



## City of Palos Verdes Estates City Council Agenda & Staff Reports

### DISCLAIMER

The following City Council agenda includes text only version of the - reports associated with the business matters to be brought before for the City Council at its Regular Meeting of this date. Changes to the - reports may be necessary prior to the actual City Council meeting. The City Council may elect to delete or continue business matters at the beginning of the City Council Meeting. Additionally, - reports attachments, including but not limited to, pictures, plans, drawings, spreadsheet presentations, financial statements and correspondences are not included. The attachments are available for review with the official agenda package at the Reception area at City Hall as well as the Malaga Cove Public Library.

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**\*\*CLICK HERE FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA & REPORTS**

March 24, 2009  
6:30 P.M.  
City Hall  
Council Chambers

**AGENDA  
OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA**

Copies of the staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on the agenda are on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public inspection. If applicable, materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's office during normal business hours. Any person having any question concerning any agenda item may call the City Clerk to make inquiry concerning the item. Upon request, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact the City Clerk at 310-378-0383, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to request a disability-related modification or accommodation.

The City Council welcomes and encourages public participation at the Council meetings; however, to allow for the orderly progression of business, each person wishing to comment or make a presentation shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Anyone wishing to address the City Council must fill out a green speaker's card available at the end of each row in the Chambers. The card permits the City to identify persons for purposes of City Council minute preparation. Please see specific agenda sections below for any other requirements related to meeting participation. The City Council, at the direction of the Mayor with concurrence of the Council, may modify the order of items shown on the agenda.

**NEXT RESOLUTION NO. R09-10  
NEXT ORDINANCE NO. 09-689**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**CLOSED SESSION (6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)**

- **Conference with Labor Negotiators**  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6  
Agency Negotiators: Joe Hoefgen, Judy Smith, and Scott Tiedemann  
Employee Organizations: Public Service Employees Association and Palos Verdes Estates  
Police Officers' Association

**At the conclusion of the Closed Session, the Council may reconvene to Open Session to take formal action on any item discussed, as it may deem appropriate.**

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
MARCH 24, 2009

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (7:30 p.m.)

## ROLL CALL

## MAYOR'S REPORT – Matters of Community Interest

- Recommend Appointment of Dale Hoffman as Interim Planning Commissioner from April - June 2009 (Mayor Perkins)

## CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-6)

All items under this heading are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion, unless a Councilmember, staff, or member of the public requests that an item be removed for separate discussion, with the exception of Planning Commission Actions – Item #6a-h. An applicant or interested citizen who wishes to appeal any Planning Commission decision may file an appeal with the City Clerk's office within 15 days after the date of the Planning Commission's decision.

Any item removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered immediately following the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

1. a. Minutes of City Council Meeting of March 10, 2009  
b. Minutes of City Council Meeting of March 18, 2009

**Recommendation: Review and File.**

2. Treasurer's Report – February 2009

**Recommendation: Receive and File.**

3. Monthly Financial Report – February 2009

**Recommendation: Receive and File.**

4. Approval of License Agreement with Palos Verdes Youth Football and Cheer for Use of George Allen Field

**Recommendation: It is recommended that City Council approve a non-exclusive license agreement for a two-year term with Palos Verdes Youth Football and Cheer for use of the Via Zurita property (George Allen Field) as a practice site for flag football and no more than two (2) cheer teams.**

5. Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Items of March 11, 2009

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
MARCH 24, 2009

**Recommendation: Review and Approve.**

- a. 6-Month Review of Restricted Parking Signage and Edgeline Striping on the South Side of Cloyden Road from Palos Verdes Drive West to Dalton Road

**Action: Recommended that staff revise the signage to be in effect only when school is in session (3-0, Culler and Beall absent).**

- b. Proposed Edgeline Striping Alternatives for Via Anacapa between Paseo Lunado and Via Sola

**Action: Recommended that staff install Alternative A edgeline striping on Via Anacapa between Paseo Lunado and Via Sola. The striping will be located 12' from the curb face on the west (school) side and 6' from the curb face on the east side of the street (3-0, Culler and Beall absent).**

- c. Request for Changes in Parking Restrictions on the 2200 block of Via Anacapa

**Action: Denied (3-0, Culler and Beall absent).**

- d. Request for No Parking Zone on Palos Verdes Drive North, South Barrel, in front of 3432 Palos Verdes Drive North and 301 Via Navajo

**Action: Denied (3-0, Culler and Beall absent).**

6. Planning Commission Actions of March 17, 2009

**Recommendation: Receive and File.**

- a. **NC-1168R-09**; Consideration of a revised Neighborhood Compatibility Application for additions to the single family residence located at 2737 Via Oleadas. Lot 3, Tract 23201.

Applicant: Nonchi Wang  
5455 Wilshire Blvd., #2127  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
Owner: Brian & Helen Tang

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions.**

- b. **WT-110-08**; Consideration of a Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Application for structures within the right-of-way adjacent to 3301 Via Campesina. Lot A, Tract 9822.

Applicant: MMI Titan  
Nonantum Development Group, Inc.  
1750 E. Ocean Blvd., #906  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Action: Denied (3-1, Chang dissenting).**

- c. **CDP-72-09**; Consideration of a Coastal Development Permit Application for a new soldier pile wall to support the westerly edge of Palos Verdes Drive West located near the 800 and 900 blocks. Lots A & F of the Open Space Zone.

Applicant: City of Palos Verdes Estates

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions.**

- d. **NC-1335/GA-1440/M-681-08**; Consideration of Neighborhood Compatibility, Grading and Miscellaneous Applications for a new single family residence located at 980 Via Rincon. Lot 8, Block 1731, Tract 7142.

Applicant: The Nieman Group  
2930 Westwood Blvd., # 100  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

Owner: David De Langis  
65 Pine Avenue #323  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Action: Approved (3-0, Bird recused) with standard conditions and the following additional condition: 1) All previous conditions still apply.**

- e. **NC-1348/GA-1447/M-701-08**; Consideration of Neighborhood Compatibility, Grading and Miscellaneous Applications for a new single family residence located at 2832 Paseo Del Mar. Lot 9, Block 2235, Tract 7144.

