

**Meetings with Representatives of Schools in Sun Valley
June 27, 2000**

Purpose of Meetings: Review flooding problems at each school and identify possible short-term solutions which can be implemented before the upcoming rainy season to increase attendance on rainy days.

Meeting Attendees:

Mike Brady, Area Facilities Service Director, LAUSD
Suk Chong, LA County Department of Public Works
Rebecca Drayse, TreePeople
Michael Drennan, Montgomery Watson
Jay Greenstein, Assistant to Board Member David Tokofsky, LAUSD
Tom Kilmer, City of LA District Engineer, Valley District
Bob Paolilli, Poly Complex Project Manager, LAUSD
Rama Tallamraju, LA County Department of Public Works

Following are notes and action items for each school.

Sun Valley Middle School

- Met with Principal Manuel Rangell and maintenance supervisor Joe Sanchez.
- No busing at site.
- 3000 students; many are absent on rainy days because neighborhood streets are flooded
- Flooding occurs on the campus near the southwest corner of the 8th Grade Quad. On-site drains are dry wells, which appear to need maintenance and/or improvement. The age of the school implies the dry wells may be clogged due to sedimentation.

Action Item 1: LAUSD will evaluate solutions for improving internal area drains.

Parents use three drop-off sites during rains. All three sites experience flooding (about 2 inches above top of curb) during normal rainfall conditions.

Drop-off site #1: Elmer and Valerio entrance.

A possible solution at this site would be a circular drive that directs traffic off the street and next to an existing covered walkway. This would allow students to be dropped off at a slightly higher elevation thus avoiding walking through flooded street.

Action Item 2: LAUSD will prepare conceptual drawings and cost estimate for this proposed solution by July 20.

Drop-off site #2: Fair Gate (on Fair Avenue near room 139).

A similar solution was proposed at this gate. A circular drive would allow traffic to enter the campus at a higher elevation, thus preventing students from walking through standing flood waters. The fencing at this location would have to be set back up to 15' for a distance of about 60'.

Action Item 3: LAUSD will prepare conceptual drawings and cost estimates for this proposed solution by July 20.

Drop-off site #3: Bakman Main Entrance. Flooding up to about 2 inches above top of curb also occurs in the street at this entrance during moderate rainfall. As this is the main entrance to the campus, the aesthetics of this entrance may be more impacted by a circular driveway. Possible solutions discussed included circular drives both north and south of the main entrance that would accomplish the same objective.

Action Item 4: LAUSD will prepare conceptual drawings and cost estimates for proposed solutions for this entrance also by July 20.

Action Item 5: LA County DPW will prepare a display of the selected solutions for each drop-off site for presentation at the August 16 community meeting.

Teacher parking lot: Flooding occurs in dumpster area causing teachers to walk through flood waters. Dumpster area has standing water in it for several hours after a rain, partly due to a small (4") drain that cannot discharge flows fast enough, causing water to become stagnant and polluted.

Action Item 6: LAUSD will survey grades in the dumpster area and develop a long-term solution for the problem which will eliminate the flooding of this area. Possible solutions discussed include raising the elevation of the area so that standing water will not occur in this area.

Mike Brady will talk with Jay Greenstein about possible funding sources to address this problem.

Camellia Avenue School

- Met with Principal Marian Fortunati and Teacher Kip Kaprelian
- No busing at site.
- 800 students.
- Up to 250 students are absent on rainy days because neighborhood streets are flooded.
- 90 percent of students walk to school on normal dry days.
- 70 percent of students walk to school on rainy days.
- Many students live east of Tujunga and even east of Vineland. Also, the intersection of Lankershim and Cohasset is greatly used. All of these streets are heavily flooded during moderate rainfall events, and are difficult to cross without getting wet. Improving student drop-off sites is not a priority at this school, although drainage at the Camellia Avenue gate may be improved by maintaining the catch basins on the street. Parent meetings are held every

4th Wednesday of the month and could be used as a forum to discuss possible interim solutions to flooding and for improving attendance on rainy days.

Action Item 7: Tom Kilmer will review drainage design on Camellia Avenue and determine if additional maintenance of the catch basins will improve flooding in the area of the Camellia Avenue gate.

Action Item 8: Suk Chong will investigate the feasibility and cost of setting up a bus route to collect students during the winter months. Deadline: July 20.

Arminta Street School

- Met with Assistant Principal Robert Bauer
- 800 students.
- Up to 200 students are absent on rainy days because neighborhood streets are flooded.
- 20 to 30 students live east of Tujunga Avenue.
- Newly constructed golf driving range north of campus discharges additional runoff directly onto Strathern Avenue via two new 12-inch storm drains.
- Curbs, gutter, and sidewalks are needed at the southwest corner of Beck and Strathern, as well as at the southeast corner of Goll and Strathern.
- School entrance east of Beck and Arminta is used as drop-off site during rainy days. As a result, a significant traffic jam is created on Arminta on rainy days. One way traffic may help alleviate this situation, but inquiries to the City of LA regarding rerouting traffic appears to be very complex. An additional one-way street in the opposite direction would be required, along with signatures of the residents of both streets.

Action Item 9: Suk Chong will investigate the feasibility and cost of setting up a bus route to collect students during the winter months. Deadline: July 20.

Roscoe Elementary School

- Met with Principal Mary Kurzeka.
- 800 students at school at any one time (1200 students total)
- Between 200 and 400 students are absent on rainy days because neighborhood streets are flooded.
- Crossing guards provide a plank for young students to walk across flooded areas at the intersection of Strathern and Riverton.
- A parent meeting (Parents as Learning Partners) takes place. Charlotte Castagnola is a facilitator for this organization. This organization could serve as a forum to discuss possible interim solutions to flooding and for improving attendance on rainy days.
- Many students are dropped off during rainy days in front of the school on Strathern. Recent handicap ramp installed on the sidewalk near drop-off site

floods during rains and makes the sidewalk impassible for pedestrians and mothers with strollers without stepping into 8" of water. Ms. Kurzeka has written Mario Enriquez, at the City of LA Dept. of Transportation about the situation but has not received a response yet.

- Curbs, gutter, and sidewalks are needed along the north side of Strathern between White and Vineland.

Action Item 10: Tom Kilmer will contact Mario Enriquez to determine what corrections can be made at the ramp.

Action Item 11: Mary Kurzeka will evaluate what portions of the attendance area need to be provided transportation.

Action Item 12: Rama Tallamraju will contact Charlotte Castagnola to set up a meeting to discuss flooding issues and possible solutions.

Action Item 13: Suk Chong investigate the feasibility and cost of setting up a bus route to collect students during the winter months. Deadline: July 20.