

## Los Angeles River Master Plan Update

Steering Committee Meeting #4
December 12, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

## **Meeting Summary**

#### Location

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803 Conference Rooms A and B

### **Attendees**

## **Steering Committee Members**

- City of Long Beach, Cory Allen, alternate for Lena Gonzalez
- City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering, Deborah Weintraub and Katherine Doherty, alternate for Gary Lee Moore
- City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office, Michael Affeldt
- City of Paramount Public Works, Adriana Figuroa
- City of South Gate, Gladis Deras, alternate for Arturo Cervantes
- Council for Watershed Health, Eileen Alduenda
- Conservation Corps of Long Beach, Dan Knapp and Kayla Kelly-Slatten, alternate
- East Yard Communities for Environmental Health, Alessandro Negrete, alternate for mark! Lopez
- Friends of the LA River, Stephen Mejia, alternate for Marissa Christiansen
- Heal the Bay, Shelley Luce and Amanda Wagner, alternate
- Los Angeles Business Council, Devon Provo, alternate for Mary Leslie
- Los Angeles County 3rd District, Virdiana Velez, alternate for Katy Young
- Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, Lyndsay Nolan, alternate for Jessi Harris
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Keith Lilley
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Evelyn Cortez-Davis and Rafael Villegas, alternate
- Los Angeles Waterkeeper, Bruce Resnik and Melissa von Mayrhauser, alternate
- Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Julia Salinas
- Public Counsel, Antonio Hicks
- Regional Water Quality Control Board, Renee Purdy, alternate for Deborah Smith
- River and Mountains Conservancy, Joseph Gonzalez, alternate for Mark Stanley
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Sarah Rascon, alternate for Joseph T.
   Edmiston



- The Boethius Initiative UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures, Andrew Martinez, alternate for Peter Sellers
- The Nature Conservancy, Jill Sourial, alternate for Shona Ganguly
- Urban Waters Federal Partnership, Justin Yee
- Water Replenishment District, Kimberly Badescu, alternate for Robb Whitaker

## **Los Angeles County Public Works Staff**

- Director Mark Pestrella
- Carolina Hernandez
- Genevieve Osmena
- Dan Sharp
- Christine Wartman
- Ernesto Rivera
- Mark Beltran
- Helen To
- Kenny Chow
- Stella Lee
- Alynn Sun
- Paul Shadmani
- Hoan Tang

### **Additional Los Angeles County Staff**

- Iris Regn, Los Angeles County Arts Commission
- Rita Kampalath, Chief Sustainability Office

## **Consultant Team**

- Mark Hanna, Geosyntec
- Najwa Pitois, Geosyntec
- Paul Senker, Geosyntec
- Joseph Goldstein, Geosyntec
- Mustafa Ghuneim, Geosyntec
- Jessica Henson, OLIN
- Andrew Dobshinsky, OLIN
- Joanna Karaman, OLIN
- Diana Jih, OLIN
- Jon Switalski, River LA
- Miguel Luna, DakeLuna
- Joan Isaacson, Kearns & West
- Jack Hughes, Kearns & West



- Jenna Tourje, Kearns & West
- Taylor York, Kearns & West
- Delia Torres, Languages 4 You
- Tensho Takemori, Gehry Partners

## 1. River Story Screening

On December 12, 2018, Los Angeles County Public Works hosted the fourth Steering Committee meeting for the Los Angeles River Master Plan Update. Jenna Tourje from Kearns & West announced that Spanish translation services were available for the meeting attendees.

The latest video in the River Story series, which focused on the recent Youth Summit, was screened.

## 2. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview Welcome

Public Works Director Mark Pestrella provided welcoming remarks. He said the River Story video underscored the positive feedback he has been hearing about recent community engagement events. He noted that it is an exciting time in Los Angeles County due in part to the Master Plan Update

Director Pestrella reflected on the history of the river, its channelization, what the river has provided to Angelenos, and the evolving visions people have had for the river. He noted that in his early career with Public Works, some ideas, such as kayaking on the Los Angeles River, were laughable but have since been successfully accomplished. He then spoke of people who had been influential in his thinking about the river and commented that today there are many opportunities to correct the unintended consequences of channelization. He referenced the 1930 Olmsted Bartholomew plan, which proposed to connect the county with over 71,000 acres of parkland. Director Pestrella pointed out that the Olmsted plan envisioned the river as a central connector for the system and noted that the vision of Olmsted is guiding his efforts even today. Through the Master Plan Update and other efforts, opportunities exist for the river to serve as a connector of 51 miles of different cultures and communities, and for the river to engage with and reflect adjacent communities. Director Pestrella highlighted projects like the Devils Gate Dam sediment removal project that includes public input and provides multiple benefits, reflecting Public Works' new culture of public service.

Director Pestrella emphasized the importance of understanding the needs of communities. He spoke about the success of the community engagement efforts of the Master Plan Update, noting the 800 young people recently hosted at the Youth Summit



and the input collected from over 1400 community members at neighborhood events. He thanked County of Los Angeles Supervisors Hilda Solis, Sheila Kuehl, Mark Ridley-Thomas, and Janice Hahn and California Assemblymember Anthony Rendon for championing their represented areas.

He concluded by thanking the Steering Committee members for lending their time and expertise to the Master Plan Update process and congratulated them for being a part of such a significant undertaking.

#### **Roundtable Introductions**

Carolina Hernandez from Public Works introduced Genevieve Osmena, who will assist in project management for the Master Plan Update.

Joan Isaacson, meeting facilitator from Kearns & West, welcomed a new Steering Committee member, the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering, represented by Gary Lee Moore with Deborah Weintraub and Katy Doherty serving as alternates.

The Steering Committee members and project team members introduced themselves. See the Attendees section above for a complete list.

