



## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Council Meeting Date: July 1, 2008  
Staff Report #: 08-090

Agenda Item #: H1

### **INFORMATION ITEM: Update on the Menlo Park Municipal Water District Supplemental Emergency Water Supply Project**

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This is an information item and does not require Council action.

#### **BACKGROUND**

On December 13, 2005, the City Council approved Seminary Oaks Park as the preferred site for further study of a new water storage reservoir, and directed staff to proceed with the site analysis, preliminary design, public outreach and exploring the use of groundwater for both emergency and irrigation uses. In October 2006, Council approved an agreement with IEC (Infrastructure Engineering Corporation) to evaluate the Seminary site. IEC worked to complete the site analysis prior to conducting public outreach in order to provide accurate information on feasibility, impacts and design options. The first outreach meeting with the community surrounding Seminary Oaks Park was held on May 28, 2008.

Approximately 1,300 households were notified of the meeting, and approximately 35 residents from the area immediately adjacent to Seminary Oaks Park attended. Several residents indicated their concerns about disruption to the park during construction, impacts to property values, loss of mature trees in the park, and a desire for more information about the project and the criteria used in selecting Seminary Oaks Park as the preferred site. Staff noted their concerns, and indicated that this was the first of numerous opportunities for public input and that, prior to proceeding with design at the Seminary Oaks Park site, additional direction would be sought from Council.

Staff has instructed IEC to not proceed with any further work specific to the Seminary Site and to work only on those items relevant to the water system at large.

Staff is proposing to evaluate additional options to provide emergency water supply, and developed the following list of alternatives to the current scope of the project for further consideration:

#### **Alternatives**

1. Smaller reservoir and a well at Seminary Oaks Park site (reduce overall impact by lowering top of reservoir 4-5 feet)

2. Reservoir at different site (Burgess Park, Willow Oaks Park, etc.) with wells at other locations, including Seminary Oaks Park
3. No reservoir, use groundwater wells only at three or four separate locations with treatment facilities

Staff is in the process of developing a revised task order for the consultant to analyze these alternatives. Once the scope of the alternatives analysis is finalized, staff will present any changes to project costs to Council for consideration along with a timeline for completing the analysis.



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