

Monteith Park and View Park Green Alley
Stormwater Improvements Project

Community Information Session via WebEx

September 23, 2020 (6-7 pm)

Summary

Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works), along with team members from Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), hosted a community information session via WebEx to share updates with residents on the Monteith Park and View Park Green Alley Stormwater Improvements Project. Public Works presented an update on the current project description and schedule. The residents were encouraged to visit the project's website (<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/go/Monteith>) where they can find the most up-to-date project contact information to express any questions or concerns. In addition, Public Works shared information regarding Public Works' other services, The Works App, Public Works website, and a phone number if residents need more information or have questions regarding non project related concerns. The community was generally in favor of the stormwater components, but there were some concerns expressed about lack of lighting in the park and the community expressed a strong need to add it as part of the above-ground components. Public Works and DPR reassured the community that their concerns were noted and will be considered as the project progresses. Public Works thanks those that attended the Community Information Session and reaffirmed its commitment to work with the community to make the project a success.

Meeting Minutes

Questions and Answers:

1. How do you clean out the pre-treatment devices? Will there be any associated odors?
 - Public Works crews will go out and clean (vacuum/debris removal, hydro-jetting). There are no expected odors and Public Works will address if that becomes an issue.
2. Are there any accommodations being made for the yearly jazz festival/movie nights that currently utilize the open space?
 - Due to COVID-19, no large gatherings can occur at the park. DPR will have to re-evaluate as time for the events gets closer.
3. The proposed design doesn't appear to take into account current events in the park.
 - Space is still available for current activities and DPR will take down your concerns and discuss internally with their administration.
4. How many of the large established trees are being removed due to this Project? In particular are you saving the largest tree on Olympiad?
 - Public Works is not removing any trees and is adding 3 new ones.

5. How deep are the drywells?
 - 100 ft deep
6. Are the remaining benches and chairs staying in place alongside the concrete being installed?
 - Existing benches/seating are staying and will be ADA compatible in addition to the concrete seat walls
7. Do you have a different view/rendering of what the project will look like from underneath the tree? I would like to see a side view if possible.
 - Not at this time. Public Works can provide future renderings as project progresses.
8. Will any additional lighting be added throughout the park?
 - It was previously discussed and because funding was not available at the time, it was moved into Phase 2 of the park design. At this time, there is no plan to install lighting.
9. How about some nice uplighting?
 - DPR is taking notes and will discuss with upper management.
10. Can you give us an estimate for the lighting package?
 - DPR does not have the lighting cost estimate at this time and will be available as part of Phase 2 of the Project. Please contact DPR South agency if and when lighting will be available. DPR will take down contact info. and get back to resident.
 - Due to technical difficulties, chat record was unavailable to obtain resident's contact information. For further questions and information, please see project website (<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/go/Monteith>) to contact project team.
11. Will all stormwater be diverted into the park?
 - It is designed for a specific storm but if the volume of stormwater is larger or exceeds the design storm, it will by-pass the system and continue through the storm drain so there's no danger of stormwater backing up or flooding.
12. Are there design drawings of the proposed system that the public can view?
 - Plans will be available after bid and award. Please contact the Public Works team with any interest.
13. How high will the new trees grow? I do not want to lose any more sunlight.
 - Trees selected would be of a medium size and Public Works can look at trees that would accommodate what you are asking for. Please send your contact information and Public Works will follow-up once design has been finalized.
 - Due to technical difficulties, chat record was unavailable to obtain resident's contact information. For further questions and information, please see project website (<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/go/Monteith>) to contact project team.

14. What is the rationale for using concrete walkways vs another type of material?
- Maintenance is much easier as compared to other materials, such as decomposed granite. The concrete will drain to the adjacent turf and will infiltrate into the ground.
15. Where will the trees be?
- If you look at the proposed drawing shown earlier, the proposed trees will be in the middle of the park. Public Works is making every effort not to disturb the existing trees.
16. Lighting is a big concern for the community and requests it for the park.
- DPR will make it a first priority and determine funding for the project.
17. What will the lighting look like?
- Currently, we do not have a lighting plan as of now but DPR will make sure potential lighting will not interfere with the surrounding neighbors or habitat in the park. As the project progresses, community will be informed.
18. Is there a central fountain or something with standing water that could attract mosquitos?
- No fountain or standing water will be at the park. Mosquitos should not be a nuisance as a result of this project.
19. What's on the signage at the park? Will there be do's and don'ts of the park?
- Regulatory signage will absolutely be there.
20. Current regulatory signage is not in the correct location.
- DPR will move it.
21. Issues with security at the park: people are not social distancing, not wearing masks, and selling BBQ dinners from the park.
- Park staff goes there on a regular basis and monitors the park. Residents are encouraged to call park staff and report any suspicious activity.
 - DPR will contact the Sheriff and inform them of the above issues.
22. What will street parking look like during the project construction and after?
- After construction, everything will be back to normal.
 - During construction, residents will see equipment to the side of the park.
 - Environmental impacts are currently being looked at along with mitigation efforts. Public Works will reduce impacts to the maximum extent possible.
 - Any potential impacts and mitigation efforts will be posted on the project website (<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/go/Monteith>) once the environmental impact analysis has been completed.