

LOPEZ CANYON RESTORATION PROJECT SNAIL MAIL NOTICE

The Bureau of Sanitation would like to minimize the snail mailing list and send information out via email.

Snail mailings are expensive and the Bureau of Sanitation is interested in conserving natural resources.

After this mailing, anyone who would like to remain on the snail mail list must contact Reva Fabrikant, Community Liaison, before August 16 to request staying on the snail mail list. If Reva does not hear from you, your name will be removed from the snail mail list. If possible, please provide an email address to receive for future information.

Information about the Lopez Canyon Restoration and the Solid Resources Processing and Construction Division can be accessed on the web at:

<http://lacitysan.org/srpcd/index.htm>

Reva Fabrikant, Community Liaison
Lopez Canyon Restoration Project
1-866-950-7382 (toll free)
Reva.Fabrikant@revafab.com

**LOPEZ CANYON RESTORATION PROJECT
COMMUNITY MEETING SUMMARY
JUNE 2010**

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF SANITATION**

Meeting Date: June 2, 2010
Location: Lopez Trailers

Tour: 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm
Meeting: 7:16 pm - 8:30 pm

OVERVIEW

Nine Lopez neighbors; Angelica Ayela, Office of Mayor Villariagosa, East Valley Director of Neighborhood and Constituent Services; and Millie Jones, Supervisor Antonovich's Field Deputy; attended the meeting. Tours were given.

LOPEZ CANYON ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER UPDATE (LCEC)

Eighteen windrows are currently on-site, five produce horse manure compost, and thirteen produce mulch. 27,338 tons of material was brought to the site January-April 2010 and 26,290 tons of mulch and compost were produced.

Noise has been a community concern. The noise control berm will be extended around the LCEC to keep the trucks, grinder, and screener behind it. The extended berm will wrap around 'B' slope to capture the noise. It will be built in the next 4-6 weeks.

PROPOSED TRAILHEAD CONCEPTUAL DESIGN REVIEW

At the March meeting, the concept of the equestrian staging area was discussed and LVT resident, Linda Hornick, volunteered to visit homes along Terra Vista and Terra Bella Way to inform residents of the proposal. Sanitation thanks Linda and her team for their outreach canvassing. The next step will be designing the staging area and hiring a construction contractor. Sanitation is exploring connecting the horse trail at the edge of the landfill to the Rim of Valley Trails

'B' CANYON LANDSCAPING UPDATE

Over 200 trees and shrubs were planted in May, including 40 scrub oaks, toyons, ceanothus, and others. The slopes have been hydro-seeded and the irrigation system is being used. Planting is continuing on a regular basis.

CLOSURE UPDATE

'AB+' face will be completed by the end of July and then work will start on 'C' Canyon. Once 'AB+' face is completed, closure will be done on 'A', 'B', and 'AB+'.

TRUCK DRIVER ACADEMY UPDATE

The appeal hearing is set for June 15th at 2:30pm before the City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

COMMITMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY See Page 8

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS Reva Fabrikant, Community Liaison

Nine Lopez neighbors; Angelica Ayala, East Valley Director of Neighborhood and Constituent Services, Office of Mayor Villariagosa; and Millie Jones, Field Deputy, Office of Supervisor Antonovich's; attended the meeting. Meeting attendees were taken on a landfill tour. LVT resident Linda Hornick and her assistants were thanked for canvassing the homes near the proposed equestrian staging area to inform them about the proposal and the upcoming community meeting.

Reva Fabrikant stated that Sanitation would like to minimize the snail mailing list and send out information via email. Snail mailings are expensive and Sanitation would like to conserve natural resources. After this mailing, anyone who would like to remain on the snail mail list must contact Reva (see the last page) before August 16.

LOPEZ CANYON ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER (LCEC) UPDATE – Jim Kurz, Operations Superintendent

Eighteen windrows are currently on-site, five produce horse manure compost, and thirteen produce mulch.

