

Plans for 18-Mile Channel Link Ready

Plans and specifications for the final link of the 18-mile Dominguez channel between Avalon Boulevard and Vermont Avenue have been approved and construction bids will be opened July 24.

A contract will be awarded and work should begin in mid-August.

The final link is approximately in the mid-section of the 18-mile development and the newest section will be of stone, slant-sided construction.

Bottom widths of the channel will vary between 50, 78 and 88 feet.

SUPERVISOR Kenneth Hahn, who initiated construction of the key drainage facility, emphasized the impact of the project on the progress and growth of the Centinela Valley, Carson and adjacent areas.

"This channel has lifted Centinela Valley cities from the water onto a strong, stable, tax-based land," Hahn said.

He pointed out that more than \$500 million worth of assessed valuation in housing and industrial developments has come into being on this stable ground, more than offsetting the \$30 million cost of the entire channel.

ROUTING OF THE final link roughly parallels the San Diego Freeway, passing under the Harbor Freeway, between Avalon and Vermont.

As a young Supervisor in 1952, Hahn was present at the Leuzinger High School gymnasium in Lawndale as evacuees were brought from nearby homes which had suffered flood damage because of heavy rains.

At that time, the route of Dominguez Channel was just a swampy, watery ditch.

TO MAKE SURE that the flood of 1952 would never recur, Supervisor Hahn asked then-County Flood Control Chief H. E. Hedger to immediately begin plans for providing an effective channel in place of the ditch.

Construction was soon under way at two points, at Long Beach and at Inglewood, and during the past 12 years has proceeded to its present point while providing a step-by-step relief for nearby areas.

Stressing that Dominguez Channel is "more important than any freeway," Hahn traced the progress on the channel to its outlet in the ocean near Long Beach.

FIRST SECTION completed was between Kornblum Avenue and 120th Street in 1952. It joined an already improved drainage facility between International Airport and Kornblum (parallel to Imperial Highway).

In February, 1959, a section was finished between Denker Avenue and Vermont Avenue and 10 months later the sec-

tion between Denker and Gramercy was finished.

Two sections were done in 1961, Compton Boulevard to Redondo Beach Boulevard and Redondo Beach Boulevard to Gramercy. Then came the construction between Rosecrans and Compton Boulevard in 1962.

IN 1963, the outlet section in Long Beach between Wilmington Avenue and Henry Ford Avenue was well under construction, as were sections between Avalon Boulevard and Wilmington Avenue.

A key section in the Centinela Valley between 120th Street and Rosecrans, paralleling Crenshaw, was finished within the last two months.

SUPERVISOR Hahn pointed out that without a sound flood control program the population of Los Angeles County could have been limited to less than two million people.

"Now there are almost seven million people living in this great County on stable ground provided by a continuing program of protecting homes from flooding during rain storms," he said.

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Construction Volume High

May building volume — topped all previous May totals except for 1961 in areas served by the Los Angeles County Building and Safety Division.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace noted that a report by County Engineer John A.

Lambie includes construction figures for public schools in unincorporated areas as well as 29 cities served by the County's building and safety offices.

The 3,660 building permits for May includes permits for 1,715 new housing units. Total construction for the first five months of 1964 amounts to \$228 million, which is 7 per cent ahead of the same period a year ago, Chace said.

Tract housing during the month includes 687 new single-family dwellings valued at \$13.8 million. Lennox District, with \$3.3 million in one-family dwelling permits, led building totals, it was reported.

Garden Checklist

1. Why not pick up some Tuberous Begonias for hanging baskets in the patio area? For best showing throughout the summer be sure to feed them on a regular schedule.
2. Do not allow your roses to wither to seed pods. Instead enjoy the blooms in a cut flower arrangement in your home, and you will be pruning as you pick.
3. For less watering during the warm months, dig deep basins around shrubs and trees. Soak slowly and thoroughly. Water will be retained, and you will have less bother.
4. Remove foliage from spring bulbs (tulips, daffodils, etc.) after it has died back.
5. Enjoy the elegant beauty of Madonna Lilies by planting them now. They are planted before your other lilies, so it is wise to order them now and get them in the ground.

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The Casualty Count by Jerry Marcus



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