

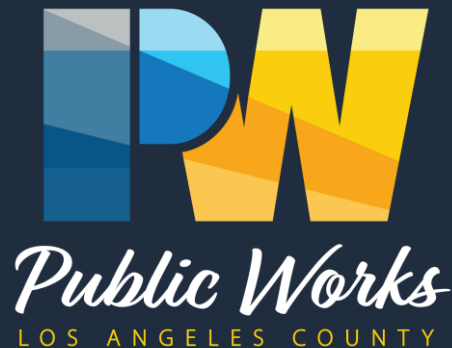
# Pacoima Reservoir Restoration Project

Public Scoping Meeting

El Cariso Regional Park, Community Center

October 12, 2023

6:30 p.m.



# Pacoima Reservoir Restoration Project

## Agenda:

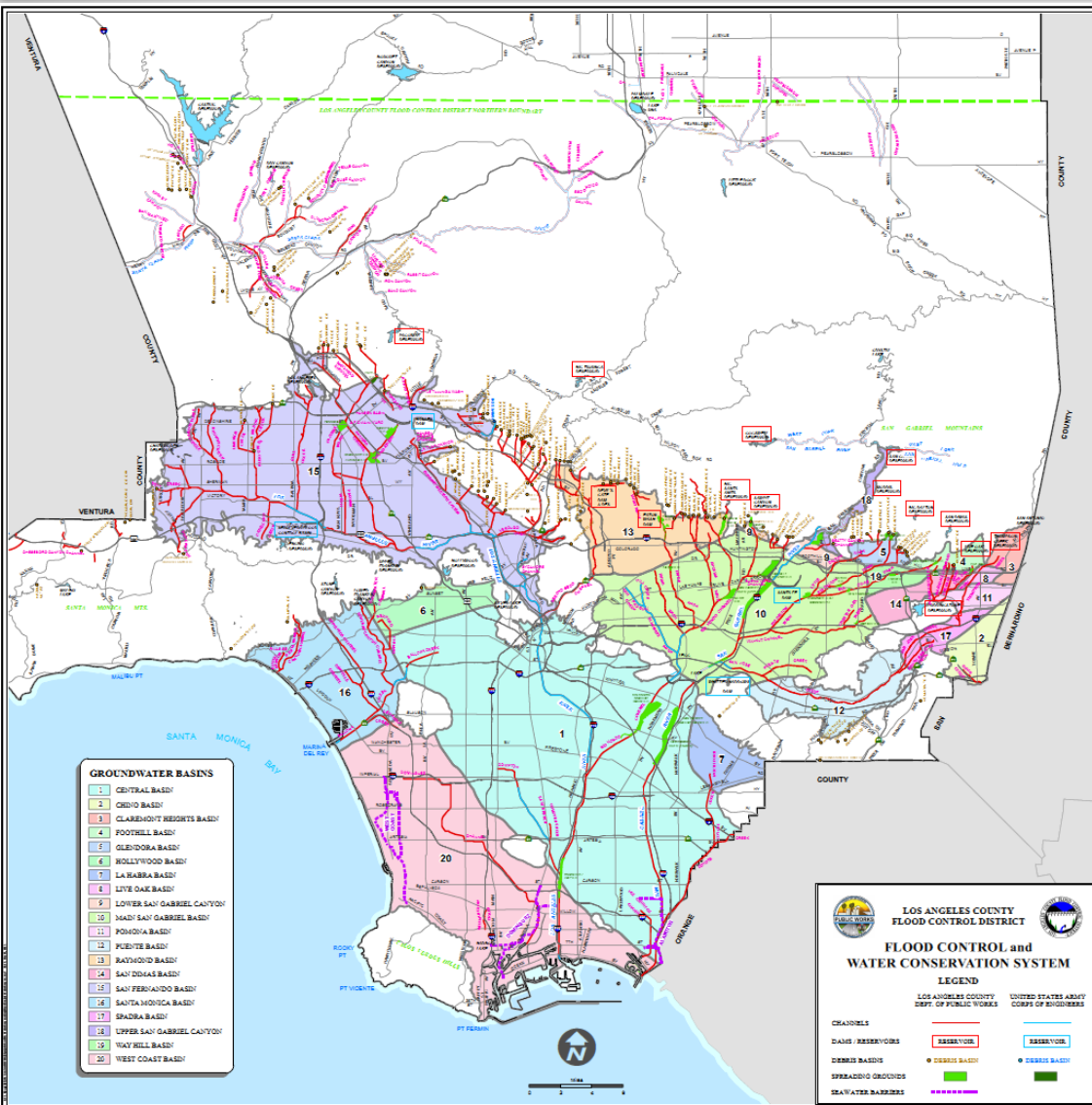
- Background & Overview
- Goals & Objectives
- Alternatives
- Other Activities
- Tentative Schedule
- CEQA Process
- Questions



