



Metro Environmental Construction Awareness (MECA) Program

Cultural Resources – Fact Sheet

While we build the next Los Angeles, Metro believes in taking exceptional care of historical and cultural artifacts. We're asking you to think innovatively with us about how to build new infrastructure while protecting and honoring our past.

1. Cultural resources are natural and created objects, typically more than 50 years old, that provide a window into our past, including: historic structures, landscape features, objects used by people who used to live here, features that show how people lived their lives, or the physical remains of life including animal and plant remains.
2. Earth-disturbing projects, including construction. Must be aware of potential impact to found artifacts.
3. Review applicable documents to understand compliance requirements:
 - a. Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)
 - b. Project Specifications
 - c. Metro Rail Design Criteria (MRDC)
 - d. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
 - e. Cultural Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CRMMP)
 - f. Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PMMP)
4. Metro prepares:
 - a. Awareness training for workers
 - b. Monitors on-site and on-call
 - c. Agreements with local museums, preservation groups and tribal representatives
5. Compliance is the responsibility of Metro, our contractors and their subs. Failure to comply can result in work stoppage, financial penalties and legal action.
6. Contractor's role includes:
 - a. Awareness of what could be found
 - b. Having a process to address any potential find
 - c. Having a plan for relocating work if a find is made
 - d. Coordinating timely notification to FTA and SHPO on federally-funded projects
7. Examples of best practices
 - a. Include cultural resources awareness and individual's responsibilities into daily safety talks and refreshers for workers
 - b. Set up physical barriers, such as temporary fencing or k-rails as reminders to protect sensitive locations
 - c. Before demolition, analyze whether any of the materials, such as bricks, can be reused later
 - d. Stage materials that might be needed to care for a cultural find near the work site to minimize delays



Meet Candace Lee, Environmental Specialist with Metro's ECSD, and voice of this module. She ensures that capital projects are implemented in accordance with regulations and looks for ways to make projects more environmentally-friendly.