

Buchanan, Rita

Subject:

FW: Devil's Gate Sediment Removal Project

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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Bill Bogaard, Mayor
From: John J. Kennedy
Date: 2 November 2014
Subject: Devil's Gate Sediment EIR

I will not be able to attend the 3 November meeting of the Pasadena City Council. Therefore, I am communicating my interest in the Devil's Gate Sediment Removal Environmental Impact Report through this memorandum.

As owners of the Hahamongna Watershed Park, Pasadena has a direct and compelling interest to ensure that our asset is not burdened by an EIR that appears to me to be indicative of the County's substantial dismissal of our oft-repeated interests in this matter.

I urge you and our colleagues to consider communicating forcefully and strategically to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors that the City rejects the recommendations of the EIR.

Additionally, I encourage our colleagues to communicate to the Supervisors that the City formally supports the findings stemming from our Devil's Gate Sediment Removal Citizens Working Group.

After the concurrence of the City Attorney and City Clerk to ensure that there is no violation of the Brown Act, please have this note distributed to the full Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this message as you and the Council grapple with a difficult and unfortunately contentious matter.

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Buchanan, Rita

Subject:

FW: WWW COMMENT

Field	Value
Your Name	Elizabeth Bour
Phone	626-797-0409
Email	bourel@sbcglobal.net
Comments	Please accept my correction to something I stated during the Council meeting of 10-27-14 and please see that this is distributed to all Council members. I stated that the FEIR document would not be available until 12/11/14 in error. This is information I pulled from the internet that was a misstatement of the facts. When I checked LACDPW official announcement I realized the correct statement is that the documents are available until 12/11/14 at the public libraries. This is a stark reminder of how important it is to be careful about what you read on the internet. Please accept my apology. I still have many concerns about the LACDPW Sediment Removal Project at Devil's Gate Dam but this is no longer one of them. Thank you, Elizabeth Bour

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net from CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net on 10/31/2014 2:20:29 PM.

Buchanan, Rita

Subject: FW: Devil's Gate - LA County Presentation to City Council
Attachments: TheBigDig.pdf

From: Tim Brick [mailto:tim@arroyoseco.org]
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2014 2:37 PM
To: Foster, Siobhan; Seema C Shah-Fairbank (shahfairbank@csupomona.edu); NRCHOMSKY@aol.com; Don Bremner (donbremner@earthlink.net); jbrickson@sbcglobal.net; Tatshack1@att.net; ancon332@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Devil's Gate - LA County Presentation to City Council

Colleagues!

I look forward to seeing you this evening at the City Council meeting at 7 pm

I have been informed that at the County public meeting on Saturday Ken Zimmer from the County dismissed our recommendations as relying exclusively on sluicing and would take 120 years to clean out the basin. I don't know about you, but I find such misrepresentations very motivational.

I have prepared some slides that demonstrate the differences between the Final Environmental Impact Report and our recommendations that the Pasadena City Council unanimously endorsed on May 5. While the County accepted a few minor alterations, on the critical issues of size, timing, number of trucks and neighborhood disruption, they stuck with their old plan.

I hope the City Council will stick with our recommendations because I believe they will deliver flood protection with about one quarter the noise, dust, air pollution and environmental destruction contained in the FEIR.

See you there!

Tim

On Wed, Oct 29, 2014 at 8:23 AM, Foster, Siobhan <sfoster@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

Working Group Members –

Good morning! On behalf of the City, I would like to extend an invitation to the Working Group to attend next Monday's City Council meeting, November 3. Los Angeles County will be providing a presentation on the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Devil's Gate Reservoir Sediment Removal and Management Project to the City Council. The presentation is tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Your attendance and participation is encouraged.

We will confirm the time of the presentation with you as soon as the City Council agenda is set. Please let us know if you will be attending. Thank you!

Siobhan

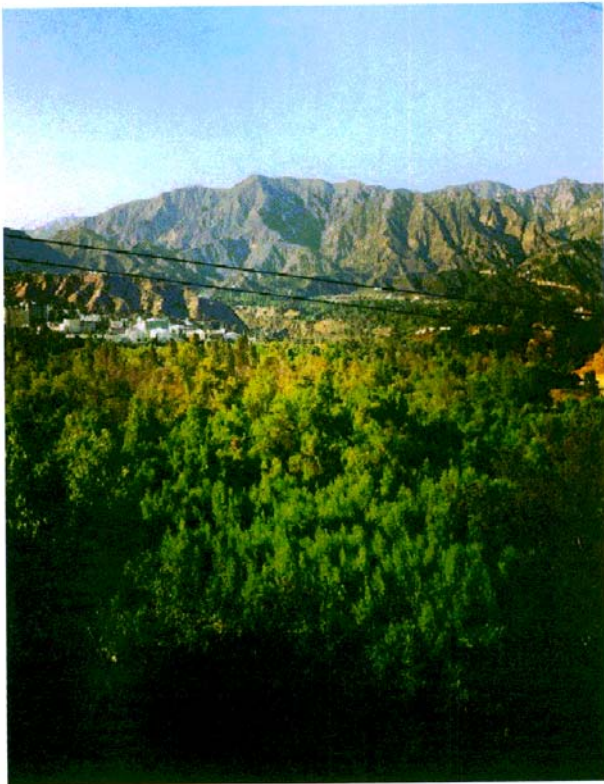
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LA County Flood Control's Hahamongna Sediment Program



