



## Wastewater, Recycled Water, Stormwater, Drinking Water ... It's All Integrated

The Departments of Public Works and Water and Power have an extraordinary opportunity to dramatically change the way we plan for future facilities that collect and treat wastewater, recycled water, and stormwater. The facilities we are referring to can cost billions of dollars, take years (sometimes decades) to build, and last more than our lifetimes. They are the underpinnings of our City, and since most are underground, they are almost always out of sight and out of mind. But they are integrated, and what happens within one system ultimately ends up affecting another. For example, when we conserve the water we use in showering and washing clothes, less water winds up in the sewers. When we recycle more water for irrigation (or similar non-potable uses), our need to import water drops.

Taking into account the integration of resources and systems is just half of the dramatic change in our approach to planning. The other half is the Departments' goal that new facilities will be planned based upon what the people of Los Angeles themselves want for the upcoming generations - not necessarily just what is determined to be most efficient and cost effective.

In 1999, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Water and Power (DWP), and leaders of organizations throughout Los Angeles launched a program to clearly guide the way to this future. The Integrated Plan for the Wastewater Program (IPWP) produced guiding principles for planning future facilities. These principles were based upon the consensus of the public participation in the IPWP. Mayor Jim Hahn, the Los Angeles City Council, and the Board of Public Works officially concurred with the guiding principles and directed the Bureau of Sanitation to move forward with planning for future facilities following these stakeholder-driven guidelines.

In 2003, the Bureau of Sanitation, DWP, and our consulting support team, CH2M HILL and Camp Dresser & McKee, have, again, rolled up their sleeves and begun working with you, our stakeholders, in the early stages of facilities planning. This is our opportunity to accomplish great things for our City, working together!!

## Moving Successfully to the Next Phase

The Integrated Resources Plan — IRP — is the City's innovative approach to facilities planning that is being conducted in two phases:

**Phase I of the IRP:** Phase I was the Integrated Plan for the Wastewater Program — a stakeholder-led effort to develop policies to address the City's facility needs for the wastewater program through the year 2020. The process also produced guiding principles

that considered how water supply, water conservation, water recycling, and stormwater management are integrated with wastewater facilities planning — through a regional watershed approach.

**Phase II of the IRP:** The second phase that we have entered now will produce the actual Facilities Plan, the necessary Environmental Documentation, a Financial Plan, and Public Outreach and Education Program.

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## 400 Stakeholders Involved in Phase II IRP Groups

More than 400 stakeholders are currently involved in the IRP planning process. These stakeholders represent more than 150,000 residents in the region!



The City of Los Angeles continues to invite community leaders to be involved in planning for future wastewater facilities at any of three levels of participation:

**The Steering Group** individuals come from a wide range of political, economic, geographic, environmental, and social interests around the City. They are providing feedback on plans for future facilities and programs for the wastewater program.

**The Advisory Group** also takes an active role participating in meetings, sharing ideas and concerns about the alternatives, and providing advice and feedback to the Steering Group.

**The Information Group** is comprised of community leaders who receive this newsletter and help their colleagues stay informed about this important program.

### The Primary Goal of the IPWP . . .

. . . was to define a general direction for facilities planning with a set of policy recommendations, developed by stakeholders, that will guide the City's wastewater program through the year 2020.

## Guiding Principles for IRP Planning

The Steering Group's role in guiding the wastewater facilities planning process has been invaluable — along with input from the entire stakeholder team. The guiding principles (see below) will shape the development of alternatives for addressing future system needs. These broad elements were recommended by the majority of the Steering Group:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Wastewater Collection and Treatment</b>            | Build new wastewater facilities upstream  |
| <b>Recycled Water</b>                                 | Maximize recycled water use   |
| <b>Inflow and Infiltration into Wastewater System</b> | Reduce amount of rainfall-dependent inflow and infiltration as much as possible           |
| <b>Water Conservation</b>                             | Increase water conservation   |
| <b>Dry Weather Urban Runoff</b>                       | Increase the amount of dry weather urban runoff diverted and treated or beneficially used |
| <b>Wet Weather Urban Runoff</b>                       | Increase the amount of wet weather urban runoff captured and beneficially reused          |
| <b>Biosolids Management</b>                           | Reuse biosolids beneficially  |
| <b>Cost Efficiency</b>                                | Focus on lower-cost solutions (using the above principles)                                |

The policy recommendations made by the Steering Group include specific action items for the immediate future. The action items can be found in the excellent detailed report: *"Summary of the Steering Group Process and Their Recommendations for Integrated Resources Planning Policy Development."*

This report is available online at: [www.lacity.org/SAN/ipwp/home.cfm](http://www.lacity.org/SAN/ipwp/home.cfm) (click on "publications" and pull up "IPWP Summary Statement") or call Amy Jones at 323 342-6233.

## "A New Direction" Video

Now an award-winning video, "A New Direction" can answer many questions about the Integrated Plan for Wastewater Program. Don't miss this informative video, which won the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies' (AMSA's) 2002 National Environmental Achievement Award in the video

category for Public Information and Education Award. Special thanks are given to the project team of Julie Inouye, Kevin Snavelly, Chris Harris, Heather Boyle, Deborah Pham, and Amy Jones. For individual or group viewing, contact: Amy Jones, Bureau of Sanitation, 323 342-6233.

