Groundbreaking Held for Lincoln Park Rec Center Pool & Bathhouse Replacement

On Monday morning, November 7, 2016, the groundbreaking ceremony was held for the Lincoln Park Recreation Center Pool & Bathhouse Project at Lincoln Park, 3501 Valley Blvd, Los Angeles, 90032. Distinguished speakers at the event included CD 1 Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo, Congressmember Xavier Becerra, LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, RAP Board President Sylvia Patsaouras, RAP General Manager Michael A. Shull, Board of Public Works Vice President Heather Repenning, and City Engineer Gary Lee Moore.

RAP General Manager Shull emphasized the important function of the City’s swimming pools to teach the vital life skill of swimming to youth and adults, and how over 1.3 million residents use the City’s pools on an annual basis. Lincoln Pool alone is used by 15,000 local residents within a half-mile radius of the pool.

Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo was encouraged by the improvements happening at Lincoln Park. “We wanted to restore basic services to the park. This park is vital. This swimming pool is vital. Our commitment was to get this pool back up and running. Swimming is an activity that everyone can enjoy. It’s great exercise.”

Congressmember Becerra extended the theme of swimming to the development of confidence to dream and to succeed in life. “Today as we put these shovels into the ground, it’s not simply putting concrete in the ground. It’s letting people dive and believe they can dream. We want our kids to believe that there are no barriers, that they can go anywhere they want to go...They can jump, dive in, and do it.”

City Engineer Gary Lee Moore was excited to see the revitalization at Lincoln Park and the great partnership between BOE, RAP, and the local community. “The project budget represents a $9.9 million dollar investment. When you come back to celebrate the grand opening, you will see this new 9,000 square foot pool, a new bathhouse, a splash pad for the little kids to play in, and drought tolerant landscaping.”

The scope of work for the Lincoln Park Recreation Center Pool & Bathhouse project is to demolish the worn and dilapidated 1950’s pool and bathhouse and replace it with a modern day facility. The existing pool and bathhouse was built in 1952 and remained in operation until 2009 when it was closed due to structural failure of the pool as well as a shift in overall operational needs.

The new bathhouse is proposed to be a canopy building that will allow for natural ventilation and a visual and functional connection with the pool deck. Within the footprint of the 35’ x 200’ canopy, the new bathhouse will feature a formal entry administrative check-in area, thirteen unisex toilet stalls, six unisex dressing rooms, twelve unisex showers, and increased storage areas.

The new 75’ x 120’ pool is designed with a shallow-deep-shallow configuration which allows for competitive swimming in the deep middle section, while leaving the two shallow areas to be programmed as needed. Outside the pool fencing near the main park will be a splash pad with accompanying spray features.

The project was developed through a number of community and local volunteer neighborhood committee meetings. Sharon

Overview of the project site.
Lowe, Senior Planning Deputy, of Council District 1 was instrumental at guiding the project during design and worked tirelessly with RAP and BOE to secure the Land & Water Conservation Funds (LWCF), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and MICLA funds needed to fully fund the project.

The project is being constructed by G2K Construction, Inc. in the award amount of $7,684,000 and is being funded by a combination of funding sources including Proposition K, Proposition A, LWCF, CDBG, MICLA, and CIEP funds.

Design was completed by FSY Architects under the direction of the Bureau's Architectural Division.

Congratulations go to Mahmood Karimzadeh, AIA, Municipal Facilities Program Manager and his staff from the Architectural Division, Reza Bagherzadeh, Senior Project Manager, Gary Lam, Project Manager, Willis Yip (retired), Project Manager I. The construction project is being managed by Anagh Mandapurkar of the Construction Management Division under the direction of Jose Fuentes, Division Manager. Geotechnical Engineering support is being provided by Jose Beristain and Karynna Carlos of the Geotechnical Engineering Division. Thanks also go to Armand Pascua and Jonathan Carroll of the Project Award and Control Division.

Finally, this project could not have been possible without the support of Recreation & Parks General Manager Michael A. Shull and Cathie Santo Domingo, Superintendent.
L.A. Named America’s Top Digital City
Mayor’s press release:
LOS ANGELES (November 17, 2016) - Los Angeles has been named America’s top digital city by the Center for Digital Government, a national research and advisory institute on best practices and policies for information technology.

L.A. took first place among cities with a population over 500,000 in the 2016 Digital Cities Survey - an honor the City also won in the 2014 edition of the annual survey. The Center commended Los Angeles for “empowering innovation and engaging its citizens through digital services” driven by directives from Mayor Eric Garcetti in such areas as sustainability, collaboration, mobility, cybersecurity and open government.

