

DATE: May 18, 2015
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 9: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant amendment with the City of Long Beach for the DeForest Park Wetland Restoration Project (RMC10006)

PROGRAM AREA: Rivers and Tributaries

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: County of Los Angeles

PROJECT MANAGER: Luz Quinnell

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC authorize a grant amendment with the City of Long Beach to revise the scope of work, budget and extend the timeline through December 31, 2016 for the DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project (RMC10006).

PROJECT'S DESCRIPTION: The DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project will enhance and install native wetland vegetation, establish valley grassland habitat on 34 acres of historic wetlands. The project will provide water quality improvements, additional trail enhancements and passive recreational amenities. Interpretive enhancements are included in the design while retaining flood control properties to create a river parkway along this portion of the lower Los Angeles River.

BACKGROUND: The DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project is part of a larger lower Los Angeles River parkway plan that will implement multipurpose wetlands in several areas along the lower Los Angeles River's flood retention basins. The implementation plan is a joint project between the City of Long Beach and LA County Department of Public Works which includes the Dominguez Gap Wetlands and the DeForest Wetlands Project. The DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration project was identified through a parkway plan after consideration of its ecological and recreational restoration opportunities and its ability for restoring historic wetlands along the lower Los Angeles River.

The City of Long Beach is requesting to amend the scope of work, budget and extend the timeline through December 31, 2016 since the bids received in the fall of 2014 exceeded the total funds granted by the RMC and other funding agencies; thus, the project could not be completed as designed and will require project phasing. The City of Long Beach redesigned the project into two separate projects with the first phase funded through the RMC, California State Parks and State Coastal Conservancy grants which will complete all the required RMC elements with the exception of construction of the vernal pools and partial native landscaping along the Los Angeles River Bike Trail.

The following elements will be completed as part of the RMC Phase I, please see **Exhibit A: Proposed Phasing:**

- (a) Removal of non-native trees, weed germination and eradication
- (b) Protection and enhancement of existing native vegetation and installation of temporary irrigation
- (c) Partial native landscape planting
- (d) Installation of step pool, weir, and emergent marsh
- (e) Drainage basin at southern end of project
- (f) Installation of seasonal wetlands without clay liners
- (g) Installation of aggregate base trails in place of decomposed granite and porous asphalt, mostly in areas southwest of Long Beach Boulevard
- (h) Partial decomposed granite and porous asphalt trails
- (i) Railed boardwalk in North Basin
- (j) Installation of new fencing, repair existing fencing and artistic vehicular and pedestrian gates
- (k) Interpretive signage, seat wall and monument sign
- (l) Installation of bicycle rack, benches, and trash receptacles

The City of Long Beach is in the process of redesigning the project and in order to fund Phase I completely will include the following elements as part of Phase II: construction of vernal pools, installation of the decomposed granite and porous asphalt paths in areas where aggregate base trails were constructed, refurbishment of the 52nd Street parking lot and completion of the native landscaping including native perennial grass along the levee.

Deforest Park Wetland Restoration Project Phase I benefits include enhancing the historic wetlands with the construction of seasonal wetlands, planting of native flora, improved trails and installation of artistic vehicular and pedestrian gates in order to provide a sense of place. The project's elements include improved spillways for storm drain outlets, re-graded slope to restore stream flow and trails, removal of exotic plants, replanting of native plants, construction of new trails and preparation and installation of educational and directive signage. Additionally, the project will provide water quality improvement, passive recreational amenities, and interpretive enhancements, while retaining flood control properties to create a river parkway along the lower Los Angeles River.

The timeline extension results from the City of Long Beach having experienced a number of delays in redesigning the project in order to fully fund Phase I, permitting has required additional time for plan review, preparation, and submittal; therefore the City of Long Beach is requesting to extend the timeline through July 30, 2016, please see Exhibit B: Revised Timeline.

