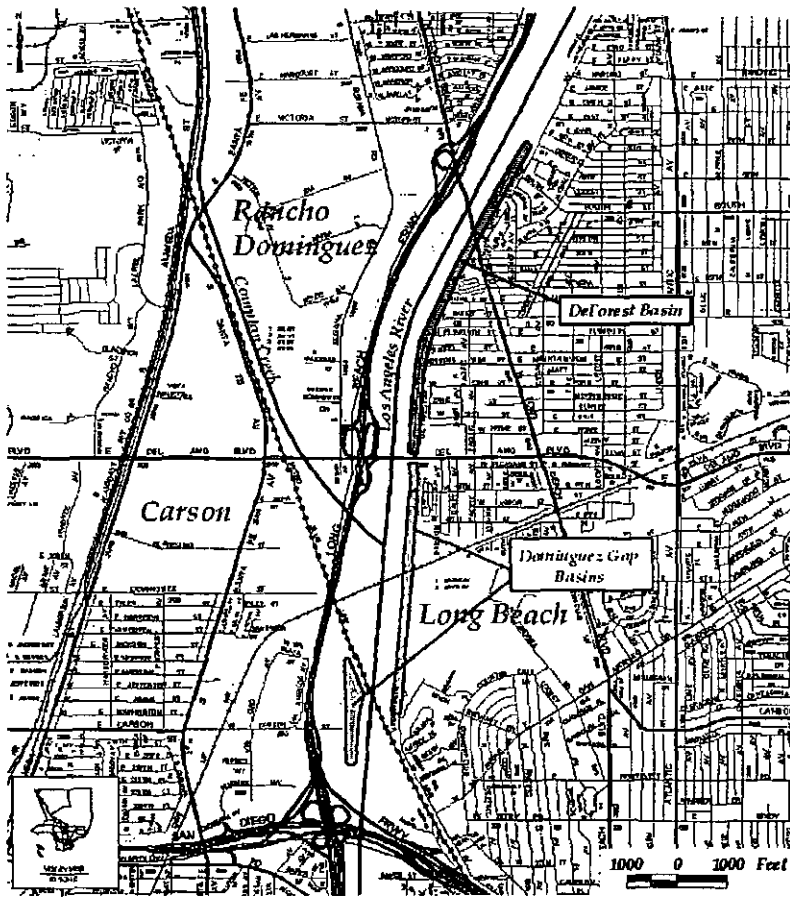


# DOMINGUEZ GAP AND DEFOREST PARK WETLANDS

## R-31

### Dominguez Gap and DeForest Park Wetlands



### BACKGROUND

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) and the City of Long Beach are preparing the final design for the construction of the Dominguez Gap and DeForest Park Wetlands. This project will enhance the current spreading grounds and detention basins to include a functional, multipurpose wetlands and groundwater recharge.

### DOMINGUEZ GAP WETLANDS

The Dominguez Gap site consists of two water detention basins (east and west) located in Long Beach, on the east and west sides of the Los Angeles River, between Del Amo Boulevard and the Long Beach 710 Freeway. Currently, the Dominguez Gap Site is used to recharge local groundwater resources and manage stormwater.

### DEFOREST PARK WETLANDS

The DeForest Park site includes the water detention basin along the east side of the Los Angeles River, north of Del Amo Boulevard to just north of Long Beach Boulevard. Currently, the DeForest Park site is used to manage stormwater by retaining local flows before they are pumped directly to the Los Angeles River. The northern portion of the DeForest Park site also provides for public recreation.

### PROJECT RESULTS

The improvements to the sites are expected to create sustainable wildlife habitat and provide opportunities for public use of the site for educational purposes and passive recreational activities such as birdwatching, hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding. The project will also provide water quality benefits from wetland treatment of the runoff from the surrounding area as well as provide enhanced groundwater recharge.



**CH2MHILL**

*Lynn Capouya, Inc.*

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
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See additional graphics on the reverse side of this handout.