Applicant: Marsha S. Scully & Associates  
4555 Comber Avenue  
Encino, CA 91316

Owner: Mark & Anne Severns

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions and the following additional conditions: 1) A licensed survey of the building height shall be completed and submitted to the City to verify compliance with the approved height for the subject lot; 2) All encroachments within the right-of-way shall be designed per the Public Works Department standards including but not limited to the new driveway and walkway; 3) All eaves are to be pulled out of the setbacks; 4) All structures within the setback adjacent to the street are not to exceed 42 inches in height; 5) The guest house shall not have any cooking facilities; 6) Miscellaneous Application M-701-08 is denied; 7) The pool, jacuzzi, fence within the setback adjacent to the street, and the water feature locations are denied.**

- f. **NC-1349/GA-1448/SC-128/M-706-09**; Consideration of Neighborhood Compatibility, Grading, Sports Court and Miscellaneous Applications for a new single family residence located at 1804 Via Coronel. Lot 2, Block 4, Tract 8043.

Applicant: Douglas J. Leach Architect  
119 W. Torrance Blvd., Suite 24  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
Owner: Jeffrey Lin  
1405 Via Arco  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions and the following additional conditions: 1) The second story ridge heights are to be lowered by 2.5 ft.; 2) The pool is not to be located within the side setback; 3) The 6 ft. high fencing within the setback adjacent to the street is to be of open construction.**

- g. **NC-1340R-09**; Consideration of a revised Neighborhood Compatibility Application for revisions to the new single family residence located at 857 Via Somonte. Lot 11, Block 1536, Tract 6884.

Applicant: David Boyd  
1784 S. PCH, #729  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
Owner: Brad & Denise Farnsworth

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions and the following additional condition: 1) All previous conditions still apply.**

- h. **M-702-09**; Consideration of a Miscellaneous Application for structures exceeding the maximum allowable height within the setback adjacent to the street located at 576 Via Del Monte. Lot 20, Block 1619, Tract 6885.

Applicant: Florin Penca  
239 Calle De Madrid  
Redondo Beach, CA 90270  
Owner: Nelu Ardeljan

**Action: Approved (4-0) with standard conditions and the following additional condition: 1) All previous conditions still apply.**

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

**This portion of the agenda is reserved for comments from the public on items which are NOT on the agenda. Due to state law, no action can be taken by the Council this evening on matters presented under this section. If the Council determines action is warranted, the item may be referred to staff or placed on a future Council agenda.**

## OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

7. Preliminary Design Report for the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the City Council approve Alternative #1 for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station, and direct staff regarding the installation of the control panel.

8. Safe Routes to School Application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the City Council approve the submittal of a Safe Routes to School application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools.

## STAFF REPORTS

9. City Manager's Report

## DEMANDS

10.
  - a. Authorize Payment of Motion #1 – Payroll Warrant of March 20, 2009
  - b. Authorize Payment of Motion #2 – Warrant Register of March 24, 2009

**Recommendation:** Authorize Payment of Motions #1 and #2.

## MAYOR & CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

11. Appointment of City Council Liaisons to Committees (Mayor Perkins)

**ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL AT 8:30 A.M FOR THE PURPOSE OF A BUDGET STUDY SESSION.**

- *This City Council meeting can be viewed on Cox Cable, Channel 35, Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 7:30 p.m., and Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.*

**TO: JOSEPH HOEFGEN, CITY MANAGER**  
**FROM: JUDY SMITH, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 2009 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Issue

What is the status of the FY 2008-09 budget after eight months?

Analysis of Graphs

Total general fund (-10%) and total operating revenues (-5%) are lower than expected. While a year ago (February 2008) actual revenue performance was also less than expected (-1%), the 2009 results represent the largest deviation from expected performance with 2/3rds of the fiscal year gone.

The January and February 2009 results reflect the slowdown in the economy. We experienced declines in performance across all revenue categories, except development fees, since the January report. Development fees for both February and January are 30% below expected. While there may be slight improvement in the coming months based on the seasonal nature of this activity, we are preparing very conservative year-end estimates for this source. Club concessions are slightly ahead of projected (+3%), but it is expected we will see further reduction in this source, especially as the volume of Golf Club banquet activities decline.

