



Heal the Bay

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November 19th, 2008
Chairman Bill Rosendahl
Public Works Committee
Sent Via Email

Re: Venice Dual Force Main Pumping Plant Project

Dear Members of the Public Works Council Committee;

On behalf of Heal the Bay, we would like to communicate to the Committee the urgency of the proposed project to construct the new force main sewer from the Venice pumping plant to an existing Coastal Interceptor Sewer junction structure on Vista Del Mar.

The Venice Pumping Station is The City of Los Angeles's largest wastewater pump station serving Malibu through the Pacific palisades, Santa Monica, Venice and Marina Del Rey. However, it is served by one pressure force main that runs under the beach and the marina. This force main is over 50 years old and carries more than 30 million gallons a day of sewage. Since there is no way for this force main to be inspected or repaired, there is no way of knowing possible damage that may have occurred over the years. It is vital that this project proceeds as quickly as possible to prevent the possibility of a major environmental disaster.

Construction of the new force main sewer will allow maintenance and repair of the old force main as well as providing a back up in the case of an emergency. It is of the utmost importance that construction begins immediately to prevent any long term impacts to our coastal community.

We urge you to move this project forward.

Thank you for reviewing our comments.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 310-451-1500.

Sincerely,

Kirsten James, MESM.
Director of Water Quality
Heal the Bay

Polly Barrowman, M.Sc.
Water Quality Scientist
Heal the Bay