2020 LA River Master Plan

DRAFT Program Environmental Impact Report

SCH# 2020070128

Appendices Volume I

Prepared for:

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Prepared by:

ICF

February 2021

Appendix A

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Comments

Appendix A.1

Notice of Preparation

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Date: July 7, 2020

To: California Office of Planning and Research, Responsible and Trustee Agencies and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting for a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Project: 2020 LA River Master Plan

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles

Review Period: July 7, 2020, through August 6, 2020

The County of Los Angeles (County), through the Department of Public Works (Public Works), is the Lead Agency and will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project) identified in this notice. The Project description, location, and the probable environmental effects are discussed below. An Initial Study was not prepared since the County determined that a PEIR would be necessary.

We need to know the views of you or your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project. This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of a PEIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan.

Public and Public Agency Comments

Public Works is soliciting the views of interested persons and agencies as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be evaluated in the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR. In accordance with CEQA, agencies are requested to review the Project description in this NOP and provide their comments on environmental issues related to the statutory responsibilities of the agency. The PEIR will be used by the County's governing Board — the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors — when considering approval of the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan as well as any related discretionary actions.

Due to the time limits mandated by state law, all comments on the NOP are due no later than 30 days after receipt of this notice which will be 5:00 pm on August 6, 2020. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below.

Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments.

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
833-993-1739
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Scoping Meeting

Due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20, an online scoping meeting will be held for this Project. One online scoping meeting will be held to receive comments from the public and other interested parties regarding the scope and content of the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR. The scoping meeting will include a brief presentation providing an overview of the proposed Project and the CEQA process. After the presentation, a Q&A session will be held followed by submission of oral comments by previously registered commenters. Written comment forms will be supplied for those who wish to submit comments in writing at the scoping meeting. The scoping meeting will be held as follows:

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020
TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Visit http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Project Location and Background

The proposed Project is located along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans through 17 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County (18 total jurisdictions). The river encompasses an 834-square-mile watershed and flows from its headwaters at river mile 51 in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles to river mile zero at Long Beach, where the river meets the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). The LA River was channelized between the late 19th and mid-20th centuries to protect lives and property from flooding as the LA region rapidly grew and transformed to a largely urbanized area. Today, 1 million people live within 1 mile of the river.

1996 LA River Master Plan

In 1996, Los Angeles County approved the first LA River Master Plan, which expanded the originally single-purpose flood control efforts on the river to a multi-benefit community amenity that reflects aesthetic, environmental, economic, and recreational values of residents. The 1996 Master Plan identified ways to revitalize public rights-of-way along the LA River while ensuring the continued primary purpose as a flood risk reduction facility. The 1996 Master Plan was a first step in developing an inclusive vision of shared open spaces and parks, stewardship of water resources, and safety from hazardous floods.

Proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan
The LA River Master Plan Update process began in 2018 and involved numerous stakeholders. The update process has been led by Public Works and supported by several other Los Angeles County departments as well as a 41-member steering committee representing agencies, non-profit organizations, and other governmental and non-governmental entities providing input and technical expertise related to the Project's three integrated themes: water, people, and the environment. The update process also included numerous opportunities for public engagement and input on the future of the river. The Project themes of water, people, and the environment captured the 1996 Master Plan key issues, as well as other regional planning studies, and recognized that infrastructure planning cannot be isolated from equally important social and environmental needs. The Project website provides more detailed information on the proposed Project and the extensive public outreach conducted to date: http://www.larivermasterplan.org/.

2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives
The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve 51 miles of connected open space along the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management. The 2020 LA River Master Plan has the following nine objectives:

1. Reduce flood risk and improve resiliency.
2. Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
3. Support healthy connected ecosystems.
4. Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.
5. Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture.
6. Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness.
7. Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development, and education.
8. Improve local water supply reliability.
9. Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

The aim of the 2020 LA River Master Plan objective number 6, "Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness," is to maintain strategies for ensuring continuing housing affordability in LA River adjacent communities. Therefore, the use of "impacts" in this objective is distinct from the use of "impacts" under CEQA where, per CEQA Guidelines Section 15358 (b), impacts analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change in the environment.

Proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan Elements
To achieve multiple objectives at potential sites along the LA River, the 2020 LA River Master Plan proposes six elements, or "Kit of Parts" categories:

1. Trails, Access Gateways, and Shelters
2. Channel Modifications
3. Crossings and Platforms
4. Diversions
5. Floodplain Reclamation
6. Off Channel Land Assets

Under each of these "Kit of Parts" categories, multiple components — including benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing — are being proposed to serve as a menu of options to provide multiple benefits at any given potential location along the LA River. Future projects/actions proposed under the 2020 LA River Master Plan would range from extra-small (XS) (1-acre or less) to extra-large (XL) (150+ acre/10+ miles) and would include implementation of these design components individually or in combination as multi-benefit projects in the future. The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan also includes Design Guidelines for all projects/actions to be implemented to present a unified identity while promoting best practices and resiliency for the LA River corridor.

Program-Level Analysis, Tiering, and Later Activities

At the time of preparation of the PEIR, design information for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is at a conceptual level; therefore, the environmental impacts analysis will be presented at a program level and will not include site-specific locations of any of the "Kit of Parts." In addition, at this stage, informed assumptions regarding construction and operations scenarios can be reasonably made for only select design components. Accordingly, the environmental impacts analysis for these design components will be presented in detail as analysis of "typical projects" in the PEIR while the remaining design components will be analyzed qualitatively at a high-level in the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR.

It is anticipated that the County or other agencies may use the PEIR in considering subsequent discretionary actions. The PEIR will serve as the first-tier analysis for later, more detailed project-specific and site-specific environmental reviews. When later activities are proposed after the PEIR is certified and the 2020 LA River Master Plan is approved, a determination will be made at that time by the agency: a) whether the activity is covered "within the scope" of the PEIR; and b) if new or worsened significant effects not previously examined in the PEIR could occur. Factors that an agency may consider in making the determination of being within the scope of the PEIR could include the geographic area analyzed in the PEIR, consistency of the later activity with the type of allowable land use, overall planned density and building intensity, and covered infrastructure described in the PEIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168[c][2]).

If an agency determines that a later activity is covered in the scope of the PEIR and new or substantially more severe significant impacts would not occur, no further environmental documentation would be required. If new or more severe impacts beyond those disclosed in the PEIR could occur, the agency would prepare the appropriate level of subsequent CEQA documentation needed (e.g., mitigated negative declaration, or a site-specific supplemental or subsequent EIR) and the subsequent CEQA review would focus solely

on new or substantially more severe significant effects that were not considered in the original PEIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168[d][2]).

Alternatives to the Proposed Project
Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15126.6(e), Public Works anticipates that the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR will include a No-Project Alternative and one or more feasible "build" alternatives to the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. These alternatives will be refined and screened based on agency and public input and based on their ability to reduce or avoid significant environmental impacts identified for the proposed Project.

Schedule
Public Works expects to circulate the Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR for public review in summer 2020 and recommend for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to certify the Final PEIR and adopt the 2020 LA River Master Plan by the end of 2020.

2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects
The purpose of the PEIR will be to disclose the environmental impacts of the proposed Project, which is the 2020 LA River Master Plan. Potential environmental effects to be examined in the PEIR are those related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology/soils, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, hazards & hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use/planning, mineral resources, noise, population/housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities/service systems, and wildfire. Cumulative impacts, alternatives to the Project, and growth-inducing impacts will also be analyzed. Agriculture and forestry resources will not be analyzed in the PEIR because these resources are not present in the study area.

Where feasible, detailed impacts resulting from both short-term construction and long-term operation of elements of the 2020 LA River Master Plan will be identified in the PEIR; all elements will be analyzed at a program level, and some impacts will be identified qualitatively. A brief discussion of the anticipated environmental impacts and environmental topics that will be examined in the PEIR is presented below. Feasible mitigation measures also will be identified in the PEIR to minimize the Project's significant impacts. (CEQA Guidelines 15126.4(a))

Aesthetics
The PEIR will describe the existing visual character of the proposed Project study area and surrounding areas, and it will identify key visual resources and scenic views. The LA River transverses a variety of communities, each with its own unique visual character on the riverfront. The river corridor is a highly urbanized area of the Los Angeles Basin, spanning through from the San Fernando Valley and eastern Los Angeles County, through Central Los Angeles, and ending at Long Beach on the Pacific coast. Except for Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, and Glendale Narrows, few intact natural communities of the river corridor remain within or adjacent to the river. The probable impacts of the Project include substantial adverse effects on key visual resources and scenic vistas, potential conflicts with applicable zoning, and the potential to create new sources of

substantial light or glare affecting day or nighttime views. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Air Quality
The PEIR will describe the existing air quality conditions in the South Coast Air Basin and will evaluate the impacts of the proposed Project in accordance with current South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) CEQA Guidelines. The probable air quality impacts of the Project include the potential to conflict with the air quality plan, potential to cause cumulatively considerable net increase in a criteria pollutant for which the Project region is a nonattainment area, potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, and the potential to result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Biological Resources
The PEIR will describe the existing biological resources in the river corridor across the County and 17 cities, discuss the impacts of the proposed Project on biological resources (plants, wildlife, and waters), and identify any conflicts with applicable local policies and ordinances protecting biological resources, such as impacts on protected or heritage trees. Specifically, the probable biological resources impacts of the Project include the potential to have a substantial adverse effect on either any candidate, sensitive, or special-status species or riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in State, Federal, local, or regional plans, policies, or regulations. Other probable impacts could include a substantial adverse effect on State or Federally protected wetlands through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means; substantial interference with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Additionally, probable impacts related to conflicts with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan could occur. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Cultural Resources
The cultural resources (archaeology and built environment) analysis in the PEIR would analyze the potential impacts of the 2020 LA River Master Plan, including establishing a process for future cultural resources identification and analysis at the project level, once project-specific locations are known, to ensure compliance with CEQA. The PEIR will describe steps to establish the locations of known cultural resources; recommend research and documentation steps needed to determine significance of resources in specific locations; and establish procedures for addressing local requirements. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Energy
The PEIR will include an analysis of energy consumption and consistency of the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan with State and local plans for renewable energy and energy efficiency. Potential energy impacts include the potential to waste energy from inefficient

or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during Project construction or operation. Additionally, potential impacts could include the potential to conflict or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. The PEIR will analyze the Project's estimated consumption of energy resources, where feasible, during construction and operation, and would evaluate its consistency with State and local plans for renewable energy and energy efficiency. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Geology/Soils
The PEIR will describe the geologic and soil impacts that may affect the Project design, including seismicity, landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, and potential for expansive soils as well as paleontological resources. The PEIR will determine whether paleontologically sensitive geologic units are within the study area and will analyze the potential impacts on paleontological resources. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions
The construction and operational GHG emissions in the proposed Project vicinity related to implementation of typical projects under the proposed Project will be quantified. Potential impacts related to climate change will be addressed consistent with the SCAQMD's current guidance. The proposed Project's consistency with the County of Los Angeles Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) will also be discussed. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Hazards & Hazardous Materials
The PEIR will describe the existing conditions on and adjacent to the proposed Project study area within the County and 17 cities — including the potential for existing soil or groundwater contamination in the Project study area — and will identify hazardous impacts from both construction and operations, where feasible. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment thought the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Hydrology/Water Quality
The PEIR will analyze the differences between the existing conditions and the future conditions with respect to Hydrology and Water Quality. The analysis will take into consideration pollutant sources, changes in the impervious surfaces (increase or decrease), application of stormwater infrastructure (number of stormwater and dry weather runoff best management practices (BMPs), new technologies, effectiveness), and discharges into impaired waters. Specifically, the PEIR will evaluate the Project's potential to violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements that the Project could potentially degrade pertaining to surface or groundwater quality standards. Potential impacts also include the potential to substantially decrease groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze existing drainage patterns of the Project area and assess whether the Project will result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site, substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff that would result in flooding, create or contribute runoff water

which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems, or impede or redirect flood flows. The PEIR will analyze the risk from releasing pollutants in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones due to Project inundation as well as the Project's potential to conflict or obstruct a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Land Use/Planning
A variety of land uses occurs adjacent to the LA River in the County and within each of the 17 cities. The PEIR will evaluate the compatibility of the proposed Project with neighboring areas within the 18 jurisdictions, change to or displacement of existing uses, compliance with zoning regulations, and consistency of the project with relevant local land use policies that have been adopted in land use documents in the County and 17 cities. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to physically divide an established community or cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Mineral Resources
The PEIR will use the California Geologic Survey's guidelines and will consult the areas known as Mineral Resource Zones to determine if the proposed Project lies within a zone(s) that contains mineral resources across the 18 jurisdictions. The PEIR will describe any identified zones and summarize the relevant information from the state mandated Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 as part of the proposed Project's regulatory setting in relation to Mineral Resources. In addition, for the County and 17 local jurisdictions in the study area, applicable general plans, municipal codes, and any other specific or land use plan will be reviewed to determine if they delineate any locally important mineral resources within the study area. The PEIR will assess whether the Project will result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and residents of the State as well as the potential to lose the availability of locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Noise
The PEIR will identify sensitive noise receptors and sources of noise and vibration in the Project area and will analyze short-term construction and long-term operational noise and vibration impacts, where feasible. The construction analysis will use established modeling methodology (e.g., the Federal Highway Administration Roadway Construction Noise Model and the Federal Transit Administration Noise and Vibration Manual), along with typical construction equipment information. Operations noise analysis will use modeling software, such as the most recent version of SoundPLAN, to identify potential distances at which inclusion of these actions could affect nearby noise sensitive receptors. The analysis will provide generalized distances at which noise from specific construction equipment would attenuate to below any thresholds of significance. The PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to generate substantial temporary or permanent

increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to generate excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Population/Housing
The EIR will address the proposed Project's potential for inducing population growth and displacing people and housing within the County and 17 incorporated jurisdictions. Analysis of population and housing along the 51-mile-long river will assess the differences between forecasts based on existing general plans of the County and 17 cities and regional growth projections. Specifically, the PEIR will assess whether the Project would induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure). Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Public Services
The PEIR will determine, at a program-level, if the improved access and anticipated increase in visitors in the Project area would result in impacts on Public Services — including fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, and other public facilities — by considering response times and increased demands, as applicable. The PEIR will assess available information on the current demand for public services against any new demand that is created by Project improvements. In addition, emergency access impacts during construction and operations would be analyzed. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Recreation
The PEIR will address the proposed Project's potential impact on notable recreation areas; regional, neighborhood, and local parks; trails; and other local recreational facilities and uses — such as water recreation and equestrian uses — within and near the study area across the 18 jurisdictions. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project includes recreational facilities or would require the construction or expansion of recreation facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Transportation
A transportation impact analysis will be prepared for the PEIR to describe the existing local and regional transportation network and to evaluate the proposed Project's construction- and operations-related traffic impacts, where feasible, for vehicular, transit, bike, and pedestrian circulation. The PEIR will analyze whether the Project will conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system. The

transportation analysis for the PEIR will be conducted using a uniform approach based on the draft County transportation assessment guidelines, including application of the project screening criteria and the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) thresholds. Senate Bill (SB) 743, which replaces vehicle level of service (LOS) as the CEQA metric of significance with VMT, goes into full effect on July 1, 2020. The County has developed a draft update to the Transportation Section of the County CEQA Thresholds Guide that includes a comprehensive methodological approach to the assessment of transportation impacts, including VMT-based thresholds of significance and a process to screen out projects which will not require VMT analysis (due to their size, location, or other factors). These draft guidelines and thresholds are expected to be adopted by the LA County Board of Supervisors in June 2020, ahead of both the SB 743 implementation deadline and the anticipated publication of the draft PEIR in late summer 2020. The draft County VMT threshold is 16.8 percent below existing VMT per capita, which is more conservative than the threshold recommended by the California Office of Planning and Research or that adopted by the City of Los Angeles, both of which are set at 15 percent below existing. Considering the approach of the PEIR, including the absence of any specific sites or projects under the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan to be analyzed in the PEIR, the County has determined that its uniform set of VMT guidelines will best serve the transportation analysis for the PEIR considering the 17 cities in the study area are in various stages of transitioning from LOS to VMT. Accordingly, the PEIR transportation analysis approach will use the County transportation assessment guidelines, including the project screening criteria and the VMT thresholds. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Tribal Cultural Resources

In accordance with Assembly Bill 52 (Govt. Code Section 65352.4), the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and any tribes it identifies will be contacted and consulted about the presence of traditional lands or cultural places in the proposed Project vicinity; potential tribal cultural resources impacts will be identified in the PEIR. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Utilities/Service Systems

The PEIR will describe the existing utilities in the Project study area within the County and 17 local jurisdictions and will address the ability of existing and planned public facilities and service systems to meet demands generated by the project and physical impacts on public utilities — including sanitary sewers, storm drains, and solid waste. The PEIR will analyze whether the Project would require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities; the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects. The PEIR will assess whether the Project would result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the Project, that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals and whether the Project would comply with Federal, State, and local management, and reduction statutes and regulations related to

solid waste. The PEIR will describe the existing water supply serving the proposed Project study area and will evaluate the impacts of the proposed Project on water supply at a program level, including whether the Project would have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Wildfire
The PEIR will analyze the consistency of proposed improvement actions under the 2020 LA River Master Plan with current wildfire hazard programs and regulatory documents within the County and 17 cities. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

Cumulative Impacts
Consistent with CEQA, this section will address the impacts of implementing the proposed Project in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the Project vicinity.

Growth-Inducing Impacts
The PEIR will discuss the ways in which the proposed Project could foster growth in the surrounding environment; growth-related secondary impacts also will be discussed.

Mandatory Finding of Significance
The PEIR will analyze whether the Project has the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The PEIR will discuss if the Project has impacts that are individually limited, but considered cumulatively significant. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project has environmental effects which cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

Other CEQA-Required Analysis
Additional issues to be analyzed in the PEIR include, but are not limited to, Significant Unavoidable Impacts, Significant Irreversible Environmental Change, Persons Consulted and List of Preparers, References, and technical appendices.

Si desea obtener más informacióno necesita que la notificación sea traducido a otro idioma, por favor llame al (626) 300-2363.

Upon 72 hours' notice, Public Works can provide program information and publications in alternate formats or make other accommodations for people with disabilities. In addition, program documents are available at our main office in Alhambra (900 S. Fremont Ave.), which is accessible to individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations ONLY or for more Americans with Disabilities Act information, please contact our departmental Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (626) 458-4081 or by TDD (626) 282-7829, Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Appendix A.2

Scoping Comments

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

August 3, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
LA County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan – Notice of Preparation (NOP)
SCH# 2020070128
GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308
Vic. LA Multiple

Dear Ariana Villanueva,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve a two-mile wide corridor along 51 miles of the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management. The 2020 LA River Master Plan proposes six categories of project improvements, or "kit of parts" over the next 25 years: 1) Trails, Access Gateways, and Shelters; 2) Channel Modifications; 3) Crossings and Platforms; 4) Diversions; 5) Floodplain Reclamation; 6) Off Channel Land Assets.

After reviewing the NOP, Caltrans has the following comments:

The size and scope of the proposed Master Plan provides a unique opportunity for the various communities along the LA River to identify their needs and provide feedback for the type of public realm they want when making their daily trips. Caltrans requests that the 2020 LA River Master Plan clearly identify all locations where improvements can be made for people walking, biking, rolling or taking transit along, across, or adjacent to State facilities within the Plan area. Please be specific on the locations within Caltrans right-of-way where improvements are desired and what type of infrastructure is preferred. Some examples include protected Class IV bikeways, wider sidewalks, curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, landscaping, street furniture, reduced crossing distances, roadway narrowing, pedestrian and bicycle signage, flashing beacons, and refreshed or new crosswalks. Plans that incorporate significant public engagement, like the one proposed, are used to identify and develop future State transportation projects.

Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan has set targets of tripling trips made by bicycle, doubling trips made by walking and public transit, as well as a 15% reduction in statewide, per capita, vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Similar goals are embedded in California Transportation Plan, the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan, legislation such as AB 32 and SB 375, as well as Executive Orders S-3-05 and N-19-19. By helping to identify where the barriers to walking, biking, and taking transit exist, this Plan can make transportation mode shift easier for Californians and help the State meet its policy goals to reduce the number of trips made by driving, reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and encourage alternative modes of travel.

In addition, please consider the following when developing the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR):

- Objective 2 and Elements 1 and 3, should consider accessibility for any and all users. At present, LA River Trail access points are primarily limited to major roads, which inhibits the neighborhood accessibility for residents and workers. Streets that run alongside the trail are good candidates for numerous access points at predetermined intervals, allowing users to walk, bicycle, scooter, skateboard or roll to and from their destination without taking a circuitous route to the nearest major roadway.

- The plan should consider lighting and other elements that create an environment where all users can feel safe to use the river path, in any neighborhood and at any time of day/ night.

- The LA River Master Plan PEIR should consider and incorporate LA County transportation plans, including Vision Zero, the Bicycle Master Plan, Metro plans, and the 17 adjacent city transportation plans insure all jurisdictions have safe transportation routes to the LA River.

- Partner with adjacent cities and public bodies to adopt complete streets policies to better connect neighborhoods to the river and prioritize access to the river from schools, and other public gathering spaces.

- Implement signage along the river as markers of physical activity (such as ¼ mile or ½ mile markers). Signage should also be informational to highlight the rivers connectivity to nearby destinations, informing the community of its use as a viable route to certain locations.

- Include methods for raising awareness in the adjacent communities of the potential uses of the river for physical activity, arts, and culture. Infrastructure like benches, drinking water stations, bicycle parking, bathroom/rest stops, and sufficient pedestrian level lighting should be included to encourage these uses.

- To assist people experiencing homelessness, identify sites within the plan area for development of supportive housing. These sites should be mixed-use to provide housing as well as other goods and services that benefit the community.

- When possible, reduce the Effective Impervious Area in the watershed. Limiting the possibility of constructing surface parking lots would be a highly effective way to reduce the heat-island effect and the amount of non-beneficial impervious area.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief
cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
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(858) 467-4201
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

August 5, 2020

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Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for 2020 LA River Master Plan, SCH #2020070128, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the above-referenced Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR) for the 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project). Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW's Role

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the state [Fish & Game Code, §§ 711.7, subdivision (a) & 1802; Public Resources Code, § 21070; Guidelines, § 15386, subdivision (a)]. CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (Id., § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CDFW is directed to provide biological expertise to lead agencies as part of environmental review, focusing on project activities that have the potential to adversely affect state fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA (Public Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code, including lake and streambed alteration (LSA) regulatory authority (Fish & Game Code, § 1600 *et seq.*) and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Fish & Game Code, § 2050 *et seq.*). To the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take", as defined by State law, or CESA-listed rare plant pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & Game Code, § 1900 *et seq.*), CDFW recommends the Project proponent obtain appropriate authorization under the Fish and Game Code.

Project Description and Summary

Objective: The County of Los Angeles (County), through the Department of Public Works (LACPW), is proposing the Project, which would provide program-level direction for development along the Los Angeles River (LA River) over 25 years. The Project proposes multiple components within 6 categories: (1) trails, access gateways, and shelters; (2) channel modifications; (3) crossings and platforms; (4) diversions; (5) floodplain reclamation; and (6) off channel land assets. Examples include public open spaces, parks, benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing. Future actions or component projects proposed under the Project would range from "extra-small" (1-acre or less) to "extra-large" (150+ acre/10+ miles). Examples of extra-small projects include pavilions, lighting, environmental graphics, bike racks, and benches. Examples of extra-large projects include regional parks and water recharge areas.

Location: The Project addresses approximately a 2-mile wide corridor along 51 miles of the LA River from the San Fernando Valley to Long Beach on the Pacific Ocean. The Project provides program-level regional planning and does not include any site-specific locations for individual actions or component projects.

Comments and Recommendations

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the County in adequately identifying, avoiding, and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

Specific Comments

1) Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements: As a Responsible Agency under CEQA, CDFW has authority over activities in streams and/or lakes that will divert or obstruct the natural flow; or change the bed, channel, or bank (including vegetation associated with the stream or lake) of a river or stream; or use material from a streambed. For any such activities, the project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to CDFW pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, CDFW determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement (Agreement) with the applicant is required prior to conducting the proposed activities. CDFW's issuance of an Agreement for a project that is subject to CEQA will require related environmental compliance actions by CDFW as a Responsible Agency. As a Responsible Agency, CDFW may consider the CEQA document prepared by the local jurisdiction (Lead Agency) for the Project. To minimize additional requirements by CDFW pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* and/or under CEQA, the DPEIR should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and reporting commitments for issuance of the Agreement.

   a) The Project area supports aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats; therefore, a preliminary delineation of the lateral extent of the streams should be included in the DPEIR. Activities in the streams subject to 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game code may extend beyond the jurisdictional limits of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Section 404 permit and Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification.

b) In areas of the Project site which may support ephemeral streams, herbaceous vegetation, woody vegetation, and woodlands also serve to protect the integrity of ephemeral channels and help maintain natural sedimentation processes; therefore, CDFW recommends effective setbacks be established to maintain appropriately-sized vegetated buffer areas adjoining ephemeral drainages.

c) Project-related changes in drainage patterns, runoff, and sedimentation should be included and evaluated in the DPEIR.

d) As part of the LSA Notification process, CDFW requests a hydrological evaluation of the 100-, 50-, 25-, 10-, 5-, and 2-year frequency storm event for existing and proposed conditions. CDFW recommends the DPEIR evaluate the results and address avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures that may be necessary to reduce potential significant impacts.

2) Wetlands Resources. CDFW, as described in Fish and Game Code section 703(a), is guided by the Fish and Game Commission's policies. The Wetlands Resources policy (https://fgc.ca.gov/About/Policies/Miscellaneous#Wetlands) of the Fish and Game Commission "…seek[s] to provide for the protection, preservation, restoration, enhancement and expansion of wetland habitat in California. Further, it is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission to strongly discourage development in or conversion of wetlands. It opposes, consistent with its legal authority, any development or conversion that would result in a reduction of wetland acreage or wetland habitat values. To that end, the Commission opposes wetland development proposals unless, at a minimum, project mitigation assures there will be 'no net loss' of either wetland habitat values or acreage. The Commission strongly prefers mitigation which would achieve expansion of wetland acreage and enhancement of wetland habitat values."

a) The Wetlands Resources policy provides a framework for maintaining wetland resources and establishes mitigation guidance. CDFW encourages avoidance of wetland resources as a primary mitigation measure and discourages the development or type conversion of wetlands to uplands. CDFW encourages activities that would avoid the reduction of wetland acreage, function, or habitat values. Once avoidance and minimization measures have been exhausted, the Project must include mitigation measures to assure a "no net loss" of either wetland habitat values, or acreage, for unavoidable impacts to wetland resources. Conversions include, but are not limited to, conversion to subsurface drains, placement of fill or building of structures within the wetland, and channelization or removal of materials from the streambed. All wetlands and watercourses, whether ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial, should be retained and provided with substantial setbacks, which preserve the riparian and aquatic values and functions for the benefit to on-site and off-site wildlife populations. CDFW recommends mitigation measures to compensate for unavoidable impacts be included in the DPEIR and these measures should compensate for the loss of function and value.

b) The Fish and Game Commission's Water policy guides CDFW on the quantity and quality of the waters of this state that should be apportioned and maintained respectively so as to produce and sustain maximum numbers of fish and wildlife; to provide maximum protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife and their habitat; encourage and support programs to maintain or restore a high quality of the waters of this state;

prevent the degradation thereof caused by pollution and contamination; and, endeavor to keep as much water as possible open and accessible to the public for the use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife. CDFW recommends avoidance of water practices and structures that use excessive amounts of water, and minimization of impacts that negatively affect water quality, to the extent feasible (Fish & Game Code, § 5650).

3) Nesting Birds. Based on a review of satellite imagery, there is scattered vegetation throughout the Project location that may provide potential habitat where Project activities may impact nesting birds. Project activities occurring during the breeding season of nesting birds could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs, or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment in trees directly adjacent to the Project boundary. The Project could also lead to the loss of foraging habitat for sensitive bird species.

   a) CDFW recommends that measures be taken to avoid Project impacts to nesting birds. Migratory nongame native bird species are protected by international treaty under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, § 10.13). Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit take of all birds and their active nests including raptors and other migratory nongame birds (as listed under the Federal MBTA).

   b) Proposed Project activities including (but not limited to) staging and disturbances to native and non-native vegetation, structures, and substrates should occur outside of the avian breeding season which generally runs from February 1 through September 1 (as early as January 1 for some raptors) to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, CDFW recommends surveys by a qualified biologist with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys to detect protected native birds occurring in suitable nesting habitat that is to be disturbed and (as access to adjacent areas allows) any other such habitat within 300-feet of the disturbance area (within 500-feet for raptors). Project personnel, including all contractors working on site, should be instructed on the sensitivity of the area. Reductions in the nest buffer distance may be appropriate depending on the avian species involved, ambient levels of human activity, screening vegetation, or possibly other factors.

4) Bat Species. A review of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) indicates occurrences of several bat species within the Project vicinity. These species include but are not limited to the big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*). The pallid bat and the western mastiff bat are both California Species of Special Concern. Bridges, buildings, trees, and scattered vegetation throughout the Project location may provide potential habitat where Project activities may impact bats. Activities that will result in the removal of trees, buildings or other habitat for bats should consider avoiding adverse impacts to bats.

   Bats are considered non-game mammals and are afforded protection by state law from take and/or harassment (Fish & Game Code § 4150, California Code of Regulations § 251.1). A DPEIR should provide a thorough discussion of potential impacts to bats from construction and operation of the Project to adequately disclose potential impacts and to identify appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures. The CEQA document shall

describe feasible measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines §15126.4[a][1]).

5) Impacts to sensitive species. The Project location is within the floodplain and active channel of the LA River. CDFW is concerned the Project may affect sensitive species that occur within the LA River and areas adjacent to the Project. Areas of particular concern include reaches of the LA River near the Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, and Glendale Narrows where the occurrence of the endangered least Bell's vireo *(Vireo bellii pusillus*), has been documented. Other sensitive or special status species may include (but are not limited to) Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*), western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*), mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*), Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*), and Peruvian dodder (*Cuscuta obtusiflora* var. *glandulosa*). Grading, vegetation removal, and other ground disturbances could crush and bury listed or sensitive plants and animals, resulting in direct mortality. The Project may also affect adjacent habitat by loud noises, lighting, increased human presence and activity, fugitive dust, increased temperatures from asphalt (heat island effect), hydrocarbons from asphalt paving within the LA River floodplain, and spreading invasive weeds, resulting in stress, displacement, and mortality of these species. CDFW recommends to following:

   a) The Project should use alternatives to hydrocarbon-based asphalt paving. Asphalt pavement continues to leach hydrocarbons and heavy metals, becoming a significant point source of environmental contamination (Sadler, 1999).

   b) Given this Project is proposed for a sensitive location (within the LA River channel and floodplain), the potential for direct and indirect impacts to sensitive, listed, and fully protected species should be further addressed. The DPEIR should include specific information on species locations, and specifically how the project will be sited to avoid impacts to this species or vegetation communities. If the Project will impact a sensitive species or vegetation community, specific mitigation to offset the loss of habitat (acreage and type) should be included in the DPEIR. Any mitigation proposed should be covered under a conservation easement, include a long-term management plant, and ensure funding to manage the mitigation land in perpetuity.

6) Landscaping. The NOP includes parks, open spaces, and trails among the Project objectives. Habitat loss and invasive plants are a leading cause of native biodiversity loss. Invasive plant species spread quickly and can displace native plants, prevent native plant growth, and create monocultures. CDFW recommends using native, locally appropriate plant species for landscaping on the Project site. CDFW recommends invasive/exotic plants, such as pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) and salt cedar (*Tamarisk* spp.), be restricted from use in landscape plans for this Project. A list of invasive/exotic plants that

should be avoided as well as suggestions for better landscape plants can be found at https://www.cal-ipc.org/solutions/prevention/landscaping/

7) Tree Removal. Satellite imagery indicates the presence of trees in areas of the Project site that might be developed for parks, trails, channel modifications, or other Project components. Habitat loss is one of the leading causes of native biodiversity loss. To compensate for any loss of trees, CDFW recommends replacing all non-native trees removed as a result of the proposed work activities at least a 1:1 ratio with native trees. CDFW recommends replacing native trees at least a 3:1 ratio with a combination of native trees and/or appropriate understory and lower canopy plantings.

   Due to tree removal, Project activities have the potential to result in the spread of tree insect pests and disease into areas not currently exposed to these stressors. This could result in expediting the loss of oaks, alders, sycamore, and other trees in California which support a high biological diversity including special status species. To reduce impacts to less than significant the final environmental document should describe an infectious tree disease management plan and how it will be implemented to avoid significant impacts under CEQA. All trees identified for removal resulting from the Project should be inspected for contagious tree diseases including but not limited to: thousand cankers fungus (*Geosmithia morbida*), see http://www.thousandcankers.com/; polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallacea* spp.), see https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8590.pdf and https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/agriculture/avocado/polyphagous-shot-hole-borer-and-kuroshio-shot-hole-borer/; and goldspotted oak borer (*Agrilus auroguttatus*), *see* http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74163.html. To avoid the spread of infectious tree diseases, diseased trees should not be transported from the Project site without first being treated using best available management practices relevant for each tree disease observed.

8) Biological Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts. The NOP states that the Project location broadly includes "a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County". The LA River is a major riparian corridor in the Los Angeles Basin and serves as an important wildlife movement corridor connecting much of the open spaces through the rapidly urbanizing city. It is essential to understand how these open spaces and the biological diversity within them may be impacted by Project activities. This should aid in identifying specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends providing a thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources, with specific measures to offset such impacts. The following should be addressed in the DPEIR:

   a) A discussion regarding indirect Project impacts on biological resources, including resources in nearby public lands, open space, adjacent natural habitats, riparian ecosystems, and any designated and/or proposed or existing reserve lands (e.g., preserve lands associated with a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP, Fish & Game Code, § 2800 *et seq*.). Impacts on, and maintenance of, wildlife corridor/movement areas, including access to undisturbed habitats in adjacent areas, should be fully evaluated in the DPEIR;

   b) A discussion of potential adverse impacts from lighting, noise, human activity, and exotic species and identification of any mitigation measures;

c) A discussion on Project-related changes on drainage patterns and downstream of the Project site; the volume, velocity, and frequency of existing and post-Project surface flows; polluted runoff; soil erosion and/or sedimentation in streams and water bodies; and, post-Project fate of runoff from the Project site. The discussion should also address the proximity of the extraction activities to the water table, whether dewatering would be necessary and the potential resulting impacts on the habitat (if any) supported by the groundwater. Mitigation measures proposed to alleviate such Project impacts should be included;

d) An analysis of impacts from land use designations and zoning located nearby or adjacent to natural areas that may inadvertently contribute to wildlife-human interactions. A discussion of possible conflicts and mitigation measures to reduce these conflicts should be included in the DPEIR; and,

e) A cumulative effects analysis, as described under CEQA Guidelines section 15130. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.

General Comments

1) Project Description and Alternatives. To enable CDFW to adequately review and comment on the proposed Project from the standpoint of the protection of plants, fish, and wildlife, we recommend the following information be included in the DPEIR:

   a) A complete discussion of the purpose and need for, and description of, the proposed Project, including all staging areas and access routes to the construction and staging areas; and,

   b) A range of feasible alternatives to Project component location and design features to ensure that alternatives to the proposed Project are fully considered and evaluated. The alternatives should avoid or otherwise minimize direct and indirect impacts to sensitive biological resources and wildlife movement areas.

2) Biological Baseline Assessment. The Project site consists of land developed with a variety of uses, as well as vacant land, undeveloped land containing native and non-native vegetation. Undisturbed land may be considered sensitive habitat or may provide suitable habitat for special status or regionally and locally unique species. CDFW recommends providing a complete assessment and impact analysis of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Project area, with emphasis upon identifying endangered, threatened, sensitive, regionally and locally unique species, and sensitive habitats. Impact analysis will aid in determining any direct, indirect, and cumulative biological impacts, as well as specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends avoiding any sensitive natural communities found on or adjacent to the Project. CDFW also considers impacts to Species of Special Concern a significant direct and cumulative adverse effect without implementing appropriate avoid and/or mitigation measures. The DPEIR should include the following information:

a) Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region [CEQA Guidelines, § 15125(c)]. The DPEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect Sensitive Natural Communities from Project-related impacts. Project implementation may result in impacts to rare or endangered plants or plant communities that have been recorded adjacent to the Project vicinity. CDFW considers these communities as threatened habitats having both regional and local significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a state-wide ranking of S1, S2, S3 and S4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by visiting https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/VegCAMP/Natural-Communities#sensitive%20natural%20communities;

b) A thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following CDFW's Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (see https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants);

c) Floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments conducted at the Project site and within the neighboring vicinity. The Manual of California Vegetation, second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment. Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions;

d) A complete, recent, assessment of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within adjacent areas that could also be affected by the project. CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) in Sacramento should be contacted to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitat. CDFW recommends that CNDDB Field Survey Forms be completed and submitted to CNDDB to document survey results. Online forms can be obtained and submitted at https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data;

e) A complete, recent, assessment of rare, threatened, and endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect, including California SSC and California Fully Protected Species (Fish & Game Code §§ 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species (see CEQA Guidelines § 15380). Seasonal variations in use of the project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the USFWS; and,

f) A recent, wildlife and rare plant survey. CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if build out could occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases.

3) California Endangered Species Act. CDFW considers adverse impacts to a species protected by CESA to be significant without mitigation under CEQA. As to CESA, take of any endangered, threatened, candidate species, or CESA-listed rare plant species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by State law (Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080, 2085; California Code of Regulations, tit. 14, § 786.9). Consequently, if the Project, Project construction, or any Project-related activity during the life of the Project will result in take of a species designated as endangered or threatened, or a candidate for listing under CESA, CDFW recommends that the Project proponent seek appropriate take authorization under CESA prior to implementing the Project. Appropriate authorization from CDFW may include an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) or a consistency determination in certain circumstances, among other options [Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080.1, 2081, subds. (b) and (c)]. Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to a Project and mitigation measures may be required to obtain a CESA Permit. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that CDFW issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to CESA-listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an ITP. For these reasons, biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for a CESA ITP.

4) Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation for Sensitive Plants. The DPEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect sensitive plant communities from Project-related direct and indirect impacts. CDFW considers these communities to be imperiled habitats having both local and regional significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a statewide ranking of S-1, S-2, S-3, and S-4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by querying the CNDDB and are included in the *Manual of California Vegetation*.

5) Compensatory Mitigation. The DPEIR should include mitigation measures for adverse Project- related impacts to sensitive plants, animals, and habitats. Mitigation measures should emphasize avoidance and reduction of Project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, on-site habitat restoration or enhancement should be discussed in detail. If on-site mitigation is not feasible or would not be biologically viable and therefore not adequately mitigate the loss of biological functions and values, off-site mitigation through habitat creation and/or acquisition and preservation in perpetuity should be addressed. Areas proposed as mitigation lands should be protected in perpetuity with a conservation easement, financial assurance and dedicated to a qualified entity for long-term management and monitoring. Under Government Code section 65967, the lead agency must exercise due diligence in reviewing the qualifications of a governmental entity, special district, or nonprofit organization to effectively manage and steward land, water, or natural resources on mitigation lands it approves.

6) Long-term Management of Mitigation Lands. For proposed preservation and/or restoration, the DPEIR should include measures to protect the targeted habitat values from direct and indirect negative impacts in perpetuity. The objective should be to offset the Project-induced qualitative and quantitative losses of wildlife habitat values. Issues that should be addressed include (but are not limited to) restrictions on access, proposed land dedications, monitoring and management programs, control of illegal dumping, water

pollution, and increased human intrusion. An appropriate non-wasting endowment should be set aside to provide for long-term management of mitigation lands.

7) Translocation/Salvage of Plants and Animal Species. Translocation or transplantation is the process of moving an individual from the Project site and permanently moving it to a new location. CDFW generally does not support the use of, translocation or transplantation as the primary mitigation strategy for unavoidable impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Studies have shown that these efforts are experimental and the outcome unreliable. CDFW has found that permanent preservation and management of habitat capable of supporting these species is often a more effective long-term strategy for conserving sensitive plants and animals and their habitats.

8) Moving out of Harm's Way. The proposed Project is anticipated to result in clearing of natural habitats that support many species of indigenous wildlife. To avoid direct mortality, we recommend that a qualified biological monitor approved by CDFW be on-site prior to and during ground and habitat disturbing activities to move out of harm's way special status species or other wildlife of low mobility that would be injured or killed by grubbing or Project- related construction activities. It should be noted that the temporary relocation of on-site wildlife does not constitute effective mitigation for the purposes of offsetting Project impacts associated with habitat loss. If the Project requires species to be removed, disturbed, or otherwise handled, we recommend that the DPEIR clearly identify that the designated entity should obtain all appropriate state and federal permits.

9) Revegetation/Restoration Plan. Plans for restoration and re-vegetation should be prepared by persons with expertise in southern California ecosystems and native plant restoration techniques. Plans should identify the assumptions used to develop the proposed restoration strategy. Each plan should include, at a minimum: (a) the location of restoration sites and assessment of appropriate reference sites; (b) the plant species to be used, sources of local propagules, container sizes, and seeding rates; (c) a schematic depicting the mitigation area; (d) a local seed and cuttings and planting schedule; (e) a description of the irrigation methodology; (f) measures to control exotic vegetation on site; (g) specific success criteria; (h) a detailed monitoring program; (i) contingency measures should the success criteria not be met; and (j) identification of the party responsible for meeting the success criteria and providing for conservation of the mitigation site in perpetuity. Monitoring of restoration areas should extend across a sufficient time frame to ensure that the new habitat is established, self-sustaining, and capable of surviving drought.

   a) CDFW recommends that local on-site propagules from the Project area and nearby vicinity be collected and used for restoration purposes. On-site seed collection should be initiated in the near future to accumulate sufficient propagule material for subsequent use in future years. On-site vegetation mapping at the alliance and/or association level should be used to develop appropriate restoration goals and local plant palettes. Reference areas should be identified to help guide restoration efforts. Specific restoration plans should be developed for various Project components as appropriate.

   b) Restoration objectives should include providing special habitat elements where feasible to benefit key wildlife species. These physical and biological features can include (for example) retention of woody material, logs, snags, rocks, and brush piles (see Mayer and Laudenslayer, 1988).

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the NOP to assist the County of Los Angeles in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact David T. Lin, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (562) 430-0097 or by email at David.Lin@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Erinn Wilson
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Erinn Wilson
Environmental Program Manager I

ec: CDFW
Victoria Tang – Los Alamitos
Karen Drewe – Los Alamitos
Baron Barrera – Los Alamitos
David T. Lin – Los Alamitos
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CEQA HQ – Sacramento

State Clearinghouse

References

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City of Glendale, California
Glendale Water & Power
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August 6, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
via-email: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: LA River Master Plan PEIR, Public Comment, Glendale Water & Power

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Please accept this letter, sent electronically via e-mail to LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov, as Glendale Water & Power's comments to the LA River Master Plan Draft Program EIR.

The Program EIR should include information related the sources of water in the LA River during dry-weather flow conditions. The Program EIR should indicate that water in the river during dry-weather flows is derived from urban runoff and discharges from reclamation plants and that urban runoff will be diminishing due to the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan. The Program EIR should list the reclamation plants that discharge to the river and their relative average volumes of discharge. The Program EIR should acknowledge that these waters are primarily derived from water that is imported to Southern California from the State Water Project, the Colorado River, and the Los Angeles Aqueduct. Finally, the Program EIR should note specifically that the City of Glendale plans to beneficially re-use all of its water from the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant and will no longer be discharging its share of water to LA River from this plant in the future.

The Program EIR should note that specific projects which are not reliant on dry-weather flows would not be affected by flow reductions, so that the project specific CEQA processes can be completed more expeditiously. The Program EIR should indicate that projects reliant on dry-weather flows need to address how those projects would account for reduced flows in the future.

Please feel free to contact me directly at (818) 548-2107, or mdeghetto@glendaleca.gov, if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael E. De Ghetto, P.E.
Chief Assistant General Manager - Water
Glendale Water & Power

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July 16, 2020

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
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Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN - NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT`

This is in response to your July 7, 2020 Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting for a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the proposed project located along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide and spans through 17 cities. The river encompasses an 834-square-mile watershed and flows from its headwaters at river mile 51 in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles to river mile zero at Long Beach. LA Sanitation, Wastewater Engineering Services Division has received and logged the notification. At this stage, your project description lacks sufficient detail for us to conduct a thorough capacity analysis as descriptions for individual proposed developments are needed to assess sewage generation. Please notify our office in the instance additional information for environmental review is available for this project.

If you have any questions, please call Christopher DeMonbrun at (323) 342-1567 or email at chris.demonbrun@lacity.org

Sincerely,

Ali Poosti, Division Manager
Wastewater Engineering Services Division
LA Sanitation and Environment

AP/CD: sa

c: Shahram Kharaghani, LASAN
Michael Scaduto, LASAN
Wing Tam, LASAN
Christopher DeMonbrun, LASAN

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

Metro

August 6, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
Sent by Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan
Notice of Preparation of Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

Thank you for coordinating with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) regarding the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Master Plan) located in Los Angeles County (County). Metro's aim is to create and maintain a world-class transportation system that focuses on providing the best customer experience possible and enhancing the quality of life for those who live, work, and play within the County. As transportation planner and coordinator, designer, funder, builder and transit operator, Metro is constantly working to deliver a regional system that supports increased transportation options and associated benefits, such as improved mobility options, air quality, health and safety, access to goods and services, and quality of life.

Per Metro's area of statutory responsibility pursuant to sections 15082(b) and 15086(a) of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA: Cal. Code of Regulations, Title 14, Ch. 3), the purpose of this letter is to provide the County with specific detail on the scope and content of environmental information that should be included in the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Master Plan. Effects of a project on transit systems and infrastructure are within the scope of transportation impacts to be evaluated under CEQA.[1]

PEIR Project Description
The proposed Master Plan encompasses an area along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans through 17 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County (18 total jurisdictions). The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve 51 miles of connected open space along the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management.

Recommendations for PEIR Scope and Content

Metro Planning Efforts

Metro would like to advise the County that it has adopted three plans of interest that are within the Master Plan's area of study. Metro encourages the County to review these plans and identify synergies with the Master Plan and opportunities to support and implement their goals and recommendations:

[1] See CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(a); Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts In CEQA, December 2018, p. 19.

1. Connect US Action Plan: Completed in 2015, the Connect US Action Plan's fundamental goal is to provide pedestrians and cyclists a safe and pleasurable passage to transit between Los Angeles Union Station, 1st/Central Station and the adjacent historic neighborhoods. Enhancing walkability and bikeability will facilitate a second goal, connecting people who live and work in adjacent neighborhoods to one another. More information is available at: https://www.metro.net/about/union-station/connect-us-action-plan/

2. Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP): Adopted in 2016, the ATSP is Metro's county-wide effort to identify strategies to increase walking, bicycling and transit use in Los Angeles County. The ATSP's focuses on improving first and last mile access to transit and proposes a regional network of active transportation facilities, including shared-use paths and on-street bikeways, and develop a funding strategy for implementation. More information is available at: https://www.metro.net/projects/active-transportation-strategic-plan/

3. First/Last Mile Strategic Plan: Completed in 2014 and authored by Metro and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan an approach for identifying barriers and planning and implementing improvements for the first/last mile portions of an individual's connection to transit. The plan is available at: https://www.metro.net/projects/first-last/

Metro Corridor Planning Efforts

Metro is studying the following new corridor projects which are within the Master Plan's study area. These projects should be incorporated into the PEIR's analysis. In addition, the County should consult with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, which operates Metrolink, on their capital planning efforts.

1. Metro's LA River Path Project: Funded by Measure M, Metro is evaluating a new bicycle and pedestrian path along an approximately eight-mile stretch of the Los Angeles River from Elysian Valley through Downtown Los Angeles to the City of Maywood. Metro released a Notice of Preparation for this project in October 2019 with a target operation date by 2027. More information may be found online at: https://www.metro.net/projects/lariverpath/.

2. West Santa Ana Branch Project: Metro is evaluating a potential new transit system connecting southeast Los Angeles County to downtown Los Angeles via the abandoned Pacific Electric Right-of-Way/West Santa Ana Branch Corridor (PEROW/WSAB) and a combination of local streets and private and Metro-owned rail ROW. This project crosses over the Los Angeles River in the City of South Gate. For additional information, please see https://www.metro.net/wsab.

Adjacency to Metro-owned Right-of-Way and Facilities

The Master Plan's study area includes Metro-owned ROW and transit facilities for Metro Rail, Metro Bus, and Metro Bus Rapid Transit operations. In particular, these lines cross over the Los Angeles River: the G Line (Orange), in the San Fernando Valley; and the A Line (Blue), to the north of Long Beach in between Del Amo and Wardlaw Stations. In addition, the Metrolink commuter rail service is adjacent to parts of the Los Angeles River, operated by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), portions of which use Metro-owned ROW. Buses and trains operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week in these facilities.

The PEIR's transportation section should analyze potential impacts on Metro and Metrolink facilities within the Master Plan's study area, and identify mitigation measures or project design features as appropriate. Critical impacts to be studied should include (without limitation): impacts of construction and operation of future projects to the structural and systems integrity of rail tracks, bridges, and related infrastructure; and disruption to bus or rail service.

The following provisions should be used to develop mitigation measures and/or project design features that address these potential impacts to Metro Bus and Metro Rail infrastructure. Additional information is available from the Metro Development Review Team at https://www.metro.net/devreview.

1. Technical Review: The Project Sponsor shall submit engineering drawings and calculations, as well as construction work plans and methods including any crane placement and radius, to evaluate any impacts to Metro's infrastructure in relationship to the Project. Before commencement of any construction activities, the Project, the Project Sponsor shall obtain Metro's approval of final construction plans.

2. Construction Safety: The construction and operation of the Project shall not disrupt the operation and maintenance activities or the structural and systems integrity of Metro's transit infrastructure. Not later than one month before Project construction, the Project Sponsor shall contact Metro to schedule a pre-construction meeting with all Project construction personnel and Metro Real Estate, Construction Management, and Construction Safety staff. During Project construction, the Project Sponsor shall:

    a. Work in close coordination with Metro to ensure that Station access, visibility, and structural integrity are not compromised by construction activities or permanent build conditions;

    b. Construct a protection barrier to prevent objects, material, or debris from falling onto the ROW;

    c. Notify Metro of any changes to demolition construction activities that may impact the use of the ROW;

    d. Permit Metro staff to monitor demolition and/or construction activity(ies) to ascertain any impacts.

3. ROW Entry Permit: For temporary or ongoing access to Metro Rail ROW for demolition, construction, and/or maintenance activities, the Project Sponsor shall complete Metro's Track Allocation process with Metro Rail Operations and obtain a Right of Entry Permit from Metro Real Estate. Approval for single tracking or a power shutdown, while possible, is highly discouraged; if sought, the Applicant shall apply for and obtain such approval from Metro not later than two months before the start of Project construction.

The following provisions should be used to develop mitigation measures and/or project design features that address these potential impacts to Metrolink infrastructure:

1. Technical Review: The Project Sponsor shall submit engineering drawings and calculations, as well as construction work plans and methods including any crane placement and radius, to evaluate any impacts to the Metrolink infrastructure in relationship to the Project. Before issuance of any building permit for the Project, the Project Sponsor shall obtain SCRRA's approval of final construction drawings.

2. Construction Monitoring: The Project Sponsor shall permit Metro and/or SCRRA staff to monitor construction activity to ascertain any impact to the ROW. During construction, the Project Sponsor shall construct a protection barrier to prevent objects, material, or debris from falling onto the ROW. The Project Sponsor shall notify Metro and SCRRA of any changes to the construction/building plans that may or may not impact the ROW.

3. ROW Access: The Project Sponsor should contact SCRRA for Right-of Entry requirements. Information can be found at www.metrolinktrains.com. Other requirements may include permits for construction of buildings and any future repairs, painting, graffiti removal, etc., including the use of overhead cranes or any other equipment that could potentially impact railroad operations and safety. Frequent access for maintenance tasks such as graffiti removal, will necessitate an active license agreement.

Other NOP-related Comments

1. Transportation: For the EIR's transportation section, the County should clarify whether its analysis of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will (or will not) use data that incorporates the effects of the recent coronavirus pandemic. The County should also advise on the status and use of the pending update to the County's transportation assessment guidelines.

2. NOP page 3, "Proposed 2002 LA River Master Plan Elements": Recommend including Environmental Graphics in Kit of Parts.

3. NOP page 4, "Program Level Analysis, Tiering, and Later Activities": Consider "future projects" to replace "later activities".

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me by phone at 213-922-2671, by email at DevReview@metro.net, or by mail at the following address:

Metro Development Review
One Gateway Plaza
MS 99-22-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Sincerely,

Shine Ling, AICP
Manager, Transit Oriented Communities

August 13, 2020

Attention: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works,
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR Preparation Scoping Comments

LARiverWorks Group, Mayor's Office of City Services, City of Los Angeles

To the project team:

Please accept these scoping comments to inform the CEQA analysis for the Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR. They draw from prior comments on the Plan itself to highlight critical environmental issues to be fully considered for impacts and mitigations. Any questions regarding these comments may be directed to Michael Affeldt, Director, LARiverWorks, michael.affeldt@lacity.org, 310-982-3358 (mobile).

General

- The scope of analysis should include development of a robust complete hydraulic model of the LA River and its tributaries as a necessary foundation for understanding cumulative impacts of the LA River Master Plan, and this model should be made available to public agencies for peer review and use in project planning.
- The scope of analysis should include watershed-scale approaches to peak flow reduction, as this is a fundamental need for many of the LA River Master Plan's objectives.
- The scope of analysis should include prioritization of advancement and completion of LA River projects that are already publicly-adopted, such as within the LA River Revitalization Master Plan (City of Los Angeles, 2007) and the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Recommended Plan (United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2016). Actions considered in the LA River Master Plan must not preclude or inhibit these plans and rather should directly implement their proposals.
- The scope of analysis should include funding strategies and proposed funding sources as the source of funds often influences characteristics of project implementation.
- The scope of analysis should include governance options and strategies and analyze their impacts on how LA River Master Plan projects will be implemented and therefore their environmental impacts.

Aesthetics

- The scope of analysis should include impacts and ramifications of the County's Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Program and Ridgeline Preservation program, and other programs meant to protect viewsheds and natural aesthetics.
- The scope of analysis should include the variety of existing art at and along the LA River, how to preserve and enhance it, and how to encourage the proliferation of much more art of all kinds at, along, and pertaining to the LA River.

- The scope of analysis should include the impact of existing and future scenic vistas by covering portions, and blocking views, of the LA River.

Air Quality

- The scope of analysis should include consideration of the need for additional vegetation at the LA River to improve regional air quality.
- The scope of analysis should include the benefits of minimizing the use of concrete to meet objectives, to the extent feasible, as its production is a source of GHG.

Biological Resources

- The scope of analysis should include impacts to native plant species, particularly those of riparian and riparian upland habitats, as well as foothill habitats and connections between such habitats.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts to fish including native fish species. Some measures proposed in the Kit of Parts appear potentially impactful and harmful to fish and deleterious to planned projects by other agencies and proponents that aim to improve fish habitat and fish passage.
- The scope of analysis should include potential impacts to flow levels, temperatures, turbidity and other water quality elements as they related to the health of current and future habitat and wildlife.
- The scope of analysis should include strategies for streamlined, coordinated, and effective regular maintenance of areas along either banks of the River to prevent harmful pollutants from entering the River which may have impacts on wildlife. The area of analysis would necessarily include consideration of stormwater and drainage systems throughout urban areas 1 mile from each bank.
- The scope of analysis should include the potential legal restrictions on certain LA River Master Plan proposals that would create conditions for the LA River that would be more akin to a buried storm drain, for these may be in violation of various regional, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts and ramifications of the County's Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Program.
- The scope of analysis should include sufficient thresholds of native habitat populations in both public and private spaces to allow native species to thrive and propagate.
- The scope of analysis should include consideration of evolving and emerging understanding of microbiomes, microclimates, and their associated native species in proposing plant palettes and habitat approaches.
- The scope of analysis should evaluate impacts of the Master Plan on the adopted and authorized Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Recommended Plan.

Cultural Resources

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to and views of the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for cultural purposes.

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

- The scope of analysis should include a wide range of tools and approaches regarding reduction of flood risk, including distributed community and watershed-scale mitigations and tactics, and major investments such as bypass tunnels of various sizes and locations. Different approaches will carry their own related impacts and mitigations which should be analyzed in the scope of the PEIR.
- The scope of analysis should include consideration of the use, restriction, or prohibition of herbicides, insectiveds, and rodenticides in the LA River or in locations that may drain to the LA River.
- The scope of analysis should include a prioritization of flood risk reduction approaches in which nature-based, habitat-enhancing, and similar tactics are held in high regard and heavy-infrastructure or habitat-harming approaches are held in low regard -- of course in the context of severity of risk and feasibility. Financial, acquisition-based, and insurance solutions must also be included in analyses and approaches to risk reduction.
- The scope of analysis should include the absolute importance of providing for cleanup of brownfield sites along the River, especially for in-progress projects.

Hydrology/Water Quality

- The scope of analysis should include strategies for stormwater and drainage system improvements, including “green streets” and other nature-based infrastructure throughout urban areas 1 mile from each bank of the River and throughout the watershed as necessary. Because the majority of stormwater that reaches the River is not collected in the 1-mile area of proposed analysis for the PEIR, the scope of analysis, at least for this topic, must be expanded to include the entire LA River watershed. Impacts, mitigations, and programmatic strategies should be considered at the watershed scale.
- The scope of the analysis should include evaluation of upstream watershed opportunities to address peak flood flows.
- The scope of analysis should include preservation, reconnection, daylighting, and renaturalization of historic streams.

Land Use/Planning

- The scope of analysis should include the impacts of any proposals to change zoning or other land use designations or definitions. The project team should make contact with the City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning to discuss this topic in detail and should be aware and familiar with the City’s ReCode initiative which is an ongoing project to modernize and streamline the City’s zoning system.
- The scope of analysis should include a full understanding of the various special planning areas that exist along the LA River including but not limited to the Cornfield Arroyo Specific Plan (CASP), Warner Center Specific Plan, and the LA River Improvement Overlay (LA-RIO). Any impacts to the intentions or efficacy of these and other planning tools should be analyzed and mitigated.
- To the extent that the goals of the LA River Master Plan will be heavily influenced by the ability of local jurisdictions to help effectuate them, the scope of analysis should include mitigations to that impediment that include technical help, capacity building, and direct financial support to

municipalities and community-based organizations to foster a robust and effective collaborative working landscape.

Noise

- The scope of analysis should include the use of sound barriers along freeways to mitigate impacts to human and wildlife at the River.

Population/Housing

- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts of other actions or inaction by Los Angeles County to enhance housing availability and affordability along the Los Angeles River in the corridor of analysis.
- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts of other actions or inaction by Los Angeles County to mitigate the existence and growth of the population of people experiencing homlessness in and along the Los Angeles River and in the corridor of analysis.
- The scope of analysis should include a finer-grained understanding of communities in the City of Los Angeles than has been present in the LA River Master Plan process thus far.

Public Services

- The scope of analysis should include impacts to tax revenue and special revenue tools such as Enhanced Infrastructure Finance Districts, several of which are being planned and studied along the Los Angeles River corridor. Any impacts should be mitigated.

Recreation

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for recreational purposes.

Transportation

- The scope of analysis should include the urgent need to expand active transportation options along, and connecting to, the LA River.
- All PEIR elements, projects, and proposals must analyze potential impacts to long-planned and in-progress projects to complete the active transportation system along the LA River, especially in the San Fernando Valley, where significant gaps in the system remain, despite the expressed intentions of the prior and first edition of the LA River Master Plan from 1996.
- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts from California High Speed Rail and propose coordinated mitigations.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts to public transit of all forms, including potential expansions or changes in services or facilities.

Tribal Cultural Resources

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for tribal cultural purposes.

Utilities/Service Systems

- The scope of analysis should include an inventory of and potential impacts to the many utilities that run along the LA River and through the proposed corridor of analysis. Potentially hazardous utilities such as oil pipelines, should be the subject of specific analysis and potential relocation.

###

Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

AUSTIN BEUTNER
Superintendent of Schools

CARLOS A. TORRES
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

JENNIFER FLORES
Deputy Director, Environmental Health and Safety

August 7, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Notice of Preparation for the 2020 Los Angeles County River Masterplan (Masterplan). The Masterplan is a comprehensive approach covering all 51 miles of the Los Angeles River. The County of Los Angeles, through the Department of Public Works (Public Works), is the Lead Agency and is preparing a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to evaluate any potential impacts on the environment.

The Masterplan stipulates the program will encompass one mile on either side of the entire LA River, a vast expanse that includes numerous schools. We would like to ensure that these facilities are adequately considered in the environmental analysis for projects implemented as part of the Masterplan. We are available to assist you in identifying schools within the program area that may be impacted.

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety's charge is to protect the District's students and staff, and the integrity of the learning environment. While the District supports the intent of the Masterplan, we also need to ensure that their welfare is maintained.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you need additional information, please contact me at Alexis.Campbell@LAUSD.net.

Regards,

Alex Campbell
Assistant CEQA Project Manager

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 9:03 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: AVNC comments, LA River Master Plan CEQA (PEIR)

Hi Ariana,

Thank you for confirming.

Best,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 7:00 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Karen,
>
> I am confirming receipt of AVNC's comments on the NOP.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Ariana Villanueva
>
> Environmental Engineering Specialist
>
> Los Angeles County Public Works
>
> (626) 458-7146

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 3:03 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: AVNC comments, LA River Master Plan CEQA (PEIR)

Did you confirm receipt of Courtney's NOP/PEIR comments email last night?

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Thu, Aug 13, 2020 at 10:32 PM Courtney Morris <courtney@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Dear Council Member O'Farrell, Council Member Ryu and Mayor Garcetti,
>
> The AVNC is submitting the following comments for the scoping of the Los Angeles County's Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). As a riverfront community with a 4 mile border along the LA River we have seen the changes since the passing and implementation of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP). With the benefits and improvements everyone has enjoyed there have been impacts to the community. We see this as an opportunity to share our ground level experience with you and the county to make the LA River a better place for all.
>
> We appreciate all your work to improve the LA River and the support you have provided for our community lead initiatives and projects. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

> Thanks,
>
> Courtney Morris, Co-Chair
>
> Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 3:03 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: AVNC comments, LA River Master Plan CEQA (PEIR)

Hello Adriana,

Did you confirm receipt of Courtney's NOP/PEIR comments email last night?

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

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>
> We appreciate all your work to improve the LA River and the support you have provided for our community lead initiatives and projects. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Courtney Morris, Co-Chair
>
> Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Ariana Villanueva

From: Deborah Bloome <dbloome@acceleraterestiliencela.org>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 1:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Where is a copy of the Plan to review?

Hi Ariana,
Would it be possible to set up a brief call for a few follow-up logistical questions?
All the best
Deborah

On Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 4:34 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Deborah,
>
> The CEQA Program EIR for the 2020 LA River Master Plan is still being prepared, but when the draft is ready for circulation and public review, we will file a Notice of Availability with the required agencies, post an ad in newspapers, and we will send another email so you know it is ready and where you can find the full draft Program EIR document. The information we currently have available about our Program EIR process is provided in the Notice of Preparation (NOP, found here: https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf); the NOP provides notification to the public and interested parties that we have initiated the CEQA process, and the purpose of the upcoming virtual public scoping meeting on July 29 is to share information on how the County proposes to prepare the CEQA environmental document (Program EIR) and to help answer any clarifying questions you may have about the CEQA process. We welcome any written comments about the scope and content that you'd like us to consider in the Draft Program EIR.
>
> The Draft Program EIR will be made available alongside the Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan sometime in late summer/early fall. In the meantime, there are materials from the steering committee meetings and community meetings as well as progress memos on the existing data used to prepare the 2020 LA River Master Plan, which is the proposed project for the Program EIR under CEQA. These documents about the 2020 LA River Master Plan are available at www.larivermasterplan.org and can help you with a head start on familiarizing yourself with the contents of the Master Plan.
>
> We look forward to your participation in the meeting to learn more about the proposed CEQA approach for the LA River Master Plan.
>
> Please let me know if you have further questions and reach out to my number below. Due to the pandemic, I am not currently in the office, but your calls will be forwarded to me. If I cannot get to your call, feel free to leave a voicemail as I check my voicemails often.

Thank you!

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

(626) 458-7146

From: Deborah Bloome <dbloome@acceleraterestiliencela.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:39 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Where is a copy of the Plan to review?

Hi...I am interested in the PIER scoping for the Plan, but I don't actually see a link to the Plan in the information sent. Perhaps I just missed it. Could you please share it with me?

Thank you!

--

Deborah Bloome

Senior Director of Policy

Accelerate Resilience L.A. (ARLA)

310-400-6715

Ariana Villanueva

From: J Surmi <jsurmi@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 8:56 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Attn: Ariana Villanueva - LA River Scoping Mtg. comment
Attachments: LA River Scoping Mtg - Comment.doc

Dear Ms. Villanueva-

Please accept my public comment submission regarding the recent LA River Scoping Meeting as attached.

Thanks, kindly, for your consideration.

Janet Surmi

From: Janet Surmi
818.232.6626
jsurmi@hotmail.com

To: Ariana Villanueva
(626) 458-7146
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Aug. 6, 2020

I have viewed the Scoping meeting from July 29, 2020 and would like to submit my comments as follows.

I am a native of Los Angeles and have lived in the San Fernando Valley for over 37 years, and as a homeowner in West Toluca Lake for the past 22 years. As Treasurer of our HOA for 10 years, I oversaw our Association during an adjacent, 55-unit housing construction project in 2014. As our property is part of the LA RIO, I was interested in how the large construction project would impact our area which is adjacent to the LA River along Riverside Drive and had been in contact with the LA River Project Team.

As an interested member of the community during your LA River Master Plan Scoping process, I would like to suggest consideration of a pedestrian bridge walkway to connect the River at Moorpark Street and is adjacent, on the east-side, to the 101 Freeway overpass and freeway on-ramp.

This area of the River has long been neglected and it would offer an important cross-over to connect the River as well as a safe pass-way for pedestrians in an ever increasing dense area of people on foot and who walk their dogs and bike in the area.

Additionally, another pedestrian walkway to connect the River would be along Riverside Drive across Tujunga Avenue where it meets the southern tip of North Hollywood Park that runs along Tujunga Avenue. This would provide access to the park and to the Amelia Earhart Regional Library. (This library is also on the National Register of Historic Sites of Los Angeles.) This would also be a perfect location for a cross-over that would provide safe public access to the park as a destination and offer a connection along the River from Moorpark Street and up along Riverside Drive and through to the park.

Not only would these cross-overs provide a way to connect the River and provide safe pedestrian access from and across heavily trafficked areas, they would also serve as a way to compliment the River and act as gateways to and for the community.

For suggestion, please see examples below (on page 2) of a pedestrian bridge in Seattle,WA and further details found on the website:

https://www.seattlebikeblog.com/2013/12/02/microsoft-offers-to-fund-walkbike-bridge-over-520-near-overlake-transit-center/

Ariana Villanueva

From: Miroslava Munguia Ramos <mnmungui@ucla.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 12:02 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Protecting River
Subject: PEIR: Biodiversity Scoping Comments
Attachments: LARiverPEIR_PouRcomments.pdf

Hello Ariana,

Attached are comments on behalf of Wai-Yin Kwan and I from Protecting our River. If there is anything else we should attach to our comments, feel free to reach out.

Thank you,
Miroslava

Miroslava Munguia Ramos (she, her, hers)
CALeDNA Project Manager
mnmungui@ucla.edu

August 13, 2020

The LA River Master Plan meetings have provided the community the opportunity to voice their concerns over the overall program and its proposed projects. Despite the river being almost entirely concretized, meeting attendees selected the ecology and the environment of the river as top concerns, regardless of where the ULART or Master Plan meetings were held.

Hundreds of people and dozens of local organizations have been working to better understand the biodiversity of the river. New projects along the river should take note of what lives in the area and incorporate the natural ecosystem into these plans. The community has made it clear that top priorities include the natural environment. Program efforts should make sure that biodiversity monitoring for the local flora, fauna, and the microbial community is conducted and reviewed regularly. These results can help determine the efficacy and longevity of local projects to best serve their respective communities. In addition, program transparency of monitoring plans will not only encourage the community to remain engaged but allow local organizations to collaborate with the City and ensure time and funds are used efficiently.

For example, the public interest in the ecology of the LA River helped shape the formation of Protecting Our River (ProtectingOurRiver.org), a community science project from the University of California that aims to study the biodiversity of the LA River using environmental DNA (the DNA organisms shed into the environment). This project is a collaboration between UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, conservation groups, government agencies, local high schools, and the public. Environmental DNA results are later posted online for free to allow the community, policymakers, and researchers to access the data and see the list of organisms identified on the river. Community members are encouraged to join the Protecting our River team for (virtual) field gatherings along different sites of the entire river to give their perspectives on what researchers are observing. While the PouR team collects environmental DNA samples from the river, community scientists can share their own experiences to help better understand the biological community. This interactive project allows researchers to provide valuable data to collaborators while accepting input from the community to help structure future research. In return, these data can be used to help structure programs that'll best fit the local communities.

Our urban river has the unique opportunity to unite millions of LA County residents. Updates to the Master Plan should transparently reflect the community's interests; dozens of local organizations have spent years of work doing just this. Before any of the proposed projects begin, the program needs to have a thorough understanding of potential ecosystem impacts as a whole and keep the community engaged through it all. An emphasis on biodiversity monitoring is critical in maintaining the river's health and the LA River Master Plan as a whole. An unhealthy ecosystem can lead to failed projects, but taking the initiative now can lead to years of an active and engaged LA County riverine community.

Protecting our River
Monitoring LA River Biodiversity

Wai-Yin Kwan, Software Engineer
Miroslava Munguia Ramos, Project Director
Protecting Our River
protectingourriver.org
protectingourriver@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: Courtney Morris <courtney@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:32 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA; David Ryu; Mitch O'Farrell; mayor.garcetti@lacity.org
Cc: Edward Morrissey; Karen Barnett
Subject: AVNC comments, LA River Master Plan CEQA (PEIR)
Attachments: River_NOP comments (8-13-20).pdf

Dear Council Member O'Farrell, Council Member Ryu and Mayor Garcetti,

The AVNC is submitting the following comments for the scoping of the Los Angeles County's Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). As a riverfront community with a 4 mile border along the LA River we have seen the changes since the passing and implementation of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP). With the benefits and improvements everyone has enjoyed there have been impacts to the community. We see this as an opportunity to share our ground level experience with you and the county to make the LA River a better place for all.

We appreciate all your work to improve the LA River and the support you have provided for our community lead initiatives and projects. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Courtney Morris, Co-Chair

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Atwater Village NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

3371 Glendale Blvd.
P.O. Box: 105, Los Angeles, CA 90039
Email: Board@AtwaterVillage.org
Message Phone: 323 230-3406
www.AtwaterVillage.org

August 13, 2020

RE: AVNC comments, scoping Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell, Council Member Ryu and Mayor Garcetti,

The AVNC is submitting the following comments for the scoping of the Los Angeles County's Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). As a riverfront community with a 4 mile border along the LA RIver we have seen the changes since the passing and implementation of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP). With the benefits and improvements everyone has enjoyed there have been impacts to the community. We see this as an opportunity to share our ground level experience with you and the county to make the LA River a better place for all.

We appreciate all your work to improve the LA River and the support you have provided for our community lead initiatives and projects.

Sincerely,

Courtney Morris
Co-Chair

Edward Morrissey
Co-Chair

CC: LA County CEQA team @ LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
Honorable Supervisor Sheila Keuhl Third Supervisorial District County of Los Angeles
Honorable Supervisor Hilda Solis First Supervisorial District County of Los Angeles
Honorable Congressman Adam Schiff 28th Congressional District United States House of Representatives
Honorable State Senator Anthony Portantino
Honorable State Assemblymember Laura Freidman

NOP Descriptions with comments in blue:

Project Location and Background
The proposed Project is located along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River - 834-square-mile watershed and flows from its headwaters at river mile 5
1 in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles to river mile zero at Long Beach, where the river meets the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). The LA River was channelized between the late 19th and mid-

20th centuries to protect lives and property from flooding as the LA region rapidly grew and transformed to a largely urbanized area

1996 LA River Master Plan
The 1996 Master Plan was a first step in developing an inclusive vision of shared open spaces and parks, stewardship of water resources, and safety from hazardous floods.

COMMENT:

Flood safety was not addressed in 1996 for Atwater Village. Based on 1992 LACDA flood risk was assessed in Glendale Narrows, *no action was taken based on Cost/Benefit analysis.* As quoted from County Representative at 2016 Glendale Narrows Potential Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives
The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve 51 miles of connected open space along the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management.
The 2020 LA River Master Plan has the following nine objectives:
1. Reduce flood risk and improve resiliency.
2. Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
3. Support healthy connected ecosystems.
4. Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.
5. Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture.
6. Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness.
7. Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development, and education.
8. Improve local water supply reliability.
9. Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

Future projects/actions proposed under the 2020 LA River Master Plan would range from extra-small (XS) (1-acre or less) to extra-large (XL) (150+ acre/10+ miles) and would include implementation of these design components individually or in combination as multi-benefit projects in the future. The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan also includes Design Guidelines for all projects/actions to be implemented to present a unified identity while promoting best practices and resiliency for the LA River corridor.

COMMENT:

LA River - County elements and design cohesiveness: Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP) has implemented elements, which may not be "unified" with future Los Angeles County Los Angeles RIver Master Plan (2020) elements. The "kit of parts" should be flexible in developed LA River Areas.

Community identity: The "kit of parts" elements seek to present a "unified identity" along the river which could be at the expense of "community identity" for residents of Atwater Village which is fully in the 1 mile radius of the river border. Atwater Village currently has a specific

look with the iron gates and benches. Furthermore Atwater Village community elements include tile work to evoke its history with the local, historic Franciscan Tile Factory.

Program-Level Analysis, Tiering, and Later Activities
At the time of preparation of the PEIR, design information for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is at a conceptual level; therefore, the environmental impacts analysis will be presented at a program level and will not include site-specific locations of any of the "Kit of Parts."

In addition, at this stage, informed assumptions regarding construction and operations scenarios can be reasonably made for only select design components. **Accordingly, the environmental impacts analysis for these design components will be presented in detail as analysis of "typical projects"** in the PEIR while the remaining design components will be analyzed qualitatively at a high-level in the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR.

COMMENT:

Your typical project for trail as presented at the virtual meeting is not typical – your analysis for a trail should include an additional "typical" situation, which is more realistic for implementation. (Example: in Atwater Village, which is an equestrian district, we do not have 40' of access for shared use path as presented)

More typical path: 12' of area with pedestrians and bikes (equestrians in Atwater Village)

1. Most river paths trails do not have 40 feet to accommodate 3 separate users.
2. Levee path and trails have 12-16' of useable area
3. Equestrian users are not "typical" in most areas.

4. **include option** of physical separation of users along east and west banks (similar to beach paths)

The PEIR will serve as the first-tier analysis for later, more detailed project-specific and site-specific environmental reviews. When later activities are proposed after the PEIR is certified and the 2020 LA River Master Plan is approved, a determination will be made at that time by the agency: a) whether the activity is covered "within the scope" of the PEIR; and b) if new or worsened significant effects not previously examined in the PEIR could occur. Factors that an agency may consider in making the determination of being within the scope of the PEIR could include the geographic area analyzed in the PEIR, consistency of the later activity with the type of allowable land use, overall planned density and building intensity, and covered infrastructure described in the PEIR

If an agency determines that a later activity is covered in the scope of the PEIR and new or substantially more severe significant impacts would not occur, no further environmental documentation would be required. If new or more severe impacts beyond those disclosed in the PEIR could occur, the agency would prepare the appropriate level of subsequent CEQA documentation needed (e.g., mitigated negative declaration, or a site-specific supplemental or subsequent EIR) and the subsequent CEQA review would focus solely on new or substantially more severe significant effects

that were not considered in the original PEIR

COMMENT:

Projects in the LARRMP have used that Master Plan's PEIR for Negative Declarations. We want to ensure that the community's concerns are heard by our commenting on the County's NOP PEIR and in future projects, which will specifically and/or cumulatively impact Atwater Village.

Create a kit of rules and regulations to match physical kit of parts and projects

We recommend that the PEIR study include a top level discussion of "introduction of open space, open space improvements and access improvements" from a programming perspective. How will new and/or revisited open spaces impact existing residential, equestrian communities, businesses, and etc.

community impacts: a program EIR should address and provide a common set of rules and regulation along the river: hours of operation, common rules for signage, set of signage examples (mixed-use: ped/bike + ped/bike/equestrian), potential "walk only" zones and potential "residential zones". Include new and/or additional use impacts such as trash, safety, parking and maintenance operations.

Create a general understanding of responsibility for increased access and open space in residential, equestrian and other communities along the LA River.

Aesthetics

COMMENT:

The "kit of parts" elements seek to present a "unified identity" along the river which could be at the expense of "community identity" for residents of Atwater Village which is fully in the 1 mile radius of the river border.

Atwater Village currently has a specific look with the iron gates and benches along the LA River. Furthermore Atwater Village community elements at entry and elements on streets include tile work elements that evoke our local history with the historic Franciscan Tile factory.

Air Quality

COMMENT:

Atwater Village: Census tracts comprising much of Atwater rank in the 95-100% percentile of the CalEnviroScreen, meaning that they are in the top 5% of environmentally burdened census tracts in the State of California.

The current LA RIver bike path is adjacent to I5, separated by a chain link fence. Most if not all, future trails, access points and projects will be within 500' of the highways surrounding Atwater Village (I5, 134 and 2 fwys) and other similarly situated communities.

We request that you study and mitigate the Air Quality in Atwater Village; diesel particulates impact on bike path and other trail users. This needs to be studied in depth for the safety of current and future LA River amenity users. We have a sample mitigation measure: mulch wall https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1NmNjaXA1u3FIIAUHZducTbpR1MU5NYeE

High Speed Rail Construction: Include cumulative impacts on air quality due to the HSR construction projects. High Speed Rail Corridor to be completed within the same period as County's LA River Master Plan timeline. Atwater Village's east border, the HSR corridor is within 1 mile of the LA River.

Energy*:*

COMMENT:

Alternative energy sources should be integrated into projects for multibenefits i.e. parking shade solar panels, picnic tables shade structure with solar panels. PEIR should explore all energy sources hydro, solar and wind, to achieve carbon neutral, zero emission goals.

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

COMMENT:

The whole of Taylor Yard is a brownfield site, this should be included, and construction and haul routes could negatively impact Atwater Village residents.

Hydrology/Water Quality

COMMENT:

LA River water quality in Atwater Village (Glendale Narrows):

North Atwater Village to Fletcher Drive has not been studied in depth over a significant period of time. Historically, there have been high E. coli levels, which were said to be due to the Verdugo Wash and Equestrian Community.

We recommend that the PEIR include an in depth study of water quality in the Glendale Narrows. Studying the water quality is important to analyze before any project recommendations that include water sports or water activities for public safety, in Atwater Village (Glendale Narrows)

Request based current situation at RattleSnake Park (South of Fletcher Dr) and Heal the Bay LA River Report card "Water Quality in the Upper L.A. River Watershed decreased slightly from

2018 to 2019 with a two percentage point decrease in Green grades issued. This watershed also had three sites on the Honor Roll and three sites on the Freshwater Fails list." ***Freshwater Fails*** *#3 Rattlesnake Park L.A. River Watershed: Recreation Zones.*

We feel this situation requires that the County study Atwater Village (and Glendale Narrows) as it is upstream from Rattlesnake park and could have water related activities in it's Master Plan.

Water quality standards or waste discharge requirements: in order to protect water quality for human and wildlife use, we request that you study redirecting all LA River sewer and storm drains to water treatment facilities before discharging into the LA River. [Hudson River, The Clean Rivers Project in DC, and others, which address the current and future impacts of the **Clean Water Act** (**CWA**)]

PEIR should Integrate water testing and provide a continuous water quality reporting and monitoring plan.

Request based on aforementioned water quality fail and documented case of Avian Botulism in 2019. This case of Avian Botulism killed most of the bird and duck populations in Atwater Village. As of today, they have begun to return but in less numbers. This outbreak doesn't have a documented start but there were several storm drain and sewer cleanings prior to and during summer/fall 2019.

Ground Water: EPA currently studying Atwater Village ground water and vapor contamination in SFV area 4(?) to Pollock Area. This should be included in your PEIR as it will impact any projects in the region.

Flood Risk/Mitigation: We recommend that you use your LA County Master plan findings from "mile 28" for all LA River projects in Atwater Village – not current FEMA maps.

Flood mitigation for the Atwater Village area was not addressed in the 1996 County Master Plan. While flood risk was acknowledged in 1992 LACDA Study, no action has been taken to correct or mitigate flood safety issues. (*The county is responsible for all flood matters in Los Angeles County, deferring the issue to USACE is not a corrective measure.)*

Population/Housing

The PEIR will address the proposed Project's potential for inducing population growth and displacing people and housing within the County and 17 incorporated jurisdictions. Analysis of population and housing along the 51-mile-long river will assess the differences between forecasts based on existing general plans of the County and 17 cities and regional growth projections. Specifically, the PEIR will assess whether the Project would induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure). Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in

detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

Address connectivity of both banks for the LA River. Atwater Village has been seeking to connect the East Bank of the LA River for a safe multi use corridor and community "riverwalk" alternative to the West Bank "bike path".

Flood Housing/Rental: Building and development along the LA River you must acknowledge areas of flood and "potential flood" hazard, note the requirements of Assembly Bill 646 flood hazard disclosures

Public Services

The PEIR will determine, at a program-level, if the improved access and anticipated increase in visitors in the Project area would result in impacts on Public Services — including fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, and other public facilities — by considering response times and increased demands, as applicable. The PEIR will assess available information on the current demand for public services against any new demand that is created by Project improvements. In addition, emergency access impacts during construction and operations would be analyzed. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

We would like to have you include the HSR projects impacts on access and isolation when assessing public safety. One of our HSR mitigation requests is to place a fire/swift rescue substation in North Atwater Village (upon HSR land not used for project(s).. Atwater Village currently has limited access now and less in the future, increased access and open spaces along the river will bring more people, businessess, and visitors which will increase the need for emergency response services to be localized.

Recreation

The PEIR will address the proposed Project's potential impact on notable recreation areas; regional, neighborhood, and local parks; trails; and other local recreational facilities and uses — such as water recreation and equestrian uses — within and near the study area across the 18 jurisdictions. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project includes recreational facilities or would require the construction or expansion of recreation facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

When analyzing the recreational uses at current and future parks and access points we believe that you should analyze the impacts of traffic, parking and quality of life issues for local riverfront communities. Many communities along the LA River are adjacent to other

infrastructure, such as rail or highways, which limits accessibility to the LA River resources.

Atwater Village is an isolated community with 4 miles of river frontage but only 3 major streets crossing the community to Glendale/Los Angeles and no contiguous street at its length. In the future all access to Atwater Village will be via, bridge, overpass and underpass. Currently there are limited public transportation options to reach the LA RIver in Atwater Village.

Traffic: burden of bringing city wide and regional access to the LA River should not burden the local streets or residential communities without mitigation

Parking: burden of parking should not fall upon residential streets at LA River access points. City wide and regional projects should include parking.

Increased LA River use in residential communities: we recommend the use of Residential Quiet Zones, (as seen at beach communities and Greek Theatre-Los Feliz Hills residential area)

Areas of high mixed use: These areas need to be considered walk only and slow zones designated by signage

Require street bike path connectivity to LA River Bike Paths: to reduce congestion and parking issues, study alternative access, bike paths, to LA River recreation opportunities and access points.

Study the use and purchase of HSR excess property for LA river opportunity sites, example solar operated Bike Share Station.

Transportation

A transportation impact analysis will be prepared for the PEIR to describe the existing local and regional transportation network and to evaluate the proposed Project's construction- and operations-related traffic impacts, where feasible, for vehicular, transit, bike, and pedestrian circulation. The PEIR will analyze whether the Project will conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system. The transportation analysis for the PEIR will be conducted using a uniform approach based on the draft County transportation assessment guidelines, including application of the project screening criteria and the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) thresholds. Senate Bill (SB) 743, which replaces vehicle level of service (LOS) as the CEQA metric of significance with VMT, goes into full effect on July 1, 2020. The County has developed a draft update to the Transportation Section of the County CEQA Thresholds Guide that includes a comprehensive methodological approach to the assessment of transportation impacts, including VMT-based thresholds of significance and a process to screen out projects which will not require VMT analysis (due to their size, location, or other factors). These draft guidelines and thresholds are expected to be adopted by the LA County Board of Supervisors in June 2020, ahead of both the SB 743 implementation deadline and the anticipated publication of the draft PEIR in late summer 2020. The draft County VMT threshold is 16.8 percent below existing VMT per capita, which is more conservative than the threshold recommended by the California Office of Planning and Research or

that adopted by the City of Los Angeles, both of which are set at 15 percent below existing. Considering the approach of the PEIR, including the absence of any specific sites or projects under the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan to be analyzed in the PEIR, the County has determined that its uniform set of VMT guidelines will best serve the transportation analysis for the PEIR considering the 17 cities in the study area are in various stages of transitioning from LOS to VMT. Accordingly, the PEIR transportation analysis approach will use the County transportation assessment guidelines, including the project screening criteria and the VMT thresholds. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

City of Los Angeles Mobility Plan should be addressed, LA River connectivity to alternative transportation routes, bike trails, bus and rail to LA River. There should be a seamless integration of all plans for transportation.

Bus stops must be provided for projects and access areas that have more than 20 parking spaces

Street bike paths should connect to the LA River Bike Path. Safe access for river users which lowers VMT.

Cumulative Impacts

COMMENT:

Include **all HSR related projects** along with other projects in Atwater Village

HSR Rail Corridor Projects impacting Atwater Village:
Verdugo Wash Overcrossing J-Hook (NEW/Metro project)
Doran Street: At-Grade Closed (NEW/Metro project)
Salem/Sperry St: Overcrossing (NEW/Metro project)
Brazil Street/Broadway: At-Grade Closed (NEW/Metro project)
Riverwalk Path Bridge: LA River/Verdugo Wash Bridge (NEW/Metro project)
Doran Street: San Fernando Rd. pedestrian Overpass (NEW/Metro project)
Colorado Street: Undercrossing (modified)
Goodwin Avenue: Undercrossing (new)
Chevy Chase Drive: At-Grade Closed
Chevy Chase Drive: Pedestrian Bridge (new)
Los Feliz Boulevard: Undercrossing (modified)
Storage Etc: Demolition rerouting of rail line (new)
Glendale Boulevard: Undercrossing (modified)

Include the proposed HSR projects:
Doran St:
Stand alone Communication tower (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. CO-O4003)
Signal house (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. TC-O4104)

West San Fernando Rd (mid): Stand alone Communication tower (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. CO-F4002)
Verdant/New Life Vision Church: Switching Station (SEE VOLUME 4 DWG NO. TP-04101)
South of Glendale Blvd/Hehr International Inc.: Signal house (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04106s)
South of Glendale Blvd/Hehr International Inc.: Communication tower (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. CO-F4004)
South of Glendale Blvd/West Casitas LLC: Interlocking site (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04002)
South of Glendale Blvd/West Casitas LLC: Interlocking site (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04003)

The required HSR electrical needs will permanently change the Atwater Village view:
Cantilever Structures: 84 to 105 along the Atwater Village border
Overhead contact system (OCS): A simple two-wire system consisting of a messenger wire and a contact wire that are supported by cantilever structures and attached to poles installed alongside the rail tracks.

Additional known construction projects:
Glendale-Los Angeles Water Treatment Plant Campus Update
Glendale-Hyperion Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project
Potential Project:
2800 Casitas Avenue Project (AKA True North Landing)
This list is not comprehensive, there are and will be other "land use" projects, in the 25 year period.

Growth-Inducing Impacts

The PEIR will discuss the ways in which the proposed Project could foster growth in the surrounding environment; growth-related secondary impacts also will be discussed.

Mandatory Finding of Significance

The PEIR will analyze whether the Project has the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The PEIR will discuss if the Project has impacts that are individually limited, but considered cumulatively significant. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project has environmental effects which cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

COMMENT:

The PEIR should have an Environmental Justice Effects section:
This is warranted under the County's LA River Master Plans 9 stated goals. Analyze the distribution of benefit/burden of County's LA River Master Plan on riverfront communities.

Equity investment and inclusion along the LA River:
PEIR should look at broadening access to the LA River's publicly funded projects to open opportunities and access to a wider and more diverse selection of companies, non-profits and vendors.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Andy Lipkis <alipkis@acceleraterestiliencela.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:06 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Deborah Bloome; Zenya Prowell; Jennifer Bravo
Subject: Issues I'd like to address: Urban Watershed Management for Climate and Social Resilience

Dear LA County Public Works River team:

I made many attempts to log onto the LA River Master Plan CEQA briefing, but was unsuccessful. Therefore I'm glad that you have invited written followup input. I understand from your request that you are seeking the topic/subject of our desired input, as opposed to a full briefing, at this time.

I wish to address two combined subjects that the LA River Master Plan **APPEARS** not to have **fully** addressed: that is *managing the entire urban watershed of the LA River as both a watershed, and as source and resource for climate, social, and economic safety, sustainability and resilience*.

The promotional materials and videos for the LA River Master Plan mention conserving water resources and rainwater to augment local supplies. They mention using "low-impact development" to help clean and conserve some of the water, but they do not mention goals and objectives that include "maximize" and "optimize" the water and watershed resources and their potential to create much greater equity of health, safety, and economic opportunities.

With a County that is plagued with substantial inequitable vulnerabilities to climate and other threats to health, safety and security, including extreme heat, air and water pollution, flooding, water shortages and fire, **it is imperative that this plan include "enhancing equitable climate resilience" as one of its primary goals**.

The water, soil, plants, land, residents, businesses and government agencies that comprise the LA River Watershed represent a tremendous resource and opportunity for health and a better future that should be acknowledged, quantified and addressed by the Master Plan.

Please let me know how I can elaborate on these concerns so they can be addressed in the Master Plan and its Programmatic Environmental Impact Report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

-Andy

--
Andy Lipkis
Project Executive
Accelerate Resilience L.A. (ARLA)
Founder, TreePeople
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Ariana Villanueva

From: Sharon Brewer <sbrewerz@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 9:36 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River trail

August 13, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ariana,
By way of introduction, my name is Sharon Brewer. I am a concerned citizen in the Long Beach area. My son and his friends use the LA River Trails quite extensively to get across town and train for the next bike race whenever that is given the bleak sports forecast. They use the trails to avoid being hit by cars.

The trail usually chosen is the Long Beach to San Gabriel route because it is cleaner. He rides the Long Beach loop and found that the homeless are taking up more than half of the trail with their cabana like structures to keep them out of the sun.

The problems of the LA River Trail are many and stretch over 51 miles. .

1. Homeless living in the area. If displaced from the river they will find another area. The example is best understood when cleaning the area near the DTLA police station area when one area is cleared for cleaning the homeless are displaced for a day but return quickly.

2. Medical waste along the river is a huge problem. Needles and drug paraphernalia are strewn in the river and areas surrounding the area. If parks are to be built this area must be clean and remain clean for the children.

3. Human waste is also a problem for the river and the areas surrounding the river.

4. Garbage not included in the last two categories. Shopping carts, bicycles and just lots of every day garbage.

5. Water stations are currently being used for showers. Water stations have cloudy and murky water.

6. Flooding issue every time it rains under the tunnel at the 605 near Alhambra.

The environment and River have taken a beating along the river. The trails are largely unpoliced and are always a worry as the homeless put up wires to catch the cyclist or jogger and steal from their catch.

Kayakers use the river but the thought of overturning in the LA river is just gross. Fish from the LA River is should not be used for human consumption due to the human waste and garbage.

To improve the experience of the LA River it would take a huge effort but the people displaced will still not be able to afford housing. Mental institutions have closed and the need to rehabilitate or just deal with the mental issues of the homeless is no longer available.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Brewer

Ariana Villanueva

From: Michael Affeldt <michael.affeldt@lacity.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 3:33 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today
Attachments: LA River Master Plan EIR Scoping Comments - LARiverWorks.pdf

Hello,

Please find comments attached from the LARiverWorks team.

Best regards,
Mike

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 8:57 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> Thank you for joining us last week for the 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR Scoping Meeting. For those who were unable to make it, the recording from the event is now available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.
>
> Public participation is a key component of the CEQA process, and we appreciate your comments for consideration for the Draft Program EIR. You will receive a Notice of Availability when the Draft Program EIR is available for public review and comment. We will also provide notice about the Draft Program EIR public meeting when those details are available.
>
> You can still submit comments on the scope or issues of concern you would like considered for the Draft Program EIR until August 6, 2020 (the end of the 30-day scoping period). Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:
>
> Ariana Villanueva
>
> Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
>
> 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
>
> Alhambra, CA 91803
>
> LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

August 13, 2020

Attention: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works,
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR Preparation Scoping Comments

LARiverWorks Group, Mayor's Office of City Services, City of Los Angeles

To the project team:

Please accept these scoping comments to inform the CEQA analysis for the Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR. They draw from prior comments on the Plan itself to highlight critical environmental issues to be fully considered for impacts and mitigations. Any questions regarding these comments may be directed to Michael Affeldt, Director, LARiverWorks, michael.affeldt@lacity.org, 310-982-3358 (mobile).

General

- The scope of analysis should include development of a robust complete hydraulic model of the LA River and its tributaries as a necessary foundation for understanding cumulative impacts of the LA River Master Plan, and this model should be made available to public agencies for peer review and use in project planning.
- The scope of analysis should include watershed-scale approaches to peak flow reduction, as this is a fundamental need for many of the LA River Master Plan's objectives.
- The scope of analysis should include prioritization of advancement and completion of LA River projects that are already publicly-adopted, such as within the LA River Revitalization Master Plan (City of Los Angeles, 2007) and the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Recommended Plan (United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2016). Actions considered in the LA River Master Plan must not preclude or inhibit these plans and rather should directly implement their proposals.
- The scope of analysis should include funding strategies and proposed funding sources as the source of funds often influences characteristics of project implementation.
- The scope of analysis should include governance options and strategies and analyze their impacts on how LA River Master Plan projects will be implemented and therefore their environmental impacts.

Aesthetics

- The scope of analysis should include impacts and ramifications of the County's Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Program and Ridgeline Preservation program, and other programs meant to protect viewsheds and natural aesthetics.
- The scope of analysis should include the variety of existing art at and along the LA River, how to preserve and enhance it, and how to encourage the proliferation of much more art of all kinds at, along, and pertaining to the LA River.

- The scope of analysis should include the impact of existing and future scenic vistas by covering portions, and blocking views, of the LA River.

Air Quality

- The scope of analysis should include consideration of the need for additional vegetation at the LA River to improve regional air quality.
- The scope of analysis should include the benefits of minimizing the use of concrete to meet objectives, to the extent feasible, as its production is a source of GHG.

Biological Resources

- The scope of analysis should include impacts to native plant species, particularly those of riparian and riparian upland habitats, as well as foothill habitats and connections between such habitats.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts to fish including native fish species. Some measures proposed in the Kit of Parts appear potentially impactful and harmful to fish and deleterious to planned projects by other agencies and proponents that aim to improve fish habitat and fish passage.
- The scope of analysis should include potential impacts to flow levels, temperatures, turbidity and other water quality elements as they related to the health of current and future habitat and wildlife.
- The scope of analysis should include strategies for streamlined, coordinated, and effective regular maintenance of areas along either banks of the River to prevent harmful pollutants from entering the River which may have impacts on wildlife. The area of analysis would necessarily include consideration of stormwater and drainage systems throughout urban areas 1 mile from each bank.
- The scope of analysis should include the potential legal restrictions on certain LA River Master Plan proposals that would create conditions for the LA River that would be more akin to a buried storm drain, for these may be in violation of various regional, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts and ramifications of the County's Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Program.
- The scope of analysis should include sufficient thresholds of native habitat populations in both public and private spaces to allow native species to thrive and propagate.
- The scope of analysis should include consideration of evolving and emerging understanding of microbiomes, microclimates, and their associated native species in proposing plant palettes and habitat approaches.
- The scope of analysis should evaluate impacts of the Master Plan on the adopted and authorized Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Recommended Plan.

Cultural Resources

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to and views of the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for cultural purposes.

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

- The scope of analysis should include a wide range of tools and approaches regarding reduction of flood risk, including distributed community and watershed-scale mitigations and tactics, and major investments such as bypass tunnels of various sizes and locations. Different approaches will carry their own related impacts and mitigations which should be analyzed in the scope of the PEIR.
- The scope of analysis should include consideration of the use, restriction, or prohibition of herbicides, insectiveds, and rodenticides in the LA River or in locations that may drain to the LA River.
- The scope of analysis should include a prioritization of flood risk reduction approaches in which nature-based, habitat-enhancing, and similar tactics are held in high regard and heavy-infrastructure or habitat-harming approaches are held in low regard -- of course in the context of severity of risk and feasibility. Financial, acquisition-based, and insurance solutions must also be included in analyses and approaches to risk reduction.
- The scope of analysis should include the absolute importance of providing for cleanup of brownfield sites along the River, especially for in-progress projects.

Hydrology/Water Quality

- The scope of analysis should include strategies for stormwater and drainage system improvements, including “green streets” and other nature-based infrastructure throughout urban areas 1 mile from each bank of the River and throughout the watershed as necessary. Because the majority of stormwater that reaches the River is not collected in the 1-mile area of proposed analysis for the PEIR, the scope of analysis, at least for this topic, must be expanded to include the entire LA River watershed. Impacts, mitigations, and programmatic strategies should be considered at the watershed scale.
- The scope of the analysis should include evaluation of upstream watershed opportunities to address peak flood flows.
- The scope of analysis should include preservation, reconnection, daylighting, and renaturalization of historic streams.

Land Use/Planning

- The scope of analysis should include the impacts of any proposals to change zoning or other land use designations or definitions. The project team should make contact with the City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning to discuss this topic in detail and should be aware and familiar with the City’s ReCode initiative which is an ongoing project to modernize and streamline the City’s zoning system.
- The scope of analysis should include a full understanding of the various special planning areas that exist along the LA River including but not limited to the Cornfield Arroyo Specific Plan (CASP), Warner Center Specific Plan, and the LA River Improvement Overlay (LA-RIO). Any impacts to the intentions or efficacy of these and other planning tools should be analyzed and mitigated.
- To the extent that the goals of the LA River Master Plan will be heavily influenced by the ability of local jurisdictions to help effectuate them, the scope of analysis should include mitigations to that impediment that include technical help, capacity building, and direct financial support to

municipalities and community-based organizations to foster a robust and effective collaborative working landscape.

Noise

- The scope of analysis should include the use of sound barriers along freeways to mitigate impacts to human and wildlife at the River.

Population/Housing

- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts of other actions or inaction by Los Angeles County to enhance housing availability and affordability along the Los Angeles River in the corridor of analysis.
- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts of other actions or inaction by Los Angeles County to mitigate the existence and growth of the population of people experiencing homlessness in and along the Los Angeles River and in the corridor of analysis.
- The scope of analysis should include a finer-grained understanding of communities in the City of Los Angeles than has been present in the LA River Master Plan process thus far.

Public Services

- The scope of analysis should include impacts to tax revenue and special revenue tools such as Enhanced Infrastructure Finance Districts, several of which are being planned and studied along the Los Angeles River corridor. Any impacts should be mitigated.

Recreation

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for recreational purposes.

Transportation

- The scope of analysis should include the urgent need to expand active transportation options along, and connecting to, the LA River.
- All PEIR elements, projects, and proposals must analyze potential impacts to long-planned and in-progress projects to complete the active transportation system along the LA River, especially in the San Fernando Valley, where significant gaps in the system remain, despite the expressed intentions of the prior and first edition of the LA River Master Plan from 1996.
- The scope of analysis should include cumulative impacts from California High Speed Rail and propose coordinated mitigations.
- The scope of analysis should include impacts to public transit of all forms, including potential expansions or changes in services or facilities.

Tribal Cultural Resources

- The scope of analysis should include the fundamental premise that access to the LA River itself and its banks are a paramount goal for tribal cultural purposes.

Utilities/Service Systems

- The scope of analysis should include an inventory of and potential impacts to the many utilities that run along the LA River and through the proposed corridor of analysis. Potentially hazardous utilities such as oil pipelines, should be the subject of specific analysis and potential relocation.

###

Information and updates about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

--

Michael Affeldt
Director, LARiverWorks
Mayor's Office of City Services
213-978-2225
www.lariver.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Rosalind Helfand <rozhelfand@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:45 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Please accept my NOP scoping comments. Thank you for your time!

Rosalind Helfand
Independent Environmental and Social Policy Advisory
rozhelfand@gmail.com
310-869-5749

NOP Scoping Comments:

* **Climate change should be included at multiple points in the PEIR, not just under "Greenhouse Gas Emissions" and not just as an emissions discussion**
Impacts, including cumulative impacts, shouldn't be assessed without considering the current and projected impacts of climate change on the following:

-- Wildlife, including species of special concern, that currently relies on the stability of LA River water and habitat to endure climate change impacts.
-- Wildlife, including species of special concern, that will come to rely on the LA River during and following the project completion due to range and habitat changes tied to climate change (includes species that are projected to become vulnerable, not just those that are currently considered vulnerable).
-- The impact of the LA River project overall on urban forest as critical for cooling both people and wildlife and providing habitat for climate impacted wildlife.
-- Impacts on hydrology and water quality due to possible cumulative effects of the project in relation to climate change impacts.
-- Current and projected climate change impacts on the effectiveness of the LA River plans for flood mitigation (seeing that floods may be enhanced by climate change).
-- Accounting for the climate change plans of cities (not just the county) through which the river runs.
-- Potential climate impacts of project construction phases.

*** Human traffic impact on wildlife**
-- Regarding public services and recreation, how will increases in human traffic in some areas where wildlife reside, as well as new human traffic post-project completion, impact wildlife that depend on the river for habitat, food, and water?

*** Total urban forest impact** (adding to the discussion of trees in Land Use/Planning)
-- Align with overall urban forest planning such as with the City of Los Angeles, and consider: Impact to overall canopy; impact to healthy mature tree numbers overall; impact to tree types that wildlife and birds often rely upon overall; impact on the capacity for the urban forest to mitigate stormwater runoff; impact on the urban forest capacity to mitigate heat island effects and climate change impacts; impact on urban forest capacity to mitigate air pollution and sequester carbon (loss of mature trees again a concern).

*** Light pollution impact on wildlife**
-- Will the project during construction and after completion increase light pollution in sensitive areas for wildlife?

*** Changes to hydrology and water quality impacts on wildlife**
-- How important is overall stability for many species currently relying on especially habitat rich areas? (relates to climate change questions)
-- Look at the cumulative impact of wetland loss/lack in relation to wetland need for species in the region.

*** Sourcing and end life of construction materials and waste**
-- How will the ecosystem and climate impacts of construction materials sources and waste be accounted for?
-- Is there an end life plan for reuse/recycling of waste and materials?

*** For "Growth-Inducing Impacts"**
-- How will "growth" be defined? Differentiate between desirable and undesirable types of growth.

*** Transportation**
-- How will the project minimize future transportation emissions that contribute to poor air and climate change by aligning with climate change mitigation planning?

Ariana Villanueva

From: Bedros . <bedrosb@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 7:49 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: mosquitoes

How do you plan to deal with the drought issue?

How do you deal with the mosquitoes issue?

Thank you,
Bedros

Ariana Villanueva

From: Andrea Dell'Apa <adellapa@watershedhealth.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 3:55 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments
Attachments: CWH_PEIR comment letter_Aug12.pdf; LAR_FPHS Project Stakeholder Workshop_6 22 20_FinalVersion.pdf

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

I hope this email finds you doing well. Please find attached a comment letter in regard to the scoping process for proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR.

As additional attachment, I also included a pdf copy of a recent presentation (given on June 22nd) on the Los Angeles River Fish Passage and Habitat Structures Design (LAR FPHS) Project, and a link (see the link in the letter) to a video recording of that presentation. Hopefully, these attachments will provide a more insightful context for the nature of the comments that were included in this letter.

I look forward to receiving your response, and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me to either the email or phone number that are provided below.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to this really important planning process for the County of Los Angeles.

Best regards,
Andrea Dell'Apa

--
Andrea Dell'Apa, PhD
Project Manager
Council for Watershed Health
177 E. Colorado Blvd, Suite 200
Pasadena, CA 91105
www.watershedhealth.org
adellapa@watershedhealth.org
Phone: 213-229-9945 - ext. 5

Ariana Villanueva

From: Alyssa Boyle <gumbyzmom@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 6:08 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Toxicology Report

Hello,

I am a resident of Encino and am very concerned about river bike and walking paths opening up in neighborhoods that border the river. The current bike path along the river at Canoga Park/Winnetka has encampments of homeless people living in the culverts that have grown from 15 to 50+ during quarantine. The LAPD now considers that area too toxic to patrol. How will those areas be evaluated for the EIR? How will we keep the river safe once it's all opened up in the future? As it is, people and animals are seen in the water on a daily basis. It is very concerning as it is dangerous as well as illegal.

--
Sincerely,
Alyssa Boyle

--
Sincerely,
Alyssa Boyle

Ariana Villanueva

From: Byron Friday <bhfriday@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 10:47 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR - NOP and Scoping

Please remove me from this mailing list Thank you

Thank you,

Byron Friday

1-818-614-4638

www.byronsbike.com

www.indoorcyclingrepair.com

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020, 6:02 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.
>
> A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.
>
> The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.
>
> **DATE:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020
>
> **TIME:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
>
> **LOCATION:** Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than august 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Katherine Pease <kpease@healthebay.org>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 6:04 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Heal the Bay Comment letter on NOP for PEIR for LA River Master Plan
Attachments: 08-10-2020 HtB to LA County PW_NOP for PEIR for LARMP.pdf

Hello,

Please find attached Heal the Bay's comment letter on the NOP for the PEIR for the LA River Master Plan. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Best, Katherine Pease

KATHERINE PEASE, PH.D. | DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE & POLICY
She/Her/Hers (What does this mean?)
Heal the Bay
1444 9th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
T: 310.451.1500 **x** 141 | **F:** 310.496.1902

Heal the Bay

1444 9th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

ph. 310-451-1500
fax 310-496-1902

info@healthebay.org
www.healthebay.org

August 10, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Submitted via email to: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the LA River Master Plan

Dear Ariana Villanueva:

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 30 years of experience and 15,000 members dedicated to making the coastal waters and watersheds of California safe, healthy, and clean. Heal the Bay has a long history of work on the Los Angeles River; we have advocated for improved habitat, water quality, and recreation by weighing in on numerous policies and permits concerning the Los Angeles River such as TMDLs, the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) study, permits for dredging and clearing vegetation, and other regulatory actions.

Heal the Bay has actively participated in the development of the LA River Master Plan as a Steering Committee member. Throughout that two-year process we have provided feedback and expressed concerns over the process and the content of the Plan.

After reviewing the NOP for the Draft PEIR and attending the public CEQA scoping meeting, we are concerned about two specific issues, namely the lack of commitment to public participation and the limitation of the assessment of impacts to only two very specific typical projects.

1. **Public Participation Must Be Prioritized**. We are concerned that the timing of the request for public comments on the NOP and the PEIR does not allow for adequate public participation. Given that the LA River Master Plan has not yet been released, the public cannot adequately comment on the NOP. It will be even harder for the public to comment on the Draft PEIR when it is out in summer 2020, again, given that the Draft LA River Master Plan may still not be out then. During the scoping meeting, it was

estimated that the Draft Master Plan will be released in the late summer or early fall. It is unfair to expect people to provide meaningful comments on the PEIR in the absence of the draft Plan itself. Further, due to COVID-19 and the need to conduct outreach and public participation virtually, additional thought, care, and time must be devoted to ensure adequate public participation. Public participation must be made as easy as possible. The CEQA scoping meeting did not make public participation easy. For instance, the comments provided during that meeting were not even considered as official comments or on the record; people were taking the time to attend the meeting, type out their comments and questions, and yet those written questions and comments were routinely dismissed by stating that the comments needed to be emailed in order to be considered. The description of the scoping meeting was not what actually happened at the meeting: "After the presentation, a Q&A session will be held followed by submission of oral comments by previously registered commenters. Written comment forms will be supplied for those who wish to submit comments in writing at the scoping meeting."[1] Comments were not received orally, nor through a registration process and written comment forms were not supplied for those wishing to submit comments at the scoping meeting.

We ask for a commitment to true public participation by delaying the release of the Draft PEIR until *after* the release of the Draft LA River Master Plan. We also ask for additional time for public review of the Draft PEIR, additional public meetings in multiple languages once the PEIR is released, that comments be received in meetings as well as in written formats, and that additional creative ways of engaging the public be explored (e.g. a virtual post-it-note board, virtual open house.)

2. **The PEIR needs to evaluate impacts of all six elements in the kit of parts.**
The NOP states that the PEIR will evaluate two typical projects, which are the common elements and a multi-use trails and access gateways project. We are concerned with this limited evaluation primarily because these two types of projects are likely to be less impactful than other types of projects that will not be evaluated in the same depth. Heal the Bay, in addition to other groups, has routinely expressed concern over the platform parks element and the potential for this design to have significant negative environmental impacts. Focusing the PEIR on two projects that are considerably less impactful than other proposed project types is disingenuous and not representative of the actual Master Plan. We understand that specific projects will not be examined in the

[1] https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf

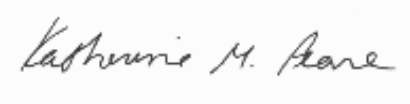
Heal the Bay
1444 9th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
ph. 310-451-1500
fax 310-496-1902
info@healthebay.org
www.healthebay.org

PEIR but a range of potential impacts should be examined for each of the six project types in the kit of parts.

We ask for a detailed evaluation of impacts for *all* six elements of the kit of the parts in the PEIR, not merely a high level analysis.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact us at kpease@healthebay.org or 213-631-8495 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Katherine M. Pease, PhD
Director of Science & Policy

Ariana Villanueva

From: Jeff Kaemmerling <jeffkaemm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 6:31 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Ceqa scoping meeting inclusions

Hi there,

I would like the scope to include a safe connection of all the bike paths along the LA River, because right now it's difficult to enjoy or reap benefits.

Thanks!
jeffkaemm@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: Matt Horns <getplanted.native@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2020 6:17 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

PUBLIC COMMENT

2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN

REGARDING THE DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES AREA

CONCERN:

Constructing high-rise buildings along the river near Downtown Los Angeles would impact environmental conditions, quality of life, and public safety in adjoining areas.

Streamside neighborhoods in the Downtown Los Angeles area already have some of the highest population densities in Southern California. Adding high-density housing units would displace current residents. It would also place additional stress on infrastructure that is already overwhelmed and in need of serious maintenance.

Numerous commercial properties lie vacant. Additional commercial space is not needed in the river corridor.

One aspect of the 2020 MP is establishing riparian ecosystems on the river bed and banks. Large structures adjacent to the river would create extensive shade that could limit the growth of riparian vegetation.

SUGGESTED MITIGATION:

Refine zoning and building codes to limit new construction in the river corridor.

Disallow new construction of buildings with more than two above-ground floors within 200 feet from the top of the river bank.

For single-family residences, limit the lot size and square-footage of new construction in an effort to prevent the river corridor from transforming to an exclusive luxury community.

From

Matthew Horns

310-562-9465

getplanted.native@gmail.com

127 S. Park View St. #207, Los Angeles CA 90057

Ariana Villanueva

From: Matt Horns <getplanted.native@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2020 6:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

PUBLIC COMMENT

2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN

REGARDING THE DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES AREA

CONCERN:

Constructing high-rise buildings along the river near Downtown Los Angeles would impact environmental conditions, quality of life, and public safety in adjoining areas.

Streamside neighborhoods in the Downtown Los Angeles area already have some of the highest population densities in Southern California. Adding high-density housing units would displace current residents. It would also place additional stress on infrastructure that is already overwhelmed and in need of serious maintenance.

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For single-family residences, limit the lot size and square-footage of new construction in an effort to prevent the river corridor from transforming to an exclusive luxury community.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Campbell, Alexis <cp-alexis.campbell@lausd.net>
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2020 1:08 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments
Attachments: Comment_Letter_LA_River_Masterplan_NOP_gmg.pdf

Good Afternoon,

The Los Angeles Unified School District's Office of Environmental Health and Safety would like to submit comments on the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Kindly,

Alex Campbell
CEQA Assistant Project Manager | CP
LAUSD | OEHS
(d) 213.241.4210
(c) 323.286.7377
http://achieve.lausd.net/ceqa

Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

AUSTIN BEUTNER
Superintendent of Schools

CARLOS A. TORRES
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

JENNIFER FLORES
Deputy Director, Environmental Health and Safety

August 7, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Notice of Preparation for the 2020 Los Angeles County River Masterplan (Masterplan). The Masterplan is a comprehensive approach covering all 51 miles of the Los Angeles River. The County of Los Angeles, through the Department of Public Works (Public Works), is the Lead Agency and is preparing a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to evaluate any potential impacts on the environment.

The Masterplan stipulates the program will encompass one mile on either side of the entire LA River, a vast expanse that includes numerous schools. We would like to ensure that these facilities are adequately considered in the environmental analysis for projects implemented as part of the Masterplan. We are available to assist you in identifying schools within the program area that may be impacted.

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety's charge is to protect the District's students and staff, and the integrity of the learning environment. While the District supports the intent of the Masterplan, we also need to ensure that their welfare is maintained.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you need additional information, please contact me at Alexis.Campbell@LAUSD.net.

Regards,

Alex Campbell
Assistant CEQA Project Manager

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrieasutkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Comments on Scoping notice for PEIR
Attachments: Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.pdf

Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
900 Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA
Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

To whom it may concern:

RE: Comments on scoping Program EIR for the 2020 LA County River Master Plan

Thank you for inviting our community to submit comments. Several of us, active in the Elysian Valley area have attended the master plan meetings, up and down the river but we have not seen the Program DEIR which makes it impossible to respond to this notice, in detail. This is not a technical response, and I hope t's not used as such. Rather, this is a broad list of issues, I have raised at each meeting I attend, and have written about in the surveys and letters to you over the years.

Community Input/Outreach: This is a very important project for our community and yet the complexity of the task, a 52 mile master plan, affecting dozens of jurisdictions, that our city council or city department have not presented to us, in a detailed fashion to explain what the City of Los Angeles plans to do in light of this County Master Plan for the Los Angeles River/Flood Control District's properties in the Right of Way and adjacent to it. Where is the PEIR? What will it really say? And Why aren't you sharing that with us? It's odd and it feels rushed. Please send us the completed Program EIR. Have it translated into Spanish and other languages and really provide workshops on sections and facilitate comments on each section. I heard your webinar was not an effective outreach method for listening to public input, as it was noticed.

In the absence of a document to comment on (Where is the PEIR?) I'm providing this list of impacts that should be analyzed; this is my initial check list.

i. Analyze impact on City of Los Angeles (and the other 22 cities along the 51 miles)

1. land use
2. ack of affordable housing,
3. lack of off-site improvements in the older industrial areas,
4. lack of funding and maintenance plans for ongoing operations of naturalized right of way for recreation uses
5. lack of an anti- gentrification policy.

ii. The PEIR should analyze impact of The County Master Plan on county owned properties.

iii. PEIR should Analyze and mitigate Green infrastructure investments on low income housing and working-class households;

iv. It should analyze and mitigate impact of increased use of River, on narrows streets, and zero street or off-street parking to accommodate visitors on weekends, or evenings.

v. It should provide some guidance to Cities and residents for mitigating Flood concerns with Flood Plain Mapping: City and US Army Corps of Engineers need guidance on flood maps. How should ZIMAS be updated and how should Building and Safety and Planning integrate enforcement.

vi. It should show Environmental impact of Flood maintenance roads being converted to bike-pedestrian shared path.

viii. Should provide guidance to local municipalities and the US Army maintenance requirements for new improvements on the main stem and public access rquirements (open street ends, ensure street lighting, etc..).

ix. Green Streets standards should be required of all residential and commercial streets that run into a body of water to ensure it is clean before going into the channel.

x. Street Ends: each street ends needs signage, ada access, and safety markings and maintenance. At the end of each street, there should be public access for multiple benefits of storm water capture, and recreation, and public safety as many people need the shared path to get around.

xi. River/Flood Control System -storm water monitoring should be increased. We have residents who would like to participate in citizen water quality monitoring programs to better understand this issue.

xii. Maintenance, habitat restoration and Arundo removal needs to be funded for the main stem of the LA River/Flood Control Channel. If it is not funded, what will the impact be?

xiii. Maintenance of trails. LA River Greenway is a linear park intended for passive recreational uses, like walking, hiking, and cycling. What will the impact of the updated county master plan be on the demand for: patrols, garbage collection services, permit use of the river ROW.

xiv. Public Education: Flood Control District- Water Safety. Distribute "No way-out videos for our local schools (as we do not have a public library in our community).

Please return to the local neighborhood Councils and the Alliance of River Communities once you begin the CEQA process for the PEIR and EIR in earnest.

Respectfully,

Carrie Sutkin, DPPD
2438 Gatewood Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031
(323) 868-5383

Cc: LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, First District

Ariana Villanueva

From: Gina Thornburg <ginat.cfvn@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 6:14 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Thanks.

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020, 5:36 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Gina,
>
> Yes, we are accepting comments until the end of the day on August 13.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Ariana Villanueva
>
> Environmental Engineering Specialist
>
> Los Angeles County Public Works
>
> (626) 458-7146
>
> **From:** Gina Thornburg <ginat.cfvn@gmail.com>
> **Sent:** Thursday, August 6, 2020 4:12 PM
> **To:** PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
> **Subject:** Re: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR
>
>
>
> Dear Ariana,

Will comments be accepted up to the end of the day on August 13?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gina

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020, 3:39 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> **The scoping period has been extended to August 13, 2020.** Please send your input on the scope or issues you'd like considered in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:
>
> Ariana Villanueva
> Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
> 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
> Alhambra, CA 91803
> LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
>
> For those who were unable to join us in the scoping meeting last week, the recording from the event is available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa. Information about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR will continue to be updated on the website.
>
> For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karl Guder <kgguder@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 6:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River PEIR

You must integrate the Arroyo Seco bikeway with this project and extend to the Rose Bowl.
This will actually add a viable non-car commuter option.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

--

"Failing to prepare, is preparing to fail" — John Wooden

Ariana Villanueva

From: Wolfgang Brardt <wolfgangbrardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 5:35 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Comments about LA River project

Helloo, My name is Wolfgang Brardt, I'm a Owner of a skateboard Magazine called 86'D Magazine. I have a great idea on how we could use tons of the space of the old river.
Essentially placing a skate obstacle along the river to form sort of a trail for Skateboarders, BMX'ers and all persons on any type of wheels to use. Skateboarding in LA as I'm sure you know is a worldwide destination and hot spot. It's a fact that now more children pick up Skateboards than baseball. In 20 years it's predictable that America's pastime will be Skateboarding. LA's River project could turn LA into that much more of a travel destination for people from all over the world.
I have tons of Design ideas that would be so simple and cheap to create and build. The best part is theLA River is already perfect for all activities with wheels. adding a fe supplemental obstacles would just breathe so much creative life into what is currently a kind of dark place.
Thank you so much for reading, looking forward to hearing back!
Sincerely, Wolfgang

--

Wolfgang Brardt
@wolfgangbrardt
(562)513-9951
wolfgangbrardt@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: Gina Thornburg <ginat.cfvn@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 4:12 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR
Attachments: image002.png

Dear Ariana,

Will comments be accepted up to the end of the day on August 13?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gina

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020, 3:39 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> **The scoping period has been extended to August 13, 2020.** Please send your input on the scope or issues you'd like considered in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:
>
> Ariana Villanueva
> Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
> 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
> Alhambra, CA 91803
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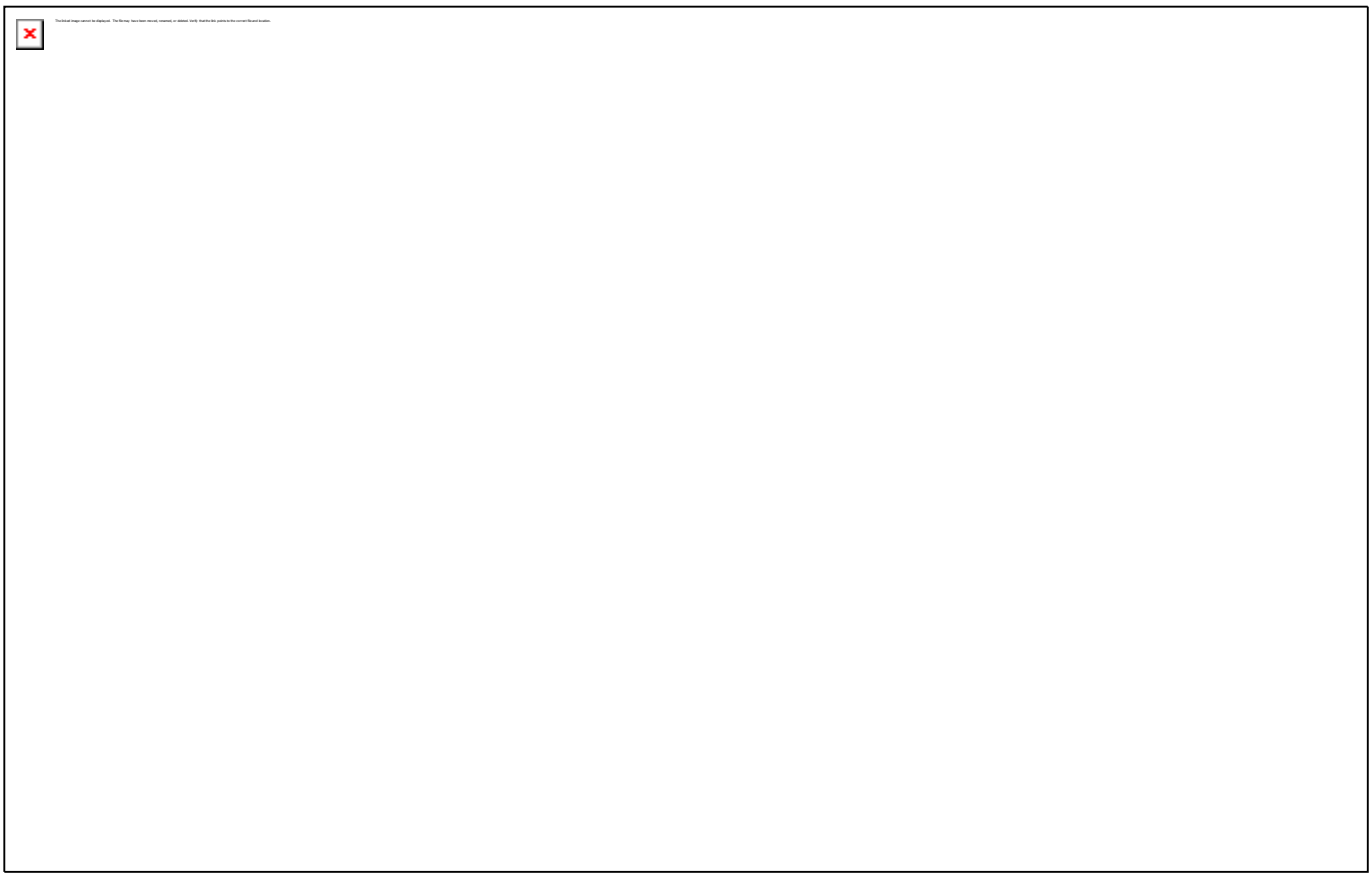
>
> For those who were unable to join us in the scoping meeting last week, the recording from the event is available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa. Information about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR will continue to be updated on the website.



For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: annalee chandler <intrepid1@dslextreme.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 4:12 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: david ryu; Erin Baranko; ted@davidryu.com
Subject: input / questions

You folks have done an ***INCREDIBLY*** awesome job of making the LA River more and more beautiful! Truly. The water is flowing more freely,
the birds abound. I am interested in the longer term improvements, as I ride a bike every other day along the river. I know that in the future
will be re-connnected to the now end of the bikeway by the freeway overpass. And when that connection is made, when will that end connect
to the e eventual like to be able to ride to Long Beach.

And the homeless issue along the bike way. Seems every other day their trash is removed, etc, but they return again and again to trash
what you have improved. Last week they set fire to a heap of trash and the fire department had to come to put it out, snarling untold
amount of the 5 fwy.

Please, please let's not make your efforts be in vain! They spoil it at an unbelievable pace!

William Lovelace
7311 Pacific View Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90068
(310) 387-5012 cell

Ariana Villanueva

From: Abraham Huie <abrahamhuie@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 3:34 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 2:49 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> **The scoping period has been extended to August 13, 2020.** Please send your input on the scope or issues you'd like considered in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:
>
> Ariana Villanueva
>
> Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
>
> 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
>
> Alhambra, CA 91803
>
> LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
>
> For those who were unable to join us in the scoping meeting last week, the recording from the event is available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.
>
> Information about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR will continue to be updated on the website.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

--
Abraham Huie
LinkedIn | GitHub | Twitter
abrahamhuie@gmail.com
| (760) 791-6909
UC Berkeley '13, B.A. Political Economy

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 3:21 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: River Committee; Courtney Morris; Edward Morrissey
Subject: Fwd: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Hello Ariana,

What time is it due in by on the 13th? We have our board meeting at 7 PM on the 13th. If it's midnight we might be able to have it in. Please let us know.

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **PW-LA River CEQA** <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 2:48 PM
Subject: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR
To:

The scoping period has been extended to August 13, 2020. Please send your input on the scope or issues you'd like considered in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

For those who were unable to join us in the scoping meeting last week, the recording from the event is available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Information about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR will continue to be updated on the website.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Erik Van Breene <vanbreene@laconservancy.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:59 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Adrian Fine
Subject: 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan NOP Comments
Attachments: LAC_Comments-LA_River_MasterPlan_NOP-Sent-2020.08.06.pdf

Ms. Villanueva,

Please find the Los Angeles Conservancy's comments on the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan Notice of Preparation. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best,
Erik

Erik Van Breene
Preservation Coordinator
Los Angeles Conservancy
523 West Sixth Street, Suite 826
Los Angeles, CA 90014
(213) 430-4206 | vanbreene@laconservancy.org

Pronouns: He / His / Him / Mr.

laconservancy.org
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LOS ANGELES CONSERVANCY

523 West Sixth Street, Suite 826
Los Angeles, CA 90014

213 623 2489 OFFICE
213 623 3909 FAX
laconservancy.org

August 6, 2020

Sent Electronically

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public, Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP)

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy, I am writing to comment on the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP). The Los Angeles River is one of the County's most important natural and historic resources with a complex and layered history.

As a Program EIR (PEIR) the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan will be the guiding document for an estimated 107 projects over a period of 25 years. As stated in the NOP, the Master Plan study area spans fifty-one miles of river from Canoga Park to Long Beach and extends one mile from either side of the river's banks. The study area encompasses seventeen cities and unincorporated L.A. County communities.

In 1996, the Los Angeles River Master Plan expanded its vision from the originally single-purpose flood control into a multi-benefit amenity that reflects aesthetic, environmental, economic, and recreational values of residents. The 2020 Master Plan further expands on the 1996 vision through its nine objects and "kit of parts."

I. The Los Angeles River Viaducts are significant historic resources and should be preserved

The Los Angeles River is home to a unique collection of the City's most iconic civic monuments. Constructed between 1909-1939 by the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles River Viaducts tell the story of the city's growth from a second-tier city into a bourgeoning economic center.

The viaducts primary function was to serve as a permanent safe means of transportation for motorists and street cars to cross the river. Beyond their primary function, these bridges acted as a beacon of the City's City Beautiful urban design. To all those who arrived from the east by train, the viaducts conveyed a progress not only relating to economics but to progressive thinking and sophistication. The bridges were a way to let tourists, businessmen, and new residents know that Los Angeles was equal to San Francisco and the metropolitan cities on the east coast.

Because of their significance, several of the bridges have been designated City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM). As a component of the PEIR, we urge the County to fully collaborate with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering to assess each bridge in relation to any proposed projects and overarching goals for access and modes of travel either at grade or below the spans along the river. An overall historic preservation plan should be incorporated for these resources and others as part of the PEIR, to better understand the needs of this important collection and ensure their longevity and viability.

II. Many historic resources lie outside the banks of the Los Angeles River and within the Study Area and therefore should be surveyed

As stated in the PEIR, the study area extends one mile in either direction from the river's banks along it's fifty-one-mile course. Stretching from Canoga Park to Long Beach, there are countless historic resources within the project study area. Development along the river is integral to the story of Los Angeles and its history. The communities that have formed along the river's banks are as diverse as the County itself with unique stories and experiences.

To fully understand the Study Area's historic and cultural resources, the Conservancy urges the County to conduct a historic resources survey (incorporating existing inventories, such as SurveyLA) that fully aligns with the area affected and included within the PEIR.

Historic resources are not only architectural, but are often related to art, culture, and important events. The 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan NOP lists nine objectives, the Conservancy believes historic preservation directly relates to the following three objectives:

Objective #2 - Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails;
Objective #5 – Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture; and
Objective #7 – Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development and education.

Incorporating historic preservation into the Master Plan has many community benefits. Preservation empowers communities through saving historic places that tell community history. Connection to the historic built environment provides an important tangible link to history that cannot be achieved through history books alone. Historic preservation is an equitable solution to history telling and through community engagement.

The PEIR should also acknowledge existing historic resources and sites of important events, including those that have already experienced the loss of built-environment features. One

example is the site of the Sleepy Lagoon along the L.A. River near Commerce, and the murder that took place there. This event and a series that followed sparked concern about the treatment of Mexican-American youth. It is also considered a key event in the lead up to Los Angeles' Zoot Suit Riots of 1943.

While we often celebrate the good, it's important to recognize our more difficult histories too. While this story and others is a difficult history ripe with racism and injustices, we can learn from it and grow in a positive way. Fully acknowledging these physical places as part of the PEIR is important.

III. The Conservancy requests a meeting with the County's 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan representatives.

The Conservancy requests a meeting with the County's 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan team. After reviewing the Master Plan's Steering Committee, there does not appear to be a high level of historic preservation expertise represented. We hope a meeting with County representatives will facilitate a meaningful dialogue and help to create a more well-rounded 2020 Master Plan.

IV. Conclusion

The Conservancy looks forward to the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan update. We see the river as an important resource for all Angelenos and a place for equitable engagement. Throughout its fifty-one miles, the Master Plan Study Area encompasses countless historic resources. Therefore, the Conservancy urges the County to conduct a historic resources survey throughout the entirety of the Study Area. Within the river's banks, the collection Los Angeles River Viaducts tells an important history unto itself. To ensure the longevity of these bridges, the County should complete a comprehensive historic preservation plan as part of and to be included within the larger master plan. Lastly, the Conservancy requests a meeting with Master Plan representatives to better understand and ensure historic preservation is fully incorporated within the 2020 Master Plan.

About the Los Angeles Conservancy:

The Los Angeles Conservancy is the largest local historic preservation organization in the United States, with nearly 6,000 members throughout the Los Angeles area. Established in 1978, the Conservancy works to preserve and revitalize the significant architectural and cultural heritage of Los Angeles County through advocacy and education.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (213) 430-4203 or afine@laconservancy.org should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Adrian Scott Fine
Director of Advocacy

Ariana Villanueva

From: Jill Sourial <jill.sourial@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:51 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR Scoping

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of the Draft Program EIR. While it is difficult to comment without a draft of the Master Plan yet available to the public, I would like to see an analysis of governance and proposed implementation mechanisms addressed in the Programmatic EIR.

In addition, my understanding is that the Programmatic EIR will be addressing impacts of two typical projects, which seems limited given the 51 miles covered in the plan and the number of interventions that are being proposed, as well as the distinct environmental justice considerations of many communities along the corridor. In particular, upstream projects have the ability to either facilitate or create an obstacle to downstream restoration and enhancement opportunities, so it is important to consider these impacts holistically.

Sincerely,
Jill Sourial

Jill Sourial
Director, Urban Conservation
Direct Line: (213) 787-9414
Cell: (213) 926-4785
jill.sourial@tnc.org

The Nature Conservancy
445 South Figueroa Street
Suite 1950
Los Angeles, CA 90071

nature.org
mundotnc.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Milton Hallin <milton.hallin@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:50 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping period extended to August 13: Input on scope of Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 6, 2020, at 14:48, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The scoping period has been extended to August 13, 2020. Please send your input on the scope or issues you'd like considered in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

For those who were unable to join us in the scoping meeting last week, the recording from the event is available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa. Information about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR will continue to be updated on the website.

<image002.png>

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sarah Rascon <sarah.rascon@mrca.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:25 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: MRCA Comments RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report
Attachments: LARMP_MRCA PEIR Comment Ltr_final.pdf

Hello,

Please find attached the following comments from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority regarding the Notice of Preparation for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Thank you for your review and consideration.

Sarah Rascon
Urban River Program Officer
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 W. Ave. 26, Los Angeles, California 90065
O: (323) 221-9944, Extension 109
C: (323) 354-2003
Visit us on Facebook

MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

August 5, 2020

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

<< Transmitted via electronic mail: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov >>

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) respectfully submits the following comments to the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works (Public Works) on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) which seeks to evaluate any potential impacts on the environment pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed Project is located along the Los Angeles River (LA River) a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (1-mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans 17 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County (18 total jurisdictions). Although the LA River was channelized between the late 19th and mid-20th centuries to protect lives and property from flooding as the LA region rapidly grew and transformed to a largely urbanized area, habitat and wildlife have flourished throughout and along the river. Currently, an estimated 1 million people live within 1 mile of the river.

The MRCA is a public agency which was established in 1985 pursuant to the Joint Powers Act and is a partnership between the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), the Conejo Recreation and Park District, and the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. The MRCA manages more than 75,000 acres of parkland and is dedicated to the preservation and management of local open space and parkland, wildlife habitat, watershed lands, and trails as well as ensuring public access to public parkland. As advocates for the Los Angeles River, we have actively acquired and developed open spaces adjacent to the River. We have and continue to develop and provide planning of River and tributary path greenways and existing parks and planned future parks. Additionally, the MRCA also operates and manages the only two River Recreation Zones, which were areas designated for in channel use, upon the river being deemed a traditional navigable waterway by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2010, which created protections throughout the river's watershed. The MRCA has been an active participant throughout the Project planning process serving on the LA River Master Plan steering committee.

We have compiled below a list of items which we would like to share with you and hope will be thoroughly addressed before the draft PEIR is approved.

Geography

Currently, this analysis is limited to the 51 miles of the LA River, beginning in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles, extending to Long Beach where the river meets the Pacific Ocean. Furthermore, the proposed project area extends up to 1-mile wide on each side of the river corridor, for a total of 2 miles, one on each side of the river, being defined as the study area. As subject experts know, the river does not begin at the headwaters in Canoga Park, but rather at the tributaries which originate in the mountain ranges in the Los Angeles Basin. The watershed is vast and although we realize it would be challenging to include all tributaries in the Los Angeles River watershed, there are significant tributaries which account for majority of the water in the river which should be considered for incorporation. The Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan analyzes and plans for major tributaries within the watershed; given that opportunities identified in the ULART plan are congruent with Public Work's mission, it would be highly beneficial to expand the County's reach to include tributaries within ULART under the PEIR, which would truly produce a cumulative analysis and regional impact, which the County has stated as being a goal of the Project.

Other planning efforts underway also include the CA High Speed Rail (HSR) project. The proposed alignment from Burbank to Los Angeles is currently in its planning process and poses significant and long-term impacts to the river and adjacent lands, including the threat to impede public access. Another project along the river with substantial beneficial impacts is the Los Angeles River Path project by Metro, which closes a significant 8-mile gap on the river path between the cities of Los Angeles and Vernon. The PEIR should have the foresight to include HSR cumulative impacts and address adverse impacts, as well as LA River Path alternatives included in the project analysis.

Aesthetics

Not only has public perception changed toward the LA River because of its navigable designation, but also because of its visual characteristics. When water, vegetation, habitat and wildlife are found in the river, like many river's outside of Los Angeles, it is then that people realize the value of a natural resource that once existed, a natural and wild river. The PEIR is expected to describe the existing visual character of the proposed Project study area and surrounding areas, and will identify key visual resources and scenic views. There are few naturalized areas in the LA River which remain and should be preserved, including the Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, and the Glendale Narrows. The probable impacts of the Project should not include substantial adverse effects on key visual resources and scenic vistas. Although one of the primary functions of the Flood Control District is to maintain flood capacity, it is our hope and expectation that many of the existing characteristics will not be compromised for flood control purposes, but rather will be preserved and enhanced to further create a thriving, riparian ecosystem. The mission

of the Flood Control District has since been expanded to include maximum environmental and ecological benefits, as well as recreation - all of which contribute to river aesthetics.

Biological Resources
The LA River contains an abundance of biological resources, existing both in the river channel and adjacent to the river within the 2-mile-wide study area of the river corridor. The rich riparian habitat that thrives off the existing water sustains vegetation, plants and wildlife along with their habitat. The river and its adjoining areas is home to aquatic and non-aquatic invertebrates, endangered species, such as the Least Bell's Vireo, the red-legged frog, and more than 20 species of birds. Additionally, the river is a significant stop along the Pacific flyaway being essential for migratory birds. In order to best evaluate the impacts of the project, all of the following should be taken into consideration and assessed in the PEIR, along with appropriate consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Additionally, should the PEIR be sufficient to allow for channel modifications, such as those proposed in the City of Los Angeles Fish Passage Study led by Stillwater Sciences and funded by Wildlife Conservation Board, endemic and native endangered fish could be reintroduced.

Hydrology/Water Quality
An opportunity presented by the PEIR includes the ability to analyze the differences between the existing conditions and the future conditions with respect to Hydrology and Water Quality in the river. Analysis should thoroughly analyze pollutant sources and concentration of pollutants- how such pollution concentration levels would impact habitat, wildlife and human uses, thus affecting compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and safe water quality uses. Also, changes in the impervious surfaces, application of stormwater infrastructure, and discharges, affecting sensitive habitats such as the estuary. Given the potential for reduced discharges, water quality standards could be affected, specifically as it pertains to water quality standards of surface/groundwater that could be degraded. Also, currently underway is a study by the State Water Resources Control Board analyzing river flows; the PEIR should include analysis for how the LA River Flows Study will be incorporated.

Land Use/Planning/Air Quality
There are a variety of land uses that occur adjacent to the LA River in the County and within each of the cities that which the study area analyzes. The PEIR should evaluate the compatibility of the proposed Project with neighboring areas within all of the jurisdictions, analyze and mitigate change to or displacement of existing uses. The proposed Project is located in such a publicly important area that public access should be a priority when planning for uses, while creating a cadence of accessways, access points and amenities. These opportunities offer current and future restored habitat on urban public lands which are scarce.

Given the scale of projects in the Kit of Parts, many of which are listed in the Project, those that specifically are related to housing should only consider transit-oriented

developments (TODs) that are adjacent to public transportation, in order to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to mitigate the potential to drastically increase traffic congestion in already dense neighborhoods where air quality by the single largest polluter, being vehicles, would be exacerbated further contributing to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

Public Services
It is anticipated that use of the river will increase and the PEIR should determine, at a program-level the impacts and need for Public Services — including fire protection, public safety which should be provided by the appropriate law enforcement, such as a Ranger, homelessness assistance and encampment cleanups, as well as other public facilities. The PEIR should assess available information on the current demand for public services against any new demand that is created by Project improvements. The PEIR should review the 2019 Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan in order to ascertain the issues and recommendations provided through community consensus.

Recreation
Stakeholders and leaders have worked years to allow for recreation, both in channel and along the river. Today, passive recreation is one of the most popular uses of the river which include walking, running, biking, fishing and kayaking. The river offers opportunities for mental and physical health for the 18 jurisdictions throughout the study area, serving not only the estimated 1 million people who live within 1 mile of the river, but also those who travel from far distances to experience an urban river. The PEIR should address the proposed Project's potential impact on notable recreation areas and the river recreation zones; impacts to regional, neighborhood, and local parks and those in planning; trails; and other local recreational facilities and uses. The PEIR should analyze the Project's likelihood to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities and the substantial physical deterioration that could be accelerated. Additionally, the PEIR should consider any adverse physical effects on the environment. Recreation access should only be enhanced for public use while fostering natural, recreation areas, and protecting existing investments that have been made in the river.

Population/Housing
While the state is in a housing crisis, the proposed Project's potential for inducing population growth and displacing people within the County remains a threat to both government and existing communities. As a member of the Los Angeles Regional Open Space and Housing (LAROSAH) Collaborative, the MRCA does not believe that affordable housing and open space protection need to be mutually exclusive; however, when planning for housing, we must propose solutions for the appropriate type of housing- affordable and low income, while maintaining protections for open space. The MRCA supports investments in communities which also protect the social fabric of respective neighborhoods. Other considerations should include the land use analysis, additional infrastructure and construction that would be required, as well as potential adverse effects to the environment and wildlife while undergoing improvements for

population growth. Los Angeles is already a highly urbanized County, lacking open space, parks, sufficient habitat for wildlife, and permeable surfaces which should be championed throughout the PEIR for a cumulative analysis and regional environmental impact.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please address any future documents, notices, and questions to myself at the above letterhead address, by phone at (323) 221-9944 x 109, and email at sarah.rascon@mrca.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

George Lange
Chairperson

Ariana Villanueva

From: Truong, Cassie <TruongC@metro.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:03 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: 2020 LA River Master Plan - PEIR Comments
Attachments: 200806_LA Master Plan (1).pdf

Greetings,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2020 LA river Master Plan in the County of Los Angeles. Attached are Metro's comments. **Please kindly reply to confirm receipt.**

Please contact Shine Ling at 213.922.2671 or lings@metro.net if you have any questions.

Best,

Cassie Truong
LA Metro
Transportation Associate II
Transit Oriented Communities
213.418.3489
metro.net | facebook.com/losangelesmetro | @metrolosangeles
Metro's mission is to provide world-class transportation for all.

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

Metro

August 6, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
Sent by Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan
Notice of Preparation of Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

Thank you for coordinating with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) regarding the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Master Plan) located in Los Angeles County (County). Metro's aim is to create and maintain a world-class transportation system that focuses on providing the best customer experience possible and enhancing the quality of life for those who live, work, and play within the County. As transportation planner and coordinator, designer, funder, builder and transit operator, Metro is constantly working to deliver a regional system that supports increased transportation options and associated benefits, such as improved mobility options, air quality, health and safety, access to goods and services, and quality of life.

Per Metro's area of statutory responsibility pursuant to sections 15082(b) and 15086(a) of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA: Cal. Code of Regulations, Title 14, Ch. 3), the purpose of this letter is to provide the County with specific detail on the scope and content of environmental information that should be included in the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Master Plan. Effects of a project on transit systems and infrastructure are within the scope of transportation impacts to be evaluated under CEQA.[1]

PEIR Project Description
The proposed Master Plan encompasses an area along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans through 17 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County (18 total jurisdictions). The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve 51 miles of connected open space along the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management.

Recommendations for PEIR Scope and Content

Metro Planning Efforts

Metro would like to advise the County that it has adopted three plans of interest that are within the Master Plan's area of study. Metro encourages the County to review these plans and identify synergies with the Master Plan and opportunities to support and implement their goals and recommendations:

[1] See CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(a); Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts In CEQA, December 2018, p. 19.

1. Connect US Action Plan: Completed in 2015, the Connect US Action Plan's fundamental goal is to provide pedestrians and cyclists a safe and pleasurable passage to transit between Los Angeles Union Station, 1st/Central Station and the adjacent historic neighborhoods. Enhancing walkability and bikeability will facilitate a second goal, connecting people who live and work in adjacent neighborhoods to one another. More information is available at: https://www.metro.net/about/union-station/connect-us-action-plan/

2. Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP): Adopted in 2016, the ATSP is Metro's county-wide effort to identify strategies to increase walking, bicycling and transit use in Los Angeles County. The ATSP's focuses on improving first and last mile access to transit and proposes a regional network of active transportation facilities, including shared-use paths and on-street bikeways, and develop a funding strategy for implementation. More information is available at: https://www.metro.net/projects/active-transportation-strategic-plan/

3. First/Last Mile Strategic Plan: Completed in 2014 and authored by Metro and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan an approach for identifying barriers and planning and implementing improvements for the first/last mile portions of an individual's connection to transit. The plan is available at: https://www.metro.net/projects/first-last/

Metro Corridor Planning Efforts

Metro is studying the following new corridor projects which are within the Master Plan's study area. These projects should be incorporated into the PEIR's analysis. In addition, the County should consult with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, which operates Metrolink, on their capital planning efforts.

1. Metro's LA River Path Project: Funded by Measure M, Metro is evaluating a new bicycle and pedestrian path along an approximately eight-mile stretch of the Los Angeles River from Elysian Valley through Downtown Los Angeles to the City of Maywood. Metro released a Notice of Preparation for this project in October 2019 with a target operation date by 2027. More information may be found online at: https://www.metro.net/projects/lariverpath/.

2. West Santa Ana Branch Project: Metro is evaluating a potential new transit system connecting southeast Los Angeles County to downtown Los Angeles via the abandoned Pacific Electric Right-of-Way/West Santa Ana Branch Corridor (PEROW/WSAB) and a combination of local streets and private and Metro-owned rail ROW. This project crosses over the Los Angeles River in the City of South Gate. For additional information, please see https://www.metro.net/wsab.

Adjacency to Metro-owned Right-of-Way and Facilities

The Master Plan's study area includes Metro-owned ROW and transit facilities for Metro Rail, Metro Bus, and Metro Bus Rapid Transit operations. In particular, these lines cross over the Los Angeles River: the G Line (Orange), in the San Fernando Valley; and the A Line (Blue), to the north of Long Beach in between Del Amo and Wardlaw Stations. In addition, the Metrolink commuter rail service is adjacent to parts of the Los Angeles River, operated by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), portions of which use Metro-owned ROW. Buses and trains operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week in these facilities.

The PEIR's transportation section should analyze potential impacts on Metro and Metrolink facilities within the Master Plan's study area, and identify mitigation measures or project design features as appropriate. Critical impacts to be studied should include (without limitation): impacts of construction and operation of future projects to the structural and systems integrity of rail tracks, bridges, and related infrastructure; and disruption to bus or rail service.

The following provisions should be used to develop mitigation measures and/or project design features that address these potential impacts to Metro Bus and Metro Rail infrastructure. Additional information is available from the Metro Development Review Team at https://www.metro.net/devreview.

1. Technical Review: The Project Sponsor shall submit engineering drawings and calculations, as well as construction work plans and methods including any crane placement and radius, to evaluate any impacts to Metro's infrastructure in relationship to the Project. Before commencement of any construction activities, the Project, the Project Sponsor shall obtain Metro's approval of final construction plans.

2. Construction Safety: The construction and operation of the Project shall not disrupt the operation and maintenance activities or the structural and systems integrity of Metro's transit infrastructure. Not later than one month before Project construction, the Project Sponsor shall contact Metro to schedule a pre-construction meeting with all Project construction personnel and Metro Real Estate, Construction Management, and Construction Safety staff. During Project construction, the Project Sponsor shall:

    a. Work in close coordination with Metro to ensure that Station access, visibility, and structural integrity are not compromised by construction activities or permanent build conditions;

    b. Construct a protection barrier to prevent objects, material, or debris from falling onto the ROW;

    c. Notify Metro of any changes to demolition construction activities that may impact the use of the ROW;

    d. Permit Metro staff to monitor demolition and/or construction activity(ies) to ascertain any impacts.

3. ROW Entry Permit: For temporary or ongoing access to Metro Rail ROW for demolition, construction, and/or maintenance activities, the Project Sponsor shall complete Metro's Track Allocation process with Metro Rail Operations and obtain a Right of Entry Permit from Metro Real Estate. Approval for single tracking or a power shutdown, while possible, is highly discouraged; if sought, the Applicant shall apply for and obtain such approval from Metro not later than two months before the start of Project construction.

The following provisions should be used to develop mitigation measures and/or project design features that address these potential impacts to Metrolink infrastructure:

1. Technical Review: The Project Sponsor shall submit engineering drawings and calculations, as well as construction work plans and methods including any crane placement and radius, to evaluate any impacts to the Metrolink infrastructure in relationship to the Project. Before issuance of any building permit for the Project, the Project Sponsor shall obtain SCRRA's approval of final construction drawings.

2. Construction Monitoring: The Project Sponsor shall permit Metro and/or SCRRA staff to monitor construction activity to ascertain any impact to the ROW. During construction, the Project Sponsor shall construct a protection barrier to prevent objects, material, or debris from falling onto the ROW. The Project Sponsor shall notify Metro and SCRRA of any changes to the construction/building plans that may or may not impact the ROW.

3. ROW Access: The Project Sponsor should contact SCRRA for Right-of Entry requirements. Information can be found at www.metrolinktrains.com. Other requirements may include permits for construction of buildings and any future repairs, painting, graffiti removal, etc., including the use of overhead cranes or any other equipment that could potentially impact railroad operations and safety. Frequent access for maintenance tasks such as graffiti removal, will necessitate an active license agreement.

Other NOP-related Comments

1. Transportation: For the EIR's transportation section, the County should clarify whether its analysis of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will (or will not) use data that incorporates the effects of the recent coronavirus pandemic. The County should also advise on the status and use of the pending update to the County's transportation assessment guidelines.

2. NOP page 3, "Proposed 2002 LA River Master Plan Elements": Recommend including Environmental Graphics in Kit of Parts.

3. NOP page 4, "Program Level Analysis, Tiering, and Later Activities": Consider "future projects" to replace "later activities".

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me by phone at 213-922-2671, by email at DevReview@metro.net, or by mail at the following address:

Metro Development Review
One Gateway Plaza
MS 99-22-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Sincerely,

Shine Ling, AICP
Manager, Transit Oriented Communities

Ariana Villanueva

From: Renee Lawler <Renee_Matt@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 1:57 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR comments
Attachments: 1977EIREquestrianZoneMapSanFranciscoAve.pdf; sample docs for OOI and 2020 DEIR arguments July 29 2020.pdf

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

August 6, 2020

To: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Re: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan

The language of the law, AB530, is primary in understanding the scope and objective for those working on this DEIR and in order to be aligned with the State Law and the reason and purpose of this entire Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization process. The revision of the LA River Master Plan for the South LA River, sovereign land, is stated in AB530 – that due to the linear nature of the river, no one entity could consider all the complex issues when planning along the river corridor, therefore, a regional approach to project review and planning was necessary. The chosen "Program" EIR may at this point in the process, may not achieve those stated objectives and the purpose of the law that initiated the entire effort.

Past performance by key participants in the LA River Revitalization Master Planning effort, members of the Task Force, (entities and municipalities, such as the City of Long Beach and LA County Flood Control District), have exhibited resistance to cooperate when tasked with addressing flood control mitigation both site specific and broader reaching areas. The necessity for cooperation between various entities, public or private, for the LA River corridor which includes the lands on either side is the essence of the law, AB530. During the CEQA DEIR review, the concept of collaboration and accountability for planning and project review within the corridor to be inclusive of more entities on a larger scale, not just in the hands of the local entities – to be in keeping with the primary objective and legislative intent.

There are additional guiding documents such as the 1999 Maintenance and Use Agreement between the LA Co Flood Control District and the Army Corps of Engineers that must be considered in this DEIR process to understand where the responsibilities lie with regard to the primary objective of flood control. Flood impacts to the river lands and their established and adjoining communities, animals and historic equestrian trail network are also a regional concern. The 1999 agreement, for instance, outlines responsibility of the "District" and local entities with respect to flood control infrastructure, reporting, response, project review and impact assessment for projects of all sizes within the region. When a project is proposed in the corridor (including one mile on either side or more if/as needed, site specific or broad-scale), LACFCD should be involved in review of the storm drain infra-structure. Regardless of what City or the immediate jurisdiction any storm drain is in, those structures are all ancillary to the flood control channel should be reviewed on a project by project basis for their effectiveness to control flooding within the vicinity, their effectivity to support the purpose of the flood control system on the whole and to address any gaps or deficiencies existing or that would add to cumulative negative impacts should there be a project or no action taken. This is an obligation of LACFCD and terms for their existence when established as a necessary entity in the region for flood control management on a cooperation basis with the Federal entity the Army Corps.

By using the Program EIR and placing responsibility on a local level review the goal and objective of AB530 may not be actualized. Based on past history, local level project review in the LA River corridor is insufficient, thus the legislation, so to propose through a Program DEIR the continuation of local level site specific CEQA review will likely result in more un-mitigated cumulative negative impacts for the historic equestrian trails, lands and established communities with concerns, features, issues that are layered, regional in nature and require a more complex review than the local entities have traditionally conducted.

The DEIR is using the assumption that the local entity would use a “kit of tools” or review in 5 mile segments. The problem with that is that the river has features that should not be broken into segments – such as the historic equestrian trail. Much of the trail demise and un-mitigated cumulative impacts to the equestrian lifeline, is due to local level planning and no real review/accountability on a larger linear scale for the horse trail. The horse trail, and the flood control channel and the storm drains which are supporting ancillary systems, and the open space in channels, outer channel and adjoining vacant or open lands that support this wildlife, trail and recreation and historic community corridor needs to be considered in this DEIR.

The horse trail along the LA River and vicinity was dedicated in 1944, for the purpose of preserving a culturally significant example of CA history. The bridle/riding/hiking trail (different from the bike path which was the utility road on top of the berm converted to a bike path in the 1970s). The horse trail is still used today for recreation was a connector feeder trail that ultimately merged with the Anza Trail at the Rio Hondo and was used by used by the Spanish and Ranchos. The trail has been compromised, obstructed, built upon, encroached upon by trash, motorcycles and homeless. The trail is a linear feature, just as the river is and it is a prime example, along with control of flooding why in order to address all the complex issues when planning a project large or small, broad or site specific along the LA River corridor a regional “committee” approach is needed instead of business as usual leaving it to the local level to “do the right thing” through Program EIR – so maybe there is some other approach needed. The essence of AB530 – the legislation that prompted the 41 member steering committee, the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan and the reason this DEIR is being conducted, conveys that because history has proven many local entities don’t have or use the tools to adequately address these many concerns and the result is impacts accumulate and go un-mitigated. The State legislation, that passed unanimously under Speaker, Anthony Rendon acknowledged the fact that a regional approach for the river corridor(s) that includes the river lands and 1 mile on either side, was needed, and that no one single entity could possibly anticipate or take all the proper steps to adequately review CEQA impacts for the linear LA River lands that include the linear/parallel historic equestrian trail and the associated open spaces. The idea that a single entity, such as the City of Long Beach could properly mitigate or proceed with “no project” for the South LA River lands and 1 mile on either side on a project basis is opposite to the law that prompted this process and needs to be addressed in this DEIR from that perspective and if another type of CEQA review is required to achieve the objectives of AB530 primarily and secondarily the Revitalization Steering Committees’ primary objectives, which I will address individually.

2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives:
Flood control risks – The storm drain infrastructure is currently incapable of handling the rain run off for current density in the City of Long Beach vicinity. The City communicated that fact to the County and denied taking corrective action despite known flooding conditions. ”Pipes are too small” was stated from City to County, both well aware of the known deficiencies and yet the City of Long Beach opted not to cooperate with LA Co Flood Control District in correcting, documenting, reporting or cooperating in mitigating, despite both parties having combined responsibility via storm water NPDES permit requirements, 1999 Maintenance and use Agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers, 1996 & 2006 & 2020 LA River Master Plans etc. Due to the fact that they have not upgraded the most of the storm drain infrastructure, despite knowledge and notice to do so, in more than just a “site specific location” any additional density along the flood control river corridor, in the City of Long Beach for instance, or more site specific such as the proposed OOI Integral development at what has been proposed regional parkland and historic equestrian zone for decades of master plans, will stress an already under-sized flood control storm drain system for the storm pump station SD6. This proposed development will cause reoccurrence of the known flooding, likely with increased intensity and adding more properties for the negative impacts that the City and Flood Control district recently mediated over. The rain run-off from Wardlow/OOI parcels, Wrigley Heights and the Los Cerritos neighborhood flows southward and through Wrigley North (south of Wardlow). While one of the intended destinations for run off is to Storm Drain

Station #6 at Willow & 26th, the problem is that most rain run-off never makes it to the drain pipes, which the City recognizes. But because they know their piping and system is sub-standard and in many locations undersized, they are ok with the excess (due to more and more density and impermeable surfaces compounds) being diverted to the river lands instead of to the pipes. That excess routes to flood properties that are river adjacent where there is no infra-structure to handle that cumulatively increased excess density run-off and subsequently is never reported accurately as to the capacity for the pump and pipe systems. This is an example of a complex issue that AB530 referred to, one that has much larger impact but left in the hands of the local entity and the District is not being adequately reviewed for conduct, procedure and mitigation.

Safe equitable, inclusive parks, open space, and trails – The 2020 LA River master plan and prior have outlined the OOI property as necessary open space to enhance the park poor needs of the south LA River and the citizens who reside in the west side of Long Beach. Also this property combined with the vacant golf driving range to the north and the Wrigley Greenbelt south of Wardlow represent the largest swath of land along the river adjacent to the historic horse bridle-equestrian/hiking trail. That horse trail (not the utility road turned bike path in 1970 on top of the berm that crosses and merges the older historic trail), is the one of the oldest recognized features in the vicinity that represents 2 historic periods in CA history and the life line for culturally significant minority group and several river-adjacent residential, commercial and open space equestrian zones. The integrity of the trail from an historic mobility necessary function as well as more recent history to include recreational use will be negatively impacted if the land ear-marked for the past 30 years for parkland/equestrian zone at Wardlow and the LA River is developed and not retained open space. The trails and open spaces are the life-line for the horse culture in the LA River vicinity and we must rely on un-obstructed trail passage, safe mobility as any other user group (biking or walking). In addition it is open space adjacent to the trail and to the few remaining equestrian housing horse-overlay zones that need large 8,000 s.f., minimum lot sizes with set-backs, and trail access easements for the health, safety and protection for the historic lifestyle, animals and integrity of the trail from negative impacts brought by non-compatible uses such as high density development. The City of Long Beach conducted an in-depth EIR review in 1977 for the protection of these river-adjacent zones and that EIR should be considered in this DEIR process.

Support healthy connected ecosystems. – The OOI parcels are not site specific due to the their connection to the linear historic horse trail and open space still present to the north and south and adjacent direct proximity to the trail and river lands and flood control channel. It is part of the large linear environmental corridor that many species depend upon and so this land within the one mile zone, ear-marked to be preserved open space for the last 3 decades of master plans is subject to development without considering for past or present master plan and this DEIR. The river environmental corridor, as a resource, has been vastly and negatively altered since it was deeded to the State of CA. The south LA River, sovereign land - owned by the people of the State of CA, as acknowledged by AB530 and the courts, continues to experience negative impact every time development occurs on or adjacent to the river lands. The corridor ecosystem is not defined by the man-made parcel lines. The river corridor and trails were once all open space; however with the present day man-made flood control channel and short term memory of what should be, is being eaten up by development right up to the flood control berm edge. That type of encroachment on the corridor is just as negative an impact as building right up to the edge of any wetlands or coastal protected zone.

Enhance opportunities for equitable access to river corridor. – The corridor includes wild species and domestic horses and historic and established communities that are being squeezed out of the corridor due to being overrun by density development and encroachments, biking, trash, motorcycles, homeless and flooding. It is not equitable that the biking community and housing density should overtake the needs of the historic occupants, horses and wildlife that require open space and low density.

Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture. – The cultural significance of the horse and rancho lifestyle is being extinguished by this proposed OOI development on 20 acres river and trail adjacent. The OOI area was zoned Horse overlay zone in 1977 requiring large 8000 s.f. minimum lots, set-backs for the health and safety of the horses and residents, and with detailed CEQA review for the purpose of preserving and protecting the horse culture and adjacent trail network of significance. Furthermore, the City of LB indicated in their new Land use Element of the General Plan “LUE” that the “Wrigley Heights equestrian zone” would remain and Councilman Uranga and Linda Tatum re-iterated so during the LUE debates; yet the City continues to omit and ignore the horse overlay zoning low density requirements to protect that culture. They

would rather not acknowledge the Horse Overlay in their “other zones” and intentionally assigned the “founding and contemporary” place type to this horse-overlay zone so they could set the stage for this higher density project in what should be a lower density Horse overlay zone or entirely open space with a compatible parkland multi-use (walk/bike/horseback ride) user group format. This is another example of a local entity not considering the master plan prior or present or the complex negative impacts this type of development (large enough to consider it outside the limits of DEIR self-imposed “site specific” exception) as it poses cumulative negative impacts for a large area that includes but is not limited to flooding, wildlife, historic equestrian, traffic, noise, air, dust pollution and more.

Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness. – How is this type of development going to address adverse impacts on housing when developing the OOI will further the extermination of a protected minority community that was supposed to be protected in this horse overlay zone?

Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development and education. – The community has engaged over this property for decades. Even when included in 3 master plans spanning decades including a lengthy environmental review in 1977 that that pre-dates CEQA resulting in the protective 20 page horse overlay zoning the City of Long Beach actively ignores those historic efforts. Furthermore, Al Austin and the City of Long Beach were participants of the 2020 LA River Master planning process and agreed to the concept of retaining the 58 acres that include the OOI parcels for open space but instead they continue to make spot zoning and LUE changes and to suit their development desires and have exhibited no intention of listening to the needs and wishes of the people and environmental concerns of which they are all well aware, driven instead by development dollars.

Improve local water supply reliability – The deficient storm drain pipes that allow the excess to flow and not make it to the pump stations continue to pose many risks and non-compliance concerns.

Promote healthy, safe clean water – same as above.