“Openness and innovation are inseparable from democracy and good government in the 21st century, and digital technology has opened a world of new possibilities for Los Angeles,” said Mayor Garcetti. “We are seizing every opportunity to transform our public services - using technology to keep our streets clean and safe, help residents and visitors get around town, and address complaints more efficiently.”

L.A.’s digital accomplishments include:
• The MyLA311 mobile app, which has been downloaded more than 80,000 times and receives about 300,000 service requests annually
• The GoLA app, for easy access and route planning using all forms of transportation available in Los Angeles
• Cleanstat, a data-driven system that assesses the cleanliness of every street and alley in Los Angeles, making L.A. the first city in the country to collect and act on comprehensive data about trash and cleanliness
• The Performance Dashboard on the City’s open data portal, where all City departments publish open financial data
• GeoHub, a portal that shows public resources at any location in the city.

L.A.’s growing digital profile has attracted wide notice. The Economist recently featured Los Angeles’ role in the Booming Silicon Beach startup economy, and TechCrunch called Los Angeles a “transportation tech powerhouse.”

Los Angeles and other top-ranked cities are being honored today at an awards ceremony during the National League of Cities’ annual conference in Pittsburgh.

About the Center for Digital Government
The Center for Digital Government is a division of e.Republic, publisher of GOVERNING magazine and the nation’s only media and research company focused exclusively on state and local government.

Remember - The latest letterhead is always available on the Engineering Forms Library under the category “Correspondence” on the Bureau of Engineering intranet.

Floating Holiday Reminder
Have you taken your Floating Holiday yet? Floating Holidays not taken by December 31, 2016 will be lost. A Floating Holiday is only 8 hours so if you are on the 9/80 schedule you must make up the time by: Working an extra hour in the same pay period; using vacation time; or, for 9/80 employees, making the Floating Holiday your short day. (Note: Non-FLSA exempt employees can only adjust their hours within their defined work week.)
PM III Opportunity Sixth St Viaduct Replacement

The Bureau has a Project Manager III opportunity available for a dynamic individual to manage the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project. The position is responsible for the delivery of the $480 million Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project, which is being implemented via several construction packages utilizing the Construction Manager General Contractor project delivery method. This position manages the overall Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project and is accountable for its implementation, reporting and completion within scope and on time. Manages and directs the program management consultant, design consultant, and construction management consultant to augment and support City staff as needed. Develops, monitors and updates the Program Master Schedule and project progress of all projects. Identifies and anticipates problems that may cause schedule delays and budget overruns. Tracks and monitors program expenditures. Organizationally, the Project Manager will report to Deputy City Engineer Alfred Mata. On behalf of the City Engineer, the Project Manager will, on a monthly basis, personally report project status to the Seismic Governance Committee. Project Manager Salary bonuses can only be applied to positions in the following bargaining units:

- Professional Engineering and Scientific Unit (MOU #8)
- Supervisory Professional Engineering and Scientific Unit (MOU #17)
- Management Employees Unit (MOU #36)

Project Manager III Minimum Experience Requirements

The position will be at the level of Project Manager III. Candidates will be considered from the engineering/architectural classifications at the levels of “Principal” and “Senior” engineer. It is highly desirable that candidates have demonstrated success in performing project or program management on other assignments.

Minimum Experience Requirements

- BS in Engineering, Architecture or Construction Management AND 6 years of progressively responsible professional experience in Engineering, Architecture or Construction Management. (CA registration as Engineer or Architect may be substituted for two years experience); OR
- Graduation from a recognized 4 year college or university AND 8 years of progressively responsible professional experience in Engineering, Architecture, or Construction Management; OR
- No degree with 10 years of progressively responsible professional experience in Engineering, Architecture, or Construction Management.

In addition to the minimum experience requirements described above, the successful candidate either must have completed the Bureau’s Project Management Training Program, or complete the training within one year of appointment, or obtain a certificate in project management from the Project Management Institute, or complete either the UC Riverside or UC Irvine Project Management Programs with a certificate in project management.

The basic requirements for a project management bonus remain as stated in the 10/17/01 Engineering Newsletter. Employees interested in applying should submit a resume to Karen Dacres, 1149 S. Broadway, Suite 700, Mail Stop 490 or via e-mail at Karen.Dacres@lacity.org by 4:00 pm, Friday, December 16, 2016. The most qualified candidates will be selected and interviewed for the position. For questions or additional information, contact Karen Dacres.

