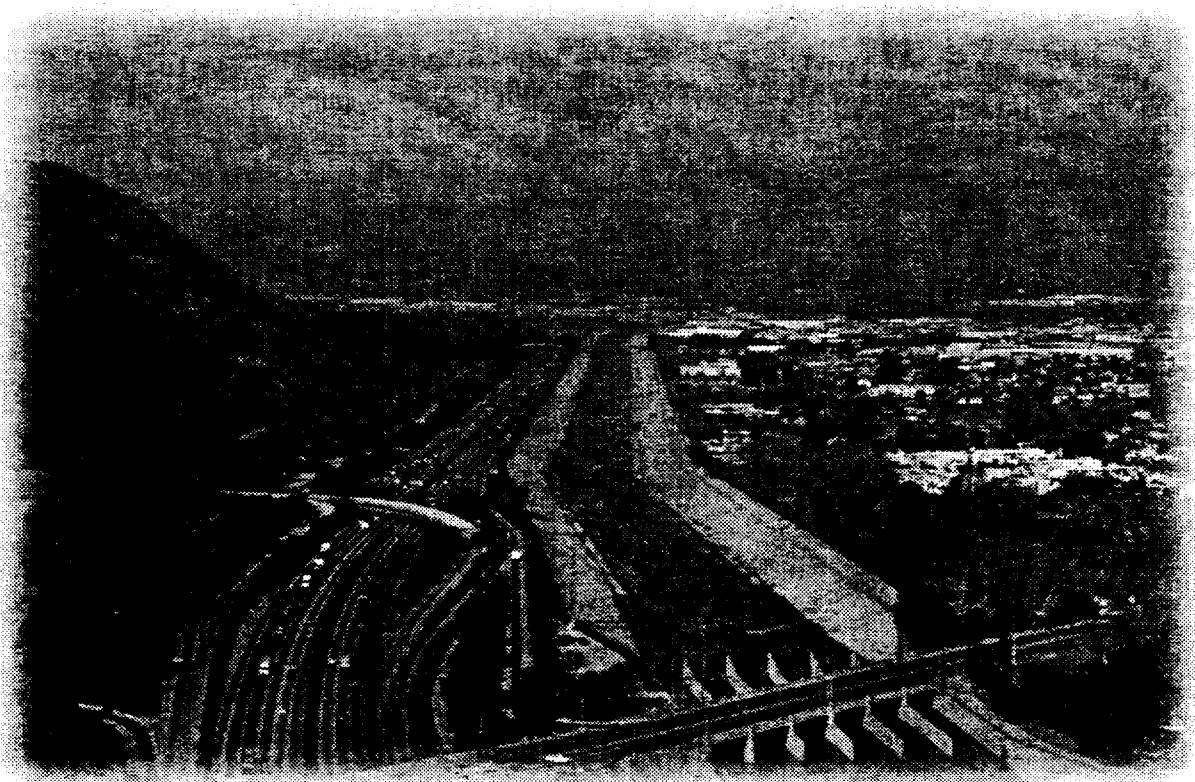


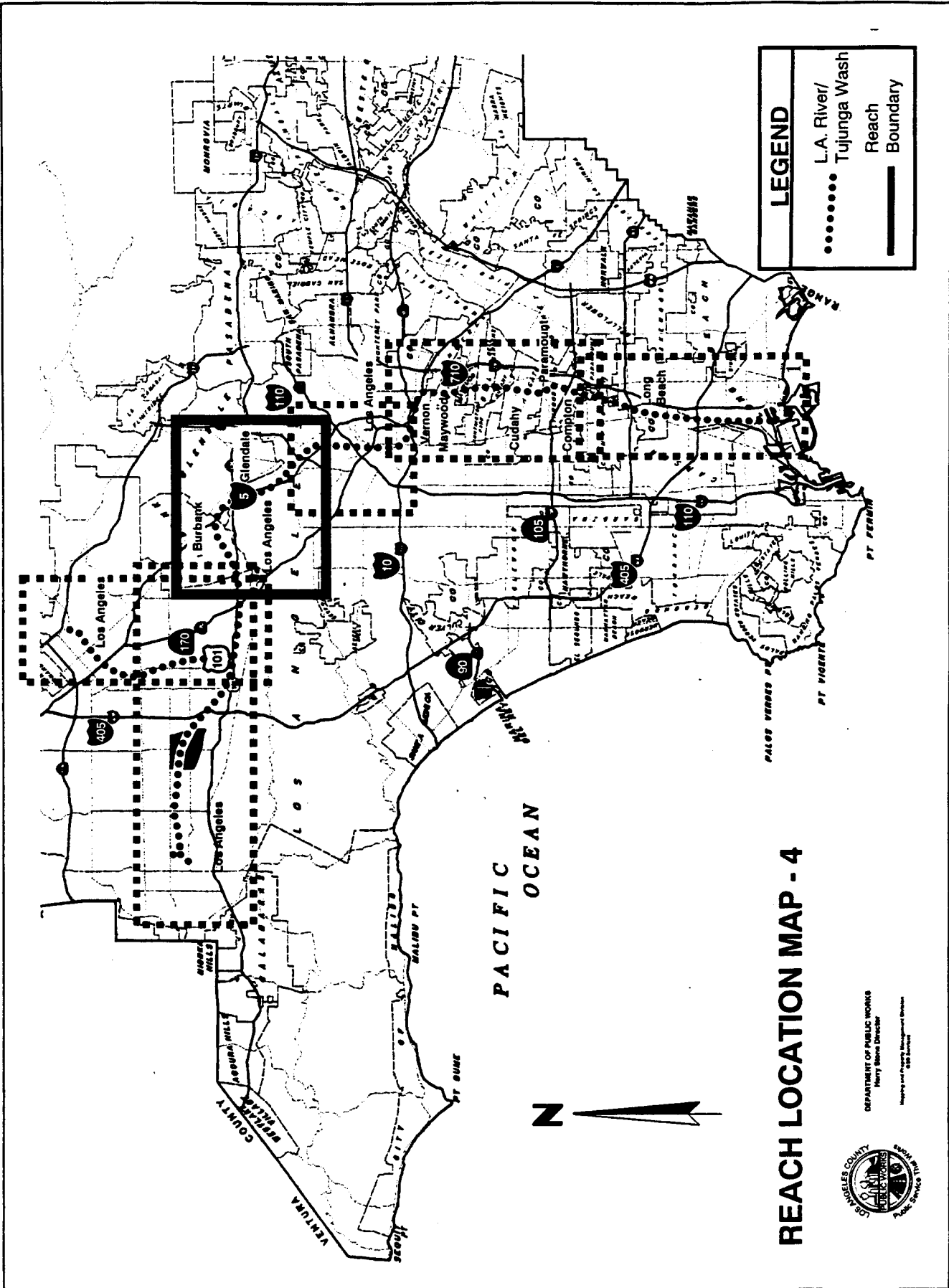
REACH 4: GLENDALE NARROWS

LOS ANGELES 235-253

GLENDALE 244-249

BURBANK 249-253





LEGEND	
.....	L.A. River/ Tujunga Wash
————	Reach
————	Boundary

REACH LOCATION MAP - 4



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Henry Stone Director

Map prepared by
1987

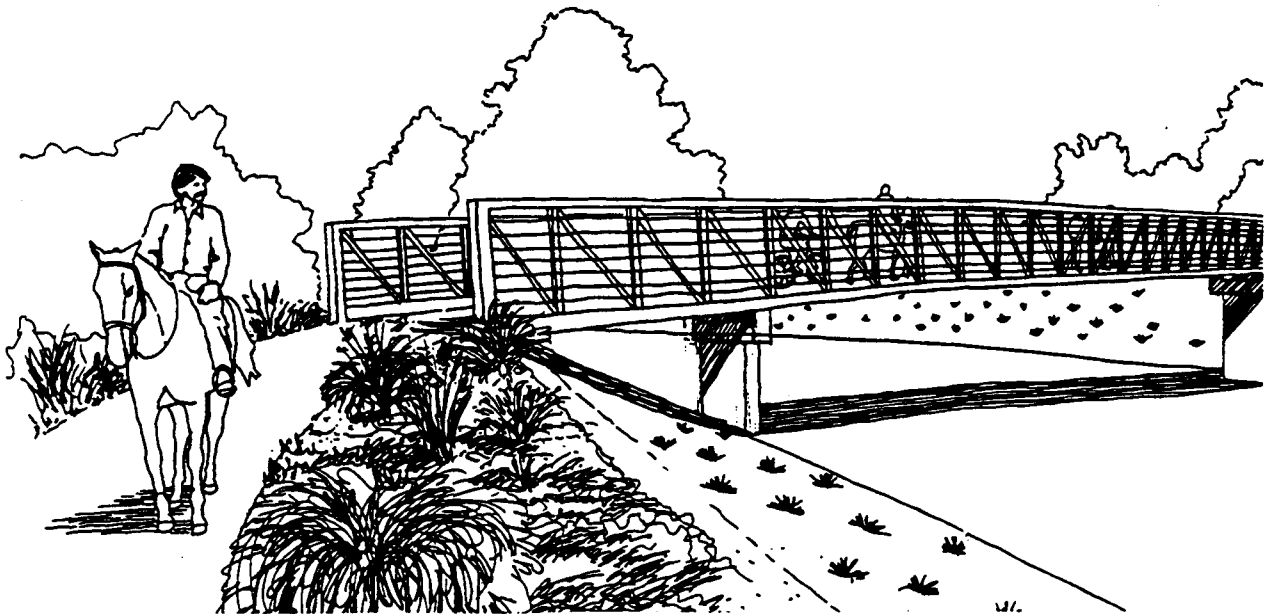
REACH 4: GLENDALE NARROWS


In the ten miles between Barham Boulevard and its confluence with Arroyo Seco near the 110 Freeway, the Los Angeles River passes through the cities of Burbank, Glendale and the City of Los Angeles communities of Los Feliz, Atwater Village, Elysian Valley, Silverlake, Glassell Park and Cypress Park.

The river configuration in this reach is trapezoidal except for a portion through Glendale. Right-of-way widths vary from 200 feet to approximately 400 feet. Within this reach, the Los Angeles River has a grouted stone invert from the confluence of the Burbank/Western Channel (near Riverside Drive) to just north of the Arroyo Seco confluence. Just over six miles long, this is the longest segment of soft river bottom.

Maintenance roads run along both sides of the river, but do not provide continuous access. The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has utility easements along the river.

Beginning at Barham Boulevard in Burbank, adjacent commercial land uses include developments by Warner Brothers, Disney and NBC Studios. The Griffith Park Equestrian Center and picnic grounds are situated between the cities of Burbank and Glendale. The 4,217-acre Griffith Park—the largest city-owned park in the