



CITY OF LOMITA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Carla Dillon, Public  
Works Director  
PHONE: 310.325.7110 ext. 124  
EMAIL: [c.dillon@lomitacity.com](mailto:c.dillon@lomitacity.com)

## **Lomita Residents Participate in Public Information Open House on Environmental Investigation by Hi-Shear**

**CITY OF LOMITA, CA**, January 2, 2020 – On Thursday, December 5, 2019 approximately 50 Lomita residents attended a Public Information Open House hosted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) to learn about the ongoing environmental investigation being conducted by the Hi-Shear Corporation (Hi-Shear).

The event, held from 6-8 p.m. at the Lomita Library Don Knabe Community Meeting Room, provided members of the public the opportunity to get information and ask questions about the investigation of soil, soil vapor, and groundwater being conducted by Hi-Shear under the oversight of the Los Angeles Water Board. The Los Angeles Water Board protects surface water and groundwater quality and directs investigation and remediation of sites where soil and groundwater have been contaminated.

Participants enjoyed the self-paced open house format, which allowed them to interact with representatives from the Los Angeles Water Board, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the City of Lomita.

"I think what the City is doing here is really good," said Lomita resident Laurie Hurd. "I'm more able to understand what's going on in my community because of the City's transparency. Overall, I learned a lot."

As attendees viewed the Los Angeles Water Board poster boards and spoke with staff, they were provided with information about the ongoing environmental investigation being conducted by Hi-Shear. Clean up efforts at the site, where Hi-Shear has manufactured fasteners for the aerospace industry since 1954, have been ongoing since 1991 and the site and surrounding

areas are being monitored for soil, soil vapor, and groundwater contamination. Based on results of the previous groundwater and soil vapor data, the current investigation by Hi-Shear involves the installation of additional groundwater wells and soil vapor probes at the Hi-Shear site, in the City of Torrance, and within the City of Lomita.

Members of the Lomita City Council, City Manager Ryan Smoot and Public Works Director Carla Dillon participated in the open house to answer residents' questions and share information about how the City is responding to the investigation.

"The City is focused on protecting our residents and ensuring they have all the information they need throughout this investigation," City Manager Smoot said. "We are doing everything we can to ensure a thorough investigation is completed as quickly as possible."

As the investigation progresses, Lomita residents in the area under investigation will continue to receive updates via mail and email from the Los Angeles Water Board directly. They can also continue to visit the City's website for the latest updates and information. Hi-Shear anticipates completing the soil vapor probe and well installations by the first quarter of 2020. Following completion of this phase of the investigation, the Los Angeles Water Board plans to schedule another public meeting to share the results of the investigation and next steps.

For additional City of Lomita news and resources related to the environmental investigation, please visit <http://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.

###