This grant is consistent with the RMC Resolutions 2010-83 and 2014-05 and the City of Long Beach has submitted the necessary documents including the Revised Designs, Revised Tasklist/Timeline and Budget these exhibits are attached accordingly as Exhibits A, B and C.

FISCAL INFORMATION: No change in the current project budget. Funding for this grant was encumbered from Prop 40 (PCA 30113) for an amount of \$525,409; Prop 50 (PCA 30118) for an amount of \$300,000 and Prop 84 (PCA 32700) for an amount of \$174,591.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: This grant was initially authorized by the RMC on September 27, 2010 as specified in Resolution 2010-83 and amended on March 24, 2014 as specified in Resolution 2014-05.

Exhibit A: Proposed Phase I and II

Legend: Items Deferred to Phase II

-  Planting Zone (Portion Shown)
-  Other Items as Indicated
-  52nd St. Parking Area
-  Trail Type Conversion (Porous Paving/Decomposed Granite to Aggregate Base)

SCALE: 1"=150'

- PLANTING LEGEND**
-  EXISTING NATIVES - ENHANCEMENT ONLY
 -  NATIVE SCRUB
 -  VALLEY GRASSLAND
 -  VERNAL POOL Phase I Seasonal Wetland (inner deferred)
 -  NO PLANT ZONE
 -  WESTERN SCAVORE, SPECIMEN 15-GAL
 -  VALLEY OAK, SPECIMEN 15-GAL
 -  FREMONT COTTONWOOD, SPECIMEN 10-GAL

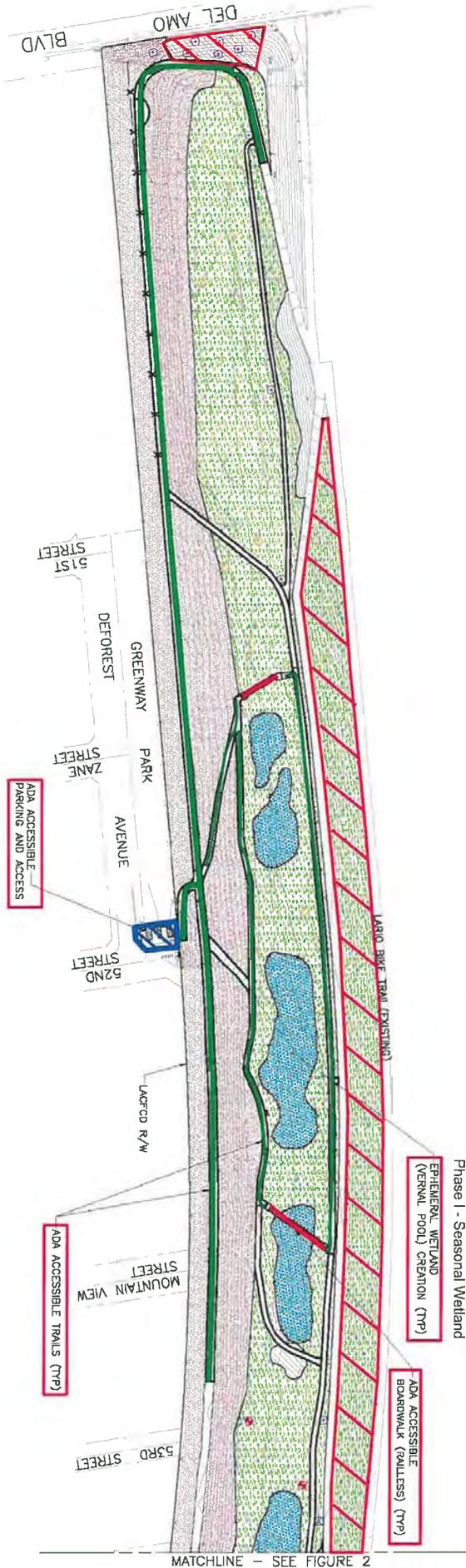


FIGURE 1
DEFORREST WETLANDS SITE PLAN
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

