



DEPARTMENT OF
TOXIC SUBSTANCES
CONTROL

*The mission of the
Department of Toxic
Substances Control
is to provide the
highest level of safety,
and protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California

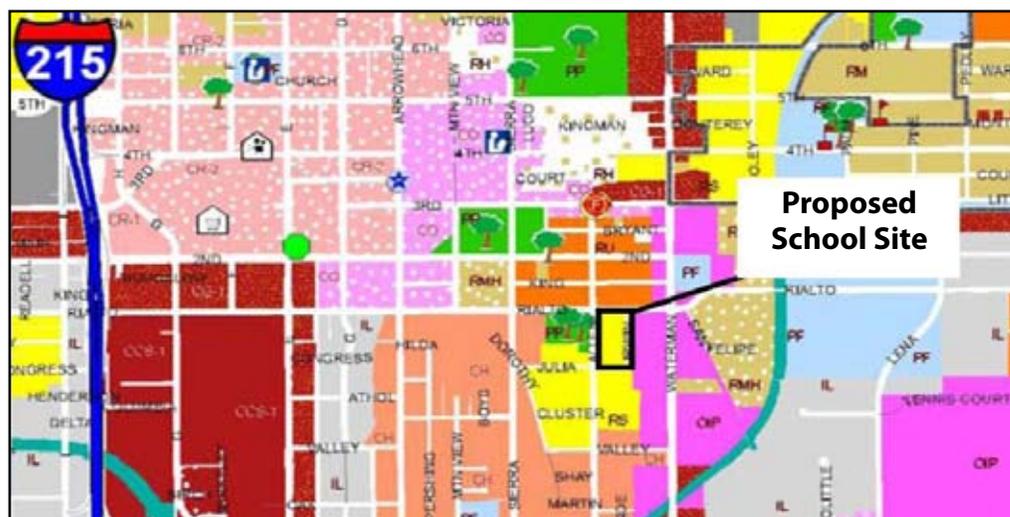


Cal/EPA

Fact Sheet, June 2011

Cleanup Plan Available for Review

Proposed H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School Site



A draft plan to remove contaminated soil at the proposed H. Frank Dominguez (formerly Burbank II) Elementary School (site) is available for public review and comment. Lead and pesticides were found in the soil above acceptable levels at the site, which is located southeast of the intersection of East Rialto and South Allen Streets in the City of San Bernardino. The draft plan, called Removal Action Workplan, or RAW, was submitted by the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD) for review and approval by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

June 2, 2011 – July 5, 2011

The public comment period for the draft RAW begins on May 31, 2011 and ends July 1, 2011. DTSC will make a final decision after all public comments have been reviewed and considered. The draft RAW and other related project documents for this project can be viewed at the information repositories listed on page three of this fact sheet. Written and e-mailed comments must be postmarked by July 5, 2011 and sent to:

Jeanne Matsumoto, Public Participation Specialist
5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630
jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con Jeanne Garcia al (818) 717-6573.



The site proposed for the school consists of approximately 13 acres of former residential structures and empty lots. All structures have been demolished. During environmental investigations, concentrations of lead, and pesticide compounds exceeding DTSC health risk levels for school sites were detected in shallow soils at 16 of the 43 parcels comprising the site. The draft RAW presents a plan for the cleanup of the proposed school site.

Why Cleanup Is Necessary

There is **no immediate health risk** because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. Long-term exposure, however, to elevated levels of lead and pesticides, can cause adverse health effects. In order to protect future students and staff of the new school, the DTSC recommended that the school district prepare a cleanup plan to remove and dispose of the contaminated soil. The DTSC will oversee the cleanup that will take place prior to construction of the new school and will ensure that it is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

Environmental Investigations

During the investigations conducted between July 2009 and January 2011, elevated concentrations of lead and pesticides were found in soil at the site.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, dated September 8, 2004, was prepared to document the previous on-site and off-site activities that may have impacted the site.

