



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

August 28, 2014

To the Honorable City Council
of the City of Pasadena

Mayor and Councilmembers:

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1. **Ad Hoc Working Group for SR 710 North Draft EIR/Draft EIS:**

Metro and Caltrans are currently preparing a joint EIR/EIS for the SR 710 North Study that is evaluating five alternatives (no build, TSM/TDM, BRT, LRT, Freeway Tunnel). The Draft EIR/EIS is expected to be available for public comment in February 2015. The EIR/EIS process will be used by Caltrans to determine a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for purposes of advancing the project for funding and construction.

Although the DEIR/DEIS is not yet complete and detailed technical studies have not yet been released by Metro or Caltrans. Sufficient information is available to develop a preliminary qualitative evaluation of the impact of the SR 710 North alternatives on Pasadena and from that evaluation to formulate an alternative that is best for Pasadena.

The purpose of the ad hoc Working Group is to identify the best project alternative for Pasadena, recognizing that much of the impact associated with the proposed freeway alternatives will have a profound impact on the future of Pasadena. To that end, the Working Group will be expected to evaluate the current study alternatives, formulate a general understanding of the range of impacts to Pasadena from each alternative and identify a responsible alternative design that has the potential to minimize impact to Pasadena while increasing regional connectivity. The seven members Working Group and additional information can be found on the attached memorandum from Frederick C. Dock, Director of Transportation.

2. **Recent NASA Newsletter on Groundwater Cleanup:**

I have attached a recent newsletter from NASA's on their cleanup efforts at JPL. As you know, JPL has been a source of pollution to the local groundwater since the 1940's, and NASA has ongoing efforts to clean up the site and local groundwater under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), sometimes referred to as "Superfund."

To keep the public informed on its groundwater cleanup project progress, NASA maintains the www.jplwater.nasa.gov website and periodically distributes news updates in the form of newsletters or informational brochures. In addition to the newsletter there is a memorandum from Phyllis Currie, General Manager, Water and Power, that provides more information. This information, prepared by NASA, does not necessarily reflect the concerns and view of Pasadena. We believe the full clean-up is still far from complete and the Water and Power Department continues its efforts to address this problem.

3. **Dust, Drought & Dreams Gone Dry: A Commemoration of the 1930s American Dust Bowl:**

Pasadena Public Library will host “Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry,” a national traveling exhibition about the Dust Bowl, the disastrous drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the American Great Plains in the 1930s. The exhibit will be on display in Central Library’s Great Hall, 285 E. Walnut St. from September 2 to October 9. The Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The exhibition recalls a tragic period in our history – the drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the Great Plains in the 1930s – and explores its environmental and cultural consequences. It raises several thought-provoking and timely questions: What caused fertile farms to turn to dust? How did people survive? What lessons can we learn? The attached memorandums from Jan Sanders, Director of Libraries and Information Services provides additional detailed information and free series of related programs, including lectures, special storytimes and film showings.

4. **Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Open Enrollment:**

The City of Pasadena Housing and Career Services Department will open its enrollment process for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) Waiting List beginning on October 15, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. and will close the enrollment process on November 1, 2014, at 4:59 p.m. According to William Huang, Director of Housing and Career Services, prior to the open enrollment beginning, there will be four weeks of notices given to the general public in the Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Journal newspaper; Pasadena’s In Focus; City websites; local community partners and in the Housing and Career Services Department offices.

Enrollment will be by an on-line application only. The process is designed to be easy to follow and only take about 5 to 10 minutes to complete. Written instructions will be in Spanish, Armenian and English. In addition, over 20 local community partners, including libraries, community centers and nonprofit organizations, will be available to assist applicants, and an instructional video will also be available on YouTube. Priority will be given to persons who live and work in Pasadena. For questions concerning this Section 8 HCVP open enrollment process, please contact Myrtle Dunson or Angelica Ramirez at 626.744.8300.

5. Restriction on Charter Service by Pasadena ARTS:

An uptick in requests for special shuttle or charter service from within the City and from outside organizations involved in local activities, prompts Frederick C. Dock, Director of Transportation to advise that as a result of the City accepting grants from the Federal Transit Administration to operate scheduled transit service, the City is generally precluded from using its public transit vehicles to provide private charter-type service (or service that resembles service that could be provided by a commercial provider).

The City's transit programs include the Pasadena Area Rapid Transit System (ARTS) and Pasadena Dial-A-Ride, both of which include federal grant funding. As such, these services fall under federal transit rules and regulations, including the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Charter Service rule (49 C.F.R. Part 604) which prohibits transit agencies from providing shuttle services that would be considered a charter service under most conditions. Penalties include loss of grant funding (which is in excess \$1 million this fiscal year).