## Learn More About L.A.'s Infrastructure — Take a Tour!

Learn firsthand how wastewater is processed through the various stages by taking a tour of the City's treatment plants. You can also visit a farm in Kern County where biosolids are used to nourish crops. You can see several recycling facilities, and a watershed capture and reuse demonstration site at a private residence.



Currently, tours are scheduled as follows:

### **Hall House: Watershed Best Management Practices Demonstration Site (Private Residence)**

March 11, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - noon

### **Tillman Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden**

March 26, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - noon

### **Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant and Los Angeles River**

April 2, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### **Hyperion Treatment Plant**

April 8, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - noon

### **West Basin Water Recycling Facility**

April 8, 2003, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### **Terminal Island Treatment Plant**

April 16, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - noon

### **Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility**

April 23, 2003, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

### **Green Acres Farm (Biosolids — Kern County)**

April 29, 2003, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(A chartered bus will transport you from L.A. to the farm and back.)

For more information about the tours (including alternate dates and times), please contact:

**Amy Jones, Bureau of Sanitation**  
**323 342-6233**  
[aljones@san.lacity.org](mailto:aljones@san.lacity.org)

## Building the Foundation for the IRP

Technical studies for water and wastewater needs for the year 2020 will be a valuable cornerstone to the planning team's progress. Here are some of the highlights of these studies:

### **Average sewage flows using population forecasts for year 2020:**

The Southern California Association of Governments has forecasted a 19 percent increase in population in the City of Los Angeles between year 2000 and year 2020. The technical team has used this information, historic water usage, and historic sewage production to estimate future sewage flows. For the 515 square miles served by the City's wastewater system (which is larger than the City's boundaries), the IRP team has forecasted an average sewage flow of 531 million gallons per day by year 2020. The team is currently evaluating how these flows may vary daily and seasonally.

### **Potential users of recycled water for irrigation or industrial water:**

Maximizing recycled water use is a key guiding principle for the IRP. To develop recycled water options, the technical team is focusing on identifying potential customers for irrigation or industrial water. To identify these customers, the team is analyzing a list of DWP's top water users. The team is evaluating two categories of top water users: Landscaping Metered Customers (those customers with separate landscape meters) and Large Users (those customers that do not have a separate meter for landscaping). The team will evaluate these customers based on location and proximity to existing infrastructure to develop recycled water options.

These are just two of several studies underway. Look for more information on the others in the next issue of the IRP newsletter.

### **IRP Information**

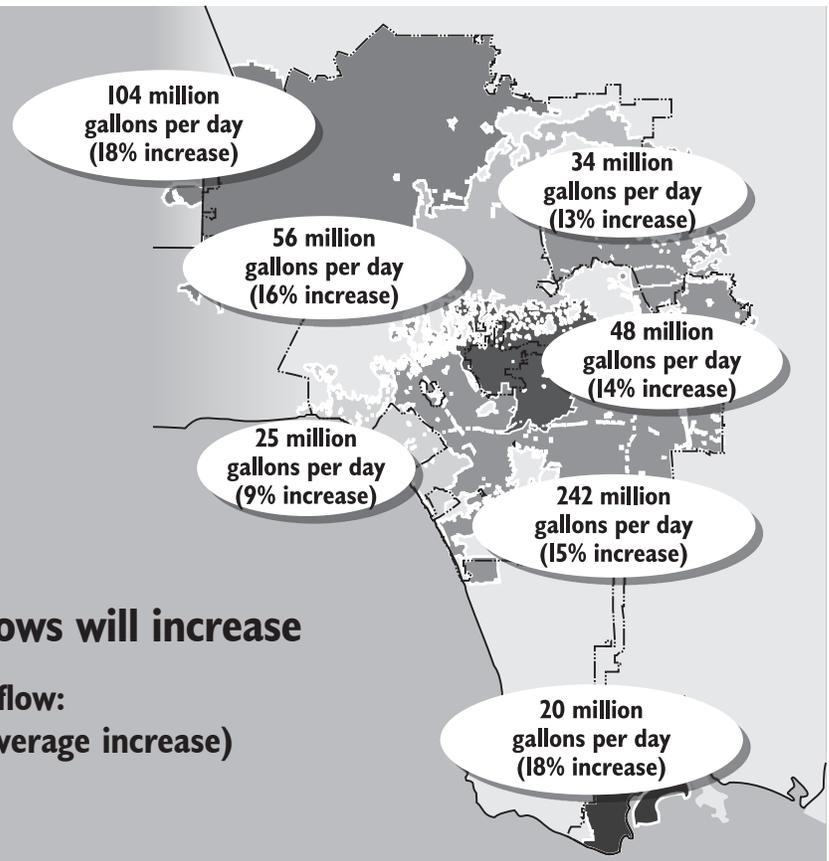
**Amy Jones**  
**323 342-6233**  
[www.lacity.org/SAN/ipwp/home.cfm](http://www.lacity.org/SAN/ipwp/home.cfm)



# Future Growth

**As L.A. grows,  
this is where wastewater flows will increase**

**Total projected 2020 wastewater flow:  
531 million gallons per day (16% average increase)**



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