United States—includes more than three miles of riverfront. Four miles downstream, another major urban open space—the 585-acre Elysian Park—also lies adjacent to the river. The land between these two parks supports a variety of uses including light industry, manufacturing, single-family residential, rail facilities and vacant land.





Taylor Yard, a 174-acre rail yard owned by Southern Pacific Transportation Company, is located just north of the Arroyo Seco confluence. This site is being studied for possible development of a multi-use project. About 67 of the original 271 acres of this riverfront property has already been developed by the County's Metropolitan Transportation Authority as a Metrolink maintenance facility.

Within this reach, the Los Angeles River is designated as open space in the various community plans. The river also marks the boundary between the North East Los Angeles Plan and the Hollywood and Silverlake-Echo Park District Plans. Adjacent properties are predominantly designated as low-density residential and industrial, with Griffith and Elysian parks providing open space.


As indicated, more than six of the ten miles in this reach are soft bottom. As a result, dense riparian vegetation grows in the channel supporting wildlife that includes birds, ducks, frogs and other less-visible species. The relatively lush environment in this reach attracts people who enjoy many forms of recreation including: walking, jogging, horseback riding, bird watching, photography and crayfishing. Only one legal access point exists in this reach—the pedestrian bridge over the Golden State Freeway from Griffith Park near