# Background of the Flood Control District

## Los Angeles County Flood Control District

- Established in 1915 after disastrous flooding
- Primary purposes are to reduce flood risk and conserve water
- Encompasses 2,700 sq. miles



# About Pacoima Dam



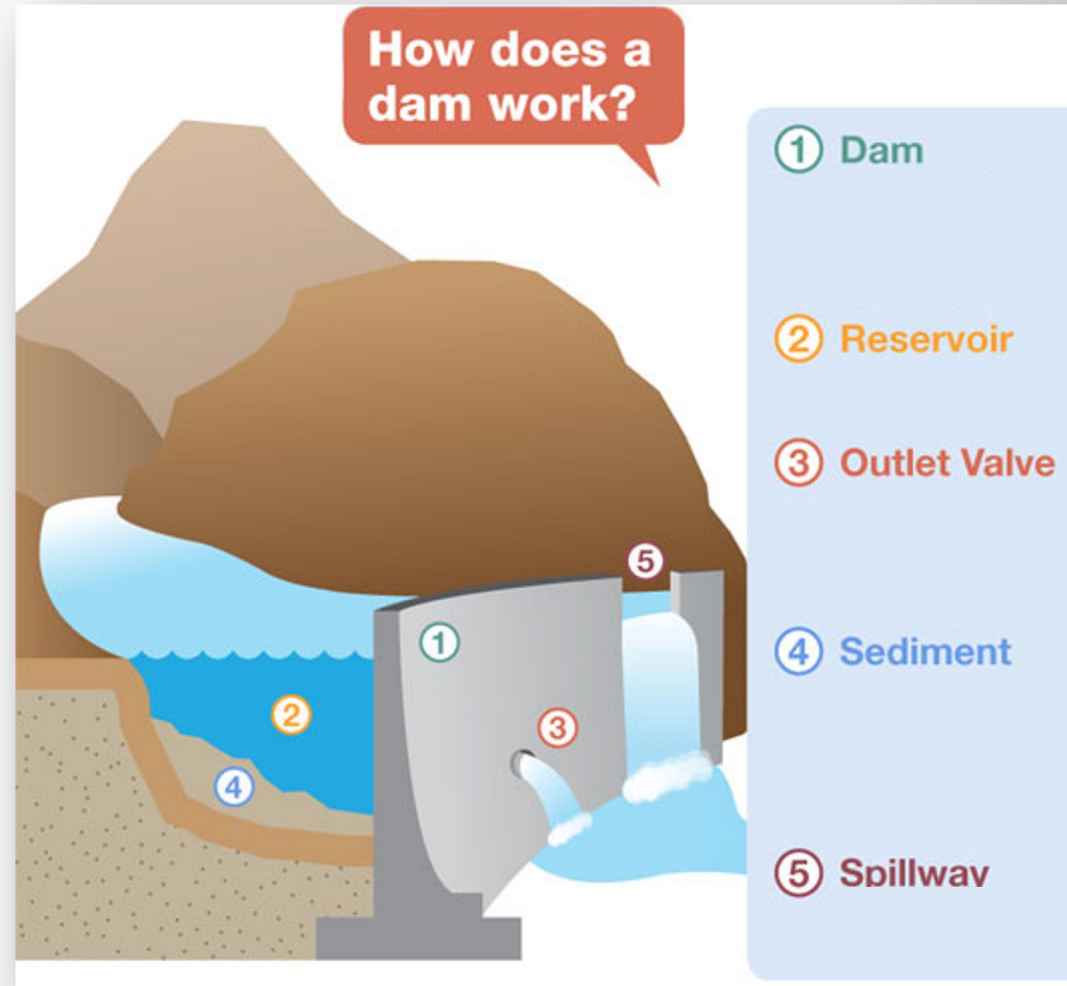
## Pacoima Dam (Completed in 1929)