FoLAR Leadership Change

After 30 years, Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR) founder and President Lewis MacAdams is handing the reins to a new generation of river advocates. On Thursday, December 1, 2016, during a ceremony at the Los Angeles River Center, MacAdams officially announced that current FoLAR Senior Policy Director Marissa Christiansen will take over as executive director, starting in January. M-K O’Connell becomes board chair. MacAdams is stepping down in part to aid in his recovery from a stroke, however, he will remain on the board of directors.

Learn to Curl

Recreation & Parks Dept. announcement: Learn to curl at Pershing Square Holiday Ice Rink! You’ve most likely watched this fascinating sport during the Winter Olympics but now it’s your turn to give it a try. We can’t guarantee you’ll leave as a pro but you’ll have a great time learning to curl on some fresh morning ice in the heart of downtown LA. Curling Lessons will be offered on:

- Sunday, December 11 and Sunday, January 8 from 8:30 am - 9:30 am.

For more information visit: http://holidayicerinkdowntownla.com/los-angeles-events/

Polar Bear Skate

Recreation & Parks Dept. announcement: Ring in the New Year on ice while wearing your best beach attire! Pershing Square Holiday Ice Rink is hosting Polar Bear Skate: Los Angeles Edition on Sunday January 1, 2017, from 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm. Join us for this exciting tradition! Skaters of all ages are invited to dress in your favorite beach apparel and don’t forget your shades! Prizes will be awarded for theme, originality, and overall appearance!

For more information visit: http://holidayicerinkdowntownla.com/los-angeles-events/

Departure of CAO Santana

Mayor’s press release:

LOS ANGELES (November 30, 2016) - City Administrative Officer (CAO) Miguel Santana will leave his post after seven years of service to the City, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced today. As CAO, Santana has played a critical role in maintaining Los Angeles’ fiscal health. During a tenure that began in 2009, he has consistently kept spending on track, managed the City’s debt carefully, and led responsible labor negotiations that benefit both the City and its workers.

“Keeping our fiscal house in order is one of the most important responsibilities we have to the people of Los Angeles, and Miguel Santana has done an excellent job guiding that effort,” said Mayor Garcetti. “I am grateful for his years of service, and I know the example he set will continue to help us manage Angelenos’ tax dollars as effectively and responsibly as possible.”

Santana took over as Los Angeles’ CAO during the height of the Great Recession, and helped navigate the City successfully through some of the toughest economic years it has ever faced. During that time, he stood up decisively to help mitigate the impacts of the downturn, and put the City in a strong position to emerge quickly.

His commitment to stabilizing Los Angeles’ finances was critical to the success of the “Back to Basics” agenda that Mayor Garcetti set when he took office in 2013.

And earlier this year, Santana helped develop an unprecedented $1.8 billion plan to fight homelessness across Los Angeles - a plan voters approved by passing Proposition HHH in the election earlier this month.

“It’s been an honor to help our City overcome difficult economic challenges, and seize new opportunities to improve the quality of life for Angelenos,” Santana said. “I’ve been fortunate to work with Mayor Garcetti, along with so many other committed leaders, and I look forward to continuing my public service in a new role.”

Santana will now join the Los Angeles County Fair Association as its new CEO.
Communication Corner

Five Tips for Public Speaking

Although not all of us at the Bureau of Engineering need to speak to large groups of people, no matter what our job is, we have to speak to people we don’t know from time to time. This might include helping a member of the public or addressing your team when working on a project. That’s why it’s always good to keep a few basic things in mind, no matter what our role is in an organization. I read these tips in an American Management Association publication and thought they rang true.

1. Perception: Stop trying to be a great "public" speaker.

People want to listen to someone who is interesting, relaxed, and comfortable. Yet too often, when we stand up to give a speech, something changes. We focus on the “public” at the expense of the “speaking.” To become an effective public speaker, you must just do the opposite: focus on the speaking and let go of the “public.” Think of it as a conversation between you and the audience. If you can carry on a relaxed conversation with one or two people, you can give a great speech. Try to be yourself; talk directly to people and make a connection with them.

2. Perfection: When you make a mistake, no one cares but you.

Even the most accomplished public speaker will make a mistake at some point. Just keep in mind that you’ll notice more than anyone in your audience. The most important thing a speaker can do after making a mistake is to keep going. Don’t stop and—unless the mistake was truly earth shattering—never apologize to the audience for a minor slip. People don’t want to hear from someone who is “perfect;” they will relate much more easily to someone who is real.

3. Discipline: Practice makes perfectly good.

Your goal is not to be a perfect public speaker. There is no such thing. Your goal is to be an effective public speaker. Like anything else in life, it takes practice. We too often take communication for granted because we speak to people everyday. So remember, even world champion athletes practice every day. Practice what you need to say in front of a mirror or in the car on the way home from work. It will help.