Los Feliz Boulevard. The maintenance roads along this reach are officially closed to public use, but cut fences provide easy access to the many people who use this section of river. This includes homeless people who have settled under some of the bridges within this reach.

Several equestrian centers are located on the east bank of the river in this reach. To reach the trails in Griffith Park, equestrians use a low-water crossing of the river from the east embankment, then cross under the freeway through a tunnel.

ISSUES

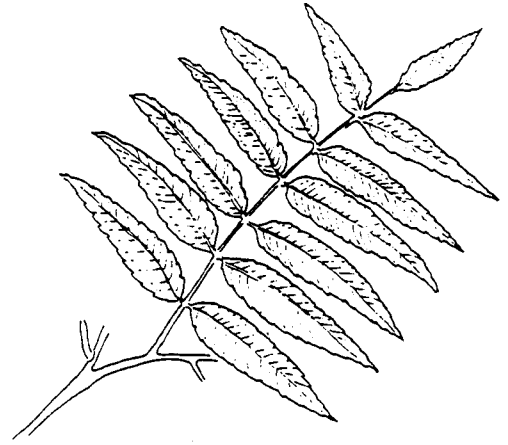
- There is a need for a continuous trail along this reach.
- High development costs of adjacent land due to a need for toxic clean-up.
- The freeway stands as a barrier between parks.

ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS

- The river is designated as open space within this reach.
- 

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

- Tree planting at Zoo Drive and the Golden State Freeway.
- Trail on the east bank and improvements at the Glendale Water Reclamation Plant.
- Los Feliz River Walk.



RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

- Create a mural on the river walls along I-5.
- Develop an interpretive site at Atwater Park.
- Encourage recreation-related economic development at the Los Feliz access.
- Connect Glenhurst Park to the river at Fletcher Drive and develop an interpretive site there.
- Develop Lawry's site as an historical museum and connect the site to the river via a trail.
- Connect Verdugo Wash trails.
- Develop new equestrian trails, improve the existing trails, and provide an equestrian bridge crossing.