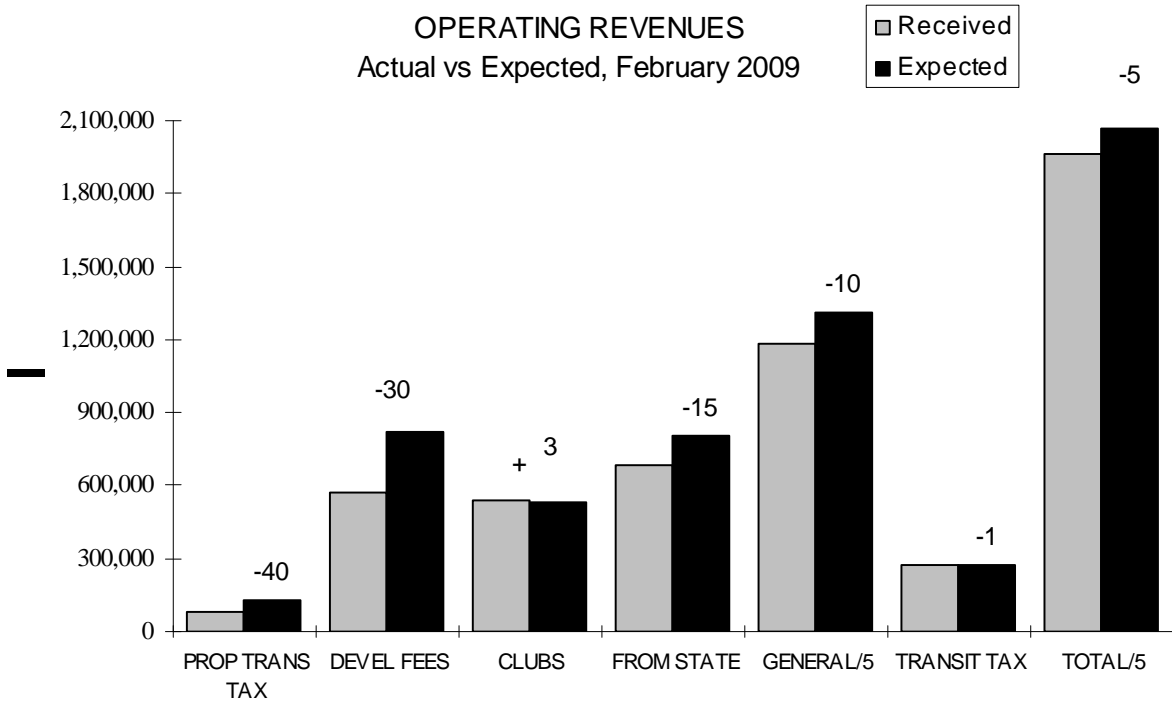
The revenue results are mitigated, to an extent, by lower than expected expenditures. All departments are below expected and total operating costs currently -5%, which is the same performance for total operating revenue. Some of the current expenditure results reflect a timing issue. We will track more closely to expected results as we incur three pay periods in May and personnel costs represent 45% of the total operating budget. There will be some savings realized through year-end due to position vacancies that have occurred during the year (e.g. Police Department). In addition, departments are aware of the current climate and are closely monitoring expenditures.

Spot Reports

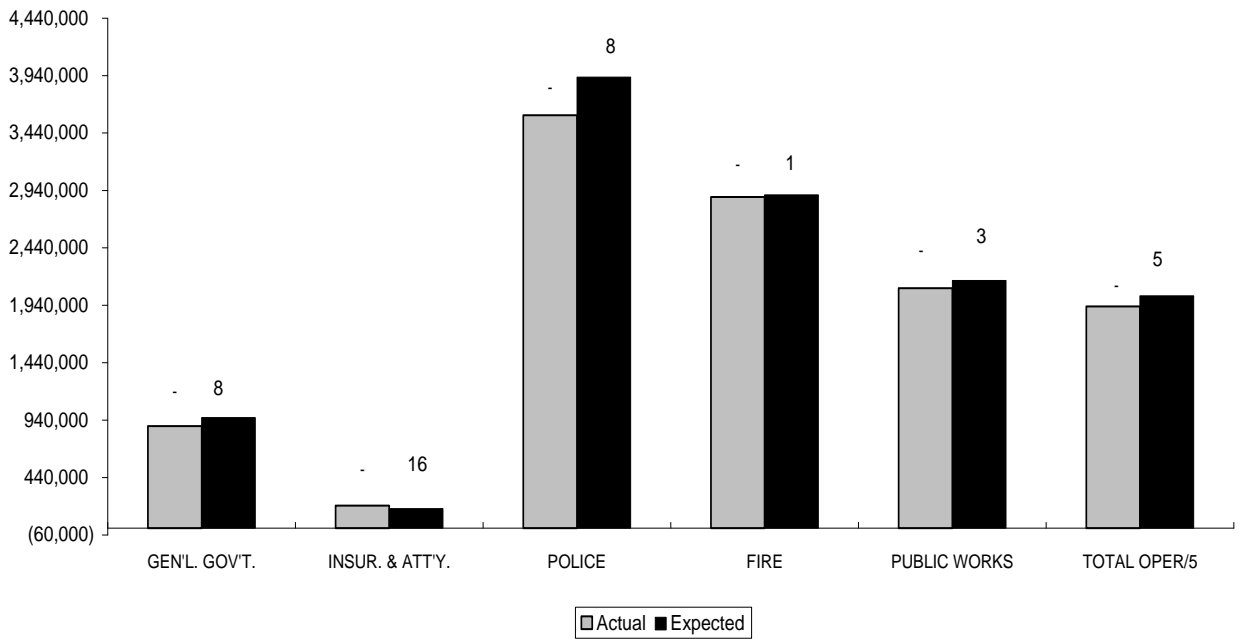
None



**OPERATING REVENUES**  
Actual vs Expected, February 2009



**OPERATING EXPENDITURES**  
Actual vs Expected, February, 2009



**TO: JOSEPH HOEFGEN, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: JUDY SMITH, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH PALOS VERDES YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER FOR USE OF GEORGE ALLEN FIELD**

The Issue

Shall the City Council approve a new, non-exclusive license agreement with Palos Verdes Youth Football and Cheer for the use of George Allen Field as a practice location for flag football and cheer teams?

Background

The City owns the “Via Zurita” site (attached), which is slightly more than 10 acres. Originally designated as a school location, the School District determined in the mid 1980’s that the site was not needed for school purposes. Title was transferred to the City through the Homes Association and part of the property was developed for use as a baseball field and in 1992 was dedicated as “George Allen Field”.

Since 1994, the City has issued a non-exclusive license agreement to Peninsula Pony-Colt League for their use of the ball field. Pony-Colt baseball also uses fields at Ernie Howlett Park in Rolling Hills Estates for league play. Since 2007 under a non-exclusive license agreement, the City has permitted Palos Verdes Youth Football and Cheer (PVYFC) use of the field as a practice location from the last week of July through the first week of September.

Analysis and Findings

The original two-year agreement between the City and PVYFC, which expired September 2008, permitted PVYFC use of the field to the extent it did not conflict with Pony-Colt baseball. To minimize potential impacts to the baseball field, the lease limited use to the outfield only and to flag football teams, which involve youth, ages 6-7. The lease explicitly prohibits all other age/skill level of football teams from using this site. A maximum of two (2) cheer teams are also permitted to practice in the outfield only. During the two years, there were no neighbor concerns about PVFYC’s use and any issues between the baseball and football leagues were addressed and resolved amicably between the two parties.

