

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE HEADWORKS SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

**Date:** April 25, 2024

**To:** Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

**Subject:** Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the  
Headworks Site Development Project

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Headworks Site Development Project. LADWP is the CEQA Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document.

**Project Description:** LADWP proposes to develop three facilities within its existing Headworks Spreading Grounds (HWSG) property, located along the northwest edge of Griffith Park in the City of Los Angeles. The facilities would include a Water Quality Laboratory (WQL), a Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Demonstration Facility, and a public park (Headworks Restoration Park), which are the components of the Headworks Site Development Project (proposed project or project). The purpose of the WQL is to replace the existing obsolete LADWP laboratory facility, which is located in the City of Pasadena; the purpose of the DPR facility is to test various water purification technologies for treating recycled wastewater to help the City of Los Angeles meet the goal to recycle all of its wastewater for beneficial reuse by 2035; and the purpose of Headworks Park is to provide recreational access and educational opportunities regarding local ecosystems and water use. The proposed project would also include roads interior to the HWSG property, surface parking for staff and visitors, landscaping, public recreational space, and security lighting and fencing where required.

**Project Location:** The proposed project site is located in the Hollywood community in the City of Los Angeles, within the existing Headworks Spreading Grounds (HWSG) property, which is located at 6001 West Forest Lawn Drive. HWSG is a 43-acre property situated within the boundaries of Griffith Park. The property is bounded by the Los Angeles River and the Ventura Freeway (SR-134) to the north and by Forest Lawn

Drive to the east and south. Forest Lawn Memorial Park and Mount Sinai Memorial Park are located on the south side of Forest Lawn Drive across from HWSG. Griffith Park is located adjacent to the eastern edge of HWSG, across Forest Lawn Drive.

While located within the urban setting of Los Angeles, the project site is more immediately surrounded by open space uses such as cemeteries, passive park areas, and other recreational facilities.

**Environmental Effects:** The Initial Study describes potentially significant impacts of the proposed project related to biological resources, noise, and tribal cultural resources. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Other effects found to be less than significant are also described in the Initial Study, with Best Management Practices incorporated during project construction.

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to update a list of known hazardous materials sites, which is also called the “Cortese List.” The project site is not included on any hazardous waste site lists including the Department of Toxic Substances Control’s EnviroStor database, which includes CORTESE sites, the SWRCB’s GeoTracker site, the EPA’s database of regulated facilities, or other lists compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

**Public Review of the Initial Study:** The public review period commences on April 25, 2024 and concludes on May 28, 2024 at 5:00pm. A copy of the IS/MND is posted at <http://www.ladwp.com/reports/environmental-reports>. Copies of the Initial Study are also available for review at the following location:

LADWP, Environmental Affairs Division  
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Public Comments:** During the public review period, written comments concerning the adequacy of the Initial Study may be submitted. Comments must be submitted by May 28, 2024. Please submit your comments to the following address:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Attn: Mr. James R. Howe  
Email: [james.howe@ladwp.com](mailto:james.howe@ladwp.com)

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All comments received related to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is provide to the City of Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration and approval at a future date. Once determined, the Board hearing date and time will be posted on the LADWP website at <http://www.ladwp.com/reports/environmental-reports>.

The hearing will be in the LADWP Board Room at 111 North Hope Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Please check the Board agenda within 72 hours of the scheduled time and date to confirm.

You may access the Board agenda on the LADWP website at <http://ladwp.com/AboutLADWP> or contact the commission office at (213) 367-1356.

PLEASE NOTE: LADWP's practice is to make the entirety of comments received a part of the public record. Therefore names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of commenters, if included in the response, will be made part of the record available for public review. Individual commenters may request that LADWP withhold their name and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish LADWP to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In the absence of this written request, this information will be made part of the record for public review. LADWP will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of, or officials of, organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

If you require additional information, please contact Mr. James R. Howe at [james.howe@ladwp.com](mailto:james.howe@ladwp.com) or (213) 367-0414.

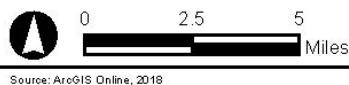
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Hauptman".

Jane Hauptman  
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

JH:th

c: Mr. James R. Howe



## HEADWORKS SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT Regional Vicinity

Figure 1



### Legend

- |  |                                     |  |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 Headworks Park (Proposed)                    | 4 LA River Trail Segment (Proposed) | 7 Connection to Griffith Park (Existing) | 10 DPR Demonstration Facility Visitor Center (Proposed) |
| 2 Headworks Park - Pavilion Gateway (Proposed) | 5 Access Road (Proposed)            | 8 Water Quality Lab (Proposed)           | 11 East Reservoir (Existing)                            |
| 3 Headworks Park - Parking Lot (Proposed)      | 6 Equestrian Tunnel (Existing)      | 9 DPR Demonstration Facility (Proposed)  | 12 Flow Control Station (In Construction)               |



Source: ESRI, Nearmap, County of Los Angeles

HEADWORKS SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

## Proposed Project Conceptual Site Plan

Figure 3