CITY OF GLENDALE

POPULATION (1994): 190,200; LAND AREA: 30.49 SQ. MI.

Glendale (incorporated in 1906) is located 7.1 miles north of Los Angeles City Hall. It has the 3rd largest population among all cities in Los Angeles County. Glendale has a very large job base dominated by retail trade, manufacturing, finance and service industries. It also contains extensive residential areas. The median family income in Glendale was \$39,652 in 1989. Glendale's population grew very rapidly during the eighties, primarily because of a building boom. The population is 64% White, and approximately 68% of the population is over the age of 25 years.

ISSUES

- This area needs substantial economic development.
- The aesthetics and appearance of the river from adjacent neighborhoods need improvement.
- There is a need to provide access across the river into Griffith Park.
- Trails connecting adjacent areas with other recreational facilities need to be developed.
- Crime is a concern which must be addressed.
- There is a need for affordable housing.



ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS

- The Glendale General Plan designates areas north of the river in a variety of land uses: open space, major industrial, low- and high-density residential and major commercial.

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

- San Fernando Road Redevelopment Area, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- Environmental education program with a focus on plant and animal habitats of the Glendale Narrows section.
- The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy River Greenway Project to connect El Pueblo State Historic Park to Elysian and Griffith Parks along the Los Angeles River by creating a system of parks, trails and rest stops.

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS


- Develop a continuous trail on the south/west bank.
- Implement a joint project to complement and improve the area along the water treatment plan.
- Build a trail along Victory Boulevard.
- Make economic improvements in the area around Victory and Rooter Drives.
- Develop an interpretive site at the Verdugo Wash confluence.


CITY OF BURBANK

POPULATION (1994): 98,700; LAND AREA: 17.12 SQ. MI.

Burbank (incorporated in 1911) lies 10.9 miles northwest of central Los Angeles. It has the 12th largest population in the county. Burbank has a very strong job base, primarily in manufacturing and services, including motion picture and related industries. Burbank is also the home of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport, one of the busiest in the region after Los Angeles International Airport. Its land uses are diverse, with single-family residential the most common. The median income in Burbank was \$42,148 in 1989.

ISSUES

- Beautification; landscaping; maintenance and clean-up.
 - Other recreational uses, such as bike and jogging trails, should be developed.
 - Security needs must be considered during any new recreational development.
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- Any development needs to include consideration for flood protection.
 - The spreading basins along Forest Lawn Drive offer many opportunities for recreational development.
 - Equestrian trails and facilities should be developed.
 - Polliwog Pond, presently used by equestrians, should be improved and connected to the river by a trail.

ADOPTED GENERAL OF RECREATIONAL PLANS

- Adopted General Plan designations include: low-density residential, commercial, industrial and open space.
- Media District Specific Plan and Rancho Protection Plan.

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

- Burbank Monorail Feasibility Study.
- The city will be developing a bikeway plan which will include a river bike path.
- The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy River Greenway Project to connect El Pueblo State Historic Park to Elysian and Griffith Parks along the Los Angeles River by creating a system of parks, trails and rest stops.

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

- Develop a river walk at Warner Bros. Studio.
- Develop a continuous trail on the south bank of the river.



OTHER PROJECTS

1. City of Los Angeles Planned Bikeway: An 11-mile long bikeway to be built along the western levee of the Los Angeles River between Riverside Drive in Griffith Park to Elysian Park.
 2. Taylor Yard: A study to identify multiple opportunities for environmental, aesthetic, recreational, commercial, residential and industrial development.
 3. Los Angeles River Park and Recreation Area Study: This U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study examines potential beneficial uses for the Los Angeles River. It includes an assessment of the river's potential for public access, recreation and wildlife enhancement.
 4. The Los Angeles River Greenway Project: The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is creating a greenway system of trees, parks, trails and rest stops along the Los Angeles River that will connect El Pueblo State Historic Park to Elysian and Griffith parks.
 5. Arroyo Verdugo Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: A compilation of community concerns regarding bikeway development in the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena areas.
 6. Los Feliz Riverwalk Demonstration Project: Planned opening of a river maintenance road for use as a walking and biking trail east of river. The initial 1.3-mile trail would run from Los Feliz Boulevard north to Colorado Boulevard. The ultimate goal is to complete a 7-mile trail that would connect three parks.
 7. Proposed Trail and Aesthetic Improvements - City of Glendale: A riverfront walking trail and landscaping along the north bank of the river.
 8. Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, planned by the National Park Service, follows the river through this reach.
 9. Warner Brothers Studio: Main and Ranch Lot Master Plans approved by the City of Burbank.
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