This rule does not apply to transporting agency employees for a limited number of qualifying circumstances (e.g., Employee Appreciation Day shuttle), providing services for immediate emergencies (e.g., the senior apartment evacuation after the windstorm), or extending hours for existing services (e.g., Make Music Pasadena and the Colorado Bridge Party). For shuttle service needs beyond the regular transit services available, private companies which do provide charter transportation services should be contacted for quotes.

Respectfully submitted,


JULIE A. GUTIERREZ
City Manager

JAG: dc
/attachment

MEMORANDUM - CITY OF PASADENA
DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION

DATE: August 26, 2014
TO: Michael J. Beck, City Manager
FROM: Frederick C. Dock, Director *F.C. Dock*
SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Working Group for SR 710 North Draft EIR/Draft EIS

Metro and Caltrans are currently preparing a joint EIR/EIS for the SR 710 North Study that is evaluating five alternatives (no build, TSM/TDM, BRT, LRT, Freeway Tunnel). The Draft EIR/EIS is expected to be available for public comment in February 2015. The EIR/EIS process will be used by Caltrans to determine a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for purposes of advancing the project for funding and construction.

Although the DEIR/DEIS is not yet complete and detailed technical studies have not yet been released by Metro or Caltrans. Sufficient information is available to develop a preliminary qualitative evaluation of the impact of the SR 710 North alternatives on Pasadena and from that evaluation to formulate an alternative that is best for Pasadena.

The purpose of the ad hoc Working Group is to identify the best project alternative for Pasadena, recognizing that much of the impact associated with the proposed freeway alternatives will have a profound impact on the future of Pasadena. To that end, the Working Group will be expected to evaluate the current study alternatives, formulate a general understanding of the range of impacts to Pasadena from each alternative and identify a responsible alternative design that has the potential to minimize impact to Pasadena while increasing regional connectivity.

The seven member Working Group is comprised of individuals with the background and expertise necessary to lead this critical initiative. Participants include:

- Stephen Acker
- Geoff Baum
- Joel Bryant
- Alan Clelland
- Sarah Gavit
- David Grannis
- Jennifer Higginbotham

The Working Group will establish meeting dates and times with staff support provided by the Pasadena Department of Transportation. The intent is for the Working Group to conclude its work and provide input to City Manager Michael Beck before the close of calendar year 2014. This timing will allow the City to seek public support for an alternative prior to the release of the DEIR/DEIS in February 2015.

Information about the status of the DEIR/DEIS is available via the presentations made to the Technical and Stakeholder Advisory Committees and in an Alternatives Analysis (AA) prepared for the study and released as a report with technical appendices in December 2012. Information is available on the City's SR 710 SharePoint site at <http://www.cityofpasadena.net/sr710/>.



PASADENA WATER AND POWER

MEMORANDUM

August 21, 2014

To: Michael Beck
City Manager

From: Phyllis Currie
General Manager

Subject: **Recent NASA Newsletter on Groundwater Cleanup**

The Jet Propulsion Laboratories (JPL) is owned by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and operated by the California Institute of Technology. JPL has been a source of pollution to the local groundwater since the 1940's, and NASA has ongoing efforts to clean up the site and local groundwater under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), sometimes referred to as "Superfund."

To keep the public informed on its groundwater cleanup project progress, NASA maintains the www.jplwater.nasa.gov website and periodically distributes news updates in the form of newsletters or informational brochures. This information, prepared by NASA, does not necessarily reflect the concerns and view of Pasadena.

In the July 2014 Newsletter progress report, NASA reported on the progress of several cleanup facilities called "operable units" that are part of the remediation process. NASA reported that a "Five Year Review" of the remediation efforts has been completed and it appears that the three operable units have been effective at removing perchlorate, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (123-TCP), and various volatile organic compounds (VOCs):

- Operable Unit 1, which treats contaminated groundwater at the JPL site, has been in operation for about ten years and has been extremely effective in remediating the underlying water.
- Operable Unit 2 was put into operation in 1998 to remove VOCs from the soil at the JPL site. After effectively removing approximately 260 lbs. of VOCs from the soil, it was shut down in September of 2005.
- Operable Unit 3 consists of two separate facilities: The Monk Hill Treatment System in Pasadena and the Lincoln Avenue Water Company treatment system in Altadena. These facilities were designed to remove perchlorate, 123-TCP, and VOCs from groundwater that is used for drinking water in Pasadena and Altadena.

