

UNWI Phases 2/3 (Sections 1-4)

Recap of North Natomas Alliance Meeting

DRAFT – May 17, 2004

May 13, 2004

Project team in attendance

- Mike Watson
- Heleana Faria
- Rigoberto Guizar
- Linda Tucker

Mike Wilson gave an overview slide show presentation followed by questions and answers. Approximately 75 people attended the meeting.

Questions and Answers

Q: How is the project funded? Is there funding in place?

A: Growth pays for growth. A portion of new home fees called “impact fees” pay for infrastructure such as this. When a bond is needed to pay for a project, it is also paid for by impact fees.

Q: Along Elkhorn Blvd., what types of lane closures will take place?

A: During construction, we need to maintain at least one lane of traffic in each direction.

Q: What types of things are you taking into consideration in the EIR (i.e.: visual, noise, etc.)?

A: The programmatic EIR covered the most cost efficient way to provide sewer capacity, defined the service area and general corridor. Things that will be covered in the project-specific EIR include impacts such as noise, nighttime construction versus heavier traffic impacts during the day. We also will address all impacts associated with the giant garter snake habitat. We will hit 401, but are unsure about 404. We will try not to affect it. (*Team: what environmental regulation is being referred to?*)

Q: You’ve got an eight-foot diameter pipeline and two-year construction project. Why don’t you install on undeveloped parcels of land?

A: We are clear about the alignment, which is adjacent to the East Main Drainage Canal. We have been working with the city to reserve the alignment. We are looking at tunneling. We are considering using a tunnel-boring machine at points every 1,000 feet. We are trying to anticipate public concerns through meetings like this one.

Q: Why don’t you route it by I-5?

A: The cost is \$2,000 per foot of pipeline. There are tens of millions of dollars in additional pipeline cost in to move the route further away.

Q: How wide is the swath?

A: We are trying to reserve a 100-foot corridor. We aren't planning to consume the entire 100-foot corridor because we want to maintain access for construction vehicles and a throughway.

Q: Approximately how wide will it be?

A: With tunneling, about a 60-foot wide excavation pit will be needed; however trucks will be driving to the pits.

Q: We've got 2 crossings of the American River now?

A: Currently, Citrus Heights portions are pumped west and down to the treatment plant.

Q: Exactly where in relation to the canal will this be built?

A: Along the west side beginning at I-80, up to Arena Blvd. It crosses the canal near Arena Blvd. and then runs along the east side.

Q: How long will construction last in any one given area?

A: We are looking at different construction methods. One method of tunneling involves a single point of entry and other methods move from point to point. We can provide more detail on these options if you'd like outside this presentation.

Q: Will there be any landscaping where you are working?

A: When we are finished, we would like for the area to be as good or better as it was before.

C: (several people commented) More landscaping would be great.

Q: Will there be a public comment day?

A: There is a 45-day comment period. We are not obligated to let everybody know, however, we intend to notify the public about the project-specific EIR.

Q: How about the infiltration and longevity of the pipeline?

A: The longevity depends on the materials. This is a PVC-lined pipe. Gaskets provide double-redundancy. The pipeline will have the capacity for buildout and should last about 80 to 100 years.

Q: These plans have been on the books since 1994? Was it on the 1994 Natomas Community Plan? We are five to seven years ahead of schedule?

A: The main reason why is because the pipeline serves all of northern Sacramento county. It can't be open until the downstream section is completed. The District can't make a \$150 million investment in which it is not prepared to receive an immediate return on investment.