4. Description: Make it personal.

Whatever the topic, listeners respond best when speakers personalize their communication. People like to hear about other people’s experiences. Whenever possible, insert a personal-interest element in your comments. Not only will it make your listeners warm up to you, but it will also do wonders at putting you at ease. After all, on what subject is your expertise greater than on the subject of you?

5. Anticipation: Always leave ‘em wanting more.

One of the most valuable lessons I have learned is that less is usually more. I don’t think I’ve ever left a gathering and heard someone say, “I wish that speaker had spoken longer.” On the other hand, I imagine that you probably can’t count the times that you’ve thought, “I’m glad that speech is over. It seemed to go on forever!” So surprise your audience. Always make your presentation just a bit shorter than anticipated. They’ll love you for it!

Appreciation to Engineering Staff for Sidewalk Program

The following e-mails were received from two Council offices:

Date: Thu, Dec 1, 2016 at 11:06 AM
Subject: Thank you!

Good morning everyone,

I just wanted to reach out to all of you who have been a part of our working groups in the implementation of the sidewalk program and offer my personal thanks for the hundreds (if not thousands) of collective hours of work that you have all spent on making the launch of the sidewalk site and the accompanying programs possible.

A lot of times, all we hear from our constituents is how ineffective they feel that City government has become and I wish that those critics had been able to witness the work that went on in our meetings, the level of collaboration and dedication to the mission that we are all committed to achieving. And that also made it a joy to be a part of the effort, so thank you all for indulging my participation not just in the weeds, but even down in the roots.

Lastly, and as a testament to the quality of the work, it passed Council yesterday unanimously and without any amendments or even questions. In the world of City Hall, that is a tremendous leap of faith that should be taken as a badge of honor - not one of the 15 members had any doubt about the ability of all of you to execute on the next stage of this process.

I appreciate all of you and your work and offer my sincere thanks.

Have an awesome day and congratulations on this important milestone,
Matt Hale
Policy Director
City Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Council District 2

Date: Thu, Dec 1, 2016 at 4:33 PM
Ditto to everything Matt said.
The long list of recipients on this email demonstrates the complexity and magnitude of the inter-departmental cooperation and coordination that was required to get this off the ground. It could not have happened without the dedication, commitment and sheer willpower of each of you.

I want to give a special thanks to our City Engineer & program manager - Gary Lee Moore - who kept us all on focused, on-track and working toward achieving the Council’s objectives in a timely manner. I have never enjoyed an 8 AM Monday morning meeting, like I have enjoyed one of Gary’s!

Finally, on a personal note - I’m resident of the city. I first became interested in this issue almost 7 years ago, when I was working for then-Councilman Bernard Parks, and was contacted by a producer from SoCal Connected who was working on an in-depth story about sidewalk repair. She wanted to talk to him about his “point-of-sale” proposal, which he first introduced in 2005. Now, every morning, I walk on a new sidewalk, adjacent to a park, with new tree wells and street trees that were installed because of this program. It is incredibly satisfying to actually see the results of all of this in my own neighborhood, and know that residents across the city will have safer, more accessible sidewalks. So, on behalf of Councilman Buscaino, myself, and the other 3.8 million residents of Los Angeles - THANK YOU!

Dennis Gleason
City Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Council District 15
Arrivals
Jonathan Cuervas, Senior Civil Engineer, WCE; Dangsun Sun, Student Architect III, ARC; Soo Yoon Lee, Civil Engineer, PAC; Mallika Patel, Admin Intern II, WCC; Johnny Thoi, CE Drafting Technician, SED.

Promotions
Antoinette Barrios, Exec Admin Assistant II, EZE; Cynthia Jefferson, Exec Admin Assistant II, EZE; Jessica Martinez, Secretary, SUR; Richard Liu, Civil Engineer, MTD; Willis Huffman, Civil Engineer, EED; Jin Wen, Civil Engineer, WCE; Michael Uemura, Civil Engineer, CMD; Brian Ahn, Civil Engineer, BID; Ronald Ruggas, Civil Engineer, WCC.

Departures
Erica Cardenas, Exec Admin Assistant II, transfer to LAPD, EZE; John Tosto, Survey Party Chief I, transfer to DWP, SUR; Paul Burke, Real Estate Officer I, transfer to General Services, RED; Victoria Rodriguez, Sr Clerk Typist, promoted to LAPD; Shannon Campbell, Admin, Clerk, promoted to Sanit, CEN; Kyla Durrell, Office Engineering Technician II, promoted to Airports, CEN; Froilan Narro, Survey Party Chief I, retired, SUR.

