

Project Updates Week Ending June 27, 2026

Sewer system inspection and testing was re-initiated last week and is expected to continue into next week as the contractor addresses one segment of piping which shows a minor air leak. The repair plan is pending County approval, along with acceptance of lab results from the ASTM D790 tests mentioned last week.

This week, crews continued with the installation of sidewalks along Colorado Street and at the Eliot Street intersection (see photo below) which is in the process of curing. Sidewalks, curb and gutter, and associated forms will continue to be placed in segments in preparation for additional sidewalk construction. The contractor also began offhauling open channel excess fill material and soils from the open channel site, and the work is expected to take two weeks. Park signs featuring wayfinding, park, and habitat and wildlife information are being installed (see photo below).

As a reminder, critical work required to establish the open channel is expected to begin shortly. 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 were deployed at the Colorado Lagoon this month. The aerators are expected to be installed the last week of June and will be activated as work begins in July 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.

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Beginning next week, 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. The Contractor is deploying additional resources to expedite this work and minimize any nuisances associated with this activity.

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: Sidewalk installed at Colorado at Eliot and curing in progress.



Photo: Park and trail signs being installed.



Photo: June 23, 2026 aerial of Marina Vista Park and Open Channel construction.