

The City of Encinitas
CDPNF-004271-2020/CPP-004272-2020
North Coast Highway 101 Drainage Improvement Project

Public Meeting: January 19, 2021

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the public meeting was held via [Zoom Webinar](#) from 6:00 PM to just after 7:00 PM. A flyer was mailed out on 1/4/2021 to approximately 3,000 businesses and residences that lie within 500 feet of the North Coast Highway 101 Drainage Improvement Project. Information about the upcoming meeting was also posted on the City website. Jill Bankston hosted a Zoom presentation with consultant staff and city staff assisting. Twenty-seven attendees registered for the webinar and the Zoom showed a maximum of 73 participants. Jill Bankston presented a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following topics: project location, project need, project overview, opportunities and constraints, hydrology and hydraulics, concept plan, construction methods, environmental analysis, project benefits and potential schedule. The PowerPoint presentation included graphics that showed where the new stormdrain pipe and inlets would be located and how it might be constructed. After she finished her presentation, a question and answer session was conducted whereby citizens typed questions into the Zoom Q&A function, staff read the questions and the project team provided responses.

47 specific questions were raised during the meeting, 2 comments were received by City clerk and 2 questions came into the Streetscape hotline.

QUESTIONS DURING THE ZOOM:

Q1) What do you mean no changes to the pipe outfalls?

A1) There is no construction at the outfalls

Q2) How many pipes flow into the junction box and their diameters?

A2) 1 pipe that's 66".

Q3) Any other inlets into the junction box?

A3) No, just our pipe into the junction box – there are inlet points along the 1.5 mile mainline?

Q4) Expected contaminant load in the stormwater?

A4) This project adds BMPS on the 101 where none currently exist. It will be an improvement.

Q5) How much leaking around the new pipes?

A5) These pipes are brand new, do not expect leaking.

Q6) Where does Vulcan drain?

A6) This meeting is specific to the 101 drainage project. There are other projects that are looking at other aspects of Leucadia drainage.

Q7) What are the ramifications of this system on flooding along Vulcan?

A7) This meeting is specific to the 101 drainage project. There are other projects that are looking at other aspects of Leucadia drainage.

Q8) Didn't we just put in a new junction box?

A8) No, not here. We are currently preparing to put in a new system south of here from El Portal to A St as part of Leucadia Streetscape Phase 1.

Q9) What are the dates for full completion?

A9) It depends on when City Council approves funding for the next phase. If it's approved with Streetscape Phase 2, it could start as early as July 2021. A next phase project could take 18 to 24 months.

Q10) Didn't we just put in a new pipes here?

A10) The hotel project at the 101 and La Costa did do some work to accommodate the hotel site.

Q11) How we will address flooding now, before this project is complete?

A11) No changes from the status quo. We will rely on our Public Works team to help manage flooding.

Q12) Where are the analysis studies that support this project?

A12) The City has them, they're public record and can be shared. You can email us to receive a copy and we will post them on our website.

Q13) Where are the dispersion areas?

A13) They are spread throughout the project area – there are many over the 1.5 mile system length.

Q14) Volume between 24" and 66" is 75 times greater. How long will it take to drain that larger pipe?

A14) The duration of flow through the outlet pipe will be dependent on the total rainfall volume.

Q15) Will water come across from the Vulcan side and flood the 101 side for example at Leucadia Roadside Park?

A15) No, the need for the sluice gate is being eliminated by the new El Portal pipeline project that is being constructed as part of Leucadia Streetscape Phase 1. The 101 Drainage project also adds new inlets by Leucadia Roadside Park to alleviate that flooding.

Q16) What is the current average annual water volume that's being contained or redirected?

A16) We don't measure that, we rely on our Public Works team to address flooding where they can. It would also depend on the size of the rain event.

Q17) What junction structure does the metering?

A17) At the north end, we have a junction box that has 2 lower outlet pipes and one higher outlet. During small rain events the runoff goes through the 2 lower pipes. During larger rain events, the box fills up and also outlets through the upper outlet. The large 60" pipe provides underground storage to pull off the roadway and store it underground, while it outlets through the existing outlet pipes.

Q18) What is happening at Moorgate?

