

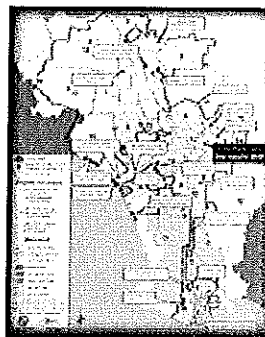
VISIT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES' STORMWATER PROGRAM WEB SITE



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Echo Park Lake is the centerpiece of the City's crown jewel of parks. The 13-acre urban lake is surrounded by 16 acres of recreational open space all located in the Echo Park/Silverlake neighborhood. Historical records indicate the lake was originally built as a water supply reservoir in the 1860's.



Approved Prop O Projects  
[CLICK TO ENLARGE ABOVE MAP](#)

[PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS MAP](#)

Today, the lake serves as a detention basin in the City's storm drainage system while providing waterfowl habitat and recreational opportunities. The surrounding parklands, charming footbridge, quaint boathouse, beautiful lotus beds, and lake have captivated the public for decades. The lake offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy paddle boating, catch-and-release fishing, model boating, jogging, and strolls around the perimeter pathway.

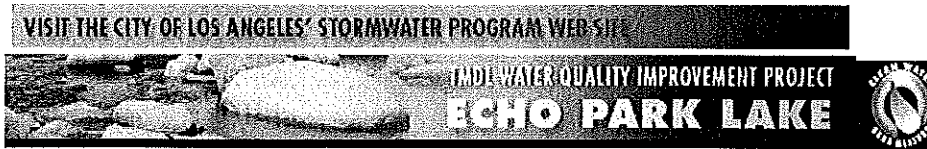
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**PROJECT OBJECTIVES::**

Echo Park Lake was identified in the 2006 California 303 (d) list as being impaired by algae, ammonia, copper, eutrophic (low oxygen) conditions, lead, odor, PCBs, pH, and trash. The lake is utilized today as a flood control basin to help manage peak flows during storm events. Restoration of the lake is essential to meet water quality standards as well as the needs of the surrounding community. The project objectives are::

- ☐ Improve water quality in the lake so it can make a positive contribution to the quality of urban runoff in the Los Angeles River Watershed as a part of the Prop O objectives and TMDL requirements
- ☐ Reduce the amount of lake water seeping into the surrounding soils. This exfiltration requires a significant amount of potable water to keep the lake full during drier months
- ☐ Protect and enhance the full range of community uses in the park
- ☐ Implement multipurpose solutions at the lake consistent with Proposition O objectives including water supply, water quality, flood reduction, stormwater reuse, and recreation.

**If you have questions or comments, please call the outreach coordinator at (213) 978-0333. The project description, concepts and design are preliminary and subject to change.**



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## ECHO PARK LAKE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Q: How much will the project cost?*

A: \$64.7 million

*Q: What are the potential impacts during construction?*

A: Temporary impacts may include:

- Visual and noise impacts near residences, churches, and businesses
- Disruption to park users
- Disruption of lake habitat (birds, fish, turtles, and other wildlife)
- Some loss of street parking adjacent to the park
- Minor, periodic traffic interruptions on adjacent streets

*Q: What are some project benefits?*

A: Benefits will include:

- Improving water quality in the lake and in the downstream Los Angeles River watershed
- Meeting Clean Water TMDL standards
- Improving park conditions including non-contact water recreation, warm freshwater habitat, wildlife and wetland habitat
- Reducing the use of municipal water to maintain the level of the lake

*Q: Why does the lake have to be drained?*

A: The lake will be dredged to remove potentially contaminated sediments, lining, inlet structures and other improvements.

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*Q: How long will construction take place?*

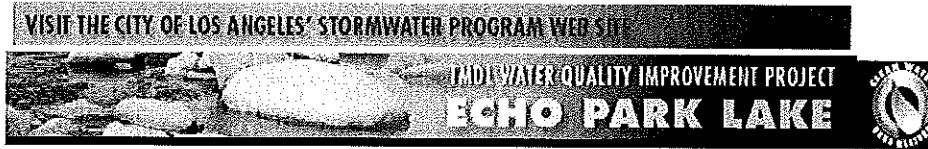
A: Approximately 2 years. However, a concerted effort will be made to compress the work schedule.

*Q: Will parking and traffic be interrupted?*

A: Street parking adjacent to the park will be very limited during the construction phase.

*Q: What kind of community outreach is planned to keep area residents informed?*

A: The Echo Park Community Outreach Group has been formed and meets regularly. Public information materials (newsletters, notices, and project web site) will be regularly distributed and updated. All meetings of the Echo Park Community Outreach Group are open to the public and everyone interested in the project is encouraged to attend.



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### Echo Park Lake Project Concepts

During the project's preliminary design stage, concepts and approaches were evaluated and presented in public meetings. concepts will be refined and developed into the final design for the project.

#### In-Lake Basin Improvements

Removing potentially contaminated sediments after draining the lake, replacing the lake liner, improving storm drain inlets and the lake outlet, and a variety of improvements ranging from wetlands to aeration.

#### In-Lake Vegetation and Habitat Improvements

Reconditioning the famous lotus beds, as well as additional wetlands, and aquatic terracing along the shorelines of the lake.

