

THE FUTURE OF WATER IN LA

Before



After



Project Schedule

Summer 2016 – Fall 2021

Region

Northeast San Fernando Valley

Project Cost

Total Cost: \$50.4 Million

External Funding

- LA County Flood Control District Contribution: \$6.3 Million
- Prop 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Grant: \$3.2 Million
- Prop 1 Storm Water Grant: \$7.0 Million

Tujunga Spreading Grounds Enhancement Project

Project Background

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) collaborated, with support from Los Angeles City Council Sixth District, to improve the 150-acre Tujunga Spreading Grounds. This enhancement project increased the annual groundwater recharge of the San Fernando Groundwater Basin, resulting in improved reliability and sustainability of the local water supply.

Stormwater flows from the Tujunga Wash and the Pacoima Diversion Channel are diverted into the spreading grounds. Sandy soils at the spreading grounds allow water to infiltrate naturally and eventually reach the groundwater basin. Once in the basin, pumping wells can extract the water for treatment, disinfection and subsequent potable use.

Project Description

The Tujunga Spreading Grounds enhancement project included the reconfiguration and deepening of the original 20 spreading basins into nine larger basins through the removal of soil and sediment from the site. Based on community input for the project, a quiet, emission-free electric conveyor system was used to transport soils off site. The conveyor system efficiently moved the soil without the use of trucks which reduced traffic, air, and noise impacts to residents in the area.

Improvements also included two new inflatable rubber dams and intakes to divert stormwater into the spreading grounds from the adjacent Tujunga Wash and Pacoima Diversion Channel.

The renovated facility includes a community space for neighborhood greening and passive recreation as well as an outdoor classroom, porous pavement in the parking lot and new fencing and landscaping.

Benefits

- Doubles the annual recharge capacity to the San Fernando Groundwater Basin to 16,000 acre-foot per year on average, enough to supply 64,000 homes.
- Augments the spreading grounds storage capacity from 100 to 790 acre-feet, equal to nearly 400 Olympic-sized swimming pools.
- Increases the spreading grounds intake capacity from 250 to 450 cubic feet per second.
- Improves health of the San Fernando Valley Groundwater Basin.
- Increases the stormwater source flows by adding two intakes.
- Provides open space and walking paths for public use.

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