## Meeting Purpose, Agenda, and Objectives

Isaacson reviewed the meeting agenda (see Appendix A) highlighting the updates on community engagement, goal-driven framework, planning frames, design guidelines, and geographic gap analysis as areas where the project team would be giving more information and collecting Steering Committee input. She emphasized that all of these topics have been shaped by Steering Committee and community input.

Isaacson invited community members to provide comments to the project team by making oral comments at the end of the meeting and/or by filling out comment cards.

## 3. Steering Committee Updates

Isaacson gave an update on the Progress Memos, which are snapshots of the project team's research. Four memos have already been posted at LARiverMasterPlan.org, and four more will be posted soon after the meeting. The memos are not intended as iterative documents and will not be updated as comments are received. However, the project team hopes to still receive Steering Committee comments and feedback, which will inform work moving forward. To facilitate feedback, there is a comment function integrated into the online memo documents.



## 4. Community Engagement Update Additional Meetings

Hernandez quickly recapped the project team's presentations at meetings of the Council for Watershed Health, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, AB466 Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group, and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments. (See page 21 in Appendix B).

## **Community Outreach and Input Report**

Jon Switalski from River LA reported on the community engagement program. In the last three months, the project team has hosted successful outreach events in Los Angeles County communities. Community Meeting #3 was hosted in Long Beach on October 24, 2018 with 129 people in attendance. Community Meeting #4 was hosted on November 13, 2018, at the Friendship Auditorium in the Los Feliz/Atwater Village/Elysian Valley area with 214 people in attendance; the highest turnout to date for a community meeting.

To date, over 1,450 community members from diverse age groups, ethnicities, and geographies have been engaged in community meetings and surveys. More details, as well as themes from the community meetings, survey, and other outreach, are documented in the presentation slides on pages 22 to 26 in Appendix B.

## **Youth Summit Report**

The Youth Summit, attended by around 800 students from 15 high schools adjacent to the Los Angeles River, was hosted on November 1 at Los Angeles Trade-Tech College. On display in the center of the Steering Committee meeting room was a tapestry created by students by placing dots and writing on a map of the Los Angeles River area to signify their thoughts, priorities, hopes, and dreams to tell a complex story of what they see as the future of the river. During the Youth Summit's breakout session, students could choose to participate in two out of seven different interactive workshops, exploring topics such as culture, hydrology, arts, environment, and planning.

## **Upcoming Events**

The next community meeting will be held at Oakwood School in North Hollywood on December 13, 2018. In 2019, there will be community meetings in Reseda, South Gate, and Compton as well as other communities.

## **Q&A/Discussion**

Below is a summary of questions or comments and associated responses from the community engagement update portion of the meeting. The round bullet points indicate questions and comments from Steering Committee members. Dashes indicate the project team's responses.



- The Long Beach community meeting was the same night as the Dodgers game but still had strong attendance, showing the high level of interest in the Los Angeles River.
- In future presentations, consider including a slide summarizing the input of what people's hopes and aspirations are for the future of the river.
- Separating input by community would be helpful in order to better track local needs and goals.
  - Data from each meeting (in separate reports) is available on the website.
- Community-based organizations can help the project team tailor education and outreach to youth.
  - Prior to the Youth Summit, the project team reached out to organizations, for their input, which led to Miguel Ordeñana being invited as a keynote speaker. Additionally, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice assisted in inviting students from Bell Gardens High School in Lynnwood, and Rudy Ortega helped ensure that indigenous people were represented.
  - Students filled out pre- and post-summit surveys to assess changes in their impressions of the river.
- The word "safety" appears in community input. Safety solutions should be inclusive
  of all and not implemented for only specific groups.
- Will there be a Youth Summit summary and opportunities for further youth involvement?
  - Completion of the Youth Summit Report is anticipated by mid-January, and it will be shared with the Steering Committee. Although additional events like the Youth Summit are not planned, future community engagement events will incorporate youth.

## 5. Subcommittee Meetings Report

Isaacson gave a recap of the previous round of Environment, Water, and People Subcommittee meetings, held on October 3, 2018. The meetings focused on receiving detailed feedback on the revised draft vision and goals, brainstorming ideas for actions, and reviewing and discussing the latest round of inventory and analysis topics. (See pages 27 to 32 in Appendix B.)

## **Goal-Driven Plan Implementation**

Jessica Henson from OLIN and Mark Hanna from Geosyntec presented an update on the proposed goal-driven framework for the Master Plan Update. Their presentation began with a comparison of the 1996 Master Plan and 2020 Draft Master Plan Update structure and the project team's approach for evaluating the 1996 Master Plan recommendations. Categorizing the 1996 recommendations as "reaffirm," "reinforce," "revise," and "remove" was the first step in the evaluation process.



The project team distributed a handout listing the latest goals informed by Steering Committee and community input and the draft actions identified to date (see Appendix C). The project team requested feedback, particularly on actions that might be missing. They recapped the relationship between the vision, goals, actions, and methods in the Master Plan Update and shared specific definitions. (See pages 32 to 36 in Appendix B.)

#### **Q&A/Discussion**

- Include a goal addressing equitable economic opportunity.
- Thank you for distributing subcommittee meeting summaries so that Steering Committee members can review the discussions that took place at all of the meetings.
- The vision and goals have many good words but not a compelling vision statement for a reimagined river.
- Although suggested by some Steering Committee members in previous meetings, the vision and goals do not articulate a watershed approach.
- Climate change is not sufficiently woven into the vision and goals.
- In the goals and actions, language addressing the health of the river should include stronger words, such as "ensure" instead of "support."
- Can Steering Committee members get a [Microsoft] Word document of the draft vision and goals in order to provide suggested changes right in the document?
- Include a description of other plans that are being considered and integrated into the Master Plan Update like the 2007 City of Los Angeles Plan.
  - The intention of the Master Plan Update is to complement and supplement ongoing planning efforts related to the Los Angeles River. A comprehensive inventory of existing plans and projects has been established by the project team.
- Include a corridor governance approach in the Master Plan Update to make implementation successful. This would create an opportunity to address the intersection of watershed and corridor concerns.
- Should the Master Plan Update's incorporation of other relevant plans be specified in the goals?
- "Meta" information, like governance or management of the interaction of existing plans and completed projects, are missing from the goals.
- Vision Zero goals should be linked to goal three, "Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor."
- Steering Committee and subcommittee input is apparent in the draft vision and goals.
- Goals should set implementation standards including seeking multiple benefits and including community engagement since approvals will be needed from the county, local cities, and other agencies and districts.



