

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(8) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(1) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 03/14/2018

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 03/15/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 16-0639

Agenda Date: 03/14/2018

Item Number: 22

Summary: The currently proposed protocol does not do enough to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public given the number of contaminants in the river. We would like to state the following points for your consideration in the planning of the Los Angeles River water quality testing and notification Protocol.

- In the water quality sampling section of the new protocol, it makes mention that Los Angeles Sanitation was first testing the water five times per month and will now be increased to twice a week. Well, the increase is good it is not enough to get a proper reading of the water quality of the Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles River is a fast-moving body of water and when water is being collected to be tested the time lost between collection and testing is days. The water that is tested and results published would already be in the Long beach harbor making the posted results misleading to the public and putting their health, safety, and welfare at risk of contaminants.
- LA Sanitation color-code Green, Yellow, and Red are misleading considering that at the very bottom there is a disclaimer stating the following "At all times: Water quality may be impaired. The disclaimer directly contradicts the LA Sanitation color-code chart and its misleading the public.



Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council

March 14, 2018

To: Councilman Mitch O'Farrell

Cc: Los Angeles Sanitation, Council for Watershed Health, Heal the Bay

Subject: Council File # 16-0639 Los Angeles River water quality testing and notification Protocol.

Beginning September 1, 2017, the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, Heal the Bay and Council for Watershed Health started noticing the alarming high level of E. coli in the Elysian Valley and Sepulveda Basin sections of the Los Angeles River. The federal Clean Water Act, the E. coli standard for Elysian Valley and Sepulveda Basin, the portion of the Los Angeles River that is open to kayaking, is 235 per 100 milliliters. On September 5, 2017 some parts of the Los Angeles River that were open to Kayaking were showing E. coli at more than 24,000 per 100 ml this is 100 times higher than the federal limits.

The current proposed protocol does not do enough to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public given the amount of contaminants in the river. We would like to state the following points for your consideration in the planning of the Los Angeles River water quality testing and notification Protocol.

- In the water quality sampling section of the new protocol it makes mention that Los Angeles Sanitation was first testing the water five times per month and will now be increased to twice a week. Well the increase is good it is not enough to get a proper reading of the water quality of the Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles river is a fast-moving body of water and when water is being collected to be tested the time lost between collection and testing is days. The water that is tested and results published would already be in the Long beach harbor making the posted results misleading to the public and putting their health, safety, and welfare at risk of contaminants.
- LA Sanitation color-code Green, Yellow, and Red are misleading considering that at the very bottom there is a disclaimer stating the following "At all times: Water quality may be impaired. The disclaimer directly contradicts the LA Sanitation color-code chart and its misleading the public.

Recommendations

- The testing process needs to be more often than the proposed 2 twice a week. The water needs to be tested multiple times per day to get an idea of how often the river water exceeds the posted limits of 235 MPN.
- There should be proper signs posted in many languages warning the public of the types of contaminants that can be found in the river water. The standards should follow the current state and federal guidelines in accordance with Proposition 65 warning the public when they may be exposed to chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer or birth defects.
- There should be a city-wide ordinance making the Kayak companies make their customers aware of the potential dangers of contaminants in the water. The standards should follow the current state and federal guidelines in accordance with Proposition 65 warning the public when they may be exposed to chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer or birth defects.
- The Los Angeles River should not be open to the public until a proper water testing protocol has been established and proper signage posted all along the river.

Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council

Joseph Lovelis / President

Vincent Montalvo / Vice President

Lupe Fletes / Treasurer

Alejandro Palomino / Secretary

Luis Rosales / Rep. At Large

Gary Rogokos / Rep. At Large

Adrienne Benitez / Rep. At Large

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Authorization to submit Community Impact Statement Board Resolution

We Joe Lovelis and Vincent Montalvo, declare that we are the president and Vice President, respectively of the **Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council** and that on February 22, 2018, a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by this NC with a quorum of 8 board members present and that by a vote of ___ Yes, ___ No, and ___ Abstentions the Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, a Community Impact Statement is an official statement adopted by a neighborhood Council on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions, Whereas, up to five board members can be authorized through a board resolution to write and submit Community Impact statements through the City Clerk's online web system at <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/cis>.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the **Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council** authorizes the following board member (s) to submit Community Impact Statements which have been passed by a vote of the full board:

On the issue of CF#16-0639, we are

Against

Be it further resolved, in cases where an issue is moving quickly through the legislative process and a promptly issued statement is beneficial, the aforementioned board member are authorized to also write and submit Community Impact Statements which express positions previously voted upon by the full board.

In witness of the above action, the undersigned has executed and delivered this certificate in the name and on behalf of the **Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council** and as of the date set forth below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Lovelis".

Joe Lovelis
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent Montalvo".

Vincent Montalvo
Vice President
3/14/2018