A18) We are proposing 2 new inlets that would be constructed along with the next phase of Leucadia Streetscape. The Streetscape project will regrade the roadway surface and these new inlets will be at low spots and can drain the area.

Q19) How will traffic be affected?

A19) This project is meant to be constructed with the next Leucadia Streetscape, which will change the 101 from 1 lane in each direction to 2-lanes in each direction. There will be K-Rails and lane shifts needed to construction Streetscape.

Q20) Will this free up vector trucks to address flooding in other parts of the City?

A20) Yes, under most storm events, this project will alleviate the need to have vector trucks along the 101 or in Leucadia roadside Park, so they will be available to address flooding elsewhere.

Q21) Do the inlets east of the 101 provide relief to Vulcan?

A21) No – the railroad tracks keep the Vulcan runoff on the Vulcan side. This project addresses drainage and flooding on the 101 side.

Q22) With larger pipes attached to the outfall, what will the impact be?

A22) Runoff will flow through the existing outfalls for a longer time to drain the larger pipes.

Q23) What coordination have you had with City of Carlsbad regarding this outlet to the Batiquitos Lagoon.

A23) We've had initial contact, and will continue to engage them throughout the project.

Q24) Why isn't there a calculation of the water we're trying to contain or redirect?

A24) We have completed a hydrology study that tells us the volume of water that we're trying to capture.

Q25) How will sedimentation be handled?

A25) Because we're adding stormwater BMPs with this new project, our study shows a De Minimus amount of new sedimentation and no impact to water quality.

Q26) Are there design opportunities to add new inlets along Vulcan?

A26) Vulcan is a separate area. The City has other projects that are looking at drainage in other areas including Vulcan. That project would have it's own CPP meeting sometime in the future.

Q27) After construction, how often will the 101 flood?

A27) Depends on how much rain we get. This project was designed to address a 25-year storm event.

Q28) Where will delivery trucks park?

A28) This project will be constructed as part of Streetscape, which will add new parking through the corridor. Contractor must provide continuous access to all parcels.

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Q30) Build up of sediment in the pipes – how will it be cleaned out?

A30) We have over 100 Manholes and Junction structures that will allow Public Works to access and clean the pipes.

Q31) Will the volume of water going into the Batiquitos Lagoon increase?

A31) No, the total volume will be roughly the same. Some of the water that will now be directed underground, currently flows into the Lagoon via overland flow.

Q32) Why are we doing this project?

A32) To make the roadway safer for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. City Council has prioritized Streetscape to facilitate mobility and enhance Leucadia. We do not want to dig up the 101 twice, so we are looking to include this drainage enhancement project into the next Streetscape Project.

Q33) 25 year storm means a 25% change of happening any one year.

A33) A 25-year storm means we expect it to happen once every 25-years, it's also the same as a 1 in 25 change of the storm happening in any given year. Of course, we could also get multiple 25-year storms in a single year.

Q34) Volume of stormwater into Batiquitos Lagoon will not increase?

A34) The topography here trends north. So water that would already go into Batiquitos is now being pulled underground.

Q35) What will happen to water that is currently pumped onto Beacon's Beach?

A35) That water comes from Leucadia Roadway Park. This project is adding new stormdrains here to allow that water to flow into our new stormdrain pipe and up north toward Ponto Beach.

Q36) If water will no longer be pumped to Beacon's – isn't that more water into Batiquitos Lagoon?

A36) If that water were allowed to pond, it would eventually make its way into the existing stormdrain system and outlet at Batiquitos Lagoon. In very large storm events, some water is diverted. In smaller events that water heads north currently.

Q37) What about the new water into Batiquitos Lagoon?

A37) None of the first flush will go into the Lagoon, it will all be directed through BMPs and then treated water will typically go to Ponto, or in very large events it will go to Batiquitos Lagoon.

Q38) Is the water a safety problem on the 101?

A38) Pondered water can present a safety hazard if people aren't going slowly or navigating it responsibly. Neighbors along the 101 also experience property damage from flooding that this project will address.

Q39) Will money from the hotel go to pay for the new drainage?

A39) Staff is not aware of any requirement for the City to obtain revenue from the new hotel for this project.

Q40) Have you done a Hydraulic analysis, where will the water go, will there be BMPs?

