

SOUTH LOS ANGELES WETLAND PARK

Creating a “Green Haven” of Clean Water, Fresh Air and a Healthy Community

COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

FROM THIS...

...TO THIS



The South Los Angeles Wetland Park is located at 5413 Avalon Boulevard in a highly urbanized and park-poor neighborhood in Council District 9 of the City of Los Angeles. It is located approximately five miles south of downtown and one half mile east of the 110 Freeway. The project site is bordered by 54th and 55th Streets to the north and south, and by Avalon Boulevard and San Pedro Street to the east and west [respectively].

The property, a historic rail yard formerly owned and used by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) as a maintenance facility, was purchased by the City of Los Angeles in 2009.

“We’re taking an under-utilized site and turning it into a natural habitat park...it will help to clean the air in terms of remediating the contamination of the soil for that area. It will catch urban runoff and attract more wildlife in the area.”

**— Jan Perry Councilmember District 9
Chair, Energy & Environment Council Committee**

The Wetland Park will span an entire city block and when completed, the project will have transformed concrete and asphalt into a 9-acre neighborhood resource of open park space, wetlands habitat, and community facilities. The Wetland Park will include stormwater pre-treatment *Best Management Practices* (BMPs) measures, a stormwater treatment wetland of approximately 4.5 acres, open park space, and a parking lot with a vegetated swale to direct runoff to the treatment area.

The Wetland Park will also provide educational opportunities for wildlife viewing as well as historical railway elements, and an 81,760-square foot building will be renovated into a multi-use community center. The new Wetland Park is expected to provide a “green haven” adorned with native trees, shrubs, plants, and a small lake, to a residential community with two nearby schools. The park will also include signage describing various plants and wildlife that will serve as an outdoor classroom.



(Continued on reverse side)

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This will be the second wetlands park in the community. In 2006, the Augustus Hawkins Nature Park, located at 5790 Compton Avenue, was unveiled near the intersection of Slauson and Compton Avenues. Formerly a 8 1/2-acre Los Angeles Water & Power pipe-yard, it was the first of its kind to be developed in a highly urbanized setting. The site now attracts Blue Herons and other migrating birds as well as providing a quiet respite for community residents in a naturalized setting.

“Augustus F. Hawkins Nature Park is a great place for people to walk around and see nature up close. Everyone who goes there is extremely delighted and find it a relaxing and restful experience!”

— Councilmember Jan Perry

The purpose of a wetland park is to reduce pollution from urban runoff that courses through our waterways, while increasing beneficial uses of receiving bodies such as the Los Angeles River and coastal areas. The South Los Angeles Wetland Park will capture, treat and reduce pollutants including bacteria, oil and grease, gasoline, suspended sediments, and heavy metals — all of which are components of urban runoff that are ultimately washed into receiving waters. By diverting and treating storm drain flow from a 525-acre watershed area, the wetland will improve the overall water quality while providing habitat education and recreational opportunities.



The total project budget is \$26.1 million with the majority of funding coming from the City of Los Angeles' Proposition "O" Bond Measure. In November of 2004, the voters of Los Angeles overwhelmingly passed the measure which authorized the City to issue a series of general obligation bonds for up to \$500 million for projects to protect public health by cleaning up pollution, including bacteria and trash, in the City's waterways, beaches and the ocean.



The project is currently under construction and a community groundbreaking was held in June of 2009. The new South Los Angeles Wetland Park is scheduled to be completed by 2012.

For more information on the South Los Angeles Wetland Park, or other Proposition "O" projects, visit: www.LAPropO.org

