

SECTION 11.0
RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

PUBLIC AGENCIES

FEDERAL



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Angeles
National
Forest

701 N. Santa Anita Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006-2725
818-574-5209 Text (TTY)
818-574-1613 Voice

File Code: 1950

Date: March 8, 1996

Mr. Harry Stone
Director of Public Works
County of Los Angeles
900 South Fremont Ave.
Alhambra, CA. 91803-1331

Ref: Los Angeles River Master Plan Draft Programmatic Negative
Declaration/Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Stone:

The Angeles National Forest has reviewed the Draft Programmatic Negative
Declaration/Environmental Assessment, dated February, 1996.

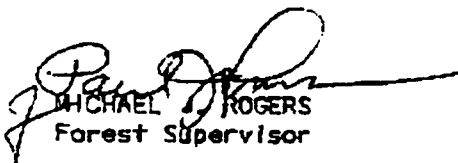
The Forest Service does not have any lands within the project area. However,
the upstream watershed is entirely within the boundaries of the Angeles
National Forest.

We do not have specific comments on the draft ND/EA. However, we support the
concept embraced within the proposed action. As the recreation pressure
increases within the Forest, other areas need to be available to the public as
an alternative to use of the Forest. We believe that this approach will
provide for a better recreational experience both on and off the National
Forest for users of these rather limited resources.

The Angeles National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan was completed in
November, 1987 and we are well into the implementation of that plan. We would
like to ensure that any new Los Angeles River Master Plan will be compatible
with the the Angeles National Forest Plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the document and to have participated
initially in its development.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL ROGERS
Forest Supervisor

No
1

No
2



Caring for the Land and Serving People

FS-6200-28 (7-82)

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Angeles National Forest, 701 North Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, CA 91006-2725. Michael J. Rogers, Forest Supervisor. March 8, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for your response. Your comment will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for consideration in the project decision making process.

Response to Comment No. 2

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 5.1.1 (Page 5-4).

STATE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7, 120 SO. SPRING ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3606
TDD (213) 897-4610

February 23, 1996



IGR/CEQA 2021
Negative Declaration
Environmental Assessment
For Los Angeles River
Master Plan
Vic: LA-Various

Chris Stone
Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91083

Dear Sir:

Thank you for including this department as part of the environmental review process for the above Negative Declaration. We have completed our review of this multiple use Master Plan for the Los Angeles River.

No
1

We note when transportation/circulation is identified in the document as a potential environmental issue, it is stated that specific project proponents need to demonstrate that economic development, recreation, etc. would not result in significant impact on transportation and circulation.

No
2

We recommend that large size trucks that are transporting construction materials, equipment and exporting hazardous waste be limited to off-peak commute periods and any heavy construction equipment which requires the use of oversize transport vehicles on State's facilities will require a Caltrans transportation permit.

No
3

If you have any questions regarding this response, please call me at (213) 897-4429.

Sincerely

Steve Buswell
IGR/CEQA Coordinator
Transportation Planning

State of California, Business and Transportation Agency, Department of Transportation, District 7, 120 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-3606. Steve Buswell, IGR/CEQA Coordinator, Transportation Planning. February 23, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for your response. Your comment will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for consideration in the project decision making process.

Response to Comment No. 2

It is assumed that most projects proposed pursuant to the *Los Angeles River Master Plan* will not result in significant impacts on transportation or circulation. Where site-specific projects are unable to avoid significant impacts, the site-specific project proponent will be required to complete supplemental environmental analysis to identify mitigation measures to reduce impacts below the level of significance.

Response to Comment No. 3

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 2.2, Section 5.6.1 (page 5-34), and Section 5.6.4 (page 5-40).

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**LOS ANGELES REGION**

181 CENTRE PLAZA DRIVE
MONTEREY PARK, CA 91764-2158
(213) 266-7500
FAX: (213) 266-7808



File No. 700.410

March 4, 1996

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Attention Mr. Chris Stone, Project Manager
Los Angeles River Master Plan Draft Programmatic ND/EA
Planning Division, 11th Floor
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803-1331

Re: **Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration Environmental Assessment, Proposed Project: Los Angeles River Master Plan.**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) is charged with protection of water quality for all waterbodies in the Los Angeles and Ventura coastal watersheds. The Regional Board protects water quality by implementing regulations, policies, and programs authorized by the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and by administering certain regulations established by the Federal Clean Water Act. As a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Regional Board also reviews CEQA documents and comments upon water quality issues.