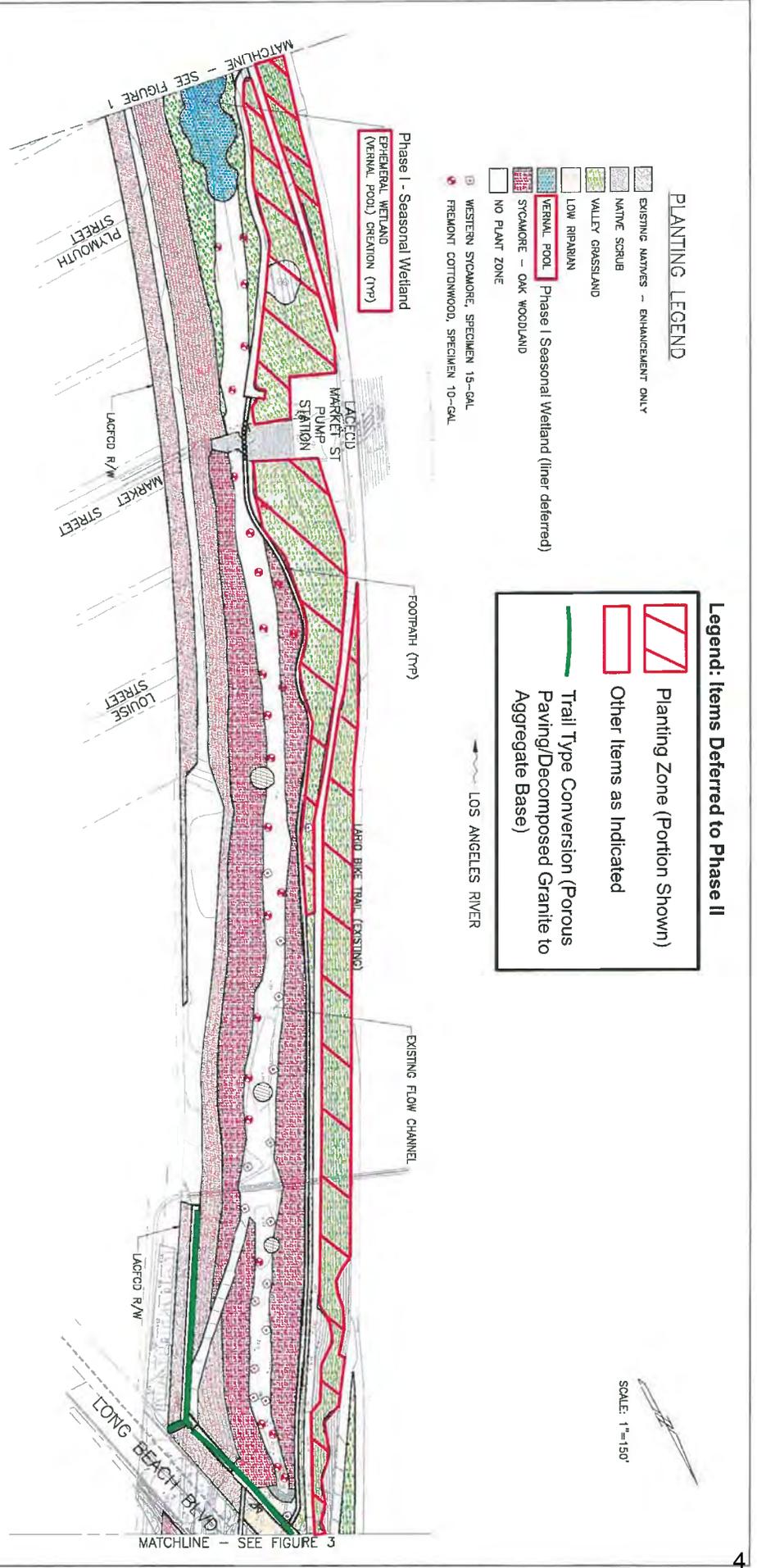
