



THE CITY OF
SAN DIEGO

AVENIDA DE LA PLAYA INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

FAQ's: Questions & Answers

Updated May 25, 2011

1. What is the purpose of this Project?

This project will improve storm water, sewer and water services to the community, create more reliable systems and reduce flooding and future maintenance costs. This project is part of the City of San Diego's ongoing program as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Ca Department of Public Health to replace all aging and deteriorated concrete sewer mains and cast-iron water mains. By replacing these mains, the City will not only meet the regulatory mandates but will also bring these mains up to current City standards and prevent any future sewer spills and stoppages in the area. Due to the undersized storm drains on Avenida De La Playa, frequent flooding occurs, which contributes to pollution in the area and on the adjacent beach. As part of a State designated Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) by the California Ocean Plan, pollution and other discharges are prohibited in the waters off La Jolla Shores.

2. Where will construction for this project occur?

Along Avenida De La Playa from Paseo Del Ocaso, west to the beach. Construction and replacement of the outfall structure will occur on the boardwalk and the beach.

3. What is the timeline for this project?

The estimated construction start date is in September 2012 with a total duration of 8 months, which includes pipe replacement and the construction of the outfall structure. The summer moratorium will be observed.

Proposed Project Phases:

Design process: January 2011 thru December 2011

Permit process: July 2011 thru March 2012

Bid and Award process: March 2012 thru September 2012

Construction Process: September 2012 thru May 2013

4. What is the cost of this project?

The estimated total construction cost for Avenida De La Playa Infrastructure Replacement is approximately \$3,650,859.00. A portion of these costs will be covered by grant funding.

5. How many design consultants have given ideas for the design?

There have been three design consultants that have been involved in this project, in addition to multiple City Engineers from several Departments and Divisions.

- ▶ Airports
- ▶ Bikeways
- ▶ Bridges
- ▶ Drainage Control & Flood Control Facilities
- ▶ Libraries
- ▶ Park & Recreation Centers
- ▶ Police, Fire & Lifeguard Stations
- ▶ Street Improvements
- ▶ Street Lights & Traffic Signals
- ▶ Utilities Undergrounding
- ▶ Water & Sewer Facilities
- ▶ Water & Sewer Pipelines



"Working together to engineer a better tomorrow."

If you have any questions about this project or the Engineering & Capital Projects Department, please call our Public Information Line at (619) 533-4207 or visit us online at www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip.

6. Does the City take suggestions from pro-bono engineers on projects?

The City is always willing to take comments and suggestions from the public. However due to liability and insurance concerns, final engineering designs and decisions will always reside with the City.

7. The initially proposed outfall structure seems very large and intrusive. Are there options for changing the structure?

Yes. The City reviewed comments and concerns provided by the public in April 2011, and has proposed alternatives to the dimensions of the originally designed outfall structure. Comments on the outfall configuration (original and alternatives) will be accepted through June 30th, 2011. Information is also available via the City's website at www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip/projectsprograms.

8. Are there options for moving the outfall structure?

There are limited options for moving the structure due to the need for all the pipes to be in alignment, and the fact the Avenida de la Playa is the lowest point in the area for drainage. The City has spent significant time evaluating other alternatives. Answers to some suggestions are provided below, and alternatives to the dimensions of the originally designed outfall structure will be posted on the City's website at www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip/projectsprograms. Comments on the outfall configurations will be accepted through June 30th, 2011.

9. Can the outfall structure be extended into the ocean?

This option is not feasible due to cost prohibitions, construction requirements and maintenance concerns, as well as the anticipated lengthy local and State permitting process that this option would require in order to place a submerged structure offshore. Therefore, the City is not moving forward with this option.

10. Can the outfall structure be extended further onto the beach?

This alternative was investigated and was deemed unfeasible due to the safety concerns that might be encountered by swimmers, surfers, boaters and kayakers, particularly if it is partially submerged during high tide. In addition, this option would present maintenance difficulties during mean and high tide. Therefore, the City is not moving forward with this option.

11. Are there options for diverting the flow of water, such as to Vallecitos or another system?

No. Due to the topography, Avenida de la Playa is the lowest point for drainage in the area, so there is nowhere else for the water to go.

12. How will the City keep sand out of the outfall structure during high tide?

A "Weir Wall" engineering design solution is used, which functions as a dam. The Weir Wall keeps sand out of the outfall structure, but still allows the required flow to crest over the Weir Wall.

13. Can the City keep at least one-way traffic open on all streets during construction?

This may not be possible due to the size and scope of the project. However, the construction will occur in four phases, in which each phase will limit active construction to about one city block per phase. The construction phase system will minimize the impact to businesses along Avenida de la Playa. All sidewalks will remain open during construction whenever possible. The City will make every effort to ensure that streets and/or sidewalks will be accessible at the end of each work day, with the exception of days when continuous construction is required in a particular area, and the excavation area is too large to be covered or plated. A more accurate timeline for construction will be provided in January 2012.