Documents to be considered in the DEIR process that relate to the LA River should include, but not limited to:
1972 Clean Water
1977 Horse Overlay zoning and EIR requirements
1996 LA River Master Plan
1999 Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement & Rehabilitation agreement between LA County Drainage Area “District” and the Army Corps of Engineers
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – Greater Los Angeles Region
Municipal NPDES Storm Water Permit Requirements of the City of Long Beach
City of Long Beach Land Use Element (LUE) of the General Plan

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Renee Lawler
renee_matt@live.com

F I N A L

environmental impact report

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

DATE . JULY 28, 1977 (CERTIFIED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION)

TO . CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

FROM . CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT . PROPOSED HORSE OVERLAY ZONE (E-7-77)

ADDRESS . CITY-WIDE

APPLICANT . CITY OF LONG BEACH

ZONE . R-1, R-2, C-3, M-1, M-2A

(6) On industrial premises located southerly of Willow Street, northerly of Pacific Coast Highway, and westerly of the Terminal Island Freeway (M-2A zone).

Project Goals and Objectives

1. Protect the existing horse-keeping areas.

2. Protect land uses proximate to equestrian activities from potentially detrimental impacts.

3. Protect land uses in the vicinity of horse-keeping activities from future intrusions.

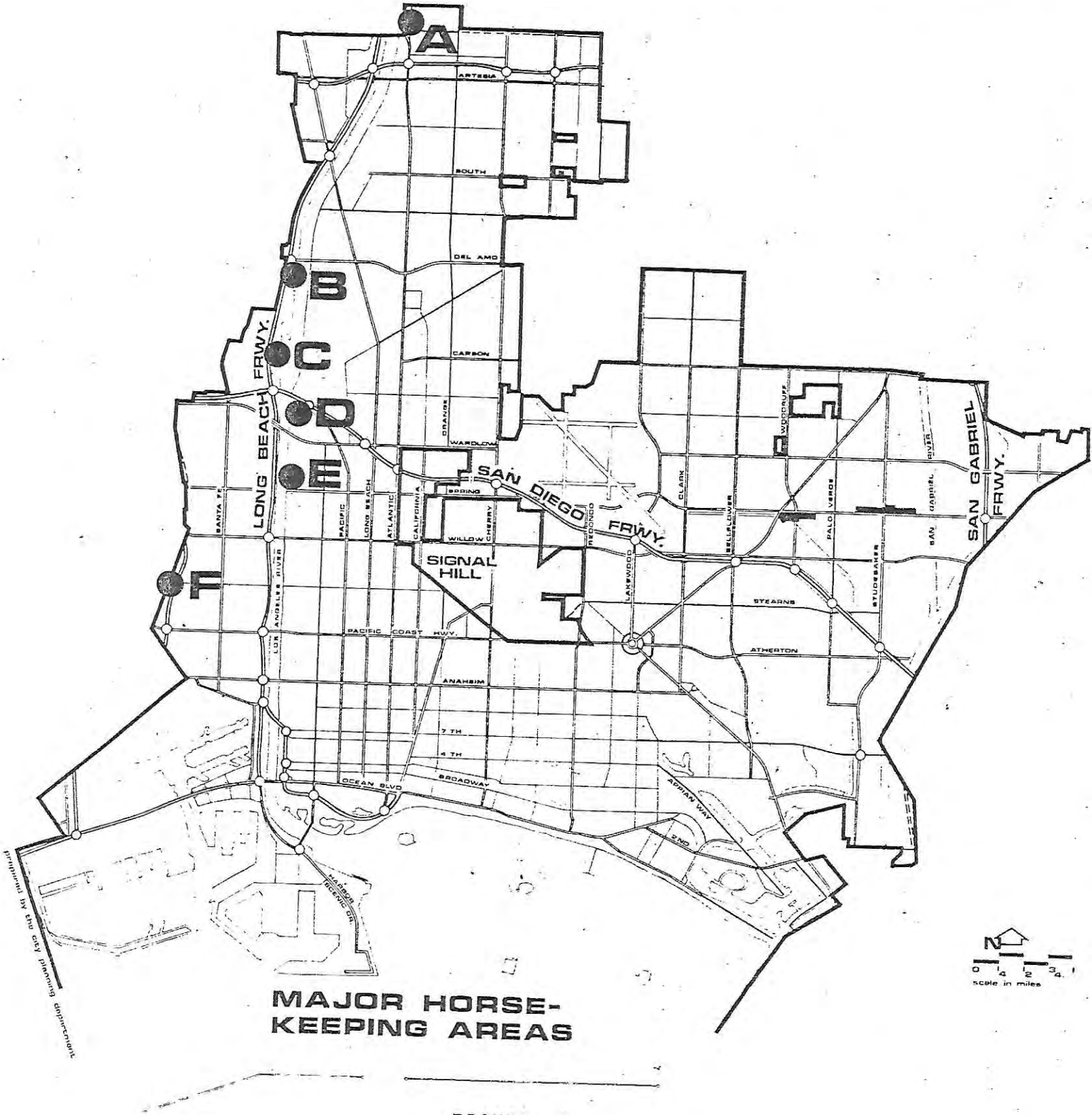
Principal Elements of the Project

The elements of the project consist of the conditions and requirements which would be imposed by the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for a Horse-Overlay Zone, the objectives which would be accomplished by application of the regulations, and the plans and petitions which delineate the properties to be zoned.

Approximately 50 - 60 acres of private land within the City of Long Beach are utilized for equestrian purposes, usually in conjunction with a single-family residence. Certain rights-of-way are also utilized for horse related activities.

The proposed ordinance would delete existing Section 9120.17 of the Zoning Regulations pertaining to fallout shelters in all use districts and replace it with a new set of regulations establishing the Horse District (H) land-use category. The proposed regulations are based on the concept of establishing horse overlay districts on the existing Zone Districts Map of the City. An overlay zone is a mapped zone that imposes a set of requirements in addition to those of the underlying zoning district. In an area where an overlay zone is established, property is placed simultaneously in two zones, and the land may be developed only under the conditions and requirements of both zones.

Overlay zones are described in the zoning text, mapped, and adopted by the governing body in a manner similar to conventional zoning. Provisions are administered through the usual zoning process. The provisions of this ordinance are summarized in Table 1.



MAJOR HORSE-KEEPING AREAS

FIGURE 2

to the disadvantage of proximate land uses which are not protected by specific horse keeping regulations, as indicated by the complaint data in Table 3.

Persons living adjacent to equestrian facilities are generally not subject to any known health hazards. Although horses may be carriers of diseases carried primarily by insects, they are generally less susceptible than species more common to an urbanized setting. Further, local climate does not permit the harboring of encephalitis. Horses are less likely carriers of ringworm disease than are cats and dogs. Most of the population is adequately innoculated against contraction of tetanus. Manure stockpiling is controlled and enforced by the Health Department; this effectively controls related nuisances. In the opinion of Robert Hale, Director of Environmental Health, Long Beach Health Department, horse keeping is generally conducted in sanitary conditions, with no known detriment to public health.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed ordinance would confer legal status to equestrian land uses and thus protect opportunities for equestrian-related recreation and lifestyles. The standards of the ordinance would, however, limit quartering of horses on specific areas of private parcels.

LAND USE

Environmental Setting

Current equestrian areas are indicated on Figures 3 through 8. An environmental inventory and assessment of the land use dynamics are presented in Table 6.

Anticipated Impacts

Implementation of the proposed ordinance would protect the legal status of existing equestrian areas and encourage eventual upgrading of related structures. Adjacent land uses would be protected by the standards of development and by the prohibition of equestrian activities in areas other than those designated in the overlay zone. Control over the number of horses and quarters for their keep would provide increased compatibility between equestrian and non-equestrian uses.

10. Improve quality of life, health and overall livability through the implementation of the West Long Beach Livability Implementation Plan.
11. Respect and maintain the equestrian uses within Wrigley Heights and promote shared use and maintenance of the area trail system.

OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, AND REHABILITATION MANUAL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA
CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 1999

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

RECREATION

16. Various local recreation and planning agencies whose jurisdictions include parts of the flood control system may become increasingly interested in the recreational possibilities of the flood control rights-of-way. Since these lands are likely to remain in their present condition for some time, investment in the development of recreation facilities on them for public use seems justified; the Government's attitude encourages such use. Any proposed recreational facilities that involve discharges of dredged or fill material (including excavation) into waters of the United States, or involves work or structures in or affecting navigable waters of the United States, shall be authorized by the Regulatory Branch in a Corps permit.

17. Recreational features have been or can be developed within the basins of flood control dams and along the berm roadways of the channels in the form of bicycle, hiking, and equestrian trails. This development generally involves special berm and invert access ramps, under crossings and protective fencing, and occasionally more extensive recreational features.

18. Such uses generally do not interfere with flood control activities; some concern must be given, however, for the maintenance of proper access control to prevent unauthorized access to areas beyond the recreation limits, particularly during the storm season. Recreation proposals are evaluated through the usual review procedures, coordinated with the Recreation Resource Specialists of the District.

DEVELOPMENT FOR INCREASED LAND UTILIZATION

19. There has been an increased interest in private development within flood control rights-of-way to increase the utilization of lands adjacent to these rights-of-way. This increased utilization may involve the construction of a building or bridge which spans the channel, although proposals to use the berm roadway space for parking or loading are more common. The most significant proposals for development, however, involve covering the channel itself in order to connect both sides of the channel right-of-way. This type of development creates the question of maintenance for the channel cover. Since the cover is built by and for private interests, a public agency such as the United States Government or the Local Sponsor cannot be expected to maintain the cover, yet it is difficult to assign the responsibility for maintenance to a private interest. Current policy states that each proposal for development of this type will be reviewed on an individual basis.

20. In any event, a proposed development must be compatible with existing land use zoning. Since the United States does not establish zoning regulations, the responsibility for insuring compatibility of existing zoning with a proposed land use lies with the applicant, and any conflicts must be resolved before approval is granted by the United States. Any proposed private developments that involve discharges of dredged or fill material (including excavation) into waters of the United States, or involves work or structures in or affecting navigable waters of the United States, shall be authorized by the Regulatory Branch in a Corps permit.

MISCELLANEOUS

21. Proposals are frequently made for temporary use of flood control facilities or rights-of-way for a variety of purposes other than those previously discussed. Such proposals are highly diverse, ranging

LOS ANGELES RIVER

MASTER PLAN
JUNE 1996

Los Angeles County Departments of

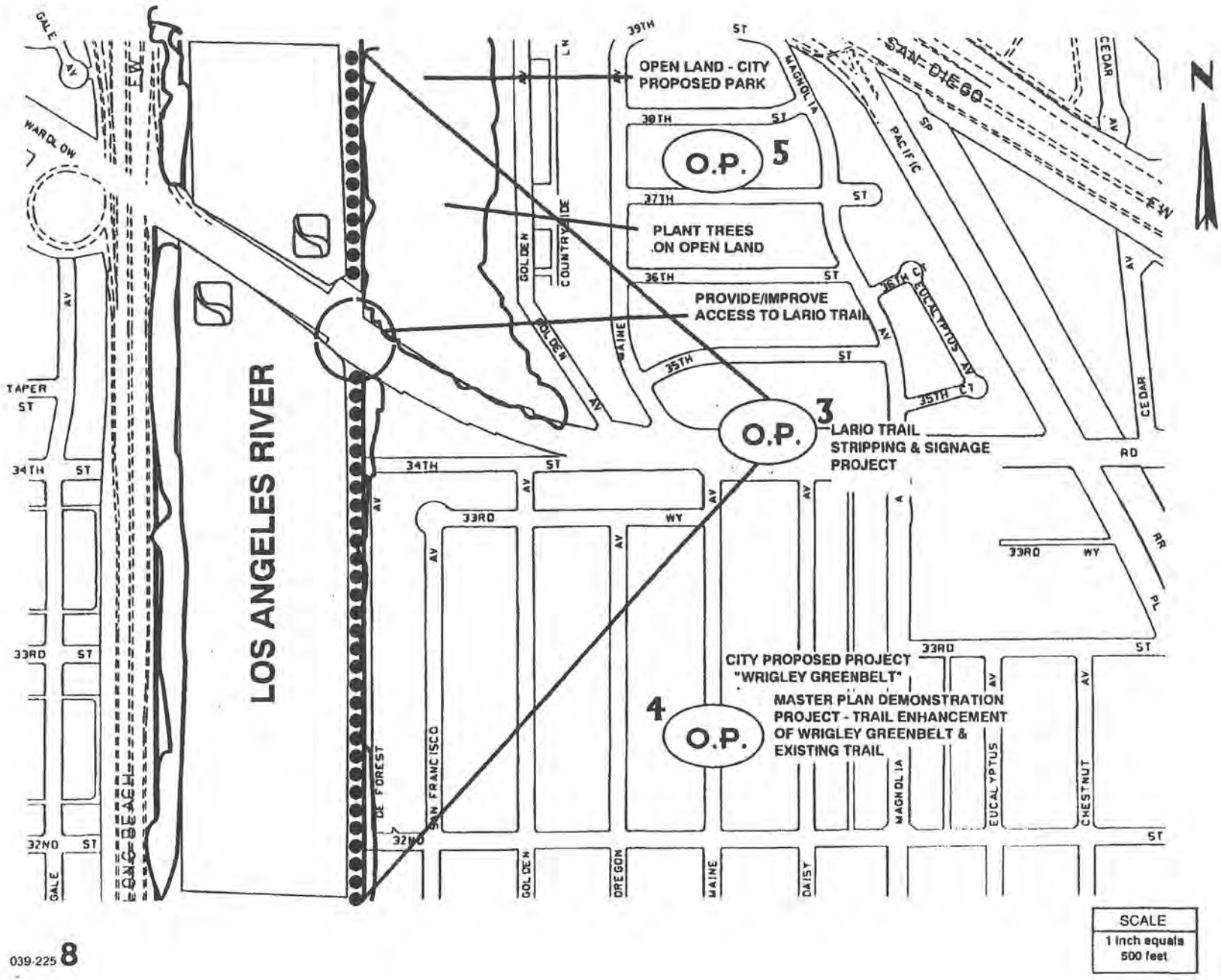
Public Works
Harry W. Stone, Director

Parks and Recreation
Rodney E. Cooper, Director

Regional Planning
James Hartl, Director

National Parks Service
Rivers, Trails and Conservation
Assistance Program

and the
Los Angeles River Advisory Committee


OPEN LAND - CITY PROPOSED PARK
O.P. 5
PLANT TREES ON OPEN LAND
PROVIDE/IMPROVE ACCESS TO LARIO TRAIL
O.P. 3
LARIO TRAIL STRIPPING & SIGNAGE PROJECT
CITY PROPOSED PROJECT "WRIGLEY GREENBELT"
MASTER PLAN DEMONSTRATION PROJECT - TRAIL ENHANCEMENT OF WRIGLEY GREENBELT & EXISTING TRAIL
O.P. 4
LOS ANGELES RIVER
SAN DIEGO
SCALE
1 inch equals 500 feet
N

039-225 **8**

F I N A L

environmental impact report

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING — LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

DATE . JULY 28, 1977 (CERTIFIED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION)

TO . CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

FROM . CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT . PROPOSED HORSE OVERLAY ZONE (E-7-77)

ADDRESS . CITY-WIDE

APPLICANT . CITY OF LONG BEACH

ZONE . R-1, R-2, C-3, M-1, M-2A

to the disadvantage of proximate land uses which are not protected by specific horse keeping regulations, as indicated by the complaint data in Table 3.

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MAJOR HORSE-KEEPING AREAS

FIGURE 2

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6383 • FAX (562) 570-6012

May 23, 2017

Mr. Ryan Butler
Civil Engineer
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Connection to Storm Water Inlet – Public Equestrian Rest Area

Dear Mr. Butler,

Please be advised that your request to connect to the City of Long Beach storm drain has been denied.

We received your request to connect the proposed 18" ADS HP storm drain pipe into the city's storm water system at the intersection of Spring St. and San Francisco St.

During the recent rains, the City of Long Beach experienced flooding issues in multiple locations due to drainage deficiencies. The main problem is that our storm drain pipes are undersized. After reviewing your project, we found that the 60" main storm drain pipe in which you proposed to connect is undersized, therefore no connection is allowed as this time. (Please see attached exhibit).

However, if we upgrade the pipes later, you may re-submit your application for consideration in the future.

If you have further questions, please contact Christian Perez directly at (562) 570-6679 or by email at Christian.perez@longbeach.gov.

Regards,

Alvin Papa
Assistant City Engineer
City of Long Beach

From:	Terri Grant
Sent time:	11/03/2015 01:39:52 PM
To:	Mark Lombos; Cung Nguyen; Paul Shadmani
Subject:	RE: Thank you

That flooding issue is a good point. If we can address the drainage behind their homes in our project, we should include that in the presentation too

---

From: Sziebl, Connie [mailto:CSziebl@lacbos.org]
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 12:38 PM
To: Moore, Julie; Terri Grant
Cc: Mark Lombos; Cung Nguyen; Paul Shadmani
Subject: Thank you

Hello all...

Thank you for arranging the conference call. I believe we were able to get much accomplished as we move forward with this issue. I appreciate your flexibility regarding the concerns we have about the schedule. I think once we begin the process, we will be able to tell if we can move at a little faster pace or not.

I am getting ready to forward the two flyers regarding the meeting on the 18th. That is all I will be e mailing. Once you finish with the revised schedule, I will forward that document.

To DPW. I will send to Ara Malovan and Derek Wieske. When Derek contacted me after I wrote to Sean, Derek asked that I copy Dennis Jue the project manager in all my correspondence to them on this issue. I figure he might be a consultant since his e mail address is not @longbeach.gov. Derek also copied Sean Crumby and George Kerr. Who is George Kerr, do any of you know? I take it you will send them the flyers?

To Parks Rec and Marine, I will e mail Stephen Scott, the Acting Director and Valerie Davis his assistant. She knows everything Should I copy Meredith Reynolds or will you copy her?

I will also be in touch with the City Manager's' office.

So as soon as you tell me to whom I send the flyers – I do not want to step on your toes – I will send out my e mail. Thanks.

Connie

P.S. Do any of you remember if the City of Long Beach did any work on San Francisco Street to alleviate the flooding that takes place in the encroached area plus their garages during the rainy season? I understand it has been knee deep. If anything, the flooding that might take place during this rainy season will play a major role in the design.

From:	Daniel B. Sharp
Sent time:	04/09/2016 04:23:10 PM
To:	Amir Ibrahim
Cc:	Terri Grant; Paul Shadmani
Subject:	Public Equestrian Rest Area - Request for assistance with drainage design

Hi Amir,

I'm not sure if you have heard of the Public Equestrian Rest Area project....it's about a 1-acre project in Long Beach that has been encroached upon for years by the adjacent residents. The plan is to remove the encroachments, add some equestrian amenities, and open the site to the public. This project has come about because the City of Long Beach is completing the Wrigley Greenbelt Project both north and south of this project location.

There have been local drainage issues at the location historically, and AED thought they could handle it with some simple re-grading. However, as they have gotten deeper into the design, we realize that the adjacent properties drain to the site so their proposed solution isn't workable.

We would like to have DES take a look and see if there are some reasonable solutions that don't involve pumps or a major new drain.

If that sounds reasonable, let us know who we should be working with on your staff and we will set a meeting to go over the specifics.

Let me know if you would rather have more info before we set up a larger meeting. Thanks. Dan.

Daniel B. Sharp, P.E.
Watershed Management Division
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
(626) 458-7353 office
(626) 759-0859 mobile
dsharp@dpw.lacounty.gov

future. How can development services adequately monitor or the public be aware of something that is not properly listed or mapped for reference?

This overt omission opens the door for further cumulative negative impacts to properties such as mine, in a recognized equestrian/minority community and this LUE and your response does not satisfy the legal protections as intended by Horse Overlay decision of 1977.

Respectfully, I urge the City of Long Beach to immediately make the necessary changes and include the horse overlay zones in all documents with transparency.

Sincerely,
Renee Lawler

From: Christopher Koontz [mailto:Christopher.Koontz@longbeach.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 4:17 PM
To: renee_matt@live.com; Hoorae1@aol.com
Cc: Celina Luna <Celina.Luna@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Horse Overlay

Ms. Lawler and Ms. Gabelich,

I wanted to follow-up on your communications to Councilmember Uranga regarding the horsekeeping zoning within the City. As we have discussed on a few occasions over the last several years, the General Plan does not map individual overlays or zoning characteristics, however those zoning details are an important implementation tool for our many neighborhoods in the City.

During the General Plan (LUE) process, in response to your comments, we added a specific policy related to horsekeeping. The following is listed on page 146 of the LUE:

> 11. Respect and maintain the equestrian uses within Wrigley Heights and promote shared use and maintenance of the area trail system.

As to the actual zoning, which is the regulatory teeth that allows equestrian efforts. There is no intention from the Department of Development Services to modify those existing regulations. I am not aware of any interest from City Council to modify those regulations. A map of those existing horse-overlay properties is attached for your reference. The General Plan recognizes the policy-direction to maintain the existing equestrian uses and shared use of the trail system.

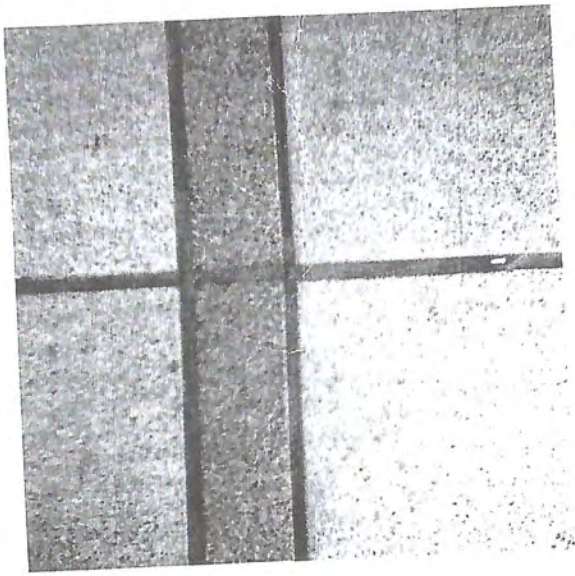
Thank you again for contacting the City of Long Beach. I hope this email provides greater clarity and assurance regarding your concerns.

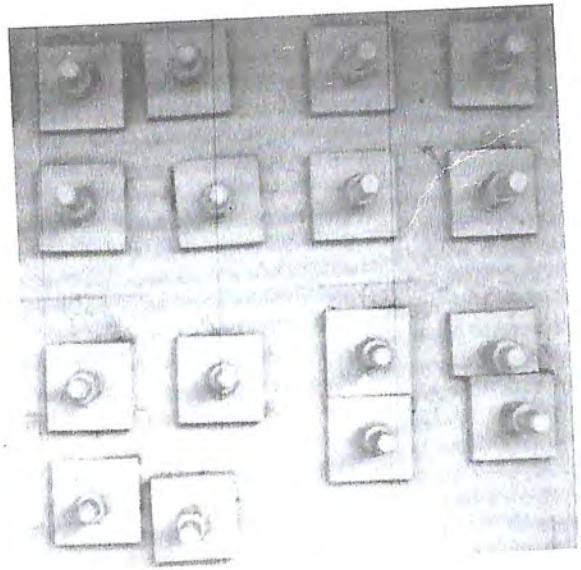
Christopher Ira Koontz, AICP
Planning Bureau Manager

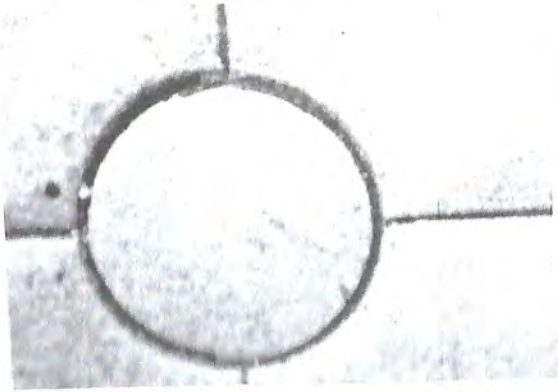
Long Beach Development Services
411 W. Ocean Blvd., 3rd Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802
Office: 562-570-6288

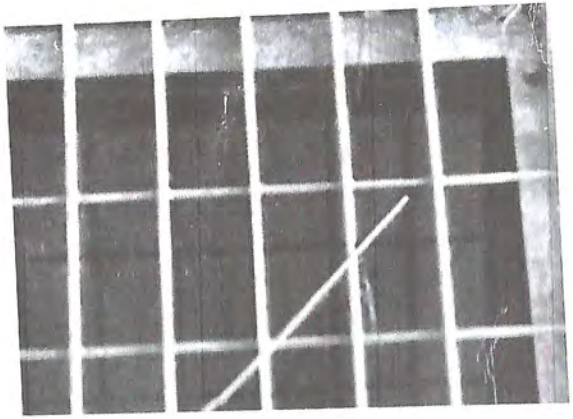
LONG BEACH RIVERLINK

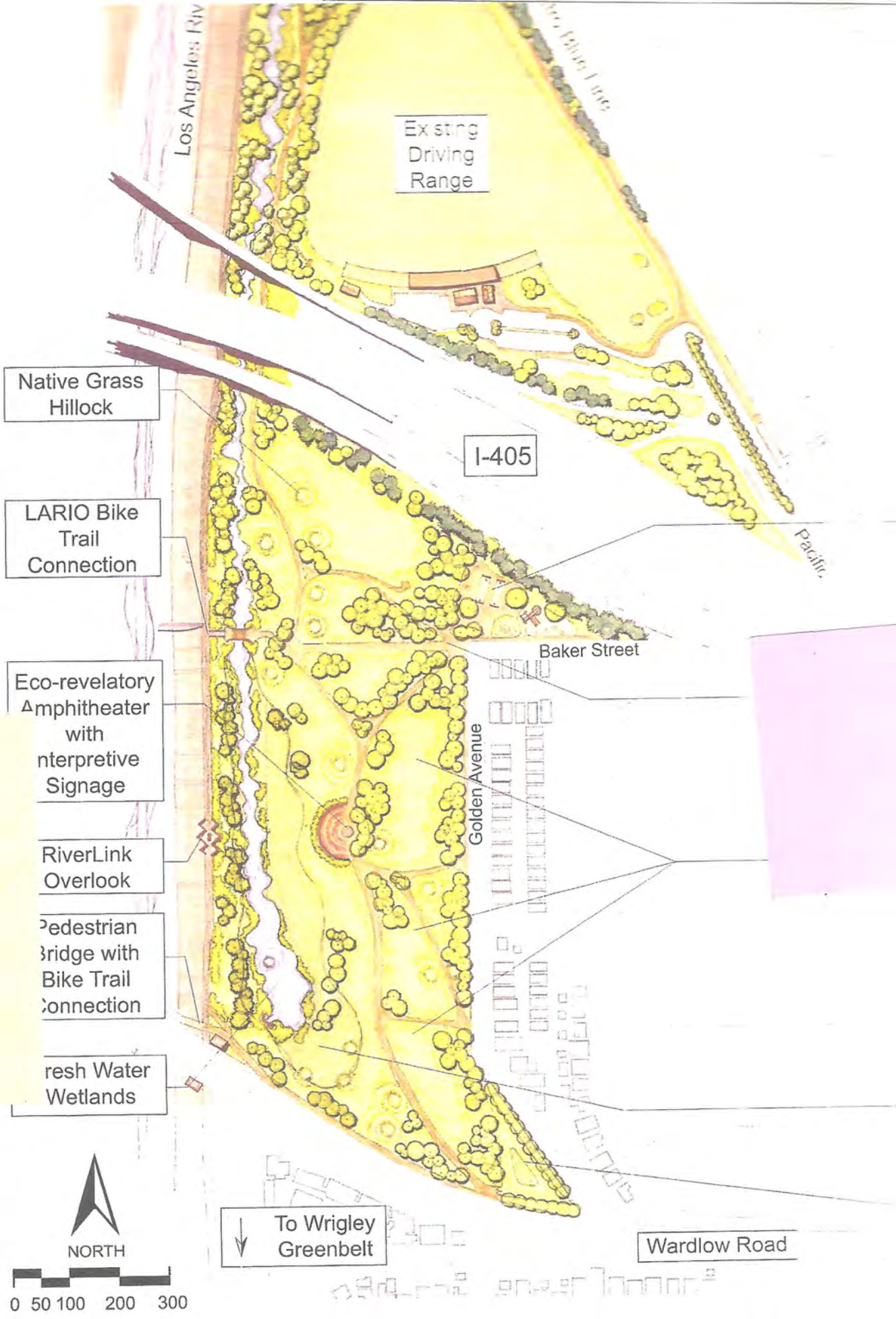
CONNECTING CITY TO RIVER










Existng Driving Range
Native Grass Hillock
I-405
LARIO Bike Trail Connection
Baker Street
Eco-revelatory Amphitheater with nterpretive Signage
Golden Avenue
RiverLink Overlook
Pedestrian Bridge with Bike Trail Connection
resh Water Wetlands
To Wrigley Greenbelt
Wardlow Road
NORTH
0 50 100 200 300

Recreation Vehicle Campground has a small pool. There are four swimming pools at Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) high schools that are open to the public in the summer through City/LBUSD joint use agreements. Also, the City Colleges and California State University at Long Beach add an additional four pools to the public pool inventory.

5. **Golf Courses**

There are five City-owned golf courses in Long Beach at Heartwell, El Dorado, Recreation and Skylinks. All together they have four driving ranges, three 18-hole courses, one 9-hole course and one 18-hole par three lighted course, encompassing 568 municipal golf acres. The City contracts with private concessionaires who operate the courses. There are also two private golf courses and one private driving range in the City. The courses are an 18-hole course at Virginia Country Club and a 9-hole course at Bixby Ranch. A new, publicly accessible driving range is located at the intersection of the I-405 San Diego Freeway and the Los Angeles River.

6. **Equestrian, Bicycle, Walking and Skating Trails**

There remains a segment of equestrian trail on the floodplain adjacent to the Los Angeles River, but only a handful of properties along the river allow horses to be kept. These trails lie on County of Los Angeles flood control property, which is being studied for various open space enhancements under the Los Angeles River Master Plan.

According to the 2001 Long Beach Bicycle Master Plan, the City has an estimated 64 miles of bikeways, 35 of which are completely separated from roadway traffic. The shoreline, river and park trails accommodate pedestrians, skate boarders and skating as well. Although this chapter contains a policy and program recommending the development of an open space linkage and trails plan, the bicycle map and policies pertaining to walking and cycling in the community are largely contained in the Transportation (Circulation) Element.

7. **Long Beach Museum of Art**

Recently renovated and expanded, the Long Beach Museum of Art is located in Bluff Park at 2300 E. Ocean Boulevard. The Museum is very reasonably priced and is open to the public five days a week. It features applied and decorative arts including paintings, sculpture, video and children's art. Summer concerts are performed in the courtyard area overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

8. **Beaches**

Located between the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers, Long Beach has approximately 247 acres of beaches and 11 miles of shoreline. Although the beach property is owned by the State, the City retains responsibility for

collaborative efforts to increase opportunities to fund those projects, has greatly enhanced the willingness of these entities to seek mutually beneficial solutions to problems that historically were a source of conflict.

Subregional Characteristics

Given the size and complexity of the GLAC Region and the number of stakeholders and agencies that could participate in Plan development and other planning activities, to manage stakeholder input and acknowledge geographic variation, five subregional planning areas were established, as discussed in Chapter 1.

Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers Subregion

The Lower SG & LA is comprised of 37 cities, 27 in the Gateway IRWM Region and 10 in the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority IRWM Region (which includes the Orange County portion of the Coyote Creek watershed). Dozens of water agencies/companies and other entities which have an interest in a variety of water management issues serve the Lower SG & LA's three million residents. The Lower SG & LA faces significant ground and surface water quality challenges, as well as flood control issues, due to its location in the lower reaches of two major watersheds and intense urban development changes.

It has the greatest water recharge capacity in the GLAC Region due to the recharge basins in the vicinity of the Whittier Narrows. Further, it has the most densely developed commercial and industrial land uses coupled with the least amount of open space on a per acre basis in the GLAC Region; notably several cities in the Lower SG & LA are over 100 years old. Further, the Lower SG & LA is in the lower reaches of a vast metropolitan area and, therefore has significant water quality issues along with tremendous opportunities for conjunctive use, recycled and reclaimed water use, desalination and wetlands restoration in the estuaries of the San Gabriel River and Los Angeles River. The cities in the Lower SG & LA face many competing financial needs, including complying with stormwater regulations, replacing aging infrastructure, providing affordable housing and increasing public safety. A considerable number of the cities have experienced and will continue to experience severe funding shortages for infrastructure repair, maintenance and installation along with high household poverty rates.

The Los Angeles River is fed by the largest drainage area in the Region.

Ariana Villanueva

From: De Ghetto, Michael <MDeGhetto@Glendaleca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 12:43 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: FW: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comments Glendale Water & Power
Attachments: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comment Glendale.pdf

Hello Ms. Villanueva,

I'm resending this e-mail from earlier today because there was an issue with our outbound e-mail server earlier and I wanted to make sure you have the comment letter.

Best regards,

Michael De Ghetto, P.E.
Chief Assistant General Manager – Water ● City of Glendale ● Glendale Water & Power
141 N. Glendale Ave., 4th Floor Room 450 ● Glendale, CA 91206 ● (818) 551-3023 ● mdeghetto@glendaleca.gov

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From: De Ghetto, Michael
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2020 10:38 AM
To: 'LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov' <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comments Glendale Water & Power

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

I have attached comments to the LA River Master Plan PEIR from Glendale Water & Power for your use.

Feel free to contact me if you need any additional information or clarification.

Best regards,

Michael De Ghetto, P.E.
Chief Assistant General Manager – Water ● City of Glendale ● Glendale Water & Power
141 N. Glendale Ave., 4th Floor Room 450 ● Glendale, CA 91206 ● (818) 551-3023 ● mdeghetto@glendaleca.gov

Ariana Villanueva

From: De Ghetto, Michael <MDeGhetto@Glendaleca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 10:38 AM
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Subject: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comments Glendale Water & Power
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Michael De Ghetto, P.E.
Chief Assistant General Manager – Water ● City of Glendale ● Glendale Water & Power
141 N. Glendale Ave., 4th Floor Room 450 ● Glendale, CA 91206 ● (818) 551-3023 ● mdeghetto@glendaleca.gov

City of Glendale, California
Glendale Water & Power
Administration

141 N. Glendale Ave., Level 4
Glendale, CA 91206-4975
Tel 818.548.2107 Fax 818.552.2852
www.glendaleca.gov

August 6, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
via-email: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: LA River Master Plan PEIR, Public Comment, Glendale Water & Power

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Please accept this letter, sent electronically via e-mail to LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov, as Glendale Water & Power's comments to the LA River Master Plan Draft Program EIR.

The Program EIR should include information related the sources of water in the LA River during dry-weather flow conditions. The Program EIR should indicate that water in the river during dry-weather flows is derived from urban runoff and discharges from reclamation plants and that urban runoff will be diminishing due to the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan. The Program EIR should list the reclamation plants that discharge to the river and their relative average volumes of discharge. The Program EIR should acknowledge that these waters are primarily derived from water that is imported to Southern California from the State Water Project, the Colorado River, and the Los Angeles Aqueduct. Finally, the Program EIR should note specifically that the City of Glendale plans to beneficially re-use all of its water from the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant and will no longer be discharging its share of water to LA River from this plant in the future.

The Program EIR should note that specific projects which are not reliant on dry-weather flows would not be affected by flow reductions, so that the project specific CEQA processes can be completed more expeditiously. The Program EIR should indicate that projects reliant on dry-weather flows need to address how those projects would account for reduced flows in the future.

Please feel free to contact me directly at (818) 548-2107, or mdeghetto@glendaleca.gov, if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael E. De Ghetto, P.E.
Chief Assistant General Manager - Water
Glendale Water & Power

Ariana Villanueva

From: Liliana Griego <liliana@folar.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 11:12 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: [Caution: Message contains Redirect URL content] Request to Extend Scoping Comments Deadline

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

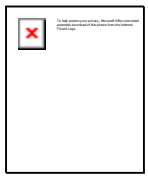
Hello,

FoLAR respectfully requests that the deadline for LA River Master Plan PEIR scoping comments be extended. Several entities have been extending their traditional comment period deadlines with the understanding that community members are currently facing challenging times. There was also only one PEIR Scoping Meeting to present to the public and provide an opportunity for Q&A. The recording of that meeting was just released this morning, a day before comments are due. This is not efficient time for someone to watch the recording and submit their comments.

Due to these reasons, we ask that you extend the scoping comments deadline and provide adequate time for public participation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Liliana Griego



Liliana Griego
Sr. Manager of Policy, Advocacy & Engagement
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 250
Los Angeles, CA 90065
323 - 223 - 0585 liliana@folar.org
www.folar.org

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:57 AM
Subject: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today

Hello,

Thank you for joining us last week for the 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR Scoping Meeting. For those who were unable to make it, the recording from the event is now available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Public participation is a key component of the CEQA process, and we appreciate your comments for consideration for the Draft Program EIR. You will receive a Notice of Availability when the Draft Program EIR is available for public review and comment. We will also provide notice about the Draft Program EIR public meeting when those details are available.

You can still submit comments on the scope or issues of concern you would like considered for the Draft Program EIR until August 6, 2020 (the end of the 30-day scoping period). Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Information and updates about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Michael J. Connor <connor.michaelj@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 11:04 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: L.A. River Walkers and Watchers; Evelyn Aleman; Bob Akre; Alyssa Boyle; Michael J. Connor; Dorian Gunning; Sandra Knapton; Bonnie Lavin; Pam Loeb; Joe Macias
Subject: Scoping comments for the Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR
Attachments: 08-06-20-LARiverCEQA.pdf

Dear Planners:

Attached are scoping comments for the Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR submitted by L.A. River Walkers and Watchers, Evelyn Aleman, Bob Akre, Alyssa Boyle, Michael J. Connor, Dorian Gunning, Sandra Knapton, Bonnie Lavin, Pam Loeb, and Joe Macias.

We thank you for this opportunity to assist the County in this important process.

--
****
Michael J. Connor, Ph.D.
connor.michaelj@gmail.com
****

L.A. River Walkers & Watchers

19333 KITTRIDGE STREET
RESEDA, CA 91335

August 6, 2020

Sent via Email to: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Attn: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Ave., 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Scoping Comments for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report, 2020 LA River Master Plan

Dear Planners:

These scoping comments for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report, 2020 LA River Master Plan ("DEIR") are submitted by the L.A. River Walkers and Watchers and by the individuals listed below.

The L.A. River Walkers and Watchers ("LARWW") is a group of residents and neighbors who volunteer to help preserve the Bike Path along the Los Angeles River in the west San Fernando Valley, including the park-underserved communities of Reseda and Canoga Park. LARWW works to ensure that local government agencies, state conservancies, and joint power authorities with Los Angeles River jurisdiction provide public safety, maintenance and resource-management services, enforce regulations, address health concerns, and care for the overall wellbeing of resources along the Los Angeles River Bike Path. Since 2017, LARWW has a held a monthly walk along the river. Community residents and volunteers engage in trash and graffiti removal, monitor problem areas, and identify and report concerns. LARWW volunteers on these monthly walks have devoted thousands of man hours to cleaning up the LA River Bike Path and making this key resource safer and more user-friendly for all. More information can be found on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LARiverWW> and website <http://www.larww.org>.

The Los Angeles River is a unique geographical feature that winds its way through Los Angeles County, with the vast majority of the river flowing through the City of Los Angeles. The draft working plan ("GAMWP")[1], the only document that the directly impacted public can access at this time, refers to the river as an "open space spine" ... "unique within the county" ... "providing park space to underserved adjacent communities with little room to site new parks, while serving as a destination for the entire county and beyond, offering a variety of experiences from one mile to the next." GAMWP at 10.

[1] 2020 Proposed WORKING DRAFT VERSION 6: Los Angeles River Master Plan Update August 2019, last visited August 1, 2020 at: https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/315/attachments/original/1569626307/Proposed_GAM_WORKING_DRAFT_VERSION_6-10_Changes_since_July.pdf?1569626307

The draft working plan also states, “Members of the community identified walking and bicycling as the top two activities they participate in along the river—with participation in these two activities together greater than the participation all other activities combined. Yet, 61% said they do not use the river due to safety concerns.” GAMWP at 10.

Similar sentiments are echoed by our neighbors who come on LARWW monthly walks. Many ONLY walk on the Bike Path at our monthly walks because going alone is too scary an excursion. As residents who are directly impacted by recently installed (within the last 5 years) facilities along the river, we can assure the planners that the agencies have a long way to go to make this either a desired destination for visitors or a safe place for local residents.

Lighting that was installed along the LA River Bike Path was designed for appearance not for utility. The lamps were vandalized within weeks of the path being opened. Five years later, long stretches of these street lamps are still prone to failure. Fences are often inadequate, and frequently cut or pushed down. Illegal encampments abound. Illegal camp fires have burned adjacent private properties. On several of our monthly walks, walkers have had to step over the bodies of individuals strung out on drugs. We have removed hundreds of used needles and syringes on our monthly cleanups, as well as human excrement. Members of our community have been assaulted by illegal campers and gang members that use the Bike Path to distribute illegal drugs.

Over the last three years, we have worked closely with the Office of Los Angeles City Council Member Bob Blumenfield to address these challenges. As a result, the City will soon implement a pilot project to use Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (“MRCA”) Park Rangers along the river between its source in Canoga Park and Lindley Avenue in Reseda. We strongly feel that MRCA Park Rangers ought to patrol all 51 miles of the river since the current public safety situation is untenable.

THE DEIR MUST REVIEW IMPACTS TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) is meant to give the community a voice in land use decisions. Under CEQA, an EIR must analyze the project’s potential impacts on land use and public safety. We urge you to make public safety a key issue in the CEQA analysis.

All alternatives and proposed actions should be analyzed for their impacts on public safety. Many of the existing facilities along the river offer significant, basic challenges for fire and emergency services personnel that need to be addressed. All too frequently we have seen projects proposed, implemented and then left unmaintained and unpatrolled. Until members of LARWW took the initiative and numbered the street lamps along the Bike Path there was no mechanism to even report the location of issues. We feel that it is critical that the County learn from its own and its sister agencies’ experiences as it addresses ongoing challenges along the river so as not to repeat the same costly mistakes.

For any project approved under the PEIR, there should be a requirement for annual public reporting regarding implementation of any required mitigation measures. The public should have a simple mechanism to report mitigation measure failures. Both could be

facilitated by a dedicated phone app or website that tracks projects along the river and allows the public to report any issues that arise from a given project's implementation.

OBJECTIVES

LARWW generally supports the Objectives listed in the Notice of Preparation ("NOP") although we have serious reservations that any will be achieved over the life of the plan were the County to ignore the experiences and challenges facing residents living along the LA River and the LA River Bike Path.

However, we strongly suggest you modify Objective 6 "Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness." to: Objective 6. "Address potential adverse impacts on existing residential housing, housing affordability, and people experiencing homelessness." Otherwise, in failing to mention impacts to existing residents, the Plan is essentially leaving out or ignoring a significant portion of the community.

ALTERNATIVES

The DEIR should assess the viability of the components of each alternative it reviews over the proposed 25 year plan period. For each alternative, the DEIR should explain how projects will or will not be maintained over the life of the plan. For each alternative, the DEIR should assess if any basic challenges for fire and emergency services personnel need to be addressed.

Because jurisdiction is so fragmented along the river with multiple agencies, the DEIR should assess how each alternative resolves or does not resolve jurisdictional issues.

Review of the "no action" alternative should include a critical review of current management. How effective is the existing plan? Has it achieved any of its desired objectives? If not, what can be done to assure that the new plan will?

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Our experience working to preserve the LA River Bike Path has frequently been frustrating because jurisdiction along the river is so heavily fragmented. The multi-jurisdictional oversight of the LA River and the Bike Path means that local communities don't just have to deal with Los Angeles Country and Los Angeles City, but with multiple departments within the County and the City. There are also other state and federal entities that are involved. This fragmented jurisdiction creates a management nightmare, wastes public funds, and exasperates local communities. Accordingly, we would like to see the preferred alternative include turning over Los Angeles River management to a single, park-oriented, agency such as the MRCA. We see this as the only viable alternative that will allow the plan to meet the listed 2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives.

"KIT OF PARTS"

According to the Notice of Preparation ("NOP"), "Under each of these "Kit of Parts" categories, multiple components — including benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing — are being proposed to serve as a menu of options to provide multiple benefits at any given potential location along the LA River." These terms "benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing" must be clearly defined in the Plan. The full suite of environmental impacts, including impacts to public safety, should be analyzed for each option in the DEIR.

The DEIR should review the monitoring that will be required to ensure the ongoing review of the utility and effectiveness of the proposed "Kit of Parts" options.

The Plan should incorporate adaptive management principles so that design deficiencies can be rectified and mitigated once identified. The LARWW can vouch for the failure of similar attempts to installed "unified features" by the City of Los Angeles along the existing LA River Bike Path where ornamental street lamps were installed that were vandalized within weeks of installation. Years later, adequate lighting along the Bike Path still remains a significant concern. Yet the City used the same inadequate design when it developed the Confluence Park at the junction of Aliso Creek and the Los Angeles River. The lamps are off far more often than they are on. Rigid approaches are an unnecessary waste of public funds and a risk to public safety.

To better assure public safety, access points to river should be at existing main streets only. This restriction would help protect private property along the river and would provide street parking for visitors.

The Plan should require that each "Kit of Parts" option installed along the river must be georeferenced and made available on all agency maps so that the locations are clear to all especially fire and emergency services. The City of Los Angeles has an excellent phone/internet app ("MyLA311") but unfortunately it requires a street address on input. As we can attest, this does not work in park settings or along the river where there are no street numbers. The DEIR must address this concern so that the locations of "Kit of Parts" options are known to fire and emergency services and to the local communities along the river to assure public safety.

Several of us attended the July 29, 2020 scoping meeting. In the presentation, one of the graphics showed that the proposed shared walking/running paths are to be a single 6 feet wide path, whereas the proposed bike lanes are to be split (for obvious safety reasons). However, a single 6 feet wide walking path is inadequate for runners and families to share during times of heavy use. Runners have to veer into the bike lanes to get around parents with strollers and small children. Families are not to be blamed for wanting to walk together and this is a behavior the agencies should be encouraging anyway. The need for wider walkways has become increasingly clear during the current pandemic when social distancing is critical. The adequacy of the 6 feet wide walking/running paths is a safety concern that should be examined and addressed in the DEIR.

The “Kit of Parts” does not list bioswales. If these are being covered, the DEIR must include a full and complete analysis of impacts to river flow and any increased risks for local flooding.

WATER QUALITY

The DEIR is reviewing a master plan for the Los Angeles River with an estimated 25 year lifespan. Water quality is a key issue. On our monthly walks, the LARWW frequently see both humans and pets (especially dogs) wading, paddling, and bathing in the river. And of course the wildlife along the river is dependent on that water too.

The people living in illegal encampments in the river channel often dump trash and human waste directly into the river. LARWW members frequently encounter humans using river culverts as living spaces, setting up encampments and lighting open camp fires. We have had agency staff tell us that they will not enter some of the culverts because of unspecified risks of “toxicity”. We have been unsuccessful in locating water quality data for our local reaches of the river. We expect the Master Plan to help make basic information such as water quality more readily available to the public.

We ask that each alternative include water quality monitoring along the river. Implementation of “Kit of Parts” options should include a water quality monitoring requirement as mitigation. The results should be posted on the Los Angeles River Plan website so that they are easily accessible to members of local communities. This would disclose the actual impact of “Kit of Parts” options, further public transparency and support for the plan, and help assuage public safety concerns.

The L.A. River Walkers and Watchers and the individuals listed below thank you for providing this opportunity to submit comments. Please include the individuals listed below in future emails for the Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR process.

Yours sincerely,

L.A. River Walkers and Watchers <lariverww@gmail.com>

Evelyn Aleman <evelyn@mipr.net>

Bob Akre <agentschoice@aol.com>

Alyssa Boyle <gumbyzmom@hotmail.com>

Michael J. Connor <connor.michaelj@gmail.com>

Dorian Gunning <dorian.gunning@gmail.com>

Sandra Knapton <sandraknapton@yahoo.com>

Bonnie Lavin <bylavin@gmail.com>

Pam Loeb <freeloeb@yahoo.com>

Joe Macias <joe@mipr.net>

CC. Los Angeles City Council Member, Bob Blumenfield
Los Angeles County Supervisor, Sheila Kuehl
California State Assembly Member, Jesse Gabriel
California State Senator, Henry Stern

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sarah Rascon <sarah.rascon@mrca.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 10:32 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Genevieve Osmena; Ariana Villanueva
Subject: Extension Request: comment deadline

Hello,

I am respectfully requesting a modest time extension for scoping comments. I believe that many stakeholders would also appreciate considering unprecedented times which have resulted in delays.

Please let me know if this will be effectuated, thank you for the consideration.

Sarah Rascon
Urban River Program Officer
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 W. Ave. 26, Los Angeles, California 90065
O: (323) 221-9944, Extension 109
C: (323) 354-2003
Visit us on Facebook

Ariana Villanueva

From: Michael Affeldt <michael.affeldt@lacity.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 10:28 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Fwd: Please extend the scoping comment deadline

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Michael Affeldt** <michael.affeldt@lacity.org>
Date: Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 9:59 AM
Subject: Please extend the scoping comment deadline
To: <LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov>

Hello, I am respectfully requesting a modest time extension for scoping comments. I believe that others will also appreciate this as work processes are generally a bit slower these days.

Please let me know if this will be effectuated, and thanks for the consideration!

Mike

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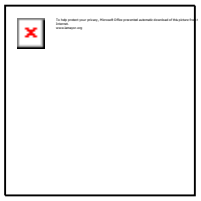

Michael Affeldt
Director, LARiverWorks
Mayor's Office of City Services
213-978-2225
www.lariver.org

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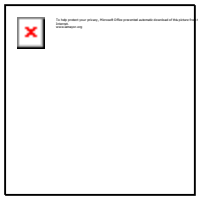

Michael Affeldt
Director, LARiverWorks
Mayor's Office of City Services
213-978-2225
www.lariver.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sharon Brewer <sbrewerz@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 9:42 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today

Good morning,
My son uses the river trails extensively to ride his bike. He uses the San Gabriel trails mainly as he fears for his safety both personal safety and health safety from the amount of human waste while traveling through Los Angeles and the Glendale river trail area. The large encampments are quite visible along the river can be seen from the freeway as we travel from LA into Glendale. The pandemic has also increased the amount of encampments along the river.

We are also seeing more postings that wire is strung across the trails to make the cyclists crash to steal bikes, money and anything else a cyclist carries.

The policing of the encampments and the amount of waste added to the area and wild life is wrecking havoc with the environment along the river.

Thank you for reading my concerns.

Sharon Brewer
Submitted to River trail committee 8/6/2020 before 5 pm.

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:22:05 AM
Subject: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today

Hello,

Thank you for joining us last week for the 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR Scoping Meeting. For those who were unable to make it, the recording from the event is now available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Public participation is a key component of the CEQA process, and we appreciate your comments for consideration for the Draft Program EIR. You will receive a Notice of Availability when the Draft Program EIR is available for public review and comment. We will also provide notice about the Draft Program EIR public meeting when those details are available.

You can still submit comments on the scope or issues of concern you would like considered for the Draft Program EIR until August 6, 2020 (the end of the 30-day scoping period). Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Information and updates about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Travis Longcore <travislongcore@laaudubon.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 5:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Los Angeles Audubon Society -- Draft Program Environmental Impact Report 2020 LA River Master Plan

To Whom It May Concern:

Los Angeles Audubon Society has been a voice for birds and conservation in Los Angeles for 113 years. Our mission is to promote the study and protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. We have over 3,500 members and supporters, most of whom live in Los Angeles. Our founding principles include a commitment to fostering "a proper conservation of our native birds, other animals, wild flowers, trees, shrubs, soil and water."

As Los Angeles County Public Works prepares the 2020 LA River Master Plan Environmental Impact Report, we highlight for special attention the following areas within the 51-mile stretch of river under consideration. These areas host federally protected breeding bird species, Bird Species of Special Concern, and significant numbers, on a global scale, of migratory shorebirds during the fall migration.

- **Sepulveda Basin and the adjacent Los Angeles River.** These areas have extensive riparian habitat hosting federally protected breeding Bell's Vireo and other breeding Bird Species of Special Concern such as Yellow-breasted Chat and Blue Grosbeak.

- **Glendale; Bette Davis Park to Colorado Bridge.** A mix of soft bottom and concrete section that hosts significant shorebird populations (on a global scale) during fall migration. Most notably along the concrete section immediately south of the 134 Freeway.

- **Frogtown; adjacent Taylor Yard and Rio de Los Angeles State Park.** This area has extensive riparian habitat hosting federally protected Bell's Vireo and other Bird Species of Special Concern such as Yellow-breasted Chat and Blue Grosbeak.

- **South of Downtown; Atlantic Boulevard to Clara Street.** The extensive concrete section here provides important shorebird habitat during fall migration.

- **Long Beach; concrete section from Willow Street to Del Amo Boulevard.** Host to significant shorebird populations (on a global scale) during fall migration.

We ask for the highest scrutiny of the impacts to biological resources, including in these areas, and to consider disturbances to Lower Los Angeles River Important Bird Area. We encourage you to take advantage of community-generated datasets of species presence, especially eBird, to understand the presence and patterns of use by sensitive and protected species.

Thank you your attention to these issues and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Travis Longcore

--

Travis Longcore, Ph.D.
President
Los Angeles Audubon Society
www.laaudubon.org
travislongcore@laaudubon.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 3:34 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Morales, Fernando; Schneider, Erin; Edward Morrissey; Courtney Morris
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Okay, if you do extend the deadline please let us know as soon as possible. Since there's no word on an extension today... I will plan to submit tomorrow in the late afternoon unless I hear from you.

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Wed, Aug 5, 2020 at 10:35 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Karen,
>
> Our management is reviewing comments and discussing. We recommend submitting comments by August 6, but we will let you know if they decide to extend the date.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Ariana Villanueva
>
> Environmental Engineering Specialist
>
> Los Angeles County Public Works
>
> (626) 458-7146

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 9:30 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>; Edward Morrissey <edward@atwatervillage.org>; Courtney Morris <courtney@atwatervillage.org>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Ariana,

Has there been any discussion on extending the comment deadline of August 6, 2020? On Monday evening, the river committee approved a comment letter for the August 13th AVNC board meeting.

If you are NOT extending the deadline, I need to know so that I can get the comments I have from the river and community members into you on August 6 by 5 PM.

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 5:01 PM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Thanks for speaking with me yesterday. Last night the board approved the letter requesting an extension of the NOP comment period. Courtney and Edward will be emailing it out soon.

See you tonight,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 11:56 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thank you for your inquiry. Below is additional information on the LA River Master Plan Program EIR and CEQA process.

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting on July 29, 2020:

- The main goal for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and the upcoming meeting is to let the public know that Public Works is initiating the CEQA process.

- The proposed scope of the draft Program EIR is included in the NOP which can be found here: https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf and was filed on July 7 (posted with the County Clerk, Office of Planning and Research, sent via certified mail to Steering Committee members, by email to interested parties, and through social media blasts on Twitter and Facebook).

- The meeting on Wednesday will elaborate on the information provided in the NOP and the CEQA approach for the LA River Master Plan. Comments on the scope can continue to be provided until August 6 as the document is being developed. I'd like to reiterate that this meeting is not to present the draft Program EIR, but rather to inform the public and agencies

that we are commencing the CEQA process and presenting a proposed approach for preparing the Program EIR.

Following the Scoping Meeting, the next steps will be the development of Draft Program EIR and issuance of a Notice of Availability (NOA). Once available to the public, there will be a 45-day public review period for the Draft Program EIR. Comments on the draft Program EIR will be taken into consideration and addressed or incorporated into the Final Program EIR.

I'd like to note that the proposed Program EIR will not have any project-specific or site-specific analysis as the Master Plan doesn't provide that level of detail. At this time, this Program EIR would just provide a first-tier analysis for later activities to consider when conducting CEQA analysis for proposed individual projects and would look at the cumulative effects of the Plan as a whole. Future projects along the LA River would still be required to conduct project-specific CEQA evaluation for environmental analysis. Site-specific analysis, such as a flood study for Atwater Village may be included in future CEQA analysis for specific projects as applicable.

I hope this helps! Please feel free to contact me at my number below.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

(626) 458-7146

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:00 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Adriana,

I didn't hear back from you on my questions? I'm a bit confused about this process - there appears to be a disconnect. We are being asked to make comments by August 6th, which is the end of a 30 day period - but there is no information available till the meeting on July 29th.

Noticing a 30-day review for comments when there's no information available for the public to review, is not appropriate for public involvement in the CEQA process... *The public is involved in CEQA at many stages. Public involvement starts during the scoping process, which is used to determine what environmental impacts will be studied and what type of environmental document will be needed.* Maybe you are only releasing information to cities, agencies, and non-profits? Either way, you need to extend the comment period, reset it for 30 days (min.) from the date you release materials to the public.

Our monthly AVNC board meeting is after August 6th. So we will have to deal with this in our Special Meeting, August 28th which is dedicated to the HSR DEIR. (Which is before you July 29th NOP/PEIR information meeting)

I believe this process has not been transparent or inclusive for members of the public, especially for riverfront communities such as Atwater Village.

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:47 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Thank you for getting back to me.
>
> We as a board or members of the public can ask that certain areas be added in more detail?

For example - the LARRMP has study areas that are more developed than its list of potential projects.

OR

Is it we can ask for more detail on Hazardous Materials or Recreation as a section?

Do you plan to have a section of Atwater Villages 4 miles which will be called out and addressed in more detail? Your flood study in North Atwater Village?

Since this is a "programming EIR" will project automatically get a neg. dec. or will they have to go through the full EIR process?

We have a short timeline for a response since the meeting is so close to the comment period deadline. Any information you can provide sooner is appreciated.

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:25 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Karen,
>
> Thank you for reaching out to us. The Draft PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review; however, the online scoping meeting held on July 29 will provide an overview of the PEIR/CEQA process and

provides an opportunity for the public to provide input and comment on the scope of the PEIR (the sections you would like to see included in the PEIR). You will have an opportunity to review the sections (i.e. aesthetics, energy, hydrology/water quality, etc.) in the Draft PEIR when it is released for public review with a 45-day period to provide comments. We hope you can join us on July 29 from 6 to 8pm, but if not, all presentation materials will be available on the website afterwards (https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa) and we will be accepting written comments on the scope of the PEIR until August 6. Registration for the presentation is not required to attend, but if you sign up, we'll send additional reminder email about the event prior to July 29.

I will also check on issues with the phone number as it should be active.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello,

This is my third email to this address and I haven't gotten a response?! I would like to know how to prepared for this meeting/NOP/PEIR - where the information is to review?

Your phone number worked once this morning... now my provider says it's no longer in service?

Can you call me at 818 468 1738

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 8:13 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)
>
> Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*
>
> Aesthetics
> Air Quality
> Energy
> Hazards & Hazardous Materials
> Hydrology/Water Quality
> Land Use/Planning
> Noise
> Public Services
> Recreation
> Transportation

Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Karen Barnett** <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM
Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

Hello Ariana,

Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)

Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*

Aesthetics
Air Quality
Energy
Hazards & Hazardous Materials
Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning
Noise
Public Services

Recreation
Transportation
Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 5:20 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.
>
> A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.
>
> The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.
>
> **DATE:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020
>
> **TIME:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available athttp://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: J.P. Rose <JRose@biologicaldiversity.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 3:30 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Comments on NOP for 2020 LA River Master Plan
Attachments: Comments on LA River Master Plan NOP 8-5-2020.pdf

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Please see the attached letter from the Center for Biological Diversity regarding the Notice of Preparation for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report. We would appreciate if you could confirm receipt of the letter.

Thank you, and I hope you are having a good week!

J.P. Rose
Urban Wildlands Staff Attorney
CENTER *for* BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
660 S. Figueroa Street #1000
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Cell: (408) 497-7675
Office: (213) 785-5406
Twitter: @JPRose5
jrose@biologicaldiversity.org

August 6, 2020

Sent via email

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Re: Notice of Preparation for 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity ("Center") on the Notice of Preparation ("NOP") of a CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the 2020 LA River Master Plan. These comments are submitted to assist the Department of Public Works ("DPW") in preparation, review and approval of these environmental documents.

As the NOP acknowledges, the Project covers the 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans through 18 total jurisdictions. Today, 1 million people live within 1 mile of the river. The Center requests that special consideration be placed on the biological resources, hydrology and water quality, gentrification and homelessness, and equitable access.

I. Background on the Center

The Center is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has over 1.7 million members and online activists throughout California and the United States, including residents of Los Angeles County. The Center has worked for many years to protect imperiled plants and wildlife, open space, air and water quality, and overall quality of life.

II. Background on the EIR Process

An EIR is a detailed statement, prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code §§ 21000-21178 ("CEQA"), describing and analyzing all significant impacts on the environment of a proposed project and discussing ways of mitigating or avoiding those effects. (Pub. Res. Code §21100; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15362.) The purpose of an EIR "is to inform the public and its responsible officials of the environmental consequences of their decisions before they are made." (*Laurel Heights Improvement Association v. Regents of University of California* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1112, 1123 [emphasis in original and citations omitted].) An EIR should provide decision making bodies and the public with detailed information about the effect a proposed project is likely to have on the environment, to list ways in which the significant effects of a project might be avoided or minimized, and to indicate alternatives to the project. (Pub. Res. Code § 21061; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15002.) California courts have emphasized that an EIR should: disclose all relevant facts; provide a balancing mechanism whereby decision makers and the public can weigh the costs and benefits of a project; provide a means for public participation; provide increased public awareness of environmental issues; provide for agency accountability; and provide substantive environmental protection.

CEQA compels agencies to refrain from approving projects with significant environmental impacts if feasible mitigation measures or alternatives exists that can alleviate or avoid such adverse effects. (*Mountain Lion Foundation v. Fish & Game Com*. (1997) 16 Cal.4th 105, 134.) Pursuant to this substantive mandate, the DPW should consider all feasible mitigation measures and alternatives in its EIR analysis, which should be quantitative, objective, rigorous, and most of all, complete.

III. Notice of Preparation Comments

a. Avoidance and Minimization of Impacts to Wildlife Movement and Habitat Connectivity Must be Prioritized.

The LA River watershed sits within one of the world's most diverse Mediterranean biodiversity hotspots.[1] Today, the entire 52-mile river is designated as warm freshwater habitat, while the upper portion of the river and mouth are designated as wildlife habitat, used by rare, threatened, or endangered species. (*Id*. at 2.) Filling gaps in scientific research on wildlife along the LA River during the EIR process, as highlighted by Actions 3.2 and 3.6 of the Master Plan, would provide a greater insight into where Kit of Parts and other proposed projects would be best suited to support wildlife.

The Center requests that the Project's common elements and projects be implemented with the lowest impact on wildlife movement and restore native plants ecosystems wherever possible. The Kit of Parts should also be implemented with an eye towards enhancing and

[1] Jessica M. Henson, et al, *Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Existing Ecosystem and Habitat Conditions* (Nov. 19, 2018), available at https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/276/attachments/original/1543873616/181119_LARMP_Task_3.5_Ecosystem___Habitat_Progress_Memorandum_web.pdf?1543873616

interconnecting larger habitat areas in the San Gabriel, Santa Monica, and Santa Susana Mountains at the headwaters near Canoga Park, and between Griffith Park and the Verdugo Mountains at the Glendale Narrows, so that plant and animal species endemic to the River are more likely to survive and thrive. (*Id*. at 4.)

A functional riparian habitat and wetlands can also improve water quality by removing or sequestering many contaminants, therefore improving wildlife habitat quality has implications for the ecological functioning of the River as well as for wildlife uses.[2]

b. The DEIR Should Adequately Analyze and Mitigate Potential Impacts on Water Quality.

A diverse Mediterranean riparian ecosystem once covered much of the 834 square mile watershed of the LA River and its 9 major tributaries. Today, the LA River is an impaired water body with multiple total maximum daily load requirements (TMDLs) established to regulate the discharge of pollutants. (Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Water Resources: Flood Risk Management, Water Quality, and Water Supply 2018.)[3] The River is subject to five TMDLs for metals, nutrients, trash, bacteria under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act that collectively regulate discharges of 13 pollutants. (*Id*. at 19.) Furthermore, 62% of the LA River watershed is developed with mixed land uses where typical pollutants from industrial runoff include copper, zinc, lead, bacteria, suspended soilds, PCBs, and DDTs. (Id. at 18.) The DEIR should clearly articulate the environmental benefits of increasing enforcement of water permit violations and remediating industrial and commercial contamination as part of the Master Plan.

The DEIR should also assess and mitigate the potential impacts the Master Plan could have on the River's ability to maintain its original "Rec 1" beneficial use designation.[4] Common elements and Kit of Parts should be implemented in a manner that will someday restore the River to a fishable and swimmable river again. (Id.) The DEIR should also assess the prioritization of regional water quality improvement projects in areas of greatest need and should clearly state the increasing environmental benefits that would result from the most restorative actions that remove impervious surfaces and restore wetlands and green spaces.

c. The DEIR Must Assess Water Supply Impacts.

More than 50% of the region's water supply is imported from the Colorado River, Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Eastern Sierras.[5] Given the increasing population, regulatory requirements, and demands on imported water, the DEIR should consider the benefits

[2] Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan 2007, available at https://boe.lacity.org/lariverrmp/CommunityOutreach/masterplan_download.htm.
[3] Mark Hanna, et al., Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Water Resources: Flood Risk Management, Water Quality, and Water Supply (Dec. 2018) ("Water Resources Memorandum"), available at https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/280/attachments/original/1545082202/LARMP_Task_Memo_3-1_3-2_Progress_Memorandum__web.pdf?1545082202
[4] Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (2007), available at: http://boe.lacity.org/lariverrmp/CommunityOutreach/pdf/04Chapter3-IssuesAffectingthePlan42407.pdf.
[5] Water Resources Memorandum at p. 22.

from increased groundwater replenishment. The use of stormwater infiltration and low impact development elements in all projects could result in the replenishment of groundwater supplies to meet local objectives of better use of local water resources and reduces reliance on imported water. Efforts to capture flows in the Upper and Lower LA River watershed for groundwater discharge in the San Fernando Basin and Central Basin must be prioritized in the environmental review of the Master Plan.

d. The DEIR Must Adequately Analyze and Mitigate Housing and Displacement Impacts.

Around 38,100 households within 1 mile of the LA River are currently at risk of displacement. (Steering Committee #7 Summary 2019.)[6] An important aspect of the LA River Master Plan would to fund the acquisition of land for affordable housing and to preserve affordable housing. DPW should ensure that affordable housing is not placed next to industries and should avoid placing housing in areas with high flooding potential.

The DEIR should also analyze and mitigated the displacement impacts the Master Plan will likely cause as a result of improving infrastructure at and near the River. Special attention should be given to the communities between Downtown LA and Long Beach where displacement risk is most pervasive and the City of Bell Gardens and other communities that are already in a state of advanced displacement (Steering Committee #7 Summary 2019).[7] System-level mitigation measures should include a mix of supportive housing, affordable rental, affordable homeownership units, and other anti-displacement measures that would ensure community stability.

e. The DEIR Should Prioritize Equitable Access For All Communities Along the LA River.

The DEIR should place special emphasis on the environmental and societal benefits of increasing the extent of multi-use trails that connect to the River and prioritize access near major destination or areas that need improvements to existing access points. This should include connecting major regional trails, tributary trails and expanding regional loops primarily in the Lower LA River. The communities of highest park need along the LA River include Downtown LA, Bell Gardens, South Gate, Compton, and Long Beach. (Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary 2019.)[8] Increasing public access to the River should also include common elements, such as street lighting and emergency call boxes, to increase public safety along and within the River.

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[6] Los Angeles River Master Plan Update, Steering Committee Meeting #7 Summary (Sept. 25, 2019), available at https://pw.lacounty.gov/wmd/watershed/lar/docs/LARMP-SteeringCommittee7SummaryandAppendices.pdf (p.54)
[7] *Id*.
[8] Los Angeles River Master Plan Update, Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary (Dec. 19, 2019), available at https://pw.lacounty.gov/wmd/watershed/lar/docs/LARMP-SteeringCommitteeMeeting8-Summary-and-Appendices.pdf.

f. The DEIR Should Include A "Watershed Restoration" Alternative.

As detailed in the separate letter of August 4, 2020 submitted by Los Angeles Waterkeeper, the Center, Friends of the Los Angeles River, and Heal the Bay, the Center urges the County to include a "Watershed Restoration" alternative in the DEIR. This alternative would better achieve the goals of the Master Plan to "reduce flood risk and improve resiliency," "support healthy, connected ecosystems" and "promote healthy, safe, clean water".

IV. Conclusion

The Center appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the Master Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

J.P. Rose
Staff Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
660 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 1000
Los Angeles, California, 90017
jrose@biologicaldiversity.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Lin, David@Wildlife <David.Lin@Wildlife.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 2:30 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Tang, Victoria@Wildlife; Drewe, Karen@Wildlife; Barrera, Baron@Wildlife; Howell, Susan@Wildlife; Wildlife CEQA; state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Subject: Comments on 2020 LA River Master Plan NOP
Attachments: CDFW Comments on 2020 LA River Master Plan NOP.pdf

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has completed a review of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR) submitted by the County of Los Angeles for the following Project: 2020 LA River Master Plan (SCH# 2020070128). Please find CDFW's comment letter attached.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any questions or concerns regarding CDFW's comments, please feel free to contact David T. Lin, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (562) 430-0097 or by email at David.Lin@wildlife.ca.gov at your convenience.

Sincerely,

David T. Lin, Ph.D.
Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region 5
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
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State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

August 5, 2020

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for 2020 LA River Master Plan, SCH #2020070128, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has reviewed the above-referenced Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR) for the 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project). Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW's Role

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the state [Fish & Game Code, §§ 711.7, subdivision (a) & 1802; Public Resources Code, § 21070; Guidelines, § 15386, subdivision (a)]. CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (Id., § 1802). Similarly, for purposes of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CDFW is directed to provide biological expertise to lead agencies as part of environmental review, focusing on project activities that have the potential to adversely affect state fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA (Public Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381). CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code, including lake and streambed alteration (LSA) regulatory authority (Fish & Game Code, § 1600 *et seq.*) and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Fish & Game Code, § 2050 *et seq.*). To the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take", as defined by State law, or CESA-listed rare plant pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA; Fish & Game Code, § 1900 *et seq.*), CDFW recommends the Project proponent obtain appropriate authorization under the Fish and Game Code.

Project Description and Summary

Objective: The County of Los Angeles (County), through the Department of Public Works (LACPW), is proposing the Project, which would provide program-level direction for development along the Los Angeles River (LA River) over 25 years. The Project proposes multiple components within 6 categories: (1) trails, access gateways, and shelters; (2) channel modifications; (3) crossings and platforms; (4) diversions; (5) floodplain reclamation; and (6) off channel land assets. Examples include public open spaces, parks, benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing. Future actions or component projects proposed under the Project would range from "extra-small" (1-acre or less) to "extra-large" (150+ acre/10+ miles). Examples of extra-small projects include pavilions, lighting, environmental graphics, bike racks, and benches. Examples of extra-large projects include regional parks and water recharge areas.

Location: The Project addresses approximately a 2-mile wide corridor along 51 miles of the LA River from the San Fernando Valley to Long Beach on the Pacific Ocean. The Project provides program-level regional planning and does not include any site-specific locations for individual actions or component projects.

Comments and Recommendations

CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the County in adequately identifying, avoiding, and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

Specific Comments

1) Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements: As a Responsible Agency under CEQA, CDFW has authority over activities in streams and/or lakes that will divert or obstruct the natural flow; or change the bed, channel, or bank (including vegetation associated with the stream or lake) of a river or stream; or use material from a streambed. For any such activities, the project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to CDFW pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, CDFW determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement (Agreement) with the applicant is required prior to conducting the proposed activities. CDFW's issuance of an Agreement for a project that is subject to CEQA will require related environmental compliance actions by CDFW as a Responsible Agency. As a Responsible Agency, CDFW may consider the CEQA document prepared by the local jurisdiction (Lead Agency) for the Project. To minimize additional requirements by CDFW pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* and/or under CEQA, the DPEIR should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and reporting commitments for issuance of the Agreement.

   a) The Project area supports aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats; therefore, a preliminary delineation of the lateral extent of the streams should be included in the DPEIR. Activities in the streams subject to 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game code may extend beyond the jurisdictional limits of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Section 404 permit and Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification.

b) In areas of the Project site which may support ephemeral streams, herbaceous vegetation, woody vegetation, and woodlands also serve to protect the integrity of ephemeral channels and help maintain natural sedimentation processes; therefore, CDFW recommends effective setbacks be established to maintain appropriately-sized vegetated buffer areas adjoining ephemeral drainages.

c) Project-related changes in drainage patterns, runoff, and sedimentation should be included and evaluated in the DPEIR.

d) As part of the LSA Notification process, CDFW requests a hydrological evaluation of the 100-, 50-, 25-, 10-, 5-, and 2-year frequency storm event for existing and proposed conditions. CDFW recommends the DPEIR evaluate the results and address avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures that may be necessary to reduce potential significant impacts.

2) Wetlands Resources. CDFW, as described in Fish and Game Code section 703(a), is guided by the Fish and Game Commission's policies. The Wetlands Resources policy (https://fgc.ca.gov/About/Policies/Miscellaneous#Wetlands) of the Fish and Game Commission "…seek[s] to provide for the protection, preservation, restoration, enhancement and expansion of wetland habitat in California. Further, it is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission to strongly discourage development in or conversion of wetlands. It opposes, consistent with its legal authority, any development or conversion that would result in a reduction of wetland acreage or wetland habitat values. To that end, the Commission opposes wetland development proposals unless, at a minimum, project mitigation assures there will be 'no net loss' of either wetland habitat values or acreage. The Commission strongly prefers mitigation which would achieve expansion of wetland acreage and enhancement of wetland habitat values."

a) The Wetlands Resources policy provides a framework for maintaining wetland resources and establishes mitigation guidance. CDFW encourages avoidance of wetland resources as a primary mitigation measure and discourages the development or type conversion of wetlands to uplands. CDFW encourages activities that would avoid the reduction of wetland acreage, function, or habitat values. Once avoidance and minimization measures have been exhausted, the Project must include mitigation measures to assure a "no net loss" of either wetland habitat values, or acreage, for unavoidable impacts to wetland resources. Conversions include, but are not limited to, conversion to subsurface drains, placement of fill or building of structures within the wetland, and channelization or removal of materials from the streambed. All wetlands and watercourses, whether ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial, should be retained and provided with substantial setbacks, which preserve the riparian and aquatic values and functions for the benefit to on-site and off-site wildlife populations. CDFW recommends mitigation measures to compensate for unavoidable impacts be included in the DPEIR and these measures should compensate for the loss of function and value.

b) The Fish and Game Commission's Water policy guides CDFW on the quantity and quality of the waters of this state that should be apportioned and maintained respectively so as to produce and sustain maximum numbers of fish and wildlife; to provide maximum protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife and their habitat; encourage and support programs to maintain or restore a high quality of the waters of this state;

prevent the degradation thereof caused by pollution and contamination; and, endeavor to keep as much water as possible open and accessible to the public for the use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife. CDFW recommends avoidance of water practices and structures that use excessive amounts of water, and minimization of impacts that negatively affect water quality, to the extent feasible (Fish & Game Code, § 5650).

3) Nesting Birds. Based on a review of satellite imagery, there is scattered vegetation throughout the Project location that may provide potential habitat where Project activities may impact nesting birds. Project activities occurring during the breeding season of nesting birds could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs, or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment in trees directly adjacent to the Project boundary. The Project could also lead to the loss of foraging habitat for sensitive bird species.

   a) CDFW recommends that measures be taken to avoid Project impacts to nesting birds. Migratory nongame native bird species are protected by international treaty under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, § 10.13). Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit take of all birds and their active nests including raptors and other migratory nongame birds (as listed under the Federal MBTA).

   b) Proposed Project activities including (but not limited to) staging and disturbances to native and non-native vegetation, structures, and substrates should occur outside of the avian breeding season which generally runs from February 1 through September 1 (as early as January 1 for some raptors) to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, CDFW recommends surveys by a qualified biologist with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys to detect protected native birds occurring in suitable nesting habitat that is to be disturbed and (as access to adjacent areas allows) any other such habitat within 300-feet of the disturbance area (within 500-feet for raptors). Project personnel, including all contractors working on site, should be instructed on the sensitivity of the area. Reductions in the nest buffer distance may be appropriate depending on the avian species involved, ambient levels of human activity, screening vegetation, or possibly other factors.

4) Bat Species. A review of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) indicates occurrences of several bat species within the Project vicinity. These species include but are not limited to the big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), and western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*). The pallid bat and the western mastiff bat are both California Species of Special Concern. Bridges, buildings, trees, and scattered vegetation throughout the Project location may provide potential habitat where Project activities may impact bats. Activities that will result in the removal of trees, buildings or other habitat for bats should consider avoiding adverse impacts to bats.

   Bats are considered non-game mammals and are afforded protection by state law from take and/or harassment (Fish & Game Code § 4150, California Code of Regulations § 251.1). A DPEIR should provide a thorough discussion of potential impacts to bats from construction and operation of the Project to adequately disclose potential impacts and to identify appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures. The CEQA document shall

describe feasible measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines §15126.4[a][1]).

5) Impacts to sensitive species. The Project location is within the floodplain and active channel of the LA River. CDFW is concerned the Project may affect sensitive species that occur within the LA River and areas adjacent to the Project. Areas of particular concern include reaches of the LA River near the Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, and Glendale Narrows where the occurrence of the endangered least Bell's vireo *(Vireo bellii pusillus*), has been documented. Other sensitive or special status species may include (but are not limited to) Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Los Angeles pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris brevinasus*), big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), western spadefoot (*Spea hammondii*), western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi*), mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*), Parish's brittlescale (*Atriplex parishii*), Coulter's goldfields (*Lasthenia glabrata* ssp. *coulteri*), and Peruvian dodder (*Cuscuta obtusiflora* var. *glandulosa*). Grading, vegetation removal, and other ground disturbances could crush and bury listed or sensitive plants and animals, resulting in direct mortality. The Project may also affect adjacent habitat by loud noises, lighting, increased human presence and activity, fugitive dust, increased temperatures from asphalt (heat island effect), hydrocarbons from asphalt paving within the LA River floodplain, and spreading invasive weeds, resulting in stress, displacement, and mortality of these species. CDFW recommends to following:

   a) The Project should use alternatives to hydrocarbon-based asphalt paving. Asphalt pavement continues to leach hydrocarbons and heavy metals, becoming a significant point source of environmental contamination (Sadler, 1999).

   b) Given this Project is proposed for a sensitive location (within the LA River channel and floodplain), the potential for direct and indirect impacts to sensitive, listed, and fully protected species should be further addressed. The DPEIR should include specific information on species locations, and specifically how the project will be sited to avoid impacts to this species or vegetation communities. If the Project will impact a sensitive species or vegetation community, specific mitigation to offset the loss of habitat (acreage and type) should be included in the DPEIR. Any mitigation proposed should be covered under a conservation easement, include a long-term management plant, and ensure funding to manage the mitigation land in perpetuity.

6) Landscaping. The NOP includes parks, open spaces, and trails among the Project objectives. Habitat loss and invasive plants are a leading cause of native biodiversity loss. Invasive plant species spread quickly and can displace native plants, prevent native plant growth, and create monocultures. CDFW recommends using native, locally appropriate plant species for landscaping on the Project site. CDFW recommends invasive/exotic plants, such as pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) and salt cedar (*Tamarisk* spp.), be restricted from use in landscape plans for this Project. A list of invasive/exotic plants that

should be avoided as well as suggestions for better landscape plants can be found at https://www.cal-ipc.org/solutions/prevention/landscaping/

7) Tree Removal. Satellite imagery indicates the presence of trees in areas of the Project site that might be developed for parks, trails, channel modifications, or other Project components. Habitat loss is one of the leading causes of native biodiversity loss. To compensate for any loss of trees, CDFW recommends replacing all non-native trees removed as a result of the proposed work activities at least a 1:1 ratio with native trees. CDFW recommends replacing native trees at least a 3:1 ratio with a combination of native trees and/or appropriate understory and lower canopy plantings.

   Due to tree removal, Project activities have the potential to result in the spread of tree insect pests and disease into areas not currently exposed to these stressors. This could result in expediting the loss of oaks, alders, sycamore, and other trees in California which support a high biological diversity including special status species. To reduce impacts to less than significant the final environmental document should describe an infectious tree disease management plan and how it will be implemented to avoid significant impacts under CEQA. All trees identified for removal resulting from the Project should be inspected for contagious tree diseases including but not limited to: thousand cankers fungus (*Geosmithia morbida*), see http://www.thousandcankers.com/; polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallacea* spp.), see https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8590.pdf and https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/agriculture/avocado/polyphagous-shot-hole-borer-and-kuroshio-shot-hole-borer/; and goldspotted oak borer (*Agrilus auroguttatus*), *see* http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74163.html. To avoid the spread of infectious tree diseases, diseased trees should not be transported from the Project site without first being treated using best available management practices relevant for each tree disease observed.

8) Biological Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts. The NOP states that the Project location broadly includes "a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County". The LA River is a major riparian corridor in the Los Angeles Basin and serves as an important wildlife movement corridor connecting much of the open spaces through the rapidly urbanizing city. It is essential to understand how these open spaces and the biological diversity within them may be impacted by Project activities. This should aid in identifying specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends providing a thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources, with specific measures to offset such impacts. The following should be addressed in the DPEIR:

   a) A discussion regarding indirect Project impacts on biological resources, including resources in nearby public lands, open space, adjacent natural habitats, riparian ecosystems, and any designated and/or proposed or existing reserve lands (e.g., preserve lands associated with a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP, Fish & Game Code, § 2800 *et seq*.). Impacts on, and maintenance of, wildlife corridor/movement areas, including access to undisturbed habitats in adjacent areas, should be fully evaluated in the DPEIR;

   b) A discussion of potential adverse impacts from lighting, noise, human activity, and exotic species and identification of any mitigation measures;

c) A discussion on Project-related changes on drainage patterns and downstream of the Project site; the volume, velocity, and frequency of existing and post-Project surface flows; polluted runoff; soil erosion and/or sedimentation in streams and water bodies; and, post-Project fate of runoff from the Project site. The discussion should also address the proximity of the extraction activities to the water table, whether dewatering would be necessary and the potential resulting impacts on the habitat (if any) supported by the groundwater. Mitigation measures proposed to alleviate such Project impacts should be included;

d) An analysis of impacts from land use designations and zoning located nearby or adjacent to natural areas that may inadvertently contribute to wildlife-human interactions. A discussion of possible conflicts and mitigation measures to reduce these conflicts should be included in the DPEIR; and,

e) A cumulative effects analysis, as described under CEQA Guidelines section 15130. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.

General Comments

1) Project Description and Alternatives. To enable CDFW to adequately review and comment on the proposed Project from the standpoint of the protection of plants, fish, and wildlife, we recommend the following information be included in the DPEIR:

   a) A complete discussion of the purpose and need for, and description of, the proposed Project, including all staging areas and access routes to the construction and staging areas; and,

   b) A range of feasible alternatives to Project component location and design features to ensure that alternatives to the proposed Project are fully considered and evaluated. The alternatives should avoid or otherwise minimize direct and indirect impacts to sensitive biological resources and wildlife movement areas.

2) Biological Baseline Assessment. The Project site consists of land developed with a variety of uses, as well as vacant land, undeveloped land containing native and non-native vegetation. Undisturbed land may be considered sensitive habitat or may provide suitable habitat for special status or regionally and locally unique species. CDFW recommends providing a complete assessment and impact analysis of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Project area, with emphasis upon identifying endangered, threatened, sensitive, regionally and locally unique species, and sensitive habitats. Impact analysis will aid in determining any direct, indirect, and cumulative biological impacts, as well as specific mitigation or avoidance measures necessary to offset those impacts. CDFW recommends avoiding any sensitive natural communities found on or adjacent to the Project. CDFW also considers impacts to Species of Special Concern a significant direct and cumulative adverse effect without implementing appropriate avoid and/or mitigation measures. The DPEIR should include the following information:

a) Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region [CEQA Guidelines, § 15125(c)]. The DPEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect Sensitive Natural Communities from Project-related impacts. Project implementation may result in impacts to rare or endangered plants or plant communities that have been recorded adjacent to the Project vicinity. CDFW considers these communities as threatened habitats having both regional and local significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a state-wide ranking of S1, S2, S3 and S4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by visiting https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/VegCAMP/Natural-Communities#sensitive%20natural%20communities;

b) A thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following CDFW's Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (see https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants);

c) Floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments conducted at the Project site and within the neighboring vicinity. The Manual of California Vegetation, second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment. Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions;

d) A complete, recent, assessment of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within adjacent areas that could also be affected by the project. CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) in Sacramento should be contacted to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitat. CDFW recommends that CNDDB Field Survey Forms be completed and submitted to CNDDB to document survey results. Online forms can be obtained and submitted at https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data;

e) A complete, recent, assessment of rare, threatened, and endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect, including California SSC and California Fully Protected Species (Fish & Game Code §§ 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species (see CEQA Guidelines § 15380). Seasonal variations in use of the project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the USFWS; and,

f) A recent, wildlife and rare plant survey. CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if build out could occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases.

3) California Endangered Species Act. CDFW considers adverse impacts to a species protected by CESA to be significant without mitigation under CEQA. As to CESA, take of any endangered, threatened, candidate species, or CESA-listed rare plant species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by State law (Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080, 2085; California Code of Regulations, tit. 14, § 786.9). Consequently, if the Project, Project construction, or any Project-related activity during the life of the Project will result in take of a species designated as endangered or threatened, or a candidate for listing under CESA, CDFW recommends that the Project proponent seek appropriate take authorization under CESA prior to implementing the Project. Appropriate authorization from CDFW may include an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) or a consistency determination in certain circumstances, among other options [Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080.1, 2081, subds. (b) and (c)]. Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to a Project and mitigation measures may be required to obtain a CESA Permit. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that CDFW issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to CESA-listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an ITP. For these reasons, biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for a CESA ITP.

4) Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation for Sensitive Plants. The DPEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect sensitive plant communities from Project-related direct and indirect impacts. CDFW considers these communities to be imperiled habitats having both local and regional significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a statewide ranking of S-1, S-2, S-3, and S-4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by querying the CNDDB and are included in the *Manual of California Vegetation*.

5) Compensatory Mitigation. The DPEIR should include mitigation measures for adverse Project- related impacts to sensitive plants, animals, and habitats. Mitigation measures should emphasize avoidance and reduction of Project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, on-site habitat restoration or enhancement should be discussed in detail. If on-site mitigation is not feasible or would not be biologically viable and therefore not adequately mitigate the loss of biological functions and values, off-site mitigation through habitat creation and/or acquisition and preservation in perpetuity should be addressed. Areas proposed as mitigation lands should be protected in perpetuity with a conservation easement, financial assurance and dedicated to a qualified entity for long-term management and monitoring. Under Government Code section 65967, the lead agency must exercise due diligence in reviewing the qualifications of a governmental entity, special district, or nonprofit organization to effectively manage and steward land, water, or natural resources on mitigation lands it approves.

6) Long-term Management of Mitigation Lands. For proposed preservation and/or restoration, the DPEIR should include measures to protect the targeted habitat values from direct and indirect negative impacts in perpetuity. The objective should be to offset the Project-induced qualitative and quantitative losses of wildlife habitat values. Issues that should be addressed include (but are not limited to) restrictions on access, proposed land dedications, monitoring and management programs, control of illegal dumping, water

pollution, and increased human intrusion. An appropriate non-wasting endowment should be set aside to provide for long-term management of mitigation lands.

7) Translocation/Salvage of Plants and Animal Species. Translocation or transplantation is the process of moving an individual from the Project site and permanently moving it to a new location. CDFW generally does not support the use of, translocation or transplantation as the primary mitigation strategy for unavoidable impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Studies have shown that these efforts are experimental and the outcome unreliable. CDFW has found that permanent preservation and management of habitat capable of supporting these species is often a more effective long-term strategy for conserving sensitive plants and animals and their habitats.

8) Moving out of Harm's Way. The proposed Project is anticipated to result in clearing of natural habitats that support many species of indigenous wildlife. To avoid direct mortality, we recommend that a qualified biological monitor approved by CDFW be on-site prior to and during ground and habitat disturbing activities to move out of harm's way special status species or other wildlife of low mobility that would be injured or killed by grubbing or Project- related construction activities. It should be noted that the temporary relocation of on-site wildlife does not constitute effective mitigation for the purposes of offsetting Project impacts associated with habitat loss. If the Project requires species to be removed, disturbed, or otherwise handled, we recommend that the DPEIR clearly identify that the designated entity should obtain all appropriate state and federal permits.

9) Revegetation/Restoration Plan. Plans for restoration and re-vegetation should be prepared by persons with expertise in southern California ecosystems and native plant restoration techniques. Plans should identify the assumptions used to develop the proposed restoration strategy. Each plan should include, at a minimum: (a) the location of restoration sites and assessment of appropriate reference sites; (b) the plant species to be used, sources of local propagules, container sizes, and seeding rates; (c) a schematic depicting the mitigation area; (d) a local seed and cuttings and planting schedule; (e) a description of the irrigation methodology; (f) measures to control exotic vegetation on site; (g) specific success criteria; (h) a detailed monitoring program; (i) contingency measures should the success criteria not be met; and (j) identification of the party responsible for meeting the success criteria and providing for conservation of the mitigation site in perpetuity. Monitoring of restoration areas should extend across a sufficient time frame to ensure that the new habitat is established, self-sustaining, and capable of surviving drought.

   a) CDFW recommends that local on-site propagules from the Project area and nearby vicinity be collected and used for restoration purposes. On-site seed collection should be initiated in the near future to accumulate sufficient propagule material for subsequent use in future years. On-site vegetation mapping at the alliance and/or association level should be used to develop appropriate restoration goals and local plant palettes. Reference areas should be identified to help guide restoration efforts. Specific restoration plans should be developed for various Project components as appropriate.

   b) Restoration objectives should include providing special habitat elements where feasible to benefit key wildlife species. These physical and biological features can include (for example) retention of woody material, logs, snags, rocks, and brush piles (see Mayer and Laudenslayer, 1988).

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the NOP to assist the County of Los Angeles in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact David T. Lin, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (562) 430-0097 or by email at David.Lin@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Erinn Wilson
B6E58CFE24724F5...

Erinn Wilson
Environmental Program Manager I

ec: CDFW
Victoria Tang – Los Alamitos
Karen Drewe – Los Alamitos
Baron Barrera – Los Alamitos
David T. Lin – Los Alamitos
Susan Howell – San Diego
CEQA HQ – Sacramento

State Clearinghouse

References

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). March 20, 2018. Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities (see https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants).

Cowardin, L M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. *Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS/OBS-79/31, Washington, DC.

Mayer, K.E. and W.F. Laudenslayer, Jr. 1988. Editors: *A Guide to Wildlife Habitats of California.* State of California, Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

Sadler, R., C, Delamont, P. White, and D. Connell. 1999. Contaminants in soil as a result of leaching from asphalt. *Toxicological & Environmental Chemistry* 68:71-81.

Sawyer, J.O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J.M. Evens. 2009. *A Manual of California Vegetation*, Second Edition. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, CA.

Ariana Villanueva

From: John Buckingham <johnyum@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 11:59 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Ariana Villanueva,

I want to make another suggestion for the Draft PEIR. With thousands of square feet of surface area on the floor of the LA River from Slauson Ave. to the mouth, solar panels could be installed and connected to the electronic grid. DC to AC power inverters could make the transition seamless.

Thanks again,

John Buckingham
1865 Montair Ave.
Long beach CA 90815
(562) 597-3516

Ariana Villanueva

From: John Buckingham <johnyum@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 11:18 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments
Attachments: NOP Scoping Comments.docx

Ariana Villanueva,

I am submitting my opinion for the LA River Draft PEIR as a Word document.

Thank you,

John Buckingham
Long Beach Ca

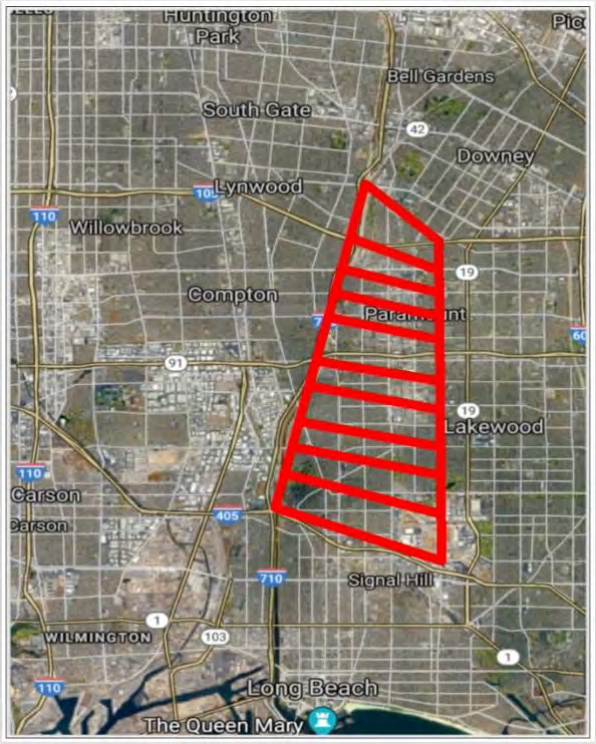
NOP Scoping Comments

August 5, 2020

Ariana Villanueva,

I would like to offer my opinion on the LA River Draft PEIR. My focus is mainly on the collection of rain water during rainstorms. I believe that an array of tunnels would be a means of collecting the water runoff in the river would be best. The water would be held in the tunnels. The tunnels would act as a cistern as the water is put through water treatment plants for public use and drinking water and stored in above ground storage tanks for distribution.

In the picture left the red lines represent 25-foot diameter tunnels. Starting at the upper left at Imperial Highway and the LA River is where a cut into the river is made and flows south paralleling the river and the I-710 and then east to the Long Beach water treatment plant at Spring St. Another tunnel goes to Downey Ave near the I-105 then south to the Long Beach water treatment plant at Spring St. Other tunnels complete the array. In total, about 26.82 miles of tunnels are shown in the example. If all the tunnels become filled the amount of water collected would be 519,990,907 gallons. Other configurations of tunnels could be done.
This would me my answer to the runoff water in the LA River during a storm. Please forward the any interested parties.



Thank you,

John Buckingham
1865 Montair Ave.
Long Beach CA 90815
(562) 597-3516

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 9:30 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Morales, Fernando; Schneider, Erin; Edward Morrissey; Courtney Morris
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Ariana,

Has there been any discussion on extending the comment deadline of August 6, 2020? On Monday evening, the river committee approved a comment letter for the August 13th AVNC board meeting.

If you are NOT extending the deadline, I need to know so that I can get the comments I have from the river and community members into you on August 6 by 5 PM.

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 5:01 PM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Thanks for speaking with me yesterday. Last night the board approved the letter requesting an extension of the NOP comment period. Courtney and Edward will be emailing it out soon.
>
> See you tonight,
>
> Karen
>
> **Atwater Village Neighborhood Council**
> Central Atwater Representative
> River Committee Chair
> E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
> Message Phone: 323-230-3406
> www.atwatervillage.org
>
> On Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 11:56 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi Karen,

Thank you for your inquiry. Below is additional information on the LA River Master Plan Program EIR and CEQA process.

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting on July 29, 2020:

- The main goal for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and the upcoming meeting is to let the public know that Public Works is initiating the CEQA process.

- The proposed scope of the draft Program EIR is included in the NOP which can be found here: https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf and was filed on July 7 (posted with the County Clerk, Office of Planning and Research, sent via certified mail to Steering Committee members, by email to interested parties, and through social media blasts on Twitter and Facebook).

- The meeting on Wednesday will elaborate on the information provided in the NOP and the CEQA approach for the LA River Master Plan. Comments on the scope can continue to be provided until August 6 as the document is being developed. I'd like to reiterate that this meeting is not to present the draft Program EIR, but rather to inform the public and agencies that we are commencing the CEQA process and presenting a proposed approach for preparing the Program EIR.

Following the Scoping Meeting, the next steps will be the development of Draft Program EIR and issuance of a Notice of Availability (NOA). Once available to the public, there will be a 45-day public review period for the Draft Program EIR. Comments on the draft Program EIR will be taken into consideration and addressed or incorporated into the Final Program EIR.

I'd like to note that the proposed Program EIR will not have any project-specific or site-specific analysis as the Master Plan doesn't provide that level of detail. At this time, this Program EIR would just provide a first-tier analysis for later activities to consider when conducting CEQA analysis for proposed individual projects and would look at the cumulative effects of the Plan as a whole. Future projects along the LA River would still be required to conduct project-specific CEQA evaluation for environmental analysis. Site-specific analysis, such as a flood study for Atwater Village may be included in future CEQA analysis for specific projects as applicable.

I hope this helps! Please feel free to contact me at my number below.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

(626) 458-7146

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:00 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Adriana,

I didn't hear back from you on my questions? I'm a bit confused about this process - there appears to be a disconnect. We are being asked to make comments by August 6th, which is the end of a 30 day period - but there is no information available till the meeting on July 29th.

Noticing a 30-day review for comments when there's no information available for the public to review, is not appropriate for public involvement in the CEQA process... *The public is involved in CEQA at many stages. Public involvement starts during the scoping process, which is used to determine what environmental impacts will be studied and what type of environmental document will be needed.* Maybe you are only releasing information to cities, agencies, and non-profits? Either way, you need to extend the comment period, reset it for 30 days (min.) from the date you release materials to the public.

Our monthly AVNC board meeting is after August 6th. So we will have to deal with this in our Special Meeting, August 28th which is dedicated to the HSR DEIR. (Which is before you July 29th NOP/PEIR information meeting)

I believe this process has not been transparent or inclusive for members of the public, especially for riverfront communities such as Atwater Village.

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:47 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Thank you for getting back to me.
>
> We as a board or members of the public can ask that certain areas be added in more detail?
>
> For example - the LARRMP has study areas that are more developed than its list of potential projects.
>
> OR
>
> Is it we can ask for more detail on Hazardous Materials or Recreation as a section?
>
> Do you plan to have a section of Atwater Villages 4 miles which will be called out and addressed in more detail? Your flood study in North Atwater Village?
>
> Since this is a "programming EIR" will project automatically get a neg. dec. or will they have to go through the full EIR process?
>
> We have a short timeline for a response since the meeting is so close to the comment period deadline. Any information you can provide sooner is appreciated.
>
> Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:25 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thank you for reaching out to us. The Draft PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review; however, the online scoping meeting held on July 29 will provide an overview of the PEIR/CEQA process and provides an opportunity for the public to provide input and comment on the scope of the PEIR (the sections you would like to see included in the PEIR). You will have an opportunity to review the sections (i.e. aesthetics, energy, hydrology/water quality, etc.) in the Draft PEIR when it is released for public review with a 45-day period to provide comments. We hope you can join us on July 29 from 6 to 8pm, but if not, all presentation materials will be available on the website afterwards (https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa) and we will be accepting written comments on the scope of the PEIR until August 6. Registration for the presentation is not required to attend, but if you sign up, we'll send additional reminder email about the event prior to July 29.

I will also check on issues with the phone number as it should be active.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello,

This is my third email to this address and I haven't gotten a response?! I would like to know how to prepared for this meeting/NOP/PEIR - where the information is to review?

Your phone number worked once this morning... now my provider says it's no longer in service?

Can you call me at 818 468 1738

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 8:13 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)
>
> Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*
>
> Aesthetics
> Air Quality
> Energy
> Hazards & Hazardous Materials
> Hydrology/Water Quality
> Land Use/Planning
> Noise
> Public Services
> Recreation
> Transportation
> Utilities/Service Systems
> Cumulative Impacts
>
> Thank you,
>
> Karen
>
> **Atwater Village Neighborhood Council**
>
> Central Atwater Representative
> River Committee Chair
> E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
> Message Phone: 323-230-3406
> www.atwatervillage.org
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Karen Barnett** <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>

Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM
Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

Hello Ariana,

Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)

Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*

Aesthetics
Air Quality
Energy
Hazards & Hazardous Materials
Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning
Noise
Public Services
Recreation
Transportation
Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 5:20 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available athttp://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Melissa von Mayrhauser <melissavm@lawaterkeeper.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:32 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Genevieve Osmena; Dadashi, Heather; Arthur S. Pugsley; Bruce Reznik; Kim Lewand Martin; J.P. Rose; Liliana Griego; Marissa Christiansen; Katherine Pease
Subject: Comments on the NOP of a DEIR for the LA River Master Plan Update
Attachments: LAW CBD FoLAR HTB LARMPU NOP Comment Letter.pdf

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

On behalf of LA Waterkeeper, The Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the LA River, and Heal the Bay, please find our attached comment letter regarding the LARMPU PEIR NOP. Please let me know if you have any difficulty opening the document. We will also mail a courtesy copy to you at Public Works.

Thank you,
Melissa

MELISSA VON MAYRHAUSER
Watershed Programs Manager
(310) 394-6162 x101
@LAWaterkeeper

LOS ANGELES WATERKEEPER®

August 4, 2020

Attention: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works,
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Via e-mail to Ariana Villanueva with original to follow via US Mail.

RE: Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the LA River Master Plan Update

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Los Angeles Waterkeeper, the Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the LA River, and Heal the Bay have reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the LA River Master Plan Update (LARMPU). The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (the County) will prepare the EIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Guidelines). (See Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq; 14 Cal. Code Regs. Section 15000 et seq). We submit the following comments for consideration as the County prepares the EIR.

Los Angeles Waterkeeper (LAW) is a nonprofit environmental organization with members throughout the LA region. We safeguard LA's inland and coastal waters by enforcing laws and empowering communities throughout Los Angeles County. In the twenty-five years since our founding, LAW has protected LA waterways from thousands of Clean Water Act violations, worked to ensure access to safe drinking water, encouraged stormwater and wastewater recycling, and generated billions of investment dollars for remediation of our region's most threatened waterways. Much of LAW's work centers around rehabilitating the Los Angeles River and its watershed.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental

law. The Center has over 1.7 million members and online activists throughout California and the United States, including residents of Los Angeles County. The Center has worked for many years to protect imperiled plants and wildlife, open space, air and water quality, and overall quality of life.

Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR) has been at the forefront of ensuring the Los Angeles River is publicly accessible and ecologically sustainable. We inspire River stewardship through community engagement, education, advocacy, and thought leadership. For over 30 years, we have worked to create an enduring vision of the River that acknowledges its legacy as a life-giving waterway and illuminates the critical benefits its restoration can bring to the surrounding communities.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 30 years of experience and 15,000 members dedicated to making the coastal waters and watersheds of California safe, healthy, and clean. Heal the Bay has a long history of work on the Los Angeles River; we have advocated for improved habitat, water quality, and recreation by weighing in on numerous policies and permits concerning the Los Angeles River such as TMDLs, the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) study, permits for dredging and clearing vegetation, and other regulatory actions.

LAW, FoLAR, and Heal the Bay have actively participated in the development of the LA River Master Plan as Steering Committee members. We have repeatedly voiced concerns about the LA River Master Plan Update process and drafts throughout the Steering Committee and sub-committee process. We have been concerned about the lack of a clear vision, the lack of equity and ecology prioritization, and the lack of a watershed approach or climate resilience focus. We believe that many of the projects proposed in the draft would not only do harm to communities and ecosystems, but could also foreclose opportunities for preventing future harms. These issues continued to trouble us after reviewing the draft plan presented to the Steering Committee, so we further elaborated upon them in a joint letter submitted on March 12, 2020 with several fellow organizations on the Steering Committee. We still have not received any response to our comments at the date of submitting this letter, so we proceed with this letter with our same concerns in mind. The timing of the release of the NOP makes it difficult for us to submit comments without seeing the public-facing Draft EIR.

After reviewing the Draft EIR NOP, we are concerned about the County's lack of transparency in its selection of an EIR document type, unclear description of the LARMPU project, and vague discussion of alternatives. CEQA requires transparency and a stable project description written with a level of specificity that allows members of the public to comment on

the project. (*County of Inyo v. City of Los Angeles* (1977) 71 Cal.App.3d 185, 186). The County's actions of describing its plan as both a Master EIR and a Program EIR, continually altering the LARMPU project description, and listing of vague alternatives vitiate the environmental review process as a tool for intelligent public participation.

I. The County Must Explain Whether It Intends to Prepare a Master EIR or a Program EIR and Provide Reasoning.

Instead of conflating Master and Program EIRs in labeling the plan's environmental report a "Draft Master Plan PEIR," we urge the County to clearly select one option and highlight and consider the relevant issues in the Draft EIR. A clearer selection of an EIR type will not only grant members of the public greater understanding of what they are commenting upon, but will also benefit the County. In the past, courts have substituted their own judgement in the absence of an agency's EIR designation. A court may independently label an EIR and apply the corresponding CEQA regulations in a manner contrary to an agency's wishes. Master and Program EIRs are distinct types of EIR documents and should be treated as such.

A Program EIR is one that may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project, and are related either: geographically; as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions; in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program; or as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (a)). A Program EIR analyzes the environmental consequences of broad policies or programs at the planning stage and requires lead agencies to prepare more detailed analyses in subsequent documents.[1] It can: (1) provide the basis in an initial study for determining whether the later activity may have any significant effects; (2) be incorporated by reference to deal with regional influences, secondary effects, cumulative impacts, broad alternatives, and other factors that apply to the program as a whole; and (3) focus an EIR on a subsequent project to permit discussion solely of new effects which had not been considered before. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (d)).

A Program EIR will be most helpful in dealing with subsequent activities if it provides a description of planned activities and deals with the effects of the program as "specifically and comprehensively as possible." (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(5)). In instances where the subsequent activities involve site-specific operations, a lead agency should use "a written

[1] See Michael H. Remy et. al., *Guide to CEQA California Environmental Quality Act* 280, 334 (11th ed. 2006).

checklist or similar device to document the evaluation of the site and the activity to determine whether the environmental effects of the operation" were covered in the Program EIR. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(4)). Where such an inquiry concludes that additional CEQA analysis is required, the lead agency should then prepare an initial study to determine whether a negative declaration or EIR should be prepared. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(1)).

The Master EIR procedure is another option for conducting environmental review. It is intended to serve as the foundation for analyzing the environmental effects of subsequent projects. A lead agency may prepare a Master EIR for (1) a general plan, general plan update, general plan element, general plan amendment, or specific plan; (2) a project that consists of smaller individual projects which will be carried out in phases; (3) projects that will be carried out or approved pursuant to a development agreement, as well as a number of other classes of projects. It shall, to the greatest extent feasible, evaluate the cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, and irreversible significant effects on the environment of subsequent projects. (Guidelines Section 15175).

In practice, a Master EIR is similar to a Program EIR. However, there are at least three differences worth noting. First, the requirements for preparing and applying a Master EIR and its associated focused EIRs are described in detail in both statute and the CEQA Guidelines. Requirements for Program EIRs, on the other hand, are less specifically described in the CEQA Guidelines. Second, once a subsequent project is determined to be within the scope of the Master EIR, a focused EIR must be prepared whenever it can be fairly argued on the basis of substantial evidence in the record that the project may have a significant effect, even if evidence exists to the contrary. Focused EIRs should examine project-specific impacts while referencing the Master EIR's analysis of cumulative and growth-inducing impacts. Projects that have been described in some detail in the Master EIR may avoid the need for a subsequent focused EIR or negative declaration. Third, to use a Master EIR for a subsequent project, the Master EIR must be re-examined and, if necessary, supplemented at least once every five years. This ensures that the analysis contained in a Master EIR remains topical.[2]

We encourage the County to consider preparation of a Master EIR because it may facilitate smoother implementation of subsequent projects and greater public participation if prepared in a sufficiently comprehensive manner. The draft LARMPU that Steering Committee members have read already includes a high level of detail about certain projects, including the removal of vegetation from the Glendale Narrows and the construction of a concrete cap over the

[2] Office of Planning and Research, "Chapter 10 CEQA: Designing Healthy, Equitable, Resilient, and Economically Vibrant Places" in General Plan Guidelines, p. 275.

river in South Gate. The level of detail in the EIR should match the level of detail from the LARMPU, so community members should have an opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of these projects at this point. Preparation of a Master EIR would also incentivize greater thoroughness and inclusivity in the upcoming EIR. Above all, however, we request a clear selection of an EIR type and an application of the CEQA regulations accordingly.

II. The County Must Devise a Stable Project Description.

Regardless of the County's designation of the LARMPU EIR, CEQA requires an EIR to contain a stable project description. In fact, "an accurate, stable, and finite project description is the sine qua non of an informative and legally sufficient EIR." (*County of Inyo* at 186). The CEQA Guidelines flesh out the notion of a "project" by referring to it as "an activity which may cause either a direct...or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment." (Pub. Res. Code 21065 and *County of Inyo* at 192).

As written, the LARMPU Draft EIR contains an unstable, vague, and inconsistent description of the project as well as a list of ambiguous alternatives. For example, the Draft EIR available to the Steering Committee indicated that there are flooding concerns along the river corridor and discouraged riverfront development while also proposing housing along the river. It then makes it difficult for community members to comment on the County's stance on housing in the floodplain if this is articulated in a contradictory way. Moreover, the Kit of Parts section of the Master Plan presents the six design components without prioritization or context in terms of their impacts on goals, possibility to do harm, and appropriateness reach by reach.[3] It will be very difficult to comment on the environmental impacts of a general idea of floodplain reclamation or in-channel modifications, for instance, without more information. The NOP also states that the scope of the project is along a "51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor," but the draft LARMPU contains elements that are watershed-wide. All of these contradictions and more will lead to an unstable project description. A project description that gives conflicting signals to the public about the nature and scope of the project is fundamentally misleading and inadequate. (*Washoe Meadows County v. Dep't of Parks & Recreation* (2017) 17 Cal. App. 5th 277, 287, 225 Cal. Rptr. 3d 238, 245 (*Washoe Meadows*)).

Additionally, some portions of the draft LARMPU are quite detailed, while others are vague, making the document unbalanced as a whole. The draft includes a broad description of possible projects, rather than a preferred or actual project. This type of project description is

[3] See section 4 of the "Letter to County LARMPU" for more information about our concerns pertaining to the Kit of Parts portion of the Master Plan.

unstable because it presents the public with a moving target and requires a commenter to offer input on a wide range of alternatives that may not be pertinent to the ultimately approved project. Each option creates a different set of impacts, requiring different mitigation measures. As a result, meaningful public participation is stultified, and the public's ability to participate in the CEQA process is impaired. (*San Joaquin Raptor Rescue Ctr. v. County of Merced* (2007) 149 Cal. App. 4th 645, 656).

CEQA also requires the EIR to set forth a reasonable range of clear project alternatives to foster informed decision-making and public participation. (see *Laurel Heights Improvement Assoc. v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal.* (1988) 47 Cal.3d 376). The NOP states that the EIR will include a no project alternative, a project alternative, and "one or more feasible 'build' alternatives to the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan." It is very unclear what this means, but it sounds like community members will be able to comment on either moving forward with the LARMPU as written, not at all, or with an entirely different 'build' project.

The CEQA reporting process is not designed to freeze the ultimate proposal in the precise mold of the initial project; new and unforeseen insights may emerge during investigation, compelling revision of the original proposal. (*County of Inyo* at 199). An EIR should be prepared with a sufficient degree of analysis to provide decision-makers with information that enables them to make a decision that logically takes account of environmental consequences. An assessment of the environmental effects of a proposed project need not be exhaustive, but the sufficiency of an EIR is to be reviewed in light of what is "reasonably feasible." *Washoe Meadows* at 245. Only through an accurate view of the project may decision-makers and affected members of the public balance the proposal's benefit against its environmental cost, consider mitigation measures, assess the advantage of terminating the proposal, and weigh other possible alternatives. Therefore, we urge the County to devise a stable project description and delineate a set of clear alternatives in the Draft EIR.

III. The County Should Include a "Watershed Restoration" Alternative.

We recommend that the County include a "watershed restoration" alternative, recognizing that the river is a critical freshwater ecosystem that is important to community members. This alternative would expand the scope of the project to include the LA River watershed more formally because in order to achieve the goals of the LARMPU (including "reduce flood risk and improve resiliency," "support healthy, connected ecosystems" and "promote healthy, safe, clean water") a system-wide approach is critical. Freshwater ecology

studies show that making superficial and fragmented changes to streams and stream-adjacent areas does not lead to the restoration of stream ecological function.[4]

The County also needs to use this level of analysis and broader scope in order to understand cumulative impacts. Cumulative impacts refers to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable and compound other environmental impacts. CEQA requires an EIR to discuss those cumulative impacts to which the project would contribute, and the importance of that contribution in the context of the cumulative impact. (Guidelines Title 14, Section 21083). How will the County understand whether it is meeting the LARMPU goal of "Improving local water supply reliability" without a watershed-wide scope, for instance? The NOP states that the LARMPU recognizes that infrastructure planning is equally important with social and environmental needs. A watershed restoration alternative would make this statement true.

On a final note, the County may also need to conduct a NEPA review given that several of the sections of the river are federally maintained. It is important to note that NEPA guidelines that are in conflict with CEQA do not override an agency's CEQA obligations as "California courts will not follow NEPA precedent that is contrary to CEQA." (*Washoe Meadows* at 290). While the presentation of alternative projects can in some cases be an adequate project description for a Draft EIS under NEPA, dramatically different projects in a Draft EIR do not constitute a stable project description under CEQA. Thus, even if the County conducts NEPA review, it will still be required to select a preferred alternative.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to reach out to us at our e-mail addresses below. We look forward to reading the EIR and public-facing LARMPU draft later this summer.

Sincerely,

Heather Dadashi
Legal Intern
LA Waterkeeper
dadashi2021@lawnet.ucla.edu

Arthur Pugsley
Senior Staff Attorney
LA Waterkeeper
arthur@lawaterkeeper.org

Melissa von Mayrhauser
Watershed Programs Manager
LA Waterkeeper
melissavm@lawaterkeeper.org

[4] Palmer, Margaret A., et al. "River restoration, habitat heterogeneity and biodiversity." 15 Jan. 2010, https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1365-2427.2009.02372.x.

J.P. Rose
Staff Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
jrose@biologicaldiversity.org

Marissa Christiansen
President/CEO
Friends of the LA River
Marissa@folar.org

Katherine Pease
Director of Science & Policy
Heal the Bay
kpease@healthebay.org

Cc: Genevieve Osmeña, Los Angeles County Public Works

Ariana Villanueva

From: Higgins, Anthony@DOT <Anthony.Higgins@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:12 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Subject: Caltrans District 7 Comment Letter - 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP - SCH# 2020070128 - GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308
Attachments: 07-LA-2020-03308 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP - SIGNED.pdf

Greetings,

Please see the attached Caltrans comment letter for the following project:

2020 LA River Master Plan – NOP
SCH# 2020070128
GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308

Best,

Anthony Higgins
Transportation Planner
Caltrans District 7, Division of Planning
100 S. Main Street, MS-16
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 266-3574
anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 7- OFFICE OF REGIONAL PLANNING
100 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 100
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE (213) 897-0067
FAX (213) 897-1337
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

August 3, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
LA County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan – Notice of Preparation (NOP)
SCH# 2020070128
GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308
Vic. LA Multiple

Dear Ariana Villanueva,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve a two-mile wide corridor along 51 miles of the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management. The 2020 LA River Master Plan proposes six categories of project improvements, or "kit of parts" over the next 25 years: 1) Trails, Access Gateways, and Shelters; 2) Channel Modifications; 3) Crossings and Platforms; 4) Diversions; 5) Floodplain Reclamation; 6) Off Channel Land Assets.

After reviewing the NOP, Caltrans has the following comments:

The size and scope of the proposed Master Plan provides a unique opportunity for the various communities along the LA River to identify their needs and provide feedback for the type of public realm they want when making their daily trips. Caltrans requests that the 2020 LA River Master Plan clearly identify all locations where improvements can be made for people walking, biking, rolling or taking transit along, across, or adjacent to State facilities within the Plan area. Please be specific on the locations within Caltrans right-of-way where improvements are desired and what type of infrastructure is preferred. Some examples include protected Class IV bikeways, wider sidewalks, curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, landscaping, street furniture, reduced crossing distances, roadway narrowing, pedestrian and bicycle signage, flashing beacons, and refreshed or new crosswalks. Plans that incorporate significant public engagement, like the one proposed, are used to identify and develop future State transportation projects.

Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan has set targets of tripling trips made by bicycle, doubling trips made by walking and public transit, as well as a 15% reduction in statewide, per capita, vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Similar goals are embedded in California Transportation Plan, the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan, legislation such as AB 32 and SB 375, as well as Executive Orders S-3-05 and N-19-19. By helping to identify where the barriers to walking, biking, and taking transit exist, this Plan can make transportation mode shift easier for Californians and help the State meet its policy goals to reduce the number of trips made by driving, reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and encourage alternative modes of travel.

In addition, please consider the following when developing the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR):

- Objective 2 and Elements 1 and 3, should consider accessibility for any and all users. At present, LA River Trail access points are primarily limited to major roads, which inhibits the neighborhood accessibility for residents and workers. Streets that run alongside the trail are good candidates for numerous access points at predetermined intervals, allowing users to walk, bicycle, scooter, skateboard or roll to and from their destination without taking a circuitous route to the nearest major roadway.

- The plan should consider lighting and other elements that create an environment where all users can feel safe to use the river path, in any neighborhood and at any time of day/ night.

- The LA River Master Plan PEIR should consider and incorporate LA County transportation plans, including Vision Zero, the Bicycle Master Plan, Metro plans, and the 17 adjacent city transportation plans insure all jurisdictions have safe transportation routes to the LA River.

- Partner with adjacent cities and public bodies to adopt complete streets policies to better connect neighborhoods to the river and prioritize access to the river from schools, and other public gathering spaces.

- Implement signage along the river as markers of physical activity (such as ¼ mile or ½ mile markers). Signage should also be informational to highlight the rivers connectivity to nearby destinations, informing the community of its use as a viable route to certain locations.

- Include methods for raising awareness in the adjacent communities of the potential uses of the river for physical activity, arts, and culture. Infrastructure like benches, drinking water stations, bicycle parking, bathroom/rest stops, and sufficient pedestrian level lighting should be included to encourage these uses.

- To assist people experiencing homelessness, identify sites within the plan area for development of supportive housing. These sites should be mixed-use to provide housing as well as other goods and services that benefit the community.

- When possible, reduce the Effective Impervious Area in the watershed. Limiting the possibility of constructing surface parking lots would be a highly effective way to reduce the heat-island effect and the amount of non-beneficial impervious area.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-LA-2020-03308.

Sincerely,

Miya Edmonson

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief
cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse

Ariana Villanueva

From: Leeane Knighton <angusmom@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Hello.

As a resident of the 90039 area (Elysian Valley), I know that the river has become more valued in recent years as a source of beauty. However, outside groups have moved into the area with the goal to make a profit from the river, even though the river does not belong to them. I am speaking of the kayak company, for instance. Thanks to COVID, they are no longer profiting from disrupting the ecosystem, which is why the wildlife is doing much better without the tourists in the river.
The river does not belong to anyone. Please get people out of the river. No one should be messing with the river. Property values will decline and people do not have to live close to downtown since telecommuting will be a permanent options. These investors need to just give it up and leave the community alone. There is too much development that will no longer be profitable in the post-COVID era.

Thank you!!!

Ariana Villanueva

From: Tom Williams <ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 2:26 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Master Plan Draft Programmatic Environmental Report - Public Comments #1 Request for Extension

DATE: August 6 2020

TO: Los Angeles County Dept. Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor Alhambra, CA 91803
Email: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
Attention: Ariana Villanueva Stormwater Quality Division 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803 833-993-1739
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

CC:

FROM: Dr. Tom Williams, Snr.Techn.Adviser, Citizens Coalition for A Safe Community
4117 Barrett Rd. LA, Ca 90032-1712 323-528-9682 ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com

SUBJECT: LA River Master Plan – NOP/SCOPING Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)
http://www.larivermasterplan.org/ https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

RE: Public Comments #1 Request for Extension

Due to the general natural of the PEIR and volumes of related reports and appendices and difficulties of communications and coordinations, please extend the public comments deadline to Monday, August 17, 2020 at 5pm.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Victor from ZmURL <victor@zmurl.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 6:00 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: How did 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting go?

Hi, I wanted to check in and see how your event went.

I started ZmURL to help people host delightful online events. So maybe we can help you with your next online event :).

Feel free to book a time on my calendar.

Victor

Ariana Villanueva

From: Gupta, Mitali <GuptaM@metro.net>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 5:22 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: RE: NOP Scoping Comments Deadline

Thank you for that clarification Ariana.

Mitali

Mitali Gupta, AICP, ENV SP
LA Metro
213.922.5283

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 5:10 PM
To: Gupta, Mitali <GuptaM@metro.net>
Subject: RE: NOP Scoping Comments Deadline

Hi Mitali,

Comments on the scope and content or information you'd like to be considered in the Draft Program EIR for the 2020 LA River Master Plan are due August 6, 2020. Comments or questions on the online scoping meeting itself can be submitted as needed.

Also, we also wanted to reiterate that we are in the initial phases of developing the Draft Program EIR, and will send out Notice of Availability when the Draft Program EIR is available for public review and comment. We will also hold a public meeting and provide notice for that meeting when those details are available.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Thanks!

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist
Los Angeles County Public Works
(626) 458-7146

From: Gupta, Mitali <GuptaM@metro.net>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 12:48 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments Deadline

Hi –

I wanted to check if the comments on the online Scoping Meeting is also due on 08/06/20?

Thank you
Mitali

Mitali Gupta, AICP, ENV SP
LA Metro
Manager, Transportation Planning
Mobility Corridors, Countywide Planning and Development
213.922.5283
metro.net | facebook.com/losangelesmetro | @metrolosangeles
Metro's mission is to provide world-class transportation for all.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Laura Velkei <laura@adccla.org>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 2:54 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Arts District Community Council LA; LARABA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments - LA RIver Master Plan
Attachments: LA River Scoping Comments.pdf

Attached, please find comments from the Boards of ADCCLA and LARABA.

We were very troubled by the scoping meeting of 7/29 including the lack of substantive presentation and the refusal to take comments at the meeting. Our comments are attached here but we do not feel that the handling of the scoping meeting was compliant with the purposes and intent of CEQA as nothing was properly presented to the public for comment. We hope you will consider a more robust process and create special attention to communities directly impacted by these decisions.

Response to our submission should go to the email addresses copied above and re-entered here.

Arts District Community Council LA <info@adccla.org>
LARABA <info@laraba.org>

Thank you.
--

Laura Velkei
Communications Director, Founding Board Member
Arts District Community Council LA
www.adccla.org

LARABA
Los Angeles River Artists and Business Association
826 E. 3rd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
LARABA.ORG

ARTS DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

July 29, 2020

Re: LA River Master Plan Update Draft

Dear LA River Master Plan Team,

As a neighborhood that is deeply impacted by decisions about the LA River, our community and Boards have closely followed the expertise of our colleagues at East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Friends of the LA River, From Lot to Spot, Heal the Bay, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, Los Angeles Waterkeeper, The Nature Conservancy, and The Trust for Public Land. We are grateful for the heavy lifting they have done on behalf of protecting communities and our beloved LA River.

While we commend the work done so far, we are here to echo our colleague's talking points and to encourage the working committees to not rush this plan forward. We encourage the team to take the extra 6 months to a year to address the vagaries of the working document.

Our concerns are as follows:

Mission statement is vague and lacking direction
While the language purports to support a healthy river and communities, it is not a true mission statement, and simply collects phrasing that tries to be all things to all people.

A clearer more concise mission statement that can tangibly tracks metrics is preferable. Statements like, **"**respect feats of infrastructure" is alarming to our community in the battle for river health and communities.

Our colleagues rightly suggest the following as an alternative statement:
"A healthy LA River flows through a 51-mile connected, public freshwater habitat that is seamlessly woven together with neighboring communities as part of its 824-square-mile watershed. It is an integral part of daily life in LA County—a place to enjoy nature and to get across town, a place to bring all people together in a restored and thriving freshwater and riparian ecosystem, a place that is at the heart of efforts to achieve regional climate and community resiliency, and a place to learn from the past and to shape the future."

We also agree that the Plan should be extended 6 months at a minimum to address the vagaries of the document.

Equity Prioritization
Communities of color are not addressed nor are the potential climate impacts given weight in the Plan.

Luxury housing alone has been prioritized without addressing the ramification and potential displacement of economically disadvantage communities directly impacted by these decisions.

Provisions need to be put in place that incentivizes equitable development which include real public greenspace and affordable housing

Robust community engagement of these stakeholders must take place. Repeated feedback from colleagues in River communities has been that next to no outreach was performed and they have largely been ignored.

Lack of Watershed Level Approach

Again, the vague and somewhat contradictory use of language leaves much to be desired in an outcome that would enable communities to properly plan for climate impacts, ecological health, and community well-being. As a living asset, the LA River is not something to be "designed" or "controlled", It is in fact a watershed and ecosystem to be nurtured and repaired.

We support a more robust definition of living that includes frequent updates as would be required for any living asset.

It is also important that the tributaries be included in analyses, GAMs, and graphics/maps and that a commitment is made to updating flood risk and the floodplain noting that restoration is a priority

Platforms and Crossings & Other Channel Modifications

Adding MORE concrete for platform parks that remove sunlight from the river seem to us counterintuitive to the health of both the river and our communities and we vehemently oppose such an application.

Channel modifications and maintenance must come from the POV of restoration and not simple maintenance. Observation of current maintenance practices is a cause of great concern and has shown a lack of respect to the environment and the surrounding communities.

We reiterate our hope that the Committee move towards addressing these large issues in advance of releasing drafts. We do not see the need to rush this process and believe that a more thoughtful and more inclusive process.

Sincerely,

Todd Terazzas
President, ADCCLA
Arts District Community Council

Randall Miller
President, LARABA
Los Angeles, River Artists & Business Association

Ariana Villanueva

From: Gupta, Mitali <GuptaM@metro.net>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 12:48 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments Deadline

Hi –

I wanted to check if the comments on the online Scoping Meeting is also due on 08/06/20?

Thank you
Mitali

Mitali Gupta, AICP, ENV SP
LA Metro
Manager, Transportation Planning
Mobility Corridors, Countywide Planning and Development
213.922.5283
metro.net | facebook.com/losangelesmetro | @metrolosangeles
Metro's mission is to provide world-class transportation for all.

Ariana Villanueva

From: gail feldman <gailfeldman@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 1, 2020 3:06 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Landscaping plant suggestion

Hi – my name is Gail. I was not able to get involved in last weeks webinar about the LA River Environmental Impact Report. However I was at a meeting for the project about a year ago that was held at Pierce College. At that time, I spoke to a woman about a proposed plant selection to be included in the project's plant palette.

Today, I wish to repeat my suggestion for a drought tolerant natural California native plant that should be included in this project, but is not as popular as many of the other likely candidates. I am referring to Asclepias fascicularis or California Narrowleaf Milkweed. This plant used to grow robustly in our Los Angeles area. But has almost disappeared due to land development projects and the use of herbicides. Sometimes as I travel about LA I still see a few plants of it growing along a roadway or a vacant lot. It really stands out at this time of year due to the fact that so very little vegetation can be green and blooming when everything else around it is probably brown and dried out due to lack of attention and lack of irrigation. Please include this plant in your plant palette. It is a summer blooming host plant for many Southern California insects including the Monarch butterfly, other butterflies and moths and bees.

My particular interest in Asclepias Fascicularis is because milkweed (there are many varieties but this one is our Los Angeles native one) is the only plant that monarch butterflies lay their eggs on to turn into caterpillars and eventually onto more butterflies. I have included a few photos of the plant. It like full sun to some shade. Is easy to grow, takes little water and does well in our clay soil. Once established, it needs very little care and goes completely dormant in the winter time. But It can get weedy if not cut back once a year. It ca and does reseed, but usually it grows in clusters from it roots that act like rhizomes - much like a potatoe – which is one of the reasons it can grow even our dry Socal summers.

And here is info on one of many California Native growers that you can get it from

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Calscape
Restore Nature One Garden at a Time

ADVANCED SEARCH

Narrow Leaf Milkweed

Asclepias fascicularis

About Narrow Leaf Milkweed (Asclepias fascicularis) 45 Nurseries Carry This Plant

- Add to My Plant List

Narrowleaf milkweed or Mexican whorled milkweed is a flowering perennial sending up many thin, erect stems and bearing distinctive long pointed leaves which are very narrow and often whorled about the stem, giving the plant its common names. It blooms in clusters of lavender or lavender-tinted white flowers which have five reflexed lobes that extend down away from

the blossom. The fruits are smooth milkweed pods which split open to spill seeds along with plentiful silky hairs. This plant is common in the western United States and has the potential to become weedy.

Milkweeds in general are the larval host plants for Monarch butterflies, and this species is probably the single most important host plant for Monarch butterflies in California. Milkweed gardeners should be prepared for the plant to be eaten by Monarch caterpillars, but will be rewarded by the presence of beautiful Monarch Butterflies. The plant is deciduous in winter and will sometimes die back to the ground before reviving in the Spring, and is often covered with aphids, so often best to plant in less prominent spots in a garden.

It's very easy to grow in soils with with good drainage, even with no summer water.Plant Description

Plant Type
Perennial herb
Size
1.7 - 3.3 ft tall
1 ft wide
Dormancy
Winter Deciduous
Flower Color
White, Lavender
Flowering Season
Summer, Fall
Wildlife Supported
Butterflies, primarily Monarchs
Sun Full Sun

Moisture Low, Moderate - High

Summer Irrigation
Max 2x / month once established

Nurseries
Carried by 45

Ease of Care
Moderately Easy

Cold Tolerance
Tolerates cold to 5° F

Soil Drainage
Fast, Medium, Slow

Soil Description
Tolerates a variety of soils including sandy, clay and saline. Tolerates Saline Soil. Soil PH: 6.0 - 8.0
Common uses Butterfly Gardens, Deer Resistant, Bird Gardens

Companion Plants

Works well with a wide variety of other plants, but is best used where its winter leaf loss and summer consumption by caterpillars will not be the center of attention. Also, plant a number of Milkweeds in proximity so that caterpillars will have a sufficient amount to eat. Use with showy, nectar-rich plants that will attract adult Monarchs, such as Indian Mallow (Abutilon palmeri), Ceanothus sp., Western Thistle (Cersium occidentale), California Aster (Corethrogyne filaginifolia), California Fuchsia (Epilobium canum), Buckwheat (Eriogonum sp.), Mint (Monardella sp.), Monkeyflower (Mimulus sp.), Penstemon sp., Sages (Salvia sp.), Apricot Mallow (Sphaeralcea ambigua)

Maintenance

It is crucial to not use any pesticide on this plant or in its vicinity because doing so will be fatal to Monarch caterpillars.

Sunset Zones?

3*, 7*, 8*, 9*, 10, 14*, 15*, 16, 17, 18*, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Please consider using this plant. The struggling monarch butterfly population needs it.

Thank you, Gail Feldman
Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Ariana Villanueva

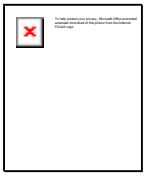
From: Liliana Griego <liliana@folar.org>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 11:06 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: [Caution: Message contains Redirect URL content] RE: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees D. Cervantes (dcervantes@dhs.lacounty.gov)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello,

I was hoping you could help me find the recording of the scoping meeting on your website. Your website states that the recording will be available after the meeting but I'm having a hard time locating it. Given that comments are due by August 6th, I'm hoping to watching the video ASAP in order to have adequate time to submit a comment.

Many thanks,
Liliana



Liliana Griego
Sr. Manager of Policy, Advocacy & Engagement
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 250
Los Angeles, CA 90065
323 - 223 - 0585 liliana@folar.org
www.folar.org

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 6:16 PM
Subject: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees D. Cervantes (dcervantes@dhs.lacounty.gov)

We hope you can join us for the scoping meeting tomorrow evening from 6pm to 8pm to learn more about the CEQA process and program-level approach for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).

For those unable to attend the meeting tomorrow night, the presentation will be recorded and made available after the meeting at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa and comments for consideration in the Draft PEIR can be submitted to the addresses below until August 6, 2020. The Draft PEIR is in the process of being prepared and you will receive another email notification when it is available for public review and comment.

CEQA Scoping Meeting Zoom details follow:

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: July 29, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Topic: **2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88580029733?pwd=TDRtL2JQZUQxUWVxK0cvZkRycU8zQT09

- Password: July29

Or join by phone:

- 1-669-900-6833
- Webinar ID: 885 8002 9733
- Password: 354142

Please submit your comments about the scope and content that you would like considered for the Draft PEIR no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Ariana Villanueva

From: Seymour Liao <seymour_1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 10:19 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Video of Public CEQA Posted?

Hello,

Could you tell me where the video of Weds' public webinar is posted? I was listen but my internet went out half way through.

Thank you

Ariana Villanueva

From: Anna Blaho <Annab@cerrell.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 11:14 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting Questions

Hello,

I missed most of last night's meeting due to loss of internet connection and I am wondering if there were any motions passed or actions taken. Any information you can provide is appreciated.

Thank you very much!

Anna Blaho

Ariana Villanueva

From: Abraham Huie <abrahamhuie@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 9:22 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

unsubscribe

On Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 6:05 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> We hope you can join us for the scoping meeting tomorrow evening from 6pm to 8pm to learn more about the CEQA process and program-level approach for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).
>
> For those unable to attend the meeting tomorrow night, the presentation will be recorded and made available after the meeting at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa and comments for consideration in the Draft PEIR can be submitted to the addresses below until August 6, 2020. The Draft PEIR is in the process of being prepared and you will receive another email notification when it is available for public review and comment.
>
> CEQA Scoping Meeting Zoom details follow:
>
> **You are invited to a Zoom webinar.**
>
> **When:** July 29, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
> **Topic:** **2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting**
>
> Please click the link below to join the webinar:
>
> - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88580029733?pwd=TDRtL2JQZUQxUWVxK0cvZkRycU8zQT09
> - Password: July29
>
> Or join by phone:
>
> - 1-669-900-6833
> - Webinar ID: 885 8002 9733
> - Password: 354142

Please submit your comments about the scope and content that you would like considered for the Draft PEIR no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

--
Abraham Huie
LinkedIn | GitHub | Twitter
abrahamhuie@gmail.com
| (760) 791-6909
UC Berkeley '13, B.A. Political Economy

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Gggilbertent@aol.com
Cc: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Unable to access meeting this evening...kept asking for a password...I finally reset one but still was locked out!! Sorry,Gene

Hi Gene,

I had the same issue initially - I was using the "phone" password not the zoom. I'm cc'ing the county CEQA folks so that they are aware of the access issue from last night.

Here's the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWLqXH_zJ6g&feature=youtu.be

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 7:37 PM <gggilbertent@aol.com> wrote:

Ariana Villanueva

From: Victor from ZmURL <victor@zmurl.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 4:37 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Options for 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting

Hi, 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting looks great.

As a business, we used Eventbrite for in person events, but the online experience felt clunky and slow. So we started ZmURL (Eventbrite for online events) to help people host delightful experiences online.

I'd be happy to help you get set up with ZmURL. Feel free to book a time on my calendar.

Victor

Ariana Villanueva

From: matt millikin <mattmillikin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comments

Good evening,

Two comments for submission concerning the PEIR scope:

Will/can the PEIR include the important tributaries to/from the main branch of the river?

Will/can the PEIR consider community gardens and farms as planting options in their common element options?

Thank you,

Matt

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 5:02 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Morales, Fernando; Schneider, Erin; Edward Morrissey; Courtney Morris
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Ariana,

Thanks for speaking with me yesterday. Last night the board approved the letter requesting an extension of the NOP comment period. Courtney and Edward will be emailing it out soon.

See you tonight,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 27, 2020 at 11:56 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thank you for your inquiry. Below is additional information on the LA River Master Plan Program EIR and CEQA process.

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting on July 29, 2020:

- The main goal for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and the upcoming meeting is to let the public know that Public Works is initiating the CEQA process.

- The proposed scope of the draft Program EIR is included in the NOP which can be found here: https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf and was filed on July 7 (posted with the County Clerk, Office of Planning and Research, sent via certified mail to Steering Committee members, by email to interested parties, and through social media blasts on Twitter and Facebook).

- The meeting on Wednesday will elaborate on the information provided in the NOP and the CEQA approach for the LA River Master Plan. Comments on the scope can continue to be provided until August 6 as the document is being developed. I'd like to reiterate that this meeting is not to present the draft Program EIR, but rather to inform the public and agencies that we are commencing the CEQA process and presenting a proposed approach for preparing the Program EIR.

Following the Scoping Meeting, the next steps will be the development of Draft Program EIR and issuance of a Notice of Availability (NOA). Once available to the public, there will be a 45-day public review period for the Draft Program EIR. Comments on the draft Program EIR will be taken into consideration and addressed or incorporated into the Final Program EIR.

I'd like to note that the proposed Program EIR will not have any project-specific or site-specific analysis as the Master Plan doesn't provide that level of detail. At this time, this Program EIR would just provide a first-tier analysis for later activities to consider when conducting CEQA analysis for proposed individual projects and would look at the cumulative effects of the Plan as a whole. Future projects along the LA River would still be required to conduct project-specific CEQA evaluation for environmental analysis. Site-specific analysis, such as a flood study for Atwater Village may be included in future CEQA analysis for specific projects as applicable.

I hope this helps! Please feel free to contact me at my number below.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

(626) 458-7146

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:00 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Adriana,

I didn't hear back from you on my questions? I'm a bit confused about this process - there appears to be a disconnect. We are being asked to make comments by August 6th, which is the end of a 30 day period - but there is no information available till the meeting on July 29th.

Noticing a 30-day review for comments when there's no information available for the public to review, is not appropriate for public involvement in the CEQA process... *The public is involved in CEQA at many stages. Public involvement starts during the scoping process, which is used to determine what environmental impacts will be studied and what type of environmental document will be needed.* Maybe you are only releasing information to cities, agencies, and non-profits? Either way, you need to extend the comment period, reset it for 30 days (min.) from the date you release materials to the public.

Our monthly AVNC board meeting is after August 6th. So we will have to deal with this in our Special Meeting, August 28th which is dedicated to the HSR DEIR. (Which is before you July 29th NOP/PEIR information meeting)

I believe this process has not been transparent or inclusive for members of the public, especially for riverfront communities such as Atwater Village.

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:47 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Thank you for getting back to me.
>
> We as a board or members of the public can ask that certain areas be added in more detail?
>
> For example - the LARRMP has study areas that are more developed than its list of potential projects.
>
> OR
>
> Is it we can ask for more detail on Hazardous Materials or Recreation as a section?
>
> Do you plan to have a section of Atwater Villages 4 miles which will be called out and addressed in more detail? Your flood study in North Atwater Village?
>
> Since this is a "programming EIR" will project automatically get a neg. dec. or will they have to go through the full EIR process?
>
> We have a short timeline for a response since the meeting is so close to the comment period deadline. Any information you can provide sooner is appreciated.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:25 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thank you for reaching out to us. The Draft PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review; however, the online scoping meeting held on July 29 will provide an overview of the PEIR/CEQA process and provides an opportunity for the public to provide input and comment on the scope of the PEIR (the sections you would like to see included in the PEIR). You will have an opportunity to review the sections (i.e. aesthetics, energy, hydrology/water quality, etc.) in the Draft PEIR when it is released for public review with a 45-day period to provide comments. We hope you can join us on July 29 from 6 to 8pm, but if not, all presentation materials will be available on the website afterwards (https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa) and we will be accepting written comments on the scope of the PEIR until August 6. Registration for the presentation is not required to attend, but if you sign up, we'll send additional reminder email about the event prior to July 29.

I will also check on issues with the phone number as it should be active.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello,

This is my third email to this address and I haven't gotten a response?! I would like to know how to prepared for this meeting/NOP/PEIR - where the information is to review?

Your phone number worked once this morning... now my provider says it's no longer in service?

Can you call me at 818 468 1738

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 8:13 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)
>
> Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*
>
> Aesthetics
> Air Quality

Energy
Hazards & Hazardous Materials
Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning
Noise
Public Services
Recreation
Transportation
Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Karen Barnett** <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM
Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

Hello Ariana,

Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)

Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*

Aesthetics
Air Quality
Energy
Hazards & Hazardous Materials
Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning
Noise
Public Services
Recreation
Transportation
Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 5:20 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.
>
> A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.
>
> The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available athttp://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:43 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Christine Wartman; Frank Mendoza; Vincent Montalvo
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

ok; sorry we crossed paths on this; hope you can answer any additional questions that one up tonight at the zoom, or following our EVRNC meeting. We do also plan to submit comments for Aug 6.

Thanks,
Carrie Sutkin

On Jul 29, 2020, at 12:08 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Carrie,

Unfortunately, due to the overlapping meeting times, neither myself nor other Public Works staff familiar with the project can attend the Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council (EVRNC) meeting tonight as we will need all hands on deck for the CEQA public scoping meeting. We have uploaded the presentation that will be shared tonight, so that you and the EVRNC can view at your convenience, and we can help answer any clarifying questions afterwards.

Presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWLqXH_zJ6g

The table below summarizes our CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan that you can share with the EVRNC.

Step	Purpose
Notice of Preparation (NOP) July 7, 2020	• Announce the County is initiating the CEQA process for the LA River Master Plan. • Provide proposed approach to preparing environmental document (proposed Program Environmental Impact Report [EIR]). • Solicit comments from public agencies and interested parties on the scope of the environmental document for a 30-day period, starting on the date the NOP is posted with the County Clerk and Office of Planning and Research.
Scoping Meeting July 29, 2020	• Present proposed approach to preparing environmental document. • Clarify any questions on the proposed CEQA approach. • Solicit input in writing about particular areas of concern based on the information provided in the NOP from agencies and interested parties
Notice of Availability (NOA)	• Announce that the draft Program EIR is available for review.

Draft Program EIR available for comment period.	• Provide 45-day comment period for the public and public agencies to provide input on draft Program EIR. The comment period begins when the NOA is filed with the County Clerk and Office of Planning and Research.
Public Meeting on Draft Program EIR	• Public meeting held during the draft Program EIR comment period to present and clarify questions on the draft Program EIR.
County drafts Final Program EIR.	• Address and incorporate comments into the Final EIR.

The County is in the initial stage for the CEQA process for the LA River Master Plan. The meeting today is not to present the draft Program EIR, but rather to inform the public and agencies that we are commencing the CEQA process and presenting a proposed approach for preparing the Program EIR. If the EVRNC has issues of particular concern for your area, please send those in writing to lariverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov for us to consider as we prepare the Program EIR. We will send you and others notification when the draft Program EIR is available for review and comment.

Please note that the proposed Program EIR will not have any project-specific or site-specific analysis as the Master Plan doesn't provide that level of detail. Due to this lack of specificity, the Program EIR will be a first-tier base reference of facts and analysis on a program-level for later activities to consider. Future projects along the LA River that tier from the LA River Master Plan would still be required to conduct project-specific and site-specific evaluation in light of the scope and content of the PEIR to determine if further CEQA is needed, and the decision to proceed with future projects would be up to the project proponent and community needs, available funding, and other local policy decisions.

We will continue to be available to respond to your questions throughout the CEQA process.

Thank you.

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works
(626) 458-7146

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrieasutkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:15 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

Arianna - hope you can join us at evrnc
Zoom special meeting Wed night 7/29 at 6:30. Let me know if you need an agenda - it's posted at myevrnc.com.
Thanks
Carrie Sutkin
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 28, 2020, at 6:18 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

We hope you can join us for the scoping meeting tomorrow evening from 6pm to 8pm to learn more about the CEQA process and program-level approach for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).

For those unable to attend the meeting tomorrow night, the presentation will be recorded and made available after the meeting at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa and comments for consideration in the Draft PEIR can be submitted to the addresses below until August 6, 2020. The Draft PEIR is in the process of being prepared and you will receive another email notification when it is available for public review and comment.

CEQA Scoping Meeting Zoom details follow:

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: July 29, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Topic: **2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88580029733?pwd=TDRtL2JQZUQxUWVxK0cvZkRycU8zQT09
- Password: July29

Or join by phone:
- 1-669-900-6833
- Webinar ID: 885 8002 9733

- Password: 354142

Please submit your comments about the scope and content that you would like considered for the Draft PEIR no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

<image001.png>

Ariana Villanueva

From: Steffie Hands <handsonrealestate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:08 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

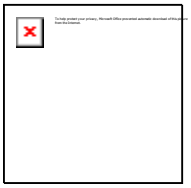
CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To Whom It May Concern:
My family and friends use the riverbed path often for bike riding, walking and running in Long Beach.

Here are the considerations we'd like to see in the PEIR:
1. Safety issues with homeless encampments and unsavory individuals. These have been increasing every year, and there have been some horrible incidents on the path including homicides.
2. Safety issues with the use of pesticides and weed abatement. I am not sure what is currently used, but we are concerned about the environmental impact of pesticdes on the ecology, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the river water that eventually drains to the ocean.

3. Plans that address the natural ecology of the riverbed to ensure that birds, animals, plants, etc can live and thrive along the riverbed.

Overall, We would like to see more of the river bed areas safer and more useable for individuals and families, while keeping it as "natural" as possible.
Best regards,
Steffie Hands



Steffie Hands, Realtor
Re/Max Real Estate Specialists
562-508-9869 | HandsOnRealEstate@gmail.com
Address: 6695 E. PCH #150, Long Beach, CA 90803
Website: www.CalBungalow.com
License: DRE#01502653
Read My Zillow Reviews:
http://www.zillow.com/profile/handsonrealestate

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrieasutkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:15 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

Arianna - hope you can join us at evrnc
Zoom special meeting Wed night 7/29 at 6:30. Let me know if you need an agenda - it's posted at myevrnc.com.
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Carrie Sutkin
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 28, 2020, at 6:18 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

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- Password: July29

Or join by phone:
- 1-669-900-6833
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Please submit your comments about the scope and content that you would like considered for the Draft PEIR no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical

address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrieasutkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 6:40 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

As you know your scoping meeting conflicts with evrNC ELU committee. If you have someone who can join our zoom call that would be great - thanks - did you get our agenda?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 28, 2020, at 6:18 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

We hope you can join us for the scoping meeting tomorrow evening from 6pm to 8pm to learn more about the CEQA process and program-level approach for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).

For those unable to attend the meeting tomorrow night, the presentation will be recorded and made available after the meeting at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa and comments for consideration in the Draft PEIR can be submitted to the addresses below until August 6, 2020. The Draft PEIR is in the process of being prepared and you will receive another email notification when it is available for public review and comment.

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- Password: July29

Or join by phone:

- 1-669-900-6833
- Webinar ID: 885 8002 9733
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Please submit your comments about the scope and content that you would like considered for the Draft PEIR no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP

Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

<image001.png>

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sean Gabe <gabe3126@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:47 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Urban Farms & the LA River

Hello,

Thank you for allowing comments on the LA River Master Plan. I am part of a non-profit that distributes large amounts of food in Los Angeles. We have a demo hydroponic farm project with plans to increase our size and operations to much larger scales. Access to river adjacent locations will provide numerous benefits to our project without diverting water from the river.

We realize the LA River Master Plan is already far along. Our urban farm operations only have minor impacts on spaces where we operate while providing great ecological and community benefits.

Please consider community farm access and the ecological benefit in locations along the LA river as you evaluate the environmental impact of the LA River Master Plan.

I would like to discuss the use of space adjacent to the LA River for community farms. Please let me know an appropriate group or individual to whom I may connect.

Much Appreciated,

Sean
310-310-4776

Ariana Villanueva

From: Brittney Johnson <brittney.johnson@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:20 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Away Re: Reminder: CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan in 2 Days

Thank you for contacting me.

If you can not reach me and need immediate attention please email my Supervisor James.Westbrooks@lacity.org
Thank you.

--
Brittney Johnson
Field Deputy
www.the-new-ninth.com
4301 S. Central Ave. 90011
Phone: (323) 846-2651
Direct Line: (323)846-2660
Fax: (323)846-2656

Ariana Villanueva

From: Barry Johnson <bjohnson4166@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:12 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Reminder: CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan in 2 Days

Connie,

Did you get this ? I will be unable to attend because I'm getting up at 2AM the next morning.

Barry

On Monday, July 27, 2020, 04:58:38 PM PDT, PW-LA River CEQA <lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, is starting the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan and is soliciting public and agency input on scope, methods, content, and alternatives which will be considered for the proposed Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Please participate in the virtual meeting this Wednesday, July 29, 2020 to learn more about the CEQA process for the Draft PEIR, and click here for more details on the Notice of Preparation.

Meeting Details

Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: The hyperlink to the online meeting will be sent via email and made available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa before the meeting.

Please click here to register for the meeting. Registration is not required for attendance, but participants who register will receive an email reminder and instructions for the meeting.

If you cannot attend the meeting, the presentation will be available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa and questions can be sent to LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov.

Comments on what you'd like to see in the PEIR should be submitted no later than August 6, 2020 in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include "NOP Scoping Comments" in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to your input on the scope and content for consideration in the PEIR. The Draft PEIR will be released for public review when it is ready and you will receive another email notification at that time.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Julie Beals <jbeals.lacgc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 4:54 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Working Tuesday through Friday Re: Reminder: CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan in 2 days

Thank you for your email. Please note that I work Tuesdays through Fridays. Please contact Diana Campos at dcampos.lacgc.com if you have an urgent question on a Monday.

Thank you,

Julie

--

Julie Beals
Executive Director, Los Angeles Community Garden Council
323-942-WORM (9679)
lagardencouncil.org

Ariana Villanueva

From: Albert Lew <albert.lew@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:03 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Stephanie Lopez; Christopher DeMonbrun
Subject: CEQA: 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP & Scoping Meeting of dPEIR
Attachments: 07162020_2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping Meeting for dPEIR.pdf

Ms. Villanueva,

Please find attached the official response. A hard copy will be sent to your office when normal operations resume.

Regards,

Albert C. Lew, P.E.
Wastewater Engineering Services Division (WESD)
Bureau of Sanitation
Department of Public Works
City of Los Angeles
Phone: 323.342.6207
Fax: 323.342.6210


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION
2714 MEDIA CENTER DRIVE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90065
FAX: (323) 342-6210
WWW.LACITYSAN.ORG

July 16, 2020

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN - NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT`

This is in response to your July 7, 2020 Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting for a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the proposed project located along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide and spans through 17 cities. The river encompasses an 834-square-mile watershed and flows from its headwaters at river mile 51 in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles to river mile zero at Long Beach. LA Sanitation, Wastewater Engineering Services Division has received and logged the notification. At this stage, your project description lacks sufficient detail for us to conduct a thorough capacity analysis as descriptions for individual proposed developments are needed to assess sewage generation. Please notify our office in the instance additional information for environmental review is available for this project.

If you have any questions, please call Christopher DeMonbrun at (323) 342-1567 or email at chris.demonbrun@lacity.org

Sincerely,

Ali Poosti, Division Manager
Wastewater Engineering Services Division
LA Sanitation and Environment

AP/CD: sa

c: Shahram Kharaghani, LASAN
Michael Scaduto, LASAN
Wing Tam, LASAN
Christopher DeMonbrun, LASAN

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:00 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Morales, Fernando; Schneider, Erin
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Adriana,

I didn't hear back from you on my questions? I'm a bit confused about this process - there appears to be a disconnect. We are being asked to make comments by August 6th, which is the end of a 30 day period - but there is no information available till the meeting on July 29th.

Noticing a 30-day review for comments when there's no information available for the public to review, is not appropriate for public involvement in the CEQA process... *The public is involved in CEQA at many stages. Public involvement starts during the scoping process, which is used to determine what environmental impacts will be studied and what type of environmental document will be needed.* Maybe you are only releasing information to cities, agencies, and non-profits? Either way, you need to extend the comment period, reset it for 30 days (min.) from the date you release materials to the public.

Our monthly AVNC board meeting is after August 6th. So we will have to deal with this in our Special Meeting, August 28th which is dedicated to the HSR DEIR. (Which is before you July 29th NOP/PEIR information meeting)

I believe this process has not been transparent or inclusive for members of the public, especially for riverfront communities such as Atwater Village.

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:47 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Thank you for getting back to me.
>
> We as a board or members of the public can ask that certain areas be added in more detail?
>
> For example - the LARRMP has study areas that are more developed than its list of potential projects.
> OR
> Is it we can ask for more detail on Hazardous Materials or Recreation as a section?
>
> Do you plan to have a section of Atwater Villages 4 miles which will be called out and addressed in more detail? Your flood study in North Atwater Village?
>
> Since this is a "programming EIR" will project automatically get a neg. dec. or will they have to go through the full EIR process?

We have a short timeline for a response since the meeting is so close to the comment period deadline. Any information you can provide sooner is appreciated.

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:25 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen,

Thank you for reaching out to us. The Draft PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review; however, the online scoping meeting held on July 29 will provide an overview of the PEIR/CEQA process and provides an opportunity for the public to provide input and comment on the scope of the PEIR (the sections you would like to see included in the PEIR). You will have an opportunity to review the sections (i.e. aesthetics, energy, hydrology/water quality, etc.) in the Draft PEIR when it is released for public review with a 45-day period to provide comments. We hope you can join us on July 29 from 6 to 8pm, but if not, all presentation materials will be available on the website afterwards (https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa) and we will be accepting written comments on the scope of the PEIR until August 6. Registration for the presentation is not required to attend, but if you sign up, we'll send additional reminder email about the event prior to July 29.

I will also check on issues with the phone number as it should be active.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello,

This is my third email to this address and I haven't gotten a response?! I would like to know how to prepared for this meeting/NOP/PEIR - where the information is to review?

Your phone number worked once this morning... now my provider says it's no longer in service?

Can you call me at 818 468 1738

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 8:13 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
>
> Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)
>
> Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*
>
> Aesthetics
> Air Quality
> Energy
> Hazards & Hazardous Materials
> Hydrology/Water Quality
> Land Use/Planning
> Noise
> Public Services
> Recreation
> Transportation
> Utilities/Service Systems
> Cumulative Impacts
>
> Thank you,
>
> Karen
>
> **Atwater Village Neighborhood Council**
>
> Central Atwater Representative
> River Committee Chair
> E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
> Message Phone: 323-230-3406
> www.atwatervillage.org
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Karen Barnett** <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
> Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM

Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

Hello Ariana,

Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)

Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*

Aesthetics
Air Quality
Energy
Hazards & Hazardous Materials
Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning
Noise
Public Services
Recreation
Transportation
Utilities/Service Systems
Cumulative Impacts

Thank you,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council

Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 5:20 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available athttp://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 5:39 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA; Rehman, Waqas
Subject: Re: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

What? you are asking us to review a document that isn't ready?
There is no phone number on any of your material. People are very confused. Are you (here, no name on your email) available to go out to NCs and explain this process? i didn't do a very good job at it last night, but i could not even reach you in person.
So our NC is having an emergency meeting next wed. you're invited. We will be adopting a letter of concern and a request you give us more time to
understand the PEIR and how to comment on it. I'm getting requests from Woodland Hills, and Arts district to advise them.

That's not my job!
This is too complicated. what is the webinar on? people ideas about what is supposed to be in the PEIR?
Please explain, Arianna. it would be nice if you had your phone number on your email response too.
Are you taking calls?

Carrie

> On Jul 23, 2020, at 1:50 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:
>
> Hello Carrie,
>
> The Draft PEIR for the 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections and document are not yet available for review. When the Draft PEIR is ready for public review and comment, we will post a Notice of Availability, have newspaper notices, and will send out another email blast so you're aware that the document is ready for your review. The document will be available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa. We are also currently in the process of adding a link from the LA River Master Plan homepage (www.larivermasterplan.org) to the CEQA page where the Draft PEIR will be available.
>
> We are currently in the 30-day scoping period and have posted a Notice of Preparation (NOP) which is a brief notice under CEQA sent to notify agencies and the public that we plan to prepare an Environmental Impact Report and starts the 30-day scoping period. A copy of the NOP is available athttps://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf. The purpose of the scoping period and the upcoming virtual public scoping meeting on Wednesday, July 29 is for the County to listen to public input on alternatives and environmental impacts that should be analyzed in the scope of the PEIR, and comments will be taken into consideration in the development of the Draft PEIR.

Thank you for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR. We hope that you can attend the virtual public scoping meeting. The presentation will also available on the website afterward the meeting for those who cannot attend.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist
Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 8:36 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

thanks. but where is the PEIR? i can't find it?

> On Jul 22, 2020, at 6:42 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:
>
> Thank you again for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan process.
>
> As a reminder, County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The public scoping meeting for the PEIR will be held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.
>
> **DATE:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020
> **TIME:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
> **LOCATION:** Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa
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>
> Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include "NOP

Scoping Comments" in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you for your interest in the project and we look forward to your input on the scope and content of the PEIR.

For more information about the CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan, please visit http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 1:45 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Ariana, Thank you for your reply and the consideration of these issues. Mary Ellen

---

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 1:20 PM
To: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Hello Ms. Mary Ellen Waller,

Thank you for reaching out to us and providing your comment about the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The Draft PEIR for the 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review. The purpose of the 30-day NOP scoping period and upcoming virtual public scoping meeting on July 29 is for the County to obtain agency and public input on what they would like to see analyzed in the scope of the PEIR, and comments are taken into consideration in the development of the Draft PEIR. When the Draft PEIR is ready for public review and comment, we will post a Notice of Availability, have newspaper notices, and will send out another email blast so you're aware that the document is ready for your review.

Your input is valuable to understanding the environmental concerns of Bell Creek as a tributary of the LA River. These comments will be considered in our environmental impact analyses through the PEIR. Additionally, Bell Creek is identified in County's Upper LA River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan which includes watershed control measures to address applicable stormwater quality regulations. The 2020 LA River Master Plan is being developed through extensive community input and robust data analysis. In addition to taking your comment into consideration for the PEIR, we have provided your comments, including your emails and letter, to the 2020 LA River Master Plan team for their consideration in the development of the 2020 LA River Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist
Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 3:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Ariana,
I am commenting on the recent Legal Notice 2020 LA River Master Plan. I was unable to access the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR at the address provided in the Notice, (the notice may be improperly noticed, kindly forward the link). My comments are as follows:

If the contamination at the headwaters of the Los Angeles River is not addressed, the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is fatally flawed and potentially lethal to the community. The feeder stream to the LA River is Bell Creek which has long been known to carry water from the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), where rocket engine testing nuclear research, and a partial nuclear meltdown took place.

It is socially irresponsible to go forward with a plan unless the issue of hazardous waste from the SSFL including radioactive waste has been addressed. Toxic waste has been dumped into the creek for decades including chromium, dioxin, lead, mercury, liquid -propellent for rocket engines and other pollutants. I am a former resident of Bell Canyon, a community in Ventura County, though which Bell Creek flows. I have been a longtime advocate for addressing the clean-up of the SSFL. I have copied a link to previous correspondence that I received from the EPA decades ago related to this creek that flows into the Los Angeles River.

I cannot imagine going forward with this plan for recreation and inviting the public to use the LA River without cleaning up the headwaters that have been streaming though the SSFL, a property that still, after more than 60 years, has not been cleaned up. What is the plan for addressing the wastewater and storm runoff into the LA River from Bell Creek? What studies on this issue have been done? My concern is that this issue has not been addressed, the County is touting recreation along the river to improve health. How about starting with a plan to keep people from, unbeknownst to them, recreating in highly toxic chemical additives and widespread radioactive contamination? I would appreciate a reply so that I know my correspondence has been received. Thank you for your time and attention, Cordially, Mary Ellen Waller

See information below as to Bell Creek:
The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory(SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell_Creek_(Southern_California)

https://www.etec.energy.gov/Environmental_and_Health/Documents/BellCanyonFiles/EPA_PartialSplitSampResults.pdf

FEINBERG & WALLER

Mary Ellen Waller*
Attorney at Law

July 14, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

I have not received a reply to my previous e-mail of July 8, 2020 as I had requested. Enclosed please find copies of my correspondence. I would appreciate a response.

Cordially,

(Dictated, but not read to expedite)

MARY ELLEN WALLER

MEW: cs

encl.

*California and New York State Bar Admissions

23501 Park Sorrento, #103, Calabasas, California 91302
Telephone 818 / 224-7900; Facsimile 818 / 224-2497
www.FeinbergWaller.com

Subject: FW: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 3:06 PM
To: "LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov" <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Ariana,
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It is socially irresponsible to go forward with a plan unless the issue of hazardous waste from the SSFL including radioactive waste has been addressed. Toxic waste has been dumped into the creek for decades including chromium, dioxin, lead, mercury, liquid -propellent for rocket engines and other pollutants. I am a former resident of Bell Canyon, a community in Ventura County, though which Bell Creek flows. I have been a longtime advocate for addressing the clean-up of the SSFL. I have copied a link to previous correspondence that I received from the EPA decades ago related to this creek that flows into the Los Angeles River.

I cannot imagine going forward with this plan for recreation and inviting the public to use the LA River without cleaning up the headwaters that have been streaming though the SSFL, a property that still, after more than 60 years, has not been cleaned up. What is the plan for addressing the wastewater and storm runoff into the LA River from Bell Creek? What studies on this issue have been done? My concern is that this issue has not been addressed, the County is touting recreation along the river to improve health. How about starting with a plan to keep people from, unbeknownst to them, recreating in highly toxic chemical additives and widespread radioactive contamination? I would appreciate a reply so that I know my correspondence has been received. Thank you for your time and attention, Cordially, Mary Ellen Waller

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell_Creek_(Southern_California)

https://www.etec.energy.gov/Environmental_and_Health/Documents/BellCanyonFiles/EPA_PartialSplitSampResults.pdf

Coordinates: 34°11′43″N 118°36′07″W

Bell Creek (Southern California)

Bell Creek (also known as **Escorpión Creek**) is a 10-mile-long (16 km)[2] tributary of the Los Angeles River, in the Simi Hills of Ventura County and the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles County and City, in Southern California.

Contents

Bell Creek

Looking west from Topanga Canyon Blvd.

Location	
Country	United States
Physical characteristics	
Source	
• location	Simi Hills, California
Mouth	
• location	Los Angeles River, California
• coordinates	34°11′43″N 118°36′07″W[1]
Basin size	Simi Hills, western San Fernando Valley

Route

The Arroyo Calabasas (left) and Bell Creek (right) join to form the Los Angeles River

The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

Bell Creek begins as a free-flowing stream until passing Escorpión Peak (Castle Peak) in Bell Canyon Park. At Bell Canyon Road and Elmsbury Lane it becomes encased in a concrete flood control channel. It then passes under Valley Circle Boulevard, flowing just south of Highlander Road through former Rancho El Escorpión-current West Hills, and further eastward parallel to (and south of) Sherman Way

in Canoga Park. There, it joins Arroyo Calabasas, directly east of Canoga Park High School beside Vanowen Avenue. The confluence marks the *"headwaters"* of the Los Angeles River, 34.1952°N 118.601838°W.

