

Background

The Wilson Reservoir, owned and operated by the City of South Pasadena, is located at 545 West Adelyn Drive in San Gabriel. Built in approximately 1920, the reservoir is constructed of concrete and is covered by a wood frame roof. Water comes from two wells located on-site and a third well located a short distance south of the site on Bradbury Drive. Pumping and water chlorination systems, as well as an operations building, are also located on the reservoir site. Treated water is pumped from the Wilson Reservoir through transmission lines to the Garfield Reservoir within the City of South Pasadena.



In recent years, the roof of the 90-year-old reservoir has begun to deteriorate and sag in areas. An inspection in early 2008 concluded that a severe roof collapse could occur at any time. Because of its age, the reservoir also does not meet current earthquake resistance standards. For these reasons, the inspection report recommended complete replacement of the reservoir.

Left top: The roof of the existing reservoir is beginning to sag. *Left:* Interior view of roof structure showing rotted timber frame.

Project Description

The City of South Pasadena is proposing to demolish the existing reservoir and pump station building and in their place construct a new reinforced concrete reservoir, pump station, and office. The new reservoir would hold 1.3 million gallons of water and would be built to current seismic design standards.

Environmental Review and Public Outreach

The City of South Pasadena must complete an environmental review of the proposed project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This review process will consider the project impacts on traffic, aesthetics, noise and air quality, and historic resources. The City of San Gabriel will also be reviewing the proposed plans for impacts to significant trees on the site, construction truck haul routes, contractor parking and hours of work, and landscaping.

As a kick-off to the environmental review process, an Open House was held on November 18th for City of South Pasadena representatives to present information about the reservoir replacement project to the community. Approximately 20 residents attended this meeting. Common concerns included construction traffic, parking, and noise. Many residents also expressed a desire that the new structures be made to look more like the adjacent homes. South Pasadena staff will consider these comments as they conduct the environmental review.



Schedule

As of October 2010, the project design is about 85% complete. The CEQA review process has been initiated and will take approximately four months to complete. Construction could begin by summer 2011 and continue for 18 to 24 months.

More Information

The environmental analysis and proposed mitigation will be presented at a second public meeting to be scheduled in January. For more information, please visit the Community Development page on the City's website at www.sangabrielcity.com, or contact Daren Grilley at (626) 308-2806, extension 4631.

Contact Us

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