- Actions for safety goals should be stated in terms of desirable outcomes rather than problems to avoid.
- Communicate that the Master Plan Update is not erasing other plans.

## **6. Planning Frames**

## 1996 Master Plan Reaches and Completed Projects

Hanna presented the 1996 Master Plan reaches and reviewed projects that have been completed since 1996, including four demonstration projects which were the Tujunga Wash/Hansen Dam Interpretive Site, Los Feliz Riverwalk, Dominguez Gap Environmental Enhancement, and Wrigley Greenbelt Trail Enhancement.

## **Proposed Planning Frames for 2020 Master Plan**

Whereas the 1996 Master Plan defines "planning reaches," the 2020 Master Plan Update will incorporate "planning frames" to better address the conditions in the river corridor, explained Hanna. Determining the planning frames generally relies on the following types of boundaries: municipal, hydraulic reach, and ecological. As a rule, frames do not split municipalities or trapezoidal and box sections, and do not combine soft and hard bottom reaches. Ecological regions tend not to conflict with municipal boundaries and hydraulic reaches. (See pages 37 to 39 in Appendix B.)

#### Q&A/Discussion

- How did the project team prioritize changes in hydrological characteristics, structure of the channel, and political boundaries when drawing the planning reaches?
  - The project team does not want to break apart the hydraulic reaches originally incorporated into the channel design. Breaking in the middle of a hydrologic reach would create more complexity for implementing projects; the same is true of municipal boundaries.
- How can ecological restoration goals be achieved if reaches are broken up at confluences?
  - Confluences are unique locations and will be identified. There will be more complex investigations for those projects.
  - The purpose of the planning frames is to create appropriately sized maps for inclusion in the Master Plan Update document and to serve as a tool in the planning and implementation of future projects. Some projects will extend into two planning frames.
  - The frames allow the opportunity for a community to champion their section of the river.



- What do planning frames mean if the project team can plan outside the frame based on governance or hydrological factors? Is there a different way to describe a reach?
  - The planning frames are not a hard line in terms of planning and thinking, but the limiting factor is what fits on a printed page.
- Should sub-watersheds be used as an organizing principle instead of linear segments?
  - The project team did spend time looking at jurisdictional issues. However, as a corridor plan, the frames seem sufficient. The descriptions of river rulers that can be seen in the Progress Memos reflect considerations of sub-watershed conditions. The appendix of the meeting presentation slides details the way the frames are divided. (See pages 54 to 57 in Appendix B.)
- Are the planning frames the unit in which the analysis will be performed?
  - Not necessarily. The project team is conducting analysis along the entire 51 miles of the river.
- The planning frames seem elevated to an artificial level of importance. How we
  view and speak about communities should not be dictated by limitations of a
  printed page. Communities should not be distorted through scaling to fit on a page.
  - Map scaling will be consistent and will not affect the relative size of how a community appears on the page.

## 7. Design Guidelines

Henson provided an overview of design guideline updates. She noted that the current Los Angeles River design guidelines, the Landscape and Planting Design Guidelines and the Sign Guidelines, are included as appendices to the 1996 Master Plan and were added in 2003 and 2004. Both have been used as a guiding document for projects. Henson shared the project team's initial assessment of the strengths of the existing design guidelines and what could be improved in the 2020 Master Plan Update. (See pages 40 to 43 in Appendix B.)

#### Q&A/Discussion

- What is the timeline for completion for the rest of the guidelines not discussed today?
  - The project team is currently working on the Table of Contents for the Master Plan Update, which will be initially completed in February 2019. The first set of design guidelines work will be ready for presentation to the Steering Committee in June.
- Guidelines need to be integrated into goals and not considered in isolation.



- The project team members who work on the goals also work on the design guidelines, providing a high level of consistency and continuity. The intent is that the goals and the guidelines support one another.
- Are the 1996 guidelines being implemented, and if so, how well do they work?
  - Yes, the 1996 guidelines are used.
- How enforceable are the guidelines? This includes stormwater infiltration too.
  - Public Works and the Flood Control District can require implementation on projects where they have channel jurisdiction. They can also require implementation on other types of projects where they have permit approval authority.
- The County and cities' guidelines should be coordinated for projects located in areas with overlapping jurisdictions.
- Has the project team received any feedback on wayfinding signage in different languages?
  - The project team has talked about this but would like to know the Steering Committee's feedback.
- Strive for flexibility and consider signage that reflects the local communities' cultures and needs.
- How will the biodiversity index and the County sustainability plan be integrated into the analysis, planning frames, and guidelines?
  - The project team is coordinating with the team working on the Biodiversity Index.
- Resiliency is about adaptation, and rigid guidelines could conflict with adaptation needs. Maybe there should be a biodiversity committee that guides the initial stages of projects rather than reliance on prescriptive guidelines and checklists.
  - Checklists do not make great projects. The system should allow flexibility.
- There are levels of guidelines; some should be more general, and others should allow for creativity and a sense of place.
- Will the County signage be the only legitimately recognized signs? How will the updated guidelines impact existing signs? If replacement is needed, who will pay for new signs? Who has authority to remove signs others have put up, and is there a freedom of speech issue with removing them?
  - There is no current determination regarding any future sign removal and/or replacement.