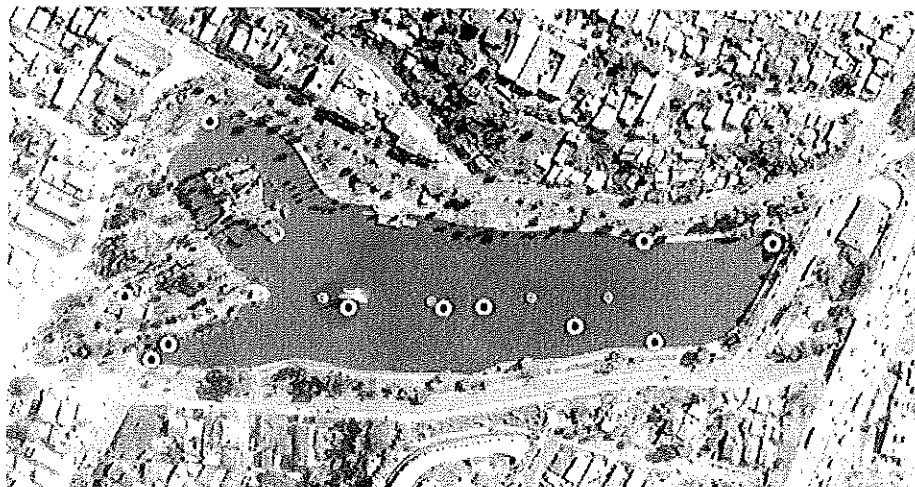
#### Parkland Structural Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Adding grassy swales, porous pavement, weather-based irrigation systems, and educational signage and kiosks.

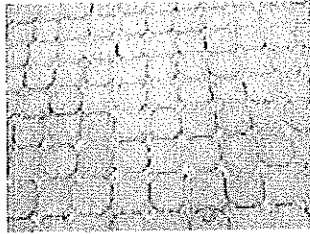
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### Project Concepts

Roll your mouse over the targets in the photo below to see some of the concepts that are being evaluated.

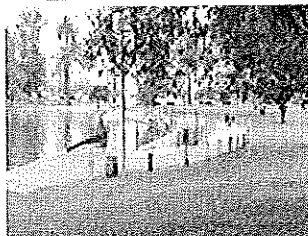


[POROUS MATERIALS/PAVING](#)



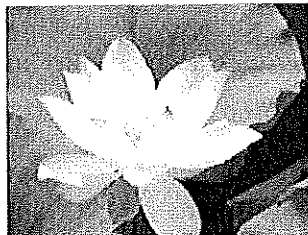
Under drainage directed into the lake will improve water quality and reduce peak flows while enhancing aesthetics. Vehicular access, sweeping and sub-drainage will be addressed early.

**CITY STORM DRAIN OUTFALL**



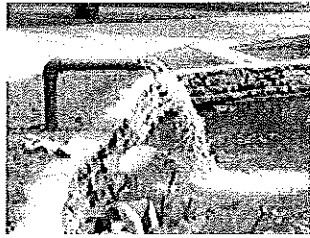
A treatment train consisting of below grade trash removal devices followed by a constructed wetland treatment area is proposed to not only provide pollutant reduction but to significantly improve the aesthetics of the area.

**LOTUS BED RESTORATION**



The beds are very important to the community. The restoration plan will be developed by a recognized expert and special attention will be paid to timing, storage and protecting the tubers during construction and requirements for post construction monitoring.

**POTABLE WATER USE**



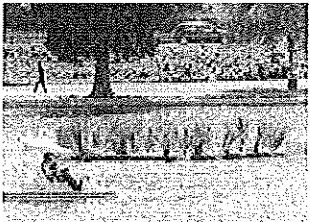
By lining the lake and providing significant water quality improvements to the inflows draining into the lake, potable water use will be minimized.

**Aeration - Circulation**



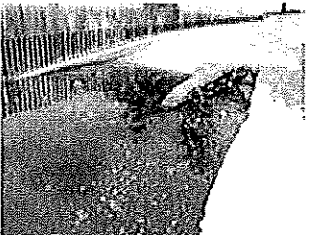
In lake water quality improvements will be evaluated on a review modeling results, a clear understanding of lake management practices and the recommended treatment regimes for flows into the lake.

**FLOATING WETLANDS**



The performance of the existing floating islands will be evaluated in conjunction with the plans for waterfowl management before concepts are developed for the new floating islands.

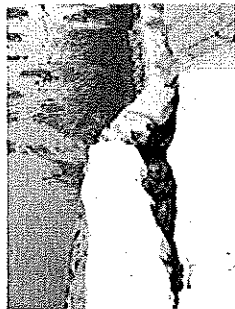
**LAKE SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT**



Proper management of the

sediment is critical to project success. Sampling is the first step in this process..

**LAKE EDGE RETAINING WALL**



In areas of grade separation, retaining walls will be utilized in conjunction with grassy swales and infiltration strips to reduce sediment and nutrient loads from local runoff. Opportunities for enhancing public enjoyment will be developed.

**LAKE BOTTOM LINER REPLACEMENT**



Neighbor friendly options for lining the lake will be considered that will save potable water use and save over \$18 million in construction costs.

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