Final EIR Review – The Big Dig

LA County Flood Control's Hahamongna Sediment Removal Program



Hahamongna Timeline

Year	Event
1994	Last big sediment removal
Aug. 2009	Station Fire
Jan. 2010	Major Flood
Nov. 2010	County Announces 1.67 mcy removal program
Apr. 2011	Supervisors Order EIR
Nov. 2013	Draft EIR issued for comments
May 2014	Pasadena Council Approves Sediment Working Group Recs
Oct. 2014	Final EIR released
Fall 2015	Sediment Program to Begin

What's Wrong with the Big Dig?



- 150,000 Trucks; 400+ per day
- Congested Traffic
- Noise and dust
- Loss of Recreational Activity
- Massive Habitat Destruction
- 2007 Diesel Trucks are not low-emission

The Big Dig Is Not Sustainable



1. The Big Dig is an outdated mining and trucking operation that is just going to happen again in 20 years.
2. It is not sustainable, doesn't deal with climate change, or integrate with stream restoration and watershed management
3. It is not responsive to Pasadena and massive public input

There is a Better Plan

Pasadena Sediment Working Group Recommendations



Goals:

- To ensure flood protection for local residents below Devil's Gate Dam
- To preserve the rare natural values of the Arroyo Seco and Hahamongna Watershed Park, and
- To minimize impacts on local neighborhoods.

These goals can best be achieved by an ongoing sediment management program that minimizes negative impacts on Hahamongna and the surrounding neighborhoods.

- Unanimously approved by Pasadena City Council – May 5, 2014

Comparison

Project Impact	County Flood Control District	Pasadena Proposal
Trucks Per Day	400+	120
Sediment Removed	2.4+ ¹ mcy	1.1 mcy; ongoing
Footprint	120+ acres	40 acres
Permanent Habitat Impact	71 acres with permanent roads	40 acres (with 10 acre conservation pool)

¹ 2.4 million cubic yards plus any additional deposits

Comparison

Project Impact	County Flood Control District	Pasadena Proposal
Amount Per Year	800,000+ ¹ cy	220,000 cy
Duration	5 years	5 years +
Mitigation ²	1:1	5:1