## 8. Geographic Gap Analysis

Hanna and Henson updated the Steering Committee on the geographic gap analysis. They started with a high-level overview of current and planned projects along the river, noting the quarter-mile study area. They then reviewed the project team's methodology for determining the locations for new projects. This includes first determining where areas



of highest need and highest opportunity overlap, and then considering the cadence (mix, size, and frequency of projects) to determine the priority locations. They presented a matrix illustrating how each of the nine goals would be evaluated. To illustrate the methodology, a parks example was used. More specifically, the location of new sites for large parks could be based on the needs analysis and the cadence of existing and already planned large parks, such as Canoga Park. (See pages 43 to 52 in Appendix B.)

## **Q&A/Discussion**

- Cleanup of contaminated sites is a major factor in bringing projects to life.
- Existing infrastructure such as rail lines limit potential projects as they cannot easily be relocated.
- Remediation projects are a burden for small cities and perhaps there are mechanisms to reduce costs.
- Some places of need, like Vernon, are not highlighted because the lack of a residential population. It has a dense employment population. Near the river in this area are neighborhoods with significant need, but they do not "light up" on the needs map within a ½ mile of the channel.
  - This is an important point and the project team is working to address such problems with population locations.
- Conditions outside the river corridor are easy to ignore. Look for intersections of
  river opportunities and community needs. Community issues are systemic and can
  cross jurisdictions. Watershed planning is an opportunity to acknowledge
  underlying systems of community needs and degraded conditions. The analysis
  that the consultant team has been doing is incredibly helpful, and the County
  should allow them to freely explore how it can be used to meet community needs.
  The public should have access to the analysis and Progress Memos.
- There is an opportunity to coordinate Los Angeles River access with Metrolink and High-Speed Rail plans and studies.
- Measure W may provide funding for cleanup of contaminated sites.
- Incorporating regional water supply and reliability and resilient water design is a
  possibility for projects.

## 9. Public Comment

## **Verbal Comments**

During the public comment portion of the meeting, two people spoke, Anthea Raymond, County of Los Angeles Beach Commissioner, and Keenan Sheedy, Environmental SEIU Local 721 Justice Action Team. They addressed the following topics:



- By what transit means are people accessing the river, what is the location of access points, and what is the socioeconomic character of the communities around those access points?
- Measure W, the recently passed stormwater tax for Los Angeles County, provides opportunities for funding that should be explored.

Henson noted that a Progress Memo addressing access points will be posted in the upcoming weeks.

#### **Comment Cards**

One comment card was submitted (see Appendix D).

## 10. Wrap Up

Isaacson thanked attendees and recapped the following upcoming meetings and events:

- Upcoming Steering Committee and Subcommittee Meetings
  - Steering Committee Meeting #5 Wednesday, April 10, 2019
- Community Engagement Meetings
  - West Valley, February 2019
  - South Gate, March 2019
  - Compton, April 2019
- Input, questions, ideas? Contact Genevieve Osmena at (626) 458-4322 or LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov



## Appendix A

## **Meeting Agenda**



## Los Angeles River Master Plan Update

Steering Committee Meeting #4 December 12, 2018, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

### Agenda

#### Location

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803 Conference Rooms A and B

## 1. River Story Screening (5 minutes)

## 2. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview (10 Minutes)

- Welcome
- Roundtable Introductions
- Meeting Purpose, Agenda, and Objectives

## 3. Steering Committee Updates (5 minutes)

## 4. Community Engagement Update (30 minutes)

Objectives: 1) Report on recent input and how it relates to draft vision/goals and other aspects of the Master Plan Update; and 2) announce upcoming events and request committee assistance in publicizing them.

- Additional Meetings
- Community Outreach and Input Report
- Youth Summit Report
- Upcoming Events
- Q&A/Discussion

## 5. Subcommittee Meetings Report (15 minutes)

Objective: Provide overview of themes from the last round of subcommittee meetings for consideration during discussions in today's Steering Committee meeting and upcoming Subcommittee meetings.

- Agenda Focus and Attendance
- Themes from Each Subcommittee Meeting
- Q&A/Discussion



## 6. Goal-Driven Plan Implementation (30 Minutes)

Objectives: Review the structure of the 1996 Master Plan in comparison to the currently proposed goal driven framework for the Master Plan Update. Share preliminary actions by goal, and solicit initial feedback on what is missing.

- 1996 Master Plan Framework
- Vision, Goals, and Actions
- Q&A/Discussion

## 7. Planning Frames (15 Minutes)

Objective: Introduce the planning frames that will be used throughout the Los Angeles River Master Plan Update document, and solicit initial feedback and questions.

- 1996 Plan Reaches and Completed Projects
- Proposed Planning Frames for 2020 Master Plan
- Q&A/Discussion

## 8. Design Guidelines (15 Minutes)

Objectives: Introduce the existing guidelines and possible updates to the guidelines.

- Los Angeles River Landscaping and Plant Guidelines
- Los Angeles River Signage Guidelines
- Q&A/Discussion

## 9. Geographic Gap Analysis (35 Minutes)

Objectives: Share the gap analysis by categories of need and the initial direction for locating projects, and obtain initial feedback on the methodology and preliminary results

- Review of Known Projects Database
- Recommendations for Key Analysis to Use from Water, People, and Environment
- Gap Analysis for Areas of Need
- Draft Project Cadence Diagram
- Q&A/Discussion

## 10. Public Comment (15 minutes)

- Verbal Comments
  - Speakers to be called in order of speaker card submittal (optional)
  - Up to three minutes per person depending on number of speaker cards
- Comment Cards
- Email Comments Anytime to <u>LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov</u>



