

City of Visalia East Side Regional Park and Groundwater Recharge Facilities

Project Update

March 6, 2023







- East Side Regional Park
 - Brief history and background
 - Concept Plan Development
 - Environmental Impact Report
- Groundwater Recharge Facilities
 - Overview
 - Status

1991 Newspaper Article:

- Groundwater Recharge
- Regional Park
- Recreational Opportunities



Page 14 · Valley Voice · June 1991

Real Estate

City Looks East For Softball And Golf Complex

The city of Visalia is exploring a number of locations away from the Plaza Park area to expand recreational opportunities here. Thwarted by lack of available land, conflict with the airport or high asking prices by land owners the city is looking at an eastern park that might duplicate what you find out at Plaza.

While the search covers a number of properties the apparent front runner is the Blain family property, almost 300 acres potentially available west of Rd 152 and east of Lovers Lane. The land with some half mile of freeway frontage has some "intriguing possibilities" says mayor Greg Collins.

With some 4 creeks passing through it the city could combine the needs for a park, softball complex, 18 hole golf course as well as ponding basin areas to help recharge the city's groundwater. In addition Collins sees the chance to restore the natural riparlan character of the area. Access to this area would be good along 198 from Lovers Lane or the 152 turnoff.

Collins says the city has been studying ways to bank water upstream of town - east of the city limits to help recharge water. He says Cal Water has an interest in such a plan as well - perhaps helping to fund the basin angle.

Owner Brain Blain says there has been only preliminary discussion with the city but the teacher turned farmer is excited about the possibilities. He says he would like to continue to farm in the area and a park is a nice buffer between subdivision and farms. The property is planted to walnuts and pecans. It also has numerous oaks. He says the large power poles are on the northwest corner at the property line.

With the controversy over power lines perhaps a less intense use for this land like a park(as opposed to homes is warranted says a city official.

Brian's father Al Blain, a real estate developer donated parkland in south Visalia in the mid 60's. Now it's one of the most popular parks in town rimmed by oak trees.

"Our family has a strong feeling for parks and

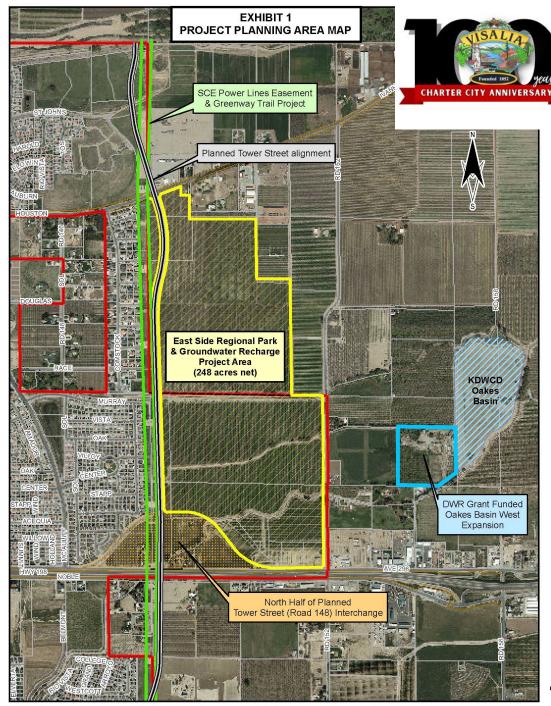


greenbelts' says Brain Blain. He says he understands the city would like to duplicate the scenic corridor on the east side of town and this park could help begin the effort.

If the question comes down to money - one city official says he believes the Blain family will be "reasonable" in negotiations - something they say they haven't found out in the west.

Project Planning Area Map

- Property Acquisition:
 - 2001 thru 2013
 - 248-Acres (Approx)
 - \$6.2M Land Costs
- Annexation Required
 - Parcel north of Mill Creek
- Tower Road Alignment
 - Property Acquired
 - SCE Transmission
- Tower Road Interchange
 - Property acquired for northerly side
- Oakes Basin Expansion



ESRP Master Plan Concept Overview

- Master Plan Design:
 - Authorized August 2013
 - Awarded in Sept 2014
- Development of Master Plan Alternatives:
 - Outreach Events
 - Stakeholder Meetings
 - Community Workshops
- Master Plan Concept B1
 - Approved by Council 2015
 - Basis of EIR
 - And Future Projects