A40) Yes, we have completed a hydrology and hydraulic study. All first flush water will go to Ponto beach. This project will have biofiltration, dispersion and landscaping as BMPs to filter the stormwater.

Q41) What is a very intense storm event?

A41) Last year we have a 700-year storm event, or a storm that we expect to see once every 700 years or a 1 in 700 chance of a storm that size happening in any given year.

Q42) What is the impact to the bluff due to digging?

A42) No impact to the bluff, the digging is all within the 101 or directly adjacent to the 101. We will have paleontology monitoring in case any artifacts are found.

Q43) Are we drawing an impact between Ponto and Batiquitos Lagoon outfalls.

A43) Ponto outfalls have a series of detention basins that provide additional treatment at the outlet. Higher flows will go into Batiquitos Lagoon.

Q44) Was consideration given to keeping Leucadia funky through design of this project?

A44) This project is mostly underground, with some drainage inlets – no real opportunity for art. The larger Leucadia Streetscape project does have opportunities to incorporate art and unique features.

Q45) How can we get copies of the studies and how can we submit additional question.

A45) The studies will be posted on-line. Questions can be sent to streetscape@encinitasca.gov.

Q46) How can we get copies of the studies and how can we submit additional question.

A46) The studies will be posted on-line. Questions can be sent to streetscape@encinitasca.gov.

Q47) When will this project be submitted to the coastal commission?

A47) The City has met with Coastal Commission staff, they are reviewing the technical studies now. The project has already been submitted and the City will issue the permit.

COMMENTS EMAILED TO CITY:

- 1A) Feel staff has not been responsive to comments.
 - A1A) City staff has received input from a variety of stakeholders and has incorporated input and feedback into the project where feasible.
- 1B) Feel the project is incomplete as it does not address all of Leucadia. Doesn't address Orpheus.
 - A1B) The project scope is the Highway 101 corridor. There are other projects in the City Capital Program that address drainage issues in other parts of Encinitas.
- 1C) Wondering whether Batiquitos Lagoon and City of Carlsbad are looped in.
 - A1C) The City has shared the project plans with the City of Carlsbad and is working to share information with the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation.
- 1D) Graphics don't show the newly constructed hotel.
 - A1D) The City relies on readily available aerial photos. These aerial photos do not include the newly constructed hotel.
- 1E) Request City incorporate input from Dr. Helly.
 - A1E) The City has received input from Dr. Helly and will incorporate his feedback and input where feasible.

- 2A) Batiquitos Lagoon should not receive untreated stormwater.
 - A2A) This project adds stormwater BMPs where none exist currently. Flush runoff will be directed to Ponto Beach through a series of existing basins.
- 2B) Untreated stormwater should not be allowed to infiltrate.
 - A2B) This project adds stormwater BMPs where none exist currently.
- 2C) Request City incorporate input from Dr. Helly.
 - A2C) The City has received input from Dr. Helly and will incorporate his feedback and input where feasible.
- 2D) Asked what input we've received from Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation.
 - A2D) The City is working to share information with the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation and obtain their input.

COMMENTS RECEIVED BY STREETSCAPE TEAM:

- 1) Two people requested a link to the meeting video.
 - A1) Link Sent

- 2) Did not feel Basil Street drainage is adequately addressed.
 - A2) Project team is meeting with the resident during the week of 2/8/21 to answer questions and address these concerns. Drainage at Basil that currently backs up, will be alleviated by the installation of the large 101 mainline.

Attendees raised concerns with: other City drainage issues, but were reminded that the focus of this project was drainage along the 101; potential pollution or impacts at the pipe outfalls to Batiquitos Lagoon, but were informed that the new infrastructure will have stormwater BMPs; and when the project will be constructed, which is currently unknown at this time. One attendee requested additional coordination with the City of Carlsbad and the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, which the City will pursue.

At the end of the Q&A session, Jill Bankston thanked the attendees for their time, and provided a website (encinitasca.gov/streetscape) and email address (streetscape@encinitasca.gov) that could be used for additional questions. The attendees were notified that the presentation would be posted on-line. Some email comments were received after the evening meeting and are included in this report.