## 11. Wrap Up (5 Minutes)

- Upcoming Steering Committee Meetings
  - Steering Committee Meeting #5 Wednesday, April 10, 2019
- April 2019 Steering Committee Meeting Agenda Overview
- Community Engagement Meetings
  - Studio City/North Hollywood, December 13, 2018
    - Oakwood School 11600 Magnolia Blvd. North Hollywood, CA 91601
  - Reseda, February 2019
  - Compton, April 2019
- Input, Questions, Ideas? Contact Carolina Hernandez at (626) 458-4322 or LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov

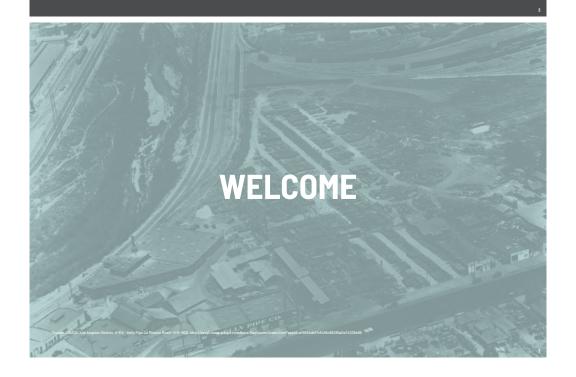


## Appendix B

## **Meeting Presentation**

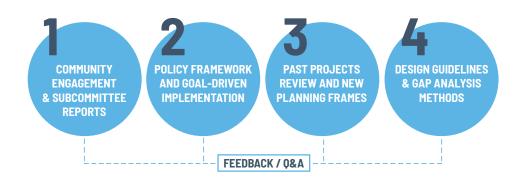


## **RIVER STORY**





## **PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING**



WELCOME

POLICY FRAMEWORK PLANNING FRAMEWORK PLANNING FRAMES DESIGN GUIDELINES GAP ANALYSIS PUBLIC COMMENT WRAP UP

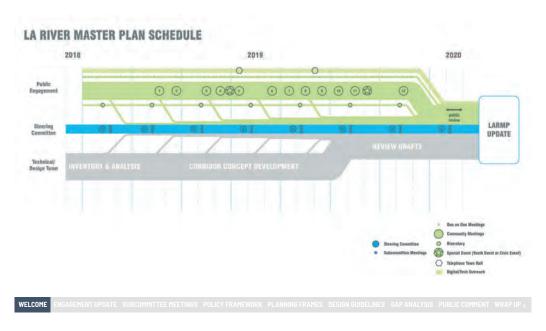
## **MEETING AGENDA**

WELCOME AND PURPOSE	COMMUNITY Engagement Update	SUBCOMMITTEE Meetings Report	GOAL-DRIVEN Framework	PLANNING Frames	DESIGN GUIDELINES	GEOGRAPHIC Gap analysis	PUBLIC COMMENT	WRAP UP
River story     Welcome     Roundtable Introductions     Agenda and Objectives Overview     Steering Committee Updates	Other Meetings  Snapshot of Input from Long Beach and Friendship Auditorium Community Meetings  Youth Summit Report  Discussion/ 0&A	Agenda     Focus and     Attendance     Setting Vision     Top Ideas for     Action Under     Each Goal     Inventory     and Analysis     Discussion     Themes      Discussion/     Q&A	Comparison of Plan Structures  Comparison of Plan Goals Example Goal, Actions, and Methods from the 2020 Plan.  Discussion/ 0&A	1996 Plan Reaches and Projects Completed     Proposed Planning Frames for 2020 Plan     Process of Determining Frames     Discussion/ Q&A	Landscape and Planting Design Guidelines     Sign Guidelines     Other Topics Considered     Discussion/ 0&A	Review Existing Projects  Locating Projects by Needs and Opportunities  Project Cadence  Gap Analysis Method  Discussion/ 0&A	Verbal Comments  Comment Cards  Email Comments Anytime to LARiver@dpw. lacounty.gov	Important Upcoming Dates     April Agenda Overview     Community Outreach Activities

#### INPUT, QUESTIONS, IDEAS?

Contact Carolina Hernandez at (626) 458-4322 or LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov





## **STEERING COMMITTEE FRAMEWORK**

	2018							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Key Theme & Tentative Date	LAUNCH	INVENTORY & VISION PRINCIPLES 27 JUNE 2018	GOALS & ANALYSIS 26 SEPTEMBER 2018	GAPS & PLANNING 12 DECEMBER 2018	PRIORITIES & OPPORTUNITIES  10 APRIL 2019	DESIGNS & PLANS 26 JUNE 2019	PLANS & STANDARDS 25 SEPTEMBER 2019	DRAFT REVIEW 11 DECEMBER 2019
Dialogue Focus	Vision Brainstorming Project Schedule and Scope Committee Organization Braft Community Outreach Plan, Branding Stratey, and Website Flood Control History, Plan Priorities, Channel Strategies	Draft Vision Principles Existing Conditions Literature Review Community Outreach Plan Demographics, Affordable Housing, Displacement	Revised Draft Vision and Goals Goal-Briven Planning Jurisdictional Boundaries Water Resources, O&M, Access and Security, Safety, Homelessness Youth Summit	Policy Framework Planning Reaches Design Guidelines Review Geographic Gap Analysis Intre	Gap Analysis and Reach Prioritization Braft Planning Concepts Table of Contents	Planning Concepts and Policies Besign Concepts and Besign Shandards Flood Miligation Concepts Policies	Design Concepts and Design Standards Update	Draft of Los Angeles River Master Plan Update