Robert E. Shannon  
City Attorney of Long Beach  
333 West Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802-4664  
Telephone (562) 570-2200

1 RESOLUTION NO. C-

2  
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS  
5 REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC  
6 IMPROVEMENTS WITH REDEVELOPMENT FUNDS  
7

8 WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Long Beach adopted and  
9 approved a certain Redevelopment Plan (the "Redevelopment Plan") for the North Long  
10 Beach Redevelopment Project (the "Project"); and

11 WHEREAS, in furtherance of the Project and the immediate  
12 neighborhood in which the Project is located, the Redevelopment Agency of the City of  
13 Long Beach, California (the "Agency"), has recognized the need for certain public  
14 improvements, which improvements will be located within the boundaries of the Project,  
15 and proposes to use redevelopment funds to finance the improvements; and

16 WHEREAS, Section 33445 of the California Community Redevelopment  
17 Law (Health and Safety Code Section 33000 et seq.) requires the Agency to make  
18 certain findings prior to the acquisition of land and construction of public improvements  
19 or facilities thereon; and

20 WHEREAS, Section 33678 of the Community Redevelopment Law  
21 provides that under certain conditions tax increment funds shall not be subject to the  
22 appropriations limitation of Article XIII B of the California Constitution;  
23

24 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves  
25 as follows:

26 Section 1. The City Council determines that the construction of public  
27 improvements, more particularly described in Exhibit "A", are of benefit to the Project  
28 and the immediate neighborhood in which the Project is located. This finding is

1 supported by the following facts:

2 Past wetland loss along the Los Angeles River has been  
3 staggering, with 51 miles encased in concrete for flood control and urban  
4 development to the river edge. The DeForest /Market basin has been  
5 identified as a potential site for wetland restoration in *Wetlands of the Los*  
6 *Angeles River Watershed: Profiles and Restoration Opportunities*, a study  
7 prepared by the State Coastal Conservancy in 2000. Recognizing that the  
8 highly urbanized landscape prevents restoration or creation of wetlands to  
9 the extent they once existed in the watershed, the State Coastal  
10 Conservancy study concluded that providing a representation of the  
11 historic distribution of wetlands resources and hydrologic conditions is  
12 very valuable. The proposed project is a high priority project on the  
13 Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project's Work Plan and would  
14 create one mile of wetland and related habitat along the Los Angeles  
15 River.

16 The DeForest /Market Street Basin is an existing detention basin  
17 primarily used for flood control. The DeForest Nature Center is located at  
18 the north end and consists of an extensive area of planted woodland and  
19 a nature trail. Water enters the basin from local storm drains and is  
20 pumped into the Los Angeles River by the Market Street Pump Plant.  
21 Open and weedy cover with only a small amount of native vegetation  
22 characterizes the central and southern reaches of the basin.

23 Open water, wetland, riparian, and scrub habitats are proposed  
24 along the 300 foot wide corridor stretching from DeForest Park south to  
25 Del Amo Boulevard along the eastern edge of the Los Angeles River.  
26 Public facilities including trails, overlooks, gates, benches, and signage  
27 would help meet the need for open space and encourage public access to  
28 the coast. Residents from the neighborhoods and schools bordering the

1 basins would gain park space and educational opportunities once the  
2 project is built. A bike path along the river levee will connect local  
3 neighborhoods to the coast.

4 A feasibility study completed by the Los Angeles County  
5 Department of Public Works concluded that the Spreading Grounds could  
6 be modified to allow a continuous flow of water to create year-round  
7 aquatic habitat for native wetland and riparian plant species, as well as a  
8 possible method to treat water for reuse.

9 Complementary enhancement of existing trails and access points,  
10 as well as construction of new public-use facilities to support recreational  
11 activities such as bird watching, nature study, hiking, cycling, horseback  
12 riding, and environmental education activities will also be included. The  
13 neighborhoods surrounding the property are medium to high density  
14 neighborhoods that are currently underserved in terms of open green  
15 space, recreational opportunities and park space.

16 The proposed public improvements will create sustainable wildlife  
17 habitat and provide opportunities for public use of the site for educational  
18 purposes and passive recreational activities such as bird watching, hiking,  
19 bicycling and horseback riding. The proposed public improvements will  
20 also provide water quality benefits from wetland treatment of the runoff  
21 from the surrounding area as well as provide enhanced groundwater  
22 recharge.

23  
24 Sec. 2. The City Council determines that no other reasonable  
25 means of financing the above-described improvements are available to the community.  
26 This finding is supported by the following facts:

27 Before the passage of Proposition 13, most of the City's general  
28 operating and capital improvements were funded through property taxes.



## **EXHIBIT "A"**

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS**

#### **DeForest/Market Street Basin Wetland Restoration**

Open water, wetland, riparian and scrub habitats are proposed along the 300 foot wide corridor stretching from DeForest Park south to Del Amo Boulevard along the eastern edge of the Los Angeles River. Public facilities will include trails, overlooks, gates, benches, and signage. Complementary enhancement of existing trails and access points, as well as construction of new public-use facilities to support recreational activities such as bird watching, nature study, hiking, cycling, horseback riding, and environmental education activities will also be included.