

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

L.A. CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN Future Public Resource Needs To Be Met As The City of Los Angeles Grows

LOS ANGELES (November 21, 2006) – The Los Angeles City Council on November 15 unanimously approved and certified a final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) that provides a visionary and innovative strategic facilities plan for the wastewater, runoff and recycled water programs. Key components of the IRP will increase capacity and water conservation efforts to operations overseen by the Department of Public Works.

The IRP identifies and lays the foundation for the necessary infrastructure investments and policies to address the City's population growth, demand and use of water for the next 20 years. The IRP employed an integrated process that maximizes the use of existing facilities and resources while providing multiple benefits for communities and neighborhoods.

The final EIR for the City's IRP, as certified by the City Council, will allow the City of Los Angeles to begin implementing the construction of numerous infrastructure projects and new groundbreaking policies. These projects and policies are aimed to have a direct and future benefit to the residents and businesses in the City of Los Angeles for generations to come.

The project will improve water quality, protect public health and the environment, enhance and upgrade wastewater facilities, increase water recycling and conservation efforts, reduce dependence on imported water, clean and reuse urban and stormwater runoff.

“These projects will ensure and benefit the quality of life and public health of our residents and at the same time protect the environment and precious resources,” said Cynthia Ruiz, President of the Board of Public Works.

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Community members and community-based organizations joined the Departments of Public Works (DPW) and Water and Power (DWP) in this joint effort to develop the 20-year IRP for the City's vast wastewater system that serves more than four million residents and businesses.

Key community stakeholders served on the IRP Steering Group that provided guidance in planning the programs to coordinate and organize the City's separate wastewater, stormwater, recycled water and drinking water systems. The IRP Steering Group is comprised of community representatives, businesses, labor, Neighborhood Councils, contract cities and other agencies.

"The future is bright! As a result of many of our environmental programs such as the IRP, our waters and the environment are getting healthier and safer for our children and grandchildren," said Rita Robinson, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation.

Key components of the Integrated Resources Plan are:

- Capacity of the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant will be expanded to 100 million gallons per day;
- Digesters, secondary clarifiers and a truck loading facility will be added to the Hyperion Treatment Plant;
- Effluent from the Donald C. Tillman and Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plants that is recycled will be increased;
- Neighborhood scale percolation systems will be built at vacant lots, parks and open spaces in the east valley;
- New collection system sewers will be built;
- Onsite wet weather runoff percolation systems will be added at schools and government properties;
- Storage will be added at the Donald C. Tillman and the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plants;
- Urban runoff management projects will be timed and coordinated with the City's requirements related to the Total Maximum Daily Loads; and
- Water conservation programs will be continued such as the installation of smart irrigation devices.

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For more information on the Integrated Resources Plan, please visit the project website at www.lacity.org/san/irp.

The five-member Board of Public Works manages the activities of the Department of Public Works, the third largest municipal agency in Los Angeles. The Department of Public Works is responsible for construction, renovation and operation of public facilities and infrastructure ranging from curbside collection and graffiti removal to maintenance of sidewalks, bridges, sewers and streetlights, and from maintenance of wastewater treatment plants to the design of public buildings.

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