

Hydrology and Water Quality Technical Report



8920 Sunset

Hydrology and Water Quality Technical Report May 23, 2017

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Description

Existing Conditions

The project site is located on the southeast corner of Sunset Boulevard and Hilldale Avenue at 8920 Sunset in the City of West Hollywood. The existing project site encompasses approximately 0.46 acres and includes a two-story building with 2 levels of below grade parking and a surface parking lot and appears to be 99% impervious. All existing buildings and hardscape will be removed as part of the proposed project.

Proposed Conditions

The site will be developed into a nine-story, commercial building over five levels of subterranean parking and will include including retail, office, and entertainment. The development will span approximately to the property line.

B. Surface Hydrology

Surface hydrology is regulated by the City of West Hollywood, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) and State of California Water Resources Control Board. Requirements include compliance with the State of California General Permit for storm water discharges during construction for projects with over one acre of land disturbance, and post-construction compliance with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Hydrology Manual and City of West Hollywood Low Impact Development (LID) Standards.

Existing Hydrology

Existing storm water runoff from the project site is conveyed via sheet flow and curb drains to the adjacent streets. The existing site slopes mostly towards the south with an approximately 10% gradient.

The site is located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone X, which denotes an area where the potential for flooding is minimal. There are no surface water bodies in the project vicinity. See Appendix A for the FEMA Flood Map for the project location.

The LACDPW Hydrology Manual requires that a storm drain conveyance system be designed for a 25-year storm event and that the combined capacity of a storm drain and street flow system accommodate flow from a 50-year storm event. The existing site's peak flow generated from a 50-year storm event is approximately 1.57 cubic feet per second. See Existing Hydrology Exhibit in Appendix B and Existing Hydrology Calculation in Appendix D.

Proposed Hydrology

Storm water runoff from the Project site will be conveyed to the public streets via roof downspouts and site area and podium drains, in a similar manner as the existing drainage. However, the proposed storm drain design will include modular wetland systems, capture and reuse systems, or other approved BMPs in order to treat storm water runoff as required by LACDPW and the City of West Hollywood.

The proposed development will also decrease the existing impervious area by adding planting and landscaping around the site and upper levels. The additional landscape area is insignificant for hydrology purposes, as the peak flow generated from a 50-year storm event will remain 1.57 cfs. See Proposed Hydrology Exhibit in Appendix B and Proposed Hydrology Calculation in Appendix D. Due to the additional storm water treatment requirements and increase in landscape area, the project's impact on the surface water hydrology is considered less than significant.

Existing Water Quality Management

Based on our research and existing records, there are currently no storm water BMPs on the existing site.

Proposed Water Quality Management - Construction

The State of California Water Resources Control Board's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements mandate that storm water Best Management Practices (BMPs) be implemented during Project construction including Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for projects disturbing one acre or more. Since this project site is less than one acre, an NPDES SWPPP will not be required.

However, the City of West Hollywood requires a Local Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (LSWPPP) and preparation of an Erosion Control Plan (ECP), which will be approved by and filed with the City.

The Project LSWPPP and ECP will identify potential pollutant sources that may affect the quality of discharge associated with construction activity, identify non-storm water discharges, and recommend means and methods to effectively prohibit the entry of pollutants into the public storm drain system during construction.

Proposed Water Quality Management-Project Implementation

Permanent post-construction storm water management mitigation will be implemented per the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Low Impact Development Standards Manual, dated February 14, 2014.

LID (Low Impact Development) is a storm water management strategy with goals to mitigate the impacts of increased runoff and storm water pollution as close to its source as possible. Per the latest LID guidelines new construction developments must treat storm water through infiltration, capture and reuse, or biofiltration.

Considering the proposed development's subterranean footprint extending below the groundwater elevation, we expect infiltration to be infeasible. The required LID volume

of storm water runoff will be treated using capture and reuse or biofiltration systems. Capture and reuse systems would be designed based on the proposed landscape area to be irrigated and the proposed site layout. Biofiltration systems would consist of hard bottom biofilters with layers of mulch, soil, and gravel which treat storm water through biofiltration before discharging it into the street or the 21 inch RCP storm drain main pipe in Sunset Blvd. These biofiltration systems can be located on podium decks on a multi-level building, as long as they are designed to accept concentrated drainage from levels above. The design team should engage early in satisfying storm water mitigation requirements.

Due to these required storm water quality mitigation measures to be implemented for construction activities and post-construction, impacts to the surface water hydrology and water quality are considered less than significant.

C. Groundwater Hydrology

Existing Groundwater

According to the Geotechnical Investigation Report prepared by Geocon West, Inc. dated July 2, 2015, the existing historic high groundwater is approximately 22 feet below the surface and measured groundwater was 38 feet below the surface.

Proposed Groundwater Impacts

Due to the depth of excavation reaching below the historic and measured high groundwater level, dewatering operations will likely be required during construction of the below grade parking. If this is the case, a small amount of groundwater would be removed during excavation, but only until the waterproofing is installed up to the groundwater table level. This impact on the area's groundwater levels is considered negligible and less than significant.

Regarding groundwater quality, BMPs required by the City of West Hollywood's LSWPPP guidelines and included in the project ECP will include spill prevention and cleanup guidelines, dewatering operations guidelines and storm water run-on prevention. These BMPs would protect the groundwater from contamination by construction activities. During normal building operations, the groundwater quality will be protected as the entire site is covered by the impervious basement floor and walls, preventing any opportunity of pollutant intrusion into the groundwater system.

Groundwater depletion as a result of development is caused by increasing the imperviousness of a site. The proposed project would not increase the imperviousness of the Project Site. Therefore, the Project would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level, and the impact would be less than significant.

FEMA Flood Zone Map



APPENDIX B Existing Hydrology Exhibit



LEGEND



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APPENDIX C Proposed Hydrology Exhibit



APPENDIX D Hydrology Calculations



