Project Updates Week Ending July 18, 2026

With the acceptance of the reconstructed and relocated sewer siphon system, the General Contractor is moving onto the multi-step commissioning phase as required by the County. The commissioning requires cutover and shutdown of pumps and lift stations elsewhere in the sewer network, and will take approximately a week to complete. Sewer work must occur outside of peak use hours to mitigate service disruptions and will occur primarily during late night and early morning hours as per standard operations. Crews will begin commissioning work Sunday night and continue throughout the week. Sewer laterals supporting nearby facilities will be re-established, disconnecting from the temporary sewer system and reconnecting to the new sewer line. Once the sewer system and siphon are fully operational, crews will begin to unearth, demolish, and remove the sewer bypass.

Critical work to transition tidal flows from the culvert to the new bridges and open channel are anticipated to occur after commissioning is completed. The Contractor is expected to begin first with fish exclusion/rescue activities, followed by demolition and earthwork. Environmental monitoring, including water quality testing, will continue during work. As a reminder, marine growth and sediment are typically submerged and natural decomposition processes produce odors that can be carried by wind when marine growth and sediment are exposed to air. Temporary odors are expected to occur during culvert demolition and are expected to vary with weather and wind conditions. Odors are anticipated to decrease as activities progress and work towards completion.

As the underlying goal of this restoration project is to decommission the culvert and transition to an open earthen channel for hydraulic connectivity, the demolition of the culvert is a critical step. It is important to note that during this imminent culvert shutdown, the Lagoon will be temporarily disconnected from Alamitos Bay making the culvert demolition and the transition to the open channel waterway activation time-critical work. Crews are expected to work extended hours and during weekends to prepare for the culvert shutdown, and throughout the shutdown period, to ensure the water quality and ecological health of the Lagoon are maintained.

At east Colorado Street, topsoil for landscaping is now being placed. Within the open channel area, excess soils were offhauled for disposal. Site preparation and grading for culvert shutdown are continuing. Cranes are expected to be mobilized to support removal of sheetpiles necessary for culvert shutdown and channel opening activities. See latest photos below.

The field at Marina Vista Park is expected to reopen to the public on July 31, 2026, which marks the completion of the park's sod establishment. Construction fencing will be realigned to allow for the public use of fields, while the remainder of the work continues.



Photo: Topsoil required for planting and landscaping placement along Colorado Street.



Photo: Excess soils offhaul and site preparation for critical culvert work.



Photo: Backfill of Colorado after installation of cathodic protection system.