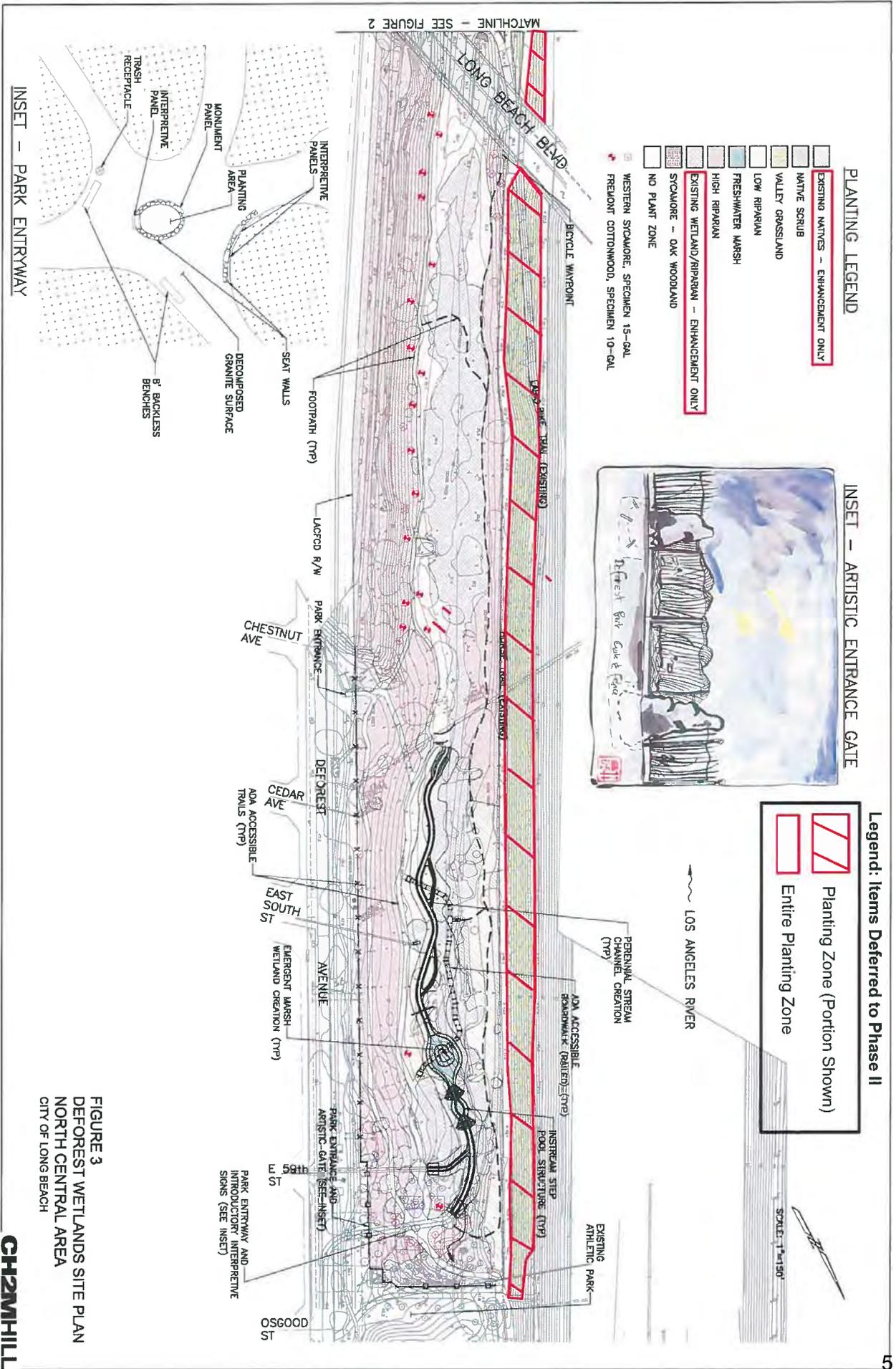
