

Appendix G2 Paleontological Resources Technical Memorandum

Appendices

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March 30, 2016

Cogstone 3395

To: JoAnn Hadfield, Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks
From: Kim Scott, Qualified Paleontologist

RE: Paleontological Resources Summary for the Agora Downtown Laguna Niguel Project

The following letter report details the methods and results of the cultural resources record search in support of the Agora Downtown Laguna Niguel Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Laguna Niguel is proposing a development project called Agora Downtown Laguna Niguel on approximately 22 acres generally located west of the Crown Valley Parkway and Alicia Parkway intersection in the City of Laguna Niguel, adjacent to City Hall and the Orange County Public Library (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The property currently consists of the South County Justice Center (closed in 2008), the Orange County Library, a County maintenance yard and undeveloped land.

Proposed development consists of a site-specific mixed-use project that would include approximately 279,500 square feet of commercial uses and up to 200 multi-family residential units. The general vision for Agora Downtown Laguna Niguel is to create a "downtown" environment featuring specialty retail, restaurants, integrated residential, community-oriented event space and extensive walkable open space plazas and squares.

The project footprint is mostly inclusive of a previously proposed project called the South Court Facility which was not implemented. The EIR for that project was completed in 2008 (City of Laguna Niguel).

Paleontological resources work for that project included a record search from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County completed in May 2006. No paleontological resources were known within the project area. Fossil localities were known nearby in the Capistrano Formation which underlies the project area.

RESULTS

The results above are still valid. Mitigation measures 2, 3 and 5 are also still valid. Recommend updating the following mitigation measures:

PR-1: A qualified paleontological monitor shall monitor excavation in areas identified as likely to contain paleontological resources. These areas are defined as all excavations of previously



undisturbed sediments in areas mapped as the Capistrano Formation and in areas of Quaternary alluvium where excavations will exceed depths of 5 feet.

PR-4: Specimens shall be curated into the John D. Cooper Center in Santa Ana, CA.

REFERENCES

2008 City of Laguna Niguel. Final Environmental Impact Report South Court Facility. Section 3F Paleontological Resources.

ATTACHMENT A: QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

2000 B.S., Geology with paleontology emphasis, University of California, Los Angeles
2013 M.S., Biology with a paleontology emphasis, California State University, San Bernardino

SUMMARY QUALIFICATIONS

Scott has more than 20 years of experience in California paleontology and geology. She has worked extensively in the field surveying, monitoring, and salvaging fossils on over 100 projects. She has written over 100 assessments, paleontological mitigation plans, and monitoring compliance reports to all agency requirements. Scott serves as company safety officer and is the author of the company safety and paleontology manuals. She is a Member of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology and the Geological Society of America.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Coto de Caza EIR Subdivision, Coto de Caza, Orange County, CA. The project proposes the subdivision of an existing large estate for development of 28 new residential lots on approximately 50-57 acres of land. Proposed residential lots will be a minimum of one acre in size. Prepared a Paleontological Assessment Report. Contracted to Bill Lyon. Co-Principal Paleontologist/Report Co-author. 2015.

Little Corona, Newport Beach, Orange County, CA. The project is part of the Newport Coast Watershed Management Plan and proposes the diversion of water from Buck Gully Creek into a subsurface infiltration gallery in which the Creek water will be percolated through the sand in order to improve beach conditions. Prepared the Archaeological and Paleontological Assessment Report. Contracted to Michael Baker RBF. Co-Principal Paleontologist/Report Co-author. 2015.

Center Avenue, Huntington Beach, Orange County, CA. The project consisted of constructing an underground parking structure. Sub to Avalon Bay. Supervised archaeological and paleontological field work and prepared the Archaeological and Paleontological Monitoring report. Field and Laboratory Director/ Report Co-author. 2014.

Gene Autry Way, Caltrans District 12, Anaheim, Orange County, CA. Project consisted of extending Gene Autry Way westward from 2,400 feet east of Interstate 5 to Haster Street (6 lanes wide), widening approximately 1,575 feet of Haster Street (520 feet south of Katella Avenue to 600 feet north of Orangewood Avenue) from 4 to 6 lanes plus a center turn lane, and completion of the Gene Autry Way overpass. Prepared a Paleontological Monitoring Report. Contracted to C. C. Myers. Field and Laboratory Director/Report Co-author. 2011-2012.

State Route 57 Northbound Widening Project, Caltrans District 12/ Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), Fullerton, Orange County, CA. Caltrans widening to State Route 57 between Lambert and Yorba Linda Avenue. Supervised paleontological monitoring and prepared the Paleontological Monitoring report. Under contract to CC Myers. Field and Laboratory Supervisor/Report Co-author. 2011-2012.

SCE TD 491231 H-Frame replacement Project, Laguna Beach, Orange County, CA. The project consisted of replacing an H Frame tower. Sub to Applied Earthworks. Co-authored the Paleontological and Cultural Assessment and monitoring report. Field and Laboratory Director/ Report Co-author. 2011.

Interstate 5 and Ortega Highway Interchange, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, CA. The project consisted of reconfiguring the interchange. Sub to ECORP Consulting. Co-authored Paleontological Literature Review. Field and Laboratory Director/ Report Co-author. 2006.

Gates Commercial Center, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, CA. The project consisted of building a commercial center. Sub to Viejo California Associates. Performed field survey and co-authored Paleontological Assessment. Field and Laboratory Director/ Report Co-author. 2005.

Central Park West Project, Irvine, Orange County, CA. The project consisted of building a housing development with underground parking. Supervised archaeological and paleontological field work and co-authored the Paleontological Assessment and monitoring reports. Sub to Lennar Communities. Field and Laboratory Director/ Report Co-author. 2005-2010.