- The Dam provides:
  - Stormwater Capture
  - Flood Protection
- Protecting the Communities of Sylmar and Pacoima, and the City of San Fernando

# Pacoima Reservoir and Sediment Removal

## Pacoima Reservoir

- 5.5 MCY of sediment in storage
  - Original capacity 9.8 MCY
  - Roughly 60% full of sediment
- Tributary Watershed of 28.2 square miles
- Sediment deposition decreases capacity and limits storm operations and stormwater capture capability
- Sediment removal required to maintain capacity



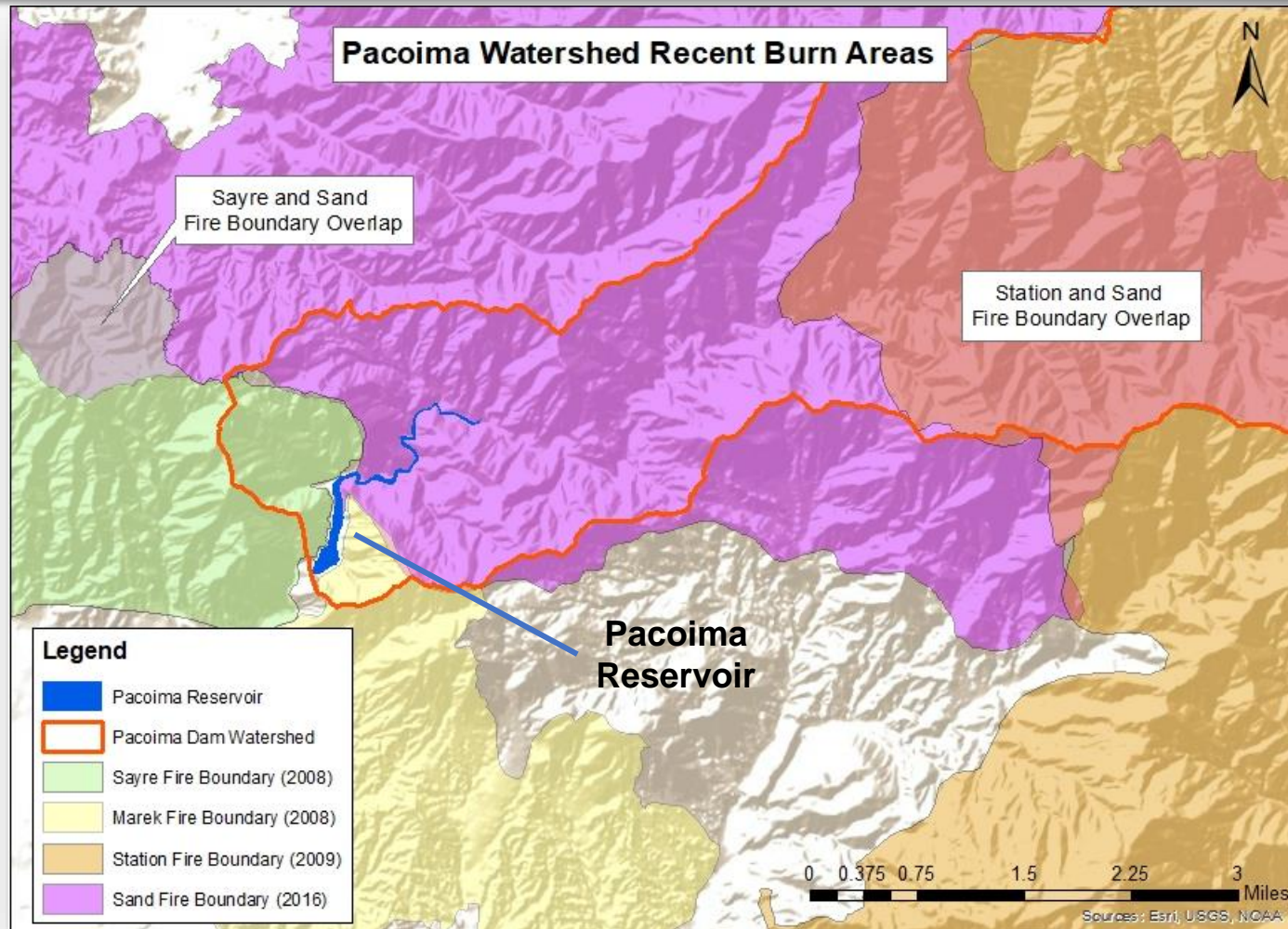
# Climate Change and Previous Major Fires

