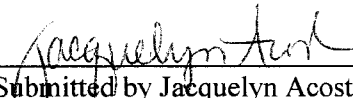


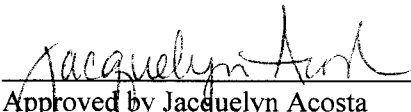


City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

December 3, 2013
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SUBJECT: CONSIDER STATUS REPORT ON THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AND CARSON DECLARATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF AN EMERGENCY WITHIN THE CAROUSEL TRACT


Submitted by Jacquelyn Acosta
Acting City Manager


Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta
Acting City Manager

I. SUMMARY

This item is on the agenda at the request of Mayor Pro Tem Santarina to provide updates at all regularly scheduled City Council meetings related to the environmental investigation of the Carousel Tract.

II. RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE and FILE.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action as the City Council deems appropriate consistent with the requirements of law.

IV. BACKGROUND

On July 29, 2013, the City Council declared the existence of an emergency within the Carousel Tract and adopted City Council Resolution No. 13-081. On November 19, 2013, the City Council held a workshop to provide representatives of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) an opportunity to discuss their current determination that there is not an immediate health threat from site conditions at the Carousel Tract (former Kast Tank Farm Property). Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) representatives also provided information on safety concerns related to methane gas.

At the workshop, Mr. Angelo Bellomo, Director of Environmental Health for the LACDPH, and Cyrus Rangan, M.D., Director of the Toxics Epidemiology Program for the LACDPH discussed their current determination that there is not an immediate health threat from site conditions at the Carousel Tract. They both noted that the long-term impacts associated with exposure to contamination within the Carousel Tract were of concern and noted that there may never be a conclusive determination linking the contamination to specific health issues. They stressed the importance of completing the environmental investigation so that a remedial strategy could be implemented to address contaminants of concern. Mr. Bellomo

acknowledged that the LACDPH was concerned with both the contamination and the stress and emotional burden impacting the well-being of the Carousel residents. Mr. Bellomo stated that the LACDPH would focus their efforts to ensure that the overall health impacts were being addressed.

Assistant Fire Chief Karen Coddling and Battalion Chief Tom Ewald shared information related to the LACFD involvement with the Carousel Tract and noted that their participation was primarily associated with a response to a call for service. The LACFD Health Hazardous Materials Division reviews reports and provides comments to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). The LACFD also continues to brief their local stations regarding the concerns with methane in the Carousel Tract. LACFD representatives acknowledged the heightened community concern with methane and indicated they would continue to monitor.

Future Community Meetings

Congresswoman Hahn has expressed interest in coordinating a meeting with various local, county and state officials in December or early next year. The District Office will be inviting the Mayor and City Council, County Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Assemblymember Hall, Senator Lieu and Senator Wright to attend this planned meeting. The Congresswoman is also expected to be an invited guest speaker to a resident sponsored meeting sometime in December.

As reported in the November 19, 2013 City Council staff report, on October 21, 2013, Shell submitted a Revised Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report to the Regional Board to address certain deficiencies and comments addressed in the Regional Board's letter dated August 21, 2013. The Regional Board, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the UCLA Expert Panel are currently evaluating the revised report. The Regional Board is anticipated to have a response by December 2013. Staff is requesting information from the Regional Board about the scheduling of future community meetings. Staff will also request participation from the Regional Board at a future City Council meeting.

Timeline of Activities

A general timeline that tracks past and current activities of the Carousel Tract environmental investigation is included as Exhibit No. 1.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Carousel Tract Environmental Investigation Timeline. (pgs. 4-6)

