



City of Twentynine Palms  
6136 Adobe Road  
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277  
760-367-6799 – FAX 760-367-4890  
[www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us](http://www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us)

## **NEWS RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 23, 2009**

### **JOINT STUDY SESSION OF CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION SEPT. 29 FOR GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY EXPANSION**

A joint study session of the Twentynine Palms City Council and Planning Commission is set for 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at City Hall, 6136 Adobe Road, to discuss the status of an application by Granite Construction Company for the Twentynine Palms Mine Expansion and Reclamation project.

The study session will review a status report on Granite's application for the expansion and reclamation plan for the Twentynine Palms Sand and Gravel Mine, located at 7451 Mojave Road in the southeast portion of the City. In a permit granted in 1989 by San Bernardino County, before the area was annexed by the City, Granite Construction Company was given a 25-year approval to expand sand and gravel mining operations to mine and reclaim 100 acres of the existing site, which provides sand, gravel, and asphalt to the region.

Granite has stated that available materials at the existing mine are nearly exhausted and they are seeking to expand operations into the western portion of the mine site. Approximately 178 acres of the proposed 356-acre expansion area are anticipated to be mined, with the remaining 178 acres to be left undisturbed and dedicated as habitat for the Desert Tortoise and other threatened or endangered species.

The existing mine is an open pit operation with an aggregate mining and processing plant, a ready mix concrete batch plant operated by Superior Ready Mix, and an asphalt plant, in a land-use area currently zoned by the City as Community Industrial. The expansion area to the west is zoned Rural Living 2.5 acres. Therefore a General Plan Amendment and Zone Change is being requested to re-designate the expansion area to Community Industrial.

A Conditional Use Permit is being processed by the City for Granite's expansion project, and an associated Environmental Impact Report created last year by Michael Brandon and Associates will be presented for review at the study session on Sept. 29. The public is invited to attend the meeting at 5 p.m. on Sept. 29 at City Hall.

# # #