

FINAL

Environmental Impact Report for the
De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project
SCH 2017111073

PREPARED FOR:



111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, California 90012
James R. Howe

PREPARED BY:

DUDEK

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Pasadena, California 91101
Nicole Cobleigh

SEPTEMBER 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE NO.
1	PREFACE 1-1
1.1	Purpose 1-1
1.2	Format of the Final EIR 1-1
1.3	Environmental Review Process 1-2
1.3.1	Notice of Preparation 1-2
1.3.2	Noticing and Availability of the Draft 1-2
1.3.3	Final EIR 1-2
1.4	Revisions to the Draft EIR 1-3
2	RESPONSES TO COMMENTS 2-1
3	ERRATA 3-1
4	MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM 4-1

TABLES

2-1	List of Commenters 2-1
4-1	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program 4-2

ATTACHMENT

A	Linda van der Valk Comment and LADWP Response
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1 PREFACE

1.1 Purpose

This Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for the De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project (project or proposed project). This Final EIR has been prepared in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) statutes (Cal. Pub. Res. Code, Section 21000 et. seq., as amended) and implementing guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, Section 15000 et. seq.).

Before approving a project, CEQA requires the lead agency to prepare and certify a Final EIR. LADWP has the principal responsibility for approval of the proposed project and is therefore considered the lead agency under CEQA Section 21067. According to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15132, the Final EIR shall consist of:

- The Draft EIR or a revision of the Draft
- Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary
- A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR
- The responses of the lead agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process; and
- Any other information added by the lead agency

1.2 Format of the Final EIR

This Final EIR consists of the March 2020 Draft EIR and the following four chapters:

1.0 Preface. This chapter summarizes the contents of the Final EIR, the environmental review process.

2.0 Response to Comments. During the public review period for the Draft EIR, two comment letters were received. This chapter contains these comment letters and LADWP's responses to the comments.

3.0 Errata. In the event that changes to the Draft EIR are required as part of the comment and response effort, changes are incorporated in underline and ~~strikeout~~ text within this section of the Final EIR.

4.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. This section of the Final EIR provides the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for the proposed project. The MMRP is presented in table format and identifies mitigation measures for the proposed project, the implementation period for each measure, the implementing party, and the enforcing agency. The MMRP also provides a section for recordation of mitigation reporting.

1.3 Environmental Review Process

1.3.1 Notice of Preparation

LADWP determined that an EIR would be required for the proposed project and issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP), which was distributed to the State Clearinghouse, interested agencies, and groups on November 27, 2017. Pursuant to Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, recipients of the NOP were requested to provide responses within 66 days after their receipt of the NOP. The 66-day NOP public review period ended January 31, 2018. Comments received during the NOP public review period were considered during the preparation of this EIR. The NOP and NOP comments are included in Appendix A of the Draft EIR.

1.3.2 Noticing and Availability of the Draft

The Draft EIR was made available for public review and comment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15087. The 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR started on March 6, 2020, and ended on April 20, 2020. At the beginning of the public review period, 15 copies of the Draft EIR and one copy of the Notice of Completion (NOC) were submitted to the State Clearinghouse. Relevant agencies also received electronic copies of the documents. A Notice of Availability (NOA) was distributed to interested parties, filed with the Los Angeles City Clerk and Los Angeles County Clerk, and a newspaper posting was printed in the *Los Angeles Times*. The NOA described where the document was available and how to submit comments on the Draft EIR. The NOA and Draft EIR were also made available for public review upon request at the LADWP offices. Additionally, the document was available to be viewed on LADWP website at: www.ladwp.com/envnotices. The public outreach meeting scheduled for March 26 at the Chatsworth Branch Library was cancelled to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; however, a presentation was developed and also made available for public review on the LADWP project website at: www.ladwp.com/DeSotoTanks. The 45-day public review period provided interested public agencies, groups, and individuals the opportunity to comment on the contents of the Draft EIR.