Crossings

From mouth to source (year built in parentheses):[5]

Bell Creek

- Vassar Avenue/Canoga Park High School [Pedestrian Bridge]
- California State Route 27 - North Topanga Canyon Boulevard (1949)
- Glade Avenue [Pedestrian Bridge]
- Shoup Avenue (1962)
- Dayton Creek enters from north
- Fallbrook Avenue (1963)
- South Branch enters
- Royer Avenue [Pedestrian Bridge]
- South Fork enters
- Platt Avenue (1961)
- Moore Creek enters from west
- Valley Circle Boulevard (1963)
- Highlander Road (19__)
- Bell Canyon Road (1969)
- Buckskin Court (1969)

South Branch Bell Creek

- Vanowen Street (1949)

South Fork Bell Creek

- Vanowen Street (1958)
- Haynes Street [Pedestrian Bridge, Closed]
- Victory Boulevard (1959)
- Platt Avenue (1959)
- Peterson Avenue (1961)

See also

- Source (river or stream) - a.k.a. watershed and headwaters
- Confluence - a.k.a. *"headwaters"*
- Drainage basin - a.k.a. *"watershed"*
- Urban runoff

References

1. U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Bell Creek (https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3:::NO::P3_FID:239173)
2. U.S. Geological Survey. National Hydrography Dataset high-resolution flowline data. The National Map (https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/) Archived (https://www.webcitation.org/66gupqQDM?url=http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/) 2012-04-05 at WebCite, accessed March 16, 2011

3. http://www.enviroreporter.com/images/ESADA/2003-SSFL-surface%20water-map.jpg SSFL Watersheds Map (access date: 4/11/2010)
4. http://www.enviroreporter.com/2010/02/goo-ology/ EnviroReporter.com. "Goo-ology." access date:5/5/2010
5. "National Bridge Inventory Database" (http://www.nationalbridges.com/). Retrieved 2009-10-30.

External links

- Bell Canyon photo gallery (https://web.archive.org/web/20090708105516/http://www.bellcanyon.com/photogallery.aspx): 'Nature' sections.

Rec'd 2/27/99

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

February 17, 1999

S. Hafflam

Mary Ellen Waller
185 Bell Canyon Boulevard
Bell Canyon, CA 91307

Re: Partial Results from Bell Canyon Split Sampling

Dear Ms. Waller:

In response to your January 13, 1998 letter, I am providing EPA's partial split sampling results from the Rocketdyne Bell Canyon Sampling. While EPA's laboratory, the National Air and Radiation Environmental Laboratory, has not yet competed all of their analyses, they do expect to finish in another five weeks. I will provide you with a complete set of results when it is available.

Because you also expressed concerns about EPA's level of involvement in the investigation, I am also providing a copy of a letter I sent to Rocketdyne on June 10, 1998. EPA and other the regulatory agencies involved in this sampling had relatively little time to review the workplan, consequently, no agency approved it. However, EPA, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or the California Department of Health Services (Radiologic Health Branch and Environmental Health Branch) were present during four of the five days that sampling occurred.

In your letter, you also asked whether "the sediment samples of the creek bed were taken at deep enough levels to be of any true merit." EPA's answer is yes. However, you should be aware that EPA considers the type of sampling conducted by Rocketdyne to be a screening level investigation, even though the samples were analysed for an extensive number of contaminants. EPA and other agencies typically use this level of investigation to determine if immediate remediation is necessary, if further investigation is necessary or if no further action is required. While the currently available data in no way suggests that immediate remediation is necessary, EPA will withhold its judgment on the need for further investigation until we have completed our review of all split sampling results and Rocketdyne's Bell Canyon Area Soil Sampling Report, dated October 1998 (a copy of the report is available at the SSFL's three information repositories: the Simi Valley Library, the Urban Archives Center of the Oviatt Library at California State University Northridge and the Platt Branch Library).

2

If I can be of further assistance to you, please feel free to call me at (415) 744-2070.

Sincerely,

Tom Kelly

Tom Kelly
Project Manager, Boeing Rocketdyne
Santa Susana Field Laboratory

cc: Dianne Feinstein, Senator (w/o enclosure)
Elton Gallegly, U.S. Representative (w/o enclosure)
Penny Nakashima, DTSC
Clem Welsh, DHS
Steve Hsu, DHS
Wayne Chiou, LARWQCB
Jeffrey Kaminiski Bell Canyon Association
Frank Shillo, Ventura County Supervisor
Jerome Raskin, SSFL Workgroup
Sheldon Plotkin, SSFL Workgroup
Dan Hirsch, SSFL Workgroup
Joe Lyou, SSFL Workgroup
Barbara Johnson, SSFL Workgroup
Steve Lafflam, Boeing, Rocketdyne

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 8:36 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

thanks. but where is the PEIR? i can't find it?

On Jul 22, 2020, at 6:42 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Thank you again for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan process.

As a reminder, County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The public scoping meeting for the PEIR will be held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020
TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

Registration is not required for attendance, but registered attendees will receive an email reminder and instructions for the meeting. Registration is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include "NOP Scoping Comments" in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you for your interest in the project and we look forward to your input on the scope and content of the PEIR.

For more information about the CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan, please visit http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Romana Barajas <barajas1gcpnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:09 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

I will be attending the meeting.

On Wed, Jul 22, 2020 at 8:43 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Thank you again for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan process.
>
> As a reminder, County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The public scoping meeting for the PEIR will be held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.
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>
> Ariana Villanueva
> Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
> 900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
> Alhambra, CA 91803
> LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
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>
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--

Romana Barajas
barajas1gcpnc@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 5:44 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: where is the program EIR?

what document are people supposed to look at?

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 5:25 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Master Plan page needs to be updated

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

How come there is no information about the PEIR on the LA River master plan page?
where are we supposed to go to review the document? why isn't there a path on the homepage?

oh, now I see, you have a new page…. http; that's very misleading….. why isn't there a link?

Ariana Villanueva

From: Padric Gleason Gonzales <padric.gleason@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:42 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Hello,
My name is Padric Gleason Gonzales. I'm a resident of downtown Long Beach, here at the mouth of the L.A. River. I'm writing in support of the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR, particularly its goals of providing parks and open space, supporting connected ecosystems, and promoting clean water.

I want to specifically contribute four (4) considerations :

1. **Water capture should be encouraged.** California suffers from drought and Los Angeles County relies on a complex system of imported water. Runoff also pollutes the L.A. River with surface/ground-level contaminants. And most rainfall is completely wasted! In 2017, the L.A. County Department of Public Works estimated that in one 2-week period, 25 billion gallons of stormwater drained into the ocean from the L.A. River watershed. Much of this was direct runoff from roads, parking lots, and freeways. *The Master Plan should encourage widespread adoption of rainwater capture and runoff diversion, for example through the creation of and funding for spreading grounds, infiltration swales, and parkway medians.*
2. **Physical obstacles in the Lower L.A. River prevent natural tidal effects and migration of river life**. Specifically, there is a small dam just south of the Anaheim Street crossing and the concrete channel begins just south of the Willow Street crossing, both in Long Beach. *Barriers should be removed with the goal of restoring the natural tide, creating space for native flora and fauna, and encouraging migration of marine life into the river.*
3. **Long Beach receives runoff from 51 miles of river**. Unfortunately, the Army Corps of Engineers built a sea wall in Long Beach Harbor that creates a barrier to the outflow of the L.A. River into the ocean. On the one hand, it's good that this barrier prevents some L.A. River garbage and debris from entering the ocean. On the other hand, it's awful that Long Beach suffers from terrible pollution due to garbage and debris from our upstream neighbors. *I encourage the plan to consider the L.A. River's impacts on downstream neighborhoods and equitably share responsibility and funding/resources for cleanups downstream, like on Alamitos Beach.*
4. **Don't forget Compton Creek**. As one of the L.A. River's major tributaries, and in particular one that is heavily polluted but also has major restoration potential, *projects in Compton Creek should be eligible for funding and guidance within the scope of the L.A. River Master Plan.*

Thank you for considering my contributions. I look forward to helping to push this project forward.

Regards,
Padric Gleason Gonzales
padric.gleason@gmail.com
110 W 6TH ST, APT 323
LONG BEACH, CA 90802

Ariana Villanueva

From: Lisa Pease <lisa.pease@ey.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 9:10 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: RE: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

I sure hope the path will be at least six feet wide in all places!

Regards,

Lisa Pease

Lisa Pease | CSA | Strategy and Transactions
Ernst & Young LLP
Office: +1 213 240 7019 | lisa.pease@ey.com

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:38 AM
Subject: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Thank you again for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan process.

As a reminder, County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The public scoping meeting for the PEIR will be held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

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Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you for your interest in the project and we look forward to your input on the scope and content of the PEIR.

For more information about the CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan, please visit http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Miriam Rodriguez <miriam.rodriguez@lacity.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 9:09 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Hello,

thank you for your email. I am out of the Office and will return on Monday, July 27. If you need immediate attention, please call our Office at (323) 526-9332.

Best,

--
Miriam Rodriguez
Area Director
Office of Councilmember José Huizar
City of Los Angeles | Council District 14

Boyle Heights Office
2130 E. First Street, Suite 241
Los Angeles, CA 90033
(323) 526-9332 office | (323) 526-9366 fax

Ariana Villanueva

From: Deborah Bloome <dbloome@acceleraterestiliencela.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:39 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Where is a copy of the Plan to review?

Hi...I am interested in the PIER scoping for the Plan, but I don't actually see a link to the Plan in the information sent. Perhaps I just missed it. Could you please share it with me?
Thank you!

--
Deborah Bloome
Senior Director of Policy
Accelerate Resilience L.A. (ARLA)
310-400-6715

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:47 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Morales, Fernando; Schneider, Erin
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Thank you for getting back to me.

We as a board or members of the public can ask that certain areas be added in more detail?

For example - the LARRMP has study areas that are more developed than its list of potential projects.
OR
Is it we can ask for more detail on Hazardous Materials or Recreation as a section?

Do you plan to have a section of Atwater Villages 4 miles which will be called out and addressed in more detail? Your flood study in North Atwater Village?

Since this is a "programming EIR" will project automatically get a neg. dec. or will they have to go through the full EIR process?

We have a short timeline for a response since the meeting is so close to the comment period deadline. Any information you can provide sooner is appreciated.

Thanks,

Karen

Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Central Atwater Representative
River Committee Chair
E-mail: KarenBarnett@atwatervillage.org
Message Phone: 323-230-3406
www.atwatervillage.org

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 9:25 AM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> Hi Karen,
>
> Thank you for reaching out to us. The Draft PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review; however, the online scoping meeting held on July 29 will provide an overview of the PEIR/CEQA process and provides an opportunity for the public to provide input and comment on the scope of the PEIR (the sections you would like to see included in the PEIR). You will have an opportunity to review the sections (i.e. aesthetics, energy, hydrology/water quality, etc.) in the Draft PEIR when it is released for public review with a 45-day period to provide comments. We hope you can join us on July 29 from 6 to 8pm, but if not, all presentation materials will be available on the website afterwards

(https://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa) and we will be accepting written comments on the scope of the PEIR until August 6. Registration for the presentation is not required to attend, but if you sign up, we'll send additional reminder email about the event prior to July 29.

I will also check on issues with the phone number as it should be active.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva

Environmental Engineering Specialist

Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Morales, Fernando <FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov>; Schneider, Erin <ESchneider@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello,

This is my third email to this address and I haven't gotten a response?! I would like to know how to prepared for this meeting/NOP/PEIR - where the information is to review?

Your phone number worked once this morning... now my provider says it's no longer in service?

Can you call me at 818 468 1738

Thank you,

Karen

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River Committee Chair
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On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 8:13 AM Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org> wrote:

> Hello Ariana,
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> Can you point me to the information we need to assess? I don't see any links for sections referenced in the notice. Atwater Village is one of the flood study points mile 28 if I'm recalling correctly. Our community is 4+ miles of the LA River (east and west banks)
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> Of course, I would like to see it all but specifically these sections in their formats 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR Scope and Probable Environmental Effects. *I'm assuming flood would be in Hydrology/Water Quality.*
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> Aesthetics
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Karen

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From: **Karen Barnett** <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM
Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

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> **DATE:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020
>
> **TIME:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
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> Registration for the event is available athttp://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

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Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 3:46 PM
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Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 9:52 AM
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To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>

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Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:14 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Fwd: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hello Ariana,

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900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 3:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Ariana,
I am commenting on the recent Legal Notice 2020 LA River Master Plan. I was unable to access the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR at the address provided in the Notice, (the notice may be improperly noticed, kindly forward the link). My comments are as follows:

If the contamination at the headwaters of the Los Angeles River is not addressed, the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is fatally flawed and potentially lethal to the community. The feeder stream to the LA River is Bell Creek which has long been known to carry water from the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), where rocket engine testing nuclear research, and a partial nuclear meltdown took place.

It is socially irresponsible to go forward with a plan unless the issue of hazardous waste from the SSFL including radioactive waste has been addressed. Toxic waste has been dumped into the creek for decades including chromium, dioxin, lead, mercury, liquid -propellent for rocket engines and other pollutants. I am a former resident of Bell Canyon, a community in Ventura County, though which Bell Creek flows. I have been a longtime advocate for addressing the clean-up of the SSFL. I have copied a link to previous correspondence that I received from the EPA decades ago related to this creek that flows into the Los Angeles River.

I cannot imagine going forward with this plan for recreation and inviting the public to use the LA River without cleaning up the headwaters that have been streaming though the SSFL, a property that still, after more than 60 years, has not been cleaned up. What is the plan for addressing the wastewater and storm runoff into the LA River from Bell Creek? What studies on this issue have been done? My concern is that this issue has not been addressed, the County is touting recreation along the river to improve health. How about starting with a plan to keep people from, unbeknownst to them, recreating in highly toxic chemical additives and widespread radioactive contamination? I would appreciate a reply so that I know my correspondence has been received. Thank you for your time and attention, Cordially, Mary Ellen Waller

See information below as to Bell Creek:
The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory(SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell_Creek_(Southern_California)

https://www.etec.energy.gov/Environmental_and_Health/Documents/BellCanyonFiles/EPA_PartialSplitSampResults.pdf

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrieasutkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 2:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

thank you.

On Jul 8, 2020, at 10:47 AM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

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Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Kathleen ODaniels <kcodaniels@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 1:39 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: migratory birds

Hi, Do you have a list of the migratory birds that use the LA River and their nesting places.

Thanks you,

Kathleen ODaniels

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karen Barnett <karenbarnett@atwatervillage.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:52 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Atwater Village questions Re: CEQA PEIR for LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

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Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

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Ariana Villanueva

From: Chris Wall <chris@hollyworldflowers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:22 PM
To: Anastasia Mann; PW-LA River CEQA; mark.pampanin@lacity.org
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR - NOP and Scoping

This is a program of wide public interest, affecting many neighborhoods, many cities along the length of the river where projects are proposed, and all the areas downstream to its junction with the Pacific at Long Beach Harbor.

To say there is a two hour online meeting in three weeks, with decisions made in four, in an email that does not meet any government standard of wide circulation, is a de facto admission decisions have been made, land alloted, plans drawn, agencies awarded, developers secured financing - all that already done - and then twenty or thirty people will be given two minutes each to object to this pork barrel desecration of a natural resource that should be employed, not squandered, and certainly not hidden under warehouses and cheaply constructed housing designed to make all parties enabling it a piece of the prize, one way or another.

I am calling for a Covid era moratorium of a minimum 120 days on any further development on the LA River, and the immediate notification of anyone living or working within five miles of the river by US Mail - not once - but three times - the first time with text, within three weeks from today, July 8, 2020, the second time, another three weeks later, in an accurately illustrated color flyer similar to those employed by real estate agents, and the third, yet another three weeks later, a letter, requesting the addressee - and anyone else who wishes to comment - anonymously or not, on what they think of the plans, by mail, email, text, or - novel idea - by phone - advising what they would do with the river - because they are the people, we are the people, and it is 2020, and we demand to be heard.

The entire LA River development scene needs to be reviewed by the new Inspector General for Land Use and Development - a position very recently approved to be created by the Los Angeles City Council. Rushing ahead with this ill considered development without the new Inspector General's approval will be seen as a conspirational effort to avoid much needed oversight. Rethinking your schedule in tune with the times will be recognized for thoughtfulness, not rethinking, not rescheduling will be viewed with lasting disdain, for improper decisions, and for the creation of ill will brought about by ignoring the people once again. That time has passed.

I await your timely well considered response.

Chris Wall
Hollywood Hills

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 6:01 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.
>
> A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than august 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sally Kuchar <sallykuchar@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:41 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Hi. Can you remove me from this list? Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 7, 2020, at 6:07 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

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Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Ricardo Morelli <doctormorelli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:16 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Greetings Ms. Villanueva,

Is the 2020 LA River Master Plan contemplating the large and growing number of homeless occupying the river "islands" and shores?

I see these neighbors on my walks and on my way to work and it's obvious many of them have mental issues and drug addiction. Is providing services to them part of the plan?

Sincerely,

Ricardo Morelli

On Tuesday, July 7, 2020, 6:06:22 PM PDT, PW-LA River CEQA <lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

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Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: zichrey@frontier.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOPScoping Comments

My wife and I have walked different sections of the river trail. We feel this trail is a valuable resource for all residents of L.A. County. We particularly like the section through Frogtown in Silver Lake/Atwater Village. Sections of the trail in Long Beach, where we live, do not appear to be as wide and are less conducive to walking while others are biking.

Atwater Village NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

3371 Glendale Blvd.
P.O. Box: 105, Los Angeles, CA 90039
Email: Board@AtwaterVillage.org
Message Phone: 323 230-3406
www.AtwaterVillage.org

August 13, 2020

RE: AVNC comments, scoping Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell, Council Member Ryu and Mayor Garcetti,

The AVNC is submitting the following comments for the scoping of the Los Angeles County's Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). As a riverfront community with a 4 mile border along the LA RIver we have seen the changes since the passing and implementation of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP). With the benefits and improvements everyone has enjoyed there have been impacts to the community. We see this as an opportunity to share our ground level experience with you and the county to make the LA River a better place for all.

We appreciate all your work to improve the LA River and the support you have provided for our community lead initiatives and projects.

Sincerely,

Courtney Morris
Co-Chair

Edward Morrissey
Co-Chair

CC: LA County CEQA team @ LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov
Honorable Supervisor Sheila Keuhl Third Supervisorial District County of Los Angeles
Honorable Supervisor Hilda Solis First Supervisorial District County of Los Angeles
Honorable Congressman Adam Schiff 28th Congressional District United States House of Representatives
Honorable State Senator Anthony Portantino
Honorable State Assemblymember Laura Freidman

NOP Descriptions with comments in blue:

Project Location and Background
The proposed Project is located along a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (i.e., 1 mile on each side) of the LA River - 834-square-mile watershed and flows from its headwaters at river mile 5
1 in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles to river mile zero at Long Beach, where the river meets the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). The LA River was channelized between the late 19th and mid-

20th centuries to protect lives and property from flooding as the LA region rapidly grew and transformed to a largely urbanized area

1996 LA River Master Plan
The 1996 Master Plan was a first step in developing an inclusive vision of shared open spaces and parks, stewardship of water resources, and safety from hazardous floods.

COMMENT:

Flood safety was not addressed in 1996 for Atwater Village. Based on 1992 LACDA flood risk was assessed in Glendale Narrows, *no action was taken based on Cost/Benefit analysis.* As quoted from County Representative at 2016 Glendale Narrows Potential Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives
The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan builds on the adopted 1996 Master Plan and other regional planning studies prepared since then. It is intended to improve 51 miles of connected open space along the LA River to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of Los Angeles County while still providing flood risk management.
The 2020 LA River Master Plan has the following nine objectives:
1. Reduce flood risk and improve resiliency.
2. Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
3. Support healthy connected ecosystems.
4. Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.
5. Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture.
6. Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness.
7. Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development, and education.
8. Improve local water supply reliability.
9. Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

Future projects/actions proposed under the 2020 LA River Master Plan would range from extra-small (XS) (1-acre or less) to extra-large (XL) (150+ acre/10+ miles) and would include implementation of these design components individually or in combination as multi-benefit projects in the future. The proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan also includes Design Guidelines for all projects/actions to be implemented to present a unified identity while promoting best practices and resiliency for the LA River corridor.

COMMENT:

LA River - County elements and design cohesiveness: Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP) has implemented elements, which may not be "unified" with future Los Angeles County Los Angeles RIver Master Plan (2020) elements. The "kit of parts" should be flexible in developed LA River Areas.

Community identity: The "kit of parts" elements seek to present a "unified identity" along the river which could be at the expense of "community identity" for residents of Atwater Village which is fully in the 1 mile radius of the river border. Atwater Village currently has a specific

look with the iron gates and benches. Furthermore Atwater Village community elements include tile work to evoke its history with the local, historic Franciscan Tile Factory.

Program-Level Analysis, Tiering, and Later Activities
At the time of preparation of the PEIR, design information for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is at a conceptual level; therefore, the environmental impacts analysis will be presented at a program level and will not include site-specific locations of any of the "Kit of Parts."

In addition, at this stage, informed assumptions regarding construction and operations scenarios can be reasonably made for only select design components. **Accordingly, the environmental impacts analysis for these design components will be presented in detail as analysis of "typical projects"** in the PEIR while the remaining design components will be analyzed qualitatively at a high-level in the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR.

COMMENT:

Your typical project for trail as presented at the virtual meeting is not typical – your analysis for a trail should include an additional "typical" situation, which is more realistic for implementation. (Example: in Atwater Village, which is an equestrian district, we do not have 40' of access for shared use path as presented)

More typical path: 12' of area with pedestrians and bikes (equestrians in Atwater Village)

1. Most river paths trails do not have 40 feet to accommodate 3 separate users.
2. Levee path and trails have 12-16' of useable area
3. Equestrian users are not "typical" in most areas.

4. **include option** of physical separation of users along east and west banks (similar to beach paths)

The PEIR will serve as the first-tier analysis for later, more detailed project-specific and site-specific environmental reviews. When later activities are proposed after the PEIR is certified and the 2020 LA River Master Plan is approved, a determination will be made at that time by the agency: a) whether the activity is covered "within the scope" of the PEIR; and b) if new or worsened significant effects not previously examined in the PEIR could occur. Factors that an agency may consider in making the determination of being within the scope of the PEIR could include the geographic area analyzed in the PEIR, consistency of the later activity with the type of allowable land use, overall planned density and building intensity, and covered infrastructure described in the PEIR

If an agency determines that a later activity is covered in the scope of the PEIR and new or substantially more severe significant impacts would not occur, no further environmental documentation would be required. If new or more severe impacts beyond those disclosed in the PEIR could occur, the agency would prepare the appropriate level of subsequent CEQA documentation needed (e.g., mitigated negative declaration, or a site-specific supplemental or subsequent EIR) and the subsequent CEQA review would focus solely on new or substantially more severe significant effects

that were not considered in the original PEIR

COMMENT:

Projects in the LARRMP have used that Master Plan's PEIR for Negative Declarations. We want to ensure that the community's concerns are heard by our commenting on the County's NOP PEIR and in future projects, which will specifically and/or cumulatively impact Atwater Village.

Create a kit of rules and regulations to match physical kit of parts and projects

We recommend that the PEIR study include a top level discussion of "introduction of open space, open space improvements and access improvements" from a programming perspective. How will new and/or revisited open spaces impact existing residential, equestrian communities, businesses, and etc.

community impacts: a program EIR should address and provide a common set of rules and regulation along the river: hours of operation, common rules for signage, set of signage examples (mixed-use: ped/bike + ped/bike/equestrian), potential "walk only" zones and potential "residential zones". Include new and/or additional use impacts such as trash, safety, parking and maintenance operations.

Create a general understanding of responsibility for increased access and open space in residential, equestrian and other communities along the LA River.

Aesthetics

COMMENT:

The "kit of parts" elements seek to present a "unified identity" along the river which could be at the expense of "community identity" for residents of Atwater Village which is fully in the 1 mile radius of the river border.

Atwater Village currently has a specific look with the iron gates and benches along the LA River. Furthermore Atwater Village community elements at entry and elements on streets include tile work elements that evoke our local history with the historic Franciscan Tile factory.

Air Quality

COMMENT:

Atwater Village: Census tracts comprising much of Atwater rank in the 95-100% percentile of the CalEnviroScreen, meaning that they are in the top 5% of environmentally burdened census tracts in the State of California.

The current LA RIver bike path is adjacent to I5, separated by a chain link fence. Most if not all, future trails, access points and projects will be within 500' of the highways surrounding Atwater Village (I5, 134 and 2 fwys) and other similarly situated communities.

We request that you study and mitigate the Air Quality in Atwater Village; diesel particulates impact on bike path and other trail users. This needs to be studied in depth for the safety of current and future LA River amenity users. We have a sample mitigation measure: mulch wall https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1NmNjaXA1u3FIIAUHZducTbpR1MU5NYeE

High Speed Rail Construction: Include cumulative impacts on air quality due to the HSR construction projects. High Speed Rail Corridor to be completed within the same period as County's LA River Master Plan timeline. Atwater Village's east border, the HSR corridor is within 1 mile of the LA River.

Energy*:*

COMMENT:

Alternative energy sources should be integrated into projects for multibenefits i.e. parking shade solar panels, picnic tables shade structure with solar panels. PEIR should explore all energy sources hydro, solar and wind, to achieve carbon neutral, zero emission goals.

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

COMMENT:

The whole of Taylor Yard is a brownfield site, this should be included, and construction and haul routes could negatively impact Atwater Village residents.

Hydrology/Water Quality

COMMENT:

LA River water quality in Atwater Village (Glendale Narrows):

North Atwater Village to Fletcher Drive has not been studied in depth over a significant period of time. Historically, there have been high E. coli levels, which were said to be due to the Verdugo Wash and Equestrian Community.

We recommend that the PEIR include an in depth study of water quality in the Glendale Narrows. Studying the water quality is important to analyze before any project recommendations that include water sports or water activities for public safety, in Atwater Village (Glendale Narrows)

Request based current situation at RattleSnake Park (South of Fletcher Dr) and Heal the Bay LA River Report card "Water Quality in the Upper L.A. River Watershed decreased slightly from

2018 to 2019 with a two percentage point decrease in Green grades issued. This watershed also had three sites on the Honor Roll and three sites on the Freshwater Fails list." ***Freshwater Fails*** *#3 Rattlesnake Park L.A. River Watershed: Recreation Zones.*

We feel this situation requires that the County study Atwater Village (and Glendale Narrows) as it is upstream from Rattlesnake park and could have water related activities in it's Master Plan.

Water quality standards or waste discharge requirements: in order to protect water quality for human and wildlife use, we request that you study redirecting all LA River sewer and storm drains to water treatment facilities before discharging into the LA River. [Hudson River, The Clean Rivers Project in DC, and others, which address the current and future impacts of the **Clean Water Act** (**CWA**)]

PEIR should Integrate water testing and provide a continuous water quality reporting and monitoring plan.

Request based on aforementioned water quality fail and documented case of Avian Botulism in 2019. This case of Avian Botulism killed most of the bird and duck populations in Atwater Village. As of today, they have begun to return but in less numbers. This outbreak doesn't have a documented start but there were several storm drain and sewer cleanings prior to and during summer/fall 2019.

Ground Water: EPA currently studying Atwater Village ground water and vapor contamination in SFV area 4(?) to Pollock Area. This should be included in your PEIR as it will impact any projects in the region.

Flood Risk/Mitigation: We recommend that you use your LA County Master plan findings from "mile 28" for all LA River projects in Atwater Village – not current FEMA maps.

Flood mitigation for the Atwater Village area was not addressed in the 1996 County Master Plan. While flood risk was acknowledged in 1992 LACDA Study, no action has been taken to correct or mitigate flood safety issues. (*The county is responsible for all flood matters in Los Angeles County, deferring the issue to USACE is not a corrective measure.)*

Population/Housing

The PEIR will address the proposed Project's potential for inducing population growth and displacing people and housing within the County and 17 incorporated jurisdictions. Analysis of population and housing along the 51-mile-long river will assess the differences between forecasts based on existing general plans of the County and 17 cities and regional growth projections. Specifically, the PEIR will assess whether the Project would induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure). Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project would displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in

detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

Address connectivity of both banks for the LA River. Atwater Village has been seeking to connect the East Bank of the LA River for a safe multi use corridor and community "riverwalk" alternative to the West Bank "bike path".

Flood Housing/Rental: Building and development along the LA River you must acknowledge areas of flood and "potential flood" hazard, note the requirements of Assembly Bill 646 flood hazard disclosures

Public Services

The PEIR will determine, at a program-level, if the improved access and anticipated increase in visitors in the Project area would result in impacts on Public Services — including fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, and other public facilities — by considering response times and increased demands, as applicable. The PEIR will assess available information on the current demand for public services against any new demand that is created by Project improvements. In addition, emergency access impacts during construction and operations would be analyzed. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

We would like to have you include the HSR projects impacts on access and isolation when assessing public safety. One of our HSR mitigation requests is to place a fire/swift rescue substation in North Atwater Village (upon HSR land not used for project(s).. Atwater Village currently has limited access now and less in the future, increased access and open spaces along the river will bring more people, businessess, and visitors which will increase the need for emergency response services to be localized.

Recreation

The PEIR will address the proposed Project's potential impact on notable recreation areas; regional, neighborhood, and local parks; trails; and other local recreational facilities and uses — such as water recreation and equestrian uses — within and near the study area across the 18 jurisdictions. Specifically, the PEIR will analyze the Project's potential to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project includes recreational facilities or would require the construction or expansion of recreation facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

When analyzing the recreational uses at current and future parks and access points we believe that you should analyze the impacts of traffic, parking and quality of life issues for local riverfront communities. Many communities along the LA River are adjacent to other

infrastructure, such as rail or highways, which limits accessibility to the LA River resources.

Atwater Village is an isolated community with 4 miles of river frontage but only 3 major streets crossing the community to Glendale/Los Angeles and no contiguous street at its length. In the future all access to Atwater Village will be via, bridge, overpass and underpass. Currently there are limited public transportation options to reach the LA RIver in Atwater Village.

Traffic: burden of bringing city wide and regional access to the LA River should not burden the local streets or residential communities without mitigation

Parking: burden of parking should not fall upon residential streets at LA River access points. City wide and regional projects should include parking.

Increased LA River use in residential communities: we recommend the use of Residential Quiet Zones, (as seen at beach communities and Greek Theatre-Los Feliz Hills residential area)

Areas of high mixed use: These areas need to be considered walk only and slow zones designated by signage

Require street bike path connectivity to LA River Bike Paths: to reduce congestion and parking issues, study alternative access, bike paths, to LA River recreation opportunities and access points.

Study the use and purchase of HSR excess property for LA river opportunity sites, example solar operated Bike Share Station.

Transportation

A transportation impact analysis will be prepared for the PEIR to describe the existing local and regional transportation network and to evaluate the proposed Project's construction- and operations-related traffic impacts, where feasible, for vehicular, transit, bike, and pedestrian circulation. The PEIR will analyze whether the Project will conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system. The transportation analysis for the PEIR will be conducted using a uniform approach based on the draft County transportation assessment guidelines, including application of the project screening criteria and the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) thresholds. Senate Bill (SB) 743, which replaces vehicle level of service (LOS) as the CEQA metric of significance with VMT, goes into full effect on July 1, 2020. The County has developed a draft update to the Transportation Section of the County CEQA Thresholds Guide that includes a comprehensive methodological approach to the assessment of transportation impacts, including VMT-based thresholds of significance and a process to screen out projects which will not require VMT analysis (due to their size, location, or other factors). These draft guidelines and thresholds are expected to be adopted by the LA County Board of Supervisors in June 2020, ahead of both the SB 743 implementation deadline and the anticipated publication of the draft PEIR in late summer 2020. The draft County VMT threshold is 16.8 percent below existing VMT per capita, which is more conservative than the threshold recommended by the California Office of Planning and Research or

that adopted by the City of Los Angeles, both of which are set at 15 percent below existing. Considering the approach of the PEIR, including the absence of any specific sites or projects under the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan to be analyzed in the PEIR, the County has determined that its uniform set of VMT guidelines will best serve the transportation analysis for the PEIR considering the 17 cities in the study area are in various stages of transitioning from LOS to VMT. Accordingly, the PEIR transportation analysis approach will use the County transportation assessment guidelines, including the project screening criteria and the VMT thresholds. These impacts, and their level of significance, will be assessed in detail in the PEIR.

COMMENT:

City of Los Angeles Mobility Plan should be addressed, LA River connectivity to alternative transportation routes, bike trails, bus and rail to LA River. There should be a seamless integration of all plans for transportation.

Bus stops must be provided for projects and access areas that have more than 20 parking spaces

Street bike paths should connect to the LA River Bike Path. Safe access for river users which lowers VMT.

Cumulative Impacts

COMMENT:

Include **all HSR related projects** along with other projects in Atwater Village

HSR Rail Corridor Projects impacting Atwater Village:
Verdugo Wash Overcrossing J-Hook (NEW/Metro project)
Doran Street: At-Grade Closed (NEW/Metro project)
Salem/Sperry St: Overcrossing (NEW/Metro project)
Brazil Street/Broadway: At-Grade Closed (NEW/Metro project)
Riverwalk Path Bridge: LA River/Verdugo Wash Bridge (NEW/Metro project)
Doran Street: San Fernando Rd. pedestrian Overpass (NEW/Metro project)
Colorado Street: Undercrossing (modified)
Goodwin Avenue: Undercrossing (new)
Chevy Chase Drive: At-Grade Closed
Chevy Chase Drive: Pedestrian Bridge (new)
Los Feliz Boulevard: Undercrossing (modified)
Storage Etc: Demolition rerouting of rail line (new)
Glendale Boulevard: Undercrossing (modified)

Include the proposed HSR projects:
Doran St:
Stand alone Communication tower (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. CO-O4003)
Signal house (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. TC-O4104)

West San Fernando Rd (mid): Stand alone Communication tower (SEE VOL 4 DWG NO. CO-F4002)
Verdant/New Life Vision Church: Switching Station (SEE VOLUME 4 DWG NO. TP-04101)
South of Glendale Blvd/Hehr International Inc.: Signal house (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04106s)
South of Glendale Blvd/Hehr International Inc.: Communication tower (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. CO-F4004)
South of Glendale Blvd/West Casitas LLC: Interlocking site (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04002)
South of Glendale Blvd/West Casitas LLC: Interlocking site (SEE VOL. 4, DWG. NO. TC-04003)

The required HSR electrical needs will permanently change the Atwater Village view:
Cantilever Structures: 84 to 105 along the Atwater Village border
Overhead contact system (OCS): A simple two-wire system consisting of a messenger wire and a contact wire that are supported by cantilever structures and attached to poles installed alongside the rail tracks.

Additional known construction projects:
Glendale-Los Angeles Water Treatment Plant Campus Update
Glendale-Hyperion Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project
Potential Project:
2800 Casitas Avenue Project (AKA True North Landing)
This list is not comprehensive, there are and will be other "land use" projects, in the 25 year period.

Growth-Inducing Impacts

The PEIR will discuss the ways in which the proposed Project could foster growth in the surrounding environment; growth-related secondary impacts also will be discussed.

Mandatory Finding of Significance

The PEIR will analyze whether the Project has the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The PEIR will discuss if the Project has impacts that are individually limited, but considered cumulatively significant. Additionally, the PEIR will analyze whether the Project has environmental effects which cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

COMMENT:

The PEIR should have an Environmental Justice Effects section:
This is warranted under the County's LA River Master Plans 9 stated goals. Analyze the distribution of benefit/burden of County's LA River Master Plan on riverfront communities.

Equity investment and inclusion along the LA River:
PEIR should look at broadening access to the LA River's publicly funded projects to open opportunities and access to a wider and more diverse selection of companies, non-profits and vendors.

August 6, 2020

Sent via email

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Re: Notice of Preparation for 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity ("Center") on the Notice of Preparation ("NOP") of a CEQA Programmatic Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the 2020 LA River Master Plan. These comments are submitted to assist the Department of Public Works ("DPW") in preparation, review and approval of these environmental documents.

As the NOP acknowledges, the Project covers the 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans through 18 total jurisdictions. Today, 1 million people live within 1 mile of the river. The Center requests that special consideration be placed on the biological resources, hydrology and water quality, gentrification and homelessness, and equitable access.

I. Background on the Center

The Center is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has over 1.7 million members and online activists throughout California and the United States, including residents of Los Angeles County. The Center has worked for many years to protect imperiled plants and wildlife, open space, air and water quality, and overall quality of life.

II. Background on the EIR Process

An EIR is a detailed statement, prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code §§ 21000-21178 ("CEQA"), describing and analyzing all significant impacts on the environment of a proposed project and discussing ways of mitigating or avoiding those effects. (Pub. Res. Code §21100; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15362.) The purpose of an EIR "is to inform the public and its responsible officials of the environmental consequences of their decisions before they are made." (*Laurel Heights Improvement Association v. Regents of University of California* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1112, 1123 [emphasis in original and citations omitted].) An EIR should provide decision making bodies and the public with detailed information about the effect a proposed project is likely to have on the environment, to list ways in which the significant effects of a project might be avoided or minimized, and to indicate alternatives to the project. (Pub. Res. Code § 21061; Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, § 15002.) California courts have emphasized that an EIR should: disclose all relevant facts; provide a balancing mechanism whereby decision makers and the public can weigh the costs and benefits of a project; provide a means for public participation; provide increased public awareness of environmental issues; provide for agency accountability; and provide substantive environmental protection.

CEQA compels agencies to refrain from approving projects with significant environmental impacts if feasible mitigation measures or alternatives exists that can alleviate or avoid such adverse effects. (*Mountain Lion Foundation v. Fish & Game Com*. (1997) 16 Cal.4th 105, 134.) Pursuant to this substantive mandate, the DPW should consider all feasible mitigation measures and alternatives in its EIR analysis, which should be quantitative, objective, rigorous, and most of all, complete.

III. Notice of Preparation Comments

a. Avoidance and Minimization of Impacts to Wildlife Movement and Habitat Connectivity Must be Prioritized.

The LA River watershed sits within one of the world's most diverse Mediterranean biodiversity hotspots.[1] Today, the entire 52-mile river is designated as warm freshwater habitat, while the upper portion of the river and mouth are designated as wildlife habitat, used by rare, threatened, or endangered species. (*Id*. at 2.) Filling gaps in scientific research on wildlife along the LA River during the EIR process, as highlighted by Actions 3.2 and 3.6 of the Master Plan, would provide a greater insight into where Kit of Parts and other proposed projects would be best suited to support wildlife.

The Center requests that the Project's common elements and projects be implemented with the lowest impact on wildlife movement and restore native plants ecosystems wherever possible. The Kit of Parts should also be implemented with an eye towards enhancing and

[1] Jessica M. Henson, et al, *Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Existing Ecosystem and Habitat Conditions* (Nov. 19, 2018), available at https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/276/attachments/original/1543873616/181119_LARMP_Task_3.5_Ecosystem___Habitat_Progress_Memorandum_web.pdf?1543873616

interconnecting larger habitat areas in the San Gabriel, Santa Monica, and Santa Susana Mountains at the headwaters near Canoga Park, and between Griffith Park and the Verdugo Mountains at the Glendale Narrows, so that plant and animal species endemic to the River are more likely to survive and thrive. (*Id*. at 4.)

A functional riparian habitat and wetlands can also improve water quality by removing or sequestering many contaminants, therefore improving wildlife habitat quality has implications for the ecological functioning of the River as well as for wildlife uses.[2]

b. The DEIR Should Adequately Analyze and Mitigate Potential Impacts on Water Quality.

A diverse Mediterranean riparian ecosystem once covered much of the 834 square mile watershed of the LA River and its 9 major tributaries. Today, the LA River is an impaired water body with multiple total maximum daily load requirements (TMDLs) established to regulate the discharge of pollutants. (Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Water Resources: Flood Risk Management, Water Quality, and Water Supply 2018.)[3] The River is subject to five TMDLs for metals, nutrients, trash, bacteria under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act that collectively regulate discharges of 13 pollutants. (*Id*. at 19.) Furthermore, 62% of the LA River watershed is developed with mixed land uses where typical pollutants from industrial runoff include copper, zinc, lead, bacteria, suspended soilds, PCBs, and DDTs. (Id. at 18.) The DEIR should clearly articulate the environmental benefits of increasing enforcement of water permit violations and remediating industrial and commercial contamination as part of the Master Plan.

The DEIR should also assess and mitigate the potential impacts the Master Plan could have on the River's ability to maintain its original "Rec 1" beneficial use designation.[4] Common elements and Kit of Parts should be implemented in a manner that will someday restore the River to a fishable and swimmable river again. (Id.) The DEIR should also assess the prioritization of regional water quality improvement projects in areas of greatest need and should clearly state the increasing environmental benefits that would result from the most restorative actions that remove impervious surfaces and restore wetlands and green spaces.

c. The DEIR Must Assess Water Supply Impacts.

More than 50% of the region's water supply is imported from the Colorado River, Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Eastern Sierras.[5] Given the increasing population, regulatory requirements, and demands on imported water, the DEIR should consider the benefits

[2] Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan 2007, available at https://boe.lacity.org/lariverrmp/CommunityOutreach/masterplan_download.htm.
[3] Mark Hanna, et al., Progress Memorandum to Carolina Hernandez Re: Water Resources: Flood Risk Management, Water Quality, and Water Supply (Dec. 2018) ("Water Resources Memorandum"), available at https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/280/attachments/original/1545082202/LARMP_Task_Memo_3-1_3-2_Progress_Memorandum__web.pdf?1545082202
[4] Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (2007), available at: http://boe.lacity.org/lariverrmp/CommunityOutreach/pdf/04Chapter3-IssuesAffectingthePlan42407.pdf.
[5] Water Resources Memorandum at p. 22.

from increased groundwater replenishment. The use of stormwater infiltration and low impact development elements in all projects could result in the replenishment of groundwater supplies to meet local objectives of better use of local water resources and reduces reliance on imported water. Efforts to capture flows in the Upper and Lower LA River watershed for groundwater discharge in the San Fernando Basin and Central Basin must be prioritized in the environmental review of the Master Plan.

d. The DEIR Must Adequately Analyze and Mitigate Housing and Displacement Impacts.

Around 38,100 households within 1 mile of the LA River are currently at risk of displacement. (Steering Committee #7 Summary 2019.)[6] An important aspect of the LA River Master Plan would to fund the acquisition of land for affordable housing and to preserve affordable housing. DPW should ensure that affordable housing is not placed next to industries and should avoid placing housing in areas with high flooding potential.

The DEIR should also analyze and mitigated the displacement impacts the Master Plan will likely cause as a result of improving infrastructure at and near the River. Special attention should be given to the communities between Downtown LA and Long Beach where displacement risk is most pervasive and the City of Bell Gardens and other communities that are already in a state of advanced displacement (Steering Committee #7 Summary 2019).[7] System-level mitigation measures should include a mix of supportive housing, affordable rental, affordable homeownership units, and other anti-displacement measures that would ensure community stability.

e. The DEIR Should Prioritize Equitable Access For All Communities Along the LA River.

The DEIR should place special emphasis on the environmental and societal benefits of increasing the extent of multi-use trails that connect to the River and prioritize access near major destination or areas that need improvements to existing access points. This should include connecting major regional trails, tributary trails and expanding regional loops primarily in the Lower LA River. The communities of highest park need along the LA River include Downtown LA, Bell Gardens, South Gate, Compton, and Long Beach. (Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary 2019.)[8] Increasing public access to the River should also include common elements, such as street lighting and emergency call boxes, to increase public safety along and within the River.

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[6] Los Angeles River Master Plan Update, Steering Committee Meeting #7 Summary (Sept. 25, 2019), available at https://pw.lacounty.gov/wmd/watershed/lar/docs/LARMP-SteeringCommittee7SummaryandAppendices.pdf (p.54)
[7] *Id*.
[8] Los Angeles River Master Plan Update, Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary (Dec. 19, 2019), available at https://pw.lacounty.gov/wmd/watershed/lar/docs/LARMP-SteeringCommitteeMeeting8-Summary-and-Appendices.pdf.

f. The DEIR Should Include A "Watershed Restoration" Alternative.

As detailed in the separate letter of August 4, 2020 submitted by Los Angeles Waterkeeper, the Center, Friends of the Los Angeles River, and Heal the Bay, the Center urges the County to include a "Watershed Restoration" alternative in the DEIR. This alternative would better achieve the goals of the Master Plan to "reduce flood risk and improve resiliency," "support healthy, connected ecosystems" and "promote healthy, safe, clean water".

IV. Conclusion

The Center appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the Master Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

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Heal the Bay

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August 10, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Submitted via email to: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the LA River Master Plan

Dear Ariana Villanueva:

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 30 years of experience and 15,000 members dedicated to making the coastal waters and watersheds of California safe, healthy, and clean. Heal the Bay has a long history of work on the Los Angeles River; we have advocated for improved habitat, water quality, and recreation by weighing in on numerous policies and permits concerning the Los Angeles River such as TMDLs, the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) study, permits for dredging and clearing vegetation, and other regulatory actions.

Heal the Bay has actively participated in the development of the LA River Master Plan as a Steering Committee member. Throughout that two-year process we have provided feedback and expressed concerns over the process and the content of the Plan.

After reviewing the NOP for the Draft PEIR and attending the public CEQA scoping meeting, we are concerned about two specific issues, namely the lack of commitment to public participation and the limitation of the assessment of impacts to only two very specific typical projects.

1. **Public Participation Must Be Prioritized**. We are concerned that the timing of the request for public comments on the NOP and the PEIR does not allow for adequate public participation. Given that the LA River Master Plan has not yet been released, the public cannot adequately comment on the NOP. It will be even harder for the public to comment on the Draft PEIR when it is out in summer 2020, again, given that the Draft LA River Master Plan may still not be out then. During the scoping meeting, it was

estimated that the Draft Master Plan will be released in the late summer or early fall. It is unfair to expect people to provide meaningful comments on the PEIR in the absence of the draft Plan itself. Further, due to COVID-19 and the need to conduct outreach and public participation virtually, additional thought, care, and time must be devoted to ensure adequate public participation. Public participation must be made as easy as possible. The CEQA scoping meeting did not make public participation easy. For instance, the comments provided during that meeting were not even considered as official comments or on the record; people were taking the time to attend the meeting, type out their comments and questions, and yet those written questions and comments were routinely dismissed by stating that the comments needed to be emailed in order to be considered. The description of the scoping meeting was not what actually happened at the meeting: "After the presentation, a Q&A session will be held followed by submission of oral comments by previously registered commenters. Written comment forms will be supplied for those who wish to submit comments in writing at the scoping meeting."[1] Comments were not received orally, nor through a registration process and written comment forms were not supplied for those wishing to submit comments at the scoping meeting.

We ask for a commitment to true public participation by delaying the release of the Draft PEIR until *after* the release of the Draft LA River Master Plan. We also ask for additional time for public review of the Draft PEIR, additional public meetings in multiple languages once the PEIR is released, that comments be received in meetings as well as in written formats, and that additional creative ways of engaging the public be explored (e.g. a virtual post-it-note board, virtual open house.)

2. **The PEIR needs to evaluate impacts of all six elements in the kit of parts.**
The NOP states that the PEIR will evaluate two typical projects, which are the common elements and a multi-use trails and access gateways project. We are concerned with this limited evaluation primarily because these two types of projects are likely to be less impactful than other types of projects that will not be evaluated in the same depth. Heal the Bay, in addition to other groups, has routinely expressed concern over the platform parks element and the potential for this design to have significant negative environmental impacts. Focusing the PEIR on two projects that are considerably less impactful than other proposed project types is disingenuous and not representative of the actual Master Plan. We understand that specific projects will not be examined in the

[1] https://pw.lacounty.gov/swq/peir/doc/NOP-2020.06.26-draft.pdf

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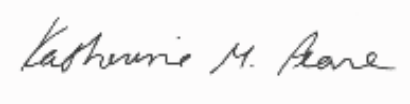
PEIR but a range of potential impacts should be examined for each of the six project types in the kit of parts.

We ask for a detailed evaluation of impacts for *all* six elements of the kit of the parts in the PEIR, not merely a high level analysis.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact us at kpease@healthebay.org or 213-631-8495 with any questions.

Sincerely,



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August 6, 2020

Sent Electronically

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public, Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

RE: 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP)

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy, I am writing to comment on the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP). The Los Angeles River is one of the County's most important natural and historic resources with a complex and layered history.

As a Program EIR (PEIR) the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan will be the guiding document for an estimated 107 projects over a period of 25 years. As stated in the NOP, the Master Plan study area spans fifty-one miles of river from Canoga Park to Long Beach and extends one mile from either side of the river's banks. The study area encompasses seventeen cities and unincorporated L.A. County communities.

In 1996, the Los Angeles River Master Plan expanded its vision from the originally single-purpose flood control into a multi-benefit amenity that reflects aesthetic, environmental, economic, and recreational values of residents. The 2020 Master Plan further expands on the 1996 vision through its nine objects and "kit of parts."

I. The Los Angeles River Viaducts are significant historic resources and should be preserved

The Los Angeles River is home to a unique collection of the City's most iconic civic monuments. Constructed between 1909-1939 by the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles River Viaducts tell the story of the city's growth from a second-tier city into a bourgeoning economic center.

The viaducts primary function was to serve as a permanent safe means of transportation for motorists and street cars to cross the river. Beyond their primary function, these bridges acted as a beacon of the City's City Beautiful urban design. To all those who arrived from the east by train, the viaducts conveyed a progress not only relating to economics but to progressive thinking and sophistication. The bridges were a way to let tourists, businessmen, and new residents know that Los Angeles was equal to San Francisco and the metropolitan cities on the east coast.

Because of their significance, several of the bridges have been designated City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM). As a component of the PEIR, we urge the County to fully collaborate with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering to assess each bridge in relation to any proposed projects and overarching goals for access and modes of travel either at grade or below the spans along the river. An overall historic preservation plan should be incorporated for these resources and others as part of the PEIR, to better understand the needs of this important collection and ensure their longevity and viability.

II. Many historic resources lie outside the banks of the Los Angeles River and within the Study Area and therefore should be surveyed

As stated in the PEIR, the study area extends one mile in either direction from the river's banks along it's fifty-one-mile course. Stretching from Canoga Park to Long Beach, there are countless historic resources within the project study area. Development along the river is integral to the story of Los Angeles and its history. The communities that have formed along the river's banks are as diverse as the County itself with unique stories and experiences.

To fully understand the Study Area's historic and cultural resources, the Conservancy urges the County to conduct a historic resources survey (incorporating existing inventories, such as SurveyLA) that fully aligns with the area affected and included within the PEIR.

Historic resources are not only architectural, but are often related to art, culture, and important events. The 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan NOP lists nine objectives, the Conservancy believes historic preservation directly relates to the following three objectives:

Objective #2 - Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails;
Objective #5 – Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture; and
Objective #7 – Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development and education.

Incorporating historic preservation into the Master Plan has many community benefits. Preservation empowers communities through saving historic places that tell community history. Connection to the historic built environment provides an important tangible link to history that cannot be achieved through history books alone. Historic preservation is an equitable solution to history telling and through community engagement.

The PEIR should also acknowledge existing historic resources and sites of important events, including those that have already experienced the loss of built-environment features. One

example is the site of the Sleepy Lagoon along the L.A. River near Commerce, and the murder that took place there. This event and a series that followed sparked concern about the treatment of Mexican-American youth. It is also considered a key event in the lead up to Los Angeles' Zoot Suit Riots of 1943.

While we often celebrate the good, it's important to recognize our more difficult histories too. While this story and others is a difficult history ripe with racism and injustices, we can learn from it and grow in a positive way. Fully acknowledging these physical places as part of the PEIR is important.

III. The Conservancy requests a meeting with the County's 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan representatives.

The Conservancy requests a meeting with the County's 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan team. After reviewing the Master Plan's Steering Committee, there does not appear to be a high level of historic preservation expertise represented. We hope a meeting with County representatives will facilitate a meaningful dialogue and help to create a more well-rounded 2020 Master Plan.

IV. Conclusion

The Conservancy looks forward to the 2020 Los Angeles River Master Plan update. We see the river as an important resource for all Angelenos and a place for equitable engagement. Throughout its fifty-one miles, the Master Plan Study Area encompasses countless historic resources. Therefore, the Conservancy urges the County to conduct a historic resources survey throughout the entirety of the Study Area. Within the river's banks, the collection Los Angeles River Viaducts tells an important history unto itself. To ensure the longevity of these bridges, the County should complete a comprehensive historic preservation plan as part of and to be included within the larger master plan. Lastly, the Conservancy requests a meeting with Master Plan representatives to better understand and ensure historic preservation is fully incorporated within the 2020 Master Plan.

About the Los Angeles Conservancy:

The Los Angeles Conservancy is the largest local historic preservation organization in the United States, with nearly 6,000 members throughout the Los Angeles area. Established in 1978, the Conservancy works to preserve and revitalize the significant architectural and cultural heritage of Los Angeles County through advocacy and education.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (213) 430-4203 or afine@laconservancy.org should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Adrian Scott Fine
Director of Advocacy

LARABA
Los Angeles River Artists and Business Association
826 E. 3rd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
LARABA.ORG

ARTS DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

July 29, 2020

Re: LA River Master Plan Update Draft

Dear LA River Master Plan Team,

As a neighborhood that is deeply impacted by decisions about the LA River, our community and Boards have closely followed the expertise of our colleagues at East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Friends of the LA River, From Lot to Spot, Heal the Bay, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, Los Angeles Waterkeeper, The Nature Conservancy, and The Trust for Public Land. We are grateful for the heavy lifting they have done on behalf of protecting communities and our beloved LA River.

While we commend the work done so far, we are here to echo our colleague's talking points and to encourage the working committees to not rush this plan forward. We encourage the team to take the extra 6 months to a year to address the vagaries of the working document.

Our concerns are as follows:

Mission statement is vague and lacking direction
While the language purports to support a healthy river and communities, it is not a true mission statement, and simply collects phrasing that tries to be all things to all people.

A clearer more concise mission statement that can tangibly tracks metrics is preferable. Statements like, **"**respect feats of infrastructure" is alarming to our community in the battle for river health and communities.

Our colleagues rightly suggest the following as an alternative statement:
"A healthy LA River flows through a 51-mile connected, public freshwater habitat that is seamlessly woven together with neighboring communities as part of its 824-square-mile watershed. It is an integral part of daily life in LA County—a place to enjoy nature and to get across town, a place to bring all people together in a restored and thriving freshwater and riparian ecosystem, a place that is at the heart of efforts to achieve regional climate and community resiliency, and a place to learn from the past and to shape the future."

We also agree that the Plan should be extended 6 months at a minimum to address the vagaries of the document.

Equity Prioritization
Communities of color are not addressed nor are the potential climate impacts given weight in the Plan.

Luxury housing alone has been prioritized without addressing the ramification and potential displacement of economically disadvantage communities directly impacted by these decisions.

Provisions need to be put in place that incentivizes equitable development which include real public greenspace and affordable housing

Robust community engagement of these stakeholders must take place. Repeated feedback from colleagues in River communities has been that next to no outreach was performed and they have largely been ignored.

Lack of Watershed Level Approach

Again, the vague and somewhat contradictory use of language leaves much to be desired in an outcome that would enable communities to properly plan for climate impacts, ecological health, and community well-being. As a living asset, the LA River is not something to be "designed" or "controlled", It is in fact a watershed and ecosystem to be nurtured and repaired.

We support a more robust definition of living that includes frequent updates as would be required for any living asset.

It is also important that the tributaries be included in analyses, GAMs, and graphics/maps and that a commitment is made to updating flood risk and the floodplain noting that restoration is a priority

Platforms and Crossings & Other Channel Modifications

Adding MORE concrete for platform parks that remove sunlight from the river seem to us counterintuitive to the health of both the river and our communities and we vehemently oppose such an application.

Channel modifications and maintenance must come from the POV of restoration and not simple maintenance. Observation of current maintenance practices is a cause of great concern and has shown a lack of respect to the environment and the surrounding communities.

We reiterate our hope that the Committee move towards addressing these large issues in advance of releasing drafts. We do not see the need to rush this process and believe that a more thoughtful and more inclusive process.

Sincerely,

Todd Terazzas
President, ADCCLA
Arts District Community Council

Randall Miller
President, LARABA
Los Angeles, River Artists & Business Association

August 4, 2020

Attention: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works,
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Via e-mail to Ariana Villanueva with original to follow via US Mail.

RE: Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the LA River Master Plan Update

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Los Angeles Waterkeeper, the Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the LA River, and Heal the Bay have reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the LA River Master Plan Update (LARMPU). The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (the County) will prepare the EIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Guidelines). (See Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq; 14 Cal. Code Regs. Section 15000 et seq). We submit the following comments for consideration as the County prepares the EIR.

Los Angeles Waterkeeper (LAW) is a nonprofit environmental organization with members throughout the LA region. We safeguard LA's inland and coastal waters by enforcing laws and empowering communities throughout Los Angeles County. In the twenty-five years since our founding, LAW has protected LA waterways from thousands of Clean Water Act violations, worked to ensure access to safe drinking water, encouraged stormwater and wastewater recycling, and generated billions of investment dollars for remediation of our region's most threatened waterways. Much of LAW's work centers around rehabilitating the Los Angeles River and its watershed.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental

law. The Center has over 1.7 million members and online activists throughout California and the United States, including residents of Los Angeles County. The Center has worked for many years to protect imperiled plants and wildlife, open space, air and water quality, and overall quality of life.

Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR) has been at the forefront of ensuring the Los Angeles River is publicly accessible and ecologically sustainable. We inspire River stewardship through community engagement, education, advocacy, and thought leadership. For over 30 years, we have worked to create an enduring vision of the River that acknowledges its legacy as a life-giving waterway and illuminates the critical benefits its restoration can bring to the surrounding communities.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 30 years of experience and 15,000 members dedicated to making the coastal waters and watersheds of California safe, healthy, and clean. Heal the Bay has a long history of work on the Los Angeles River; we have advocated for improved habitat, water quality, and recreation by weighing in on numerous policies and permits concerning the Los Angeles River such as TMDLs, the Recreational Use Reassessment (RECUR) study, permits for dredging and clearing vegetation, and other regulatory actions.

LAW, FoLAR, and Heal the Bay have actively participated in the development of the LA River Master Plan as Steering Committee members. We have repeatedly voiced concerns about the LA River Master Plan Update process and drafts throughout the Steering Committee and sub-committee process. We have been concerned about the lack of a clear vision, the lack of equity and ecology prioritization, and the lack of a watershed approach or climate resilience focus. We believe that many of the projects proposed in the draft would not only do harm to communities and ecosystems, but could also foreclose opportunities for preventing future harms. These issues continued to trouble us after reviewing the draft plan presented to the Steering Committee, so we further elaborated upon them in a joint letter submitted on March 12, 2020 with several fellow organizations on the Steering Committee. We still have not received any response to our comments at the date of submitting this letter, so we proceed with this letter with our same concerns in mind. The timing of the release of the NOP makes it difficult for us to submit comments without seeing the public-facing Draft EIR.

After reviewing the Draft EIR NOP, we are concerned about the County's lack of transparency in its selection of an EIR document type, unclear description of the LARMPU project, and vague discussion of alternatives. CEQA requires transparency and a stable project description written with a level of specificity that allows members of the public to comment on

the project. (*County of Inyo v. City of Los Angeles* (1977) 71 Cal.App.3d 185, 186). The County's actions of describing its plan as both a Master EIR and a Program EIR, continually altering the LARMPU project description, and listing of vague alternatives vitiate the environmental review process as a tool for intelligent public participation.

I. The County Must Explain Whether It Intends to Prepare a Master EIR or a Program EIR and Provide Reasoning.

Instead of conflating Master and Program EIRs in labeling the plan's environmental report a "Draft Master Plan PEIR," we urge the County to clearly select one option and highlight and consider the relevant issues in the Draft EIR. A clearer selection of an EIR type will not only grant members of the public greater understanding of what they are commenting upon, but will also benefit the County. In the past, courts have substituted their own judgement in the absence of an agency's EIR designation. A court may independently label an EIR and apply the corresponding CEQA regulations in a manner contrary to an agency's wishes. Master and Program EIRs are distinct types of EIR documents and should be treated as such.

A Program EIR is one that may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project, and are related either: geographically; as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions; in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program; or as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (a)). A Program EIR analyzes the environmental consequences of broad policies or programs at the planning stage and requires lead agencies to prepare more detailed analyses in subsequent documents.[1] It can: (1) provide the basis in an initial study for determining whether the later activity may have any significant effects; (2) be incorporated by reference to deal with regional influences, secondary effects, cumulative impacts, broad alternatives, and other factors that apply to the program as a whole; and (3) focus an EIR on a subsequent project to permit discussion solely of new effects which had not been considered before. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (d)).

A Program EIR will be most helpful in dealing with subsequent activities if it provides a description of planned activities and deals with the effects of the program as "specifically and comprehensively as possible." (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(5)). In instances where the subsequent activities involve site-specific operations, a lead agency should use "a written

[1] See Michael H. Remy et. al., *Guide to CEQA California Environmental Quality Act* 280, 334 (11th ed. 2006).

checklist or similar device to document the evaluation of the site and the activity to determine whether the environmental effects of the operation" were covered in the Program EIR. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(4)). Where such an inquiry concludes that additional CEQA analysis is required, the lead agency should then prepare an initial study to determine whether a negative declaration or EIR should be prepared. (Guidelines Section 15168 subd. (c)(1)).

The Master EIR procedure is another option for conducting environmental review. It is intended to serve as the foundation for analyzing the environmental effects of subsequent projects. A lead agency may prepare a Master EIR for (1) a general plan, general plan update, general plan element, general plan amendment, or specific plan; (2) a project that consists of smaller individual projects which will be carried out in phases; (3) projects that will be carried out or approved pursuant to a development agreement, as well as a number of other classes of projects. It shall, to the greatest extent feasible, evaluate the cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, and irreversible significant effects on the environment of subsequent projects. (Guidelines Section 15175).

In practice, a Master EIR is similar to a Program EIR. However, there are at least three differences worth noting. First, the requirements for preparing and applying a Master EIR and its associated focused EIRs are described in detail in both statute and the CEQA Guidelines. Requirements for Program EIRs, on the other hand, are less specifically described in the CEQA Guidelines. Second, once a subsequent project is determined to be within the scope of the Master EIR, a focused EIR must be prepared whenever it can be fairly argued on the basis of substantial evidence in the record that the project may have a significant effect, even if evidence exists to the contrary. Focused EIRs should examine project-specific impacts while referencing the Master EIR's analysis of cumulative and growth-inducing impacts. Projects that have been described in some detail in the Master EIR may avoid the need for a subsequent focused EIR or negative declaration. Third, to use a Master EIR for a subsequent project, the Master EIR must be re-examined and, if necessary, supplemented at least once every five years. This ensures that the analysis contained in a Master EIR remains topical.[2]

We encourage the County to consider preparation of a Master EIR because it may facilitate smoother implementation of subsequent projects and greater public participation if prepared in a sufficiently comprehensive manner. The draft LARMPU that Steering Committee members have read already includes a high level of detail about certain projects, including the removal of vegetation from the Glendale Narrows and the construction of a concrete cap over the

[2] Office of Planning and Research, "Chapter 10 CEQA: Designing Healthy, Equitable, Resilient, and Economically Vibrant Places" in General Plan Guidelines, p. 275.

river in South Gate. The level of detail in the EIR should match the level of detail from the LARMPU, so community members should have an opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of these projects at this point. Preparation of a Master EIR would also incentivize greater thoroughness and inclusivity in the upcoming EIR. Above all, however, we request a clear selection of an EIR type and an application of the CEQA regulations accordingly.

II. The County Must Devise a Stable Project Description.

Regardless of the County's designation of the LARMPU EIR, CEQA requires an EIR to contain a stable project description. In fact, "an accurate, stable, and finite project description is the sine qua non of an informative and legally sufficient EIR." (*County of Inyo* at 186). The CEQA Guidelines flesh out the notion of a "project" by referring to it as "an activity which may cause either a direct...or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment." (Pub. Res. Code 21065 and *County of Inyo* at 192).

As written, the LARMPU Draft EIR contains an unstable, vague, and inconsistent description of the project as well as a list of ambiguous alternatives. For example, the Draft EIR available to the Steering Committee indicated that there are flooding concerns along the river corridor and discouraged riverfront development while also proposing housing along the river. It then makes it difficult for community members to comment on the County's stance on housing in the floodplain if this is articulated in a contradictory way. Moreover, the Kit of Parts section of the Master Plan presents the six design components without prioritization or context in terms of their impacts on goals, possibility to do harm, and appropriateness reach by reach.[3] It will be very difficult to comment on the environmental impacts of a general idea of floodplain reclamation or in-channel modifications, for instance, without more information. The NOP also states that the scope of the project is along a "51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor," but the draft LARMPU contains elements that are watershed-wide. All of these contradictions and more will lead to an unstable project description. A project description that gives conflicting signals to the public about the nature and scope of the project is fundamentally misleading and inadequate. (*Washoe Meadows County v. Dep't of Parks & Recreation* (2017) 17 Cal. App. 5th 277, 287, 225 Cal. Rptr. 3d 238, 245 (*Washoe Meadows*)).

Additionally, some portions of the draft LARMPU are quite detailed, while others are vague, making the document unbalanced as a whole. The draft includes a broad description of possible projects, rather than a preferred or actual project. This type of project description is

[3] See section 4 of the "Letter to County LARMPU" for more information about our concerns pertaining to the Kit of Parts portion of the Master Plan.

unstable because it presents the public with a moving target and requires a commenter to offer input on a wide range of alternatives that may not be pertinent to the ultimately approved project. Each option creates a different set of impacts, requiring different mitigation measures. As a result, meaningful public participation is stultified, and the public's ability to participate in the CEQA process is impaired. (*San Joaquin Raptor Rescue Ctr. v. County of Merced* (2007) 149 Cal. App. 4th 645, 656).

CEQA also requires the EIR to set forth a reasonable range of clear project alternatives to foster informed decision-making and public participation. (see *Laurel Heights Improvement Assoc. v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal.* (1988) 47 Cal.3d 376). The NOP states that the EIR will include a no project alternative, a project alternative, and "one or more feasible 'build' alternatives to the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan." It is very unclear what this means, but it sounds like community members will be able to comment on either moving forward with the LARMPU as written, not at all, or with an entirely different 'build' project.

The CEQA reporting process is not designed to freeze the ultimate proposal in the precise mold of the initial project; new and unforeseen insights may emerge during investigation, compelling revision of the original proposal. (*County of Inyo* at 199). An EIR should be prepared with a sufficient degree of analysis to provide decision-makers with information that enables them to make a decision that logically takes account of environmental consequences. An assessment of the environmental effects of a proposed project need not be exhaustive, but the sufficiency of an EIR is to be reviewed in light of what is "reasonably feasible." *Washoe Meadows* at 245. Only through an accurate view of the project may decision-makers and affected members of the public balance the proposal's benefit against its environmental cost, consider mitigation measures, assess the advantage of terminating the proposal, and weigh other possible alternatives. Therefore, we urge the County to devise a stable project description and delineate a set of clear alternatives in the Draft EIR.

III. The County Should Include a "Watershed Restoration" Alternative.

We recommend that the County include a "watershed restoration" alternative, recognizing that the river is a critical freshwater ecosystem that is important to community members. This alternative would expand the scope of the project to include the LA River watershed more formally because in order to achieve the goals of the LARMPU (including "reduce flood risk and improve resiliency," "support healthy, connected ecosystems" and "promote healthy, safe, clean water") a system-wide approach is critical. Freshwater ecology

studies show that making superficial and fragmented changes to streams and stream-adjacent areas does not lead to the restoration of stream ecological function.[4]

The County also needs to use this level of analysis and broader scope in order to understand cumulative impacts. Cumulative impacts refers to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable and compound other environmental impacts. CEQA requires an EIR to discuss those cumulative impacts to which the project would contribute, and the importance of that contribution in the context of the cumulative impact. (Guidelines Title 14, Section 21083). How will the County understand whether it is meeting the LARMPU goal of "Improving local water supply reliability" without a watershed-wide scope, for instance? The NOP states that the LARMPU recognizes that infrastructure planning is equally important with social and environmental needs. A watershed restoration alternative would make this statement true.

On a final note, the County may also need to conduct a NEPA review given that several of the sections of the river are federally maintained. It is important to note that NEPA guidelines that are in conflict with CEQA do not override an agency's CEQA obligations as "California courts will not follow NEPA precedent that is contrary to CEQA." (*Washoe Meadows* at 290). While the presentation of alternative projects can in some cases be an adequate project description for a Draft EIS under NEPA, dramatically different projects in a Draft EIR do not constitute a stable project description under CEQA. Thus, even if the County conducts NEPA review, it will still be required to select a preferred alternative.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to reach out to us at our e-mail addresses below. We look forward to reading the EIR and public-facing LARMPU draft later this summer.

Sincerely,

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[4] Palmer, Margaret A., et al. "River restoration, habitat heterogeneity and biodiversity." 15 Jan. 2010, https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1365-2427.2009.02372.x.

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August 5, 2020

Ms. Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

<< Transmitted via electronic mail: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov >>

RE: 2020 LA River Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) respectfully submits the following comments to the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works (Public Works) on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan (Project) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) which seeks to evaluate any potential impacts on the environment pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed Project is located along the Los Angeles River (LA River) a 51-mile-long, 2-mile-wide corridor (1-mile on each side) of the LA River in Los Angeles County and spans 17 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County (18 total jurisdictions). Although the LA River was channelized between the late 19th and mid-20th centuries to protect lives and property from flooding as the LA region rapidly grew and transformed to a largely urbanized area, habitat and wildlife have flourished throughout and along the river. Currently, an estimated 1 million people live within 1 mile of the river.

The MRCA is a public agency which was established in 1985 pursuant to the Joint Powers Act and is a partnership between the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), the Conejo Recreation and Park District, and the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. The MRCA manages more than 75,000 acres of parkland and is dedicated to the preservation and management of local open space and parkland, wildlife habitat, watershed lands, and trails as well as ensuring public access to public parkland. As advocates for the Los Angeles River, we have actively acquired and developed open spaces adjacent to the River. We have and continue to develop and provide planning of River and tributary path greenways and existing parks and planned future parks. Additionally, the MRCA also operates and manages the only two River Recreation Zones, which were areas designated for in channel use, upon the river being deemed a traditional navigable waterway by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2010, which created protections throughout the river's watershed. The MRCA has been an active participant throughout the Project planning process serving on the LA River Master Plan steering committee.

We have compiled below a list of items which we would like to share with you and hope will be thoroughly addressed before the draft PEIR is approved.

Geography

Currently, this analysis is limited to the 51 miles of the LA River, beginning in Canoga Park within the City of Los Angeles, extending to Long Beach where the river meets the Pacific Ocean. Furthermore, the proposed project area extends up to 1-mile wide on each side of the river corridor, for a total of 2 miles, one on each side of the river, being defined as the study area. As subject experts know, the river does not begin at the headwaters in Canoga Park, but rather at the tributaries which originate in the mountain ranges in the Los Angeles Basin. The watershed is vast and although we realize it would be challenging to include all tributaries in the Los Angeles River watershed, there are significant tributaries which account for majority of the water in the river which should be considered for incorporation. The Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan analyzes and plans for major tributaries within the watershed; given that opportunities identified in the ULART plan are congruent with Public Work's mission, it would be highly beneficial to expand the County's reach to include tributaries within ULART under the PEIR, which would truly produce a cumulative analysis and regional impact, which the County has stated as being a goal of the Project.

Other planning efforts underway also include the CA High Speed Rail (HSR) project. The proposed alignment from Burbank to Los Angeles is currently in its planning process and poses significant and long-term impacts to the river and adjacent lands, including the threat to impede public access. Another project along the river with substantial beneficial impacts is the Los Angeles River Path project by Metro, which closes a significant 8-mile gap on the river path between the cities of Los Angeles and Vernon. The PEIR should have the foresight to include HSR cumulative impacts and address adverse impacts, as well as LA River Path alternatives included in the project analysis.

Aesthetics

Not only has public perception changed toward the LA River because of its navigable designation, but also because of its visual characteristics. When water, vegetation, habitat and wildlife are found in the river, like many river's outside of Los Angeles, it is then that people realize the value of a natural resource that once existed, a natural and wild river. The PEIR is expected to describe the existing visual character of the proposed Project study area and surrounding areas, and will identify key visual resources and scenic views. There are few naturalized areas in the LA River which remain and should be preserved, including the Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, and the Glendale Narrows. The probable impacts of the Project should not include substantial adverse effects on key visual resources and scenic vistas. Although one of the primary functions of the Flood Control District is to maintain flood capacity, it is our hope and expectation that many of the existing characteristics will not be compromised for flood control purposes, but rather will be preserved and enhanced to further create a thriving, riparian ecosystem. The mission

of the Flood Control District has since been expanded to include maximum environmental and ecological benefits, as well as recreation - all of which contribute to river aesthetics.

Biological Resources
The LA River contains an abundance of biological resources, existing both in the river channel and adjacent to the river within the 2-mile-wide study area of the river corridor. The rich riparian habitat that thrives off the existing water sustains vegetation, plants and wildlife along with their habitat. The river and its adjoining areas is home to aquatic and non-aquatic invertebrates, endangered species, such as the Least Bell's Vireo, the red-legged frog, and more than 20 species of birds. Additionally, the river is a significant stop along the Pacific flyaway being essential for migratory birds. In order to best evaluate the impacts of the project, all of the following should be taken into consideration and assessed in the PEIR, along with appropriate consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Additionally, should the PEIR be sufficient to allow for channel modifications, such as those proposed in the City of Los Angeles Fish Passage Study led by Stillwater Sciences and funded by Wildlife Conservation Board, endemic and native endangered fish could be reintroduced.

Hydrology/Water Quality
An opportunity presented by the PEIR includes the ability to analyze the differences between the existing conditions and the future conditions with respect to Hydrology and Water Quality in the river. Analysis should thoroughly analyze pollutant sources and concentration of pollutants- how such pollution concentration levels would impact habitat, wildlife and human uses, thus affecting compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and safe water quality uses. Also, changes in the impervious surfaces, application of stormwater infrastructure, and discharges, affecting sensitive habitats such as the estuary. Given the potential for reduced discharges, water quality standards could be affected, specifically as it pertains to water quality standards of surface/groundwater that could be degraded. Also, currently underway is a study by the State Water Resources Control Board analyzing river flows; the PEIR should include analysis for how the LA River Flows Study will be incorporated.

Land Use/Planning/Air Quality
There are a variety of land uses that occur adjacent to the LA River in the County and within each of the cities that which the study area analyzes. The PEIR should evaluate the compatibility of the proposed Project with neighboring areas within all of the jurisdictions, analyze and mitigate change to or displacement of existing uses. The proposed Project is located in such a publicly important area that public access should be a priority when planning for uses, while creating a cadence of accessways, access points and amenities. These opportunities offer current and future restored habitat on urban public lands which are scarce.

Given the scale of projects in the Kit of Parts, many of which are listed in the Project, those that specifically are related to housing should only consider transit-oriented

developments (TODs) that are adjacent to public transportation, in order to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to mitigate the potential to drastically increase traffic congestion in already dense neighborhoods where air quality by the single largest polluter, being vehicles, would be exacerbated further contributing to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

Public Services
It is anticipated that use of the river will increase and the PEIR should determine, at a program-level the impacts and need for Public Services — including fire protection, public safety which should be provided by the appropriate law enforcement, such as a Ranger, homelessness assistance and encampment cleanups, as well as other public facilities. The PEIR should assess available information on the current demand for public services against any new demand that is created by Project improvements. The PEIR should review the 2019 Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan in order to ascertain the issues and recommendations provided through community consensus.

Recreation
Stakeholders and leaders have worked years to allow for recreation, both in channel and along the river. Today, passive recreation is one of the most popular uses of the river which include walking, running, biking, fishing and kayaking. The river offers opportunities for mental and physical health for the 18 jurisdictions throughout the study area, serving not only the estimated 1 million people who live within 1 mile of the river, but also those who travel from far distances to experience an urban river. The PEIR should address the proposed Project's potential impact on notable recreation areas and the river recreation zones; impacts to regional, neighborhood, and local parks and those in planning; trails; and other local recreational facilities and uses. The PEIR should analyze the Project's likelihood to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities and the substantial physical deterioration that could be accelerated. Additionally, the PEIR should consider any adverse physical effects on the environment. Recreation access should only be enhanced for public use while fostering natural, recreation areas, and protecting existing investments that have been made in the river.

Population/Housing
While the state is in a housing crisis, the proposed Project's potential for inducing population growth and displacing people within the County remains a threat to both government and existing communities. As a member of the Los Angeles Regional Open Space and Housing (LAROSAH) Collaborative, the MRCA does not believe that affordable housing and open space protection need to be mutually exclusive; however, when planning for housing, we must propose solutions for the appropriate type of housing- affordable and low income, while maintaining protections for open space. The MRCA supports investments in communities which also protect the social fabric of respective neighborhoods. Other considerations should include the land use analysis, additional infrastructure and construction that would be required, as well as potential adverse effects to the environment and wildlife while undergoing improvements for

population growth. Los Angeles is already a highly urbanized County, lacking open space, parks, sufficient habitat for wildlife, and permeable surfaces which should be championed throughout the PEIR for a cumulative analysis and regional environmental impact.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please address any future documents, notices, and questions to myself at the above letterhead address, by phone at (323) 221-9944 x 109, and email at sarah.rascon@mrca.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

George Lange
Chairperson

August 13, 2020

The LA River Master Plan meetings have provided the community the opportunity to voice their concerns over the overall program and its proposed projects. Despite the river being almost entirely concretized, meeting attendees selected the ecology and the environment of the river as top concerns, regardless of where the ULART or Master Plan meetings were held.

Hundreds of people and dozens of local organizations have been working to better understand the biodiversity of the river. New projects along the river should take note of what lives in the area and incorporate the natural ecosystem into these plans. The community has made it clear that top priorities include the natural environment. Program efforts should make sure that biodiversity monitoring for the local flora, fauna, and the microbial community is conducted and reviewed regularly. These results can help determine the efficacy and longevity of local projects to best serve their respective communities. In addition, program transparency of monitoring plans will not only encourage the community to remain engaged but allow local organizations to collaborate with the City and ensure time and funds are used efficiently.

For example, the public interest in the ecology of the LA River helped shape the formation of Protecting Our River (ProtectingOurRiver.org), a community science project from the University of California that aims to study the biodiversity of the LA River using environmental DNA (the DNA organisms shed into the environment). This project is a collaboration between UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, conservation groups, government agencies, local high schools, and the public. Environmental DNA results are later posted online for free to allow the community, policymakers, and researchers to access the data and see the list of organisms identified on the river. Community members are encouraged to join the Protecting our River team for (virtual) field gatherings along different sites of the entire river to give their perspectives on what researchers are observing. While the PouR team collects environmental DNA samples from the river, community scientists can share their own experiences to help better understand the biological community. This interactive project allows researchers to provide valuable data to collaborators while accepting input from the community to help structure future research. In return, these data can be used to help structure programs that'll best fit the local communities.

Our urban river has the unique opportunity to unite millions of LA County residents. Updates to the Master Plan should transparently reflect the community's interests; dozens of local organizations have spent years of work doing just this. Before any of the proposed projects begin, the program needs to have a thorough understanding of potential ecosystem impacts as a whole and keep the community engaged through it all. An emphasis on biodiversity monitoring is critical in maintaining the river's health and the LA River Master Plan as a whole. An unhealthy ecosystem can lead to failed projects, but taking the initiative now can lead to years of an active and engaged LA County riverine community.

Protecting our River
Monitoring LA River Biodiversity

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L.A. River Walkers & Watchers

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August 6, 2020

Sent via Email to: LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Attn: Ariana Villanueva
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Re: Scoping Comments for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report, 2020 LA River Master Plan

Dear Planners:

These scoping comments for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report, 2020 LA River Master Plan ("DEIR") are submitted by the L.A. River Walkers and Watchers and by the individuals listed below.

The L.A. River Walkers and Watchers ("LARWW") is a group of residents and neighbors who volunteer to help preserve the Bike Path along the Los Angeles River in the west San Fernando Valley, including the park-underserved communities of Reseda and Canoga Park. LARWW works to ensure that local government agencies, state conservancies, and joint power authorities with Los Angeles River jurisdiction provide public safety, maintenance and resource-management services, enforce regulations, address health concerns, and care for the overall wellbeing of resources along the Los Angeles River Bike Path. Since 2017, LARWW has a held a monthly walk along the river. Community residents and volunteers engage in trash and graffiti removal, monitor problem areas, and identify and report concerns. LARWW volunteers on these monthly walks have devoted thousands of man hours to cleaning up the LA River Bike Path and making this key resource safer and more user-friendly for all. More information can be found on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LARiverWW> and website <http://www.larww.org>.

The Los Angeles River is a unique geographical feature that winds its way through Los Angeles County, with the vast majority of the river flowing through the City of Los Angeles. The draft working plan ("GAMWP")[1], the only document that the directly impacted public can access at this time, refers to the river as an "open space spine" ... "unique within the county" ... "providing park space to underserved adjacent communities with little room to site new parks, while serving as a destination for the entire county and beyond, offering a variety of experiences from one mile to the next." GAMWP at 10.

[1] 2020 Proposed WORKING DRAFT VERSION 6: Los Angeles River Master Plan Update August 2019, last visited August 1, 2020 at: https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/larmp/pages/315/attachments/original/1569626307/Proposed_GAM_WORKING_DRAFT_VERSION_6-10_Changes_since_July.pdf?1569626307

The draft working plan also states, “Members of the community identified walking and bicycling as the top two activities they participate in along the river—with participation in these two activities together greater than the participation all other activities combined. Yet, 61% said they do not use the river due to safety concerns.” GAMWP at 10.

Similar sentiments are echoed by our neighbors who come on LARWW monthly walks. Many ONLY walk on the Bike Path at our monthly walks because going alone is too scary an excursion. As residents who are directly impacted by recently installed (within the last 5 years) facilities along the river, we can assure the planners that the agencies have a long way to go to make this either a desired destination for visitors or a safe place for local residents.

Lighting that was installed along the LA River Bike Path was designed for appearance not for utility. The lamps were vandalized within weeks of the path being opened. Five years later, long stretches of these street lamps are still prone to failure. Fences are often inadequate, and frequently cut or pushed down. Illegal encampments abound. Illegal camp fires have burned adjacent private properties. On several of our monthly walks, walkers have had to step over the bodies of individuals strung out on drugs. We have removed hundreds of used needles and syringes on our monthly cleanups, as well as human excrement. Members of our community have been assaulted by illegal campers and gang members that use the Bike Path to distribute illegal drugs.

Over the last three years, we have worked closely with the Office of Los Angeles City Council Member Bob Blumenfield to address these challenges. As a result, the City will soon implement a pilot project to use Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (“MRCA”) Park Rangers along the river between its source in Canoga Park and Lindley Avenue in Reseda. We strongly feel that MRCA Park Rangers ought to patrol all 51 miles of the river since the current public safety situation is untenable.

THE DEIR MUST REVIEW IMPACTS TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) is meant to give the community a voice in land use decisions. Under CEQA, an EIR must analyze the project’s potential impacts on land use and public safety. We urge you to make public safety a key issue in the CEQA analysis.

All alternatives and proposed actions should be analyzed for their impacts on public safety. Many of the existing facilities along the river offer significant, basic challenges for fire and emergency services personnel that need to be addressed. All too frequently we have seen projects proposed, implemented and then left unmaintained and unpatrolled. Until members of LARWW took the initiative and numbered the street lamps along the Bike Path there was no mechanism to even report the location of issues. We feel that it is critical that the County learn from its own and its sister agencies’ experiences as it addresses ongoing challenges along the river so as not to repeat the same costly mistakes.

For any project approved under the PEIR, there should be a requirement for annual public reporting regarding implementation of any required mitigation measures. The public should have a simple mechanism to report mitigation measure failures. Both could be

facilitated by a dedicated phone app or website that tracks projects along the river and allows the public to report any issues that arise from a given project's implementation.

OBJECTIVES

LARWW generally supports the Objectives listed in the Notice of Preparation ("NOP") although we have serious reservations that any will be achieved over the life of the plan were the County to ignore the experiences and challenges facing residents living along the LA River and the LA River Bike Path.

However, we strongly suggest you modify Objective 6 "Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness." to: Objective 6. "Address potential adverse impacts on existing residential housing, housing affordability, and people experiencing homelessness." Otherwise, in failing to mention impacts to existing residents, the Plan is essentially leaving out or ignoring a significant portion of the community.

ALTERNATIVES

The DEIR should assess the viability of the components of each alternative it reviews over the proposed 25 year plan period. For each alternative, the DEIR should explain how projects will or will not be maintained over the life of the plan. For each alternative, the DEIR should assess if any basic challenges for fire and emergency services personnel need to be addressed.

Because jurisdiction is so fragmented along the river with multiple agencies, the DEIR should assess how each alternative resolves or does not resolve jurisdictional issues.

Review of the "no action" alternative should include a critical review of current management. How effective is the existing plan? Has it achieved any of its desired objectives? If not, what can be done to assure that the new plan will?

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Our experience working to preserve the LA River Bike Path has frequently been frustrating because jurisdiction along the river is so heavily fragmented. The multi-jurisdictional oversight of the LA River and the Bike Path means that local communities don't just have to deal with Los Angeles Country and Los Angeles City, but with multiple departments within the County and the City. There are also other state and federal entities that are involved. This fragmented jurisdiction creates a management nightmare, wastes public funds, and exasperates local communities. Accordingly, we would like to see the preferred alternative include turning over Los Angeles River management to a single, park-oriented, agency such as the MRCA. We see this as the only viable alternative that will allow the plan to meet the listed 2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives.

"KIT OF PARTS"

According to the Notice of Preparation ("NOP"), "Under each of these "Kit of Parts" categories, multiple components — including benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing — are being proposed to serve as a menu of options to provide multiple benefits at any given potential location along the LA River." These terms "benches, bridges, platforms, trails, shelters, diversion pipes, storage facilities, terraced banks, and affordable housing" must be clearly defined in the Plan. The full suite of environmental impacts, including impacts to public safety, should be analyzed for each option in the DEIR.

The DEIR should review the monitoring that will be required to ensure the ongoing review of the utility and effectiveness of the proposed "Kit of Parts" options.

The Plan should incorporate adaptive management principles so that design deficiencies can be rectified and mitigated once identified. The LARWW can vouch for the failure of similar attempts to installed "unified features" by the City of Los Angeles along the existing LA River Bike Path where ornamental street lamps were installed that were vandalized within weeks of installation. Years later, adequate lighting along the Bike Path still remains a significant concern. Yet the City used the same inadequate design when it developed the Confluence Park at the junction of Aliso Creek and the Los Angeles River. The lamps are off far more often than they are on. Rigid approaches are an unnecessary waste of public funds and a risk to public safety.

To better assure public safety, access points to river should be at existing main streets only. This restriction would help protect private property along the river and would provide street parking for visitors.

The Plan should require that each "Kit of Parts" option installed along the river must be georeferenced and made available on all agency maps so that the locations are clear to all especially fire and emergency services. The City of Los Angeles has an excellent phone/internet app ("MyLA311") but unfortunately it requires a street address on input. As we can attest, this does not work in park settings or along the river where there are no street numbers. The DEIR must address this concern so that the locations of "Kit of Parts" options are known to fire and emergency services and to the local communities along the river to assure public safety.

Several of us attended the July 29, 2020 scoping meeting. In the presentation, one of the graphics showed that the proposed shared walking/running paths are to be a single 6 feet wide path, whereas the proposed bike lanes are to be split (for obvious safety reasons). However, a single 6 feet wide walking path is inadequate for runners and families to share during times of heavy use. Runners have to veer into the bike lanes to get around parents with strollers and small children. Families are not to be blamed for wanting to walk together and this is a behavior the agencies should be encouraging anyway. The need for wider walkways has become increasingly clear during the current pandemic when social distancing is critical. The adequacy of the 6 feet wide walking/running paths is a safety concern that should be examined and addressed in the DEIR.

The “Kit of Parts” does not list bioswales. If these are being covered, the DEIR must include a full and complete analysis of impacts to river flow and any increased risks for local flooding.

WATER QUALITY

The DEIR is reviewing a master plan for the Los Angeles River with an estimated 25 year lifespan. Water quality is a key issue. On our monthly walks, the LARWW frequently see both humans and pets (especially dogs) wading, paddling, and bathing in the river. And of course the wildlife along the river is dependent on that water too.

The people living in illegal encampments in the river channel often dump trash and human waste directly into the river. LARWW members frequently encounter humans using river culverts as living spaces, setting up encampments and lighting open camp fires. We have had agency staff tell us that they will not enter some of the culverts because of unspecified risks of “toxicity”. We have been unsuccessful in locating water quality data for our local reaches of the river. We expect the Master Plan to help make basic information such as water quality more readily available to the public.

We ask that each alternative include water quality monitoring along the river. Implementation of “Kit of Parts” options should include a water quality monitoring requirement as mitigation. The results should be posted on the Los Angeles River Plan website so that they are easily accessible to members of local communities. This would disclose the actual impact of “Kit of Parts” options, further public transparency and support for the plan, and help assuage public safety concerns.

The L.A. River Walkers and Watchers and the individuals listed below thank you for providing this opportunity to submit comments. Please include the individuals listed below in future emails for the Los Angeles River Master Plan EIR process.

Yours sincerely,

L.A. River Walkers and Watchers <lariverww@gmail.com>

Evelyn Aleman <evelyn@mipr.net>

Bob Akre <agentschoice@aol.com>

Alyssa Boyle <gumbyzmom@hotmail.com>

Michael J. Connor <connor.michaelj@gmail.com>

Dorian Gunning <dorian.gunning@gmail.com>

Sandra Knapton <sandraknapton@yahoo.com>

Bonnie Lavin <bylavin@gmail.com>

Pam Loeb <freeloeb@yahoo.com>

Joe Macias <joe@mipr.net>

CC. Los Angeles City Council Member, Bob Blumenfield
Los Angeles County Supervisor, Sheila Kuehl
California State Assembly Member, Jesse Gabriel
California State Senator, Henry Stern

Ariana Villanueva

From: Alyssa Boyle <gumbyzmom@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 6:08 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Toxicology Report

Hello,

I am a resident of Encino and am very concerned about river bike and walking paths opening up in neighborhoods that border the river. The current bike path along the river at Canoga Park/Winnetka has encampments of homeless people living in the culverts that have grown from 15 to 50+ during quarantine. The LAPD now considers that area too toxic to patrol. How will those areas be evaluated for the EIR? How will we keep the river safe once it's all opened up in the future? As it is, people and animals are seen in the water on a daily basis. It is very concerning as it is dangerous as well as illegal.

--
Sincerely,
Alyssa Boyle

--
Sincerely,
Alyssa Boyle

Ariana Villanueva

From: Andy Lipkis <alipkis@acceleraterestiliencela.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:06 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Deborah Bloome; Zenya Prowell; Jennifer Bravo
Subject: Issues I'd like to address: Urban Watershed Management for Climate and Social Resilience

Dear LA County Public Works River team:

I made many attempts to log onto the LA River Master Plan CEQA briefing, but was unsuccessful. Therefore I'm glad that you have invited written followup input. I understand from your request that you are seeking the topic/subject of our desired input, as opposed to a full briefing, at this time.

I wish to address two combined subjects that the LA River Master Plan **APPEARS** not to have **fully** addressed: that is *managing the entire urban watershed of the LA River as both a watershed, and as source and resource for climate, social, and economic safety, sustainability and resilience*.

The promotional materials and videos for the LA River Master Plan mention conserving water resources and rainwater to augment local supplies. They mention using "low-impact development" to help clean and conserve some of the water, but they do not mention goals and objectives that include "maximize" and "optimize" the water and watershed resources and their potential to create much greater equity of health, safety, and economic opportunities.

With a County that is plagued with substantial inequitable vulnerabilities to climate and other threats to health, safety and security, including extreme heat, air and water pollution, flooding, water shortages and fire, **it is imperative that this plan include "enhancing equitable climate resilience" as one of its primary goals**.

The water, soil, plants, land, residents, businesses and government agencies that comprise the LA River Watershed represent a tremendous resource and opportunity for health and a better future that should be acknowledged, quantified and addressed by the Master Plan.

Please let me know how I can elaborate on these concerns so they can be addressed in the Master Plan and its Programmatic Environmental Impact Report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

-Andy

--
Andy Lipkis
Project Executive
Accelerate Resilience L.A. (ARLA)
Founder, TreePeople
ALipkis@AccelerateResilienceLA.org
Telephone: +1-310-400-6008

Executive Assistant: Zenya Prowell
ZProwell@AccelerateResilienceLA.org
Telephone: +1-310-400-6083

Ariana Villanueva

From: annalee chandler <intrepid1@dslextreme.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 4:12 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: david ryu; Erin Baranko; ted@davidryu.com
Subject: input / questions

You folks have done an ***INCREDIBLY*** awesome job of making the LA River more and more beautiful! Truly. The water is flowing more freely,
the birds abound. I am interested in the longer term improvements, as I ride a bike every other day along the river. I know that in the future
will be re-connnected to the now end of the bikeway by the freeway overpass. And when that connection is made, when will that end connect
to the e eventual like to be able to ride to Long Beach.

And the homeless issue along the bike way. Seems every other day their trash is removed, etc, but they return again and again to trash
what you have improved. Last week they set fire to a heap of trash and the fire department had to come to put it out, snarling untold
amount of the 5 fwy.

Please, please let's not make your efforts be in vain! They spoil it at an unbelievable pace!

William Lovelace
7311 Pacific View Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90068
(310) 387-5012 cell

Ariana Villanueva

From: Bedros . <bedrosb@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 7:49 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: mosquitoes

How do you plan to deal with the drought issue?

How do you deal with the mosquitoes issue?

Thank you,
Bedros

Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
900 Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA
Email: lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov

To whom it may concern:

RE: Comments on scoping Program EIR for the 2020 LA County River Master Plan

Thank you for inviting our community to submit comments. Several of us, active in the Elysian Valley area have attended the master plan meetings, up and down the river but we have not seen the Program DEIR which makes it impossible to respond to this notice, in detail. This is not a technical response, and I hope t's not used as such. Rather, this is a broad list of issues, I have raised at each meeting I attend, and have written about in the surveys and letters to you over the years.

Community Input/Outreach: This is a very important project for our community and yet the complexity of the task, a 52 mile master plan, affecting dozens of jurisdictions, that our city council or city department have not presented to us, in a detailed fashion to explain what the City of Los Angeles plans to do in light of this County Master Plan for the Los Angeles River/Flood Control District's properties in the Right of Way and adjacent to it. Where is the PEIR? What will it really say? And Why aren't you sharing that with us? It's odd and it feels rushed. Please send us the completed Program EIR. Have it translated into Spanish and other languages and really provide workshops on sections and facilitate comments on each section. I heard your webinar was not an effective outreach method for listening to public input, as it was noticed.

In the absence of a document to comment on (Where is the PEIR?) I'm providing this list of impacts that should be analyzed; this is my initial check list.

i. Analyze impact on City of Los Angeles (and the other 22 cities along the 51 miles)

1. land use
2. ack of affordable housing,
3. lack of off-site improvements in the older industrial areas,
4. lack of funding and maintenance plans for ongoing operations of naturalized right of way for recreation uses
5. lack of an anti- gentrification policy.

ii. The PEIR should analyze impact of The County Master Plan on county owned properties.

iii. PEIR should Analyze and mitigate Green infrastructure investments on low income housing and working-class households;

iv. It should analyze and mitigate impact of increased use of River, on narrows streets, and zero street or off-street parking to accommodate visitors on weekends, or evenings.

v. It should provide some guidance to Cities and residents for mitigating Flood concerns with Flood Plain Mapping: City and US Army Corps of Engineers need guidance on flood maps. How should ZIMAS be updated and how should Building and Safety and Planning integrate enforcement.

vi. It should show Environmental impact of Flood maintenance roads being converted to bike-pedestrian shared path.

viii. Should provide guidance to local municipalities and the US Army maintenance requirements for new improvements on the main stem and public access rquirements (open street ends, ensure street lighting, etc..).

ix. Green Streets standards should be required of all residential and commercial streets that run into a body of water to ensure it is clean before going into the channel.

x. Street Ends: each street ends needs signage, ada access, and safety markings and maintenance. At the end of each street, there should be public access for multiple benefits of storm water capture, and recreation, and public safety as many people need the shared path to get around.

xi. River/Flood Control System -storm water monitoring should be increased. We have residents who would like to participate in citizen water quality monitoring programs to better understand this issue.

xii. Maintenance, habitat restoration and Arundo removal needs to be funded for the main stem of the LA River/Flood Control Channel. If it is not funded, what will the impact be?

xiii. Maintenance of trails. LA River Greenway is a linear park intended for passive recreational uses, like walking, hiking, and cycling. What will the impact of the updated county master plan be on the demand for: patrols, garbage collection services, permit use of the river ROW.

xiv. Public Education: Flood Control District- Water Safety. Distribute "No way-out videos for our local schools (as we do not have a public library in our community).

Please return to the local neighborhood Councils and the Alliance of River Communities once you begin the CEQA process for the PEIR and EIR in earnest.

Respectfully,

Carrie Sutkin, DPPD
2438 Gatewood Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031
(323) 868-5383

Cc: LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, First District

Ariana Villanueva

From: Carrie Sutkin <carrie.evrnc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:43 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Cc: Christine Wartman; Frank Mendoza; Vincent Montalvo
Subject: Re: Message to 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Scoping Meeting attendees

ok; sorry we crossed paths on this; hope you can answer any additional questions that one up tonight at the zoom, or following our EVRNC meeting. We do also plan to submit comments for Aug 6.

Thanks,
Carrie Sutkin

On Jul 29, 2020, at 12:08 PM, PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hi Carrie,

Unfortunately, due to the overlapping meeting times, neither myself nor other Public Works staff familiar with the project can attend the Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council (EVRNC) meeting tonight as we will need all hands on deck for the CEQA public scoping meeting. We have uploaded the presentation that will be shared tonight, so that you and the EVRNC can view at your convenience, and we can help answer any clarifying questions afterwards.

Presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWLqXH_zJ6g

The table below summarizes our CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan that you can share with the EVRNC.

Step	Purpose
Notice of Preparation (NOP) July 7, 2020	• Announce the County is initiating the CEQA process for the LA River Master Plan. • Provide proposed approach to preparing environmental document (proposed Program Environmental Impact Report [EIR]). • Solicit comments from public agencies and interested parties on the scope of the environmental document for a 30-day period, starting on the date the NOP is posted with the County Clerk and Office of Planning and Research.
Scoping Meeting July 29, 2020	• Present proposed approach to preparing environmental document. • Clarify any questions on the proposed CEQA approach. • Solicit input in writing about particular areas of concern based on the information provided in the NOP from agencies and interested parties
Notice of Availability (NOA)	• Announce that the draft Program EIR is available for review.

Draft Program EIR available for comment period.	• Provide 45-day comment period for the public and public agencies to provide input on draft Program EIR. The comment period begins when the NOA is filed with the County Clerk and Office of Planning and Research.
Public Meeting on Draft Program EIR	• Public meeting held during the draft Program EIR comment period to present and clarify questions on the draft Program EIR.
County drafts Final Program EIR.	• Address and incorporate comments into the Final EIR.

The County is in the initial stage for the CEQA process for the LA River Master Plan. The meeting today is not to present the draft Program EIR, but rather to inform the public and agencies that we are commencing the CEQA process and presenting a proposed approach for preparing the Program EIR. If the EVRNC has issues of particular concern for your area, please send those in writing to lariverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov for us to consider as we prepare the Program EIR. We will send you and others notification when the draft Program EIR is available for review and comment.

Please note that the proposed Program EIR will not have any project-specific or site-specific analysis as the Master Plan doesn't provide that level of detail. Due to this lack of specificity, the Program EIR will be a first-tier base reference of facts and analysis on a program-level for later activities to consider. Future projects along the LA River that tier from the LA River Master Plan would still be required to conduct project-specific and site-specific evaluation in light of the scope and content of the PEIR to determine if further CEQA is needed, and the decision to proceed with future projects would be up to the project proponent and community needs, available funding, and other local policy decisions.

We will continue to be available to respond to your questions throughout the CEQA process.

Thank you.

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist

Ariana Villanueva

From: Chris Wall <chris@hollyworldflowers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:22 PM
To: Anastasia Mann; PW-LA River CEQA; mark.pampanin@lacity.org
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR - NOP and Scoping

This is a program of wide public interest, affecting many neighborhoods, many cities along the length of the river where projects are proposed, and all the areas downstream to its junction with the Pacific at Long Beach Harbor.

To say there is a two hour online meeting in three weeks, with decisions made in four, in an email that does not meet any government standard of wide circulation, is a de facto admission decisions have been made, land alloted, plans drawn, agencies awarded, developers secured financing - all that already done - and then twenty or thirty people will be given two minutes each to object to this pork barrel desecration of a natural resource that should be employed, not squandered, and certainly not hidden under warehouses and cheaply constructed housing designed to make all parties enabling it a piece of the prize, one way or another.

I am calling for a Covid era moratorium of a minimum 120 days on any further development on the LA River, and the immediate notification of anyone living or working within five miles of the river by US Mail - not once - but three times - the first time with text, within three weeks from today, July 8, 2020, the second time, another three weeks later, in an accurately illustrated color flyer similar to those employed by real estate agents, and the third, yet another three weeks later, a letter, requesting the addressee - and anyone else who wishes to comment - anonymously or not, on what they think of the plans, by mail, email, text, or - novel idea - by phone - advising what they would do with the river - because they are the people, we are the people, and it is 2020, and we demand to be heard.

The entire LA River development scene needs to be reviewed by the new Inspector General for Land Use and Development - a position very recently approved to be created by the Los Angeles City Council. Rushing ahead with this ill considered development without the new Inspector General's approval will be seen as a conspirational effort to avoid much needed oversight. Rethinking your schedule in tune with the times will be recognized for thoughtfulness, not rethinking, not rescheduling will be viewed with lasting disdain, for improper decisions, and for the creation of ill will brought about by ignoring the people once again. That time has passed.

I await your timely well considered response.

Chris Wall
Hollywood Hills

On Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 6:01 PM PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

> The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.
>
> A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than august 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

FEINBERG & WALLER

Mary Ellen Waller*
Attorney at Law

July 14, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works
Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Dear Ms. Villanueva:

I have not received a reply to my previous e-mail of July 8, 2020 as I had requested. Enclosed please find copies of my correspondence. I would appreciate a response.

Cordially,

(Dictated, but not read to expedite)

MARY ELLEN WALLER

MEW: cs

encl.

*California and New York State Bar Admissions

23501 Park Sorrento, #103, Calabasas, California 91302
Telephone 818 / 224-7900; Facsimile 818 / 224-2497
www.FeinbergWaller.com

Subject: FW: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 3:06 PM
To: "LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov" <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Ariana,
I am commenting on the recent Legal Notice 2020 LA River Master Plan. I was unable to access the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR at the address provided in the Notice, (the notice may be improperly noticed, kindly forward the link). My comments are as follows:

If the contamination at the headwaters of the Los Angeles River is not addressed, the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is fatally flawed and potentially lethal to the community. The feeder stream to the LA River is Bell Creek which has long been known to carry water from the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), where rocket engine testing nuclear research, and a partial nuclear meltdown took place.

It is socially irresponsible to go forward with a plan unless the issue of hazardous waste from the SSFL including radioactive waste has been addressed. Toxic waste has been dumped into the creek for decades including chromium, dioxin, lead, mercury, liquid -propellent for rocket engines and other pollutants. I am a former resident of Bell Canyon, a community in Ventura County, though which Bell Creek flows. I have been a longtime advocate for addressing the clean-up of the SSFL. I have copied a link to previous correspondence that I received from the EPA decades ago related to this creek that flows into the Los Angeles River.

I cannot imagine going forward with this plan for recreation and inviting the public to use the LA River without cleaning up the headwaters that have been streaming though the SSFL, a property that still, after more than 60 years, has not been cleaned up. What is the plan for addressing the wastewater and storm runoff into the LA River from Bell Creek? What studies on this issue have been done? My concern is that this issue has not been addressed, the County is touting recreation along the river to improve health. How about starting with a plan to keep people from, unbeknownst to them, recreating in highly toxic chemical additives and widespread radioactive contamination? I would appreciate a reply so that I know my correspondence has been received. Thank you for your time and attention, Cordially, Mary Ellen Waller

See information below as to Bell Creek:
The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory(SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell_Creek_(Southern_California)

https://www.etec.energy.gov/Environmental_and_Health/Documents/BellCanyonFiles/EPA_PartialSplitSampResults.pdf

Coordinates: 34°11′43″N 118°36′07″W

Bell Creek (Southern California)

Bell Creek (also known as **Escorpión Creek**) is a 10-mile-long (16 km)[2] tributary of the Los Angeles River, in the Simi Hills of Ventura County and the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles County and City, in Southern California.

Contents

Bell Creek

Looking west from Topanga Canyon Blvd.

Location	
Country	United States
Physical characteristics	
Source	
• location	Simi Hills, California
Mouth	
• location	Los Angeles River, California
• coordinates	34°11′43″N 118°36′07″W[1]
Basin size	Simi Hills, western San Fernando Valley

Route

The Arroyo Calabasas (left) and Bell Creek (right) join to form the Los Angeles River

The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

Bell Creek begins as a free-flowing stream until passing Escorpión Peak (Castle Peak) in Bell Canyon Park. At Bell Canyon Road and Elmsbury Lane it becomes encased in a concrete flood control channel. It then passes under Valley Circle Boulevard, flowing just south of Highlander Road through former Rancho El Escorpión-current West Hills, and further eastward parallel to (and south of) Sherman Way

in Canoga Park. There, it joins Arroyo Calabasas, directly east of Canoga Park High School beside Vanowen Avenue. The confluence marks the *"headwaters"* of the Los Angeles River, 34.1952°N 118.601838°W.

Crossings

From mouth to source (year built in parentheses):[5]

Bell Creek

- Vassar Avenue/Canoga Park High School [Pedestrian Bridge]
- California State Route 27 - North Topanga Canyon Boulevard (1949)
- Glade Avenue [Pedestrian Bridge]
- Shoup Avenue (1962)
- Dayton Creek enters from north
- Fallbrook Avenue (1963)
- South Branch enters
- Royer Avenue [Pedestrian Bridge]
- South Fork enters
- Platt Avenue (1961)
- Moore Creek enters from west
- Valley Circle Boulevard (1963)
- Highlander Road (19__)
- Bell Canyon Road (1969)
- Buckskin Court (1969)

South Branch Bell Creek

- Vanowen Street (1949)

South Fork Bell Creek

- Vanowen Street (1958)
- Haynes Street [Pedestrian Bridge, Closed]
- Victory Boulevard (1959)
- Platt Avenue (1959)
- Peterson Avenue (1961)

See also

- Source (river or stream) - a.k.a. watershed and headwaters
- Confluence - a.k.a. *"headwaters"*
- Drainage basin - a.k.a. *"watershed"*
- Urban runoff

References

1. U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Bell Creek (https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3:::NO::P3_FID:239173)
2. U.S. Geological Survey. National Hydrography Dataset high-resolution flowline data. The National Map (https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/) Archived (https://www.webcitation.org/66gupqQDM?url=http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/) 2012-04-05 at WebCite, accessed March 16, 2011

3. http://www.enviroreporter.com/images/ESADA/2003-SSFL-surface%20water-map.jpg SSFL Watersheds Map (access date: 4/11/2010)
4. http://www.enviroreporter.com/2010/02/goo-ology/ EnviroReporter.com. "Goo-ology." access date:5/5/2010
5. "National Bridge Inventory Database" (http://www.nationalbridges.com/). Retrieved 2009-10-30.

External links

- Bell Canyon photo gallery (https://web.archive.org/web/20090708105516/http://www.bellcanyon.com/photogallery.aspx): 'Nature' sections.

Rec'd 2/27/99

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

February 17, 1999

S. Hafflam

Mary Ellen Waller
185 Bell Canyon Boulevard
Bell Canyon, CA 91307

Re: Partial Results from Bell Canyon Split Sampling

Dear Ms. Waller:

In response to your January 13, 1998 letter, I am providing EPA's partial split sampling results from the Rocketdyne Bell Canyon Sampling. While EPA's laboratory, the National Air and Radiation Environmental Laboratory, has not yet competed all of their analyses, they do expect to finish in another five weeks. I will provide you with a complete set of results when it is available.

Because you also expressed concerns about EPA's level of involvement in the investigation, I am also providing a copy of a letter I sent to Rocketdyne on June 10, 1998. EPA and other the regulatory agencies involved in this sampling had relatively little time to review the workplan, consequently, no agency approved it. However, EPA, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or the California Department of Health Services (Radiologic Health Branch and Environmental Health Branch) were present during four of the five days that sampling occurred.

In your letter, you also asked whether "the sediment samples of the creek bed were taken at deep enough levels to be of any true merit." EPA's answer is yes. However, you should be aware that EPA considers the type of sampling conducted by Rocketdyne to be a screening level investigation, even though the samples were analysed for an extensive number of contaminants. EPA and other agencies typically use this level of investigation to determine if immediate remediation is necessary, if further investigation is necessary or if no further action is required. While the currently available data in no way suggests that immediate remediation is necessary, EPA will withhold its judgment on the need for further investigation until we have completed our review of all split sampling results and Rocketdyne's Bell Canyon Area Soil Sampling Report, dated October 1998 (a copy of the report is available at the SSFL's three information repositories: the Simi Valley Library, the Urban Archives Center of the Oviatt Library at California State University Northridge and the Platt Branch Library).

2

If I can be of further assistance to you, please feel free to call me at (415) 744-2070.

Sincerely,

Tom Kelly

Tom Kelly
Project Manager, Boeing Rocketdyne
Santa Susana Field Laboratory

cc: Dianne Feinstein, Senator (w/o enclosure)
Elton Gallegly, U.S. Representative (w/o enclosure)
Penny Nakashima, DTSC
Clem Welsh, DHS
Steve Hsu, DHS
Wayne Chiou, LARWQCB
Jeffrey Kaminiski Bell Canyon Association
Frank Shillo, Ventura County Supervisor
Jerome Raskin, SSFL Workgroup
Sheldon Plotkin, SSFL Workgroup
Dan Hirsch, SSFL Workgroup
Joe Lyou, SSFL Workgroup
Barbara Johnson, SSFL Workgroup
Steve Lafflam, Boeing, Rocketdyne

From: Janet Surmi
818.232.6626
jsurmi@hotmail.com

To: Ariana Villanueva
(626) 458-7146
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Aug. 6, 2020

I have viewed the Scoping meeting from July 29, 2020 and would like to submit my comments as follows.

I am a native of Los Angeles and have lived in the San Fernando Valley for over 37 years, and as a homeowner in West Toluca Lake for the past 22 years. As Treasurer of our HOA for 10 years, I oversaw our Association during an adjacent, 55-unit housing construction project in 2014. As our property is part of the LA RIO, I was interested in how the large construction project would impact our area which is adjacent to the LA River along Riverside Drive and had been in contact with the LA River Project Team.

As an interested member of the community during your LA River Master Plan Scoping process, I would like to suggest consideration of a pedestrian bridge walkway to connect the River at Moorpark Street and is adjacent, on the east-side, to the 101 Freeway overpass and freeway on-ramp.

This area of the River has long been neglected and it would offer an important cross-over to connect the River as well as a safe pass-way for pedestrians in an ever increasing dense area of people on foot and who walk their dogs and bike in the area.

Additionally, another pedestrian walkway to connect the River would be along Riverside Drive across Tujunga Avenue where it meets the southern tip of North Hollywood Park that runs along Tujunga Avenue. This would provide access to the park and to the Amelia Earhart Regional Library. (This library is also on the National Register of Historic Sites of Los Angeles.) This would also be a perfect location for a cross-over that would provide safe public access to the park as a destination and offer a connection along the River from Moorpark Street and up along Riverside Drive and through to the park.

Not only would these cross-overs provide a way to connect the River and provide safe pedestrian access from and across heavily trafficked areas, they would also serve as a way to compliment the River and act as gateways to and for the community.

For suggestion, please see examples below (on page 2) of a pedestrian bridge in Seattle,WA and further details found on the website:

https://www.seattlebikeblog.com/2013/12/02/microsoft-offers-to-fund-walkbike-bridge-over-520-near-overlake-transit-center/

Ariana Villanueva

From: Jeff Kaemmerling <jeffkaemm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 6:31 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Ceqa scoping meeting inclusions

Hi there,

I would like the scope to include a safe connection of all the bike paths along the LA River, because right now it's difficult to enjoy or reap benefits.

Thanks!
jeffkaemm@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: John Buckingham <johnyum@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 11:59 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Ariana Villanueva,

I want to make another suggestion for the Draft PEIR. With thousands of square feet of surface area on the floor of the LA River from Slauson Ave. to the mouth, solar panels could be installed and connected to the electronic grid. DC to AC power inverters could make the transition seamless.

Thanks again,

John Buckingham
1865 Montair Ave.
Long beach CA 90815
(562) 597-3516

Ariana Villanueva

From: John Buckingham <johnyum@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 11:18 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments
Attachments: NOP Scoping Comments.docx

Ariana Villanueva,

I am submitting my opinion for the LA River Draft PEIR as a Word document.

Thank you,

John Buckingham
Long Beach Ca

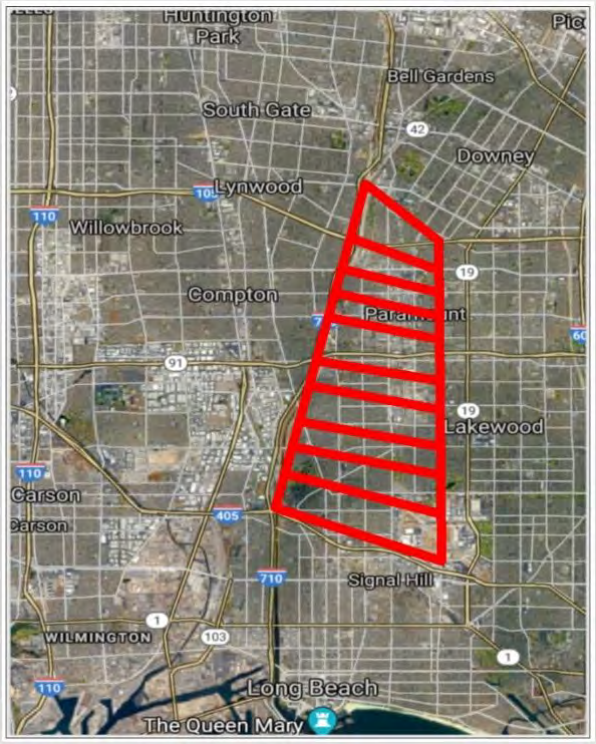
NOP Scoping Comments

August 5, 2020

Ariana Villanueva,

I would like to offer my opinion on the LA River Draft PEIR. My focus is mainly on the collection of rain water during rainstorms. I believe that an array of tunnels would be a means of collecting the water runoff in the river would be best. The water would be held in the tunnels. The tunnels would act as a cistern as the water is put through water treatment plants for public use and drinking water and stored in above ground storage tanks for distribution.

In the picture left the red lines represent 25-foot diameter tunnels. Starting at the upper left at Imperial Highway and the LA River is where a cut into the river is made and flows south paralleling the river and the I-710 and then east to the Long Beach water treatment plant at Spring St. Another tunnel goes to Downey Ave near the I-105 then south to the Long Beach water treatment plant at Spring St. Other tunnels complete the array. In total, about 26.82 miles of tunnels are shown in the example. If all the tunnels become filled the amount of water collected would be 519,990,907 gallons. Other configurations of tunnels could be done.
This would me my answer to the runoff water in the LA River during a storm. Please forward the any interested parties.



Thank you,

John Buckingham
1865 Montair Ave.
Long Beach CA 90815
(562) 597-3516

Ariana Villanueva

From: Karl Guder <kgguder@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 6:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River PEIR

You must integrate the Arroyo Seco bikeway with this project and extend to the Rose Bowl.
This will actually add a viable non-car commuter option.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

--

"Failing to prepare, is preparing to fail" — John Wooden

Ariana Villanueva

From: Leeane Knighton <angusmom@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:10 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Hello.

As a resident of the 90039 area (Elysian Valley), I know that the river has become more valued in recent years as a source of beauty. However, outside groups have moved into the area with the goal to make a profit from the river, even though the river does not belong to them. I am speaking of the kayak company, for instance. Thanks to COVID, they are no longer profiting from disrupting the ecosystem, which is why the wildlife is doing much better without the tourists in the river.
The river does not belong to anyone. Please get people out of the river. No one should be messing with the river. Property values will decline and people do not have to live close to downtown since telecommuting will be a permanent options. These investors need to just give it up and leave the community alone. There is too much development that will no longer be profitable in the post-COVID era.

Thank you!!!

Ariana Villanueva

From: Lisa Pease <lisa.pease@ey.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 9:10 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: RE: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

I sure hope the path will be at least six feet wide in all places!

Regards,

Lisa Pease

Lisa Pease | CSA | Strategy and Transactions
Ernst & Young LLP
Office: +1 213 240 7019 | lisa.pease@ey.com

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:38 AM
Subject: Reminder: Upcoming CEQA scoping meeting for 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR

Thank you again for your interest in the 2020 LA River Master Plan process.

As a reminder, County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The public scoping meeting for the PEIR will be held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020
TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

Registration is not required for attendance, but registered attendees will receive an email reminder and instructions for the meeting. Registration is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than August 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you for your interest in the project and we look forward to your input on the scope and content of the PEIR.

For more information about the CEQA process for the 2020 LA River Master Plan, please visit http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 1:45 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Ariana, Thank you for your reply and the consideration of these issues. Mary Ellen

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From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 1:20 PM
To: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

Hello Ms. Mary Ellen Waller,

Thank you for reaching out to us and providing your comment about the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the 2020 LA River Master Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The Draft PEIR for the 2020 LA River Master Plan is still in the process of being prepared so the sections are not yet available for review. The purpose of the 30-day NOP scoping period and upcoming virtual public scoping meeting on July 29 is for the County to obtain agency and public input on what they would like to see analyzed in the scope of the PEIR, and comments are taken into consideration in the development of the Draft PEIR. When the Draft PEIR is ready for public review and comment, we will post a Notice of Availability, have newspaper notices, and will send out another email blast so you're aware that the document is ready for your review.

Your input is valuable to understanding the environmental concerns of Bell Creek as a tributary of the LA River. These comments will be considered in our environmental impact analyses through the PEIR. Additionally, Bell Creek is identified in County's Upper LA River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan which includes watershed control measures to address applicable stormwater quality regulations. The 2020 LA River Master Plan is being developed through extensive community input and robust data analysis. In addition to taking your comment into consideration for the PEIR, we have provided your comments, including your emails and letter, to the 2020 LA River Master Plan team for their consideration in the development of the 2020 LA River Master Plan.

Sincerely,

Ariana Villanueva
Environmental Engineering Specialist
Los Angeles County Public Works

From: Mary Ellen Fisenne <mame8993@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 3:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments, LA Public Works

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Ariana,
I am commenting on the recent Legal Notice 2020 LA River Master Plan. I was unable to access the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR at the address provided in the Notice, (the notice may be improperly noticed, kindly forward the link). My comments are as follows:

If the contamination at the headwaters of the Los Angeles River is not addressed, the proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan is fatally flawed and potentially lethal to the community. The feeder stream to the LA River is Bell Creek which has long been known to carry water from the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), where rocket engine testing nuclear research, and a partial nuclear meltdown took place.

It is socially irresponsible to go forward with a plan unless the issue of hazardous waste from the SSFL including radioactive waste has been addressed. Toxic waste has been dumped into the creek for decades including chromium, dioxin, lead, mercury, liquid -propellent for rocket engines and other pollutants. I am a former resident of Bell Canyon, a community in Ventura County, though which Bell Creek flows. I have been a longtime advocate for addressing the clean-up of the SSFL. I have copied a link to previous correspondence that I received from the EPA decades ago related to this creek that flows into the Los Angeles River.

I cannot imagine going forward with this plan for recreation and inviting the public to use the LA River without cleaning up the headwaters that have been streaming though the SSFL, a property that still, after more than 60 years, has not been cleaned up. What is the plan for addressing the wastewater and storm runoff into the LA River from Bell Creek? What studies on this issue have been done? My concern is that this issue has not been addressed, the County is touting recreation along the river to improve health. How about starting with a plan to keep people from, unbeknownst to them, recreating in highly toxic chemical additives and widespread radioactive contamination? I would appreciate a reply so that I know my correspondence has been received. Thank you for your time and attention, Cordially, Mary Ellen Waller

See information below as to Bell Creek:
The initial headwater feeder-streams begin in the Simi Hills in Ventura County from 90% of the Rocketdyne Santa Susana Field Laboratory(SSFL) property as its watershed, leaving the site with toxic substances and radionuclide contamination via culvert outfalls, aquifer seeps and springs, and surface runoff.[3][4] It then flows as a creek southeast through Bell Canyon (the community and geographic feature), Bell Canyon Park, and El Escorpión Park in a natural stream bed. It then is altered to flow in a concrete channel. Moore Creek joins in from the west, and then it flows east, channelized through West Hills, where it is joined by the South Fork and South Branches of the same name and by Dayton Creek. Then on through Canoga Park to join Arroyo Calabasas (Calabasas Creek) and becoming the Los Angeles River.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bell_Creek_(Southern_California)

https://www.etec.energy.gov/Environmental_and_Health/Documents/BellCanyonFiles/EPA_PartialSplitSampResults.pdf

Ariana Villanueva

From: Matt Horns <getplanted.native@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2020 6:17 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

PUBLIC COMMENT

2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN

REGARDING THE DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES AREA

CONCERN:

Constructing high-rise buildings along the river near Downtown Los Angeles would impact environmental conditions, quality of life, and public safety in adjoining areas.

Streamside neighborhoods in the Downtown Los Angeles area already have some of the highest population densities in Southern California. Adding high-density housing units would displace current residents. It would also place additional stress on infrastructure that is already overwhelmed and in need of serious maintenance.

Numerous commercial properties lie vacant. Additional commercial space is not needed in the river corridor.

One aspect of the 2020 MP is establishing riparian ecosystems on the river bed and banks. Large structures adjacent to the river would create extensive shade that could limit the growth of riparian vegetation.

SUGGESTED MITIGATION:

Refine zoning and building codes to limit new construction in the river corridor.

Disallow new construction of buildings with more than two above-ground floors within 200 feet from the top of the river bank.

For single-family residences, limit the lot size and square-footage of new construction in an effort to prevent the river corridor from transforming to an exclusive luxury community.

From

Matthew Horns

310-562-9465

getplanted.native@gmail.com

127 S. Park View St. #207, Los Angeles CA 90057

Ariana Villanueva

From: matt millikin <mattmillikin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 7:36 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River Master Plan PEIR Comments

Good evening,

Two comments for submission concerning the PEIR scope:

Will/can the PEIR include the important tributaries to/from the main branch of the river?

Will/can the PEIR consider community gardens and farms as planting options in their common element options?

Thank you,

Matt

Ariana Villanueva

From: Padric Gleason Gonzales <padric.gleason@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:42 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Hello,
My name is Padric Gleason Gonzales. I'm a resident of downtown Long Beach, here at the mouth of the L.A. River. I'm writing in support of the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR, particularly its goals of providing parks and open space, supporting connected ecosystems, and promoting clean water.

I want to specifically contribute four (4) considerations :

1. **Water capture should be encouraged.** California suffers from drought and Los Angeles County relies on a complex system of imported water. Runoff also pollutes the L.A. River with surface/ground-level contaminants. And most rainfall is completely wasted! In 2017, the L.A. County Department of Public Works estimated that in one 2-week period, 25 billion gallons of stormwater drained into the ocean from the L.A. River watershed. Much of this was direct runoff from roads, parking lots, and freeways. *The Master Plan should encourage widespread adoption of rainwater capture and runoff diversion, for example through the creation of and funding for spreading grounds, infiltration swales, and parkway medians.*
2. **Physical obstacles in the Lower L.A. River prevent natural tidal effects and migration of river life**. Specifically, there is a small dam just south of the Anaheim Street crossing and the concrete channel begins just south of the Willow Street crossing, both in Long Beach. *Barriers should be removed with the goal of restoring the natural tide, creating space for native flora and fauna, and encouraging migration of marine life into the river.*
3. **Long Beach receives runoff from 51 miles of river**. Unfortunately, the Army Corps of Engineers built a sea wall in Long Beach Harbor that creates a barrier to the outflow of the L.A. River into the ocean. On the one hand, it's good that this barrier prevents some L.A. River garbage and debris from entering the ocean. On the other hand, it's awful that Long Beach suffers from terrible pollution due to garbage and debris from our upstream neighbors. *I encourage the plan to consider the L.A. River's impacts on downstream neighborhoods and equitably share responsibility and funding/resources for cleanups downstream, like on Alamitos Beach.*
4. **Don't forget Compton Creek**. As one of the L.A. River's major tributaries, and in particular one that is heavily polluted but also has major restoration potential, *projects in Compton Creek should be eligible for funding and guidance within the scope of the L.A. River Master Plan.*

Thank you for considering my contributions. I look forward to helping to push this project forward.

Regards,
Padric Gleason Gonzales
padric.gleason@gmail.com
110 W 6TH ST, APT 323
LONG BEACH, CA 90802

Ariana Villanueva

From: Renee Lawler <Renee_Matt@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 1:57 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR comments
Attachments: 1977EIREquestrianZoneMapSanFranciscoAve.pdf; sample docs for OOI and 2020 DEIR arguments July 29 2020.pdf

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

August 6, 2020

To: Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Re: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan

The language of the law, AB530, is primary in understanding the scope and objective for those working on this DEIR and in order to be aligned with the State Law and the reason and purpose of this entire Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization process. The revision of the LA River Master Plan for the South LA River, sovereign land, is stated in AB530 – that due to the linear nature of the river, no one entity could consider all the complex issues when planning along the river corridor, therefore, a regional approach to project review and planning was necessary. The chosen "Program" EIR may at this point in the process, may not achieve those stated objectives and the purpose of the law that initiated the entire effort.

Past performance by key participants in the LA River Revitalization Master Planning effort, members of the Task Force, (entities and municipalities, such as the City of Long Beach and LA County Flood Control District), have exhibited resistance to cooperate when tasked with addressing flood control mitigation both site specific and broader reaching areas. The necessity for cooperation between various entities, public or private, for the LA River corridor which includes the lands on either side is the essence of the law, AB530. During the CEQA DEIR review, the concept of collaboration and accountability for planning and project review within the corridor to be inclusive of more entities on a larger scale, not just in the hands of the local entities – to be in keeping with the primary objective and legislative intent.

There are additional guiding documents such as the 1999 Maintenance and Use Agreement between the LA Co Flood Control District and the Army Corps of Engineers that must be considered in this DEIR process to understand where the responsibilities lie with regard to the primary objective of flood control. Flood impacts to the river lands and their established and adjoining communities, animals and historic equestrian trail network are also a regional concern. The 1999 agreement, for instance, outlines responsibility of the "District" and local entities with respect to flood control infrastructure, reporting, response, project review and impact assessment for projects of all sizes within the region. When a project is proposed in the corridor (including one mile on either side or more if/as needed, site specific or broad-scale), LACFCD should be involved in review of the storm drain infra-structure. Regardless of what City or the immediate jurisdiction any storm drain is in, those structures are all ancillary to the flood control channel should be reviewed on a project by project basis for their effectiveness to control flooding within the vicinity, their effectivity to support the purpose of the flood control system on the whole and to address any gaps or deficiencies existing or that would add to cumulative negative impacts should there be a project or no action taken. This is an obligation of LACFCD and terms for their existence when established as a necessary entity in the region for flood control management on a cooperation basis with the Federal entity the Army Corps.

By using the Program EIR and placing responsibility on a local level review the goal and objective of AB530 may not be actualized. Based on past history, local level project review in the LA River corridor is insufficient, thus the legislation, so to propose through a Program DEIR the continuation of local level site specific CEQA review will likely result in more un-mitigated cumulative negative impacts for the historic equestrian trails, lands and established communities with concerns, features, issues that are layered, regional in nature and require a more complex review than the local entities have traditionally conducted.

The DEIR is using the assumption that the local entity would use a “kit of tools” or review in 5 mile segments. The problem with that is that the river has features that should not be broken into segments – such as the historic equestrian trail. Much of the trail demise and un-mitigated cumulative impacts to the equestrian lifeline, is due to local level planning and no real review/accountability on a larger linear scale for the horse trail. The horse trail, and the flood control channel and the storm drains which are supporting ancillary systems, and the open space in channels, outer channel and adjoining vacant or open lands that support this wildlife, trail and recreation and historic community corridor needs to be considered in this DEIR.

The horse trail along the LA River and vicinity was dedicated in 1944, for the purpose of preserving a culturally significant example of CA history. The bridle/riding/hiking trail (different from the bike path which was the utility road on top of the berm converted to a bike path in the 1970s). The horse trail is still used today for recreation was a connector feeder trail that ultimately merged with the Anza Trail at the Rio Hondo and was used by used by the Spanish and Ranchos. The trail has been compromised, obstructed, built upon, encroached upon by trash, motorcycles and homeless. The trail is a linear feature, just as the river is and it is a prime example, along with control of flooding why in order to address all the complex issues when planning a project large or small, broad or site specific along the LA River corridor a regional “committee” approach is needed instead of business as usual leaving it to the local level to “do the right thing” through Program EIR – so maybe there is some other approach needed. The essence of AB530 – the legislation that prompted the 41 member steering committee, the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan and the reason this DEIR is being conducted, conveys that because history has proven many local entities don’t have or use the tools to adequately address these many concerns and the result is impacts accumulate and go un-mitigated. The State legislation, that passed unanimously under Speaker, Anthony Rendon acknowledged the fact that a regional approach for the river corridor(s) that includes the river lands and 1 mile on either side, was needed, and that no one single entity could possibly anticipate or take all the proper steps to adequately review CEQA impacts for the linear LA River lands that include the linear/parallel historic equestrian trail and the associated open spaces. The idea that a single entity, such as the City of Long Beach could properly mitigate or proceed with “no project” for the South LA River lands and 1 mile on either side on a project basis is opposite to the law that prompted this process and needs to be addressed in this DEIR from that perspective and if another type of CEQA review is required to achieve the objectives of AB530 primarily and secondarily the Revitalization Steering Committees’ primary objectives, which I will address individually.

2020 LA River Master Plan Objectives:
Flood control risks – The storm drain infrastructure is currently incapable of handling the rain run off for current density in the City of Long Beach vicinity. The City communicated that fact to the County and denied taking corrective action despite known flooding conditions. ”Pipes are too small” was stated from City to County, both well aware of the known deficiencies and yet the City of Long Beach opted not to cooperate with LA Co Flood Control District in correcting, documenting, reporting or cooperating in mitigating, despite both parties having combined responsibility via storm water NPDES permit requirements, 1999 Maintenance and use Agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers, 1996 & 2006 & 2020 LA River Master Plans etc. Due to the fact that they have not upgraded the most of the storm drain infrastructure, despite knowledge and notice to do so, in more than just a “site specific location” any additional density along the flood control river corridor, in the City of Long Beach for instance, or more site specific such as the proposed OOI Integral development at what has been proposed regional parkland and historic equestrian zone for decades of master plans, will stress an already under-sized flood control storm drain system for the storm pump station SD6. This proposed development will cause reoccurrence of the known flooding, likely with increased intensity and adding more properties for the negative impacts that the City and Flood Control district recently mediated over. The rain run-off from Wardlow/OOI parcels, Wrigley Heights and the Los Cerritos neighborhood flows southward and through Wrigley North (south of Wardlow). While one of the intended destinations for run off is to Storm Drain

Station #6 at Willow & 26th, the problem is that most rain run-off never makes it to the drain pipes, which the City recognizes. But because they know their piping and system is sub-standard and in many locations undersized, they are ok with the excess (due to more and more density and impermeable surfaces compounds) being diverted to the river lands instead of to the pipes. That excess routes to flood properties that are river adjacent where there is no infra-structure to handle that cumulatively increased excess density run-off and subsequently is never reported accurately as to the capacity for the pump and pipe systems. This is an example of a complex issue that AB530 referred to, one that has much larger impact but left in the hands of the local entity and the District is not being adequately reviewed for conduct, procedure and mitigation.

Safe equitable, inclusive parks, open space, and trails – The 2020 LA River master plan and prior have outlined the OOI property as necessary open space to enhance the park poor needs of the south LA River and the citizens who reside in the west side of Long Beach. Also this property combined with the vacant golf driving range to the north and the Wrigley Greenbelt south of Wardlow represent the largest swath of land along the river adjacent to the historic horse bridle-equestrian/hiking trail. That horse trail (not the utility road turned bike path in 1970 on top of the berm that crosses and merges the older historic trail), is the one of the oldest recognized features in the vicinity that represents 2 historic periods in CA history and the life line for culturally significant minority group and several river-adjacent residential, commercial and open space equestrian zones. The integrity of the trail from an historic mobility necessary function as well as more recent history to include recreational use will be negatively impacted if the land ear-marked for the past 30 years for parkland/equestrian zone at Wardlow and the LA River is developed and not retained open space. The trails and open spaces are the life-line for the horse culture in the LA River vicinity and we must rely on un-obstructed trail passage, safe mobility as any other user group (biking or walking). In addition it is open space adjacent to the trail and to the few remaining equestrian housing horse-overlay zones that need large 8,000 s.f., minimum lot sizes with set-backs, and trail access easements for the health, safety and protection for the historic lifestyle, animals and integrity of the trail from negative impacts brought by non-compatible uses such as high density development. The City of Long Beach conducted an in-depth EIR review in 1977 for the protection of these river-adjacent zones and that EIR should be considered in this DEIR process.

Support healthy connected ecosystems. – The OOI parcels are not site specific due to the their connection to the linear historic horse trail and open space still present to the north and south and adjacent direct proximity to the trail and river lands and flood control channel. It is part of the large linear environmental corridor that many species depend upon and so this land within the one mile zone, ear-marked to be preserved open space for the last 3 decades of master plans is subject to development without considering for past or present master plan and this DEIR. The river environmental corridor, as a resource, has been vastly and negatively altered since it was deeded to the State of CA. The south LA River, sovereign land - owned by the people of the State of CA, as acknowledged by AB530 and the courts, continues to experience negative impact every time development occurs on or adjacent to the river lands. The corridor ecosystem is not defined by the man-made parcel lines. The river corridor and trails were once all open space; however with the present day man-made flood control channel and short term memory of what should be, is being eaten up by development right up to the flood control berm edge. That type of encroachment on the corridor is just as negative an impact as building right up to the edge of any wetlands or coastal protected zone.

Enhance opportunities for equitable access to river corridor. – The corridor includes wild species and domestic horses and historic and established communities that are being squeezed out of the corridor due to being overrun by density development and encroachments, biking, trash, motorcycles, homeless and flooding. It is not equitable that the biking community and housing density should overtake the needs of the historic occupants, horses and wildlife that require open space and low density.

Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture. – The cultural significance of the horse and rancho lifestyle is being extinguished by this proposed OOI development on 20 acres river and trail adjacent. The OOI area was zoned Horse overlay zone in 1977 requiring large 8000 s.f. minimum lots, set-backs for the health and safety of the horses and residents, and with detailed CEQA review for the purpose of preserving and protecting the horse culture and adjacent trail network of significance. Furthermore, the City of LB indicated in their new Land use Element of the General Plan “LUE” that the “Wrigley Heights equestrian zone” would remain and Councilman Uranga and Linda Tatum re-iterated so during the LUE debates; yet the City continues to omit and ignore the horse overlay zoning low density requirements to protect that culture. They

would rather not acknowledge the Horse Overlay in their “other zones” and intentionally assigned the “founding and contemporary” place type to this horse-overlay zone so they could set the stage for this higher density project in what should be a lower density Horse overlay zone or entirely open space with a compatible parkland multi-use (walk/bike/horseback ride) user group format. This is another example of a local entity not considering the master plan prior or present or the complex negative impacts this type of development (large enough to consider it outside the limits of DEIR self-imposed “site specific” exception) as it poses cumulative negative impacts for a large area that includes but is not limited to flooding, wildlife, historic equestrian, traffic, noise, air, dust pollution and more.

Address potential adverse impacts on housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness. – How is this type of development going to address adverse impacts on housing when developing the OOI will further the extermination of a protected minority community that was supposed to be protected in this horse overlay zone?

Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development and education. – The community has engaged over this property for decades. Even when included in 3 master plans spanning decades including a lengthy environmental review in 1977 that that pre-dates CEQA resulting in the protective 20 page horse overlay zoning the City of Long Beach actively ignores those historic efforts. Furthermore, Al Austin and the City of Long Beach were participants of the 2020 LA River Master planning process and agreed to the concept of retaining the 58 acres that include the OOI parcels for open space but instead they continue to make spot zoning and LUE changes and to suit their development desires and have exhibited no intention of listening to the needs and wishes of the people and environmental concerns of which they are all well aware, driven instead by development dollars.

Improve local water supply reliability – The deficient storm drain pipes that allow the excess to flow and not make it to the pump stations continue to pose many risks and non-compliance concerns.

Promote healthy, safe clean water – same as above.

Documents to be considered in the DEIR process that relate to the LA River should include, but not limited to:
1972 Clean Water
1977 Horse Overlay zoning and EIR requirements
1996 LA River Master Plan
1999 Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement & Rehabilitation agreement between LA County Drainage Area “District” and the Army Corps of Engineers
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – Greater Los Angeles Region
Municipal NPDES Storm Water Permit Requirements of the City of Long Beach
City of Long Beach Land Use Element (LUE) of the General Plan

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Renee Lawler
renee_matt@live.com

F I N A L

environmental impact report

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

DATE . JULY 28, 1977 (CERTIFIED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION)

TO . CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

FROM . CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT . PROPOSED HORSE OVERLAY ZONE (E-7-77)

ADDRESS . CITY-WIDE

APPLICANT . CITY OF LONG BEACH

ZONE . R-1, R-2, C-3, M-1, M-2A

(6) On industrial premises located southerly of Willow Street, northerly of Pacific Coast Highway, and westerly of the Terminal Island Freeway (M-2A zone).

Project Goals and Objectives

1. Protect the existing horse-keeping areas.

2. Protect land uses proximate to equestrian activities from potentially detrimental impacts.

3. Protect land uses in the vicinity of horse-keeping activities from future intrusions.

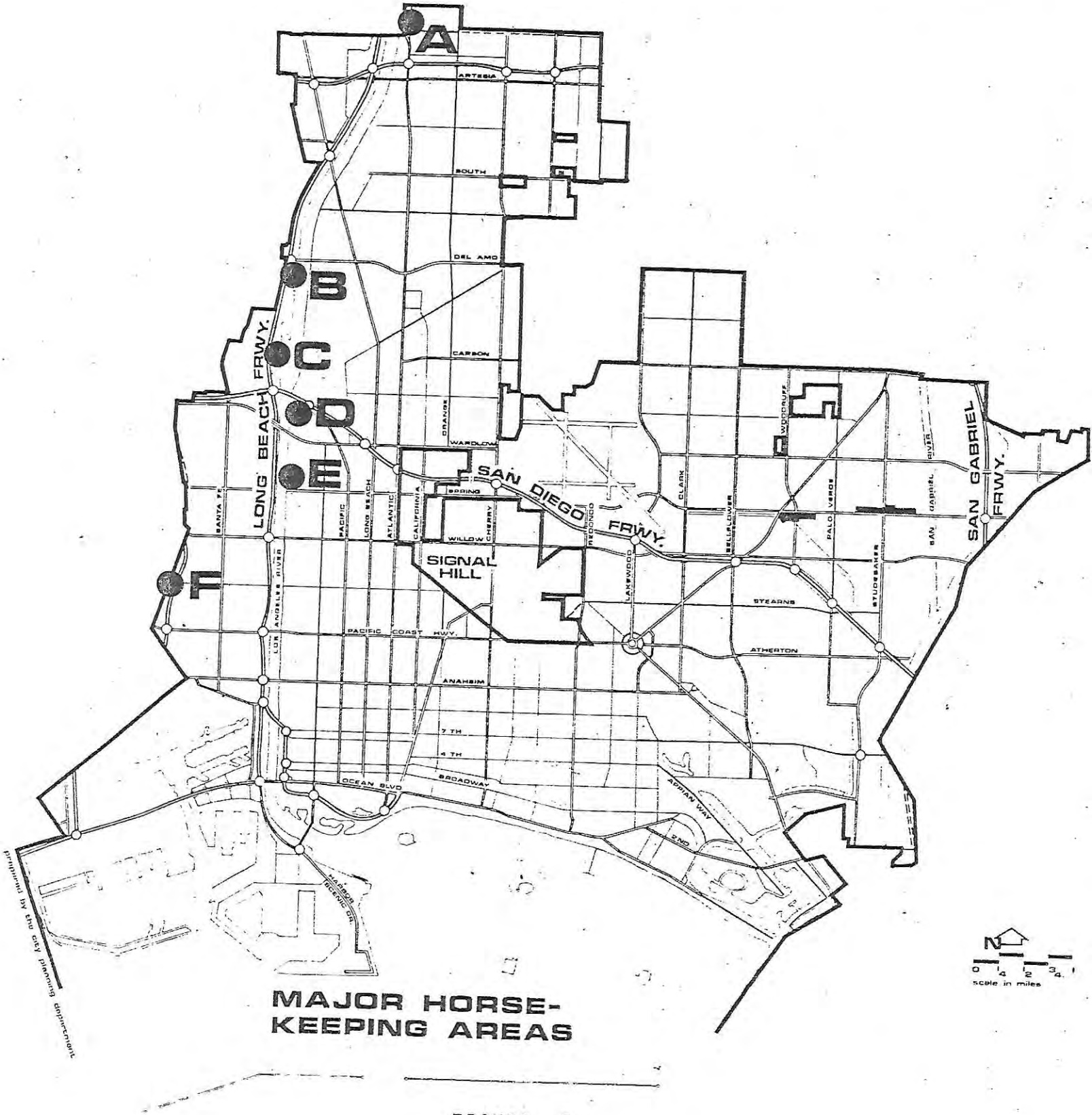
Principal Elements of the Project

The elements of the project consist of the conditions and requirements which would be imposed by the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for a Horse-Overlay Zone, the objectives which would be accomplished by application of the regulations, and the plans and petitions which delineate the properties to be zoned.

Approximately 50 - 60 acres of private land within the City of Long Beach are utilized for equestrian purposes, usually in conjunction with a single-family residence. Certain rights-of-way are also utilized for horse related activities.

The proposed ordinance would delete existing Section 9120.17 of the Zoning Regulations pertaining to fallout shelters in all use districts and replace it with a new set of regulations establishing the Horse District (H) land-use category. The proposed regulations are based on the concept of establishing horse overlay districts on the existing Zone Districts Map of the City. An overlay zone is a mapped zone that imposes a set of requirements in addition to those of the underlying zoning district. In an area where an overlay zone is established, property is placed simultaneously in two zones, and the land may be developed only under the conditions and requirements of both zones.

Overlay zones are described in the zoning text, mapped, and adopted by the governing body in a manner similar to conventional zoning. Provisions are administered through the usual zoning process. The provisions of this ordinance are summarized in Table 1.



MAJOR HORSE-KEEPING AREAS

FIGURE 2

to the disadvantage of proximate land uses which are not protected by specific horse keeping regulations, as indicated by the complaint data in Table 3.

Persons living adjacent to equestrian facilities are generally not subject to any known health hazards. Although horses may be carriers of diseases carried primarily by insects, they are generally less susceptible than species more common to an urbanized setting. Further, local climate does not permit the harboring of encephalitis. Horses are less likely carriers of ringworm disease than are cats and dogs. Most of the population is adequately innoculated against contraction of tetanus. Manure stockpiling is controlled and enforced by the Health Department; this effectively controls related nuisances. In the opinion of Robert Hale, Director of Environmental Health, Long Beach Health Department, horse keeping is generally conducted in sanitary conditions, with no known detriment to public health.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed ordinance would confer legal status to equestrian land uses and thus protect opportunities for equestrian-related recreation and lifestyles. The standards of the ordinance would, however, limit quartering of horses on specific areas of private parcels.

LAND USE

Environmental Setting

Current equestrian areas are indicated on Figures 3 through 8. An environmental inventory and assessment of the land use dynamics are presented in Table 6.

Anticipated Impacts

Implementation of the proposed ordinance would protect the legal status of existing equestrian areas and encourage eventual upgrading of related structures. Adjacent land uses would be protected by the standards of development and by the prohibition of equestrian activities in areas other than those designated in the overlay zone. Control over the number of horses and quarters for their keep would provide increased compatibility between equestrian and non-equestrian uses.

10. Improve quality of life, health and overall livability through the implementation of the West Long Beach Livability Implementation Plan.
11. Respect and maintain the equestrian uses within Wrigley Heights and promote shared use and maintenance of the area trail system.

OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, AND REHABILITATION MANUAL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA
CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 1999

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

RECREATION

16. Various local recreation and planning agencies whose jurisdictions include parts of the flood control system may become increasingly interested in the recreational possibilities of the flood control rights-of-way. Since these lands are likely to remain in their present condition for some time, investment in the development of recreation facilities on them for public use seems justified; the Government's attitude encourages such use. Any proposed recreational facilities that involve discharges of dredged or fill material (including excavation) into waters of the United States, or involves work or structures in or affecting navigable waters of the United States, shall be authorized by the Regulatory Branch in a Corps permit.

17. Recreational features have been or can be developed within the basins of flood control dams and along the berm roadways of the channels in the form of bicycle, hiking, and equestrian trails. This development generally involves special berm and invert access ramps, under crossings and protective fencing, and occasionally more extensive recreational features.

18. Such uses generally do not interfere with flood control activities; some concern must be given, however, for the maintenance of proper access control to prevent unauthorized access to areas beyond the recreation limits, particularly during the storm season. Recreation proposals are evaluated through the usual review procedures, coordinated with the Recreation Resource Specialists of the District.

DEVELOPMENT FOR INCREASED LAND UTILIZATION

19. There has been an increased interest in private development within flood control rights-of-way to increase the utilization of lands adjacent to these rights-of-way. This increased utilization may involve the construction of a building or bridge which spans the channel, although proposals to use the berm roadway space for parking or loading are more common. The most significant proposals for development, however, involve covering the channel itself in order to connect both sides of the channel right-of-way. This type of development creates the question of maintenance for the channel cover. Since the cover is built by and for private interests, a public agency such as the United States Government or the Local Sponsor cannot be expected to maintain the cover, yet it is difficult to assign the responsibility for maintenance to a private interest. Current policy states that each proposal for development of this type will be reviewed on an individual basis.

20. In any event, a proposed development must be compatible with existing land use zoning. Since the United States does not establish zoning regulations, the responsibility for insuring compatibility of existing zoning with a proposed land use lies with the applicant, and any conflicts must be resolved before approval is granted by the United States. Any proposed private developments that involve discharges of dredged or fill material (including excavation) into waters of the United States, or involves work or structures in or affecting navigable waters of the United States, shall be authorized by the Regulatory Branch in a Corps permit.

MISCELLANEOUS

21. Proposals are frequently made for temporary use of flood control facilities or rights-of-way for a variety of purposes other than those previously discussed. Such proposals are highly diverse, ranging

LOS ANGELES RIVER

MASTER PLAN
JUNE 1996

Los Angeles County Departments of

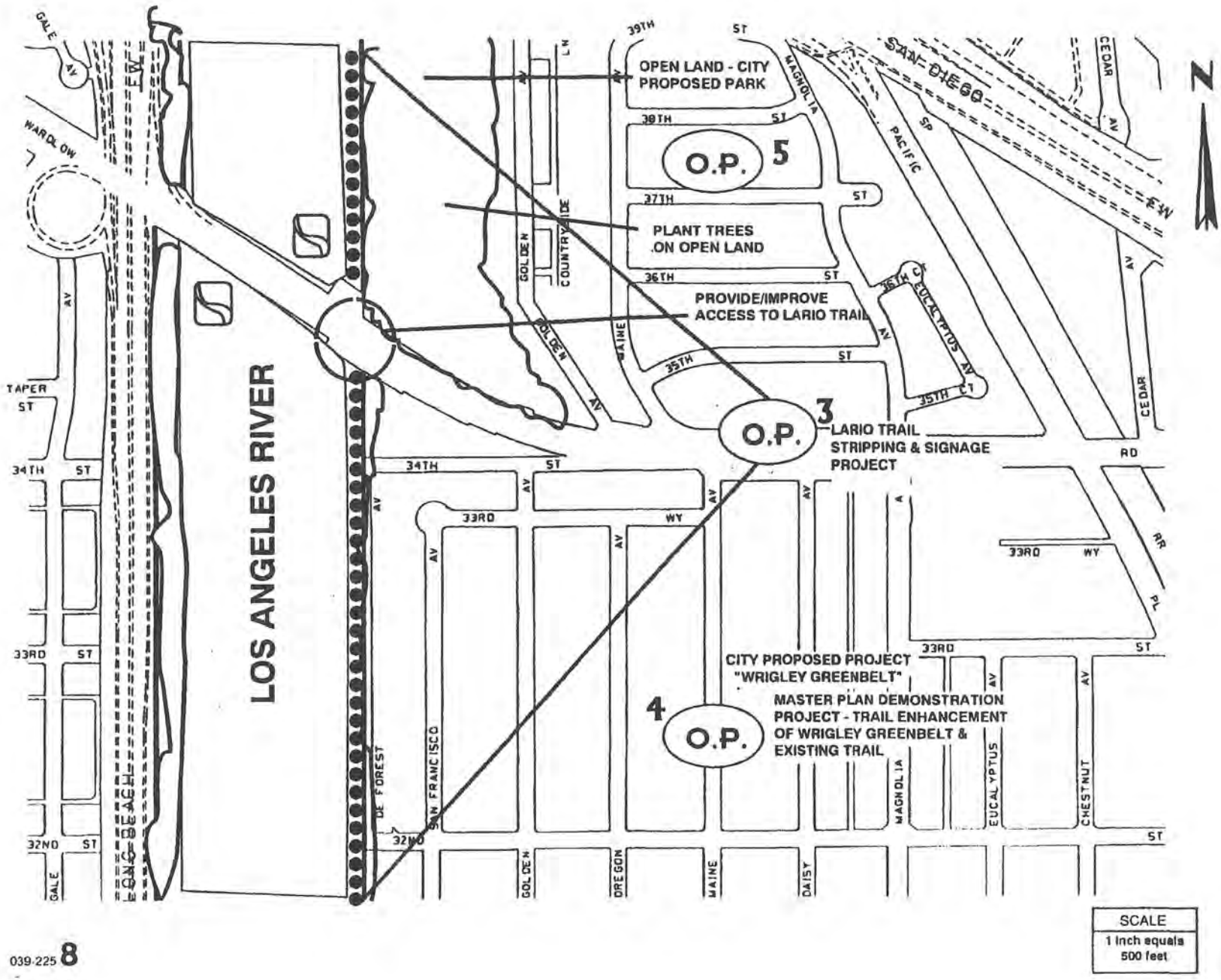
Public Works
Harry W. Stone, Director

Parks and Recreation
Rodney E. Cooper, Director

Regional Planning
James Hartl, Director

National Parks Service
Rivers, Trails and Conservation
Assistance Program

and the
Los Angeles River Advisory Committee


OPEN LAND - CITY PROPOSED PARK
O.P. 5
PLANT TREES ON OPEN LAND
PROVIDE/IMPROVE ACCESS TO LARIO TRAIL
O.P. 3
LARIO TRAIL STRIPPING & SIGNAGE PROJECT
CITY PROPOSED PROJECT "WRIGLEY GREENBELT"
MASTER PLAN DEMONSTRATION PROJECT - TRAIL ENHANCEMENT OF WRIGLEY GREENBELT & EXISTING TRAIL
O.P. 4
LOS ANGELES RIVER
SAN DIEGO
SCALE
1 inch equals 500 feet
N

039-225 **8**

F I N A L

environmental impact report

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING — LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

DATE . JULY 28, 1977 (CERTIFIED BY CITY PLANNING COMMISSION)

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MAJOR HORSE-KEEPING AREAS

FIGURE 2

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6383 • FAX (562) 570-6012

May 23, 2017

Mr. Ryan Butler
Civil Engineer
Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Connection to Storm Water Inlet – Public Equestrian Rest Area

Dear Mr. Butler,

Please be advised that your request to connect to the City of Long Beach storm drain has been denied.

We received your request to connect the proposed 18" ADS HP storm drain pipe into the city's storm water system at the intersection of Spring St. and San Francisco St.

During the recent rains, the City of Long Beach experienced flooding issues in multiple locations due to drainage deficiencies. The main problem is that our storm drain pipes are undersized. After reviewing your project, we found that the 60" main storm drain pipe in which you proposed to connect is undersized, therefore no connection is allowed as this time. (Please see attached exhibit).

However, if we upgrade the pipes later, you may re-submit your application for consideration in the future.

If you have further questions, please contact Christian Perez directly at (562) 570-6679 or by email at Christian.perez@longbeach.gov.

Regards,

Alvin Papa
Assistant City Engineer
City of Long Beach

From:	Terri Grant
Sent time:	11/03/2015 01:39:52 PM
To:	Mark Lombos; Cung Nguyen; Paul Shadmani
Subject:	RE: Thank you

That flooding issue is a good point. If we can address the drainage behind their homes in our project, we should include that in the presentation too

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From: Sziebl, Connie [mailto:CSziebl@lacbos.org]
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 12:38 PM
To: Moore, Julie; Terri Grant
Cc: Mark Lombos; Cung Nguyen; Paul Shadmani
Subject: Thank you

Hello all...

Thank you for arranging the conference call. I believe we were able to get much accomplished as we move forward with this issue. I appreciate your flexibility regarding the concerns we have about the schedule. I think once we begin the process, we will be able to tell if we can move at a little faster pace or not.

I am getting ready to forward the two flyers regarding the meeting on the 18th. That is all I will be e mailing. Once you finish with the revised schedule, I will forward that document.

To DPW. I will send to Ara Malovan and Derek Wieske. When Derek contacted me after I wrote to Sean, Derek asked that I copy Dennis Jue the project manager in all my correspondence to them on this issue. I figure he might be a consultant since his e mail address is not @longbeach.gov. Derek also copied Sean Crumby and George Kerr. Who is George Kerr, do any of you know? I take it you will send them the flyers?

To Parks Rec and Marine, I will e mail Stephen Scott, the Acting Director and Valerie Davis his assistant. She knows everything Should I copy Meredith Reynolds or will you copy her?

I will also be in touch with the City Manager's' office.

So as soon as you tell me to whom I send the flyers – I do not want to step on your toes – I will send out my e mail. Thanks.

Connie

P.S. Do any of you remember if the City of Long Beach did any work on San Francisco Street to alleviate the flooding that takes place in the encroached area plus their garages during the rainy season? I understand it has been knee deep. If anything, the flooding that might take place during this rainy season will play a major role in the design.

From:	Daniel B. Sharp
Sent time:	04/09/2016 04:23:10 PM
To:	Amir Ibrahim
Cc:	Terri Grant; Paul Shadmani
Subject:	Public Equestrian Rest Area - Request for assistance with drainage design

Hi Amir,

I'm not sure if you have heard of the Public Equestrian Rest Area project....it's about a 1-acre project in Long Beach that has been encroached upon for years by the adjacent residents. The plan is to remove the encroachments, add some equestrian amenities, and open the site to the public. This project has come about because the City of Long Beach is completing the Wrigley Greenbelt Project both north and south of this project location.

There have been local drainage issues at the location historically, and AED thought they could handle it with some simple re-grading. However, as they have gotten deeper into the design, we realize that the adjacent properties drain to the site so their proposed solution isn't workable.

We would like to have DES take a look and see if there are some reasonable solutions that don't involve pumps or a major new drain.

If that sounds reasonable, let us know who we should be working with on your staff and we will set a meeting to go over the specifics.

Let me know if you would rather have more info before we set up a larger meeting. Thanks. Dan.

Daniel B. Sharp, P.E.
Watershed Management Division
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
(626) 458-7353 office
(626) 759-0859 mobile
dsharp@dpw.lacounty.gov

future. How can development services adequately monitor or the public be aware of something that is not properly listed or mapped for reference?

This overt omission opens the door for further cumulative negative impacts to properties such as mine, in a recognized equestrian/minority community and this LUE and your response does not satisfy the legal protections as intended by Horse Overlay decision of 1977.

Respectfully, I urge the City of Long Beach to immediately make the necessary changes and include the horse overlay zones in all documents with transparency.

Sincerely,
Renee Lawler

From: Christopher Koontz [mailto:Christopher.Koontz@longbeach.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 4:17 PM
To: renee_matt@live.com; Hoorae1@aol.com
Cc: Celina Luna <Celina.Luna@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Horse Overlay

Ms. Lawler and Ms. Gabelich,

I wanted to follow-up on your communications to Councilmember Uranga regarding the horsekeeping zoning within the City. As we have discussed on a few occasions over the last several years, the General Plan does not map individual overlays or zoning characteristics, however those zoning details are an important implementation tool for our many neighborhoods in the City.

During the General Plan (LUE) process, in response to your comments, we added a specific policy related to horsekeeping. The following is listed on page 146 of the LUE:

> 11. Respect and maintain the equestrian uses within Wrigley Heights and promote shared use and maintenance of the area trail system.

As to the actual zoning, which is the regulatory teeth that allows equestrian efforts. There is no intention from the Department of Development Services to modify those existing regulations. I am not aware of any interest from City Council to modify those regulations. A map of those existing horse-overlay properties is attached for your reference. The General Plan recognizes the policy-direction to maintain the existing equestrian uses and shared use of the trail system.

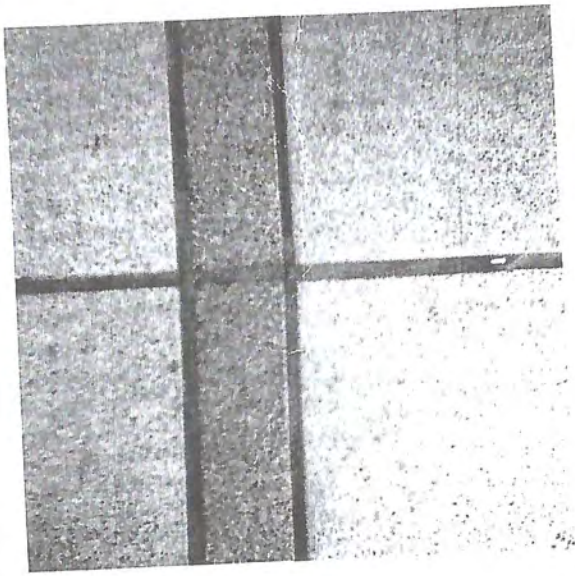
Thank you again for contacting the City of Long Beach. I hope this email provides greater clarity and assurance regarding your concerns.

