



Date: September 23, 2003
To: Mayor and Councilmembers
From: Councilmember Dennis Carroll *DC*
Subject: **AGENDA ITEM: Water Department Construction Projects**

The Long Beach Water Department is on the forefront of maintaining and improving water related infrastructure in the City of Long Beach. This involves a continuous replacement program of underground pipes and mains throughout the City.

An unfortunate consequence of this program is the continuous disruption of Long Beach streets, neighborhoods, schools and businesses. I am calling on the Water Department to develop and implement forward looking policies and procedures which will minimize the impact of these projects on our streets, neighborhoods and schools, and provide timely compensation to disrupted businesses.

The effects of these multi-million dollar construction projects are completely predictable and should be taken into account in the planning and implementation of the contracts. Better planning, communication, oversight and timely compensation of businesses are essential to preserving the trust and goodwill of our community. Small businesses cannot and should not be required to subsidize these construction projects by jeopardizing their economic livelihood. The creation and implementation of forward thinking policies and procedures will assure continuing community support for worthwhile Water Department projects.

Action Requested: Refer to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee