

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

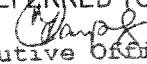
BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 1
AUGUST 25, 2020

CD: 12

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

AUG 25 2020

AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR


Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN LOS ANGELES SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENT, THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS, AND THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER OF POWER REGARDING THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CABALLERO CREEK CONFLUENCE WETLANDS PARK PROJECT

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Approve and forward this report, with its transmittal, to the Mayor and City Council, to authorize the President or two members of the Board of Public Works (Board), and the Director and General Manager of Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment (LASAN), or designee, to execute the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (Agreement) between LASAN, the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) regarding the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the Caballero Creek Confluence Wetlands Park Project (Project)
- 2 Notify Mr. Kosta Kaporis (213-485-0586) of LASAN's Watershed Protection Division (WPD) when the Agreement is ready to be executed by the Board, whereupon five original documents will be delivered to the Secretary of the Board for execution.
- 3 Upon execution, request the City Clerk to attest and certify the original copies of the Agreement. The City Clerk and the Board are each to retain one original copy, and return the remaining three copies to WPD.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no impact to the City's General Fund.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Agreement between LASAN, RAP, and LADWP.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Agreement is to establish an understanding between LASAN, RAP, and LADWP for the operation and maintenance responsibilities of each party upon completion of the Project.

BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 1
AUGUST 25, 2020

Page 2

The Project is listed by RAP as one of the City's 50 Parks Initiative. The Project is located at the confluence of the Los Angeles River and Caballero Creek, the only tributary stemming from the ecologically-rich Santa Monica Mountains. The Project will restore 1.5-acres of a currently paved asphalt lot into a multiple-benefit natural park. LASAN recognizes the need to improve water quality in the Los Angeles region, provide resilient clean water and resultant supplies for recharging aquifers, reduce flooding impacts, protect compatible beneficial uses, and improve neighborhood quality of life. The Project helps with LASAN's goals of reducing urban runoff pollution, enhancing water resources by the collection and use of runoff for local non-potable uses, and improving the environment for the health of the City's respective citizens and visitors.

The Project will assist the City to improve water quality by reducing the pollutant loads to the Los Angeles River including critical pollutants such as bacteria, heavy metals as well as other toxic substances thus helping the City comply with the requirements set forth by the Los Angeles National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit that regulates municipal discharges of stormwater and urban dry weather runoff. The Project will create water quality, aesthetic and recreational benefits, and educational opportunities. The Project will be a demonstration project for future projects in the watershed and a learning tool for three schools within walking distance.

By capturing and treating stormwater, the Project has the potential to connect the public to California's diminishing riverine ecology and to clean and protect the local water quality along with its aquatic inhabitants. Additionally, one of the goals of the Project is to operate with a net-zero use of potable water and energy.

The Project consists of constructing several Best Management Practices (BMPs) facilities aimed at treating off-site and on-site runoff and reducing loadings of several contaminants to Caballero Creek and the Los Angeles River. Proposed BMPs include a stormwater trash separator unit, stormwater pump system, media pond filter, ultraviolet disinfection, mixing tank, bioswale, and wetland. LASAN will pump up to 462,000 gallons (1.41 acre feet) per year of surface water (via solar power) from Caballero Creek and divert it on-site to create wetland habitat and to irrigate the Project. During warm months with no appreciable rainfall, water demands of the wetland habitat and the irrigation system will be met by pumping dry weather flows from nearby Caballero Creek and circulating it through the wetland and bioswale.

The Project will also provide various park amenities and educational opportunities. The Exhibits of the Caballero Creek Confluence Wetlands Park depicts the Project site and delineates the areas of responsibilities between LASAN, RAP, and LADWP. The Project will utilize an innovative mix of low-tech mechanical and biological methods that will lead to watershed protection, which includes a bio-swale and a wetland component for storm water treatment. The swale will serve as an educational tool that re-creates a riparian habitat on-site to infiltrate and naturally filter 11-acres of street stormwater runoff. The wetlands will pump water (via solar power) from Caballero Creek and divert it on-site to create habitat, clean the water, and store it on-site for a consistent irrigation water supply.

The Project will not only create native habitat for local wildlife and help improve water quality within the LA River, it will also provide a new publicly accessible multiple-benefit park located in a disadvantaged community. The park's amenities will include nature trails, fencing and

gateways, shade structure, drought-tolerant native landscaping, smart irrigation, seating, fitness stations, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, interpretive panels, and other park amenities.

Under the terms of this Agreement, LASAN agrees to conduct the O&M of the water quality improvements for the Project, and RAP agrees to maintain the landscaping, trees, and recreational improvements upon completion of the Project. LADWP agrees to allow RAP and LASAN to divert up to 462,000 gallons (1.41 acre-feet) per year of the City's water rights, provided said diversions are in accordance with this MOA and all applicable laws and permits. LADWP will also accept diverted water flow monitoring data from LASAN and report each water year, the total amounts of water diverted from Caballero Creek to the Upper Los Angeles River Area Watermaster. All three agencies will work together in coordinating their respective O&M activities and/or Project responsibilities so that the Project can function in an optimal manner as it was envisioned during the planning and design stages.

LASAN and RAP agree to operate and maintain the Project as a permanent capital improvement in order for the City to stay in compliance with its Municipal Permit and TMDLs regulatory requirements enacted by Regional Water Quality Control Board.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

The Agreement will be administered by LASAN - Watershed Protection Division.

APPROVAL AS TO FORM

The Agreement was also reviewed by Adena M. Hopenstand, Assistant City Attorney, and has been approved as to form.

PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE (PRC) APPROVAL

PRC approved this project on February 13, 2019, for a total construction budget of \$3,654,200.

STATUS OF FINANCING

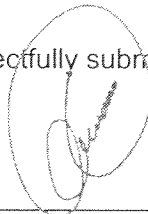
There is no impact to the General Fund. The memorandum of agreement outlines an estimated cost of \$220,000 annually for operations and maintenance after the project is completed in FY 2021-22. This funding needs to be requested as part of LASAN's FY 2021-22 Budget proposal and will either be budgeted within the Measure W Municipal Program Special Fund or Stormwater Pollution Abatement Fund.

Funds and Appropriations for future fiscal years are not yet identified and existing appropriations may change based on available cash balances. Therefore, funds and appropriations will be determined by the Director and General Manager of LASAN or designee.

BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 1
AUGUST 25, 2020

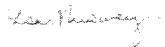
Page 4

Respectfully submitted,



ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, P.E.
Director and General Manager
Bureau of Sanitation

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



Digitally signed by Lisa B. Mowery
DN: cn=Lisa B. Mowery, email=lisa.mowery@city.org, c=US
Date: 2020.08.06 08:32:10 -0700

LISA B. MOWERY, Chief Financial Officer
Bureau of Sanitation

Date: 8/6/20

Prepared by:
Wing Tam, Kosta Kaporis, WPD
(213) 485-0586