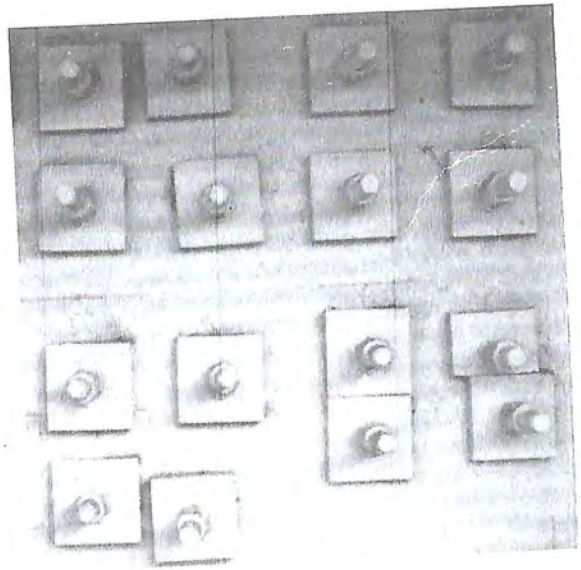
Christopher Ira Koontz, AICP
Planning Bureau Manager

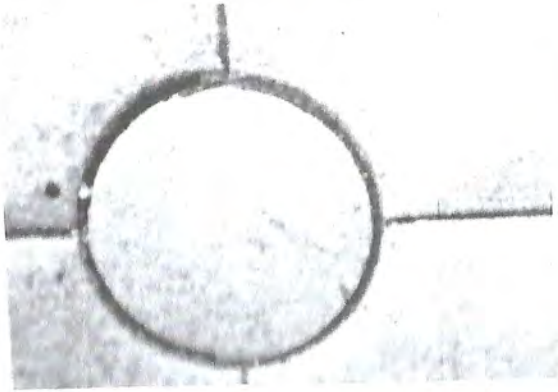
Long Beach Development Services
411 W. Ocean Blvd., 3rd Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802
Office: 562-570-6288

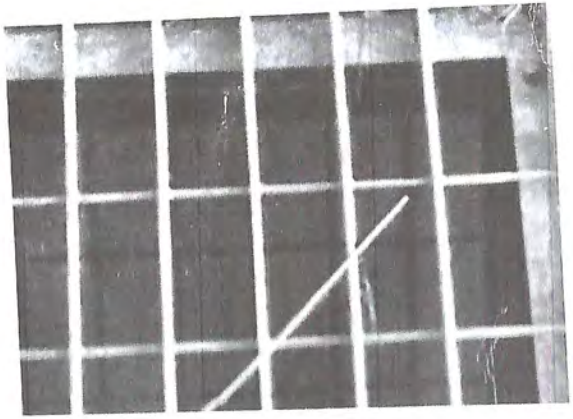
LONG BEACH RIVERLINK

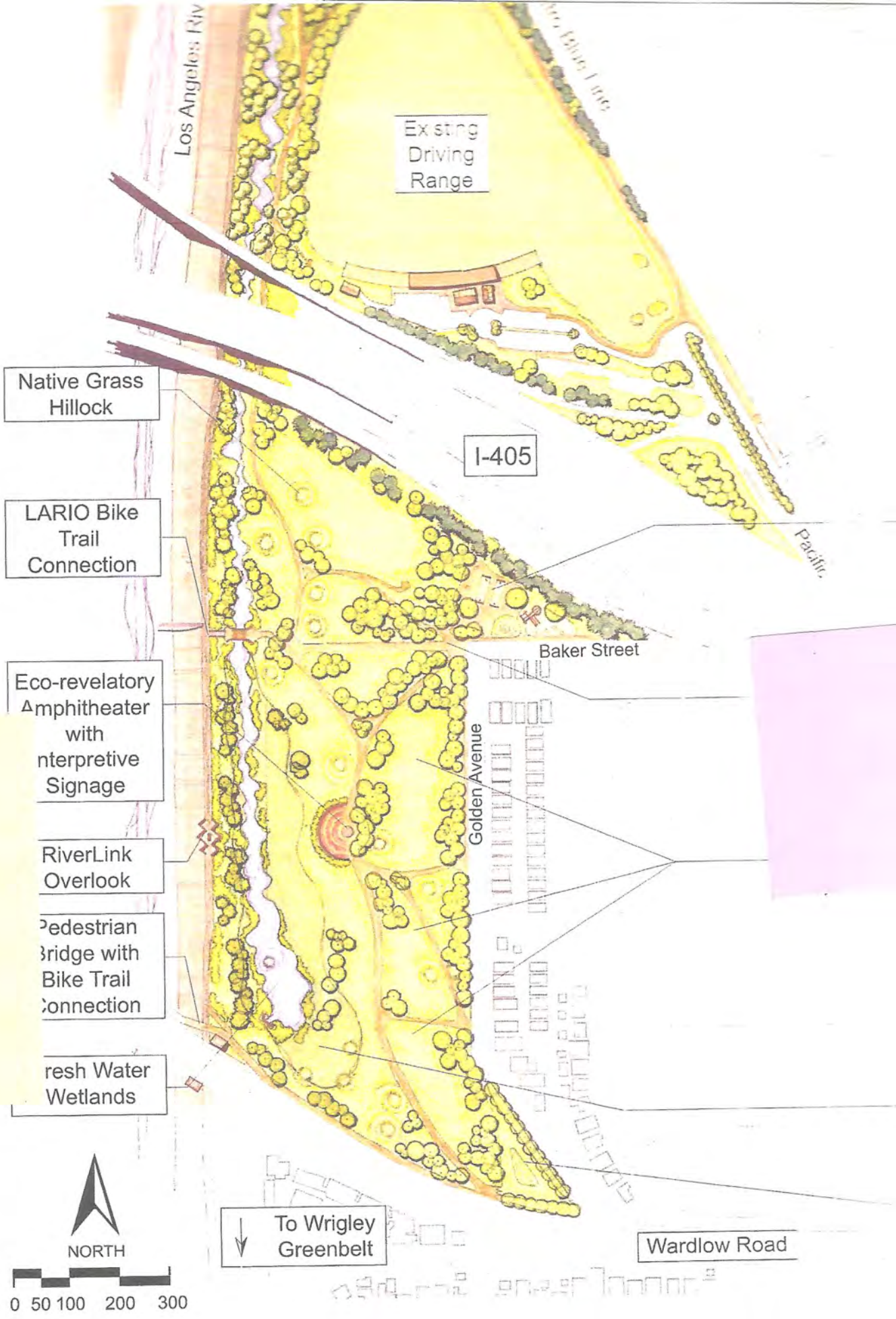
CONNECTING CITY TO RIVER










Existng Driving Range
Native Grass Hillock
I-405
LARIO Bike Trail Connection
Baker Street
Eco-revelatory Amphitheater with nterpretive Signage
Golden Avenue
RiverLink Overlook
Pedestrian Bridge with Bike Trail Connection
resh Water Wetlands
To Wrigley Greenbelt
Wardlow Road
NORTH
0 50 100 200 300

Recreation Vehicle Campground has a small pool. There are four swimming pools at Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) high schools that are open to the public in the summer through City/LBUSD joint use agreements. Also, the City Colleges and California State University at Long Beach add an additional four pools to the public pool inventory.

5. **Golf Courses**

There are five City-owned golf courses in Long Beach at Heartwell, El Dorado, Recreation and Skylinks. All together they have four driving ranges, three 18-hole courses, one 9-hole course and one 18-hole par three lighted course, encompassing 568 municipal golf acres. The City contracts with private concessionaires who operate the courses. There are also two private golf courses and one private driving range in the City. The courses are an 18-hole course at Virginia Country Club and a 9-hole course at Bixby Ranch. A new, publicly accessible driving range is located at the intersection of the I-405 San Diego Freeway and the Los Angeles River.

6. **Equestrian, Bicycle, Walking and Skating Trails**

There remains a segment of equestrian trail on the floodplain adjacent to the Los Angeles River, but only a handful of properties along the river allow horses to be kept. These trails lie on County of Los Angeles flood control property, which is being studied for various open space enhancements under the Los Angeles River Master Plan.

According to the 2001 Long Beach Bicycle Master Plan, the City has an estimated 64 miles of bikeways, 35 of which are completely separated from roadway traffic. The shoreline, river and park trails accommodate pedestrians, skate boarders and skating as well. Although this chapter contains a policy and program recommending the development of an open space linkage and trails plan, the bicycle map and policies pertaining to walking and cycling in the community are largely contained in the Transportation (Circulation) Element.

7. **Long Beach Museum of Art**

Recently renovated and expanded, the Long Beach Museum of Art is located in Bluff Park at 2300 E. Ocean Boulevard. The Museum is very reasonably priced and is open to the public five days a week. It features applied and decorative arts including paintings, sculpture, video and children's art. Summer concerts are performed in the courtyard area overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

8. **Beaches**

Located between the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers, Long Beach has approximately 247 acres of beaches and 11 miles of shoreline. Although the beach property is owned by the State, the City retains responsibility for

collaborative efforts to increase opportunities to fund those projects, has greatly enhanced the willingness of these entities to seek mutually beneficial solutions to problems that historically were a source of conflict.

Subregional Characteristics

Given the size and complexity of the GLAC Region and the number of stakeholders and agencies that could participate in Plan development and other planning activities, to manage stakeholder input and acknowledge geographic variation, five subregional planning areas were established, as discussed in Chapter 1.

Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers Subregion

The Lower SG & LA is comprised of 37 cities, 27 in the Gateway IRWM Region and 10 in the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority IRWM Region (which includes the Orange County portion of the Coyote Creek watershed). Dozens of water agencies/companies and other entities which have an interest in a variety of water management issues serve the Lower SG & LA's three million residents. The Lower SG & LA faces significant ground and surface water quality challenges, as well as flood control issues, due to its location in the lower reaches of two major watersheds and intense urban development changes.

It has the greatest water recharge capacity in the GLAC Region due to the recharge basins in the vicinity of the Whittier Narrows. Further, it has the most densely developed commercial and industrial land uses coupled with the least amount of open space on a per acre basis in the GLAC Region; notably several cities in the Lower SG & LA are over 100 years old. Further, the Lower SG & LA is in the lower reaches of a vast metropolitan area and, therefore has significant water quality issues along with tremendous opportunities for conjunctive use, recycled and reclaimed water use, desalination and wetlands restoration in the estuaries of the San Gabriel River and Los Angeles River. The cities in the Lower SG & LA face many competing financial needs, including complying with stormwater regulations, replacing aging infrastructure, providing affordable housing and increasing public safety. A considerable number of the cities have experienced and will continue to experience severe funding shortages for infrastructure repair, maintenance and installation along with high household poverty rates.

The Los Angeles River is fed by the largest drainage area in the Region.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Ricardo Morelli <doctormorelli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:16 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: CEQA PEIR for 2020 LA River Master Plan - NOP and Scoping

Greetings Ms. Villanueva,

Is the 2020 LA River Master Plan contemplating the large and growing number of homeless occupying the river "islands" and shores?

I see these neighbors on my walks and on my way to work and it's obvious many of them have mental issues and drug addiction. Is providing services to them part of the plan?

Sincerely,

Ricardo Morelli

On Tuesday, July 7, 2020, 6:06:22 PM PDT, PW-LA River CEQA <lariverceqa@pw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

The County of Los Angeles, through Los Angeles County Public Works, will prepare a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its proposed 2020 LA River Master Plan. The PEIR will assess the environmental impacts of implementing the 2020 LA River Master Plan. As part of this PEIR process, Public Works is soliciting input from members of the public, organizations, and government agencies on the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the PEIR.

A Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, the County Clerk, and other interested parties that Public Works is beginning preparation of this PEIR, and starts the 30-day scoping period. The NOP for the 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR can be viewed at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

The community is invited to participate in an online scoping meeting for the PEIR, which is being held virtually due to restrictions under State of California Executive Order N-33-20.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Details about the CEQA online scoping meeting are available at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa

Registration for the event is available at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-scoping-meeting-2020-la-river-master-plan-program-eir-tickets-112158469000

Scoping comments on the PEIR are due no later than august 6, 2020, which marks the end of the 30-day scoping period. Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below. If sending an e-mail, please include “NOP Scoping Comments” in the subject line. Include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva

Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor

Alhambra, CA 91803

LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in the process.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Rosalind Helfand <rozhelfand@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:45 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

Dear Ms. Villanueva,

Please accept my NOP scoping comments. Thank you for your time!

Rosalind Helfand
Independent Environmental and Social Policy Advisory
rozhelfand@gmail.com
310-869-5749

NOP Scoping Comments:

* **Climate change should be included at multiple points in the PEIR, not just under "Greenhouse Gas Emissions" and not just as an emissions discussion**
Impacts, including cumulative impacts, shouldn't be assessed without considering the current and projected impacts of climate change on the following:

-- Wildlife, including species of special concern, that currently relies on the stability of LA River water and habitat to endure climate change impacts.
-- Wildlife, including species of special concern, that will come to rely on the LA River during and following the project completion due to range and habitat changes tied to climate change (includes species that are projected to become vulnerable, not just those that are currently considered vulnerable).
-- The impact of the LA River project overall on urban forest as critical for cooling both people and wildlife and providing habitat for climate impacted wildlife.
-- Impacts on hydrology and water quality due to possible cumulative effects of the project in relation to climate change impacts.
-- Current and projected climate change impacts on the effectiveness of the LA River plans for flood mitigation (seeing that floods may be enhanced by climate change).
-- Accounting for the climate change plans of cities (not just the county) through which the river runs.
-- Potential climate impacts of project construction phases.

*** Human traffic impact on wildlife**
-- Regarding public services and recreation, how will increases in human traffic in some areas where wildlife reside, as well as new human traffic post-project completion, impact wildlife that depend on the river for habitat, food, and water?

*** Total urban forest impact** (adding to the discussion of trees in Land Use/Planning)
-- Align with overall urban forest planning such as with the City of Los Angeles, and consider: Impact to overall canopy; impact to healthy mature tree numbers overall; impact to tree types that wildlife and birds often rely upon overall; impact on the capacity for the urban forest to mitigate stormwater runoff; impact on the urban forest capacity to mitigate heat island effects and climate change impacts; impact on urban forest capacity to mitigate air pollution and sequester carbon (loss of mature trees again a concern).

*** Light pollution impact on wildlife**
-- Will the project during construction and after completion increase light pollution in sensitive areas for wildlife?

*** Changes to hydrology and water quality impacts on wildlife**
-- How important is overall stability for many species currently relying on especially habitat rich areas? (relates to climate change questions)
-- Look at the cumulative impact of wetland loss/lack in relation to wetland need for species in the region.

*** Sourcing and end life of construction materials and waste**
-- How will the ecosystem and climate impacts of construction materials sources and waste be accounted for?
-- Is there an end life plan for reuse/recycling of waste and materials?

*** For "Growth-Inducing Impacts"**
-- How will "growth" be defined? Differentiate between desirable and undesirable types of growth.

*** Transportation**
-- How will the project minimize future transportation emissions that contribute to poor air and climate change by aligning with climate change mitigation planning?

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sharon Brewer <sbrewerz@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 9:36 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: LA River trail

August 13, 2020

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Ariana,
By way of introduction, my name is Sharon Brewer. I am a concerned citizen in the Long Beach area. My son and his friends use the LA River Trails quite extensively to get across town and train for the next bike race whenever that is given the bleak sports forecast. They use the trails to avoid being hit by cars.

The trail usually chosen is the Long Beach to San Gabriel route because it is cleaner. He rides the Long Beach loop and found that the homeless are taking up more than half of the trail with their cabana like structures to keep them out of the sun.

The problems of the LA River Trail are many and stretch over 51 miles. .

1. Homeless living in the area. If displaced from the river they will find another area. The example is best understood when cleaning the area near the DTLA police station area when one area is cleared for cleaning the homeless are displaced for a day but return quickly.

2. Medical waste along the river is a huge problem. Needles and drug paraphernalia are strewn in the river and areas surrounding the area. If parks are to be built this area must be clean and remain clean for the children.

3. Human waste is also a problem for the river and the areas surrounding the river.

4. Garbage not included in the last two categories. Shopping carts, bicycles and just lots of every day garbage.

5. Water stations are currently being used for showers. Water stations have cloudy and murky water.

6. Flooding issue every time it rains under the tunnel at the 605 near Alhambra.

The environment and River have taken a beating along the river. The trails are largely unpoliced and are always a worry as the homeless put up wires to catch the cyclist or jogger and steal from their catch.

Kayakers use the river but the thought of overturning in the LA river is just gross. Fish from the LA River is should not be used for human consumption due to the human waste and garbage.

To improve the experience of the LA River it would take a huge effort but the people displaced will still not be able to afford housing. Mental institutions have closed and the need to rehabilitate or just deal with the mental issues of the homeless is no longer available.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Sharon Brewer <sbrewerz@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 9:42 AM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Re: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today

Good morning,
My son uses the river trails extensively to ride his bike. He uses the San Gabriel trails mainly as he fears for his safety both personal safety and health safety from the amount of human waste while traveling through Los Angeles and the Glendale river trail area. The large encampments are quite visible along the river can be seen from the freeway as we travel from LA into Glendale. The pandemic has also increased the amount of encampments along the river.

We are also seeing more postings that wire is strung across the trails to make the cyclists crash to steal bikes, money and anything else a cyclist carries.

The policing of the encampments and the amount of waste added to the area and wild life is wrecking havoc with the environment along the river.

Thank you for reading my concerns.

Sharon Brewer
Submitted to River trail committee 8/6/2020 before 5 pm.

From: PW-LA River CEQA <LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:22:05 AM
Subject: Scoping comments for Draft 2020 LA River Master Plan PEIR due today

Hello,

Thank you for joining us last week for the 2020 LA River Master Plan CEQA Program EIR Scoping Meeting. For those who were unable to make it, the recording from the event is now available online at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

Public participation is a key component of the CEQA process, and we appreciate your comments for consideration for the Draft Program EIR. You will receive a Notice of Availability when the Draft Program EIR is available for public review and comment. We will also provide notice about the Draft Program EIR public meeting when those details are available.

You can still submit comments on the scope or issues of concern you would like considered for the Draft Program EIR until August 6, 2020 (the end of the 30-day scoping period). Please send your comments in writing to the physical address or e-mail address shown below, and include a return address or e-mail address and a contact name in your agency with your comments:

Ariana Villanueva
Los Angeles County Public Works, Stormwater Quality Division

900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
LARiverCEQA@pw.lacounty.gov

Information and updates about the CEQA process for the Draft Program EIR at http://pw.lacounty.gov/go/larmpceqa.

For questions or concerns about the 2020 LA River Master Plan document, please visit www.larivermasterplan.org or submit your comments to LARiver@pw.lacounty.gov.

Ariana Villanueva

From: Steffie Hands <handsonrealestate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:08 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOP Scoping Comments

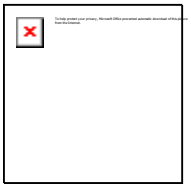
CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To Whom It May Concern:
My family and friends use the riverbed path often for bike riding, walking and running in Long Beach.

Here are the considerations we'd like to see in the PEIR:
1. Safety issues with homeless encampments and unsavory individuals. These have been increasing every year, and there have been some horrible incidents on the path including homicides.
2. Safety issues with the use of pesticides and weed abatement. I am not sure what is currently used, but we are concerned about the environmental impact of pesticdes on the ecology, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the river water that eventually drains to the ocean.

3. Plans that address the natural ecology of the riverbed to ensure that birds, animals, plants, etc can live and thrive along the riverbed.

Overall, We would like to see more of the river bed areas safer and more useable for individuals and families, while keeping it as "natural" as possible.
Best regards,
Steffie Hands



Steffie Hands, Realtor
Re/Max Real Estate Specialists
562-508-9869 | HandsOnRealEstate@gmail.com
Address: 6695 E. PCH #150, Long Beach, CA 90803
Website: www.CalBungalow.com
License: DRE#01502653
Read My Zillow Reviews:
http://www.zillow.com/profile/handsonrealestate

Ariana Villanueva

From: Wolfgang Brardt <wolfgangbrardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 5:35 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: Comments about LA River project

Helloo, My name is Wolfgang Brardt, I'm a Owner of a skateboard Magazine called 86'D Magazine. I have a great idea on how we could use tons of the space of the old river.
Essentially placing a skate obstacle along the river to form sort of a trail for Skateboarders, BMX'ers and all persons on any type of wheels to use. Skateboarding in LA as I'm sure you know is a worldwide destination and hot spot. It's a fact that now more children pick up Skateboards than baseball. In 20 years it's predictable that America's pastime will be Skateboarding. LA's River project could turn LA into that much more of a travel destination for people from all over the world.
I have tons of Design ideas that would be so simple and cheap to create and build. The best part is theLA River is already perfect for all activities with wheels. adding a fe supplemental obstacles would just breathe so much creative life into what is currently a kind of dark place.
Thank you so much for reading, looking forward to hearing back!
Sincerely, Wolfgang

--

Wolfgang Brardt
@wolfgangbrardt
(562)513-9951
wolfgangbrardt@gmail.com

Ariana Villanueva

From: zichrey@frontier.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:07 PM
To: PW-LA River CEQA
Subject: NOPScoping Comments

My wife and I have walked different sections of the river trail. We feel this trail is a valuable resource for all residents of L.A. County. We particularly like the section through Frogtown in Silver Lake/Atwater Village. Sections of the trail in Long Beach, where we live, do not appear to be as wide and are less conducive to walking while others are biking.

Appendix B

2020 LA River Master Plan Design Guidelines - Draft

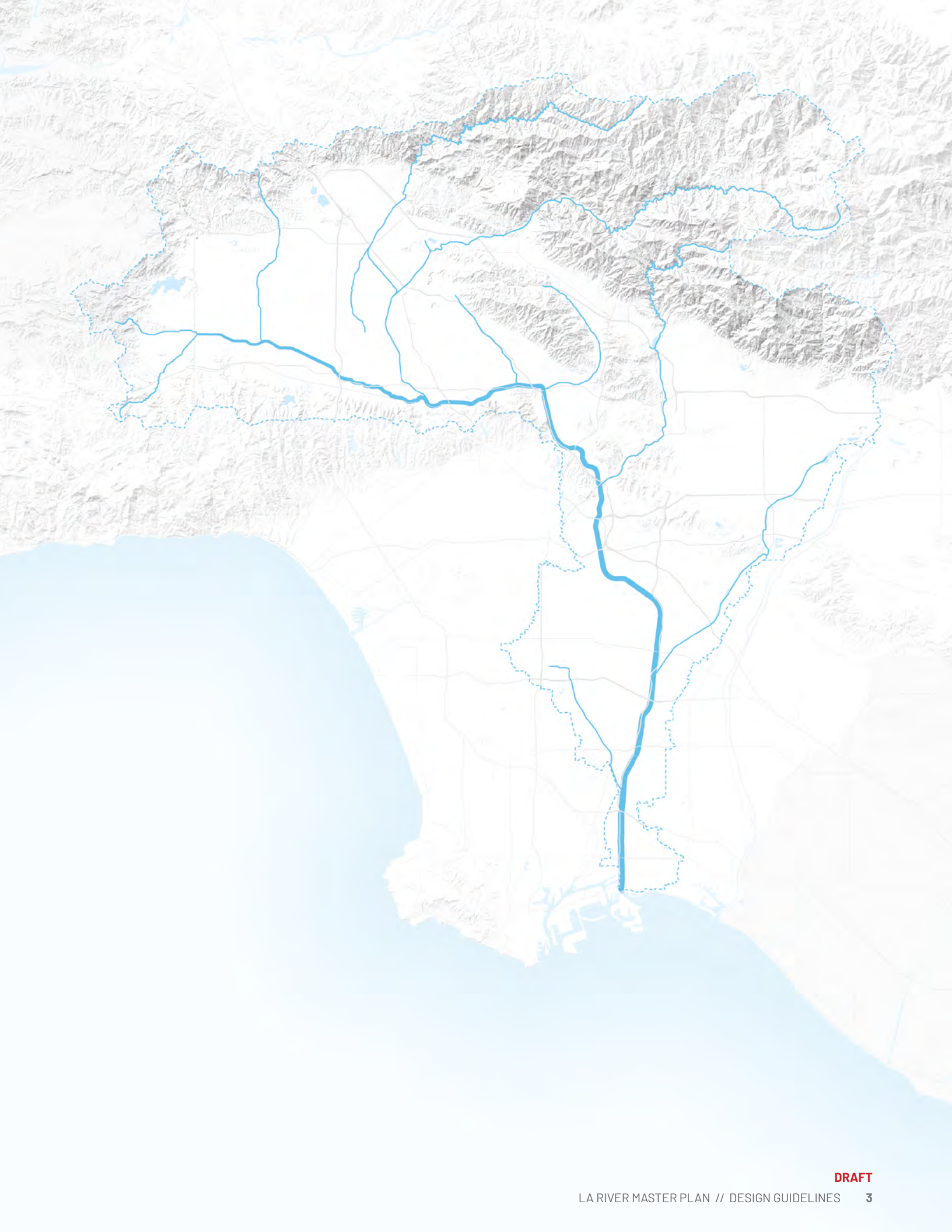
LA RIVER MASTER PLAN

APPENDIX VOLUME I

DESIGN GUIDELINES

PUBLIC DRAFT

JANUARY 2021



PREPARED FOR:
LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

THIS BOOK IS APPENDIX VOLUME I FOR THE 2020 LA RIVER MASTER PLAN

These guidelines represent the Flood Control District permit requirements. Project proponents are responsible for implementing these guidelines in accordance with prevailing codes, LA County policies, and other authorities having jurisdiction.

While these guidelines are specific to the LA River, certain approaches and techniques may be applicable to other rivers and tributaries in LA County.

PREPARED BY:

Geosyntec OLIN Gehry Partners, LLP

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I:
INTRODUCTION

Figure 1. The LA River begins at the confluence of Arroyo Calabasas and Bell Creek at river mile 51. Source: OLIN, 2018.

1.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ABOUT THE GUIDELINES

The goals of the 2020 LA River Master Plan are intended to integrate design and performance objectives in a multi-jurisdictional context. These guidelines will aid designers and engineers in the establishment of a 51-mile connected open space that is a well-organized, functional, and accessible environment reflecting the diverse and shared identities of LA County. To facilitate decision-making and ensure a standard for design, the guidelines present a unified, cohesive identity while promoting best practices and resiliency for the river corridor. Adaptive design considerations and planting palettes for climate change are critical to success. Equally important, the guidelines provide flexibility for site-specific needs and expressions of neighboring communities' cultural identities. With this in mind, a structure is provided to support projects at all scales and help to define the look and feel of the LA River corridor.

Figure 2. The LA River brings people and communities together in more ways than one, as can be seen in this photo of the SELA Arts Festival at river mile 11.7 in July 2018. Source: OLIN, 2018

ABOUT THE GUIDELINES

The document is organized into four chapters, focusing on elements ranging from trails to environmental graphics to habitat to facilities. Rather than requiring one set of fixed solutions for all 51 miles, these guidelines promote the idea of a consistent approach with reach-specific identity within the greater whole. Ecology, habitat, and art should all reflect the physiography or culture of a specific reach of the river. Other elements, such as environmental graphics, access points, and lighting should be unified to ensure connectivity, wayfinding, and equitable access. In all cases, the adjacent communities should be understood in order for improvements along the river corridor to have the appropriate scale and feel for the neighborhood.

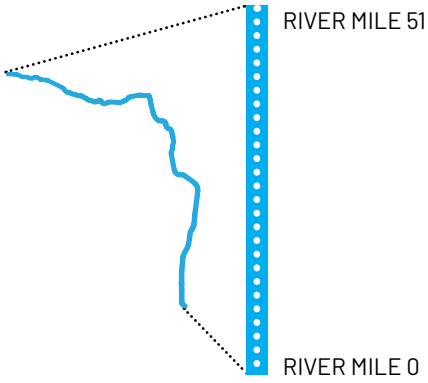
To address the need for site-specific approaches, the design guidelines have been organized through the nine planning frames established in the 2020 Master Plan. The beginning of every chapter has a key map which functions as a visual index for the reader to link to applicable guidelines for each frame of the river. These context-based guidelines will allow the reader to quickly identify key areas or topics of concern related to the reach. Lists, references, and sources that cover the entire river are located at the end of this document.

Design guidelines are not a 'cookbook' for the design process for sites; rather, they are the frame for good project development. The knowledge and experience of landscape architects, engineers, architects, botanists, ecologists, and artists are invaluable in creating spaces that enhance life along the river. The 2020 LA River Master Plan Design Guidelines are a tool for these professionals and reflect the baseline of values for promoting smart design along the river corridor.

THE ROLE OF LA COUNTY

The LA County Flood Control District was established to provide flood risk reduction, water conservation, recreation, and aesthetic enhancement for cities and unincorporated areas in LA County outside of the Antelope Valley. LA County Public Works, which is responsible for the planning and operational activities of the Flood Control District, served as the lead agency for

DESIGN GUIDELINES ARE NOT A 'COOKBOOK' FOR THE DESIGN PROCESS FOR SITES, RATHER THEY ARE THE FRAME FOR GOOD PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



The river ruler is a vertical, straight-line representation of the 51 miles of the LA River.

development of the LA River Master Plan (1996, updated in 2020). The reimagined river envisioned in that plan promotes 51 miles of connected open space, which will require a concerted and sustained effort by many LA County agencies, in cooperation with incorporated cities. The guidelines contained in this book apply to areas of the LA River corridor maintained, operated, or owned by LA County (typically referred to as the right-of-way) and all projects permitted by LA County Public Works along the LA River.

LA RIVER MILES

The LA River is 51 miles long, flowing from mile 51 in Canoga Park within the City of LA to mile zero at Long Beach where the river meets the Pacific Ocean. The river mile system was developed in 2016 to reduce confusion between different jurisdictional reach designations.

Referencing this consistent numbering system is required for all LAC Public Works projects permitted under these guidelines.

RIVER RULER

The LA River is a complex system with many layers of information and data. To better understand the data available for the river and new data that was created as part of the Master Plan process, the LA River Master Plan used LA River Rulers to organize and collect data.

The river ruler is a vertical, straight-line diagram that represents and takes measure of the entire 51 miles of the LA River. Straightening the river simplifies and reinforces its linearity, allowing the eye to quickly perceive how conditions along the river change from one river mile to the next.

The vertical axis of the river ruler represents the 51 miles of the LA River starting at mile 51 in the West San Fernando Valley at Canoga Park to river mile zero at Long Beach

Figure 3. The LA River channel has two different profiles: box and trapezoid. This section of box channel runs through Studio City, near river mile 39. Source: OLIN, 2018.

2.
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

THE DESIGN PROCESS

Excellence in design enhances function. From the earliest stages of project development, it is important to consider how a project can be aesthetically engaging while addressing multiple needs of adjacent communities. Design excellence requires an attention to quality of built structures, the landscape, the way buildings and landscapes interact with each other, and how projects interface with the river and surrounding communities. Elevating the quality of design along the LA River will also serve to elevate the level of design across LA County. The design process should include consideration of the LA River channel, the design principles outlined in this chapter, adjacent communities, and the 2020 LA River Master Plan.

Figure 4. Certain reaches of the LA River, such as this segment near river mile 25, are soft-bottom rather than concrete. Source: OLIN, 2018.

Figure 5. Certain reaches of the river, such as this segment at river mile 14, are entrenched rather than leveed. Source: OLIN, 2018.

LA RIVER RIGHT-OF-WAY AND CHANNEL

The 51-mile LA River is an engineered channel designed in response to historic flood events to convey stormwater to the Pacific Ocean as quickly and efficiently as possible. The material, shape, and size of the river changes along its length.

More than 75% of the length of the river has a concrete bed. The river has a "soft bottom," earthen riverbed in the Glendale Narrows, the Sepulveda Flood Control Basin, and the Estuary region. If not maintained, the soft bottom reaches can become heavily vegetated, often with invasive species, which decreases conveyance capacity.

The shape of the LA River channel is predominantly trapezoidal, with sides that flare out as they move up and away from the bottom of the channel. Rectangular sections of the channel, where its sides are completely vertical, are limited to the San Fernando Valley between Sherman Oaks and Burbank and a one-mile stretch near Vernon. To manage additional flood risk, the sides of the channel are often higher than the ground level of surrounding communities, forming levees or flood walls.

The width of the channel generally increases going downstream, from Canoga Park to Long Beach, to account for the increasing accumulation of runoff and changes in the channel's slope. At its narrowest, between Sherman Oaks and Studio City, the channel is about 55 feet wide. At its widest, where the river meets the Pacific Ocean, the channel is more than ten times that width.

The LA River right-of-way includes the entirety of the river channel as well as landside areas immediately adjacent to the channel banks that facilitate continuous operations and maintenance access by the LA County Flood Control District (LACFCD). About 21% of the river's two banks are constrained, with less than the 12 feet of landside area width that the LACFCD seeks to have for routine operations and maintenance. In some areas, particularly south of Compton, the landside area can surpass 100 or 200 feet in width.

THE KIT OF PARTS MATRIX CONNECTS DESIGN COMPONENTS TO THE NINE MASTER PLAN GOALS

PROGRAMMING AND ENGAGEMENT

Each project along the LA River should respond to the needs of adjacent communities. The LA River Master Plan identifies needs along the river for each of the plan's nine goals. The goals can be used to determine appropriate interventions in a particular project location.

Goals of the LA River Master Plan

- Reduce flood risk and improve resiliency.
- Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
- Support healthy, connected ecosystems.
- Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.
- Embrace and enhance opportunities for arts and culture.
- Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness.
- Foster opportunities for continued community engagement, development, and education.
- Improve local water supply reliability.
- Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

Over time, a community's needs may shift, so robust community engagement must be built into all projects.

KIT OF PARTS AND COMMON ELEMENTS

The LA River Master Plan utilizes a kit of parts that includes possible design strategies for sites along the LA River. Each strategy is associated with certain Master Plan goals. The kit of parts is a recommended collection of multi-benefit design components organized within six major infrastructure and urban river typologies. These include: trails and access gateways, channel modifications, crossings and platforms, diversions, floodplain reclamation, and off- channel land assets.

In addition to the project-scaled design components in the kit of parts, smaller common design elements include pavilions, access stairs and ramps, and site furnishing such as lights, hygiene facilities, seating, trash and recycling, water fountains, guardrails, gates, bike racks, environmental graphics, emergency call boxes, and art.

Figure 6. Design strategies can be categorized into six infrastructure and urban river typologies. See Chapter 8 in the LA River Master Plan for more information. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

IMPACT	ACREAGE / LENGTH	OCCUPANT RANGE
XL	> 150 acres or > 10 miles	>5,000
L	40 - 150 acres or 5 - 10 miles	1,000 - 10,000
M	< 40 acres or < 5 miles	100 - 5,000
S	1 - 3 acres / 1 - 5 miles	5 - 500
XS	< 1 acres / < 1 miles	n/a

Figure 7. **The LA River Master Plan proposes five scales of impact for sites along the river: XS, S, M, L, XL. Each scale has varying needs for facilities, amenities, gathering spaces, performance areas, and recreation.**

PROJECT PROGRAMMING

Project programming should be completed for each project based on their anticipated uses, size, and occupancy loads. The LA River Master Plan proposes five scales of sites along the river.

Each scale of project has varying needs for facilities, amenities, gathering spaces, performance areas, and recreation.

Medium (M), large (L), and extra-large (XL) projects in the LA River Master Plan are defined as projects greater than 5 acres, and they may include hundreds of acres. Projects of a smaller acreage may also be included in a larger category based on their ability to serve very high adjacent community needs. For example, a large performing arts center on a single acre of land may positively impact many community needs and, thus, qualify as a large project.

Depending on the scale and typology of the project, it is useful to plan for spaces that can flexibly accommodate smaller day-to-day uses as well as larger events such as festivals or recreation events.

Generally, M projects should accommodate between 100-5,000 occupants.

L projects should accommodate between 1,000-10,000 occupants.

XL projects should have spaces for large gatherings of hundreds, and in some cases thousands of people. They should accommodate more than 5,000 occupants.

PROJECTS OF A SMALLER ACREAGE MAY ALSO BE INCLUDED IN A LARGER CATEGORY BASED ON THEIR ABILITY TO SERVE VERY HIGH ADJACENT COMMUNITY NEEDS

S and XS projects are very different than their larger counterparts. An extra-small project may be as limited as the installation of a bench, sign, light pole, or sculpture. Access points, gateways, and other amenities commonly fall in this category.

XS and S projects, may also take the form of river pavilions, typically on a site of under a quarter acre and a quarter to a full acre, respectively. They have an approximate building square footage range of 250 to 10,500 square feet and have occupancies between five and 500 occupants. Chapter 6, Facilities and Amenities, outlines specific design criteria for the river pavilions, which range in size to accommodate varying activities and programs. Shade Pavilions (Tier I), the smallest pavilions with the simplest programming, should accommodate five to 20 occupants. Rest Pavilions (Tier II) that offer enhanced programming such as restrooms, a snack station, and picnic table, should accommodate 20 to 50 occupants. Gathering Pavilions (Tier III), those with the most substantive facilities and amenities such as a cafe, locker room, and bike rental station, should accommodate 50 to 500 occupants. However, some XS and S projects may have more significant facilities that necessitate increased area and result in a higher occupancy.

Figure 8. **(Top) The LA River can host community performances, such as the one shown in the image by a local high school at the SELA Arts Festival at river mile 11.7.**
Source: OLIN, 2018.

Figure 9. **(Middle) The LA River Campout at river mile 26 is an example of programming that broadens participants' understanding of the LA River.**
Source: Clockshop, The Bowtie Project, 2017.

Figure 10. **(Bottom) The LA River is an important resource to the Indigenous Peoples of Los Angeles. This images shows the Native American Veterans Association's annual Veterans Appreciation and Heritage Pow Wow at river mile 13.**
Source: Marvin Lynchard, 2014.

THE GOAL IS TO CREATE A COMPLEMENTARY APPROACH BETWEEN WHAT IS SHARED AND WHAT IS UNIQUE WITHIN EACH FRAME, NEIGHBORHOOD, AND ENVIRONMENT ALONG THE RIVER

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

A UNIQUE AND SHARED RIVER COMMONS

The design of plantings, structures, buildings, and trails should share some common attributes along the river course. For residents and visitors this means it should be apparent when they are in the LA River corridor commons. The goal is to create a complementary approach between what is shared and what is unique along each frame, neighborhood, and environment along the river. The balance between celebrating the unique and providing a common design formality should not be a heavy-handed exercise. There are so many iconic vistas along the river: Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, the Glendale Narrows, the historic bridges crossing over the river in downtown City of LA, the rising 6th Street Viaduct, Hollydale Park, the Dominguez Gap Wetlands, and the Long Beach Estuary to name but a few. The shared identity should be a common platform for connecting and celebrating these destinations and future sites of interest.

The most logical way to do this is to create a trail identity that unites and connects just as the river corridor itself does: connective elements such as trail dimensions, path materiality, lighting, artwork, and environmental graphics should create this common identity. By contrast, points of arrival, vistas, and destinations should be inspired by high design ambition, community context, and environmental resilience. Ultimately, the common connection and destinations along the river should reveal a greater understanding of the river itself as a unique and diverse commons serving the people of LA County.

Figure 11. Projects along the LA River should improve ecosystem function and provide educational opportunities. Source: OLIN, 2019.

PROSPECT AND REFUGE

For the river to be connective it must be inclusive, inviting, and useful to everyday life. Design is not a formula, but there are underlying fundamentals that all good design includes. One is to provide places of prospect (views) to see the greater landscape—to observe those around us and natural phenomena—and to be a safe place for us individually and for us, our family, and friends to use and enjoy.

A successful public space is a destination within the public realm that encourages social interaction and a sense of community. We are uneasy in places that are vacant, missing convenient crossings, or have difficult and obscured lines of sight. These environments put us on the defensive and create unease. Every destination and path along the river should be readily accessed and exited within no more than a half mile. Open spaces must be programmed to support a diversity of regular users. The strategies employed may vary and need not be complex, an extraordinary natural view, places to perch and observe activity in comfort and shade, areas to watch active gameplay or see a performance or an all ages adventure playground can all serve as strong attractors. In combination with comfort and convenient access these places will be safe, vital, and attractive.

SAFETY

Of paramount concern is that the river is safe for all and that the feeling of safety is perceptible. To ensure safety along the river the guidelines have developed a framework of environmental design that requires projects to maintain: clear lines of sight, provide minimum standards of lighting uniformity along all routes of circulation and to post clear guidance on avoiding flood and storm hazards from within the channel. Every half mile of the river corridor will provide a station for rest and where adjacent to a neighboring community access to and from the river corridor commons. The entirety of the 51 miles of the LA River shall maintain emergency access for first responders and emergency personnel and maintenance vehicles. Ultimately, the river will be maintained for both the personal safety of visitors of the commons as well as the importance to maintain the channel corridor for the protection of life and property along the entire corridor.

Figure 12. Vendors set up booths within the river channel at the SELA Arts Festival at river mile 11.7. Source: OLIN, 2019.

Figure 13. The industrial land that hems in the LA River, such as this example at river mile 18, is representative of over ten percent of all land within the river corridor. Source: OLIN, 2018.

CULTURAL IDENTITY

The river is a series of unique communities and environments united by the flow of the river. The corridor is envisioned to become a major environmental and cultural asset for the citizens of LA County. All design projects should be informed by the resources, assets and needs provided by the local context of each mile of the river. The river should reflect the diversity and the creativity of LA County where a majority speak a language other than English, is multiracial as well as multicultural. Facilities for the river should acknowledge and be informed by the histories, cultural expressions, and familial uses of communities along the river to maximize local use and authentically reflect the river's diversity.

CADENCE

In order to make the 51 miles of the river accessible and useful to the communities of LA County, reliable access to amenities, services, and destination uses should be established. The planning framework prescribes that these elements occur at regular intervals, a cadence. The intent is to create both equity in access to open space and amenity throughout the river and to improve access and safety while setting reliable expectations for services and facilities along the river.

INTEGRATION OF ARTS AND CULTURE

Incorporating arts and culture along the LA River is essential to creating a thriving, continuous 51-mile arts and culture corridor as outlined in Goal 5 of the LA River Master Plan. Communities along the LA River should have equitable access to arts and culture assets and programming. This is reinforced by a 2017 LA County Arts and Culture report on the Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative, which focuses on inclusive cultural and arts programs for all residents of LA County. Many jurisdictions also have a "percent for art" policy that requires private construction or development projects to invest in public art. Further incentives and new programs supporting arts and culture along the LA River will continue to be developed in the future.

The LA River Master Plan suggests that a methodology should be developed for the inclusive mapping of arts and culture in neighborhoods adjacent to the river. This methodology should be participatory and include informal and improvisational community spaces and groups, as well as temporary art installations and recurring community events and festivals. Mapped assets should also include places, people, and events that convey the cultural heritage of riverside communities. An example of comprehensive field mapping is the City of LA Department of Planning SurveyLA Program, which was completed from 2010 to 2017 and identified historic resources for each community plan area of the city.[1] As development and construction takes place along the river, cultural historic resources need to be safeguarded. Mapping these sites is an important way to ensure the historic and social fabric is not lost or if it is threatened, mitigation is provided.

Innovative approaches to art and design are strongly encouraged in this document. Throughout the design process, there are opportunities at each stage to integrate arts and culture. Designers, lead agencies, and partnering organizations can maximize the impact of this integration by engaging artists at the earliest stages of a project and considering arts visibility and communication as crucial components of their proposals and implementation strategies. Early inclusion of artists in the project development process ensures that art is part of the overall project vision and site design rather than being a siloed component added on after construction is complete. Artists bring unique perspectives to the table that can benefit projects. For example, LA Metro integrates its arts and design team into early phases of project planning, allowing for the mapping and understanding of existing cultural assets through the incorporation of arts into community engagement.

Public art can play a role in all scales of projects along the LA River. The flexible and inclusive categories of public art include permanent and temporary installations, cultural facilities and uses, environmental graphics, and community engagement and programming. Access to arts education and other informal arts and culture programming is equally as important as permanent art institutions.

Designers can seek guidance and support from the LA County Department of Arts and Culture, municipal arts departments, community arts agencies, and other arts non-profit organizations to facilitate the development of works of public art that celebrates the diverse cultural heritage of the LA River.

Examples of public art can be both permanent and temporary installations.

Permanent public art examples include, but are not limited to:

- Sculpture: Free standing, wall supported or suspended, kinetic, electronic or mechanical in material or combination of materials
- Murals, portable paintings, panels, pavers, or tiles
- Earthworks, neon, glass, mosaics, photographs, prints
- Site furnishings or fixtures
- Environmental graphics
- Exhibit or performance space: Public gallery/ exhibition space, public performance spaces, public artistic studio spaces, and public art education facilities

Temporary public art examples include, but are not limited to:

- Forms of media including sound, film, holographic, and video systems, hybrids of any media and new genres
- Performing arts: Theatre, dance, music and performance art
- Literary art: Poetry readings and storytelling
- Food culture
- Education programming and arts services
- Special events: Parades, festivals and celebrations
- Community engagement

Figure 14. (Top) The Bowtie Project at river mile 26 has hosted many artist projects, such as the 2014 project "Building: a simulacrum of power" by Rafa Esparza. Source: "The Bowtie Project, https://clockshop.org/project/bowtie/.

Figure 15. (Middle) The LA River can host student art installations and sculptures, as shown in this image at river mile 26. Source: 2016, "ACE Spring Design Studio" by Woodbury University.

Figure 16. (Bottom) Programs such as Turnaround Arts foster art education in schools and communities along the LA River. Source: Turnaround Arts: California, https://bit.ly/2QBK5tt.

Figure 17. **This example of an art installation at a Tier III Pavilion at RM 28.4 portrays a data-based installation that could show real-time water quality through the color of the lights.**

PUBLIC ART CAN PLAY A ROLE IN ALL SCALES OF PROJECTS ALONG THE LA RIVER

The following should be considered for integration of arts and culture along the LA River:

- Projects should incorporate artists and other arts and culture groups at the earliest phases of project development as an integral part of the design team drawing from local artists and cultural assets Art and design can be incorporated into all stages of community engagement.
- Project design teams should consider and highlight the cultural heritage of the site and existing, historic, and indigenous communities for projects along the LA River.

- Opportunities should be explored for art along the LA River that can be integrated with various aspects of a project. It can become a part of and evolve with the infrastructure of the river itself.
- Design teams should select durable materials appropriate for their application,establish strategies for responsible parties, and identify potential funding scenarios. Additionally, these material selections and strategies should distinguish between requirements for temporary versus permanent installations.
- Arts and culture projects along the LA River must be for all. This especially includes current residents of LA River adjacent neighborhoods who currently may not have access to arts and culture programming.
- Site specific criteria and community input should frame a competitive project selection process.
- Arts and culture projects can include programs and residencies for the incubation of youth and community talent, along with other community programming.

ONGOING PROJECT SUCCESS

Almost 25 years ago, LA County developed a transformative plan to re-envision the river as an 'Urban Treasure' and a 'valuable natural asset' that would enrich the quality of life for residents and help to sustain the economy of the region.[2] Since publication miles of trails have been added for pedestrians and cyclists, and the river has emerged as an iconic presence in Angeleno's minds. Today, new concerns have shifted from what was once aspirational into something that brings tangible value and improvement to all communities along the river and those who travel along its banks. The Master Plan assembled today has been constructed from robust data sets that have provided clear metrics for addressing flood risk, water resources, connectivity, and, critically, social health and equity.

Building great projects that meet the goals of the LA River Master Plan is not enough. During project development the on-going success of projects must be a significant consideration. Topics such as life cycle costs, including operations and maintenance funding and responsibility, must be planned for. Other items that can frequently cause issues after project development if not considered in how elements are designed, such as pest and vector control, should be addressed during the design phases. Additional stressors on long-term success may be related to the use of the LA River right-of-way by persons experiencing homelessness. Thinking through all of these elements during the design process is required.

LIFE CYCLE COSTS AND O&M

The LA River flows through various cross-sectional conditions along its 51-mile course including concrete lined and earthen reaches as well as trapezoidal and rectangular section reaches. The typical river right-of-way includes flood management structures such as levees, the channel itself as well as access roads, and various recreational amenities such as bike paths and trails, which are primarily maintained by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). In some cases, other entities such as municipalities, non-governmental agencies, or developers provide O&M of the various recreational and habitat amenities.

Maintenance costs must be considered and planned for during project development to determine responsibility for funding the day-to-day operations and maintenance of projects. The responsible agency for maintenance of projects and improvements must be identified for any projects in the LA County Flood Control District right-of-way in order to receive a permit.

Every project permitted under these guidelines requires the submission of a one year maintenance plan and three year monitoring program for the site along with the expected budget for the maintenance. The agency responsible for maintenance must agree in writing to the maintenance plan and budget. See the permitting checklist (on page 34) for full maintenance plan requirements.

In addition to day to day maintenance costs, the long-term needs for rebuilding and repairing projects should be considered by the responsible agency to ensure success. Upon completion of a project, operations and maintenance alone may average 0.1-1% of the capital costs annually depending on the type of project and facility. Replacement costs are in addition to these numbers. Significant replacement of infrastructure, such as levees and floodwalls, while required much less frequently, can be a significant life cycle cost.

THE MASTER PLAN HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED FROM ROBUST DATA SETS THAT HAVE PROVIDED CLEAR METRICS FOR ADDRESSING FLOOD RISK, WATER RESOURCES, CONNECTIVITY, AND, CRITICALLY, SOCIAL HEALTH AND EQUITY

PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Los Angeles has one of the largest populations of persons experiencing homelessness in the United States, and many of the county's unsheltered residents take refuge within the LA River right-of-way. The presence of homeless encampments can impede operations and maintenance efforts along the river, exacerbate pollution, and discourage recreational users from visiting the river. Those living in encampments also face chronic health risks due, in great part, to a lack of access to sanitation and hygiene facilities. The ongoing success of projects along the LA River largely depends on how communities experiencing homelessness dwelling on the river banks or in the channel are addressed—with such, it is critical that river improvements do not result in spaces of exclusion. Rather, what is needed is an overarching commitment to provide opportunities for sanitation and personal hygiene that are both accessible and humane. The construction and maintenance of pavilions where one can use the restroom, wash their hands, take a shower, and dispose of trash will have a resoundingly positive impact on the health, dignity, and general well-being of all people along the river, as well as the health and safety of the river itself.

Likewise, the LA River should be an environment that reflects active care. Avoid overgrown vegetation along walkways and gateways to convey that the river is well-tended and that its improvements are welcoming. The maintenance of clear sight lines is equally critical for both safety and comfort, as they prevent visual isolation and enable "eyes on the street" (in this case, "eyes on the river"). Utilize palettes of plants that are not harmful to the touch or poisonous to eat to reduce further hazards to all river users, notably young children and pets. Finally, street furniture provides an essential place to rest, and the design of common elements like seating should be varied enough to allow for different types of uses. To endure as a public space that truly serves all, including persons experiencing homelessness, the LA River should incorporate a multiplicity of facilities, large and small, that ensure safety, provide comfort, amplify beauty, and encourage the coexistence of diverse populations.

PEST/VECTOR CONTROL

At the beginning of project development, it is critical to review design ideas with the vector control district of jurisdiction to assure proper mosquito minimization measures are incorporated into the project. Mosquitoes threaten public health by transmitting a number of potentially debilitating, even fatal, diseases. Mosquito minimization measures should include natural predation, mosquito exclusion, and a comprehensive operation and maintenance plan including vegetation management. The system should be designed to facilitate necessary surveillance as well as physical and chemical mosquito control efforts by the vector control agency. A checklist developed by the California Department of Public Health entitled "Checklist for Minimizing Vector Production in Stormwater Management Structures" is available to assist designers, https://www.cdph.ca.gov/. The project should be designed to facilitate necessary surveillance as well as physical and chemical mosquito control efforts by the vector control agency. Projects that fail to incorporate proper mosquito minimization will be subject to costly corrective actions including potential abatement proceedings pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code Section 2000-2007.

PERMITTING

Depending on the project type, location, and site-specific conditions there are many permit requirements to meet in order to plan and develop a project along the LA River.

The most common types of approvals and permits required for projects along the LA River are included below to assist in project development, but project teams should always review the latest information available from each agency at the time of project planning to confirm requirements.

Projects that require discretionary approval; meaning the approval requires the exercise of judgement or deliberation by the reviewing public agency(ies) prior to approving or disapproving a project, require some level of environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Projects that also impact a federal facility, such as the LA River Channel itself, are also subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Proponents of projects in and along the LA River corridor may also need to consider and plan for:

- Site access through acquisition or easement.
- Municipal permits such as Building and Safety and/or permits for work within the public right-of-way.
- Coordination with rail corridors as much of the river corridor is flanked by rail (SCRRA, MTA, UPRR, etc.).
- Utilities, including connections/hook ups, crossings, relocations.
- Site remediation, including clean up of toxic soils, may require coordination with the EPA, CALEPA, or DTSC.

In addition to the above, there is a consistent suite of permits that may be required for projects in and along the LA River Corridor.

LA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT (LACFCD) (FCD PERMITS ARE ISSUED BY LA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS)

A Flood Control Permit is required where the LACFCD owns the land or controls the operations and maintenance of the LA River Corridor, to ensure that the proposed project does not interfere with the LACFCD's operation and maintenance responsibilities. Some of the more common types of Flood Control Permits are:

Access Permit: required for temporary use of LACFCD right-of-way. Examples include community or educational events, volunteer trash cleanup events, or filming.[3]

Connection Permit: required when a private citizen, developer, or agency proposes to connect a drainage system to an existing LACFCD facility. Examples include connecting a small pipe to the rear of a catch basin or a new storm drain connecting to a larger storm drain or channel.[4]

Temporary Discharge Permit: required for the temporary discharge of non-stormwater such as water well start up, construction dewatering, municipal water supply system flushing, swimming pool discharge etc.[5]

Construction Permit: required for encroachment onto and/or alteration of LACFCD right-of-way for new construction. A few examples of permitted activities are storm drain realignment, landscape improvements, parks, bikeway construction, or installation of structural BMP devices.[6]

The LA River Design Guidelines contained within this document must be followed for projects seeking this type of permit. The design of recreational amenities, parks, and plantings for the LA River requires a series of steps and procedures to achieve optimum success, which includes the development of plans and specifications that meet the permit criteria of the LA County Public Works. Project proponents must submit plans for approval by LA County Public Works on a project by project basis. Permittee is responsible for adhering to all requirements. Requirements for jurisdictional reviews and permits procedural issues are outlined in detail on the following pages:

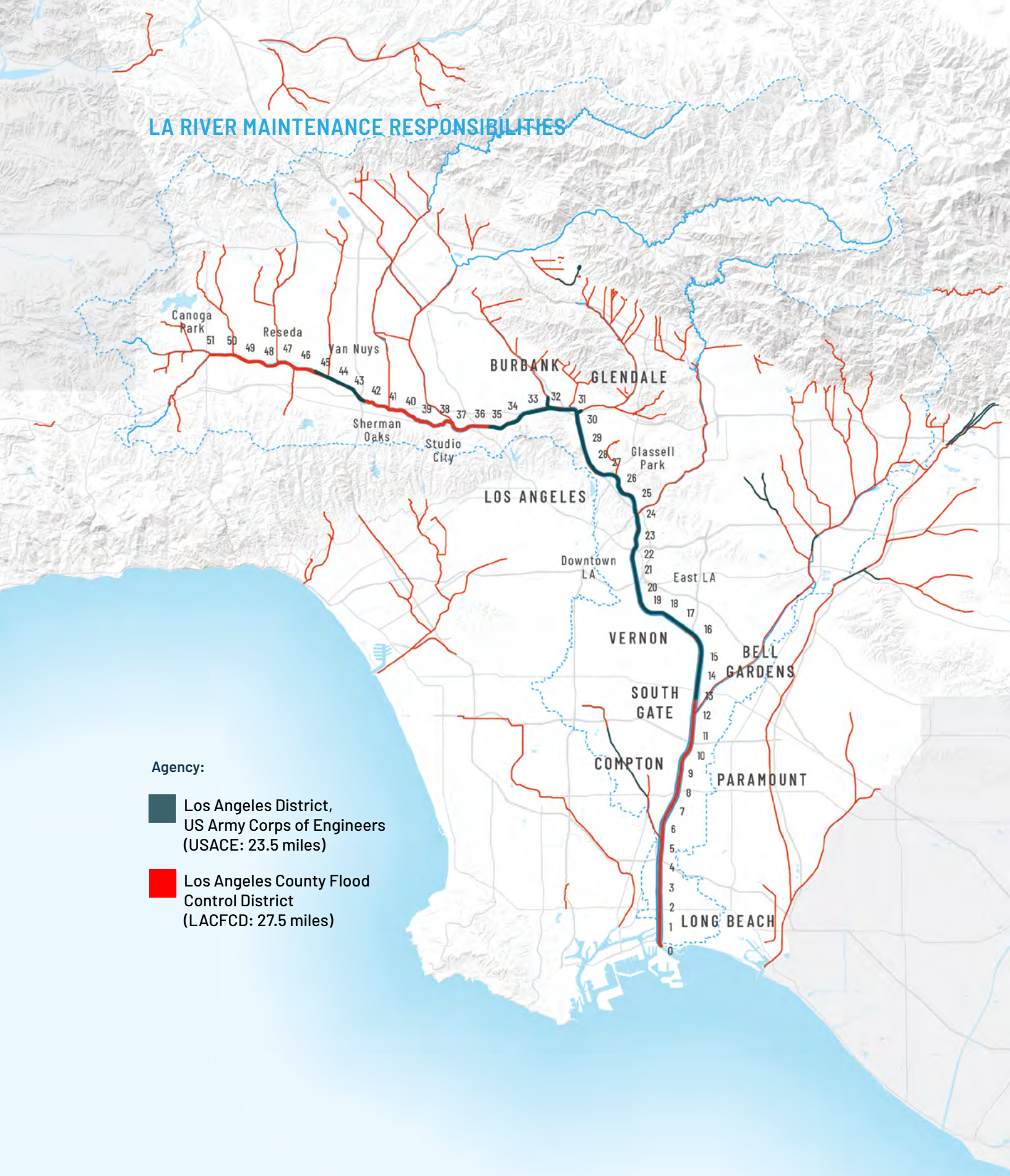


Figure 18. LA River Maintenance Responsibilities. Currently, the LA River and its tributaries are operated and maintained by the USACE or the FCD. This map indicates which entity has jurisdiction in different segments of the river. Source: LA County Public Works, GIS Maintenance Map, 2016.

LACFCD PERMITTING CHECKLIST

Detailed Checklist for LA County Flood Control District (LACFCD)

Background Review

- ☐ Determine river mile location of project and list on all documents associated with the project.
- ☐ Review the LA River Master Plan documents to identify local and site-specific opportunities.
- ☐ Review the LA River Design Guidelines (this document) for applicable requirements.
- ☐ Review LA County Public Works LA River Housing Checklist (document under development during LARMP process—to be completed before publishing this document) to determine if the project will require a housing assessment.
- ☐ Determine location of nearest river pavilion and amenities to determine what is required onsite.
- ☐ Meet with LA County Public Works staff and local municipality staff (as required per site location).
- ☐ Review other relevant documents, such as adjacent city plans.
- ☐ Meet with sponsoring groups (as required).
- ☐ Begin community engagement process.
- ☐ Hire a professional design team (may include landscape architect, engineer, architect, ecologist, artist, botanist, and others depending on project type). (Best Practice: Early integration of all disciplines, particularly designers and artists).

Evaluate Site for Opportunities and Constraints

- ☐ Determine maintenance jurisdiction.
- ☐ Determine all land ownerships and easements/rights-of-way.
- ☐ Contact all agencies involved and owners for concept approval.
- ☐ Identify water source (point of connection) if required and funding responsibility.
- ☐ Conduct site analysis:
  - Assess topographic, hydrologic, and microclimate conditions.
  - Conduct agronomic and biological activity soil test.
  - Determine existing utilities (gas lines, water lines, electric lines).
  - Review applicable codes, which may include, but is not limited to CA Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, LA County Public Works and/or American Public Works Association (APWA) Standard Plans, LA County Flood Control District Code, Municipal Codes, USACE Policy, LID Ordinance and Manual, LA County Parks and Rec Guidelines.
- ☐ Research adjacent arts and cultural assets determine if project should have an art component.

Conceptual Design Stage

- ☐ Develop a site-specific program (include multi-benefit opportunities as outlined in the LA River Master Plan Kit of Parts)
- ☐ Develop preliminary plant palettes per the Design Guidelines starting on page 218.
- ☐ Develop conceptual planting and grading.
- ☐ Develop conceptual public art program (as required).
- ☐ Prepare section-view illustrations, including topography, planting, and architectural features.

- ☐ Identify irrigation basis of design
- ☐ Submit to LA County Public Works for review.
- ☐ Discuss applicability of plant nursery contract growing for the project.
- ☐ Review O&M requirements for project success and begin to plan for how O&M will be accomplished.

Schematic Design Stage

- ☐ Prepare design and irrigation plans with preliminary details.
- ☐ Consult LA County LID manual and municipality requirements regarding irrigation equipment.
- ☐ Prepare comprehensive plant palettes including species types, quantities, sizes, and installation details.
- ☐ Begin contract growing process (as required).
- ☐ Prepare preliminary cost estimate and project specifications.
- ☐ Complete preliminary site engineering analyses as required for project including stormwater calculations, hydraulic analyses, and site structures.
- ☐ Prepare public art proposal (as required).

Monitoring and Maintenance Program

- ☐ Prepare irrigation schedule.
- ☐ Prepare a 12 month maintenance program for planting.
- ☐ Prepare a 3 year monitoring and maintenance program, including all planting and improvements (pavilions, site furnishings, etc). See pages 96-97, 156-157, 302-305 and 348-349 for technical drawing and specific requirements for trails, environmental graphics, planting, and site amenities.
- ☐ Submit budget for maintenance, and include a written statement of intention to perform and fund maintenance.
- ☐ List agencies responsible for maintaining the project.
- ☐ Prepare O&M for public art proposal (as required).

Technical Drawings and Specifications

- ☐ Coordinate technical drawings with public art (as required).
- ☐ Submit technical drawings and specifications to the county for review and approval. Landscape plans, irrigation plans, and specifications to be prepared by a registered landscape architect licensed to practice in California. Engineering plans, calculations, and specifications to be prepared by a California registered engineer. For structural amenities not shown in the county or APWA standard plans, the designer should provide detailed drawings and design calculations, prepared, signed, and stamped by a California registered civil or structural Engineer. See pages 96-97, 156-157, 302-305 and 348-349 for technical drawing and specific requirements for trails, environmental graphics, planting, and site amenities.
- ☐ Submit maintenance and monitoring programs for both 12-month and 3-years as part of the technical specifications required for project approval.
- ☐ Require underground service alert (Sponsored by the Underground Service Alert of Southern California, a non-profit mutual-benefit organization dedicated to ensuring public safety and that of workers of underground utility lines: www.digalert.org).

As-Built Drawings

- ☐ Submit an updated planting plan, irrigation schematics, site engineering plans, and other applicable as-built record drawings to LAC Public Works. (As built drawings should be prepared by the installing contractor).

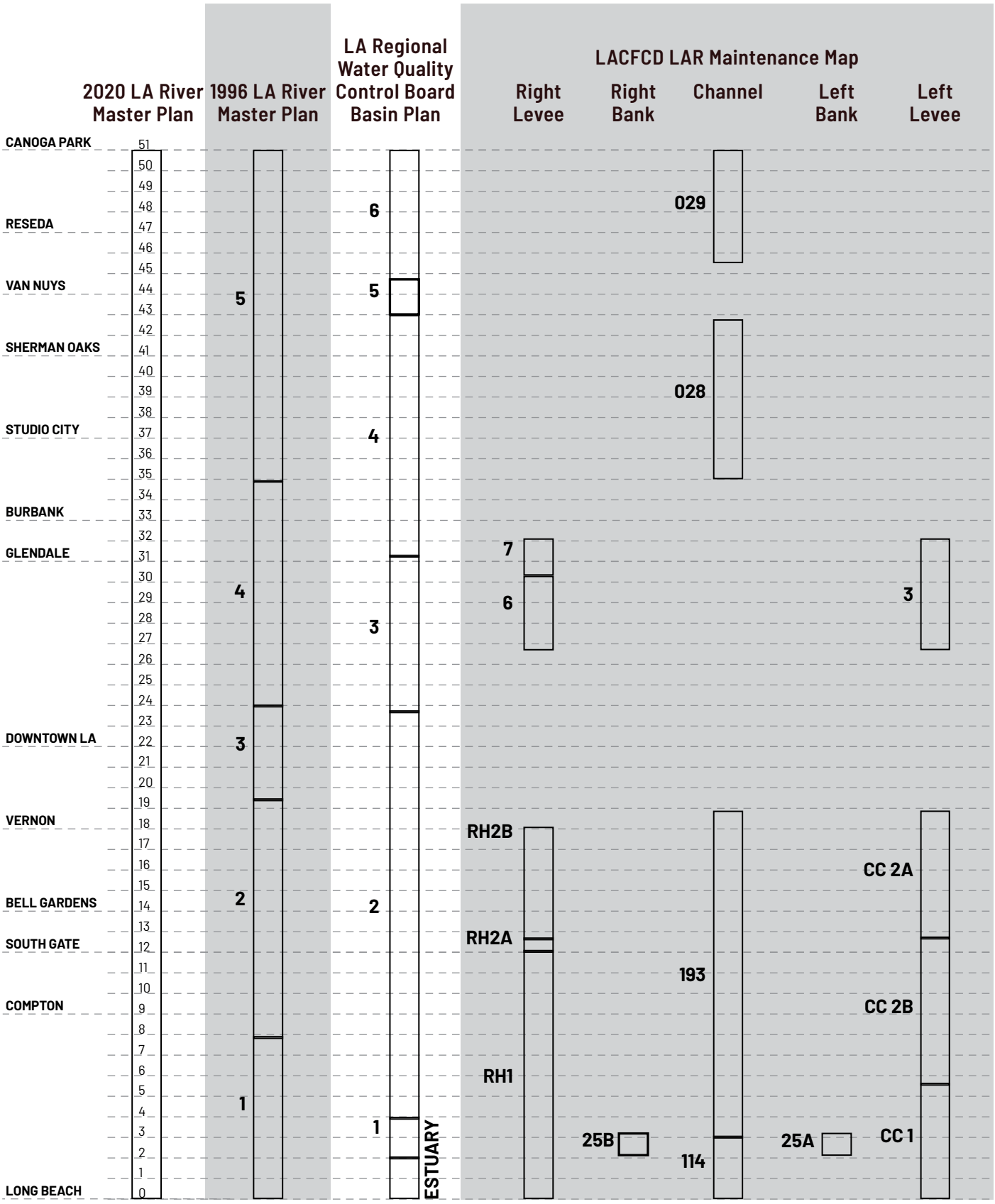
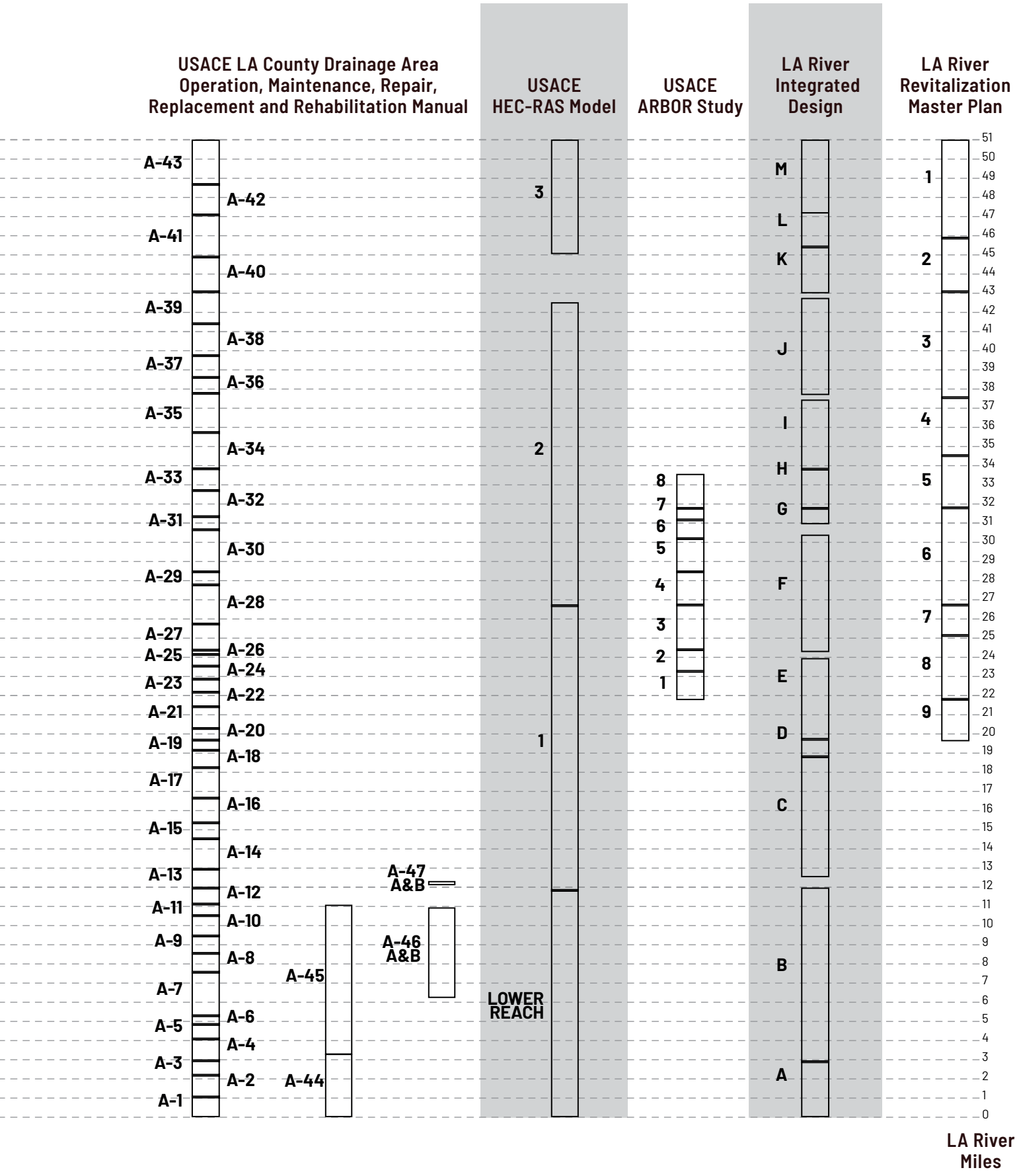


Figure 19. **Various governmental entities use differing methods to define river segments, as shown in this diagram. However, all projects permitted under these guidelines are required to reference the 51 mile LA River numbering system. This diagram is for reference only. Other entities may change their definitions over time, so consult with the applicable entity as needed.** Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.


USACE LA County Drainage Area Operation, Maintenance, Repair, Replacement and Rehabilitation Manual
USACE HEC-RAS Model
USACE ARBOR Study
LA River Integrated Design
LA River Revitalization Master Plan
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LA River Miles

OTHER PERMITS

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

404: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (WOUS), including wetlands. Activities in waters of the United States regulated under this program include the construction, modification, or removal of structures and work involving dredging, disposal of dredged material, filling, excavation, or other modification to a WOUS. Proposed activities that modify a WOUS are regulated through a USACE permit review process. The USACE issues both individual and two types of general permits; including nationwide and regional permits that are required before dredged or fill material may be discharged into WOUS. General permits provide a more streamlined application and expedited review process and are applicable for work that is typically more common in nature (e.g., outfall structures) and generally minimal in nature. An individual permit is generally required for more complex projects or projects that may potentially result in significant impacts. Individual permits require a public review and compliance with CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines, promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency[7] including completion of an alternative's analysis. Both individual and general permit applications need to demonstrate that steps have been taken to avoid impacts to wetlands, streams and other aquatic resources; that potential impacts have been minimized; and that compensation will be provided for all remaining unavoidable impacts.[8] Projects requiring individual permits also need to demonstrate that the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) is selected.

408: USACE, in partnership with local partners, has constructed many Civil Works projects across the nation's landscape, including the LA River. Over time, there may be a need for others outside of the USACE to alter or occupy these projects and their associated lands. In order to ensure that these projects continue to provide their intended benefits to the public, Congress mandated that any use or alteration of a Civil Works project by another party is subject to the approval of USACE. This requirement was established in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and codified in 33 USC 408, commonly referred to as "Section 408." USACE Section 408 policy, contained in the document Engineer Circular (EC) 1165-2-220 effective September 10, 2018, sets forth the process and criteria USACE uses to review requests to alter USACE Civil Works projects.[9]

US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (USFWS)

The USFWS reviews and comments on projects pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the CWA, and the NEPA. The USFWS's comments focus on the effects of projects on all fish and wildlife resources and the habitats that support those resources. Such projects may be, but not limited to, flood risk management, urban and industrial development, habitat restoration activities, etc. The USFWS also reviews projects for their affects pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). The ESA, through Section 9, prohibits the take of any species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the Act. The USFWS is responsible for issuing permits authorizing the incidental take of threatened or endangered species that is consistent with conservation of that species and exempts the take from the Section 9 prohibitions. When projects or activities require a federal permit, such as a CWA section 404 permit from USACE, Section 7 ESA consultation with USFWS is required. The consultation typically starts as informal consultation during the planning stage. If the informal consultation identifies the proposed project is not likely to affect listed species, consultation between the USACE and the USFWS is considered complete. If listed species may be affected the USACE will request formal consultation with the USFWS, and the USFWS will prepare a biological opinion outlining if the proposed development is likely to adversely affect or take of a listed species. If identified reasonable and prudent alternatives still result in adverse effects or take of a listed species, the USFWS will prepare an incidental take statement that outlines project conditions and exempts the take from the Section 9 prohibitions. If there is no Federal involvement, and the project may result in an incidental take, Section 10 requires a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) be prepared as part of an application to obtain an incidental take permit from the USFWS. Similar to the incidental take statement, the incidental take permit exempts the take from Section 9 prohibitions.[10]

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS)

This is the federal agency responsible for the conservation and management of the nation's living marine resources. Projects or activities that may affect marine fish and related habitat within NMFS jurisdiction are reviewed for any potentially harmful effects. These evaluations are conducted under the authority of the ESA, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and NEPA. The purpose of the reviews conducted by NMFS is to ensure that sensitive populations of marine and anadromous fish (such as salmon and steelhead), as well as the aquatic and riparian habitats that support these fish, can survive and recover in the presence of human activities. Through these reviews, the need to conserve and protect fish and habitat is balanced with the need to responsibly utilize natural resources for economic and other purposes. When projects or activities require a federal permit, such as a CWA section 404 permit from USACE, Section 7 ESA consultation with the NMFS, in addition to the USFWS, may be required if applicable. If there is no Federal involvement, and the project may result in an incidental take, Section 10 requires a HCP be prepared and an incidental take permit be obtained through the NMFS, in addition to the USFWS, if applicable.[11]

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (CDFW)

1602: The Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires any person, state, or local government agency, or public utility to notify the CDWF before beginning any activity that will:

- substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream or lake; or
- substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream or lake; or
- deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream or lake.

If CDFW determines that the activity may substantially adversely affect fish and wildlife resources, a Lake or Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement will be required that is compliant with CEQA.[12]

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Coastal Development Permit: The California Coastal Act of 1976 requires any person proposing to undertake development in the Coastal Zone to obtain a Coastal Development Permit. The Coastal Zone extends inland anywhere from approximately 500 yards in developed urban areas to five miles in undeveloped areas. If projects are proposed in or adjacent to existing or historic coastal wetland areas, they will require Coastal Development Permits issued by the Coastal Commission.[13] The Coastal Act defines development broadly (with a few narrow exceptions), to include not only typical land development activities such as construction of buildings, but also changes in the intensity of use of land or water, even where no construction is involved. Coastal Development Permits are the regulatory mechanism by which proposed developments in the coastal zone are brought into compliance with the coastal resources planning and management policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act.[14]

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

401: Section 401 of the CWA requires that any person applying for a federal permit or license which may result in a discharge of pollutants into WOUS must obtain a state water quality certification that the activity complies with all applicable water quality standards, limitations, and restrictions. No license or permit may be issued by a federal agency until certification required under Section 401 has been granted.[15] Meaning, that before the Corps can issue a 404 permit, a 401 permit must be obtained from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LA RWQCB).

PLANNING FRAMES

A series of nine geographical frames assists in understanding where specific site opportunities are located in relation to municipal, hydraulic, and ecological zones. There is no single design solution that is applicable to all 51-miles of the LA River, therefore, it is critical to understand where a site is located in the larger context of the river as well as its local context. The frames allow river champions to take responsibility for specific sections of the Master Plan implementation and work together to bring them into reality.

The nine frames are divided as follows:

Frame 9 - West Valley: City of Los Angeles; river mile 51.0 - 43.1

Frame 8 - Mid Valley: City of Los Angeles; river mile 43.1 - 37.8

Frame 7 - East Valley: Cities of Los Angeles & Burbank; river mile 37.8 - 32.0

Frame 6- Narrows: Cities of Los Angeles, Burbank & Glendale; river mile 32.0 - 24.5

Frame 5 - Heights: City of Los Angeles; river mile 24.5 - 19.5

Frame 4 - North Plain: Cities of Bell Gardens, Bell Maywood Vernon, Commerce; river mile 19.5 - 14.14

Frame 3 - Central Plain: Cities of Compton, Paramount, Downey, Lynwood, South Gate, and Cudahy; river mile 14.14 - 8.4

Frame 2 - South Plain: City of Long Beach; river mile 8.4 - 4.0

Frame 1 - Estuary: City of Long Beach; river mile 4.0 - 0.0

LA RIVER PLANNING FRAMES

9 Frame 9 - West Valley

8 Frame 8 - Mid Valley

7 Frame 7 - East Valley

6 Frame 6- Narrows

5 Frame 5 - Heights

4 Frame 4 - North Plain

3 Frame 3 - Central Plain

2 Frame 2 - South Plain

1 Frame 1 - Estuary

Figure 20. LA River Planning Frames.

FRAME 9: WEST VALLEY

Location: City of Los Angeles; river mile 51 - 43.1

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame begins as a soft bottom with riparian edges at Sepulveda Basin, and transitions to entrenched trapezoidal concrete channel at mile 45.5. with a typical width of 180 ft. At mile 51, the channel transitions to an entrenched concrete box channel with a typical width of approximately 60 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.2%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: In this frame, the landside right-of-way ranges from 20-30 ft with a few larger tracts in the western portion of Canoga Park that are closer to 40-50 ft in width. The eastern soft bottom portion of the river channel has no landside right-of-way in Sepulveda Basin for approximately two miles (about 25% of the frame).

Notable Features:

- Dense residential context
- Bell Creek confluence at river mile 51 - also the location of Canoga Park High School
- Browns Canyon Wash confluence at river mile 49.8
- Aliso Canyon Wash confluence at river mile 47.3
- Reseda Park from river mile 46.6 to 47.0 along the right bank
- Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area and Wildlife Reserve from river mile 43.1 to 45.5; a significant ecological area

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Mile 51 at the Bell Creek confluence marks the headwaters of the LA River and projects nearby should consider the significance of this moment of the LA River.
- Projects in this frame have the opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat area in the region, such as the Santa Monica Mountains.
- Sepulveda Basin occurs in this frame, and as a soft-bottomed sediment basin approximately 2,000 acres large, it provides a tremendous opportunity for native habitat and biodiversity.
- Generally surface water in the channel portions of this frame is insignificant, except during rain events.

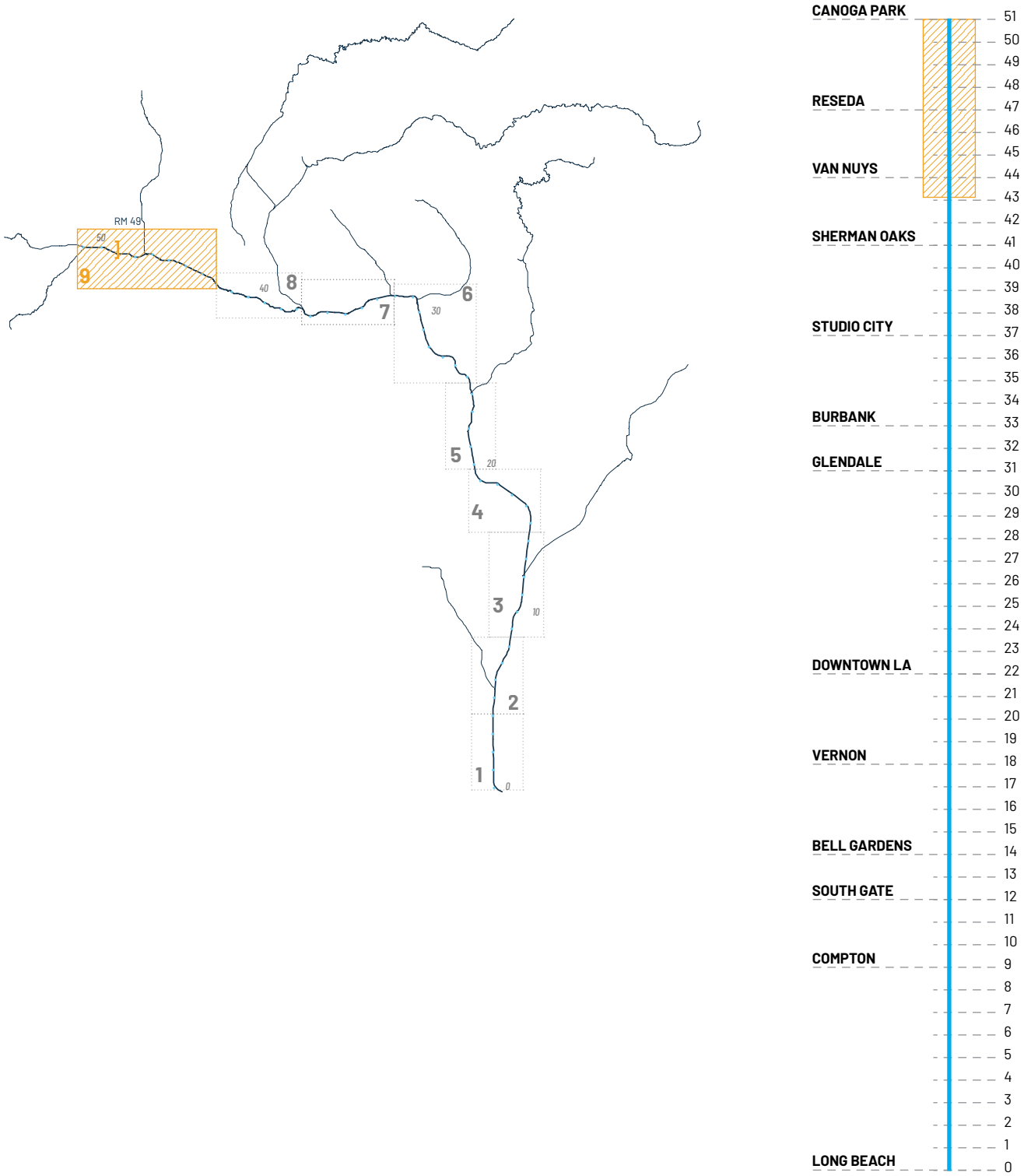


Figure 21. The channel conditions of LA River Planning Frame 9 range from soft bottom to trapezoidal to concrete. Much of the frame occurs in a dense residential context. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 8: MID VALLEY

Location: City of Los Angeles; river mile 43.1 - 37.8

Channel Characteristics: In this frame, the channel is an entrenched rectangular box concrete channel with a typical width of 60 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.3%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: In this frame, the landside right-of-way ranges from 30-60 ft before terminating at the northwestern edge of the frame where Sepulveda Basin begins.

Notable Features:

- Dense residential context
- Several greenways from river mile 37.8 to 38.6 along the right bank, from river mile 38.7 to 39.1 along the left bank, and from river mile 39.2 to 39.7 along both the left and right banks

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- The sections of the frame with a narrower right-of-way may require using the width of the channel or external land acquisition for projects of larger impact.
- Mutltiuse trails and access for wildlife should both be accommodated, even in tighter right-of-way space. Methods such as habitat ramps into the channel may be considered.
- Connections for wildlife could also be made to the multiple creeks of the Santa Monica Mountains in this area.

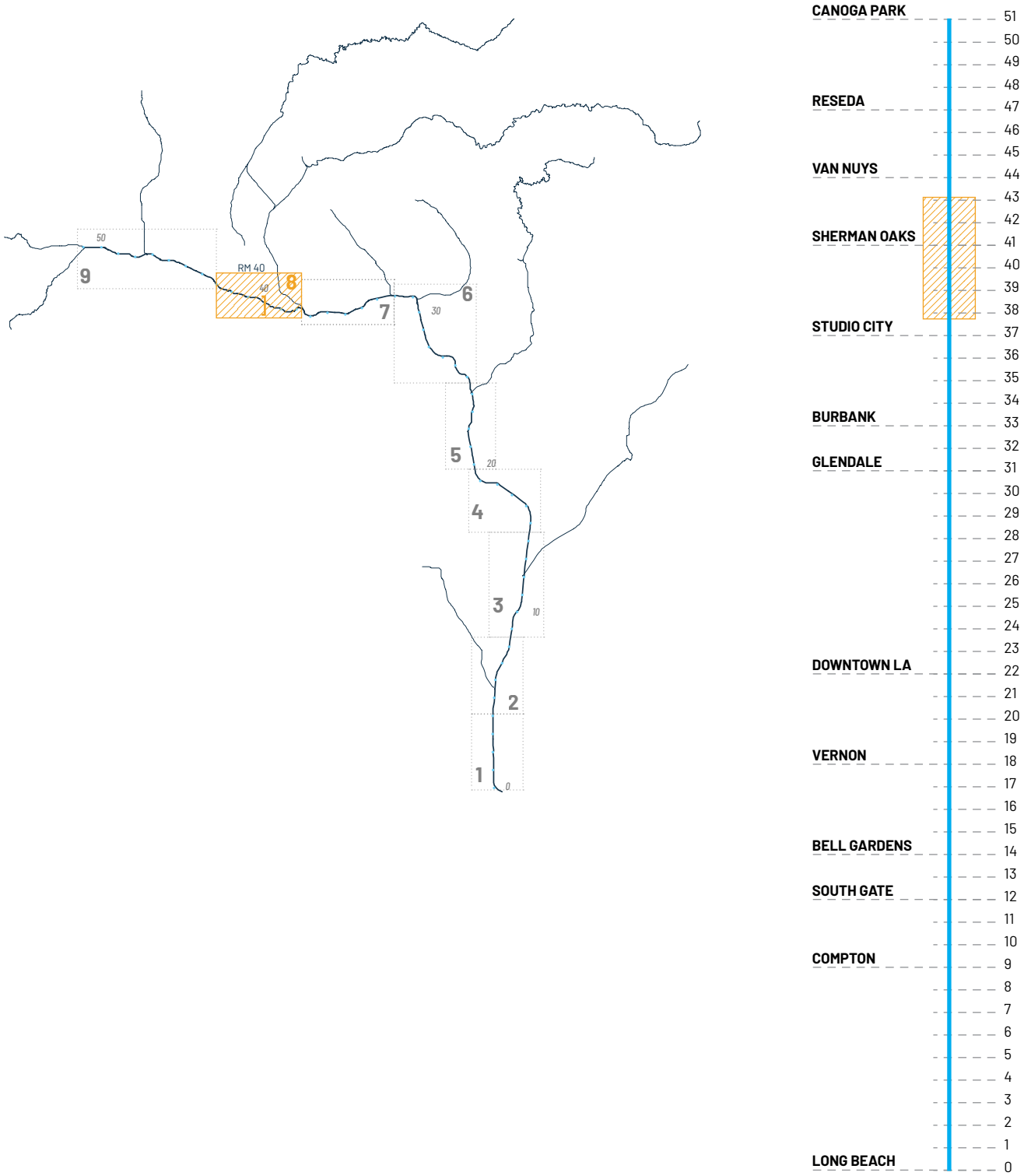


Figure 22. LA River Planning Frame 8 occurs in a dense urban and residential context and the river has a narrow, rectangular box channel section. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 7: EAST VALLEY

Location: Cities of Los Angeles and Burbank; river mile 37.8 - 32.0

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame is an entrenched rectangular box concrete channel, with a typical width of approximately 130 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.6%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: As the channel narrows in Frame 7, landside right-of-way increases to 30-50 ft with a couple of large parcels that extend 200-450 ft into adjacent development. However, there is also approximately a mile on each bank (about 20% of the frame) where there is no landside right-of-way due to Warner Brothers and Universal Studios and the Lakeside Golf Course. The landside right-of-way parcels in this frame are both north and south facing, sometimes on slopes.

Notable Features:

- Dense residential context
- Tujunga Wash confluence at river mile 37.5
- Lakeside Golf Club from river mile 34.6 to 35.6 along the left bank, no ROW
- Warner Bros Studios from approximately river mile 34 to 34.5 along the left bank, no ROW
- Adjacent to Griffith Park from approximately river mile 32 to 34.5 along the right bank
- Sennett Canyon and Creek at river mile 33.5 along the right bank
- Burbank Channel confluence at river mile 32

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Projects in this frame have the opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors in the region, especially the riparian to upland connection along the right bank with Griffith Park.
- Significant equestrian community in this area would utilize an expanded network of equestrian trails.
- The sections of the frame with no ROW may require using the width of the channel or external land acquisition for projects of larger impact.

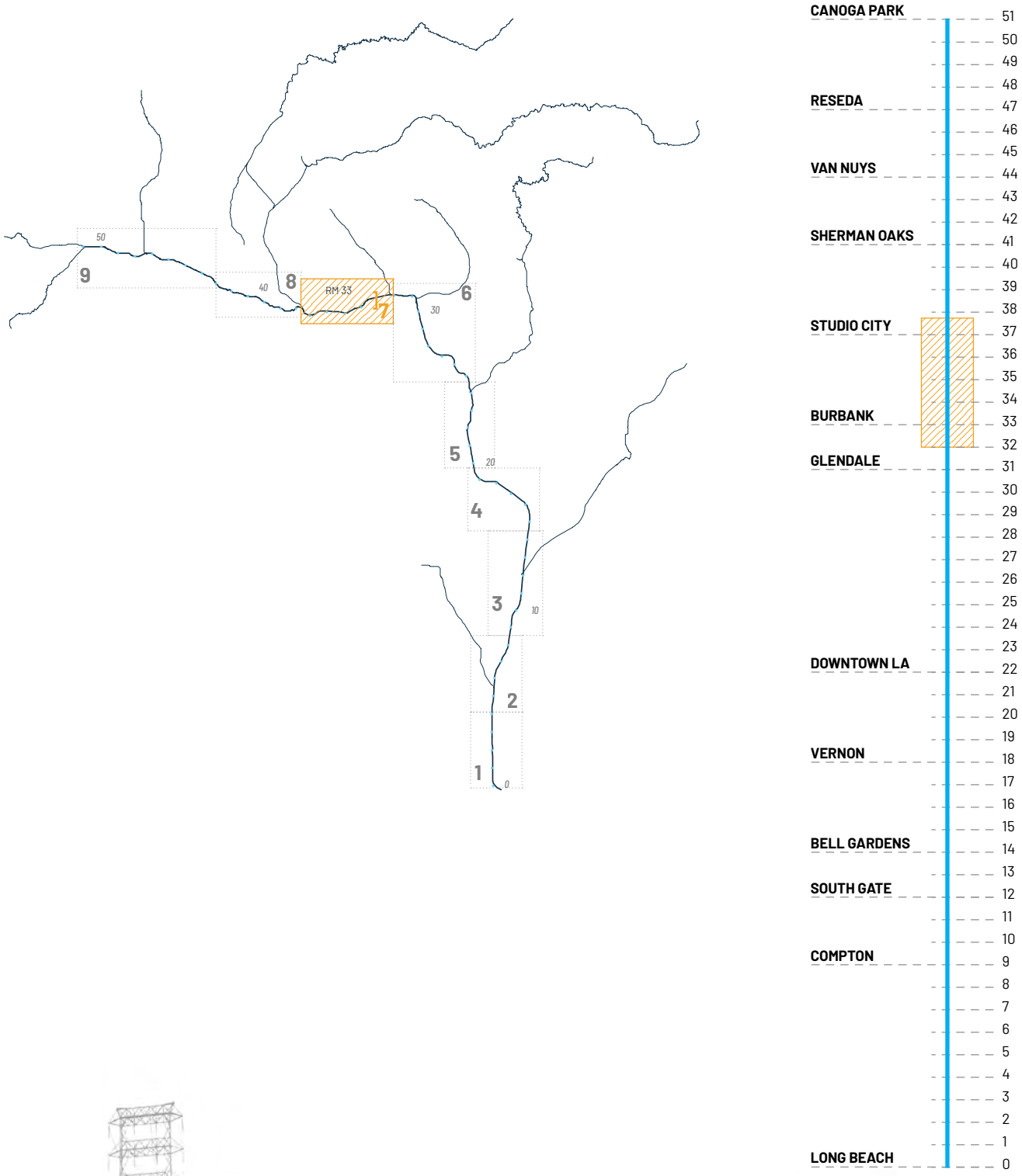


Figure 23. This channel condition of LA River Planning Frame 7 is a rectangular box section. Certain areas of the river have no ROW due to large private land holdings. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 6: NARROWS

Location: Cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, and Glendale; river mile 32.0 - 24.5

Channel Characteristics: In this frame, the channel is primarily soft bottom with entrenched trapezoid concrete walls. Typical channel width is approximately 300 ft. The channel bottom becomes concrete for about a half mile stretch as the river turns a corner just north of the Verdugo Wash confluence.

Average Channel Slope: 0.4%

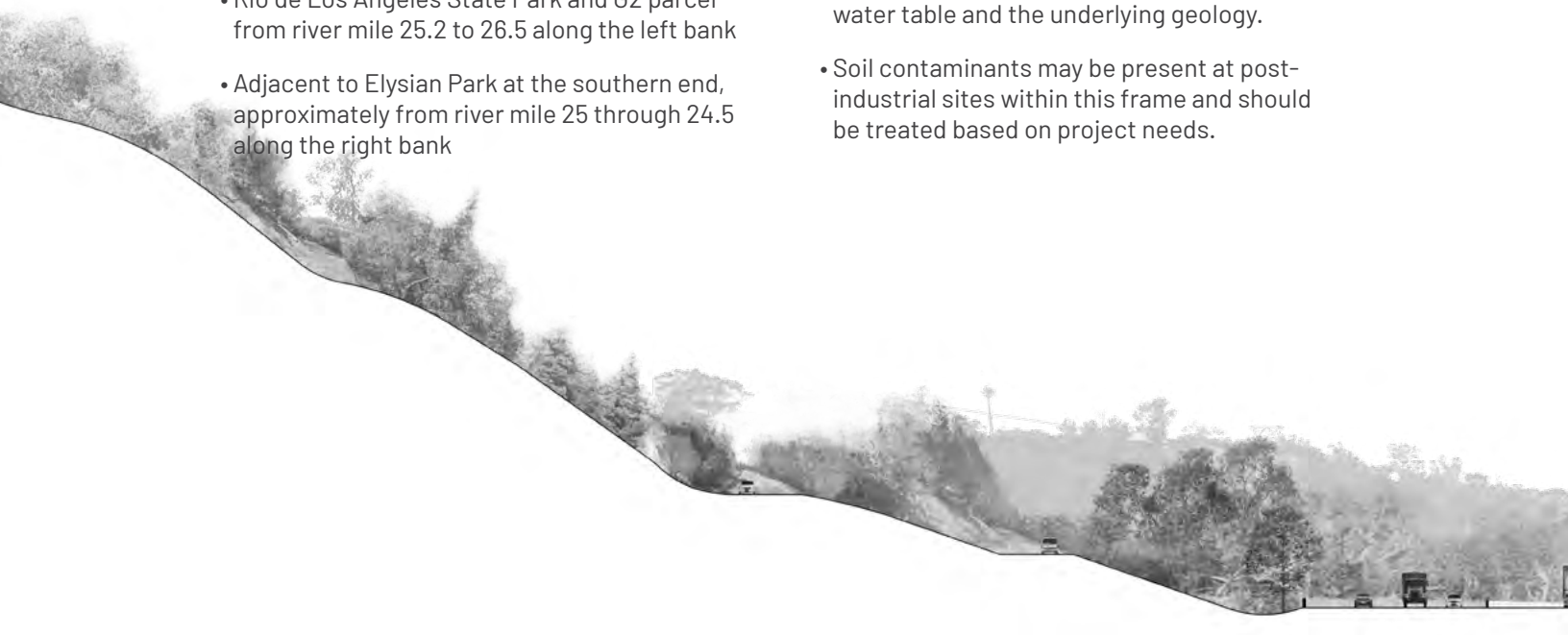
Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: In this frame, the landside right-of-way ranges between 12-30 ft. There are also some gaps in the landside right-of-way along each bank. It consists of northeast and southwest facing parcels.

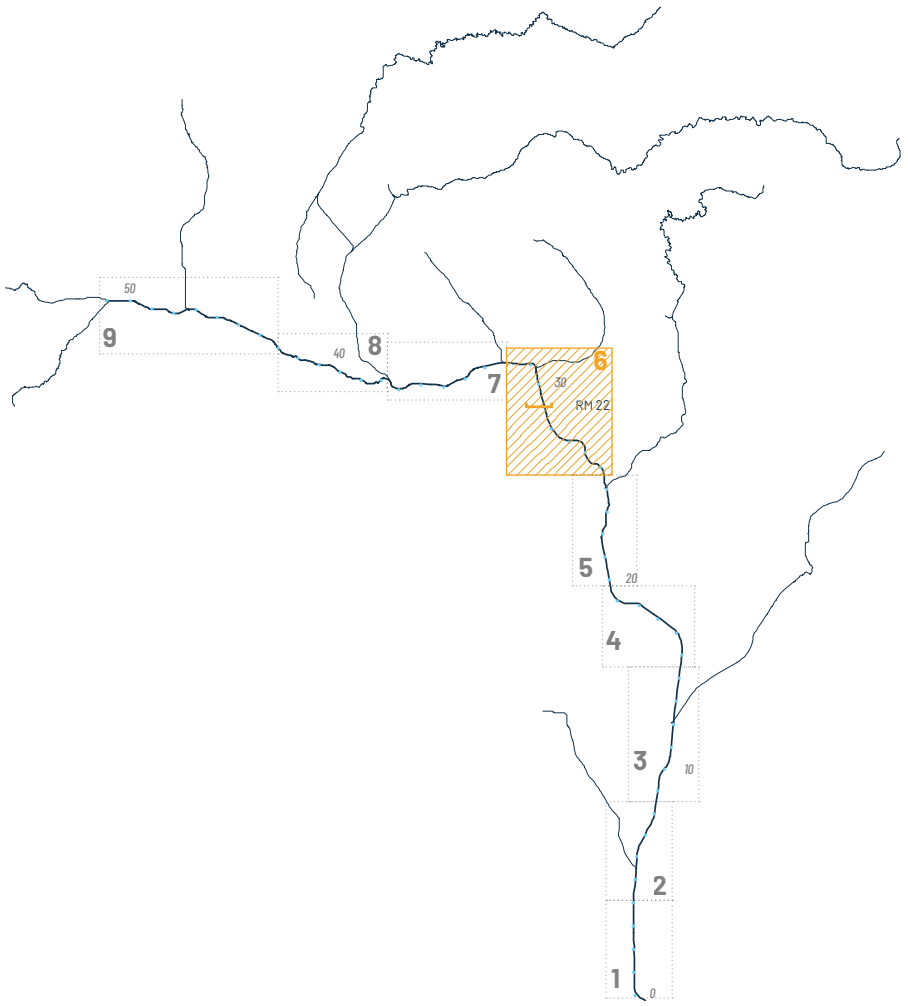
Notable Features:

- Significant ecological area with adjacency to Griffith Park from approximately river mile 28.5 through 32 along the right bank
- Barrier between the river and Griffith Park in this frame due to the 5 Freeway and Ventura Freeway
- Heavy sediment and vegetation are present in the channel
- River trail and park improvements
- Verdugo Wash confluence at river mile 30.6 along the left bank
- Rio de Los Angeles State Park and G2 parcel from river mile 25.2 to 26.5 along the left bank
- Adjacent to Elysian Park at the southern end, approximately from river mile 25 through 24.5 along the right bank

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Projects in this frame have the opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors in the region (Santa Monica Mountains), although freeway barriers have to be considered in these connections.
- Flooding is a particular concern for residents in this community.
- Significant equestrian community in this area would utilize an expanded network of equestrian trails.
- Surface water is present in the channel bottom of this frame year-round due to a high water table and the underlying geology.
- Soil contaminants may be present at post-industrial sites within this frame and should be treated based on project needs.





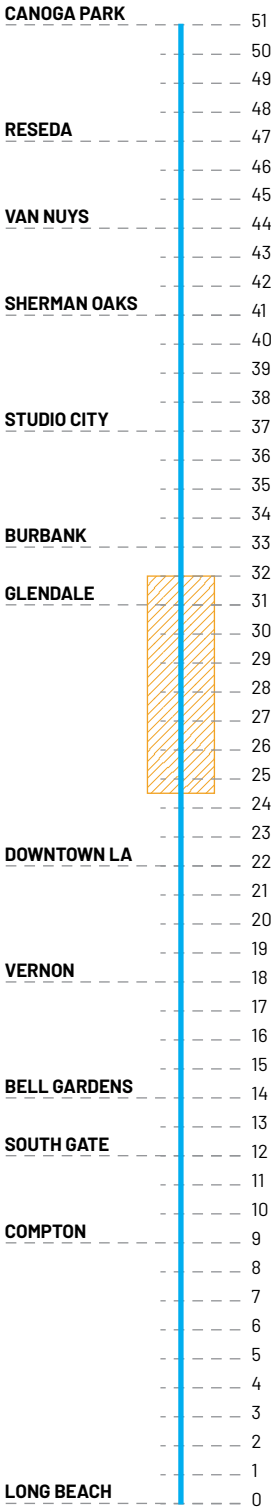


Figure 24. LA River Planning Frame 6 contains soft bottom river profiles and runs adjacent to Griffith Park . Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 5: HEIGHTS

Location: City of Los Angeles; river mile 24.5 - 19.5

Channel characteristics: The channel in this frame is an entrenched concrete trapezoid section, with a typical width of 225 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.4%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: In this frame, the landside right-of-way is typically less than 12 ft wide, widening at the northern edge. It consists of south, east, and west facing parcels.

Notable Features:

- Dense urban context - Downtown Los Angeles adjacent, several notable historic bridges
- High concentration of arts and cultural facilities
- Railroad lines and larger industrial yards along both sides of the river, several former industrial areas
- Los Angeles State Historic Park near river mile 23.5 along the right bank
- Arroyo Seco confluence near river mile 24, where the 110 freeway crosses the LA River

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Soil contaminants and air pollution mitigation and treatment are especially important in post-industrial sites prevalent in this frame.
- The often narrow right-of-way may require using the width of the channel or external land acquisition for projects of larger impact.
- Railroads and other transportation networks make it challenging to access the river in this frame.
- Surrounding urban development increases the urban heat island effect, so providing shade is critical.

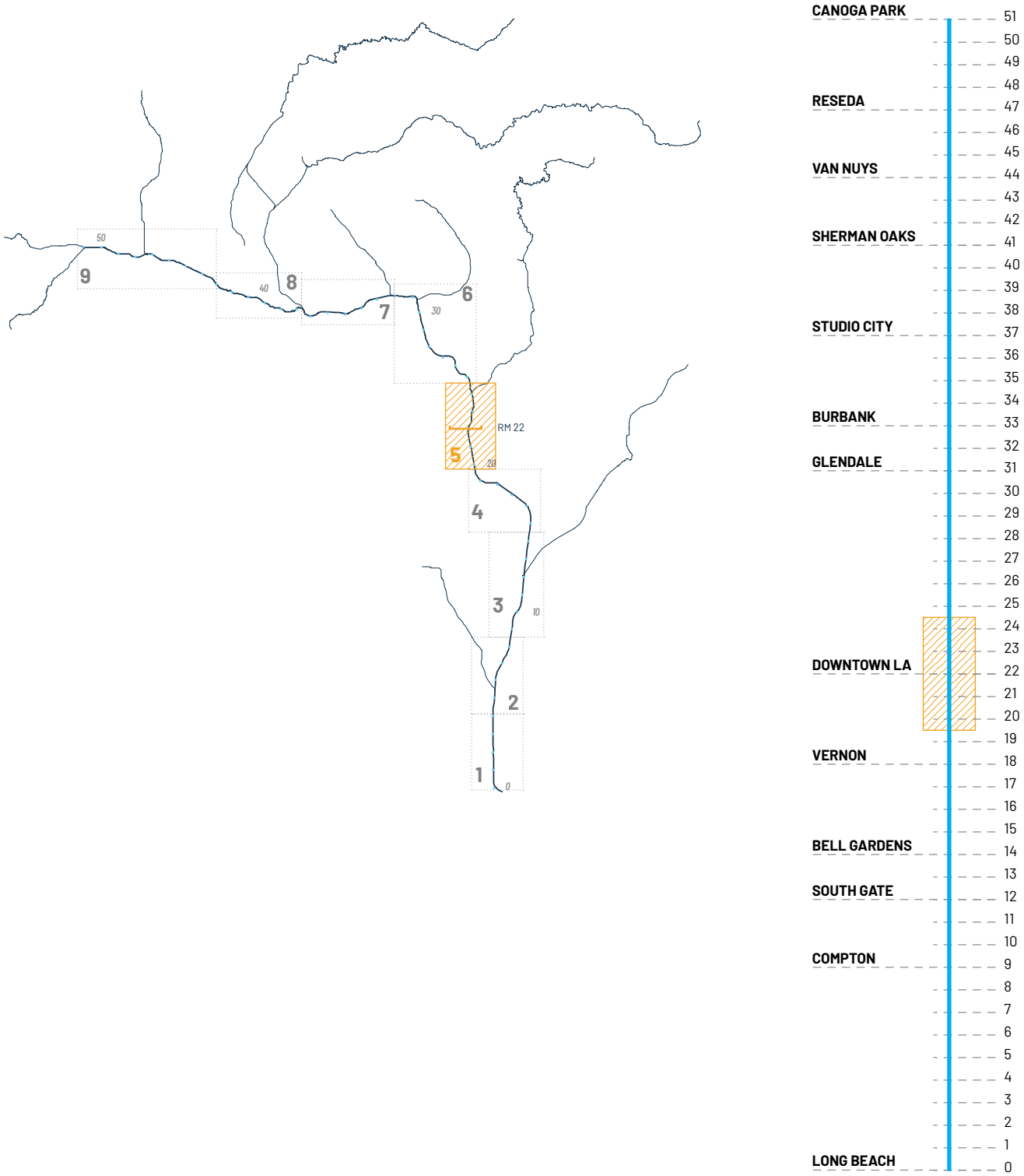


Figure 25. LA River Planning Frame 5 includes the section of the river that runs through Downtown LA, often near railroads or industrial sites. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 4: NORTH PLAIN

Location: Cities of Bell Gardens, Bell, Maywood, Vernon, Commerce, Huntington Park; river mile 19.5 - 14.14

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame is a concrete leveed trapezoidal section that is approximately 415 ft wide at the southernmost end. It transitions to a concrete entrenched trapezoidal section and then to a concrete entrenched rectangular section at river mile 19 at the northern end, with a width of about 285 ft

Average Channel Slope: 0.2%

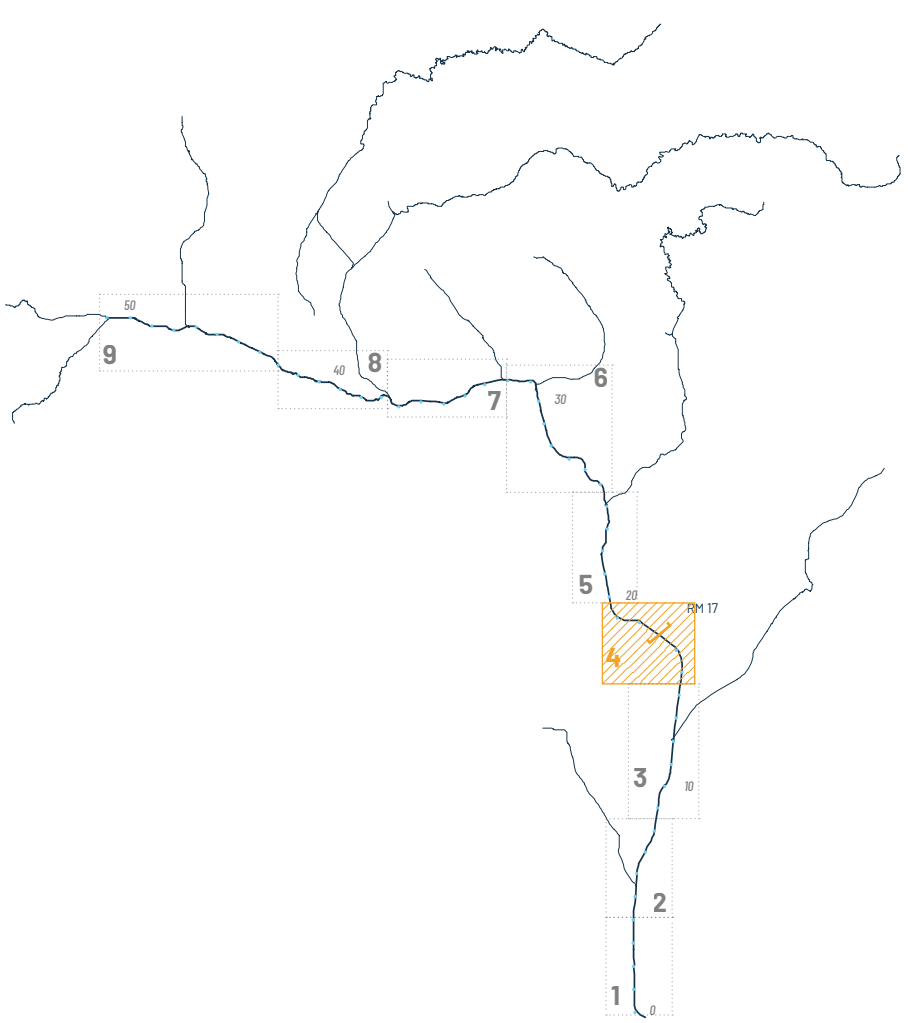
Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: In this frame, industrial development and several adjacent rail lines limit the landside right-of-way to consistently less than 15 ft. In the northern portion of the frame, there is no landside right-of-way along the right bank. Right-of-way parcels in this frame are south, east, and west facing.

Notable Features:

- Dense industrial context
- Pollution and soil contamination present from heavy industry
- Utility rights-of-way and freight yards along both sides of the river
- Maywood Riverfront Park from river mile 15.7 to 15.8 along the right bank

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Soil contaminant and air pollution mitigation and treatment are especially important in post-industrial sites prevalent in this frame.
- Utility right-of-way projects require further coordination with power companies, but also provide a significant amount of land for corridor connectivity.
- Very high park needs and industrial land uses limit access to the LA River and healthy open space.
- Access to the river is limited by the 710 Interstate so projects may need to consider how barriers to reaching the river can be navigated.



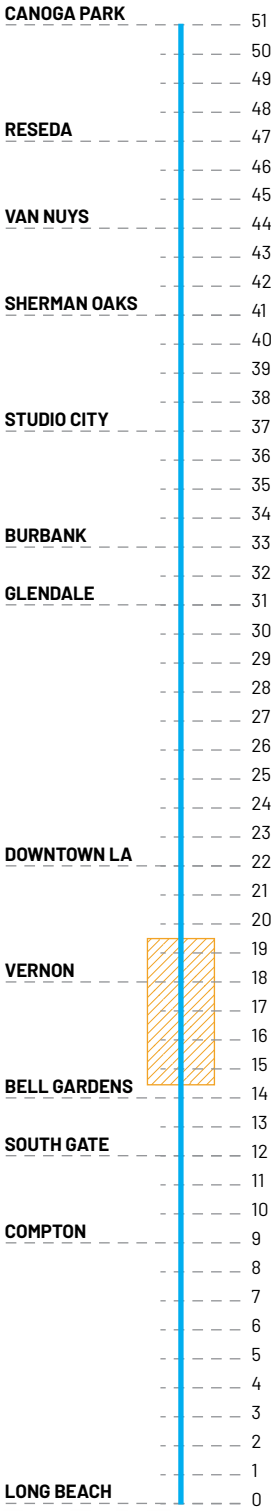


Figure 26. The river widens to a concrete trapezoidal channel in LA River Planning Frame 4, with many sites that have contamination from adjacent industrial land uses. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 3: CENTRAL PLAIN

Location: Cities of Compton, Paramount, Downey, Lynwood, South Gate, and Cudahy; river mile 14.14 - 8.4

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame is a trapezoidal concrete leveed cross section with an approximate width of 400 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.2%

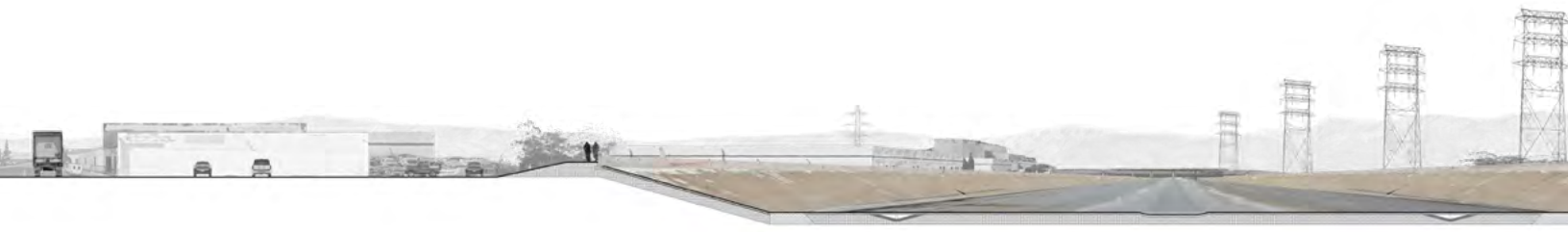
Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: The landside right-of-way in this frame contains both east and west facing parcels, and is further limited by industrial and residential development, transmission easements, and Interstate 710 and the 105. It exists for extensive lengths at about 15 ft in width. However, there are large 200 ft wide tracts of the right-of-way incorporated into recreational park space (Ralph C. Dills and Hollydale Parks along with portions of the LA River Trail). Dense residential context, east and west facing parcels along levee of varying widths, areas typically 15 ft wide, in addition to utility corridors.

Notable Features:

- Dense residential context
- Utility ROWs along the left bank of the river
- Rio Hondo confluence at river mile 12.0 along the left bank
- Hollydale Park from river mile 11 to 11.5 along the left bank
- Ralph C. Dils Park from river mile 9.5 to 10.0 along the left bank

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Utility ROW projects require further coordination with power companies, but also provide a significant amount of land for corridor connectivity.



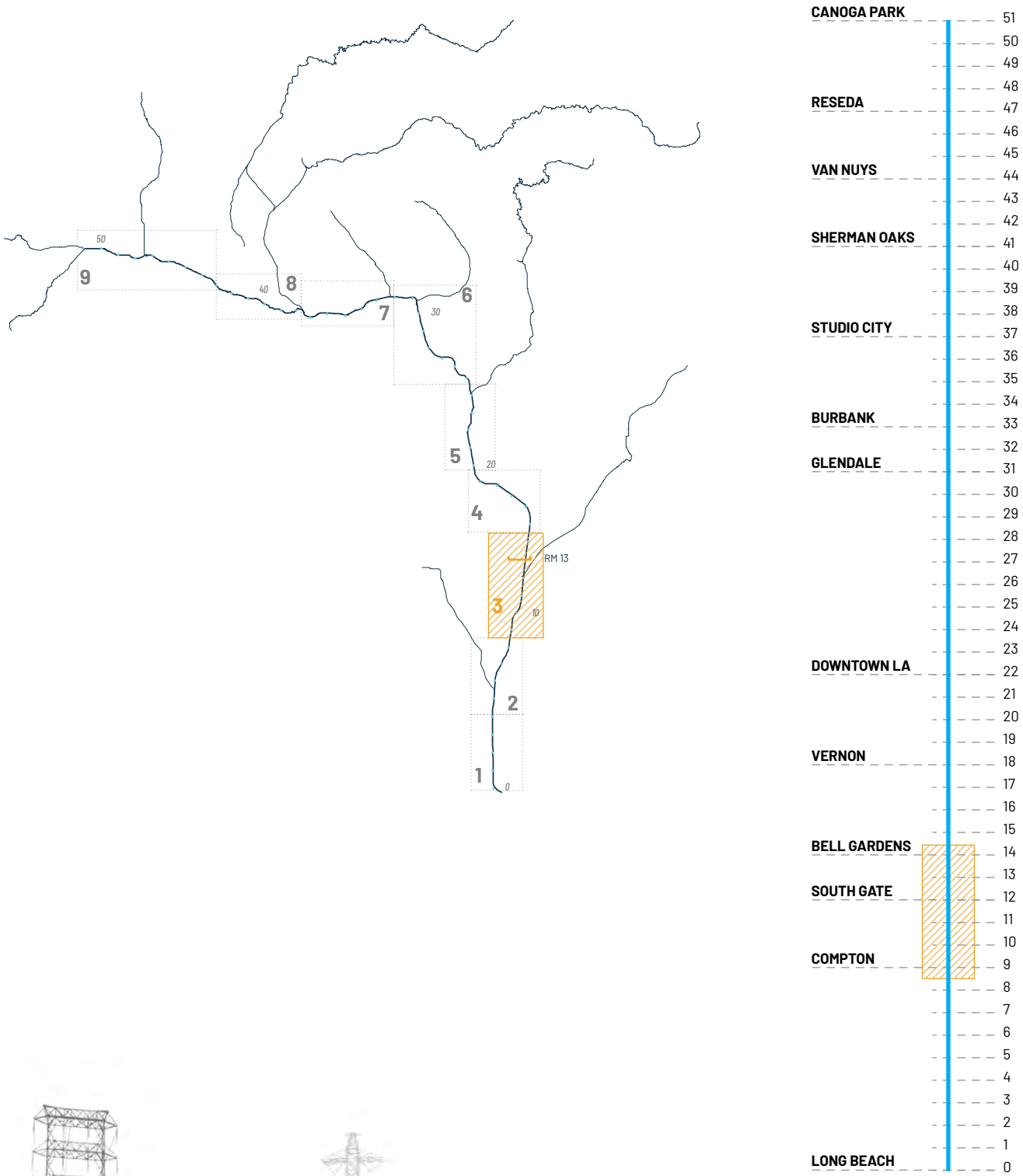


Figure 27. LA River Planning Frame 3 includes the section of the river that runs through South Gate, and often includes power lines from major utilities. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 2: SOUTH PLAIN

Location: City of Long Beach; river mile 8.4 - 4.0

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame is a trapezoidal concrete leveed cross section with an approximate width of 350 ft.

Average Channel Slope: 0.1%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: This frame has some of the widest right-of-way parcels along the LA River. The parcels are east and west facing parcels along the levee. The landside right-of-way is widest in the southern portion of the frame, at widths of over 200 ft on each bank. Industrial and residential development, transmission easements, and Interstate 710 and the 91 Freeway cut into the landside right-of-way in the northern portion of the frame. The landside right-of-way is on average 50 ft wide.

Notable Features:

- Important bird habitat area
- Freshwater year round
- Utility ROWs along both sides of the river
- De Forest Park from river mile 6.8 to 7.5 along the left bank
- Dominguez Gap Wetlands from river mile 4.8 to 5.8 along the left bank
- Compton Creek confluence at river mile 5.4 along the right bank

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- Significant equestrian community in this area would utilize an expanded network of equestrian trails.
- Algae mats on the concrete channel bottom provide an important food source for migrating birds.
- The widest portions of the landside ROW provides opportunity for significant habitat areas.
- Utility ROW projects require further coordination with power companies, but also provide a significant amount of land for corridor connectivity.

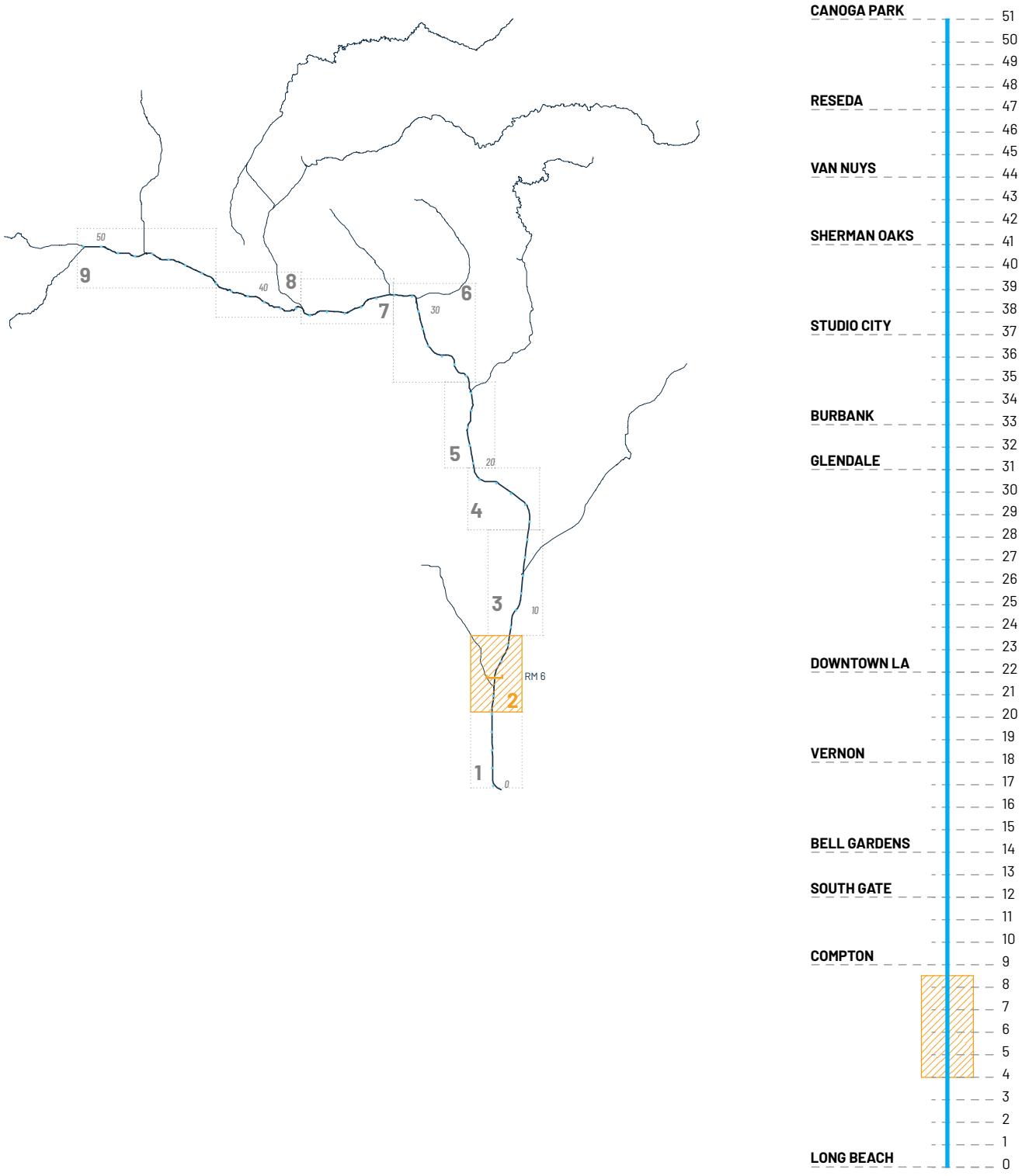


Figure 28. The channel in LA River Planning Frame 2 has a trapezoidal concrete section. There is a significant equestrian community that uses trails along this portion of the river. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

FRAME 1: ESTUARY

Location: City of Long Beach; river mile 4.0 - 0.0

Channel Characteristics: The channel in this frame is a leveed trapezoidal concrete cross section with a width of approximately 400 ft. The soft channel bottom with year-round water transitions at mile 3 to a concrete bottom section with hard rip-rap sides, with a typical width of 585 ft.

Average Channel Slope: < 0.1%

Landside Right-of-Way Characteristics: This frame contains east and west facing parcels along levee, with areas that vary from approximately 15ft to 100-150ft wide.

Notable Features:

- Estuary (including projections for sea level rise)
- Important bird habitat area
- Brackish water year round
- Present fall line is at Willow Street
- Wrigley Greenbelt from river mile 2.9 to 4.0 along the left bank
- Santa Cruz Park, Golden Park, and Cesar Chavez Park from river mile 0.3 to 0.8 along the left bank, bisected from the river by West Shoreline Drive.
- Shoreline Aquatic Park and the Queen Mary at river mile 0

Significant Design Considerations for this Frame:

- This frame is in closest proximity to the ocean and Port of Long Beach, with unique site conditions for projects along the LA River.
- Projects here are potentially subject to high amounts of salt spray and salt content in the water and soil. Material and plant selections should be able to tolerate these conditions.
- Raised banks along the channel bottom allow for planting and should be managed as to not encourage the spread of invasive species.
- The wide ROW parcels, year-round presence of water, and proximity to the ocean provides opportunities for the creation and enhancement of valuable coastal habitat such as wetlands and nesting grounds.
- Sea level rise may occur in coming decades in this frame.

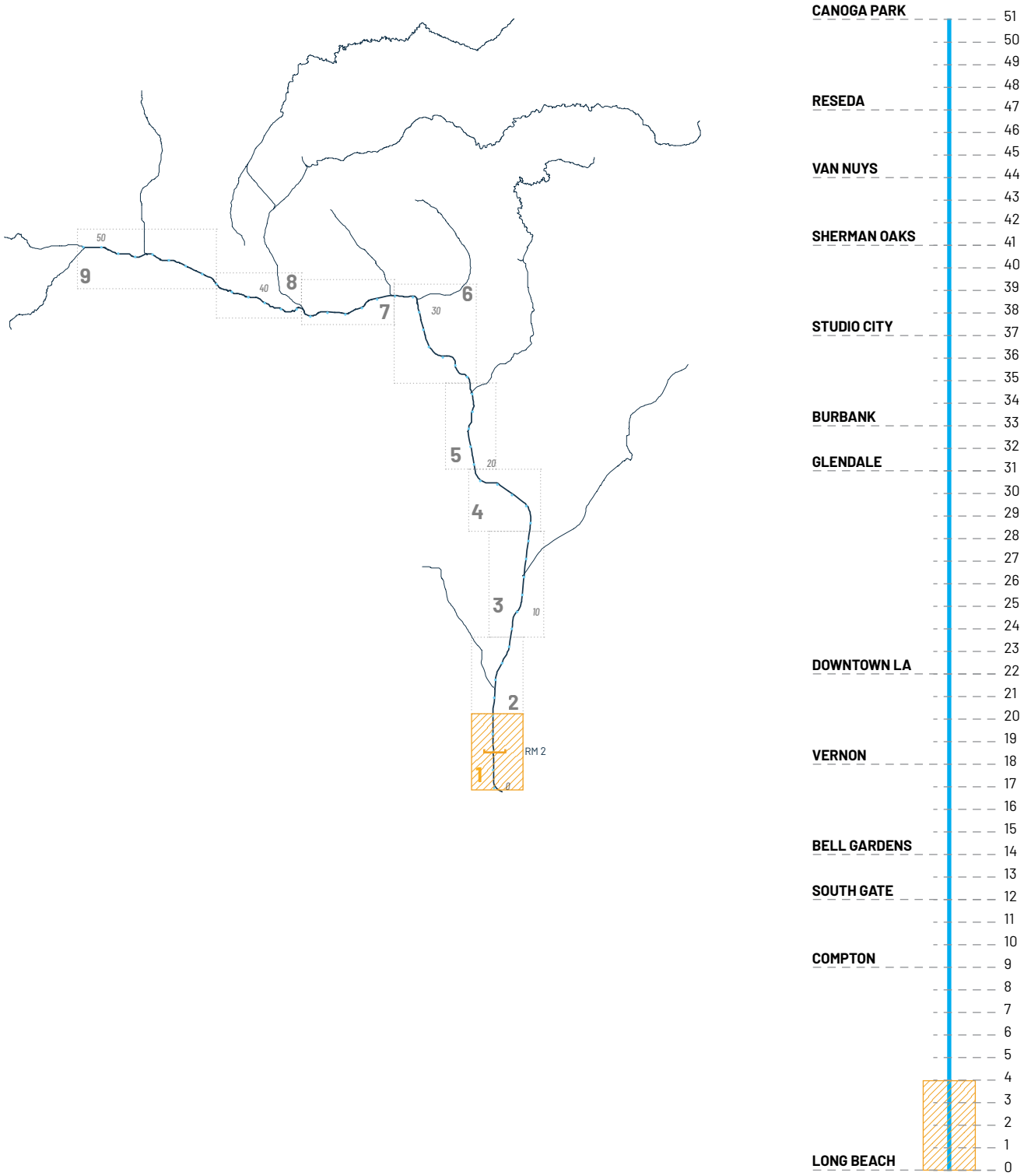
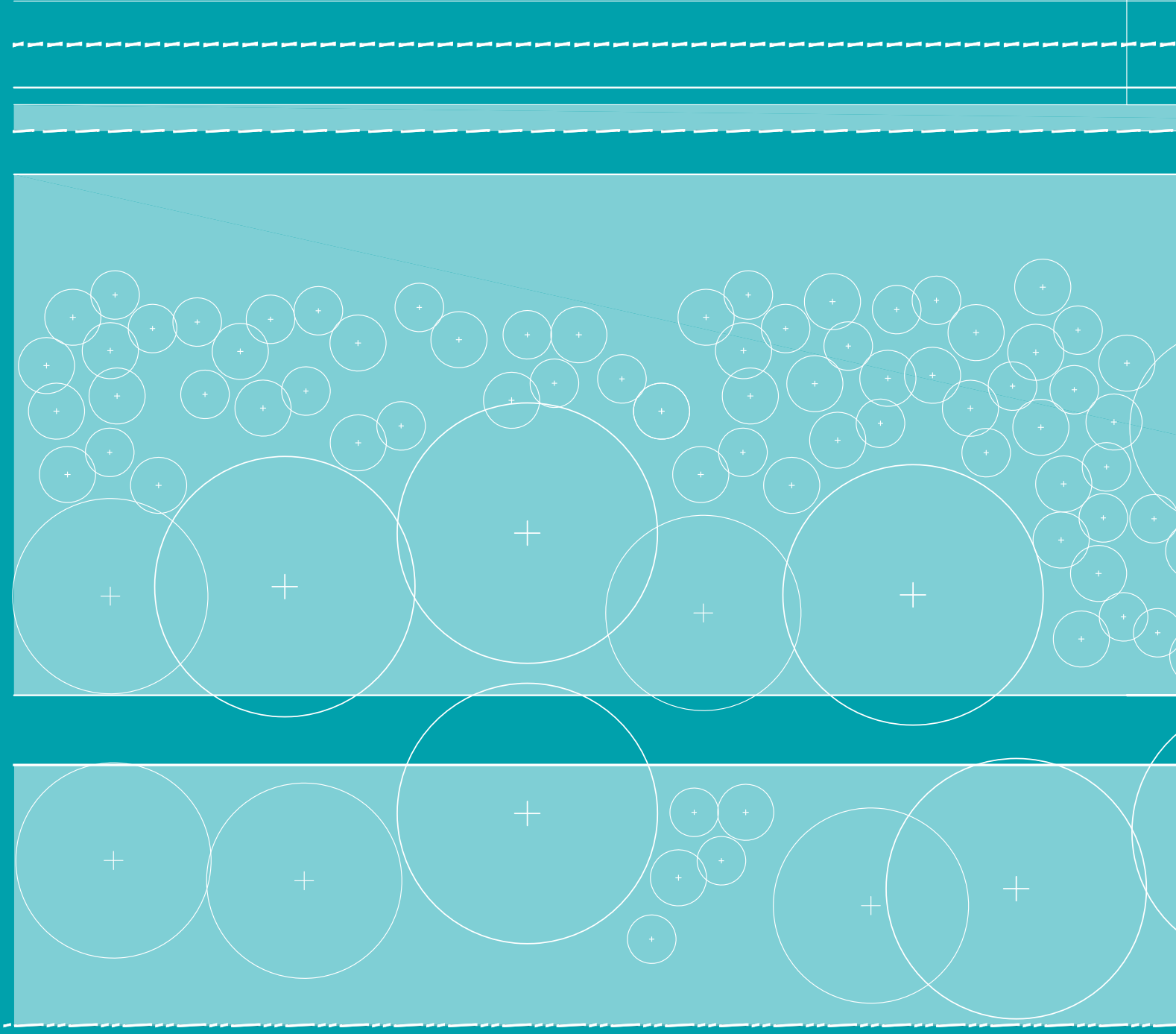
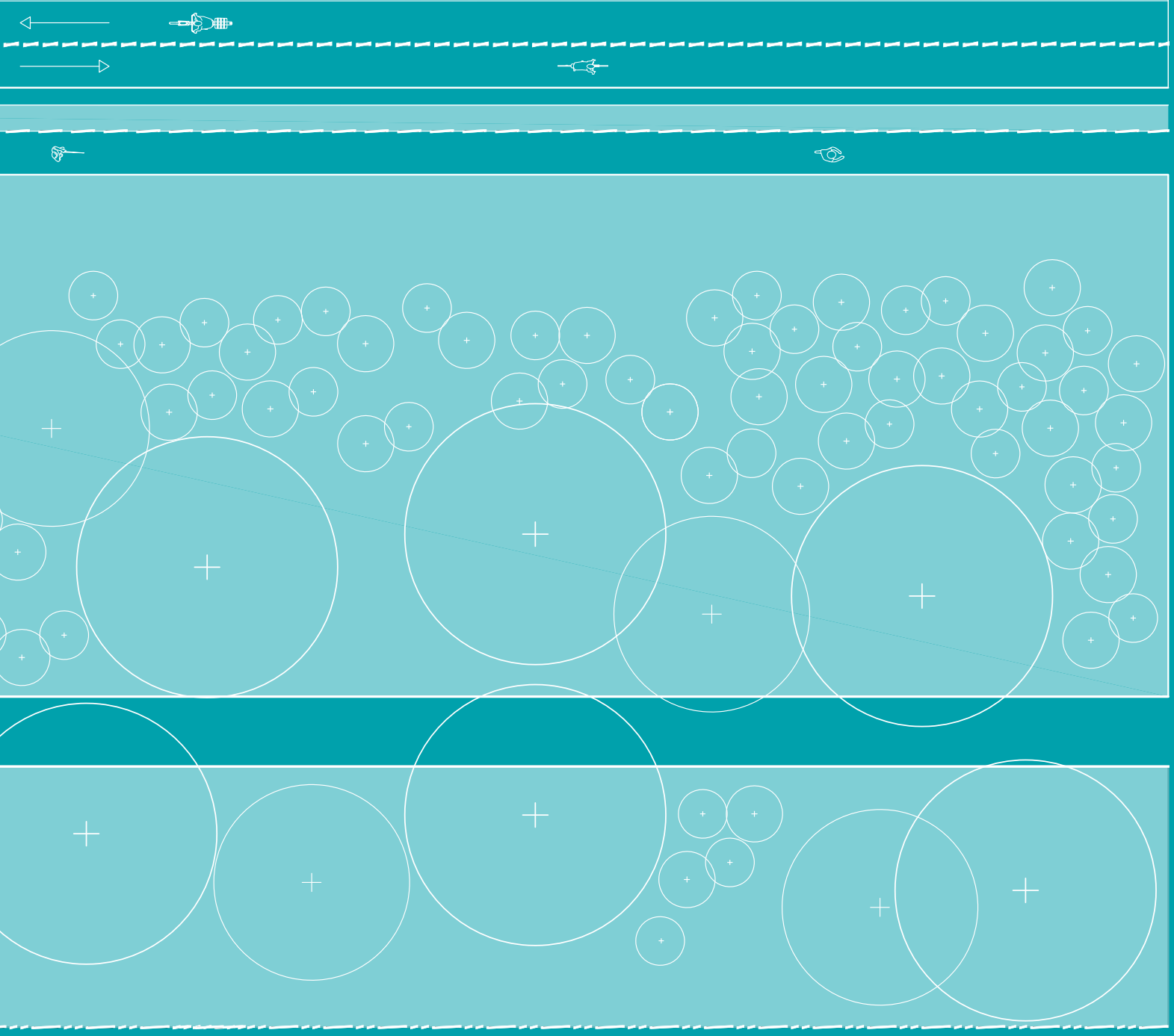


Figure 29. The estuary in LA River Planning Frame 1 contains brackish water and is a significant bird habitat. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.





SECTION II:
DESIGN GUIDELINES

Figure 30. LA River Access. Access points, trails, and public transportation stops along or adjacent to the LA River.
Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

3.
ACCESS AND MOBILITY

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE MULTI-MODAL NETWORK FOR THE RIVER

The LA River is intended to be a resource for use by all people in LA County. To be this resource, the river must be accessible and usable. In community meetings and surveys during the LA River Master Plan process, people indicated that walking and biking are the two activities they participate in the most along the river, with combined participation more than all other activities combined. However, ease and availability of access to trails along the LA River is highly variable.

Trail guidelines ensure a degree of consistency in experience from one segment of the LA River trails to the next. Whether LA County Public Works or one of its partners implements a segment of trail, it should meet the same minimum standards. The more regular and frequent access is to trails along the LA River, the more people from surrounding communities will be able to take advantage of these amenities. With increased visibility of access points and consistency of experience, more people will become aware of the river and the experience of using any part of the river will become more familiar. As trails along the LA River become better connected to other trails in the county network, the value of the river trail will increase exponentially, opening up destinations that people can reach by getting on the river trails and making the LA River a destination by trail for more of the county. Better connections to transit will enable those without cars the opportunity to take advantage of the river and increase the viability of multi-modal trips. Finally, the addition of amenities such as water fountains or benches at regular intervals will make the experience more pleasant for both the casual recreation user and the seasoned commuter (see Chapter 6 for further discussion on amenities).

WHAT'S IN THE CHAPTER

The following pages contain the dimensional and material guidelines for multi-modal trails connecting to and along the LA River. This chapter will provide information regarding right-of-way scenarios, gateways, and bridges among other aspects related to access and mobility. The designer or engineer shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of these guidelines is compliant with prevailing building codes and regulations. Consult the checklist at the end of the chapter to ensure the correct guideline items are followed.

Figure 31. Chapter 3 of this document covers items related to access and mobility along the LA River.

THE LA RIVER TRAIL SHOULD CONNECT TO OTHER TRAILS ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE RIVER TO CREATE A NETWORK OF TRAILS ACROSS LA COUNTY FOR CYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, AND EQUESTRIANS

MULTIUSE TRAILS

A primary goal of the LA River Master Plan is to create 51 miles of connected open space with equitable access, including trails, gateways, and access points. The LA River Trail should connect to other trails and paths along the length of the river to create a mobility network across LA County for cyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians. The LA River Trail should always seek to accommodate as many user types as safely possible, although all types of users may not always be accommodated based on specific projects and site conditions. Additionally, operations and maintenance vehicles need to access the right-of-way.

The various trail conditions along the LA River should be designed with their intended use in mind. Each type of trail user has different needs in terms of width and materiality.

SEPARATED USES: EQUESTRIAN, PEDESTRIAN, AND BICYCLE

In a condition where ample right-of-way space is available, the pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trails should give each user group a dedicated passageway with buffers in between the trails. In this scenario, the condition of the buffer spaces between the paths is important. The vegetated buffers should be at least three feet wide. The trail widths shall be dictated by their expected usage and informed by the site conditions. A 12 feet minimum width is required for either the pedestrian or the bicycle trail to accommodate the service/maintenance vehicles.

When there is not enough space to separate all three trail uses, the pedestrian and bicycle trails should be adjacent to one another and a vegetated buffer or trail divider should be used to separate those uses from the equestrian trails. A 12 feet minimum width is required of the pedestrian and bicycle trails to provide access for service/maintenance vehicles.

ADJACENT USES: EQUESTRIAN, PEDESTRIAN, AND BICYCLE

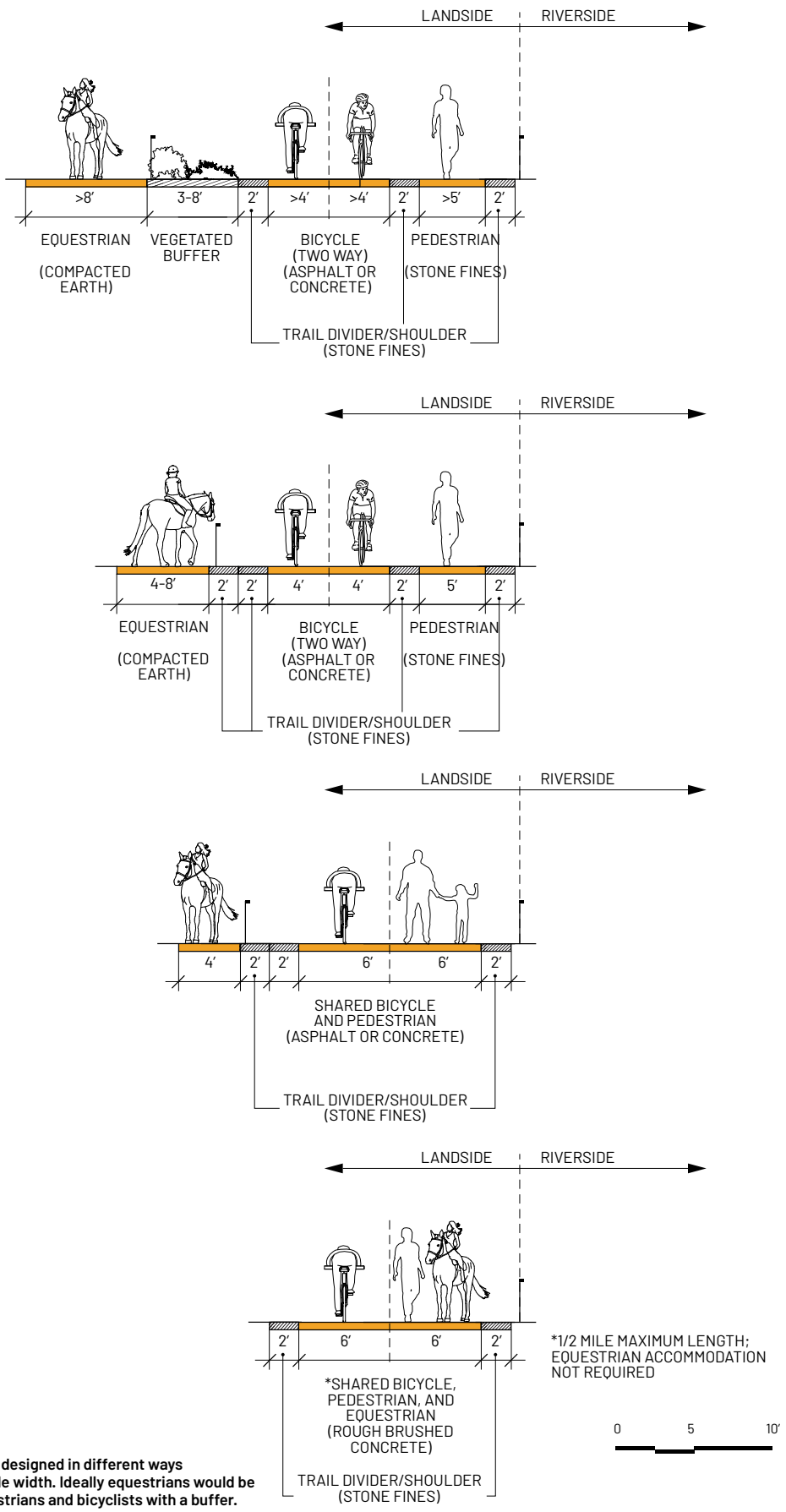
Where there are more space constraints in the LA River right-of-way, pedestrian and bicycle trails may need to be directly adjacent or share a trail. These two trails can coexist next to one another as long as there is correct striping and clear signage designating the trail uses. The combined width must be a minimum of 12 feet in order to provide access for service and maintenance vehicles.

COMBINED USES: EQUESTRIAN, PEDESTRIAN, AND BICYCLE

In some instances along the river where there is the tightest right-of-way, the most efficient trail option is a single trail that is designed to be used by pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. Clear trail environmental graphics and striping must be present. For equestrian uses, rough brushed concrete paving should be installed and a recommended length of half a mile maximum. The width of this multiuse trail must be a minimum of 12 feet in order to provide access for service and maintenance vehicles.

MULTIUSE TRAIL COMBINATIONS

PREFERRED



MINIMUM

Figure 32. Multiuse trails can be designed in different ways depending on available width. Ideally equestrians would be separated from pedestrians and bicyclists with a buffer. Dimensions illustrated for bikes are based on the County of LA Bike Plan.

COMPONENTS OF MULTIUSE TRAILS

Figure 33. **Pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trail components vary in width and are most often used in combination with one another, but they may also be implemented as standalone trails in certain projects. Dimensions illustrated for bikes are based on the County of LA Bike Plan.**

ALL PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAILS MUST HAVE 2' OF SHOULDER ON EACH SIDE IN ADDITION TO THE TRAIL WIDTH

TRAIL COMPONENTS

PEDESTRIAN TRAILS

Pedestrians make up the largest user group of the river. The main paths of travel should be linear and efficiently designed for active transport. Paths that are for passive uses may meander. The pedestrian trails should range anywhere from 4 ft wide (for secondary/recreation use only) up to the preferred 12 ft wide where there is a need to share the share with other types of users. Two foot shoulders should also be provided on either side of the path. Regardless of usage, there must be clear visibility to the surrounding paths for safety.

BICYCLE TRAILS

Bicycle trails along the entirety of the river should be designed to meet Caltrans Class I minimum standards with a design speed of 20mph. These trails should allow for four foot lanes of two-way traffic with two foot shoulders on each side. Clear environmental graphics and striping must be included for safety (see "Bike Trail Paint" in Chapter 4 for more details).

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

Where possible, equestrian trails should be kept separate from other trails. Equestrian trails should range from four ft wide, where low usage is expected, to 12 feet wide where high, two-way usage occurs. Where applicable, they should provide safe access across the river bed and to other recreational areas. Equestrian trails exist adjacent to the river in several frames. Linking these facilities in the future would provide equestrians with greater opportunities for all day rides or longer trail loop systems not currently available.

When there is not enough space to accommodate all uses, the first priority remains to create a connected LA River Trail. Design teams shall determine a method to maintain pedestrian and bicycle connections regardless of constraints.

RIGHT-OF-WAY COMBINATIONS

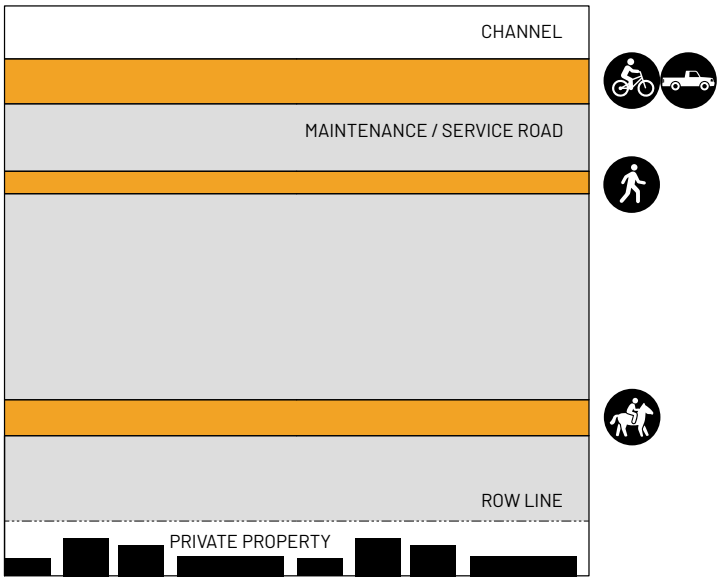
The design and location of trails is primarily affected by the channel configuration, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), City of Los Angeles, or LA County (LAC) right-of-way widths, maintenance requirements of flood control and auxiliary uses, and utility easements.

The right-of-way conditions along the LA River vary substantially in each frame. LA County Public Works and the USACE maintain various segments of the river channel. In order to access and maintain the river, these right-of-way contain service roads, both paved and unpaved, along the top of the channel. These service roads are used by LAC and the USACE crews to: inspect the channel, clean out weir structures on an annual basis at various locations, and respond to emergency situations. The location of the service road varies depending on the right-of-way condition. In general, there are 4 different sizes of right-of-way:

- Extra Large (>12 ft, extends beyond base of levee)
- Large (>12 ft, along entrenched condition)
- Narrow (approximately 12 ft)
- Very Narrow (< 12 ft)

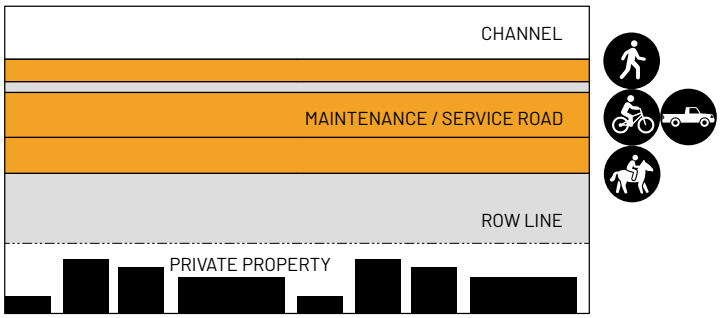
Within each of the different right-of-way conditions, the trails and service roads are organized in different ways. Along some sections of the river, the service road runs along both banks and in some sections on one bank. Through the industrial parts of downtown LA and in the San Fernando basin, no room is currently provided for service roads.

RIGHT-OF-WAY TYPOLOGIES



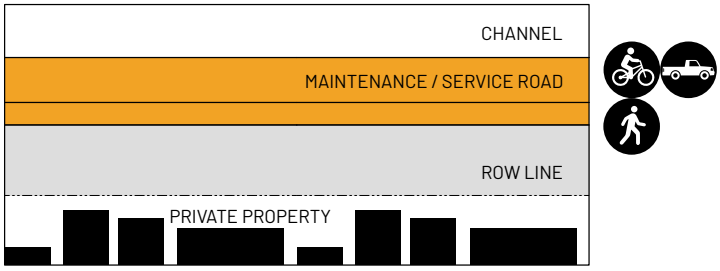
EXTRA LARGE RIGHT-OF-WAY

See Figure 35 on page 72.



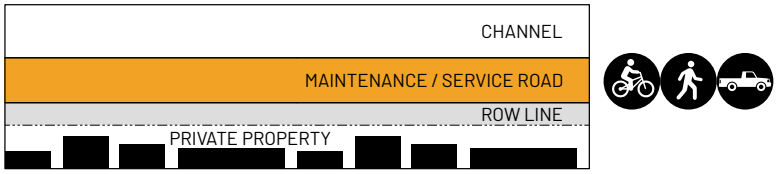
LARGE RIGHT-OF-WAY

See Figure 36 on page 73.



NARROW RIGHT-OF-WAY

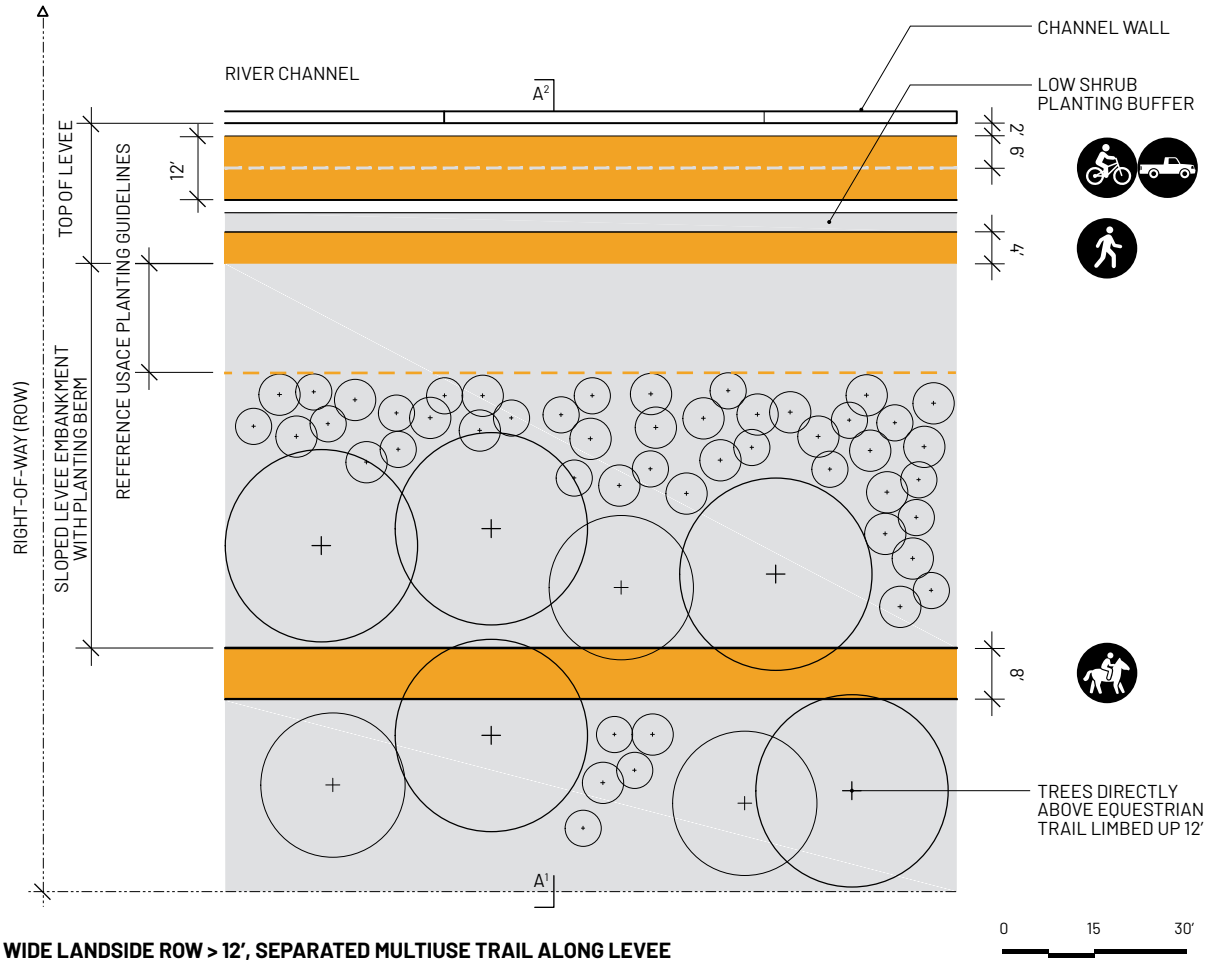
See Figure 37 on page 74.



VERY NARROW RIGHT-OF-WAY

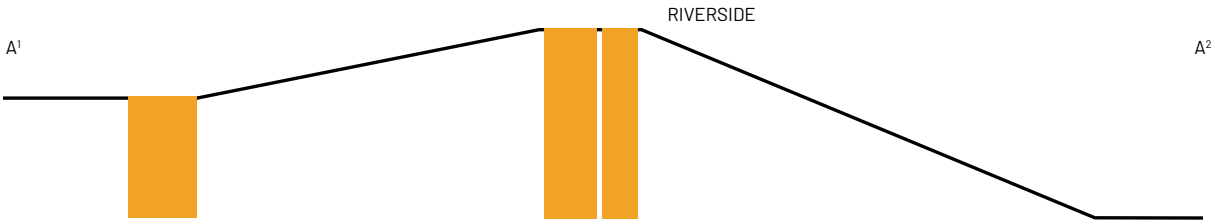
See Figure 38 on page 74.

Figure 34. Right-of-way conditions vary greatly along the 51 miles of the river. In general, there are four typologies that represent the majority of conditions along the river.



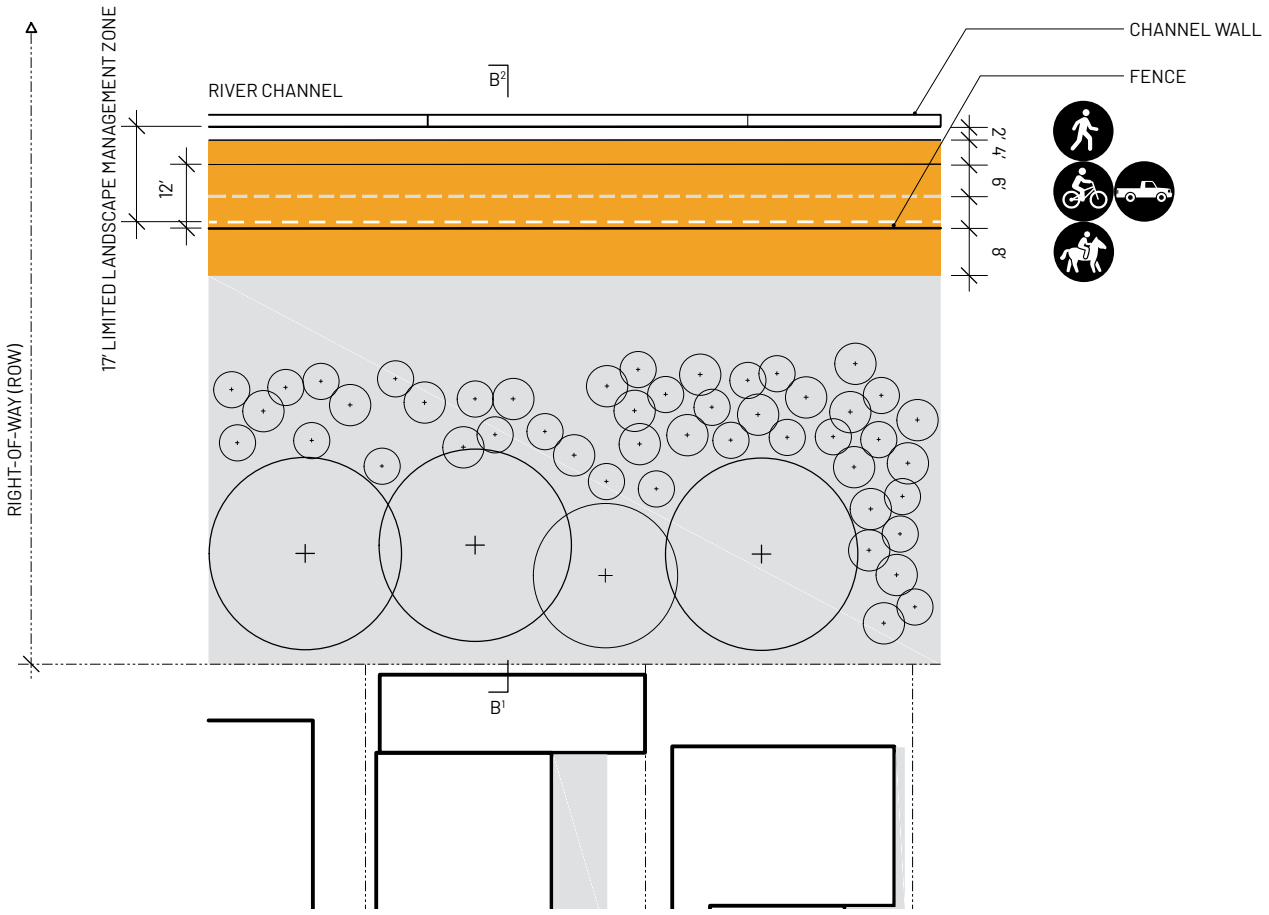
WIDE LANDSIDE ROW > 12', SEPARATED MULTIUSE TRAIL ALONG LEVEE

Figure 35. A wide landside ROW would allow for the separation of trail types. This presents the possibility to have wide trail dimensions and highest safety measures. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.



TRAILS IN WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY AREAS

Areas with large rights-of-way along the LA River should utilize that space to separate the different trail typologies. To promote safe usage, bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian trails should have their own designated trails with adequate buffers or trail dividers. Special consideration should be given to areas where different types of trail users intersect, such as access points and bridge crossings.



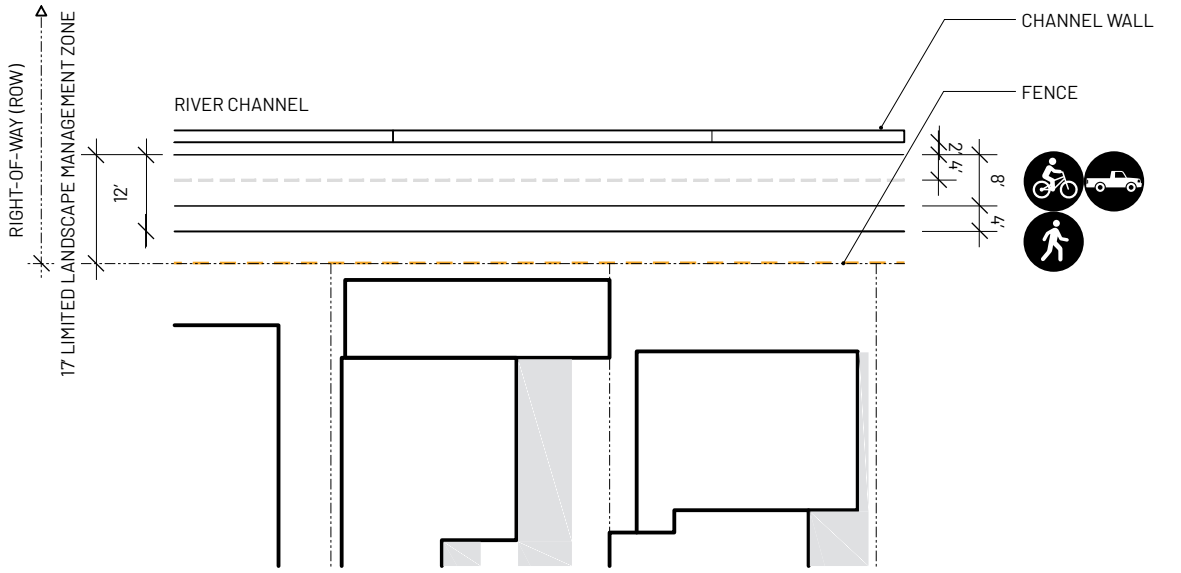
WIDE LANDSIDE ROW > 12', CONSOLIDATED MULTIUSE TRAIL ALONG ENTRENCHED CHANNEL

Figure 36. Trails may be consolidated when a wide landside right-of-way (ROW) is present. When the trails are consolidated, more land becomes available for parks, planting, and habitat. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.

TRAILS IN NARROW RIGHT-OF-WAY AREAS

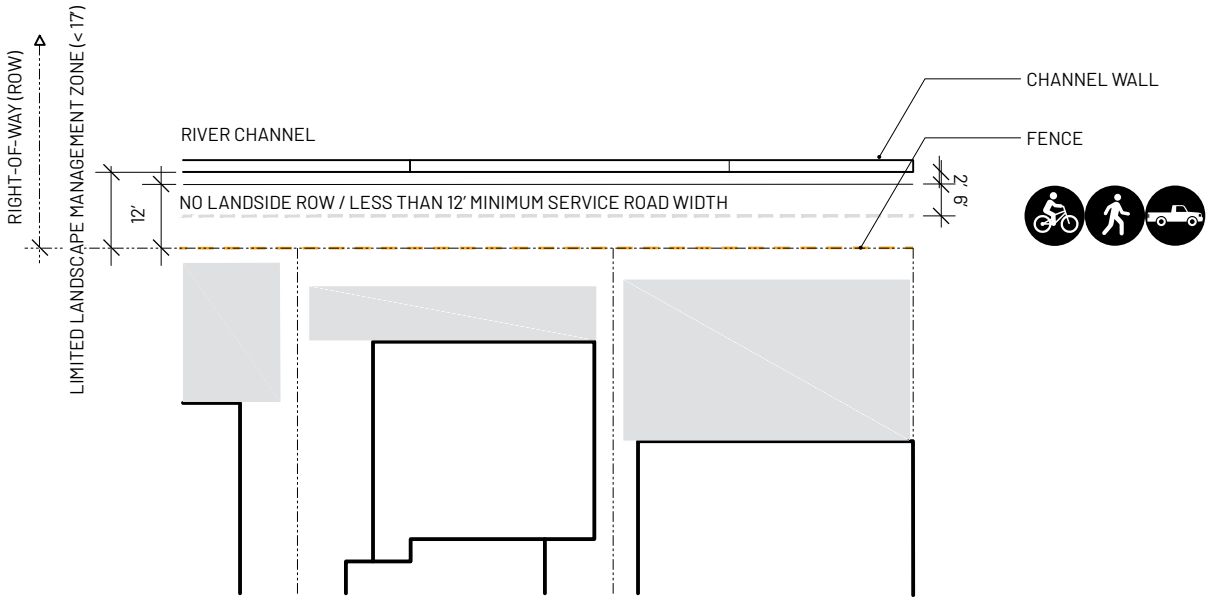
Connectivity of the trail network along all 51 miles of the LA River is critical, therefore, in areas where the right-of-way is narrow, innovative methods to create connectivity should be explored, such as cantilevers, bridges, elevated trails, and platforms. When necessary, paths can be shared by cyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians.