NASA's July 2014 Newsletter announced that a "Focused Feasibility Study" was recently completed based on the results of cleanup activities to date. As a result, NASA will soon publish a "Proposed Plan" detailing NASA's proposal to complete their cleanup responsibilities under CERCLA. Once published, the Proposed Plan will be subject to public review and comment before it is finalized and submitted for approval by various state and federal agencies.

Despite the success of the reported efforts to date, Pasadena has additional concerns that have yet to be addressed. Various groundwater contaminants have been detected at other wells where treatment is not occurring, and the current drought appears to be worsening this situation. We believe the full clean-up is still far from complete and Pasadena Water and Power is continuing its efforts to address this problem.



Groundwater CLEANUP

A NEWSLETTER ON
NASA'S CLEANUP EFFORTS
AT THE JET PROPULSION
LABORATORY

JULY 2014

NASA Moving from Interim to Final JPL Cleanup Remedy

An important step has been taken – the completion of a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) – that will help NASA fulfill its commitment to cleaning up groundwater at and in the vicinity of its Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

Over the past decade, NASA has implemented several so-called “interim” measures, funding the construction and design of three technologically sophisticated treatment plants that today are removing hundreds of pounds of unwanted chemicals from groundwater.

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Yarissa Martinez
Now Heading
US EPA Efforts
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NASA
Plans Well
Optimization
Page 5

Para Más Información En Español,

llame a Gabriel Romero, NASA JPL, Teléfono (818) 354-8709

history

NASA is cleaning up the JPL site under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). The groundwater chemicals being addressed are volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and the chemical compound perchlorate. The chemicals originated from long-discontinued liquid and solid waste disposal practices during the 1940s and 1950s when wastes from JPL drains and sinks were disposed of in brick-lined seepage pits – a waste management practice that was common at the time.

NASA Moving From Interim to Final Cleanup Remedy continued from page 1



The plants are located at:

- 1) the outer edges of the affected area, treating water from two Lincoln Avenue Water Company (LAWC) drinking water wells in Altadena,
- 2) the “source area” beneath JPL, and
- 3) within the affected area near four Pasadena drinking water production wells in the Arroyo Seco.

A five-year review regarding the three treatment systems, completed in January 2012 and conducted by NASA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), found that all three systems “continue to be protective of human health and the environment.”

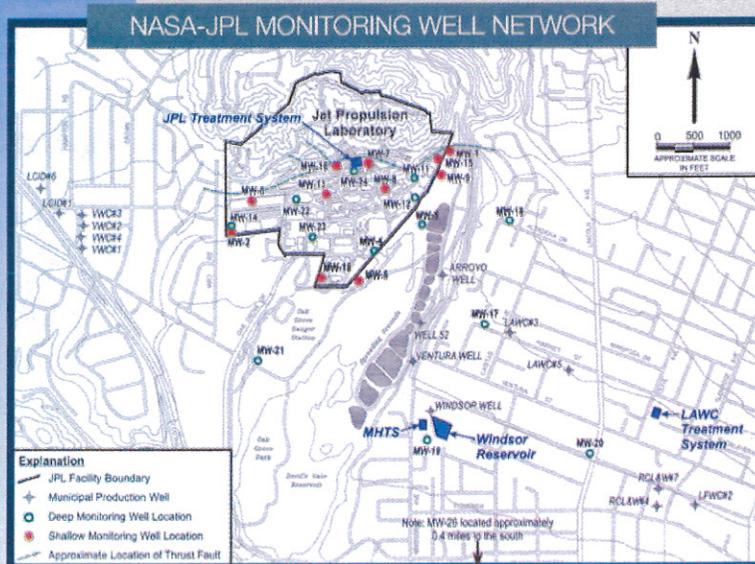
The FFS looked carefully at the three NASA-funded systems and the treatment plants associated with them. Pictured at the top left is the Lincoln Avenue Water Company plant in Altadena; the on-JPL “source area” treatment plant is pictured at the top right; and Pasadena’s Monk Hill Treatment System plant is shown in late afternoon light beneath the two others.

The new study, the FFS, part of a CERCLA process to determine a “final remedy” (see story on page 3), also evaluated whether these “interim” remedies are protective of human health and the environment. In addition, the FFS evaluated the remedies as to whether they are effective in both the short-term and long-run, cost-effective, technically practicable, and in compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs). The study also examined whether the three existing systems alone or in conjunction with other technologies were necessary to establish a final remedy for groundwater cleanup.

Two groundwater cleanup approaches were considered in the FFS, a CERCLA-required “No Action” alternative and a “Groundwater Extraction Alternative with Aboveground Treatment and ICs (institutional controls)” alternative. “No Action” is defined as “no active remediation of groundwater,” while the “Groundwater Extraction Alternative

with Aboveground Treatment and ICs” is the current interim remedy.

