

City Initiates Levee Study



Levee Protection:

The state's repair of a critical levee site near Linden Road begins with a rock base called a stability berm.

A key objective in the city's flood control strategy is evaluating the overall level of flood protection. Rather than wait for state or federal agency analysis of local levees, the city has moved proactively to identify possible areas for levee improvements, as well as any needed repair costs.

This summer, the city initiated an evaluation of city levees using evaluation standards recently modified by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Drilling rigs collected soil samples along the Southport levees. The data is being evaluated to determine if the new standards raise potential concerns and require levee improvements. Preliminary results are expected to be available early next year.

The West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (a joint powers authority between the city and local reclamation districts 900 and 537) is funding the initial phase of the study.

Evaluation of the entire West Sacramento levee system will cost an estimated \$3-\$5 million. The city is pursuing state and federal funding to complete the full analysis of the levee system.

Stone Lock Property Transferred to City

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has transferred the William G. Stone Lock and barge canal to the city of West Sacramento in exchange for six acres of Port property, where the USACE maintains a small office. The city also receives 82-acres of adjacent USACE property, identified in the city's 2003 Parks Master Plan as a potential location for a regional park.



Young People Learn About Drinking Water: *The Bryte Bend Water Treatment Plant is a state of the art, Actiflo Microsand Ballasted Clarification Process, capable of treating over 50 million gallons of drinking water per day. Tours are available to the public by contacting Mark Sanders at the Bryte Bend Treatment Plant, (916) 617-4860. Pictured, plant operator Juan Hernandez-Herrera guides students from the 7th grade class at Golden State Middle School through the water treatment process.*

Homeowners Take Advantage of "Home Improvement Holiday"

The second year of the city's Home Improvement Holiday surpassed response to the first year of the program by 28 percent. This season, 230 permit applications were received by the city for such improvements as re-roofing, patio covers, room conversions and electrical upgrades. The program allows the city to waive, for a limited time, the cost of home improvement permits—providing incentive to homeowners to improve the value of their homes and make them more comfortable.



New Alliance for the Port of Sacramento

The Port is undergoing a transformation in the way it conducts business to regain financial stability. On Sept. 6, the Port Commission hired SSA Marine of Seattle to be the exclusive terminal operator hiring labor to move cargo through the Port. The terms of the 10-year agreement between SSA Marine and the Port includes a revenue sharing strategy which will allow the Port to reinvest proceeds back into much needed capital improvements at the Port. SSA Marine is an industry leader in promoting "green" port strategies to reduce air emissions and implementing other environmental programs in communities where the company is located.

SSA Marine, the Port of Oakland and Port Division staff will market the Port of Sacramento jointly to new cargo users around the world. This alliance will work together on other projects such as a container ferry service to reduce congestion on Interstate 80, maintenance dredging and channel deepening, and pursuit of state and federal funding for business, recreational and environmental projects at the Port. Questions about the Port can be directed to the Port Division, (916) 371-8000.

Widening the Tower Bridge Walkways

Construction to widen the sidewalks on the Tower Bridge is expected to begin this fall. The current 3- to 4-foot sidewalks will be expanded to 10-feet on both sides of the bridge. Construction will require leaving the bridge in the "up" position for potentially two separate 60- to 75-day periods during the 16-month construction schedule. The schedule was designed to avoid conflict with the holiday shopping season and the River Cats 2007 home schedule. Completion is expected in early 2008.

The estimated \$11 million dollar project cost is being funded primarily by state and federal government, with the cities of West Sacramento and Sacramento sharing approximately \$1.8 million dollars in local costs. In consultation with the State Office of Historic Preservation, the project has been designed to preserve the historic fabric and character of the bridge.



Photo: Jon Hatton

SMUD Annexation Information

In the November election, voters will be asked to consider a switch in electric service providers. Facts and frequently asked questions about the proposed provision of electricity to the Yolo county area and West Sacramento by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) are available on the city's Web site: www.cityofwestsacramento.org/srud.cfm