## Climate Change

- Prolonged droughts
- Higher temperatures
- More active fire seasons

## Recent Fires within Watershed

- 96% of tributary watershed burned by multiple fires



# Post-Fire Impacts

## Impacts from Previous Fires

- Increased amounts of sediment deposition
- Over 700,000 CY deposited since Station Fire (2009)



# Project Goals

## Project Goals:

- Restore flood protection capabilities
- Maximize capacity for stormwater capture and water supply resiliency
- Establish long term maintenance program



Pacoima Spreading Grounds



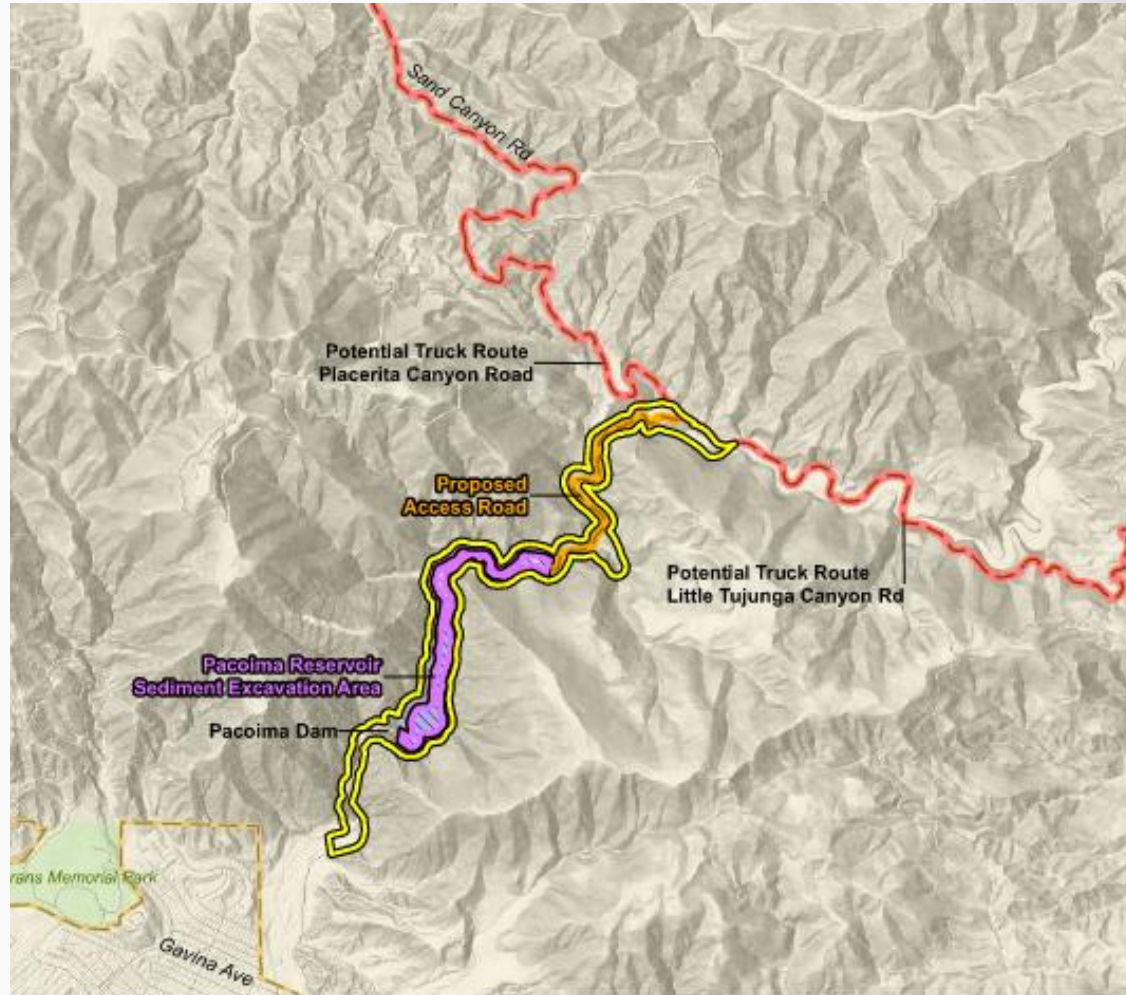
# Project Phase 1

## Phase 1 Objectives:

- Remove 1.5 MCY from reservoir area near dam face
- Protect dam's outlet works

## Phase 1 Activities:

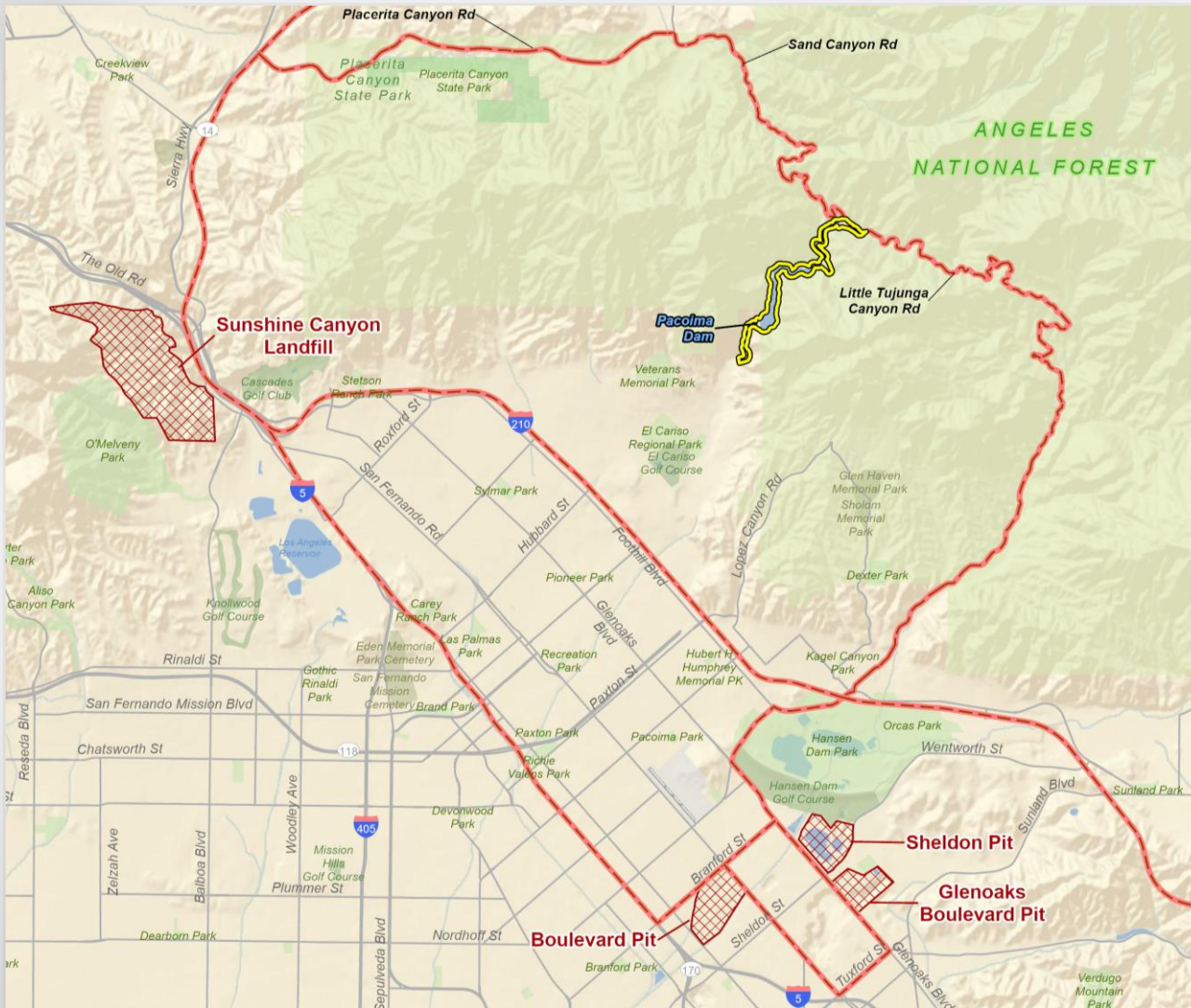
- Drain Reservoir
- Dry Excavation
- Low-emissions haul trucks