Maria Gremban

From: Lillian Doherty
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 2:02 PM
To: Jill Bankston
Cc: Ed Wimmer
Subject: FW: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

FYI



Lillian Doherty
Director

Development Services Department
505 South Vulcan Ave, Encinitas, CA 92024
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www.encinitasca.gov

From: Kathy Hollywood <khollywood@encinitasca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Ed Wimmer <EWimmer@encinitasca.gov>; Carl Quiram <cquiram@encinitasca.gov>; Lillian Doherty <ldoherty@encinitasca.gov>
Cc: Sheila <sheilaleucadia@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

See comments below regarding the CPP meeting tonight.



Kathy Hollywood
City Clerk, City of Encinitas
505 S. Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, CA 92024
760.633.2601
khollywood@encinitasca.gov
www.encinitasca.gov

Correspondents should be aware that all communications to and from this address are subject to public disclosure and may be reviewed by third parties.

From: Sheila Cameron <sheilaleucadia@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 1:43 PM
To: Kathy Hollywood <khollywood@encinitasca.gov>
Subject: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

[NOTICE: Caution: External Email]

City Clerk Kathy Hollywood,

Please forward these comments regarding the CPP Zoom meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. tonight to Ed Wimmer, Carl Quiram, and I Doherty. I am unable to attend, but do want to make comments.

"For the Record".

I am 100% in support of the proposal and all comments made by Dr. John Helly on the "Finding of Substantial Conformance with Design Review Permit" on the North Coast Highway 101 between La Costa Avenue and "A" Street at the south end.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough the importance of Dr. Helly's input. We are both frankly outraged that "promised" solicitation and inclusion of our comments have been repeatedly ignored by the Encinitas City Staff.

I have been involved with Drainage and Storm Water "plans" for Leucadia for 25 years and am glad that finally this detailed plan has come forward. HOWEVER, I feel it will not solve the handling of water runoff in Leucadia and in fact will exacerbate it, because it is incomplete. Part of the problem is that Leucadia currently collects all storm water including that from Encinitas which should be channeled off in a southerly direction. This certainly does not help the drainage problem on Orpheus Avenue!

I also question whether the Batiquitos Lagoon, (an ecological preserve) Board of Directors and the City of Carlsbad have been fully informed and are commenting on this project?

Artistic Views featured of the La Costa Avenue/Highway 101 juncture are outdated! Where's the gigantic Hotel complex that is now there and presents additional challenges to this proposed Storm Water/Drainage project.? Those illustrations need to be updated to reflect the current status quo.

Lastly, again, I suggest this City pay attention and give credence to the input from our citizens, such as Dr. Helly, who live here and experience the challenges of storm water runoff annually in our communities and have knowledge and history that cannot and should not be discounted..

Sheila S. Cameron
former Mayor of Encinitas and
46 year resident

Maria Gremban

From: Lillian Doherty
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 2:04 PM
To: Jill Bankston
Subject: FW: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

FYI



Lillian Doherty
Director

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From: Kathy Hollywood <khollywood@encinitasca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Ed Wimmer <EWimmer@encinitasca.gov>; Carl Quiram <cquiram@encinitasca.gov>; Lillian Doherty <ldoherty@encinitasca.gov>
Cc: Susan Turney <susankturney@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

Please see comments below regarding tonight's CPP meeting.



Kathy Hollywood
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From: Susan Turney <susankturney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Kathy Hollywood <khollywood@encinitasca.gov>
Subject: CPP January 19th, 2021 Leucadia Storm Water/Drainage

[NOTICE: Caution: External Email]

Hi Kathy,

Please forward these comments regarding the CPP Zoom meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. tonight to Ed Wimmer, Carl Quiram, and Lillian Doherty for the record:

I support all comments made by Dr. John Helly regarding the "Finding of Substantial Conformance with Design Review Permit" on the North Coast Highway 101 between La Costa Avenue and "A" Street at the south end.

Under no circumstances should the Batiquitos Lagoon receive any untreated runoff whether from a storm event, no matter how unusual the city deems it. Nor should the polluted runoff be absorbed by the soil from which it will eventually still be carried, untreated, to the Lagoon.

It is unacceptable that Dr. Helly's expert opinion has been ignored; in addition, what contact and input have you received from the Batiquitos Lagoon foundation?

Susan Turney
Leucadia resident