



Planning Academy 2017



CEQA: Wastewater
meets
Historic Resources

Combined Sewer System

- ▶ Vintage wastewater and stormwater system
- ▶ “Combined” system handles both types of flows
- ▶ Heavy use in wet weather leads to surcharges
- ▶ Overflows have been subject of Water Board action
- ▶ City has long-term plan with fees for improvement

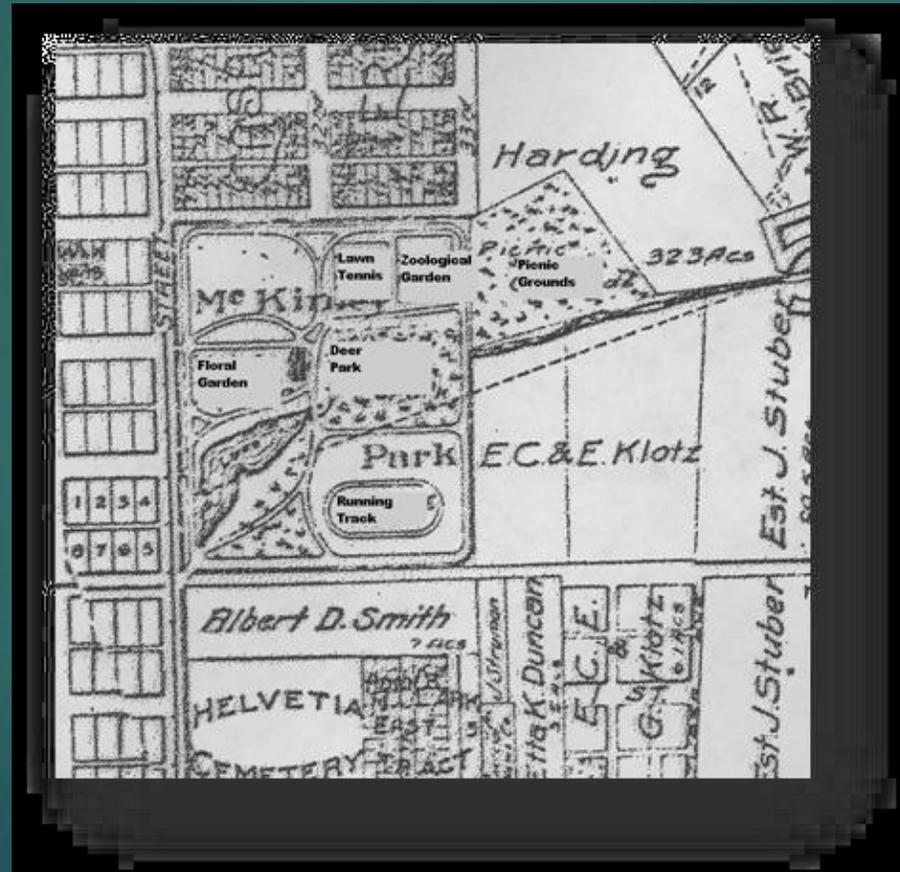
Combined Sewer System (CSS)

- ▶ One type of CSS improvement is installation of wastewater vault
- ▶ Underground vault holds flows and meters out during off-hours
- ▶ Vault underground, approx. 10,000 sf for above-ground infrastructure

McKinley Park

- ▶ McKinley Park has been identified as eligible as a historic district
- ▶ Rose Garden is eligible for listing as historic resource
- ▶ Park is in East Sacramento, a well-organized neighborhood

McKinley Park Map



McKinley Park

- ▶ Recreational resources:
 - ▶ Walking/running path on perimeter
 - ▶ Baseball field
 - ▶ Swimming pool
 - ▶ Basketball courts
 - ▶ Duck pond
 - ▶ Children's play area

CSS Vault proposal

- ▶ Install underground vault in southeast portion of park just north of Rose Garden
- ▶ Excavate and install vault underground
- ▶ Return ground to current condition
- ▶ Above-ground infrastructure installed (approx. 10,000 sf)

Environmental review

- ▶ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
 - ▶ Initial study to consider potential significant effects on the physical environment
 - ▶ “Significant effect” is a substantial adverse change in any of the physical conditions with the area affected by the project including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. (CEQA Guidelines section 15382)

CEQA Review

- ▶ Is the project exempt from CEQA review?
 - ▶ “Categorical exemption” include minor alteration of existing facilities (section 15301), new construction of small structures, including sewage extensions (section 15303)
 - ▶ Categorical exemptions do not apply if there is a cumulative impact, any significant effect or a substantial adverse change in a historic resource
 - ▶ Section 15063(b)(3): common sense: certainty of no significant effect

CEQA review

- ▶ Identify the environmental setting
- ▶ Consider whether the project would have a significant, or potentially significant, effect on the environment
- ▶ If significant effect consider whether there is feasible mitigation
- ▶ Inquire whether mitigation has reduced impacts to a less-than-significant level

CEQA Review

- ▶ Review categorical exemptions
- ▶ Consider section 15061 (b)3)
- ▶ Review initial study

Issue areas (1)

- ▶ Aesthetics, light and glare
- ▶ Air quality (construction)
- ▶ Biological resources (construction)
- ▶ Cultural resources and tribal cultural resources (excavation)
- ▶ Geology and soils
- ▶ Hazards
- ▶ Hydrology and water quality
- ▶ Noise (construction and operation)

Issue areas (2)

- ▶ Public services (police, fire library)
- ▶ Recreation
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Utilities (water, wastewater, stormwater)
- ▶ Cumulative impacts (Master EIR for 2035 General Plan)

- ▶ Big picture: how is this going to work during construction and operation? Will the project have any significant effects?

CEQA Review

- ▶ Other considerations:
 - ▶ Is the project controversial
 - ▶ Will there be outreach to the community
 - ▶ Is a legal challenge likely
 - ▶ Are there cost or schedule issues

Discussion and Questions



References

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