As with the original agreement, this new license permits use of the site as a practice location Monday through Friday (no weekends) for six weeks each year beginning the last week of July and ending the first week of September. Practice hours are limited from 4:00 P.M. until dusk, but in any event, no later than 8:00 P.M.

The license agreement provides for a two-year term from July 27, 2009-September 3, 2010. The lease includes a rental fee of \$450 payable to the City before the start of practice.

#### Alternatives Available to the City Council

1. Approve the agreement with PV Youth Football and Cheer as presented.
2. Decline to approve the agreement. There have been no issues or concerns during the prior two-year agreement that would necessitate any action to deny approval.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council approve a non-exclusive license agreement with Palos Verdes Youth Football and Cheer for the use of the Via Zurita property (George Allen Field) as a practice site for flag football and no more than two (2) cheer teams.

#### Budget Impact

The lease includes a rental fee of \$450 payable to the City (\$75/week). There are no other budget impacts associated with this action.

ATTACHMENT 1  
VIA ZURITA SITE - GEORGE ALLEN FIELD



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
MARCH 24, 2009

**TO: JOSEPH HOEFGEN, CITY MANAGER**  
**FROM: ALLAN RIGG, PLANNING DIRECTOR**  
**DATE: MARCH 24, 2009**  
**SUBJECT: PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS OF MARCH 17, 2009**

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The items attached were acted upon by the Planning Commission on March 17, 2009.

The Council may, within fifteen days after the date of the decision on or before the first day following the first Council meeting after the date of the Planning Commission decision, whichever occurs last:

1. Confirm the action of the Planning Commission and grant or deny the application;
2. Set the matter for public hearing and dispose of it in the same manner as on an appeal; or
3. Amend, modify, delete, or add any condition of approval which the Council finds is not substantial under the circumstances relative to or affecting the property subject to the application for a development entitlement. Any determination of the Council pursuant to this paragraph shall be conclusive and final.

In the event the Council does not take one of the actions specified above within the period of time required, the decision of the Planning Commission shall be final.

Recommendation:

Receive and file.

**TO:          JOSEPH M. HOEFGEN, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM:       ALLAN RIGG, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT:    PRELIMINARY DESIGN REPORT FOR THE PASEO DEL MAR  
              SEWAGE PUMP STATION**

**DATE:       MARCH 24, 2009**

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**The Issue**

Should the City Council approve a design alternative for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station, including selection of the control panel location?

**Background and Analysis**

The sewer system for the City of Palos Verdes Estates is comprised of a network of local sewer pipes, trunk sewer pipes, and sewage pump stations. Trunk sewer pipes and seven pump stations are owned and maintained by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District. The local sewer pipes and two pump stations are owned by the City, and are maintained by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (County). Most of these pipes and pump stations were installed during the development of Palos Verdes Estates forty to fifty years ago. They will continue to age with time, and will need to be rehabilitated or replaced before they fail.

In June, 2002, the City Council approved the Sewer Master Plan for all City-owned sewers and pump stations. The report contained a ten-year program for rehabilitation and replacements to the local sewers, as well as for the two sewage pump stations. A Sewer User Fee was subsequently adopted by the City Council to fund these projects with a revenue of approximately \$1,500,000 per year. In December, 2005, City Council adopted an updated version of the Sewer Master Plan and the rehabilitation program.

To date the City has successfully completed all sewer lining portions of the program, at a cost much less than conventional cut-and-cover costs. Various lengths of 8-inch, 10-inch, and 12-inch sewer pipe, considered in Poor or Very Poor condition in the Sewer Master Plan, were rehabilitated. The next two projects to pursue are the upgrades to the pump stations.

**Paseo Del Mar and Rocky Point Pump Stations were originally constructed by the City of Palos Verdes Estates in the early 1960's. Paseo Del Mar Pump Station is a wet well/dry well pump station at the intersection of Paseo Del Mar and Via Barri. Rocky Point Pump Station is a completely-underground wet well-dry well pump station at 225 Rocky Point Road. It has been determined that these pump stations do not meet current codes and standards in several areas. The equipment within the pump stations is out-dated and not keeping up with the current conditions and demands. We need to modify and/or replace the existing pump stations to comply with current codes and state-of-the-art systems. In particular, the stations need to have storage capacity in the event of a power or equipment failure to allow time for the County personnel to come to the site and address the problem.**

**In January, 2008, Requests for Proposals (RFP) were sent to six reputable firms for this design project. Three firms, Psomas, Hunsaker and Associates, and AKM Consulting Engineers (AKM) submitted design proposals and sealed fee proposals on February 29, 2008. The Council reviewed these proposals and awarded the contract to AKM on April 22, 2008 in the amount of \$599,060.**

**Within the contract, AKM is required to undertake four tasks for each pump station:**

- Task A. Preliminary Design Report**
- Task B. Final Design Services, Construction Plans and Specifications**
- Task C. Construction Phase and Services**
- Task D. Operations and Maintenance Manuals, and Warrantee Assistance**

**The Preliminary Design Report (PDR) has now been completed for the Paseo Del Mar Pump Station and is being submitted to the City Council for their review, approval, and direction. The intent of the PDR was to evaluate potential options for the pump station construction. Six options have been thoroughly investigated and vary on the configuration of the wells, the types of pumps utilized, and the usage of the existing pump station. The options and their costs are taken from the Executive Summary of the report and are as follows:**

- **Alternative 1-** Construct a new submersible pump station and convert the existing pump station dry well to an emergency wet well. Estimated cost \$1,515,000.
- **Alternative 2-** Construct a new dry well pump station and convert the existing pump station dry well to a wet well. Estimated cost \$2,065,000.
- **Alternative 3-** Construct a new submersible pumping facility and abandon the existing pump station. Estimated cost \$1,560,000.
- **Alternative 4-** Rehabilitate the existing pump station dry well and construct a new wet well structure. Estimated cost \$1,815,000.