RIGHT-OF-WAY CONDITIONS VARY GREATLY ALONG THE 51 MILES OF THE LA RIVER. THE FIGURES ABOVE REPRESENT ONE POSSIBLE CONFIGURATION OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY



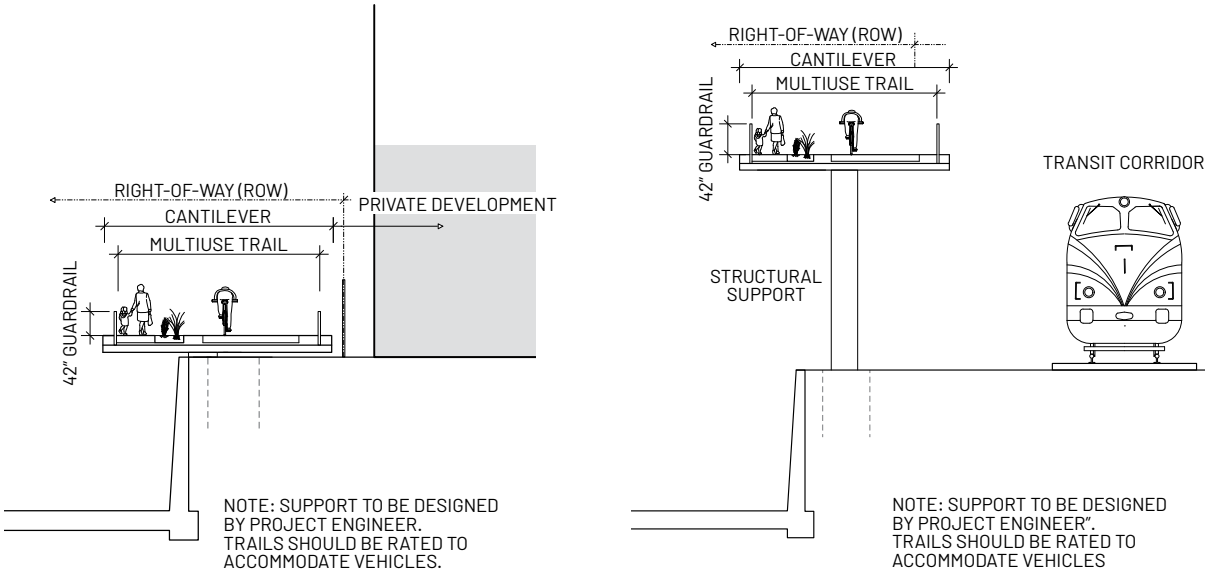
LANDSIDE ROW = APPROX. 17', MULTIUSE TRAIL

Figure 37. Narrow landside rights-of-way (ROW) allow for the separation of pedestrian and bike trails. However, they do not allow room for separate equestrian trails. In this condition, room for buffer planting is present, allowing separation between the trail users and the property owners. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.



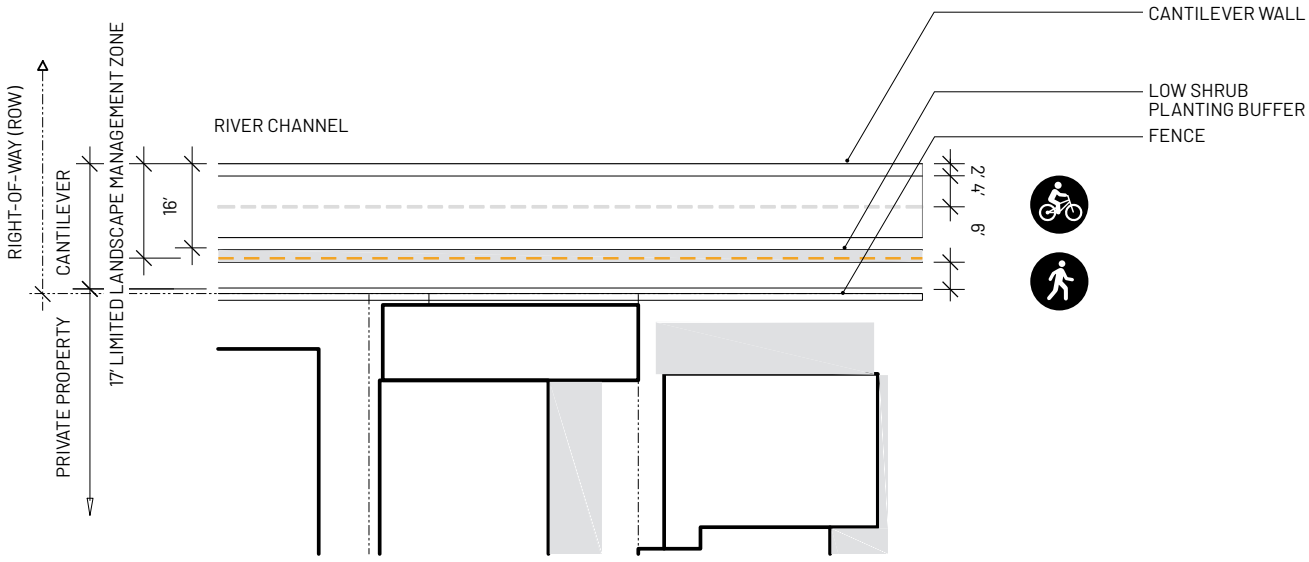
LANDSIDE ROW = 14', MULTIUSE TRAIL

Figure 38. Narrow landside rights-of-way (ROW) allow for the separation of pedestrian and bike trails. However, they do not allow room for separate equestrian trails. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.



NO LANSIDE ROW, CANTILEVERED OR ELEVATED MULTIUSE TRAIL

Figure 40. The cantilevered and elevated trails allow pedestrians and cyclists to utilize the right-of-way (ROW) when there is not enough room between the channel and adjacent property, infrastructure, or utilities. Guardrails on both sides of the trail help keep users safe. This typology could stay open during storm events and offer elevated views. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.



NO LANSIDE ROW, CANTILEVERED MULTIUSE TRAIL

Figure 39. For instances where the is no landside rights-of-way (ROW), a cantilevered condition can create space for an accessible multiuse trail. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.

MULTIUSE TRAILS IN WIDE ROW: BEST CASE SCENARIO

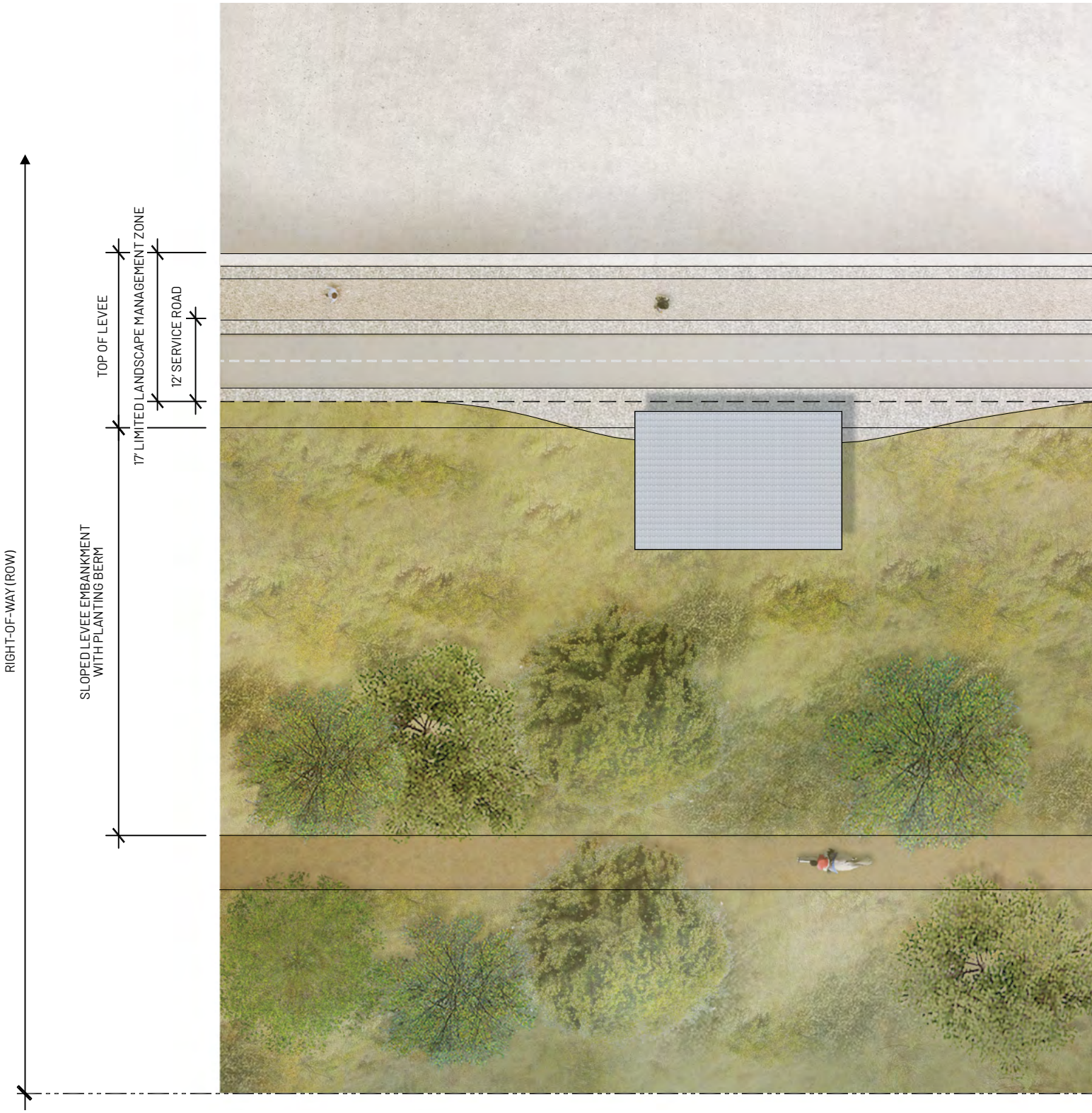
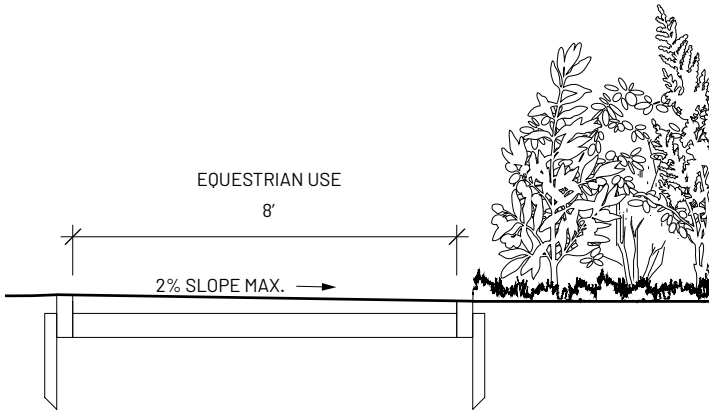


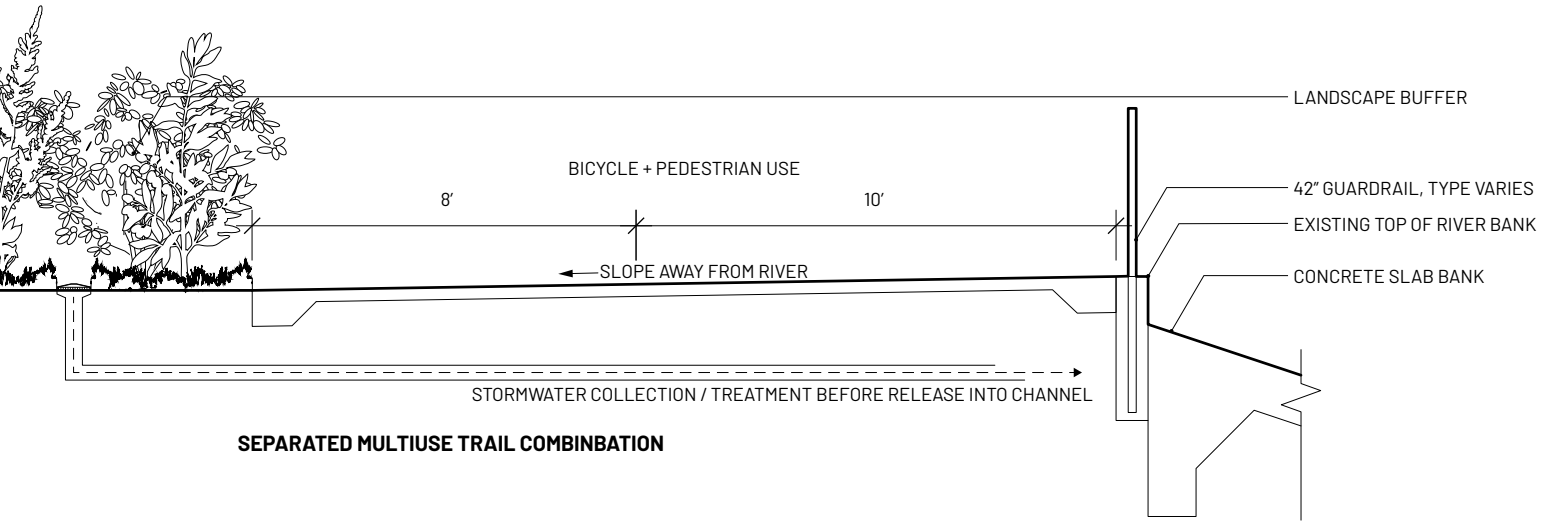
Figure 41. **Wide landside rights-of-way (ROW) allow for the separation of trail types with vegetated buffers. This figure represents one possible configuration of this typology.**

6' PEDESTRIAN PATH
2'
4' BIKE LANE
2' SHOULDER
8' EQUESTRIAN TRAIL
0
10
20'

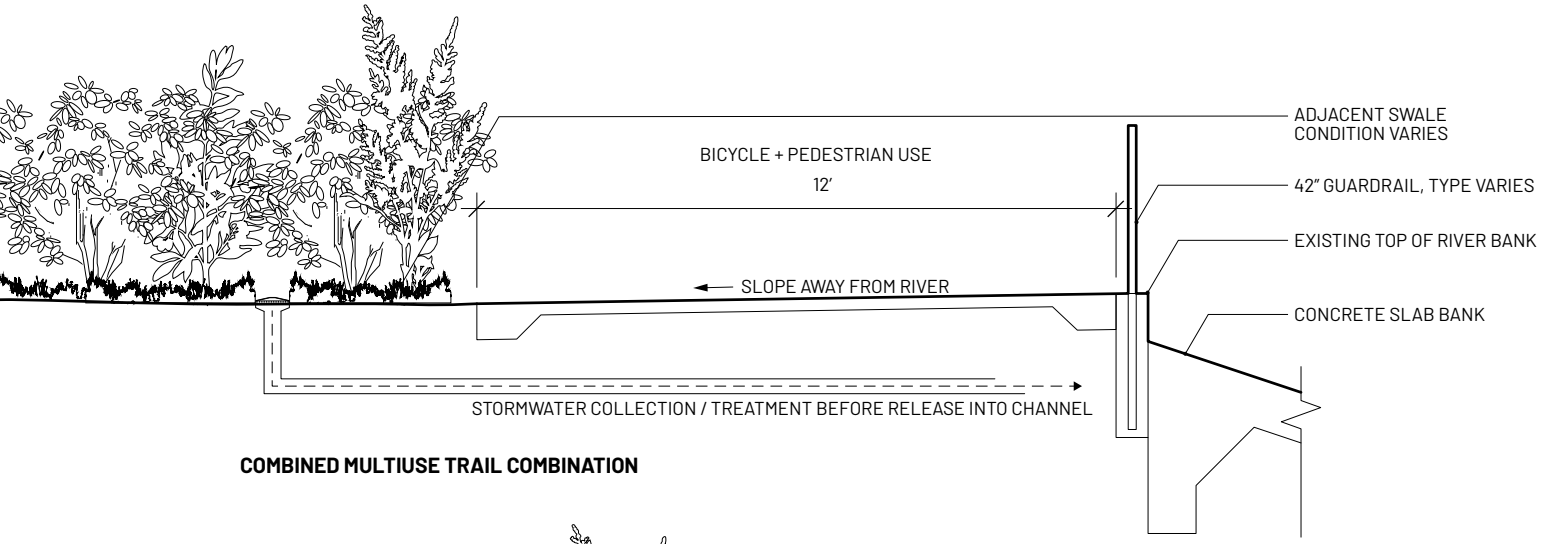
TRAIL ASSEMBLIES

The relationship between the trails and their adjacent conditions should be considered when designing and constructing along the LA River. While the trail widths vary based on the combination of usage type and materiality, there are design principles that should be followed universally where possible. To improve water quality, trails should generally slope away from the river channel and filter runoff prior to discharge into the channel. In some circumstances, such as elevated or cantilevered paths, underpasses, and tight right-of-ways, this condition may not be preferred.

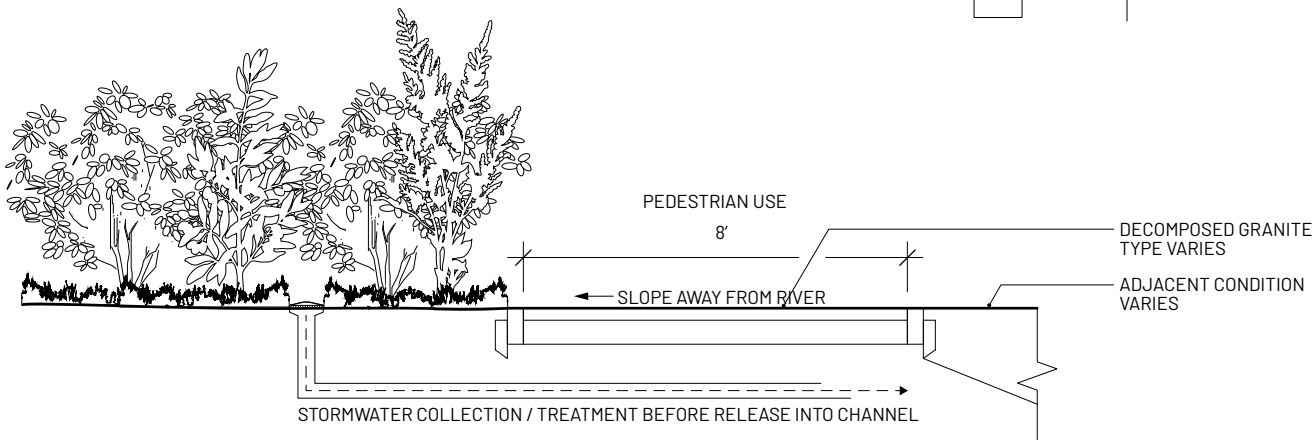




SEPARATED MULTIUSE TRAIL COMBINBATION



COMBINED MULTIUSE TRAIL COMBINATION

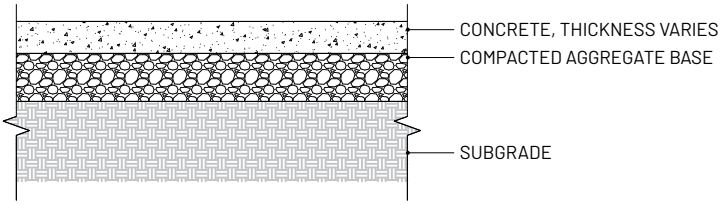


PEDESTRIAN USE TRAIL

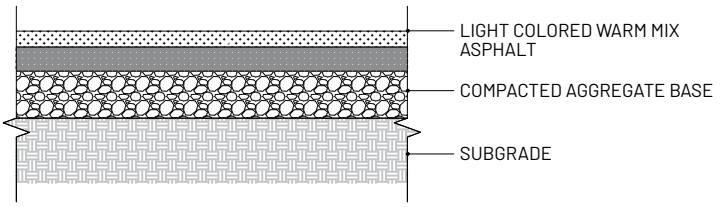
0 2 4 8′

Figure 42. Where possible, trails should slope away from the river and to a landscape drain or infiltration zone. That water should then be filtered and conveyed into the river.

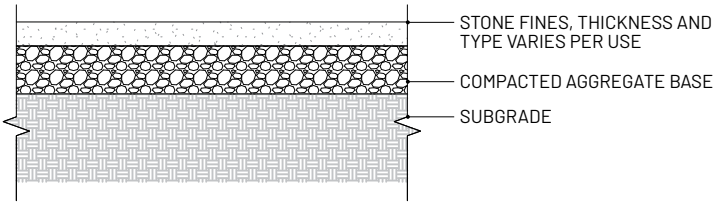
PAVING TYPOLOGIES



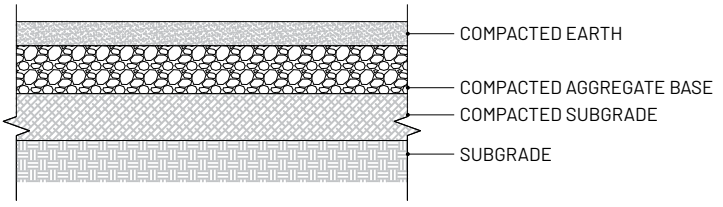
CONCRETE



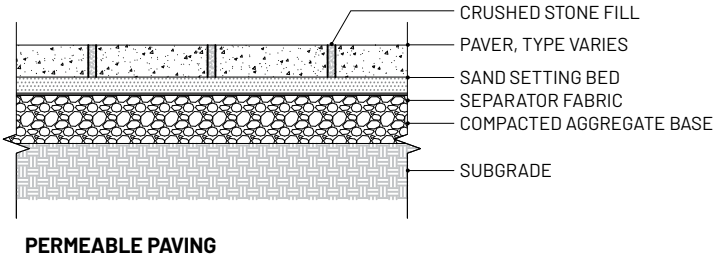
ASPHALT



STONE FINES + DECOMPOSED GRANITE



COMPACTED EARTH



PERMEABLE PAVING

PAVING EXAMPLES

Figure 43. Paving types are not limited to those above and vary based on the intended use. Paving material thicknesses and sub-base dimensions vary according to use. Any geotechnical conditions should be studied and reviewed by a licensed State of California Civil engineer.
Source: All images OLIN, 2019.

USED FOR

- Maintenance and service roads
- Bicycles
- Pedestrians
- Equestrians (must be rough brushed)

- Maintenance and service roads
- Bicycles
- Pedestrians

- Pedestrians

- Maintenance and service roads
- Equestrians

- Pedestrians
- Gathering spaces

PAVING MATERIALS

There is no single perfect material for trails along the LA River. Cyclists perfect smooth continuous surfaces such as asphalt or concrete whereas pedestrians typically prefer more forgiving surfaces such as bonded stone fines and equestrians a larger aggregate.

When possible, these "ideal" surfaces should be used; however, all design conditions, material thicknesses/assemblies, and colors should be reviewed by design professionals for site specific considerations. Additionally, paving has the potential to feature artwork.

Concrete: A durable paving material that consists of aggregate and cement over a compacted aggregate base. Suitable for maintenance roads and bicycle and pedestrian trails.

Asphalt: Durable and relatively inexpensive paving material that consists of aggregates held together by asphalt cement over an aggregate base. Can withstand heavy loads of a maintenance vehicle, while also being a suitable material for bicycle trails. A light-colored, low VOC warm mix must be used to offset the urban heat island effect.

Stone Fines and Decomposed Granite (DG): A stable, natural-looking paving material consisting of crushed rock that can be found in a variety of different colors and granular sizes. A larger granular size is recommended, as fine DG becomes slippery when wet. Where erosion is a concern, DG should be protected with a resin-binder and should not be used on sloped areas greater than 3% unless a drainage system is installed.

Compacted Earth: This inexpensive method should be primarily used for equestrian trails when no other option is available since erosion and wear can be a maintenance problem. Care should be taken to stabilize the path with a well-graded aggregate base.

Permeable Paving: Crushed stone fill between paving, or open, coarse aggregate held together by asphalt concrete or cement. Problems can occur with silting which reduces permeability if surfaces are not cleaned and maintained regularly to allow maximum water percolation.

WHERE TO SITE FENCES, GUARDRAILS, AND RAILINGS

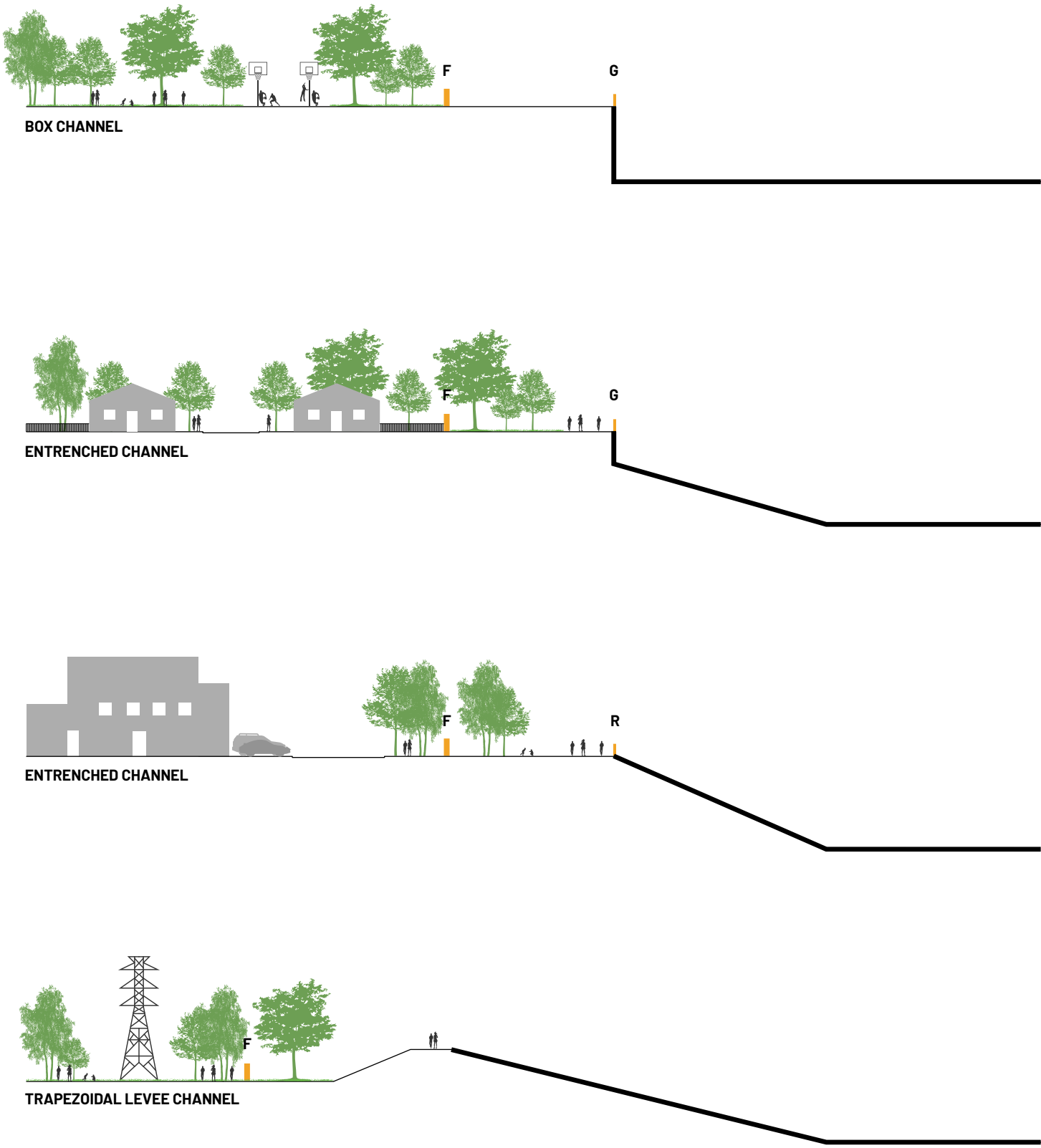


Figure 44. **Fences, guardrails, and railings should be utilized in the correct locations along the river. These locations are dictated by channel characteristics, user access, adjacent land uses, and programming.**

FENCES, GUARDRAILS, RAILINGS, AND GATES

Use of the river corridor for public activities requires the re-evaluation of fencing in terms of function, aesthetics, and the perception of safety vs. real hazard. Fences to keep the public away from the channel are not applicable to an open space corridor, except where public safety is a concern.

In some areas along the LA River, vertical drops require guardrails for fall protection. In other areas, a simple railing may be recommended where steep slopes are adjacent to paths of travel. Opportunities exist to provide the appropriate type of fencing for a variety of proposed recreational uses and to remove fencing that is redundant or does not meet a multi-objective approach to river management. This includes situations that utilize a fence to disconnect the river from adjacent parks and other public open spaces rather than provide the parks an opportunity to function as part of the river corridor by gating the park entrance.

The reduction of fencing along the LA River is reliant on:

- The reduction of public hazards
- The implementation of other types of buffers and barriers
- Safety/warning notification system including a comprehensive environmental graphics system (see Chapter 4)

Safety from flood waters is critical along the LA River. Flood channels within LA County are gated for public safety, so that access can be prohibited during flood conditions. Gates are to be placed at access points and major arterials and are to be connected to adjacent fencing. Vehicular and pedestrian gates must have the ability to close and lock. The design of new projects should maintain a level of safety while promoting a welcoming and connected open space river corridor.

FENCE, GUARDRAIL, RAILING, AND GATE DEFINITIONS

Fence: A barrier for public safety along LA County watercourses at least 60 inches high off the adjacent surface.

Guardrail: A barrier at least 42 inches high near the open sides of elevated surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall. Guardrails should follow the latest code and ADA requirements (such as restrictions on openings).

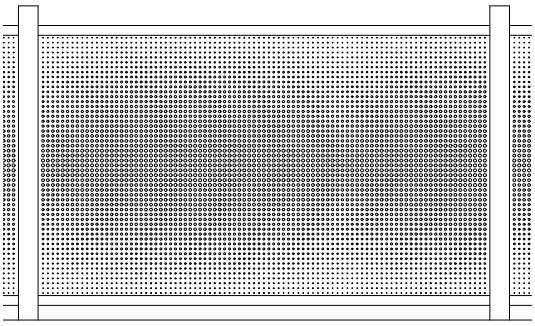
Railing: A barrier that separates trail uses or provides a visual separation but is not required by code.

Gate: An aperture along a fence to provide access while maintaining public safety.

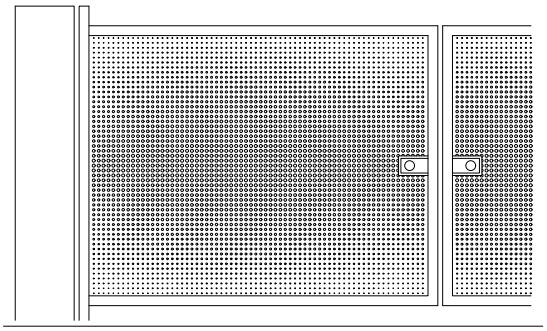
Figure 45. The terms above are defined as used in this document.

FENCE OR GUARDRAIL TYPOLOGIES

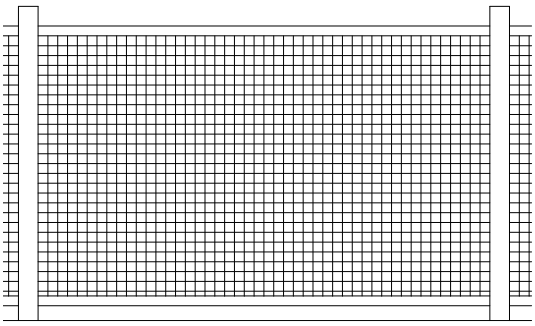
CORRESPONDING GATES



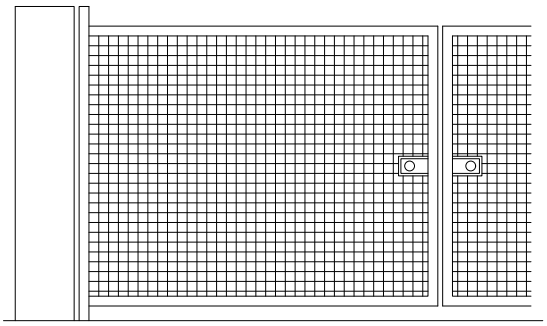
CUSTOM METAL



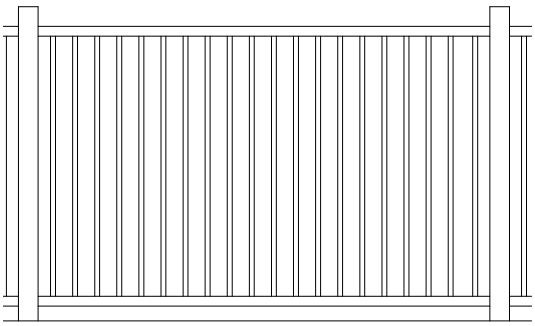
CUSTOM METAL GATE



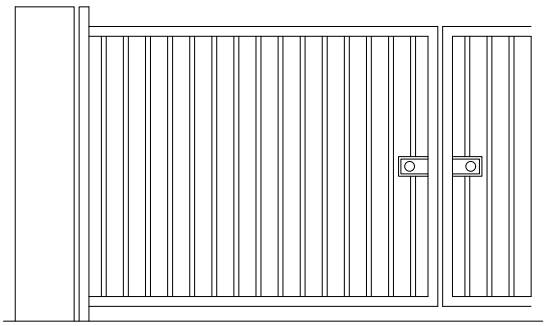
WELDED WIRE



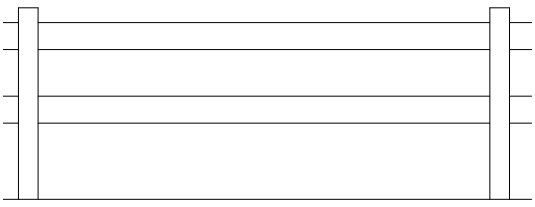
WELDED WIRE GATE



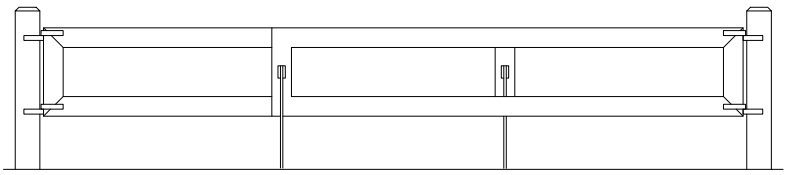
TUBULAR STEEL



TUBULAR STEEL GATE

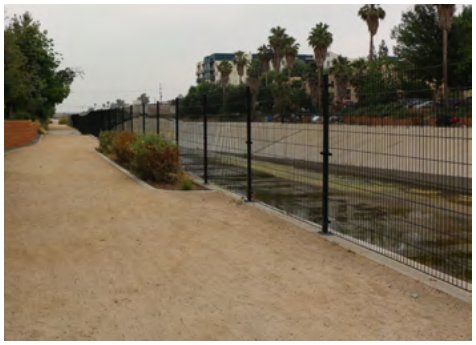


LODGEPOLE SPLIT RAIL (FOR TRAIL SEPARATION)



EQUESTRIAN GATE

Figure 46. Fence, guardrail, or gate type is determined by location on the river and the intended use.

FENCE EXAMPLES	USED FOR
	• Prominent trail access points • Gateways • Statement art piece
	• Adjacent to Channel • Adjacent to Parks
	• Adjacent to Channel • Adjacent to Parks
	• Maintenance and service roads • Equestrian trails • Trail dividers

MINIMIZE THE USE OF CHAINLINK FENCING AND DO NOT USE IN HIGH-VISIBILITY AREAS

Figure 47. Fence types along the LA River vary due to intended uses and adjacent elements. Source: (Top) OLIN/ Sahar Coston-Hardy, 2013. All other images OLIN, 2019.

GATEWAYS ARE PLACED ALONG THE RIVER AT KEY MOMENTS WHERE MAJOR ACCESS POINTS, ADJACENT PROGRAMMING, AND LA RIVER COMMUNITIES INTERSECT

GATEWAYS

Gateways represent instances along the river to welcome, inform, and allow users to utilize the LA River Trail. They are access points at key moments along the river, and are usually identified by a visual marker, either through a large specimen tree, environmental graphics (see Chapter 4), or another kind of community artwork or cultural expression. Gateways call attention to the presence of the river and the access through their design and can also provide educational opportunities for visitors. While all gateways are access points, not all access points are gateways. Typically, gateways are placed along the river at moments where major access points, adjacent programming, and LA River communities intersect. Gateways represent a great opportunity to connect adjacent communities to the river and create a neighborhood identity based on the LA River.

There are three different scales of gateways that can be implemented depending on site conditions. All of the gateways must include the following items, no matter the type:

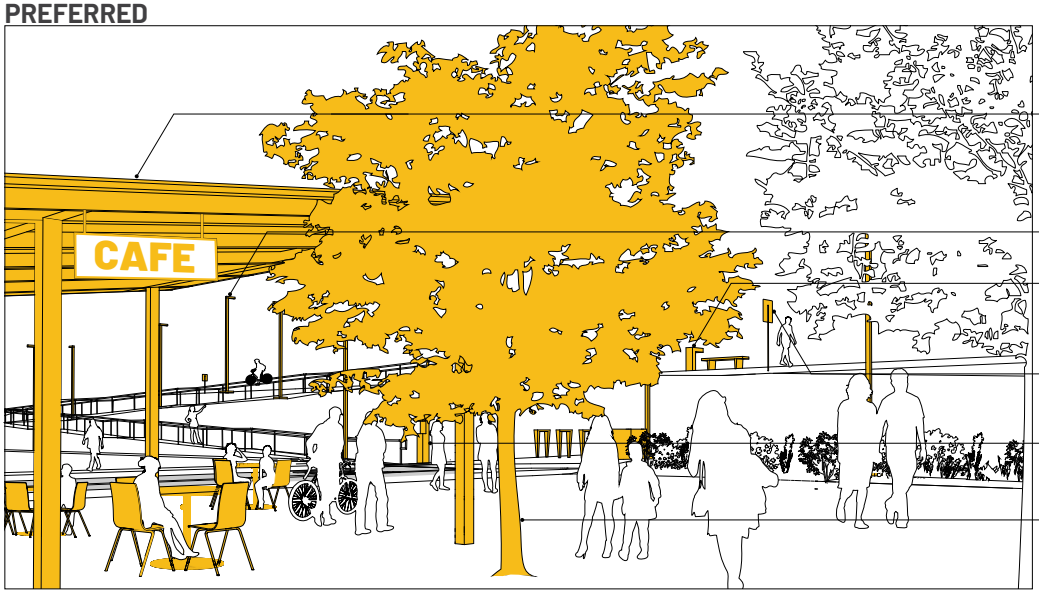
- Ample lighting for safety
- ADA accessibility
- Environmental graphics

Preferred
Preferred gateways have a large or eye-catching visual maker and a gracious entrance (landside right-of-way larger than 17'). They include the most complete suite of amenities, including but not limited to, a Tier II or III river pavilion (see Chapter 6), environmental graphics (see Chapter 4), and native planting and specimen or shade trees (see Chapter 5).

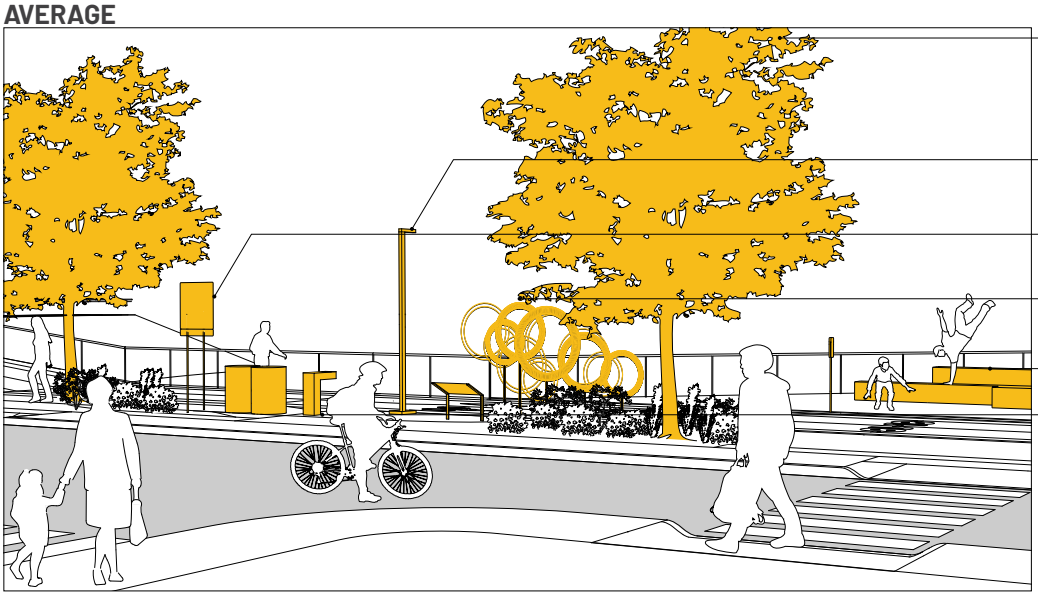
Average
Average gateways include a distinctive visual marker or artwork at its entrance and occur in areas that have a narrower landside right-of-way than the preferred gateways (approx. 12'-17'). These gateways can include a Tier I river pavilion (see: Chapter 6), artwork, stormwater BMPs, and a native vegetation buffer to designate the LA River access point.

Minimum
The minimum gateways provide an enhanced access point to the LA River in narrow landside right-of-way. Environmental graphics are often the primary visual markers for these gateways, and allow users to locate themselves on the river and educate themselves about different facets of the river. These gateways can also include site furnishings, stormwater BMPs, and a native vegetation buffer to welcome users to access the river.

PREFERRED



AVERAGE



MINIMUM (NARROW)

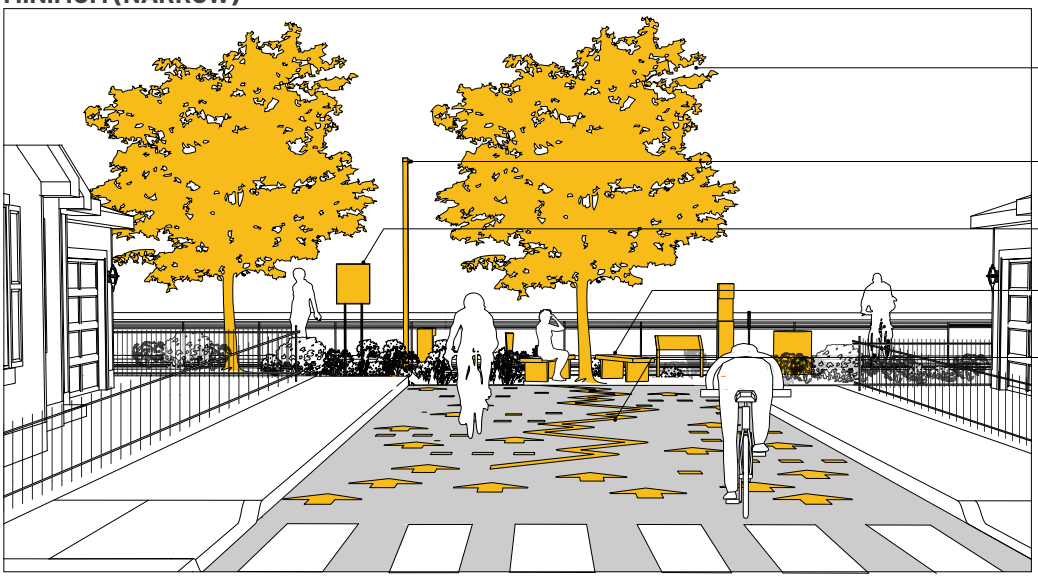


Figure 48. Gateway conditions vary depending on the space available. Gateways signify entrances to the LA River Trail and vary from trail access points with clear environmental graphics and minimum site-specific amenities to access points with pavilions and programming.

TRAIL INTERSECTIONS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN THE DESIGN OF BRIDGES TO ENSURE SEAMLESS CIRCULATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT KINDS OF USERS

BRIDGES

Connectivity across the LA River is just as important as connectivity along it. Where feasible, bridges should be implemented to connect all users to the river and the adjacent neighborhoods. While the overall look and structure of these bridges will be different based on the location and intended use, there are certain elements that should be present in all instances.

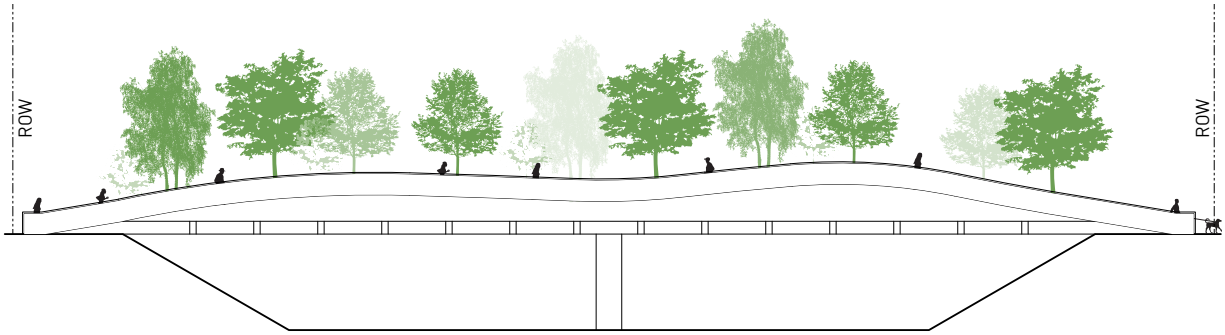
Ideally, a bridge would be able to connect all users of the LA River corridor, including habitats and animals. Where the construction or investment of a land bridge is not possible, equestrian, bicycle, and pedestrian trails should be connected across the river. At a minimum, bicycles and pedestrians should be able to cross to enjoy amenities and destinations along both sides of the river. Guardrail heights should follow the standards put forth in the applicable codes as stated in the LACFCD Permitting Checklist in Chapter 2.

Wherever a bridge is implemented, connections to the correct trail systems and users is paramount. Trail intersections should be carefully considered in the design of bridges to ensure seamless circulation between different kinds of users. For example, when building an equestrian bridge, that bridge should connect users to a corresponding equestrian trail. In all instances of crossing, ample environmental graphics and striping must be included to warn users of a crossing. The specific design, materiality, and form of each bridge should be developed for intended use and on a project-by-project basis. Bridges also provide an opportunity for artwork.

All bridge proposals should be studied for hydraulic impacts on the flood capacity of the channel and shall aim to convey at a minimum the 1% annual chance flood event, including freeboard. Bridge height and width should also consider future climate and channel condition.

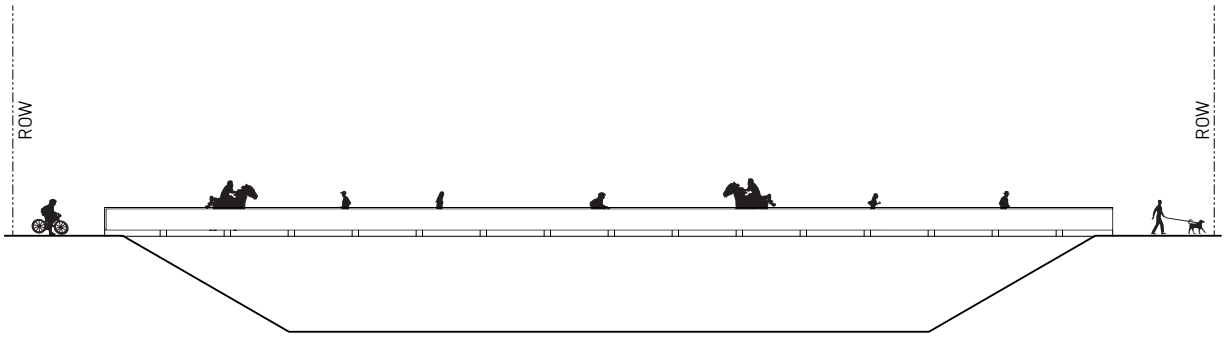
BRIDGE TYPOLOGIES

PREFERRED



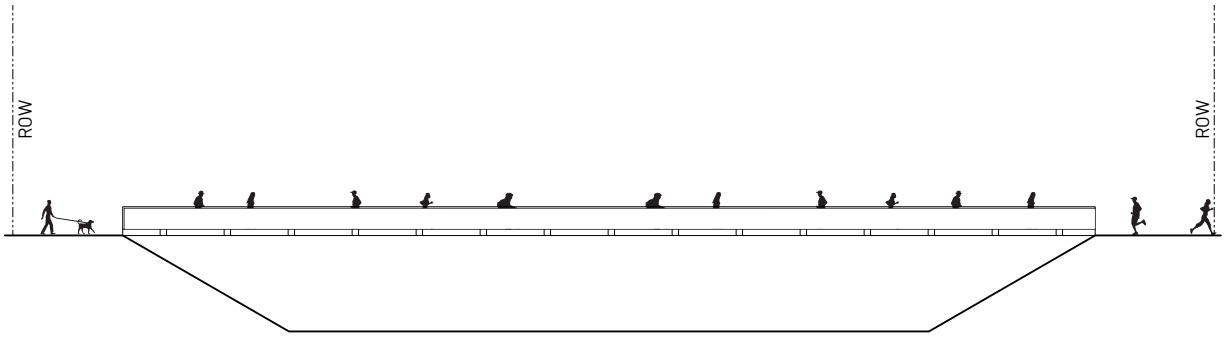
LAND BRIDGE/HABITAT CONNECTIONS + MULTIUSE TRAIL BRIDGE

See Figure 50 on page 90.



MULTIUSE TRAIL BRIDGE

See Figure 51 on page 90.

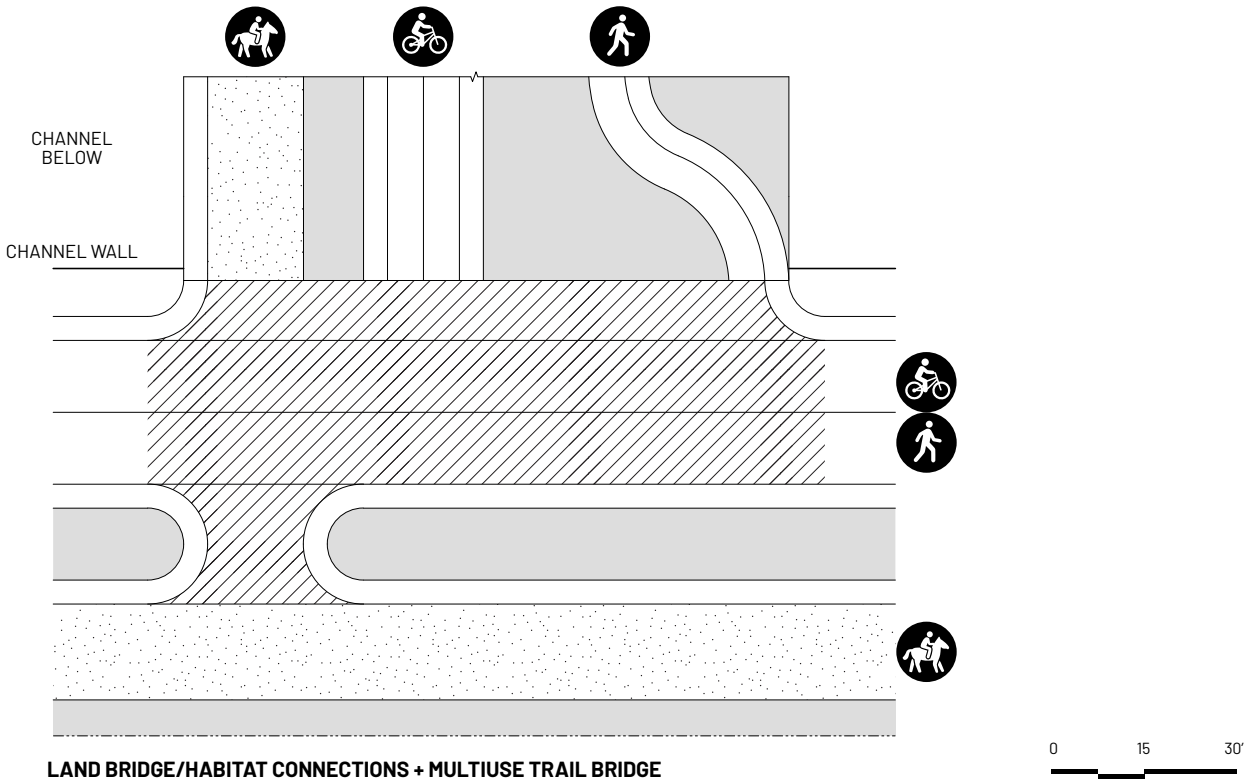


PEDESTRIAN + BIKE TRAIL BRIDGE

See Figure 53 on page 91.

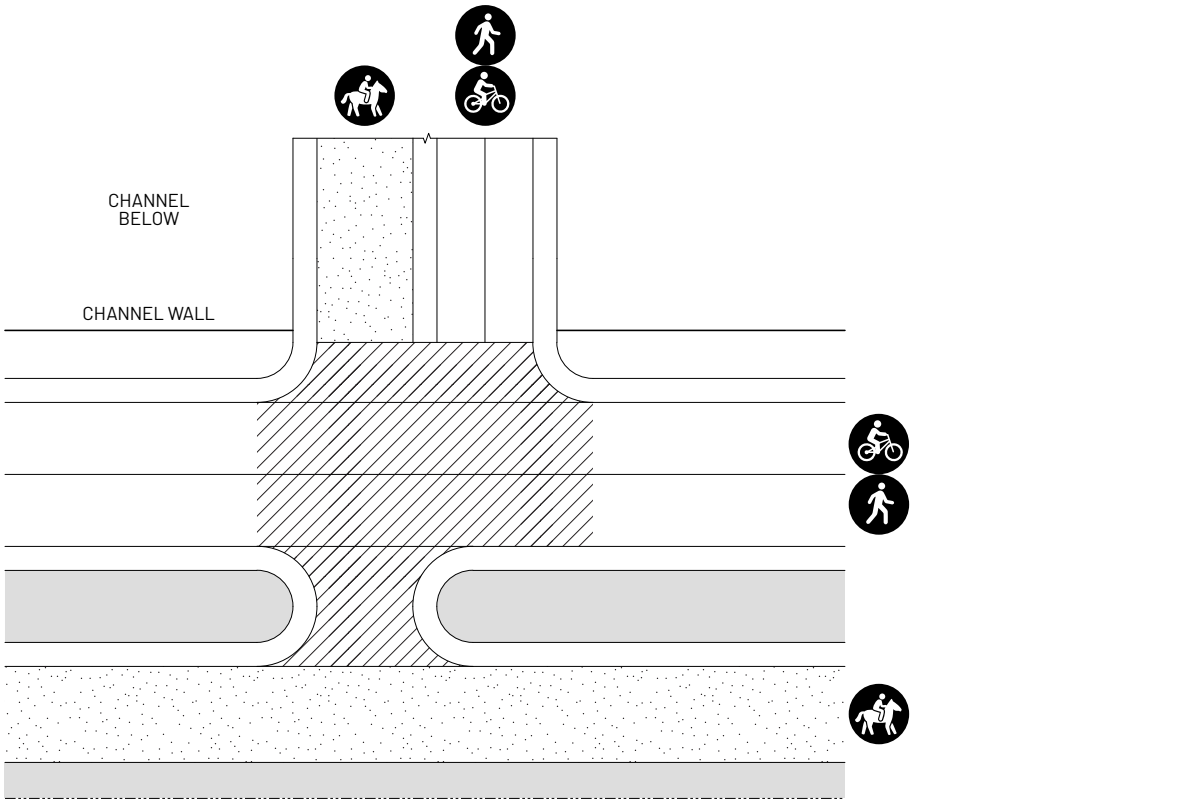
MINIMUM

Figure 49. Bridge crossings are unique to the use of the bridge. The design, materiality, and form of each bridge should be determined based on the intended use. All bridge proposals shall be studied for hydraulic impacts on the flood capacity of the channel.



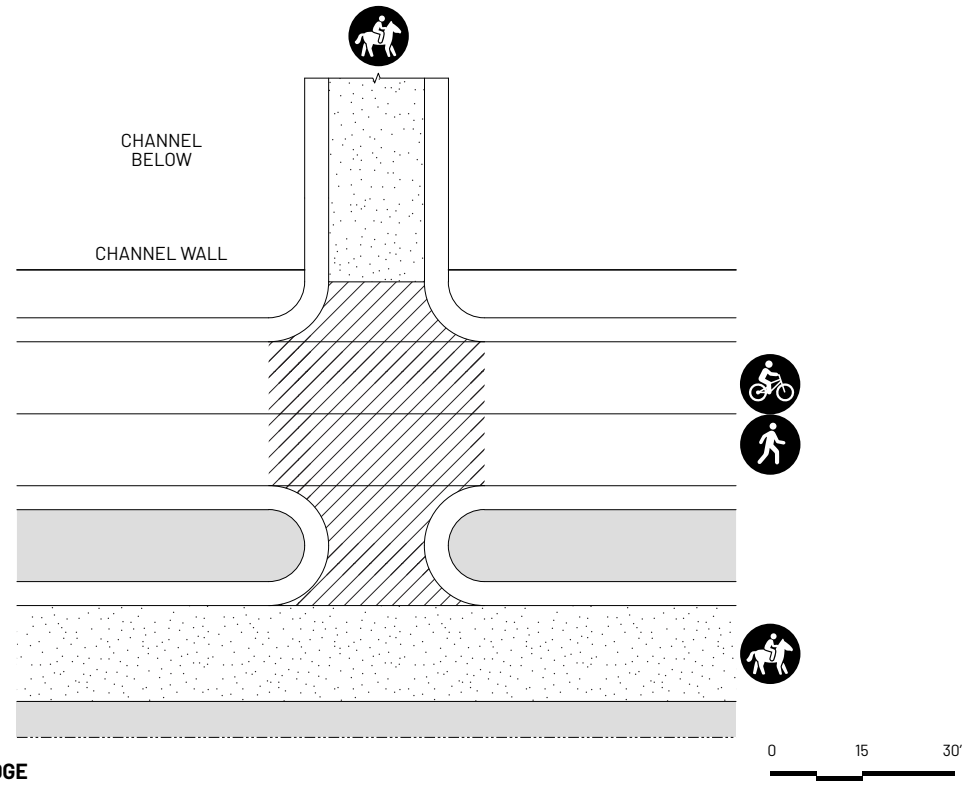
LAND BRIDGE/HABITAT CONNECTIONS + MULTIUSE TRAIL BRIDGE

Figure 50. **Land bridges create habitat and movement opportunities through varied planting and topography. Pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian paths should be a minimum of 12' wide between railings. When possible, slope bridge paths to a maximum of 5%. If sloped up to 8.33% or more, provide landings and railings as per ADA requirements for accessible ramps. Cross-slope should be a maximum of 2%. Use clear centerline striping and environmental graphics, developed with a project's specific needs, to warn trail users of a bridge crossing and provide a clear connection to equestrian trail.**



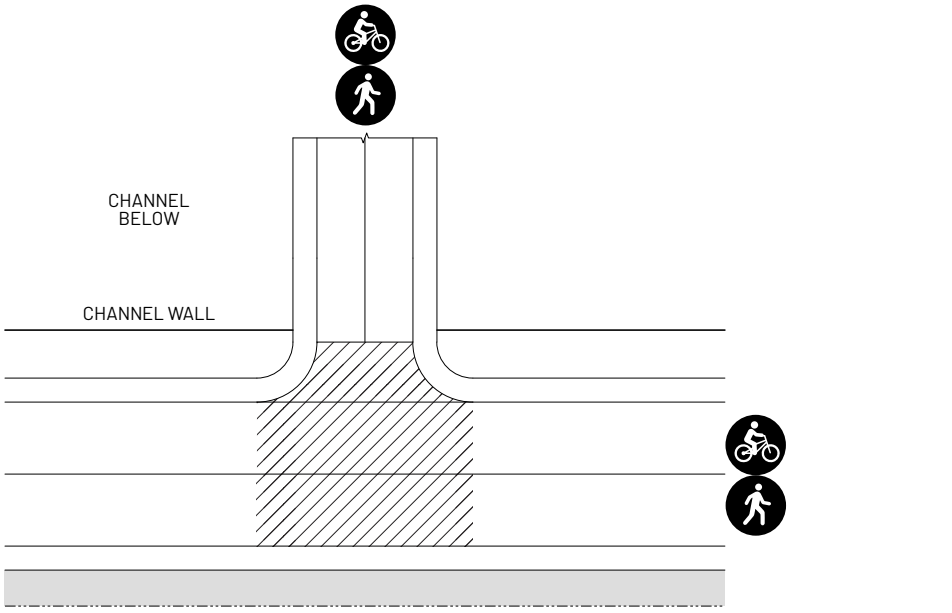
MULTIUSE TRAIL BRIDGE

Figure 51. **Pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian paths should be a minimum of 12' wide between railings. When possible, slope bridge paths to a maximum of 5%. If sloped up to 8.33% or more, provide landings and railings as per ADA requirements for accessible ramps. Cross-slope should be a maximum of 2%. Use clear centerline striping and environmental graphics, developed with a project's specific needs, to warn trail users of a bridge crossing and provide a clear connection to equestrian trail.**



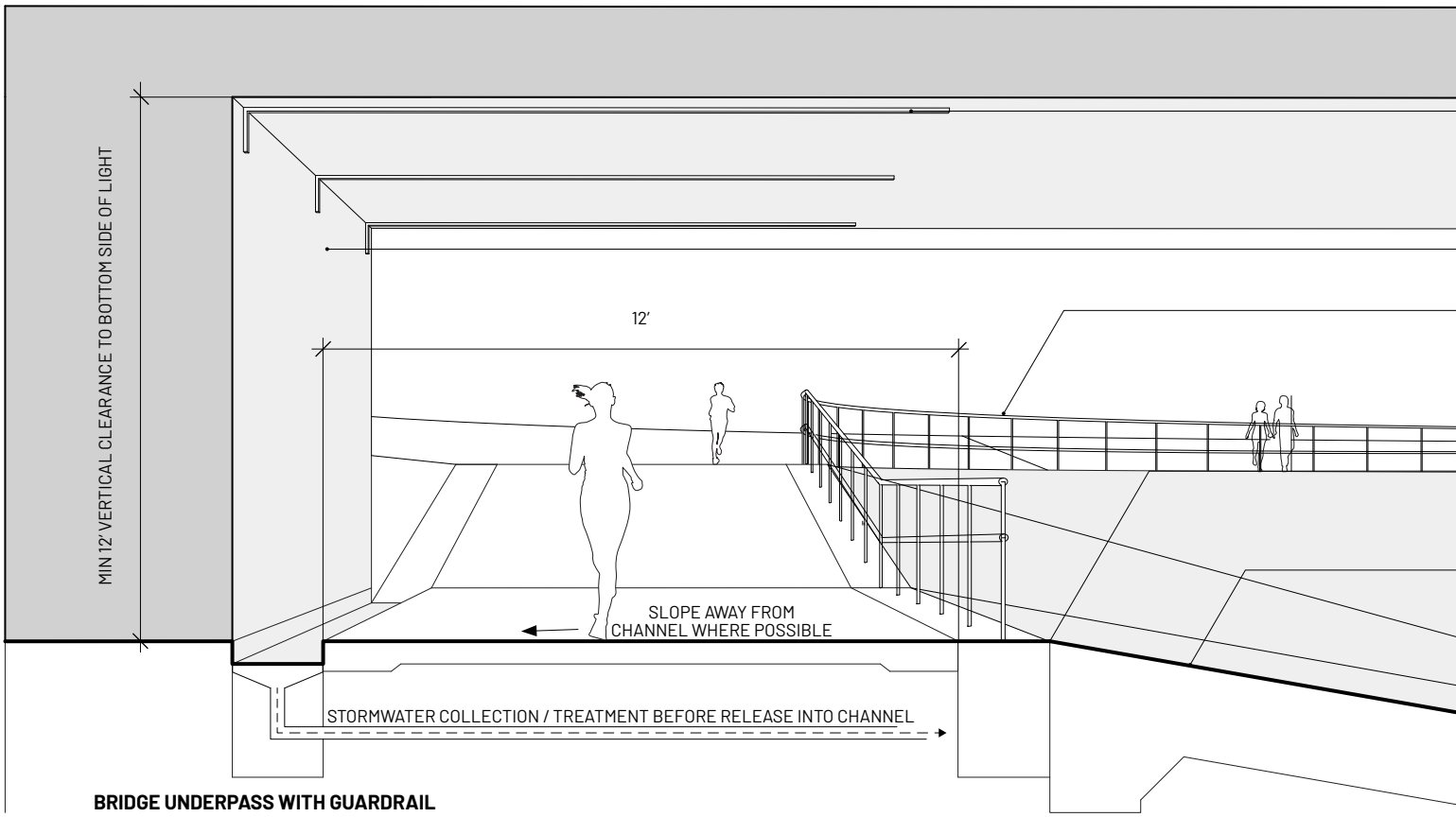
EQUESTRIAN TRAIL BRIDGE

Figure 52. Equestrian bridge to be a minimum of 12' wide between railings. When possible, slope equestrian bridge paths to a maximum of 5%. If sloped up to 8.33% or more, provide landings and railings as per ADA requirements for accessible ramps. Cross-slope should be a maximum of 2%. Use clear centerline striping and environmental graphics, developed with a project's specific needs, to warn trail users of a bridge crossing and provide a clear connection to equestrian trail.



PEDESTRIAN + BIKE TRAIL BRIDGE

Figure 53. Pedestrian and bicycle paths should be a minimum of 12' wide between railings. When possible, slope bridge paths to a maximum of 5%. If sloped up to 8.33% or more, provide landings and railings as per ADA requirements for accessible ramps. Cross-slope should be a maximum of 2%. Use clear centerline striping and environmental graphics, developed with a project's specific needs, to warn trail users of a bridge crossing.

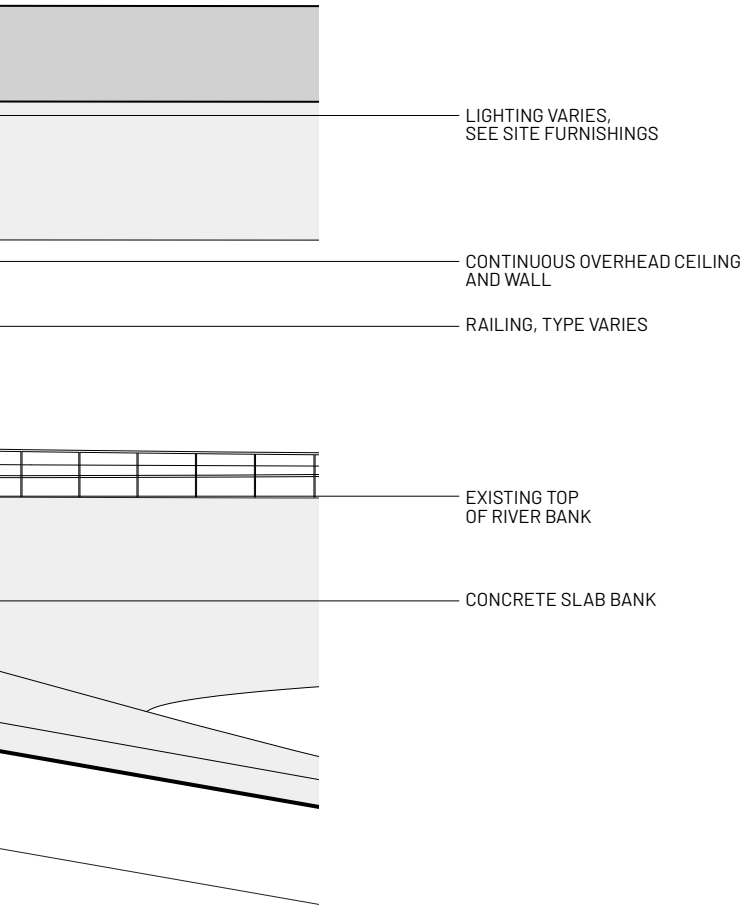


BRIDGE UNDERPASS WITH GUARDRAIL

Figure 54. Lighting, safety, grading, and opportunities for art are key design considerations at underpass locations.

0 1 2 4'

THE SLOPE OF THE TRAIL AT ANY UNDERPASS OR OVERPASS SHOULD BE BETWEEN A MAXIMUM OF 5-8%, WITH LANDINGS PER ADA REQUIREMENTS



RIVER TRAIL BRIDGE UNDERPASS

Trails that run parallel to the river often pass under or over existing or proposed bridge crossings. At these crossings, the slope of the trail at any underpass or overpass should ideally be less than 5%, but no more than 8.33%. The trail should follow the standards outlined in the multiuse trails section. It may be necessary to separate users from the river with a guardrail depending on the riverside condition and local jurisdiction requirements. Ample lighting must be provided in all underpass conditions to ensure visibility and to create a safe trail experience. Opportunities for art can also be considered to create a bright and welcoming space. Where possible, stormwater treatment should be included so that the trail slopes away from the river so that any rainfall drains to a shallow gutter that runs along the bridge footing. This allows for water to be transferred to a treatment location before being released back into the river. Special consideration can be given for underpasses with tight right-of way conditions.

All underpass conditions shall be designed with continuous surfaces, without notches above and on the side, to prohibit the use of the spaces between structural members.

ACCESS AND MOBILITY CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist on page 36 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Detailed Technical Requirements Checklist for Access and Mobility

Trail Assembly

- ☐ Connect all trails to the LA River trail system as outlined in the LA River Master Plan 2020 Update.
- ☐ Slope all trails at a maximum of 2% away from the river to encourage runoff collection.
- ☐ Slope all trails, where feasible, into a vegetated area that is designed to collect, retain, and infiltrate stormwater runoff.

Paving

- ☐ Do not use dark surfacing, such as black asphalt, along the trail as it intensifies the urban heat island effect.
- ☐ Only use low VOC, warm mix asphalt when asphalt surfacing is specified.

Fences and Gates

- ☐ Use the correct type of fence, guardrail, or railing for the location.
- ☐ Where possible, do not use chain link fencing anywhere on the river. Chain link fencing should not be used in highly-visible areas/
- ☐ Treat all metal fencing with corrosion-resistant coatings such as powder coating. Special attention should be paid to mitigate zinc-leaching materials.

Access Points

- ☐ All access points must have the following:
  - Lighting see Chapter 6
  - Environmental graphics Chapter 4
- ☐ Where feasible, add or relocate bus stops to existing or proposed river trail access points.

Gateways

- ☐ All Gateways must have the following:
  - Lighting see Chapter 6
  - ADA access
  - Environmental graphics see Chapter 4
- ☐ Tier III gateways should include the following:
  - Vegetation buffer
  - Community expression or art
  - River Pavilion see Chapter 6

Bridges

- □ Bridges should be a minimum of 8' wide.
- □ Slope bridge path up to a maximum of 5% on main paths.
- □ Use environmental graphics to warm users of trail and bridge intersections.
- □ Connect bridge paths of travels to appropriate multiuse trails. (For example, connect equestrian bridges to adjacent equestrian trails).

Underpasses

- □ Allow a minimum 10' clearance at underpasses.
- □ Add lighting to ensure visibility.
- □ Design smooth straight surfaces along underpasses, without notches, to prohibit the use of the spaces between structural members.
- □ Add art or community expression to underpass walls (if required).

Detailed Maintenance Program Checklist for Access and Mobility

Paving

- □ Inspect paving on a regular schedule for cracks, potholes, or erosion.

Fences and Gates

- □ Inspect fencing and guardrails for vandalism or weathering.
- □ Reduce use of fencing and deploy only where necessary for safety.

Gateways, Bridges, and Underpasses

- □ Identify inspection requirements for gateways, bridges, or underpasses.
- □ Treat materials to deter graffiti and vandalism.

Figure 55. Environmental graphics help to define river gateways, as shown in this Shade Pavilion example at river mile 14.7.

4.
ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS ALONG THE RIVER PROMOTE ACCESSIBILITY, SAFETY, AND COMMUNITY EXPRESSION

The Environmental Graphics Guidelines for the 2020 LA River Master Plan Design Guidelines have been developed with a common set of values for their design and proposed use. These guidelines create a framework for consistent wayfinding and promote a unique identity for the LA River. They aim to be accessible to all. Legibility and graphic clarity are critical for the success of all wayfinding elements. The sign designs detailed in this chapter have a simple, timeless aesthetic while allowing for community expression and art at gateways and other special instances. Environmental graphics can be integrated, where appropriate, into the design of architecture and public art rather than consisting exclusively of stand-alone signs. Wayfinding from bike routes and pedestrian streets is also crucial for directing people to the river itself. The programmed sequence, placement, and content of information conveyed through wayfinding elements should be carefully calibrated using established environmental graphic design 'best practices' to optimize clarity and avoid visual clutter as pedestrians or cyclists approach and enter the LA River right-of-way.

WHAT'S IN THE CHAPTER

There are eight categories of environmental graphics: informational, regulatory, confirmation, interpretive signs and displays, directional, mile markers, pavement markings, and large scale icon graphics. This chapter includes a suite of LA River environmental graphics which outlines which categories are required at a minimum for different scales of projects (XS-XL, as defined in the Chapter 1 programming section and the 2020 LA River Master Plan Update) at various distances leading to and within the site. Further, there is a permitting matrix that identifies what features each category should or should not have, such as which environmental graphics should always be bilingual.

Wayfinding signs must comply with the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) guidelines. All mile markers must use the 51-mile river mile numbering system with the mouth at river mile 0, and the headwaters at river mile 51.

Figure 56. Chapter 4 of this document covers items related to environmental graphics that are present on and along the LA River.

STANDARD DESIGN FEATURES

All environmental graphics share common design features such as the terminology for the "LA River", the heron logo and icon, the use of open-source Barlow font, and the recommended high contrast background to text color ratio. Accessibility, legibility, and compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) are baseline criteria to be followed by environmental graphics. Further, symbols for amenities or trails should be consistent across all environmental graphics, and should be an MUTCD symbol if one exists for the amenity depicted.

ACCESSIBILITY

Various best practices guide the suite of environmental graphics to make them legible and meaningful to all users along the LA River. It is important to consider the design of multi-modal environmental graphics. Designs that engage only one sense, such as sight, limit the audience's experience. Best practices for accessible design consider the ranges of eyesight, hearing, touch, and cognition, for example, difficulty with distinguishing sounds from background noises or difficulty focusing or staying on task. The inclusion of braille or audio components to environmental graphics is encouraged and should be considered on a project by project basis.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Sign Guidelines

ADA requirements generally apply to environmental graphics along routes that are designated as a path of travel. It is important to reference the latest ADA requirements as they are updated over time.

ADA requirements for the minimum type size on a sign are determined by how high the sign is hung off the ground and how close a viewer can approach and read it. For example, if a sign is hung between 40 inches and 70 inches off the ground, and the viewer can approach within six feet of it, the minimum size of the type, which is based on the height of a capital letter "I", should be 5/8 inch. For every additional foot beyond six feet that a viewer cannot approach the sign, the size of the font needs to increase by 1/8 inch. Visual characters should not be any lower than 40 inches from the ground. ADA requirements for single or double posts for freestanding signs depends on the placement of the sign along a path of travel, the height it is hung, and the amount the sign overhangs each post. For example, a sign that has overhangs a single post more than 12 inches should have two posts and be hung a maximum of 27 inches or a minimum of 80 inches off the ground.[16] Always check the latest requirements.

Contrast and Color

Many individuals experience color differently, and the least variance in human perception of color is in tonal contrast. Maintaining sufficient tonal contrast is important for accessible communication of information in environmental graphics.[17] See page 103 for the required background color (to be used against white) and for the recommended contrast ratio.

Language

The LA River travels through many diverse neighborhoods. Primary languages spoken by adjacent neighborhoods must be considered when creating bilingual environmental graphics. Languages such as, but not limited to, Spanish, Chinese, Khmer, Tagalog, Russian, or Korean are all examples of languages that can be used for translations of environmental graphics. Symbols and clear graphic design can also be used for communication without the need for translations. The following should be considered for bilingual signs:

- In order to better differentiate between different languages on the same sign, varying text weights is recommended. In some cases, English text will appear in bold, with the translated text at a thinner font weight either next to or below the English text. This will help the viewer to more easily and quickly digest the content that is intended for them.
- Translated text should appear in the same font and color of the English text. Where non-Latin fonts are used, choose a font that is clear and simple with no serif or no stylistic modifications (Google Noto Fonts is recommended and available for free in over 75 non-Latin languages)
- Translations should be proofread by native speakers of the language and/or community members before use.

CHARACTER HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

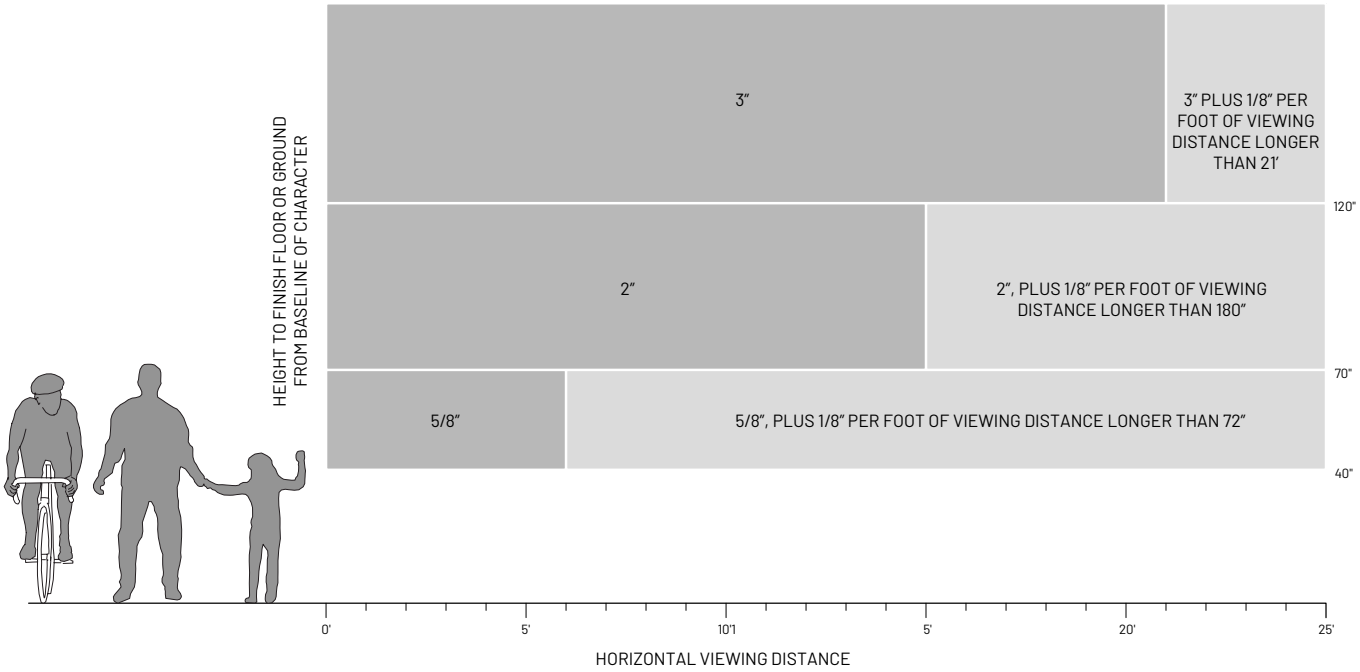


Figure 57. Character height required for ADA accessibility is based on horizontal viewing distance. Designers should check the latest ADA standards for updates. Source: Standards from U.S. Department of Justice. (2010). 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

SIGN POST REQUIREMENTS FOR OVERHANG ON CIRCULATION PATHS

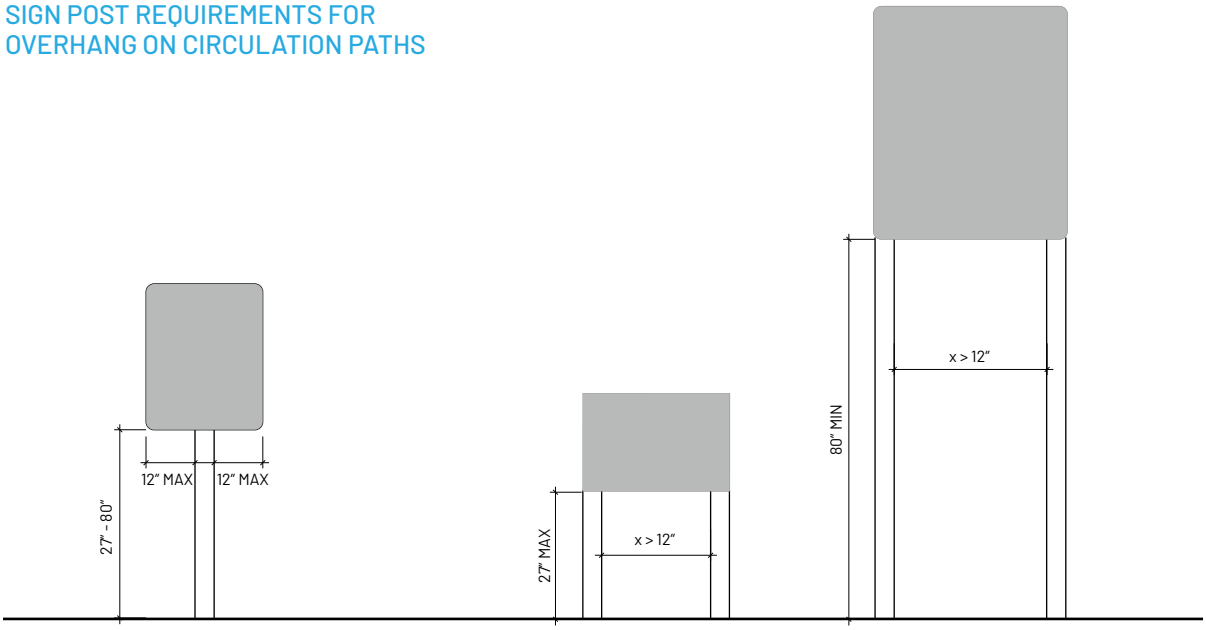


Figure 58. Single or double posts are required for signs directly overhanging on circulation paths depending on the height they are hung and the amount of sign protruding beyond the post. Designers should check the latest ADA standards for updates. Source: Standards from U.S. Department of Justice. (2010). 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

- Translations should always appear on the same sign as the English text.
- Where feasible, use standardized or universal symbols to communicate without the need for text translations.

Symbols

For consistency, symbols for trail use or other amenities should follow the symbols used Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Reference the latest MUTCD documents as updates are incorporated over time. In cases where the symbol needed is not available from MUTCD, a new symbol can be designed but should be similar in style and weight as MUTCD symbols.

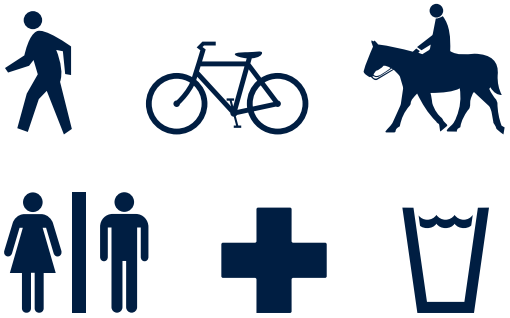


Figure 59. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) symbols, such as the ones for pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, restrooms, first aid, and drinking water, should be used on signs where possible. Source: 2009 MUTCD Edition with Revisions 1 and 2, 2012.

Icon and Logo

To reinforce an identity for the LA River, the heron graphic and icon should be used consistently. The icon of the heron on a riverbank within a circle should be used wherever a logo for the LA River is needed. This is useful when many logos are aligned in a row, or where there is limited space on a sign. The heron graphic is suited for large scale environmental graphics and other identifying environmental graphics, such as Informational Signs.

Additionally, the term "LA River" is to be used on all environmental graphics instead of "Los Angeles River" or "L.A. River".

Figure 62. When a symbol is needed that is not available from MUTCD, another symbol in a similar style and weight to MUTCD standards should be used. Examples include of symbols for gender-neutral restrooms, river crossings, a river confluence, and wetlands. Source: (Left) Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, California Building Code, 2016; all other symbols River LA.

Figure 60. The heron icon should be used when a logo for the LA River is needed, such as on a sign. Source: Edited for the LA River Master Plan, 2020 from the LA River Sign Guidelines, 2003.

Figure 63. The heron graphic should be used for large scale environmental graphics or other identifying environmental graphics. Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

LA RIVER

Figure 61. The terminology and font on all environmental graphics should be "LA River" in Barlow.

Font
All fonts to be used in the LA River Environmental Graphics should be Barlow, an open-source font. Exceptions are allowed for large scale icon graphics and other artwork. While Barlow does offer a wide range of different styles, semi-bold through black thicknesses offer the easiest readability and are the recommended styles.

Colors
White and Pantone 282 C are the primary colors of all signage and environmental graphics in the LA River guidelines. The color contrast between the selected blue and white is 16:1, well above the suggested minimum of 7:1. Color matching of Pantone 282 C across all fabrication is the responsibility of the fabricator, and is important to maintain consistency through the whole suite.

BARLOW STYLES

THIN
THIN ITALIC
EXTRA-LIGHT
EXTRA-LIGHT ITALIC
LIGHT
LIGHT ITALIC
REGULAR
REGULAR ITALIC
MEDIUM
MEDIUM ITALIC
SEMI-BOLD
SEMI-BOLD ITALIC
BOLD
BOLD ITALIC
EXTRA-BOLD
EXTRA-BOLD ITALIC
BLACK
BLACK ITALIC

PANTONE 282 C

WHITE

STANDARD FEATURES OVERVIEW

- Background Color: Pantone 282 C and white
- Font: Barlow
- Contrast Ratio: 7:1 minimum
- Heron: Use required icon for logos. Use required graphic for other environmental graphics
- Symbols: Use MUTCD symbols where one exists
- Nomenclature: Always use "LA River"

Figure 64. Barlow is an open-source typeface designed by Jeremy Tribby and is available from Google Fonts. "Semi-bold" through" black" thicknesses are recommended for environmental graphics intended to be read from a distance or while traveling at a fast speed.

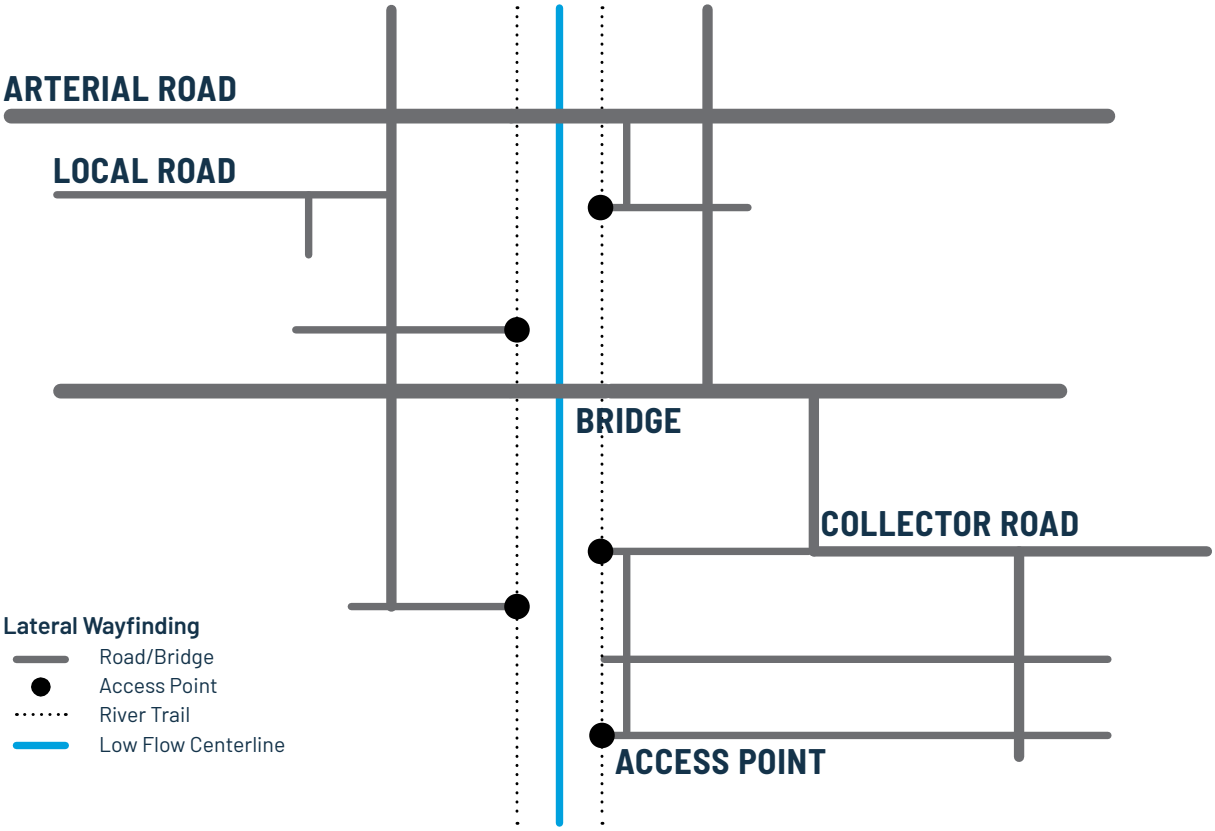


Figure 65. **The approach to the placement and sequence of environmental graphics depends on the context and expected volume and speed of users passing by. The diagram above shows an abstraction of different contexts for environmental graphics leading to and along the LA River. Example scenarios are depicted on the pages that follow.**

SEQUENCE AND PLACEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

Lateral wayfinding is crucial in showing users how to navigate to the LA River, and clear placement of signs at gateways and along the trail notify users without being overwhelming. The vignettes on the following pages show examples of environmental graphics sequence and placement in typical contexts leading to and along the river. Directional environmental graphics should be placed so they are visible to pedestrians, bicyclists, those in vehicles, and equestrians where appropriate. These environmental graphics should be placed along a safe route that directs pedestrians and cyclists to the nearest access point. Informational, regulatory, and other categories of signage should be placed in a clear manner at access points and along trails to avoid sign clutter.

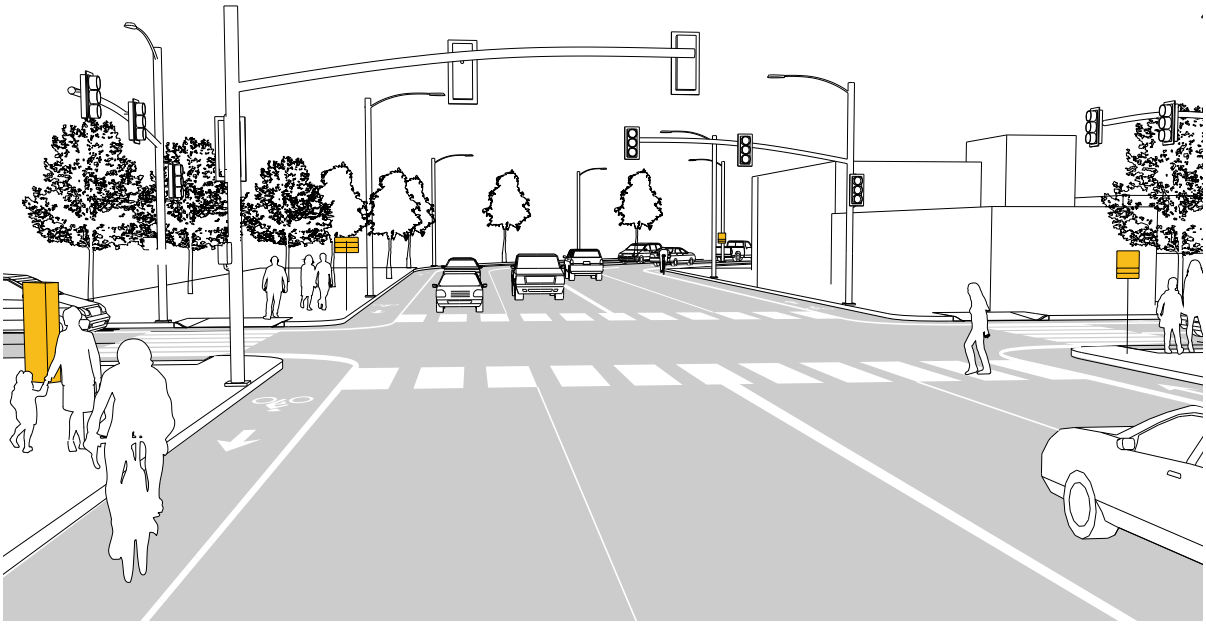
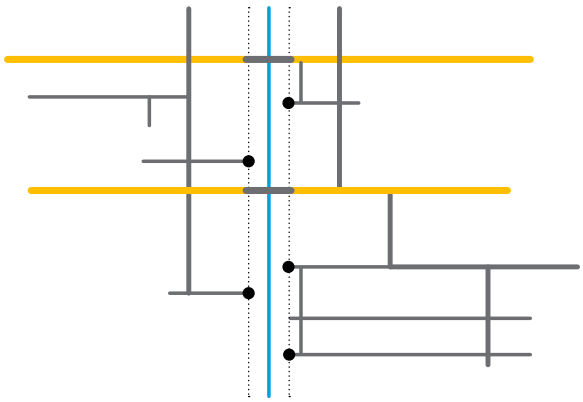


Figure 66. Environmental graphics along arterial roads should guide users across busy intersections.

ARTERIAL ROAD ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding along Freeways and Expressways.
- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding in a location that competes visually with standard traffic signs.
- Use existing posts and traffic light posts where possible.
- At large pedestrian intersections, combine wayfinding with large totems at corners to avoid sign clutter.
- Apply Directional signs with existing bike lanes and pavement markings where applicable.
- Direct users to the nearest access point along a safe and accessible path.



*Reference the most current MUTCD standards.

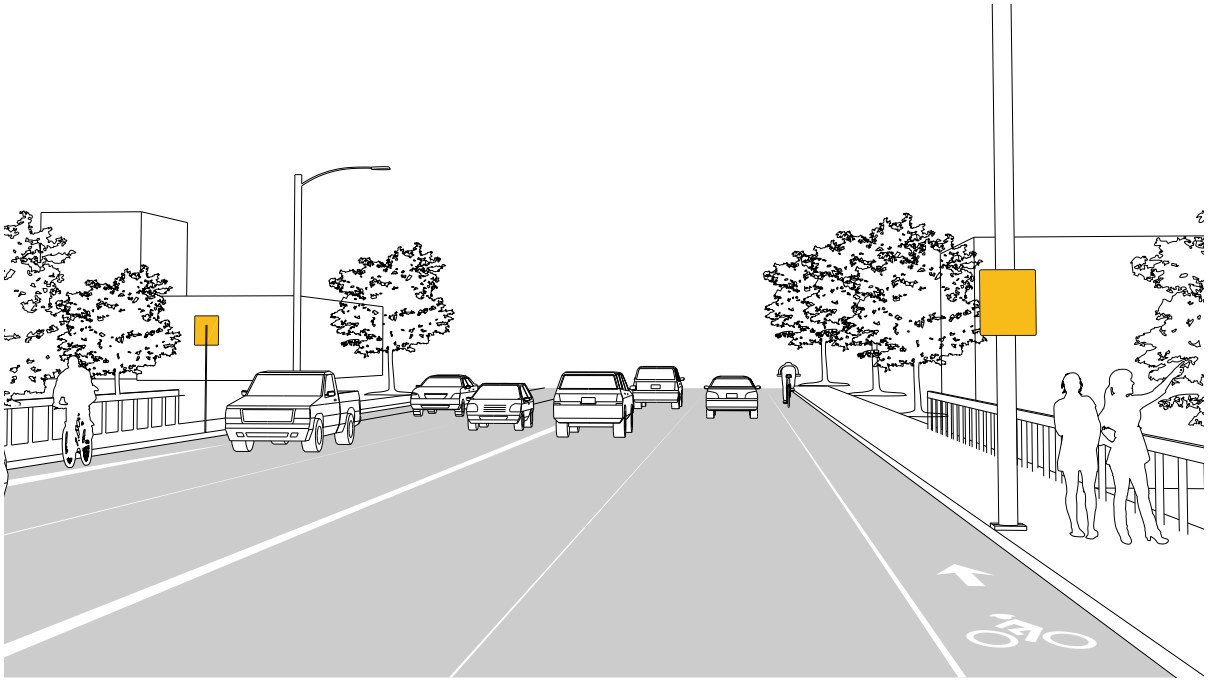


Figure 67. Environmental graphics along vehicular bridges alert drivers to the presence of the LA River.

BRIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding along Freeways and Expressways.
- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding in a location that competes visually with standard traffic signs.
- Use existing posts and traffic light posts where possible.
- Apply Confirmation signs that the bridge is crossing the LA River, isolated from other traffic signs.

*Reference the most current MUTCD standards.

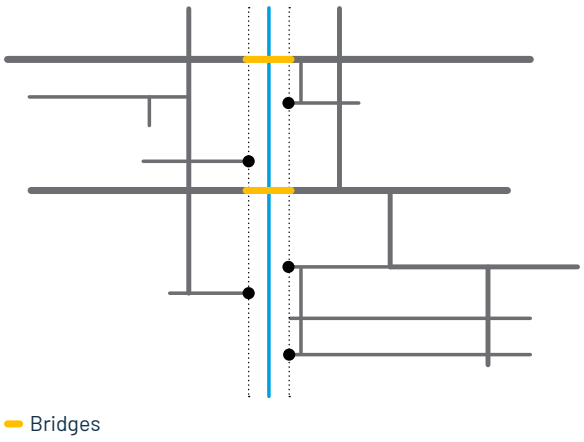
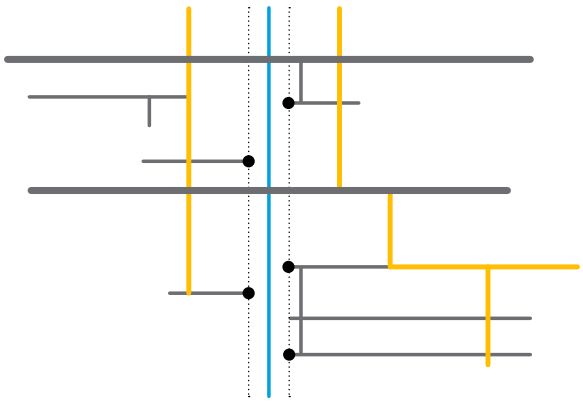


Figure 68. Environmental graphics along collector roads guide users towards the river and also allow for community expression.

COLLECTOR ROAD ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding along Freeways and Expressways.
- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding in a location that competes visually with standard traffic signs.
- Use existing posts and traffic light posts where possible.
- At large pedestrian intersections, combine wayfinding with large totems at corners to avoid sign clutter.
- Apply Directional signs with existing bike lanes and pavement markings where applicable.
- Direct users to the nearest access point along a safe and accessible path.

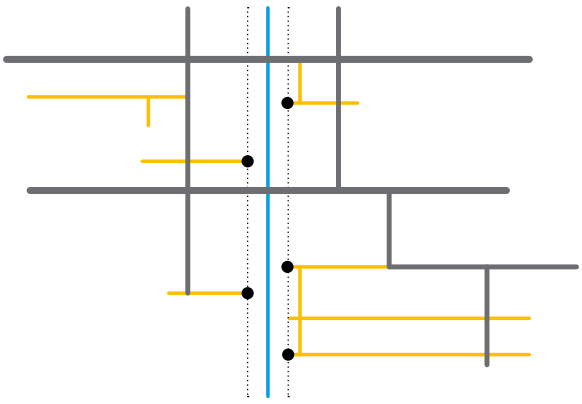


*Reference the most current MUTCD standards.

Figure 69. Environmental graphics along local roads guide users through residential areas.

LOCAL ROAD ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding along Freeways and Expressways.
- Per MUTCD*, do not place wayfinding in a location that competes visually with standard traffic signs.
- Use existing posts and traffic light posts where possible.
- Apply Directional signs with existing bike lanes and pavement markings where applicable.
- Direct users to the nearest access point along a safe and accessible path.
- Environmental graphics placement should be sensitive to context. In residential areas, place signs in the public right-of-way and minimize environmental graphics as needed.



*Reference the most current MUTCD standards.

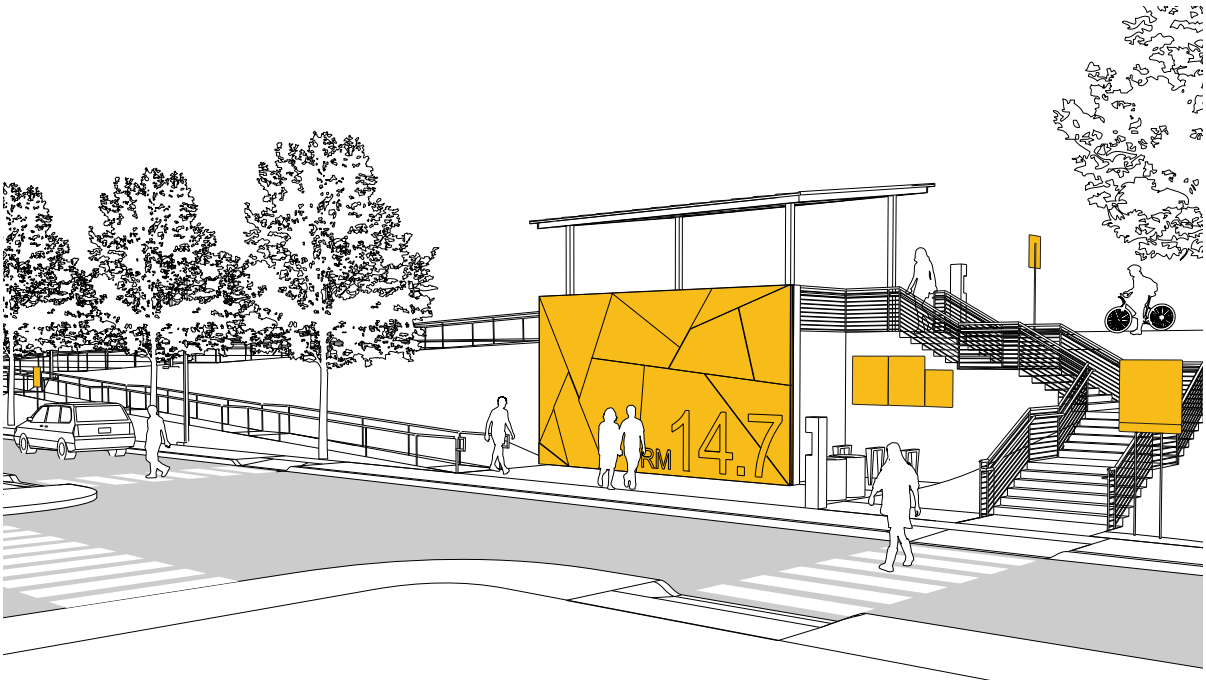
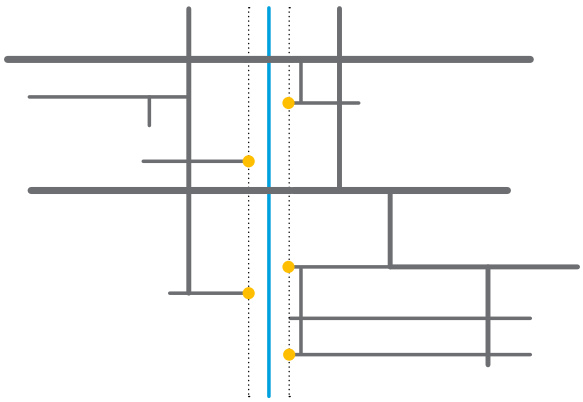


Figure 70. Environmental graphics at gateways should avoid sign clutter.

ACCESS POINT ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Place one informational sign at the main entry of each access point.
- Place Regulatory "Park Rules" sign further back, alongside River Pavilion, trail, or other amenities.
- Apply Regulatory warning and safety environmental graphics along channel at regular intervals.
- Use environmental graphics for neighborhood expression.
- Use existing posts where possible.



● Access Points

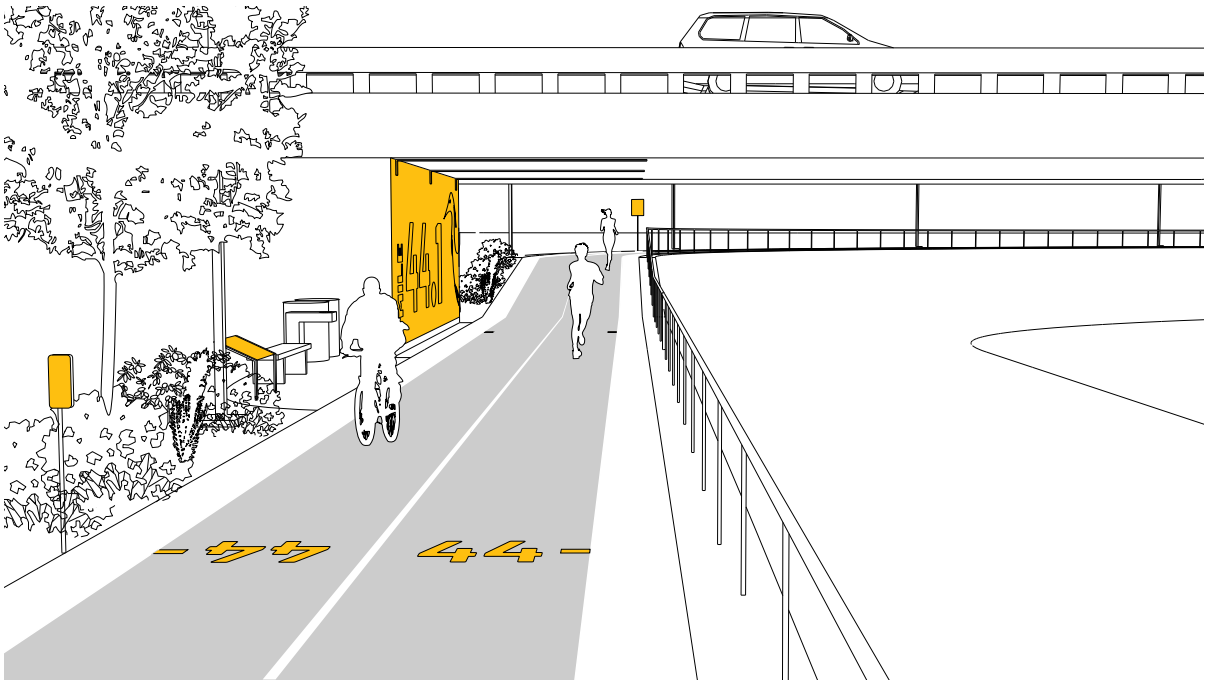
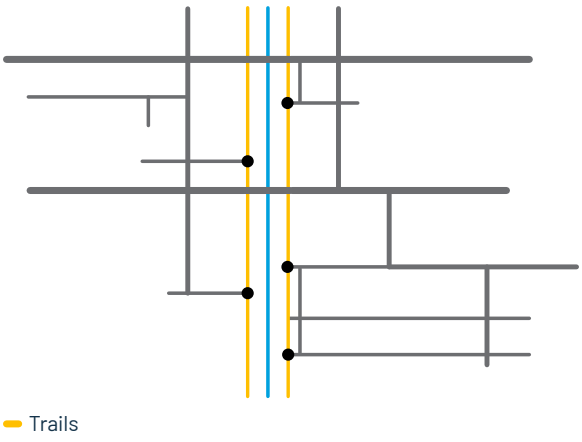


Figure 71. Environmental graphics along the LA River help locate and inform trail users.

TRAIL ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

- Place mile markers every .5 miles. Place pavement markings every mile with ticks every tenth of a mile.
- Place confirmation signs as needed along the trail (at least every two miles).
- Use environmental graphics for trail underpasses and bare walls along the trail.
- Use existing posts where possible.



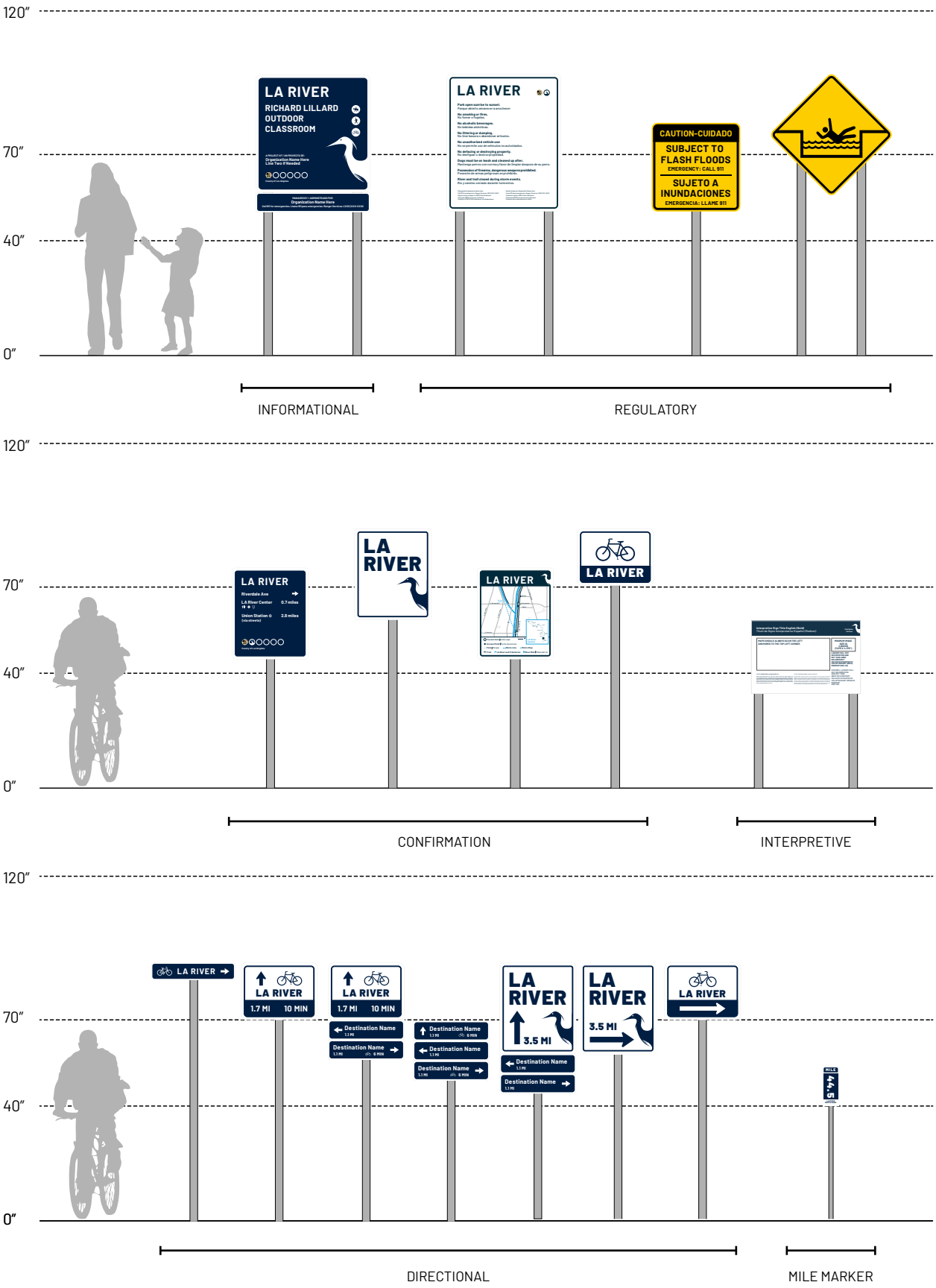


Figure 72. The suite of LA River environmental graphics includes signs leading to the LA River and signs within projects along the LA River.

SUITE OF LA RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

The suite of LA River Environmental Graphics varies depending on the scale of the project. Projects range from XL, L, M, S, and XS as defined in the LA River 2020 Master Plan Update and in the Chapter 2 programming section in the Design Guidelines. The quantity of environmental graphics to be used leading up to and within the project grows with the intended size and impact. The diagram on the following page is important for consistency of environmental graphics for the LA River, since it will primarily be installed on a project by project basis. Further, the permitting matrix on page 103 outlines when certain categories of environmental graphics need to have certain criteria, such as font sized to ADA standards or references to Indigenuos Peoples place names.

There are eight categories of environmental graphics included in these guidelines.

- Informational (see page 118)
- Regulatory (see page 121)
- Confirmation (see page 126)
- Interpretive Signs and Displays (see page 131)
- Directional (see page 134)
- Mile Markers (see page 143)
- Pavement Markings (see page 143)
- Large Scale Icon Graphics (see page 147)

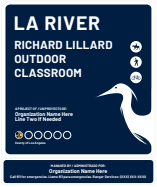
SUITE OF LA RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS

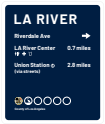
Figure 73. Baseline requirements for environmental graphics leading to the LA River and projects within the LA County Flood Control District right-of-way depend on the scale of the project. Directional signage is required to be two miles away from an XL project, while only required to be 500 ft away from a S project. Directional signage for bicycles are required only for XL-M projects. At gateways, information signage and regulatory environmental graphics are required for S-XL projects. Within an XS project, interpretive, pavement markings, and mile markers are required. Confirmation signs are required with S-XL projects. Incorporation of large scale graphics with L and XL projects should be considered.

GATEWAY

WITHIN PROJECT

PROJECT IDENTITY + INFORMATION





PARAMETERS FOR APPLYING GUIDELINES

	INFORMATIONAL	REGULATORY	CONFIRMATION
ADA FONT SIZE **Size to be determined by height of text off grade and viewing distance as outlined in the most current ADA standards**	**YES**	Check requirements on a project by project basis	**YES** Exception is the trail map sign, which has text that is meant to be read up close
ADA FONT **San serif font, capitalized as necessary per most current ADA standards - use open-source Barlow font**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**
CONTRAST **Recommended contrast ratio is 7.0:1 - achieved when recommended colors are used**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**
BILINGUAL **Language dependent on neighborhood Examples: Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Russian**	**NO** Names of locations and managing organizations do not need to be translated	**YES**	**NO**
UNIVERSAL DESIGN **Includes braille or audio components for environmental graphics; also includes considerations for the neurodiverse (contrast, colors, & layout already inherent in many of the sign designs)**	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used
INDIGENOUS PLACE NAMES & REFERENCES **Content dependent on site location along the LA River.**	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Contact appropriate Indigenous Peoples representative per site location and River Mile	**NO**	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Contact appropriate Indigenous Peoples representative per site location and River Mile

Figure 74. This matrix lists the minimum design feature requirements for each category of environmental graphics. Specific requirements will be determined on a project by project basis. These parameters provide the best practices for clear, uncluttered text layout and consistency.

DIRECTIONAL	MILE MARKERS	PAVEMENT MARKINGS	INTERPRETIVE SIGNS & DISPLAYS	LARGE SCALE ICON GRAPHICS
YES	YES	YES Check requirements on a project by project basis for graphics on pavement	Check requirements on a project by project basis	Check requirements on a project by project basis
YES	YES	YES Check requirements on a project by project basis for graphics on pavement	YES	Check requirements on a project by project basis
YES	YES	YES	YES	**NO** Guidelines color is not required, choices are to artist's discretion
NO	**NO**	**NO**	YES	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used
SOMETIMES Encouraged for wayfinding along pedestrian paths of travel	**NO**	**NO**	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Ensure that an accessible path of travel leads to sign and that braille is within reach if used
STRONGLY ENCOURAGED Contact appropriate Indigenous Peoples representative per site location and River Mile	**NO**	**NO**	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Contact appropriate Indigenous Peoples representative per site location and River Mile	**STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** Contact appropriate Indigenous Peoples representative per site location and River Mile

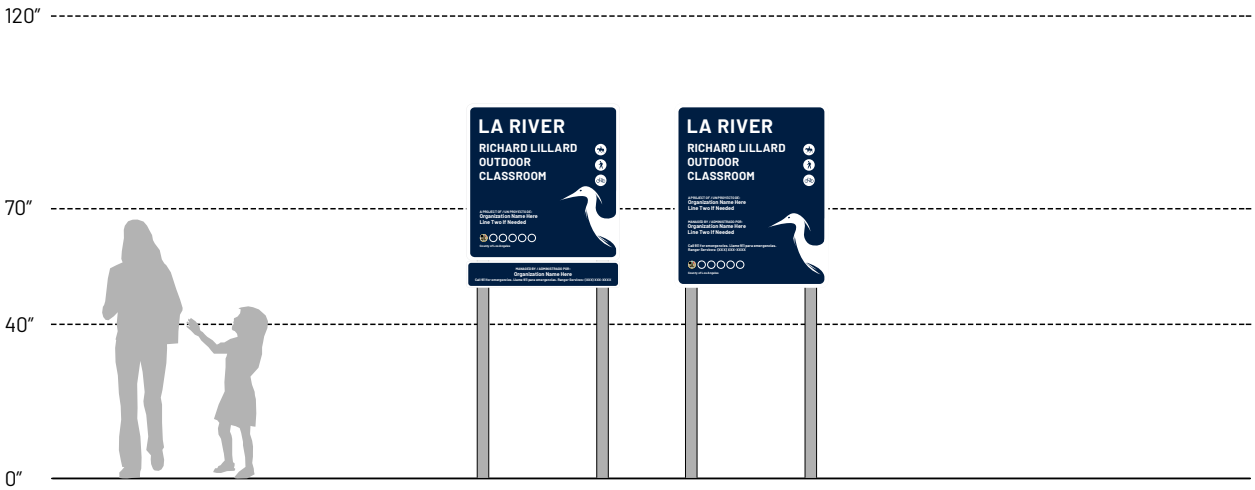


Figure 75. Freestanding informational environmental graphics should be hung on double posts with the bottom of the sign between 40″ and 45″ minimum above grade.

INFORMATIONAL

PURPOSE

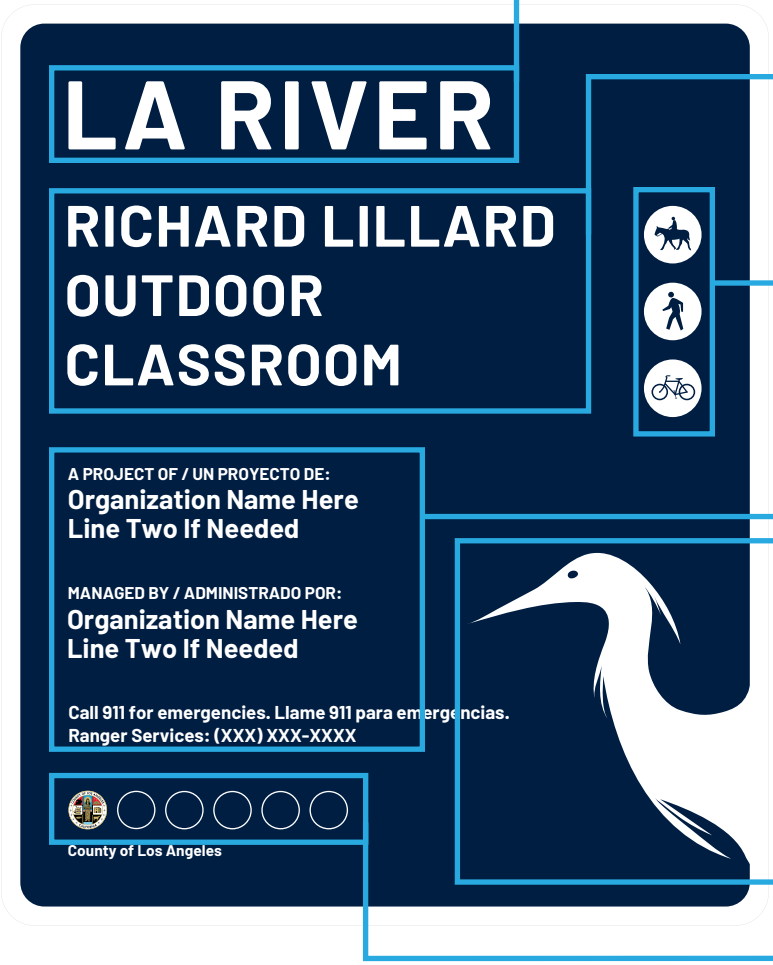
Informational signs are used to inform visitors about a place, and include park entry signs and other non-regulatory signs.

As necessary, these signs are used to inform visitors about the park or trail, the owner or operator, funding source(s), and agencies and organizations involved with the project. Grant funding sources may have specific requirements for credits and graphics.

PLACEMENT

Locations of informational signs should be placed near the primary access point and be visible from the street or trail to aid visitors in finding the park or trail. A single informational sign should be placed at the access point or gateway to reduce visual clutter.

INFORMATIONAL - OPTION 1
ONE SIGN



TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 3.5" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 3" from top of blue background, 2.5" from left

TITLE 2

Text: LOCATION NAME
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high (minimum)
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 3" from bottom of Title 1 text, 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 1.5" between lines

TRAIL USAGE SYMBOLS

Size: Symbols centered in 3" circle
Color: Circle-White, Symbol - Pantone 282 C
Position: 2.5" from right edge of blue background; spaced 1" apart vertically; top aligned with top of Title 2 text
* Only include symbols for usage on trail at this access point
** See MUTCD for approved symbols

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 2.5" vertical space between separate groups of text

HERON GRAPHIC

Size: 16" high
Color: White
Position: Flush right with white border; 2.5" from bottom edge of blue background

LOGOS

Size: 2" circles with 5 pt white stroke
Position: 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 4" from bottom; spaced .5" apart horizontally

Figure 76. Informational signs provide the location name, owner, operator, and funding source of a project, along with trail usage symbols denoting types of trails available.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 40x48" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 3" from top, 2.5" on left, right, and bottom

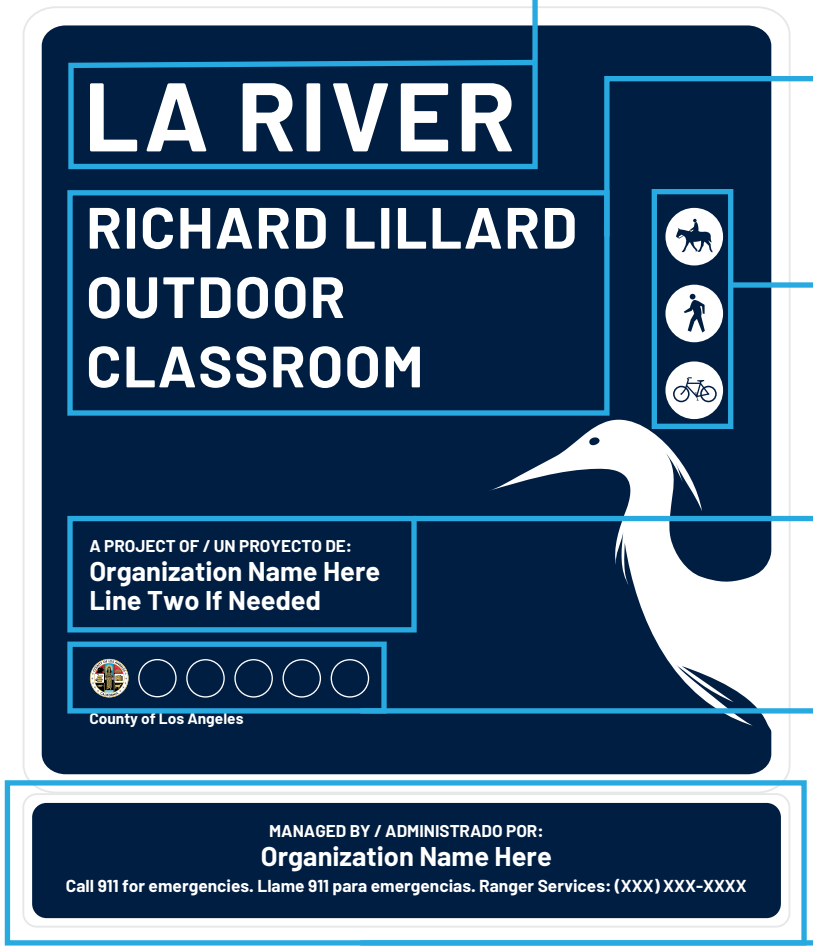
INSTALLATION

- At access point, not directly on a circulation path
- Bottom of sign hung between 40" and 45" off the ground and on double posts if freestanding

NOTES

- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

INFORMATIONAL - OPTION 2
SIGN WITH BOTTOM PANEL



TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 3.5" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 3" from top of blue background, 2.5" from left

TITLE 2

Text: LOCATION NAME
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high (minimum)
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 3" from bottom of Title 1 text, 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 1.5" between lines

TRAIL USAGE SYMBOLS

Size: Symbols centered in 3" circle
Color: Circle-White, Symbol - Pantone 282 C
Position: 2.5" from right edge of blue background; spaced 1" apart vertically; top aligned with top of Title 2 text
* Only include symbols for usage on trail at this access point
** See MUTCD for approved symbols

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left edge of blue background

LOGOS

Size: 2" circles with 5 pt white stroke
Position: 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 4" from bottom; spaced .5" apart horizontally

INFORMATIONAL PANEL

Size: 40x7" with .75" radius rounded corners
White border: .5" on all sides
Material: Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
Background: Pantone 282 C with .75" radius rounded corners
Margins within background: 1.15" on all sides

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case,
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Text Position: Center aligned, 1.15" from all edges of blue background

Placement: Hung below informational sign, flush edge to edge ; bottom of sign between 40" and 45" off the ground or a minimum of 80" off the ground and on double posts if freestanding

Figure 77. The information panel allows for ease of updating information such as management and funding.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 40x41" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 3" from top, 2.5" on left, right, and bottom

INSTALLATION

- At access point, not directly on a circulation path
- Bottom of information sign combination (sign and below panel) hung between 40" and 45" off the ground and on double posts if freestanding

NOTES

- Separate "informational panel" allows for flexibility to update only partial and potentially more frequently changing content
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

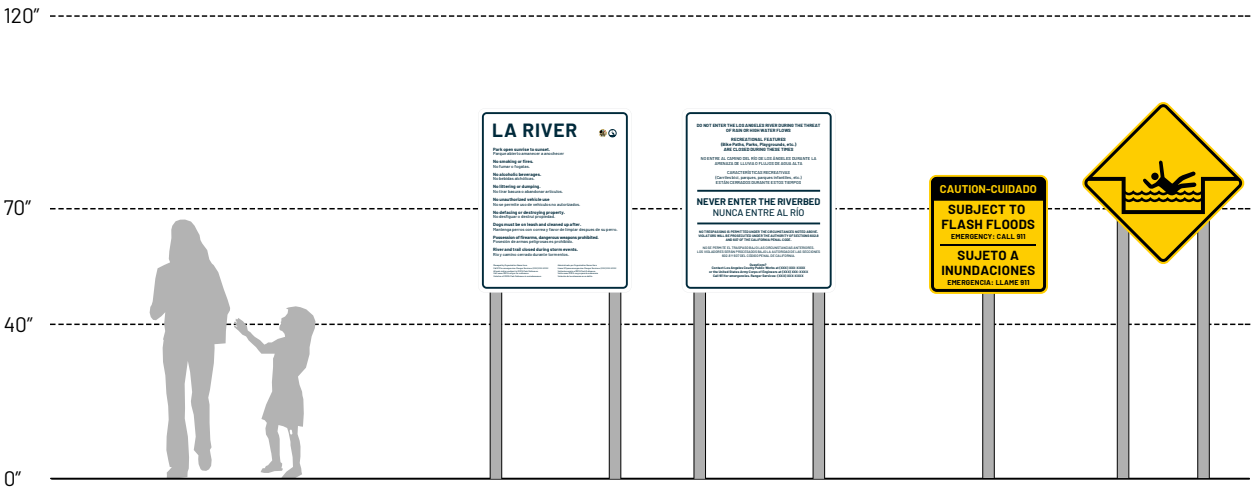


Figure 78. **Regulatory environmental graphics should be hung so that the bottom-most text is between 40″-70″ above grade. Certain freestanding signs require double posts.**

REGULATORY

PURPOSE

Regulatory signs are used to alert users to rules and regulations within LA River parks or multiuse trails. They are also used to warn park and trail users of dangerous conditions or to inform bicyclists and drivers of regulations and upcoming conditions. Under the California Code of Regulations rules and specific code numbers must be posted in order to be enforced by patrolling park rangers and police officers.[18]

For additional regulatory signs needed for flood safety or other municipal requirements, refer to the standard guidelines of the appropriate regulatory agency for color, size, content, and materials.

PLACEMENT

Regulatory signs are typically placed at or near park entrances or access points. Certain regulatory sign placement needs to follow uniform traffic standards and MUTCD guidelines. All users should be able to see the regulatory signs as they enter the park or multiuse trails. Signs warning users of flood danger should be placed along the channel itself. To prevent trespass, signs should be posted informing trail users of adjacent private property and instructing them to respect private lands by staying on the trail. Trail signs that are located on public and private property boundaries should inform trail users when they are entering and leaving private lands.

REGULATORY RULES

TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 3.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned, 2.5" from top and left blue border

LOGOS

Size: 2" circles with 5 pt Pantone 282 C stroke
Position: 2.5" from right blue border; spaced .5" apart horizontally

REGULATION TEXT: ENGLISH

Font: Barlow - Bold, Sentence Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left blue border, 1.25" vertical space between separate groups of text

REGULATION TEXT: SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, Sentence Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left blue border, 1.25" vertical space between separate groups of text

INFORMATIONAL TEXT: ENGLISH AND SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, Sentence Case
Size: .375" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left and bottom blue border

BLUE BORDER

Size: 0.5" width with 1.25" radius rounded corners
Color: Pantone 282 C

Figure 79. **Regulatory rule signs alert park and trail users to the rules and regulations in effect within river parks and on trails, and must be bilingual.**

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 40x48" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2.5" on all sides

INSTALLATION

- At access point, not directly on a circulation path
- Bottom of sign hung between 40" and 45" off the ground and on double posts if freestanding

NOTES

- Rules and regulations should always be bilingual
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

REGULATORY WARNING

REGULATION TEXT: ENGLISH

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" minimum from blue border on all sides, 1.625" vertical space between separate groups of text

REGULATION TEXT: SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, All Caps
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" minimum from blue border on all sides, 1.625" vertical space between separate groups of text

HORIZONTAL DIVIDER LINE

Size: .5" high, 32" long
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" from blue border on left and right; 1.625" vertical space between line and text

TITLE 1: ENGLISH

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1.75" high (.625" minimum)
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" minimum from blue border on all sides, 1.625" vertical space between separate groups of text

TITLE 1: SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, All Caps
Size: 1.75" high (.625" minimum)
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" minimum from blue border on all sides, 1.625" vertical space between separate groups of text

CONTACT INFORMATION TEXT

Font: Barlow - Bold, Sentence Case
Size: .375" minimum height of capital letter
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned; 2.5" minimum from blue border on all sides

BLUE BORDER

Size: 0.5" width with 1.25" radius rounded corners
Color: Pantone 282 C

Figure 80. Regulatory warnings signs alert users of flood danders and trail violations should be placed on gates or fences at entrances to the trail.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 40x48" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2.5" on all sides

INSTALLATION

- At access point, not directly on a circulation path
- Bottom of sign hung between 40" and 45" and on double posts if freestanding

NOTES

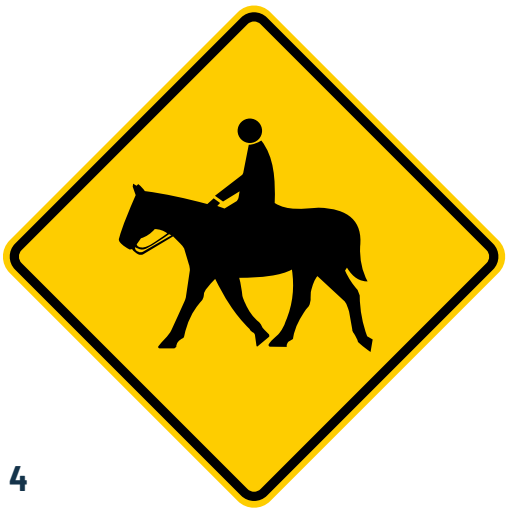
- Rules and regulations should always be bilingual
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

REGULATORY HAZARD

1

2

3



4

5

Figure 81. **The signs shown above (1-4) are examples of warning and safety regulations signs that are standard designs and must not be altered. These guidelines do not provide artwork for these standard signs. Designers should consult latest MUTCD guidelines.**
Source: 2009 MUTCD Edition with Revisions 1 and 2, 2012.

Figure 82. **The signs shown to the left (5) is a standard regulatory sign, created as part of these guidelines, that must not be altered. Artwork for this standard sign can be downloaded here: (Final link to be included in final guidelines)**

STANDARDIZED REGULATORY SIGNS

Certain regulatory signs are standard and shall not be altered or customized in order to maintain recognition and consistency. Examples of these standardized signs include MUTCD signs for flood danger, equestrian requirements, parking requirements, and USACE signs for no dumping or littering. These guidelines will not provide the artwork for other agencies standard signage. Refer to appropriate jurisdiction codes for most up-to-date requirements and sign specifications.

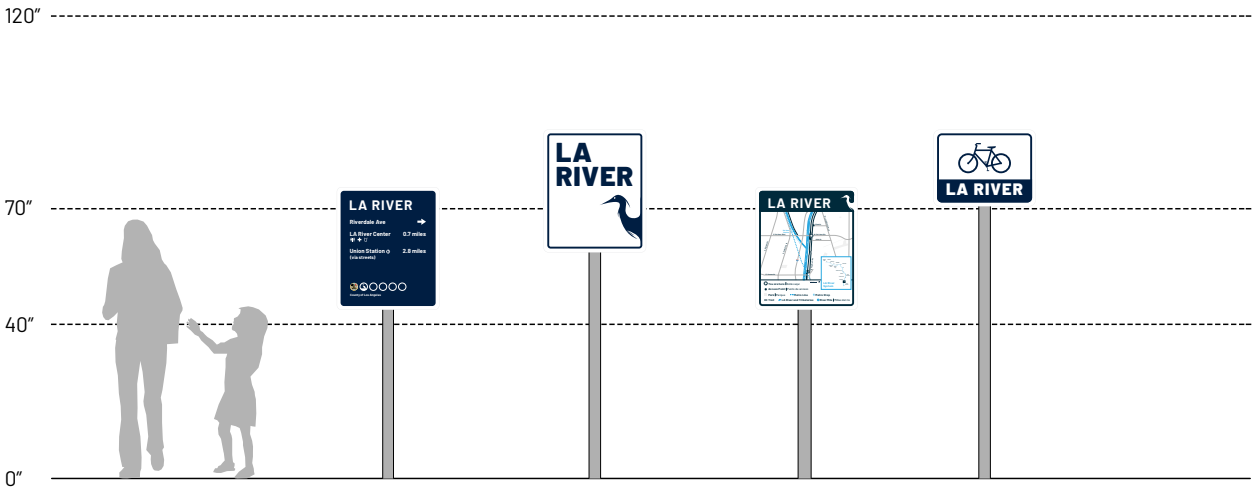


Figure 83. Confirmation environmental graphics should be hung so that the "LA River" text is between 70"-120" above grade.

CONFIRMATION

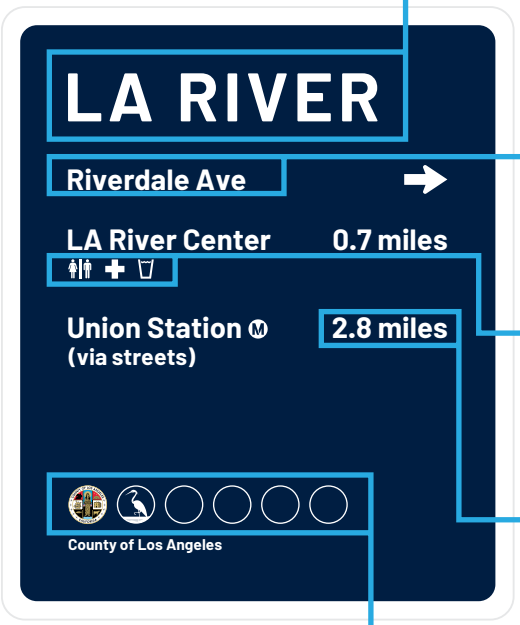
PURPOSE

Confirmation signs inform users that they are on the correct route or alerts users to an upcoming turn. This information can include distances or time to destination or the LA River. Signs showing destinations should show locations that are ahead on the trail and on the same side of the river bank. They should be double-sided, and can include symbols that indicate locations that have amenities such as restrooms, hydration, and first aid.

PLACEMENT

Confirmation signs should be placed at access points and along the LA River trail. Confirmation signs showing destinations along the trail should occur at a frequency of no less than two miles. Trail map signs should be placed at access points so that users can identify access points and exits before they embark on their route.

CONFIRMATION



TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2.5" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 2.5" from top and left edge of blue background

DESTINATION NAME

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 2" vertical space between separate groups of text

AMENITY SYMBOLS

Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: 2.5" from left edge of blue background; spaced 0.75" apart horizontally; 0.5" below Destination Name
* See MUTCD for approved symbols

DESTINATION DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Bold, Sentence Case
Size: 0.625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Right aligned; 2.5" from right edge of blue background, aligned with Destination Name vertically

LOGOS

Size: 2" circles with 5 pt white stroke
Position: 2.5" from left edge of blue background, 4" from bottom; spaced .5" apart horizontally

Figure 84. Confirmation signs confirm to the viewer that they are traveling the correct direction and identify the next closest major destinations. They can also indicate arrival at a destination with the addition of an arrow.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x32" with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2.5" on all sides

INSTALLATION

- Along LA River trail
- Bottom of sign hung between 40" and 45" off the ground

NOTES

- Amenity symbols should be MUTCD standard symbols whenever available, custom symbols can only be used when symbol does not exist in from MUTCD
- An arrow replaces the destination distance when the sign is at the destination or at the trail exit for that destination
- Only three destinations per sign
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

CONFIRMATION AT RIVER

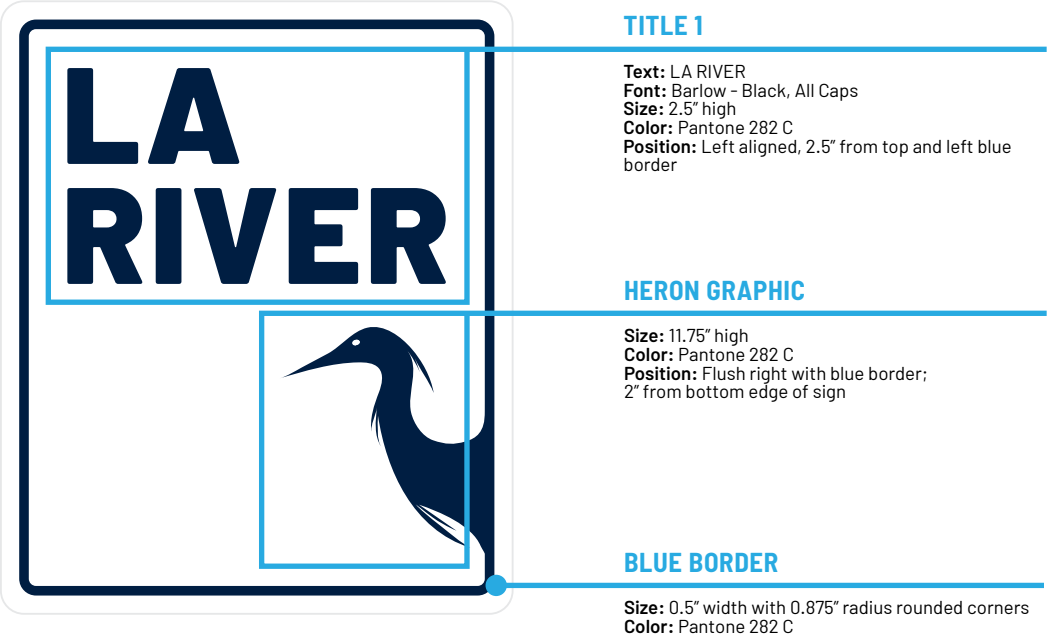


Figure 85. This Confirmation sign should be used at locations such as bridge crossings to confirm the location of the LA River.

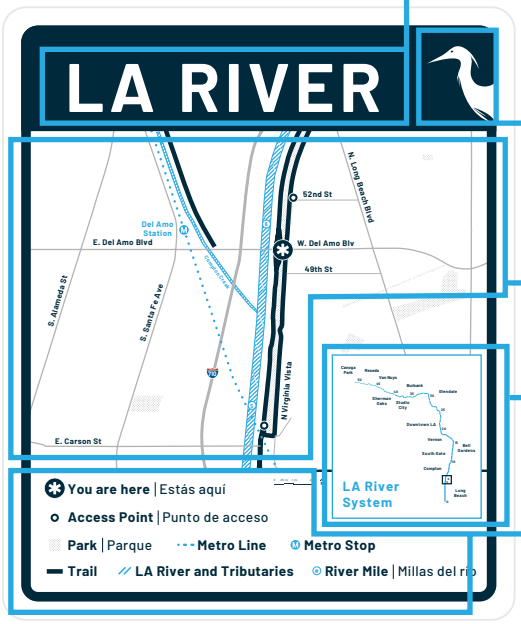
SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x32" with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2" on all sides

INSTALLATION

- Key locations close to the LA River, such as on bridge overpasses
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

CONFIRMATION MAP



TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2.5" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 2" from top edge of blue background, 2" from top edge of blue background

HERON GRAPHIC

Size: 4.25" high
Color: White
Position: Flush right with blue border; 1" from top edge of blue background

MAP FRAME

Size: 23.75" wide, 17.5" high
Background Color: White

RIVER SYSTEM KEY

Size: 7.75" wide, 8.5" high
Background Color: White

MAP KEY

Size: 23.75" wide, 6.5" high
Background Color: White
Text Size: 0.625" minimum height of capital letter
Text Color: Pantone 282 C

Figure 86. Confirmation maps help users locate where they are on the trail in relation to the river system and the trail itself, and help to locate other access points.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x32" with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White

INSTALLATION

- At access point
- Bottom of sign hung between 40" and 45" off the ground
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

CONFIRMATION BIKE ROUTE

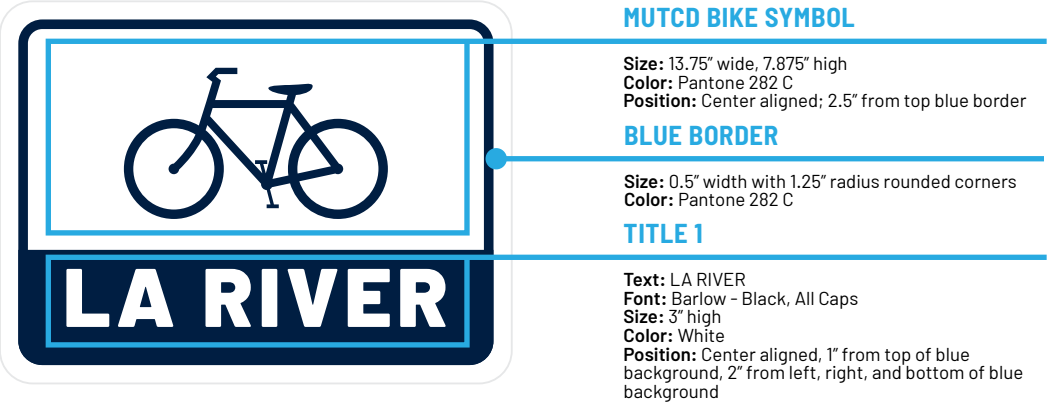


Figure 87. This Confirmation sign should be used for bike routes leading to LA River.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x20" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2.5" from top, 2" on left, right, and bottom

INSTALLATION

- Along bike route, maximum two miles from LA River
- Bottom of sign hung between 70" and 120" off the ground

NOTES

- All bicycle route environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements.
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

CONFIRMATION OVERPASS

Figure 88. A street identifying signs should be hung above the LA River trail denoting name of street above, crossing over the trail.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** Width varies x 8" with 1" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.25" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.375" blue border with 1" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.375" top and bottom, 2.375" minimum left and right sides

INSTALLATION

- On bridge or overpass above trail

NOTES

- Width of sign will vary base on the length of the name, but margins will remain standard, based on MUTCD guidelines
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

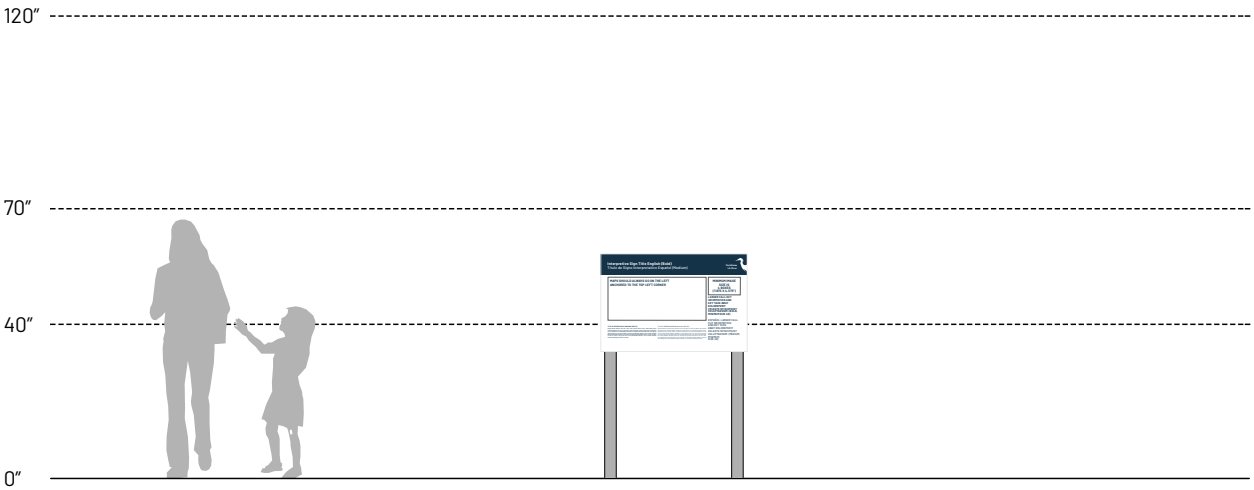


Figure 89. Interpretive environmental graphics should be hung at a height that is easily legible. When freestanding, the sign should be on double posts.

INTERPRETIVE

PURPOSE

Interpretive signs and displays are used to educate users. Typically, they will be found in LA River parks or at access points to the river and trails. Each park-owning agency will determine the content and use of interpretive signs.

Suggested topics include geomorphology and engineering of the river, ecological restoration, water supply, water quality, wildlife of the region, natural history of Los Angeles, Indigenuos Peoples place markers and traditions, settlement history of Los Angeles, and cultural history of local neighborhoods. Topic selection should consider the content of other interpretive signs and displays within the river system and the unique features of the project site.

The specifications shown on the following page for interpretive signs were designed to provide flexibility for the individual sign designers. Consistent to all interpretive signs are the title location, size, color, and font, and the size and location of the heron logo. For ease of sign layout, a grid system will unify sign layout.

PLACEMENT

Interpretive signs and displays should be placed along trail lookouts, gateways, access points, pocket parks, and within major projects themselves. The location of these environmental graphics is dependent on the educational content and where that is best viewed in context. Their placement should be coordinated with appropriate seating, shade, and other amenities where possible.

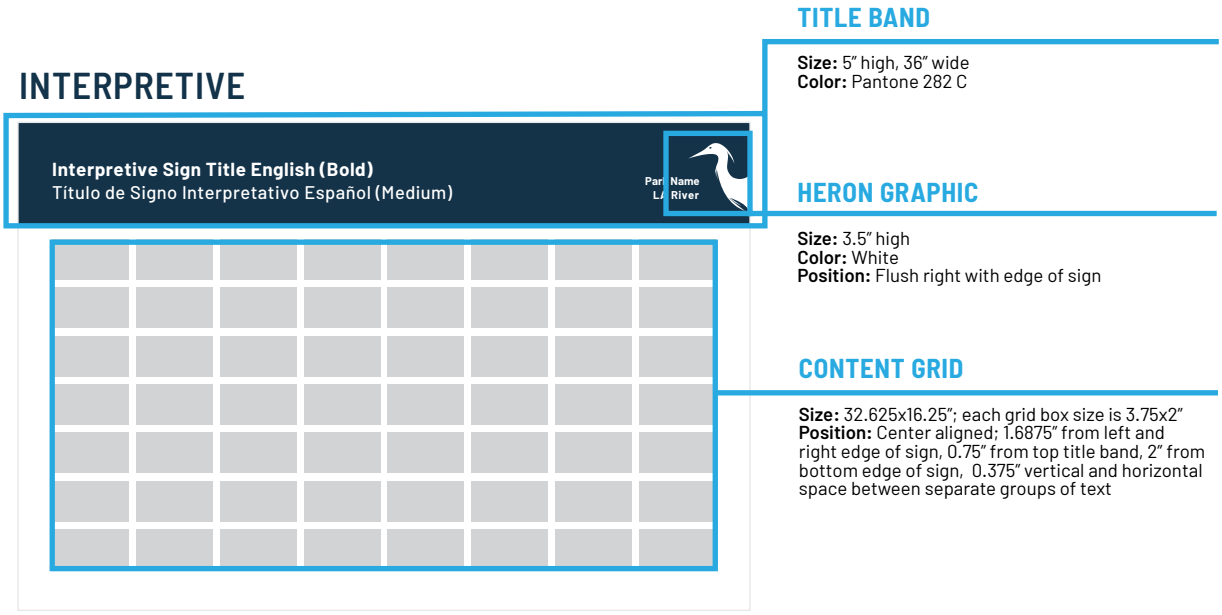


Figure 90. **The content grid of the interpretive sign provides a template for the layout of content .**

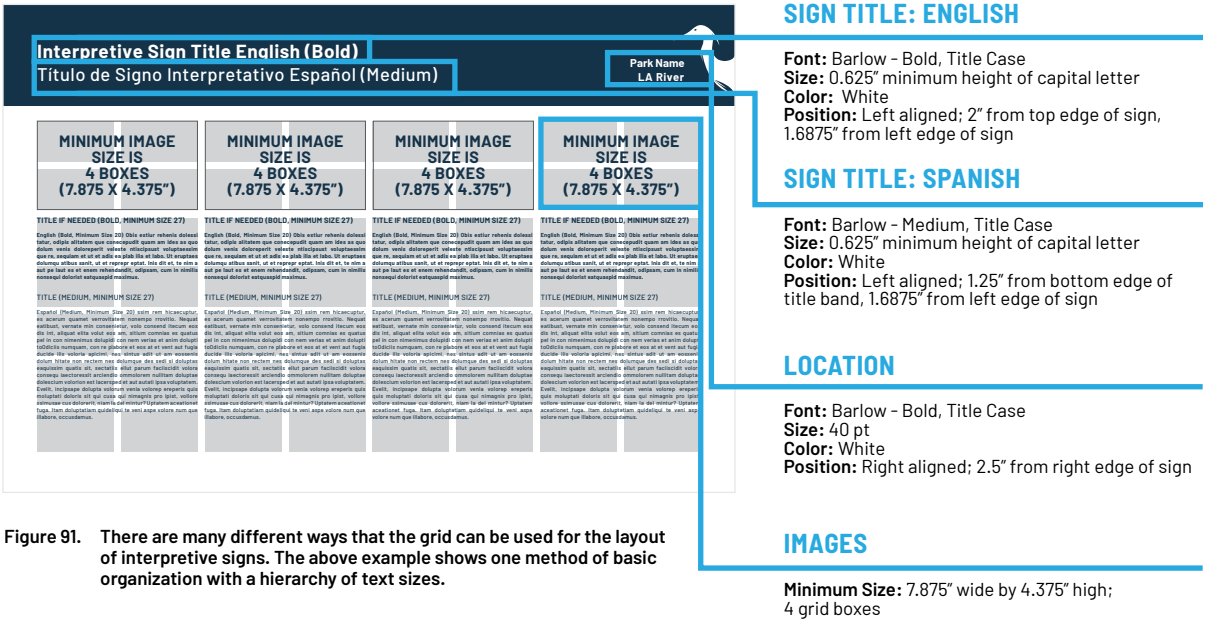


Figure 91. **There are many different ways that the grid can be used for the layout of interpretive signs. The above example shows one method of basic organization with a hierarchy of text sizes.**

USING THE GRID

Text, photographs, maps and illustrations should be aligned on the grid at the discretion of the designer. Each grid box is 3.75 inches wide by 2 inches tall, and are evenly spaced ⅜ inch apart allowing for adequate space between different types of content. Images should not be any smaller than 4 grid boxes, 7 ⅞ inches wide by 4 ⅜ tall. When using a large map or graphic they should be anchored in the top left corner of the grid and additional content should align below or to the right of the large map or graphic, when reading this sign from left to right it will be where the viewer starts on take in the content of the sign. Creating hierarchy between different types of content will help the viewer to digest the content more easily. Larger sized text callouts can be used to draw attention to important points and can help to break up large amounts of text. Bold titles within text can also be used to better segment text on an interpretive sign. Interpretive signs should be bilingual to better speak to more users. It is recommended to differentiate languages with different type weights for a quicker and easier navigation of content on the sign.

INTERPRETIVE

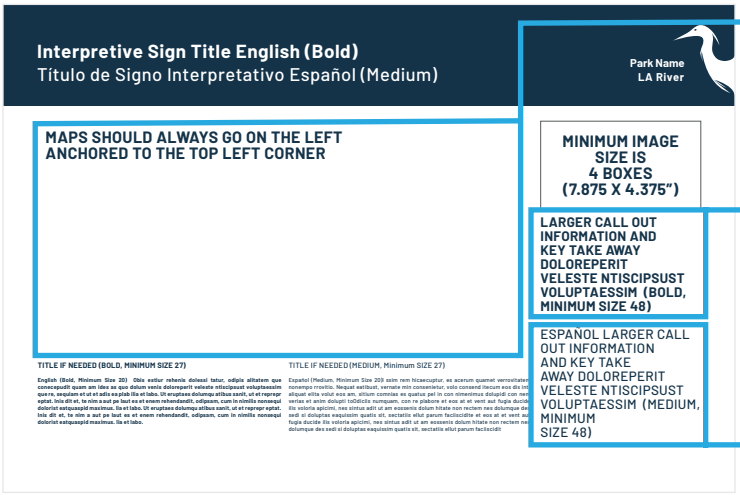


Figure 92. **Images or maps should also be incorporated into interpretive signs as focal points.**

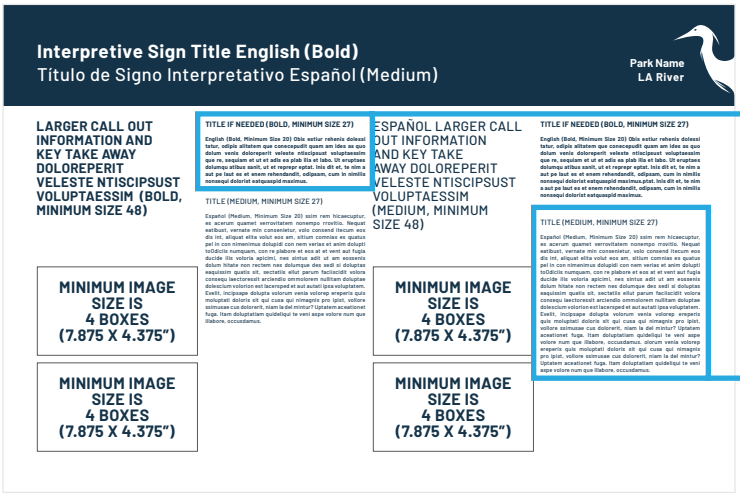


Figure 93. **Large callouts or quotes can be incorporated into interpretive signs to highlight key information.**

MAPS AND LARGE IMAGES/DIAGRAMS

Position: Top left corner, 1.6875" from left edge of sign, 0.75" from top blue Title Band

CALL OUT TEXT: ENGLISH

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 48 pt minimum
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 1.6875" minimum from right edge of sign

CALL OUT TEXT: SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, All Caps
Size: 48 pt minimum
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 1.6875" minimum from right edge of sign

INFORMATIONAL TEXT: ENGLISH

Font: Barlow - Bold, Sentence case
Size: 20 pt minimum
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left justified, text box aligned with grid

INFORMATIONAL TEXT: SPANISH

Font: Barlow - Medium, Sentence case
Size: 20 pt minimum
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left justified, text box aligned with grid

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 36x24"
- **Material:** Varies per project with anti-graffiti treatment
- **Background:** White
- **Header:** 5" tall Pantone 282 C band spanning width of sign
- **Margins from edge of sign:** 2" on top and bottom, and 1.6875" on left and right

INSTALLATION

- Along trail, not directly on circulation path
- Bottom of sign hung at a height where text is legible, on double posts if freestanding

NOTES

- Should always be bilingual
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

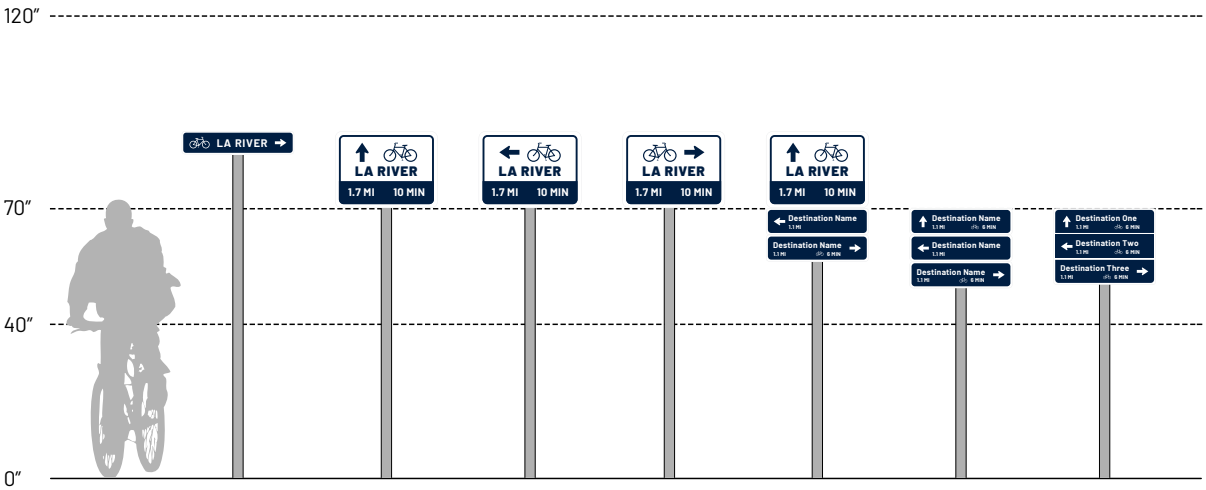


Figure 94. Directional environmental graphics should be placed along bike routes leading to the LA River and its access points and projects. Estimated times are based on an average six minute mile.

DIRECTIONAL

PURPOSE

Directional signs are used to alert travelers to the location of the river, multiuse trails, and river parks. They serve an important wayfinding function and will set traffic patterns to and from the river. Jurisdictionally, these signs will typically be located in Caltrans right-of-way, local municipalities' departments of transportation rights-of-way, or unincorporated LA County. All signs must conform to the appropriate jurisdictional regulations.

PLACEMENT

Directional environmental graphics should be placed along streets and at intersections that cater to pedestrians and cyclists. Locations chosen should direct users to the river's nearest access point.

To direct users to the LA River from local streets where a Class II or III bike path exists, use the directional environmental graphics for cyclists. To direct users to the LA River where there is no existing bike path, use signs that address both cyclists and pedestrians. For direction within 500ft of an access point, use signs with the directional arrow only.

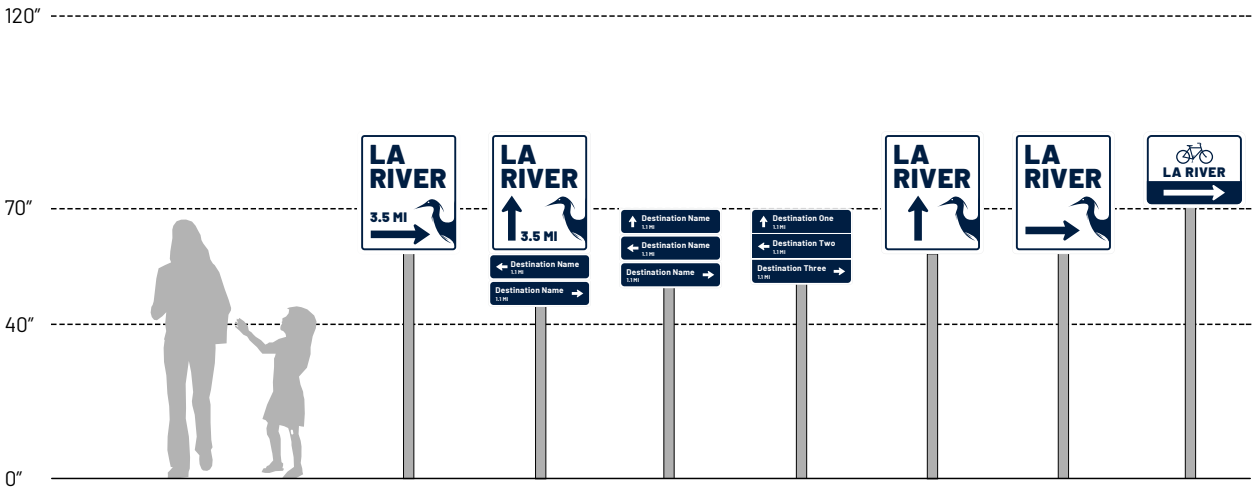


Figure 96. **Directional environmental graphics, communicating to both pedestrians and bicyclists, lead to the LA River and its access points and projects from a maximum of two miles away.**

MUTCD GUIDELINES OVERVIEW*

- All signs should be hung a minimum of 48″ above grade.
- An arrow pointing to the right, if used, shall be at the extreme right-hand side of the sign.
- An arrow pointing left or up, if used, shall be at the extreme left-hand side of the sign.

***Always use most recent MUTCD Guidelines. Guidelines at time of this publications were 2009 Edition, including Revisions 1 and 2 dated May 2012**

- On bicycle destination signs, a bicycle symbol shall be placed next to each destination or group of destinations. If an arrow is at the extreme left, the bicycle symbol shall be placed to the right of the respective arrow.
- The bicycle symbol should be to the left of the destination legend
- Although the standard design of symbol signs cannot be modified, the orientation of the symbol may be changed to better reflect the direction of travel, if appropriate.

