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March 4, 2002

Dear Community Member:

We are writing to inform you about the proposed constructed wetlands project – **the Sepulveda Wetlands Park** – in the Sepulveda Basin, and to invite you to a series of community meetings about the proposed project.

The three community meetings will be held:

Tuesday, March 26
Tuesday, April 2
Wednesday, April 10
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

All meetings will be held at:

Encino Glen (in Balboa Park)
16821 Burbank Blvd.
Encino, CA 91436

A 20-minute presentation will be made at 7:00 p.m. on each of these evenings and we will be available before and after the presentations to answer your questions and talk with you. Additionally, you may schedule a specific date and time for staff to meet with your neighborhood group, organization and/or business association.

We have heard from some members of the community who have questions about the project, including the potential for odors and mosquitoes if the project is built. The Bureau of Sanitation (Bureau) has addressed these issues in the draft Concept Design Report (CDR) and will discuss these issues, and others, with you at the community meetings. For your background and information, enclosed are two documents: 1) an overview of the proposed project; and, 2) a list of frequently asked questions and answers about the project.

WETLANDS PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Bureau is evaluating the feasibility of building a constructed wetlands in the Sepulveda Basin to further reduce nitrogen and ammonia compounds from reclaimed water from the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant (Tillman) on Woodley Avenue. Additionally, the proposed project could demonstrate the effectiveness of a natural system in reducing pollutants in urban stormwater runoff.



The proposed project in the Sepulveda Basin would be no more than 50 to 75 acres in size. It will be limited to areas that are currently unused, undesignated or farmed. Based on the project concept assessment, including input from organizations based in the Sepulveda Basin, the most desirable location is the area south of Burbank Boulevard and west of Woodley Avenue.

The proposed project will use the same fully treated reclaimed water currently used in the Japanese Garden and the Wildlife Lake. These two waterbodies have existed for years in the Sepulveda Basin.

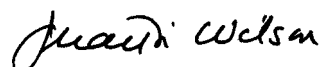
The Sepulveda Wetlands Park would provide an interactive educational center, a soccer field and an elaborate system of boardwalks, which would enable the public to explore the park and enjoy the plants, birds and wildlife.

The proposed project is still in the early planning and conceptual stages. If it moves forward, additional and more detailed public review and input will be conducted as part of the required environmental documentation that would precede any implementation of the proposed plan.

The Bureau is excited about the potential multiple benefits of this proposed project. Notwithstanding, we know the community has questions and wants more information. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss the proposed Sepulveda Wetlands Park.

Please contact Adel Hagekhalil, of my staff, at (213) 473-8181 if you have questions and/or wish to schedule a briefing meeting. Also, if you are interested in obtaining a copy of the draft report, you can access it via the Internet at www.lacity.org/san or by contacting Mr. Hagekhalil at the above number.

Sincerely,



JUDITH A. WILSON, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

JAW:RJK:AHH:tn

Enclosures (2)

1. Project Overview
2. Frequently Asked Questions