The Groundwater Extraction Alternative, which includes the three currently operating NASA-funded treatment systems combined with NASA’s extensive system of groundwater monitoring (see map at left), was found to be superior to the No Action alternative. ★



next steps

A “Proposed Plan,”
a Public Meeting and
Comment Period are
**NASA’s Next
CERCLA Steps**

Many steps are involved in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, an often lengthy and iterative process. Because NASA had earlier implemented a number of interim remedies, a final Focused Feasibility Study (see story on page 1) was done.

With completion of the FFS, NASA moves toward the next step in the CERCLA process – the preparation of a “Proposed Plan.” That Plan will outline the agency’s “Preferred Alternative” for a final cleanup remedy.

Once completed, the Proposed Plan, together with the FFS, will be available for public review and comment and will be posted on the JPL groundwater cleanup website, <http://jplwater.nasa.gov>. A public meeting will be held to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the Proposed Plan and for NASA to receive public comments. The public comment period and public meeting will likely occur later this year. After public review of the Proposed Plan, NASA will respond to public comments and issue a Record of Decision (ROD) detailing the “final remedy.”

Before it becomes official, the ROD must be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB), the agencies overseeing NASA’s cleanup. ★

**Yarissa Martinez
Now Heading
US EPA Efforts
on NASA JPL
Cleanup Project**

NASA’s JPL cleanup is governed by the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the project is overseen with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the federal regulator. Since 2003, NASA has worked closely with EPA and, in February, welcomed Yarissa Martinez, P.E., as the agency’s new Remedial Project Manager (RPM). Ms. Martinez, an environmental engineer in the Los Angeles EPA office since 2011, succeeded Judy Huang, who moved on to other EPA projects. Ms. Huang had served as RPM on the project since 2009 and was “an important source of guidance, help and input,” according to NASA Project Manager Steve Slaten.

A native of Puerto Rico, Ms. Martinez has impressive experience in both the private and public sectors. Her career choice was influenced by an interest in math as a young student and by an appreciation of the outdoors fostered by several years as a Girl Scout.

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Yarissa Martinez, EPA's new Remedial Project Manager, meets with NASA Project Manager Steve Slaten.

She attended Marquette University, braving Wisconsin winters while earning a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering. Ms. Martinez returned to Puerto Rico and was hired by the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (PREQB) to work on the cleanup of that Commonwealth's Island of Vieques, which had been a naval warfare training facility for the U.S. Navy since World War II. Severe solid and hazardous waste contamination resulted from decades of military activities.

Ms. Martinez would spend nearly 10 years on several different projects for the PREQB, "doing pretty much everything that needed to be done," to address public and environmental concerns. Her tasks included observing and managing field work, coordinating laboratory analysis, briefing higher management and engaging in a wide range of community involvement activities.

Ms. Martinez said that when she was first hired her marching orders were to "make sure the community knows we (PREQB) are there for them," and this has informed her view of community involvement. "It takes more than just understanding and following the regulations," she observed. "You have to put yourself in people's shoes," referring to those residents affected by environmental contamination.

While she is still learning about the JPL project, the RPM met with her predecessor "to be sure I'd be the right candidate for this job" and was encouraged to take the assignment. Her first impression is that "NASA is working hard to coordinate with local stakeholders and is continuously trying to improve their remedies at the site." This view also extends to community involvement. She observed, "From what NASA has shown me, they understand the importance of outreach." She added, "I look forward to meeting with the community and listening to their concerns first-hand." As NASA has entered a very active period in both the cleanup and accompanying outreach, Yarissa Martinez will likely get her wish.★

Making
sure the
community
knows we
are there
for them

NASA Cleanup Project, Contact

Mr. Steve Slaten
NASA Groundwater Cleanup Project Manager
NASA Management Office
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109
(818) 393-6683
Web Site <http://jplwater.nasa.gov>

Ms. Merrilee Fellows
NASA Manager for Community Involvement
NASA Management Office
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109
(818) 393-0754
Web Site <http://jplwater.nasa.gov>

Other Program Contacts Include

Yarissa Martinez
Regulatory Contact
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency, Region 9
Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 244-1806
Web Site <http://www.epa.gov/region09>

William F. Jeffers, P.E.
Regulatory Contact
Brownfields Environmental
Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 717-6586
Web Site <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov>

Jeff Brooks, P.G.
Engineering Geologist
Los Angeles Regional Water
Quality Control Board
320 West Fourth Street, Suite 2
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 620-6070
Web Site <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles>