¹ 800,000 cy plus any additional deposits

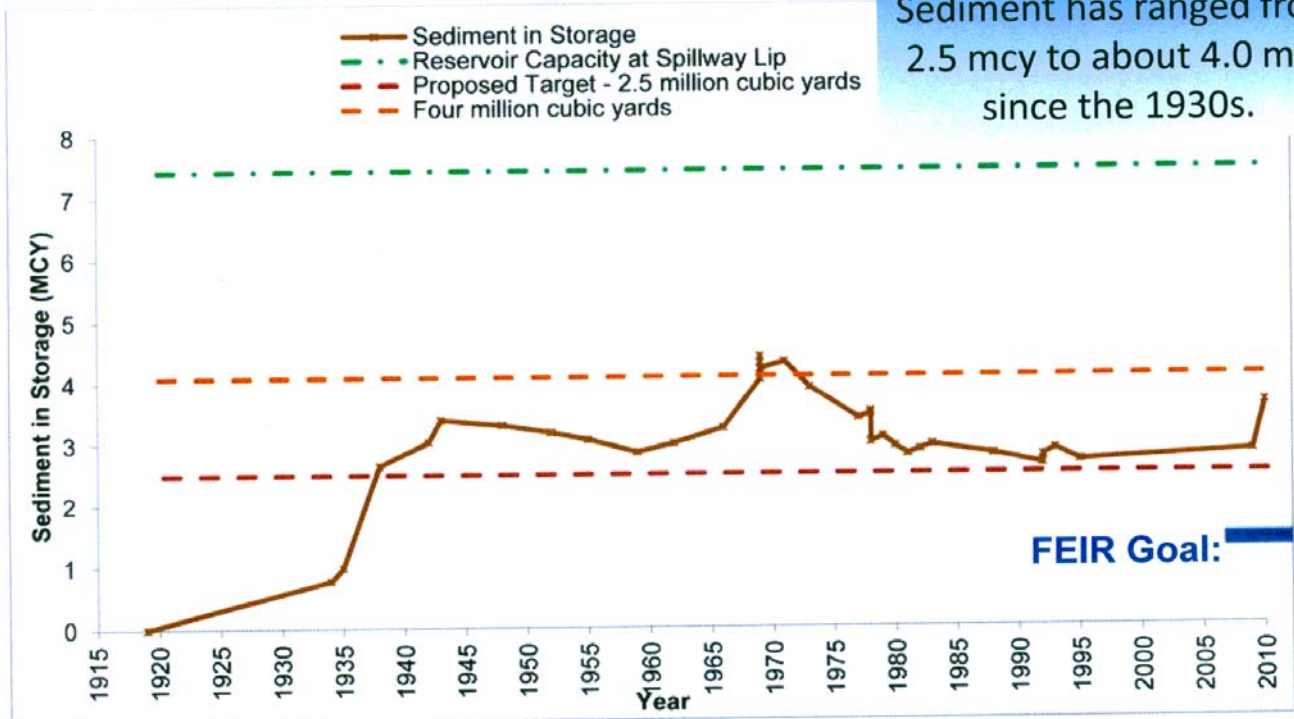
² Mitigation plan is not detailed

The Sustainable Sediment Management Program Approved by Pasadena City Council

- Pasadena proposes a long-term agreement with LACFCD for the County to achieve and maintain a capacity in the Hahamongna basin for 2.5 million cubic yards (mcy) of sediment.
- In reaching and maintaining this capacity, no more than 220,000 cubic yard (cy) would be removed per year, except after unusually large storm events.
- Maintaining sediment capacity of 2.5 mcy will ensure adequate flood protection while minimizing impacts to habitat and recreation activities in Hahamongna Watershed Park and the surrounding communities.