Regional Board staff have reviewed the Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration Environmental Assessment for the proposed project: Los Angeles River Master Plan, dated February 1996. This document explains how the Los Angeles River Master Plan will improve and enhance recreation facilities along the river. These projects will also provide habitat restoration by planting native species. In addition, the Master Plan describes the type of mitigation measures that will be taken during the construction of these areas to avoid potential impacts from surface runoff. On page 5-22 you cite the Draft Water Quality Control Plan. Please note that the Regional Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan in June 1994; accordingly, you may delete the word "Draft."

The Regional Board is pleased with the Los Angeles River Master Plan, since it will improve the beneficial uses of the Los Angeles River without any increase of contaminants entering the River.

Please contact Ana Corado at (213) 266-7579 should you have any questions.

Wendy Phillips
Chief, Planning Unit

No. 1

No. 2

State of California, California Environmental Protection Agency, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, 101 Centre Plaza Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91764-2158. Wendy Phillips, Chief, Planning Unit. March 4, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 5.4.2 (page 5-22).

Response to Comment No. 2

Thank you for your letter of support.



PETE WILSON
GOVERNOR

State of California

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

1400 TENTH STREET
SACRAMENTO 95814



LEE GRISLOW
DIRECTOR

March 11, 1996

CHRIS STONE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DPW
PLANNING DIVISION, 11TH FLOOR
900 S. FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CA 91083-1331

Subject: LOS ANGELES RIVER MASTER PLAN SCH #: 96021024

Dear CHRIS STONE:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named environmental document to selected state agencies for review. The review period is closed and none of the state agencies have comments. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. When contacting the Clearinghouse in this matter, please use the eight-digit State Clearinghouse number so that we may respond promptly.

Sincerely,

ANTERO A. RIVASPLATA
Chief, State Clearinghouse

No
1

Notice of Completion

Form A

See NR774 below

Mailed to: State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tomah Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 916/445-0613

SCH # **96021024**

Project Title: Los Angeles River Master Plan
 Lead Agency: L.A. County - DPW
 Street Address: 700 S. Fremont Ave.
 City: Alhambra Zip: 91803
 Contact Person: Chris Stoeck
 Phone: (916) 482-5100
 County: Los Angeles

Project Location
 County: Los Angeles City/Township Community: Special
 Cross Street: _____ Zip Code: _____ Total Acres: _____
 Assessor's Parcel No. _____ Section _____ Tract _____ Range _____
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy # _____ Waterway: L.A. River Railways: _____
 Airport: _____ Schools: _____

Document Type
 CEQA: NFP Supplemental/Subsequent NEPA: NUI Other: Joint Document
 Early Comm EIR (Prior SCH No.) EIS Final Document
 Neg Dec PD Other Draft EIS Other
 Draft EIR

Local Action Type
 General Plan Update Specific Plan Revenue Alternative
 General Plan Amendment Master Plan Planning Redevelopment
 General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit General Plan
 Community Plan Sign Plan Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tent Map, etc.) Other

Development Type
 Residential: Class Acres Employed Water Treatment: Type _____ Mill
 Office: Seq. Acres Employed Treatment: Type _____
 Commercial: Seq. Acres Employed Mining: Acres Employed
 Industrial: Seq. Acres Employed Power: Type _____
 Manufacturing: Seq. Acres Employed Waste Treatment: Type _____
 Recreational Recreational Water: Type _____
 Other

Project Issues Discussed in Document
 Aesthetic/Visual Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
 Agricultural Land Future Land Use/Useward Sewer Systems Water Supply/Inconsistency
 Air Quality Geology/Seismic Storm Capacity Wetland/Riparian Wildlife
 Archeology/Historical Altitude Soil Erosion/Contaminant/Guiding Growth Inducing
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use Cumulative Effects
 Drainage/Abandonment Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Land Use Other
 Economic/Job Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Arterial Land Use Other
 Flood Recreation/Parks Vegetation Land Use Other

The study area addressed in the Los Angeles River Master Plan consists of approximately 51 linear miles of the Los Angeles River from its headwaters at the confluence of Calabasas and Bell Creeks in the San Fernando Valley to the Pacific Ocean and 5 linear miles of the Los Angeles River from the confluence with the Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles River continues through to jurisdictions, including the cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Burbank, Campton, Glendale, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Maywood, Paramount, South Gate, and Van Nuys and unincorporated county territory, for the purposes of planning and environmental analysis, the study area has been organized into six study areas.

