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Date: December 10, 2010

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE WOODMAN AVENUE MULTI-BENEFICIAL STORMWATER CAPTURE PILOT PROJECT

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing to conduct the Woodman Avenue Multi-Beneficial Stormwater Capture Pilot Project. As the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the LADWP has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) which evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed project.

Project Location

The project site is located in public right-of-way within an existing median on the west side of Woodman Avenue from Lanark Street to Saticoy Street and at various public street right-of-way locations within the surrounding 130-acre watershed in a portion of the Panorama City community in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County. The approximate center of the project site is located at latitude N 34° 12' 56.5" / longitude W -118° 25' 55.2".

Project Description

Under the proposed pilot project, approximately 9.5 million gallons of stormwater per year would be captured from approximately 130 tributary acres, directed through pretreatment devices (trash racks and primary separators to remove litter, oil, grease and sediments), and infiltrated to the San Fernando Groundwater Basin. A vegetated infiltration swale would be constructed to meander down the length of an existing median on the west side of a stretch of Woodman Avenue and an underground detention system would be installed. The modified median would be planted with native trees such as sycamores and alders, along with native drought tolerant vegetation. A pedestrian path with several benches and educational signs would be installed to provide connectivity and open green space for the neighboring community. The project would also include surface water diversions in the adjacent neighborhood to convey runoff to the new median infiltration system.

The project would increase recharge into the San Fernando Groundwater Basin, improve downstream water quality, and alleviate local street flooding. The project would also create enhanced community open space, improved site aesthetics and pedestrian access, passive recreation, and educational opportunities. The project was identified by the LADWP Watershed Management Group and the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LABOS) Watershed Protection

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Division, in partnership with the non-profit group, The River Project and is listed as a priority project in the Tujunga/Pacoima Watershed Plan.

Public Review Period: The IS/MND is being made available for public review for a period of 30 days beginning December 13, 2010 and concluding January 14, 2010. The electronic version of the IS/MND may be viewed on line at <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices>. Printed copies of the IS/MND are also available for review at the following locations:

LADWP
111 North Hope Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attn: Mr. Messinger
(213) 367-1276

Panorama City Branch Library
14345 Roscoe Boulevard
Panorama City, CA 91402-4222
Attn: Reference Section
(818) 894-4071

Comments on the IS/MND must be received in writing no later than 5:00 p.m., January 14, 2010 and sent to:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Environmental Planning and Assessment
Attention: Mr. Hal Messinger
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Comments may also be faxed to Mr. Messinger at (213) 367-4710.

All comments received related to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is forwarded to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) for final consideration. The IS/MND will be presented to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) for final consideration. The IS/MND will be presented to the Board on February 1, 2010. If you plan to attend the Board meeting, please refer to LADWP's website to confirm that it is on the agenda: <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp013428.jsp>

If you have any questions regarding the IS/MND, please contact Mr. Hal Messinger at (213) 367-1276.