Incoming tonnage covering January - April 2010:

- 18,864 tons of yard trimmings
- 7,558 tons of brush
- 916 tons of manure
- The above totals 27,338 tons of material, approximately 6,800 tons per month

Production covering that same period:

- 19,983 tons of raw mulch
- 5,934 tons of mulch for the give-away program
- 373 tons of horse manure based compost
- Total of 26,290 tons

Noise has been a community concern and staff is addressing it. The berm will be extended to cover up that area and trucks will then be completely behind the noise berm. The extended berm will wrap around 'B' slope to capture the noise. The berm is 12 feet high, as was recommended by Sanitation's noise consultant. This deadens the noise or sends it back inside the facility. The extension will be built in the next 4-6 weeks. The stationary equipment (grinder and screener) will be moved behind the extended berm area putting it further away from the community. Dirt is currently available on-site and the design work has been completed.

Truck back-up alarms are required by CAL OSHA and cannot be taken off. They are kept on the lowest setting possible. Most of the noise comes from the loader's rubber tires. These loaders scoop up material and move it around the area, backing-up often. Staff is looking for ways to minimize this backing-up.

Q: Do they start in the early AM?

A: Work at the facility (grinding, screening, turning piles) starts at 8 am. Delivery trucks drive up to the facility and dump material starting at 7 am. These trucks are not the source of the noise. Staff went to Kagel Canyon to identify the noise source and found that it was from the compost turner and possibly the grinder.

Q: Are odors still an issue?

A: We have not received any complaints in several months.

Community Comment: We have complained to AQMD because there still are odors.

Response: Please call the Lopez hotline to inform us of your complaints since AQMD does not always inform us. A mister system will be used to neutralize odors. It consists of a hose with nozzles every 15 feet that spray a fine mist of odor neutralizer from the top of the berm. This is very effective. The work is currently out to bid.

Millie Jones Comment: It is used very effectively at Sunshine Canyon.

Q: What good does the neutralizer do?

A: It chemically neutralizes odors leaving the facility. The MSDS sheet is available here, is included in these minutes, and will be on the SRPCD website.

PROPOSED TRAILHEAD CONCEPTUAL DESIGN REVIEW – Khalil Gharios, Manager, Solid Resources Processing and Construction Division

At the March meeting, the concept of the equestrian staging area was discussed and LVT resident, Linda Hornick, volunteered to visit homes along Terra Vista and Terra Bella Way to inform them of the proposal. Sanitation thanks Linda and her team for their outreach canvassing. This staging area is part of Phase 1 of the Recreational Park Plan. The next step, unless the community objects to the proposal, is to design the staging area and then hire a construction contractor.

Sanitation is exploring connecting the horse trail at the edge of the landfill to the Rim of Valley Trails. This trail would go through the landfill and would have to be carefully controlled. Sanitation wants to discuss this with expert equestrians in order to properly build and develop these trails. These discussions will hopefully take place before the September community meeting.

Q from Millie Jones: Have you talked with the National Park Service? They are preparing a Special Resource Study on the Rim of the Valley Trails and want input from stakeholders.

A: Sanitation is interested in designing the trails properly and would like to have the contact information.

Comment from Millie Jones: I'll pass your contact information onto Margie. They met briefly with elected officials to kick off the process this year. The recommendations will be presented to Congress in 2014. Contact information for stakeholders is welcomed.

Community Comment: Foothill Trails Neighborhood Council has an equestrian committee and would like to get information on this study and Sanitation's plans.

A: One of the City's architects who will be preparing the plans is an equestrian and will incorporate his experience and knowledge into the plans.

Q: One end of the proposed area is very steep, could the trail be moved from there?

A: That area is a safety concern and the trail cannot go there. The next step is to design the trail entrance and exit from the landfill. Comments received here will be incorporated into that process.

Q: Is there a time frame? We need a time frame. How many more meetings will we have discussing this? What is the end goal?

A: Sanitation is going to start the trailhead.

Community Comment: We want a specific time frame with dates.

Response: A time frame will be prepared for the next meeting.

Q: Is there money for the work?