- **Alternative 5-** Construct a new wet well/dry well pumping facility and abandon the existing pump station. Estimated cost \$2,010,000.
- **Alternative 6-** Convert the existing pump station dry well to a submersible pump station. Estimated cost \$1,465,000.

The alternatives predicated upon a wet well/dry well design require larger structures to be constructed, have a higher cost to implement, and provide no appreciable advantage over a submersible facility for the flow range being considered. Therefore, alternatives based upon a wet well/dry well concept have been removed from further consideration.

Of the three submersible alternatives, Alternative 3 has a higher cost, and requires a moderately sized, cast in place structure to be constructed, which would add to the construction contract duration and disruption at the site. It therefore has also been eliminated from further consideration.

Between alternatives 1 and 6, Alternative 1 is favored because it provides an entirely new facility, and also allows the existing pump station to remain in service while new construction proceeds, justifying the additional \$70,000 in cost.

It is therefore recommended that Alternative 1 be implemented for upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station.

**Staff concurs that a submersible pump system is the preferred alternative, rather than using a wet well/dry well system. Engineers from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Sewer Division also reviewed the report and concur with the submersible pump system. The County engineers indicated they are already familiar with this type of system and prefer it due to its increased reliability.**

**Staff also agrees with the analysis that Alternative #1 is preferable due to the large emergency volume capacity it will provide by converting the existing dry well into emergency overflow storage. Although the report indicates the station will have 3 hours of emergency storage during peak wet weather flow, it is unlikely the peak flow would be continuous for this amount of time, so the emergency storage period would actually be significantly longer.**

**An additional and very important decision for the Council is whether to place the electronic control panel underground. This panel is the “brain” of the pump station and is quite large – 6.5 feet high by 12.5 feet long by 1.5 feet deep. In comparison, the existing control panel is 8.5 feet high from the adjacent grade and 9 feet wide. We have created a silhouette of the proposed above ground control panel for the Council’s review. The panel could be rotated to minimize view impacts, but would require small retaining walls if rotated perpendicular to the curb.**

**Please note that staff has received complaints over the years that the existing above ground control cabinet and structure is an eyesore. To install the control panel underground, a large vault must be created at a cost of around \$190,000. By undergrounding the panel**



**there is a heightened possibility of damage to the controls due to corrosion and/or flooding. Please note that the large sewage spill in Manhattan Beach several years ago was caused by an underground control panel which was flooded.**

Staff believes the more reliable option is to install the cabinet above ground. However, the Council could determine that in the interest of aesthetics it should be installed underground.

Please note that an electric meter must be installed above ground due to Southern California Edison requirements.

Attached to this staff report are the first four sections of AKM's Preliminary Design Report, including the sections titled Executive Summary, Introduction, Existing Pump Station, and Pump Station Alternatives. The entire report is quite a bit larger and mainly contains technical data, and is available for review at City Hall for anyone who wished to see it.

### **Alternatives Available to Council**

The following alternatives are available to the City Council:

1. Approve Alternative #1 for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station and approve the installation of the control panel above ground.
2. Approve Alternative #1 for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station, and approve the installation of the control panel below ground.
3. Approve a different design alternative for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station.
4. Decline to act.

### **Recommendation from Staff**

Staff recommends that the Council approve Alternative #1 for the upgrade of the Paseo Del Mar Sewage Pump Station, and direct staff regarding the installation of the control panel.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The original Sewer Master Plan earmarked \$1,620,000 for this project. Therefore, there are sufficient funds to construct Alternative #1, although the funds would need to be formally allocated within the City's budget at a later date. In order to install the control panel below ground, sewer funds would need to be reallocated. It is likely these would be transferred from

the remaining funds which are targeted for the upgrade of six-inch diameter pipes to eight-inch pipes.

Staff report prepared by:  
Allan Rigg, Public Works Department

**TO: JOSEPH M. HOEFGEN, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: ALLAN RIGG, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR LUNADA BAY  
ELEMENTARY AND MONTEMALAGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

**DATE: MARCH 24, 2009**

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**The Issue**

Should the City Council approve the submittal of a Safe Routes to School application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools?

**Background and Analysis**

Safe Routes to School is an international movement that has taken hold in communities throughout the United States. The concept is to increase the number of children who walk or bicycle to school by funding projects that remove the barriers that currently prevent them from doing so. Those barriers include lack of infrastructure, unsafe infrastructure, lack of programs that promote walking and bicycling through education/encouragement programs aimed at children, parents, and the community.

Thirty years ago nationwide, 60% of children living within a 2-mile radius of a school walked or bicycled to school. Today, that number has dropped to less than 15%. Roughly 25% commute by school bus, and well over half are driven to/from school in vehicles. And back then, 5% of children between the ages of 6 and 11 were considered to be overweight or obese. Today, that number has climbed to 20%. These statistics point to a rise in preventable childhood diseases, worsening air quality and congestion around schools, and missed opportunities for children to grow into self reliant, independent adults.

Safe Routes to School Programs are intended to reverse these trends by funding projects that improve safety and efforts that promote walking and bicycling within a collaborative community framework. It is through local champions working with a coalition of parents, schools,

professionals in transportation, engineering, health, and law enforcement that the most sustainable projects are expected to emerge.

The California Safe Routes to School grant program is designed to improve and enhance the safety of pedestrian and bicycle facilities and related infrastructure on identified school travel routes. California Assembly Bill 1475 established the program in 1999, and the program currently provides a total of \$24.25 million annually to local governmental agencies based on a statewide competition for the construction funds. The Safe Routes to School grant program provides 90 percent financing for projects deemed of significant importance to school safety. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) administers the grants through the Local Programs office.

As the application process is complicated and significantly competitive, we engaged the services of Jack Rydell, a traffic engineering consultant who has been successful obtaining Safe Routes to Schools Funds in other cities. He has been the lead in determining appropriate projects, organizing and meeting with representatives of the schools, and preparing the application.

