The Water Authority Continues to be “Part of the Park”

To help ensure a safe and reliable water supply for the county now and in the future, the San Diego County Water Authority is planning new water facilities in Mission Trails Regional Park. The new facilities include a tunnel for a new section of pipeline approximately one mile long, and a flow regulatory structure.

The Water Authority’s existing Second Aqueduct runs north to south through the western portion of the park. The aqueduct contains separate pipelines for treated and untreated water. The new facilities are needed to upgrade the untreated water pipelines so they can deliver more water to treatment plants that serve San Diego County residents.

Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II, Pipeline Tunnel and Vent Demolition

Why such a long project name? This one project combines three pipeline modifications planned for construction at the same time, beginning early 2007.

Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II

A flow regulatory structure, or covered water tank, will be constructed to adjust flows in the untreated water pipelines. It is similar in size and function to the first flow regulatory structure built in the same area of the park in the mid-1990s for a treated water pipeline. Most of the new tank will be underground, with a small access building above ground. The tank will be approximately 400 feet long by 300 feet wide and will contain up to 18 million gallons of water.

Mission Trails Pipeline Tunnel

A tunnel will be excavated for a new section of pipe to replace two smaller untreated water pipeline sections. The new pipe will be larger and at a lower elevation than the existing pipelines, so it will be able to carry more water. Most of the construction work on the tunnel and new pipeline will be conducted underground.

Vent Demolition

When the new facilities are complete, the Water Authority will remove the blue pipeline stacks that are visible on hilltops in the park, as they will no longer be needed.

The Water Authority is preparing an environmental impact report to understand how the project may impact the environment and neighboring communities.
communities, and to identify ways to avoid or minimize those impacts whenever possible. This newsletter will include an update on the EIR later this year.

**Commitment to the Community**

The Water Authority has developed an extensive community involvement program for this project. Throughout design, environmental studies and construction, the Water Authority will welcome community input. The project team will host public meetings, mail community updates and meet with a public working group to gather input on the project.

The working group will include representatives of the communities of Tierrasanta and San Carlos, park users and the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens’ Advisory Committee. The group will work with the project team to list concerns about the project and identify community suggestions to address those concerns.

**Anticipated Project Milestones**

- **May 19, 2005**  First meeting of Mission Trails Project Working Group
- **May 21, 2005**  Project Booth at Explore Mission Trails Day
- **Fall 2005**  Draft EIR released for public review and comment
- **Early 2006**  Final EIR presented to Water Authority board of directors
- **Early 2007**  Construction slated to begin
- **Early 2009**  Construction slated to end

Want to learn more? Please call the toll-free project information line at (877) 682-9283, ext. 7004. Your call will be returned within one business day.

The Water Authority is committed to avoiding impacts to the environment whenever possible.