

14-0520
001

SPECIAL 1

MOTION

The Zanja Madre, "Mother Ditch", is the original aqueduct that brought water to Pueblo de Los Angeles from the Los Angeles River. Built in 1781, the Zanja drew water from the river using a water wheel, sending it into brick pipes that led to the center of La Placita Olvera. Remains of the Zanja were uncovered in the 1970s by archeologist Julia Costella and can be seen in the Los Angeles State Historic Park.

More recently, on April 10th, construction workers at the Blossom Plaza excavation site in Chinatown uncovered a significant portion of the Zanja. Forest City, developer of Blossom Plaza, plans to preserve and display approximately 40 feet of the brick-covered system. The display areas will be at the future Blossom Plaza Cultural Plaza, the Los Angeles State Historic Park, and at Metabolic Studios' Los Angeles River Water Wheel project. An archaeologist from Forest City has documented the Zanja discovery, and Metabolic Studios will retrieve and store the Zanja Madre at their warehouse until it is publicly shown. The removal of the Zanja Madre from the Blossom Plaza construction site is tentatively scheduled for the morning of Saturday, April 26.

The removal and transport of the Zanja Madre from the Blossom Plaza site is being undertaken by Metabolic Studios, as a philanthropic contribution to the City. The contract mover will need an Overload Permit and the closure of specific streets to mitigate hazards and congestion. There is an urgent need to expedite the issuance of necessary permits and closure of specified streets.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council determine, as provided by Section 54954.2(b) (2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to Rule 23 of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter and that the need for action came to the attention of the City subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Street Services and Department of Transportation be authorized to take all necessary actions to implement the expedited issuance of an Overload Permit and the effectuation of street closures in conjunction with the removal and transport of the Zanja Madre artifact from its Blossom Plaza location in Chinatown to the Metabolic Studios warehouse to mitigate hazards and congestion, at the following locations from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 26th:

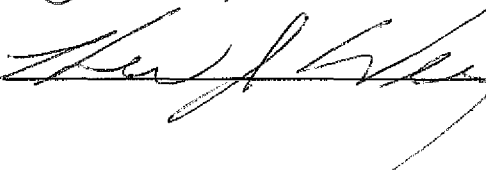
- Spring Street between Spring Street Bridge and College Street; and
- All of Baker Street from Spring Street to cul-de-sac terminus at Metro property.


PRESENTED BY:


GIL CEDILLO

Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:




APR 23 2014

ORIGINAL