Professional Registration
Congratulations go to the following employees on receiving their Architect license: Antoinette Barrios, Architectural Associate II, ARC; Steven Lane, Architectural Associate I, ARC.

Executive Admin Assist Assignments
Antoinette Barrios has promoted to Executive Administrative Assistant and will be supporting City Engineer Gary Lee Moore and the new Sidewalk Deputy Julie Sauter. Antoinette previously worked in the Architectural Division. Cynthia Jefferson has promoted to Executive Administrative Assistant and will be supporting Chief Deputy City Engineer Deborah Weintraub and Deputy City Engineer Ted Allen. Cynthia previously worked in the Structural Engineering Division.

No January Newsletter
Due to the holidays, there will not be a January 4, 2017 BOE Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be published on February 1, 2017.

120 Years of Griffith Park
Help commemorate L.A.'s most loved park on Friday, December 16, 2016, 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm, at the Griffith Park Merry-go-round, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90027. The entertainment includes jazz musician Dadisi Komolafe and Shakespeare in the Park. Activities for the family include a climbing wall, L.A. River Rover, visit with the L.A. Zoo, night hike with the Sierra Club (bring water and shoes with traction) and more.

New Deputy City Engineer to Lead $1.4 Billion Safe Sidewalks LA Program
BOE press release:
LOS ANGELES (December 6, 2016) – The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering announced today the selection of Julie Sauter, P.E., as the Deputy City Engineer overseeing the City’s newly-launched $1.4 billion sidewalk repair program, Safe Sidewalks LA. City Engineer Gary Lee Moore, P.E., made the announcement today following a national search.

Last month, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously approved the 30 year, $1.4 billion Safe Sidewalks LA program.

“Our new Safe Sidewalks LA program clearly demonstrates our commitment to providing safe and accessible sidewalks for those who live, work and visit our great City,” said Moore. “Julie has a track record of successfully delivering significant projects and programs, making her the ideal choice to lead this important initiative.”

Sauter’s 24-year professional career includes both public and private sector experience including positions in the transportation, municipal facilities and water sectors. Most notably, she managed the City’s $436 million Police Administration Building construction, as well as the Los Angeles World Airports Enhancement Program that brought the landmark lighted pylons to LAX. Sauter is a graduate of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

“I am excited to take on the leadership of this important program,” said Sauter. “My team and I are committed to delivering this program is effectively as possible as we make sidewalks accessible to everyone in Los Angeles.”

Specifically, Safe Sidewalks LA includes:
• Access Request Program: People with a mobility disability who encounter physical barriers due to broken sidewalks or curb ramps, can request a free repair of a sidewalk or curb ramp.
• Rebate Program: A limited-time rebate for eligible property owners willing to pay for their own sidewalk repairs and get them fixed in an accelerated time. Owners can receive up to $2,000 for a residential lot or $4,000 for a commercial lot. The rebate program will be available for three years.
• Also, the general public can report a sidewalk in need of repair.

For more information on Safe Sidewalks LA, go to www.sidewalks.lacity.org, or call 3-1-1.

Council Recess
The City Council will be on winter recess from December 16-30, 2016.

M.L. King Day Holiday
Monday, January 17, 2017 is a City holiday. Remember to mark your timesheet for that day as HO 8.0. Since the holiday is only for eight hours, those of you on the 9/80 schedule must adjust your hours accordingly within the same pay period. (Non-FLSA exempt employees can only adjust their hours within their defined work week.) There is a chance for confusion when two holidays fall within the same pay period. Check with your division timekeeper if you have any questions.

BPW to Meet in CD 15
Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Council District 15, and the Department of Public Works invite you to a meeting of the Board of Public Works on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 5:30 pm at Watts Labor Community Action Committee, 10950 S. Central Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90059. Agenda topics will include:
• Overview of Street Services (i.e. Improvements, Repairs, Sweeping, Tree Trimming, etc.)
• Street Lighting Improvements and Technology
• Clean Streets Los Angeles
• Sidewalk Repair Program
• Graffiti Abatement and Community Beautification Services
• Minimum Wage Standards

Reindeer Romp at LA Zoo
Come visit real reindeer at the Los Angeles Zoo, free with admission. Weekend activities include visit with Santa and make-your-own antlers and letters to Santa for kids.

We’d Like to Hear from You
If you have any articles for the Newsletter, please e-mail them directly to BOENewsletter@gmail.com. Also cc: Myrna Braithwaite (myrna.braithwaite@lacity.org) Administration Division. Deadline for the next issue is Thursday, January 26, 2017.