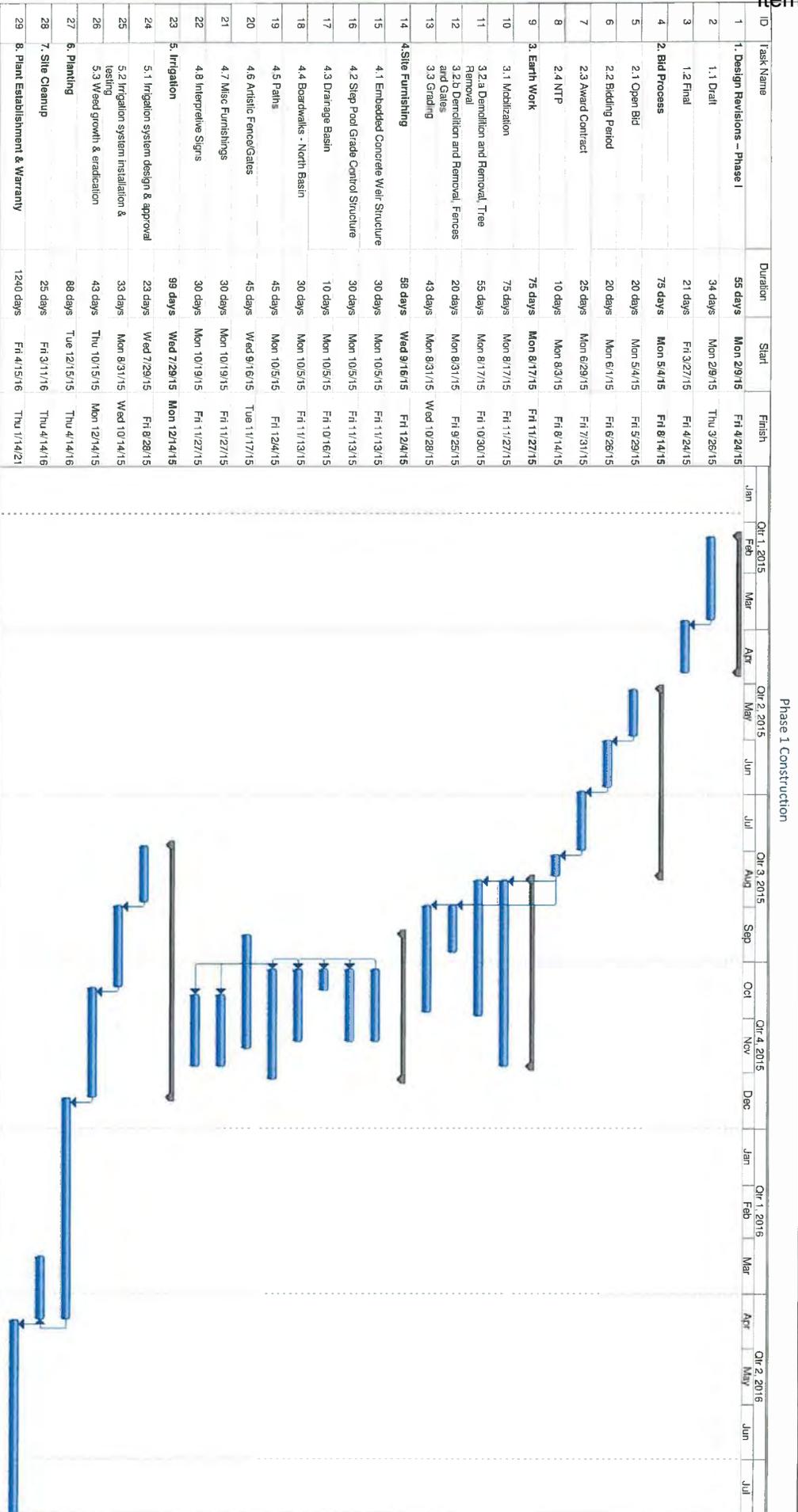