**ENGAGEMENT UPDATE** 

## **MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

COUNCIL FOR WATERSHED HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

September 27, 2018



REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

October 1, 2018



**AB466** 



GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

November 7, 2018















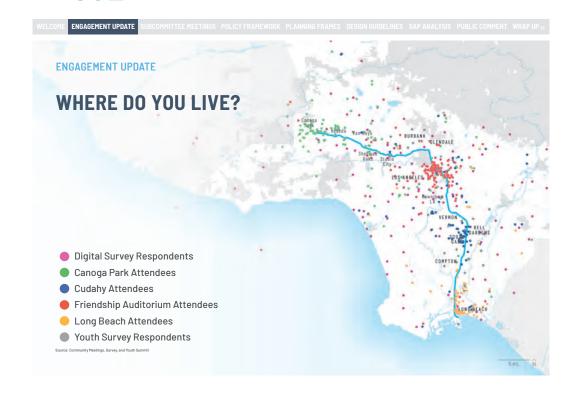


#### **ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

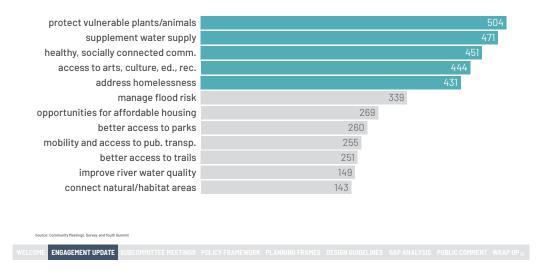
# OVER 1,450 ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY MEETINGS & SURVEY

Community members attended the Canoga Park meeting Community members attended the The Greatest Generation (1909-1945) **Cudahy meeting** Baby Boomers (1946-1964) Community members attended the Long Beach meeting Gen Xers (1965-1979) Community members attended the Friendship Auditorium meeting Millennials (1980-2000) Completed digital and in-person surveys as of November 20, 2018 Gen Z (2001-2018) **332** Completed youth surveys

## 



## WHICH ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?



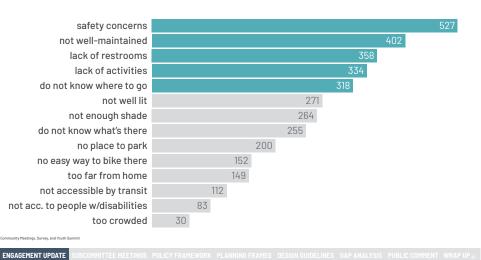
#### **ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

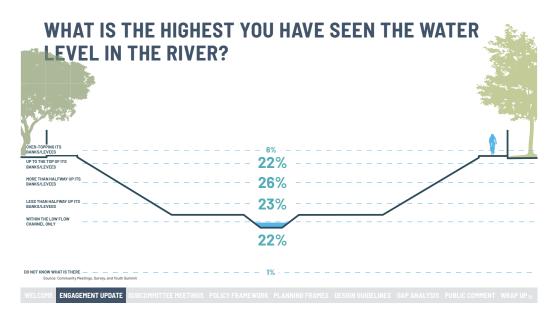
## WHAT 3 WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE THE LA RIVER?



#### **ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

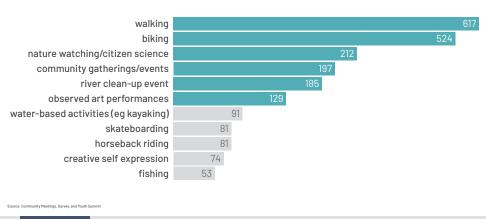
## WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM VISITING THE LA RIVER?





#### **ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

## IN WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED **ALONG THE LA RIVER?**



ENGAGEMENT UPDATE





## LA RIVER MASTER PLAN **COMMUNITY MEETING**







SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS #3**

October 3, 2018 **Metro Building** REVISED VISION & GOALS Thank you Los Angeles **Initial Input on Actions** County Metropolitan Transportation Authority INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

• Water Resources

• Access/Security Homelessness • Operations and Maintenance **PROJECT TEAM** 

## **ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Vision

- · Ecology of the river
- Upland habitat
- Planning area floodplain or the channel

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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Goals

#### Goal: Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

- "Create" or "Improve"
- Tie to measurable objectives.
- "Safe"
- Actions and methods:
  - No discussion

#### Goal: Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.

- "Safe"
- Actions and methods:
  - No discussion

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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Goals

### Goal: Support healthy, connected ecosystems.

- Connect goal to floodplain, infiltration, water supply and water quality.
- "Sustainable" re: ecological balance
- Actions and methods:
  - Native and adapted vegetation, ecologically appropriate, habitat needs
  - Cleanup challenges around native vegetation
  - · Wildlife corridors
  - · River ecological function, sediment transport, resiliency
  - Herbicide and rodenticide
  - Pollinators and biodiversity
  - Native and non-native fish habitat
  - Community science

## **ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### **Inventory and Analysis**

#### **Water Resources**

- · Effects of nearby contaminated sites
- Climate change effects sea level rise and salt water intrusion
- Water supply needs for wetlands and habitat
- · Intersecting benefits parks and habitat
- Community science/iNaturalist opportunities for data gaps

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **WATER SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Goals

#### Goal: Provide protective and resilient flood management.

- Make inclusive of gray and green infrastructure.
- Actions and methods:
  - Infrastructure hierarchy, from nature-based as top priority, followed by green and gray
  - Balance flood risk and vegetation management.
  - · Manage sediment.
  - Floodplain management reclaim where possible and prohibit construction.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **WATER SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Goals

### Goal: Improve regional water supply reliability.

- Actions and methods:
  - Consider tributaries
  - Coordinate with other watersheds
  - Reuse, recharge, capture, gray water systems
  - Resiliency for natural disaster recovery

## WATER SUBCOMMITTEE

#### Goals

#### Goal: Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

- "Ensure" rather than "promote"
- "River flow" rather than "water"
- Distinguish between human and ecological value.
- Separate goal for ecology and habitat health.
- Actions and methods:
  - Nature-based solutions where possible
  - Balance with habitat and restoration needs
  - Stormwater capture management
  - A river that people can dive into

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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **WATER SUBCOMMITTEE**

### **Inventory and Analysis**

#### Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

- Intersections between homeless encampments and O&M
- Vector control
- Effects of adding infrastructure on O&M
- Sediment removal
- Signs directional and info on current conditions
- Better public communication re: 0&M process
- $\bullet \ \ Establishment\ of\ invasive\ species\ in\ tributaries\ makes\ permanent\ removal\ from\ river\ difficult$
- Potentially a Public Works guidebook

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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## PEOPLE SUBCOMMITTEE

#### **Vision**

• Varying views on how to address economic considerations – "community economic resources" and "equitable economic development"

## PEOPLE SUBCOMMITTEE

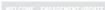
#### Goals

#### Goal: Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.

- Always include economic development in discussions about housing; "engage principles of equitable development".
- · Actions and methods:
  - · Create equitable economic development plan.

