Project Updates Week Ending June 6, 2026

Crews continued installation of crushed aggregate base and fine graded Colorado Street bringing the areas to subgrade (see photo below). Installation of new curbs and gutters continued from Orlena Avenue to Colorado Street as pictured below. Work along Orlena continues with subgrade compaction in preparation for sidewalk pours.
Next week, crews are expected to begin sewer siphon repair work, followed by inspection, testing, and commissioning. The sewer siphon repair consists of installation of a new CIPP liner within the full run of the VCP piping, as required by the County. Successful commissioning will allow the temporary sewer system, or sewer bypass, to be removed. Work associated with this activity is expected to be completed this month.

Critical work required to establish the open channel is expected to begin in mid-June. Before tidal flows can be rerouted, there are several phased and monitored activities associated with this work including fish exclusion/rescue, final shut down of the culvert, removal of marine growth and sediment from the culvert, culvert demolition, and final grading and earthwork. Some of these activities were previously conducted in 2009 as part of the Phase 1 Colorado Lagoon Restoration, and most recently, when the diversion channel was established at Eliot Street as required for the Eliot bridge construction.

Please note, 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. 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. Temporary odors are expected to occur during these activities and are expected to vary with weather and wind conditions. Odors are anticipated to decrease as culvert demolition activities progress. Environmental monitoring at the Lagoon will continue during these activities.

In anticipation of this critical work to transition the hydraulics of the Lagoon, aerators will be deployed at the Colorado Lagoon beginning the week of June 8, to maintain dissolved oxygen levels in the lagoon. It is important to note that during the final 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.As such, crews will be working extended hours and over the weekend to reconnect the Lagoon to Marine Stadium, as soon as feasible, to ensure the water quality and ecological health of the Lagoon is maintained. The Contractor is deploying additional resources to expedite this work and minimize any nuisances associated with this activity.

Project Updates Week Ending June 6, 2026

Next week, the Contractor will begin soil offhaul and disposal of excess fill materials generated from the channel excavation process. The open channel work has been graded to extent possible until culvert demolition is completed (see photo below) allowing other areas of the channel footprint to be accessed by equipment. Following completion of soil export and disposal, site preparation for landscaping will begin. Installation of irrigation lines, followed by soil amendment, nourishment and leeching are required in anticipation of landscaping work.

Along the east end of Marina Vista Park, adjacent to the playground, irrigation upgrades were installed to connect the new and existing irrigation systems and improve the performance of the legacy system. The bulk of work has been completed with minor work wrapping up by the first week of June.Seeding/sod installation are to follow.

Sod installation is now complete at Marina Vista Park. Please note sod surface layers have sand from the nursery, contributing to the tint and discoloration that is seen in photos, and is expected to pass through with continual irrigation. Trees and shrubs have been installed at various locations east of the open channel. The field at Marina Vista Park will be open to the public in late July 2026, after the completion of the sod establishment period.



Photo above: Colorado Street bridge and street brought to subgrade



Photo above: Crews extend sidewalk and gutter construction onto Colorado Street



Photo above: Grading of open channel and preparation for soil offhaul and disposal.



Photo above: Marina Vista Park East irrigation upgrade.