

consistent with current building codes and safety practices.

Based on the information gathered during the preparation of the EA for the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Office of Job Corps finds that the location of a Job Corps Center at the former Verbeck Housing Complex on Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, will not cause any significant impact on the environment and, therefore, recommends that the project continue as proposed. This proposed action is not considered to be highly controversial.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 23rd day of December, 1994.

Peter E. Rell,

Director of Job Corps.

[FR Doc. 95-667 Filed 1-10-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

Job Corps: Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) For the New Job Corps Center in Homestead, FL

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center in Homestead, Florida.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Job Corps, in accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d), gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and the proposed plans for the establishment of a Job Corps Center at the Homestead Air Force Base, Homestead, Florida, will have no significant environment impact. Pursuant to 29 CFR 11.11(d)(1), this Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact will be made available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by February 10, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Any comment(s) are to be submitted to Lynn Kotecki, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20210, (202) 219-5468.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the EA and additional information are available to interested parties by contracting Mr. Melvin R. Collins, Director, Region IV (Four), Office of Job Corps, 1371 Peachtree

Street, NE., room 405, Atlanta, Georgia, (404) 347-3178.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this action is to add a Job Corps Center with 472 residential students to the Homestead area. The current buildings are adaptable for this purpose and offer the necessary facilities for the Job Corps program to provide basic education, vocational skills training, work experience, counseling, health care, and related support services. This new center will make constructive changes to existing Homestead Air Force Base facilities for dormitories, recreational, medical/dental, and administrative services, educational and vocational training, and storage space that is consistent with Job Corps guidelines and center needs.

The proposed sites, located in the former recreational area of the Homestead Air Force Base, is comprised of approximately thirty-five (35) acres in the center of the 2,900 acre Homestead Air Force Base. The proposed site is bisected by Bougainvillea Boulevard and bordered by St. Lo Boulevard to the south and east, and St. Mazaire Boulevard to the north. Twelve (12) buildings currently occupy the site. The propose site includes paved asphalt parking lots, concrete sidewalks, and grass areas.

The United States Air Force developed and utilized the Homestead Air Force Base from 1942-1945, and 1956-1992. During the course of World War II, the Homestead Air Force Base operated as a scheduled stopping point for air routes and a large training facility for fighter pilots. Due to a major hurricane that damaged much of the Homestead Air Force Base, it was unused by the military from 1946 through 1955. In 1955 many of the sections were rebuilt and the Homestead Air Force Base continued to operate as a training and tactical air force facility until August 24, 1992, when the Homestead Air Force Base was significantly damaged by the impact of Hurricane Andrew. The reuse of the Homestead Air Force Base, with a reduced military presence, has been proposed. Approximately one-third of the Homestead Air Force Base will be used for military reserve training. The remainder of the Homestead Air Force Base will be converted for other purposes, such as public parkland and projects like the Job Corps. Currently, the majority of the Homestead Air Force Base is unoccupied as a result of Hurricane Andrew. Having been used for military purposes only, the site is not currently zoned. As a direct transfer

to another Federal entity, rezoning will not be required.

The United States Air Force historically has used the proposed site for residential, recreational, and retail purposes. The majority of the buildings proposed for reuse were utilized for the same proposed purposes by the United States Air Force with the exception of Building 656, which was utilized for residential purposes; Building 902B, which was utilized for recreational purposes; and Building 914, which was utilized as the base exchange. Those buildings which are proposed for similar uses by the Job Corps include medical and dental offices for Building 656, administrative offices for Building 902B, and storage and vocational training for Building 914.

According to the 1990 census, 162,483 people resided in the South Dade area, including 26,866 in the city of Homestead and 5,806 in Florida City. The population in South Dade in 1990 was predominantly Caucasian (70%), with Hispanics representing the largest minority group (32%). The population of the South Dade area has decreased dramatically due to the impacts of Hurricane Andrew. Post-hurricane census information is not available at this time.

Ample community services are available in the South Dade area. Recreational facilities will be available at the site and a number of large parks are located within nine (9) miles of the Homestead Air Force Base. Power to the site is provided by the Florida Power & Light (FP&L) company. Telephone service is provided by Southern Bell Company.

The water and sewer is supplied by the Metro-Dade County Water and Sewer Authority. There is no solid waste disposal at the site. All non-hazardous solid waste is removed by contractors and taken off-site for disposal in the South Dade landfill. Police and fire protection, rescue and emergency services will be provided by Metro-Dade. The nearest hospital to the site is the SMH Homestead Hospital, located approximately three (3) miles to the west of the site. Because of abundant public, community, and emergency services in the Homestead area, the implementation of the Job Corps on the proposed site will not adversely impact the use of the above-mentioned services.

