



## CITY OF LONG BEACH

Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697

(562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109

www.lbparcs.org

August 19, 2003

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

SUBJECT: Right of Entry Permit With the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers  
Watershed Council for Use of City Property for a Research Program  
(Districts 5 and 6)

### DISCUSSION

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council (Watershed Council), along with several other groups, will be evaluating the benefits of storm water infiltration for enhancing environmental health, increasing urban green space, conserving water, providing jobs, and increasing our local water supply.

The Watershed Council will drill test borings in El Dorado Park and Veterans Park to analyze the soil. From the samples they will select one site to construct a cistern to collect and percolate storms runoff from the building and parking lot. They will then calibrate the volume of runoff and volume of percolation to the area of collection.

The Watershed Council is requesting permission to use City of Long Beach property for this research program (see attached request). The purpose of the Watershed Council's "Water Augmentation Study" is to explore the potential for increasing local water supplies and reducing urban runoff pollution by increasing the infiltration of storm water into groundwater supplies. The Los Angeles region relies on imported water for two-thirds of its water supply sources, and water import services are becoming increasingly constrained. Increased infiltration could augment local groundwater supplies by capturing storm water that otherwise would flow into the ocean.

The right of entry permit will include the following major terms and conditions:

- **Location:** One site will be chosen after an initial soil test determines which site is most suitable. The candidate locations are the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine administration office building and adjacent parking lot at 2760 Studebaker Road and Veterans Park community center and parking lot at 101 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Street.
- **Term:** The term of the permit will be two years. The work will be performed on dates arranged by the Watershed Council and City staff from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine.
- **Size:** The footprint for the monitoring equipment is a 10 to 12 inch steel cover (for each well), flush with the surface.
- **Use:** The Watershed Council will conduct preliminary soil studies in the parking lots of both locations to determine infiltration potential and decide which site is most suitable for infiltration. Additional studies will be done at the selected site to

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determine depth to groundwater, soil type, infiltration rates, topography, and location for the infiltration Best Management Practices (BMP). The Watershed Council will then design and install one or two infiltration devices in the parking lot, such as pervious paving, an infiltration trench, or dry wells. They will also install subsurface sensors and groundwater wells for monitoring, collect storm water runoff samples during two or three storm events each winter, and collect samples after each storm from the subsurface monitoring equipment. Upon conclusion of the study, results will be published and provided to the City of Long Beach for future projects.

- **Insurance:** The Watershed Council shall provide evidence of insurance as deemed appropriate by the City's Risk Manager.
- **Indemnity:** The Watershed Council will indemnify the City against any damage caused by its use of the sites.
- **Fee:** In lieu of a fee, the Watershed Council will provide the results of the study to the City, at no charge, for the City's future use.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Donna Gwin on August 1, 2003, and Budget Manager Michael Killebrew on July 28, 2003.

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is requested on August 19, 2003, in order to allow completion of construction before the rainy season.

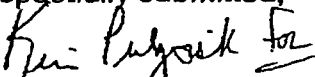
#### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action. The Watershed Council will fund all costs associated with the project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a right of entry permit with the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council for use of City Property for a research program for a period of two years.

Respectfully submitted,



PHIL T. HESTER

DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:bjb:msm  
Attachment

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER

June 25, 2003

Mr. Dennis Eschen  
Manager, Planning and Development Bureau  
Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
2760 Studebaker Road  
Long Beach, CA 90815

RE: Request to use City of Long Beach property for a research demonstration project

Dear Mr. Eschen,

Pursuant to our recent discussions, I am requesting permission to use City of Long Beach property for a research program in which the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council is currently engaged. The purpose of the Watershed Council's *Water Augmentation Study* is to explore the potential for increasing local water supplies and reducing urban runoff pollution by increasing infiltration of storm water runoff. As you know, the Los Angeles region relies on imported water for two-thirds of its water supply – sources which are becoming increasingly constrained. Increased infiltration could augment local groundwater supplies by capturing storm water runoff that otherwise would flow to the ocean.

The Watershed Council has forged a unique partnership between Los Angeles DWP and Watershed Protection Division, LA Regional Water Quality Control Board, LA County Public Works, Santa Monica, Water Replenishment District, Metropolitan Water District, California Department of Water Resources and US Bureau of Reclamation to more fully evaluate capacity and feasibility of increasing infiltration, without impacting groundwater quality. In the process we will be evaluating the benefits of enhancing environmental health, increasing urban green space, water conservation, providing jobs, and increasing our local water supply.

In our current phase of work, we are establishing new monitoring sites to demonstrate Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to capture storm water runoff for infiltration. At these sites, we are testing water quality in storm water runoff at the surface and as it infiltrates, to assess whether such practices may have an impact on groundwater quality. While our research so far indicates that infiltration is generally safe, we are expanding the number of demonstration projects to encompass a variety of land uses and soil conditions to enhance our study.

We would like to locate one of our demonstration sites in Long Beach. The candidate locations in which we are interested are the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine administration office building and adjacent parking lot at 2760 Studebaker Road, and Veterans Park Community Center and parking lot at 101 E. 28th Street. Only one of the sites would be chosen. We propose to conduct some initial soil tests at each site in order to determine which location is most suitable for infiltration. At the selected site, we would then design and install infiltration BMPs and monitoring equipment. We would need access to City property to perform the following tasks:

- conduct preliminary soil studies in the parking lots of both locations to determine infiltration potential, and decide which property is most suitable for infiltration (1/2 day at each location)

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- conduct additional studies at the selected site to determine depth to groundwater, soil type, infiltration rates, topography and location for the infiltration BMP
- design and install 1 or 2 infiltration BMPs in the parking lot, such as pervious paving, an infiltration trench or dry wells
- install subsurface sensors and groundwater wells for monitoring
- collect storm water runoff samples during 2 or 3 storm events each winter, which may require night or weekend access
- collect samples after each storm from the subsurface monitoring equipment.

In order ensure that we can monitor the site this winter, our work will need to be completed by October 1, 2003. The total estimated time on-site to prepare the demonstration site for monitoring would be about two weeks, spread out over a two month period. The major disruption to users of the property would be construction of the infiltration facility and drilling the wells, which would take a total of about five days. The finished design of the infiltration BMP(s) will not obstruct use of the facility in any way. The footprint for the monitoring equipment is a 10-12 inch steel cover (for each well) flush with the surface. The sample collection would occur over the next two winter seasons, or longer if more funding becomes available.

All work conducted to prepare, maintain and monitor the demonstration site will be funded by the Watershed Council, from state grant funding (CalFed and Proposition 13) and our local agency partners. Once our research is complete, the BMPs will be turned over to the City of Long Beach. Results from the study will be made available to any interested parties.

On behalf of the agencies that are participating in the Water Augmentation Study, we would like to thank you for your interest in becoming a part of this important study. Please let me know if I can answer any further questions.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Dallman, Ph.D.  
Manager, Stormwater Programs

Enclosures:

Draft Property Owner Research Study Agreement  
Water Augmentation Study Brochure

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