

APPENDIX H

**Department of City Planning Inter-Departmental
Correspondence**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: September 28, 2022

TO: Evelyn Cortez-Davis
Director of Water Engineering and Technical Service Division
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

FROM: Craig Weber *C W*
Principal City Planner
Department of City Planning

SUBJECT: **Tom Labonge Headworks Facility**

It is our understanding that the Department of Water and Power (DWP) is in the process of initiating infrastructure improvements at a City-owned site located at 6001 W Forest Lawn Drive (APN 5581-001-906). The site, located adjacent to the northwestern boundary of Griffith Park, near the City's border with Burbank, is within the Hollywood Community Plan area, and is designated for Open Space purposes, with a corresponding zone of OS-IXL-H-RIO. The site is also located within the River Improvement Overlay area. The site is located in proximity to the Forest Lawn Cemetery, the Los Angeles River, the Ventura Freeway (134), various Griffith Park facilities, and residential neighborhoods within the City of Burbank. The site is currently improved with a reservoir and other water system infrastructure.

In addition to the on-going construction of water system infrastructure, DWP is also developing a Water Quality Laboratory, Direct Potable Reuse Demonstration Facility, and a park facility that will be located at the site. While the initiated improvements are consistent with numerous General Plan and Community Plan goals and policies that seek to maintain open space uses for passive and active recreation purposes, and to carry out necessary infrastructure improvements, it is our understanding that the initiated development would be exempt from zoning review, or any approval process administered by the Department of City Planning, pursuant to City Charter Sections 672 and 675, which state that the Department of Water and Power Board shall have the power and duty to make and enforce all necessary rules and regulations governing the construction, maintenance, operation, connection to, and use of the Water and Power Assets for Departmental Purposes.