# Project Phase 1

## Phase 1 Components:

- Routes utilizing main roads and freeways
- Placement sites to utilize existing landfills and pits
  - Sunshine Canyon Landfill
  - Sun Valley Pits
  - Alternative Pits



# Project Phases 2 & 3

## Phase 2 & 3 Objectives:

- Achieve storage capacity of 8.0 MCY
- Implement long term maintenance plan
- Several alternatives for removal, transportation methods and placement sites (TBD)

- 
- Project Site
  - ▨ Potential Sediment Placement Sites\*
  - Potential Haul Routes
  - Potential Conveyor Route

# Sediment Transport

## Transport Methods:

- Low-Emissions Haul Trucks (Proposed for Phase 1, Potential for Phases 2 & 3)
- Conveyor Belt (Potential for Phases 2 & 3)



Above: San Gabriel Reservoir (2023)  
Left: Devil's Gate Reservoir (2020)

# Sediment Placement

## Potential Sediment Placement Locations:

- Existing Landfills and Gravel Pits
- New Sediment Placement Sites
  - Capacity Dependent on Canyon Size
  - Compacted Soil
  - Filled at Slope with Benches
  - Drainage Design
  - Revegetation upon Completion



Above: Burro Canyon SPS (2016)  
Left: Burro Canyon SPS (2023)



# Anticipated Project Schedule

## Tentative Schedule:

- Site Preparation for Phase 1: **Fall 2025**
- Sediment Removal for Phase 1: **Spring 2026**
  - 5 Years or less to complete
- Sediment Removal for Phase 2: **Spring 2031**
  - 10 Years or less to complete
- Phase 3: Long Term Maintenance as needed



*Dates subject to change*

# CEQA Overview

- Purpose of Scoping Meeting
- Purpose of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Process
- Environmental Topics
- Future Opportunities for Public Involvement
- Public Comments