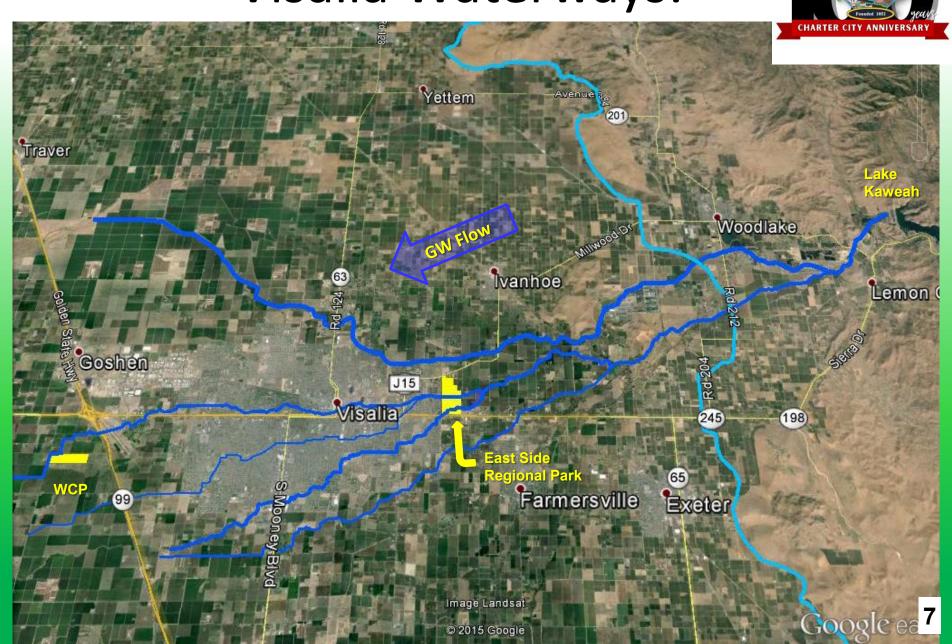


Environmental Impact Report



- EIR Status
 - Comment Period thru March 20, 2023
 - Significant Impacts
- Next Steps
 - Address public comment
 - Public Hearings (Tentative Dates)
 - Planning Commission June 12, 2023
 - City Council July 17, 2023
 - Future Amendments
 - Design Changes

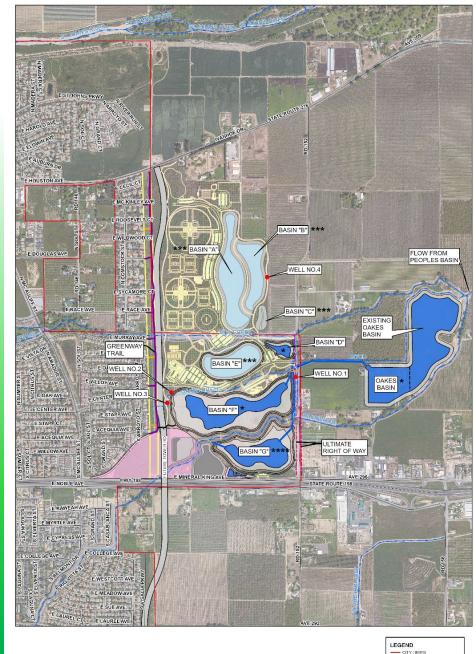
Visalia Waterways:



Recharge Basin Facilities <u>Overview</u>

- Site Map
 - Waterway Coordination
 - Park Layout
 - **Trail Network**
- Groundwater Recharge / Flood **Control Feature**
- **Total Volume Capacity (Basins** A-G)
 - 540.6 Acre-Feet (1AC-Ft = 325,900gallons)
- **Tulare Irrigation District**
 - Water Exchange





EAST SIDE REGIONAL PARK

RECHARGE BASINS

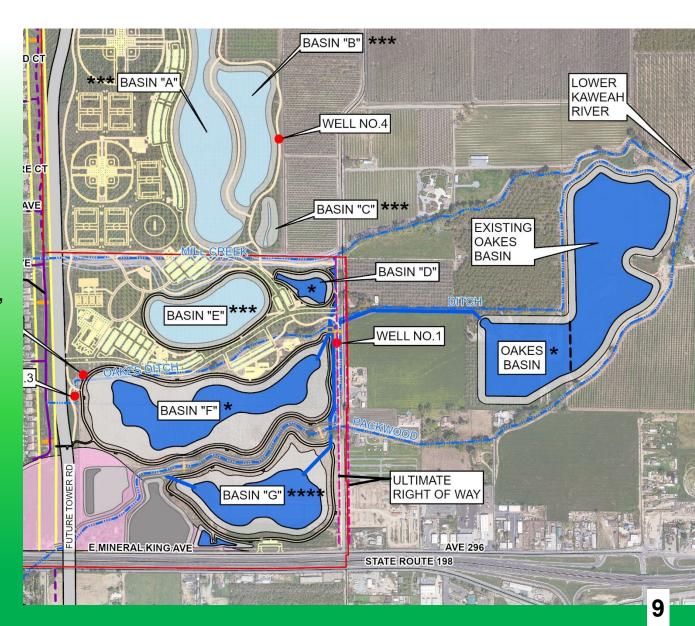
LOCATION MAP





Active Recharge Basin Projects:

- Basin G (CP0185)
 - Under Construction
- Basin F (CP0371)
 - Design being completed
 - "Shovel-Ready"
- Basin D (CP0396)
 - Started design





Questions?