1.3.3 Final EIR

This Final EIR addresses the comments received during the 45-day public review period. This Final EIR will be presented to LADWP Board of Commissioners for potential certification as the environmental document for the proposed project. All persons who commented on the Draft EIR will be notified of the availability of the Final EIR, and all agencies who commented on the Draft EIR will be provided with a copy of the Final EIR, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(b). The Final EIR will also be posted on LADWP's website: www.ladwp.com/envnotices.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091, LADWP shall make findings for each of the significant effects identified in this EIR and shall support the findings with substantial evidence in the record. After considering the Final EIR in conjunction with making findings under Section 15091, the lead agency may decide whether or how to approve or carry out the project. When a lead agency approves a project that will result in the occurrence of significant effects that are identified in the Final EIR but are not avoided or substantially lessened, the agency is required by CEQA to state in writing the specific reasons to support its action based on the Final EIR and/or other information

in the record. Because the Project would not result in significant and unavoidable impacts, a “statement of overriding considerations” is not required, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15093.

1.4 Revisions to the Draft EIR

The comments received during the public review period for the Draft EIR did not result in clarifications and modifications in the text of the March 2020 Draft EIR.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5 identifies when a lead agency must recirculate an EIR. A lead agency is required to recirculate an EIR when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notice is given of the availability of the Draft EIR but before certification of the Final EIR. Information includes changes in the project or environmental setting as well as additional data or other information. New information added to an EIR is not considered significant unless the EIR is changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse environmental effect of the project or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect (including a feasible project alternative) that the project’s proponents have declined to implement. As defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(a), significant new information requiring recirculation includes the following:

1. A new significant environmental impact would result from the project or from a new mitigation measure proposed to be implemented.
2. A substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact would result unless mitigation measures are adopted that reduce the impact to a level of insignificance.
3. A feasible project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the project, but the project’s proponents decline to adopt it.
4. The draft EIR was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that meaningful public review and comment were precluded.

Since no minor clarifications, modifications, and editorial corrections that were made to the Draft EIR, none of the CEQA criteria for recirculation have been met, recirculation of the EIR is not warranted. As stated in CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(b), “recirculation is not required where the new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications in an adequate EIR.”

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2 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

A draft version of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed project was circulated for public review from March 6, 2020 to April 20, 2020. This chapter of the Final EIR includes a copy of each comment letter provided during the 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has prepared responses to each comment, which are included in this chapter. The comments are ordered numerically, and the individual issues within each comment letter are bracketed and numbered. LADWP's responses to comments on the Draft EIR represent a good-faith, reasoned effort to address the environmental issues identified by the comments. Under the CEQA Guidelines, the Lead Agency is required to evaluate and provide written responses to comments received on the Draft EIR (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15088).

As shown in Table 2-1, LADWP received comment letters from two individuals; no agencies submitted comments on the Draft EIR. Responses have been prepared to comments that were received during the public review period. Additionally, one comment was submitted electronically on June 23, 2020 to LADWP. This letter, and LADWP's response to this letter, are included in Attachment A to this Final EIR.

Table 2-1. List of Commenters

Comment Letter	Name	Address
1	Marty Woll	email: n6vi@socal.rr.com
2	Jeannie Plumb	10755 De Soto Avenue Chatsworth, California 91311

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Comment Letter 1

From: [Marty Woll](#)
To: [Howe, James](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] De Soto Tanks Project
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 3:33:23 PM

Thank you, sir. I will start looking through the documents.

Regards,

Marty

From: Howe, James [mailto:James.Howe@ladwp.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Marty Woll
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] De Soto Tanks Project

Good afternoon Mr. Woll,

Thank you for your comments. Yes, the Draft EIR and all supporting documents may be reviewed online.

The PDF for solely the Draft EIR can be found [here](#). However, if you would like to review all the supporting appendices and other additional information, those may be found [here](#).

Thank you very much and please feel free to reach out if you have any additional questions.

Best,

James

James R. Howe, Environmental Specialist
Environmental Planning and Assessment
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 N. Hope St., Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Office: 213-367-0414

From: Marty Woll [mailto:n6vi@socal.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Howe, James
Subject: [EXTERNAL] De Soto Tanks Project

EXTERNAL EMAIL! This email was generated from a non-LADWP address. If any links exist, do not click/open on them unless you are 100% certain of the associated site or source. ALWAYS hover over the link to preview the actual URL/site and confirm its legitimacy.

