



WATER IRP

Integrated Resources Plan



June 2009

The City of Los Angeles continues to move forward implementing the various recommendations contained in the IRP Implementation Strategy. Keeping our IRP Stakeholders informed and engaged is a vital part of the Implementation Phase. This is the seventh issue sent to inform you of the progress of IRP projects and policies as well as future steps we are taking to meet our goals. Starting on Fiscal Year '09-'10 (which begins in July 2009) this update will be sent biannually.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE:

Collaborative efforts between City Departments have led to innovative projects, policy changes, and implementation of new technologies all related to the Water IRP. The following are some accomplishments to date:

- ◆ Construction of the Cesar Chavez Groundwater Improvement was completed in early 2009. This project installed a new gas conveyance system to allow for ground water recharge to add up to 10,800 acre-ft/yr of stormwater runoff from Tujunga Wash to the Tujunga Spreading Grounds.
- ◆ Completed in early 2009, the Grand Blvd. Tree Wells Project installed seven tree wells to capture and treat stormwater and urban runoff from the surrounding areas prior to discharging into the storm drain system. In addition to water quality, the tree wells also provide green elements and add aesthetics to the community.



Pictured Right: A filter unit is already in place to capture stormwater from the surrounding area.

- ◆ The Anheuser-Busch bottling plant in Van Nuys developed their own process water conservation plan and implemented it in August 2008. In the ten months since the project was implemented Anheuser-Busch has saved 1,431 acre-feet (AF) or 466 million gallons (MG) of water. LADWP provided Anheuser-Busch a \$185,000 rebate for this project through its Technical Assistance Program.
- ◆ Ten high-use City facilities have been retrofitted with water efficient toilets, urinals, and faucets saving approximately 23 AF (8 MG) per year. Locations include City Hall, City Hall East, Pershing Square, and LADWP Headquarters.
- ◆ LADWP launched the Residential Drought Resistant Landscape Incentive Program (Landscape Program) on June 1, 2009. The Landscape Program will pay single family residential customers \$1.00 per square foot of turf removed and replaced with low water use plants, mulching, and permeable hardscapes. The program is estimated to save 1,010 AF (329 MG) of potable water over the next 10 years.
- ◆ LADWP provided LAUSD a renewable energy and water conservation model lesson to 660 6th grade teachers reaching approximately 45,000 students this year.
- ◆ Water wheels with water conservation tips on everything from landscape irrigation information to dishwashing tips were distributed to 1.2 million LADWP residential customers.

- Hotel Towel Door Hangers that promote reuse of towels and Restaurant Table Tent Cards that communicate that a glass of water in restaurants must be requested by customers were distributed in 2008.
- The Los Angeles Zoo successfully switched the irrigation system of its Dry Retention Pond over to recycled water on May 21, 2009. The Dry Retention Pond is located along the perimeter of the Zoo's parking lot and was previously irrigated with potable water. Recycled water is a drought-tolerant irrigation solution and its use at the Dry Retention Pond will save the City of Los Angeles up to 20 acre-feet per year of potable water, which is enough water to supply 40 homes.

UPDATE ON IRP GO-POLICY PROGRESS:

Stormwater Management:

- The Riverdale Avenue Green Street Project will install permeable interlocking concrete pavers, street trees and planter beds along both sides of Riverdale Ave. between Crystal Street and the LA River to reduce stormwater runoff via infiltration. This project is currently in design and construction is expected to be completed by August 2010.
- The Whitnall Highway Power Line Easement Project will construct sedimentation and infiltration basins along Whitnall Highway in Sun Valley to capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff from the surrounding residential areas.
- The City and LAUSD are partnering to divert and treat off-site water on the campus of Fremont High School. LAUSD will contribute approximately \$1 million towards the cost of the Fremont High School Garden Stormwater Improvement Project. As the City's first joint project on LAUSD property, it opens opportunities to expand the partnership onto other campuses.
- The Elmer Avenue Neighborhood Retrofit Project will install sidewalks, curb and gutter, and catch basins along Elmer Avenue. In addition, this project will also install parkway stormwater gardens and driveway drains to accept runoff from residential lots adjacent to the project site. The will also be a large infiltration system underneath the Elmer Avenue project site, along both sides of the street, to treat and infiltrate runoff from the street itself and residential runoff not fully captured by the stormwater gardens.
- Construction on the Imperial Highway Median Greening Project, funded by Prop O, began in May 2009. Project elements include a grass swale, infiltration trench, native vegetation, and local regrading.

General:

The annual water IRP Stakeholder's Meeting was held on April 29, 2009. Presentations by several City departments included updates on projects and programs related to recycled water, water conservation, stormwater management. Other programs discussed included the Green Building program, the Zero Waste efforts as part of the Solid Waste Integrated Resources Plan (SWIRP) and the Biosolids program.



Above (Left): Water IRP Stakeholders were provided with updates on several IRP programs and accomplishments. (Center): BOS Director Enrique C. Zaldivar welcomed meeting attendees and thanked them for their continued support. (Right): Group picture of several water IRP Stakeholders and City staff who attended the annual meeting.

For more information visit the IRP website: <http://www.lacity.org/san/irp/> or call (323) 342-6251.