FIGURE 2
DEFOREST WETLANDS SITE PLAN
CENTRAL AREA
CITY OF LONG BEACH



DEFERREST

Exhibit B: Revised Timeline and Tasklist



Project: DeForestConstructionSchedule
 Date: Tue 1/27/15

Task Split: [Progress Bar]

Progress Milestone: [Progress Bar]

Summary Project Summary: [Progress Bar]

External Tasks External Milestone: [Progress Bar]

Deadline: [Progress Bar]

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Exhibit C: Revised Budget

City of Long Beach, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
 RMC-10006 DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project
 Budget

Project Task Detail by Project Phase	Unit Cost \$	Unit Measure*	Quantity	Total Amount	Costs by Funding Source					Check Total	
					RMC Funding	Coastal Conservancy	LA Co. Prop A River Funds	CA State Parks River Parkways			
Task 1, Design											
Conceptual Design (all phases)				N/A						\$	-
CEQA (all phases)				N/A						\$	-
Construction Docs				\$ 538,266		\$ 217,580	\$ 245,042			\$	462,622
Permitting				\$ 220,000				\$ 295,644		\$	295,644
Subtotal Task 1				\$ 758,266		\$ 217,580	\$ 245,042	\$ 295,644		\$	758,266
Construction											
Construction Mobilization	LS		1	\$ 555,800						\$	458,305
Site Preparation	LS		1	\$ 90,000		\$ 225,500	\$ 300,000	\$ 91,400		\$	616,900
Earthwork	LS		1	\$ 635,000		\$ 74,195	\$ 100,000	\$ 601,560		\$	775,755
Wetland Weirs & Grade Control	LS		1	\$ 62,000			\$ 69,900			\$	69,900
Trails	LS		1	\$ 745,000		\$ 250,000	\$ 382,709	\$ 240,000		\$	872,709
Fences/Gates	LS		1	\$ 295,000			\$ 86,300	\$ 167,396		\$	253,696
Public Use Amenities & Interpretation	LS		1	\$ 90,000		\$ 70,200				\$	70,200
Planting Preparation	LS		1	\$ 250,500		\$ 279,800		\$ 323,049		\$	602,849
Restoration Planning	LS		1	\$ 1,000,000		\$ 440,000		\$ 200,000	\$ 630,000	\$	1,270,000
Construction Contingency	LS		1	\$ 1,717,014		\$ 350,000	\$ 100,000			\$	450,000
Subtotal Task 2				\$ 5,440,314		\$ 790,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,754,958	\$ 1,895,356	\$	5,440,314
Project Management											
Construction Management	LS		1	\$272,016		\$ 80,000		\$ 100,000		\$	189,000
Consultant Const. Observation				\$96,984		\$ 30,000		\$ 150,000		\$	180,000
Subtotal Task 3				\$ 369,000		\$ 110,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 9,000	\$	369,000
CONTINGENCY											
Contingency (not to exceed 10% of RMC Grant)				\$ 650,000		\$ 100,000		\$ 250,000	\$ 300,000	\$	650,000
SUBTOTAL CONTINGENCY				\$ 650,000		\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 300,000	\$	650,000
PROJECT GRAND TOTAL				\$7,217,580		\$ 1,000,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$	7,217,580

* LF = Linear Feet, SF = Square Feet, LS = Lump Sum

May 18, 2015 – Item 9

RESOLUTION 2015-11

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT WITH THE CITY OF LONG BEACH FOR THE DEFOREST PARK WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT (RMC10006).

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the grant is consistent with the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
3. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. APPROVES a grant amendment with the City of Long Beach to revise the scope of work, budget and extend the timeline through July 30, 2016 for the DeForest Park Wetlands Restoration Project (RMC10006).
5. ADOPTS the staff report dated May 18, 2015.

~ End of Resolution ~

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on May 18, 2015.

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General