Natural resources in the South Florida area are abundant. Although wetlands are not present at the proposed Job Corps site, a number of Army Corps of Engineer jurisdiction wetlands are present within one-quarter mile of the site. However, the proposed reuse of the Homestead Air Force Base for Job Corps

Center activities will not have any impact upon nearby wetlands. The Everglades National Park, Big Cypress Preserve, and other national parks are located in the South Florida area. However, the site is not located in any national, state, or local protected area. No endangered species are known to reside at the site, although transient birds may be seen. The proposed use has no significant impact on any natural systems or resources. The existing site and buildings at the proposed Job Corps Center location are not designated as "historically significant" and no areas of archaeological significance are present. The activities of the proposed Job Corps Center are not of a contaminant-generating nature. The geologic, water, and climatic characteristics of the general vicinity of the site, coupled with the historically known land use, minimizes the site's potential to be contaminated from possible off-site sources and further minimizes the impact of contamination.

During the EA, environmental concerns associated with former fuel storage were noted. A number of underground diesel storage tanks were removed from the site in April 1994. Tank Closure Assessment Reports detailing the results of soil and groundwater sampling were not submitted to the Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) as of May 19, 1994. Any contamination detected from the underground storage tank could be assessed and remediated without adversely impacting the renovations or future use plans.

Elevated levels of radon were detected in one of the buildings; thus, complete radon testing is recommended. The determination of a need for remediation will be based upon the radon testing results. Any radon remediation conducted will be in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. Four (4) of the structures contain asbestos that will require abatement. Asbestos has already been abated from other structures at the proposed site. The abatement of asbestos will be performed by a qualified asbestos-abatement contractor in accordance with applicable local, state and federal regulations including those of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. No data is available for the lead content of paint in the buildings constructed prior to 1978; the majority of the structures exhibited peeling and chipping paint. Procedures for the containment and removal of lead, if deemed necessary, will be prepared by a qualified lead-abatement contractor and will be properly

managed during any future construction activities in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Testing of the drinking water systems, apart from a basewide program, has not been conducted. The underground and aboveground storage tanks may require additional investigation. These items are addressed in the EA.

Dade County regulations require low noise levels from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. in the areas near the city of Homestead. Noise levels generated from the facilities' standard air conditioning units and other equipment are consistent with Dade County regulations. Short-term impact from additional noise will occur during construction activities. Because construction activities related to development of the new Job Corps Center in Homestead will take place during normal working hours, and the use of sound control devices and muffled exhaust on all noise-generating construction equipment will be required, additional noise levels generated by the renovation of the Site will be short term and will not adversely impact the city of Homestead and any surrounding areas. The proposed action will comply with all City noise ordinances, permit requirements, and related building codes. The use of appropriate techniques to minimize construction dust emissions will mitigate construction-related air pollution concerns.

Lighting will be installed at the facility to replace that destroyed by Hurricane Andrew. The lighting will be constructed in accordance with local requirements and will not adversely impact surrounding areas.

Water is available to the site through municipal lines. Stormwater runoff is discharged to catch basins in the parking areas and canals located along the sides of the roads. Sanitary wastes are accommodated by discharge to municipal sewers. Based on the nature of the proposed construction activities at the site, stormwater quality will not be significantly impacted.

An abundance of water and electrical power are available to easily serve facilities this size and those that are substantially larger. The reuse of the site will not increase utility loads to above pre-hurricane levels. Although the proposed project will cause a slight area-wide increase in traffic, this increase in traffic is not expected to adversely affect traffic flow on immediately neighboring streets. The extension of an existing bus route to include the site is proposed and it is not anticipated to significantly alter the bus

scheduling in the area. There currently is a bus stop less than one (1) mile from the site. The bus service offers readily available transportation between the site and the City of Homestead. The Florida Turnpike is also located near the site, allowing easy access to the Florida Keys or Miami areas.

A public meeting regarding the location of a new Job Corps Center at the Homestead Air Force Base was conducted on February 2, 1994. Representatives of the Office of Job Corps and Metro-Dade presented a description of the proposed project. Community leaders were given an opportunity to comment on the project and ask questions. All of the public's responses were positive, with community organizations extolling the benefits that the proposed Job Corps Center would have on the rebuilding efforts in South Dade and employment opportunities for the youth in the area. A number of groups, including schools and local labor organizations, expressed a desire to work closely with the new Job Corps Center.

The alternatives considered in the preparation of the EA were: (1) The "No Build" alternative, (2) the "Alternative Sites" alternative, and (3) the "Continue as Proposed" alternative. Choosing the "No Build" means that the Department of Labor would not proceed with plans for development of the proposed Job Corps Center in the city of Montgomery. Although the "No Build" alternative would result in no environmental impact upon the area, it would deny the young adults of this area a unique opportunity, as well as deny the local community an opportunity to socioeconomically benefit from the establishment of a new Job Corps Center. A former mental hospital in Boward County was considered as an alternate site for the new Job Corps Center, but did not meet the minimum selection criteria for locating new Job Corps Centers. The opportunity to expand the Job Corps program to the Homestead area will aid in the rebuilding efforts of the community and allow for the substantial expansion of current programs now offered in Miami. The potential for a new facility and improved service afforded by the proposed action, as well as the finding that the proposed action would not pose any significant adverse environmental impacts, indicate that the proposed reuse and renovation of the site is the preferred alternative.