Representatives from the School District, Montemalaga Elementary School, and Lunada Bay Elementary School attended a kick-off meeting at our City Hall on January 30, 2009. The application process was described and ideas to improve traffic safety were discussed. One very important point is that successful applications have historically had a high degree of support from the subject school, the school district, the city, and elected officials. Although the subject city prepares the application and administers many of the projects within an approved application, the proposal really needs to come from the school to have a high chance of being approved.

Mr. Rydell met several times with representatives of both elementary schools, as well as with City staff. The application is nearly completed and is due on April 15, 2009. Some of the results of the work with school districts is attached, while some is still being reformatted for submittal with the final application. In order to proceed with the application, we need the Council to approve the scope of the application, sign a letter of support, and approve the budgeting of the ten percent match.

The scope of the application for Lunada Bay Elementary School is mostly shown on the attached exhibits and includes:

- Construction of sidewalk on the southeast corner of Via Alvarado, the east side of Via Alvarado between Via Barri and Via Sola, the west side of Via Anacapa between Tyburn Road and Via Sola, and on the south side of the Paseo Lunado median from Palos Verdes Drive West to Via Rivera.
- Construction of ADA ramps on the north corner of Via Alvarado and Via Sola and on the northwest corner of Via Anacapa and Via Sola.
- Installation of signage around the school as required by the latest requirements mandated by the State.
- Creation of two new crosswalks – one across Via Anacapa at Tyburn and one across Via Alvarado at Via Barri.

- Public outreach and education, including education, enforcement, and encouragement activities.

The scope of the application for Montemalaga Elementary School is mostly shown on the attached exhibits and includes:

- Construction of sidewalk on the west side of Via Nogales between Via Acalones and the north school boundary, the south side of Via Balboa between Via Nogales and Via Alamitos, and on the west side of Via Nogales between Via Visalia and the school driveway.
- Construction of ADA ramps on the northwest corner of Via Nogales and Via Visalia, on the southeast corner of Via Nogales and Via Balboa, and on the southwest corner of Via Nogales and Via Acalones.
- Installation of signage around the school as required by the latest requirements mandated by the State.
- Public outreach and education, including education, enforcement, and encouragement activities.

If approved by the Council, we will work to gather additional letters of support from elected officials prior to submittal.

We are aware that sidewalks and signage are not typically welcomed in our community and have worked with Mr. Rydell to minimize them as we can. With the exception of two small locations at Montemalaga, the sidewalks are located adjacent to either school or City property, and not adjacent to homes. The locations and type of signage around the schools are specifically dictated by the State and we have little latitude except to not use the optional “yellow/green” school signage, and to stick with the traditional yellow.

Please note the exhibits with signage and markings look more intimidating than they actually are as much of the work is to add the “ALL WAY” signage to existing stop signs and to add white lines in advance of cross walks.

In regards to the two new crosswalks adjacent to Lunada Bay Elementary, Mr. Rydell has indicated they are appropriate even though there is not a stop sign which would halt traffic in advance of the crosswalk. His analysis included the existence of the intersecting street, the speeds in the area, and the geometry of the street.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The Safe Routes to School grant program funds 90 percent of the total construction cost of each project. The total cost of the projects is \$325,880, \$293,285 of which is covered by the Safe Routes to School grant. The remaining \$32,595 is a local contribution required by the Safe Routes to School grant.

The \$32,595 is not currently within the City's budget. We would recommend you defer transferring this money through a budget resolution until such time as the project is approved.

### **Alternatives Available to Council**

The following alternatives are available to the City Council:

1. Approve the submittal of a Safe Routes to School application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools.
2. Approve the submittal of a Safe Routes to School application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools with modifications.
3. Decline to submit an application.

### **Recommendation from Staff**

Staff recommends that the Council approve the submittal of a Safe Routes to School application for Lunada Bay Elementary and Montemalaga Elementary Schools.

Staff report prepared by:  
Allan Rigg

Montemalaga  
Elementary School  
Sidewalk and Ramps

Construct one ADA curb ramp  
on the southwest corner of Via  
Nogales and Via Acalones

Construct approximately 150 feet  
of sidewalk on the west side of Via  
Nogales between Via Acalones  
and the north school boundary

