



# BAKERSFIELD

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Resident,

The City of Bakersfield (City) has received several complaints regarding the condition of the Campus Park South sump. The sump area has had limited maintenance for several years and the vegetation has become overgrown. This affects the community in several ways, including public health issues from mosquitoes, illegal camping and trespassing, and park user's limited vision of the wildlife due to overgrown vegetation.

The City Water Resources Department and the Recreation and Parks Department have created a plan to restore the sump to its 2014 condition, as shown in the pictures on the other side of this letter. To accomplish this the City will need to perform some critical cleanup tasks:

1. Remove invasive, non-native vegetation from the water area to reduce the potential for mosquitos;
2. Remove the invasive Cottonwoods that have grown in the cove area;
3. Lift the skirt of the tree and trim back the canopy of the trees that have become a haven for trespassers and illegal camping;
4. Remove the willows along the shoreline that limit the view of the sump and the wildlife.

In addition, the sump outflow will need to be cleaned to ensure water is properly cycling through and aerating the pond so it does not become stagnant and polluted.

The City reached out to a local environmental firm, Quad Knopf Inc. (QK), to evaluate the sump conditions and provide feedback on how to effectively address these key environmental issues. QK will work with City staff to implement the plan and improve the overall condition of the sump so all residents will be able to enjoy the wildlife that live in the sump, enhance the environment for wildlife and reduce the impacts of mosquitos and trespassers in the neighborhood. The City intends to perform this work prior to the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Kristina Budak, P.E.  
Water Resources Director



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