



*CITY of CALABASAS*

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE:** NOVEMBER 30, 2023

**TO:** ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** TRA'A BEZDECNY, ASSISTANT ENGINEER

**SUBJECT:** UPDATES ON CITY ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

**MEETING DATE:** DECEMBER 5, 2023

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Environmental Services Division strives to make Calabasas a better place to live and work by developing environmental and pollution prevention programs, and by protecting, enhancing and restoring creeks and open space. This Division oversees the administration of an encompassing Public Education/Outreach Program designed to meet the mandated requirements of the Clean Water Act and California Integrated Waste Management Act. Environmental Services oversees a variety of activities including the reduction and/or elimination of pollutants from storm water and urban runoff, reduction of waste going to urban landfills, recycling, household hazardous waste, and storm drain inspection and maintenance.

**DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS:**

**Citywide Green Streets Project – Phase I:**

Construction on Phase I of the Citywide Green Streets Project has started on the northern section of Las Virgenes Road, between Thousand Oaks Blvd and the Northern Terminus. The project will construct a vegetated swale which serves as pretreatment BMP capturing and treating surface flows from the street. A new

parking lot will be constructed to include over 100 parking spaces for apartment residents. Above the parking lot will be a new trail connecting the existing trail at Mont Calabazas to the Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space.

This project was approved for construction by Council in June, started construction in September, and is anticipated to be completed in Spring 2024.

### Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project – Phase III

The Project aims to improve water quality and restore the habitat surrounding Las Virgenes (LV) Creek that has been damaged by heavy storms. The work includes retrofitting 25 outlets draining into the creek, removal of fish barriers that were recently discovered within the creek, the removal of dead and/or broken mature trees, the planting of new native oak trees, soft-bottoming existing concrete channels at Meadow Creek and Lost Hills, and building a new multipurpose trail along the creek.

The project site extends 1.5 miles of the creek within a highly urbanized segment of Las Virgenes Creek from Agoura Road to Lost Hills Road. This project intends to stabilize banks and protect the outlets surrounding Las Virgenes Creek. The banks around the creek should be stabilized and not prone to flooding. The project plans to improve water quality and reduce sediment and nutrient loading of the creek. The conceptual design calls for placing rip rap in front of 25 outlets and natural erosion control blankets to cover slopes that are in danger of failing. Connection to Don Wallace Trail north of Agoura Road through a wood deck under the bridge and a pedestrian midblock crosswalk on Lost Hills Road will provide a safe route for the public to travel between LV Trail east and west. An additional multipurpose trail will be created along the creek south of Meadow Creek Lane to close the gap on Las Virgenes Trail.

This project has completed conceptual design but requires funding to complete design and construction. The largest portion of funding staff is seeking requires community outreach and community support.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Funding for projects and activities comes from multiple sources including the General Fund, Measure M, Measure W, Prop 1, and more. Staff is continually researching new funding opportunities for upcoming projects.

### **REQUESTED ACTION:**

This is an informational item only and requires no action.