The Los Angeles River Master Plan considers five primary issues identified in the public outreach program: environmental enhancement; aesthetic improvement; economic development; recreation, and flood management and water conservation. In all instances, the proposed plan would be consistent with the primary purpose of flood control for the Los Angeles River and the project. Implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the document will reduce the potential for significant impacts on the quality and cultural resources to a level that is less than significant.

Prepared under 100

State Clearinghouse Contact: Mr. Chris DeBily (916) 445-0613

Project Sent to the following State Agencies

State Review Begin: 2.9.96
 Dept. Review to Agency: 3.4
 Agency Rev to SCH: 3.8
 SCH COMPLIANCE: 3.11

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources | State/Consumer Svcs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boating | General Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Comm | CalEPA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Conserv | ARB |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colorado Riv Bd | CA Water Mgmt Bd |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation | SWRCB: Grants |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game # 5 | SWRCB: Debt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry | SWRCB: Wq Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Rec/OHP | SWRCB: Wq Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation | Reg. WOCCA # 4 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUDC | DTSC/CTC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DWR | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFS | Yth/AGH Corrections |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bus Transp Hous | Contractors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acronomics | Independent Comm |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHP | Energy Comm |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Culture # 7 | NAHC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trans Planning | PRC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing & Devel | State Info Mgmt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Welfare | State Lands Comm |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drinking IUD | Tahoe Reg Plan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Waste | Other: _____ |

Please note SCH Number on all Comments: **96021024**

Please forward late comments directly to the Lead Agency

ACMD-APD 33 (REVISED: 2.10)

State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research. 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Antero Rivasplata, Chief, State Clearinghouse. March 11, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for your letter acknowledging compliance with the State Clearinghouse's review requirements for draft environmental documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

REGIONAL



COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601-1400
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998
Telephone: (310) 699-7411, FAX: (310) 695-6139

CHARLES W. CARRY
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 1, 1996

File No: 01-00.04-00
02-00.04-110
03-00.04-00
08-00.04-00
23-00.04-00

Mr. Chris Stone, Project Manager
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Los Angeles River Master Plan Draft Programmatic ND/EA
Planning Division, 11th Floor
900 S. Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91083-1331

Dear Mr. Stone:

Los Angeles River Master Plan

The County Sanitation Districts received a *Draft Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment* for the subject project on February 15, 1996. The proposed development is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of Districts Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 23. We offer the following comments regarding sewerage service:

- The Sanitation Districts maintain facilities within the project area which may be affected by the proposed project. Approval to construct improvements within a Districts' sewer easement and/or over a Districts' sewer is required before construction may begin. For specific information regarding the buildover procedure, please contact Sean Christian at (310) 699-7411, extension 2707. No. 1
- The Sanitation Districts are empowered by the California Health and Safety Code to charge a fee for the privilege of connecting (directly or indirectly) to the Sanitation Districts' Sewerage System or increasing the existing strength and/or quantity of wastewater attributable to a particular parcel or operation already connected. This connection fee is required to construct an incremental expansion of the Sewerage System to accommodate the proposed project which will mitigate the impact of this project on the present Sewerage System. Payment of a connection fee will be required before a permit to connect to the sewer is issued. No. 2
- The design capacities of the Districts' wastewater treatment facilities are based on population forecasts adopted in the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) 1994 Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The RCP is part of the 1994 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The AQMP and 1994 RCP are jointly prepared by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and SCAG as a requirement of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA). In order to conform with the AQMP, all expansions of Districts facilities must be sized and service phased in a manner which will be consistent with the Growth Management element of the 1994 RCP. The Growth Management element contains a regional growth forecast for the counties of Los No. 3

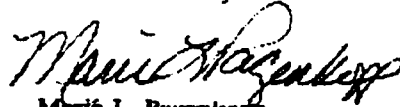
Angles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial which was prepared by SCAG. Specific policies included in the 1994 RCP which deal with the management of growth will be incorporated into the AQMP strategies to improve air quality in the South Coast Air Basin. The available capacity of the Districts' treatment facilities will, therefore, be limited to levels associated with approved growth identified in the 1994 RCP. As such, this letter does not constitute a guarantee of wastewater service, but is to advise you that the Districts intend to provide this service up to the levels which are legally permitted and to inform you of the currently existing capacity and any proposed expansion of the Districts' facilities.

