

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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June 7, 2002

Dear Community Member:

We are writing to inform you about a proposed constructed wetlands project – **the Sepulveda Wetlands Park** – in the Sepulveda Basin, and to invite you to a community meeting about the proposed project. The meeting will be held on:

Wednesday, June 26
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Dixie Canyon Elementary School
Auditorium
4220 Dixie Canyon Avenue
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. A question and answer session will follow a 20-minute presentation about the project. Additionally, City staff will be available before and after the meeting to answer your questions and talk with you. Also, you may also want schedule a date and time for City 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 mosquitoes and odors, if the project is built. The Bureau of Sanitation (Bureau) has initially addressed these issues in the draft Concept Design Report (CDR) and will discuss these issues, and others, with you at the community meeting. 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 some 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,



for
JUDITH A. WILSON, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

JAW:RJK:AHH:tn

Enclosures (2)

1. Project Overview
2. Frequently Asked Questions