A link to the NASA Cleanup Project
Web Site (<http://jplwater.nasa.gov>)
may be found on computers at the
Pasadena Central Library
285 E. Walnut St.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 744-4052

Altadena Public Library
600 E. Mariposa Ave.
Altadena, CA 91001
(626) 798-0833

La Cañada Flintridge Public Library
4545 Oakwood Ave.
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
(818) 790-3330

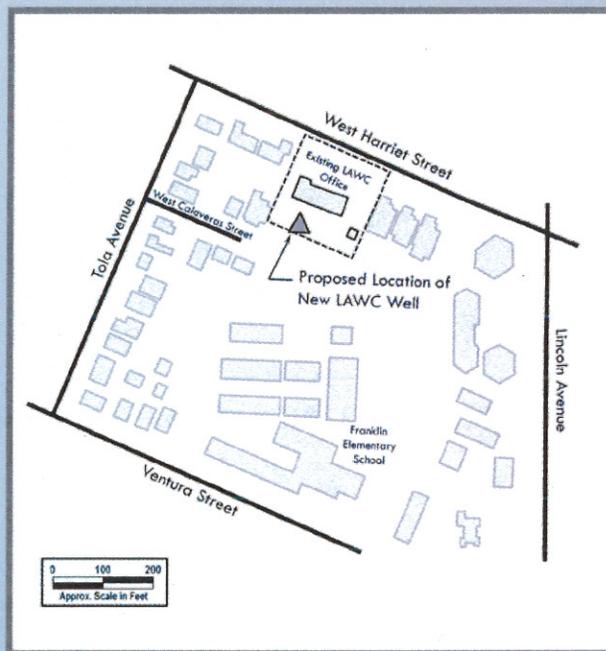
NASA to
Plan Well
Optimization
and
Infrastructure
Enhancements
to Achieve
Greater
Efficiencies

NASA Groundwater Cleanup Project Manager Steve Slaten can see opportunities to enhance how the three NASA-funded groundwater treatment systems operate. "By adding new wells and infrastructure, we would have greater efficiency in meeting our cleanup goals."

Slaten is working with the Lincoln Avenue Water Company (LAWC) and Pasadena Water & Power (PWP) to develop a plan that includes three proposed projects: installing a new well at LAWC, installing a new well as part of PWP's Monk Hill Treatment System (MHTS) and improving wastewater management at MHTS. The first project to be pursued is a new well for LAWC. The PWP projects would follow in future years. The LAWC and PWP plans have been shared with the regulatory agencies that oversee NASA's cleanup efforts, and NASA is responding to the input received.

Slaten noted that NASA's groundwater monitoring and computer modeling data suggest that improving well production capability would improve reliability to effectively contain chemicals at the leading edge of the affected area. A new, deeper well would improve chemical capture and increase the rate at which chemicals can be removed shortening the time needed to meet NASA's cleanup goal, Slaten said.

NASA has funded operations at the LAWC treatment plant, removing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) since the early 1990s and perchlorate since 2004. These are chemicals that originated from long-discontinued waste disposal practices at JPL. The plant treats groundwater from two LAWC-owned drinking water wells (LAWC #3, installed in 1924, and LAWC #5, installed in 1971).



Additionally, LAWC may realize increased flexibility in the system by having a third well available should a backup ever be needed. What's more, a new well and associated piping, power and equipment could remain available for use by LAWC in its operations.

NASA is in the process of identifying a location to install such an extraction well on LAWC-owned property. "This is a case where there is limited open or undeveloped land available for the construction of a new production well. The neighborhood has grown up around LAWC over the years," says Slaten.

NASA recognizes that with neighbors close by, it is important to keep open lines of communication and to work in ways that minimize disturbances. "We'll meet and talk with neighbors as we move forward." Slaten says that to help dampen noise from drilling and equipment that would occur during construction, a 24-foot-high wall insulated with noise-absorbing material would surround the work site.

While there is still much planning and work to do before any construction would start, Slaten noted that during construction, "safety would remain our first priority." NASA would have an approved traffic plan that would be strictly enforced to ensure traffic safety related to construction equipment and workers' vehicles. The traffic plan thus would benefit the neighbors as well as the workers. NASA would require contractors to adhere to all federal and state emissions regulations for equipment and vehicles and to cover soil generated during construction to control dust and stormwater runoff. There are still many steps to take before work could move forward, and NASA recognizes that solid planning and open communication are vital to successful implementation.★

Safety
would
remain
our first
priority

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
NASA Management Office
Mail Code 180-801
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109-8099

Groundwater CLEANUP

A Newsletter on NASA's
Cleanup Efforts at the
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

NOTE TO READERS

If you prefer to receive future newsletters via email,
rather than on paper, please let us know by contacting
Merrilee Fellows at mfellows@nasa.gov.

