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South Bay Eighth Graders Get an Early Taste of College Life



Fifteen South Bay Area eighth graders participated in the 5th Annual "A Day in the Life of a College Student," July 25 and 26. The field trip consisted of a guided tour through campus, informational workshops, and an overnight stay at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). Pictured are participating students and South Bay Workforce Investment Board staff Gloria García and Rodrigo Herrera. Photo SBWIB.

Projects Rolling Along to Rebuild Water System, Improve Boulevard

By Rob McCarthy

Residents have been excusing the dust and noise from two public works projects that will improve the water delivery system and make travel along Hawthorne Boulevard a smoother ride. The Golden State Water Project is entering its seventh week, and the water company has alerted residents along the 3.3-mile stretch of pipeline being replaced to expect noise and traffic obstructions while crews lay new water pipes through Hawthorne and Inglewood. The price tag of the project is estimated at \$4.7 million and work is expected to wrap up by Dec. 1.

Crews are installing PVC pipe, fire hydrants and other essential water equipment this summer and fall to upgrade water delivery to the two communities, according to a Golden State Water announcement. The project managers encourage any residents with concerns or questions about the construction schedule or the inconvenience to neighbors to call Golden State Water.

"Golden State Water appreciates the community's patience as it completes this important project," it said in a public announcement before the June 19 start date. "Any questions or concerns should be directed to our friendly and knowledgeable 24-hour Customer Service Center at (800) 999-4033."

The company even will make the project construction manager available to answer questions, it said. The pipeline and water system being replaced can be viewed on a map at www.gswater.com/southwest/files/2018/06/Picture1.png. The affected streets

and neighborhoods -- some which are already completed -- fall between the 105 Freeway and West 120th Street and Van Ness and South Willows Place in Hawthorne.

The Inglewood phase of the project borders Imperial, Van Ness, Crenshaw and the 105 Freeway. Construction hours are workdays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and the workday is shortened by one hour only in Hawthorne school zones, according to Golden State Water.

The digging will close lanes along the major traffic arteries and within the residential areas, too. Temporary street repairs will be made to reopen the roads as soon as the new pipe is installed. Once the pipeline work is completed, the affected streets will be repaved better than new.

"While the project is underway, local residents may notice sections of roadway that appear unfinished. Please note that this is only temporary paving while Golden State Water works to complete the project. Once completed, Golden State Water will restore the road, placing permanent asphalt on the surface," the company said.

There will be traffic tie-ups in Hawthorne and Inglewood along the dig route for another four months, the company said. Drivers and neighbors should expect minor inconveniences as crews modernize the water delivery system to the neighboring cities. "Please expect an increased level of noise and traffic during the construction period," the company said.

A slew of traffic improvements are planned this summer along Hawthorne Boulevard, too. The major artery between El Segundo

Boulevard and Imperial Avenue will get new curbs, center medians and pavement, according to a July project update. The city plans to build curbs and gutters along the boulevard, restore sidewalks and relocate sewer lines, it said. The median will be raised and handicapped ramps will be installed as part of this major roadway project.

Other improvements being made include a traffic signal at Hawthorne Boulevard and 126th Street, numerous upgrades to traffic lights on the boulevard, and an extended bike lane on Imperial. "We greatly appreciate your cooperation in observing all traffic controls and taking extra care when traveling in the construction area," Hawthorne officials said last month.

Elsewhere on Broadway Avenue, crews began median improvements in July. The work involved saw-cutting, surveying, excavating, grading and pouring median curbs. Concrete work and street widening also got underway at 126th Street and Hawthorne Boulevard, said a bulletin for Hawthorne residents.

Updates about ongoing public works and new ones are provided monthly to residents and businesses in the construction zones through the Hawthorne Boulevard Newsletter. A separate notification will be sent to adjacent residents and businesses at the beginning of each phase of construction activity. If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact the City of Hawthorne, or visit the Engineering page under Public Works Department of the City's website (www.cityofhawthorne.com).

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Weekend Forecast

Friday
Sunny
79°/67°



Saturday
Sunny
80°/67°



Sunday
Sunny
81°/69°