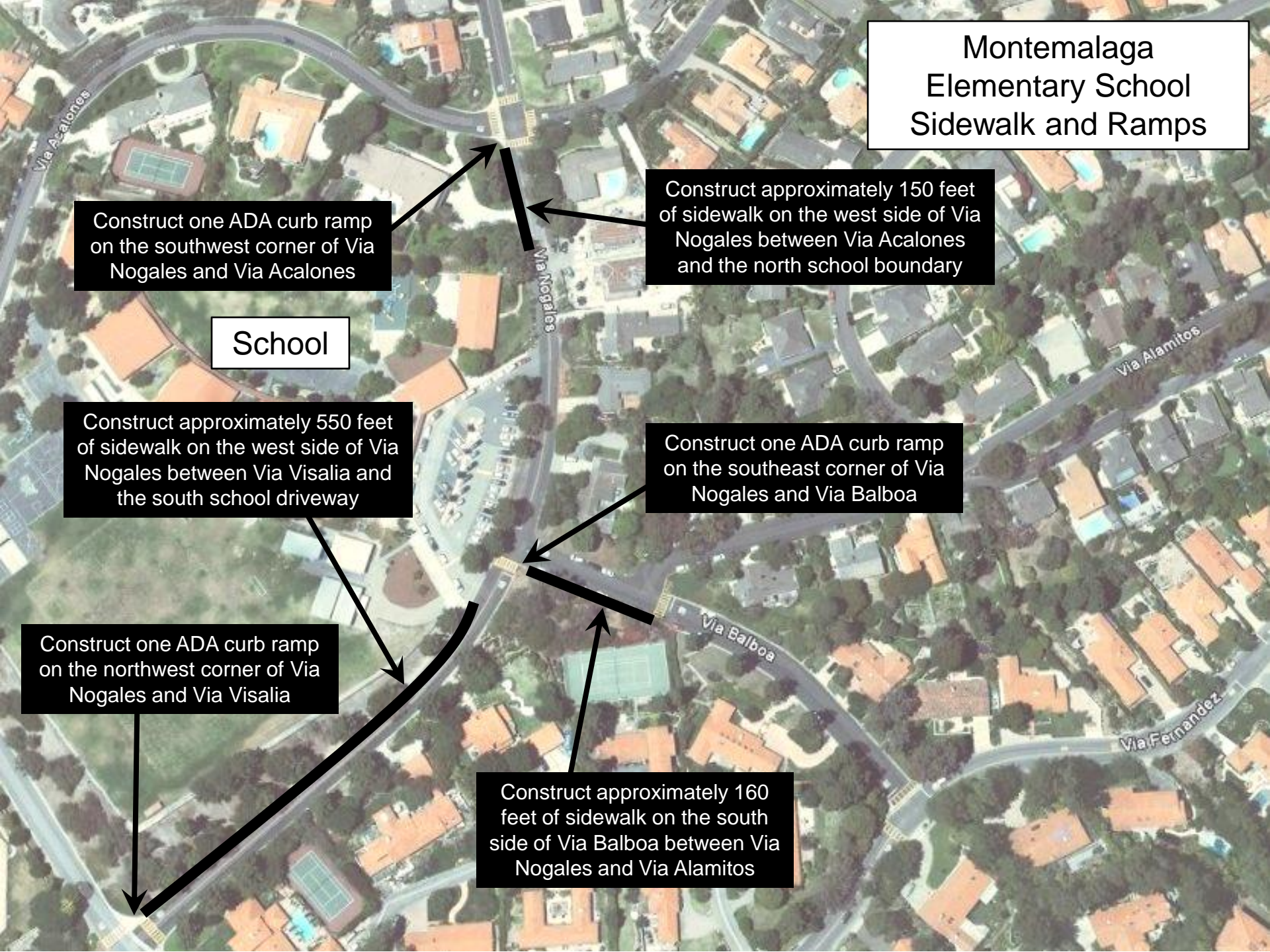
School

Construct approximately 550 feet  
of sidewalk on the west side of Via  
Nogales between Via Visalia  
and the south school driveway

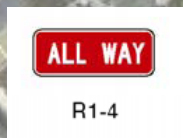
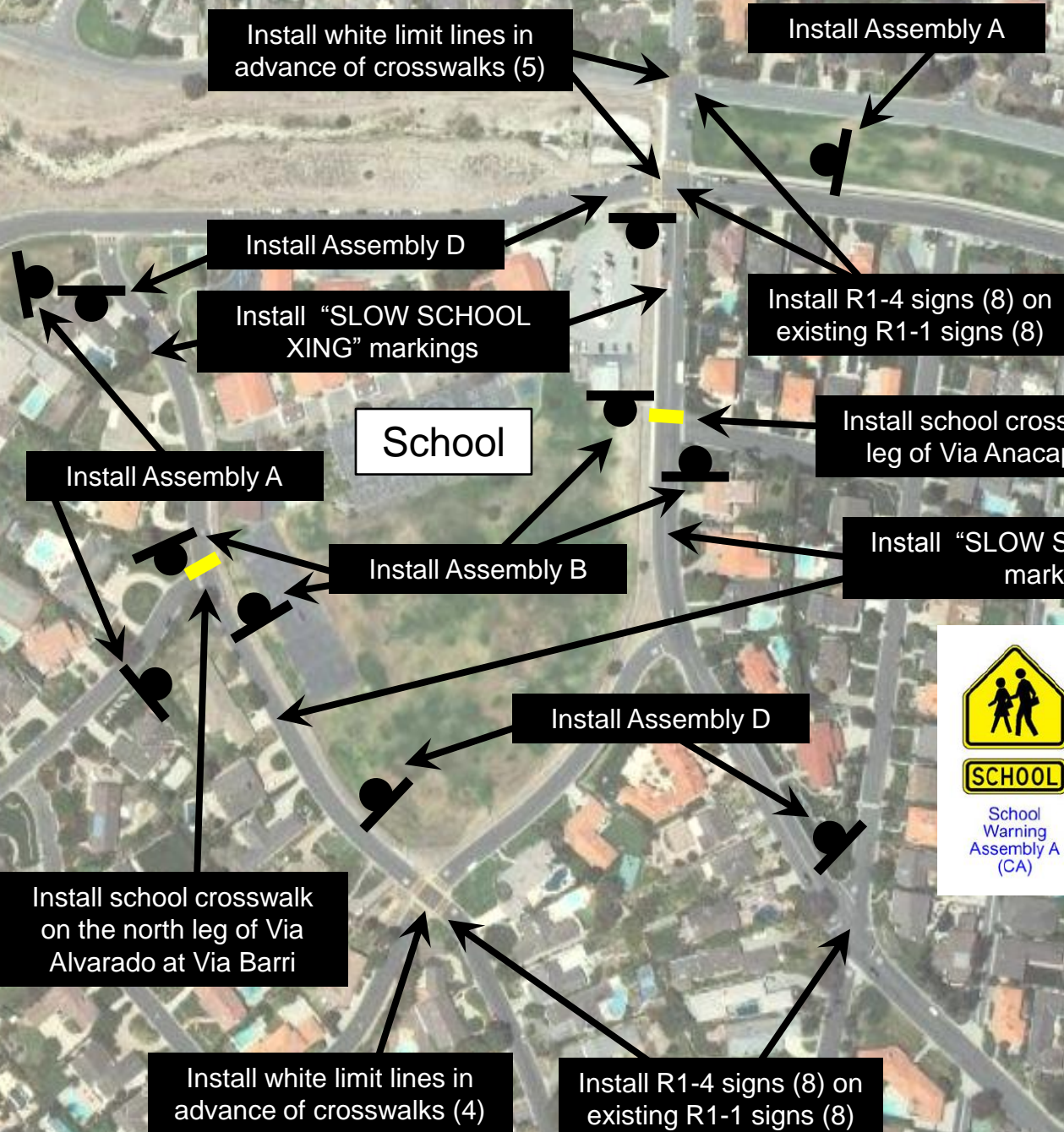
Construct one ADA curb ramp  
on the southeast corner of Via  
Nogales and Via Balboa