Sampling events were conducted as part of a Preliminary Endangerment Assessment and a Supplemental Site Investigation from July 2009 through November 2010. Soil samples were collected in areas adjacent to, and within the site structures without concrete slabs at different depths. Elevated concentrations of lead, chlordane, and dieldrin were detected at the site.

Lead from Lead-Based Paint

Lead is often found in soils around houses built before 1979. Since 1979, federal laws do not allow lead-based paint to be sold in the United States.

Pesticides

Pesticides were often used around and under older homes primarily for termite control.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following three Cleanup Options were considered for this site:

Alternative 1 - No Further Action

Alternative 2 - Surface Capping

Alternative 3 - Removal and Off-Site Disposal

Based on careful analysis of the options, Alternative 3 - Removal and Off-Site Disposal is recommended because it is more protective of the proposed school project, is permanent, as it removes the hazard to levels considered protective, and is time efficient for the project. Details of the removal action alternatives are listed in the RAW.

The contaminated soil will be dug out using earth moving equipment, as necessary. The soil will be temporarily stored in covered stockpiles on site while coordinating disposal and then the soil will be loaded into trucks, covered, and taken off-site to be disposed at a licensed facility. After the contaminated soil is removed, samples will be collected to confirm that the contamination has been removed to the levels established in the RAW Cleanup Goals.

Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Install temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Drive all vehicles at slow speeds while on the site
- Spray work areas with clean water to control dust
- Secure trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Cleaning all truck tires entering and exiting the site will have their tires brushed to remove soils and debris as necessary to control offsite contamination; and
- Monitoring the air at the site will be completed to ensure the amount of dust is kept to a minimum.

Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

About 2,982 cubic yards of contaminated soil is estimated to be removed and taken off-site for disposal. It is estimated to take up to 174 truckloads to remove the contaminated soil from the site.

Trucks will leave the site onto Rialto going north on North Allen Street towards East King Street, then 2nd left onto East 2nd Street, to the I-215 North ramp and north onto the I-215. The waste will be delivered to a state licensed disposal facility. Work will be limited to daylight hours between 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday-Saturday in accordance with the City of San Bernardino Noise Ordinance. The cleanup process is expected to take about 30 working days.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states that the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative effect on human health or the environment. The clean up process will be a relatively short duration, and controlled in a way in which the contaminated soils should not affect the general public. All truck loads will be covered. Traffic will be controlled when leaving the site to ensure neighbors have access to the streets surrounding the site.

Next Steps

At the close of the public comment period, DTSC will review and consider any public comments and ensure any necessary revisions to the draft RAW are completed, prior to final approval. Also, a Response to Comments document will be mailed to everyone who makes a comment and who provides their name and address. The soil removal project is expected to take place in the summer of 2011 and should take about 30 working days.

After the cleanup process is completed, soil testing will be completed to confirm cleanup goals have been reached, and a Removal Action Completion Report will be submitted to the DTSC for review and approval.

Where to Find the Documents

The Draft RAW and other related documents for proposed Burbank II Elementary School are available for review at the following locations:

Norman F. Feldheim Central Library
Reference Desk
555 W. 5th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92410
Phone: (909) 381-8221

San Bernardino City Unified School District
Facilities Management
956 W. 9th Street
San Bernardino, California 92411
(909) 388-6100

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Regional Records Office
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Call (714) 484-5337 for an appointment
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm Monday – Friday

Site documents are also available for your review at: www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov

All documents made available to the public by the DTSC can be made available in alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact Jeanne Matsumoto for assistance.

Who to Contact for Information

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact:

Rana Georges
DTSC Hazardous Substance Scientist
(714) 484-5320, rgeorges@dtsc.ca.gov

Jeanne Matsumoto
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(866) 495-5651, press 4 then press 6
jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov

For media inquiries, please contact:

Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer
(818) 717-6573, jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain additional information about the proposed H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School Project by calling the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 to reach DTSC Public Participation Specialist, Jeanne Matsumoto at (714) 484-5338.

