

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

**JUNE 8, 2006 - Communications**

Apodaca, Vasquez

**JUNE 26, 2006 - Board Meeting**

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Approved by: Art Aguilar

INFORMATION CALENDAR

WHITTIER GREENWAY TRAIL MASTER PLAN

SUMMARY:

On July 1, 2006, the City of Whittier will begin the transformation of an abandoned Union Pacific Railroad into 5-mile, multi-use trail. The Whittier Greenway Trail will pass through residential, commercial and institutional properties in Whittier, providing residents and visitors with a convenient route to walk or bike through town.

Funding for the estimated \$13 million project will primarily come from a Metropolitan Transit Authority grant, supplemented by state and federal funds. Project costs include \$4 million for property acquisition, \$1.2 million for design and approximately \$8 million for construction and project management.

Currently, the City of Whittier is applying for additional funding from Metropolitan Water District (MWD) through the Community Partnering Program. The specific category of the grant application is still being determined. The grant application, due August 1, 2006, requires the endorsement of a MWD member agency.

The Greenway Trail could provide an opportunity to expand water conservation through the use of reclaimed water, California-friendly landscaping and educational exhibits.

The concept of the Greenway Trail started in the 1990s as a way to provide a safe path for students to the five adjacent schools and recreational opportunities for residents. The property was acquired by the City in 2002. On May 15, 2006, the Whittier City Council awarded the construction contract and appointed a construction project manager for the 15-month plan.

The Greenway Trail will begin in the northwest corner of Whittier at Pioneer Boulevard, traverse through the center of Palm Park and end in the southeast corner of the City near the intersection of Lambert Road and Mills Avenue.

Beyond the local benefits of the Greenway Trail, the long-term vision is to provide regional linkages to the San Gabriel River Trail, the Coyote Creek Trail and the regional bikeway system of Orange County. Through these linkages, the Greenway Trail would provide access to more than 35 cities throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

None.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on June 8 and was agendaized to the June 26, 2006 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" - Schematic of the project

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