Prepared by: Sheri Repp-Loadsman, Planning Officer

TO: Rev06-19-2013

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

Action taken by City Council	
Date _____	Action _____

Carousel Tract Environmental Investigation Timeline

Date	Significant Actions/Reports	Notes
March 11, 2008	DTSC informed LARWQCB about former Shell Oil Company Tank Farm	
May 2008	LAWRQCB initiated an environmental investigation	
December 2008	LAWRQCB approved proposed work plan submitted by Shell to investigate contaminants of concern	
December 31, 2008	LARWQCB issued California Water Code § 13267 Investigative Order	
October 15, 2009	Shell submitted Final Phase I Site Characterization Report	
March 2011	LARWQCB issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R4-201100046	
February 22, 2013	Shell submitted <i>Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report</i>	
May 2013	LAWRQCB issued a fact sheet providing information and advising of comment period for <i>Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report</i>	30-day comment period ending June 24, 2013
June 24, 2013	City submitted comments to <i>Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report</i>	Forwarded reports by Everett & Associates and Soil/Water/Air Protection Enterprise
July 18, 2013	City Council conducted workshop to allow presentation by Mr. Sam Unger, Executive Director of LARWQCB	Presentation by Dr. Lorene Everett and James T. Wells PhD raising concerns related to environmental conditions
July 29, 2013	City Council adopted Resolution No. 13-081 declaring the existence of an emergency in the Carousel Tract	
July 30, 2013	Letters sent to the Governor, Attorney General, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Mr. Unger	Requested immediate assistance due to emergency conditions in Carousel Tract
July 31, 2013	City staff, Mr. Bob Bowcock, Dr. Everett and Mr. Wells met with representatives of Los Angeles County Fire Department and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	City Council declaration of emergency conditions discussed and copies of Everett & Associates reports transmitted for review
August 21, 2013	LARWQCB sent detailed letter to Shell denying proposed site-	LARWQCB incorporated OEHHA Memorandum dated July 22,

EXHIBIT NO. 01



Carousel Tract Environmental Investigation Timeline

Date	Significant Actions/Reports	Notes
	specific cleanup goals and requiring revisions to be submitted by October 21, 2013	2013 and UCLA Expert Panel Interim Report dated July 24, 2013
September 11, 2013	City letter to Mr. Sam Unger	Expressing appreciation from City Council and community for response to <i>Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report</i> .
September 24, 2013	LARWQCB community open house CEQA scoping meeting	Request for input from community and public agencies related to evaluation of environmental impacts. Comment period ends on October 8, 2013
September 30 – October 10, 2013	LARWQCB Public Participation Specialist to conduct office hours at city hall	Opportunity for LARWQCB to meet with residents and community stakeholders
October 8, 2013	CEQA scoping comments due to LARWQCB from September 9 through October 8, 2013	Comment letters sent by City of Carson and Bob Bowcock/Barbara Post
October 10, 2013	City staff arranging for a meeting with LARWQCB, LACoFD, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, OEHHA, Mr. Bowcock, Dr. Everett and Mr. Wells PhD.	Review of technical reports and discussion of public agencies responses and actions
October 21, 2013	Shell submitted a <i>Revised Site-Specific Cleanup Goal Report</i> to LARWQCB	Shell proposed to evaluate options that provide excavation in specific areas and does not include any further evaluation associated with the removal of homes.
October 24, 2013	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Letter to City of Carson	Letter states there is not an immediate health threat from site conditions.
October 30, 2013	LARWQCB letter to Shell for review of <i>Community Outdoor Air Sampling and Analysis Report</i>	Based on statistical tests, LARWQCB concludes that outdoor air concentrations do not differ between the site and surrounding area. Shell is required to address OEHHA comments and to develop a work plan for an additional soil-vapor survey by November 29, 2013.

Carousel Tract Environmental Investigation Timeline

Date	Significant Actions/Reports	Notes
October 31, 2013	LARWQCB notice on <i>Proposed Draft Revised Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R4-2011-0046</i>	The proposed draft order names Dole Food Company, Inc. as an additional responsible party. Comments and evidence must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on December 6, 2013. Dole Food Company has requested an extension to January 2014 to provide comments.
November 12, 2013	Letter to Carousel Tract Owners and Occupants advising of November 19, 2013 City Council Workshop	
November 19, 2013	City Council conducted workshop with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Los Angeles County Fire Department	