Figure 95. **The above information is from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Contol Devices for Streets and Highways, 2009 Edition, including Revisions 1 and 2 dated May 2012, section 9B.20 Bicycle Guide Signs.** Source: 2009 MUTCD Edition with Revisions 1 and 2, 2012.

DIRECTIONAL BIKE ROUTE

MUTCD BIKE SYMBOL

Size: 8.75" wide, 5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: 1.5" from top blue border, 3.875" from right blue border

TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Black, All Caps
Size: 2.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned,1.25" margin above and below, 3.875" left and right blue border

DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned, 2" from top and bottom of blue background, 2.5" from left of blue background

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 3.375" width of arrow head, length varies depending on direction pointing
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: 2.25" from top blue border, 3.875" from right blue border

BLUE BORDER

Size: 0.5" width with 1.25" radius rounded corners
Color: Pantone 282 C

ESTIMATED TIME

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high
Color: White
Position: Right aligned, 2" from top and bottom of blue background, 2.5" from right of blue background

Figure 97. **Place directional bike route signs along bike routes leading to LA River. These signs include a directional arrow, the distance to LA River, and the estimated time to bike there.**

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x20" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.5" from top, 2" minimum on left and right, and 2" from bottom

INSTALLATION

- Along bike route, maximum two miles from LA River
- Bottom of sign hung between 70" and 120" off the ground

NOTES

- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Direction of MUTCD bike symbol travel should change to mimic direction of arrow
- Estimated time is based of a biking a six minute mile
- All bicycle route directional environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements.
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL BIKE ROUTE

Figure 98. **This LA River Bike Route Sign can be mounted above another MUTCD Bike Route sign within 2 miles of LA River access points. .**

MUTCD BIKE SYMBOL

Size: 5.25" wide, 3" high
Color: White
Position: 1.125" from top and bottom of blue background, 2" margin on left and right

TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high
Color: White
Position: 1.625" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 2" width of arrow head, 3" long
Color: White
Position: 1.625" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 29.25x6" with 0.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.375" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.75" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.625" on top and bottom, and 1.625" minimum on left and right

INSTALLATION

- Mounted above MUTCD Bike Route signs or stand alone within two miles of river access point

NOTES

- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Direction of MUTCD bike symbol travel should change to mimic direction of arrow
- The bicycle symbol should be to the left of the destination name
- All bicycle route directional environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements.
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

Figure 99. **This LA River bike route sign can be mounted above another MUTCD bike route sign within 2 miles of LA River access points.**

TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 2" high
Color: White
Position: 1.625" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 2" width of arrow head, 3" long
Color: White
Position: 1.625" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 24x6" with 0.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.375" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.75" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.625" on top and bottom, and 1.625" minimum on left and right

INSTALLATION

- Mounted above MUTCD bike route signs within two miles of river access point

NOTES

- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Width of sign should match the width of the MUTCD bike route sign it is mounted above. Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL BIKE DESTINATION PANELS

GROUPING DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

When adding directional destination bike panels below directional bike route signs, maximum destinations cannot exceed three

DESTINATION NAME

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 1.5" minimum margin on all sides from edge of blue background

ESTIMATED TIME

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: 1" minimum margin on all sides from edge of blue background and bike symbol

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 2" width of arrow head, 3" long
Color: White
Position: 1.5" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides, 1" minimum from text

MUTCD BIKE SYMBOL

Size: 2" wide, 1.25" high
Color: White
Position: 1" from bottom of blue background, 15.5" from left edge of blue background

DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned with Destination Name, 1" from bottom of blue background, 1.5" minimum from left of blue background

Figure 100. LA River directional bike destination sign panels direct users to major destinations and provide the distance and estimated time to bike there. Separate panels allow for multiple destinations to be added over time.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x7" with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.5" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.5" minimum on all sides

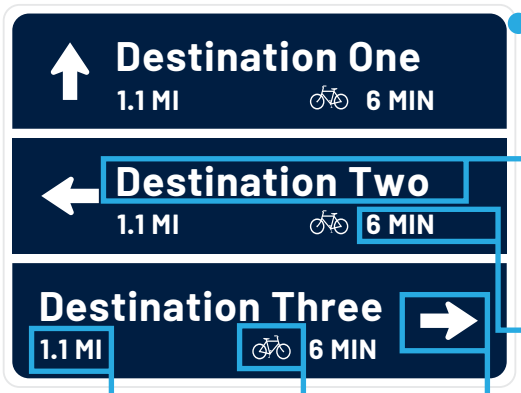
INSTALLATION

- Along bike route, maximum two miles from LA River
- Bottom of sign hung between 48" and 70" off the ground

NOTES

- When grouping destination signs, maximum three destinations can be grouped per MUTCD standards
- The order of signs hung below must be hung with straight (up) arrow on top, followed by destinations to the left, and then destinations to the right
- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Direction of MUTCD bike symbol travel should change to mimic direction of arrow
- Estimated time is based of a biking a six minute mile
- All bicycle route directional environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL BIKE DESTINATION COMBINATION SIGN



GROUPING DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

When adding directional destination bike panels below direction bike route signs, maximum destinations cannot exceed three

DESTINATION NAME

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 1.5" minimum margin on all sides from edge of blue background

ESTIMATED TIME

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: 1" minimum margin on all sides from edge of blue background and bike symbol

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 2" width of arrow head, 3" long
Color: White
Position: 1.5" minimum to egde of blue background on all sides, 1" minimum from text

MUTCD BIKE SYMBOL

Size: 2" wide, 1.25" high
Color: White
Position: 1" from bottom of blue background, 15.5" from left edge of blue background

DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned with Destination Name, 1" from bottom of blue background, 1.5" minimum from left of blue background

Figure 101. This LA River directional bike destination sign combination allows for all three destinations to live on a singular sign.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x20" with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.5" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.5" minimum on all sides

INSTALLATION

- Along bike route, maximum two miles from LA River
- Bottom of sign hung between 48" and 70" off the ground

NOTES

- This single sign is a combination of the maximum three destination allowed per MUTCD standards, as opposed to three separate signs panels
- The order of signs must be hung with straight (up) arrow on top, followed by destinations to the left, and then destinations to the right
- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Direction of MUTCD bike symbol travel should change to mimic direction of arrow
- Can include logo to left of Destination Name (e.g. Metro logo), height of logo or icon should not exceed height of capital letter in Destination Name
- Estimated time is based of a biking a six minute mile
- All bicycle route directional environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements.
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL WITH DISTANCE

TITLE 1

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Black, All Caps
Size: 2.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned, 2" from top and left blue border

HERON GRAPHIC

Size: 11.75" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Flush right with blue border; 2" from bottom blue border

DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Black, All Caps
Size: 2.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Left aligned; 1.5" from arrow tail on left, 2" from bottom blue border

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 5.25" width of arrow head, length varies depending on direction pointing
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: 2" from bottom of Title 1 above, 2" from left and bottom blue border

BLUE BORDER

Size: 0.5" width with 0.875" radius rounded corners
Color: Pantone 282 C

Figure 102. Large directional signs provide direction and distance to the LA River and serve as a visual marker.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x32" with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2" on all sides

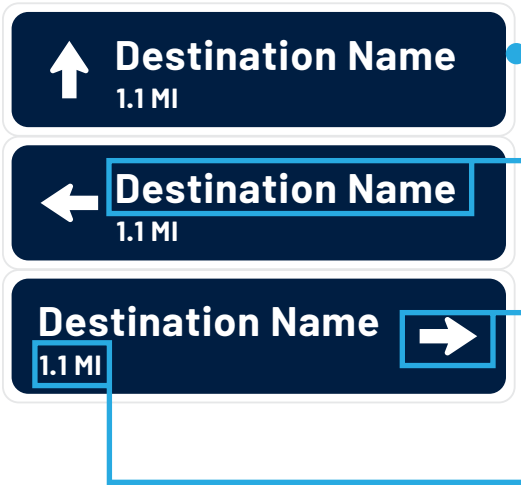
INSTALLATION

- Key locations leading up to LA River Access Point from maximum two miles out to minimum 0.5 miles, includes distance
- Bottom of sign hung between 48" and 70" off the ground

NOTES

- When grouping destination signs, maximum three destinations can be grouped per MUTCD standards (i.e. two destination panels can be hung below this large LA River directional sign)
- The order of signs hung below must be hung with straight (up) arrow on top, followed by destinations to the left, and then destinations to the right
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL PEDESTRIAN DESTINATION PANELS



GROUPING DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Maximum destinations cannot exceed three

DESTINATION NAME

Font: Barlow - Bold, Title Case
Size: .625" minimum height of capital letter
Color: White
Position: Left aligned; 1.5" minimum margin on all sides from edge of blue background

DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Size: 2" width of arrow head, 3" long
Color: White
Position: 1.5" minimum to edge of blue background on all sides, 1" minimum from text

DISTANCE

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: Left aligned with Destination Name, 1" from bottom of blue background, 1.5" minimum from left of blue background

Figure 103. LA River directional destination sign panels direct users to major destinations and the distances to them. At a maximum, three should be stacked together per MUTCD guidelines.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x7" with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.5" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.875" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.5" minimum on all sides

INSTALLATION

- Key locations leading up to LA River Access Point from maximum two miles out to minimum 0.5 miles
- Bottom of sign hung between 48" and 70" off the ground

NOTES

- When grouping destination signs, maximum three destinations can be grouped per MUTCD standards
- The order of signs must be hung with straight (up) arrow on top, followed by destinations to the left, and then destinations to the right
- Arrow pointing right should appear on far right of sign, arrows point straight (up) and left should appear on the far left of sign
- Can include logo to left of Destination Name (e.g. Metro logo), height of logo or icon should not exceed height of capital letter in Destination Name
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

DIRECTIONAL WITHOUT DISTANCE

Figure 104. LA River large directional signs should be used within 0.5 miles from the LA River. Mile numbers do not appear on signs within 0.5 miles of the destination.

Figure 105. LA River bike route directional sign does not show the distance and estimated time when within 0.5 miles of the LA River.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x32" with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 2" on all sides

INSTALLATION

- Key locations leading up to LA River Access Points, maximum 0.5 miles out, does not include distance

NOTES

- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 26.75x20" with 1.75" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 1" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** White with 0.5" blue border with 1.25" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 1.5" from top, 3.875" left and right, and 1" from bottom

INSTALLATION

- Along bike route leading up to LA River Access Point, maximum 0.5 miles out, does not include distance
- Bottom of sign hung between 70" and 120" off the ground

NOTES

- Direction of MUTCD bike symbol travel should change to mimic direction of arrow
- All bicycle route directional environmental graphics should be retroreflective per MUTCD requirements. Should change to mimic direction of arrow
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

MILE MARKERS

TITLE 1

Text: MILE
Font: Barlow - Black, All Caps
Size: 1" high
Color: White
Position: Center aligned, 0.4375" from top edge of blue background

RIVER MILE NUMBER

Font: Barlow - Black
Size: 2.5" high (wide)
Color: White
Position: Center aligned top to bottom, centered left-right; turned 90° clockwise; 0.75" minimum from top edge of blue background, 1.375" from left and right edge of blue background

TITLE 2

Text: LA RIVER
Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 0.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned, 0.25" from edge of blue background above

BANK LOCATION

Font: Barlow - Bold, All Caps
Size: 0.5" high
Color: Pantone 282 C
Position: Center aligned, 0.8125" from bottom of sign, 0.8125" minimum margin on left and right

Figure 106. Mile markers must appear every 0.5 miles along the LA River. The mile number and bank side are clear and helpful indicators for travelers and emergency responders.

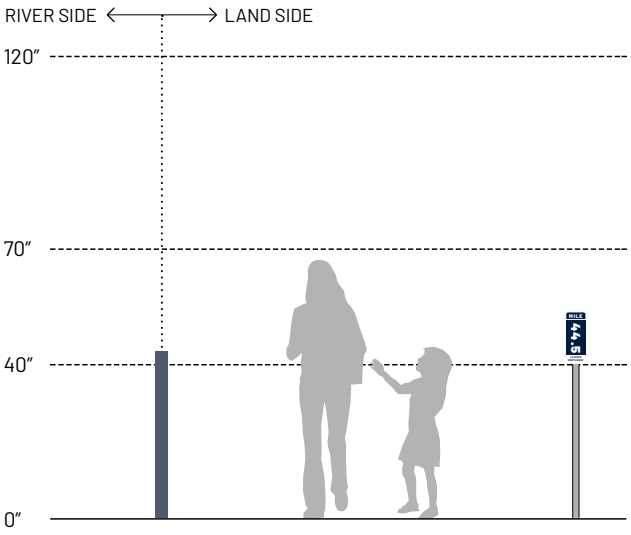


Figure 107. Mile markers should be hung so that the bottom of the sign is at is 40" above grade.

SIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- **Size:** 6x14.5" with 0.5" radius rounded corners
- **White border of sign:** 0.375" on all sides
- **Material:** Aluminum with anti-graffiti film overlay
- **Background:** Pantone 282 C with 0.5" radius rounded corners
- **Margins within background:** 0.4375" minimum on all sides

INSTALLATION

- On land side of trail, every 0.5 miles
- Bottom of sign hung at 40" off the ground

NOTES

- Two signs should be installed sandwiching the pole so that the sign faces both directions of travel
- Always confirm specifications with latest applicable guidelines

MILE MARKERS

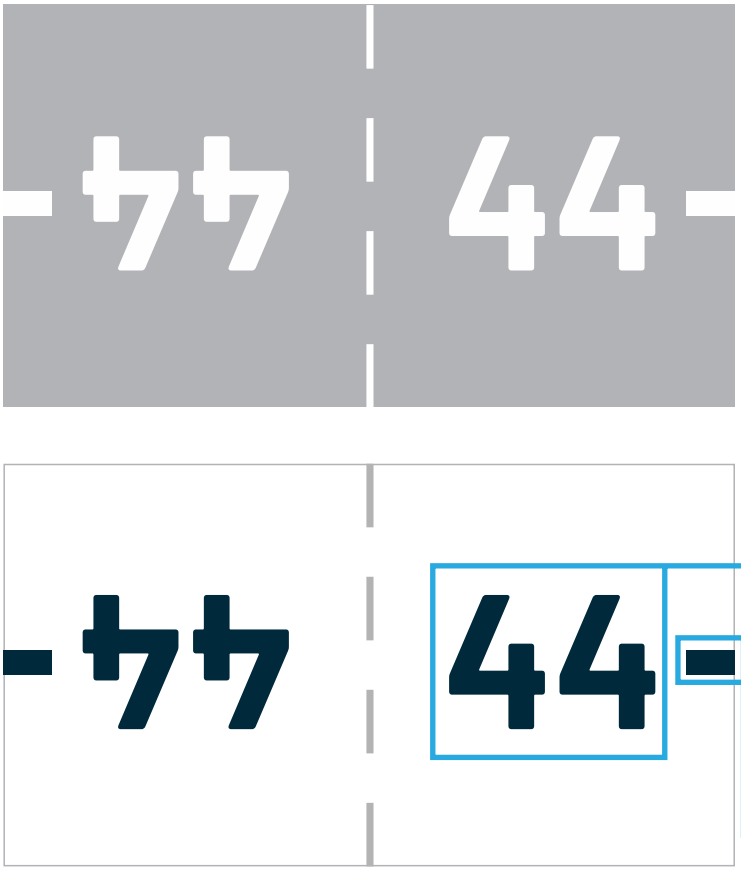
PURPOSE

Mile markers are a new and important signage type to the LA River. A cohesive system of mile numbering along the LA River unifies all 51 miles and helps users identify their location along river trails. Further, having consistent numbering strengthens public safety by allowing people to easily locate themselves along the river for emergency responders. Mile markers demarcate the distance from the outfall into the ocean (river mile 0) to the headwaters (river mile 51). Mile markers also indicate what side of the river someone is on. Bank sides are determined when looking north, up the river. Miles 0 to 32 are denoted as west and east banks, and at river mile 32, at the bend in the river, it switches to north and south banks.

PLACEMENT

Mile markers should be placed every half mile, facing both directions of travel, along the trail on the landside of the trail.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS



RIVER MILE NUMBER

Font: Barlow - Bold
Size: 22" high
Color: Pantone 282 C when on light concrete, white when on asphalt (match treatment of existing lines)
Position: Center aligned in lane; 13" minimum on left and right to edge of trail and center of trail

1/10 MILE TICK

Size: 8" wide, 4" high
Color: Pantone 282 C when on light concrete, white when on asphalt (match treatment of existing lines)
Position: Right aligned, flush to edge of trail; center aligned vertically with river mile number

Figure 108. LA River pavement markings alert users to their river mile location along the trail.

INSTALLATION

- On ground of trail, facing both directions of travel
- Number occurs every mile, and tick on edges of trail occurs every 1/0 mile

NOTES

- Color varies depending on color of trail paving, match treatment of existing lines

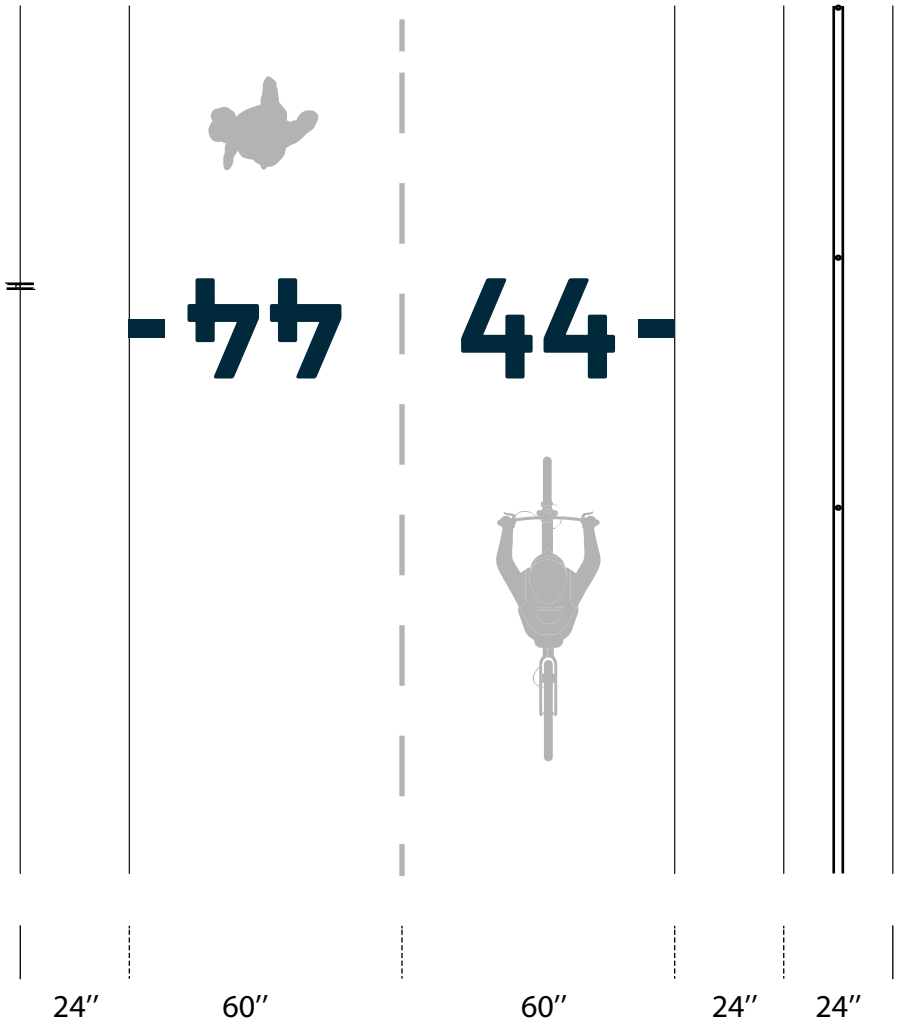


Figure 109. Pavement markings should be placed so that they face the direction of travel.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

PURPOSE

Pavement marking occur on the pavement of multiuse trails along the LA River and demarcates the distance from the outfall into the ocean (river mile 0) to the headwaters (river mile 51). Pavement markings should consist of either water-based or thermoplastic paint (contractor-grade acrylic striping paint, alkyd, or chlorinated rubber striping paint). Consider skid resistance, reflectivity, and durability when selecting materials, as well as ADA requirements for visibility. Refer to page 153 for more information on thermoplastic paint as necessary.

PLACEMENT

Pavement markings including the large mile number must be incorporated at every mile on all paved paths along the LA River trail, including bikeways and multiuse trails, and facing both directions of travel. Every tenth of a mile shall be marked with only the horizontal ticks on both sides on far outsides of the path as well as in the middle of the path, not including the large mile number.

LARGE SCALE ICON GRAPHICS

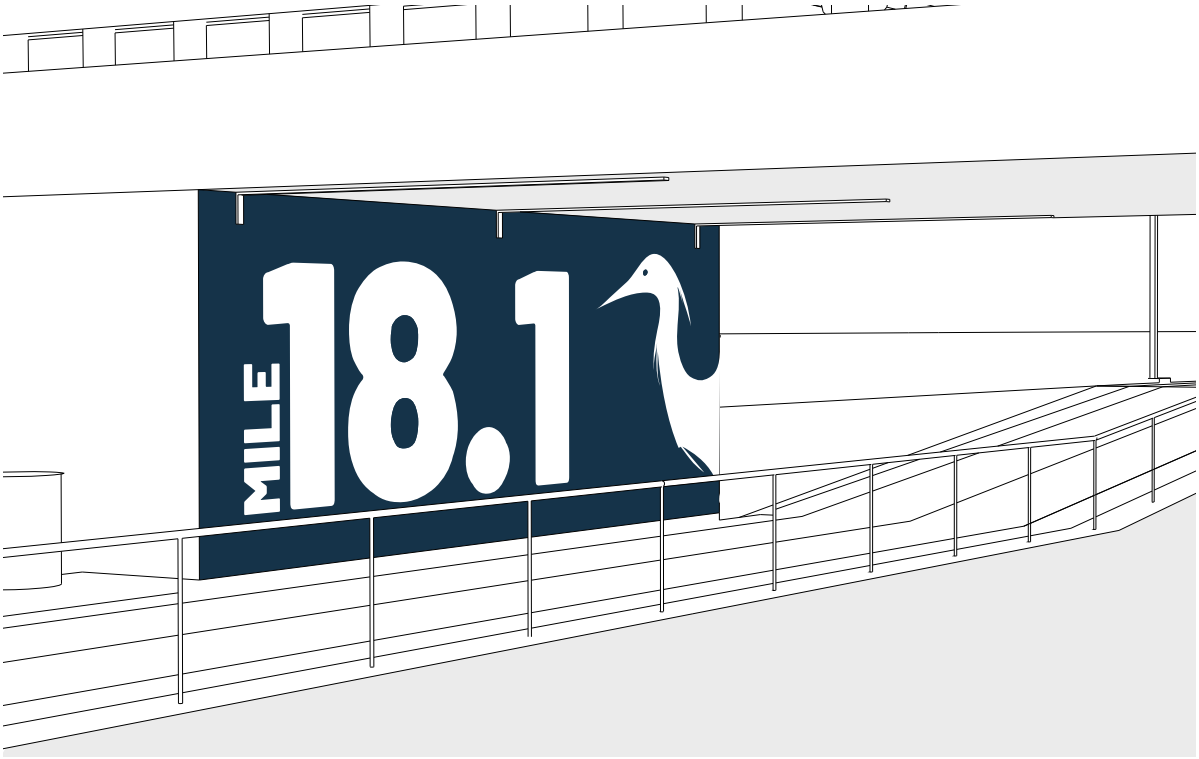


Figure 110. Underpasses are an opportunity for large scale icon graphics and can alert users to their river mile location.

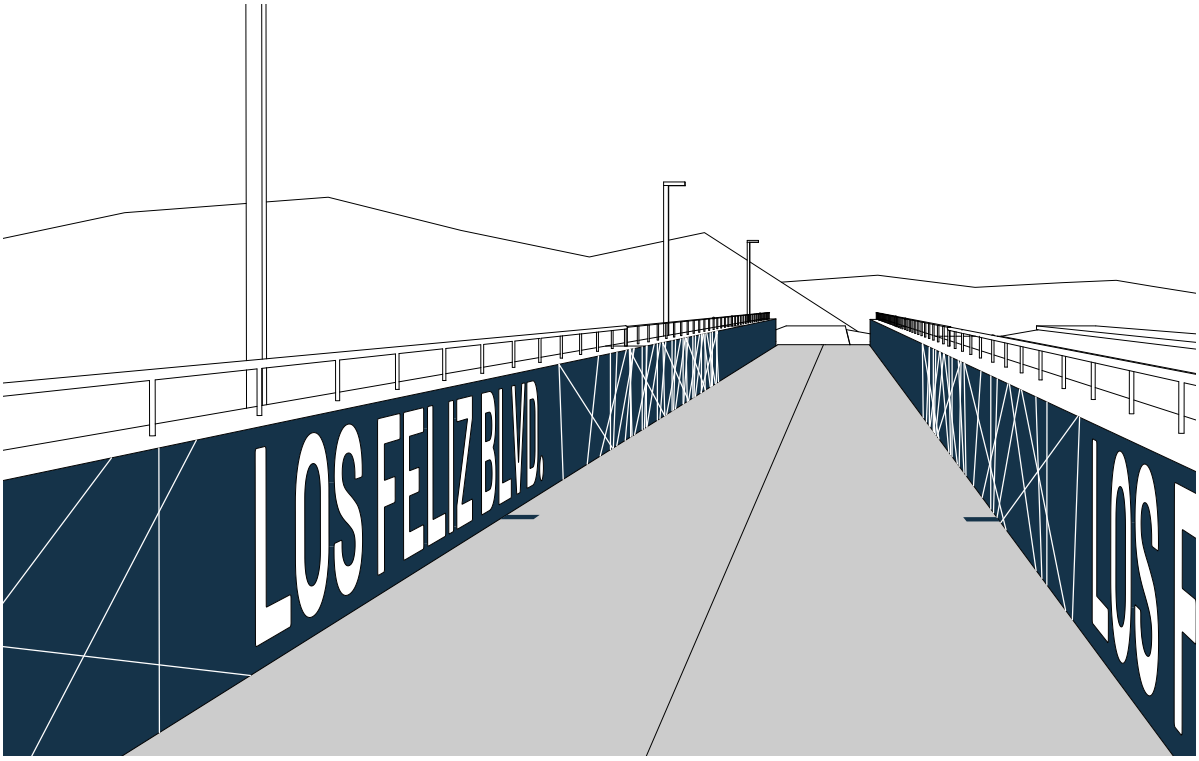


Figure 111. Bridges and overpasses are opportunities for large scale icon graphics and can alert users to street crossings underneath.

LARGE SCALE ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS ALLOW FOR OPPORTUNITIES OF UNIQUE COMMUNITY EXPRESSION

LARGE SCALE ICON GRAPHICS

PURPOSE

Integration with architecture, art, and design can best occur with creative use of large scale icon graphics. These environmental graphics are a critical component in the reduction of sign clutter, and can help inform users about their location along the trail or direct them to the LA River. Large scale icon graphics have the most flexibility in their expression and are a compelling way to incorporate art into wayfinding. Alternative wall treatments, such as textured finishes and vine planting can also be considered.

PLACEMENT

Placement of large scale icon graphics is up to the discretion of the artist(s). They could be placed along blank walls, underpasses, or other key moments to highlight the river mile number or adjacent communities.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

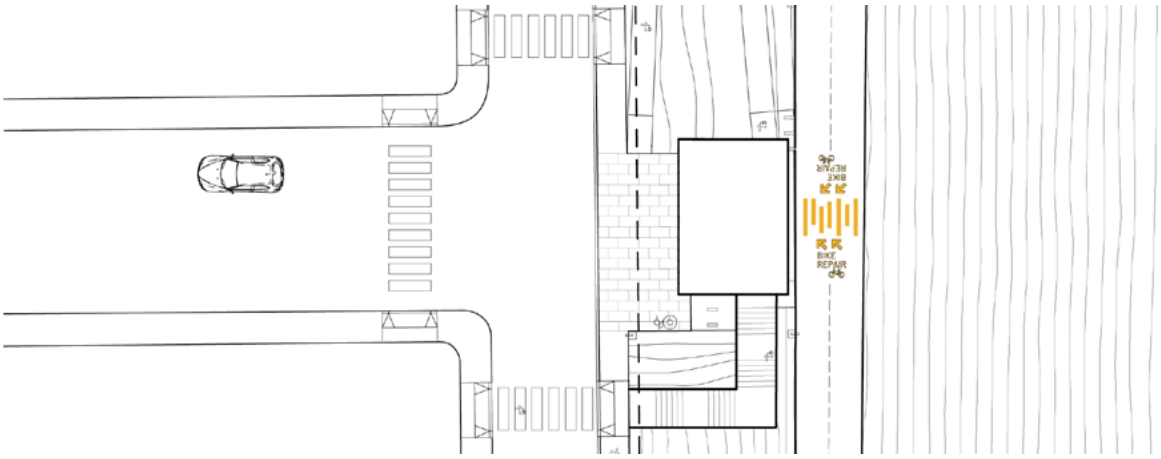


Figure 112. Pavement Markings can be customized along the LA River trail at gateways to allow for the integration of community expression.

COMMUNITY EXPRESSION

Within the suite of LA River environmental graphics, there are opportunities for unique community expression. Certain elements can be customized, while other elements should stay consistent for legibility and clarity in wayfinding.

The following types of environmental graphics must be consistent throughout the LA River:

- Regulatory
- Confirmation
- Directional
- Mile markers
- Pavement markings (only at river pavilion or gateway moments where other regulatory markings are suspended)

The following types of environmental graphics can be modified for an individual project as long as certain elements remain consistent:

- Pavement markings
- Informational
- Interpretive signs and displays
- Large scale icon graphics

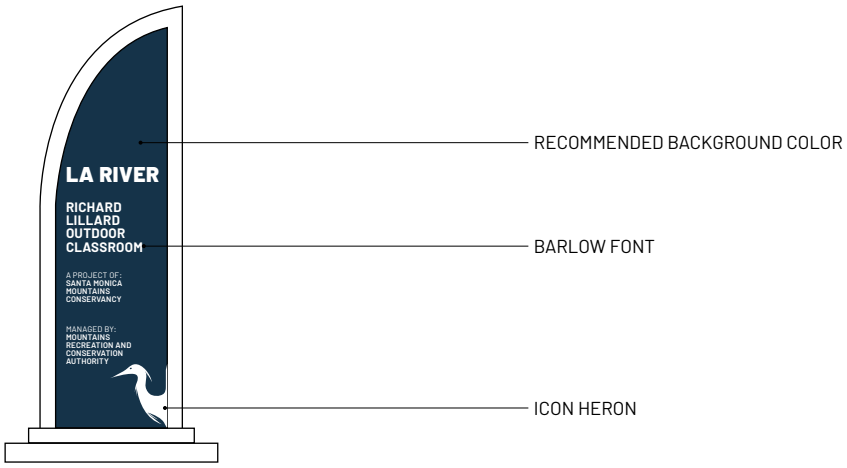
Within the signs that can be modified, the following elements should remain consistent:

- Barlow font
- Heron symbol or icon
- The required background color (the color variation in natural uncoated materials and other neutral colors are allowed).

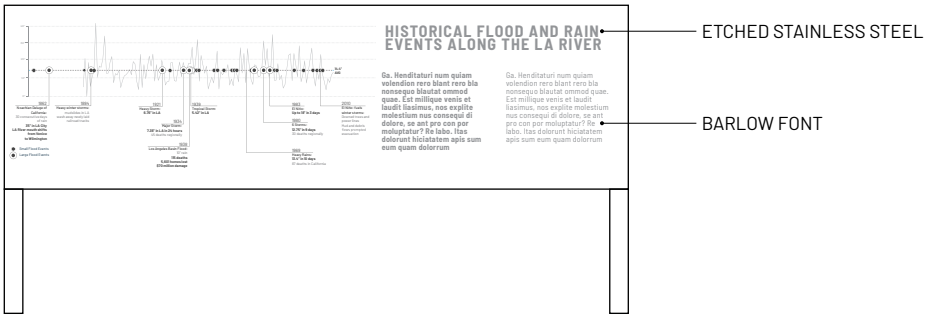
An exception is with large scale icon graphics, where the artist(s) have discretion on the final product. Materials in these four types of environmental graphics can be modified as long as they are water quality compliant (non-toxic and will not leach off into the river). Further, the form and content of the environmental graphics can be modified.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS, AS WELL AS OTHER FORMS OF COMMUNITY EXPRESSION THAT ADHERE TO THESE GUIDELINES, CAN BE CUSTOMIZED FOR EACH PROJECT

INFORMATIONAL EXAMPLE



INTERPRETIVE EXAMPLE



LARGE SCALE ICON GRAPHICS EXAMPLE

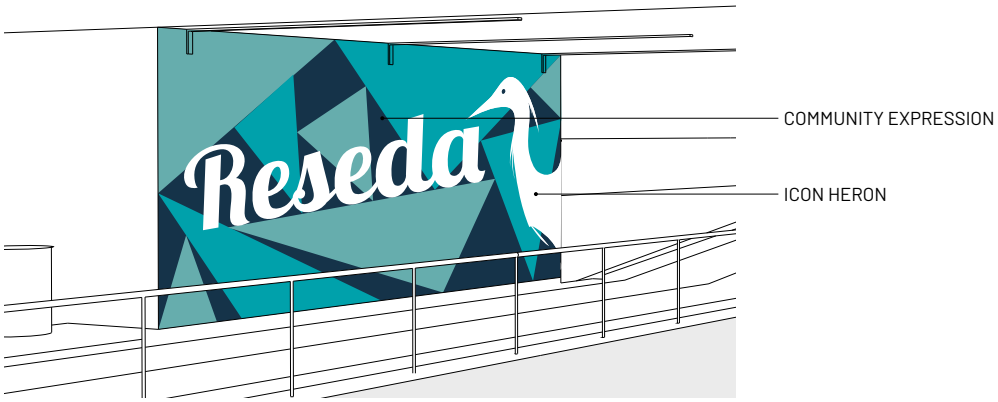


Figure 113. Elements of informational environmental graphics, interpretive signs and displays, and large scale icon graphics can all be customized for specific projects. Designers can create their own approaches within the outlined parameters on a project by project basis.

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

Responsibility for maintaining signs should be determined prior to installation. Agencies may have requirements for inventory of signs within their jurisdiction. The Operational Services Division of LAC Public Works should be notified appropriately of all signs that they will be responsible for maintaining.

Required maintenance consists of regular inspections for vandalism, cleaning and repair as necessary and periodic replacement. A UV coating on aluminum inhibits fading of sign colors, but aluminum signs likely will need replacement after five to ten years. Frequent vandalism may shorten the lifespan.

SIGN MOUNTING

Where possible, signs should be mounted onto existing posts. For brand new sign installation for either new sign types or in completely new projects, these guidelines should be followed:

- Posts should be steel tube posts with finish matching RAL 9007.
- The post cap should be made from welded aluminum with all edges and corners neatly finished.
- The sign should be mounted to bracket with tamper-proof bolts, lock washers, and nuts.
- Natural rock bases or podiums should be avoided due to maintenance concerns.

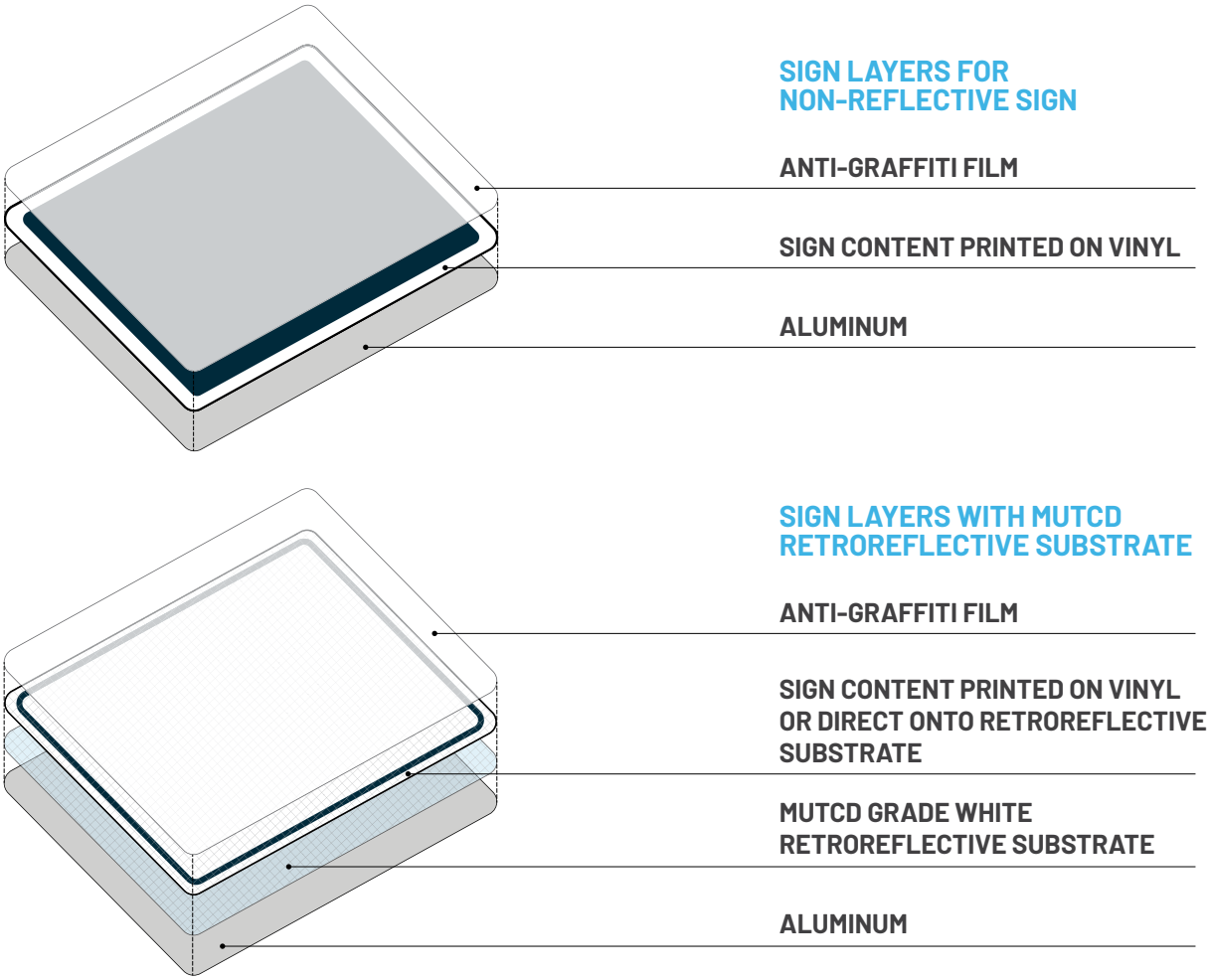


Figure 114. **Common layers of an aluminum sign include anti-graffiti film, printed vinyl, and retroreflective substrate on aluminum. The best application of applied graphics using vinyl or print is to be determined by fabricator. Always confirm with the fabricator that graphics are protected for exterior environments.**

VANDALISM

Many signs installed along the LA River will likely be vandalized at some point. Typical vandalism may be spray paint, etching or other destruction. Regular and diligent inspection of all signs is recommended on a weekly basis. At the time of inspection, if vandalism is found it should be immediately repaired or cleaned.

Aluminum signs are manufactured with an anti-graffiti coating. Anti-graffiti coatings and protective film must be specified to have a satin, non-glare finish for ADA compliance. The coating allows spray paint to be cleaned off using commercial products that are applied directly to the sign to wipe off spray paint. For other posts or surfaces, an anti graffiti barrier can be used to add a clear protective coating to painted wood, aluminum, metal, masonry, bricks, concrete, and stone.

Figure 115. Aluminum with rounded corners is used as the base of many types of signs. Source: OLIN, 2019.

Figure 116. Retroreflective substrates, colored film, and clear anti-graffiti film layer on top of aluminum to create the graphic of a sign. Source: OLIN, 2019.

RAL 9007

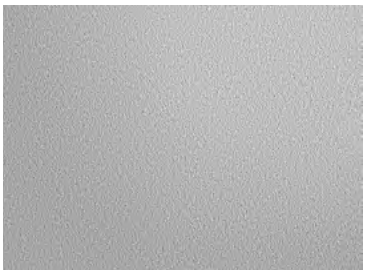


Figure 117. New sign posts should be RAL 9007.

MATERIALS

The materials used for environmental graphics are very important for its consistency and performance once installed. Required materials for the signs in these guidelines are 0.080 thick aluminum with rounded corners and an anti-graffiti film layer. Anti-graffiti film provides a cleanable and clear layer on top of the graphics of a sign, and if damage is severe enough can be a layer that is removed entirely for ease of maintenance. Always confirm with the fabricator that graphics are protected for exterior environments, including UV protection to avoid fading. Best application of applied graphics using vinyl or direct print to be determined by fabricator.

A retroreflective substrate should only be used on all bicycle route directional environmental graphics per MUTCD requirements. Refer to latest MUTCD guidelines for the most current level of retroreflectivity requirements.

PAVEMENT MARKING PAINT

WATER-BASED

- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Low
- COST: Medium
- DURABILITY: Medium

SOLVENT-BASED

- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: High
- COST: Low
- DURABILITY: High

THERMOPLASTIC

- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Low
- COST: High
- DURABILITY: Very High

COLD PLASTIC

- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Low
- COST: Medium
- DURABILITY: Medium

Recommended

Figure 118. There are many options of paint for pavement markings. Thermoplastic and water-based paints are recommended for use along the LA River based on their durability and environmental impact.

Figure 119. Thermoplastic paint is a durable option for pavement markings on asphalt. Source: LeManna, Shutterstock.com, 2020.

BIKE TRAIL PAINT

Where possible, paints should be chosen for low environmental impact while balancing out initial and long-term O&M costs. The main types of paint include: water based (e.g., acrylic), solvent based, thermoplastic, and cold plastic. They are all applicable to asphalt and concrete and require primer before application. Reflective beads can be added to most types of paint to increase reflectivity.

Water based paints have the lowest environmental impact in production, application, and removal. When freezing temperatures are not a concern, water based paints are similar to durability as solvent based paints.

When specifying for bike trail paint, note the following considerations though many more exist and should be researched before final specifications are written: Water based paint should be specified as lead-free; Solvent based and thermoplastic paints should be specified with various Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) compliance standards depending on the additive (epoxy,polyurea, acetone, etc.); Caltrans and Federal Type I approved paint lists can be referenced and are widely available (The main difference between Federal and Caltrans approved guidelines are freezing temperature durability and differences in VOC compliance); Additional additives for texture and durability should be consulted for each type of paint, especially thermoplastics.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRAPHICS CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist on page 36 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Detailed Technical Requirements Checklist for Environmental Graphics

Standard Design Features

- □ Provide technical drawings showing signs matching specified requirements for current ADA font, size, contrast, bilingual content, braille, and Indigenuos Peoples references per permitting matrix on pg 118.
- □ Follow sign design template files available for download here: (Final link to be included in final guidelines)
- □ Ensure that any custom modifications occur only in these` environmental graphics categories: Informational, Interpretive Signs and Displays, and Large Scale Icon Graphics. Further, ensure that consistent elements are followed.

Placement and Sequence of Environmental Graphics

- □ Avoid sign clutter where possible.
- □ Follow placement of signs as recommended in Chapter 4. Show proposed sign placements in plan.
- □ Define scale of project (XS, S, M, L, XL - further defined in programming section in Chapter 2). Ensure lateral wayfinding and environmental graphics within project is installed leading to the project per the table page 116.
- □ Show that proposed heights of signs follow the recommendations for the appropriate category in this chapter.

Detailed Maintenance Program Checklist for Environmental Graphics

- □ Define jurisdiction responsible for ongoing maintenance and repair of environmental graphics.
- □ Specify appropriate anti-graffiti and UV film.
- □ Establish schedule for routine checks for vandalism, graffiti, or weathering (recommended on a weekly basis). Address minor fixes or replace signs as needed.

Figure 120. Vegetation Classification. Much of the vegetation around the LA River is degraded or mostly comprised of non-native plant species.
Source: LA River Master Plan, 2020.

5.
ECOLOGY, HABITAT, AND PLANTING

THE RIVER'S CAPACITY TO SUPPORT NATIVE HABITATS IS DETERMINED BY CONDITIONS UNIQUE TO EACH FRAME, FROM ITS CHANNEL SHAPE TO URBAN CONTEXT TO HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

Despite being highly urbanized, the LA River watershed sits within one of the world's most diverse Mediterranean biodiversity hotspots. The river's capacity to support biological life is determined by hydrological conditions, channel geometry, and connectivity across and along the river to adjacent patches and habitat areas.. The guidelines for ecology and planting are thus guided by the unique biodiversity of the region and characteristics of the river's distinct reaches.

With further connectivity and habitat enhancement, the river has the potential to increase urban biodiversity given the high natural biodiversity occurring nearby in the region's large inland protected areas. Additionally, elements of the river's former ecology can be reintroduced where appropriate to reestablish many of the rare riparian and upland ecosystems that have been lost to urbanization. However, the resilience of these native ecosystems to changes in hydrology and climate should also be considered and, where needed, planting palettes should be augmented and adaptively managed.

WHAT'S IN THE CHAPTER

The following pages contain the guidelines for the design and installation of planting along the LA River. This chapter will provide information regarding planting setbacks and buffers, planting along levee and floodwalls, and channel modifications among other aspects related to the creation of habitats and functioning ecosystems. Further, extensive LA River plant community lists are in this chapter, described in detail starting on page 208.

The designer or engineer shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of these guidelines is compliant with prevailing building codes and regulations. Consult the checklist at the end of the chapter to ensure the correct guideline items are followed.

Figure 121. Chapter 5 of this document covers items related to ecology, habitat, and planting in and along the LA River.

DESIGNERS SHOULD PLANT SPECIES APPROPRIATE TO THE PROJECT'S PLANNING FRAME, AND PROVIDE SUCCESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF PLANTINGS INTO COMMUNITIES OF PLANTS

CONSIDERATIONS FOR ECOLOGICAL PROJECT SUCCESS

To ensure success in habitat and planting projects along the LA River, design considerations must include everything from site preparation to sourcing plant material to maintenance post installation. These guidelines put forward the following values for projects along the river:

- Plant species appropriate to the planning frame of the project.
- Provide successional development of plantings into communities of plants that are ultimately best suited to the conditions of their environment.
- Provide a continuous native tree and plant corridor along the river with linkages to riparian habitat and upland areas in close proximity to the river.
- Support nurseries and organizations that specifically collect and propagate indigenous native plant species for planting along the river corridor.
- Achieve healthy soil biology, not just chemistry, by providing the critical foundation for each stage of succession that will ultimately host a sound ecological system.
- Eradicate invasive species, and deter the use of non-native species that provide little or no habitat value.
- Encourage the use of permeable paving solutions, filtration and percolation of rainwater, and on site water retention/ detention to mitigate/eliminate water pollution and to reduce runoff.
- Consider the resilience of the LA River system and the future effects of climate change in project planning and design.
- Ensure there is a maintenance plan for the installed landscape that is appropriate to the needs of the planted species.
- Provide opportunities for artwork through habitat creation and planting.

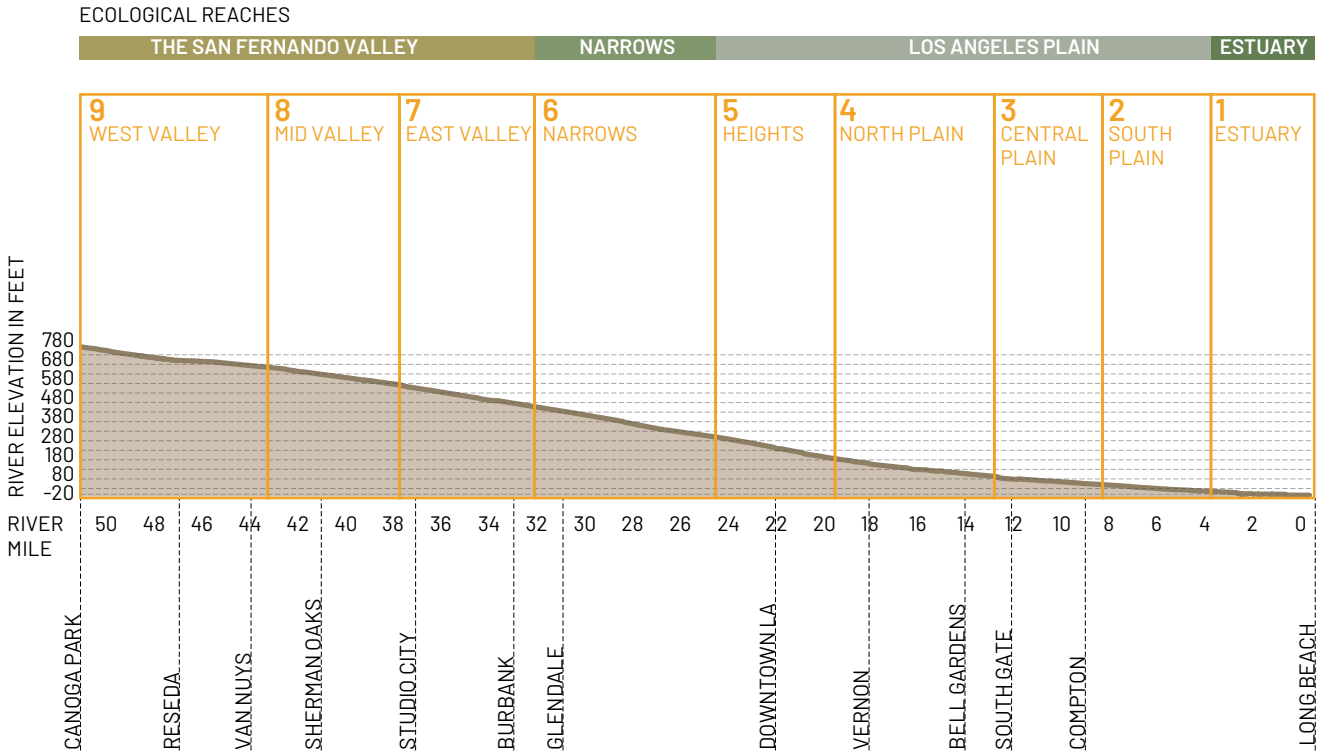


Figure 122. Depicted here with a 4x vertical exaggeration, the LA River changes approximately 780 feet in elevation over its course of 51 miles and passes through several distinct ecological reaches, from the San Fernando Valley to the Estuary.

THE LIMITED LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT ZONE, SET 17' BACK FROM ANY ENTRENCHED CHANNEL WALL, LIMITS PLANTING IN THIS ZONE TO SHRUBS AND GROUNDCOVER NOT TO EXCEED 3-5' IN HEIGHT

SETBACKS AND BUFFERS

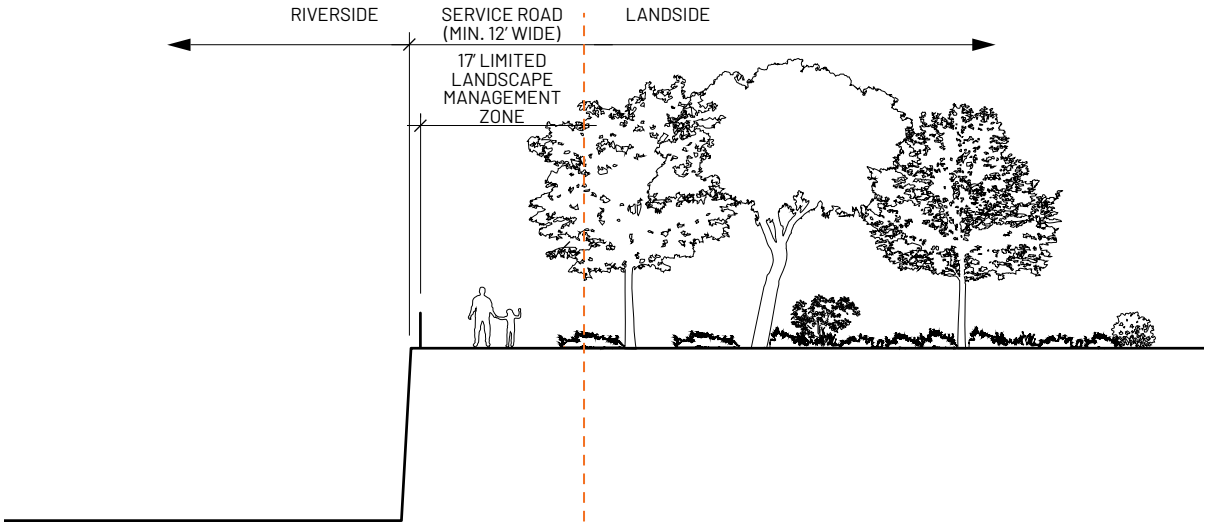
Planting along the LA River corridor is affected by various setback requirements necessary for the maintenance of its function as a flood channel. Additionally, there are opportunities for planting to serve as a buffer from the urban context of the LA River, including best management practices (BMPs) for the capture and treatment of stormwater runoff.

There are two types of buffers along the LA River channels, and further details on the USACE's Vegetation Free Zone requirements for buffers are located on the following pages. Although some existing conditions providing for maintenance along the top of the channels may not comply with those stated in this document, all proposed new projects shall comply with these guidelines. Any variance shall be reviewed and approved by the appropriate jurisdiction.

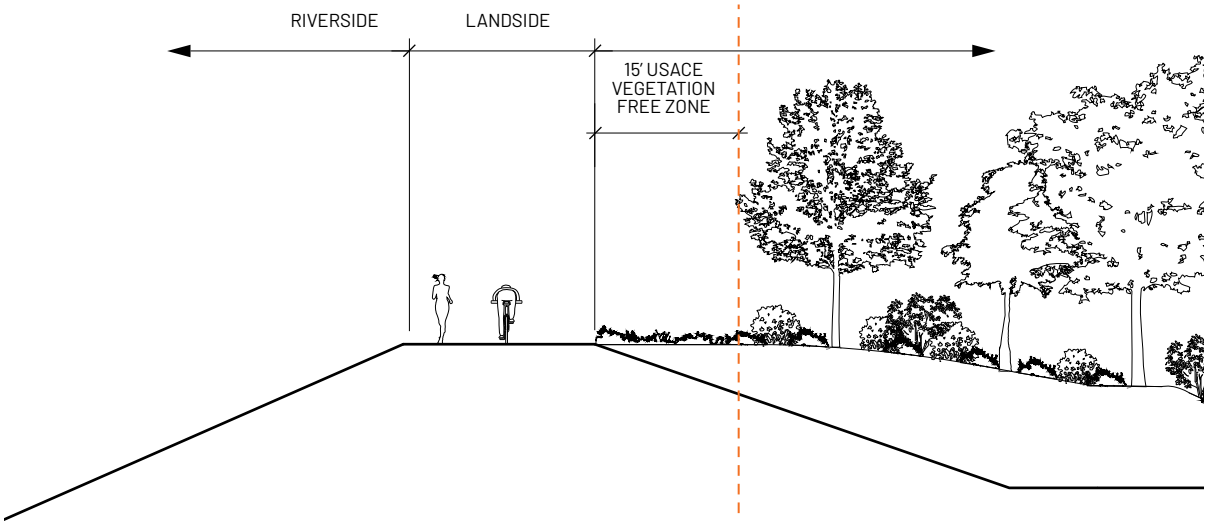
The Limited Landscape Management Zone is an important setback needed for any service road along the entrenched portions of the LA River channel to provide clearance for maintenance and emergency vehicle access (Figure 123). This zone is designated to extend 17' from the channel wall and prohibits any structures or obstructions. Plantings or structures in this zone may be heavily disturbed or removed if repair or emergency access is required. Plantings in this zone are restricted to low growing species, not to exceed 3-5' in height. Trees and shrubs outside this zone are not subject to these size restrictions. This zone also includes the required 12' minimum service road width.

Planting areas against the channel walls, such as the ones shown in Figure 123, may be considered if they are planted with low shrubs (18" or less), ground cover, and grasses (no trees or large woody shrubs). Further, these planting areas may be located between expansion joints but not directly behind one, at a minimum of five feet from an expansion joint.

VEGETATION SETBACKS ALONG EXISTING ENTRENCHED PORTIONS OF THE RIVER



VEGETATION SETBACKS ALONG EXISTING LEVEED PORTIONS OF THE RIVER



VEGETATION SETBACKS ALONG EXISTING OR PROPOSED FLOODWALLS ADJACENT TO THE RIVER

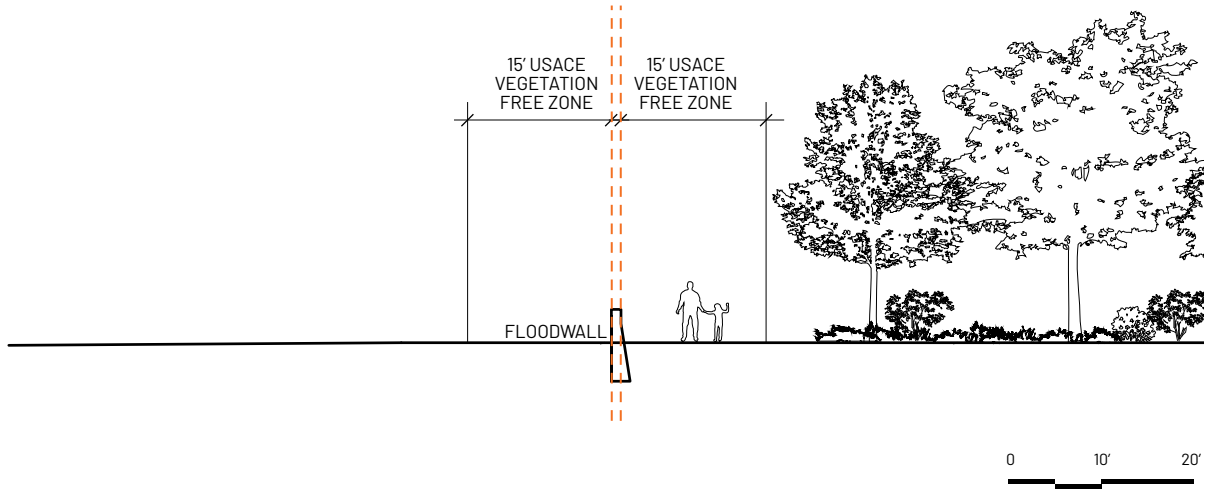


Figure 123. Along entrenched portions of the channel, the LACFCD requires a 17' Limited Landscape Management Zone that prohibits any structures and limits planting to shrubs and groundcovers up to 3-5' in height. The USACE guidelines require a 15' Vegetation Free Zone that limits planting to grasses and shallow-rooting perennials near levees or floodwalls. This distance is measured from either the landside edge of the levee, the top of a levee with a planting berm, or from the edge of a flood wall.

USACE GUIDELINES FOR PLANTING ALONG FLOOD STRUCTURES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED TO ENSURE THE STRUCTURE'S INTEGRITY. THIS INCLUDES LIMITS TO WHERE TREE AND LARGE SHRUB PLANTING MAY OCCUR

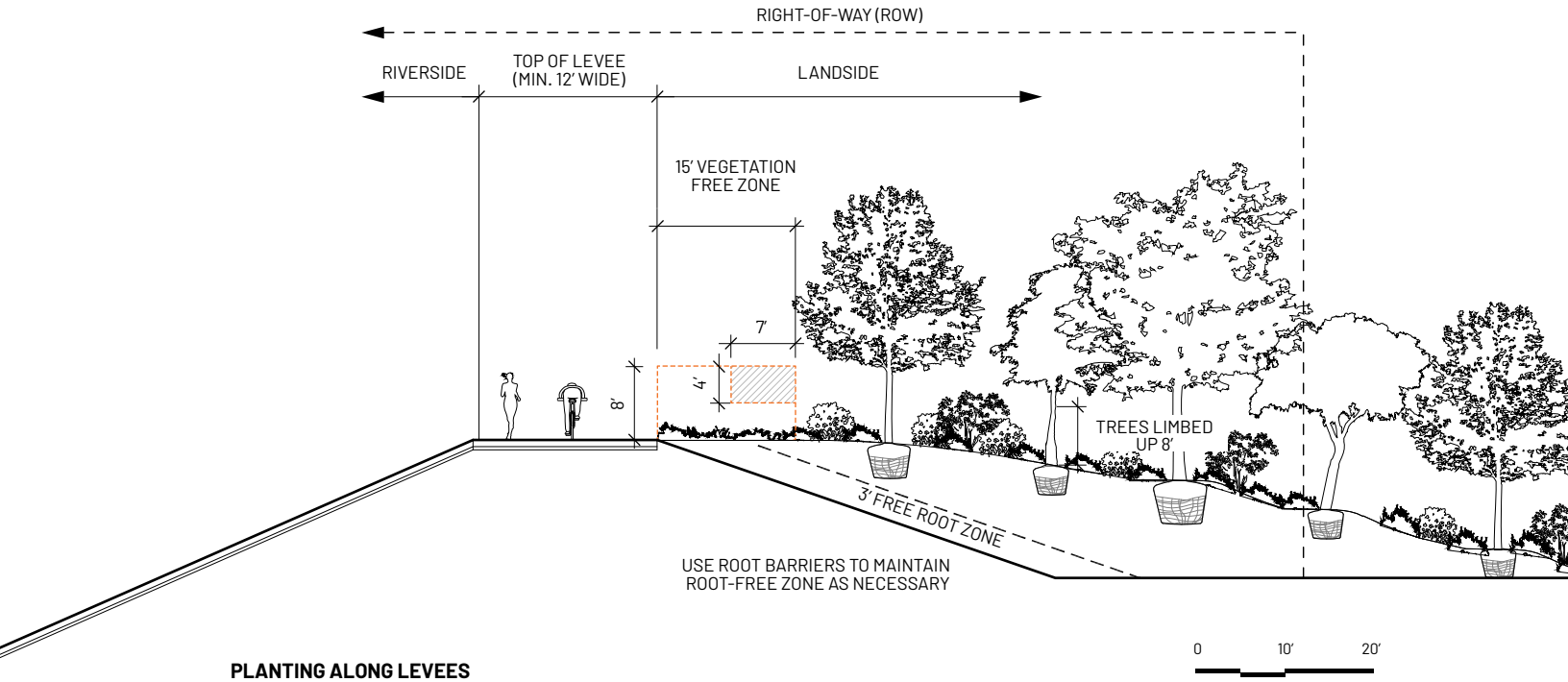
PLANTING ALONG LEVEES AND FLOODWALLS

Planting along flood channels must consider strategies that do not compromise the level of flood risk reduction provided by the structures. Planting should follow the standards set forth by the USACE's Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures (ETL 1110-2-583) or the most current publication.[19]

Along both levees and floodwalls, a corridor 15' wide and 8' tall should be maintained as a Vegetation Free Zone, limited to forbs and grasses. Any shrubs in this area require a variance from the USACE. Tree limbs are allowed in a 4' by 7' transition zone for a period of up to 10 years, at which point branches should be limbed to 8'. Mature tree limbs may also need to be limbed to 8' in the Vegetation Management Zone which can extend beyond 15' from the flood control structure, wherever clear access is needed by the USACE.

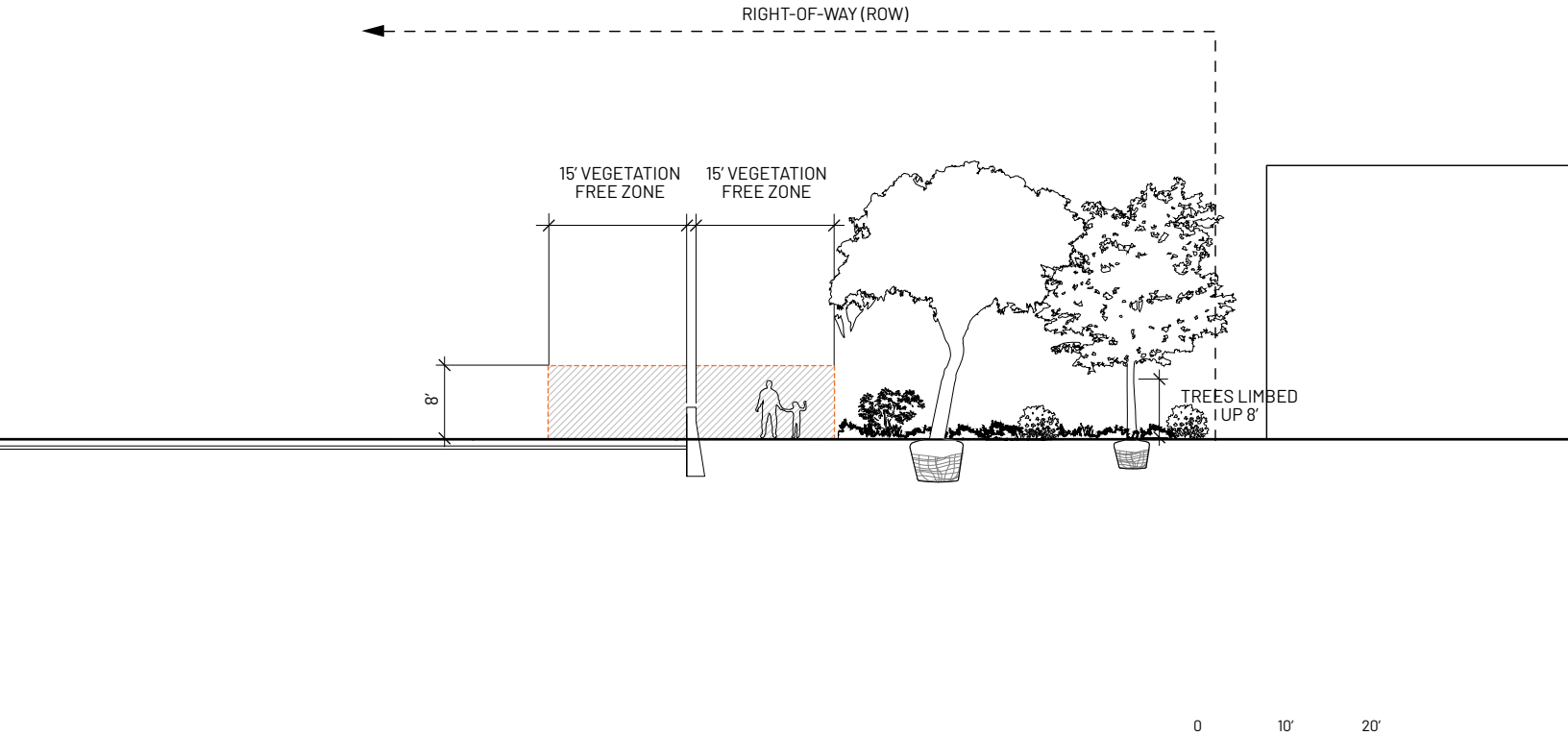
In leveed sections the USACE requires a Vegetation Free Zone that extends along the slopes of the levee, unless a planting berm is constructed on top of the levee itself. In a planting berm condition, as depicted in Figure 124, a 3' root-free zone offset from the landside slope of the levee is required. Often this is also achieved with the installation of root barriers to deter tree roots from compromising the levee structures. Planting berms are only feasible where the right-of-way is wide enough to accommodate the widened levee.

Overall it is important to discuss any planting strategy along flood structures with the USACE, and to refer to their latest applicable guidelines.



PLANTING ALONG LEVEES

Figure 124. Planting along the landside of levees is achievable through the creation of a planting berm that includes a 3' root-free zone off the landside slope of the levee. This planting must follow the latest USACE requirements as stated in the Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures. Source: Drawing based on US Army Corps of Engineers Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures, 2014.



PLANTING ALONG FLOODWALLS

Figure 125. Planting along floodwalls is achievable as long as the vegetation-free is kept clear of shrubs and trees. Planting along floodwalls must follow the USACE requirements as stated in the Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures. Source: Drawing based on US Army Corps of Engineers Guidelines for Landscape Planting and Vegetation Management at Levees, Floodwalls, Embankment Dams, and Appurtenant Structures, 2014.

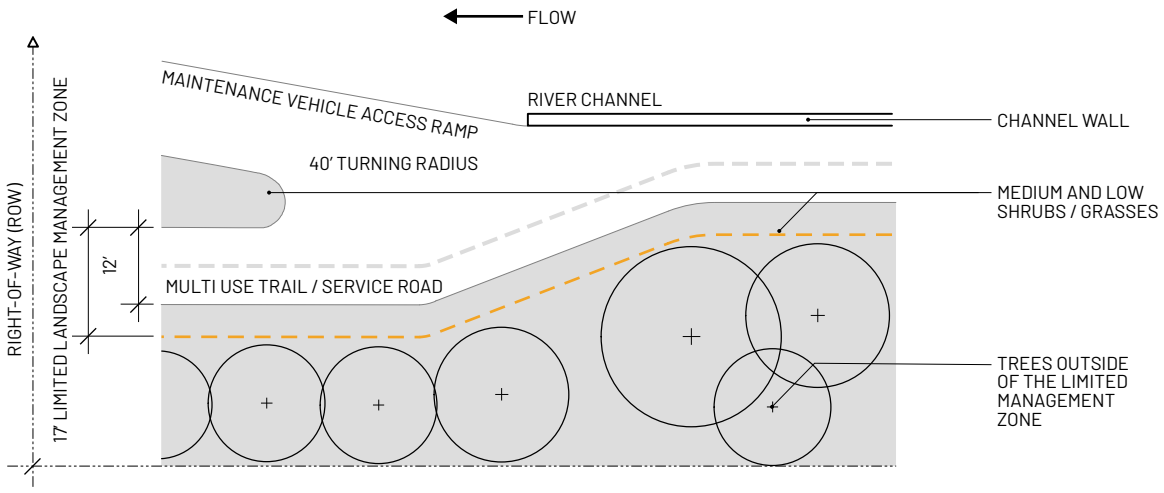


Figure 126. Proper ingress and egress clearance must be allowed for maintenance vehicles. The above example considers requirements for a maintenance ramp into an entrenched portion of the river channel, which includes, but is not limited to, the turning radius, direction of flow, and the limited landscape management zone.

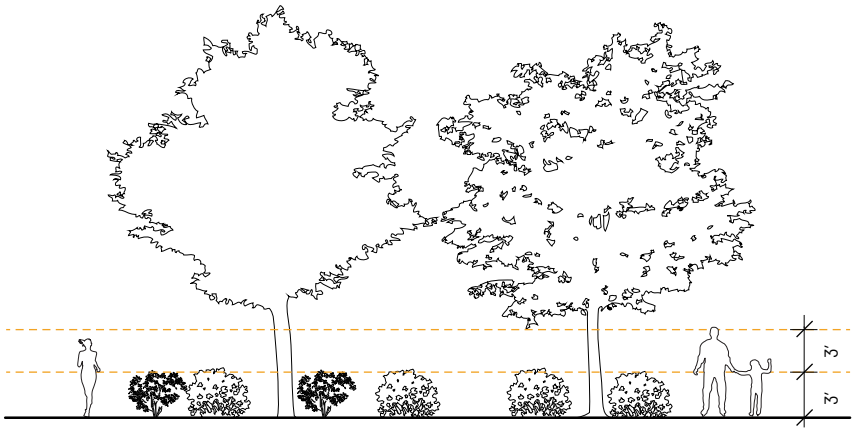
MAINTENANCE BUFFERS AND CLEARANCES

Maintenance vehicles require adequate access and space to maneuver in order to service the flood channel. The following additional clearances should be followed in the absence of criteria from the local agency of jurisdiction:

- All maintenance vehicles must have ingress/egress clearance at all times.
- Any alteration/design of service roads must meet with county approval.
- 40 foot centerline turning radius for truck ingress and egress from arterial streets.
- A minimum 4' trees and tall shrub setback from the sidewalk adjacent to vehicular ingress/egress from arterial streets.
- Vehicular access gates are to be setback 20' from the arterial street curb when available and feasible.

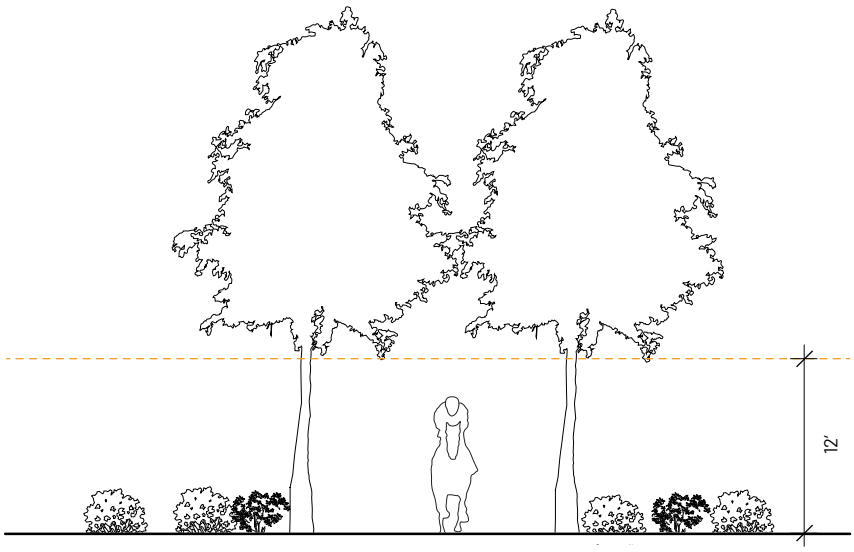
Limbing-up mature trees also helps to provide maintenance access and recreational use. Where multiple limb heights apply, tree limbing should be coordinated so that the highest requirement is met where applicable. In general, trees should not be pruned during their establishment period. When the tree trunk reaches a 4" diameter at breast height, those trees that overhang the service road or trail may then be pruned up to provide clear access or sight lines. At access points and trails intersections, mature trees should be limbed up to a minimum of 6 ft. Trees that fall within the Vegetation Management Zone, or whose branches fall into the Vegetation-Free Zone as defined by the USACE standards (ETL 1110-2-583), should be limbed up to 8' at maturity.[20] Currently the USACE allows a maximum of 10 years for trees to mature without limbing. Any tree branches that directly overhang equestrian trails should be limbed up to a minimum of 12 ft.

TREE LIMBING SHOULD BE COORDINATED SO THAT THE GREATEST APPLICABLE HEIGHT IS MET WHERE NEEDED OR WHERE OVERLAPPING REQUIREMENTS OCCUR. TREE LIMBING SHOULD NOT OCCUR BEFORE THE TREE HAS REACHED MATURITY



SAFETY / VISIBILITY BEST PRACTICE

USACE MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS



ABOVE EQUESTRIAN TRAILS ONLY

0 5' 10'

Figure 127. Tree limbing height requirements vary based on the location of the tree, the programmed use of the area, and visibility requirements. Young trees are exempt from these requirements and should not be limbed until they have reached maturity.

RIGHTS-OF-WAY

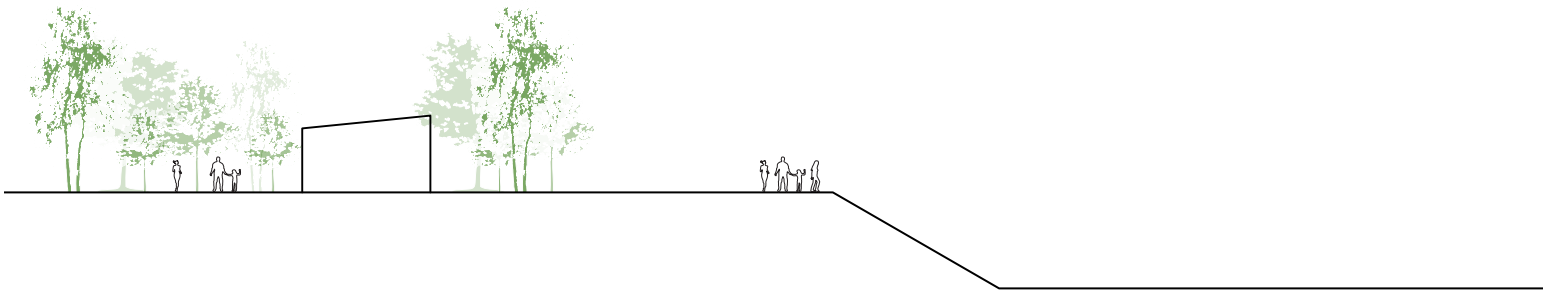
UTILITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Utility rights-of-way next to the LA River channel provide opportunities for recreation space, trails, plant nurseries, access roads, gateways, artwork, and other community amenities. Utilizing infrastructure rights-of-way is critical to creating a connected system of trails and open space across LA County.

Three utilities, the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Southern California Edison, and the City of Vernon Gas and Electric Department maintain power lines and transmission towers located on the service road or adjacent to the channel. Project teams working in areas near a transmission line should contact the utility companies directly to confirm current requirements. These agencies will separately check and approve projects and planting plans within their easements.

RAIL RIGHTS-OF-WAY

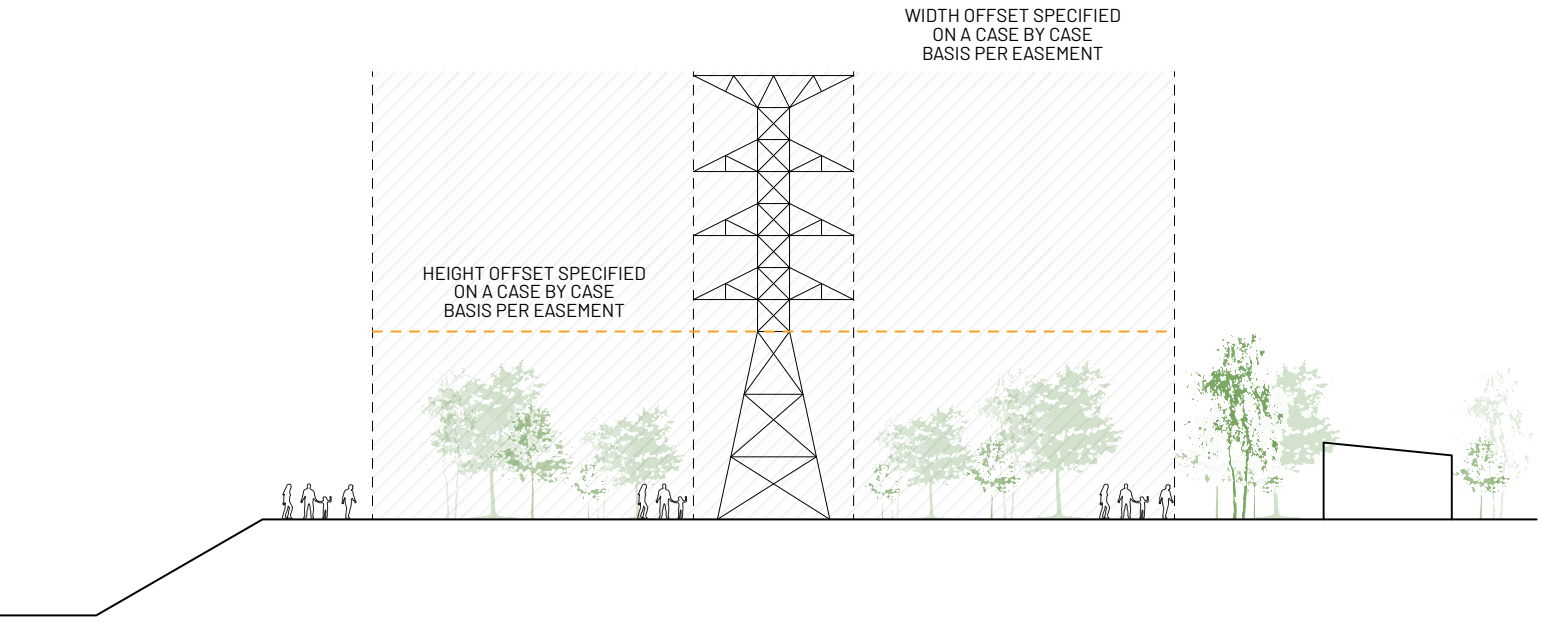
Some LA River projects will be located adjacent to not-in-service railroad rights-of-way. These rights-of-way are opportunities for increased connectivity to the trails and paths around LA County. Project teams working near rail rights-of-way should contact the right-of-way owner to discuss opportunities and requirements.



UTILITY ROW PLANTING

Figure 128. Requirements for planting in a utility ROW vary depending on the specific utility agency, but often include limitations on the installation of vegetation of a certain height or within a specified distance to the utility's infrastructure.

PROJECT TEAMS WORKING IN AREAS NEAR A TRANSMISSION LINE SHOULD CONTACT THE UTILITY COMPANIES DIRECTLY TO CONFIRM CURRENT REQUIREMENTS



SAFETY BEST PRACTICES ALONG THE RIVER

Safety along the LA River is of utmost importance to all users of the river corridor, during both regular recreational use and periodic flood events. Designers can incorporate clear lines of sight and allow clearance for emergency vehicles in order to promote safety in river projects.

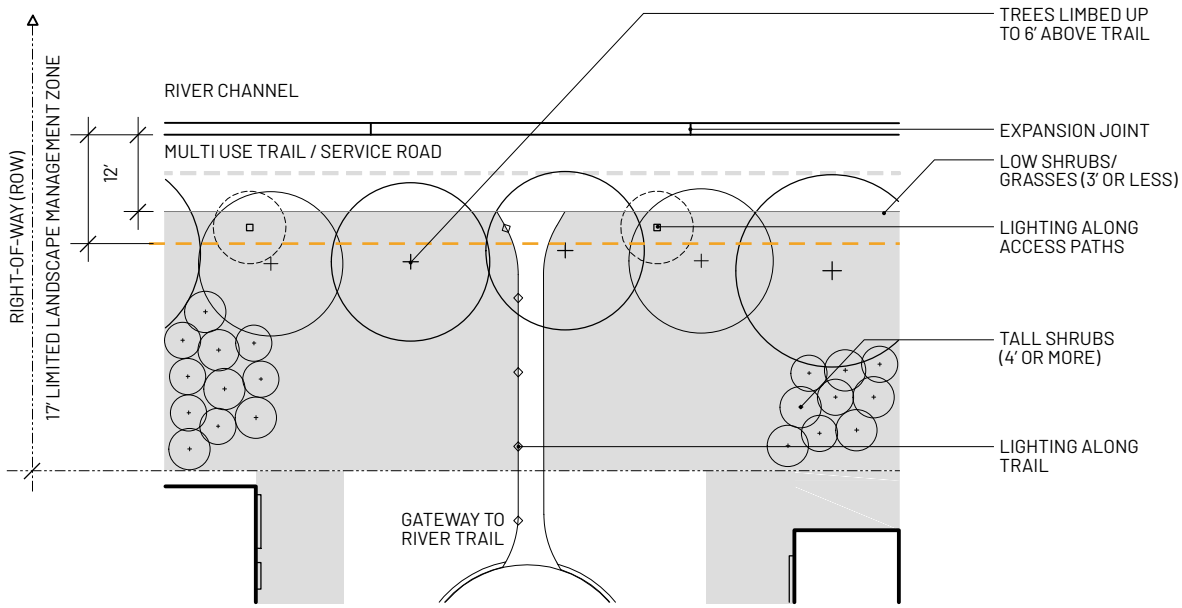
From a planting design perspective, planting densities need to consider the safety of pedestrians, joggers, and cyclists along all trails by providing sufficient line-of-sight clearance. Clear lines of sight are especially important at access points and trail intersections, where planting should be kept below three feet in height, and trees should be limbed up at least six feet (Figure 127).

Further, lighting should be spaced at regular intervals along the river trail to maintain a consistent level of visibility in the evenings. Trees should be placed so as not to shield the light sources along the trails. For further information on lighting, see Chapter 6.

Maintaining the 17′ Limited Landscape Management Zone allows for emergency vehicles to access the channel when necessary. In-channel rescues during flood conditions are performed by city and county fire departments. Rescue anchors located adjacent to major arterials throughout LA County are embedded into the concrete panels along both sides of the river for use in emergency situations.

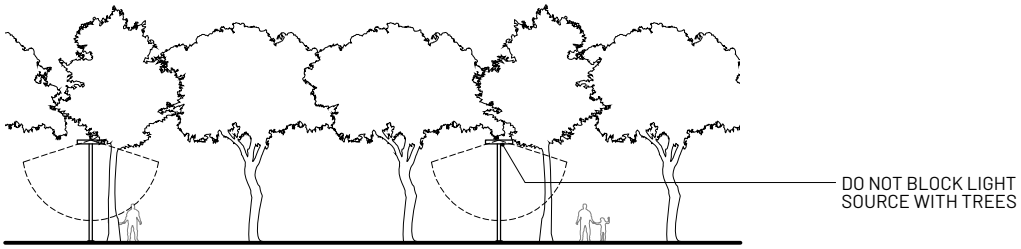
County Flood Control District Maintenance Standards for both maintenance and emergency vehicle ingress and egress apply in current and future locations. Designers should take the swift water anchor rescue locations into account when planning projects.

MAINTAINING A CLEAR LINE OF SIGHT BETWEEN 3'-6' IN HEIGHT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AT RIVER ACCESS POINTS AND TRAIL INTERSECTIONS



VISIBILITY AT ACCESS POINTS

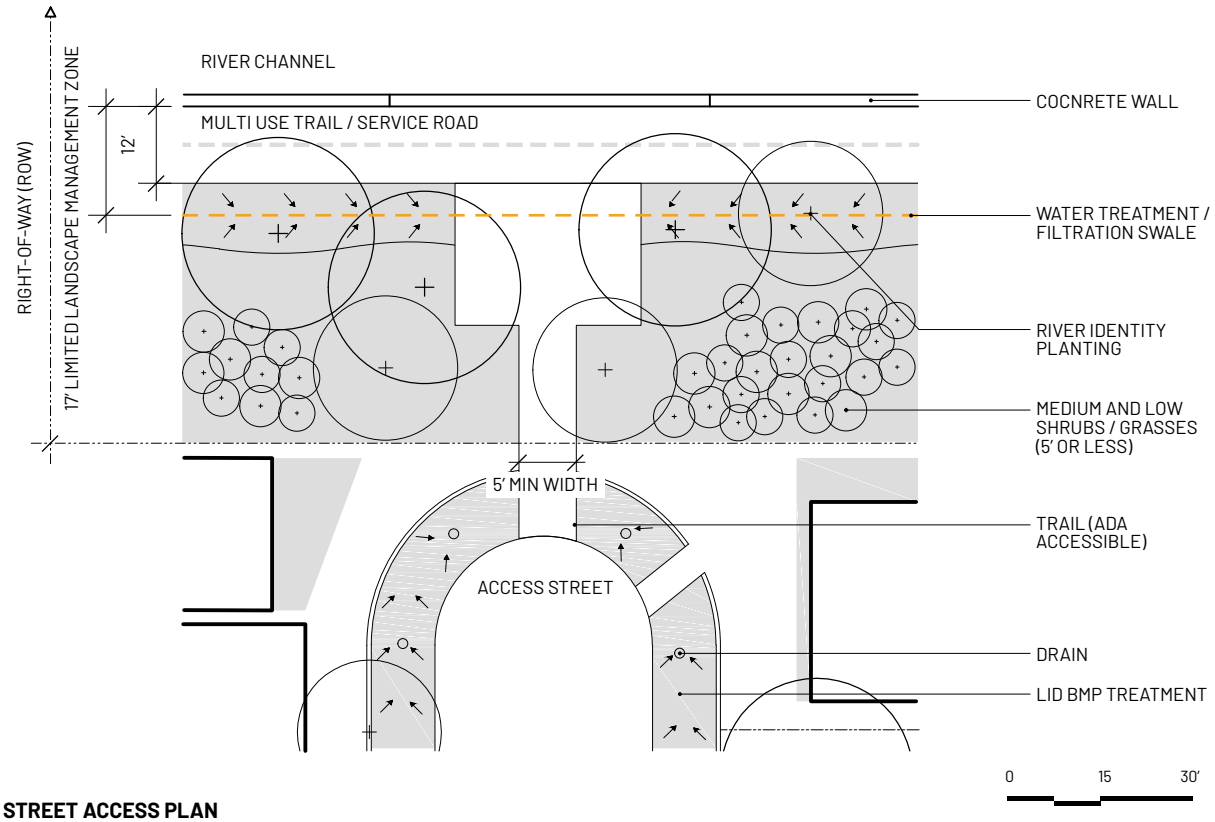
Figure 129. Clear lines of sight and consistently lit paths of travel should be included at gateways and access points.



LIGHTING ALONG THE TRAIL

Figure 130. Lighting along the LA River trail should be consistent and should not be blocked by tree limbs or any other obstructions.

0 15' 30'



STREET ACCESS PLAN

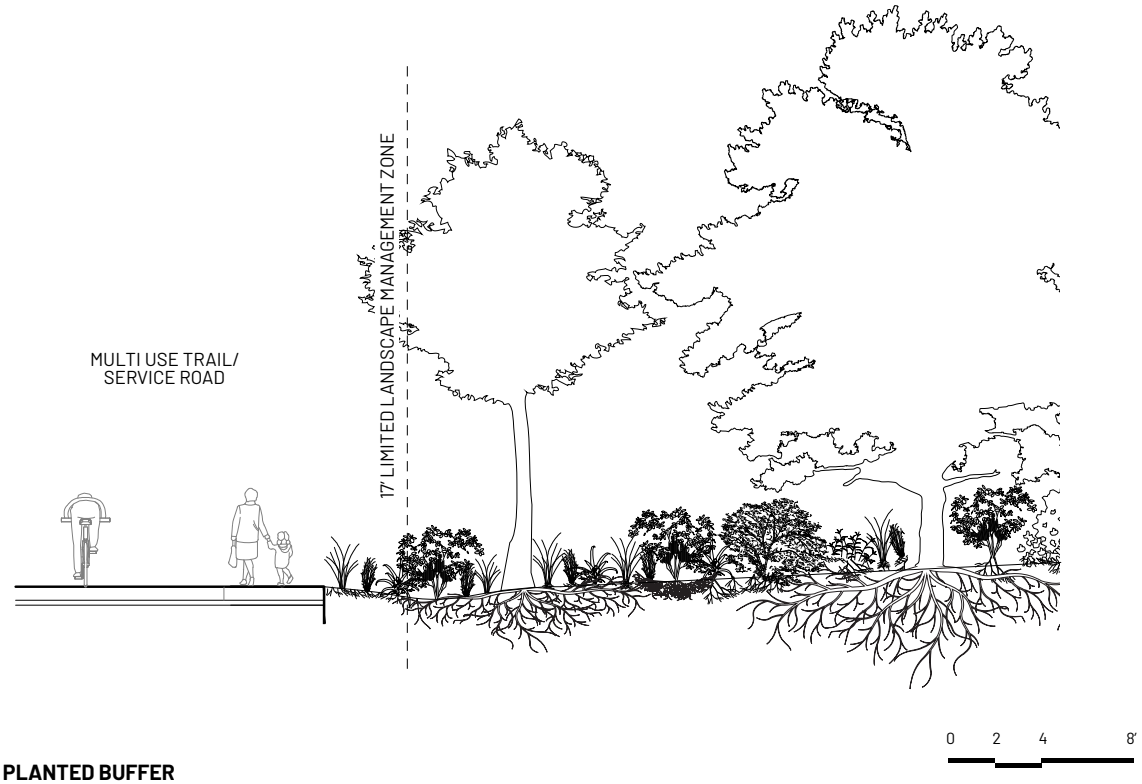
Figure 131. Access points where a street drains into the river provide opportunities to capture and treat stormwater. Swales along trails that slope away from the river also provide opportunities for water treatment.

PLANTED BUFFERS

Planted buffers along the LA River corridor provide comfort for pedestrians along the river trail, promote the unique sense of place of the river, and provide an opportunity for the treatment of stormwater before it enters the river.

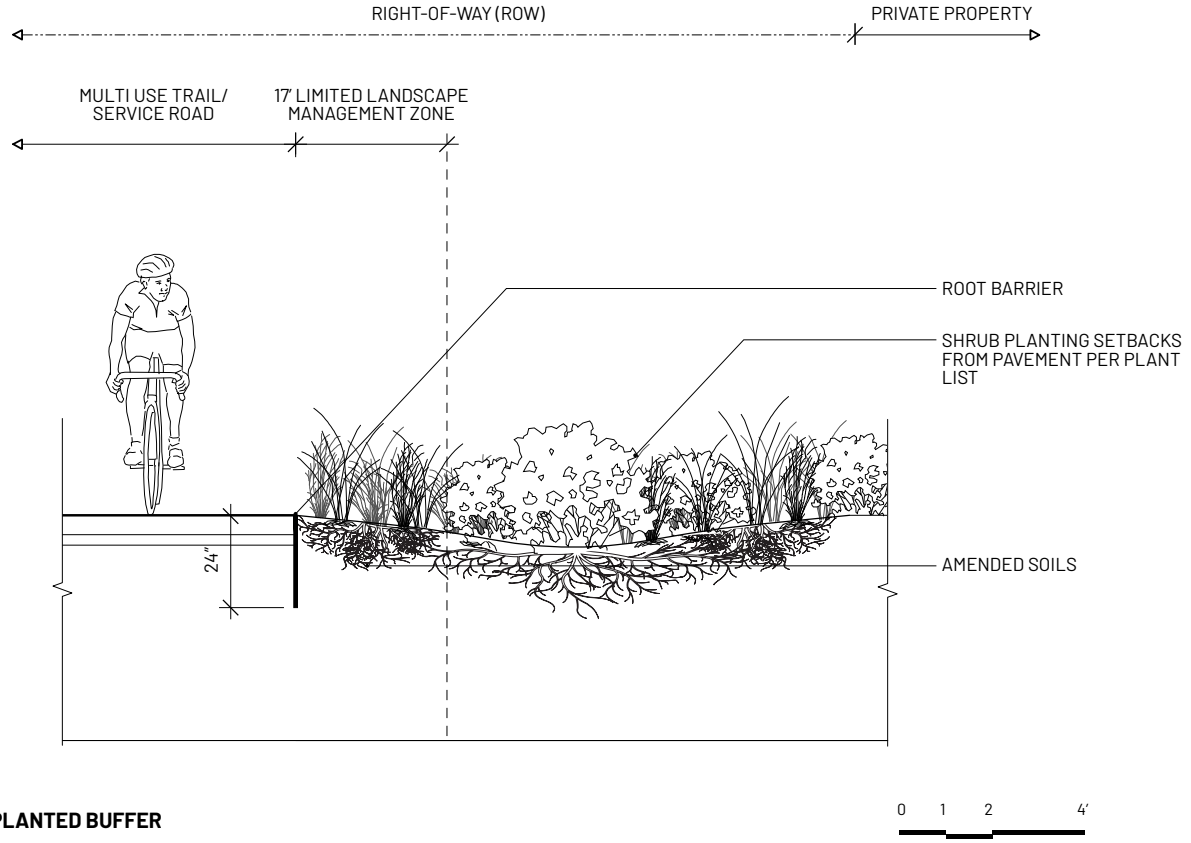
Where a neighborhood street drains directly into the river, new projects should aim to create bioswales or treatment basins to collect stormwater water runoff. Further, new trails, especially those that are paved with impervious materials, should slope to drain away from the river channel towards a bioswale or other BMP area.

Planted buffers should also adhere to suggested setbacks from pavement found in the plants lists at the end of this chapter. Trees and shrubs above 5' tall should be set back a minimum of 5' from the edge of the pavement. This setback distance can be halved if a 24" root barrier is installed immediately next to the pavement, and if the limited landscape management zone clearance is met.



WIDE PLANTED BUFFER

Figure 132. A densely planted buffer consisting of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers creates a unique sense of place along the LA River and provides opportunities to create connected habitats.



NARROW PLANTED BUFFER

Figure 133. If a trail is designed to slope towards a planted swale, it can collect, convey, and treat stormwater before it reaches the LA River.

FOR MORE IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ON STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, PLEASE REFERENCE THE LAC PUBLIC WORKS LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS MANUAL

STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Stormwater best management practices (BMPs) help capture, convey, and treat stormwater through infiltration or other mechanisms during a rain event. Some of the most commonly implemented BMPs include rain gardens, swales, infiltration strips, and infiltration trenches. It is important to work with engineers to ensure that the soils in the project sites are suitable for infiltration. Overall these methods are most effective during common rain events, since during higher, less frequent flood events these methods usually become saturated to capacity.

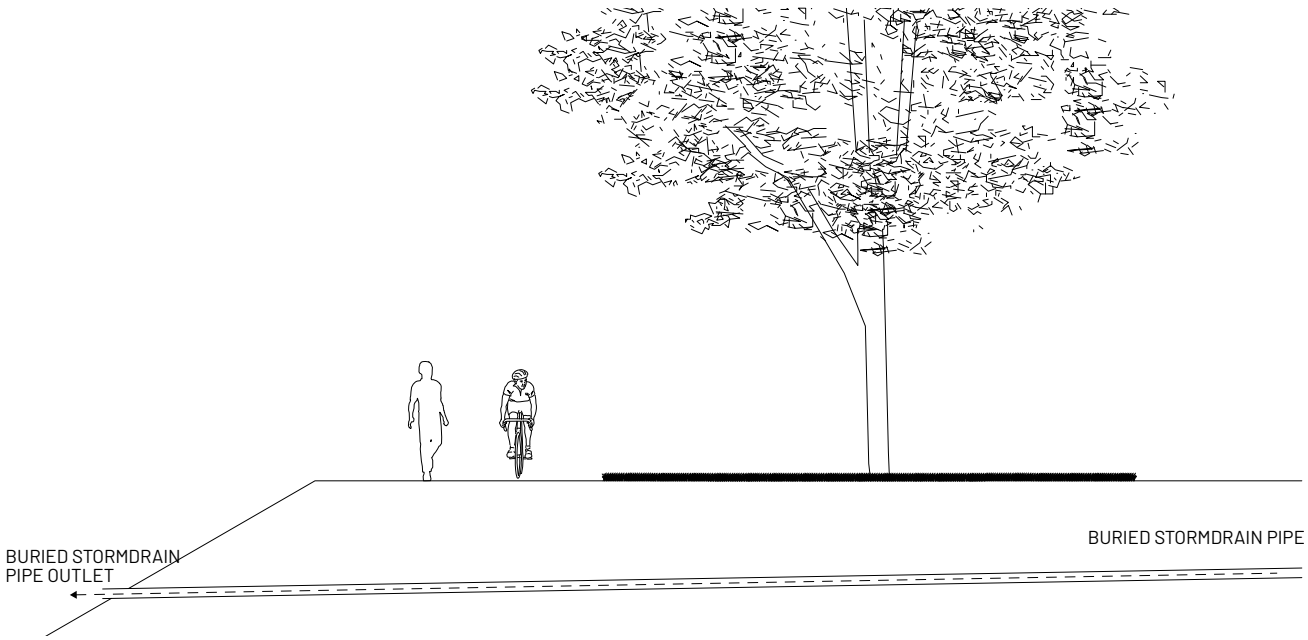
Rain gardens and swales require more space to implement, while infiltration strips and trenches are ideal for tight spaces or areas adjacent to structures. Along the LA River, rain gardens can be implemented where there is a wider project site. These project sites are to be studied to identify optimal locations and possible grading actions that will increase the capture and retention of rainfall to help sustain the growth of the native plantings. Swales can often be installed along paved trails or other linear projects. Swales convey water at a slower rate than traditional pipes do, and it is important to work with an engineer to make sure that the designed swale works with the overall stormwater approach for the project. Infiltration strips and trenches work best where there is a narrow right-of-way, or alongside structures or river pavilions (see Chapter 6). Infiltration can be further enhanced by the installation of vertical perforated pipes within the dripline of larger shrubs and tree species, installed at the time of planting. However, adequate drainage and possible bypass of the planting area, is necessary for heavier storms or obstructed systems. Typical drawdown time requirements for infiltration systems is between 72-96 hours, as dictated by vector control regulations to reduce mosquito populations.

The daylighting of existing storm drains is another method for installing BMPs, as shown in Figure 135. Daylit storm drains can be gravity fed and would help increase the treatment and re-use of stormwater in the right-of-way before it enters the river channel. All BMPs require continued maintenance for long-term success, otherwise they risk becoming obstructed with debris and rendered ineffective.

The following items are important in order to facilitate long-term success of BMPs:

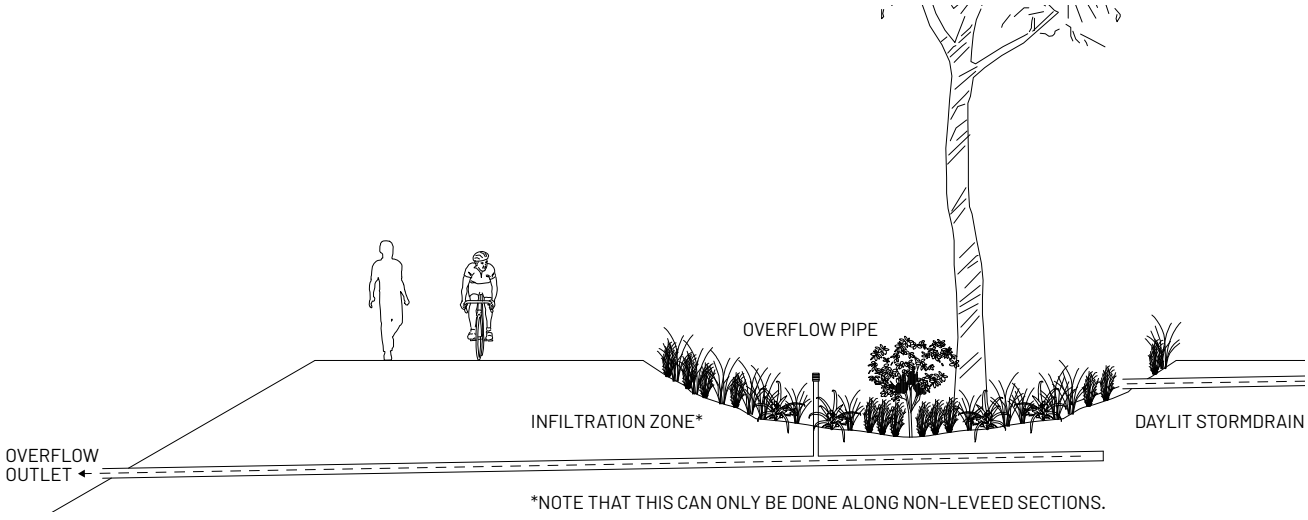
- Long-term commitment to regular maintenance of BMPs; vegetated BMPs in particular are prone to accelerated failures without regular maintenance
- Proper sizing of BMPs with respect to tributary drainage areas
- Adding/requiring pre-treatment BMPs to remove gross solids, sediments, trash, and debris are critical and recommended best practices for BMPs

For more in-depth information on BMPs, please reference the LAC Public Works Low Impact Development Standards Manual.[21]



PIPED DRAINAGE CONDITION

Figure 134. New projects along the LA River offer the opportunity to change the typical condition of stormdrain pipes that flow underneath street ends and exit directly into the river channel.



DAYLIT DRAINAGE CONDITION

Figure 135. A daylit storm drain allows for infiltration and treatment of runoff before it enters the LA River. These types of projects can help improve the water quality in the river.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE TECHNIQUES	PROS AND CONS	
STORMWATER PLANTER 	**PROS:** • Requires little space • Reduces peak flows during small storm events • Enhances site aesthetics • May conserve water • Requires little maintenance	**CONS:** • May require additional irrigation • Not suitable for areas with steep slopes
TREE WELL FILTER 	**PROS:** • Enhances site aesthetics • Reduces stormwater runoff volume and pollutant discharge • Ideal for highly-developed sites • Integrates well with linear landscapes	**CONS:** • May require additional irrigation
VEGETATED SWALES 	**PROS:** • Low cost of installation • Reduces peak flows during small storm events • Requires little maintenance	**CONS:** • Has limited water quality benefits beyond gross solids filtration • Not suitable for areas with steep slopes • Can cause erosion when not installed and maintained properly
VEGETATED FILTER STRIP 	**PROS:** • Easy to install • Reduces peak flows during small storm events • Enhances site aesthetics • Requires little maintenance	**CONS:** • Not suitable for areas with steep slopes • Can cause erosion when not installed and maintained properly

Figure 136. Various BMP techniques can be implemented depending on the space available and intended use. Source: (Top) OLIN, 2018, (Middle) OLIN, 2018, (Bottom) Roger Soh, 2010. https://bit.ly/2ZJNv2I

SECTION

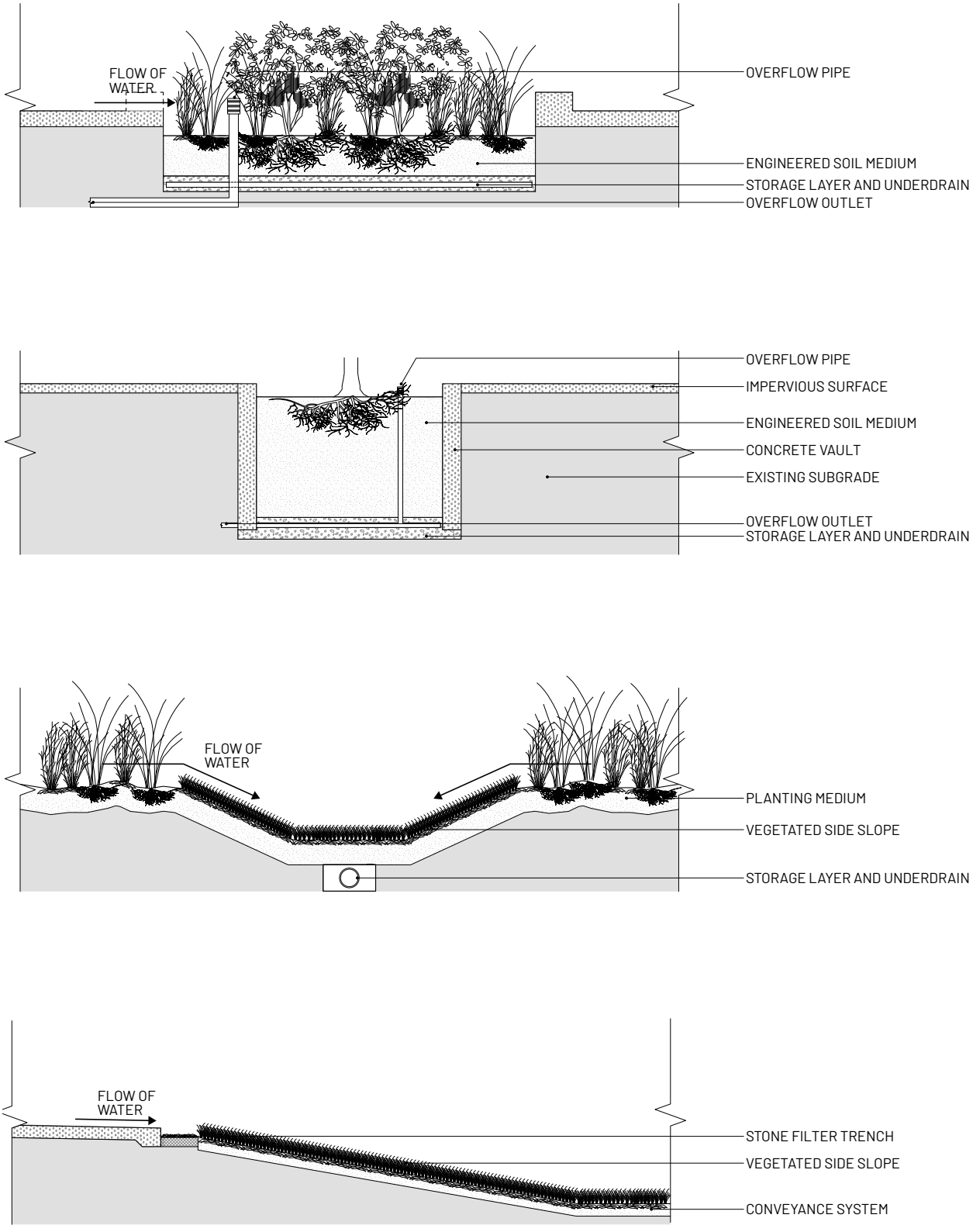
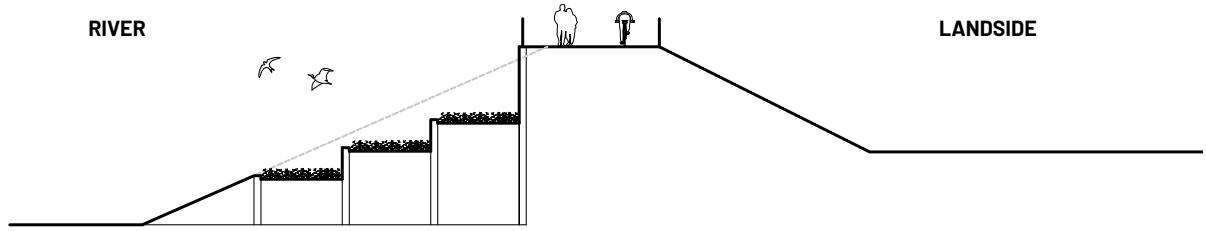
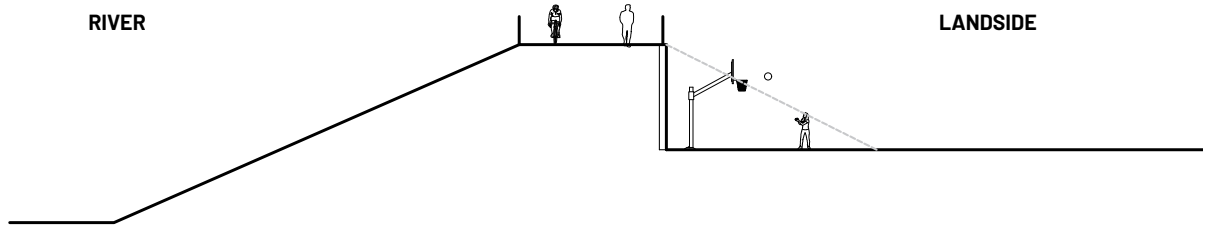


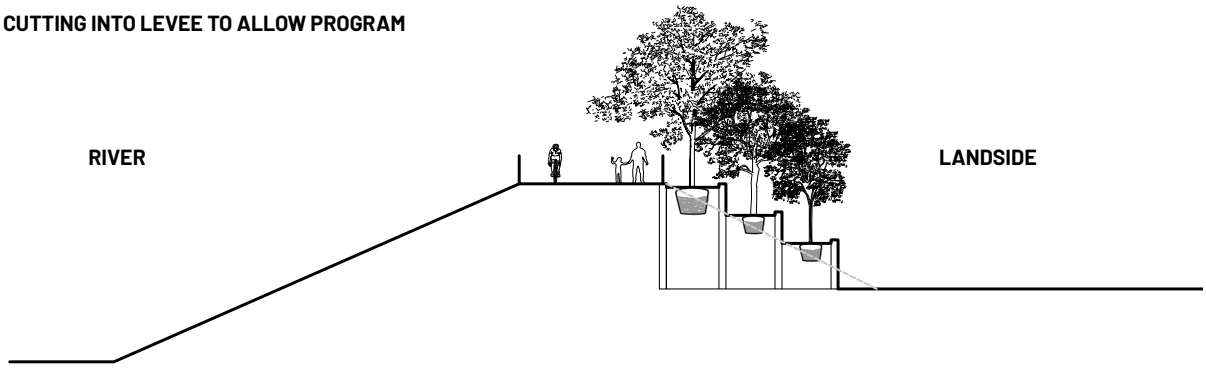
Figure 137. The infrastructure of each BMP varies based on project needs and should be designed with engineers.



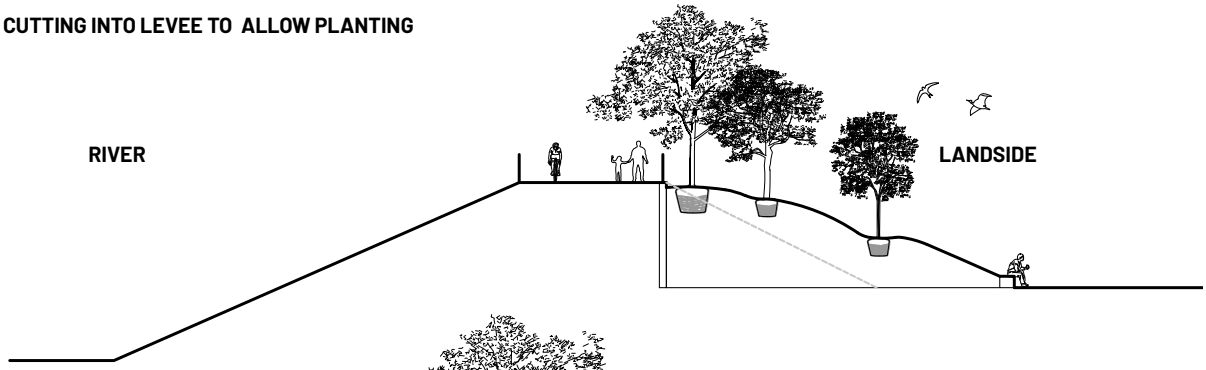
LARGE TERRACES TO ALLOW HABITAT



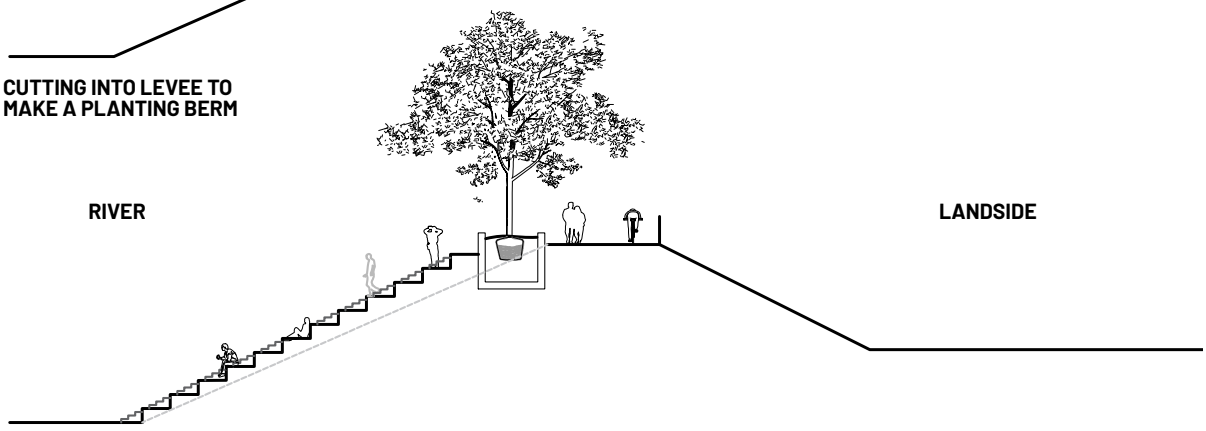
CUTTING INTO LEVEE TO ALLOW PROGRAM



CUTTING INTO LEVEE TO ALLOW PLANTING



CUTTING INTO LEVEE TO MAKE A PLANTING BERM



TERRACING CHANNEL WALL FOR AMPHITHEATER

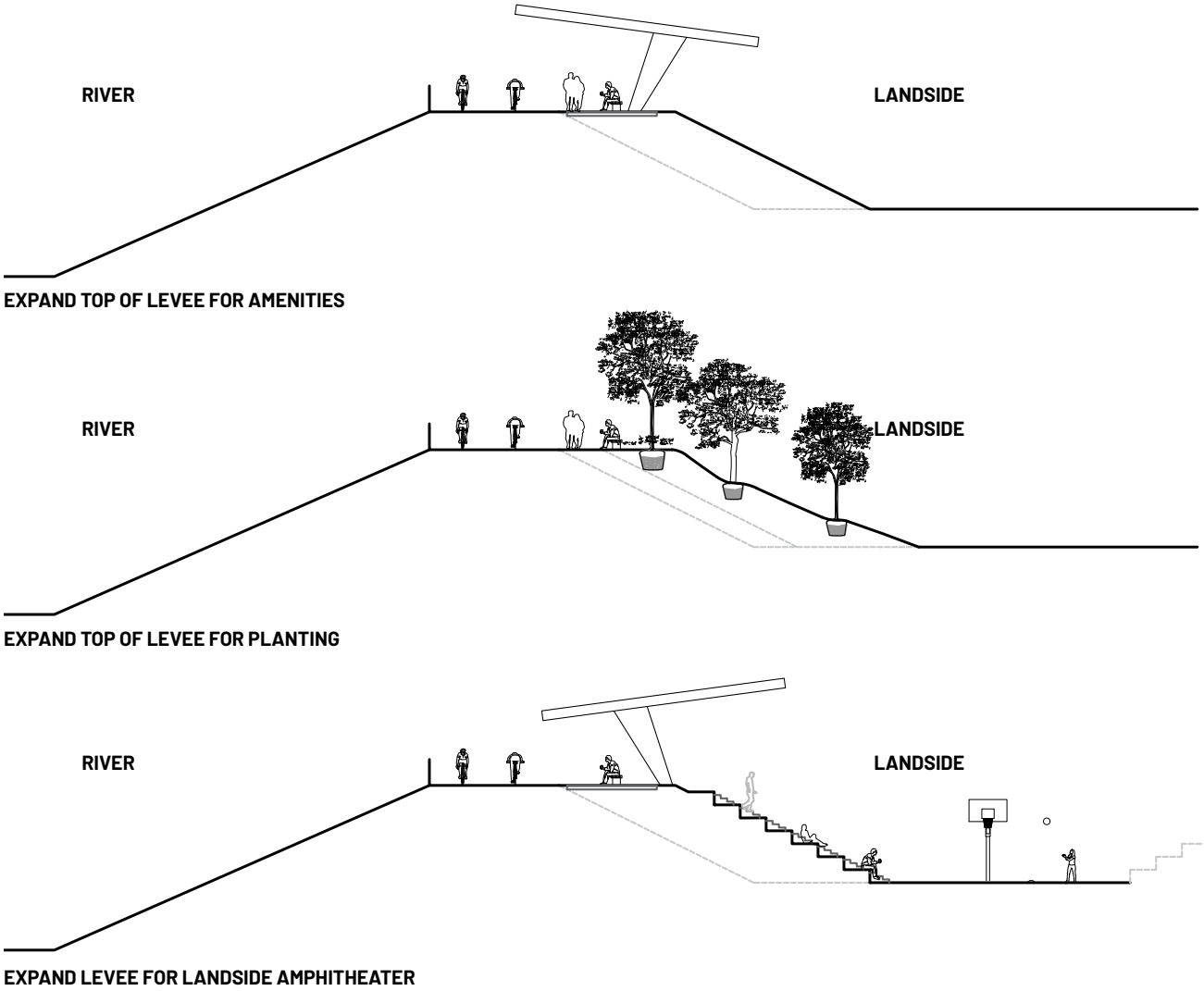


Figure 138. Ideas on variations of channel modifications help push the envelope of what is possible along the LA River. Hydraulic analysis and coordination with engineers is necessary to bring these ideas to fruition.

CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: INNOVATION

Designers are encouraged to create innovative designs for integrating ecological function and programming into the channel edge conditions. All changes are subject to permit requirements. Proposed modifications should encourage accessibility for all.

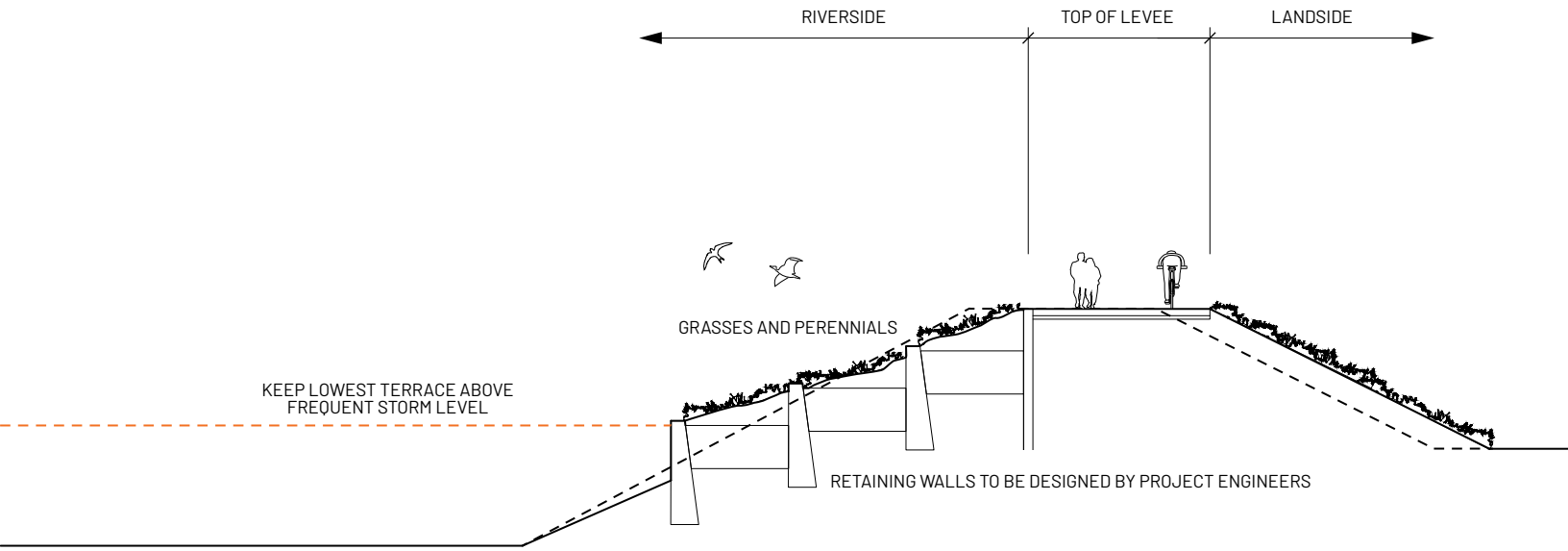
Design guidelines represent potential configurations based on general hydraulic considerations. Additional site-specific analyses, such as 2-D or 3-D numerical modeling and/or physical modeling, may be required to demonstrate hydraulic feasibility in terms of not reducing channel capacity, not significantly raising the design watersurface elevation, and minimizing and containing standing waves. These modifications are not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.

CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS SHOULD NOT INCREASE FLOOD RISK AND SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH A HIGHLY SKILLED DESIGN TEAM, INCLUDING QUALIFIED ENGINEERS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: TRAPEZOIDAL CHANNEL

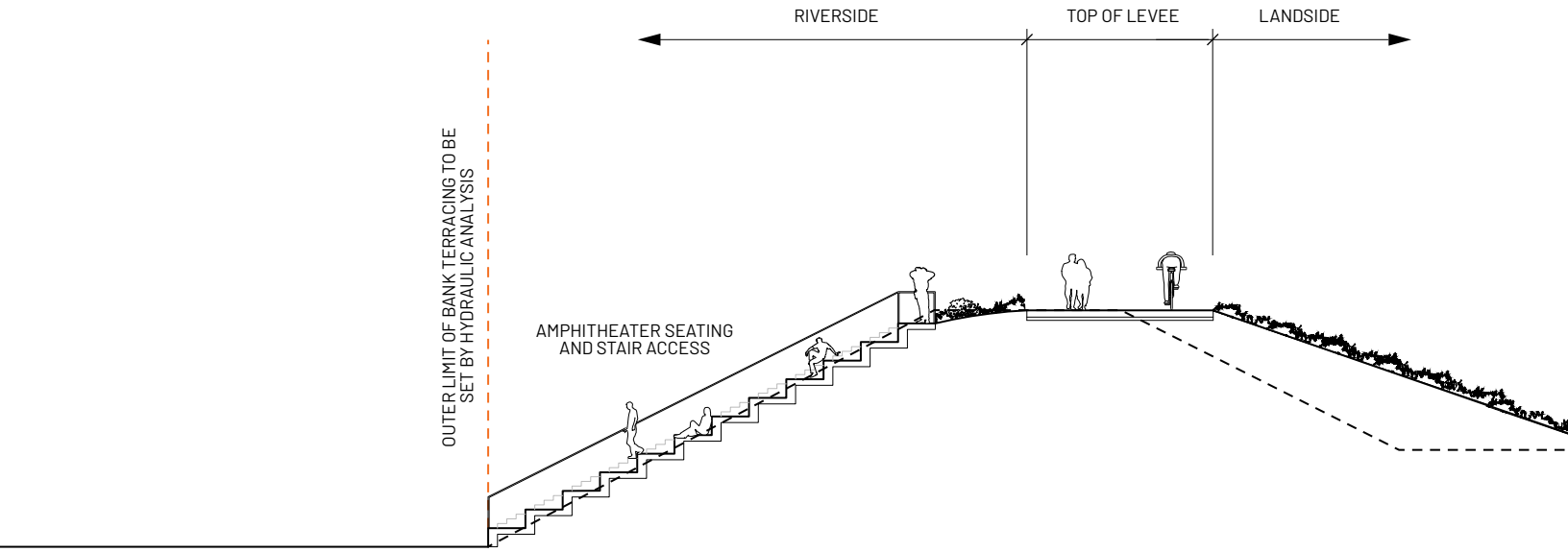
Any modification to an existing channel wall along the LA River is a significant project and investment. This should not be undertaken without qualified engineers who can evaluate the hydraulic and flood risk impacts of any proposed intervention. At a minimum, proposed modifications should not lower the level of flood risk reduction provided before the start of the project. These modifications are not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.

Given these parameters, there are two ways to consider terracing a trapezoidal channel where possible. The first method includes wide stepped terraces for planting. Wider planting beds help to retain soil moisture in the heat of summer. Still, additional irrigation and diligent maintenance will be required to ensure the health of the plants. Further, the lowest terrace should be elevated above a frequent storm level to prevent planting from being scoured or eroded during common rain events. In the case of a larger, less frequent flood event, the planting and soil in the terraces may still need to be replenished due to scouring and erosion. The second method of terracing would create hardscape steps and amphitheater seating along the trapezoidal wall. This terracing could be used by the public for special events or festivals that could occur in the channel with appropriate permission and outside of the flood season. While erosion would not be an issue with this method, the amphitheater and steps should still be inspected for cracks or other damage after a major flood event.



TRAPEZOIDAL CHANNEL PLANTING

Figure 139. The trapezoidal channel could be modified to create large terraces for habitat. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary. This is not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.



TRAPEZOIDAL CHANNEL AMPHITHEATER

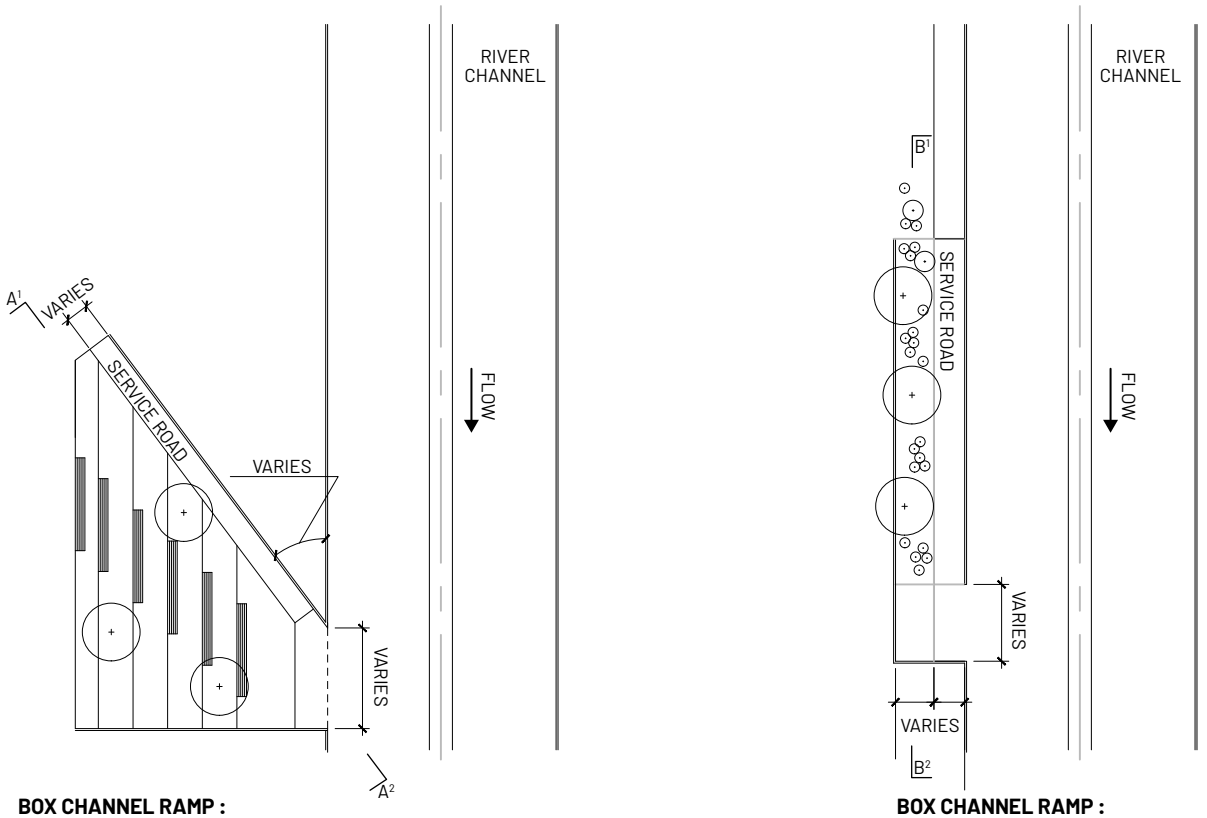
Figure 140. The trapezoidal channel could be modified to create a public amphitheater. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary. This is not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.

CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS SHOULD NOT INCREASE FLOOD RISK, AND SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH A HIGHLY SKILLED DESIGN TEAM, INCLUDING QUALIFIED ENGINEERS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: RECTANGULAR CHANNEL

Any modification to an existing channel wall along the LA River is a significant project and investment. This should not be undertaken without qualified engineers who can evaluate the hydraulic and flood risk impacts of any proposed intervention. At a minimum, proposed modifications should not lower the level of flood risk reduction provided before the start of the project. These modifications are not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.

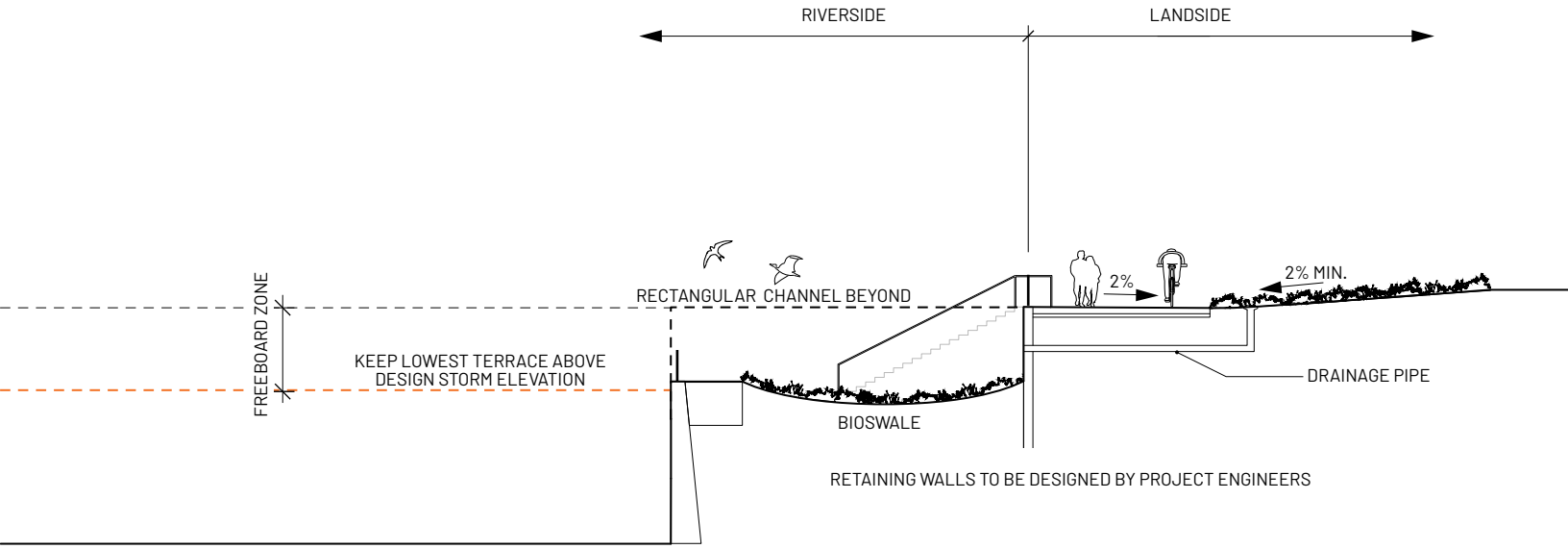
Methods to potentially modify the box channel are shown in the sections to the right and plans below. One method involves creating a larger terrace for planting, and potentially for stormwater capture and treatment before being released back into the LA River. The terrace should be elevated above the design storm events to prevent scour. The other method opens the wall of the rectangular section to allow for a ramp to enter the channel. The ramps will be used by maintenance vehicles but also can be widened and joined with a large public amphitheater or a vegetated slope. The vegetated slope allows for riparian-upland connection, so that wildlife can access the river as well.



BOX CHANNEL RAMP : AMPHITHEATER

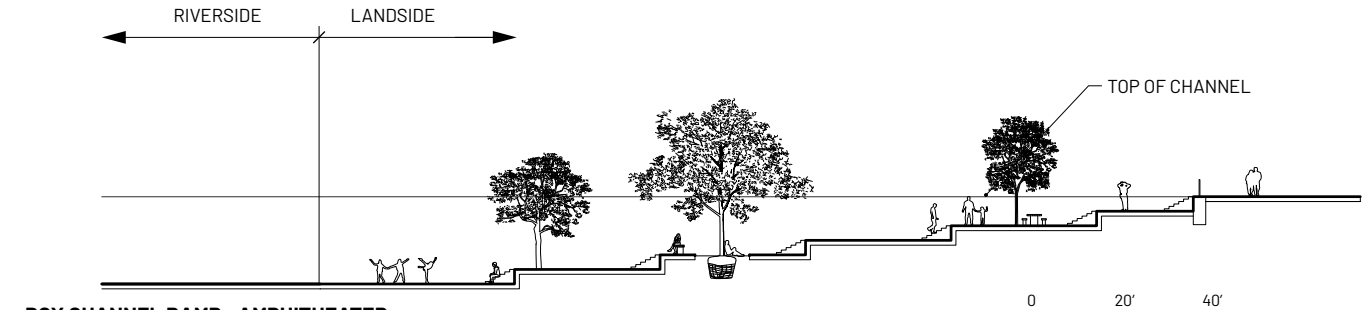
BOX CHANNEL RAMP : HABITAT CONNECTION

Figure 141. The rectangular channel could be modified to create large amphitheaters, a performance venue, or ramps for wildlife. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary. For sections of these conditions, See Figure 143 on page 183.



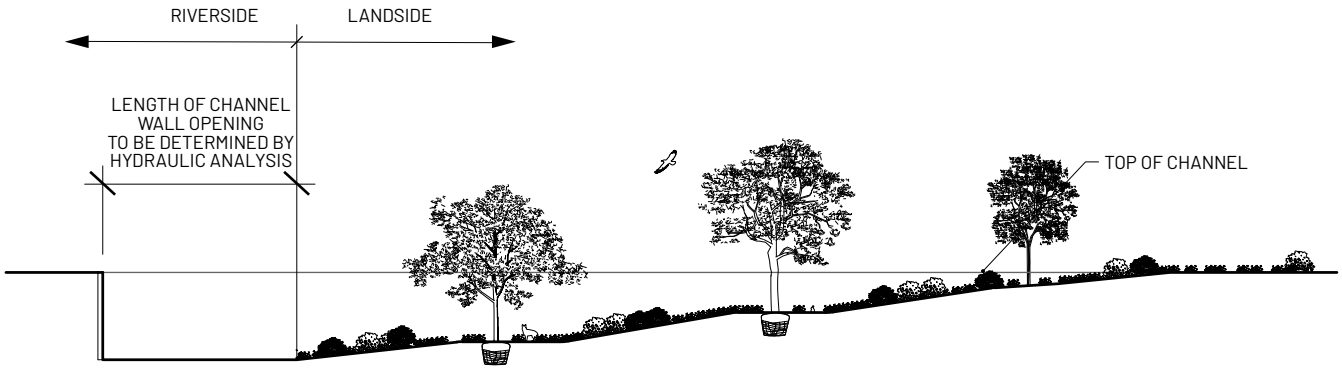
RECTANGULAR CHANNEL BIOSWALE

Figure 142. The rectangular channel could be modified to create a bioswale to collect and treat water before it enters the LA River. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary. This is not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.



BOX CHANNEL RAMP : AMPHITHEATER

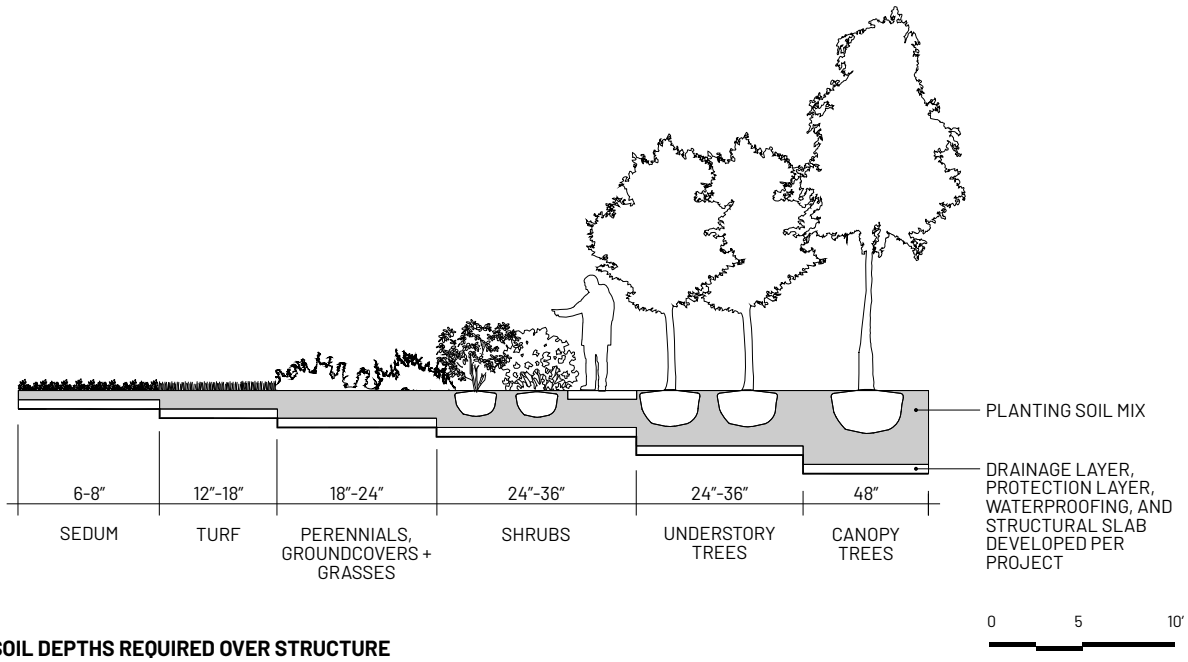
A1 A2



BOX CHANNEL RAMP : HABITAT CONNECTION

B1 B2

Figure 143. The rectangular channel could be modified to create large amphitheaters, a performance venue, or ramps for wildlife. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary.

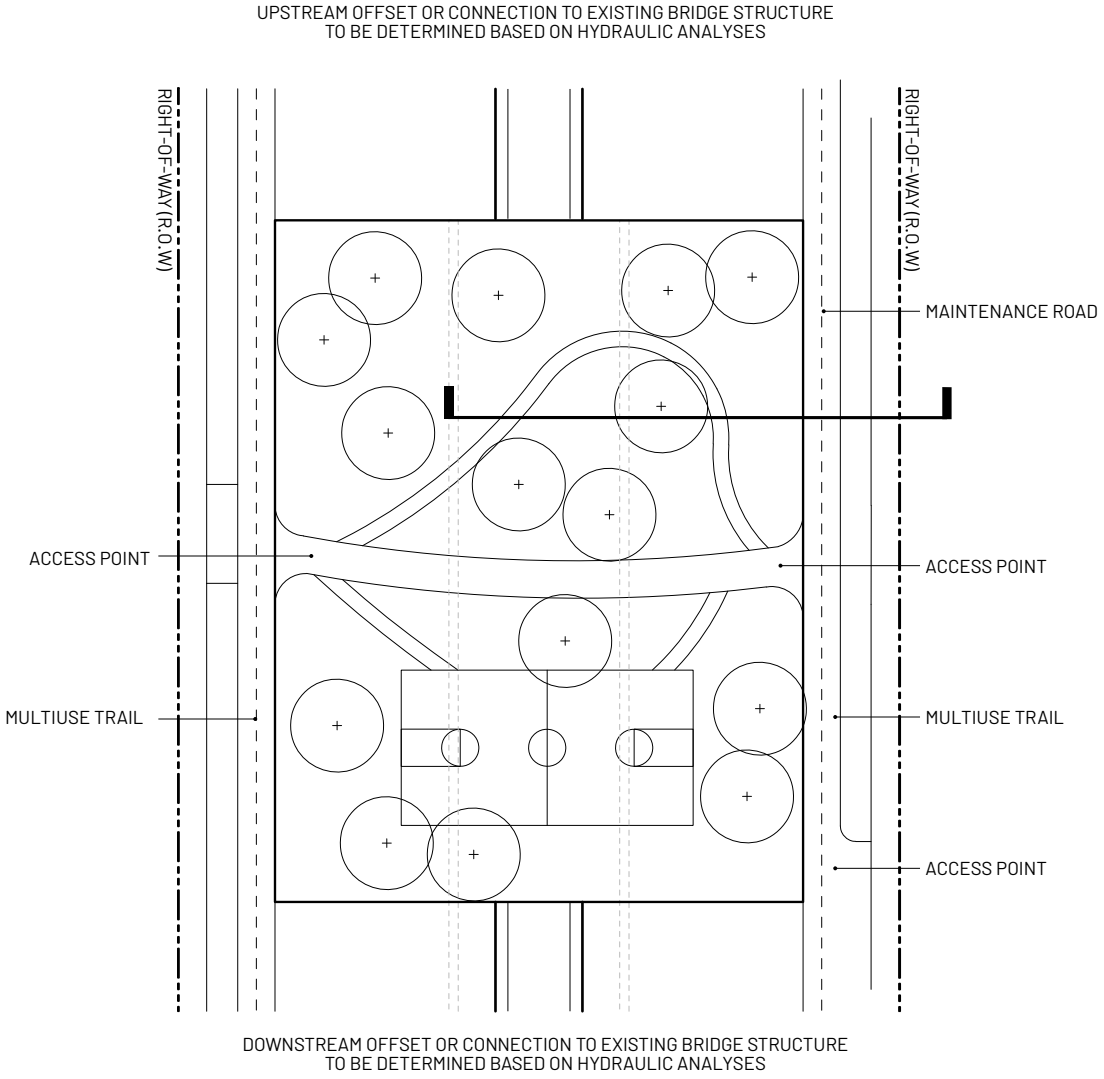


SOIL DEPTHS REQUIRED OVER STRUCTURE

Figure 144. To ensure the healthy growth of planting, the following soil depths should be implemented over structure. The required depths, drainage, and waterproofing need to be coordinated across the project team.

PLATFORM PARKS

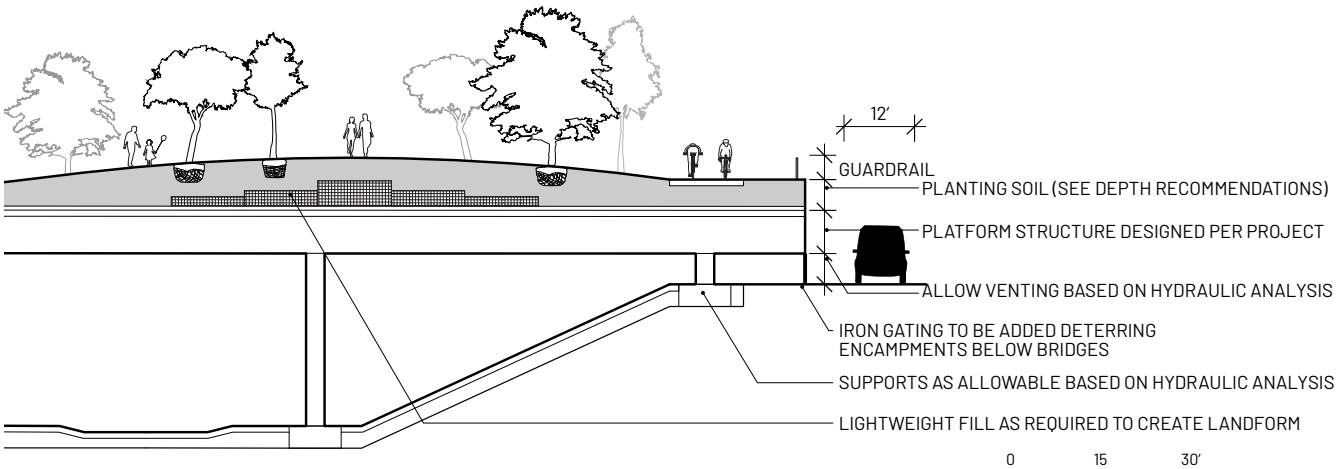
Platforms create a land bridge across the river channel. This modification is a major project and investment and should not be undertaken without both hydraulic and structural engineering. The platform strategy is most effective when there is a high need for connectivity or park space and there is limited or nonexistent landside right-of-way. The platform takes advantage of the right-of-way within the corridor itself to create an engaging public space and destination. Planting on the platform should be considered as a landscape over structure and adequate soil depths should be provided, as shown in Figure 50. Waterproofing and root barriers on the platform should be developed on a per project basis across the project team, and is crucial for ensuring proper drainage and structural integrity of the platform. This solution cannot be used over soft bottom portions of the channel or in the estuary, platforms cannot be used for development - only open space, and service trucks will need to have access underneath. Other design considerations include providing for guardrails, ADA access to the platform park, vertical clearance for maintenance vehicles, and the potential for artwork. Overall, the platform park should be welcoming, well-maintained, and programmed so as to serve the needs of the adjacent community.



PLATFORM CROSSING AND PARKWAY PLAN

0 15 30 60′

Figure 145. Platform program and design may vary to include a range of ecological functions, recreational amenities, or passive park space. Platforms cannot be used over soft bottom portions of the channel or in the estuary. Platforms cannot be used for development, only for open space. This is not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.



0 15 30′

PLATFORM CROSSING AND PARKWAY SECTION

Figure 146. Platform construction is complex and should be designed per project by the design team. ,Service trucks will need to have access underneath the plaform. Consultation with qualified engineers and hydraulic analysis is necessary. This is not a solution for all 51 miles of the LA River.

THE LA RIVER PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND URBAN AGRICULTURE AND HOST ASSOCIATED URBAN AGRICULTURE EVENTS

PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES

Urban agriculture and other forms of productive landscapes should be encouraged in sites along the LA River, especially in communities with limited access to fresh food sources.

For continued success, urban agriculture projects should have strong ties to the community and community organizations that can conduct programming with the project itself. A continued presence and regularly scheduled events ensures that community members can become engaged stewards of the agricultural plots. Tying the project to programs such as a Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) can provide fresh produce to community members at a lower cost.

Existing urban agriculture sites around the LA River and other initiatives provide useful precedents for expanding urban agriculture practices along the river corridor. The Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act (AB551) enacted by the state of California in 2014 provides incentives to landowners for putting vacant land into agricultural use.[22] The Urban Orchard Project planned by the Trust for Public Land aims to create a community garden and plant culturally significant fruit trees near the Rio Hondo confluence.[23] The Carmelitos Community Garden in Long Beach provides 60 raised beds for families to grow produce and also hosts a variety of youth programs and community events.[24] Alma Backyard Farms in Compton works with people impacted by the criminal justice system and provides on-site job training services.[25] Farm LA is also a non-profit focused on transforming vacant land in the Elysian Valley to productive land with drought tolerant vegetables such as beans and grains.[26] While these are only a snapshot of existing programs and others to come, the LA River provides an opportunity to expand urban agriculture and host associated urban agriculture events as well as opportunities for artwork.

Siting considerations for any urban agriculture projects include access to full sun and a frequent and consistent water source. Any vegetable plots would ideally be on a level surface such as a flatbed or raised box.

If urban agriculture is to be included in the planting plans of the site, those specific areas do not need to meet native planting requirements. However, under no circumstances are invasive species allowed to be planted. Under the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance adopted in 2015, any areas solely dedicated to edible planting are considered a "Special Landscape Area" and can use higher amounts of water for irrigation than ornamental planting.[27] Only potable water should be used to irrigate edible plants.

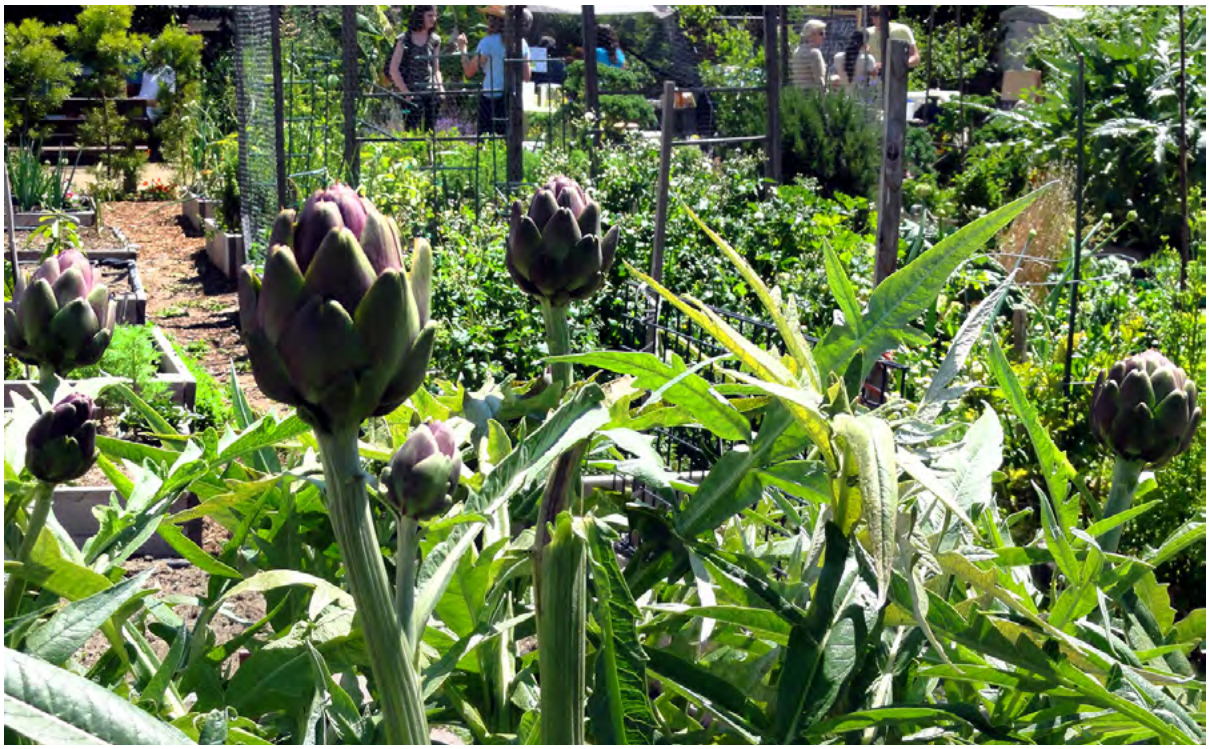


Figure 147. The creation of urban agricultural and community gardens along the LA River is encouraged and provides opportunities for education, access to fresh food, and a sense of stewardship in landscapes along the river. Productive landscapes are not subject to the same native planting or water requirements as other areas. Source: Craig Dietrich, 2011. https://www.flickr.com/photos/craigdietrich/5837953488/in/photostream/.

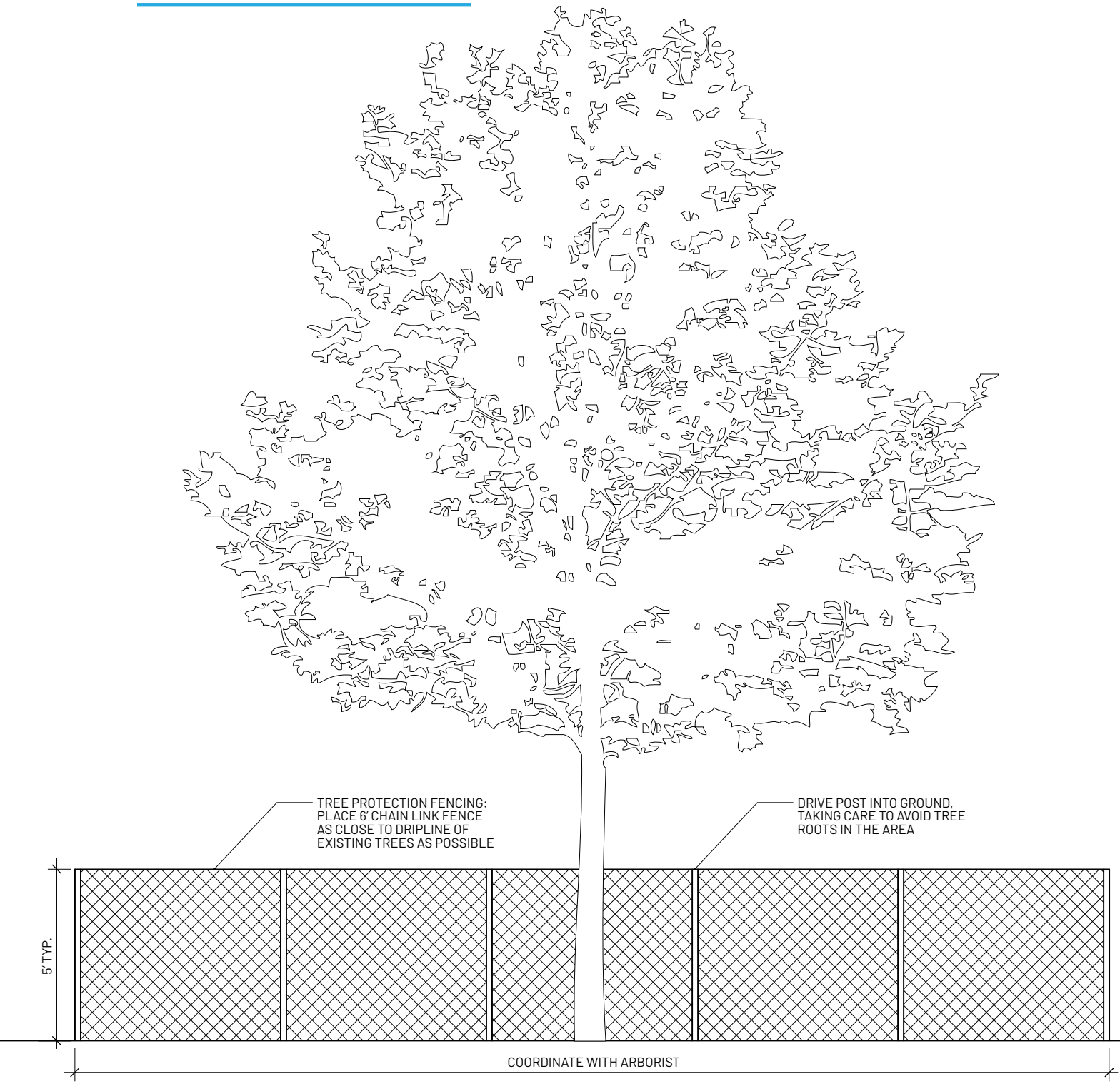
It is important to develop a maintenance plan for the plots that does not use pesticides or herbicides near crops. Consider planting insect repellent plants such as dill, thyme, lemongrass, lavender, basil, and chamomile. Additionally, strive to use organic mulch and compost. Rotate crops per season to prevent the buildup of diseases and insects specific to certain kinds of vegetables, and plan for the use of both warm season and cool season vegetables.[28]

Groundcover, shrub, vine, and canopy layers should all be considered when selecting edible plant species. It is important to consider species and foods that are culturally significant to the surrounding community. Plant species selection should also be conscious of any invasive pest or plant disease that could jeopardize the health of the plants and crop (such as the Asian Citrus Psyllid). Monitoring and maintenance programs should be adapted to any pest or disease as required. As with other plant species, only source material from qualified nurseries.

Examples of plant species that produce edible crop include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Trees: Avocado (*Persea americana guatemalensis*), Fig (*Ficus carcia*), Citrus (Oranges, Grapefruits, Lemons), Pomegranate (*Punica granatum 'Wonderful'*)
- Vegetables: Artichoke (*Cynara scolymus*), Kale (*Brassica oleracea var. acephala*), Squash (summer and winter varieties), Tomato, Eggplant (*Solanum melongena*)
- Cactii: Prickly pear (*Opuntia spp.*)
- Herbs: Oregano (*Origanum*), Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*), Garden sage (*Salvia officinalis*), Thyme (*Thymus*), Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*)
- Vines: Raspberry (*Rubus*), Peas (*Pisum sativum*), Lima beans (*Phaseolus lunatus*)

ALL PROJECTS WITH EXISTING TREES MUST RETAIN AN ARBORIST TO REVIEW TREE HEALTH AND RECOMMEND PROCEDURES FOR PROTECTION, TRANSPLANTING, OR REMOVAL



TREE ROOT PROTECTION

Figure 148. Tree protection should be coordinated with the project arborist. Protection fencing should be placed along the dripline of existing trees.

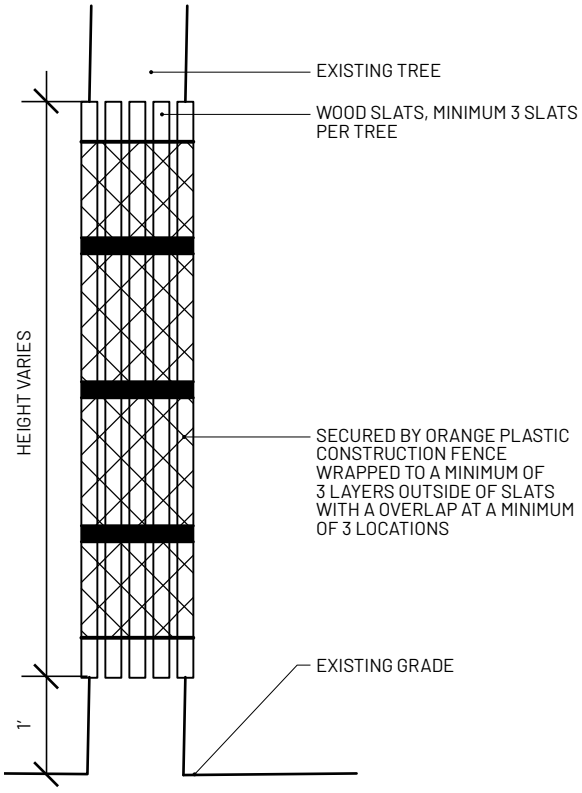
TREE AND PLANT PROTECTION

Tree and plant protection is important in both protecting existing vegetation during construction and ensuring the survival of young plants after installation. In projects where habitat succession is key, tree protection fencing may be useful in ensuring that plants can establish themselves without disturbance. All projects with existing trees must retain an arborist to review tree health and recommend procedures for protection, transplanting, or removal.

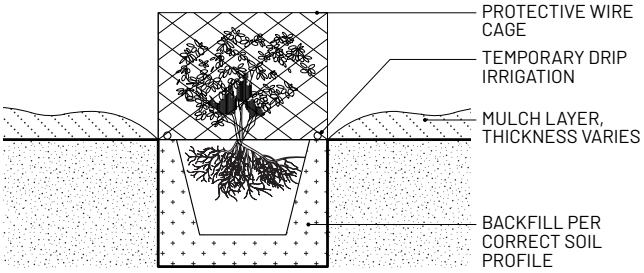
Tree protection zones are designated by tree protection fencing, which should be placed around the dripline of the existing trees. The zone should be established by the project landscape architect and arborist. Contractors are to keep soil disturbance within the tree protection zone to a minimum, excluding the use of heavy machinery. All digging in the zone is to be done by hand.

Tree trunk protection is another measure to further protect trees within the tree protection zone from damage during construction. Tree protection measures are temporary and meant to be in place during construction and removed afterward project completion. Adequate resources should be allocated for both installation and timely removal.

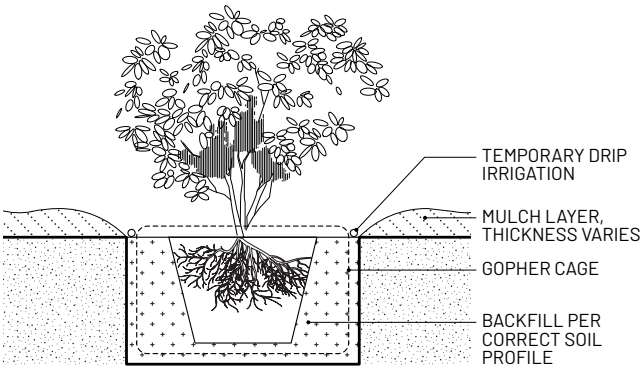
A combination of staking and installation of protective wire cages is recommended for small trees and shrubs to protect plants from vandalism and herbivory damage. In ground gopher cages may also be necessary to protect plant roots underground from squirrels, pocket gophers, and gophers.



TREE TRUNK PROTECTION



WILDLIFE SHRUB PROTECTION: CAGE



WILDLIFE SHRUB PROTECTION: GOPHER CAGE

Figure 149. (Left) Tree protection also includes wood slats around the trunk of existing trees and they should be removed after construction.
Figure 150. (Top Right) Protective wire cages around shrubs susceptible to wildlife grazing can help protect them during establishment.
Figure 151. (Bottom Right) Gopher cages help protect shrub rootballs from burrowing wildlife during establishment.