1-1

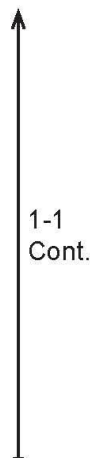
Dear Mr. Howe,

Thanks to the Department for the mailer announcing the availability of the De Soto Tanks project EIR. I am supportive of this project, However, since the mailer was sent, the Chatsworth Library has been closed by order of the Mayor, so neither the scheduled March 26 public meeting nor review of the EIR document can occur there for possibly up to eight weeks.

Can the EIR be viewed online? If so, would you please provide a link to it?

Regards,

Marty Woll
Chatsworth resident



1-1
Cont.

-----Confidentiality Notice-----
This electronic message transmission contains information from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which may be confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the content of this information is prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and delete the original message and any attachment without reading or saving in any manner.

Response to Comment Letter 1

Marty Woll
March 16, 2020

- 1-1** This comment letter requests an electronic link to the document saved on line and conveys support for the project. The electronic link to the document was provided to the commenter on March 16, 2020, and the letter of support will be shared with decision makers.

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4/8/20

Mrs. Howe:

Enclosed please find horse trail route plotted on the enlarged map of the site for the future "Debris tanks and Pump Station Project."

Traveling from east to west, riders enter the site at the Kinkadee Street signal, equestrian crossing. Riders must avoid existing retention basins here and continue around it, going westward. Riders then ride southward to parallel the existing (rail) road to reach the opening between the Sierra Canyon High School boarder wall and the DWP reservoir property. The existing trail turns south, dedicated and improved to the County of Los Angeles, to Rinaldi Street. It then turns 90° due west, paralleling Rinaldi St. and takes riders to the crossing at Debris Ave. The signals are fully improved with equestrian amenities for safety.

Currently there is a clearly defined trail service road on the site that has served as the trail for decades across the project site; however, if the alignment has to be adjusted there is room to move it southward on your site. (I trust it seems) so the site would be helpful, by your designers before final construction plans are shown to the public.

continued

2-1

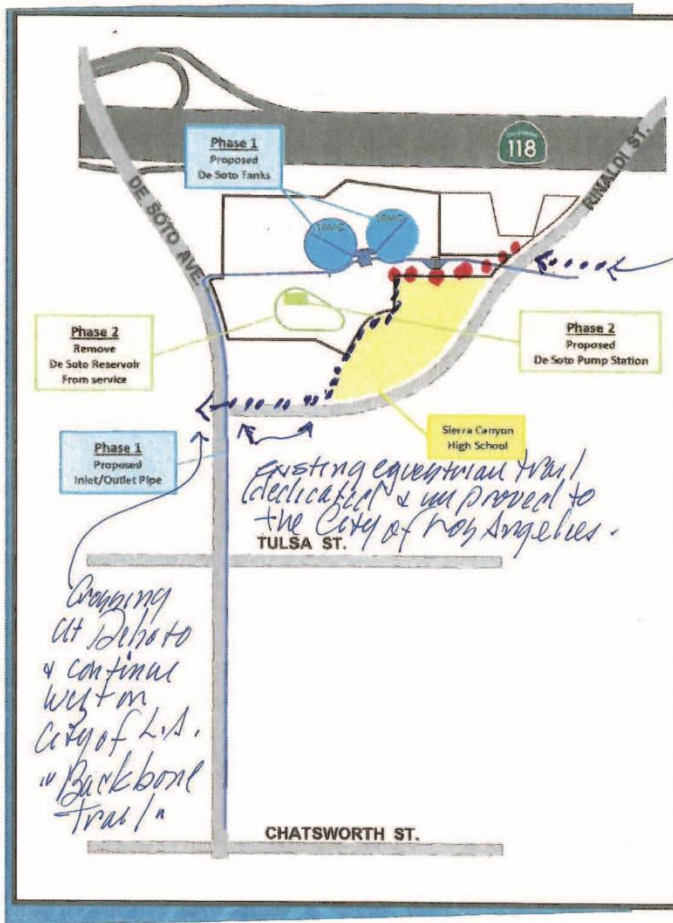
Part ES.4 Project Location.
Paragraph 2, 3 and 4 adequately
describes the current horse trail
dedication and need for preservation
as it is a vital link between the
Mission trail and the Back horse
Trail sections of the 12th Dist. nat.
Equestrian trails.

I can support the De Soto Tanks
and Pump Station Project, both as
an equestrian, and property owner,
at this time, if the DWP will
commit to the proposed trail alignment
and mitigation measures as described.

