian conducted a historic resource evaluation of the larger building that was constructed and expanded between 1959 and 1966 to assess its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The smaller building is less than 50 years old; as such, it was not evaluated. Based on background research and the application of significance criteria, HELIX concluded that the larger building is **not** eligible for inclusion on either register. Further details of the historic resource evaluation are included in Section 6.0 of the attached report.

We request your comments on the historic property identification and evaluation work that was completed for the undertaking.

We also request your concurrence on the results of the NRHP evaluations.

Finding of Effect

Based on the above information, a No Historic Properties Affected finding applies to this undertaking.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at izaac.tompkins@pw.cccounty.us or (925) 812-7174. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Izaac Tompkins
Environmental Analyst I
Environmental Services Division

CG:

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Enclosures

- c: A. Down, Contra Costa Health
G. Mountain, Contra Costa Health
D. Strassmaier, Capital Projects
C. Gemberling, Environmental Services
L. Cremin, Environmental Services
L. Owing, HELIX
B. Siegel, HELIX