No. 3
(CONT.)

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (310) 699-7411, extension 2717.

Very truly yours,

Charles W. Carry



Marie L. Pagenkopp
Engineering Technician
Planning & Property Management Section

MLP:cg

County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, 1955 Workman Mill Road, P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90601-1400. Marie L. Pagenkopp, Engineering Technician, Planning and Property Management Section. March 1, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 5.12.1 (page 5-76a).

Response to Comment No. 2

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 5.12.1 (page 5-76b).

Response to Comment No. 3

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Please reference the "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, for the appropriate incorporations to Section 2.2 (page 2-13) and Section 5.12.4 (page 5-78). The proposed correction makes clear the need for individual site-specific proponents for projects that require a sewer connection to coordinate with the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County early in the planning process.

As described in Section 5.15 of the Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment there is an existing deficiency of recreation facilities and programs within Park Planning Areas designated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation that are crossed by the Los Angeles River. The proposed enhancements are intended to provide facilities and programs to partially offset existing deficiencies. The proposed improvements are not expected to induce growth beyond the levels anticipated by the 1994 Regional Comprehensive Plan as summarized in Section 5.2 of the Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment.



March 12, 1996

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

Mr. Chris Stone
Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91802

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012

213.922.6000

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 194
Los Angeles, CA 90053

Dear Mr. Stone:

Thank you for providing the LACMTA with the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Project: Los Angeles River Master Plan Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration Environmental Assessment. MTA strongly agrees with the stated goal to achieve a nearly continuous greenway adjacent to the 51 mile reach of the Los Angeles River and the nine mile reach of Tujunga Wash. MTA feels that your level of analysis is appropriate to the proposed Master Plan. MTA looks forward to working with the Department of Public Works in the future on any detailed refinements necessary for the implementation of the Plan in areas in which MTA can be of assistance, such as detailed bicycle route planning and possibly certain aspects of habitat restoration.

No.
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If you like, perhaps we can work together with other groups such as the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to develop a brochure to show the public how to use public transit to access appropriate recreational improvements your Plan will develop along the River and elsewhere.

No.
2

For any bicycle planning issues you might wish to consult with us about, please contact Robin Blair of our staff at 922-3074 and for greenway issues, including transportation related funding sources, please contact Dale Royal at 922-3095.

No.
3

Sincerely,

Alan E. Patashnick

ALAN E. PATASHNICK
Interim Director
Central Area Team

No.
4

c: Robin Blair
Dale Royal

sbllariver2.312

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, P.O. Box 194, Los Angeles, CA 90053.
Alan E. Patashnik, Interim Director, Central Area Team. March 12, 1996.

Response to Comment No. 1

Thank you for your letter of support.

Response to Comment No. 2

See "Corrections, Additions, and Deletions" Section of this Memorandum for the Record, Section 2.2 (page 2-12) for addition acknowledging MTA's availability to assist Department of Public Works for detailed bicycle route planning and certain aspects of habitat restoration.

Response to Comment No. 3

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority are Los Angeles River Advisory Committee Members and Participants. In addition, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy participated as a member of the Demonstration Project Subcommittee, provided Public Workshop Assistance and participated in the Implementation Team. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority also participated on the Implementation Team.

As indicated on Page 2-6 of Section 2.2 of the *Draft Programmatic Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment*, the Master Plan includes a mapping a signage system to be placed at major trail entrances and interpretation sites. Recreation Policy No. 32 of the County of Los Angeles *Streamlined General Plan* encourages improved public transportation to recreation sites. The type of map proposed by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority would support the Master Plan and be consistent with the policies of the County of Los Angeles *Streamlined General Plan*.

Response to Comment No. 4

Thank you for identifying a MTA point-of-contact for funding sources. This information will be included in Appendix E, Funding, Funding Resource List of the *Los Angeles River Master Plan*.