Thank you for your attention
to this request.

Jamie Plumb
40751 De Soto Ave.
Chatsworth, Ca.
91311
818) 341-6193

2-1
Cont.



enter existing equest. signal from trail.

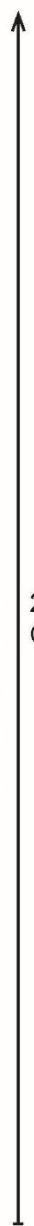
Existing equestrian trail dedicated & unproved to the City of Los Angeles.

Changing at De Soto & continue west on City of L.A. "Backbone Trail"

*trail specifications:
12'-0" to 15'-0"
in width
unobstructed*

existing trail

proposed BWR site trail



2-1
Cont.

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Response to Comment Letter 2

Jeannie Plumb

April 8, 2020

- 2-1** This letter describes existing access points and the route of the equestrian trail located on, and immediately adjacent to, the project site. This letter also conveys support for the project. As discussed in the EIR, throughout construction and operation of the project, access to the equestrian trail will be maintained. The support for the project will be shared with decision makers.

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3 ERRATA

The comments received by Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) during the public review period for the Draft EIR did not include information that required revisions to the text of the Draft EIR and Draft EIR appendices. As such, no revisions or errata to the Draft EIR are required, and there are not changes that constitute “substantial revisions” requiring recirculation of the Draft EIR, as set forth in CEQA Guidelines, Section 15073.5.

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4 MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 requires that, upon certification of an EIR, “the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes made to the project or conditions of project approval, adopted in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The reporting or monitoring program shall be designed to ensure compliance during project implementation.”

This chapter contains the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) that has been developed for the De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project (project or proposed project). This MMRP has been developed in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines. The mitigation measures in the table are coded by alphanumeric identification consistent with the EIR. The following items are identified for each mitigation measure:

- **Mitigation Monitoring.** This section of the MMRP lists the stage of the proposed project during which the mitigation measure would be implemented and the stage during which proper implementation would be monitored and verified. It also lists the agency that is responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented and that it is implemented properly.
- **Verification of Compliance.** This section of the MMRP provides a location for the implementing party and/or enforcing agency to make notes and to record their initials and the compliance date for each mitigation measure.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) must adopt this MMRP, or an equally effective program, if it approves the proposed project with the mitigation measures that were adopted or made conditions of project approval.

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<i>Air Quality</i>						
<p>MM-AQ-1: To reduce the potential for health risks as a result of construction of the project, the applicant shall:</p> <p>A. Prior to the start of construction activities, the project applicant, or its designee, shall ensure that all 75 horsepower or greater diesel-powered equipment are powered with California Air Resources Board (CARB) certified Tier 4 Interim engines, except where the project applicant establishes to the satisfaction of the City that Tier 4 Interim equipment is not available.</p> <p>B. All other diesel-powered construction equipment will be classified as Tier 3 or higher, at a minimum, except where the project applicant establishes to the satisfaction of the City that Tier 3 equipment is not available.</p> <p>In the case where the applicant is unable to secure a piece of equipment that meets the Tier 4 Interim requirement, the applicant may upgrade another piece of equipment to compensate (from Tier 4 Interim to Tier 4 Final). Engine Tier requirements in accordance with this measure shall be incorporated on all construction plans.</p>	Prior to and during construction	Construction contractor to provide proof of compliance	LADWP			

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<i>Biological Resources</i>						
<p>MM-BIO-1. Breeding Season Avoidance Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the construction contractor shall verify that ground-disturbing and vegetation trimming/ removal activities shall be conducted outside of the breeding season to the extent feasible (i.e., February 1 through August 31).</p>	Construction	Conduct ground-disturbing activities, trimming and vegetation removal between September 1 – January 31	LADWP and construction contractor			
<p>MM-BIO-2. Nesting Bird Survey If the breeding season (i.e., February 1 through August 31) cannot be avoided, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted prior to ground disturbing and vegetation trimming/removal activities. All suitable nesting habitat shall be thoroughly surveyed by a qualified biologist for the presence of nesting birds within 72 hours prior to commencement of the proposed project activities. If an active nest is detected within the study area, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s (LADWP) project manager shall be notified and an appropriate avoidance buffer shall be maintained around the nest, as determined by a qualified biologist. The nest shall be flagged and avoided until the nesting birds have fledged and the nest is vacant (as determined by the qualified biologist). As a general guidance during the breeding season, LADWP or its construction contractor shall not conduct work within 300 feet from known protected passerine nests, and 500 feet from known raptor and special-status species nests, or as determined by a qualified biologist.</p>	Pre-construction and during construction	Surveys during the breeding season	LADWP and construction contractor			

