

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

JUNE LAGMAY  
City Clerk

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT  
Executive Officer



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR

Office of the  
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services  
Room 395, City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
General Information - (213) 978-1133  
Fax: (213) 978-1040

SHANNON HOPPES  
Council and Public Services  
Division

[www.cityclerk.lacity.org](http://www.cityclerk.lacity.org)

When making inquiries relative to  
this matter, please refer to the  
Council File No.

May 30, 2012

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under Council File No. 12-0718,  
at its meeting held May 29, 2012.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'June Lagmay'.

City Clerk  
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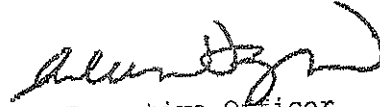
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Department of Public Works

Bureau of Engineering  
Report No. 1

May 11, 2012  
CD No. 5

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD  
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY  
of Los Angeles California  
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 11 2012

  
Executive Officer

**HILLCREST DRIVE LANDSLIDE REPAIR CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)  
COMPLIANCE AND PROJECT APPROVAL (W.O. E1907298)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Consider and adopt the CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, which finds that the project will not cause significant environmental impacts.
2. Upon adoption, forward this report with the following recommendations to the City Council for their consideration and approval:
  - a. Review and consider the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;
  - b. Find that, on the basis of the whole record, there is no substantial evidence that the project as mitigated will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the City's independent judgment and analysis;
  - c. Adopt the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;
  - d. Approve the project as described in the Initial Study; and
  - e. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Program.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The project has a budget of approximately \$4,197,680 with funding from Special Gas Tax funds. There will be no fiscal impact on the General Fund with the adoption of the recommendations above.

**TRANSMITTALS**

1. Mitigated Negative Declaration with Initial Study, dated September 22, 2011, with attached comments and responses, dated April 5, 2012, associated with the public review period.
2. Mitigation Monitoring Program, dated April 5, 2012.

## **DISCUSSION**

### ***Background***

The proposed project would stabilize a landslide area on a hillside above Hillcrest Drive near the intersection with North Beverly Drive in the City of Los Angeles. The project site is in the Franklin Canyon area of the south flank of the Santa Monica Mountains and is on several unimproved parcels owned by the City of Los Angeles. Hillcrest Drive below the project site is currently unimproved. The landslide at the project site reactivated in the 1990's and deposited debris onto Hillcrest Drive behind several residences that front North Beverly Drive. The City purchased the property onto which debris had been deposited and constructed a debris wall along and catchment basin on the down slope side of the lower part of Hillcrest Drive. The landslide reactivated again during heavy rains in 2005 and debris was deposited behind the catchment basin. The current project is the result of litigation.

### ***Project Description***

The project would stabilize the landslide area by removing debris, grading the slope and constructing drainage terraces. The project would remove landslide debris from the catchment area. The landslide debris would be trucked from the project site to an off-site location. Once the landslide debris is removed, the resultant slope would be graded to have a gradient no steeper than 2:1 (horizontal to vertical). Eight-foot wide drainage terraces would be constructed at 25-foot vertical intervals. When grading is completed, the site would be planted with drought tolerant native vegetation. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project to ensure that any impacts are reduced to a less than significant level.

### ***Public Review***

The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study were circulated for public review and comment from September 30, 2011 to October 31, 2011. A notice of intent/availability was published in the Los Angeles Times on Thursday, September 29, 2011. A notice of intent/availability was mailed to interested parties and to owners and occupants of properties adjacent to the proposed project site. The notice was also filed with the Office of the County Clerk. The Negative Declaration and Initial Study were available for review at the Westwood Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, on-line at the Bureau of Engineering's website, or by calling the Environmental Management Group. Three comments were received during the public review period. Copies of the comments along with responses can be found as an attachment to the Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Transmittal No. 1). The comments received did not necessitate changes in the project or the conclusion or findings of the Initial Study. During the review period, additional mitigation measures were identified; these have been incorporated into the Mitigation Monitoring Program (Transmittal No. 2).

### ***Project Schedule***

The above recommended actions are necessary steps in the design phase of the project schedule. The project delivery schedule anticipates start of construction in June 2012. Council action is needed before the middle of May to avoid delaying the project.

Department of Public Works  
Bureau of Engineering  
Report No. 1

May 11, 2012  
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( JED RMK VJ )

Report reviewed by:

Respectfully submitted,

BOE (ASD and GEO)



Report prepared by:

Gary Lee Moore, P.E.  
City Engineer

Environmental Management Group

James E. Doty  
Acting Group Manager  
Phone No. (213) 485-5759

JED/GE/NM/04-2012-0054.EMG.gva

Questions regarding this report  
may be referred to:

Gene Edwards, P.E., Project Manager:  
Phone No. (213) 847-0463  
E-mail: Gene.Edwards@lacity.org  
and/or

Norman Mundy, Environmental Specialist  
Phone No. (213) 485-5737  
E-mail: Norman.Mundy@lacity.org

**ADOPTED**

MAY 29 2012

**LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL**