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August 16, 2013

To: Affected Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Persons

Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Recirculated Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Elysian Park-Downtown Water Recycling Projects

A Recirculated Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for the proposed Elysian Park-Downtown Water Recycling Project (WRP). The LADWP is the Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document.

A previous MND for the Elysian Park-Downtown Water Recycling Projects was circulated for public review and comment by the LADWP on September 18, 2012, initiating a 30-day public review period pursuant to the CEQA and its implementing guidelines. The previous Notice of Intent (NOI) was distributed to the California Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, and relevant agencies, as well as owners and/or occupants of property in the project area. Subsequent to the close of the public review period for the previous MND, some design modifications were made to Phase I of the proposed project in order to improve efficiency and reliability of the recycled and potable water systems proposed to be supplied to Elysian Park. The Recirculated MND includes the environmental analysis of the revised project description, which is summarized below.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The LADWP proposes to maximize the use of recycled water to replace potable sources for irrigation and industrial uses by extending the recycled water pipeline network to Elysian Park and downtown Los Angeles. This project is being undertaken in accordance with the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan and the Recycled Water Master Planning Documents. The proposed project would be implemented in two phases.

The first phase of the project involves the delivery of recycled water to Elysian Park (Elysian Park Water Recycling Project [WRP]). A new 16-inch recycled water pipeline would be constructed from the existing recycled water pipeline serving Taylor Yard (Taylor Yard WRP), totaling approximately 10,800 linear feet. The proposed Elysian Park recycled water pipeline would connect to a proposed new approximately 2 million gallon (MG) recycled water storage tank located on the hilltop near Elysian Fields within Elysian Park via a proposed new recycled water pumping station located on the west side of Interstate 5 (I-5, Golden State Freeway) just inside Elysian Park. The proposed route for the recycled water pipeline would roughly follow Stadium Way. In addition, to provide for the potable water uses within Elysian Park (e.g., restrooms and drinking fountains), approximately 1,000 linear feet of 8-inch potable water pipeline would be constructed from Park Drive to Grace E. Simons Lodge. Approximately 2,800 linear feet of 2-inch potable water service line with a booster pump housed within an existing pumping station would also be constructed from Grace E. Simons Lodge to Elysian Fields in order to supply the two bathrooms and drinking fountains at Elysian Fields.

The second phase of the project involves constructing approximately 10 miles of new 16-inch recycled water pipeline from the proposed terminus at Mesnager Street near Los Angeles State Historic Park (also known as the Cornfields Park) to customers located in downtown Los Angeles, Exposition Park, and Boyle Heights (Downtown WRP). The mainline would roughly follow Broadway south to Exposition Boulevard. To reach Boyle Heights, the pipeline would roughly follow 16th Street to Washington Boulevard to Olympic Boulevard.

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PROJECT LOCATION

Phase I of the proposed project would primarily take place within Elysian Park. However, some construction would occur in the Elysian Valley neighborhood along the Los Angeles River Bike Path, Riverdale Avenue, Blake Avenue, and Dorris Place adjacent to Dorris Place Elementary School, as well as along Park Drive within the Echo Park neighborhood. Installation of the Elysian Park WRP would require tunneling beneath I-5. Phase I would abut residential, public facilities, and open space uses.

Phase II would occur in public streets in the urbanized and fully developed communities of Chinatown, downtown Los Angeles, Exposition Park, and Boyle Heights. Construction would abut commercial, residential, light industrial, public facilities, and open spaces uses.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The 30-day public comment period for this NOI will commence on August 16, 2013, and conclude on September 16, 2013. The Recirculated MND is available for review on the LADWP website at <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices> and at the following locations:

LADWP, Environmental Affairs Division
111 North Hope Avenue, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Edendale Branch Public Library
2011 West Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Los Angeles Central Library
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Echo Park Branch Public Library
1410 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Chinatown Branch Public Library
639 North Hill Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Lincoln Heights Branch Public Library
2530 Workman Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031

Cypress Park Branch Public Library
1150 Cypress Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Silverlake Branch Public Library
2411 Glendale Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90039

Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be received by 5:00 p.m. on **September 16, 2013**.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Contact: Ms. Irene Paul
Fax: (213) 367-4710, Email: Irene.Paul@ladwp.com

All comments received related to issues discussed in the Recirculated MND will be included in the final package that is forwarded to the City of Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration.

For any questions regarding the review of the Recirculated MND, please contact Ms. Irene Paul at (213) 367-3509.



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment