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1149 S. BROADWAY, SUITE 700
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015-2213

<http://eng.lacity.org>

August 26, 2009

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Stakeholders and Interested Persons

From: City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Environmental Management Division
1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Wilmington Drain Multi-use and Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project

The City of Los Angeles (City), Bureau of Engineering (BOE), is the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. The City is proposing to rehabilitate the Wilmington Drain and Machado Lake located adjacent to and within the Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park (Harbor Regional Park - located at 25820 Vermont Avenue) in the communities of Wilmington and Harbor City. The Wilmington Drain Multi-use and Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project (proposed project) is composed of two components referred to individually as the Wilmington Drain Multi-use Project (Wilmington Drain component) and the Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project (Machado Lake component). Because all of the water that is conveyed through the Wilmington Drain flows into the Machado Lake, the two components are being evaluated as one project (refer to Figure 1). The City is requesting input from responsible agencies, trustees, and other interested parties on the scope and content of the proposed project relevant to the statutory responsibilities of responsible and trustee agencies' and the concerns of interested organizations and persons. Using the information obtained through this public process, the City will prepare an EIR to analyze the environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives. The contents of this Notice of Preparation have been prepared in accordance with Section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

The Wilmington Drain is a 150-foot wide and approximately one-half mile long Los Angeles County Flood Control District soft-bottom stormwater drainage channel managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. The portion within the project area, located within the County of Los Angeles, extends south from I-110 to Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) where it then empties into the Harbor Regional Park riparian woodland. The Wilmington Drain

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request

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component is bounded on the north by I-110, on the east by I-110 and residential development, on the west by commercial and residential development, and on the south by PCH.

Machado Lake is located within Harbor Regional Park in the City of Los Angeles. Harbor Regional Park is a 231-acre park that is owned, operated and maintained by Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Bordering Harbor Regional Park to the north is PCH with residential and commercial development (immediately north of PCH), Harbor Park Municipal Golf Course and commercial development borders the northeast perimeter of the park and the Los Angeles Harbor College borders the southeast perimeter along with portions of the park's freshwater marsh, to the west is Vermont Avenue and the Kaiser Permanente Harbor City facility, and to the south is open space along with Anaheim Street and Conoco-Phillips Oil Refinery. A residential development is under construction adjacent to the park at the 5-way intersection of Anaheim Street, Vermont Avenue, Gaffey Street, Palos Verdes Drive North.

The Machado Lake ecosystem, which includes Wilmington Drain, has been negatively impacted by trash, proliferation of invasive plant species, eutrophication, and sediment and nutrient accumulation, which has resulted in degraded water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and hydraulic capacity. To address these problems, the City is proposing to implement a variety of measures designed to improve water quality; help meet adopted and future Total Maximum Daily Loads criteria; enhance riparian, wetland, and upland habitats; improve hydrologic and hydraulic conditions; and restore existing recreational amenities as well as develop new ones.

Potential impacts associated with the proposed project include:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gases
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use & Planning
- Noise
- Public Services
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities

An analysis of potential environmental effects is provided in an Initial Study Checklist, which can be viewed or obtained at the following locations:

1. Bureau of Engineering, Environmental Management Division, 1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor, Contact: Maria Martin at (213) 485-5753, fax: (213) 847-0656
2. BOE website: http://eng.lacity.org/techdocs/emg/Environmental_Review_Documents.htm
3. Harbor City/Gateway Library, 24000 S. Western Avenue
4. Harbor District Office, Councilmember Janice Hahn, CD #15, 638 S. Beacon St., Suite 552, San Pedro

In addition, a scoping meeting will be held to obtain input on the scope and contents of the EIR, at the following date, time and location:

Thursday, September 17, 2009

6:30 – 8:30 pm

Kaiser Permanente Hospital Conference Room and Education Center
Located on Normandie Avenue between PCH and Permanente Way
Conference Rooms A1 and A2
Harbor City, CA 90710

The main Kaiser Permanente Hospital Medical Center is located at 25825 S. Vermont Avenue, Harbor City. The Kaiser Hospital Conference Room and Education Center is part of the overall hospital complex.

Parking is available in the parking structure (Lot 2), which is adjacent to the Conference Center. Meeting attendees should park on the second floor, leaving the first floor available for patients. Disabled parking is located just behind the Conference Center in Lot 3.

Due to the time limits mandated by state law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to:

Ms. Maria Martin
City of Los Angeles
Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Environmental Management Division
1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor, Mail Stop 939
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to Maria.Martin@lacity.org (please include "Wilmington/Machado Comments" in the subject line)

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Maria Martin at (213) 485-5753. We would appreciate the name, telephone number, and e-mail address for the person to contact if we have any questions regarding your comment.



City of Los Angeles



Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation and Wilmington Drain Multi-use Project

Figure 1 Project Location Map