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<i>Cultural Resources</i>						
<p>MM-CUL-1. Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources</p> <p>In the event that archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the project, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards, can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under the California Environmental Quality Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, additional work such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery may be warranted.</p>	Construction	Construction work shall halt within 100 feet of an exposed potential archaeological resources	LADWP and construction contractor			
<p>MM-CUL-2. Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains</p> <p>In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of</p>	Construction	Construction work shall halt and County Coroner shall be notified	LADWP and construction contractor			

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the most likely descent (MLD) from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.						
<i>Hydrology and Water Quality</i>						
MM-HYD-1. Flood Control In conjunction with MM-HYD-2a and MM-HYD-2b, Low Impact Development Features, the project shall include drainage facilities designed such that post-storm runoff rates would be less than or equal to existing conditions. In accordance with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Hydrology Manual, the design shall meet the Urban Flood level of protection, which is defined as runoff from a 25-year frequency storm falling on a saturated watershed. The combined capacity of the storm drain and street flow system must be enough to accommodate flow from a 50-year storm event. Areas with sump conditions, such as the proposed recessed water storage tanks, shall have a storm drain conveyance system capable of conveying flow from a 50-year storm event.	Project design	Design shall include drainage facilities designed such that post-storm runoff rates would be less than or equal to existing conditions	LADWP			

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<p>MM-HYD-2a. Low Impact Development Features LADWP shall incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) features into the project design. LID features shall include stormwater detention/infiltration features (e.g., grass swales, infiltration trenches, pervious detention basins, and vegetated detention basins), stormwater filtration systems (e.g., oil and grease absorbents at storm drain inlets), and/or reuse of stormwater (e.g., detention and reuse for landscape irrigation). In accordance with the LID Standards Manual, stormwater runoff associated with the design storm shall be detained on site. The Stormwater Quality Design Volume (SWQDv) is defined as the greater of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 0.75-inch, 24-hour rain event, or • The 85th percentile, 24-hour rain event, as determined from the Los Angeles County 85th percentile precipitation isohyetal map. 	Project design	LID features shall be incorporated into project design	LADWP			
<p>MM-HYD-2b. A Low Impact Development (LID) Plan shall be prepared to document the design of the LID Best Management Plan measures for the project.</p>	Project design	Develop a LID Plan	LADWP			
<i>Noise</i>						
<p>MM-NOI-1: Construction Noise Reduction The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and/or its construction contractor shall comply with the following measures during construction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activities shall not occur between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, or on Sundays or 	Construction	Compliance with noise reduction measures	LADWP and construction contractor			

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<p>national holidays. In the event that construction is required to extend beyond these times, extended hours permits shall be required.</p> <p>2. Pumps and associated equipment (e.g., portable generators etc.) shall be shielded from sensitive uses using local temporary noise barriers or enclosures or shall otherwise be designed or configured so as to minimize noise at nearby noise-sensitive receivers.</p> <p>3. Construction, including open-trench activities, pipe jacking activities, and staging of construction equipment shall not occur within 20 feet of any noise- or vibration-sensitive land uses.</p> <p>4. All noise-producing equipment and vehicles using internal combustion engines shall be equipped with mufflers; air-inlet silencers where appropriate; and any other shrouds, shields, or other noise-reducing features in good operating condition that meet or exceed original factory specification. Mobile or fixed “package” equipment (e.g., arc-welders, air compressors) shall be equipped with shrouds and noise control features that are readily available for that type of equipment.</p> <p>5. All mobile or fixed noise-producing equipment used for the project that are regulated for noise output by a local, state, or federal agency shall be in compliance with regulations.</p> <p>6. Idling equipment shall be kept to a minimum and moved as far as practicable from noise-sensitive land uses.</p> <p>7. Electrically powered equipment shall be used instead</p>						