New Public Outreach Efforts Described in Community Involvement Plan Addendum

A 2014 Community Involvement Plan (CIP) Addendum for NASA's Groundwater Cleanup Project at JPL is available that describes public outreach and communications activities planned during the remainder of the cleanup.

"This addendum demonstrates NASA's commitment to keep current with changes in communities and changes in communications," said NASA Manager for Community Involvement Merrilee Fellows.

First developed in 1994, the document – required of NASA under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) – was amended in 2003 when JPL site cleanup was in its early stages. It was subsequently amended in 2006 to reflect results from 2004 and 2005 community interviews along with Year 2000 U.S. Census data on the three communities surrounding JPL – Pasadena, Altadena, and La Cañada Flintridge. These, like many communities in 2014, are experiencing change – shifts in population, languages spoken, and technologies people use to communicate.

NASA's
commitment:
to keep
current with
changes in
communities
and changes in
communications

The CIP Addendum recognizes that today individuals access news and information using technologies that didn't exist when the CIP was last updated, and NASA will look to take advantage of these new tools as it continues to find the best ways for communicating progress made. For example, NASA recognizes that some audiences rely on social media to send and receive information. Video, Twitter, and online materials combined with traditional methods such as fact sheets, newsletters, and community information sessions are some of the ways NASA will communicate about the cleanup in the years ahead.

The 2014 CIP Addendum also contains an updated appendix with lists of community officials, organizations, and media outlets.★

To see the entire CIP Addendum, please visit <http://go.nasa.gov/1lzWDqM>.

NASA recognizes the importance of communicating with the public about its Groundwater Cleanup Program at JPL.





MEMORANDUM
LIBRARIES & INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Date: August 28, 2014

TO: Michael Beck, City Manager

FROM: Jan Sanders, Director, Libraries and Information Services

RE: Dust, Drought & Dreams Gone Dry: A Commemoration of the 1930s American Dust Bowl

Pasadena Public Library will host "Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry," a national traveling exhibition about the Dust Bowl, the disastrous drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the American Great Plains in the 1930s. The exhibit will be on display in Central Library's Great Hall, 285 E. Walnut St. from September 2 to October 9. The library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The exhibition recalls a tragic period in our history – the drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the Great Plains in the 1930s – and explores its environmental and cultural consequences. It raises several thought-provoking and timely questions: What caused fertile farms to turn to dust? How did people survive? What lessons can we learn?

"The Dust Bowl was one of the worst man-made ecological disasters in American history. We are proud that Pasadena Public Library was selected to help make the public more aware of this important event," said Jan Sanders, Director of Libraries and Information Services. "This exhibition delves into the history and geography behind the Dust Bowl, and also provides a human element; through the words of the survivors themselves, we learn what it was like to live through such a difficult time."

"Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry," will be accompanied by a series of free library programs, including lectures and film screenings. The exhibition and programs feature several overlapping humanities themes: the nature of the connection between humans and nature; the many ways human beings respond to adversity; and how people came to understand and to describe their experiences living through the Dust Bowl.

The exhibition was organized by the American Library Association Public Programs Office, the Oklahoma State University and the Mount Holyoke College Library. It was made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. Pasadena Public Library is one of twenty-five sites throughout the United States and the only one in the state of California selected to present the exhibition and associated public programs in their communities.



MEMORANDUM
LIBRARIES & INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Date: August 28, 2014

TO: Michael Beck, City Manager

FROM: Jan Sanders, Director, Libraries and Information Services

RE: Events Commemorating the 1930s American Dust Bowl

This September Pasadena Public Library will host the very timely “Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry,” national traveling exhibition about the Dust Bowl, the disastrous drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the American Great Plains in the 1930s. A free series of related programs, including lectures, special storytimes and film showings is also planned.

EXHIBITION

• **Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry: A Commemoration of the 1930s American Dust Bowl**

The national traveling exhibition features twenty colorful, illustrated panels about the Plains area before, during, and after the Dust Bowl occurred. The exhibit uses images and quotations from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, memories of the Dust Bowl from oral histories and writing, and recent scholarly analysis.

September 2 – October 9

Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday, 1 - 5 p.m.

Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St.

AUTHOR EVENT

• **A Moment in History**

Marissa Silver will discuss her book, *Mary Coin*. In this novel author Marisa Silver takes Dorothea Lange’s “Migrant Mother” photograph as inspiration for a breathtaking reinvention—a story of two women, one famous and one forgotten, and of the remarkable legacy of their chance encounter.

