

COUNCIL OF ARROYO SECO AGENCIES (CASA)

Thursday, July 24, 2014

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Works HQ Building
The Alhambra Room
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803**

MEETING SUMMARY

Objective: To provide an update on the Arroyo Seco Watershed Feasibility Study, Los Angeles County Flood Control District Sediment Removal and Management (Hahamonga/Devil's Gate) Project, and other issues, efforts, and activities impacting the Arroyo Seco Watershed.

Attended by 25 people: See attached sign-in sheet

ARROYO SECO WATERSHED FEASIBILITY STUDY

Although the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) could not attend, the Corps did provide an update on the Arroyo Seco Watershed Feasibility Study (Study) and is summarized as follows:

- The study is budgeted to receive \$150,000 of work plan funds for FY14 - expect to receive funds in August 2014.
- Corps has received \$153,000 matching funds from the Local Sponsor for FY14. This can be carried into the next fiscal year as required.
- The Corps has revised the review plan to reflect that the project is now a site specific ecosystem restoration study rather than a watershed study.
- The revised review plan has been approved by the National Ecosystem Restoration Center and is in the Division office for final review. Once completed, funds can be released.
- Study is in President's budget for \$450,000 for FY15;
- Study getting budgetary/Federal support, possibly due to various reasons:
 - Expedited SMART planning reduced number of Corps studies and projects
 - Support from politicians
 - Arroyo Seco is tributary to nationally visible Los Angeles River

DEVIL'S GATE SEDIMENT REMOVAL AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Tom Budinger from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) provided an update of the Devil's Gate Sediment Removal and Management Project.

- LACDPW is completing the reviews of all the comments on DRAFT EIR, including comments from Fish & Wildlife.
- Final EIR scheduled for completion this Fall 2014, including 3 community presentation of findings.
- Construction scheduled for late 2015.

PASADENA PROJECTS PRESENTATION

Rosa Laveaga from the City of Pasadena provided the group with an update of the following projects:

- Lower Arroyo Seco Trailheads Project
- Habitat Restoration Project in the Lower Arroyo (near Pasadena Casting Club)
- Start-up of the Hahamonga Watershed Park Improvements Project

The updates can be seen on the attached power point presentation.

Charles Peretz from the City of Pasadena also mentioned that the **Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer** (PSHB) is a new pest in Southern California that is a major threat to many different species of trees along the Arroyo Seco and other areas. You can find more information about these pests at the following site: https://cifr.ucr.edu/polyphagous_shot_hole_borer.html.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 23, 2014