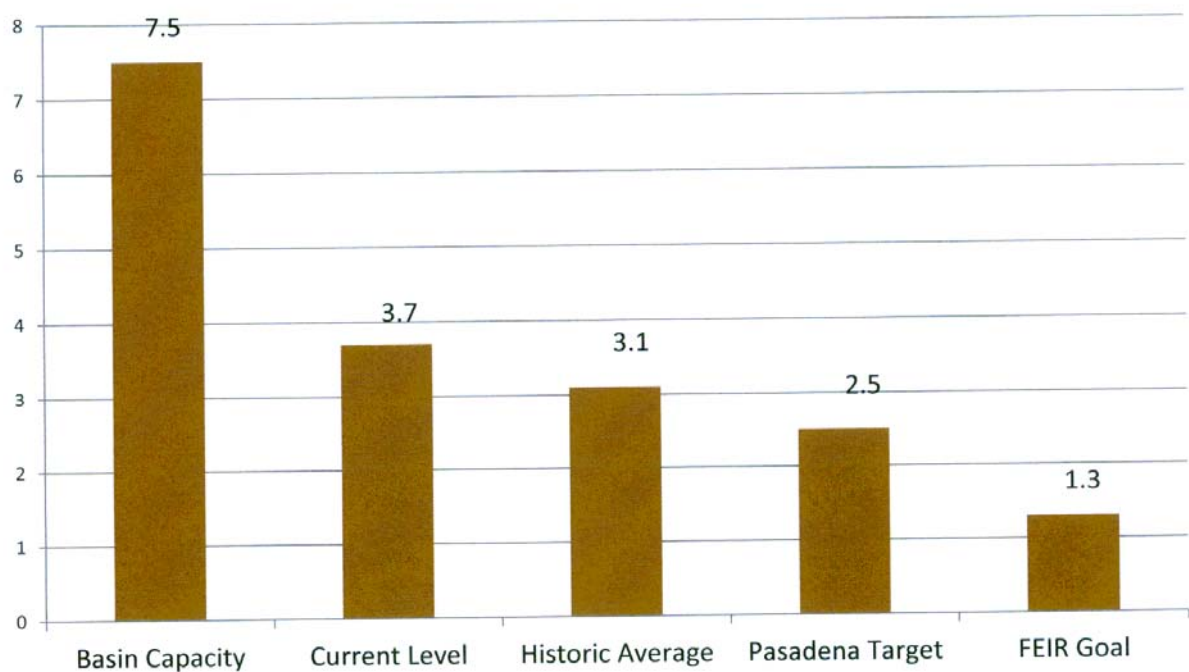
Target: 2.5 mcy of Sediment Storage

Figure 8-27 Graph of Historical Sediment Storage at Devil's Gate Reservoir



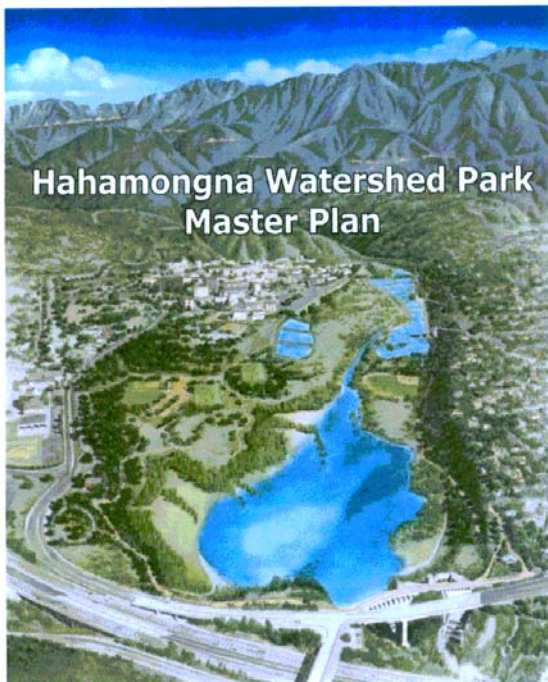
If the County's goal is so sacred, why hasn't the sediment level been that low since 1935?

Level of Sediment in the Hahamongna Basin



Removing excessive sediment is costly, destructive to our neighborhoods and destroys the stable base for healthy habitat.

The Big Dig vs. Hahamongna Master Plan



The County claims their Big Dig conforms with Pasadena's Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan initially approved in February 2000.

But that 15-year-old plan calls for:

- Development of a cooperative program with Pasadena and a multi-agency task force
- An ongoing sediment removal program with regular small removals
- Procedures that promote preservation of native habitats
- A seasonal conservation pool by the dam
- Minimizing impact to the basin and surrounding neighborhoods
- State of the art equipment to minimize dust and noise

If the County had followed the HWPMP, Hahamongna would not have filled up with sediment to the current level.



Alternative 3, Configuration D, Option 2

Footprint of the FEIR Compared to the Pasadena Recommended Footprint

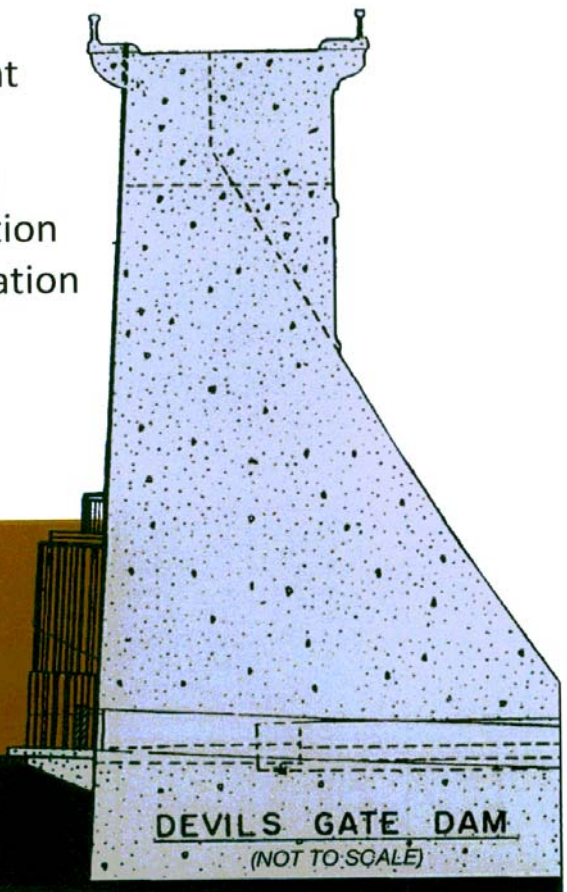
* Pasadena footprint of forty acres includes ten acre seasonal conservation pool near dam.



Advantages of the Pasadena Plan

- Roadmap for ongoing, sustainable sediment management
- Reduced neighborhood impacts (75% less)
- Stable base for habitat, wildlife and recreation
- Will prevent dangerous sediment accumulation while preserving nature
- Integrates with watershed and ecosystem restoration goals

**Pasadena Proposed
Target Sediment Level -
2.5 mc/y**



Save Hahamongna

What you can do:

November 3 – Pasadena City Council Meeting

Urge the Pasadena City Council to stick by their recommendations and protect our neighborhoods and Hahamongna

November 12 – LA County Supervisors Meeting

Tell the County Supervisors to adopt a 21st century sustainable flood and sediment management program

For more information and updates:

www.savehahamongna.org

To help Save Hahamongna, contact the Arroyo Seco Foundation,
savehahamongna@arroyoseco.org