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

<http://eng.lacity.org>

October 11, 2013

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE
BENDING THE RIVER BACK INTO THE CITY**

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code Article 7 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering has prepared an Initial Study for the project described below. Under CEQA, the City identified no significant impacts and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Project Location: The Bending the River Back into the City Project (proposed project) would be located at 1796 N. Baker Street, Los Angeles. The property, which is currently owned by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), is located approximately 0.4 mile west of the Golden State Freeway and approximately 0.8 mile east of Dodger Stadium. The project area is approximately 2 miles north of downtown Los Angeles.

Project Description: The proposed project would involve construction and operation of a water wheel, loosely modeled after the historic wheel that existed near the project location and would include excavation of a 1,300-cubic-yard pit and maintenance area for installation of the water wheel. It would also include construction of a side channel to the LA River, connecting the LA River to the water wheel pit and installation of an inflatable dam within the LA River channel, creating a water impoundment area upstream of the proposed inflatable dam. The purpose of the proposed project is to physically divert water from the LA River and create an aesthetic/educational statement, showing that the LA River can be used as a source of water. Additional purposes include enhancing connections between the surrounding community and the LA River; and providing a viable long-term non-potable irrigation water source for the State Park and other local demands.

In compliance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts of this project. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project to ensure that any impacts are reduced to a less than significant level. As such, the City proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

This notice is intended to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed project. The Initial Study is available for review at the Los Angeles Public Library, 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071 – Tel. (213) 228-7000 and at the Los Angeles Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 – Tel. (213) 620-0925. A copy of the Initial Study may also be obtained by contacting Jim Doty of the Bureau of Engineering at (213) 485-5759 and can also be accessed online at <http://eng.lacity.org/techdocs/emg/>.

The 30-day public review period starts October 14, 2013, and ends November 14, 2013. **Comments must be received by November 14, 2013, in writing, by email to jim.doty@lacity.org, or by mail to:**

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bureau of Engineering, EMG
Attn: Jim Doty, Environmental Affairs Officer
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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