#### Goal: Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.

- · Actions and methods:
  - Holistic approach to transportation
  - Joint use of parking lots not in constant use
  - · Needs and preferences of equestrian trail users



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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## PEOPLE SUBCOMMITTEE

#### Goals

#### Goal: Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.

- Consider alternative to "embrace," maybe "reflect"
- · Actions and methods:
  - · Infrastructure for street vendors
  - Cultural activities in areas that only flood seasonally
  - Coordinating change with local communities
  - Jobs and local hiring
  - Inventory of local city developer fees for art
  - Neighborhood-specific cultural art grants
  - Genuine cultural expression

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#### SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

## **PEOPLE SUBCOMMITTEE**

#### Goals

#### Goal: Foster learning and opportunities for education.

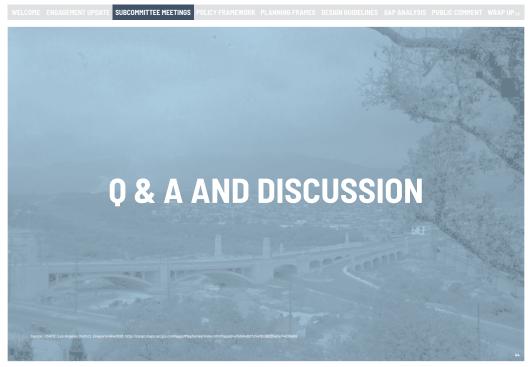
- Actions and methods:
  - Opportunities for people to experience the unique local community cultures and Native American cultures
  - · Incubation arts and culture
  - Engage K-12 students in bird watching, kayaking, art, etc.
  - SHTEAM

## PEOPLE SUBCOMMITTEE

#### **Inventory and Analysis**

#### Homelessness

- Parks: Balance safety and health concerns of park users with needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- Avoid the consequences of the High Line in NYC.
- Provide support resources for drug users.
- 0&M procedures and noticing
- Populations are not as transient as assumed supportive housing and jobs need to be close to encampments.
- City of Azusa's Angel Program proactive approach, help before people become homeless.

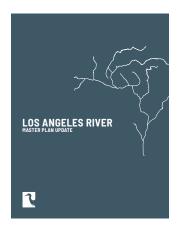




## **1996 PLAN**



## **2020 PLAN**



POLICY FRAMEWORK

**GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK** 

## **1996 PLAN MISSION STATEMENT**

The Los Angeles River Master Plan provides for the optimization and enhancement of aesthetic, recreational, flood control and environmental values by creating a community resource, enriching the quality of life for residents, and recognizing the River's primary purpose for flood control.

## **2020 PLAN DRAFT VISION**

### **The Reimagined River**

A 51-mile connective river corridor of parks, trails, ecosystems, and cultural resources to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of LA County, while providing flood risk management.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

**GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK** 

## **1996 PLAN** RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Topic (6)

Goal (8)

Objectives (27)

Recommendations (39)

Changes in Policy + Practices (30)

## Implementation Issues (7)

Ways to Address Issues (28)

#### Reach (6)

Cities (15)

Recommendations (92)

Projects

## **2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Goal (9)**

Actions

Methods

#### Frame (9)

Projects

## 1996 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

## Topic (6)

Goal (8)

Objectives (27)

Recommendations (39)

Changes in Policy + Practices (30)

## Implementation Issues (7)

Ways to Address Issues (28)

## Reach (6)

Cities (15)

Recommendations (92)

Projects

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POLICY FRAMEWORK

# RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Goal (9)**

Actions

Methods

**2020 PLAN** 

PARTIES RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

ORDER-OF-MAGNITUDE COST EXISTING FUNDING SOURCES

POTENTIAL NEW FUNDING SOURCES

- TIMEERAME

WHEN

WHAT

WHO

WHERE

HOW

## Frame (9)

Projects

#### **GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK**

## 1996 PLAN GOALS

#### Aesthetic:

• Improve the appearance of the river and the pride of local communities in it.

#### **Economic Development**

 Promote the river as an economic asset to the surrounding communities.

#### **Environmental Quality**

Preserve, enhance, and restore environmental resources in and along the river.

#### Flood Management and Water Conservation

- Ensure that flood control and public safety needs are met.
- Consider storm water management alternatives.
- Jurisdiction and Public Involvement
- Ensure public involvement and coordinate master plan development and implementation among jurisdictions.

#### Recreation

- Provide a safe environment and a variety of recreational opportunities along the river.
- Ensure safe access to and compatibility between the river and other activity centers.

## **2020 PLAN GOALS**

#### Clean Water

• Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

#### **Housing Affordability**

· Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.

#### Ecosystems

• Support healthy, connected ecosystems.

#### Flood Risk

• Provide protective and resilient flood management.

## Water Supply

• Improve regional water supply reliability.

## Education • Foster learning and opportunities for education.

Communities

#### • Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.

Parks, Open Space, and Trails
Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space and trails.

#### Access

• Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.

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#### **GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK**

## **EVALUATION OF 1996 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

## Reaffirm Reinforce Revise Remove

Still Relevant Needs More Specificity

Needs to be Reworded No Longer Relevant

#### EXAMPLE

"Improve water quality."

#### EXAMPLE

"Integrate public involvement."

