

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE STORMWATER CAPTURE PARKS PROGRAM

Date: January 7, 2021

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Stormwater Capture Parks Program

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering, Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment, and City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), collectively referred to herein as the City, for the Stormwater Capture Parks Program (Program). Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, LADWP is the Lead Agency and is responsible for the preparation of this document.

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Program components would be constructed within nine parks located within the upper Tujunga Wash Watershed, which lies above the San Fernando Valley Groundwater Basin. All nine parks are located along State Route (SR) 170 between the Pacoima and Valley Village neighborhoods of the City of Los Angeles: David M. Gonzales Recreation Center (10943 Herrick Avenue, Pacoima, CA), Fernangeles Park (8851 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Sun Valley, CA), Strathern Park North (8045 Whitsett Avenue, North Hollywood, CA), Whitsett Fields Park North (7100 Whitsett Avenue, North Hollywood, CA), Valley Plaza Park North and Valley Plaza Park South (12240 Archwood Street, North Hollywood, CA), Alexandria Park (north of SR 170 and west of North Laurel Canyon Boulevard), North Hollywood Park (11430 Chandler Boulevard, North Hollywood, CA), and Valley Village Park (5000 Westpark Drive, North Hollywood, CA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goals of the Program are to increase local water supply, alleviate localized flooding in the area, and improve water quality of stormwater runoff. The proposed Program would capture stormwater surface flows in the Program area within the City, diverting the runoff from the Central Branch Tujunga Wash to recharge the San Fernando Groundwater Basin. Underground infiltration galleries would be constructed within open space portions of each of the nine parks, and other appurtenances would be installed to connect to and manage flow from existing storm drains. Additional improvements to park amenities would also be implemented as part of the Program.

At each park project site, an underground infiltration gallery and/or dry wells would be constructed. These would be approximately 12 feet high with 11 feet of storage. Additional facilities at each park project site would include a hydrodynamic separator unit, maintenance holes for access, flow-measuring devices, diversion and equalization pipes, pump station, and rubber dams, where

needed. Diversion pipes may travel along city streets surrounding the park project sites. Educational signage would be installed at each park project site to provide for community engagement. In addition, each park would be graded and revegetated with grass, or other park improvements would be made to enhance recreational use and would be determined with input from RAP and the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The IS/MND describes potentially significant impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, transportation, and wildfire. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Effects found to be less than significant are also described in the IS/MND.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The public comment period for the IS/MND will commence on January 7, 2021 and conclude on February 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm. The IS/MND is available for review on the LADWP website at <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices>.

Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be received by **5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2021**.

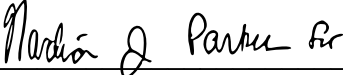
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention: Mr. Christopher Lopez
Email: Christopher.Lopez@ladwp.com

All comments received related to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is provided to the City of Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration and approval at a future date. Once determined, the Board hearing date and time will be posted on the LADWP website at <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices>. The hearing will be in the LADWP Board Room at 111 North Hope Street, 15th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Please check the Board agenda within 72 hours of the scheduled time and date to confirm. You may access the Board agenda on the LADWP website at <http://www.ladwp.com/AboutLADWP> or contact the commission office at (213) 367-1356.

PLEASE NOTE: LADWP's practice is to make the entirety of comments received a part of the public record. Therefore, names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of commenters, if included in the response, will be made part of the record and available for public review. Individual commenters may request that LADWP withhold their name and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish LADWP to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In the absence of this written request, this information will be made part of the record for public review. LADWP will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as a representative of representatives of, or officials of, organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

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For any questions regarding the review of the IS/MND, please contact Mr. Christopher Lopez at Christopher.Lopez@ladwp.com or (213) 367-3509.



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

CL:mh
Enclosure
c: Mr. Christopher Lopez