

SMART IRRIGATION PROJECT BRIEFING  
DECEMBER 17, 2007

Weather Smart Irrigation Project:

Project Start Date:

We will be starting the Smart Irrigation Project at Victory Memorial Grove (Elysian Park) on January 14, 2008. Our goal is to complete Victory Memorial Grove in two months and then move on to project #2, which is Avenue 64 (Arroyo Seco) Park. This will also take approximately two months. The final project site will be Mt. Carmel Recreation Center.

Goal:

This is a two-fold project:

The first goal will be to develop and promote water conservation by maximizing landscape water use efficiency at City parks through actions that include, but are not limited to, the repair and/or replacement of existing irrigation distribution systems and the installation of weather-sensitive irrigation control equipment that irrigates on the basis of actual site characteristics and local weather conditions.

The second goal is to employ young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 to provide intensive hands on training skills in basic landscape irrigation construction. They will also go through a training course that will prepare them for future career promotions.

Locations:

1. Victory Memorial Grove (Elysian Park) (CD 1)
2. Arroyo Seco Park (CD 14)
3. Mt. Carmel Recreation Center (CD 8)

Smart Irrigation Crew:

The workforce will consist of six full-time employees and 12 (part-time) Special Program Assistants.

1. Park Maintenance Supervisor: Don Gonser
2. Equipment Operator: Bill Griebel
3. Light Equipment Operator: Edward Zapata
4. Water Irrigation Specialist: Randy Valle
5. Water Irrigation Specialist: Martin Gutierrez
6. Garden Caretaker: Sigfredo Lopez

The Special Program Assistants will be made up of young adults between the ages of 18-24 working full-time for six months. These young adults will be recruited by the City of Los Angeles Community Development Department, Workforce Development Division.

Hire date:

The full-time staff will be made up of existing Recreation and Parks employees. The Special Program Assistants should be hired by January 30, 2008.

Work Duties and Assignments:

The Smart Irrigation crew will be installing new water efficient irrigation systems, i.e. working with power equipment, hand tools, installing PVC pipe, gate valves and remote control valves, reading blue prints, etc.

Recruitment Process by Community Development Department:

Work Source Centers (WSC) will be recruiting possible candidates and referring them to the Community Development Department (CDD). The CDD will conduct the final screening through telephone and in-person interviews. They will process City applications for the top candidates they have selected and provide the candidates to RAP.

How to Apply:

All candidates need to submit their application through Work Source Centers (WSC). Work Source Centers are located throughout the City.

Training:

The Special Program Assistants will receive training on every Friday. This training is being spear-headed through the CDD and with the Smart Irrigation team. They will work together with Community Colleges and bring in instructors to conduct basic skill classes (math, reading, and writing) and will provide vocational basic training for entry-level job classifications within the City of Los Angeles.

The SMART Irrigation team will provide Safety equipment training, basic irrigation training, Safety in the work place, first aid, and basic life skills: finance skills, life-enhancing decisions, positive communication, culture and diverse sensitivity, team work, trust, Community involvement, etc. Employees will receive a Certificate of Completion at the end of the course.

### Tracking:

We will be working with the CDD to keep accurate tracking records. CDD is currently using WIA program participants.

### On-Site Recordkeeping:

Records of all employee training, attendance, safety reviews and meetings, emergency contacts and incident reports will be kept on site.

### Transportation:

Each participant is responsible for transportation to the job site. We will work with each participant according to their needs.

### Case Management:

Case Management will be working with the Special Program Assistants to assist them with their needs to help make them successful.

### Supplies and Safety Equipment:

The WSC will provide the supportive services based on WIA guidelines and their current budget.

- Participants need hard toe shoes
- City will provide hard hats, gloves, and goggles

The long term goal is to provide these young adults an opportunity to eventually promote to full-time City service and be become productive citizens. One of the ways they will be able to promote is through the Department of General Services (GSD). GSD will recruit candidates from their Vocational Worker Program.