# Purpose of Scoping Meeting

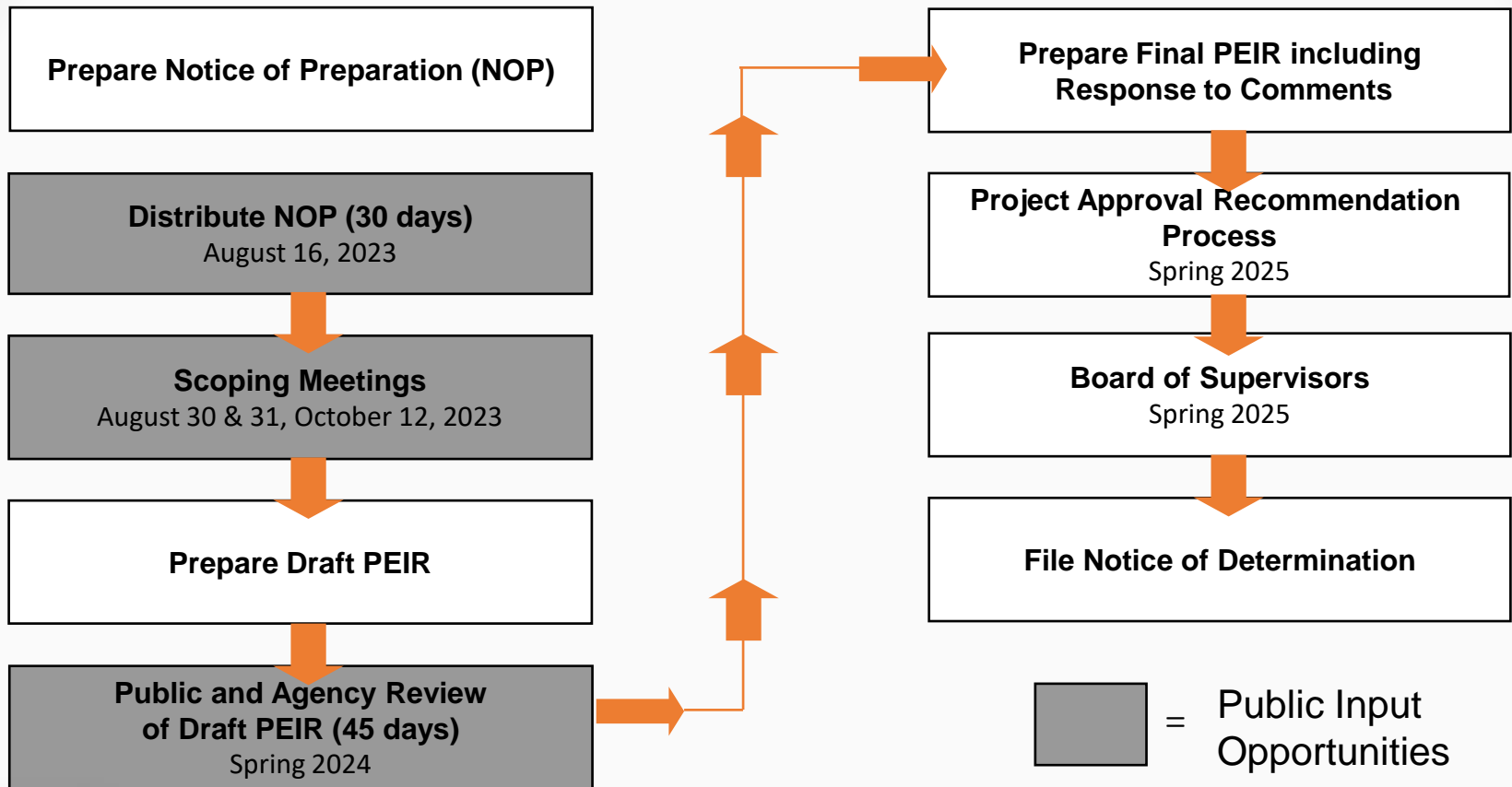
- Purpose of Scoping Meeting
  - Provide project overview
  - Solicit comments on potential environmental effects of project to refine the PEIR scope
- Scope is affected by
  - Responses to NOP from agencies
  - Input from the community




# Purpose of CEQA

- CEQA - California's environmental law
  - CEQA applies to all discretionary actions
- Purpose of CEQA
  - Disclose project potential significant environmental impacts
  - Identify mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts
  - An EIR must evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives

# Program EIR Process



 = Public Input Opportunities

# Environmental Topics

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

# Future Opportunities for Involvement

- Draft PEIR
  - Draft PEIR circulation for 45 days
  - Anticipated Spring 2024
- Final PEIR
  - Response to comments
  - Final PEIR - available for review prior to project approval
  - Anticipated Fall 2024

# Public Scoping Comments

- The NOP is available for review at:
  - LACPW, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Alhambra
  - Public libraries:
    - Lake View Terrace Public Library, 12002 Osborne Street, Lake View Terrace
    - San Fernando Public Library, 217 Maclay Avenue, San Fernando
    - Sylmar Public Library, 14561 Polk Street, Sylmar
  - Online at: [PacoimaProject.com](http://PacoimaProject.com)  
([www.pw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/Pacoima/](http://www.pw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/Pacoima/))
- Send comments during NOP circulation (Aug 16 – Oct 16, 2023)

# Public Comments

- Comments on the NOP may be submitted, mailed, or emailed
  - Submitted at the In-Person Scoping Meeting
  - Mailed to:
    - Los Angeles County Public Works
    - Stormwater Engineering Division
    - P.O. Box 1460
    - Alhambra, CA 91802-1460
  - Emailed to: [reservoircleanouts@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:reservoircleanouts@pw.lacounty.gov)

# Questions?

## Contact Information:

Los Angeles County Public Works  
[reservoircleanouts@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:reservoircleanouts@pw.lacounty.gov)

Website:  
[PacoimaProject.com](http://PacoimaProject.com)