



**Date:** March 5, 2010

**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Patrick H. West, City Manager

**Subject:** Long Beach Breakwater Reconnaissance Study Update

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**Breakwater Study Review Kickoff**

The Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) officially began their review of Long Beach's Breakwater Reconnaissance Study (East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Study) on February 3, 2010. Now that Congresswoman Richardson and Senator Feinstein have provided a \$90,000 appropriation, the local Corps staff has the ability to officially review the study and make a determination of federal interest. The determination of federal interest will conclude if there is enough federal benefit to proceed to a more complex Feasibility study, which takes approximately four years to complete and is currently estimated to cost \$7 million. Should the Army Corps make that determination, the City Council will need to decide if the City of Long Beach will become the non-federal sponsor and provide non-federal resources to support half of the study cost.

**Next Steps**

Several events need to occur before the City Council decides whether or not to become the local sponsor for this project and move forward to the Feasibility Study stage. The following is a list of steps that will happen by June 2010:

1. The Corps will determine whether or not there is federal interest to reconfigure the breakwater.
2. If federal interest is determined, the Corps then develops a Project Management Plan, which is the scope of work for the Feasibility study.
3. The Corps will determine how much the Feasibility study will cost.
4. Long Beach and the Corps will identify parts of the Feasibility study the City can conduct as "in-kind" services using City staff and resources.
  - Activities that the City conducts "in-kind" are credited 100% towards the City's share of the overall feasibility study costs.
5. City staff will identify potential funding sources to pay for the remaining cost of the 50% non-federal share for the City Council to consider.
6. The City Council decides in June 2010 whether or not Long Beach will become the local sponsor for this project and how to pay for the study.
7. Should the City Council decide to move forward, the Corps and the City will negotiate a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement, which is a legal document outlining each entity's responsibilities.

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Given the current timeline provided by the Army Corps, it is expected that steps 1 through 6 listed above will be completed before the end of June 2010. The final step, negotiating the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement, would occur after the City Council decision in June 2010.

**Appropriations Request**

Provided each of the above steps are completed and the City and Corps move to the Feasibility Study phase, the Army Corps will need a federal appropriation for their share of the Feasibility Study costs. Working with the Corps, the City of Long Beach has requested an appropriation of \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2011 from Congressman Richardson, Senator Feinstein and Senator Boxer to pay for the Army Corps' share of the costs for the first year. Additional appropriations requests will need to occur in subsequent years. The results of this year's appropriation request will not be known until September or October 2010, or potentially later.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs, at (562) 570-5091.

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