CITY OF LONG BEACH

POPULATION (1994): 436,800; LAND AREA: 49.72 SQ. MI.

Long Beach (incorporated in 1897) is located 23.9 miles south of central Los Angeles along the southern coastline. It has the second largest population among Los Angeles County cities. Long Beach has a large job base led by services, manufacturing and retail trade. Land uses are mixed urban, with residential, major commercial and industrial well represented. In 1989, the median family income in Long Beach was $36,305. The median age of the population declined from 31.1 in 1980 to 30.0 in 1990. Almost half the population is White; 24% is of Hispanic origin.

ISSUES

• Long Beach is in transition from an oil-base economy to one dependent on tourism.
• Debris flushed down from the upper reaches of the river collects in Long Beach.

ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS

• The Long Beach Plan designates areas adjacent to the river as low-density and medium-density residential and major industrial. The Los Angeles River and the contiguous Virginia Country Club are depicted as open space.

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

• The city is acquiring land for a park on Golden Avenue.
• Expansion of Los Cerritos Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

• Initiate a Beach Clean-up Program.
• Encourage the development of recreation-related sales and business opportunities near DeForest Park, Ocean Boulevard and other areas.
• Develop restoration, educational and interpretive sites at Dominguez Gap and near schools.
• Institute a mural program at the Metro Blueline crossing.
• Connect the City Bike Trail to the LARIO trail near Artesia Boulevard.
• Create a greenway from Queensway Bay to DeForest Park.
• Connect Coolidge Park to the river via Artesia Boulevard.
OTHER PROJECTS

1. City of Long Beach Queensway Bay Plan: The Queensway Bay Plan seeks to revitalize Long Beach’s waterfront by creating a modern commercial harbor and increasing water-related recreational opportunities.

2. Park on Golden Avenue: This future project would provide access to the LARIO Trail.

3. Los Angeles River/Rio Hondo (LARIO) Trail - Striping and Signage Project: This is a Los Angeles County Department of Public Works project to stripe and sign the existing bike trail from the mouth of the river to Whittier Narrows Dam.

4. Wrigley Greenbelt:
   - This two-mile long demonstration project would improve the county’s LARIO riding and hiking trail.
   - The Wrigley Homeowners Association has planned a greenbelt/path on the excess easement along the river channel.

5. City of Long Beach Proposed Future Park: This future project would create a park north of Wardlow Road on the east side of the river.
CITY OF CARSON


Carson (incorporated in 1968) lies 18.5 miles south of Los Angeles City Hall, just east of the 110 (Harbor) Freeway. It has the 20th largest population in the county and a very large job base with manufacturing and wholesale trade dominating. Land uses reflect the job base of this city with significant commercial and industrial sectors. There are also single family residential uses and some vacant lands. Median family income was $47,387 in 1989. The city’s population is 28% Hispanic, 26% African-American, 23% Asian or Pacific Islander and 22% White.

ISSUES

• A lack of appropriate funding for the maintenance of existing parks.
• A need to improve access to the western levee of the Los Angeles River.

ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS

• The city’s General Plan does not recognize the river since the city does not have any land adjacent to the river.

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

• City of Carson South Bay Bike Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

• Connect the City of Carson Bikeway to the LARIO Trail using surface streets.
• Develop recreation-related sales for local businesses.