

# Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL January 25, 1999

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Relinquishment of the Linda Vista Avenue/  
Arroyo Boulevard Trunk Sewer

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into, on behalf of the City, an agreement with County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County for relinquishment of the Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer, the completion of the two outstanding conditions, and consenting to the recordation thereof.

## SUMMARY:

The report traces the history of the efforts to convey the ownership of and responsibility for the future operation and maintenance of the Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer to County Sanitation District No. 2 of the Los Angeles County. It describes the location of the line, recent rehabilitation projects, past discussions with County Sanitation District No. 2 regarding the line's relinquishment, conditions that must be met by the City in order to complete the relinquishment, and the estimated annual saving to the City that will result from the relinquishment.

## BACKGROUND:

The Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer is a 75 year old, 5 mile long, 12-inch to 24-inch diameter line that extends from the Foothill Freeway near Devil's Gate Dam in the north to the City's southerly boundary at Arroyo Boulevard and Columbia Street. The line runs down Linda Vista Avenue, crosses the Arroyo Seco Flood Control Channel, runs along Arroyo Boulevard and the bottom and east slope of the Lower Arroyo Seco parklands, and continues along Grand Avenue and Columbia Street to the West Side trunk sewer owned and operated by County Sanitation District No. 16.

The 1994 project for construction of the new Oak Grove Drive sewer included the elimination of a hydraulic bottleneck on the downstream Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer and the replacement or rehabilitation of damaged sections of the line. With the introduction of wastewater flow from County Sanitation No. 28 - wholly within La Cañada Flintridge - into the new Oak Grove Drive sewer and the downstream Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer pursuant to Reimbursement Agreement No. 13,765 with the City of La Cañada Flintridge, it was expected that ownership of the trunk sewer would be relinquished to County Sanitation District No. 2. This expectation was based on what was believed to be written commitments from the Sanitation Districts regarding its acceptance of the trunk line.

During construction of the new Oak Grove Drive sewer project a considerable amount of additional trunk sewer replacement and rehabilitation work was done by change order. However, following the completion of construction the Sanitation Districts advised that transfer of ownership of the trunk sewer would require the following additional actions by the City:

- Televis sections of the trunk sewer omitted from a 1988-89 television inspection done for the City. These sections, which were omitted because of inaccessible manholes, are within the wetlands north of the Route 134 Freeway and along the steep slope on the east side of the Lower Arroyo Seco. Damaged sewer sections disclosed by this inspection would require replacement or rehabilitation.
- Replace additional damaged pipe sections as identified by the Sanitation Districts from the 1988-89 videotapes.
- Increase the amount of root removal work as well as the chemical sealing of leaky pipe joints as determined by the Sanitation Districts from 1988-89 videotapes.

Plans and specifications for the work required for relinquishment of the trunk sewer were prepared by City staff and reviewed and approved by the Sanitation Districts. Following competitive bidding and City Council approval, work under Contract No. 16,712 with Clarke Contracting Corporation commenced on August 24, 1998 and is now approximately 85 percent complete. It is expected that the work will be completed in mid-March 1999.

An agreement for relinquishment of the Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer to County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County prepared by the Sanitation Districts has been reviewed and approved by the Public Works and Transportation Department, the City Attorney's Office, and the Liability Claims Coordinator. Relinquishment of the line will free the City from responsibility for its future operation and maintenance. Accordingly, approval of the agreement is recommended.

The transfer of ownership would take place no sooner than 35 days after the recordation of a Notice of Completion for the current construction being done by Clarke Contracting Corporation. The actual transfer will take place later than that, however, due to right-of-way problems at the two sites where the trunk sewer crosses private property (the agreement requires that the transfer be accompanied by the conveyance of permanent sewer easements wherever the line crosses private property). At 65 North Arroyo Boulevard, the sewer has been realigned necessitating the acquisition of a new easement from the property owner in exchange for the City's execution of a quitclaim deed for its 1923 easement. At 310 Linda Vista Avenue, the City's 1923 easement does not reflect the location of the sewer, but, in fact, describes a strip largely located outside of the lot. The resolution of these problems will require additional City Council action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The transfer of ownership of the Linda Vista Avenue/Arroyo Boulevard trunk sewer to County Sanitation District No. 2 will eliminate both the costs associated with the continued operation and maintenance of the line and the revenue derived from the sewer use charges collected from the properties directly connected to it.

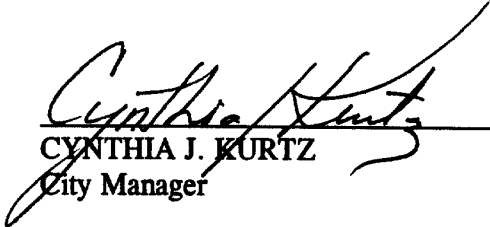
The estimated annual costs for operation and maintenance, based on 1998 cost data, that will be saved by relinquishment of the trunk sewer have been calculated on the basis on historical data and recent evaluation of the original segments of the line that remain in place. These costs are estimated to be:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>
Linda Vista Avenue Line Cleaning =	\$6,500
Arroyo Boulevard/Grand Avenue/Columbia Street Line Cleaning =	1,600
Linda Vista Avenue and Arroyo Boulevard/Grand Avenue/Columbia Street Lines Televising =	700
Lower Arroyo Seco Line Cleaning and Televising =	4,100
Emergency Repairs =	800
System Rehabilitation and Repairs =	<u>30,900</u>
	<b>\$44,600</b>

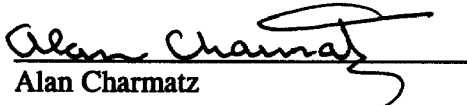
Section 4.52.020A of the Pasadena Municipal Code, states that "Every bill for water use under 'the water rate ordinance' where the customer is served by the sanitary sewerage system of the City shall be subject to a charge...." Once ownership of the trunk sewer is transferred to County Sanitation District No, 2, those properties that are directly connected to it will no longer be served by the Pasadena sewerage system. This consists of the Linda Vista Avenue frontages north of 310 Linda Vista Avenue plus the lots on Grand Avenue between Madeline Drive and Columbia Street and on Columbia Street between Grand Avenue and Arroyo Boulevard - a total of approximately 210 single-family homes, plus the Linda Vista Elementary School at 1259 Linda Vista Avenue. The estimated annual revenue loss based on 1998 data is \$12,600.

Comparison of the above figures shows that relinquishment of the trunk sewer will result in a net annual saving to the City of \$32,000: \$44,600 less \$12,600.

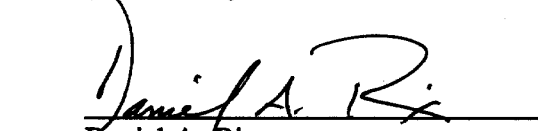
Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
City Manager

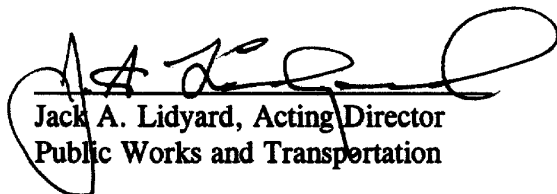
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