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Mitigation Monitoring			Verification of Compliance		
	Monitoring Phase	Monitoring Method	Enforcing Agency & Responsible Agency	Initial	Date	Comments
<p>of pneumatic or internal combustion powered equipment, where feasible.</p> <p>8. Material stockpiles and mobile equipment staging, parking, and maintenance areas shall be located as far as practicable from noise-sensitive receptors.</p> <p>9. The use of noise-producing signals, including horns, whistles, alarms, and bells, shall be used for safety warning purposes only.</p>						
<p>MM-NOI-2: Notification Effective communication with local residents and the adjacent school shall be maintained prior to and during construction. Specifically, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power shall inform local residents and school administrators of the schedule, duration, and progress of the construction. Additionally, residents and the school administrators shall be provided contact information for noise- or vibration-related complaints.</p>	Construction	Communication with neighboring residents and school throughout construction	LADWP and construction contractor			

Attachment A

Linda van der Valk Comment and
LADWP Response

Agenda Item Number: 14

Number of Comments: 1

Name: Linda van der Valk

Comment 1 of 1

I am the Land Use Chair for the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council. The CNC voted to support the project known as "The DeSoto Tanks and Pump Station" .. I would like to make sure that there is language in the approvals of this project to guarantee that the horse trail will be open in perpetuity for the public to enjoy after the completion of this project. A letter dated June 8, 2020 from Mr. Holloway to Mrs. Plumb states that the trail "throughout construction and operation of the project, access to Equestrian Trail will be maintained" but in attending a couple of the hearings and the language now being used it is not clear that the trail will be open after the project is complete. Since the starting of the project the trail has been made a Los Angeles Cultural Historical Landmark. Apeta Momonga Mission Trail with the designation number of 1177. This trail and its continued use is important

August 28, 2020

Ms. Linda van der Valk, Land Use Chair
Chatsworth Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 3395
Chatsworth, California 91313-3395

Dear Ms. van der Valk:

Subject: Comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project (State Clearinghouse Number 2017111073)

Thank you for your comment dated June 23, 2020 which was in response to Board Agenda Item Number 14 - De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), one of several Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) infrastructure projects planned for the north San Fernando Valley.

Your comment expressed the desire to “make sure that there is language in the approvals of this project to guarantee that the horse trail will be open in perpetuity for the public to enjoy after completion of the project.” LADWP recognizes the importance of the Chatsworth Momonga/Mission Trail (Trail) to the community as a hiking, bicycling, and equestrian trail. Its historical and cultural significance is also recognized by the City of Los Angeles, as the Trail was added to the City’s list of Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM) on February 2019. Based on this HCM designation, LADWP is committed to providing public access to the Trail, and this letter is to provide assurance to our community that we have a shared sense of importance for this Trail and maintaining access to it.

In further support of LADWP’s commitment, Sections ES-3 and ES-4 of the EIR Executive Summary state that access to the Trail will be maintained during construction and throughout the operation of the LADWP facilities. In particular, ES-4 states that:

“A 12-foot wide dedicated equestrian trail easement, which serves as a connection to the Chatsworth Momonga/Mission Trail, extends from Rinaldi Street on the south adjacent to the eastern edge of the southernmost LADWP parcel, where the reservoir is

Ms. Linda van der Valk
Page 2
August 28, 2020

located. This formal easement does not continue across the northernmost LADWP parcels, but LADWP has allowed equestrian access across these parcels between Rinaldi Street on the east and the dedicated equestrian easement on the west. Throughout construction and operation of the proposed project, equestrian access would be maintained and limited to a path along the southern edge of LADWP property to avoid interference with construction and operation activities. A sound wall will separate the path and construction site.” (See LADWP.com/envnotices, where a pdf of the Draft EIR may be found under the tab, “De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project”).

In addition, Section 2.2 of the EIR indicates:

“A 12-foot wide dedicated equestrian trail easement, which serves as a connection to the Chatsworth Momonga/Mission Trail, extends from Rinaldi Street on the south adjacent to the eastern edge of the southernmost LADWP parcel, where the reservoir is located. This formal easement does not continue across the northernmost LADWP parcels, but LADWP has allowed equestrian access across these parcels between Rinaldi Street on the east and the dedicated equestrian easement on the west. Throughout construction and operation of the proposed project, equestrian access would be maintained and limited to a path along the southern edge of LADWP property to avoid interference with construction and operation activities.”

