



UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER AREA WATERMASTER  
Richard C. Slade - Watermaster

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**UPDATED MEMORANDUM  
February 2023**

To: LID Applicants –  
San Fernando Valley Portion of City of Los Angeles  
Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA)

From: Richard C. Slade  
ULARA Watermaster  
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Re: Data Needs for Watermaster Review of  
Low Impact Development (LID) within  
Portions of the City of Los Angeles in the  
San Fernando Valley

The following provides the basic LID data needs for me, as the ULARA Watermaster, to review the recharge-related elements of your proposed development and/or re-development project within the boundaries of the Court-adjudicated Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA), i.e., specifically in the portion of the City of Los Angeles that lies in the San Fernando Valley. You may submit your project for review whether or not your LID stormwater infiltration system has been designed. Based on my initial review of the LID data you submit to me, I may need to request additional information from your office.

**Preliminary Watermaster Data Needs for Review**

*Please provide a line-item response with the following information in your submittals:*

- 1) Contact information, including, your name, your company name, your email address, and your telephone number.
- 2) The complete address of the property, including the zip code.
- 3) The approximate area of the property.
- 4) A summary of your proposed development and/or re-development.
- 5) A plot plan of the property, which shows the existing site developments.
- 6) A brief descriptive history of the site (for example, has it always been undeveloped or was it previously an apartment building, a service station, a commercial/industrial building, a dry cleaners, etc). Some of these latter facilities can be known as potentially contaminating activities (PCAs).
  - a. If the site has been, for example, a gas station or a dry cleaners, please also provide any Phase 1 or Phase 2 environmental reports that may have been prepared for the property in the past.



- 7) Any logs of exploratory boreholes and/or of test pits that may have been drilled and/or excavated, respectively, as part of a geotechnical investigation program at the site. Of particular interest to the Watermaster is the depth of groundwater below the site, if encountered, at the time of that exploration.
- 8) A plot plan and/or CAD-type drawing which illustrates the types of and locations for your specific proposed LID plan, including:
  - a. The areas of the property from which stormwater will be collected.
  - b. The method by which stormwater will be collected and transported to the infiltration devices.
  - c. The locations of any catch basins, bioswales, and/or infiltration structures proposed as part of your LID infiltration plan.
  - d. The proposed maximum depth of the infiltration system.
  - e. Any detailed drawings of catch basins, proposed filter systems, etc., that may have been prepared as a part of your LID infiltration system design.

**The following questions must be answered as part of your submittal:**

1. If you propose to use a dry well as part of your infiltration system, please provide borehole logs of the geotechnical borings that were drilled to: identify subsurface soils conditions; define groundwater depths (if encountered) beneath the site; provide infiltration test results that are several feet deeper than the total depth of the proposed dry well. Your engineer shall also discuss the infiltration rates and provide a professional opinion on the ability/feasibility of infiltration of the collected stormwater.
2. Is the subject property located near any potentially contaminating activities (PCAs, such as a gas station)?
3. Have you performed a search of the area surrounding the subject property on the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker Website? This website can be found at <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>. Are there any Leaking Underground Tank (LUST) Cleanup Sites or DTSC Cleanup Sites listed on or near the subject property?
4. If the property had or has a nearby or onsite PCA, then was there leakage of contaminants into the soils and/or the groundwater beneath the site? If so:
  - What are/were the contaminants?
  - What are/were their concentrations?
  - Are the contaminants still present?
  - If there is/was onsite contamination, has it been remediated, or is active remediation still occurring?
  - Are there any Phase I or II environmental site assessment reports available?
  - Are there groundwater monitoring reports available?
  - Are there any onsite groundwater monitoring wells?



- Where are the data from those groundwater monitoring wells?

### **Time Schedule for Watermaster Review**

Typically my office can review your proposed infiltration project and provide a letter response to you after receiving your entire submittal within approximately 3 to 4 weeks, depending on our workload and the number of other LID applicants needed to be reviewed by my office. This response will include the Watermaster's opinion regarding the acceptability of the possible infiltration of stormwater that is to be captured by the LID improvements that you have recommended for your project. The turnaround time estimated above will be affected by several issues, including the number of other LID projects received by our office, as these projects are handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please keep this turnaround time in mind during your project scheduling.

We appreciate your understanding of this timing. It will not be possible for us to accelerate our review process.

### **No Watermaster Costs**

There are no costs to you for Watermaster review of your LID. Further, no "paid" option exists to expedite Watermaster review of the documents you submit.

Requests for review and accompanying data submittals are preferred in digital format, via email with attachments in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). Data submittals and requests for review should be emailed to: [LID@ULARAWatermaster.com](mailto:LID@ULARAWatermaster.com) with a CC to [Slade@ULARAWatermaster.com](mailto:Slade@ULARAWatermaster.com). Paper submissions via US Postal Service will be accepted, if necessary.

Please understand that my Watermaster office is NOT a Public Counter. Please do not expect us to "stamp" and immediately approve your submittals. My email address and office email are as follows:

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