



## **Project Update: Granular Activated Carbon Filtration System**

*City Awards RC Foster Corporation; Preliminary Construction Activities Begin*

After listening to residents' concerns regarding Lomita's drinking water, the City of Lomita approved a series of upgrades to its water system specifically designed to improve the taste and odor of water distributed throughout the City.

After much consideration and discussion over the project, the City Council voted unanimously in January 2021 to award RC Foster Corporation the contract to construct a new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system at the Cypress Water Production Facility, advancing efforts to remove benzene, allow the City to return to its primary water sources and reduce costs to residents. Preliminary construction activities began in February 2021, and the project is expected to come online in spring 2022.



*The City of Lomita has awarded RC Foster Corporation with the contract to construct its new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system, which will involve GAC vessels (similar to those shown above) being constructed at the Cypress Water Production Facility. Photo courtesy of Valley County Water District.*



The project involves the addition of GAC filtration vessels at the Cypress Water Production Facility that will filter out certain natural organic materials that contribute to the earthy odor that some residents may have noticed in the past. The upgrades will improve the aesthetic qualities of groundwater produced at the facility and also remove benzene that was detected at the site in 2019.

The City has secured approval from the State Department of Drinking Water for the upgrades, and the Water Replenishment District (WRD) has authorized the use of up to \$2,000,000 in grant funds for the project from its Safe Drinking Water Program - a program to assist local agencies in increasing their ability to produce water locally and improve drought resilience.

Preliminary construction activities began in February 2021 in preparation for the upgrades, and the project is expected to come online in spring 2022. The City of Lomita will be sharing regular updates on [www.LomitaWater.com](http://www.LomitaWater.com) regarding GAC project construction activities along with other water quality information and water system news.

The City is committed to sharing information and helping community members understand where their water comes from. Residents are encouraged to visit [www.LomitaWater.com](http://www.LomitaWater.com) to find all the latest water-related information and sign up for Lomita Water News Alerts.