Thursday, September 4, 6 p.m. – Reception, 7 p.m. - Presentation

Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St.

SPECIAL EVENTS

• **Dust, Drought & Dreams Gone Dry Day**

Full day of activities commemorating the Dust Bowl. Vintage automobile display, film discussion of Ken Burns’ *The Dust Bowl* by Dr. Tamara Venit-Shelton, Claremont McKenna College, the music of Woody Guthrie, the Dust Bowl Troubadour by folk singer Ross Altman, Ph.D. and commentary by Dr. Peter Dreier, Occidental College. First-hand account of “Life During the Dust Bowl” from the correspondence of Caroline Henderson presented by Dr. Peter Blodgett, Huntington Library, Art Collections and a Botanical Gardens. “Dust Bowl” era staples – coffee and biscuits in the morning and apple cobbler and lemonade in the afternoon.

Saturday, September 6, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St.

FILM SERIES

Dust, Drought and Dreams Gone Dry Theme Movies

A month long series of films commemorating the 1930s American Dust Bowl.

Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Central Library, Donald R. Wright Auditorium

285 E. Walnut St.

• **September 3**

The Dust Bowl Part I, a film by Ken Burns (2012) PG

Chronicles the worst man-made ecological disaster in American History, when a frenzied wheat boom on the southern Plains, followed by a decade-long drought during the 1930s nearly swept away the breadbasket of the nation.

• **September 10**

The Dust Bowl Part II, a film by Ken Burns (2012) PG

• **September 17**

The Grapes of Wrath (1940) NR

Tom Joad, a Depression-era everyman, leads his poor family on a harrowing journey from Oklahoma's Dust Bowl to the promised land of California in this adaptation of John Steinbeck's classic novel.

• **September 24**

Bound for Glory (1976) PG

Frustrated sign painter Woodie Guthrie leaves his family in Depression-era Texas and heads to California. Work is scarce and hope is even harder to find. But a socially conscious radio performer helps Guthrie bring his music to the masses and inspire generations of Americans. Based on the folk singer's autobiography, the film earned Academy Awards for its lush cinematography and faithful score.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

• **Stories to Lighten the Load**

Tales enjoyed around the campfire by families in search of a better life during the Great Depression. These stories used humor and perspective to "lighten the load" of Americans facing daily struggles to survive.

Wednesday, September 17, 3:30 p.m. at Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd.

Thursday, September 18, 4 p.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

"Dust, Drought and Dreams Gone Dry" was developed by the American Library Association Public Programs Office in collaboration with the libraries of Oklahoma State University and Mount Holyoke College. The exhibition and tour were made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. Pasadena Public Library is one of twenty-five sites throughout the United States and the only one in the state of California selected to present the exhibition and associated public programs in their communities.

DUST, DROUGHT AND DREAMS GONE DRY

A COMMEMORATION OF THE 1930s AMERICAN DUST BOWL

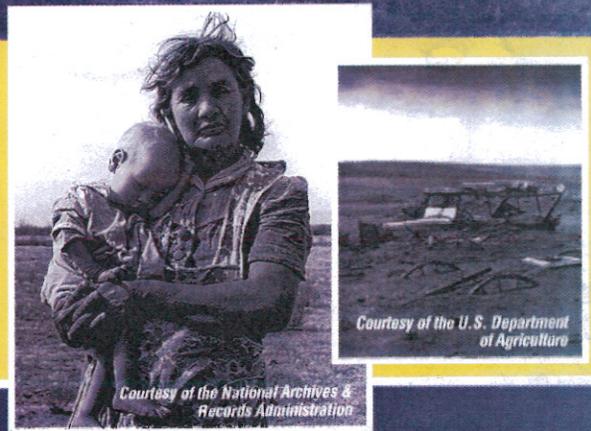
Pasadena Public Library will host "Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry," a national traveling exhibition about the Dust Bowl, the disastrous drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the American Great Plains in the 1930s. A series of related programs, including lectures, special storytimes and film showings is also planned.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division

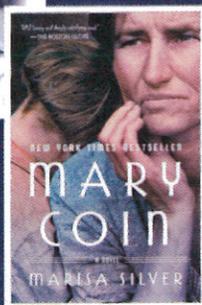
DUST BOWLEXHIBIT

The national traveling exhibition features twenty colorful, illustrated panels about the Plains area before, during, and after the Dust Bowl occurred. The exhibit uses images and quotations from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, memories of the Dust Bowl from oral histories and writing, and recent scholarly analysis.

SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 9 • GREAT HALL
PASADENA CENTRAL LIBRARY • 285 EAST WALNUT STREET



**AUTHOR
MARISA SILVER
DISCUSSES
HER BOOK,
MARY COIN**



Thursday, September 4
Central Library
Donald R. Wright Auditorium
285 East Walnut Street
Reception • 6 p.m.
Program • 7 p.m.

In her first novel since *The God of War*, critically acclaimed author Marisa Silver takes Dorothea Lange's "Migrant Mother" photograph as inspiration for a breathtaking reinvention—a story of two women, one famous and one forgotten, and of the remarkable legacy of their chance encounter.

In 1936, a young mother resting by the side of a road in Central California is spontaneously photographed by a woman documenting the migrant laborers who have taken to America's farms in search of work. Little personal information is exchanged, and neither woman has any way of knowing that they have produced what will become the most iconic image of the Great Depression.

Three vibrant characters anchor the narrative of *Mary Coin*. Mary, the migrant mother herself, who emerges as a woman with deep reserves of courage and nerve, with private passions and carefully-guarded secrets. Vera Dare, the photographer wrestling with creative ambition who makes the choice to leave her children in order to pursue her work. And Walker Dodge, a present-day professor of cultural history, who discovers a family mystery embedded in the picture. In luminous, exquisitely rendered prose, Silver creates an extraordinary tale from a brief moment in history, and reminds us that although a great photograph can capture the essence of a moment, it only scratches the surface of a life.



PASADENA
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

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DUST, DROUGHT AND DREAMS GONE DRY DAY

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
10 A.M. – 5 P.M.
PASADENA CENTRAL LIBRARY
285 EAST WALNUT STREET**

Courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division

10 A.M. – 2 P.M.
DUST BOWL VINTAGE AUTOMOBILES ON DISPLAY
West Parking Lot

10 A.M.
VIEW DUST, DROUGHT AND DREAMS GONE DRY EXHIBIT
Enjoy coffee and biscuits.
Great Hall

11 A.M.
FILM DISCUSSION OF KEN BURNS' THE DUST BOWL
Presentation by Dr. Tamara Venit-Shelton, Assistant Professor of History,
Claremont McKenna College.
Donald R. Wright Auditorium

1 P.M.
WOODY GUTHRIE, THE DUST BOWL TROUBADOUR
Commentary presented by Dr. Peter Dreier, Dr. E. P. Clapp Distinguished
Professor of Politics and Chair, Urban and Environmental Policy Department,
Occidental College.

THE MUSIC OF WOODY GUTHRIE
Ross Altman, PhD, folk singer and staff writer for www.folkworks.org.
Donald R. Wright Auditorium

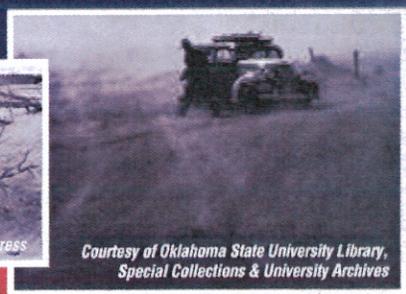
3 P.M.
CAROLINE HENDERSON: LIFE DURING THE DUST BOWL
From the correspondence of Caroline Henderson preserved in the Mount
Holyoke College Archives and Special Collections. Presented by Dr. Peter
Blodgett, H. Russell Smith Foundation Curator of Western Historical
Manuscripts at Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.
Donald R. Wright Auditorium

4 P.M.
VIEW DUST, DROUGHT AND DREAMS GONE BY EXHIBIT
Enjoy apple cobbler and lemonade.
Great Hall

*Apple cobbler, biscuits, lemonade and coffee graciously donated by
Cobbler Factory and Corner Bakery.*



Courtesy of Oxford University Press



*Courtesy of Oklahoma State University Library,
Special Collections & University Archives*

DUST, DROUGHT AND DREAMS GONE DRY THEME MOVIES

WEDNESDAYS • 1 P.M.
**CENTRAL LIBRARY
DONALD R. WRIGHT AUDITORIUM**

SEPTEMBER 3
THE DUST BOWL PART I
a film by Ken Burns (2012) PG

SEPTEMBER 10
THE DUST BOWL PART II
a film by Ken Burns (2012) PG

SEPTEMBER 17
THE GRAPES OF WRATH (1940) NR

SEPTEMBER 24
BOUND FOR GLORY (1976) PG

STORIES TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD

Flights of Fantasy Story Theatre share tales enjoyed around the campfire by families in search of a better life during the Great Depression. Stories that used humor and perspective to "lighten the load" of Americans facing daily struggles to survive.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 • 3:30 P.M.
Santa Catalina Branch Library • 999 E. Washington Blvd.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 • 4 P.M.
Hastings Branch Library • 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

Photos courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

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