14. Can the City keep parking in front of businesses open during construction?

Unfortunately, this may not be possible due to the size and scope of the project. However, the construction will occur in four phases to minimize the impact to business access and traffic flow. The City will make every effort to ensure that parking spaces are accessible at the end of each work day, with the exception of days when continuous construction is required in a particular area, and the excavation area is too large to be covered or plated. In addition, signs will be provided to direct customers to the closest parking area. A more accurate timeline for construction will be provided in January 2012.

15. What about the noise/hours of construction?

The City monitors all construction noise to ensure that legal limits are maintained. Typical working hours for City crews and/or contractors are 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, Monday-Friday. However, construction schedules can be modified with a consensus from the community and the City's Traffic Engineer. Night work is not an option for this project as it would impact the hotels at the end of Avenida de la Playa.

16. Can the City guarantee that construction will not be as difficult as the Sewer Pump Station 27 Upgrade?

The City will make every effort to perform due diligence to enforce the construction contract document and ensure that the work is completed correctly with the least impact to the community.

17. Could the La Jolla Shores Association or other groups raise money to make the outfall structure more appealing?

Yes. Beautifying the look of the structure is an option that the City is willing to consider.

18. Is there a possibility of using the outfall structure as a deck?

Use as a deck is not the purpose of this project. Access to the top of the outfall structure is restricted to maintenance personnel only.

19. What are the liabilities (falling off, climbing on) of the outfall structure?

The City will post signs alerting the public that the outfall structure is not intended for climbing, sitting or other uses (i.e. as a deck) and that access to the top is restricted to City personnel performing maintenance.

20. What about graffiti on the outfall structure?

The City has not had any issues with graffiti on the existing structure and we do not anticipate this being an issue. However, the City has a graffiti removal team should graffiti become a problem.

21. How will the boat ramp be affected?

The City is trying to minimize the impact to beach access both during and after construction. The engineering solution for the new outfall structure as currently proposed may impact beach access during high tides, but is well within the mean tide line. The City has proposed several new alternatives for the outfall structure that should have less impact on boat launching (such as less protrusion onto the beach). The intention is that the boat launch should continue to function as it currently does. Once the project is completed, the City anticipates having sufficient area for mobility during low and mean high tide. Information is also available via the City's website at www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip/projectsprograms

22. How will the community be involved and when can the public provide input?

The City will provide information to residents and business owners directly impacted by the project via public notices, email, door hangers and community meetings. The community will have multiple opportunities to provide input to the City during various phases of the project that pertain to that

project phase. The community will also have opportunities to provide input when the project is presented to various agencies for permit approval and again when the project is presented at City Council for approval. The City can provide a list of agencies involved in the Permit process.

Formal comments must be submitted in writing via email to engineering@sandiego.gov, via comment cards during attendance at community meetings, or by calling the information line at 619.533.4207. Comments will also be accepted via mail at Engineering & Capital Projects, Attn: Public Information and Community Relations, 1010 2nd Avenue, Suite 1200, MS 612, San Diego, CA 92101. Comments on the outfall configuration will be accepted through June 30th, 2011. *Please reference "Avenida de la Playa Project" on all correspondence.*

23. How many community meetings will be held?

The first community meeting is on Wednesday, May 25th at 6:00 pm at the La Jolla Public Library. After the first meeting, the City will evaluate the feedback received on the outfall configuration and will then proceed with submitting the project to the City Development Services Department for the Coastal/Site Development (CDP/SDP) permit. This is inclusive of the processing and public review of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document for the project. The CDP/SDP also requires that the City present the project to the La Jolla Community Planning Group to vote on the permit for the project. The City may also schedule and/or attend additional community meetings as necessary to provide updates on major developments throughout the project.

24. What are the socio-economic impacts for businesses along Avenida de la Playa?

The City is obligated by health and safety requirements to replace the existing facilities as they have reached their useful life or are under capacity. The city attempts to minimize impact to the community by all feasible means. The project construction will be phased so that the entire area is not impacted at the same time. During the construction process, businesses can remain open and the impact to sidewalks will be minimized.

25. Who can we contact if we have questions?

For more information or to submit formal comments about this project:

Email: engineering@sandiego.gov

Public Info Line: 619.533.4207

Mailing Address: Engineering & Capital Projects, Attn: Public Information
1010 2nd Avenue, Suite 1200, MS 612
San Diego, CA 92101

- *Please reference "Avenida de la Playa Project" on all correspondence*

Visit the project's web page:

www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip/projectsprograms/avendidelaplaya.shtml