Based on the information gathered during the preparation of the EA for the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Office of Job Corps finds that the establishment of

a Job Corps Center at the Homestead Air Force Base, Homestead, Florida, will not cause any significant impact on the environment and will be a positive asset to the area and therefore, recommends that the project continue as proposed. This proposed action is not considered to be highly controversial.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 23rd day of December, 1994.

Peter E. Rell,

Director of Job Corps.

[FR Doc. 95-669 Filed 1-10-95; 8:45 am]

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Job Corps: Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center in Long Beach, CA

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center in Long Beach, California.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Job Corps, in accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d), gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and the proposed plans for the establishment of a Job Corps Center in Long Beach, California, will have no significant environmental impact. Pursuant to 29 CFR 11.11(d)(1), this Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact will be made available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by February 10, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Any comment(s) are to be submitted to Lynn Kotecki, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 219-5468.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the EA and additional information are available to interested parties by contacting Marta Aguilar-Duggan, Director, Office of Job Corps, 71 Stevenson Street, Suite 1015, San Francisco, California, (415) 744-6658.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Proposed Action includes development and operation of a new Job Corps Center proposed on a 17-acre portion of an existing 90.8 acre federally-owned site containing 110 recently decommissioned U.S. Naval Cabrillo family housing units located in the City

of Long Beach. This new Job Corps Center will serve 300 residential students and 20 non-resident students, for a total of 320 students, as well as approximately 70 full-time, day and night staff.

Development of the proposed Job Corps Center will require demolition of the 110 decommissioned units of approximately 151,250 square feet for construction of approximately 160,100 square feet of new facilities. The new Job Corps Center facilities will feature one-story buildings, including administrative and medical support buildings; educational, library and instruction buildings; dormitory buildings; a food service building and a one-story gymnasium structure.

The project site is accessible from the surrounding region via Willow Street to the north, Pacific Coast Highway to the south, Long Beach Freeway (Freeway 710) to the east, Terminal Island Freeway to the west, as well as from the various existing, non-public internal streets. The project site is located in a primarily residential section of Long Beach, although there are several commercial developments along Pacific Coast Highway and Santa Fe Avenue. Heavy industrial development including railroad and oil refining operations are situated west and adjacent to the Terminal Island Freeway.

The Long Beach project site is not located within an environmentally sensitive area. The proposed action will not have any significant adverse impacts on any prime agricultural lands, soils, or related designated land conservation programs, development of mineral resources, or on any unique topography.

There are no surface hydrological features present on the site such as drainage swales, intermittent streams, wetlands, and/or ground water production or related injection wells. The proposed action will not involve the storage or on-site use of major quantities of hazardous chemicals. Project development will not have any adverse impacts on subsurface hydrogeological resources.

Project development will result in insignificant storm-water related runoff. An on-site storm water discharge permit will be secured to insure management in compliance with state and local requirements. The proposed action is not expected to produce any significant adverse drainage effect on adjacent property or any overloading of the public storm water drainage system.

All new construction must conform to the Uniform Building Code which includes establishing compatible building pad elevations and structural designs which inherently mitigate

seismic impacts, flood hazards and related impacts to an acceptable risk. This is considered to be a significant beneficial improvement over existing conditions. No significant adverse flood-related impacts or geologic-related impacts are anticipated.

Based on historic aerial photographs, personal interviews, visual site reconnaissance, and reviews of available public and EPA-required listings of hazardous sites, there appears to be no current or past hazardous waste sources within the Long Beach site.

Existing structures have asbestos, lead paint, and potential PCB's present on-site. However, all contaminated materials will be removed and disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.

The development of the Proposed Action will generate approximately 25 percent less vehicular trips and associated automobile emissions than that of recent conditions, which is considered to be a significant beneficial improvement over existing conditions. Metropolitan bus service has sufficient capacity to handle any increase in public transit generated by the proposed action.

Demolition and development will generate temporary short-term adverse dust and particulate matter during project construction activities. However, maximum daily emission peaks would occur only intermittently during the construction cycle and air emissions will cease upon completion of the estimated 9-month construction period. All applicable regulations will be complied with to insure specific mitigation efforts.

Demolition, site preparation, and construction is expected to generate average on-site noise levels of 65 to 95 dba with intervening quieter periods. These levels are not considered to be severe or present a health risk, as noise levels tend to reduce significantly at distances greater than 100 feet. The presence of the existing 12-foot high concrete wall lessens off-site construction noise for residential properties located to the northeast of the project site. The proposed action will comply with all City noise ordinances and related building codes.

Due to a decrease in the number of vehicle trips because of a reduced on-site population and the increased use of public transit and car pooling over previous site area conditions, the new Job Corps Center would generate significantly less peak and average noise ambience levels over previously existing site conditions. This is considered to be an improvement over previously