Construct one ADA curb ramp  
on the northwest corner of Via  
Nogales and Via Visalia

Construct approximately 160  
feet of sidewalk on the south  
side of Via Balboa between Via  
Nogales and Via Alamos



# Lunada Bay Elementary School Signage and Markings





# Lunada Bay Elementary School Sidewalk and Ramps

School

Construct approximately 190 feet of sidewalk on the southeast corner of Via Alvarado and Paseo Lunado

Construct one ADA curb ramp on the southeast corner of Via Alvarado and Paseo Lunado

Construct one ADA curb ramp on the northwest corner of Via Rivera and Paseo Lunado

Construct one ADA curb ramp on the northeast corner of Palos verdes Drive West and Paseo Lunado

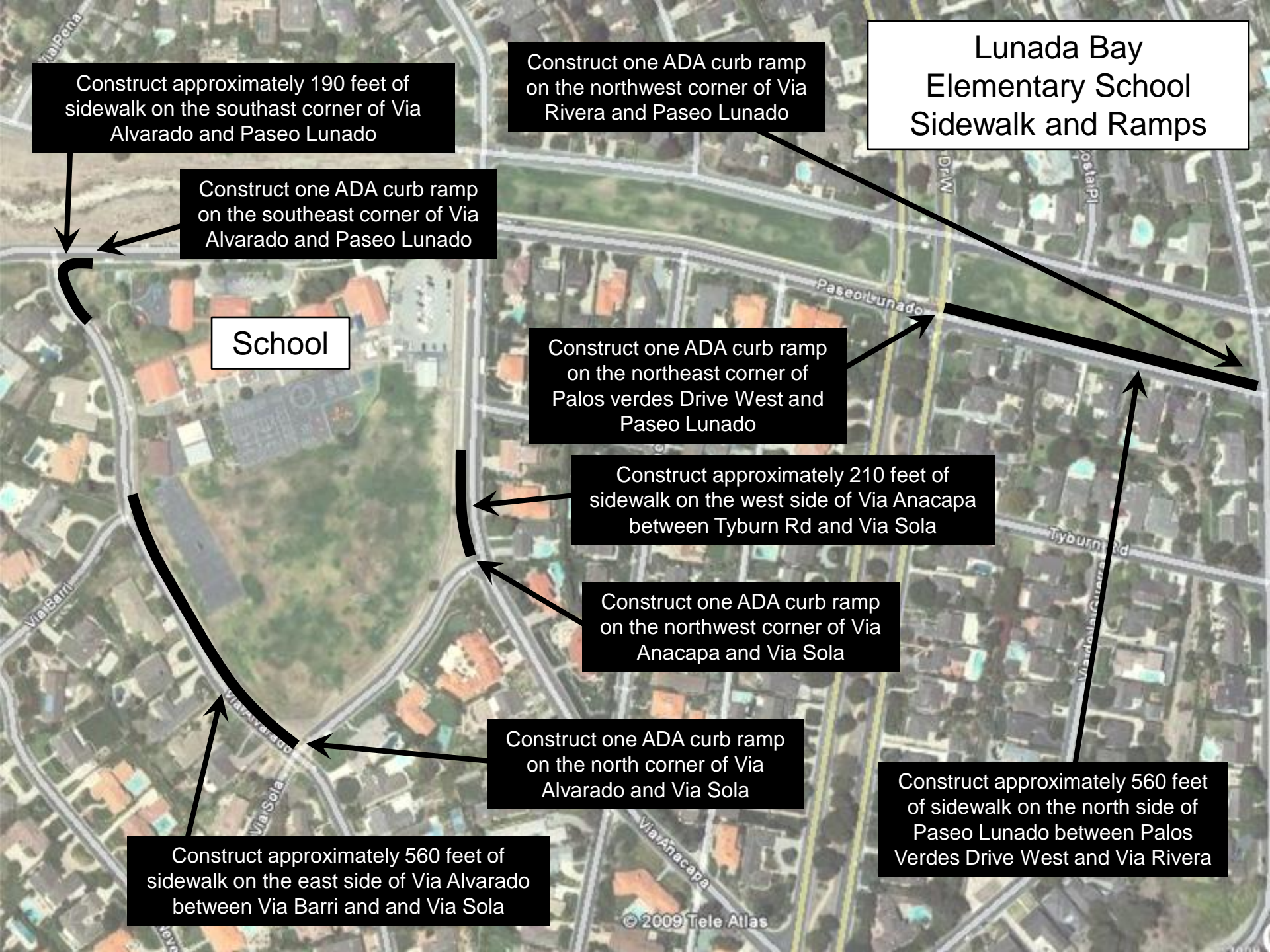
Construct approximately 210 feet of sidewalk on the west side of Via Anacapa between Tyburn Rd and Via Sola

Construct one ADA curb ramp on the northwest corner of Via Anacapa and Via Sola

Construct one ADA curb ramp on the north corner of Via Alvarado and Via Sola

Construct approximately 560 feet of sidewalk on the east side of Via Alvarado between Via Barri and Via Sola

Construct approximately 560 feet of sidewalk on the north side of Paseo Lunado between Palos Verdes Drive West and Via Rivera



# Montemalaga Elementary School Signage and Markings



Install Assembly A

Install R1-4 signs (4) on existing R1-1 signs (4)

Install white limit lines in advance of crosswalks (4)

School

Install Assembly A

Install R9-3b (L)

Install Assembly A

Install R1-4 signs (6) on existing R1-1 signs (6)

Remove existing "SCHOOL" sign

Install white limit lines in advance of crosswalks (2)

Install Assembly A

Install R1-4 signs (4) on existing R1-1 signs (4)

Install white limit lines in advance of crosswalks (4)