A: Money is available for design work but not for construction, which will cost approximately \$450,000. Funding sources need to be identified.

Q: Have you contacted other groups besides us?

A: If you have any funding sources to suggest please contact Reva Fabrikant, Community Liaison.

‘B’ CANYON LANDSCAPING UPDATE - Jim Kurz, Operations Superintendent; Robert Buenrostro, Park Maintenance Supervisor

Sanitation is committed to planting trees. Over 200 trees and shrubs were planted in May, including 40 scrub oaks, toyons, ceanothus and others. Scrub oaks can only be planted on virgin soil, which is not over trash, because their root system could penetrate the cover layer, causing problems both for the landfill and the trees. Toyon and ceanothus are not deep rooted and are planted on the first three sections of the slope area. The slopes have been hydro-seeded and the irrigation system is being used. Planting is continuing on a regular basis. The hydro-seeding contractor is coming soon to do the area in front of the trailers.

Q: How deep is the clay liner?

A: Two feet deep.

Q: Is this planting connected to the landscaping plan that was discussed during the task force planning for the LCEC?

A: Yes. The landscaping for the LCEC slope was designed by the Sanitation Japanese Gardens landscape architect and approved by the LCEC Task Force. It covered the berm area and a bit of the slope. That vegetation is growing. The landfill closure area was not part of that plan. The plan for that area was approved by the community when the landfill was first closed. We’re always looking for new areas to plant and are learning about what grows well and what doesn’t. We enjoy doing this work and watching the plants grow.

Q: Are oak trees being donated or purchased?

A: Purchased.

Comment: The Hollywood Beautification team donates oaks. Elektra Kruger volunteered to contact them to see if they could donate some oaks.

Q: Could you move to the White Horse area and plant there?

A: That area is included in the trails as part of the Recreational Park Plan.

Comment: That area is narrow for horse trails and it’s near private property.

Q: Are there plans for trails there now?

A: There is a plan to develop a park in the White Horse area and connect that with the existing park at the entrance to the landfill. Work is on-hold now while we plan the equestrian staging area and trails. We’ll bring it up at a community meeting when we’re ready to work on it.

Q: Will the new sound berm have plants?

A: Yes. The vegetation is designed to blend in with the environment; it does not help deaden sound.

Q: When the initial sound study was done were you using the same equipment as now?

A: We included the equipment we're using now in the plan. The critical part is keeping the equipment behind and below the berm height.

Q: Could you modify the berm if the noise is still loud?

A: Other approaches would be taken including exploring the use of sound deadening materials and/or baffles. The berm extension will be built, operations will continue, and feedback will be needed to determine how well it's working. The noise consultant will come back when construction is completed and take readings during operations at various locations on-site and in the community.

Community Comment: We'd like to be part of that process.

Response: We'll ask the consultant to come to a meeting and present the results of his study.

Q: Can the consultant cover low frequency 'vibroacoustics' noise in the study?

A: It will be mentioned to him.

CLOSURE UPDATE – Jim Kurz

'AB+' face will be completed by the end of July and then work will start on 'C' Canyon. Once "AB+ face is completed, closure will be done on 'A', 'B', and 'AB+'.

Q: What does closure of 'C' canyon involve?

A: It includes reworking the slopes, securing the gas system and other construction work.

Q: What is the timing planned for 'C' canyon work?

A: Eight people are available to work so it will be a slow process. A time frame has not been estimated yet. Dirt was stockpiled on 'C' canyon. The cap is in place for the majority of that area and the consultant believes it meets state standards. The gas system will be completed in mid Aug/Sept. When AB+ is completed a report will be sent to the regulator. We hope to get approval by mid-June.

Community Comment: We'd like more information on 'C' canyon closure at the next meeting.

Response: 'C' canyon will be discussed in greater detail at the September meeting.

Q: What is closure approval?

A: The phases of closure are approved and certified when they are completed. Sanitation's geotechnical engineering consultant watches the work, takes samples, and approves it when it's completed. They submit information to the State regulator for official State certification. Once State certification has been received, it means that state regulations have been followed and the area is officially closed. Responsibility for the landfill always falls on the City and a crew will be needed for the next 25-30 years for maintenance.