SITE PREPARATION AND SOIL

Planting failures are often a result of inadequate soil testing that would have guided a landscape architect, botanist, or ecologist towards a plant palette that could tolerate the present soil conditions. The landscape architect or planting designer should use the soil analysis results to determine the plant palette. Soil testing results are to be used to provide guidance for container planting, soil amending, and backfill conditioning. California native plants typically inhabit (and thrive in) areas with relatively low soil fertility. Therefore, the soils report fertility section must be interpreted by someone who is experienced and knowledgeable of California native plant horticultural requirements/parameters.

All existing soils should be tested to verify they are free of contaminants and debris and have the capacity to support adequate nutrients, drainage, and structure for a given planting design. Where possible, existing in situ soil materials should be amended in place after appropriate soil testing is conducted. Soil mix designs shall be based upon criteria of use. For example, soils designated for a given frame should balance the following criteria in the development of soil plans:

- **Ecological Rehabilitation** – Use a native soil type within the frame as a reference soil appropriate to the constructed context. A native reference soil will identify placement slope conditions, organic content, soil texture, and approximate pH as well as endemic vegetation supported by the soil material. Nutrient levels should also be based on this native reference soil condition.
- **Water Quality and Stormwater Management** - Refer to the Los Angeles County Public Works Low Impact Development Manual[29] for appropriate drainage classes and other functional criteria for vegetated swales, biofiltration, etc.
- **Recreational Areas** – Planted areas that receive high levels of foot traffic should be designed to resist compaction from foot traffic.

Further, all soils—amended, stockpiled or mixed—shall be tested for suitability. The Contractor shall submit representative samples of salvaged on-site topsoil, all plant mix materials, and organic material components which are intended to be used for planting soil mixes and final mixes to an independent Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory acceptable to the landscape architect. All tests shall be performed in accordance with the current standards of the Soil Science Society of America. All reports shall be sent to the landscape architect for approval. Samples of all soil materials to be brought to the site must be approved before delivery. Deficiencies in the soils shall be corrected by the Contractor, as directed by the landscape architect after review of the testing agency report.

Soil Amendment and Plant Mix analysis test methods shall show recommendations for soil additives, including organic and inorganic soil amendments, necessary to accomplish particular planting objectives noted.

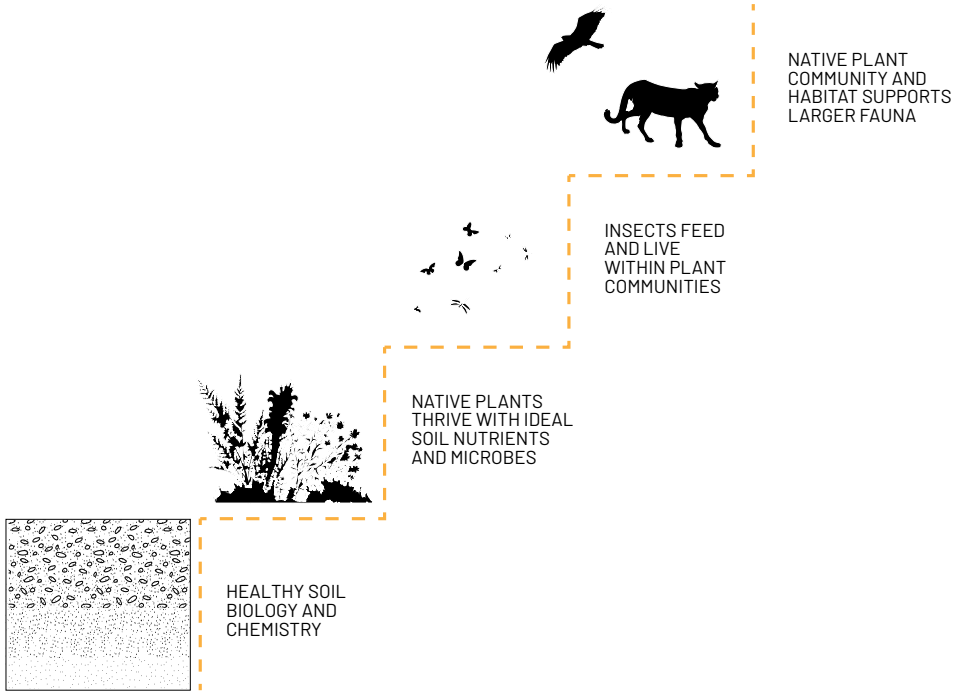


Figure 152. Ensuring proper soil testing and composition is crucial to supporting the life and structure of healthy functioning ecosystems. Soil mixes should be designed for it criteria of use, and all soils should be tested for suitability prior to installation.

The following are minimum test criteria that should be specified by the landscape architect:

- pH and Buffer pH
- Analysis for levels of toxic elements and compounds
- Particle size analysis to include sand sieve analysis shall be performed and compared to the USDA Soil Classification System
- Percent of organic matter shall be determined based on organic carbon
- Carbon-to-nitrogen ratio shall also be reported to qualify the soil organic matter suitability
- Saturated hydraulic conductivity
- Analysis for nutrient levels
- Soluble Salt by electrical conductivity
- Cation Exchange Capacity

Organic and biological approaches to soil improvement are encouraged for consideration in the planting and management program. These approaches may include the addition of biological infusions e.g., compost teas, mycorrhizal inoculations, and composted organic matter.

It is possible to alter soil conditions with a succession of plantings that will change the soil to eventually support a more diverse plant palette. At some project sites where soil contamination exists, it may be possible to utilize plants to assist in taking up toxins. However, that approach may be beyond most landscape budgets. Soil amendments are a possible alternative but should not be a part of standard planting specifications for these projects. Heavy soil contamination is a probable condition in areas along both entrenched and leveed conditions. Therefore, soils should be tested to determine its ability to retain and infiltrate water, soil fertility (macro and micro nutrients), biological activity, texture, toxics, salts, and heavy metals.

Importing soil mix materials will be required for some projects, particularly larger parks or gateways. All components for imported soil mixes should be sustainably sourced. Peat shall not be specified as a soil mix component. Landscape architects are encouraged to test and use innovative soils that promote the use of sustainable sources.

FOR BOXED TREES AND SHRUBS:
CAREFULLY REMOVE SIDES OF BOX AFTER PLACED IN PIT. WOOD BOTTOM MAY REMAIN IN PLACE. REMOVE ALL ROOT SECTIONS GROWING PARALLEL TO THE SURFACE OF THE ROOT BALL AND LOCATED AT THE ROOTBALL OUTER SURFACE GREATER THAN ¼". REMOVE SOIL AS NECESSARY TO UNCOVER ROOT FLARE

TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING

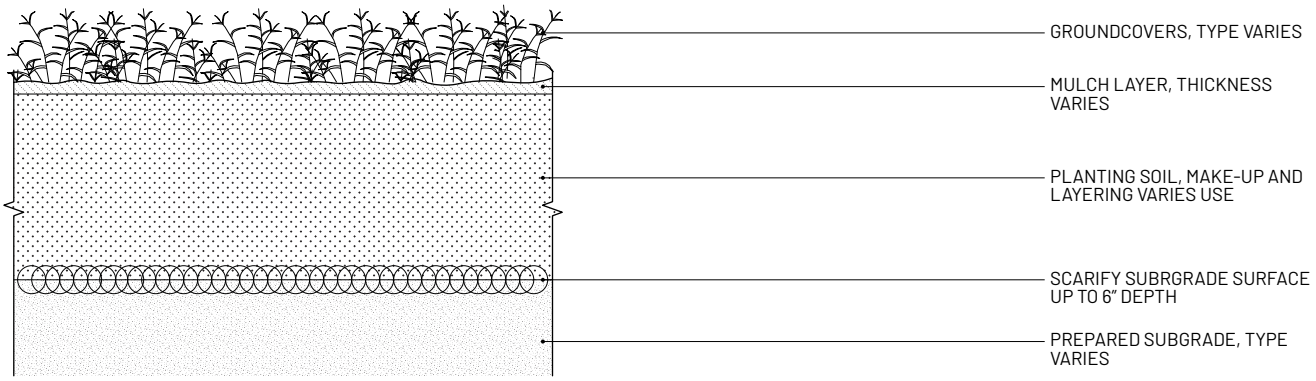
All plant material must be procured from a nursery that holds an appropriate nursery license with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to sell the requested plant material. Preference should be given to nurseries in southern California that are members of the Southern Californica Nursery Best Management Practices (BMP) Group. Contractor shall submit proof of license that all plant material was obtained by a pest free nursery in good standing with CDFA. Plant material quantities and handling standards must comply with the latest version of the American Standard for Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1) published by the American Horticulture Industry Association. Avoid purchasing plants affected by pathogens and use nurseries that incorporate best practices for pathogen avoidance.

Planting of seed and container plants is to occur in late fall through winter to benefit from seasonal rains. The project landscape architect is to prepare a specific planting schedule for each project. Plants are to be established from smaller plant sizes where practical. Plants shall be well shaped, vigorous, with healthy, well developed root systems and not be rootbound. Plants shall be healthy, and free from disease, harmful insects and insect eggs, sun-scald injury, disfigurement, and abrasion. Plant pits shall be dug to produce roughened sides and flat, uncompacted bottoms. When pits are dug with an auger and the sides of the pits become glazed, the glazed surface shall be scarified. The size of plant pits shall be as indicated on drawings. Backfill for planting pits shall comprise amended site soil or manufactured soil media and organic compost depending on soil analysis results as specified by landscape architect.

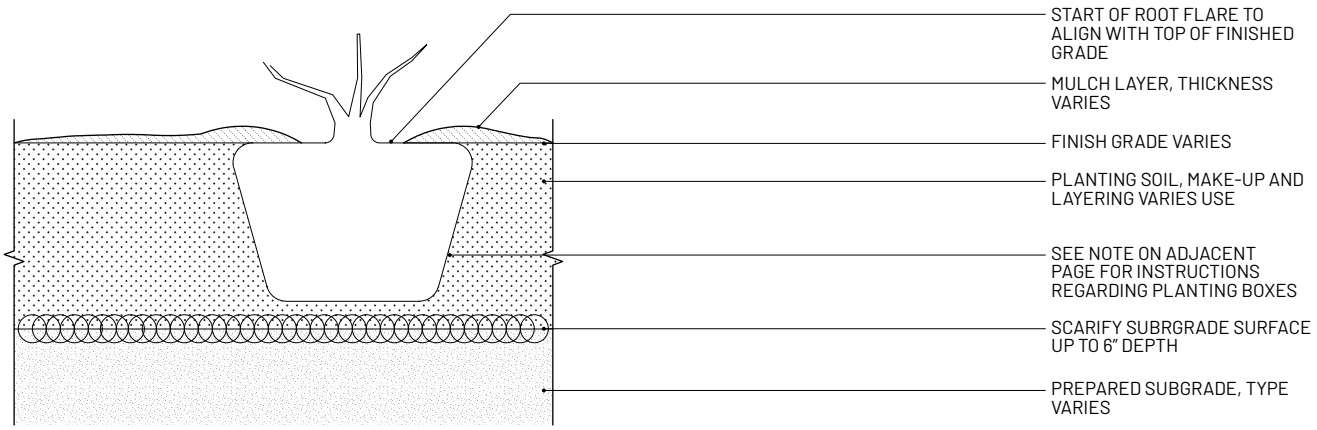
Seed and container plants of indigenous natives are to be obtained through contracts with qualified seed companies and nurseries. The contractor shall acquire all seed material of the required type, sizes, and quantities through sources approved by the project landscape architect. The contractor shall submit seed supplier's certification and contact information confirming that the collected seed is exclusively from LA River watershed sources. If LA River watershed seed sources cannot be obtained contractor shall state reasons why material is unavailable, such as insufficient quantities or lack of seed stock. Seed not required to be labeled under the California Food and Agricultural Code shall be tested for purity and germination by a seed laboratory certified by the Association of Official Seed Analysts, or a seed technologist certified by the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists not more than one year prior to application of seed. Seed treated with mercury compounds shall not be used. Seed shall be delivered to the site in original sealed packages bearing the supplier's guaranteed analysis for percentages of mixture, purity, germination, hard seed, weed seed content, and inert material. Weed seed shall not exceed 1% by weight of the total mixture. Wet, moldy, or otherwise damaged seed shall be rejected.

Each project is to be managed to provide adequate lead time for collection and propagation with the assistance of the project planting expert.

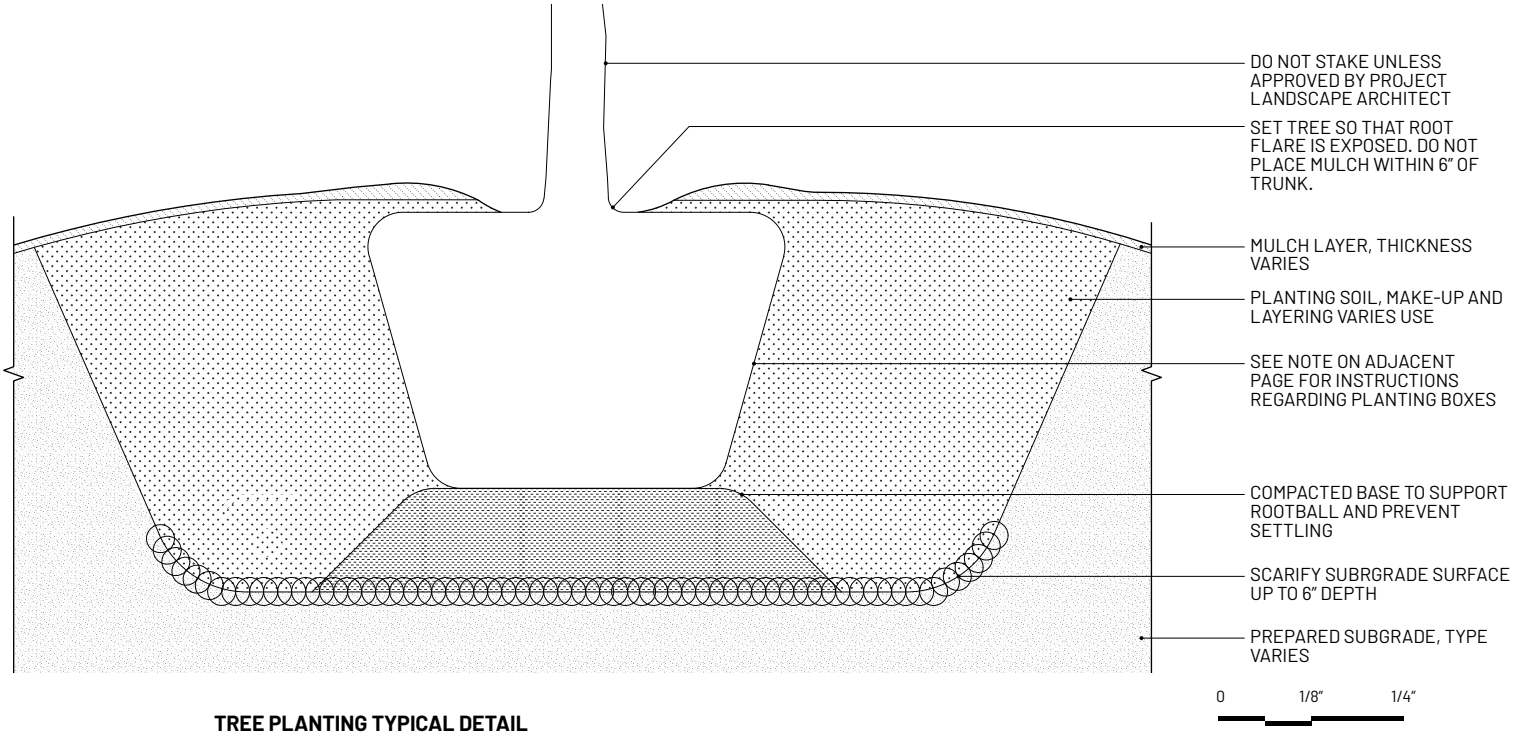
The subgrade should be scarified at least 6" deep before planting to ensure proper drainage. Seeded areas shall be lightly scarified. Finished grade shall be 1/2-inch below the adjoining grade of any paved area. New surfaces shall be blended to existing areas. All plants are to be thoroughly watered upon installation to compact soil and settle plants to natural soil depth. Planting areas that are not seeded are to be covered with 3-6" of organic mulch.



GROUNDCOVER PLANTING TYPICADETAIL



SHRUB PLANTING TYPICAL DETAIL



TREE PLANTING TYPICAL DETAIL

Figure 153. Planting installation methods should include scarifying the subgrade, aligning all root flares with the finished grade, and providing a compacted base for rootballs to provide the best growing conditions and allow the planted media to have the best chance of success.

MAINTENANCE BEST PRACTICES

EXTENDED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The project proponent is required to prepare a three year maintenance and monitoring program for all plantings and to designate who will be in charge of all short and long-term maintenance actions. This program is to define a schedule for observing and recording landscape performance with the goal of identifying actions that are needed to improve planting success. Such actions may include replacement plantings needed to replant areas where container plants have died or insufficient seed germination has occurred.

SUPPLEMENTAL IRRIGATION

The design and installation of supplemental irrigation systems to sustain new landscape plantings is discretionary. Ideally, planting projects will establish communities of native plants in a manner that encourages self-reliance and survival after the first three years of planting. In this regard, irrigation systems may be designed to assist in the initial plant establishment stages or during times of intense drought, but consistent long-term watering is to be discouraged. An exception would be specialty plantings in high use recreation areas, at road intersections, or in highly paved areas. These types of planting areas may require additional supplemental irrigation for an extended number of years to maintain the vitality of the landscape.

The application of supplemental irrigation water for California native species is recommended primarily during the winter months with the intent to avoid winter drought stress to newly planted plants. Winter irrigation can be very helpful in maintaining soil moisture when there are long periods of time between winter rains. Summer and fall watering may be limited in accordance with prevailing site and environmental conditions until the following winter rain cycle begins.

After the first year of establishment, the decision to provide additional supplemental irrigation during the summer should be made by the landscape architect.

Where possible, recycled or reclaimed water should be used on projects for irrigation. If recycled or reclaimed water is used, total dissolved salts from the sources should be analyzed as many California natives cannot tolerate high levels of dissolved salts.

All irrigation supply and system components shall comply with the LA County Low Impact Development Manual, LA County water sources, conservation standards, and the current California Green Building Standards Code. Consult LAC Public Works Plan Check for irrigation system design and documentation requirements. Drip irrigation systems, when installed, should be capable of providing multiple emitters to each container plant. In areas of large open landscapes, drip irrigation should be carefully monitored for performance. Often wildlife can chew or dig up flexible drip irrigation lines in large landscapes. If practical hard pipelines are more durable. Strategies for mitigating damage should be developed through an integrated pest management approach, identifying the likely source of damage. For example, ground squirrels may be addressed with netting and landscape fabric, coyotes may require hard piping or other means. Alternatives to drip irrigation can also be considered depending on project needs and code compliance. Additionally, alternatives to poly-ethylene drip piping or other easily damaged materials may be implemented depending on project needs, budget, and code compliance. As-built drawings of all irrigation systems shall be completed and submitted to LAC Public Works for future use.

Figure 154. Native planting along the LA River, as seen here at the North Valleyheart Riverwalk at river mile 39.7, should be incorporated into the trail access points. Source: OLIN, 2019.

PRUNING AND REMOVAL OF PLANTS

Landscape plantings are to be maintained in a manner that helps achieve natural form, diversity and density among plants. Trimming, pruning, and removal of plants is to be done under the guidance of a qualified native plant specialist and to avoid shearing and out-of-season cutting and pruning. Additional pruning and removal of plants shall be done to maintain public safety and access for service and emergency actions.

INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL MULCHING

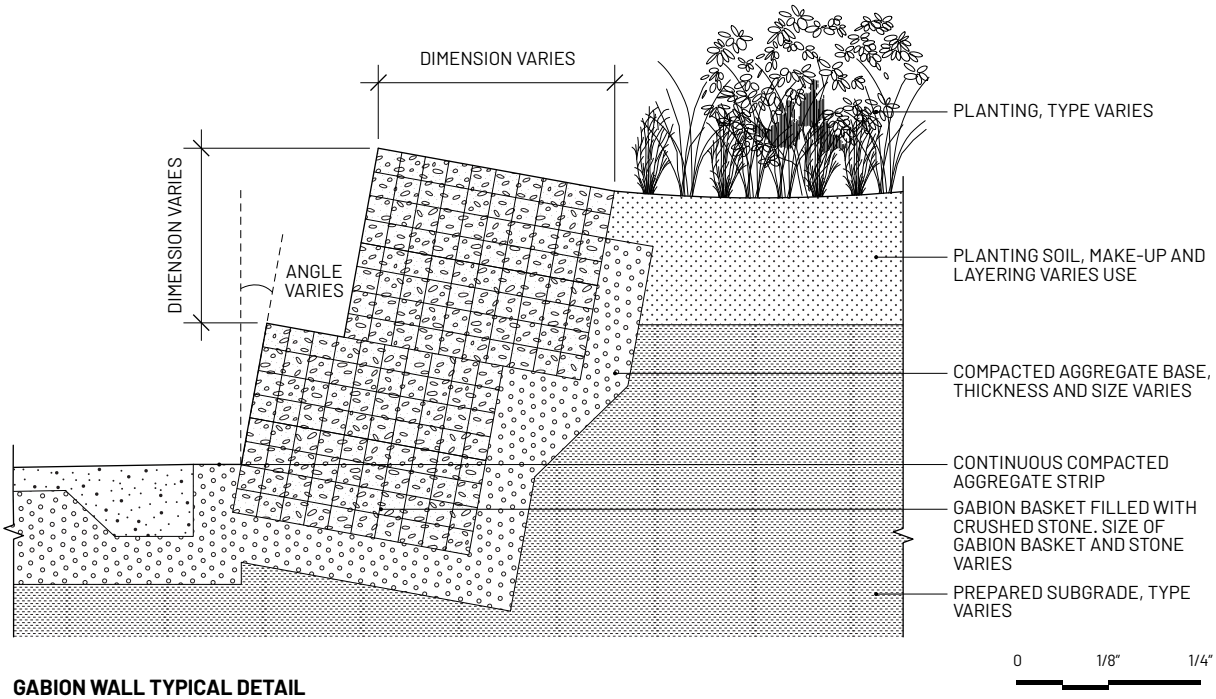
The monitoring and maintenance program shall provide for routine landscape inspections to inspect and test irrigation systems, manage weed growth, and to assess the need to provide periodic augmentation of mulches (to maintain a depth of 3-6"). Removal of invasive species by hand and mechanical means is recommended where feasible. Systemic herbicides that are glyphosate based such as Roundup or Rodeo SHOULD NOT be applied. Particularly aggressive invasive species, such as Arudo donax, spread by rhizomes and need careful consideration and monitoring when establishing a method for removal. Additional mulch is recommended to cover exposed soil and further inhibit the growth of weeds. Refer to LA County Weed Management Area Best Management Practices for Vegetation Management document (revised December 2015).[30]

WALLS

Site walls may be included in projects as barriers, seat walls, decorative elements with the potential for artwork, or to retain slope. Retaining walls are useful in projects that need to achieve a significant elevation change in a limited horizontal distance. They are a worthwhile investment where slopes need to be retained in a tight right-of-way condition.

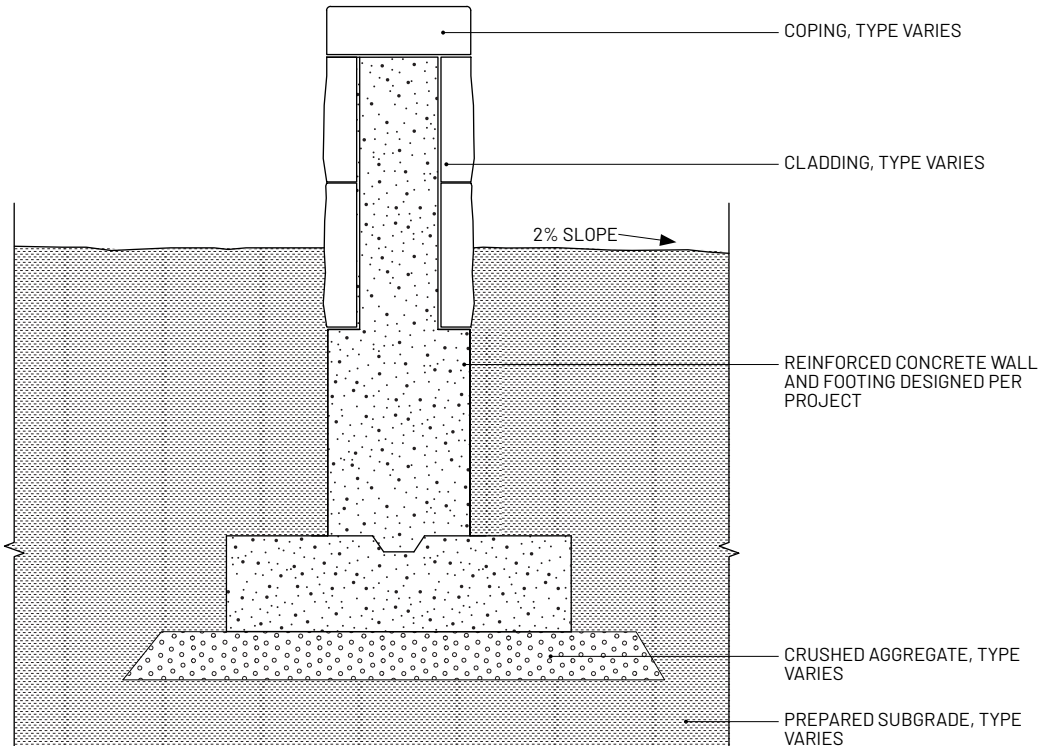
Options for retaining walls include gravity or cantilever walls, constructed from concrete and stone, or can be gabion walls, consisting of steel wire cages filled with stone. Gravity walls are monolithic pieces or stone or concrete, while cantilever walls consist of two parts - a stem and a base. Gravity walls are recommended for smaller heights, while cantilever walls are more economic for height differences of 4 to 10 ft. Gabion walls are often a more economical wall option and can allow substantial vegetation growth near the wall. Gabions are often placed against the slope at a specific angle back against the slope. All retaining walls should be designed with a structural engineer to prevent wall failure.[31]

Walls also provide an opportunity for art and community expression. Other wall treatments, such as planting or textured treatments can also be considered to deter vandalism.



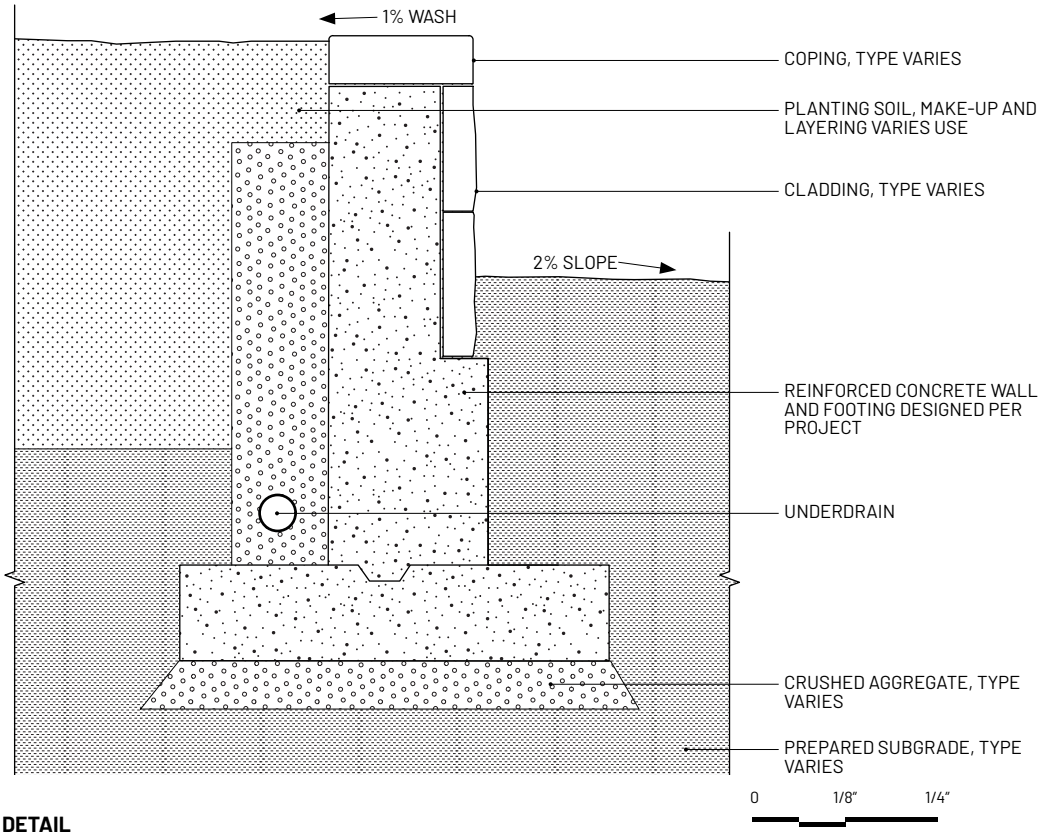
GABION WALL TYPICAL DETAIL

Figure 155. Gabion walls are often a more economical option for grade retention and allow for a substantial amount of planting near the wall. Gabion walls should be designed with a structural engineer.



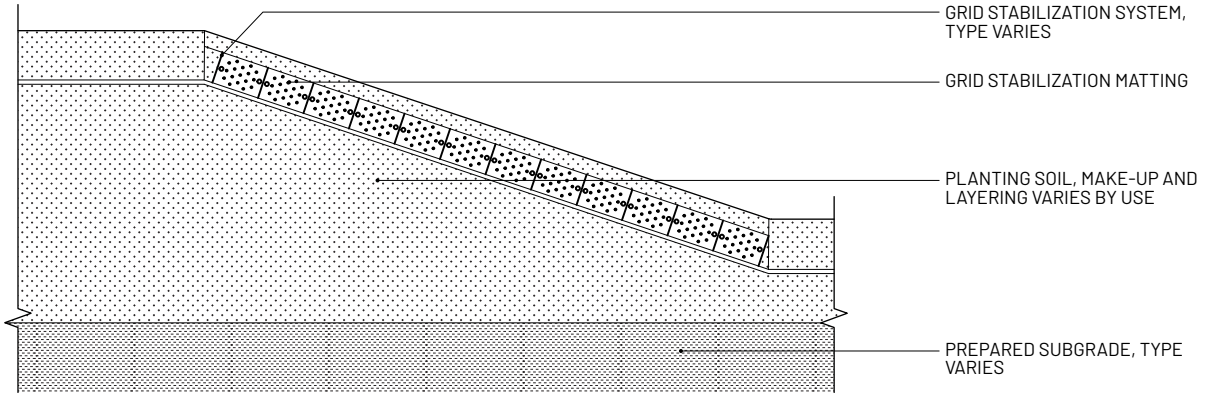
SITE WALL TYPICAL DETAIL

Figure 156. Site walls may function as barriers, seat walls, or decorative elements and should be designed with a structural engineer.

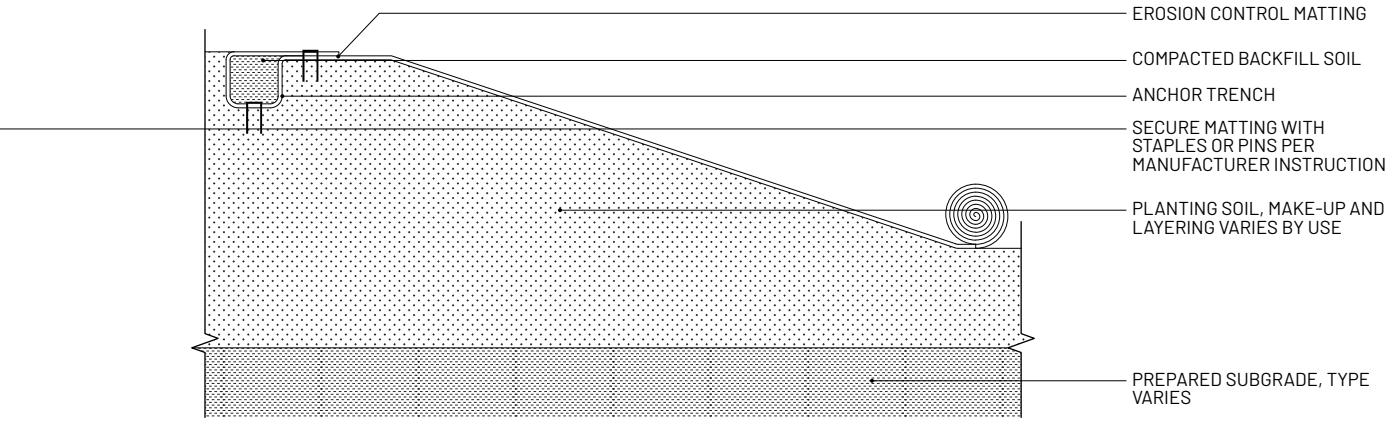


RETAINING WALL TYPICAL DETAIL

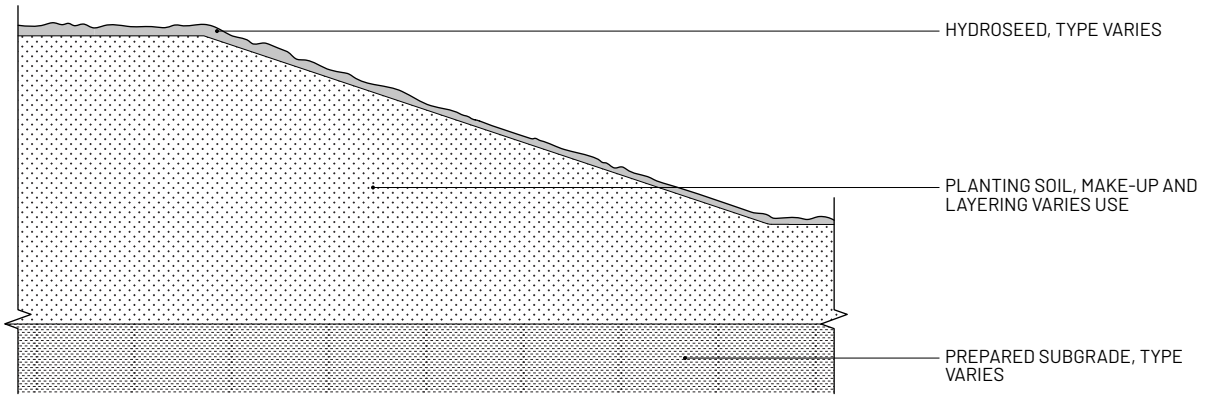
Figure 157. Retaining walls achieve a significant change in grade over a relatively narrow space and should be designed with a structural engineer.

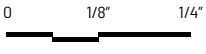


GEO-GRID EARTH STABILIZATION



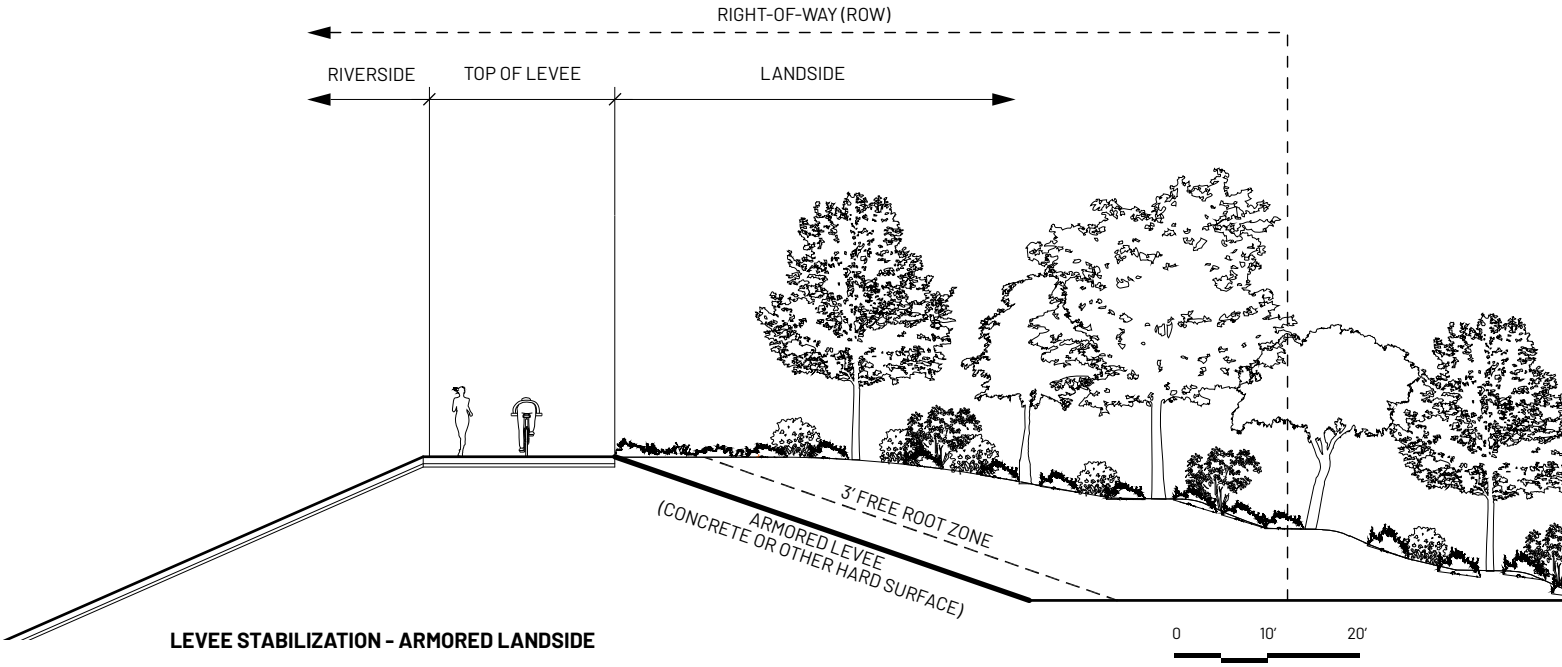
EROSION MAT STABILIZATION





HYDROSEED STABILIZATION

Figure 158. Geogrid mats, erosion mats, and hydroseeding are examples of strategies for slope stabilization on landside levee slopes. Slope stabilization should occur both during and after construction. The growth of deep rooting shrubs and groundcovers should be encouraged as a long-term slope stabilization method.



LEVEE STABILIZATION - ARMORED LANDSIDE

Figure 159. Armoring the landside slope of a levee is a technique that helps prevent levee failure under extreme overtopping events and strengthens the resilience of the levee over time. It also allows for the construction of a planting berm that supports tree and shrub planting.

SLOPE STABILIZATION AND EROSION MANAGEMENT

In projects where slopes do not have a tight landside right-of-way constraint, slopes can range up to a 3:1 slope with vegetation. During and after construction, any exposed slopes should be treated to avoid dust and sediment erosion. There are multiple methods available, including geo-grid matting, erosion control matting, and hydroseeding. Encouraging the long-term growth of deep rooting shrubs and groundcovers is the most robust and environmentally-conscious slope stabilization method. All of these techniques are meant to be deployed along the landside right-of-way only, as they would not be able to withstand the flood water velocities in the river channel.

Geogrid matting helps to stabilize steep slopes to prevent sliding. It often comes in a grid or waffle-like form, with gaps to allow planting to take hold. Erosion control matting reduces erosion by wind and runoff and also reduces runoff velocities and soil crusting. This protective covering should be of a natural, biodegradable woven material that helps to preserve soil moisture and lower soil temperatures, helping to establish more permanent vegetation over time while it biodegrades. Surface mulch for erosion control and weed abatement may comprise composted wood derivatives such as ground bark, chipped tree trimmings, or other wood waste material free of stones, sticks, and toxic substances harmful to plants and stabilized with nitrogen. Any stabilization of wood-based mulches with nitrogen should only be done at the direction of a landscape architect, botanist, ecologist or soil scientist experienced in the nutritional needs of native plant species. Hydroseeding is the act of spraying a mixture of native seeds, mulch, and binders onto a slope for temporary stabilization and to encourage the growth of both temporary and permanent vegetation. The binder in the mixture eliminates the need for matting to secure the mulch, thus allowing for easy application. Hydroseed fiber shall be produced from natural or recycled (pulp) fiber, such as wood chips or similar wood materials or from newsprint, chipboard, corrugated cardboard, or a combination of these processed materials, and shall be free of synthetic or plastic materials and shall be of such character that the fiber will disperse into a uniform slurry when mixed with water. The hydroseed and hydromulch mixtures should ideally be applied during the fall to take advantage of not only winter rains, but also the cold stratification that may enhance germination of many native plant seeds.[32]

For increased resiliency to flooding, armoring the landside of levees is a modification that would reduce the risk of levee failure under extreme overtopping events. Armoring methods such as hardening the levee with concrete or other hard material could be buried to allow for planting above.

HISTORIC FIRE OCCURRENCES

WILDFIRE

California native plant communities, especially chaparral and coastal sage scrub, are adapted to and thrive on occasional fires. Chaparral communities are shaped by infrequent, high-intensity wildfires rather than frequent fires; prior to mass development and presence of humans, natural, beneficial fires were likely to occur in intervals of 30 to 150 years, but with climate change and human activity, the increased frequency and intensity of wildfires are threatening native plants and habitats.[33]

Historically chaparral has been seen merely as fuel for fires and brush to be cleared rather than a native plant community worthy of being preserved.[34] However, more often the fuel for more intense wildfires is non-native, invasive grasses and forbs, which are rapid colonizers stoked by droughts and strong Santa Ana winds. Frequent fires cause native chaparral seeds and shrubs to die and limit shrub establishment, while invasive seeds are more likely to survive, further diminishing chaparral communities each recovery period. Restoring and protecting chaparral from excessive wildfire retains species diversity and slope stability, decreases erosion, increases water infiltration and carbon storage, and retains aesthetic integrity.[35]

While much of the LA River is in a densely urban context, planting projects near larger wildlife areas such as Griffith Park and Sepulveda Basin should be particularly careful not to increase fire risk. Furthermore, any existing larger ROW parcels that are converted to native vegetation should be sure the design and maintenance regime works to mitigate risks from fire.[36]

Wildfire mitigation strategies for native habitats along the LA River should focus upon eliminating invasive species, creating fuel breaks, and reducing fuel load where possible. The following can be considered as best practices:

- Remove invasive, non-native species during chaparral seeding or transplanting to aid in the establishment, survival, and recovery of native chaparral communities.[37]
- Prune dead plant material and remove plant debris to reduce fuel load. Pruning methods should maintain the natural form of trees and shrubs.[38]
- Consider spacing of canopy trees and large shrubs far enough to reduce the spread of fire.
- Maintain vertical separation between lower and upper fuel layers.[39]
- Minimize grasses and forbs, cut to four inches tall when they brown.[40]
- Reduce fuel load through mowing or machinery, grazing by animals such as goats, (NRCS Code 528), pruning (NRCS Code 660), removal, chipping, masticating, and/or sparingly through prescribed burning (NRCS Code 338).[41]

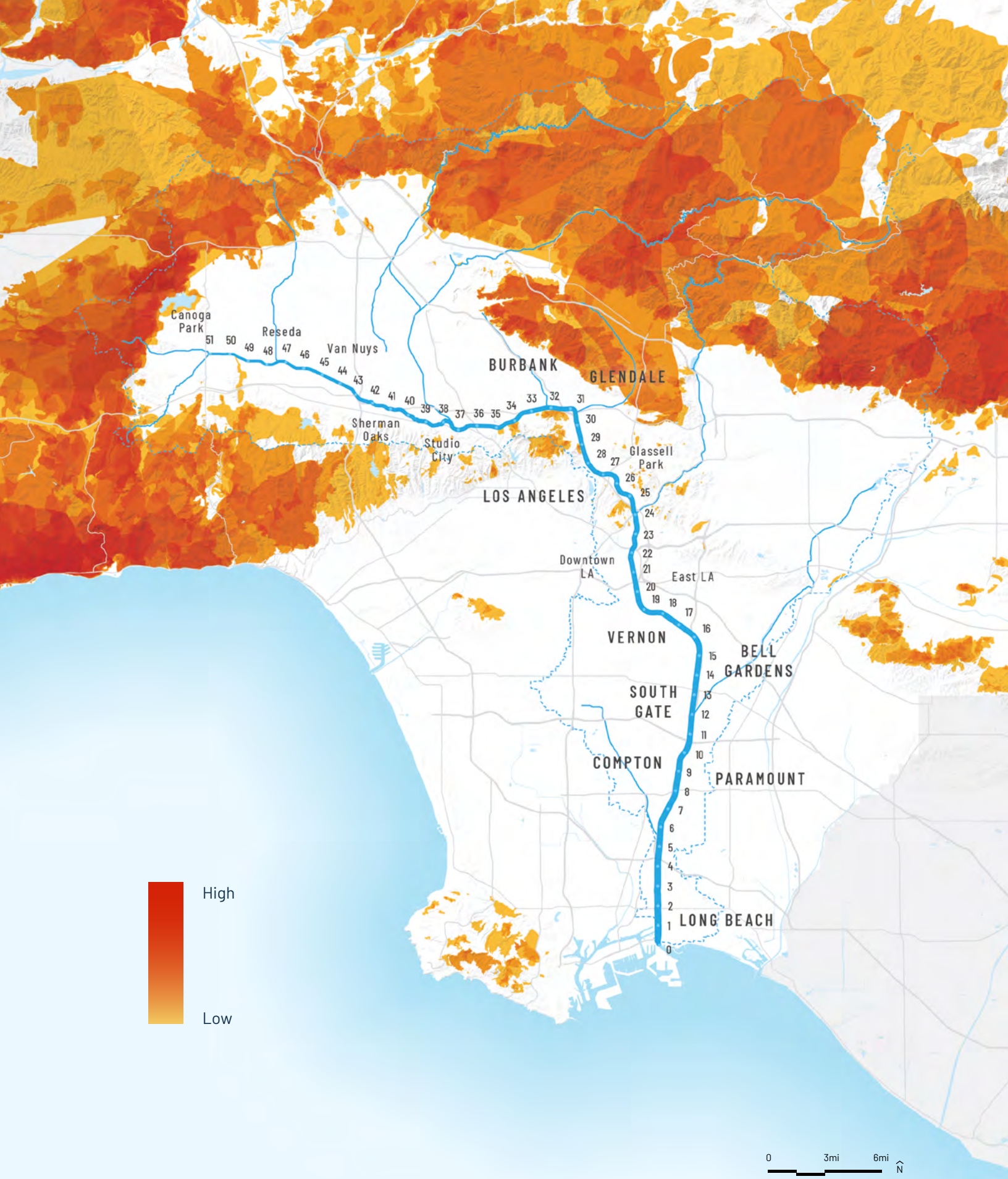


Figure 160. Historic Fire Occurrences Map. While native plant communities are adapted to occasional fires, the increased frequency of wildfires threatened the establishment of native shrubs and trees and favors non-native invasive species. Several design and maintenance strategies can help reduce this threat to native habitat. Source: State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection , Fire Perimeters Version 17_1, 2017.

PLANTING STRATEGIES

The historical vegetation of the LA River was a complicated landscape scale mosaic of predominantly willows, cottonwoods, sycamores, oaks, and marsh species. This historic, riparian vegetation is difficult to install within the confines of the present right-of-way due to limited access to water, changes in soil biotic activity and organic matter and other alterations resulting from the development of the river channel system. The landscape architect should keep in mind the species and communities that probably existed along project river reaches and determine whether or not those species can still thrive within the constraints now existing along the river right-of-way.

While restoration of riparian plant communities along the river is highly desirable ecologically, environmental conditions resulting from the existing infrastructure, maintenance requirements, and climate change may preclude the self-sustainability of such communities along much of the river. Therefore, many planting areas along the river may not be suitable for the historic riparian plant associations and other local native communities may be better suited depending on specific project goals and contexts.

Plantings are to be designed to include a range of native plants with the intent of achieving similar levels of species diversity as occurs in natural landscapes. Successional planting strategies from shorter lived perennials to established shrubs should be considered in planting design and maintenance. The diversity of the landscape plantings are to provide a variety of benefits ranging from soil development, erosion control, and habitat value to educational benefit, native community ceremonies and harvesting, and other community involvement.

In order to enhance ecological health and achieve the richest wildlife habitat opportunities, designers should seek to achieve diverse vertical structure in their projects by including the full range of vegetative layers present in both the short list or the native community - from tree canopy where applicable, through mid-layer and understory species as enumerated on the lists. The arrangement of plants in plan should aim to mimic natural plant communities in terms of species type, quantity, and association to other species in the community. This helps to ensure compatibility and mutual support among the installed plant species. When designing habitats targeted for specific wildlife species, a qualified botanist or ecologist should be consulted.

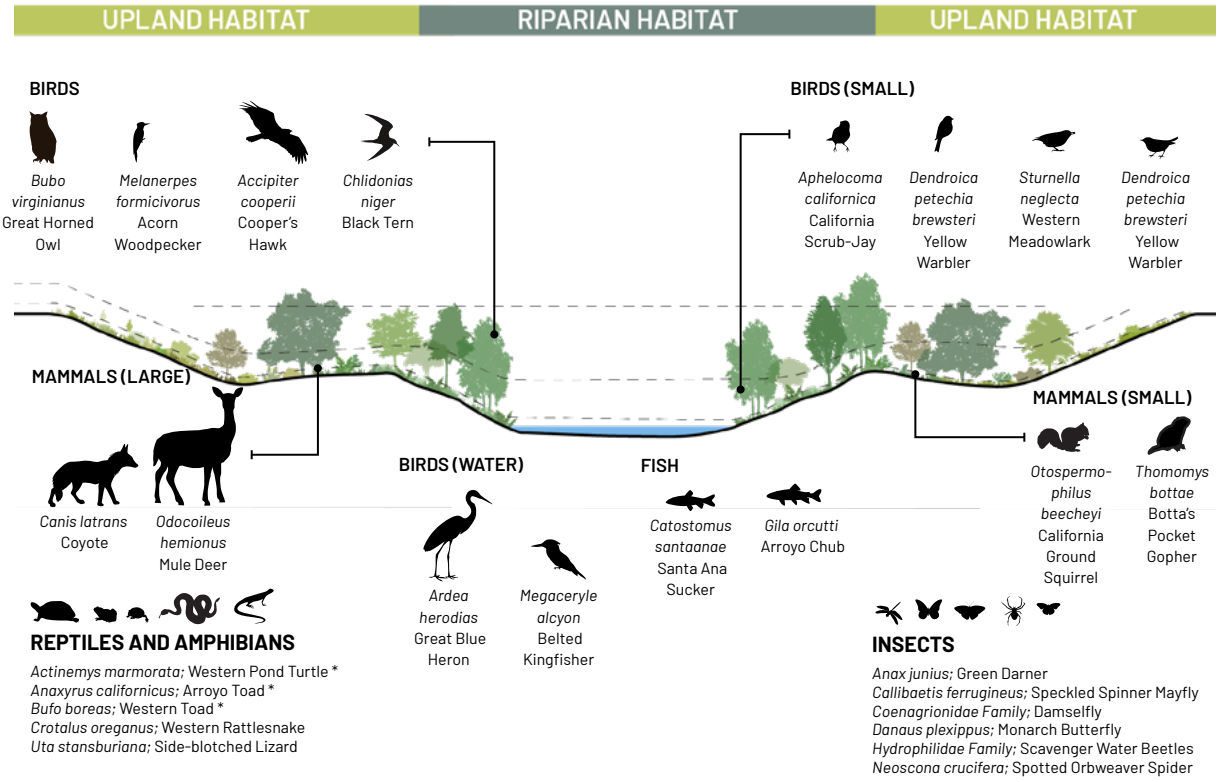
Impacts from any prevailing insect and disease outbreaks, particularly those that target native trees, should be carefully considered with any proposed planting and may influence species selection for a project. Overall, monocultures should be avoided and a diversity of species encouraged. Maintenance and monitoring plans should establish practices for the surveillance and treatment of species threatened by any insect or disease outbreaks.

Suitable conditions for native plant communities may also be achieved by strategic grading and drainage patterns that guide vegetated and urban runoff into artificial “riparian zones”. In areas with unrestricted soil depths, deep tillage of planting areas may be achieved by auguring the planting hole and breaking up hard subsoil layers. This strategy is strongly recommended for riparian tree species to provide a substrate through which developing tree roots can most readily reach the moisture they require for robust growth. The most common and broadly applicable strategy to ensure success of planting is the type and timing of supplemental irrigation during the three-year course of the establishment period. It is important to gradually wean plants off of irrigation to avoid shock related to stress from reduced water levels. Irrigation techniques should be applied to encourage deep rooting, such as allowing irrigation to run less frequently but for longer consecutive hours so that the soil can soak deeply. Match water application to soil type and root zone depth to reduce water run-off and loss of water below the active root zone of the target plant type.

The following guidelines may be implemented, in accordance with the LA County Low Impact Development Manual, LA County water sources, conservation standards, and the current California Green Building Standards Code to establish native plant materials utilizing drip irrigation:

PLANT COMMUNITY VERTICAL STRUCTURE

Figure 161. Vertical structure in planting varies depending on the type of native plant community. Woodland and forest communities tend to have large canopies, while scrub and chaparral communities tend to have primarily understory and shrub layers.



SOFT-BOTTOMED BASIN BIODIVERSITY PROFILE

Figure 162. Plant communities in different contexts can host diverse types wildlife. The example above shows a soft-bottom basin condition of either an existing or proposed river section. The species listed are meant to be a snapshot of a full list to be developed with a qualified ecologist and assume appropriate soil and plant community health to support the wildlife species. For more details, reference Chapter 6 of Appendix Volume II: Technical Backup Document.

- Provide separate drip zones to plant materials with differing watering requirements, target root zone depths, and application requirements.
- Irrigation to be applied to within the entire mature dripline of trees and shrubs.
- Where possible, utilize irrigation approaches that allow for the phased expansion of the drip irrigation area as trees and shrubs mature.

PLANT COMMUNITIES

The plant community lists have been developed through systematic review of several published sources regarding species distribution (see Bibliography in the Resources section), in combination with review of nursery and seed vendor lists. In most cases, these lists do not document every plant species that may be present within a native community and are not a substitute for a qualified botanist or ecologist for habitat-focused projects.

For example, many species of the alluvial fan sage scrub community are difficult to find in nurseries, including some of its signature species. However, this is the most appropriate community to install in the vicinity of Tujunga Wash and potentially other downstream locations. To facilitate reintroduction of this unusual community, additional coordination should be conducted to allow for localized contract growing and collection of plant propagules from local native sources.

Plant species nomenclature primarily follows Hickman, James C., ed. 1993. The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

Plant community and association names are after Holland (1986) followed by Sawyer and Keeler-Wolf (1995).

Planting projects should follow this general criteria:

- Include the services of qualified planting experts who have proven experience with California native planting projects to assist in making decisions regarding the plant palette. These experts should include a registered landscape architect, arborist, and a qualified botanist or ecologist.
- Planting in the LA River channel should only occur where excess hydraulic capacity is confirmed.
- Plants currently existing in the public right-of-way are to be assessed for their value and role in new projects. Existing, non-native non-invasive species may be retained until senescence (plant aging and death) then replaced with appropriate native plants. Based on the specific goals and objectives of a project, a different approach to existing non-native species may be taken. Overall, long-term management actions and replacement plantings are to emphasize native species and non-invasive species for future climate regimes.
- Planting can provide an opportunity to incorporate installed artworks or landart.

Figure 163. The chaparral community is often found on exposed slopes and hillsides, such as this example in the Santa Monica Mountains. Source: Tracie Hall, https://www.flickr.com/photos/twobears2/5190609445/ (Topanga State Park, 2010)

Figure 164. The coast live oak woodland can be found on slopes or on river banks and terraces, such as this example in Malibu Creek State Park. Source: Tracie Hall, https://www.flickr.com/photos/twobears2/5193454253/in/photostream/ (Malibu Creek State Park, 2010).

ADDITIONAL NATIVE SPECIES NOT ON THE FOLLOWING PLANT LISTS MAY BE ADDED WITH THE DOCUMENTED RECOMMENDATION OF A QUALIFIED BOTANIST OR ECOLOGIST

NATIVE PLANT SPECIES APPROPRIATE USE

The following native plant species that are not included on the plant community lists may be planted:

- Annuals and bulbs (which have higher maintenance requirements)
- Cultivars of the native species listed (use with caution in projects that interface with wildlands)
- Additional LA County native species recommended by a qualified botanist or ecologist

The following plants should never be planted along the LA River:

- Invasive plant species defined by the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) https://www.cal-ipc.org/

Additional information is on both native and invasive species is available through the California Native Plant Society: https://www.cnps.org/

In riparian or other native habitat areas, the following criteria for species selection should be followed:

- **95% minimum** of the total number of plants of the same pot size should be LA River Watershed native species (refer to the native plant community lists in this chapter).
- **5% maximum** of the total number of plants of the same pot size should be native to Los Angeles' Level III ecoregion (Southern California/Northern Baja Coast; Southern California Mountains).
- **10% minimum** of the total number of LA River Watershed native plants of the same pot size should be locally sourced in the LA River Watershed. Higher percentages should be achieved as local supply capacity increases.

NATIVE PLANT SPECIES TERMS & DEFINITIONS

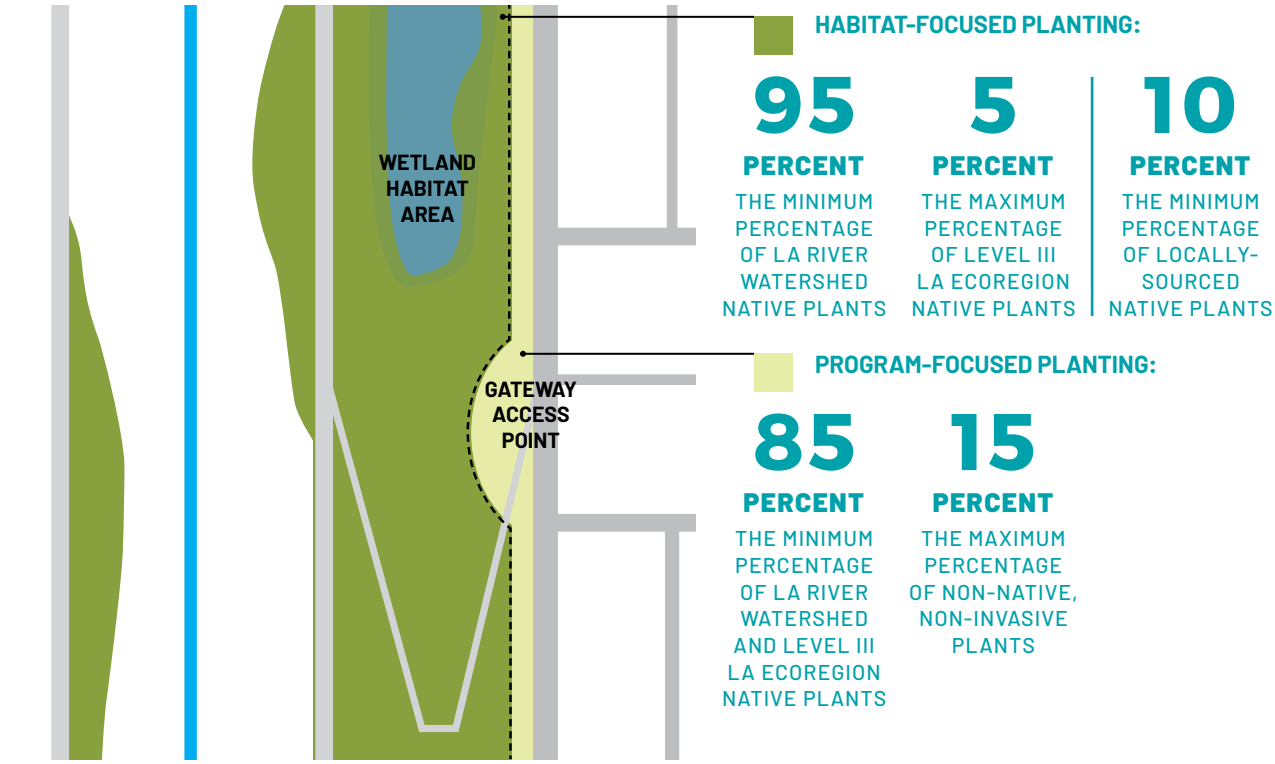
LA River Watershed Native Plant Species: Plant species that are a part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in the LA River Watershed. (Source: USDA)

Invasive Plant Species: Plant species that are both non-native and able to establish on many sites, grow quickly, and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems, causing environmental harm and/or harm to human health. (Source: USDA)

Non-Native Plant Species: A plant species introduced with human help (intentionally or accidentally) to a new place or new type of habitat where it was not previously found. Not all non-native plants are invasive and may not reproduce or spread readily without continued human help. (Source: USDA)

Ecoregions: Areas where ecosystems (and the type, quality, and quantity of environmental resources) are generally similar. This framework is derived from mapping done in collaboration with EPA regional offices, other Federal agencies, state resource management agencies, and neighboring North American countries. (Source: US EPA)

Figure 165. Terms and Definitions for Native Plant Species. Terms are defined as used in this document. Source: USDA, US EPA.



***Planting in the LA River channel should only occur where excess hydraulic capacity is confirmed.**

Figure 166. Species planting at gateways and along street frontages can incorporate more climate-adapted species, while riparian and other habitat areas should prioritize planting locally-sourced LA River watershed native plant species.

In programmed areas, gateways, or areas where the project interfaces with the city street grid, the following criteria for species selection should be followed:

- **85% minimum** of the total number of plants of the same pot size should be native to the LA River Watershed (refer to the native plant community lists in this chapter) or the Level III ecoregions of Los Angeles and just east of Los Angeles, as appropriate per planting context and climate regimes (Southern California/Northern Baja Coast; Southern California Mountains; Mojave Basin and Range; Sonoran Basin and Range).
- **15% maximum** of the total number of plants of the same pot size can be climate-adapted, non-native, non-invasive species.

All plant species selections should be made based on the specific goals and needs of a project. These percentages are a baseline benchmark and projects are encouraged to go over and beyond these requirements to meet project goals. Any variance to these requirements may be considered on a case-by-case, plant-by-plant basis by the county.

PLANTING LIST KEY

APPLICATIONS

+
Enhances biodiversity, and provides habitat - especially for key indicator species for each community

^
Mature tree canopy, provides significant shade for pedestrians

*****
Tolerates heat

~
Tolerates flooding

!
Useful for soil/bank stabilization

o
Additional moderate to high levels of irrigation required if existing groundwater or riparian conditions are not available

SUN EXPOSURE

FS
Full sunlight

FS/PS
Full Sunlight to Partial Sunlight

PS
Part Shade

PS/FS
Part Shade to Full Shade

SOUTHERN COTTONWOOD-WILLOW RIPARIAN FOREST

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS							
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	1-9	F, G	+ ^	All	3	
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	4	

FRAMES (SEE CH. 2 FOR MORE EXPLANATION)

1 - Estuary
Significant bird habitat; Brackish water all year long; Raised banks allow for planting; Opportunity for coastal wetlands

2 - South Plain
Significant bird habitat; Freshwater in channel; Algae mats could be preserved as food source for birds; Wide right-of-way provides opportunity for significant habitat areas, including wetland construction

3 - Central Plain
Lack of habitat and park space; Urban heat island mitigation and shade needed; Potential for habitat patches to connect significant ecological areas

4 - North Plain
Lack of habitat and park space; Urban heat island mitigation and shade needed; Harsh environment with pollution and soil contamination prevalent

5 - Heights
Lack of habitat and park space; Urban heat island mitigation and shade needed; Potential for habitat corridor connection and patches to connect significant ecological areas

6 - Narrows
Significant opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors and patches; Natural riparian to upland connections are possible here

7 - East Valley
Dense residential context; Narrow right-of way; Significant opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors and areas

8 - Mid Valley
Dense residential context; Narrow right-of way; Opportunities for park space, shade, and urban heat island mitigation; Opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors and areas

9 - West Valley
Dense residential context; Significant opportunity to enhance native habitat and connect to other important habitat corridors and patches; Potential to connect to headwaters from this frame

CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS

A
Steep slopes, fast draining, thin soil profile

B
Steep slopes, fast draining, thin soil profile (North-facing)

C
Level slope or terrace, fast draining with drier soils

D
Planting bed and soils surrounded by paving. Drier soils, hotter than usual ambient temperatures

E
Level slope or terrace, fast draining with intermittently flooded soils

F
Low-lying alluvial or gravelly soils that are seasonally flooded

G
Low-lying alluvial soils or gravelly soils with regular access to water

OCCURRENCE IN NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Dominant
Visually dominant in the mature landscape; usually refers to trees or large shrubs.

Subdominant
Visually subdominant.

Frequent
Refers to the numerical proportion of the species in the landscape. Especially in the case of grasses and herbaceous species, this category may indicate much higher numbers of individual plants than the dominant category, but these species do not dominate the casual vista.

Occasional
Refers to plants that occur occasionally in the designated plant community.

BLOOM SEASON

W
Winter

SP
Spring

SU
Summer

F
Fall

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S	H	4-8	6-10	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X
S	M	6-8	6+	X			Occasional	X		Pink		X	X	
S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		

WATER USE

WUCOLS: Estimates water needs based on the latest prevailing legislation. These water use categories used to develop hydrozone plans and submitting permitting applications. See https://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/ for more information.

VL
Very low

L
Low

M
Medium

H
High

PLANT FORM

T
Tree

D
Deciduous

S
Shrub

SC
Succulent

G
Grass

GC
Groundcover

P
Perennial

V
Vine

A
Annual

PLANT PALETTE SELECTION IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON THE EXISTING CONDITIONS OF CHANNELIZATION (ENTRENCHED OR LEVEED), NATIVE OR IMPORTED SOIL CONDITIONS, ACCESS TO WATER, SUN EXPOSURE AMOUNT OF SHADE, RIGHTS-OF-WAY WIDTH VARIATIONS AND ADJACENT LAND USES

PLANT SPECIES INDEX

This index lists all species that appear in the following plant community lists. Some species occur in multiple communities.

Each community can be found starting on the following pages:

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
TREES		
Acer negundo	Box elder	CLORF, CWRF, SRW
Adenostoma sparsifolium	Red shanks	CH
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder	SH, SRW, PFEW
Arbutus 'Marina'	Marina madrone	CT
Calocedrus decurrens	Incense Cedar	CT
Celtis laevigata var. reticulata	Western hackberry	DS
Cercis occidentalis	Western redbud	CT
Chilopsis linearis	Desert willow	DS, CT
Chitalpa tashkentensis	Chitalpa	CT
Cordia boissieri	Texas Wild Olive	CT
Cupressus arizonica	Arizona cypress	CT
Dalbergia sissoo	Indian rosewood	CT
Forestiera neomexicana	Desert olive	CT
Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea	Velvet ash	CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW
Hesperocyparis forbesii	Tecate cypress	CT
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Laurus nobilis	Sweet Bay	CT
Lophostemon confertus	Brisbane Box	CT
Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp. asplenifolius	Ironwood	CT
Olneya tesota	Desert ironwood	CT
Parkinsonia florida	Blue palo verde	DS
Pinus canariensis	Canary Island pine	CT
Pinus coulteri	Coulter pine	CT
Pinus eldarica	Eldarica pine	CT
Pinus halepensis	Aleppo pine	CT
Pinus muricata	Bishop pine	CT
Pinus pinea	Stone pine	CT
Pinus torreyana	Torrey pine	CT
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	SH, AFSS, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	SH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Populus trichocarpa	Black cottonwood	CLORF, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	SH, AFSS, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW, WW
Quercus chrysolepis	Canyon live oak	CT
Quercus douglasii	Blue Oak	CT
Quercus lobata	Valley oak	SH, VOW
Quercus wislizeni	Interior live oak	DS
Quillaja saponaria	Soapbark tree	CT
Salix gooddingii	Black willow	CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Salix laevigata	Red willow	CWRF, PFEW
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	SH, AFSS, CSS, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, WW, PFEW
Searsia lancea	African sumac	CT
Tipuana tipu	Tipu tree	CT
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	SH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW
Vitex agnus-castus	Chaste tree	CT
SHRUBS		
Adenostoma fasciculatum	Chamise	AFSS, CH
Amorpha fruticosa	False indigobush	CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Arctostaphylos glandulosa	Eastwood manzanita	CH
Arctostaphylos glauca	Bigberry manzanita	AFSS, CH
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW
Atriplex canescens	Four-wing saltbush	DS
Atriplex lentiformis ssp. lentiformis	Saltbush	SH, CSS, DM
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	SH, CSS, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, DM
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	SH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Baccharis sarothroides	Broom baccharis	DS
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	SH, AFSS
Berberis pinnata	California barberry	CSS, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Brickellia californica	California bricklebush	AFSS

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
Calliandra eriophylla	Fairy duster	DS
Ceanothus crassifolius	Hoaryleaf ceanothus	AFSS, CH
Ceanothus cuneatus	Buck brush	CH
Ceanothus leucodermis	Chaparral whitethorn	AFSS, CH, CLOW
Ceanothus megacarpus	Big-pod ceanothus	CH
Ceanothus oliganthus	Hairy ceanothus	CH, CLORF, CLOW
Ceanothus spinosus	Greenbark ceanothus	CH
Cercocarpus betuloides var. betuloides	Mountain mahogany	SH, AFSS, CH
Dendromecon rigida	Bush poppy	AFSS, CSS, CH
Diplacus longiflorus	Southern bush monkeyflower	CSS, CH
Encelia actoni	Acton brittlebush	DS
Encelia californica	Bush sunflower	SH, AFSS, CSS
Encelia farinosa	Brittlebush	DS
Ephedra viridis	Mountain ephedra	DS
Ericameria (Happlopappus) pinifolia	Pine goldenbush	AFSS, CSS
Ericameria nauseosa	Rabbitbrush	DS
Eriodictyon crassifolium	Thick-leaved yerba santa	AFSS, CSS
Eriodictyon trichocalyx var. trichocalyx	Hairy yerba santa	SH, AFSS
Eriogonum cinereum	Ashyleaf Buckwheat	SH, CSS, CH
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum	California buckwheat	AFSS, CSS, CLOW
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, DS
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	Interior California buckwheat	AFSS, CH, DS
Fallugia paradoxa	Apache plume	DS
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW, DS
Gutierrezia californica	California matchweed	AFSS
Gutierrezia sarothrae	Matchweed	AFSS
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	SH, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Hyptis emoryi	Desert lavender	DS
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, DM

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
Isomeris arborea	Bladder pod	DS
Juniperus californica	California juniper	AFSS
Justicia californica	Chuparosa	DS
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Larrea tridentata	Creosote bush	DS
Lepechinia fragrans	Fragrant pitcher plant	CH, CLOW
Lepidospartum squamatum	Scale broom	AFSS
Lonicera subspicata var. denudata	Chaparral honeysuckle	CH, CLORF, WW
Lupinus excubitus	Grape soda lupine	DS
Lycium andersonii	Water jacket	DS
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush mallow	SH, AFSS
Malacothamnus fasciculatus	Chaparral bush mallow	AFSS, CSS, WW
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	SH, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Peritoma arborea	Bladderpod	SH, CSS, DS
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	SH, AFSS, CSS, CWRF, SRW
Prosopis glandulosa	Honey mesquite	DS
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub oak	AFSS, CSS, CH
Rhamnus crocea	Spiny redberry	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	SH, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	SH, AFSS, CH, CLOW, WW
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	SH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Ribes malvaceum var. viridifolium	Chaparral currant	CH, CLOW
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Rosa californica	California wild rose	SH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW

PLANT SPECIES INDEX

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
SHRUBS (continued)		
Salix exigua	Sandbar willow	SH, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Salix lasiandra	Shining willow	CWRF, PFEW
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	SH, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Salvia apiana	White sage	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, DS
Salvia leucophylla	Purple sage	SH, CSS, CLOW, WW
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW, WW
Scutellaria mexicana	Mexican bladdersage	DS
Simmondsia chinensis	Jojoba	DS
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Apricot mallow	DS
Tecoma stans	Yellow bells	DS
Trichostema lanatum	Woolly blue curls	CSS, CH
Venegasia carpesioides	Canyon sunflower	CLORF, CLOW, SRW
PERENNIALS		
Abutilon palmeri	Palmer's Indian mallow	DS
Acourtia microcephala	Sacapellote	CH
Alisma triviale	Water plantain	PFEW
Ambrosia psilostachya	Western ragweed	DM
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	SH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Asclepias eriocarpa	Indian milkweed	CSS, CH, CLOW
Asclepias erosa	Desert milkweed	DS
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrow-leaved milkweed	CSS, CH, WW
Bidens laevis	Bur marigold	PFEW
Bloomeria crocea	Common goldenstar	DM
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, VOW, WW
Croton californicus	California croton	AFSS, CSS
Delphinium cardinale	Scarlet larkspur	AFSS, CSS, CH
Dryopteris arguta	Coastal wood fern	CLORF, CLOW, WW
Epilobium canum ssp. canum	Hoary California fuchsia	SH, CSS, CH, DM
Epilobium canum ssp. latifolium	California fuchsia	SH, CSS, CH, CLOW
Equisetum hymale	Scouring rush	PFEW
Eriastrum densifolium ssp. elongatum	Woolly star	AFSS
Eriogonum elongatum	Longstem buckwheat	CH
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	AFSS, CSS, CLOW, SRW, VOW, WW, DM
Galium angustifolium	Narrow-leaf bedstraw	AFSS

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
Grindelia camporum	Great valley gumweed	DM
Juncus patens	California grey rush	SH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW
Juncus textilis	Basket rush	SRW
Juncus torreyi	Rush	CLORF, CWRF, SRW
Linanthus californicus	Prickly phlox	CSS, CLOW
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Lupinus bicolor	Miniature lupine	DM
Lupinus latifolius var. parishii	Broad-leaf canyon lupine	CSS, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Lupinus longifolius	Blue bush lupine	CH
Malacothrix saxatilis	Cliff aster	CSS, WW
Mimulus cardinalis	Scarlet monkeyflower	CWRF
Mirabilis californica (Mirabilis laevis)	Wishbone bush	AFSS, CSS
Pellaea andromedifolia	Coffee fern	AFSS, CSS
Pellaea mucronata	Bird's foot fern	AFSS, CSS
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler	SH, CH, CLOW
Penstemon heterophyllus var. australis	Foothill penstemon	SH, CH, CLOW, DM
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW
Polypodium californicum	California polypody fern	AFSS, CSS
Pseudognaphalium canescens	Wright's cudweed	DM
Romneya coulteri	Coulter's Matilija poppy	CSS, CH, DS
Sidalcea malviflora	Checker bloom	DM
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	CSS, CLOW, VOW, WW, DM
Solanum xanti	Purple or chaparral nightshade	AFSS, CSS, CH
Sparganium eurycarpum	Broadfruit bur-reed	PFEW
Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum	Meadow rue	CH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, WW
Typha domingensis	Southern cattail	SRW
Typha latifolia	Broadleaf cattail	PFEW
GRASSES		
Agrostis exarata	Bent grass	CLORF, CWRF, SRW
Agrostis pallens	Seashore bent grass	DM
Aristida purpurea	Purple three awn	SH, DS
Bolboschoenus maritimus	Alkali bulrush	PFEW
Bothriochloa barbinodis	Cane bluegrass	CH
Bouteloua gracilis	Blue Grama	DS
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW, WW, DM
Carex barbarae	Valley sedge	CWRF, SRW

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
Carex fracta	Fragile-sheathed sedge	PFEW
Carex senta	Swamp carex	PFEW
Carex spissa	San Diego sedge	CWRF, SRW, PFEW
Cyperus eragrostis	Tall flatsedge	PFEW
Elymus condensatus	Giant wildrye	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Elymus elymoides var. elymoides	Squirreltail	AFSS
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, WW, PFEW, DM
Elymus trachycaulus	Slender wheatgrass	DM
Festuca californica	California fescue	DM
Hordeum brachyantherum ssp. californicum	California meadow barley	DM
Juncus balticus	Wire rush	PFEW
Juncus macrophyllus	Long-leaved rush	PFEW
Juncus xiphioides	Iris-leaf rush	PFEW
Koeleria macrantha	Junegrass	CLOW, DM
Melica californica	California melicgrass	DM
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW, DM
Poa secunda ssp. secunda (P. scabrella)	One-sided bluegrass	CLOW
Schoenoplectus acutus var. occidentalis	Tule	SRW
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush	PFEW
Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton	SH, CSS, DM, DS
Stipa cernua	Nodding needlegrass	CH, CLOW, VOW, DM
Stipa coronatum	Giant stipa	AFSS, CSS, CH, DM
Stipa hymenoides	Indian ricegrass	DS
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW, WW, DM
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	CH, CLOW, VOW, WW, DM
Stipa speciosa	Desert needlegrass	AFSS, DS
SUCCULENTS		
Agave deserti	Desert agave	DS
Cylindropuntia californica var. parkeri	Cane cholla	AFSS
Dudleya lanceolata	Lance-leaved live-forever	AFSS, CSS
Dudleya pulverulenta	Chalk dudleya	CSS, CH
Fouquieria splendens	Ocotillo	DS
Opuntia basilaris	Beaver tail	AFSS, DS
Opuntia littoralis	Coastal prickly pear	AFSS, WW
Yucca schidigera	Mojave yucca	DS
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	PLANT COMMUNITIES
VINES		
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida	Southern California morning glory	SH, AFSS, CSS, WW
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. intermedia	Island morning glory	SH, WW
Clematis lasiantha	Pipestems	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Funastrum cynanchoides var. hartwegii	Twining milkweed	AFSS, CSS
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, VOW
Lathyrus vestitus var. alefeldii	Showy Pacific sweet pea	AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	SH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW, DS
GROUNDCOVERS		
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	SH, CLOW, VOW, WW, DM
Anemopsis californica	Yerba mansa	PFEW
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	SH, CSS, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW, PFEW
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	SH, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	SH, AFSS, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Nasturtium officinale	Watercress	PFEW
Salvia spathacea	Pitcher sage	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, DM
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	SH, AFSS, CSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
Stachys bullata	Pink hedgenettle	SH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	SH, CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
ANNUALS		
Achyrachaena mollis	Blow wives	DM
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	Annual bursage	DM
Apiastrum angustifolium	Mock parsley	DM
Camissoniopsis bistorta	California sun cup	DM
Chaenactis glabriuscula	Yellow pincushion	DM
Cryptantha intermedia	Common cryptantha	DM
Deinandra fasciculata	Clustered tarweed	DM
Lasthenia californica	California goldfields	DM
Layia platyglossa	Coastal tidy tips	DM
Phacelia stellaris	Brand's star phacelia	DM
Lepidium nitidum	Peppergrass	DM

SHORTLIST

Shortlist (SH): The shortlist of native LA River watershed plants can be used throughout all reaches of the river to provide overall landscape continuity. This list is much shorter than the plant community lists to assure a strong visual image for the river, and is based upon the following criteria:

- Plants are native and appropriate to the LA River system.
- Plants are growable in nursery conditions.
- Plants have a high probability for success when planted within the designated area(s).
- Propagules of the plants are available within the LA River watershed.
- Plants have aesthetic appeal.
- Plants will provide potential wildlife habitat.
- Plants should require minimal maintenance and water following establishment when chosen carefully to be adapted to actual site conditions

Figure 167. ***Platanus racemosa.*** Source: Raffi Kojian, http://www.gardenology.org, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9705655.
Figure 168. ***Quercus agrifolia.*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9944130.
Figure 169. ***Umbellularia californica.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54448438
Figure 170. ***Frangula californica.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37322426.
Figure 171. ***Mimulus aurantiacus.*** Source: Franz Xaver, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=17165632.
Figure 172. ***Salvia mellifera.*** Source: Jerry Kirkhart, Black Sage, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=43169351.
Figure 173. ***Salvia spathacea.*** Source: peganum, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37049932.
Figure 174. ***Solidago californica.*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8092464.
Figure 175. ***Clematis ligusticifolia.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5376939.

Platanus racemosa

Quercus agrifolia

Umbellularia californica

Frangula californica ssp. californica

Mimulus aurantiacus

Salvia mellifera

Salvia spathacea

Solidago californica

Clematis ligusticifolia

SHORTLIST

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	All	6	
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~	FS	6	
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Quercus lobata	Valley oak	3-6	A, C, E	+ ^ *	FS	8	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	1-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS AND PERENNIALS							
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E	! ~ o	All	3	
Aristida purpurea	Purple three awn	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	1	
Atriplex lentiformis ssp. lentiformis	Saltbush	1-5	C, D, E	* !	FS	5	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	1-9	F, G	+ ~ o	All	3	
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	3-9	A, C, E	+	FS	5	
Cercocarpus betuloides var. betuloides	Mountain mahogany	1-9	B, C	+ ^ !	FS	6	
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wildrye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Encelia californica	Bush sunflower	1-9	A, C	* !	FS / PS	3	
Epilobium canum ssp. canum	Hoary California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Epilobium canum ssp. latifolium	California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Eriodictyon trichocalyx var. trichocalyx	Hairy yerba santa	5-9	A, C	+	FS	2	
Eriogonum cinereum	Ashyleaf Buckwheat	1-5	A, C	+	FS	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			PLANT COMMUNITIES
									W	SP	SU	F	
T-D	H	20-30	20-30			X	Birds, Butterflies	Green / Cream			X	X	SRW
T-D	L	15-25	20	X		X	Birds	Yellow		X			CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
T-D	M	40	40	X		X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X			AFSS, CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW
T-D	M	30	35			X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X			CLORF, CWRF, SRW
T	VL / L	40	40	X		X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X			AFSS, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW, WW
T-D	M	35	35	X		X	Birds, Butterflies	Green / Cream	X	X			VOW
T-D	L	15	20	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X		AFSS, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, WW
T	L	30	30			X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X			AFSS, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, WW
S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X	AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
P	M	3-5	3+	X		X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream		X	X	X	CLORF, CWRF, SRW
G/P/GC	VL	1-3	2			X							DS
S	VL	6-8	5-10	X		X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Brown			X		CSS
S	L	4-6	6-8	X		X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X	CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
S	H	4-8	6-10	X		X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X	CH, CSS
S	VL	6-12	6-12			X	Birds, Bees	Yellow / Green		X			AFSS
T/S	VL	6-20	12			X	Birds	Yellow/Cream	X	X			AFSS, CH
P	L	1-3	1-3			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X				AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, VOW, WW
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+			X	Butterflies						CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
S	VL	3-4	3-6	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X			AFSS, CSS
P	VL	1-3	2-4				Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X	CH, CSS
P	VL	1-3	2-4			X	Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X	CH, CLOW, CSS
S	VL	2-5	3+	X			Butterflies	White			X		AFSS
S	VL	2-4	3-5			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Brown	X	X	X	X	CH, CSS

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS AND PERENNIALS (continued)							
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Juncus patens	California grey rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	2	
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush mallow	6-9	A, C, D	+	FS	8	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS	2	
Penstemon heterophyllus var. australis	Foothill penstemon	1-3; 6-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	1	
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	1-9	C		FS	1	
Peritoma arborea	Bladderpod	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Rhamnus crocea	Spiny redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	1-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	6	
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	3-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	3-9	B, F, G	+	PS	4	
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	3-9	B, F	+	PS / FS	4	
Rosa californica	California wild rose	1-9	E, F, G		All	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			PLANT COMMUNITIES
									W	SP	SU	F	
S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X		AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS
S	VL	8	12			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X		CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW
S/T	VL	8-15	15			X	Birds, Bees	White			X		CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW, WW
P/GC	L	2.5	3+			X							CLORF, CWRF, SRW
S	(Not Listed)	10	8				Birds, Butterflies	Pink		X	X		AFSS
S	VL	10	20	X		X	Birds	Cream	X	X			AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
S	VL	2	2		X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X		CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW, WW
G/P/GC	L	3	4			X	Birds						CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW, VOW
P	L	1	1-2			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red		X	X		CH, CLOW
P	L	1	2			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Blue	X	X	X		CH, CLOW
P	L	3	3			X	Birds	Purple/Blue/Pink	X				AFSS, CSS, CH, CLOW
S	VL	3-5	5	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Green	X	X			CLOW, CSS
S	M	6-8	6+			X		Pink		X	X		AFSS, CSS, CWRF, SRW
S	VL	6-12	6-12			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X			AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW, WW
S	VL	4	4			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X			AFSS, CH, CSS
S	VL	6	6			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X			CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
S	VL	8-10	15	X		X	Birds	Pink	X	X			AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
S	VL	8-10	15	X		X	Birds	Pink/White	X	X			AFSS, CH, CLOW, WW
S-D	VL	6-8	6-8	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X			CLORF, CLOW, SRW, WW
S-D	L	5	5-8	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Yellow	X	X			CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
S-D	VL	5-8	6-8	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X			CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
S	L	4-6	4+			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X		CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW

SHORTLIST

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS AND PERENNIALS (continued)							
Salix exigua	Sandbar willow	2-9	F, G	+ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Salvia leucophylla	Purple sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ * !	FS	5	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton	1-5	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	5-9	A, C	+ *	FS	5	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	1-9	A, B, C, D, E, F	!	FS / PS	1	
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Stachys bullata	Pink hedgenettle	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	PS / FS	2	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	
VINES							
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida	Southern California morning glory	3-9	B		FS / PS	1	
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. intermedia	Island morning glory	1-5	A, B		FS / PS	1	
Clematis lasiantha	Pipestems	3-9	A, B		FS / PS	2	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			PLANT COMMUNITIES
									W	SP	SU	F	
S-D	H	10-25	10-12	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X			CWRF, PFEW
S/T-D	H	15	15			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X			CWRF
S	VL	3	3-5	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X		AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, SRW
S	VL	5	6-8	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X		CLOW, CSS, WW
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X		AFSS, CH, CLOW, CSS
G/P	L	3-4	2			X	Butterflies						DS
SC	(Not Listed)	3	5		X	X	Birds	Cream		X			AFSS, CH, CLOW, CSS
P/GC	L	.5-2	3	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X		CLOW, VOW, WW
P/GC	M	.5-1	2+			X							CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
G/P/GC	L	2	2+			X	Butterflies						CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
P/GC	L	2-4	2+			X		Yellow/Green			X	X	AFSS, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
P/GC	L	1	3+			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X		CH, CLORF, CLOW, SRW
P/GC	M	1	2+			X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X	AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW,WW
P/GC	M	1	2+				Bees	Yellow		X	X	X	AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW,WW
P/GC	L	1-2	2+	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	X	CLORF, SRW
S-D/GC	L	2	2+			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X		CH, CLORF, CLOW, CWRF, SRW, WW
V/P	L	climbs		X			Bees	White	X	X	X		AFSS, WW
V/P	L	climbs		X		X	Bees	Pink/White	X	X	X		CSS, WW
V-D	VL	climbs				X		Cream		X	X		CH, CLORF, CLOW
V-D	L	climbs				X		Cream			X		AFSS, CH, CLORF, CLOW, CSS, CWRF, SRW, VOW, WW
V/S-D	L	climbs				X	Birds	Green		X			CLORF, CWRF, SRW, VOW

ALLUVIAL FAN SAGE SCRUB

Alluvial fan sage scrub (AFSS) (Scalebroom Association):
This community is found in rarely flooded, low-gradient deposits along streams. AFSS is a community that tolerates very dry conditions and is considered a 'disturbance' community. Alluvial fan sage scrub should be the signature community along the Tujunga Wash and is appropriate on particularly sandy, silty or gravelly soils.

- Very rare in LA River watershed due to channelization and urbanization.
- Typically found in stream beds or washes.
- Can tolerate periodic flooding.

Figure 176. ***Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1953423.
Figure 177. ***Lepidospartum squamatum.*** Source: Anthony Valois and the National Park Service, http://researchlearningcenter.org/bloom/species/Lepidospartum_squamatum.htm and https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=6011633.
Figure 178. ***Artemisia californica.*** Source: Daderot, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=75807390.
Figure 179. ***Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum.*** Source: Dominic, http://www.inaturalist.org/photos/2067855.
Figure 180. ***Eriodictyon trichocalyx.*** Source: Jim Morefield, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/14141764.
Figure 181. ***Salvia apiana.*** Source: Laura Camp, https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauracamp/16355349843.
Figure 182. ***Cylindropuntia californica var. parkeri.*** Source: Stan Spencer, https://calphotos.berkeley.edu/cgi/img_query?enlarge=0000+0000+0409+1587.
Figure 183. ***Croton californicus.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5915540.
Figure 184. ***Yucca whipplei.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2826038.

Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea

Lepidospartum squamatum

Artemisia californica

Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum

Eriodictyon trichocalyx

Salvia apiana

Cylindropuntia californica var. parkeri

Croton californicus

Yucca whipplei

ALLUVIAL FAN SAGE SCRUB

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
SHRUBS							
Adenostoma fasciculatum	Chamise	3-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	4	
Arctostaphylos glauca	Bigberry manzanita	5-9	B	+	FS	6	
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	3-9	A, C, E	+	FS	5	
Brickellia californica	California bricklebush	5-9	B, C		FS / PS	3	
Ceanothus crassifolius	Hoaryleaf ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Ceanothus leucodermis	Chaparral whitethorn	6-9	B, C	!	FS / PS	6	
Cercocarpus betuloides var. betuloides	Mountain mahogany	1-9	B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Dendromecon rigida	Bush poppy	1-6, 9	A, C		FS	5	
Encelia californica	Bush sunflower	1-9	A, C	*!	FS / PS	3	
Ericameria (Happlopappus) pinifolia	Pine goldenbush	5-9	A, C		FS	3	
Eriodictyon crassifolium	Thick-leaved yerba santa	1-9	A, C	+	FS	2	
Eriodictyon trichocalyx var. trichocalyx	Hairy yerba santa	5-9	A, C	+	FS	2	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum	California buckwheat	1-6, 9	A		FS / PS	4	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	Interior California buckwheat	3-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	3	
Gutierrezia californica	California matchweed	3-9	A, C		FS	2	
Gutierrezia sarothrae	Matchweed	1-6, 9	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Juniperus californica	California juniper	6-9	A, C	!	FS	6	
Lepidospartum squamatum	Scale broom	1-9	C, E	+	FS	4	
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush mallow	6-9	A, C, D	+	FS	8	
Malacothamnus fasciculatus	Chaparral bush mallow	1-9	A	+ !	FS	4	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	M	40	40	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	VL	4-8	6	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
T/S	VL	6-15	6-15				Occasional		Birds, Bees	White + Pink	X	X		
S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X
S	VL	6-12	6-12			X	Birds, Bees	X	Birds, Bees	Yellow / Green		X		
S	VL / L	2-4	3-5		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
S	(Not Listed)	6-15	8-20				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X		
S	VL	10-12	10-20				Occasional		Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Purple +White	X	X		
T/S	VL	6-20	12	X			Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8-12	10-15				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
S	VL	3-4	3-6	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	3-6	3-6		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow		X	X	
S	VL	3-6	3+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender		X		
S	VL	2-5	3+	X	X		Frequent		Butterflies	White			X	
S/GC	VL	3	2-6		X		Subdominant		Bees, Butterflies	Red/Cream			X	
S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X	
S	VL	3-5	2-6				Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Cream			X	
S	(Not Listed)	1-3	1-3		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
S	VL	1-3	1-3				Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees	Yellow			X	
T/S	VL	10-15	15-20				Frequent - Occasional	X						
S	(Not Listed)	4	6		X		Dominant	X		Cream			X	X
S	(Not Listed)	10	8	X			Occasional		Birds, Butterflies	Pink		X	X	
S	VL	6	6+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Pink		X	X	
S	VL	10	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Rhamnus crocea	Spiny redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	4	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	1-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	6	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
PERENNIALS							
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Croton californicus	California croton	1-9	C, E	*	FS	1	
Delphinium cardinale	Scarlet larkspur	1-6, 9	A		FS	2	
Eriastrum densifolium ssp. elongatum	Woolly star	6-9	C, E		FS	1	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Galium angustifolium	Narrow-leaf bedstraw	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	1	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Mirabilis californica (Mirabilis laevis)	Wishbone bush	1-9	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Pellaea andromedifolia	Coffee fern	3-9	C, E		PS	1	
Pellaea mucronata	Bird's foot fern	3-9	C, E	*	PS	1	
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	1-9	C		FS	2	
Polypodium californicum	California polypody fern	6-9	B, G		PS / FS	1	
Solanum xanti	Purple or chaparral nightshade	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
GRASSES							
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus elymoides var. elymoides	Squirreltail	6-9	C, E		FS	1	
Stipa coronatum	Giant stipa	1-9	A, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Stipa speciosa	Desert needlegrass	3-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S	M	6-8	6+	X			Occasional	X		Pink		X	X	
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
T/S	VL	8	8		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	4	4	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Pink/White	X	X		
S	VL	3	3-5	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X	
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P	(Not Listed)	.5-1.5	.5-2		X		Frequent	X		Green		X	X	
P-D	(Not Listed)	2-6	1	X			Occasional		Birds	Red/Yellow			X	
P	VL	1-2	1-2				Frequent			Lavender			X	
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
P	(Not Listed)	1-2	1-2				Frequent			Cream		X	X	
P	VL	3	3		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P-D	VL	1	3				Frequent - Occasional	X		Purple/White	X	X		
P	VL	1	2		X		Occasional							
P	VL	1	2		X		Occasional							
P	L	3	3				Occasional	X	Birds	Purple/Blue/Pink	X			
P-D/GC	VL	.5	1+				Occasional	X						
P-D	VL	2	3				Occasional	X		Purple/Blue	X	X	X	
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-2	1-2				Occasional							
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	1-2				Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Frequent - Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-2	1				Occasional							

ALLUVIAL FAN SAGE SCRUB

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SUCCULENTS							
Cylindropuntia californica var. parkeri	Cane cholla	5-7	A, C	*	FS	4	
Dudleya lanceolata	Lance-leaved live-forever	1-9	A		FS / PS	1	
Opuntia basilaris	Beaver tail	3-5, 9	A, C	*	FS	2	
Opuntia littoralis	Coastal prickly pear	1-9	A		FS	3	
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	5-9	A, C	+*	FS	5	
VINES							
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida	Southern California morning glory	3-9	B		FS / PS	1	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Funastrum cynanchoides var. hartwegii	Twining milkweed	6-9	B, E	*	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus var. alefeldii	Showy Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	SC	VL	4	4				Subdominant			Yellow / Green		X	X	
	SC	VL	1	1		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Orange / Pink		X	X	
	SC	VL	1-2	2				Occasional			Pink		X		
	SC	VL	3	3+		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Orange / Yellow		X		
	SC	(Not Listed)	3	5	X		X	Frequent	X	Birds	Cream		X		
	V/P	L	climbs		X			Occasional		Bees	White	X	X	X	
	V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
	V/S-D	L	climbs					Occasional		Butterflies	Maroon/White			X	X
	V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
	V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs					Occasional			Pink/Purple	X	X		
	P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X

COASTAL SAGE SCRUB

Coastal sage scrub (CSS) (California Sagebrush Associations):
Coastal sage scrub (California Sagebrush Associations): This ecologically important community should be interspersed with tree communities along the length of the river, especially in situations where environmental or infrastructure conditions (utility corridors or other confined spaces) are not suitable for trees. CSS is an appropriate complement to the sycamore riparian and coast live oak communities and can be used with them as a transitional planting across an elevational difference or as a successional planting strategy prior to the maturation of tree canopies. Along the lower reaches of the river, this community may be augmented with coastal bluff species, and other salt tolerant native species adapted to heterogeneous soil conditions along the levees. Augmentation to this plant palette should be made only with the approval of a qualified botanist or ecologist.

- Many species can tolerate salt.
- Typically found on embankments and slopes.
- Can be used as a transitional planting prior to maturation of tree canopies in sycamore riparian and coast live oak woodland.

Figure 185. ***Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1953423.
Figure 186. ***Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea.*** Source: Miguel Vieira, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9389145.
Figure 187. ***Artemisia californica.*** Source: Daderot, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=75807390.
Figure 188. ***Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum.*** Source: Dominic, http://www.inaturalist.org/photos/2067855.
Figure 189. ***Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides.*** Source: Miguel Vieira, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9389145.
Figure 190. ***Epilobium canum ssp. canum.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54696863.
Figure 191. ***Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia.*** Source: John Rusk, https://www.flickr.com/photos/john_d_rusk/21207961929.
Figure 192. ***Yucca whipplei .*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2826038.
Figure 193. ***Stipa lepida.*** Source: John Rusk, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=59287600.

Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea

Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea

Artemisia californica

Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum

Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides

Epilobium canum ssp. canum

Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia

Yucca whipplei

Stipa lepida

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
SHRUBS							
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Atriplex lentiformis ssp. lentiformis	Saltbush	1-5	C, D, E	* !	FS	5	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Berberis pinnata	California barberry	5-9	B, E, F	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Dendromecon rigida	Bush poppy	1-6, 9	A, C		FS	5	
Diplacus longiflorus	Southern bush monkeyflower	1-9	A, B, C, D, E		FS / PS	3	
Encelia californica	Bush sunflower	1-9	A, C	* !	FS / PS	3	
Ericameria (Happlopappus) pinifolia	Pine goldenbush	5-9	A, C		FS	3	
Eriodictyon crassifolium	Thick-leaved yerba santa	1-9	A, C	+	FS	2	
Eriogonum cinereum	Ashyleaf Buckwheat	1-5	A, C	+	FS	3	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum	California buckwheat	1-6, 9	A		FS / PS	4	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	3	
Malacothamnus fasciculatus	Chaparral bush mallow	1-9	A	+ !	FS	4	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Peritoma arborea	Bladderpod	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Rhamnus crocea	Spiny redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X
S	VL	6-8	5-10	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Brown			X	
S	L	4-6	6-8	X	X		Subdominant	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X
S	L	4-6	4+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S	VL	8-12	10-15				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	1-3	1-3				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	
S	VL	3-4	3-6	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	3-6	3-6		X		Occasional		Birds	Yellow		X	X	
S	VL	3-6	3+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender		X		
S	VL	2-4	3-5	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Brown	X	X	X	X
S/GC	VL	3	2-6		X		Dominant		Bees, Butterflies	Red/Cream			X	
S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Crea			X	
S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
S	VL	1-3	3		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P/V-D	VL	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds	Red		X	X	
S	VL	6	6+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Pink		X	X	
S	VL	10	20	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	2	2	X		X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	
S	VL	3-5	5	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Green	X	X		
S	M	6-8	6+	X			Occasional	X		Pink		X	X	
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
T/S	VL	8	8		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	4	4	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		
S	VL	3	3-5	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES (continued)							
Salvia leucophylla	Purple sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ * !	FS	5	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
Trichostema lanatum	Woolly blue curls	1-9	E, F, G		FS	3	
PERENNIALS							
Asclepias eriocarpa	Indian milkweed	1-9	C, E, F	+	FS	3	
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrow-leaved milkweed	1-9	C, E, F, G	+	FS / PS	3	
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Croton californicus	California croton	1-9	C, E	*	FS	1	
Delphinium cardinale	Scarlet larkspur	1-6, 9	A		FS	2	
Epilobium canum ssp. canum	Hoary California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Epilobium canum ssp. latifolium	California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Linanthus californicus	Prickly phlox	1-9	A, B, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus latifolius var. parishii	Broad-leaf canyon lupine	6-9	B, E, F	+ o	FS / PS	2	
Malacothrix saxatilis	Cliff aster	1-9	A, B, C, D	+	FS	1	
Mirabilis californica (Mirabilis laevis)	Wishbone bush	1-9	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Pellaea andromedifolia	Coffee fern	3-9	C, E		PS	1	
Pellaea mucronata	Bird's foot fern	3-9	C, E	*	PS	1	
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	1-9	C		FS	2	
Polypodium californicum	California polypody fern	6-9	B, G		PS / FS	1	
Romneya coulteri	Coulter's Matilija poppy	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	3	
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	1-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solanum xanti	Purple or chaparral nightshade	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
GRASSES							
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S	VL	5	6-8	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X	
S	VL	2-4	4				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Blue/Lavender	X	X		
P-D	VL	3	1+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream/Pink			X	
P-D	VL	3	2+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White, Lavender			X	X
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P	(Not Listed)	.5-1.5	.5-2		X		Occasional	X		Green		X	X	
P-D	(Not Listed)	2-6	1				Occasional		Birds	Red/Yellow			X	
P	VL	1-3	2-4	X			Frequent		Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	
P	VL	1-3	2-4	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / YellowP		X		
P	M	2	2				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	Lavender	X	X	X	
P	VL	3	3		X		Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Blue/Purple		X		
P	M	1-2	1-2				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	White	X		X	X
P-D	VL	1	3				Frequent - Occasional	X		Purple/White	X	X		
P	VL	1	2		X		Frequent							
P	VL	1	2		X		Occasional							
P	L	3	3				Occasional	X	Birds	Purple/Blue/Pink	X			
P-D/GC	VL	.5	1+				Occasional	X						
P	VL	6-8	6-8				Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Yellow		X	X	
P-D	L	1	1				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Purple	X	X		
P-D	VL	2	3				Frequent	X		Purple/Blue	X	X	X	
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Occasional	X	Butterflies					

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Stipa coronatum	Giant stipa	1-9	A, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
SUCCULENTS							
Dudleya lanceolata	Lance-leaved live-forever	1-9	A		FS / PS	1	
Dudleya pulverulenta	Chalk dudleya	1-9	A, B	*	FS / PS	1	
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	5-9	A, C	+ *	FS	5	
VINES							
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida	Southern California morning glory	3-9	B		FS / PS	1	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Funastrum cynanchoides var. hartwegii	Twining milkweed	6-9	B, E	*	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus var. alefeldii	Showy Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	1-2				Occasional	X						
	G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Frequent - Occasional	X						
	SC	VL	1	1		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Orange / Pink		X	X	
	SC	VL	1	1		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	Orange/Pink/Red				
	SC	(Not Listed)	3	5	X		X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Cream		X		
	V/P	L	climbs		X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	White	X	X	X	
	V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
	V/S-D	L	climbs					Occasional		Butterflies	Maroon/White			X	X
	V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
	V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs					Occasional			Pink/Purple	X	X		
	P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
	P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X

CHAPARRAL

Chaparral (CH) (Chaparral Associations):
Chaparral (Chaparral Associations): Chaparral is considered an upland or drier community that is found on all slope aspects. CH soils are typically shallow and often nutrient-poor. It is suitable as an occasional alternative to the coastal sage scrub and California walnut woodland communities. This community includes tree-like shrubs that can provide some shading in tree-restricted zones. Rigorous design and maintenance of CH plantings can minimize fire hazards associated with this plant community.

- Requires fast draining, nutrient poor soil that is typical of slopes.
- Many species are deciduous in the summer, and over-watering during this time severely compromises the plants' survival.
- Can generally tolerate heat and drier conditions.

Figure 194. ***Juglans californica.*** Source: Consultaplantas, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=44978241.
Figure 195. ***Cercocarpus betuloides.*** Source: Lazaregagnidze, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32918241.
Figure 196. ***Ceanothus oliganthus.*** Source: Anthony Valois and the National Park Service, 2004. http://researchlearningcenter.org/bloom/species/Ceanothus_oliganthus.htm.
Figure 197. ***Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia.*** Source: John Rusk, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=59290247.
Figure 198. ***Heteromeles arbutifolia.*** Source: Miguel Vieira, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19525268.
Figure 199. ***Rhus ovata.*** Source: Bri Weldon, https://www.flickr.com/photos/briweldon/5228764249.
Figure 200. ***Eriophyllum confertiflorum.*** Source: Björn S..., https://www.flickr.com/photos/40948266@N04/43163438812.
Figure 201. ***Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber).*** Source: glmory, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32092287.
Figure 202. ***Stipa pulchra.*** Source: Matt Lavin. https://www.flickr.com/photos/plant_diversity/35034340452.

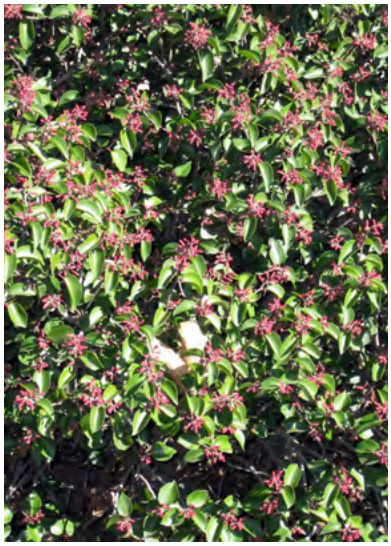
Juglans californica

Cercocarpus betuloides

Ceanothus oliganthus

Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia

Heteromeles arbutifolia



Rhus ovata

Eriophyllum confertiflorum

Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)

Stipa pulchra

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Adenostoma sparsifolium	Red shanks	3-9	A, C, E	+ * !	FS	5	
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS							
Adenostoma fasciculatum	Chamise	3-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	4	
Arctostaphylos glandulosa	Eastwood manzanita	5-9	B	+	FS / PS	6	
Arctostaphylos glauca	Bigberry manzanita	5-9	B	+	FS	6	
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Ceanothus crassifolius	Hoaryleaf ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Ceanothus cuneatus	Buck brush	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	5	
Ceanothus leucodermis	Chaparral whitethorn	5-9	B	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Ceanothus megacarpus	Big-pod ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Ceanothus oliganthus	Hairy ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Ceanothus spinosus	Greenbark ceanothus	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Cercocarpus betuloides var. betuloides	Mountain mahogany	1-9	B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Dendromecon rigida	Bush poppy	1-6, 9	A, C		FS	5	
Diplacus longiflorus	Southern bush monkeyflower	1-9	A, B, C, D, E		FS / PS	3	
Eriogonum cinereum	Ashyleaf Buckwheat	1-5	A, C	+	FS	3	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	Interior California buckwheat	3-9	A, C	+ *!	FS / PS	3	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	*!	All	6	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^!	FS / PS	6	
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	3	
Lepechinia fragrans	Fragrant pitcher sage	3-9	A, B, C	+ * !	FS / PS	3	
Lonicera subspicata var. denudata	Chaparral honeysuckle	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T/S	VL	8-20	15				Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	X
T-D	L	15-25	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow		X		
S	VL	4-8	6	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
S	VL	3-12	8				Occasional		Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White + Pink	X	X		
T/S	VL	6-15	6-15				Occasional		Birds, Bees	White + Pink	X	X		
S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X
S	(Not Listed)	6-15	8-20				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X		
S	VL	5-12	5-12				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
S	VL	10-12	10-20				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Lavender	X	X		
S	VL	6-15	8-20				Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White/Lavender	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	8-10	8-10				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Purple	X	X		
S/T	VL	8-20	10-20				Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/White	X	X		
T/S	VL	6-20	12	X			Frequent	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8-12	10-15				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	1-3	1-3				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	
S	VL	2-4	3-5	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Brown	X	X	X	X
S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X	
S	VL	3-5	2-6				Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Cream			X	
S	VL	8	12	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Subdominant	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
S	VL	1-3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P/V-D	VL	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds	Red		X	X	
S	L	3-5	3-5				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Purple/Lavender		X	X	X
V/S	L	climbs					Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	VL	10	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	2	2	X		X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Quercus berberidifolia	Scrub oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Rhamnus crocea	Spiny redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS / PS	4	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	1-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	6	
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	3-9	B, F, G	+	PS	4	
Ribes malvaceum var. viridifolium	Chaparral currant	3-9	B, F	+	PS	3	
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	3-9	B, F	+	PS / FS	4	
Romneya coulteri	Coulter's Matilija poppy	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	3	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
Trichostema lanatum	Woolly blue curls	1-9	E, F, G		FS	3	
PERENNIALS							
Acourtia microcephala	Sacapellote	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS	1	
Asclepias eriocarpa	Indian milkweed	1-9	C, E, F	+	FS	3	
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrow-leaved milkweed	1-9	C, E, F, G	+	FS / PS	3	
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Delphinium cardinale	Scarlet larkspur	1-6; 9	A, C, E		FS	2	
Epilobium canum ssp. canum	Hoary California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Epilobium canum ssp. latifolium	California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Eriogonum elongatum	Longstem buckwheat	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS	1	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus longifolius	Blue bush lupine	1-9	A, B		FS / PS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
T/S	VL	8	8		X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	4	4	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Pink/White	X	X		
S-D	L	5	5-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Yellow	X	X		
S-D	VL	5-8	5		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Purple	X	X		
S-D	VL	5-8	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X		
P	VL	6-8	6-8				Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Yellow		X	X	
S	VL	3	3-5	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X	
S	VL	2-4	4				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Blue/Lavender	X	X		
P	(Not Listed)	4	1				Occasional		Butterflies	Pink			X	
P-D	VL	3	1+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream/Pink			X	
P-D	VL	3	2+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White, Lavender			X	X
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P-D	(Not Listed)	2-6	1				Occasional		Birds, Bees	Red/Yellow		X	X	
P	VL	1-3	2-4	X			Occasional		Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X
P	VL	1-3	2-4	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X
P	VL	6	1				Occasional		Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream/Pink			X	X
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P	VL	3	3		X		Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P	(Not Listed)	4	4		X		Occasional		Birds, Bees	Purple/Blue	X	X	X	X

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
PERENNIALS (continued)							
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS	2	
Penstemon heterophyllus var. australis	Foothill penstemon	1-3; 6-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	1	
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	1-9	C		FS	2	
Solanum xanti	Purple or chaparral nightshade	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
GRASSES							
Bothriochloa barbinodis	Cane bluegrass	1-9	A, C		FS	1	
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	*!	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Stipa cernua	Nodding needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E		FS / PS	1	
Stipa coronatum	Giant stipa	1-9	A, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	*!	FS / PS	1	
SUCCULENTS							
Dudleya pulverulenta	Chalk dudleya	1-9	A, B	*	FS / PS	1	
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	5-9	A, C	+*	FS	5	
VINES							
Clematis lasiantha	Pipestems	3-9	A, B		FS / PS	2	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus var. alefeldii	Showy Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
P	L	1	1-2				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red		X	X	
P	L	1	2				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Blue	X	X	X	
P	L	3	3				Occasional	X	Birds	Purple/Blue/Pink	X			
P-D	VL	2	3				Frequent	X		Purple/Blue	X	X	X	
G/P/GC	L	2-4	1				Occasional	X		Yellow	X	X	X	X
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	3	4	X			Occasional	X	Birds					
G/P/GC	VL	2	2				Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	1-2				Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Occasional	X	Butterflies	Cream		X		
SC	VL	1	1		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	Orange/Pink/Red				
SC	(Not Listed)	3	5	X		X	Frequent	X	Birds	Cream		X		
V-D	VL	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream		X	X	
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs					Occasional			Pink/Purple	X	X		
P/GC	L	1	3+	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X	
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
S-D/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	

SOUTHERN COAST LIVE OAK RIPARIAN FOREST

Southern coast live oak riparian forest (CLORF) (Coast Live Oak Association):
This forest community is found along bottomlands and outer floodplains along larger streams on fine-grained, rich alluvium. This community differs structurally from coast live oak riparian woodland in having a relatively closed tree canopy at maturity, and thus supports understory species adapted to partial or full shade. CLORF may be appropriate for relatively moist zones, particularly with north-facing slopes, such as in the Sepulveda Basin vicinity.

- Understory is adapted to partial or full shade.
- Typically found in stream beds, moist areas, or north-facing slopes.
- Can tolerate periodic flooding.

Figure 203. ***Quercus agrifolia.*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9944130.
Figure 204. ***Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea.*** Source: Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=75992775.
Figure 205. ***Platanus racemosa.*** Source: Raffi Kojian, http://www.gardenology.org, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9705655.
Figure 206. ***Populus trichocarpa.*** Source: Daniel Mayer, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=7381945.
Figure 207. ***Keckiella cordifolia.*** Source: Björn S..., https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Heartleaf_Keckiella_-_Keckiella_cordifolia_(43818527031).jpg
Figure 208. ***Ribes aureum var. gracillimum.*** Source: John Rusk, https://www.flickr.com/photos/john_d_rusk/8941180855.
Figure 209. ***Artemisia douglasiana.*** Source: Römert, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19802958.
Figure 210. ***Rosa californica.*** Source: Bill Leikam, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=40893617.
Figure 211. ***Dryopteris arguta.*** Source: John Rusk, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=59291429.

Quercus agrifolia

Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea

Platanus racemosa

Populus trichocarpa

Keckiella cordifolia

Ribes aureum var. gracillimum

Artemisia douglasiana

Rosa californica

Dryopteris arguta

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Acer negundo	Box elder	5-9	E, F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	6	
Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea	Velvet ash	1-9	B, E, F, G	+ ^ ! o	FS / PS	6	
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Populus trichocarpa	Black cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	1-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS							
Amorpha fruticosa	indigobush	1-9	B, F, G	+ ~ o	FS / PS	3	
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	1-9	F, G	+ ~ o	All	3	
Berberis pinnata	California barberry	5-9	B, E, F	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Ceanothus oliganthus	Hairy ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	3	
Lonicera subspicata var. denudata	Chaparral honeysuckle	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS / PS	4	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	M	30-60	40				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	20-30	20-30		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	L	15-25	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow		X		
T-D	M	40	40	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	35				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	30+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
T	L	30	30				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream; SP		X		
S-D	M	3-8	3-8				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Purple/Yellow	X	X		
S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X
S	L	4-6	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X
S	H	4-8	6-10	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X
S	L	4-6	4+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S	(Not Listed)	8-10	8-10				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Purple	X	X		
S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X	
S	VL	8	12	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
S	VL	1-3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P/V-D	VL	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds	Red		X	X	
V/S	L	climbs					Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	VL	10	20	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	2	2	X		X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	3-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	3-9	B, F, G	+	PS	4	
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	3-9	B, F	+	PS / FS	4	
Rosa californica	California wild rose	1-9	E, F, G		All	3	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Venegasia carpesioides	Canyon sunflower	1-9	B, E, F	+ !	All	3	
PERENNIALS							
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E	! ~ o	All	3	
Dryopteris arguta	Coastal wood fern	1-9	E, F, G	o	PS / FS	1	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Juncus patens	California grey rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	2	
Juncus torreyi	Rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	1-2	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus latifolius var. parishii	Broad-leaf canyon lupine	6-9	B, E, F	+ o	FS / PS	2	
Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum	Meadow rue	6-9	B, F, G	o	PS / FS	2	
GRASSES							
Agrostis exarata	Bent grass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G		FS / PS	1-2	
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
VINES							
Clematis lasiantha	Pipestems	3-9	A, B		FS / PS	2	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S-D	VL	6-8	6-8	X	X	X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S-D	L	5	5-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Yellow	X	X		
S-D	VL	5-8	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X		
S	L	4-6	4+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	
S	VL	3	3-5	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
S	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
P	M	3-5	3+	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream		X	X	X
P	L	1-2	2+		X		Frequent							
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P/GC	L	2.5	3+	X			Occasional	X						
P	M	2-3	3+				Occasional			Red/Brown			X	
P	VL	3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Blue/Purple		X		
P	M	2	2				Occasional	X		Yellow		X	X	
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	2				Frequent		Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow; SP		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	3	4	X			Occasional	X	Birds					
V-D	VL	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream		X	X	
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
V/S-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X	Birds	Green		X		
P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GROUNDCOVERS (continued)							
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Stachys bullata	Pink hedgenettle	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	PS / FS	2	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	P/GC	L	1-3	1-3	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
	G/P/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	P/GC	L	1	3+	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X	
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
	P/GC	L	1-2	2+	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	X
	S-D/GC	L	2	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	

COAST LIVE OAK WOODLAND

Coast live oak woodland (CLOW) (Coast Live Oak Association):
CLOW is commonly found on slopes that are often very steep or on raised stream banks and terraces. Its soils are mostly sandstone or shale-derived. Coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia) woodland is a tree-dominated community comprising fewer trees and considerably drier soils than southern coast live oak forest.

- Requires fast draining, nutrient poor soil that is typical of slopes.
- Many species are deciduous in the summer, and over-watering during this time severely compromises the plants' survival.
- Can generally tolerate relatively dry conditions.

Figure 212. ***Quercus agrifolia.*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9944130.
Figure 213. ***Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1953423
Figure 214. ***Umbellularia californica.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54448438.
Figure 215. ***Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia.*** Source: John Rusk, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=59290247.
Figure 216. ***Ribes californicum*** Source: Tom Hilton, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ribes_californicum.jpg.
Figure 217. ***Rhus aromatica.*** Source: David J. Stang, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=61092418.
Figure 218. ***Sisyrinchium bellum.*** Source: Franco Folini, https://www.flickr.com/photos/livenature/4350730696.
Figure 219. ***Bromus carinatus var. carinatus.*** Source: Matt Lavin, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=25134214.
Figure 220. ***Muhlenbergia rigens.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54450777.


Quercus agrifolia


Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea


Umbellularia californica


Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia


Ribes californicum


Rhus aromatica


Sisyrinchium bellum


Bromus carinatus var. carinatus


Muhlenbergia rigens

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	1-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS							
Amorpha fruticosa	indigobush	1-9	B, F, G	+ ~ o	FS / PS	3	
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush	1-6, 9	A, C, D	* !	FS	3	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Berberis pinnata	California barberry	5-9	B, E, F	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Ceanothus leucodermis	Chaparral whitethorn	5-9	B	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Ceanothus oliganthus	Hairy ceanothus	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	6	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. fasciculatum	California buckwheat	1-6, 9	A		FS / PS	4	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	3	
Lepechinia fragrans	Fragrant pitcher sage	3-9	A, B, C	+ * !	FS / PS	3	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS / PS	4	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	1-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	6	
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	3-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	3-9	B, F, G	+	PS	4	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	T-D	L	15-25	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow		X		
	T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
	T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
	T	L	30	30				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
	S-D	M	3-8	3-8				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Purple/Yellow	X	X		
	S	VL	3	2-3	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Yellow		X	X	X
	S	L	4-6	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X
	S	L	4-6	4+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
	S	VL	10-12	10-20				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Lavender	X	X		
	S	(Not Listed)	8-10	8-10				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Purple	X	X		
	S/GC	VL	3	2-6		X		Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	Red/Cream			X	
	S	VL	3-5	2-6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X	
	S	VL	8	12	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
	S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
	S	VL	1-3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
	P/V-D	VL	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds	Red		X	X	
	S	L	3-5	3-5				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Purple/Lavender		X	X	X
	S	VL	10	20	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		
	S	VL	2	2	X		X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	
	S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
	S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
	S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
	S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		
	S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Pink/White	X	X		
	S-D	VL	6-8	6-8	X	X	X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
	S-D	L	5	5-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Yellow	X	X		

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Ribes malvaceum var. viridifolium	Chaparral currant	3-9	B, F	+	PS	3	
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	3-9	B, F	+	PS / FS	4	
Rosa californica	California wild rose	1-9	E, F, G		All	3	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Salvia leucophylla	Purple sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ * !	FS	5	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
Venegasia carpesioides	Canyon sunflower	1-9	B, E, F	+ !	All	3	
PERENNIALS							
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E	! ~ o	All	3	
Asclepias eriocarpa	Indian milkweed	1-9	C, E, F	+	FS	3	
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Dryopteris arguta	Coastal wood fern	1-9	E, F, G	o	PS / FS	1	
Epilobium canum ssp. latifolium	California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Linanthus californicus	Prickly phlox	1-9	A, B, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus latifolius var. parishii	Broad-leaf canyon lupine	6-9	B, E, F	+ o	FS / PS	2	
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS	2	
Penstemon heterophyllus var. australis	Foothill penstemon	1-3; 6-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	1	
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	1-9	C		FS	2	
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	1-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
GRASSES							
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	
Koeleria macrantha	Junegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D	+ *	FS / PS	1	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S-D	VL	5-8	5		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Purple	X	X		
S-D	VL	5-8	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X		
S	L	4-6	4+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	
S	VL	3	3-5	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
S	VL	5	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X	
S	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
P	M	3-5	3+	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream		X	X	X
P-D	VL	3	1+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream/Pink			X	
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P	L	1-2	2+		X		Frequent							
P	VL	1-3	2-4	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
P	M	2	2				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	Lavender	X	X	X	
P	VL	3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Blue/Purple		X		
P	L	1	1-2				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red		X	X	
P	L	1	2				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Blue	X	X	X	
P	L	3	3				Occasional	X	Birds	Purple/Blue/Pink	X			
P-D	L	1	1				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Purple	X	X		
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1-2	1				Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	3	4	X			Occasional	X	Birds					

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Poa secunda ssp. secunda (P. scabrella)	One-sided bluegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	* !	FS / PS	1	
Stipa cernua	Nodding needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E		FS / PS	1	
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	* !	FS / PS	1	
SUCCULENTS							
Yucca whipplei	Our lord's candle / chaparral yucca	5-9	A, C	+ *	FS	5	
VINES							
Clematis lasiantha	Pipestems	3-9	A, B		FS / PS	2	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus var. alefeldii	Showy Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	1-9	A, B, C, D, E, F	!	FS / PS	1	
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Stachys bullata	Pink hedgenettle	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	PS / FS	2	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
G/P/GC	L	1	1				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	VL	2	2				Frequent - Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Frequent - Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Cream		X		
SC	(Not Listed)	3	5	X		X	Occasional	X	Birds	Cream		X		
V-D	VL	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream		X	X	
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs					Occasional			Pink/Purple	X	X		
P/GC	L	.5-2	3	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
P/GC	L	1	3+	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X	
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
P/GC	L	1-2	2+	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	X
S-D/GC	L	2	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	

SOUTHERN COTTONWOOD-WILLOW RIPARIAN FOREST

Southern cottonwood-willow riparian forest (CWRF) (Cottonwood-Willow Association):
This water-loving community is found where soils are intermittently or seasonally saturated: riparian corridors, floodplains subject to high intensity flooding, low-gradient depositions along rivers, streams, seeps, stream and river banks, and terraces. Generally a depth to perennial ground water of not more than ten feet is required to support this cottonwood-willow community, which may achieve either forest or woodland structure at maturity.

- Requires regularly saturated soils - typically found in areas where depth to groundwater is less than 10'.
- Typically found in stream beds, moist areas, or river banks and terraces.
- Can tolerate seasonal high-intensity flooding.

Figure 221. ***Populus fremontii.*** Source: CK Kelly, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/10765354.
Figure 222. ***Salix laevigata.*** Source: no attribution necessary.
Figure 223. ***Salix exigua.*** Source: Thayne Tuason, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=67414102.
Figure 224. ***Salix lasiandra.*** Source: Matt Lavin, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22760167.
Figure 225. ***Salix lasiolepis.*** Source: Par Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=7556942.
Figure 226. ***Mimulus cardinalis.*** Source: Dcrjsr, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=42183047.
Figure 227. ***Juncus patens.*** Source: Daderot, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37530402.
Figure 228. ***Agrostis exarata.*** Source: sarahnwilson, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/19749167.
Figure 229. ***Carex praegracilis.*** Source: Katie Hetrick, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Carex_praegracilis_-_Spring_in_the_Mary_Wattis_Brown_Garden_of_California_Native_Plants.jpg.

Populus fremontii

Salix laevigata

Salix exigua

Salix lasiandra

Salix lasiolepis

Mimulus cardinalis

Juncus patens

Agrostis exarata

Carex praegracilis

SOUTHERN COTTONWOOD-WILLOW RIPARIAN FOREST

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Acer negundo	Box elder	5-9	E, F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	6	
Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea	Velvet ash	1-9	B, E, F, G	+ ^ ! o	FS / PS	6	
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Populus trichocarpa	Black cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Salix gooddingii	Black willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix laevigata	Red willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	6	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	1-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS							
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	1-9	F, G	+ ~ o	All	3	
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS / PS	4	
Rosa californica	California wild rose	1-9	E, F, G		All	3	
Salix exigua	Sandbar willow	2-9	F, G	+ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix lasiandra	Shining willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
PERENNIALS							
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E	! ~ o	All	3	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Juncus patens	California grey rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	2	
Juncus torreyi	Rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	1-2	
Mimulus cardinalis	Scarlet monkeyflower	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	All	2	
Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum	Meadow rue	6-9	B, F, G	o	PS / FS	2	
GRASSES							
Agrostis exarata	Bent grass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G		FS / PS	1-2	
Carex barbarae	Valley sedge	1-9	F, G	~ o	FS / PS	1-2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	M	30-60	40				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	20-30	20-30		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	M	40	40	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	35				Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	30+				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
T-D	H	25	25				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Green	X	X		
T-D	H	15-20	15-20				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
T	L	30	30				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S	H	4-8	6-10	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X
S	M	6-8	6+	X			Occasional	X		Pink		X	X	
S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S	L	4-6	4+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	
S-D	H	10-25	10-12	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S/T-D	H	15	15				Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow		X		
S/T-D	H	15	15	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
P	M	3-5	3+	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream		X	X	X
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
P/GC	L	2.5	3+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X						
P	M	2-3	3+				Frequent - Occasional			Red/Brown			X	
P	H	2	2			X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Red		X	X	X
P	M	2	2				Occasional	X		Yellow		X	X	
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	2				Frequent		Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-3	3				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Cream/Purple/Red			X	

SOUTHERN COTTONWOOD-WILLOW RIPARIAN FOREST

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Carex spissa	San Diego sedge	1-9	F, G	~ o	FS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
VINES							
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	G/P/GC	M	2-4	2-4				Occasional	X	Butterflies	Brown/Green/Yellow		X		
	G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
	V/S-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X	Birds	Green		X		
	P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X					X	X
	G/P/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X

SOUTHERN SYCAMORE RIPARIAN WOODLAND

Southern sycamore riparian woodland (SRW) (California Sycamore Association):
This community is found along riparian corridors where soils are permanently saturated at depth. SRW is normally appropriate to braided, depositional channels of intermittent streams, gullies, springs, seeps, streams and riverbanks, and terraces adjacent to floodplains subject to high-intensity flooding. Soils supporting this community are alluvial, open, and rocky. This water-loving community should dominate river landscapes where water is available naturally.

- Will require additional water where it is not available naturally.
- Typically found in stream beds, moist areas, or north-facing slopes.
- Can tolerate seasonal high-intensity flooding.

Figure 230. ***Platanus racemosa.*** Source: Raffi Kojian, http://www.gardenology.org, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9705655.
Figure 231. ***Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea.*** Source: Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=75992775.
Figure 232. ***Populus fremontii.*** Source: CK Kelly, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/10765354.
Figure 233. ***Amorpha fruticosa.*** Source: Leonora (Ellie) Enking, https://www.flickr.com/photos/33037982@N04/14428257254.
Figure 234. ***Baccharis salicifolia.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54913701.
Figure 235. ***Rhamnus ilicifolia.*** Source: Charlie Hohn, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/7262866.
Figure 236. ***Rubus ursinus.*** Source: Gaia Leo, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=68610213.
Figure 237. ***Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum.*** Source: Flowersinmyyard, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=68320295.
Figure 238. ***Elymus condensatus.*** Source: Peggy A. Lopipero-Langmo, https://www.flickr.com/photos/98699202@N03/10355498513.


Platanus racemosa


Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea


Populus fremontii


Amorpha fruticosa


Baccharis salicifolia


Rhamnus ilicifolia


Rubus ursinus


Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum


Elymus condensatus

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Acer negundo	Box elder	5-9	E, F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	6	
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	All	6	
Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea	Velvet ash	1-9	B, E, F, G	+ ^ ! o	FS / PS	6	
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Populus trichocarpa	Black cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Salix gooddingii	Black willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel	1-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
SHRUBS							
Amorpha fruticosa	indigobush	1-9	B, F, G	+ ~ o	FS / PS	3	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	1-9	F, G	+ ~ o	All	3	
Berberis pinnata	California barberry	5-9	B, E, F	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Keckiella cordifolia	Heart-leaved penstemon	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	3	
Malosma laurina	Laurel sumac	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS	6	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Pluchea sericea	Arrow weed	1-9	F, G	o	FS	3	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant sumac	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+	FS / PS	4	
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonadeberry	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	6	
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	3-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Ribes californicum var. hesperium	Hillside gooseberry	3-9	B, F, G	+	PS	4	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	M	30-60	40				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	H	20-30	20-30	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Green / Cream			X	X
T-D	M	20-30	20-30		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	L	15-25	20	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Yellow		X		
T-D	M	40	40	X	X		Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	35				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	30+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	H	25	25				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Green	X	X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
T	L	30	30				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S-D	M	3-8	3-8				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Purple/Yellow	X	X		
S	L	4-6	6-8	X	X		Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X
S	H	4-8	6-10	X	X		Frequent	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X
S	L	4-6	4+				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S	VL	8	12	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
P/V-D	VL	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds	Red		X	X	
S	VL	10	20	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	2	2	X		X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	
S	M	6-8	6+	X			Occasional	X		Pink		X	X	
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S-D	L	3-5	4-8		X		Frequent - Occasional		Birds	Yellow/Cream		X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds	Pink	X	X		
S-D	VL	6-8	6-8	X	X	X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S-D	L	5	5-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Yellow	X	X		

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Ribes speciosum	Fuchsia-flowered gooseberry	3-9	B, F	+	PS / FS	4	
Rosa californica	California wild rose	1-9	E, F, G		All	3	
Salix exigua	Sandbar willow	2-9	F, G	+ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
Venegasia carpesioides	Canyon sunflower	1-9	B, E, F	+ !	All	3	
PERENNIALS							
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E	! ~ o	All	3	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Juncus patens	California grey rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	2	
Juncus textilis	Basket rush	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	FS	2	
Juncus torreyi	Rush	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS / PS	1-2	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus latifolius var. parishii	Broad-leaf canyon lupine	6-9	B, E, F	+ o	FS / PS	2	
Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum	Meadow rue	6-9	B, F, G	o	PS / FS	2	
Typha domingensis	Southern cattail	1-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS	2	
GRASSES							
Agrostis exarata	Bent grass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G		FS / PS	1-2	
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Carex barbarae	Valley sedge	1-9	F, G	~ o	FS / PS	1-2	
Carex spissa	San Diego sedge	1-9	F, G	~ o	FS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Schoenoplectus acutus var. occidentalis	Tule	5-9	E, F, G	~ o	FS	2	
VINES							
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
S-D	VL	5-8	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X		
S	L	4-6	4+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	
S-D	H	10-25	10-12	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S/T-D	H	15	15	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
S	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Birds, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
P	M	3-5	3+	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream		X	X	X
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
P/GC	L	2.5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
P	M	3-7	1				Occasional	X						
P	M	2-3	3+				Occasional			Red/Brown			X	
P	VL	3	3		X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
P	L	4	4				Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Blue/Purple		X		
P	M	2	2				Occasional	X		Yellow		X	X	
P	(Not Listed)	12	3+				Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	2				Frequent		Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-3	3				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Cream/Purple/Red			X	
G/P/GC	M	2-4	2-4				Occasional	X	Butterflies	Brown/Green/Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	3	4	X			Occasional	X	Birds					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	3-10	3+				Frequent - Occasional		Butterflies					
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
V/S-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X	Birds	Green		X		

SOUTHERN SYCAMORE RIPARIAN WOODLAND

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Stachys bullata	Pink hedgenettle	1-9	E, F, G	+ ~ o	PS / FS	2	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
	P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
	G/P/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	P/GC	L	1	3+	X			Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X	
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
	P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
	P/GC	L	1-2	2+	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	X
	S-D/GC	L	2	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	

VALLEY OAK WOODLAND

Valley oak woodland (VOW) (Valley Oak Association):
This community is typified by its majestic signature tree (Quercus lobata), limited shrub layer, and generally grassy understory. VOW occurs in deep, well-drained alluvial soils that may be intermittently or seasonally flooded. This community is found on floodplains, valley bottoms, gentle slopes, and summit valleys.

- Understory is adapted to partial or full shade.
- Requires well draining soils that may be seasonally flooded.
- Typically found in stream beds, floodplain, or gentle slopes.

Figure 239. ***Quercus lobata.*** Source: King of Hearts, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=75700289.
Figure 240. ***Platanus racemosa.*** Source: Raffi Kojian, http://www.gardenology.org, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9705655.
Figure 241. ***Frangula californica ssp. californica.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54696941.
Figure 242. ***Eriophyllum confertiflorum.*** Source: Björn S..., https://www.flickr.com/photos/40948266@N04/43163438812.
Figure 243. ***Sisyrinchium bellum.*** Source: Franco Folini, https://www.flickr.com/photos/livenature/4350730696.
Figure 244. ***Eschscholzia californica.*** Source: docentjoyce, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8495738.
Figure 245. ***Vitis girdiana*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vitisgirdiana1.JPG.
Figure 246. ***Stipa cernua.*** Source: Kyle Nessen, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/38751036.
Figure 247. ***Stipa pulchra.*** Source: Matt Lavin. https://www.flickr.com/photos/plant_diversity/35034340452.

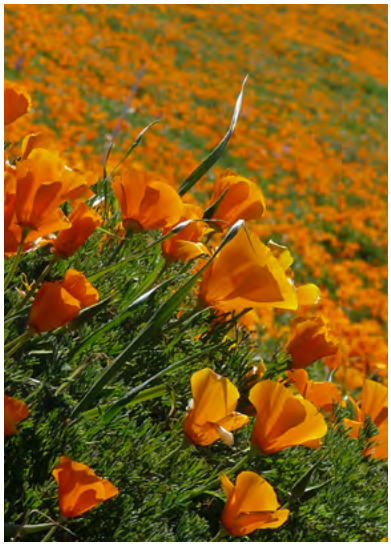
Quercus lobata

Platanus racemosa

Frangula californica ssp. californica

Eriophyllum confertiflorum

Sisyrinchium bellum



Eschscholzia californica

Vitis girdiana

Stipa cernua

Stipa pulchra

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Fraxinus velutina var. coriacea	Velvet ash	1-9	B, E, F, G	+ ^ ! o	FS / PS	6	
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore	1-9	E,F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Quercus lobata	Valley oak	3-6	A, C, E	+ ^ *	FS	8	
SHRUBS							
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
PERENNIALS							
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	1-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
GRASSES							
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Stipa cernua	Nodding needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E		FS / PS	1	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	* !	FS / PS	1	
VINES							
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
Lathyrus vestitus	Pacific sweet pea	6-9	B		FS / PS	2	
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	1-9	A, B, C, D, E, F	!	FS / PS	1	
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	M	20-30	20-30		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	M	40	40	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	M	35	35	X	X		Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Green / Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8	12	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
P-D	L	1	1				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Purple	X	X		
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	3	4	X			Frequent	X	Birds					
G/P/GC	VL	2	2				Frequent	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Frequent	X	Butterflies	Cream		X		
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
V/P	(Not Listed)	climbs			X		Occasional	X		Pink/White	X	X		
V/S-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X	Birds	Green		X		
P/GC	L	.5-2	3	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X

CALIFORNIA WALNUT WOODLAND

California walnut woodland (WW) (Walnut Woodland Association):
Walnut woodlands are found where soils are intermittently flooded and saturated, such as riparian corridors, floodplains, incised canyons, low-flow river and stream margins, seeps, stream and river banks, and terraces. WW also favor rarely flooded north-facing slopes, terraces, and flats. Its soils are generally fine-textured, shale-derived, and deep.

- Very rare in LA River watershed due to urbanization.
- Requires well draining soils that may be seasonally flooded.
- Typically found in stream beds, moist areas, or north-facing slopes.

Figure 248. ***Juglans californica.*** Source: Consultaplantas, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=44978241.
Figure 249. ***Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1953423.
Figure 250. ***Heteromeles arbutifolia.*** Source: Miguel Vieira, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19525268.
Figure 251. ***Salvia leucophylla.*** Source: John Rusk, https://www.flickr.com/photos/john_d_rusk/9309081263.
Figure 252. ***Malacothamnus fasciculatus.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1113761.
Figure 253. ***Asclepias fascicularis.*** Source: Jim Morefield, https://www.flickr.com/photos/127605180@N04/15966683860.
Figure 254. ***Achillea millefolium var. californicum.*** Source: Dcrjsr, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=16059528.
Figure 255. ***Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida.*** Source: OLIN, 2017.
Figure 256. ***Solidago californica.*** Source: Stickpen, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8092464.


Juglans californica


Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea


Heteromeles arbutifolia


Salvia leucophylla


Malacothamnus fasciculatus


Asclepias fascicularis


Achillea millefolium var. californicum


Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida


Solidago californica

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Juglans californica var. californica	California walnut	3-9	B, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia	Coast live oak	1-9	A, B, C	+ ^	FS	8	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
SHRUBS							
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	+ ^ !	FS / PS	6	
Lonicera subspicata var. denudata	Chaparral honeysuckle	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Malacothamnus fasciculatus	Chaparral bush mallow	1-9	A	+ !	FS	4	
Mimulus aurantiacus	Bush monkey flower	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	2	
Prunus ilicifolia ssp. ilicifolia	Hollyleaf cherry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Rhamnus ilicifolia	Hollyleaf redberry	5-9	A, B, C	+ !	All	5	
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush	1-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	6	
Ribes aureum var. gracillimum	Golden currant	3-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Salvia leucophylla	Purple sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ * !	FS	5	
Salvia mellifera	Black sage	1-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	4	
PERENNIALS							
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrow-leaved milkweed	1-9	C, E, F, G	+	FS / PS	3	
Corethrogyne filaginifolia var. filaginifolia	California aster	1-9	A, B		FS	2	
Dryopteris arguta	Coastal wood fern	1-9	E, F, G	o	PS / FS	1	
Eriophyllum confertiflorum	Golden yarrow	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	1	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Malacothrix saxatilis	Cliff aster	1-9	A, B, C, D	+	FS	1	
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	1-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Thalictrum fendleri var. polycarpum	Meadow rue	6-9	B, F, G	o	PS / FS	2	
GRASSES							
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus condensatus	Giant wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E		All	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T-D	L	15-25	20	X	X		Dominant	X	Birds	Yellow		X		
T	VL / L	40	40	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow		X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S/T	VL	8-15	15	X			Subdominant	X	Birds, Bees	White			X	
V/S	L	climbs					Occasional	X	Birds	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	VL	6	6+		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White + Pink		X	X	
S	VL	2	2	X		X	Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange/Yellow	X	X	X	
S	VL	6-12	6-12	X			Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
S	VL	6	6	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	8-10	15	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Pink/White	X	X		
S-D	VL	6-8	6-8	X	X	X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream	X	X		
S	VL	5	6-8	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/Purple		X	X	
S	VL	4	6	X	X	X	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Lavender/White	X	X	X	
P-D	VL	3	2+		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	White, Lavender			X	X
P	L	1-3	1-3	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Pink/White	X			
P	L	1-2	2+		X		Occasional							
P	VL	2	1-3			X	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
A/P-D	VL	1	1-2		X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
P	M	1-2	1-2				Occasional		Bees, Butterflies	White	X		X	X
P-D	L	1	1				Frequent	X	Butterflies	Purple	X	X		
P	M	2	2				Occasional	X		Yellow		X	X	
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+				Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	L	4-5	3+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies					

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	*!	FS / PS	1	
SUCCULENTS							
Opuntia littoralis	Coastal prickly pear	1-9	A		FS	3	
VINES							
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. arida	Southern California morning glory	3-9	B		FS / PS	1	
Calystegia macrostegia ssp. intermedia	Island morning glory	1-5	A, B		FS / PS	1	
Clematis ligusticifolia	Virgin's bower	3-9	B, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	2	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	1-9	A, B, C, D, E, F	!	FS / PS	1	
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Elymus triticoides	Creeping wild rye	1-9	B, E, F, G	!	All	2	
Euthamia occidentalis	Western goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago californica	California goldenrod	3-9	A, B, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Solidago confinis	Southern goldenrod	3-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry	3-9	B, E	!	PS / FS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	VL	2	2		X		Occasional	X	Butterflies	Cream		X		
SC	VL	3	3+		X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds	Orange / Yellow		X		
V/P	L	climbs		X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	White	X	X	X	
V/P	L	climbs		X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees	Pink/White	X	X	X	
V-D	L	climbs		X			Occasional	X		Cream			X	
P/GC	L	.5-2	3	X	X		Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
G/P/GC	L	2	2+	X			Occasional	X	Butterflies					
P/GC	L	2-4	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X		Yellow / Green			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
P/GC	M	1	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional		Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
S-D/GC	L	2	2+	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink		X	X	

PERENNIAL FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

Perennial freshwater emergent wetland (PFEW):
This community thrives in lowland areas distinguished by year-round saturated soils and shallow standing water. Historically, such areas appeared along the path of former channels within the floodplain, but 90% of this habitat type in California has since been destroyed. Herbaceous plants such as grasses, reeds, sedges, rushes, cattails, and bulrush predominate. Many of these are rhizomatous, reproducing asexually underground rather than by seed. The herbaceous vegetation tends to appear in dense clumps, with trees and shrubs accounting for less than 10% of plant cover. Soils are deep, built up from sediment deposition by slow-moving waters, and can be peaty.

- Requires saturated soils or shallow standing water.
- Typically found along the margins of lakes and reservoirs.
- Restoration efforts are needed.

Figure 257. ***Salix exigua.*** Source: Thayne Tuason, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Salix_exigua_var._exigua_4.jpg
Figure 258. ***Baccharis salicifolia.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54913701.
Figure 259. ***Cyperus eragrostis*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Cyperus_eragrostis#/media/File:Cyperus_eragrostis_kz03.jpg.
Figure 260. ***Typha latifolia.*** Source: R. A, Nonenmacher, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Typha_latifolia_7642.jpg
Figure 261. ***Bolboschoenus maritimus.*** Source: Stefan Lefnaer, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bolboschoenus_maritimus_s._str._sl5.jpg.
Figure 262. ***Schoenoplectus californicus.*** Source: Forest and Kim Starr, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2a/Burr_Marigold_Bidens_Laevis_%28237189541%29.jpeg
Figure 263. ***Bidens laevis.*** Source: Suzanne Antonia, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Burr_Marigold_Bidens_Laevis_(237189541).jpeg.
Figure 264. ***Sparganium eurycarpum.*** Source: Tom Koerner, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bur-reed_(Sparganium_eurycarpum)_Sand_Lake_Wetland_Management_District_01_(14385334072).jpg#filelinks.
Figure 265. ***Artemisia douglasiana.*** Source: Römert, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19802958.


Salix exigua

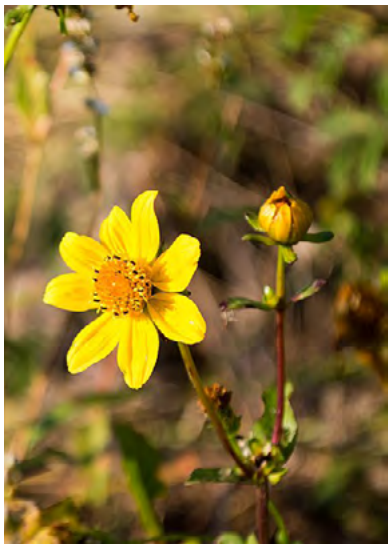

Baccharis salicifolia


Cyperus eragrostis


Typha latifolia


Bolboschoenus maritimus


Schoenoplectus californicus


Bidens laevis


Sparganium eurycarpum


Artemisia douglasiana

PERENNIAL FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder	2-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	All	6	
Populus fremontii ssp. fremontii	Fremont cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Populus trichocarpa	Black cottonwood	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	8	
Salix gooddingii	Black willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix laevigata	Red willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	6	
Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Mexican elderberry	1-9	C, E, F	+ ^ ~ o	FS	6	
SHRUBS							
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat	2-9	F, G	^ ~ o	All	3	
Salix exigua	Sandbar willow	2-9	F, G	^ ~ o	FS	6	
Salix lasiandra	Shining willow	1-9	F, G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
Salix lasiolepis	Arroyo willow	1-9	G	+ ^ ~ o	FS / PS	5	
PERENNIALS							
Alisma triviale	Water plantain	2-9	G	~ o	FS / PS	1	
Artemisia douglasiana	Mugwort	1-9	A, B, C, E, F	! ~ o	All	3	
Bidens laevis	Bur marigold	2-9	F, G	+ ~ o	FS	1	
Equisetum hymale	Scouring rush	1-9	F,G	~ o	PS	2	
Sparganium eurycarpum	Broadfruit bur-reed	2-9	G	~ o	FS / PS	3	
Typha latifolia	Broadleaf cattail	2-9	G	! ~ o	FS	1	
GRASSES							
Bolboschoenus maritimus	Alkali bulrush	2-9	G	~ o	FS	1	
Carex fracta	Fragile-sheathed sedge	5-9	F, G	~ o	FS / PS	2	
Carex senta	Swamp carex	5-9	F, G	~ o	PS	2	
Carex spissa	San Diego sedge	1-9	F, G	~ o	FS	2	
Cyperus eragrostis	Tall flatsedge	2-9	G	o	FS	1	
Eleocharis macrostachya	Common spikerush	1-9	F,G	~ o	FS	2	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	
Juncus balticus	Wire rush	2-9	G	~ o	PS	1	
Juncus macrophyllus	Long-leaved rush	5-9	F, G	~ o	PS	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
T	H	20-30	20-30				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Green / Cream			X	X
T-D	M	30	35				Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream	X	X		
T-D	M	30	30+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
T-D	H	25	25				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Green	X	X		
T-D	H	15-20	15-20				Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
T-D	L	15	20	X	X		Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Cream		X	X	
S	H	4-8	6-10	X	X		Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	White/Pink/White	X	X	X	X
S-D	H	10-25	10-12	X	X		Subdominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
S/T-D	H	15	15				Dominant	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow		X		
S/T-D	H	15	15	X			Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream	X	X		
P	(Not Listed)	2-3	1.5-2				Occasional		Butterflies	White			X	
P	M	3-5	3+	X	X		Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow / Cream		X	X	X
P	M	2-3	1-2				Occasional							
P	H	3	3+				Frequent	X	Birds					
P	(Not Listed)	4-6	2-3				Occasional		Butterflies	Green			X	
P	(Not Listed)	4-6	4-6		X		Dominant							
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	3	2+				Dominant	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1.5-3				Occasional		Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1.5-3				Occasional		Butterflies	Green		X		
G/P/GC	M	2-4	2-4				Occasional	X	Butterflies	Brown/Green/Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	H	2	30				Frequent	X		Green / Yellow		X	X	X
G/P/GC	H	1.5-3	2+				Frequent	X	Birds, Butterflies					
G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+				Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies					
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	3	0.5-1		X		Frequent							
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	3	2+				Occasional							

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Juncus xiphioides	Iris-leaf rush	2-9	G	~	PS	1	
Schoenoplectus californicus	California bulrush	2-9	G	! ~ o	FS	6	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Anemopsis californica	Yerba mansa	2-3, 5-9	F, G	* o	FS / PS	1	
Carex praegracilis	Slender sedge	1-9	D, E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
Nasturtium officinale	Watercress	2-9	G	~	FS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

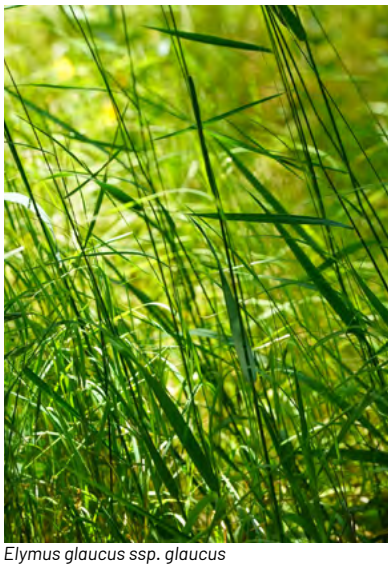
	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	SHORTLIST PLANT	USACE NATIVE PLANT LIST	SEED LA TARGET LIST	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
												W	SP	SU	F
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-3	1-2		X		Frequent	X	Butterflies					
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	6-12	3+				Dominant	X	Butterflies	Brown		X		
	P	M	0.5-1	1+				Frequent	X		White / Cream / Red	X	X		
	P/GC	M	.5-1	2+	X			Occasional	X						
	P	(Not Listed)	0.5-2	3+				Frequent			White / Green		X	X	X

DRY MEADOW

Dry Meadow (DM):
The dry meadow is a community characterized by an open example of perennial bungrasses and annual and perennial wildflowers. Its extents have been greatly diminished in the LA River Watershed due to encroachment by agriculture, grazing, urbanization, and the invasion of exotic species. This community requires well-draining soils. This plant list includes examples of annual specials that would typically be found in dry meadows. Project-specific species lists and seed mixes can be developed with a qualified botanist or ecologist. Maintenance for yearly seed sowing and other measures specific to the dry meadow community must be planned before implementation. For example, weed management is crucial during the early development stages of this community.

- Requires well-drained soils.
- Seed sowing and additional maintenance specific to meadows is required.

Figure 266. ***Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus.*** Source: Wild Bryde, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/38822555.
Figure 267. ***Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber).*** Source: glmory, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=32092287.
Figure 268. ***Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides.*** Source: Miguel Vieira, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9389145.
Figure 269. ***Bromus carinatus.*** Source: Matt Lavin. https://www.flickr.com/photos/plant_diversity/3861052158.
Figure 270. ***Deinandra fasciculata.*** Source: Björn S. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Clustered_Tarweed_-_Deinandra_fasciculata_(41948547430).jpg.
Figure 271. ***Stipa cernua.*** Source: Kyle Nessen, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/38751036.
Figure 272. ***Stipa lepida.*** Source: John Rusk, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=59287600.
Figure 273. ***Muhlenbergia rigens.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54450777.
Figure 274. ***Koeleria macrantha.*** Source: Matt Lavin. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Koeleria_macrantha_(3879657197).jpg.



Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus

Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)

Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides

Bromus carinatus

Deinandra fasciculata

Stipa cernua

Stipa lepida

Muhlenbergia rigens

Koeleria macrantha

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS							
Atriplex lentiformis ssp. lentiformis	Saltbush	1-5	C, D, E	* !	FS	5	
Baccharis pilularis var. consanguinea	Coyote brush	1-5	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	4	
Isocoma menziesii ssp. vernonioides	Goldenbush	1-9	A, C		FS / PS	2	
PERENNIALS							
Ambrosia psilostachya	Western ragweed	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	1	
Bloomeria crocea	Common goldenstar	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	0.5	
Epilobium canum ssp. canum	Hoary California fuchsia	1-9	A, B	+	FS / PS	2	
Eschscholzia californica	California poppy	1-9	C, D		FS / PS	1	
Grindelia camporum	Great valley gumweed	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	2	
Lotus scoparius (Acmispon glaber)	Deerweed	1-6, 9	A, C	+ *	FS	2	
Lupinus bicolor	Miniature lupine	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS	1	
Penstemon heterophyllus var. australis	Foothill penstemon	1-3; 6-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	1	
Pseudognaphalium canescens	Wright's cudweed	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS	0.5	
Sidalcea malviflora	Checker bloom	5-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed grass	1-9	E, F, G	o	FS / PS	1	
GRASSES							
Agrostis pallens	Seashore bent grass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	!	FS / PS	1	
Bromus carinatus var. carinatus	California brome	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	* !	FS / PS	1	
Elymus glaucus ssp. glaucus	Blue wild rye	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G	+	All	3	
Elymus trachycaulus	Slender wheatgrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	4	
Festuca californica	California fescue	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	!	FS / PS	3	
Hordeum brachyantherum ssp. californicum	California meadow barley	1-9	A, B, C, E, F, G		FS / PS	2	
Koeleria macrantha	Junegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D	+ *	FS / PS	1	
Melica californica	California melicgrass	5-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	1-9	A, B, C, E, F		FS / PS	3	
Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton	1-5	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Stipa cernua	Nodding needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E		FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
									W	SP	SU	F
	S	VL	6-8	5-10	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Brown			X	
	S	L	4-6	6-8	Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow/Cream	X	X	X	X
	S	VL	1-3	3	Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
	P	(Not Listed)	3-7	1	Occasional	X	Butterflies, Bees	Green			X	X
	P	VL	1	0.5	Occasional	X		Yellow		X		
	P	VL	1-3	2-4	Occasional		Birds, Butterflies	Red			X	X
	A/P-D	VL	1	1-2	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Orange / Yellow		X		
	P	VL	2-6	3	Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	X
	P	VL	3	3	Frequent - Occasional	X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow	X	X	X	
	P	(Not Listed)	0.25-1	1	Frequent - Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Blue/Lavender/White		X		
	P	L	1	1	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/Blue		X	X	
	P	(Not Listed)	3	0.5	Occasional		Butterflies, Bees	Cream/Yellow/Brown			X	X
	P	L	0.3-1.5	0.5	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies	Pink		X	X	
	P-D	L	1	1	Frequent - Occasional	X	Butterflies	Purple		X		
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	0.33-2.3	2	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Green		X		
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1.5-3	1+	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
	G/P/GC	L	1.5-3	1+	Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	3-5	3+	Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
	G/P/GC	L	1.3-4	3	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
	G/P/GC	L	1.5-4	1+	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
	G/P/GC	L	1-2	1	Frequent	X	Butterflies					
	G/P/GC	L	1-4.3	1	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow/Purple			X	
	G/P/GC	L	1-2	4	Occasional	X	Birds					
	G/P	L	3-4	2	Occasional	X	Butterflies					
	G/P/GC	VL	2	2	Occasional	X						

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
GRASSES (continued)							
Stipa coronatum	Giant stipa	1-9	A, E, F		FS / PS	2	
Stipa lepida	Foothill needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, D		FS / PS	1	
Stipa pulchra	Purple needlegrass	1-9	A, B, C, E	*!	FS / PS	1	
GROUNDCOVERS							
Achillea millefolium var. californicum	Yarrow	1-9	A, B, C, D, E, F	!	FS / PS	1	
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird sage	1-9	B, C, E		PS / FS	2	
ANNUALS							
Achyrachaena mollis	Blow wives	1-9	A, B, C	~ o	FS	0.5	
Ambrosia acanthicarpa	Annual bursage	1-9	A, B, C	o	FS / PS	1	
Apiastrum angustifolium	Mock parsley	1-9	A, B, C	~ o	FS	0.5	
Camissoniopsis bistorta	California sun cup	1-9	A, B, C	~	FS	0.5	
Chaenactis glabriuscula	Yellow pincushion	1-9	A, B, C	! ~ o	FS	1	
Cryptantha intermedia	Common cryptantha	1-9	A, B, C	* o	FS	0.5	
Deinandra fasciculata	Clustered tarweed	1-9	A, B, C	~	FS	1.5	
Lasthenia californica	California goldfields	1-9	A, B, C		FS / PS	0.5	
Layia platyglossa	Coastal tidy tips	1-9	A, B, C		FS	2	
Lepidium nitidum	Peppergrass	1-9	A, B, C		FS	0.5	
Phacelia stellaris	Brand's star phacelia	1-6	A, B, C		FS	0.5	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
									W	SP	SU	F
	G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	2-4	1-2	Occasional	X						
	G/P/GC	VL	1-1	2	Occasional	X						
	G/P/GC	VL	1-1	2	Occasional	X	Butterflies	Cream		X		
	P/GC	L	0.5-2	3	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White		X	X	
	P/GC	L	1	3+	Occasional	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Pink	X	X	X	
	A	(Not Listed)	1-1.5	0.5	Occasional	X		White		X		
	A	(Not Listed)	3-5	1	Occasional	X	Butterflies, Bees	Cream			X	X
	A	(Not Listed)	1.5	0.25	Occasional			White		X		
	A	(Not Listed)	1-2	1-2	Occasional	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
	A	(Not Listed)	1.5	0.5	Occasional		Bees	Yellow	X	X	X	
	A	(Not Listed)	0.25-1.5	0.25	Occasional		Butterflies, Bees	White/Yellow		X		
	A	(Not Listed)	3	2	Frequent	X	Butterflies, Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
	A	(Not Listed)	0.5-1.5	0.5	Occasional	X	Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
	A	(Not Listed)	0.5-2	0.5-2	Frequent	X	Butterflies	Yellow	X	X		
	A	(Not Listed)	1	0.5	Occasional		Butterflies	White		X		
	A	(Not Listed)	0.25-1	0.25	Occasional		Butterflies, Bees	Lavender		X		

DESERT SCRUB

Desert Creosote Bush Scrub (DS):
The Desert Creosote Bush Scrub is not a community currently native to the LA River watershed, but is native to the low-lying deserts in southeastern California (below 3500 ft). With increased temperatures and more frequent weather extremes, including drought, the plants from this list may perform well in the urban conditions of the LA River corridor. However, this list is not intended to replace the use of California natives currently adapted to Los Angeles but rather lists examples of species that will tolerate increasing temperatures.

- Requires well-drained soils, can tolerate alkaline soils and salt.
- Tolerant of a wide range of temperatures, including intense heat.

Figure 275. ***Parkinsonia florida.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=344153.
Figure 276. ***Quercus wislizeni.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Quercus_wislizeni_kz3.jpg.
Figure 277. ***Atriplex canescens.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4269398.
Figure 278. ***Calliandra eriophylla.*** Source: Chris English, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=56261079.
Figure 279. ***Fallugia paradoxa.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3929255.
Figure 280. ***Larrea tridentata.*** Source: Andrey Zharkikh, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=60781561.
Figure 281. ***Encelia farinosa.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=204952.
Figure 282. ***Sphaeralcea ambigua.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8563714.
Figure 283. ***Abutilon palmeri.*** Source: Ken-ichi Ueda, https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/27181425?size=large.

Parkinsonia florida

Quercus wislizeni

Atriplex canescens

Calliandra eriophylla

Fallugia paradoxa

Larrea tridentata

Encelia farinosa

Sphaeralcea ambigua

Abutilon palmeri

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Celtis laevigata var. reticulata	Western hackberry	1-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS / PS	6	
Chilopsis linearis	Desert willow	3-9	C, D, E	+ ^ *	FS	6	
Parkinsonia florida	Blue palo verde	3-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS	6	
Quercus wislizeni	Interior live oak	3-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS	10	
SHRUBS							
Atriplex canescens	Four-wing saltbush	1-9	C, D, E	+ *	FS	4	
Baccharis sarothroides	Broom baccharis	1-9	A, C, D, E	* !	FS	4	
Calliandra eriophylla	Fairy duster	3-9	C, D, E, F	+ *	FS	2	
Encelia actoni	Acton brittlebush	1-9	A, C, D	*	FS	3	
Encelia farinosa	Brittlebush	3-9	A, C, D, E	+ * !	FS	2	
Ephedra viridis	Mountain ephedra	3-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS / PS	3	
Ericameria nauseosa	Rabbitbrush	3-9	A, C, D, E	+ *	FS	4	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. foliolosum	Leafy California buckwheat	1-9	A, C	+ !	FS / PS	3	
Eriogonum fasciculatum var. polifolium	Interior California buckwheat	3-9	A, C	+ * !	FS / PS	3	
Fallugia paradoxa	Apache plume	3-9	A, C, D	* !	FS / PS	3	
Frangula californica ssp. californica	California coffeeberry	1-9	A, B, C, D	* !	All	6	
Hyptis emoryi	Desert lavender	3-9	C, D, E	*	FS	6	
Isomeris arborea	Bladder pod	1-9	A, C, D, E	+ * !	FS	3	
Justicia californica	Chuparosa	3-9	C, D, E	* !	FS	2	
Larrea tridentata	Creosote bush	3-9	C, D, E	*	FS	4	
Lupinus excubitus	Grape soda lupine	1-9	C, D, E	+ *	FS	4	
Lycium andersonii	Water jacket	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	4	
Peritoma arborea	Bladderpod	1-9	A, B, C	+ !	FS / PS	4	
Prosopis glandulosa	Honey mesquite	3-9	C, D, E, F	+ ^ *	FS	6	
Salvia apiana	White sage	3-9	A, C, D	+ !	FS	3	
Scutellaria mexicana	Mexican bladdersage	3-9	C, D, E	*	FS / PS	1	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

	PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	LA LEVEL III ECOREGION	ADJACENT LEVEL III ECOREGION	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
											W	SP	SU	F
	T-D	L	20-40	20-40	Occasional	X		X		Cream		X		
	T-D	VL	25	25	Occasional	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White + Pink		X	X	
	T	VL	25	20	Occasional	X		X	Birds, Bees	Yellow		X		
	T-D/S	VL	15-50	10-50	Occasional	X	X		Birds, Butterflies	Cream/Green	X	X		
	S	VL	1-10	3-7	Frequent - Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies	Yellow/Green		X	X	
	S	VL	1-12	6	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream			X	
	S	VL	1-3	3	Occasional	X		X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Purple	X	X		
	S	VL	5	5	Frequent - Occasional	X	X	X	Bees	Yellow		X	X	X
	S	VL	1-5	4	Occasional	X	X	X	Bees	Yellow	X	X		
	S	VL	3-5	3-5	Frequent - Occasional	X	X			Yellow		X		
	S	(Not Listed)	3-9	3-9	Occasional	X		X	Bees, Butterflies	Yellow			X	X
	S	VL	3-5	2-6	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Cream			X	
	S	VL	3-5	2-6	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Pink/Cream			X	
	S	VL	3-6	6	Frequent - Occasional	X		X		Lavender/Pink/White/ Green		X		
	S	VL	8	12	Occasional	X	X		Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Cream		X	X	
	S	VL	6-12	8	Occasional	X		X		Lavender/Blue	X	X		
	S	VL	1-6	6	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow	X	X		
	S	VL	2-4	4	Occasional			X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Red/Yellow		X		
	S	VL	3-12	6-12	Dominant	X		X	Bees	Yellow		X		
	S	L	7	7	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Purple/White		X	X	
	S	VL	6	6	Occasional	X		X	Birds	Cream		X		
	S	VL	3-5	5	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies, Bees	Yellow/Green	X	X		
	T-D/S	L	20-30	30	Occasional	X		X	Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	
	S	VL	3	3-5	Occasional	X	X		Birds, Butterflies, Bees	White	X	X	X	
	S	(Not Listed)	1-3	1-3	Occasional			X	Bees	Purple		X	X	

SPECIES		SITING + PERFORMANCE					
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
SHRUBS (continued)							
Simmondsia chinensis	Jojoba	1-9	A, C, D, E	+ * !	FS	4	
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Apricot mallow	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	1	
Tecoma stans	Yellow bells	1-9	A, C, D, E	* !	FS	6	
PERENNIALS							
Abutilon palmeri	Palmer's Indian mallow	1-9	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Asclepias erosa	Desert milkweed	3-9	A, C, D	+ *	FS	1	
Romneya coulteri	Coulter's Matilija poppy	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	3	
GRASSES							
Aristida purpurea	Purple three awn	1-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	1	
Bouteloua gracilis	Blue Grama	3-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS / PS	1	
Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton	1-5	A, C, D	*	FS	2	
Stipa hymenoides	Indian ricegrass	3-9	A, C, D	*	FS	1	
Stipa speciosa	Desert needlegrass	3-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	1	
SUCCULENTS							
Agave deserti	Desert agave	3-9	A, C, D	*	FS	3	
Fouquieria splendens	Ocotillo	3-9	A, C, D, E	*	FS	3	
Opuntia basilaris	Beaver tail	3-5, 9	A, C	*	FS	2	
Yucca schidigera	Mojave yucca	1-9	A, C, D	*	FS	3	
VINES							
Vitis girdiana	Desert grape	3-9	G	o	All	2	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	OCCURRENCE IN COMMUNITY	OFTEN AVAILABLE IN CA	LA LEVEL III ECOREGION	ADJACENT LEVEL III ECOREGION	POLLINATOR HABITAT	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
										W	SP	SU	F
S	VL	3-7	4-7	Occasional	X		X	Birds	Cream		X		
S	L	3-5	2-4	Frequent - Occasional	X	X	X	Bees, Butterflies	Red/Orange	X	X		
S	L	15-20	15-20	Occasional	X			Birds, Bees	Yellow			X	X
P	L	3-8	3-5	Occasional	X	X	X	Butterflies	Yellow/Orange		X		
P	VL	3	1	Occasional		X	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream		X	X	X
P	VL	6-8	6-8	Frequent	X	X		Bees, Butterflies	White/Yellow		X	X	
G/P/GC	VL	1-3	2	Frequent - Occasional	X	X	X						
G/P/GC	L	.5-2	2	Occasional	X	X	X	Butterflies	Yellow/Tan			X	
G/P	L	3-4	2	Occasional	X	X	X	Butterflies					
G/P	VL	1.2-2.3	1.5	Occasional	X	X	X	Butterflies	Yellow		X		
G/P/GC	(Not Listed)	1-2	1	Frequent		X	X						
SC	(Not Listed)	1-20	3	Occasional	X		X	Butterflies	Yellow		X	X	
S/SC	VL	10-20	15	Occasional	X		X	Birds	Red		X	X	
SC	VL	1-2	2	Occasional		X	X		Pink		X		
SC	VL	1-16	5	Occasional	X	X	X	Birds, Butterflies	Cream		X		
V/S-D	L	climbs		Occasional	X	X	X	Birds	Green		X		

CLIMATE-ADAPTED TREES

Climate Adapted Trees (CT):
The following list provides options for both California native and non-native, non-invasive tree species when more species diversity is desired. However, planting the native trees from the prior lists in this chapter is encouraged wherever possible. These trees have also been selected for their ability to survive in often harsh urban conditions and are often tolerant of both smog and heat. If a project is an urban-wildland interface area, the use of non-native species is not encouraged.

