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Opinion

 **UNDER THE DOME** *City Hall Politics*

Lock factory site bugs getting a stir fry

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Vegetable oil will be injected into the ground at the site of a former lock factory in Visitacion Valley during the coming month as the land is prepared for redevelopment.

The Schlage Lock Factory shuttered in 1999 and was recently demolished. The site is now at the heart of a planned 46-acre redevelopment project that could eventually become home to a community of 6,000 residents.

Efforts to remove groundwater contamination from the [polluted site](#) began earlier this year.

A fresh round of groundwater treatment is scheduled to begin Aug. 16, according to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

The scheduled treatment involves the injection of edible vegetable oil laced with sodium lactate into the soil.

The oil provides food to help bacteria flourish, which breaks down volatile organic compounds into harmless substances, according to a work notice the department recently sent to neighbors.

“About 10 to 20 injections will be done per day,” the work notice states. “A total of about 310 injections will be completed within a one month period.”

Workers will wear safety gear, operate heavy equipment and toil from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. on week days.

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