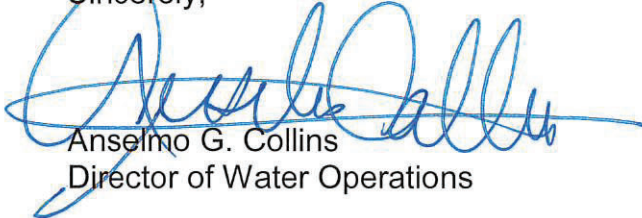
Please note that a portion of the Trail will be relocated during construction, as described in the EIR. The impacted portion will be relocated south and will run east-west along the common property line with Sierra Canyon School. For safety reasons, this temporary relocation may remain in place beyond the construction period, if necessary, to maintain separation between the Trail and construction and operational activities and to facilitate the east-west movement of species. Access may also be interrupted for construction of other projects and when necessary to gain access to LADWP infrastructure.

As stated in your comment, Ms. Jeannie Plumb also responded to the EIR with similar comments and provided a drawing delineating the Trail and the segment expected to be relocated. Your comments and those of Ms. Plumb, along with LADWP's response letters to the both of you, will be incorporated into and become a part of the EIR being presented to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 10:00 am. With Board approval of the EIR and of the project, this will further demonstrate LADWP's commitment to preserving and maintaining public access to this important Trail.

Ms. Linda van der Valk
Page 3
August 28, 2020

A copy of LADWP's response to Ms. Plumb, dated June 8, 2020, is enclosed for your reference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Helen Olivares at (213) 367-1057.

Sincerely,



Anselmo G. Collins
Director of Water Operations

MAP:pm
Enclosure
c: Ms. Tina Shim
Ms. Jeannie Plumb
Mr. Mark J. Sedlacek



CUSTOMERS FIRST

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Martin L. Adams, General Manager and Chief Engineer

June 8, 2020

Enclosure

Ms. Jeannie Plumb
10755 De Soto Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Dear Ms. Plumb:

Subject: Comment Letter of April 8, 2020, on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project (State Clearinghouse Number 2017111073)

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has received and reviewed your comment letter, dated April 8, 2020, on the De Soto Tanks and Pump Station Project (proposed project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2017111073). A copy of your letter with each comment delineated and numbered in the right margin is enclosed. The following paragraphs provide responses to each comment as labeled.

Response 2-1

This letter describes existing access points and the route of the equestrian trail located on, and immediately adjacent to, the project site. This letter also conveys support for the project. As discussed in the EIR, throughout construction and operation of the project, access to the equestrian trail will be maintained. The support for the project will be shared with decision makers.

Board Consideration

Adoption of the EIR and consideration of the proposed project by the Board of Water and Power Commissioners is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Prior to the scheduled meeting, the Board Agenda may be viewed on the LADWP website at www.ladwp.com/AboutLADWP or the Commission Office may be contacted at (213) 367-1350.

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to public health concerns and directives issued by the Mayor of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Public Health Department regarding reducing the spread of COVID-19, this meeting of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for the

Ms. Jeannie Plumb
Page 2
June 8, 2020

City of Los Angeles (DWP Board Meetings) will be conducted entirely telephonically. This will apply to all DWP Board Meetings taking place during the period in which state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

Members of the public who wish to listen to the DWP Board Meetings live, can do so by calling the following telephone numbers at any time during the meeting:

From the Metro Area:	(213) 621-CITY
From the Valley:	(818) 904-9450
From the Westside:	(310) 471-CITY
From the Harbor Area:	(310) 547-CITY
From Owens Valley Area:	(213) 621-CITY

Members of the public who wish to offer public comment may do so telephonically by calling (213) 306-3065 and entering 961599063 # when prompted for a meeting ID number. The public comment phone line will be accessible starting at 9:45 a.m.

The EIR is available for review and download at www.ladwp.com/envnotices.

If you have any questions or are in need of additional information, please contact Mr. James R. Howe, of my staff, at (213) 367-0414.

Sincerely,

Nadia Parker

Digitally signed by Nadia Parker
Date: 2020.06.11 10:07:52
-07'00'

Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

JRH:gn
Enclosure
c/enc: Mr. James R. Howe