Q: What is the time frame for all this?

A: 'A' is done; 'AB'+ and 'C' need to be completed. Once they are done, one submittal will be given to the State. The State certification process can take 3-6 months. Sanitation hopes to complete the process by the end of 2010.

Q: When does the clock start ticking?

A: It starts ticking after State certification is received. We are required to perform post-closure maintenance for 30 years after certification. Closure timing has nothing to do with the cap. The cap is just a cover. Settlement is a continuous process as the trash decomposes. Some areas have settled 3-4 ft each year. About 50 feet of settling is expected here.

TRUCK DRIVER ACADEMY UPDATE – Khalil Gharios

At the last Area Planning Commission hearing, the appeal was denied and the Zoning Administrator's decision was upheld. A 30-day appeal process followed and an appeal was filed. The appeal hearing is set for June 15th at 2:30 before the City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

Q: Will there be other items on the agenda?

A: Possibly. It depends on the committee chair.

Q: How late will it go?

A: It depends on the committee chair. The committee doesn't know until the day of the hearing how many people will be attending and speaking on agenda items and they follow the agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS

Q: Could John Hamilton discuss the differences between the current composting system and the originally planned vacuum system?

A: Two years ago, the 'conventional' composting system was employed. This was done for a number of reasons:

- Conventional windrows are significantly less expensive. The aerated system would cost three million dollars to install in addition to maintenance costs.
- Conventional windrows are more flexible. Aerated piles must be on troughs, eliminating the possibility of moving piles to new locations.
- The windrow system can be operated in a manner that significantly reduces its odor impact and makes it comparable to that of the aerated static pile method. This is done: by increasing detention times (70-80 days) which lowers the average surface odor emission rate, not turning piles while the wind is blowing towards Kagel Canyon, adding bulking agents such as wood chips to increase aerobic activity, and using an odor neutralizing system.
- The aerated static pile system has the following drawbacks: there's a potential of night noise from the fans, piles can't be mixed as well as windrow turning, from an engineering perspective it's problematic to move power over the landfill to the composting site due to landfill settlement and movement of the power poles, the power could potentially be placed in the flare area and the compost gas could be treated there but this is not virgin land so it would have settlement issues. All power on the landfill is on virgin land.

Community Comment: The odors seem to be associated with rains.

Response: After carefully observing odors at the site and in the community we've concluded that the odors come from turning the windrows and that wind direction is a key factor, along with rain. To minimize this, the windrows are turned at different times related to their temperature and moisture level.

Sanitation Comment: Three weeks ago, approximately \$20,000 worth of equipment was stolen, from our storage bin. Replacement landscaping supplies were just received today. In the future security will be tightened, an alarm system and camera will be installed. Sanitation is on top of this, it's been reported to LAPD, and the security company is investigating. If you'd like to drop off brush at the composting site, you need to contact Jim Kurz (see last page) who will give your name to security for a sign-in, sign-out procedure.

COMMITMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY

1. A time frame for the equestrian staging area and trails will be prepared for the next meeting.
2. Ask the noise consultant to analyze the noise level after the berm extension is built and include low frequency noise, 'vibroacoustics', in his study. He will take readings both at Lopez and in the community. He will come to a community meeting to present his results.
3. 'C' canyon will be discussed in greater detail at the September meeting.

CONTACT INFORMATION

HOTLINE PHONE NUMBER: 818-834-5122

WEBSITE: <http://lacitysan.org/srpcd/index.htm>

Khalil Gharios, Manager Solid Resources Processing and Construction Division Khalil.Gharios@lacity.org

Jim Kurz, Operations Superintendent
1-818-834-5128 James.Kurz@lacity.org

Reva Fabrikant, Community Liaison
1-866-950-7382 Reva.Fabrikant@revafab.com

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

Tour 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Meeting 7:35 pm - 8:30 pm