- Useful at gateways for visual impact or additional shade.
- Can tolerate the harsh urban environment.
- Additional species can be considered on a per-project basis.

Figure 284. ***Cercis occidentalis.*** Source: Stan Shebs, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cercis_occidentalis_1.jpg.
Figure 285. ***Chilopsis linearis.*** Source: Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=54448559.
Figure 286. ***Chitalpa tashkentensis.*** Source: Frau Siebenschläfer, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15746538.
Figure 287. ***Hesperocyparis forbesii.*** Source: Consultaplantas, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cupressus_forbesii_1c.JPG.
Figure 288. ***Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp. asplenifolius.*** Source: J Brew, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15394974.
Figure 289. ***Pinus torreyana.*** Source: Richard O. Barry, https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pinus_torreyana_at_State_Reserve.jpg
Figure 290. ***Quillaja saponaria.*** Source: Daderot, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37387713.
Figure 291. ***Quercus douglasii.*** Source: Yath, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Large_Blue_Oak.jpg.
Figure 292. ***Tipuana tipu.*** Source: Daniel Ventura, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2246165.

Cercis occidentalis

Chilopsis linearis

Chitalpa tashkentensis

Hesperocyparis forbesii

Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp. asplenifolius

Pinus torreyana

Quillaja saponaria

Quercus douglasii

Tipuana tipu

SPECIES

SITING + PERFORMANCE

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	FRAMES FOR BEST PERFORMANCE	CONSTRUCTED CONTEXTS	APPLICATIONS	SUN EXPOSURE	SETBACK FROM PAVEMENT (FEET)	
TREES							
Arbutus 'Marina'	Marina madrone	1-9	C, D, E	+ *	FS	15	
Calocedrus decurrens	Incense Cedar	3-9	A, B, C, D	+	FS / PS	15	
Cercis occidentalis	Western redbud	3-9	B, C, E	+ ^	FS / PS	5	
Chilopsis linearis	Desert willow	3-9	C, D, E	+ ^ *	FS	4-6	
Chitalpa tashkentensis	Chitalpa	1-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS / PS	6-8	
Cordia boissieri	Texas Wild Olive	1-9	A, C, D, E	^ *	FS	6-8	
Cupressus arizonica	Arizona cypress	3-9	A, C, D	*	FS / PS	10	
Dalbergia sissoo	Indian rosewood	3-9	A, C, D, E	* !	FS / PS	10	
Forestiera neomexicana	Desert olive	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	+ ^ *	FS	6-8	
Hesperocyparis forbesii	Tecate cypress	3-9	C, D	+ * !	FS	10	
Laurus nobilis	Sweet Bay	1-9	A, C, D, E	^ *	FS / PS	6-8	
Lophostemon confertus	Brisbane Box	1-5	C, E, F	^	FS / PS	6-8	
Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp. asplenifolius	Ironwood	1-5	B, C, E	^	FS / PS	6-8	
Olneya tesota	Desert ironwood	3-9	C, D, E	+ *	FS	6-8	
Pinus canariensis	Canary Island pine	1-9	A, B, C, D	*	FS / PS	5	
Pinus coulteri	Coulter pine	3-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	6-8	
Pinus eldarica	Eldarica pine	1-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS	6-8	
Pinus halepensis	Aleppo pine	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	*	FS	6-8	
Pinus muricata	Bishop pine	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	*	FS / PS	10	
Pinus pinea	Stone pine	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	^ *	FS	15	
Pinus torreyana	Torrey pine	1-9	A, B, C	+	FS / PS	10	
Quercus chrysolepis	Canyon live oak	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	+ ^	FS / PS	15	
Quercus douglasii	Blue Oak	3-9	A, B, C, D, E	+ ^	FS / PS	10	
Quillaja saponaria	Soapbark tree	1-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS / PS	10	
Searsia lancea	African sumac	1-9	C, D, E	^ * !	FS	10	
Tipuana tipu	Tipu tree	1-9	C, D, E	^ *	FS / PS	15	
Vitex agnus-castus	Chaste tree	1-9	A, B, C, D, E	^ *	FS	5	

DESCRIPTIVE FEATURES

PLANT FORM	WATER USE (WUCOLS IV)	MATURE HEIGHT (FEET)	MATURE WIDTH (FEET)	LA LEVEL III ECOREGION	ADJACENT LEVEL III ECOREGION	BLOOM COLOR	BLOOM SEASON			
							W	SP	SU	F
T	M	25-40	50			Pink			X	
T	M	12-150	50	X	X					
T-D	L	6-25	10-18	X		Pink		X		
T-D	VL	25	25	X	X	White + Pink		X	X	
T-D	L	20-35	20-30			Pink		X	X	X
T	L	15-25	15-25							
T	VL	30-80	30	X	X					
T-D	L	45-60	30-40			Yellow/Cream		X	X	
T/S	L	10-18	10	X	X					
T	VL	33	25	X						
T/S	L	40	30			Yellow		X		
T	M	30-60	20-40			White			X	
T	L	30-60	20-40	X		White/Brown		X	X	
T	(Not Listed)	20-30	20		X	Purple		X		
T	L	50-80	20-35							
T	L	30-60	25-40	X						
T	L	30-55	11-24							
T	L	30-60	20-40							
T	L	40-90	30	X						
T	L	40-50	40-50							
T	L	40-70	20-45	X						
T	L	30-90	30-60	X		Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T-D	VL	15-80	30	X		Yellow/Cream	X	X		
T	L	25-60	10-35			Yellow/Cream		X	X	
T	L	20-25	20-35			Yellow/Green			X	
T-D	L	50	50+			Yellow			X	
T/S-D	L	8-10	5-8			Purple			X	

ECOLOGY, HABITAT, AND PLANTING CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist in Chapter 2 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Detailed Drawing and Specification Technical Requirements Checklist for Ecology, Habitat, and Planting

Planting Along Levees and Floodwalls

- □ Follow the most recent USACE Guidelines.
- □ Follow the 17 foot Limited Landscape Management Zone requirements.
- □ Indicate in site plan a 3 - 6 foot clear line of sight at access points and trail intersections.
- □ Deploy BMPs to capture stormwater where possible.

Maintenance Buffers and Clearances

- □ All maintenance vehicles must have ingress and egress clearance at all times.
- □ Any alteration or design of service roads must meet with county approval.
- □ A minimum 4 foot trees and tall shrub setback from the sidewalk adjacent to vehicular ingress/egress from arterial streets.
- □ Vehicular access gates are to be setback 20 feet from the arterial street curb when available and feasible.
- □ Consult with appropriate utility company if working in a utility easement or right-of-way

Soils

- □ Test soils. If soils are contaminated, create a remediation plan.
- □ Peat shall not be specified as a soil mix component.
- □ Test samples of salvaged on-site topsoil, all plant mix materials, and organic material components which are intended to be used for planting soil mixes and final mixes by an independent Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory acceptable to the landscape architect and in accordance with the current standards of the Soil Science Society of America. All reports shall be sent to the landscape architect for approval.

Irrigation

- □ Irrigation supply and system components shall comply with LA County Low Impact Development Manual, LA County water sources, conservation standards, and current California Green Building Standards Code.
- □ Use recycled or reclaimed water for irrigation where possible; ensure planting is compatible with salinity levels of irrigation water.
- □ Provide a soil and water source analysis prior to design of the irrigation system and develop a watering, nutrition, and amendment schedule in response to the analysis.
- □ Analyze total dissolved salts from water sources to confirm plant types are compatible with saline soils. Provide soil amendments or on-going organic water treatment to reduce high salt or TDS levels.
- □ All drip irrigation systems shall be installed in a manner that can provide multiple emitters to each container plant.
- □ Irrigation details shall provide for appropriate use of in-line filters, pressure regulators, pressure compensating emission devices, and end-flush valves.

Wildfire management

- □ For larger projects or those that interface with a wildlife area, indicate wildfire breaks on the site plan.

ECOLOGY, HABITAT, AND PLANTING CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist in Chapter 2 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Tree and Shrub Planting

- ☐ Do not plant species listed as invasive by the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC).
- ☐ Planting in the LA River channel should only occur where excess hydraulic capacity is confirmed.
- ☐ Planting plans should show frequency and placement of plant species with graphic hatches and annotations. Hatches can be further detailed with a graphic matrix showing typical plant placement. Sizes and quantity should be indicated on the corresponding plant schedule.
- ☐ Identify areas on plan that are habitat focused and those that are program focused.
- ☐ In habitat-focused areas, show the that the following criteria is met in the planting schedule:
  - 95% minimum of the total number of plants of the same pot size to be LA River Watershed native species (refer to the native plant community lists in this chapter).
  - 5% maximum of the total number of plants of the same pot size to be native to Los Angeles' Level III ecoregion (Southern California/Northern Baja Coast; Southern California Mountains).
  - 10% minimum of the total number of LA River Watershed native plants of the same pot size to be locally sourced in the LA River Watershed. Higher percentages should be achieved as local supply capacity increases.
- ☐ In program-focused areas, show the that the following criteria is met in the planting schedule:
  - 85% minimum of the total number of plants of the same pot size to be native to the LA River Watershed (refer to the native plant community lists in this chapter) or the Level III ecoregions of Los Angeles and just east of Los Angeles, as appropriate per planting context and climate regimes (Southern California/Northern Baja Coast; Southern California Mountains; Mojave Basin and Range; Sonoran Basin and Range).
  - 15% maximum of the total number of plants of the same pot size to be climate-adapted, non-native non-invasive species.

- ☐ Install native planting in the late fall through winter (between November 1 and March 15 or as specified in the schedule prepared by the project landscape architect).
- ☐ Eradicate all existing invasive plant species on site. Existing, non-native, non-invasive species may be retained until senescence then replaced with appropriate native plants.
- ☐ Procure plant material from a nursery that holds an appropriate nursery license with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to sell the requested plant material. Contractor shall submit proof of license that all plant material was obtained by a pest free nursery in good standing with CDFA.
- ☐ Plant material quantities and handling standards must comply with the latest version of the American Standard for Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1) published by the American Horticulture Industry Association.
- ☐ Procure plants that are not rootbound.
- ☐ Avoid purchasing plants affected by pathogens and use nurseries that incorporate best practices for pathogen avoidance, such as member nurseries of the Southern California Nursery Best Management Practices (BMP) Group.
- ☐ The contractor shall acquire all seed material of the required type, sizes, and quantities through sources approved by the project landscape architect. Weed seed shall not exceed 1% by weight of the total mixture. Wet, moldy, or otherwise damaged seed shall be rejected.
- ☐ Do not use seeds treated with mercury.
- ☐ Include proper drainage of planting in drawings and installation.
- ☐ Conduct percolation tests to determine positive drainage of all plant pits. Note percolation performance requirements may be designated by the landscape architect or as required in the LA County Public Works Low Impact Development Manual.
- ☐ All plants are to be thoroughly watered upon installation to compact soil and settle plants to natural soil depth. Excessive watering shall be minimized to prevent erosion.
- ☐ Planting areas that are not seeded are to be covered with 3-6" of organic mulch.

ECOLOGY, HABITAT, AND PLANTING CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist in Chapter 2 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Detailed Maintenance Program Checklist for Ecology, Habitat, and Planting

All projects along the LA River are required to develop a three year monitoring and maintenance program prior to start of construction. This program begins on completion of the last day of the planting operation and emphasizes proper application of supplemental water, replacement planting, and weed management to achieve an increased rate of vegetation establishment and growth. Regular inspections and decisions regarding weed management, supplemental irrigation, and additional planting actions should also be in the plan.

3 Year Monitoring and Maintenance Program

Program Management

- ☐ All management actions shall be implemented by experienced crews with knowledge and familiarity of native plants and adaptive management. Education, training, and/or certification in the care of CA native species and habitat planting is required for these maintenance crews.
- ☐ All maintenance actions are to be managed by the landscape architect, botanist, ecologist, or land care professional who is responsible to conduct regular inspections, maintain written records, and to make decisions that will further improve the establishment of the vegetation. Twice monthly visits are to be scheduled in the first sixteen weeks of planting establishment to observe landscape performance. A brief summary report shall be prepared for each visit by approved professionals (the landscape architect, botanist, ecologist, or land care professional).
- ☐ All programs, schedules of maintenance action, and summary reports shall be submitted to the county/contracting officer.

Tree and Shrub Planting

- ☐ Include budget for replacement planting. Long-term management actions and replacement plantings are to emphasize native species and non-invasive species for future climate regimes.
- ☐ Restoration of damage to landscape plantings by acts of vandalism, storms, heavy equipment, or other causes shall be repaired or replaced in a manner that is consistent with the original planting program unless otherwise directed by the landscape architect.(Adjustments to the types of replacement plants may be decided if a particular species is showing inadequate suitability to the conditions of the site.)
- ☐ Plants shall be checked for settlement and shall be reset at proper grade as necessary.
- ☐ Germination and growth of plants is to be inspected on a weekly basis for the first three months following planting to monitor progress and observe problems as they arise.
- ☐ Monitoring should include noting any signs of insect or disease outbreaks, with treatment taken as needed.

- ☐ If staking trees is specified they shall be inspected monthly and be maintained to support and protect trees until they are able to stand alone.
- ☐ By the end of summer, the project landscape architect, botanist, ecologist, or land care professional is to prepare a detailed program and schedule of supplemental planting actions that must be implemented by fall or early winter to work with the best climate and planting season for native species.
- ☐ All supplemental planting actions are to be done with care and in a manner that minimizes disturbance to the adjacent soils and vegetation.

Irrigation

- ☐ For native planting, use irrigation systems only for establishment and drought period. Limit summer water after establishment.
- ☐ For all plant material irrigation systems, a baseline irrigation watering schedule will be provided to meet the following requirements:
- ☐ **Permanently Irrigated Landscape**
    - Establishment watering schedule is to meet the requirements and recommendations of the plant material provider.
    - Staged watering schedule should be designed to deepen plant root zone growth and ability to thrive on reduced supplemental watering schedule.
    - The proposed watering schedule should provide for future plant root zone growth and established requirements to promote healthy plant establishment and maturation.
- ☐ **Establishment Irrigated Native Landscape**
    - Establishment watering schedule to meet the requirements and recommendations of the native seed and/or plant material provider.
    - Staged watering schedule designed to 'harden off' plant materials over a three-year growth period to encourage deep, stable root growth and the ability to thrive on natural precipitation.
    - The proposed watering schedule will provide for future plant root zone growth and established requirements to promote healthy plant establishment and maturation.

ECOLOGY, HABITAT, AND PLANTING CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist in Chapter 2 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

- ☐ All irrigation systems shall be inspected throughout the year. See seasonal maintenance recommendations below.
- ☐ **Spring (seasonal system start-up as applicable)**
  - Prior to heavy summer irrigation system use, complete full system operational check to verify the following:
  - Confirm upcoming watering schedule accords with average weather conditions and upcoming plant establishment requirements.
  - Control system operation, connection to local weather station, rain sensor, master valve, and flow sensor.
  - Test the backflow prevention device for proper operation and protection of upstream water supply.
  - Integrity of mainline and lateral piping, repair leaks, and related failures.
  - Remote control valve operation.
  - Clean drip zone filter kits and test operation.
  - Review operation of each irrigation zone and adjust or repair each emission device for proper operation.
- ☐ **Summer**
  - Once monthly, operate each irrigation zone and repair or adjust as necessary to eliminate leaks, overspray onto hardscape areas, and other system casualties.
- ☐ **Fall (seasonal system shut down as applicable)**
  - Winterize the irrigation system in accordance with local regulation and manufacturer recommendations.

Pruning and Weeding

- □ Invasive species growth shall be continuously monitored during the planting process. Perform weeding and supplemental mulching as necessary to prevent the spread of invasive species. The specific methods, products, and areas where weeding is proposed shall be approved by the project landscape architect. Refer to Los Angeles County Weed Management Area Best Management Practices manual.[42]

- □ All trees and shrubs shall be allowed to grow to their natural genetic form and size. Do not excessively prune plants. Limb tree branches to required height for USACE or LA County Flood Control District maintenance areas only once the trees have reached maturity.

- □ Include provisions for wildfire management and prevention:

    - Properly prune shrubs to reduce fuel load.

    - Reduce and remove invasive grasses and other invasive annuals which can increase fire risk.

- □ All pruning and weeding actions are to be done with care and in a manner that minimizes disturbance to the adjacent soils and vegetation.

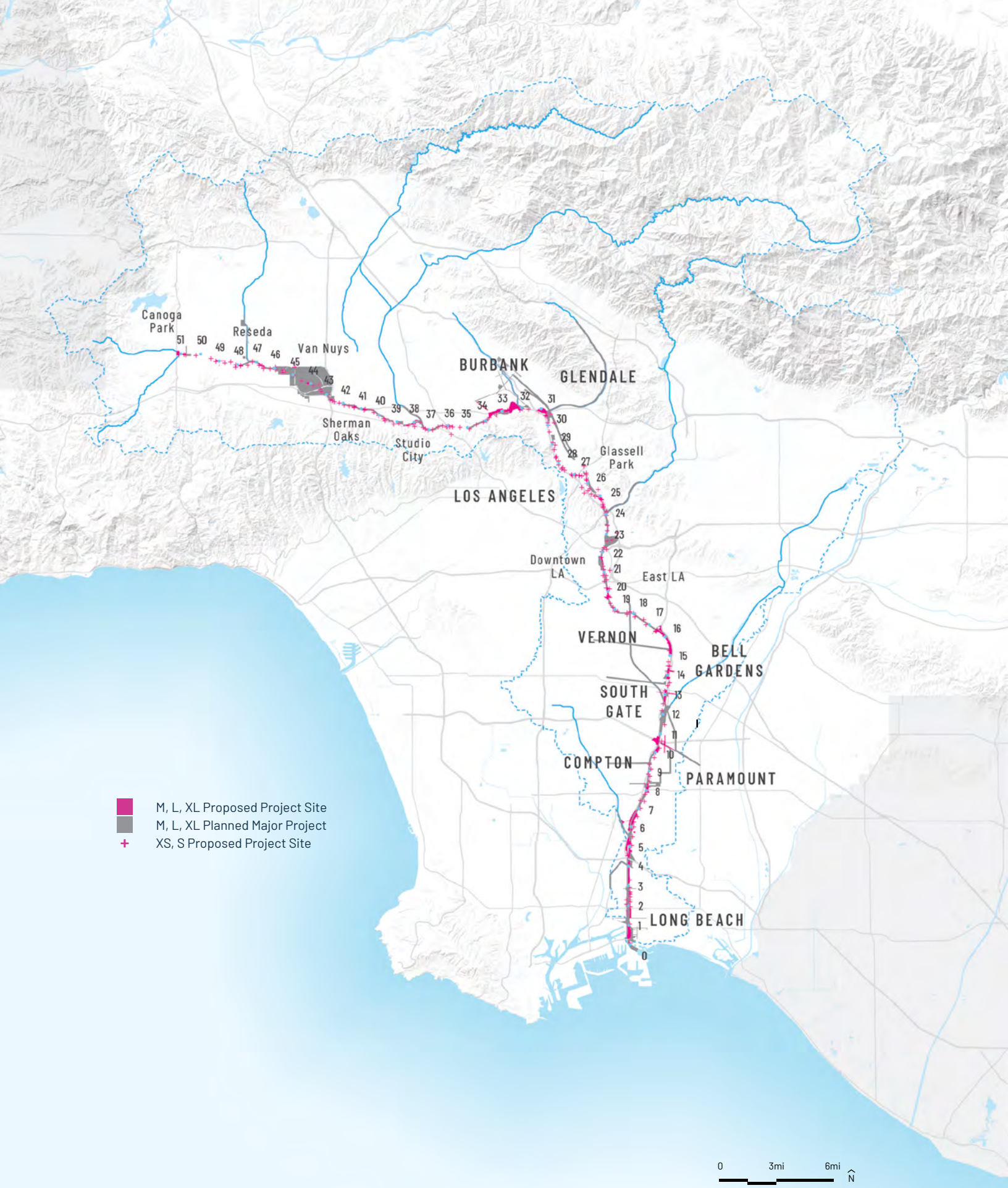


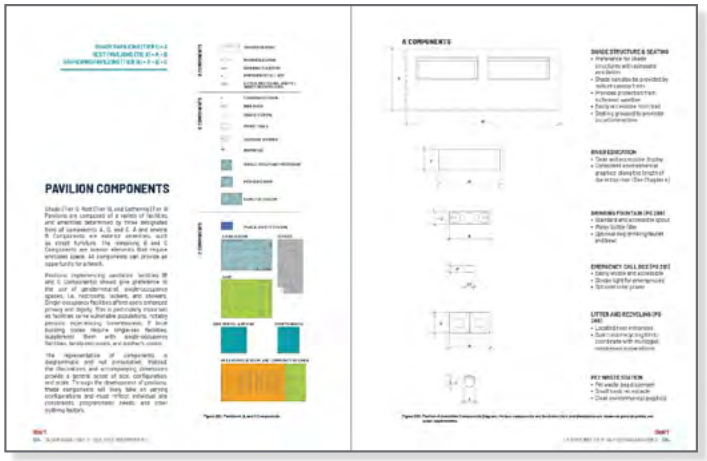
Figure 293. Projects Along the LA River. A consistent cadence of XS, S, M, L, and XL projects occurs along the 51 miles of the LA River.

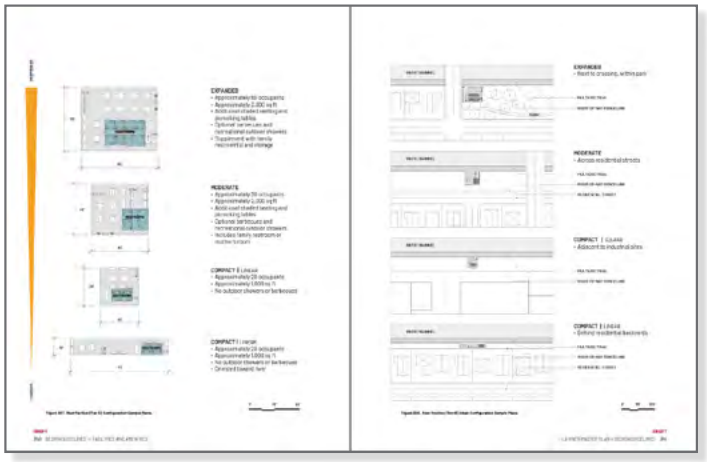
6.
FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

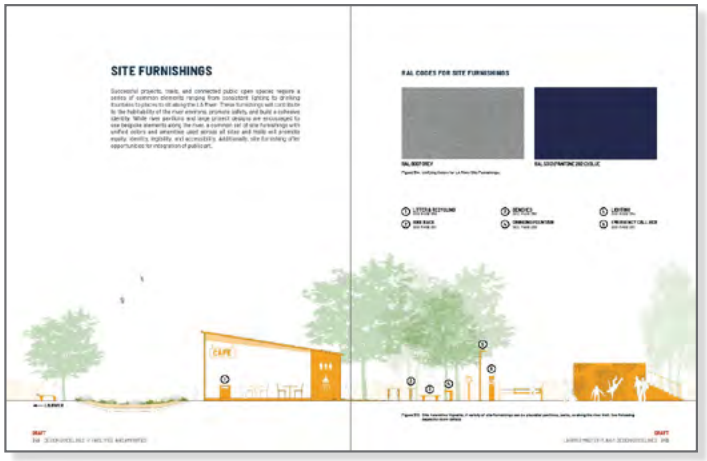
Facilities and amenities along the LA River promote a sense of place and belonging along the river corridor. They are not only what draw people to the river, but also encourage them to stay for longer periods of time to enjoy the river with comfort and safety. These amenities, ranging from large pavilions to a single bench, are meant to be used by all people, including commuters, recreational users, nearby residents, and persons experiencing homelessness. Though the River Pavilions are a significant community resource and house a cluster of various amenities, a single drinking fountain along the multiuse river trail is just as vital to the experience of a person along the river. Most importantly, these facilities and amenities should strive for design excellence. Great design of these elements will elevate the experience of users along the river and offer opportunities for artwork. Additionally, they must be maintained, be visible, and occur at a consistent cadence so that people know what to expect along the river corridor. This consistency encourages community members to keep coming back and exploring the LA River.

WHAT'S IN THE CHAPTER

The following pages contain the information regarding the size, occupancy, program, and configuration of the different types of pavilions along the LA River. This chapter will also provide information regarding the types of site furnishings that are deemed acceptable to be used along the river. Consult the checklist at the end of the chapter to ensure the correct guideline items are followed.







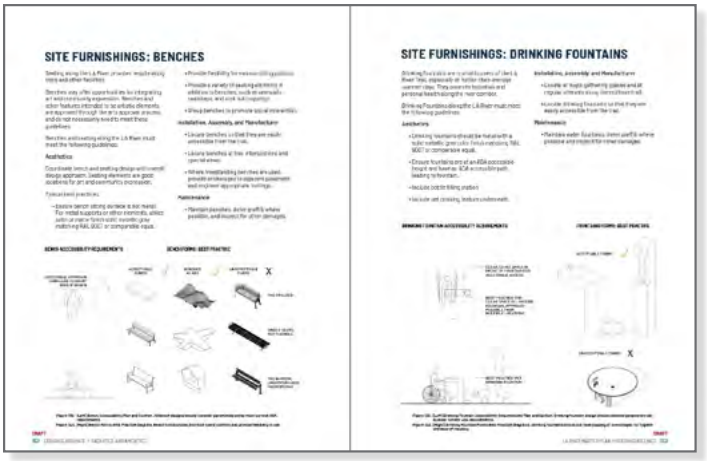


Figure 294. Chapter 6 of this document covers items related to facilities and amenities along the LA River.

THE LA RIVER'S SHADE (TIER I), REST (TIER II), AND GATHERING (TIER III) PAVILIONS FORM A VARIED NETWORK OF COMMUNITY ASSETS THAT ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

RIVER PAVILIONS

Pavilions situated along the LA River will house numerous facilities and amenities and will form a network of programs and activities to support a continuous and unified experience along the river trail. Pavilions serve as an asset for river users and river-adjacent communities. They should complement existing neighborhood assets, such as parks, schools, community facilities, public transit, and cultural organizations to form enriched nodes of interest. Furthermore, pavilions provide multiple opportunities for artwork. Other master plans and urban designs have already identified several sites for facilities and amenities, but additional pavilions are necessary to establish a regular and equitable cadence for all river users.

The architecture of the River Pavilions should meet the highest standard of design excellence. All pavilions should have a finish floor elevation above the 1% storm event level. If elevation at the 1% storm event level is not feasible, first consider other locations. If no other location is possible, consider making the facility floodable. Further, the maintenance planning for the pavilions is critical, as to best alleviate future operations and maintenance costs.

Figure 295. Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park is one example of an existing pavilion along the LA River at river mile 26. Source:LA Public Works, 2018.

River Pavilions have been organized into three tiers based on the number and type of amenities provided. Pavilions with baseline amenities will occur more frequently in the cadence along the river, while pavilions with added amenities occur more intermittently at an appropriate cadence. Shade Pavilions (Tier I), the baseline, include seating, shade structures, drinking fountains, waste disposal, and an emergency call box. Rest Pavilions (Tier II) include the baseline amenities Shade Pavilion (Tier I) and restrooms, bike racks, picnic tables, charging stations, and vending machines, with optional barbecues and outdoor showers.

Gathering Pavilions (Tier III), include all Shade (Tier I) and Rest (Tier II) Pavilion amenities in addition to a cafe, indoor showers, lockers, public safety station, and bike rental and repair. Sports equipment rental, multipurpose rooms, and community kitchens can further enhance Gathering Pavilions (Tier III). Larger pavilions, in particular, operate as destinations in themselves attracting visitors to the river. More information on potential use of different pavilions can be found later in this chapter. Within each tier, pavilions can adjust in scale, configuration, and specific program to react to local site conditions and amenities that may already exist.

CONSISTENTLY DISTRIBUTE PAVILIONS ALONG THE 51 MILES OF THE LA RIVER TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL FACILITIES AND AMENITIES WITHIN REACH OF ALL OF THE RIVER'S USERS AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

PAVILION CADENCE

A network of pavilions along the LA River should adhere to a cadence that optimizes an equitable distribution of facilities and amenities for river users and river-adjacent communities.

Ideally, Shade (Tier I) and Rest (Tier II) Pavilions alternate every 1/2 mile along both sides of the river where feasible, with the exception of gaps in the river trail. Shade (Tier I) and Rest (Tier II) Pavilions should have a spacing tolerance of 1/10th of a mile to provide adequate flexibility in selecting appropriate and favorable sites. The 1/2 mile spacing affords river users shaded seating within an approximate five-minute walk in either direction. The one-mile spacing between Rest Pavilions (Tier II) in particular provides river users a restroom facility within an estimated ten-minute walk in either direction.

Located every 2-3 miles on either side of the river, Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) should be located in conjunction with river gateway access points, enhancing their accessibility to river-adjacent communities. The spacing of the pavilions is intended to create a consistent cadence of amenities without creating redundancy. The spacing tolerance of 1/10th of a mile helps equalize the distribution of facilities and amenities. For example, if a Gathering Pavilion (Tier III) falls within 1/2 mile of a Shade (Tier I) or Rest (Tier II) Pavilion, the smaller pavilion should move 1/10th of a mile away from the larger one.

Upon full implementation of the LA River Master Plan, pavilions will regularly stand on both banks of the river along its continuous 51 miles of connected open space. The spacing of pavilions on opposite riverbanks does not need to align with one another. Instead, it is more important that pavilions situate appropriately in their context, instead of adhering to a rigid plan at the expense of more logical and strategic placement. Further, additional pavilions can supplement the baseline cadence to respond to community needs and increased visitation.

Urban context should further inform site selection and the orientation of pavilions. Optimized placement of pavilions enhances the river's relationship to the river itself, along with proximate streets, crossings, parks, community facilities, and public transportation. River users should have a plethora of facilities and amenities within every frame, along both banks of the river.

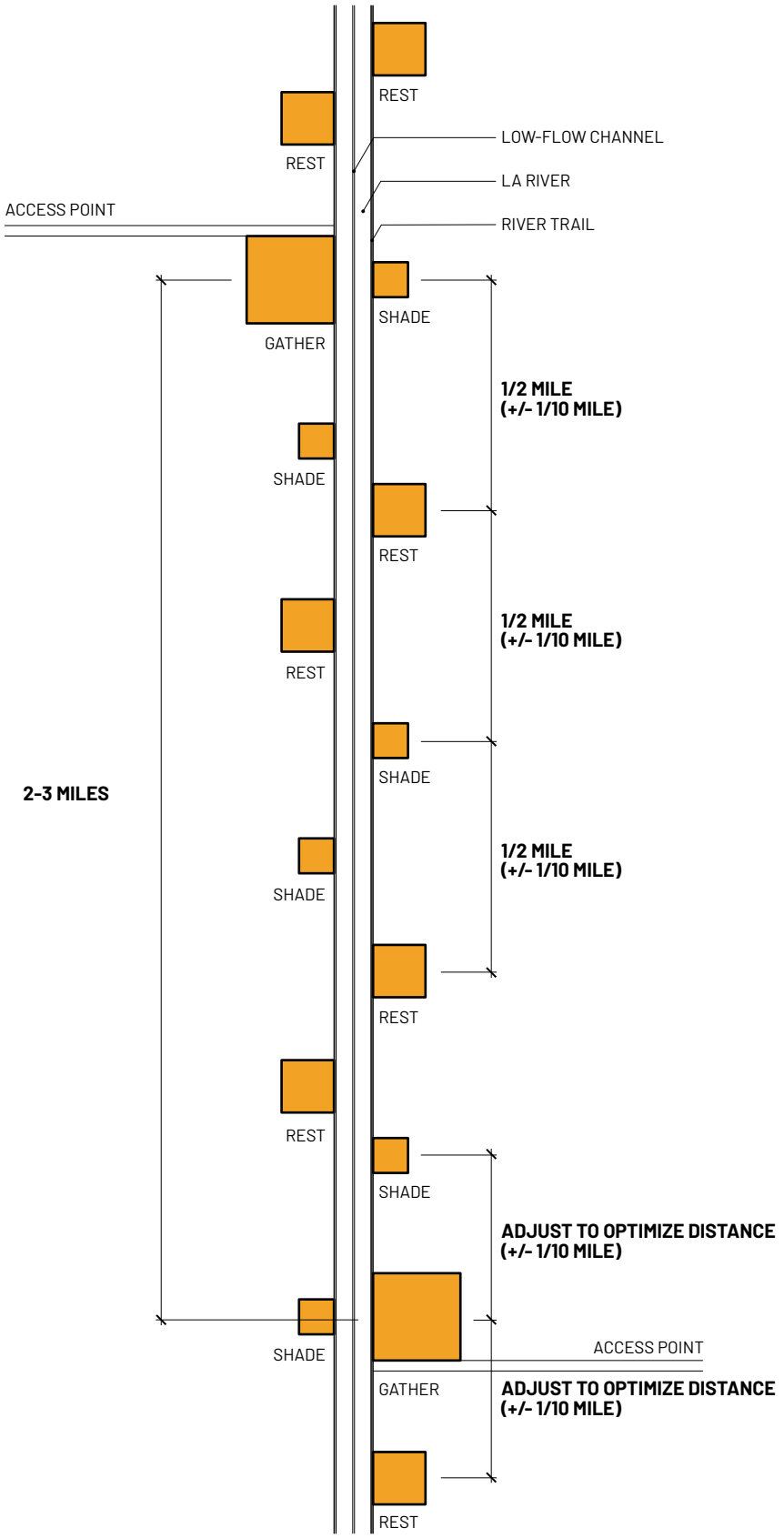


Figure 296. Shade, Rest, and Gathering Pavilions all occur at a consistent cadence along the river. A base level of amenities are to be installed at a minimum of every half mile along each bank of the river.

SHADE PAVILIONS (TIER I) = A
REST PAVILIONS (TIER II) = A + B
GATHERING PAVILIONS (TIER III) = A + B + C

PAVILION COMPONENTS

Shade (Tier I), Rest (Tier II), and Gathering (Tier II) Pavilions are composed of a variety of facilities and amenities determined by three designated tiers of components A, B, and C. A and several B Components are exterior amenities, such as street furniture. The remaining B and C Components are interior elements that require enclosed space. All components can provide an opportunity for artwork.

Pavilions implementing sanitation facilities (B and C Components) should give preference to the use of gender-neutral, single-occupancy spaces, i.e. restrooms, lockers, and showers. Single-occupancy facilities afford users enhanced privacy and dignity. This is particularly important as facilities serve vulnerable populations, notably persons experiencing homelessness. If local building codes require single-sex facilities, supplement them with single-occupancy facilities, family restrooms, and mother's rooms.

The representation of components is diagrammatic and not prescriptive. Instead, the illustrations and accompanying dimensions provide a general sense of size, configuration, and scale. Through the development of pavilions, these components will likely take on varying configurations and must reflect individual site constraints, programmatic needs, and other outlying factors.

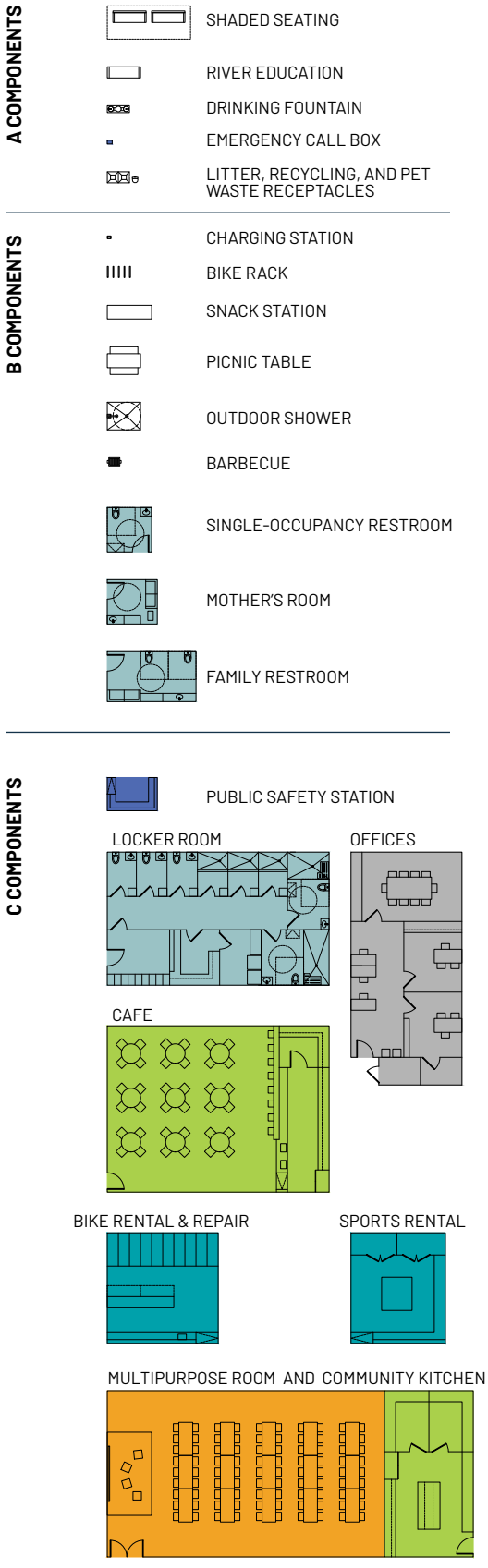
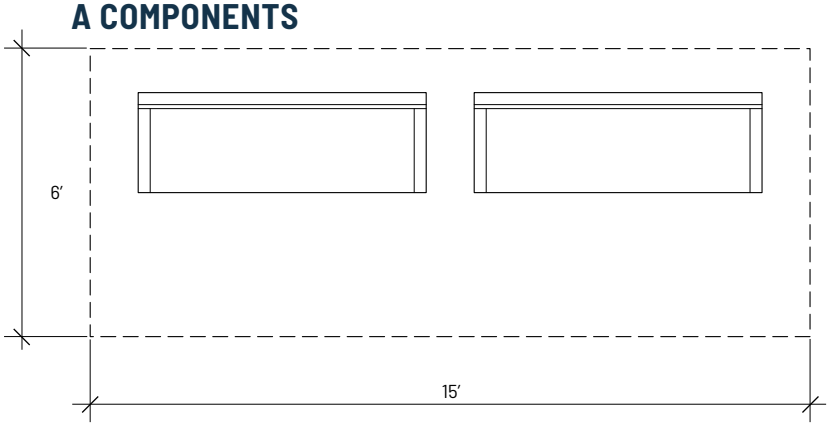


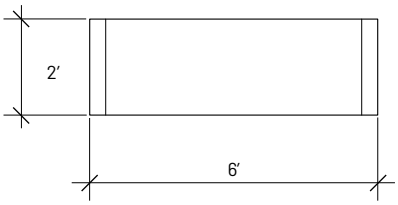
Figure 297. Pavilion A, B, and C components range in size and programming from shade and drinking fountains to restrooms and community kitchens.

A COMPONENTS



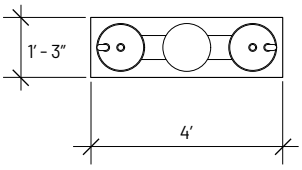
SHADE STRUCTURE & SEATING

- Preference for shade structures with adequate ventilation
- Shade can also be provided by mature canopy trees
- Provides protection from inclement weather
- Easily accessible from trail
- Seating grouped to promote social interaction



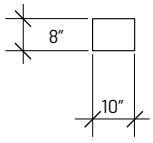
RIVER EDUCATION

- Clear and accessible display
- Consistent environmental graphics along the length of the entire river (See Chapter 4)



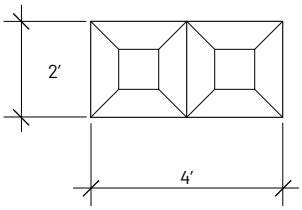
DRINKING FOUNTAIN (PG 289)

- Standard and accessible spout
- Water bottle filler
- Optional dog drinking faucet and bowl



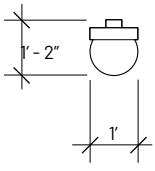
EMERGENCY CALL BOX (PG 291)

- Easily visible and accessible
- Strobe light for emergencies
- Optional solar power



LITTER AND RECYCLING (PG 288)

- Located near entrances
- Dual trash/recycling bin to coordinate with municipal maintenance operations

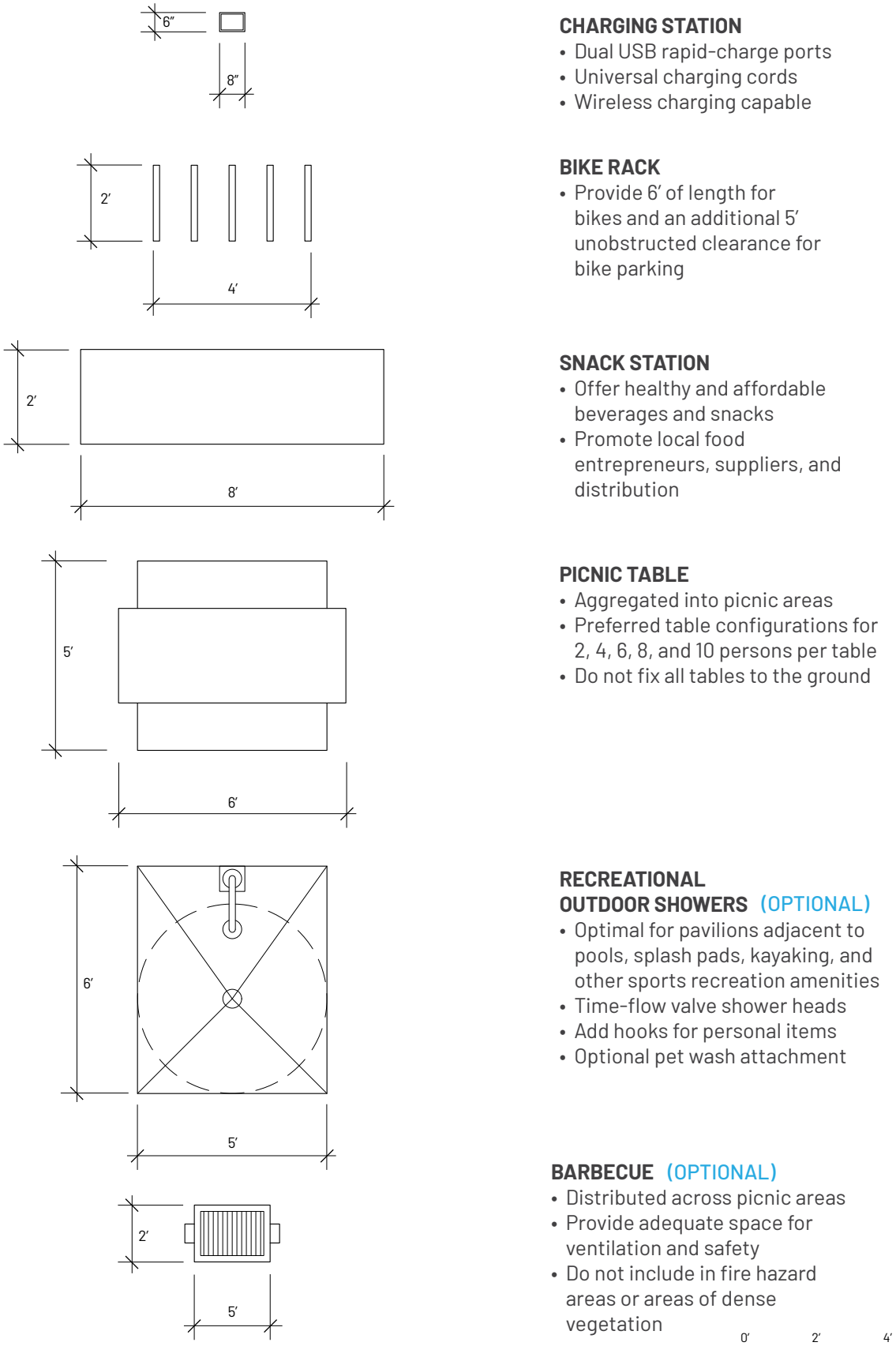


PET WASTE STATION

- Pet waste bag dispenser
- Small trash receptacle
- Clear environmental graphics

Figure 298. The basic components of a Shade Pavilion include shade, seating, and drinking fountains. Various components are illustrated here and dimensions are shown as general guides, not exact requirements.

B COMPONENTS



CHARGING STATION
- Dual USB rapid-charge ports
- Universal charging cords
- Wireless charging capable

BIKE RACK
- Provide 6′ of length for bikes and an additional 5′ unobstructed clearance for bike parking

SNACK STATION
- Offer healthy and affordable beverages and snacks
- Promote local food entrepreneurs, suppliers, and distribution

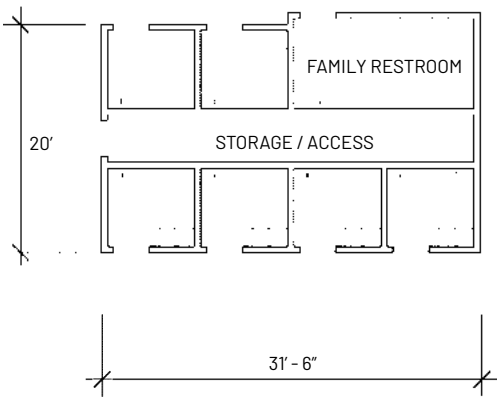
PICNIC TABLE
- Aggregated into picnic areas
- Preferred table configurations for 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 persons per table
- Do not fix all tables to the ground

RECREATIONAL OUTDOOR SHOWERS (OPTIONAL)
- Optimal for pavilions adjacent to pools, splash pads, kayaking, and other sports recreation amenities
- Time-flow valve shower heads
- Add hooks for personal items
- Optional pet wash attachment

BARBECUE (OPTIONAL)
- Distributed across picnic areas
- Provide adequate space for ventilation and safety
- Do not include in fire hazard areas or areas of dense vegetation

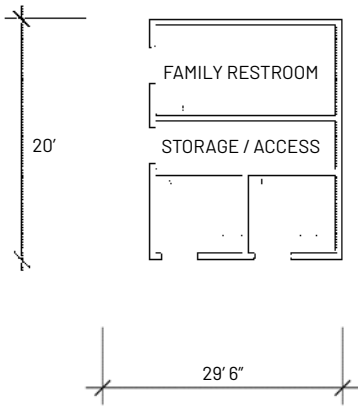
Figure 299. The basic components of a Rest Pavilion include restrooms, bike racks, and a snack station. Dimensions are general guides and not exact requirements.

TIER II - BASIC SANITATION FACILITIES



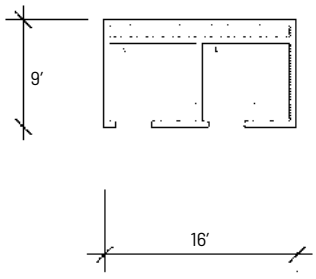
SINGLE OCCUPANCY | LARGE

- Modular and standardized
- 6 restrooms
- 1 family restroom
- Changing station
- Storage and access room
- Modular and standardized



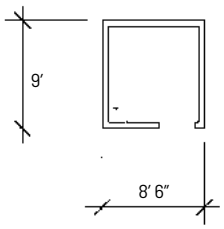
SINGLE OCCUPANCY | MEDIUM

- Modular and standardized
- 2 restrooms
- 1 family restroom
- Changing station
- Storage and access room
- Modular and standardized



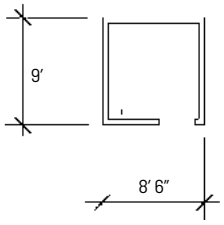
SINGLE OCCUPANCY | SMALL

- 2 restrooms
- Changing station
- Access shaft for plumbing
- Modular and standardized



MOTHER'S ROOM (OPTIONAL)

- Changing station
- Seating and space for nursing
- Bottle warmer
- Modular and standardized



STORAGE ROOM (PREFERRED)

- Storage and cleaning supplies
- Utility sink and counter space
- Space for bathroom attendant

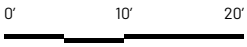
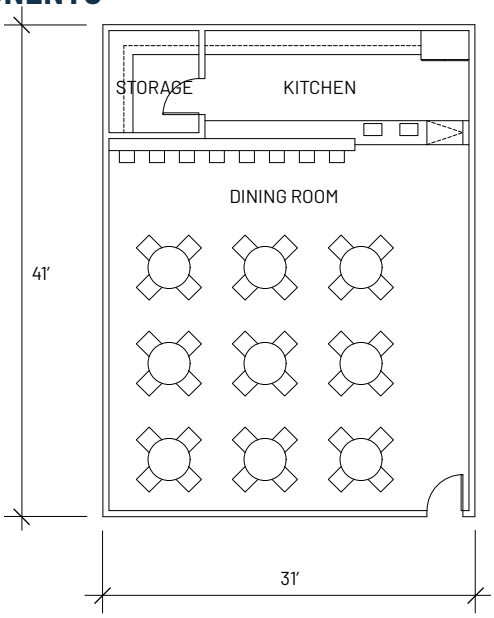
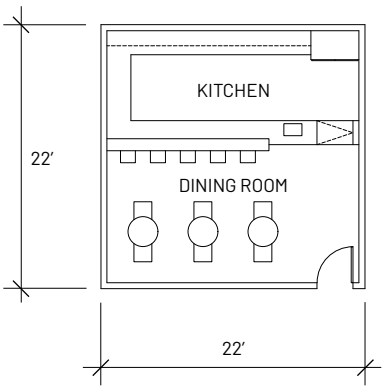


Figure 300. Restrooms should consist of single occupancy stalls, preferably including both a storage room and a mother's room. Various components are illustrated here and dimensions are shown as general guides, not exact requirements.

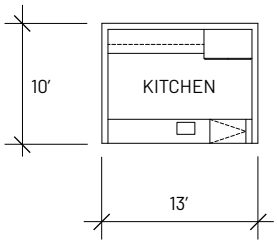
C COMPONENTS



CAFE | LARGE
- Appropriate for large pavilion with other significant program
- Table seating and counter service
- Full service kitchen capable of on-site preparation
- Take-out / ready-made counter
- Separate food storage



CAFE | MEDIUM
- Appropriate for small and medium pavilions
- Limited table seating and counter service
- Kitchen capable of basic on-site preparation
- Take-out / ready-made counter

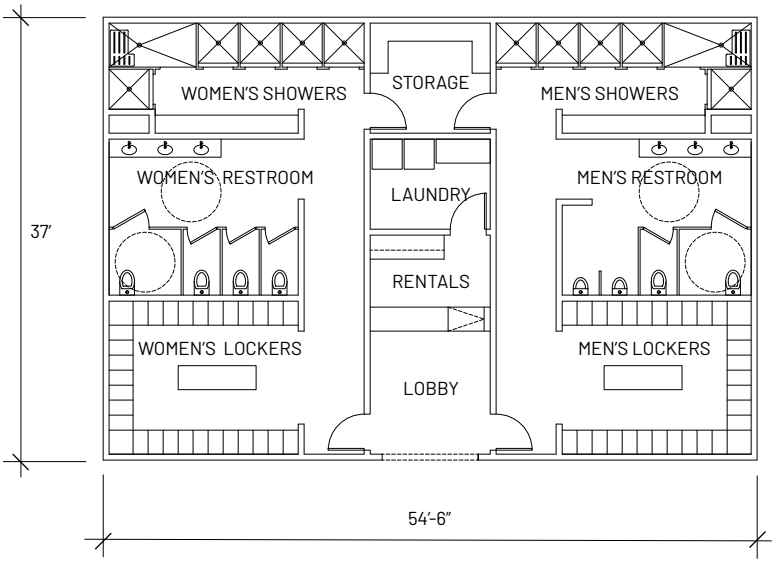


CAFE | SMALL
- Appropriate for small pavilions and outdoor picnic areas
- No indoor seating
- Limited on-site preparation
- Take-out / ready-made counter

0' 10' 20'

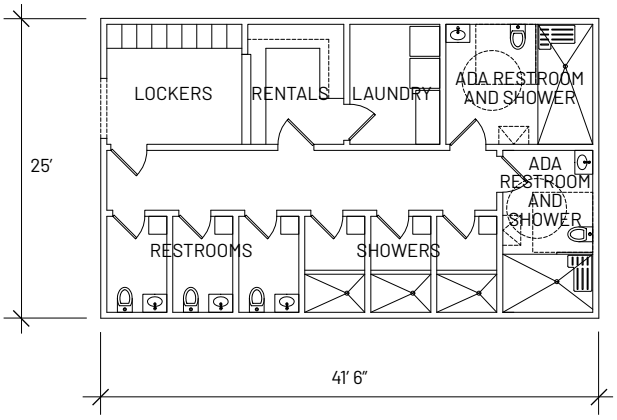
Figure 301. The basic components of a Gather Pavilion include a programed element such as a cafe or community center. Cafes can vary in size depending on the project site. Dimensions are general guides and not exact requirements.

TIER III - ENHANCED SANITATION FACILITIES



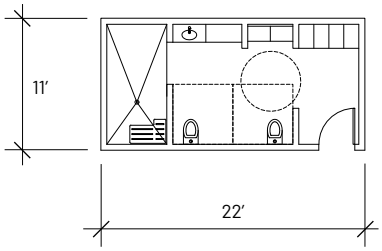
SINGLE-SEX LOCKER ROOM

- Utilize single-sex locker room configurations only when required by local building code
- Provides an efficient and centralized use of space
- Does not afford users the same level of privacy as single occupancy showers, restrooms, or changing areas
- On-site attendant required
- Customized to pavilion



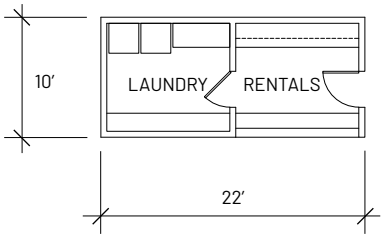
UNISEX LOCKER ROOM

- Preferred configuration to increase sense of privacy
- Should separate restrooms from showers as they have varied time of visitorship
- On-site attendant required
- Customized to pavilion



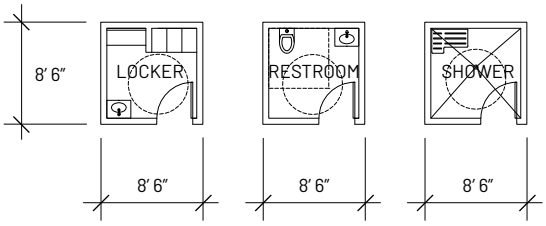
FAMILY LOCKER ROOM

- Lockers and showers
- Adult and child's height toilets
- Seating and space for nursing
- Changing table
- Customized to pavilion



RENTAL & SERVICE STATION

- Station to rent towels and purchase toiletry items
- Laundry and storage for maintenance
- Customized to pavilion

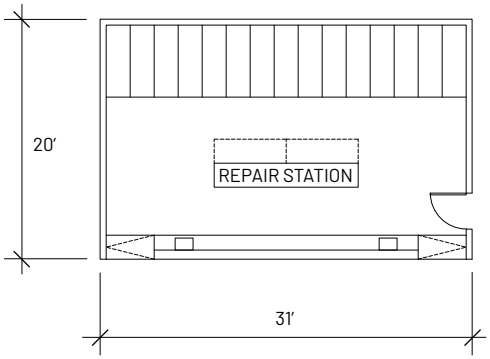


SINGLE OCCUPANCY FACILITIES

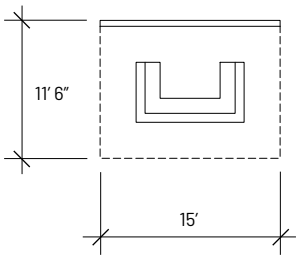
- Increased sense of privacy
- Separate facilities for lockers, restroom, and shower
- Customized to pavilion

0' 10' 20'

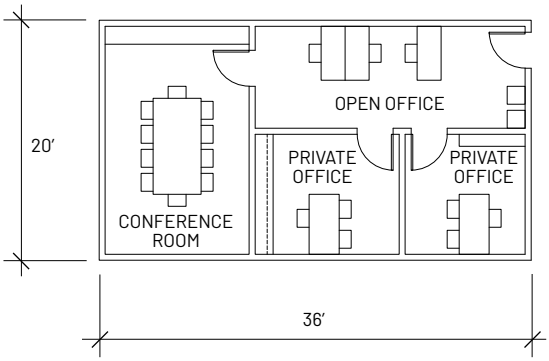
Figure 302. Locker rooms in Gather Pavilions may not be able to provide single use occupancy restrooms or locker stalls, although they are preferred if possible. Various components are illustrated here and dimensions are shown as general guides, not exact requirements.



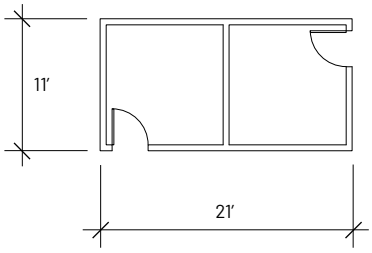
BIKE RENTAL & REPAIR
- Can be either indoor or outdoor
- Station for river users to rent bike and inflate tires
- Provide adequate space, floor and counter, for bike repairs



PUBLIC SAFETY STATION
- Visible station for public safety or police officer
- Can also serve as a LA River concierge with information on events and activities along the river



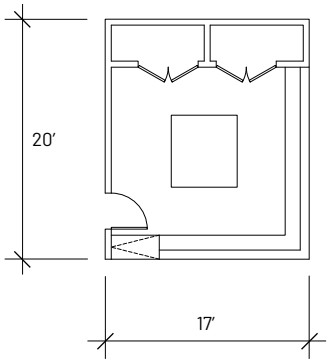
MANAGEMENT OFFICES (OPTIONAL)
- Provide offices and conference room for pavilion management operations and staff
- Located away from public function
- Connect to storage room as necessary



FACILITIES STORAGE (OPTIONAL)
- Configuration dependent on pavilion size and storage needs
- Provide storage for general facility needs and management offices

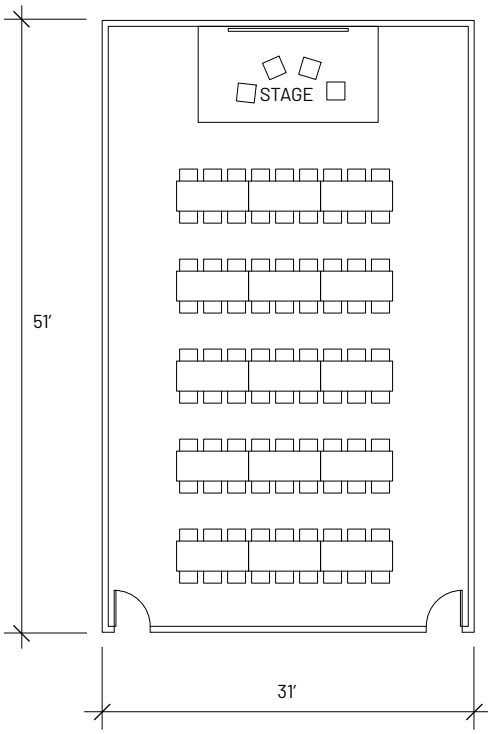
0′ 10′ 20′

Figure 303. Gather Pavilions may include a bike repair and rental shop or a public safety station. Supporting facilities such as management offices or additional storage can also be included. Dimensions are general guides and not exact requirements.



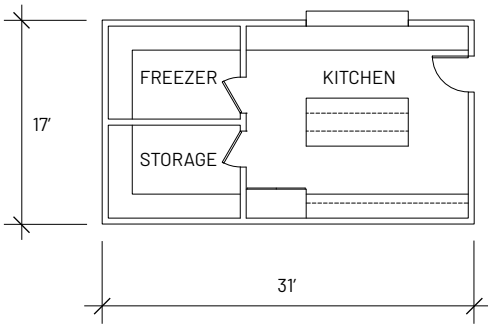
SPORTS EQUIPMENT RENTAL (OPTIONAL)

- Short-term rentals of sports equipment adjacent to major recreational areas
- Incorporate horizontal and vertical storage



MULTIPURPOSE ROOM (OPTIONAL)

- Flexible space for events such as parties, lectures, meetings, community engagement, and performances
- Can be combined with a community kitchen to support events and dining activities
- Optional room dividers for concurrent events



COMMUNITY KITCHEN (OPTIONAL)

- Flexible kitchen space for food preparation for events and culinary education
- Servery to multipurpose room
- Commercial grade appliances

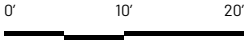


Figure 304. Gather Pavilions may include rooms that can be of general use to the community, such as a community kitchen or multipurpose room. Various components are illustrated here and dimensions are shown as general guides, not exact requirements.

ALL PAVILIONS SHOULD RESPOND TO THEIR SITE CONSTRAINTS WHILE PROVIDING ADEQUATE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES TO THE ADJACENT RIVER TRAIL, EXISTING PUBLIC RESOURCES, AND CONTEXT

PAVILION CONFIGURATIONS

There are numerous ways to configure A, B, and C Components into the varying Shade (Tier I), Rest (Tier II), and Gathering (Tier III) Pavilions. Sample configurations demonstrate different planar organizations appropriate for discrete site constraints and desired results: Compact-Linear, Compact-Square, Moderate, and Expanded.

Compact-Linear and Compact-Square configured pavilions represent the baseline facilities and amenities required per tier. Compact-Linear pavilions are most appropriate in constricted sites, such as those within an existing, narrow right-of-way or a future cantilever constructed above the river channel. Compact-Linear configurations optimize pavilions' river frontage. Compact-Square pavilions are more appropriate for larger, less-constrained sites.

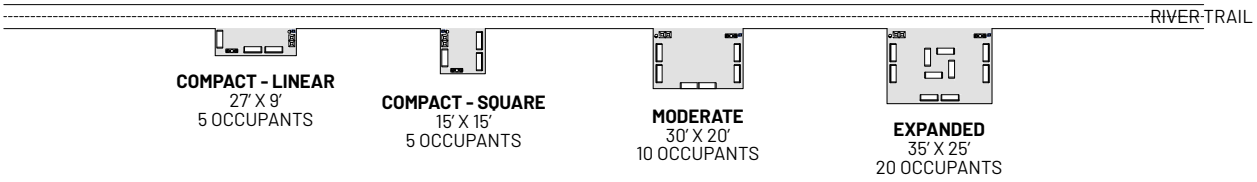
Moderate configurations incorporate additional amenities and larger facilities into more spacious pavilions, which include multiple shade structures for seating and larger picnic areas. Similarly, expanded configurations further integrate enlarged facilities and increased amenities, but also include optional programs from the pavilion components, such as outdoor showers and barbecues in Rest Pavilions (Tier II) and the multipurpose room and community kitchen of Gathering Pavilions (Tier III). Expanded configurations require significant land area and have a higher development cost, but become enhanced resources to river users and river-adjacent communities.

River Pavilions occupancy vary by program and square footage, in which there is an approximate range of 5 to 500 occupants. An occupant load factor is used to determine a maximum occupation of different programmed spaces. Occupant load factors should reflect the prevailing International Building Code or the local building code of the site's jurisdiction, adhering to whichever is more restrictive. Shade Pavilions (Tier I) are single-use structures and therefore utilize a single occupant load factor. However, Rest (Tier II) and Gathering (Tier III) Pavilions are multiuse, necessitating multiple occupancy calculations as determined by each significant program, i.e., restrooms, locker rooms, rental stations, offices, cafe, multipurpose room, and kitchen.

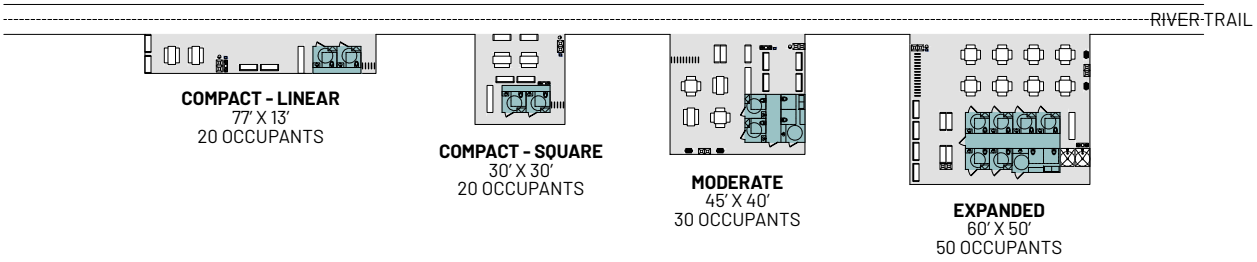
Use discretion when assigning occupant load factors to the varying programs. For example, a kiosk cafe without patron seating will have a significantly lower occupant load factor and thus occupancy than an enclosed cafe with a service counter, tables, and chairs. Further, flexible programs can have varied configurations and thus differing occupant load factors. For example, a multipurpose room can be configured loosely for events with tables and chairs, moderately with unfixed seating, and tightly with standing room only. Utilize the occupant load factor for spaces in the most confined configuration anticipated.

Shade (Tier I), Rest (Tier II), and Gathering (Tier III) Pavilions must adhere to the following prevailing standards: Federal, state and county requirements, such as California's Title 24 Part 6 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, and local building codes, zoning regulations, and parking requirements. Moreover, the development of pavilions should reflect a commitment to serve the entirety of river users and make necessary accommodations for universal access.

SHADE PAVILIONS (TIER I)



REST PAVILIONS (TIER II)



GATHERING PAVILIONS (TIER III)

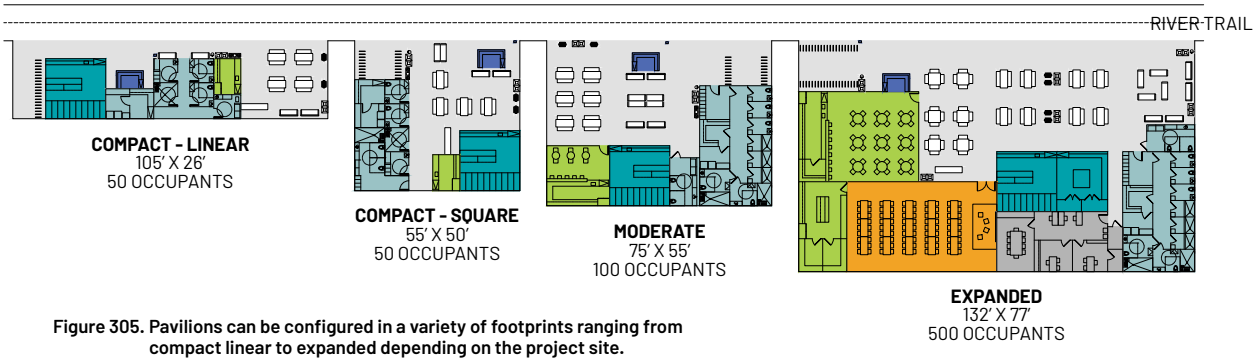


Figure 305. Pavilions can be configured in a variety of footprints ranging from compact linear to expanded depending on the project site.

Shade Pavilions (Tier I)

- Compact | Linear (27' x 9') : 5 occupants
- Compact | Square (15' x 15'): 5 occupants
- Moderate (30' x 20'): 10 occupants
- Expanded (35' x 25'): 20 occupants

Rest Pavilions (Tier II)

- Compact | Linear (77' x 13'): 20 occupants
- Compact | Square (30' x 30'): 20 occupants
- Moderate (45' x 40'): 30 occupants
- Expanded (60' x 50'): 50 occupants

Gathering Pavilions (Tier III)

- Compact | Linear (105' x 26'): 50 occupants
- Compact | Square (55' x 50'): 50 occupants
- Moderate (75' x 55'): 100 occupants
- Expanded (132' x 77'): 500 occupants

Figure 306. A Shade Pavilion (Tier I) at river mile 14.7 is an example of how trail users can be welcomed with environmental graphics, an accessible ramp entrance, and amenities such as bike racks and drinking fountains.

SHADE PAVILIONS (TIER I)

Shade Pavilions (Tier I) are the smallest of the River Pavilions. They provide shade and seating options along the length of the river, in addition to river education, drinking water, emergency call boxes, trash and recycling bins, and pet waste disposal. Shade Pavilions (Tier I) do not hold a robust program, but instead serve river users as a site of refuge, appropriate for moments of shade respite, shelter during passing inclement weather, and comfort. Shade can be provided both by structures and by mature canopy trees. They may take on a number of different configurations, dependent on their site constraints, urban context, and desired orientation. Shade Pavilions (Tier I) are small, but are essential in creating a consistent identity and robust implementation of LA River facilities and amenities.

SHADE PAVILIONS (TIER I) PROVIDE SHELTER AND REFUGE TO VISITORS OF THE LA RIVER AND ALSO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RIVER EDUCATION

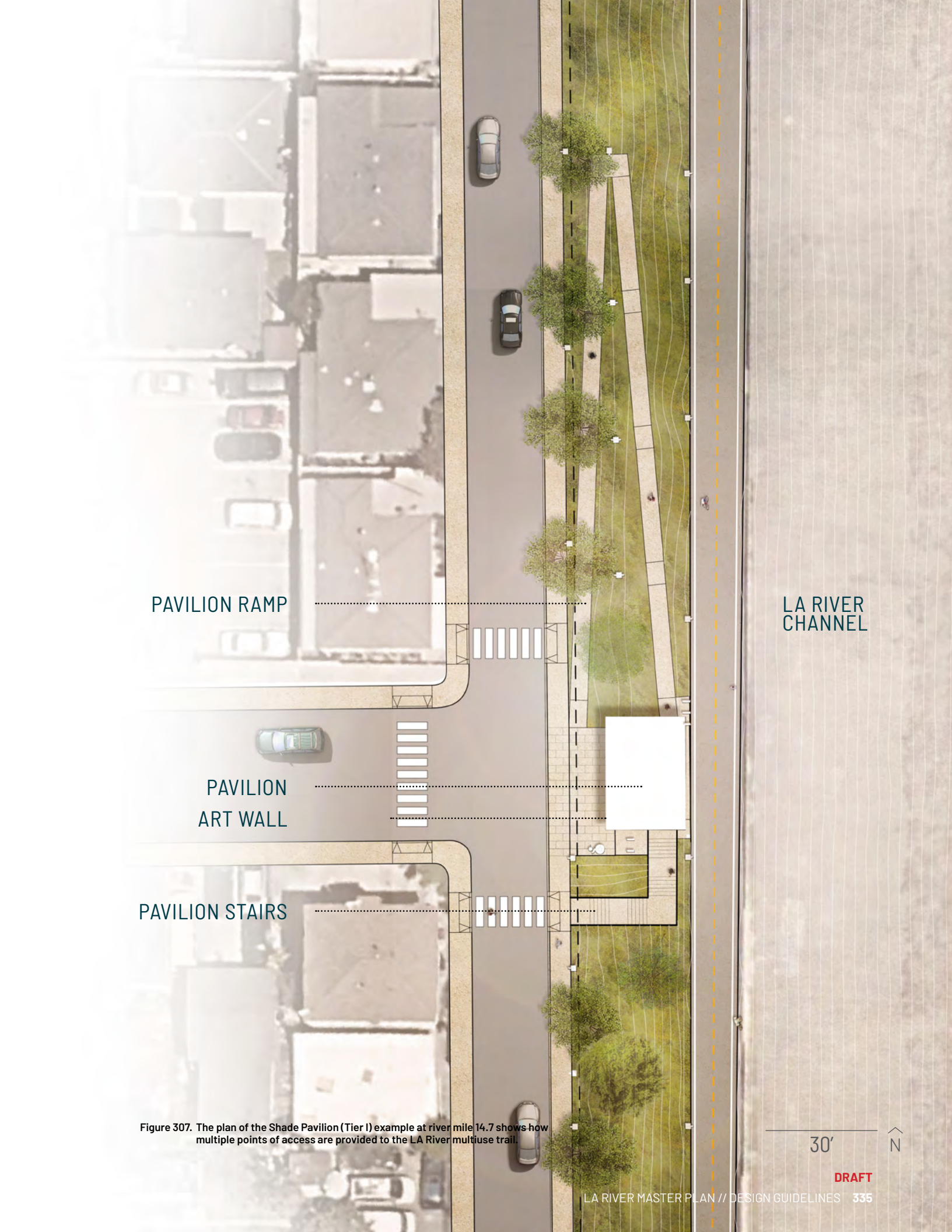
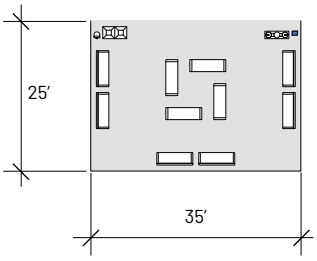
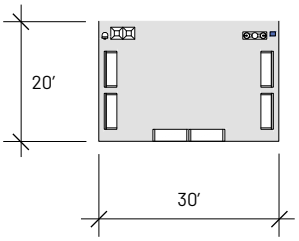


Figure 307. The plan of the Shade Pavilion (Tier I) example at river mile 14.7 shows how multiple points of access are provided to the LA River multiuse trail.

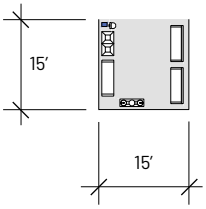
PREFERRED



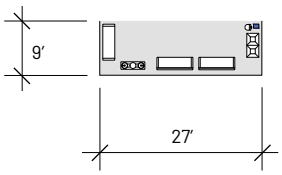
EXPANDED
- Approximately 20 occupants
- Approximately 900 sq ft
- Arranges covered seating for to encourage socialization
- Enhanced river education area
- Seating orientated facing and away from river and parallel and perpendicular to trail



MODERATE
- Approximately 10 occupants
- Approximately 600 sq ft
- Arranges covered seating for to encourage socialization
- Seating orientated away from river and perpendicular to trail



COMPACT | SQUARE
- Approximately 5 occupants
- Approximately 250 sq ft
- Seating orientated away from river and perpendicular to trail



COMPACT | LINEAR
- Approximately 5 occupants
- Approximately 250 sq ft
- Seating oriented toward river and parallel to trail

MINIMUM

0′ 20′ 40′

Figure 308. The Shade Pavilion (Tier I) can be configured in a variety of footprints from compact to expanded, depending on the project site and other constraints.

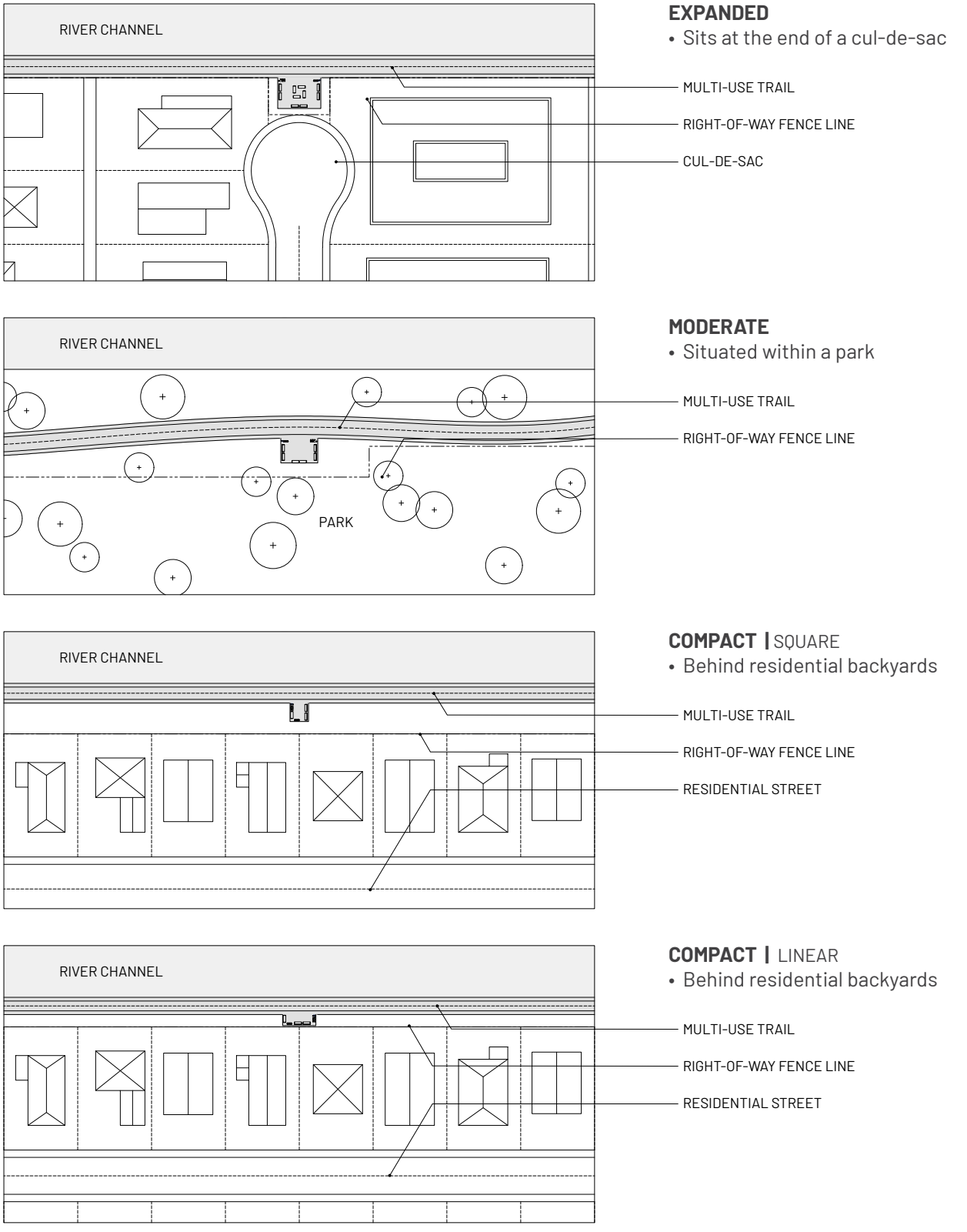


Figure 309. These example plans show how the Shade Pavilion (Tier I) can be implemented in a variety of urban contexts along the LA River.

Figure 310. The example of a Rest Pavilion (Tier II) at river mile 50.9 welcomes users through pavement markings, a picnic area, and a local food vendor. Public restrooms are an important feature of Rest Pavilions.

REST PAVILIONS (TIER II)

Rest Pavilions (Tier II) offer enhanced facilities and amenities beyond the baseline Shade Pavilions (Tier I), but fewer than Gathering Pavilions (Tier III). The most notable addition is restrooms. There should be a preference for single-occupancy restrooms and family restrooms, to provide greater privacy and dignity to all users. To increase efficiency and recognizability, Rest Pavilions (Tier II) should implement modular restrooms configurations that can be fabricated off-site, customized to incorporate graphic standards established along the LA River, and have an extensive presence across its 51 miles on both river banks. The modularity of the restrooms enhances the river's unification, pavilion familiarity, and equity for all river users.

Rest Pavilions (Tier II) also incorporate picnic areas, vending machines for healthy and affordable snacks and beverages, universal charging stations, and bike racks. Depending on their size and context, they may also include barbecues and recreational outdoor showers, which are particularly beneficial if the pavilion is adjacent to pools, other water features, or sports facilities. These pavilions serve as accessory facilities and amenities for river users, enabling relief, rest, and sustenance.

Regular maintenance is essential to preserve the upkeep of these facilities. In their implementation across the river, it is essential to consider materials that are durable, easily cleaned, and vandal-resistant, lessening long-term maintenance costs. Further, it is important to regularly operate and survey them to deter people from misappropriating their use. In facilitating welcoming, comfortable, and familiar structures, Rest Pavilions (Tier II) can establish a cadence of refuge along both banks of the LA River. They can create an accessible environment, in which river user and river-adjacent community needs are met.

REST PAVILIONS (TIER II), SPACED ON AVERAGE ONE MILE APART FROM OTHER TIER II PAVILIONS, FORM A RELIABLE NETWORK OF RESTROOM FACILITIES, PROVIDING RIVER USERS GREATER COMFORT AND IMPROVING SANITATION ALONG THE LA RIVER

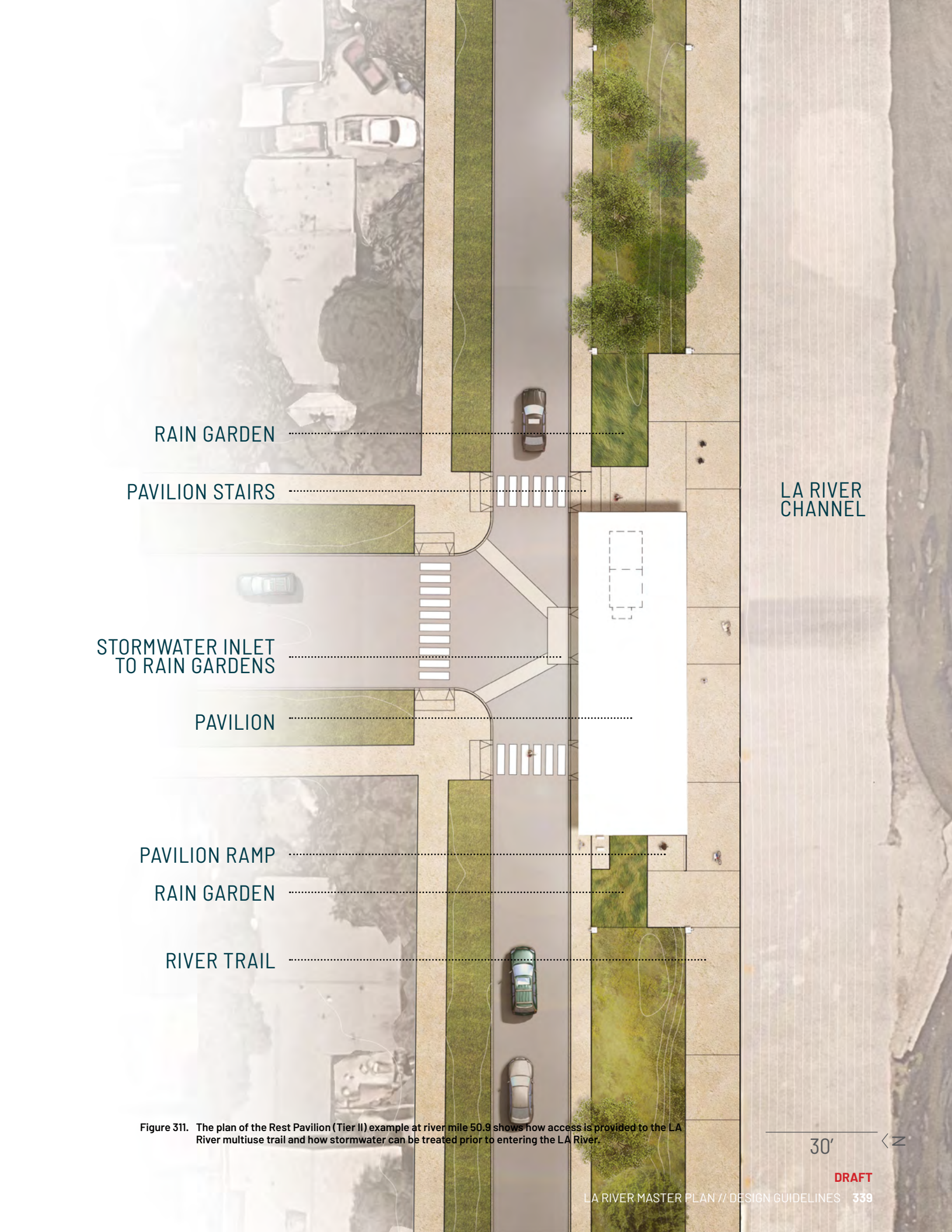
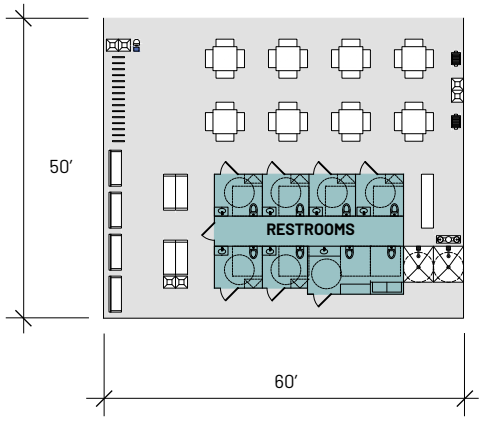
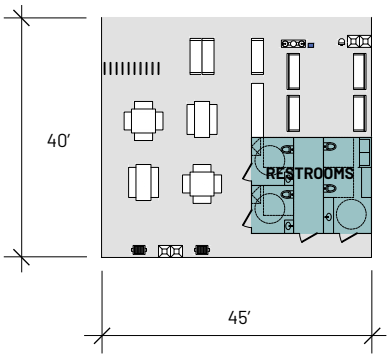


Figure 311. The plan of the Rest Pavilion (Tier II) example at river mile 50.9 shows how access is provided to the LA River multiuse trail and how stormwater can be treated prior to entering the LA River.

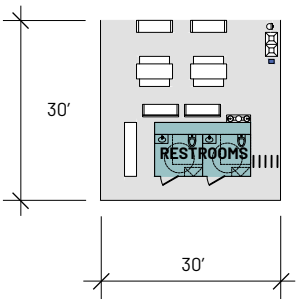
PREFERRED



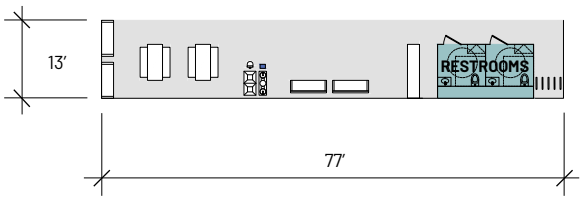
EXPANDED
- Approximately 50 occupants
- Approximately 3,000 sq ft
- Additional shaded seating and picnicking tables
- Optional barbecues and recreational outdoor showers
- Supplement with family restroom(s) and storage



MODERATE
- Approximately 30 occupants
- Approximately 2,000 sq ft
- Additional shaded seating and picnicking tables
- Optional barbecues and recreational outdoor showers
- Includes family restroom or mother's room



COMPACT | LINEAR
- Approximately 20 occupants
- Approximately 1,000 sq ft
- No outdoor showers or barbecues



COMPACT | LINEAR
- Approximately 20 occupants
- Approximately 1,000 sq ft
- No outdoor showers or barbecues
- Oriented toward river

MINIMUM

0′ 20′ 40′

Figure 312. The Rest Pavilion (Tier II) can be configured in a variety of footprints from compact to expanded, depending on the project site and other constraints.

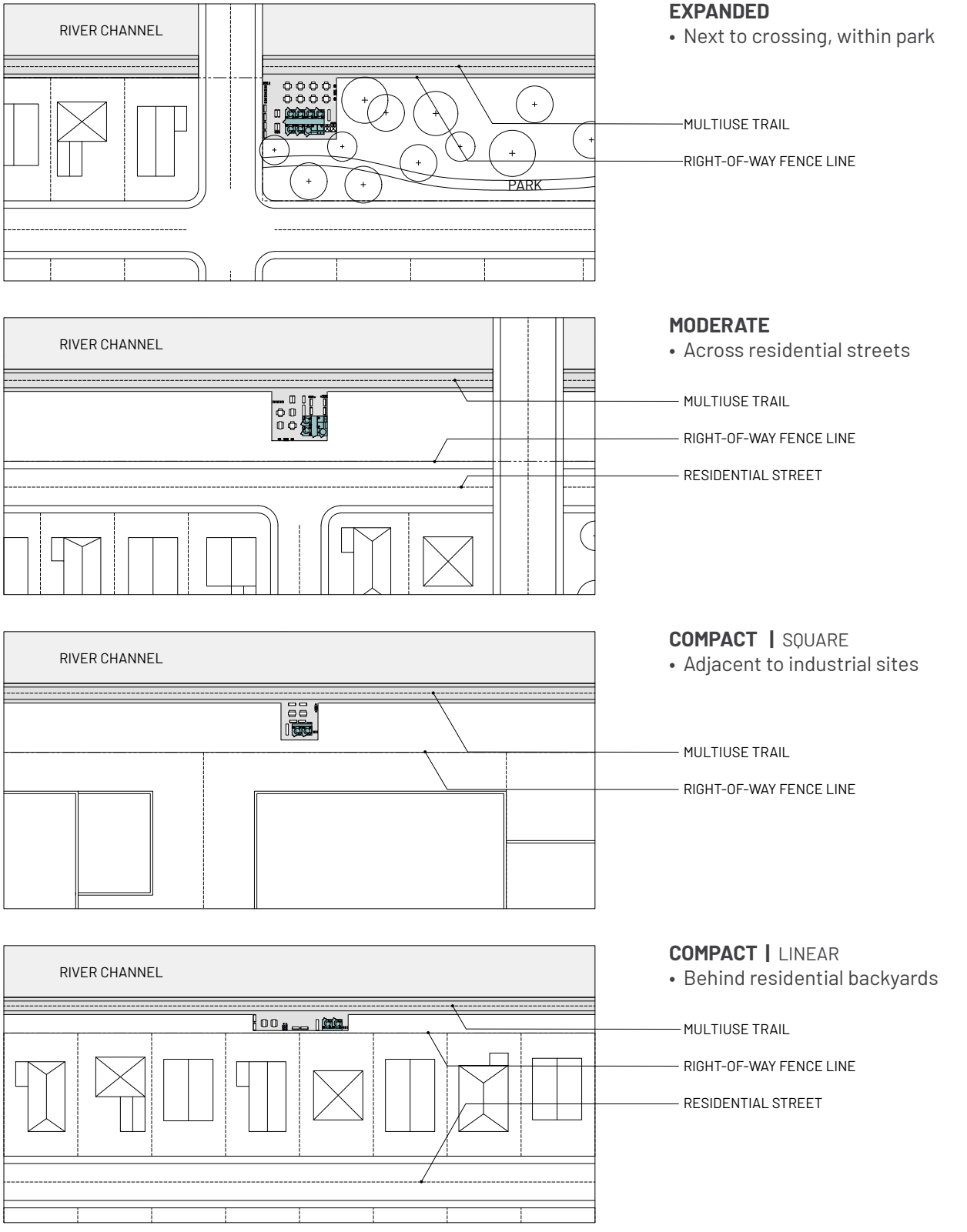


Figure 313. These example plans show how the Rest Pavilion (Tier II) can be implemented in a variety of urban contexts along the LA River.

Figure 314. This example of a Gathering Pavilion (Tier III) at river mile 28.4 includes a cafe overlooking the LA River. Gather Pavilions often include community programming that requires expanded facilities.

GATHERING PAVILIONS (TIER III)

Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) are the largest of the River Pavilions and can serve as significant hubs for programming and activity. Ideally situated every 2-3 miles at the access points to the LA River, these pavilions are accessible to both river users and adjacent community members. Expanded Gathering Pavilions in particular can support river-adjacent neighborhoods as community centers with robust facilities, amenities, and opportunities for events, education, and engagement.

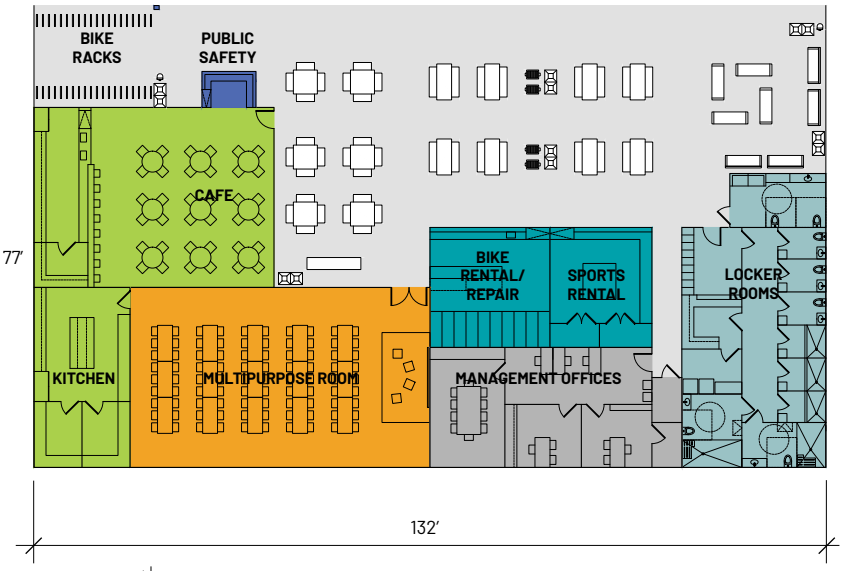
Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) also offer enhanced sanitation facilities including restrooms, showers, lockers, and changing facilities. Locker rooms, paired with attendant stations, should have regular on-site maintenance to preserve their upkeep and deter misuse. Further, they have rental kiosks to provide river users towels for rent, in addition to soap, shampoo, conditioner, and other toiletries for purchase. Unlike Rest Pavilions (Tier II), sanitation facilities in Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) should be customized to best relate to the specific organization of other spaces within the pavilion.

These sanitation facilities provide multiple benefits and can help alleviate the sanitation needs of persons experiencing homelessness. Currently, many of these individuals have limited access to sanitation facilities and as the county and river-adjacent cities make further investments to construct affordable housing and permanent supportive housing for persons experiencing homelessness, Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) can serve in the interim as spaces to support this vulnerable population's sanitation needs. However, upon their development and long-term, locker rooms can serve the needs of everyone along the length of the river, especially those engaging in athletic activity. Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) will supplement the active needs of river users outside of the building itself, such as soccer, dance and theater arts, sporting events, yoga classes, and jogging along the trail.

Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) are centralized hubs for the LA River. Their optional multipurpose rooms can be utilized for community events, ceremonies, and other large gatherings. They should also have enough hardscaped floor area to similarly host outside events and ceremonies. Unlike smaller pavilions, they can support on-site management staff to establish daily programming and robust community offerings. The pavilions must be flexible for different needs, programs, and activities to optimize the development of the river at large.

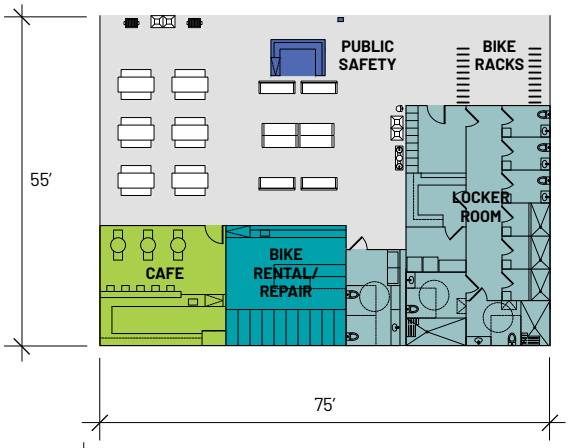
Figure 315. The plan of the Gathering Pavilion (Tier III) example at river mile 28.4 shows how multiple facilities can be incorporated onto a project site.

PREFERRED



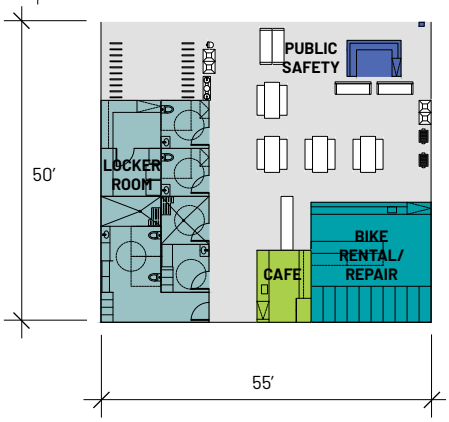
EXPANDED

- Approximately 500 occupants
- Approximately 10,500 sq ft
- Enlarged cafe and locker room
- Multipurpose room and community kitchen provides large, flexible event space
- Includes sports equipment rental to supplement adjacent sports fields and courts
- If using single-sex locker rooms, supplement with family locker room



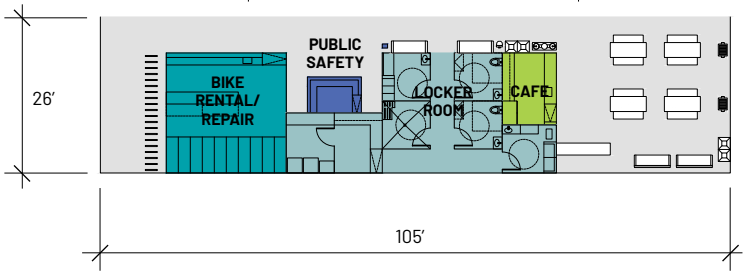
MODERATE

- Approximately 100 occupants
- Approximately 4,500 sq ft
- Enlarged cafe and locker room
- No multipurpose room, community kitchen, or sports equipment rental



COMPACT | SQUARE

- Approximately 50 occupants
- Approximately 3,000 sq ft
- No multipurpose room, community kitchen, or sports equipment rental



COMPACT | LINEAR

- Approximately 50 occupants
- Approximately 3,000 sq ft
- No multipurpose room, community kitchen, or sports equipment rental

MINIMUM

0′ 20′ 40′

Figure 316. The Gather Pavilion (Tier III) can be configured in a variety of footprints from compact to expanded, depending on the project site and other constraints.

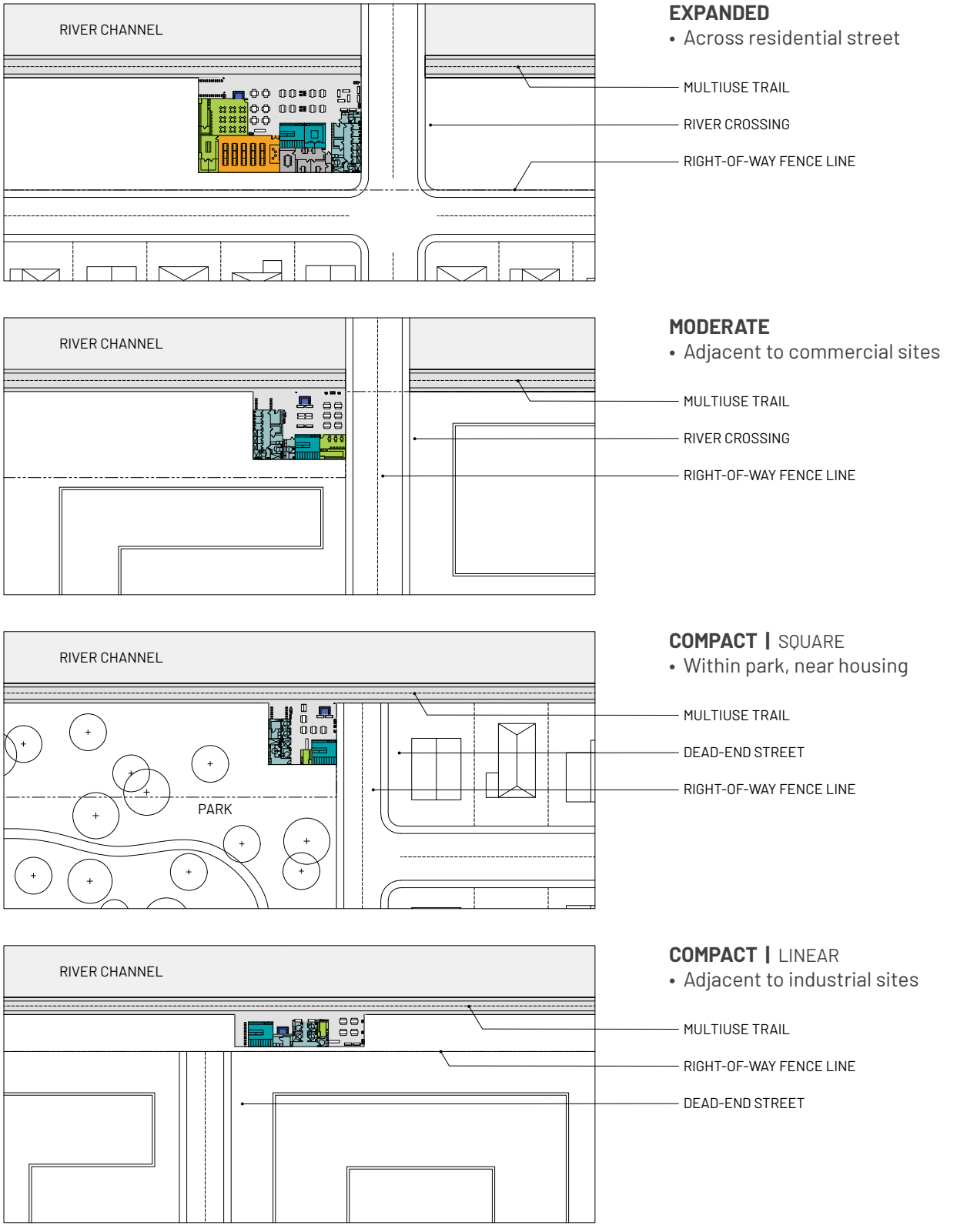


Figure 317. These example plans show how the Gathering Pavilion (Tier III) can be implemented in a variety of urban contexts along the LA River.

PAVILIONS SITUATED ALONG THE LA RIVER SHOULD IMPLEMENT VARYING BEST PRACTICES TO EMBODY THE SAME ENVIRONMENTAL, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND SOCIAL VISION OF THE LA RIVER MASTER PLAN OVERALL

PAVILION BEST PRACTICES

The development of River Pavilions should incorporate water, environmental, construction, and social best practices, among many others. When developing River Pavilions, there are numerous prevailing standards for best practices to reference, including but not limited to California's Title 24 Part 6 Building Energy Efficient Standards, United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), United States Department of Energy Better Buildings Initiative, Energy Star, Dark Sky, Cradle-to-Cradle, and Green Globes, among many others. Pavilions should also reference future standards and best practices for upcoming development.

All pavilions should promote the health, safety, and welfare of river users. First, all pavilions should optimize lighting at night, to enhance visibility, deter criminal behaviors, and lessen concerns of safety. However, lighting should not be too bright as to cause significant light pollution or create oppressive environments. Emergency call boxes should sit near the entry of all pavilions and create a recognizable and regular network of public safety mechanisms. Rest (Tier I) and Gathering (Tier II) Pavilions in particular should provide first-aid kits and automatic defibrillators for emergencies great and small. Self-administered first-aid kits in particular require regular inspection, maintenance, and replenishment with single-use medications. Lastly, Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) incorporate public safety stations that can have on-site staff, river staff, and/or police officers to serve and support river users. The presence of public safety and police officers will further help to strengthen notions of safety along the river and serve visitors during moments of need. However, it is critical to not oversurveil river users, as to make them feel uncomfortable in their occupation of the river and its facilities and amenities.

River Pavilions offer refuge to river users and river-adjacent communities and should reflect the same aspiration of enhancing visitors' experience of the river as the LA River Master Plan at large. Pavilions should not result in demanding energy and water usage, cause environmental nuisances, engage unsustainable building practices, nor create inaccessible facilities and amenities. Pavilions should serve as an example of varying best practices and help propel the LA River into a future of access, equity, and resiliency.

WATER
- Follow LA County LID Standards
- On-site water retention, detention, and filtration
- Capture 100% of on-site rainfall for the 85% rain event
- Greywater and rainwater reuse
- Low-flow water fixtures

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
- Utilize renewable energy sources (solar, wind, and water)
- Optimize building orientation for solar exposure, diffused daylight, and passive ventilation
- High thermal performance
- Energy efficient appliances
- Pollution reduction

MATERIALITY
- Locally sourced, recycled, and recyclable materials with low embodied energy
- High-albedo roof and paving materials to mitigate heat gain
- Green roof and pervious paving

CONSTRUCTION / O&M
- Recycle construction waste
- Reduce dust and mitigate other nuisances during construction
- Green cleaning and integrated building management
- Regularly monitor building systems and optimize usage

SOCIAL
- Provide universal access to all communities and users
- Avoid physical deterrents
- Provide spaces for socialization
- Promote public engagement with areas for large gatherings

SITE FURNISHINGS

Successful projects, trails, and connected public open spaces require a series of common elements ranging from consistent lighting to drinking fountains to places to sit along the LA River. These furnishings will contribute to the habitability of the river environs, promote safety, and build a cohesive identity. While river pavilions and large project designs are encouraged to use bespoke elements along the river, a common set of site furnishings with unified colors and amenities used across all sites and trails will promote equity, identity, legibility, and accessibility. Additionally, site furnishing offer opportunities for integration of public art.

RAL CODES FOR SITE FURNISHINGS

RAL 9007 GREY

RAL 5013 (PANTONE 282 C) BLUE

Figure 319. LA River Site Furnishings should use RAL 9007 for silver metallic finishes and an RAL 5013 to match the environmental graphics and for overall consistency along the LA River.

1. **LITTER & RECYCLING** SEE PAGE 350
2. **BIKE RACK** SEE PAGE 351
3. **BENCHES** SEE PAGE 352
4. **DRINKING FOUNTAIN** SEE PAGE 353
5. **LIGHTING** SEE PAGE 354
6. **EMERGENCY CALL BOX** SEE PAGE 357

Figure 318. A variety of site furnishings can be placed at pavilions, parks, or along the river trail. See the following pages for more details on each element.

SITE FURNISHINGS: LITTER AND RECYCLING RECEPTACLES

Litter and recycling receptacles are necessary to maintain the health, safety, and the general aesthetic of the LA River.

Litter Receptacles along the LA River must meet the following guidelines:

Aesthetics

- Select receptacles without ornament or protrusions.
- Receptacles should be metal with a solid metallic gray color finish matching RAL 9007 or comparable equal.
- Receptacles should have rain guards or a side opening that prevents rainwater from collecting in the receptacle.

Assembly, Installation, and Manufacturer

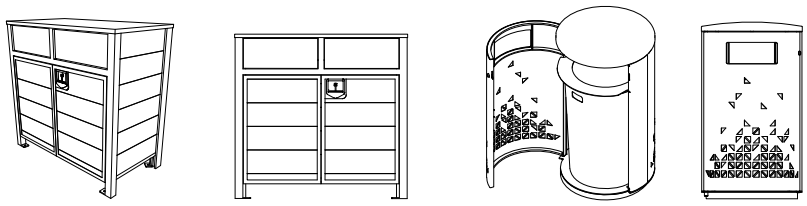
- Locate receptacles so that they are easily accessible from the trail or other user area.
- Locate receptacles at entrances, rest stops, major access points, and near benches.
- Co-locate recycling receptacles adjacent to all trash receptacles.

Maintenance

- Install receptacles that are easy to empty and do not not require heavy lifting by maintenance staff. For example, seek receptacles with side panels that open to empty.
- Coordinate maintenance program to ensure receptacles will be emptied regularly.
- Ensure receptacle does not leach or contaminate adjacent areas.

RECEPTACLE FORMS: BEST PRACTICE

ACCEPTABLE FORMS ✓



UNACCEPTABLE FORMS X

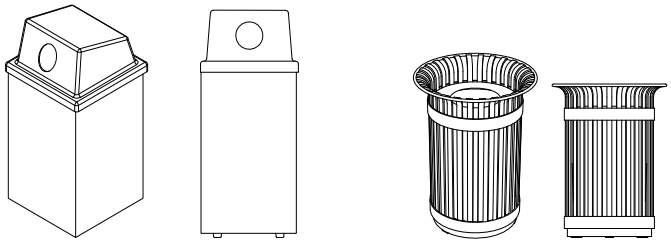


Figure 320. Litter receptacles should have simple forms with flat tops and an opening protected from rain.

SITE FURNISHINGS: BIKE RACKS

Frequent bicycle racks encourage the use of bicycle trails and multi-modal transit along the LA River and throughout LA County.

Bicycle racks along the LA River must meet the following guidelines:

Aesthetics

- Select racks without ornament or protrusions.
- Racks should be metal with a solid metallic gray color finish matching RAL 9007 or comparable equal.
- Provide racks with individual loops, not continuous rows.

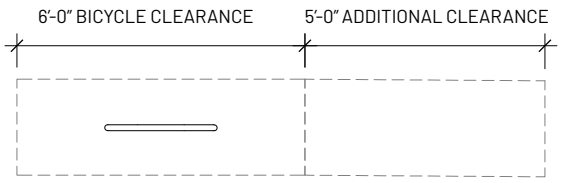
Installation, Assembly, and Manufacturer

- Provide 6' of length for bikes and an additional 5' unobstructed clearance for bike parking.
- Locate racks at entrances to the river, pavilions, and access points.

Maintenance

- Use a durable material that will withstand weathering.
- Maintain bicycle racks, deter graffiti where possible and inspect for other damages.

BICYCLE RACK PLAN



BICYCLE RACK FORMS: BEST PRACTICE

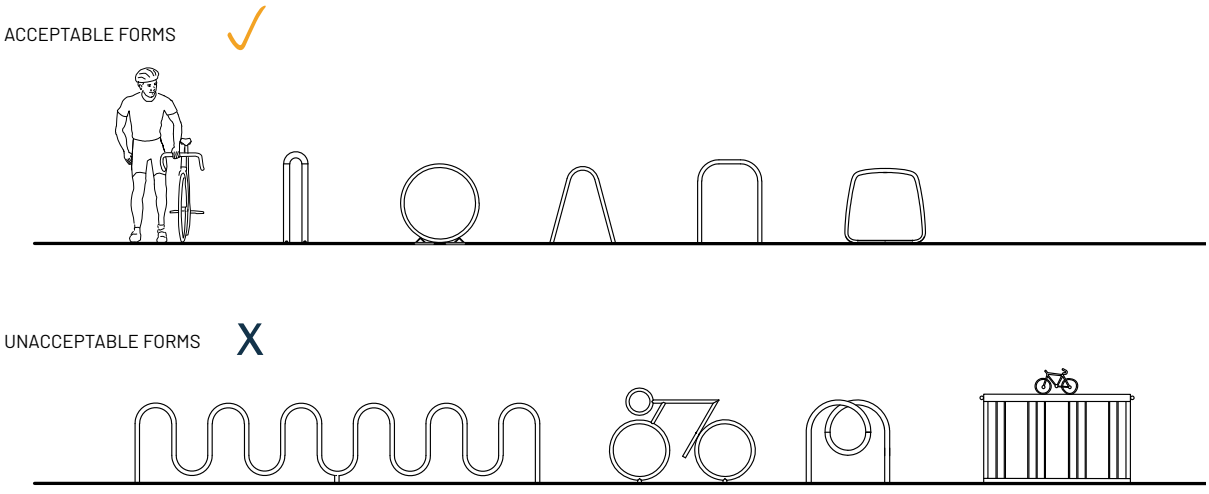


Figure 321. (Top) Bicycle racks should be placed to allow room for parking and maneuvering.
Figure 322. (Bottom) Bicycle racks should be individual loops and simple forms without ornamentation.

SITE FURNISHINGS: BENCHES

Seating along the LA River provides respite along trails and other facilities.

Benches may offer opportunities for integrating art and community expression. Benches and other features intended to be artistic elements are approved through the arts approval process and do not necessarily need to meet these guidelines.

Benches and seating along the LA River must meet the following guidelines:

Aesthetics

Coordinate bench and seating design with overall design approach. Seating elements are good locations for art and community expression.

Typical best practices:

- Ensure bench sitting surface is not metal. For metal supports or other elements, utilize satin or matte finish solid metallic gray matching RAL 9007 or comparable equal.
- Provide flexibility for various sitting options.
- Provide a variety of seating elements in addition to benches, such as seatwalls, seatsteps, and rock outcroppings.
- Group benches to promote social interaction.

Installation, Assembly, and Manufacturer

- Locate benches so that they are easily accessible from the trail.
- Locate benches at trail intersections and special views.
- Where freestanding benches are used, provide anchorages to adjacent pavement and engineer appropriate footings.

Maintenance

- Maintain benches, deter graffiti where possible, and inspect for other damages.

BENCH FORMS: BEST PRACTICE

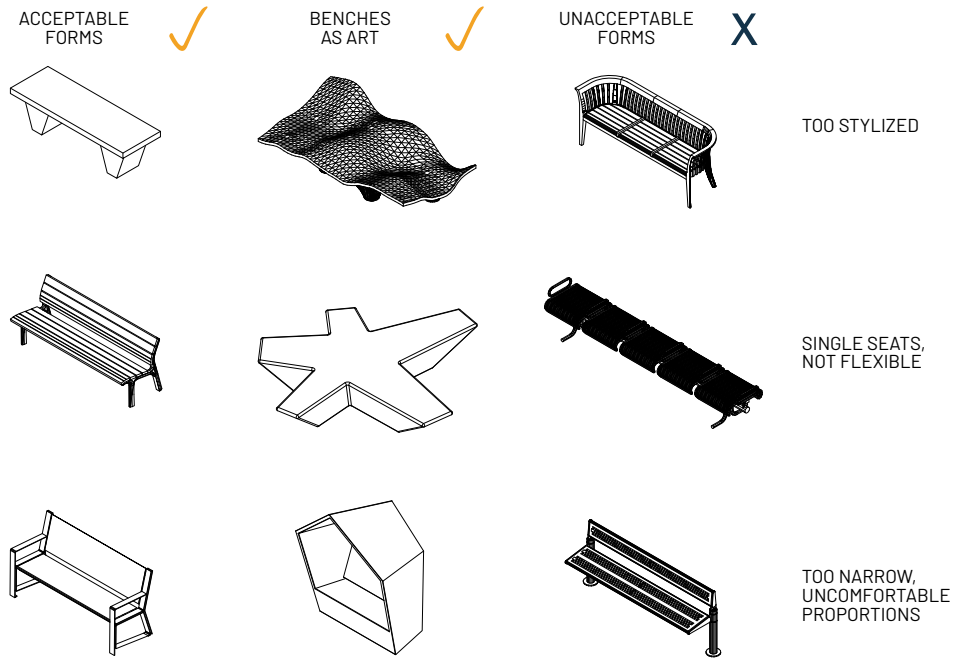


Figure 323. Bench forms should prioritize users' comfort and provide flexibility in use.

SITE FURNISHINGS: DRINKING FOUNTAINS

Drinking fountains are crucial to users of the LA River Trail, especially on hotter-than-average summer days. They promote hydration and personal health along the river corridor.

Drinking Fountains along the LA River must meet the following guidelines:

Aesthetics

- Drinking fountains should be metal with a solid metallic gray color finish matching RAL 9007 or comparable equal.
- Include bottle filling station
- Include pet drinking feature underneath.

Installation, Assembly, and Manufacturer

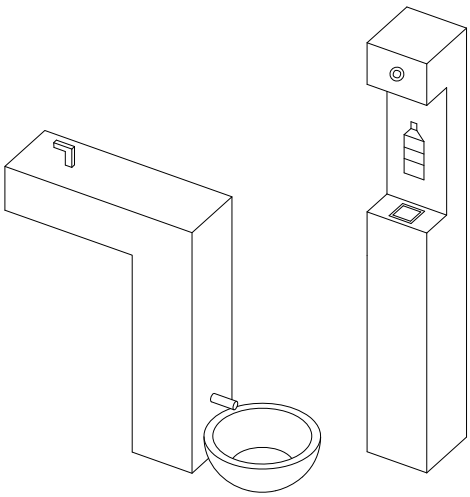
- Locate at major gathering spaces and at regular intervals along the multiuse trail.
- Locate drinking fountains so that they are easily accessible from the trail.

Maintenance

- Maintain water fountains, deter graffiti where possible and inspect for other damages.

FOUNTAINS FORMS: BEST PRACTICE

ACCEPTABLE FORMS ✓



UNACCEPTABLE FORMS X

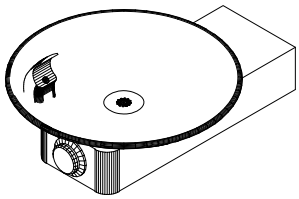


Figure 324. Drinking fountains should not have cupping or bowl shapes for hygiene and ease of cleaning.

SITE FURNISHINGS: LIGHTING

Lighting provides visibility for cyclists and pedestrians and highlights special areas such as major access points, emergency call boxes, and information kiosks. Trail underpasses, future overpasses, and street ends are all areas that need special attention to lighting with regards to safety and visibility. All lighting should minimize light pollution to the greatest extent possible and be sensitive to ecological needs. Special care needs to be taken around wildlife habitat areas. Project lighting should be designed by qualified lighting design professionals. Technology and research with regards to lighting is constantly evolving, and the most efficient fixtures should be allowed for use in projects along the LA River.

Lighting elements along the LA River vary per specific application. Overall, all lighting must meet the following:

Aesthetics

- Select fixtures that have a modern, urban aesthetic free of extraneous decorative elements.
- Acorn light fixtures and light masts are prohibited.
- Integrate lighting into architecture where possible rather than having standalone fixtures.
- Finish for luminaries and pole must be available in a neutral solid metallic gray color matching RAL 9007 or comparable equal.

Light Quality and Locations

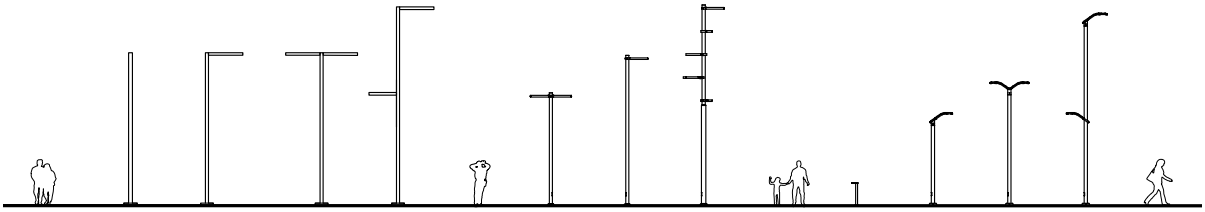
- Complete lighting study to determine appropriate light levels, fixture types, and fixture heights.
- Install lighting at over/underpasses, intersections, and trailheads for safety.
- Use LED or more efficient light source.
- Use Dark Sky compliant and BUG rated (backlight, updlight, glare) fixtures. These ratings should be as efficient as possible and eliminate spillover lighting. Fixtures should meet these requirements without adding additional shielding.
- Provide fixtures that have IES (Illuminating Engineering Society) files for illumination measured in lumens (bulb strength depending on pole height) and footcandles (light falling on a surface determined by lighting designer).
- Engineer poles and footings to withstand all project loads, including but not limited to, wind loads.
- Luminaire housing to be IP66 suitable for damp locations.

Installation, Assembly, and Manufacturer

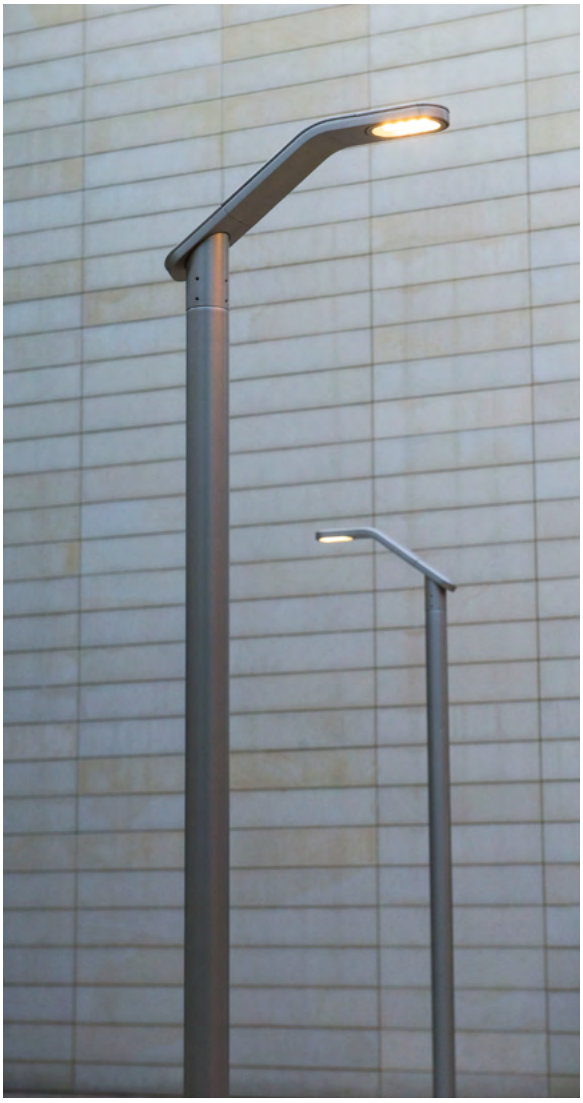
- Require UL listed products.
- Require manufacturers with established history of light fixture production.
- Snap together assembly or comparable system for ease of installation.
- Use fixtures that can host other uses including emergency call boxes, banners, and signs.
- Use products supported with complete engineering drawings and patents.

Energy Use and Maintenance

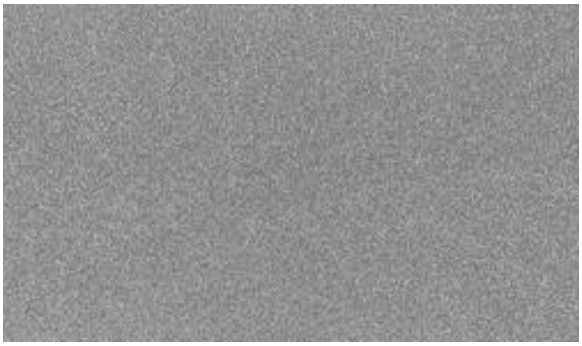
- Use solar powered light fixtures along the river wherever possible.
- Use fixtures made with recycled content where possible
- Ensure fixtures have LED cartridges that are easily replaced.



LA RIVER EXAMPLES LIGHTING FAMILIES



EXAMPLE LUMINAIRE



RAL 9007 GREY

EXAMPLE LUMINAIRE

Figure 325. (Top) Luminaires should have a modern, simple form without ornamentation.
Figure 326. (Left) Luminaires should be Dark Sky compliant and not have protruding features. Source: Torres Area Light, Landscape Forms, 2017.
Figure 327. (Top Right) All finishes should be a solid metallic grey color matching RAL 9007. Source: RAL-Color 9007, Wikimedia Commons, 2007.
Figure 328. (Bottom Right) Luminaires should occur at a regular cadence to illuminate the path. Source: Rama Area Light, Landscape Forms, 2008.

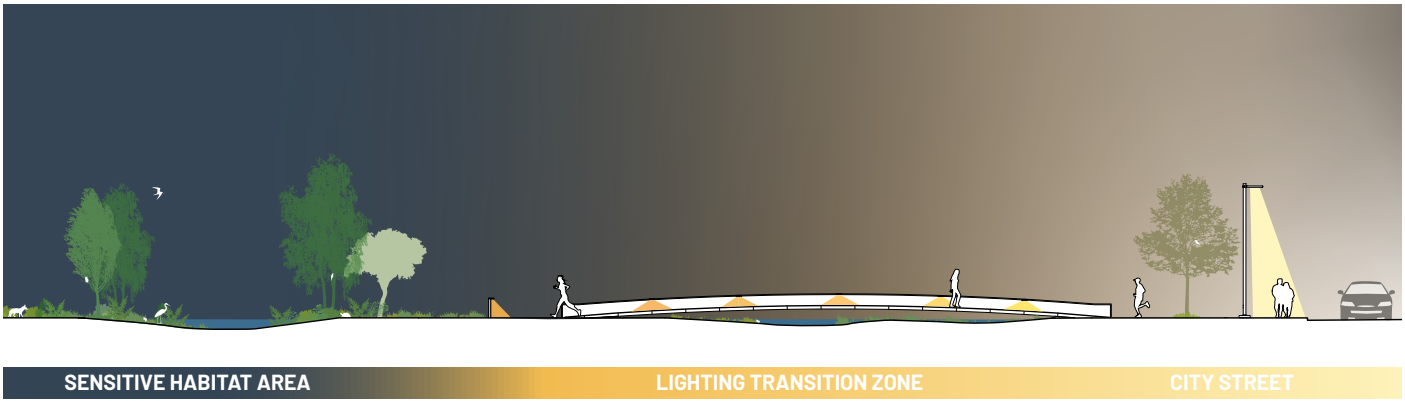


Figure 329. Factors such as light color temperature should step down incrementally when transitioning from street lighting to sensitive habitat areas that are not lit. Qualified lighting designers, landscape architects, and ecologists should work to limit the amount of light fixtures, reduce color temperature, and eliminate light spillover on a project by project basis.

Lighting for trails or paths of egress along the LA River must meet the following:

- Use only what fixtures are needed, and the warmest color temperature possible to provide safety and egress. Do not over-light or make lights unnecessarily bright.
- Provide fixtures and controls capable of dimming or shutting off lighting when occupancy loads are low (example: dimmable driver and occupancy sensor).
- Color rendering should be at least 80 CRI.
- Avoid light bollards where possible.

Lighting for wildlife habitat areas must meet the following:

- Use as few fixtures as possible. Fixtures should be low-level lighting. Avoid tall poles where possible.
- Use the warmest color temperature possible, no more than 2200K as a maximum. Consider other measures that impact wildlife when selecting an appropriate fixture, such as the light spectrum emitted.
- Transition to a warm color temperature in gradual steps if moving from a street or path of egress to a habitat area.
- Provide fixtures and controls capable of shutting off lighting on a timer, such as when a park is closed, to limit the duration of lighting to the absolute minimum period possible.
- No CRI level is required. Light should be as amber as possible.

Sample fixtures that may meet requirements include Landscape Forms RAMA, Landscape Forms Torres, and Hess Linea. BEGA also carries low-level lighting fixtures that may meet requirements for lighting wildlife habitat areas.

SITE FURNISHINGS: EMERGENCY CALL BOXES

Emergency call boxes are crucial to the perceived and actual safety of users along the LA River. They are important in case a user does not own or have access to a cell phone and because they allow emergency response to pinpoint the exact location of a caller.

Emergency call boxes along the LA River must meet the following:

Aesthetics

- Select product with an identifying light or beacon on top. There should be no protrusions or ornamentation.
- Provide accessible push-button calling.
- Along trail, call box should be directional towards the trail. In an open area with many angles of approach, the call box should be non-directional.

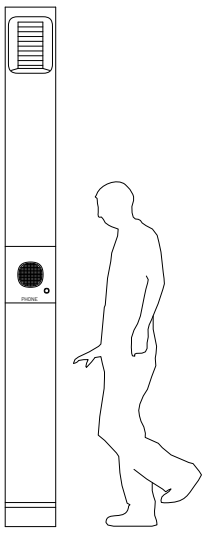
Installation, Assembly, and Manufacturer

- Locate call boxes along bike path every 1/2 mile minimum, to be coordinated with river pavilion locations. They should be clearly visible from the trail.
- Ensure that the call box is TTY (text telephone for the deaf) equipped.
- Provide on-site programming option and option to program up to 2 emergency phone numbers.
- Functioning temperature range should withstand extreme heat (up to 150F).
- Cellular or hard lined to be determined by presiding agency.

Energy Use and Maintenance

- Use solar powered call boxes along the river wherever possible.
- Maintain call boxes, deter graffiti where possible and inspect for continued functionality and other damages.

CALL BOX LIGHT BEACON



CALL BOX ELEVATION

Figure 330. (Left) Call boxes should have an identifiable and visible top. When possible, call boxes should match the LARMP Blue, RAL 5013. Source: Blue Light Tower, CASE Emergency systems, 2019.

Figure 331. (Middle) Call boxes should be freestanding tall structures with push button calling. Blue Light Tower, CASE Emergency systems, 2019.

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES CHECKLIST

Reference the LACFCD and Public Works Permitting checklist on page 36 for an overview of project permitting and applicable codes.

Detailed Technical Requirements Checklist for Facilities and Amenities

Occupancy

- ☐ Shade Pavilions (Tier I) must be sized for the following approximate occupancy rates:
  - Compact | Linear (27′ x 9′) : 5 occupants
  - Compact | Square (15′ x 15′): 5 occupants
  - Moderate (30′ x 20′): 10 occupants
  - Expanded (35′ x 25′): 20 occupants
- ☐ Rest Pavilions (Tier II) must be sized for the following approximate occupancy rates:
  - Compact | Linear (77′ x 13′): 20 occupants
  - Compact | Square (30′ x 30′): 20 occupants
  - Moderate (45′ x 40′): 30 occupants
  - Expanded (60′ x 50′): 50 occupants
- ☐ Gathering Pavilions (Tier III) must be sized for the following approximate occupancy rates:
  - Compact | Linear (105′ x 26′): 50 occupants
  - Compact | Square (55′ x 50′): 50 occupants
  - Moderate (75′ x 55′): 100 occupants
  - Expanded (132′ x 77′): 500 occupants

River Pavilions

- ☐ Follow applicable building codes: Federal, state, and county requirements, such as California's Title 24 Part 6 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, and local building codes, zoning regulations, and parking requirements.
- ☐ Shade Pavilions (Tier I) must include:
  - Shade structure or mature canopy trees and seating
  - River education display
  - Drinking fountain
  - Emergency call box
  - Litter and recycling receptacles
  - Pet waste station

- ☐ Rest Pavilions (Tier II) must include everything in the Shade Pavilions (Tier I) plus the following:
    - Single occupancy restrooms / basic sanitation facilities
    - Charging station
    - Bike racks (number based on occupancy and local codes)
    - Snack station
    - Picnic tables
- ☐ Gather Pavilions (Tier III) must include everything in the Shade Pavilions (Tier I) and Rest Pavilions (Tier II) plus the following:
    - Locker rooms / enhanced sanitation facilities
    - Public safety station
    - Cafe

Common Elements

- ☐ All projects must provide:
    - Benches and seating (to follow requirements on page 352)
    - Bike racks (to follow requirements on page 351)
    - Litter and recycling receptacles (to follow requirements on page 350)
    - Drinking fountains (to follow requirements on page 353)
    - Lighting (to follow requirements on page 354)
    - Emergency call boxes (to follow requirements on page 357)
    - Use graffiti-deterrent finishes where possible.

Detailed Maintenance Program Checklist for Facilities and Amenities

River Pavilions

- ☐ Develop a pavilion-specific maintenance plan and schedule - frequent and special attention is required to prevent vandalism and ensure proper use of facilities.
- ☐ For Rest (Tier II) and Gathering (Tier III) Pavilions, dedicated full-time staff is required.

Common Elements

- ☐ Coordinate with presiding agency for lighting, trash and litter receptacles, and emergency call boxes.
- ☐ Inspect furnishings regularly for damages and continued functionality.

Figure 332. Attendees listening to the Jessica Henson speak about the Master Plan at the Canoga Park commu nity meeting at river mile 51.
Source: OLIN, 2018.

RESOURCES

GLOSSARY

1% Flood (100-Year Flood): A flood of a magnitude that has a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (i.e. has a recurrence interval of 100 years, on average).

1% Floodplain (100-Year Floodplain): Areas with a 1 percent annual chance of flooding.

0.2% Flood (500-Year Flood): A flood of a magnitude that has a 0.2 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (i.e. has a recurrence interval of 500 years, on average).

0.2% Floodplain (500-Year Floodplain): Areas with a 0.2 percent annual chance of flooding.

Active Transport: Modes of transportation that are non-motorized relying on physical activity, such as walking and cycling, in addition to public transportation, which will be understood to require walking or cycling as a part of the whole journey. (Source: Healthy Spaces & Places, Australia)

Alluvium/Alluvial: Any soil or rock material deposit transported by water.

Aquifer: A natural underground layer of porous, water bearing materials (sand, gravel) usually capable of yielding a large amount or supply of water.

Aquifer Recharge: Aquifer recharge (AR) and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) are processes that convey water underground. These processes replenish groundwater stored in aquifers for beneficial purposes. Although the terms are often used interchangeably, they are separate processes with distinct objectives. AR is used solely to replenish water in aquifers. ASR is used to store water which is later recovered for reuse. (Source: US EPA)

Area Median Income: The median family income calculated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for each jurisdiction, in order to determine Fair Market Rents (FMRs) and income limits for HUD programs. Also known as HUD Area Median Family Income.

Aspect: The compass direction of exposure of a site to environmental factors (in particular, sunlight).

Beneficial Use: **1.** The uses of water necessary for the survival or well being of man, plants and wildlife. These uses of water serve to promote the tangible and intangible economic, social and environmental goals of mankind. Examples include drinking, swimming, industrial and agricultural water supply, and the support of fresh and saline aquatic habitats. **2.** Defines the resources, services, and qualities of aquatic systems that are the ultimate goals of protecting and achieving. For example, Beneficial Use of Estuarine Habitat are uses of water that support estuarine ecosystems, including, but not limited to preservation or enhancement of estuarine habitats, vegetation, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g., estuarine mammals, waterfowl, shorebirds), and the propagation, sustenance, and migration of estuarine organisms. (Source: Regional Water Board, Heal the Bay)

Best Management Practice (BMP): In the context of water quality, BMPs are structural, non-structural devices and/or managerial techniques that improve or prevent the pollution contained within dry and wet weather runoff from reaching downstream water ways.

Box Channel: A rectangular-shaped section of a channel, typically made of concrete.

Canopy: The uppermost continuous layer of foliage in forest vegetation formed by the crowns of the trees.

Climate Resourcefulness: An approach to climate resilience and justice that frames resilience in community action and/or activism as well as community self-determination and agency. This framework proposed a re-centering and re-grounding of resilience in communities and progressive, justice movements. (Source: Mackinnon and Derickson, 2013. "From Resilience to Resourcefulness: A Critique of Resilience Policy and Activism." Progress in Human Geography, 37.)

Community Based Process: Varies among communities and project scope but generally includes the following steps: initial community consultation; gathering data, observations, and analysis of primary issues; sharing those issues back to the community for further input; and finally, implementation. (Source: Project for Public Spaces)

Confined Aquifer: An aquifer in which an impermeable layer of soil or rock lays on top and prevents water from seeping into the ground.

Distributed Infiltration: Naturally or artificially allowing rainwater and runoff to percolate into the soil on a widespread basis.

Disturbance: Environmental fluctuations and destructive events, both man-made as well as natural, whether or not these are perceived as 'normal' for a particular system.

Diversity: Full range of variety and variability within and among living organisms, their associations, and habitat-oriented ecological complexes. Term encompasses ecosystem, species, and landscape as well as intraspecific (genetic) levels of diversity.

Ecoregions: Areas where ecosystems (and the type, quality, and quantity of environmental resources) are generally similar. This framework is derived from mapping done in collaboration with EPA regional offices, other Federal agencies, state resource management agencies, and neighboring North American countries. (Source: US EPA)

Ecosystem Function: The biological, geochemical and physical processes that take place or occur within an ecosystem.These processes often benefit human needs directly or indirectly. For example: providing shade, carbon sequestration, or filtering pollutants.

Ecosystem Services: The direct or indirect contributions of ecosystems to human well-being that support our survival and quality of life.

Ecotone: A transition area, or region, of vegetation between two different biological communities (biomes).

Extant Vegetation: The mix of plants and trees present above ground in a vegetated area that still exists from pre-urbanization conditions.

Fence: A barrier for public safety along LA County watercourses at least 60 inches high off the adjacent surface. Designers should reference the latest LA County codes for any updates.

Flood Control Basin: Large, empty basins which hold significant amounts of water during flood conditions to reduce flooding downstream. Examples of flood control basins in LA County include Sepulveda and Hansen.

Flood Channel: Concrete or earthen channels that convey water during large rain events. Flood channels are sometimes built on the courses of waterways as a way to reduce flooding. The LA River and many of its tributaries operate as flood channels.

Flood Control District: The Los Angeles County Flood Control Act (ACT) was adopted by the State Legislature in 1915, after a disastrous regional flood took a heavy toll on lives and property. The Act established the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and empowered it to provide flood protection, water conservation, recreation and aesthetic enhancement within its boundaries. The Flood Control District is governed, as a separate entity, by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors.

Forest: An area of closely canopied trees.

Fuel break: A gap, strip, or block of vegetation in which detritus and debris have been removed, and which has been altered to act as a barrier to slow or stop the progress of a wildfire. They are also known as fire breaks, which are more commonly strips or areas of bare soil or fire-retardant material.

Functioning Ecosystem: A dynamic complex of plant, animal, and microorganism communities and their non-living environment that exhibits biological and chemical activities characteristic for its type, regardless of whether the system visually looks like a natural system.

Gate: An aperture along a fence to provide access while maintaining public safety.

Groundwater Basin: Groundwater stored in an area with permeable materials below the ground, typically capable of storing a significant supply of water.

Guardrail: A barrier at least 42 inches high near the open sides of elevated surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall. Guardrails should follow the latest code and ADA requirements (such as restrictions on openings).

Habitat: The locality, site, and particular type of local environment occupied by an organism; includes food, water, shelter, cover, and the ability to raise young.

Habitat Linkage: A connection between large areas of habitat that is typically vegetated. Linkages are critical to provide sufficient habitat for wide-ranging animal species with large home territories as well as for other wildlife species.

Historic Floodplain: Areas subject to inundation by the LA River and its tributaries and distributaries prior significant channelization in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Horizontal Structure: Patchiness; the composition and distribution of species that varies widely from one spot to the next.

Hydraulic Reach: A reach is a length of stream or river used as a unit of study. It contains a specified feature that is either fairly uniform throughout, such as hydraulic characteristics or flood damages, or that requires special attention in the study, such as a bridge. (Source: USDA)

Hydraulics: Science that focuses on the movement of water through channels, pipes, and rivers.

Hydrology: The study of water, specifically its properties, movement and interaction with land, and how it affects the earth and atmosphere.

Indeterminate Growth: Growth that continues throughout the lifespan of an individual.

Infiltration: The gradual flow or movement of water into and through (to percolate or pass through) the pores of the soil.

Injection: An injection well is a device that places fluid deep underground into porous rock formations, such as sandstone or limestone, or into or below the shallow soil layer.

Invasive Species: An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. (Source: USDA)

Invasive Plant Species: Plant species that are both non-native and able to establish on many sites, grow quickly, and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems, causing environmental harm and/or harm to human health. (Source: USDA)

LA River ROW: The LA River right-of-way is the "fenceline to fenceline" area of the river channel and typically includes the river, river banks or levees, and LA River Trail. The ROW is owned and maintained by a variety of entities.

LA River Watershed Native Plant Species: Plant species that are a part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in the LA River Watershed. Refer to the LA River Design Guidelines plant community lists, qualified botanists or ecologists, and resources such as the California Native Plant Society (https://www.cnps.org/). (Source: USDA)

Levee: An embankment whose primary purpose is to furnish flood protection from seasonal high water and which is therefore subject to water loading for periods of only a few days or weeks a year.

Local Park: Local parks are under 100 acres and contain active amenities such as athletic courts and fields, playgrounds, and swimming pools. (Source: LA County Parks and Recreation)

Local Tribal Government: Refers to three local Tribal nations that identify themselves as Ventureño, Fernandeño, or Gabrieleno. This list can be obtained from the Nativer American Heritage Commission of California.

Low Flow Channel: In a concrete flood control channel, the low flow channel is a narrow, lowered section within the middle of the channel, designed to concentrate steady, non-wet weather runoff (water treatment flows, irrigation, etc.) by increasing channel velocity and depth.

Low Impact Development (LID): term used to describe a land planning and engineering design approach to manage stormwater runoff as part of green infrastructure. LID emphasizes conservation and use of on-site natural features to protect water quality.

Mafic: Pertaining to rocks rich in magnesium and iron.

Multiuse Trail: Trails which allow for many user types, such as pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians.

Mycorrhizae:. Largely symbiotic relationships between large and taxonomically diverse groups of fungi and vascular plants that allows for the uptake of water and minerals by the vascular plant, and for the uptake of sugars and carbohydrates from the vascular plant by the associated fungus.

Native Species: A species that is a part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem. (Source: USDA)

Nature-based: Nature-based strategies aim to protect, manage, and enhance natural or modified ecosystems through sustainable techniques that produce benefits for society and biodiversity. (Source: International Union for Conservation of Nature)

Non Native Plant Species: A plant species introduced with human help (intentionally or accidentally) to a new place or new type of habitat where it was not previously found. Not all non-native plants are invasive and may not reproduce or spread readily without continued human help. (Source: USDA)

Perched Aquifer: Localized zone of saturation above the main water table created by a laterally limited layer of underlying impermeable material.

Perennials: Plants that persist for several years with a period of growth each year.

Planning Frame: A series of nine geographical areas used in the LA River Master Plan to assist in the delineation of reach-specific concepts related to jurisdictional, hydraulic, and ecological zones. The planning frames also offer a more detailed local scale to assess project cadence, character, and community connectivity along the varying conditions of the LA River.

Platform Park: A park situated on a structural deck spanning over a space typically unsuitable for parkland, such as a roadway or waterbody.

Potable Water: Water quality that is suitable for drinking.

Propagule: Any part of an organism, produced sexually or asexually, that is capable of giving rise to a new individual. (for plants: seeds, cuttings, divisions, etc.)

Public Art: The creative community expression which includes permanent and temporary installations, cultural facilities and uses, and community engagement and programming. Other examples include, but are not limited to: sculpture, murals, portable paintings, fixtures, exhibit or performance space, conservation, performing arts, literary art, media art, new media, education, special events, arts services, community engagement, food, building arts, and environmental arts. (Source: LA County Department of Arts and Culture)

Railing: A barrier that separates trail uses or provides a visual separation but is not required to follow code.

Receiving Waters: All distinct bodies of water that receive runoff or wastewater discharges, such as streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, and estuaries.

Recharge: Process of addition of water to the saturated zone such as an aquifer. (Source: USGS)

Recharge Area: An area in which water reached the zone of saturation by surface infiltration. (Source: USGS)

Reclaimed Wastewater: Wastewater-treatment plant effluent that has been diverted for beneficial uses such as irrigation, industry, or thermoelectric cooling instead of being released to a natural waterway or aquifer. (Source: USGS)

Regional Detention (Basin): A detention basin which collects stormwater runoff from a relatively large area, and has been designed to use storage as a means of reducing downstream flood peaks, reducing possible flood damage, or reducing downstream channel construction costs. Regional facilities are usually multi-purpose, and normally are the responsibility of a public entity.(Source: Pima County Regional Flood Control District)

Regional Park: Park over 100 acres and contains active amenities such as athletic courts and fields, playgrounds, and swimming pools.(Source: LA County Parks and Recreation)

Resiliency: The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow, no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience. (Source: 100 Resilient Cities)

Restoration: Altering an area in such a way as to reestablish an ecosystem's structure and function, usually bringing it back to its original (pre-disturbance) state or to a healthy state close to the original. Management techniques that attempt to enhance or bring back the natural pre disturbance form and functions of a self-sustaining community or ecosystem; measures taken to return a site to pre disturbance conditions.

Revegetate: Establish vegetation on disturbed lands.

Rhizomatous: Having an underground horizontal stem that bears reduced scaly leaves.

Riparian: Pertaining to the banks of a stream,most often used to describe the hydrophilic (water-loving) vegetation along a stream.

River Mile: A measure of distance along the river centerline from its mouth. The LA River river mile system was developed in 2016 to reduce confusion between different jurisdictional reach designations. This numbering system is used consistently throughout the LA River Master Plan, with mile zero at the river mouth in Long Beach and mile 51 in Canoga Park.

River Ruler: The river ruler is an analysis tool developed for the LA River Master Plan that represents and takes measure of the entire 51 miles of the LA River in a simple vertical straight-line diagram. This approach simplifies and reinforces the river's linearity, allowing the eye to quickly perceive how conditions along the river change from one river mile to the next. This compact abstraction of the river allows for comparing across multiple river ruler categories at multiple locations along the river in a single drawing and is essential for recognizing where planning and design proposals can achieve multiple benefits at a particular location.

Senescence: The biological process of aging.

Solarizing: Weed management technique whereby sunlight is used to kill weed seed in the soil by using either transparent or black plastic to capture radiant heat energy from the sun, thereby causing physical, chemical and biological changes in the soil. Solarization reduces populations of weeds, disease-causing organisms, harmful invertebrates and insect pests in the top three to six inches of soil without environmental contamination; and increases populations of warmth loving beneficial soil organisms.

Spreading Basin: Basin used to impound water to allow for slow percolation of water into the ground in order to recharge the underlying groundwater aquifer.

Spreading Grounds: A spreading ground is a water conservation facility that retains surface water long enough for it to percolate into the soil where it can be stored and pumped for later use. Spreading grounds must be located within soft bottom channels or adjacent to rivers and flood channels and situated where underlying soils are permeable and in hydraulic connection to a target aquifer.

Stormwater: Stormwater runoff is generated from rain and snowmelt events that flow over land or impervious surfaces, such as paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops, and does not soak into the ground. The runoff picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment that can harm our rivers, streams, lakes, and coastal waters. (Source: US EPA)

Succession: The geological, ecological or seasonal sequence of species within a habitat or community.

Trapezoidal Section: A section of a channel with a trapezoidal cross-section. This shape is used to efficiently convey flows on a concrete surface.

Tributary: A stream that flows to a larger stream or other body of water.

Unconfined Aquifer: A water table—or unconfined—aquifer is an aquifer whose upper water surface (water table) is at atmospheric pressure, and thus is able to rise and fall. Water table aquifers are usually closer to the Earth's surface than confined aquifers are, and as such are impacted by drought conditions sooner than confined aquifers. (Source: USGS)

Understory: The vegetation layer between the overstory or canopy and the groundlayer of a forest or woodland community.

Upland: Referring to locations elevated above lower-lying locations, often used when discussing two locations within a watershed.

US Army Corps of Engineers: The Army Corps of Engineers provides public engineering services in peace and war to strengthen national security, energize the economy, and reduce risks from disasters.

Vegetation: The assemblage of plant species in a given area; also used as a general term for plant life.

Vertical Structure: Division of vegetation into distinct layers, each adapted to increasingly filtered sunlight if going top down. The layers are: canopy, understory, groundlayer, and the forest (or woodland) floor. Not all forests and woodlands have each layer.`

Water Quality: Surface water conditions suitable for aquatic life and human health.

Water Security: The capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of acceptable quality water for sustaining livelihoods, human well-being, and socioeconomic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability. (Source: United Nations Water)

Water Supply: Available water provided to fulfill a particular need. If the need is domestic, industrial, or agricultural, the water must fulfill both quality and quantity requirements. Water supplies can be obtained by numerous types of engineering projects, such as wells, dams, or reservoirs. (Source: Encyclopaedia Britannica)

Water Year: The 12-month period from October 1 through September 30 for any given year. Water years are written as the ending year (i.e., water year 1986-87 is written as 1987).

Watershed: The land area that drains into a river or stream. An area of land that contributes runoff to one specific delivery point. Large watersheds may be composed of several smaller "sub watersheds," each of which contributes runoff to different locations that ultimately combine at a common delivery point. Watersheds are usually bordered and separated from other watersheds by mountain ridges or other naturally elevated areas.

Wetland: Any number of tidal and non-tidal areas characterized by saturated or nearly saturated (wet) soils most of the year that form an interface between terrestrial (land-based) and aquatic environments. These include freshwater marshes around ponds and channels (rivers and streams) and brackish and salt marshes. Other common names include swamps and bogs.

Woodland: An area of canopied trees with greater distances between trees than found in forested areas.

RESOURCE LIST

LA County does not endorse any of these suppliers or guarantee that they meet the necessary requirements placed on them from the Master Plan or other applicable documents.

NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES

El Nativo Growers
Large wholesale nursery supplying a range of small to large projects including restoration.
—
200 South Peckham Road Azusa, CA 91702
626.969.8449
www.elnativogrowers.com
sales@elnativogrowers.com

Las Pilitas Nursery
Large wholesale nursery specializing in large projects.
—
3232 Las Pilitas Road Santa Margarita, CA 93453
805.438.5992
www.laspilitas.com
penny@laspilitas.com

Matilija Nursery
Large wholesale nursery with climate suitable varieties of groundcovers, shrubs, trees, perennials, and grasses specializing in large projects including contract grows for restoration.
—
8225 Waters Road Moorpark, CA 93021
805.523.8604
www.matilijanursery.com
matilijanurserweb@gmail.com

A & F
Formerly Mockingbird Nursery, wholesale nursery for shrubs, ornamental grasses, trees, succulents, and annuals.
—
803 Adams Street Riverside, CA 92504-5310
951.352.4922
https://afgrowers.com
office@afgrowers.com

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Working with Seed LA initiative (contact Naomi Fraga; nfraga@rsabg.org) for native seed sourcing. Medium sized retail nursery with capacity for contract grows for restoration and mitigation projects.
—
1500 N College Avenue, Claremont CA 91711
909.625.8767
www.rsabg.org
gnnclaremont@rsabg.org; bsale@rsabg.org

Theodore Payne Foundation
Large retail nursery with a focus on native seed sourcing and propagation.
—
10459 Tuxford Street Sun Valley, CA 91711
818.768.1802
www.theodorepayne.org
info@theodorepayne.org

Tree of Life Nursery
Wholesale/retail nursery with capacity for contract growing, an active mycorrhizae program, and local seed mix availability.
—
33201 Ortega Highway San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693
949.728.0685
www.californianativeplants.com
inquiries@treeoflifenursery.com

Antelope Valley Resource Conservation Nursery
Commercial nursery with capacity for contract growing and educational programs.
—
10148 West Ave. I, Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 942-7306
https://www.avrcd.org
avrcd@carcd.org

Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery
Contact Arroyo Seco Foundation for details
—
Hahamongna Watershed Park, 4550 Oak Grove Dr.
Pasadena, CA 91103
(323) 405-7326

Tarweed Native Plants
Small retail nursery more appropriate for small scale projects.
—
1307 Graynold Ave, Glendale, CA 91202
(818) 419-7034
http://www.tarweednativeplants.com/
tarweed@tarweednativeplants.com

Artemisia Nursery
Small retail nursery more appropriate for small scale projects.
—
5068 Valley Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90032
323-795-5515
https://www.artemisianursery.com
artemisianursery@gmail.com

Glendora Gardens
Medium sized nursery with drought tolerant species as well as sod, soil, and turf removal services.
—
1132 S. Grand Avenue, Glendora, CA 91740
(626) 914-6718
https://www.glendoragardens.com

Fremontia Horticultural Inc.
Specializing in drought tolerant plants for large scale projects including succulents and grasses.
—
0401 E Riverside Drive, Ontario, CA 91761
(909) 673-0600
https://fremontiahorticultural.com
info@fremontiahorticultural.com

Greenbelt Growers
Specializing in ornamental plants for commercial landscape and restoration projects.
—
9820 Dufferin Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503
(951) 688-4091
https://www.greenbeltgrowers.com/
sales@greenbeltgrowers.com

Pacific Coast Nursery Inc.
Large wholesale nursery specializing in large commercial development projects.
—
1924 Monroe Street Riverside, CA. 92504
951-689-1777
https://www.pacificcoastnursery.com
info@pacificcoastnursery.com

Back to Natives Nursery @ Santiago Park
Prefer to use seeds collected from or near the site. Right now the BTN Nursery is entirely volunteer driven though the scale of projects seem to range from small to large restoration projects.
—
Santiago Park Nature Reserve, Santa Ana, CA 92706
(949) 509-4787
http://www.backtonatives.org/nursery
info@backtonatives.org

NATIVE PLANT SEED

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Nursery and regional educational resource.
—
1500 North College Avenue Claremont, CA 91711
909.625.8767 ext 404
www.rsabg.org
gnnclaremont@rsabg.org

S & S Seeds
Extensive seed inventory and mixes available for sale.
—
P.O. Box 1275 Carpinteria, CA 93014
805.684.0436
http://www.ssseeds.com
info@ssseeds.com

Stover Seed Company
Native and non-native seed company with a native seed database for large scale projects.
—
P.O. Box 1579 Sun Valley, CA 91353
800.621.0315
www.stoverseed.com
customer_service@stoverseed.com

Theodore Payne Foundation
Nursery and regional educational resource.
—
10459 Tuxford Street Sun Valley, CA 91711
818.768.1802
www.theodorepayne.org
info@theodorepayne.org

Seed LA
New nonprofit working with Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden among other nurseries to encourage native seed use. (contact Naomi Fraga; nfraga@rsabg.org)

ENDNOTES

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TABLE OF FIGURES

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In addition to the named individuals on these pages, many people committed to the future of the LA River contributed significantly to the plan by sharing ideas, priorities, and goals for the river.

This Master Plan was made possible only through their rich contributions.

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Figure 333. Students at the LA River Master Plan Youth Summit move between worksessions to learn about the LA River. Source: OLIN, 2018.

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Figure 334. Community members actively participating in the planning process at the Community Meeting in Studio City.
Source: LA County Public Works, 2019.

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Figure 335. Steering committee members listen and discuss Master Plan items at the 8th Steering Committee Meeting. Source: OLIN, 2019.

The 2020 LA River guidelines are an update of the 2004 Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes. The original 1999 and 2004 guidelines were prepared by:

Jill Benshoof
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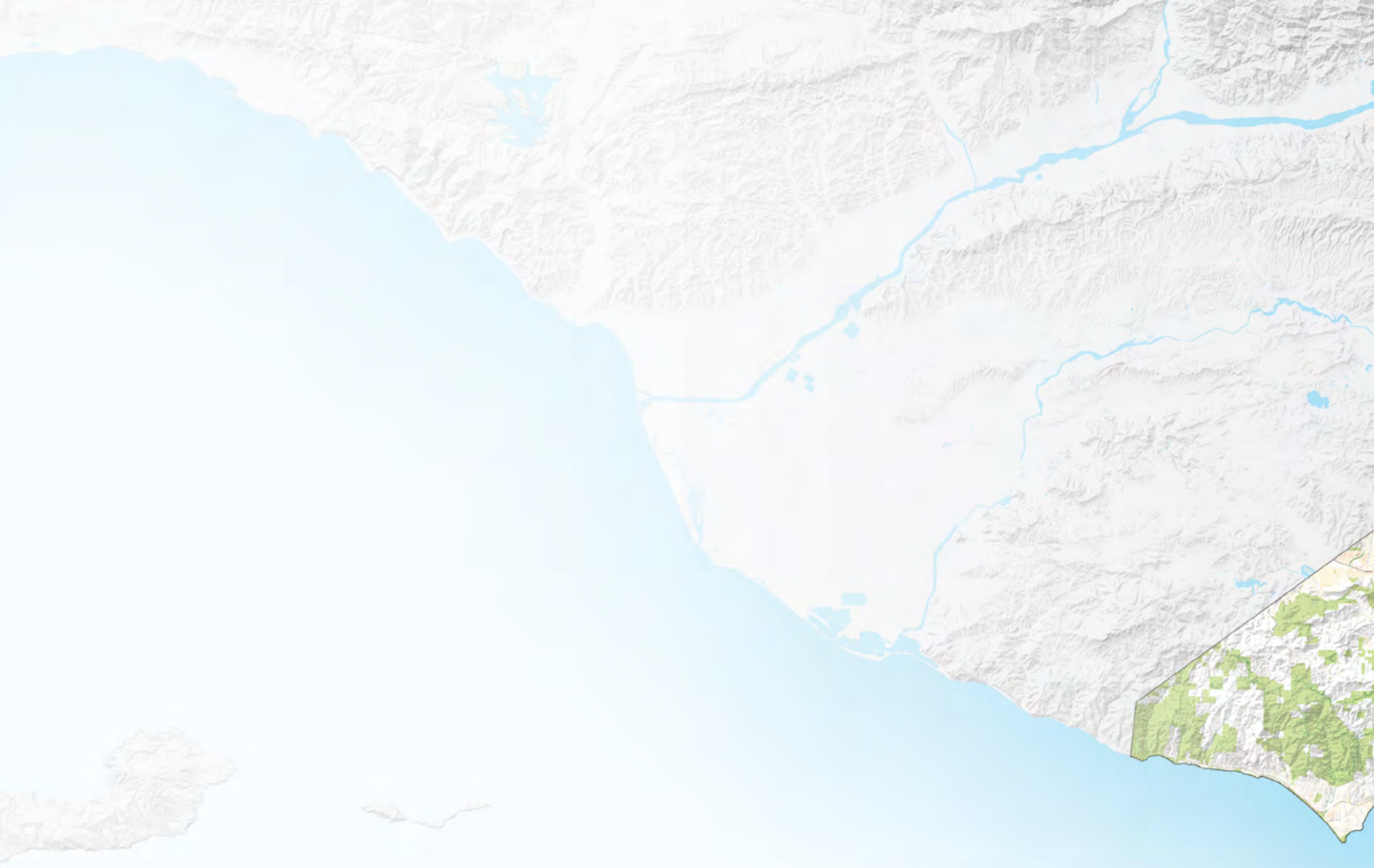

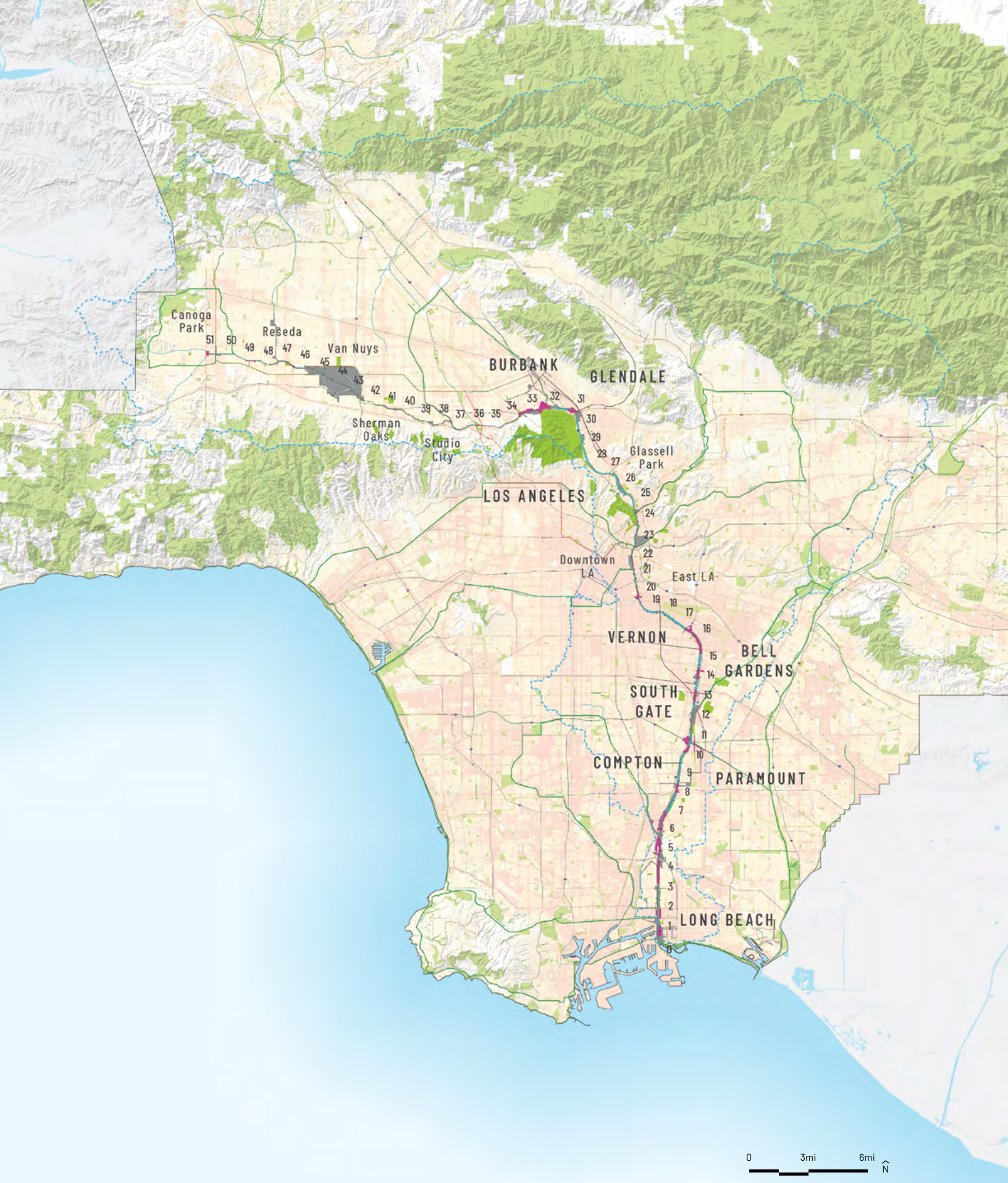
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