



CITY OF LOMITA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lomita Corrects Errors in Hi-Shear Letter

CITY OF LOMITA, CA, September 13, 2019 – A letter that the Hi-Shear Corporation recently mailed to Lomita residents included inaccurate information about the City’s drinking water and the investigation into pollution possibly spreading here from the City of Torrance Airport site. The City of Lomita is issuing corrections to provide factual information about Lomita water and the investigation.

“We as a City are committed to ensuring our residents receive thorough and accurate information about their water, so we feel it is our duty to correct errors in communications that are sent to our residents,” said City Manager Ryan Smoot. “We recognize and appreciate Hi-Shear’s efforts to keep our residents informed, but we believe our residents need clear and factual information regarding such an important issue.”

In the letter, the company stated that drinking water for Lomita is provided by Torrance Municipal Water. With the exception of a small portion of the City served by a private water company, Lomita’s drinking water is supplied by the City of Lomita and the current source for that water is from the Metropolitan Water District.

The letter from Hi-Shear also states, “the sooner the City of Lomita gives us the permits, the sooner we can commence work.” While true, the City cannot issue the permits until Hi-Shear submits its plans for the drilling and traffic management, and signs the access agreement with Hi-Shear that the City approved on August 20. The agreement streamlines the permitting process and includes important protections for the taxpayers and residents of the City of Lomita.

“We’ve heard verbal assurances from Hi-Shear that they are committed to working together on this issue, so we’re looking forward to receiving the signed agreement from Hi-Shear in the very near future and moving forward with the investigation,” City Manager Smoot said.

In the future, City staff has asked Hi-Shear to share communications that are to be sent to our residents before they are released so that errors are avoided and accurate information is sent.

“Hi-Shear has agreed to collaborate more closely with the City of Lomita moving forward to ensure only accurate and consistent information is distributed,” City Manager Smoot said.

For the most current, factual information about the City’s drinking water, Lomita residents should visit www.LomitaWater.com. Information specifically about the Hi-Shear site investigation is available at www.lomita.com/cityhall/hishear.cfm.

About the City of Lomita

Located in the South Bay area of LA County and near the Pacific Ocean, over 20,000 Lomita residents enjoy a quiet lifestyle featuring friendly neighbors, access to services and burgeoning social scene. As a family-friendly community, the City of Lomita strives to creatively and consistently provide excellent public service and employee performance, with the intent to enrich the quality of life for every citizen, worker and business owner. The mission of the City of Lomita is to provide a healthy, safe and friendly small-town community where everyone can successfully live, work and play.

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