#### EXAMPLE

"Distribute a flow chart depicting jurisdictional relationships, land ownership, and easements along the river."

#### EXAMPLE

"A Master Plan coordinator must be designated in a staff position within each city and appropriate county departments."

## **GOAL: AN IDEAL FUTURE STATE**

#### **POTENTIAL ACTIONS**

• Movements toward the ideal state

#### **POTENTIAL METHODS**

• Specific implementation steps for each action

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**GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK** 

**GOAL: SUPPORT HEALTHY, CONNECTED ECOSYSTEMS.** 

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**GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK** 

# **GOAL: SUPPORT HEALTHY, CONNECTED ECOSYSTEMS.**

#### **POTENTIAL ACTIONS**

- Encourage cities along the river to adopt sustainability strategies.
- Increase species biodiversity and focus on the use of native plants in and around the river corridor where possible.

# **GOAL: SUPPORT HEALTHY, CONNECTED ECOSYSTEMS.**

## **POTENTIAL ACTIONS**

- Encourage cities along the river to adopt sustainability strategies.
- Increase species biodiversity and focus on the use of native plants in and around the river corridor where possible.

#### POTENTIAL METHODS

- Develop reach specific plant species guidelines related to ecological zones along the river with cornerstone species to create desirable ecosystems.
- Consider long-term trends, such as population growth, climate change, future water regimes, resiliency, and sustainability to create adaptive and dynamic biodiversity plans that are resilient to the urban context.
- Encourage nurseries along the river that can supply native trees and plants for new, large river parks.







#### **PLANNING FRAMES**

## **36 CONSTRUCTED MASTER PLAN PROJECTS SINCE 1996**

- 1. Seven Earth Day Tree Planting and Landscaping Projects (Varies)
- 2. Adopt-A-Riverbank: Village Gardeners (39.5)
- 3. Amtrak Project: fencing and hydroseeding (20.5)
- 4. Baum Bicycle Bridge (28.3)
- 5. Cesar Chavez Park (0.6)
- 6. City of LA Bikeway (Varies)
- 7. Cornfields Adjacent River Park (23.4)
- 8. Dominguez Gap Wetlands (5.1)
- East Valley LA River Greenway/Bikeway (Varies)
- 10. Egret Park (24.3)
- 11. Elysian Valley Gateway Park (26.1)
- 12. Ernie's Walk Expansion (41.8)
- 13. Glendale Narrows Riverwalk (30.6)
- 14. Golden Shore Biological Reserve (0.0)
- 15. Great Heron Gates Park (26.9)
  16. Julia Russ Asmus Park (13.6)
- 17. LA River Greenway II (Varies)
- 18. LA River Center and Gardens (24.4)

- 19. LA River County Bikeway Improvements (Varies)
- 20. LA River Headwaters (51.0)
- 21. Los Feliz Riverwalk (28.6)
- 22. Marsh Park (Lewis Adams Park 26.5)
- 23. Maywood Riverfront Park (15.7)
- 24. North Atwater Park Restoration (29.1)
- 25. Oso Park (24.5)
- 26. Paddle the LA River (44.1)
- 27. Richard Lillard Outdoor Classroom (39.6)
- 28. River Garden Park (24.5)
- 29. Southern Avenue Bikeway and Park (13.1)
- 30. Steelhead Park (24.5)
- 31. Studio City Greenway (38.5)
- 32. Sunnynook River Park (27.9)
- 33. 3-Part Tujunga Wash Ecosystem Restoration (33.4)
- 34. Valleyheart Greenway (37.9)
- 35. Ventura Boulevard Landscape (37.3)
- 36. Water with Rocks Gate (29.9)

## **1996 MASTER PLAN**

17 projects developed by Advisory Committee and Planning Team with public involvement

Short-term demonstration projects that deliver long-term Master Plan Goals

Proposed improvements included a description of:

- · Aesthetics
- Economic Development
- Environmental Quality
- · Flood Management
- Water Quality
- · Recreation

- Expand on the North East Trees planting projects near Arroyo Seco
- Soccer field in Vernon

- Dominguez Gap planting Los Feliz walkway to Colorado Blvd Glendale river front trail connection to Bette Davis Picnic Area

- Fletcher Drive Park
  Los Angeles River signs
  Flood management and water conservation public information program
- Golf driving range in Vernon
- Tree planting along the river at City of Los Angeles soccer fields
- Fish ponds along river at 405 and 710 freeways

- River safety training site, short and long term approaches Erosion control planting on levee in Paramount Tree planting projects in the cities of: Compton, Bell, and
- Trout stocking of river (longer-term project)
- Interpretive site for engineering and industrial use of the river in the cities of: Vernon, downtown Los Angeles, and
- Connection to park on Golden Avenue in Long Beach

PLANNING FRAMES

#### **PLANNING FRAMES**

## **1996 MASTER PLAN**

Demonstration Projects Selection

### Criteria:

- Site
- Funding
- Community Support
- Meets River Goals
- Short ImplementationMaintainability

#### Four Demonstration Projects Selected:









PLANNING FRAMES

## **PLANNING FRAMES 1996 MASTER PLAN** 6 Reaches of the River Reaches: 1. Southern Cities (Long Beach, Carson) 2. Mid-Cities (Vernon, Maywood, Bell Gardens, Bell, Commerce, Cudahy, South Gate, Downey, Lynwood, Paramount, Compton) 3. Downtown Los Angeles (Boyle Heights, Lincoln Heights, Chinatown, Downtown) 4. Glendale Narrows (Burbank, Glendale, Los Feliz, Atwater Village, Elysian Valley, Silverlake, Glassell Park, Cypress Park) 5. San Fernando Valley (Canoga Park, Winnetka, Reseda, Encino,

West Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Toluca Lake) 6. Tujunga Wash (Lakeview Terrace, Sun Valley, Panorama City, Van

Nuys, North Hollywood)

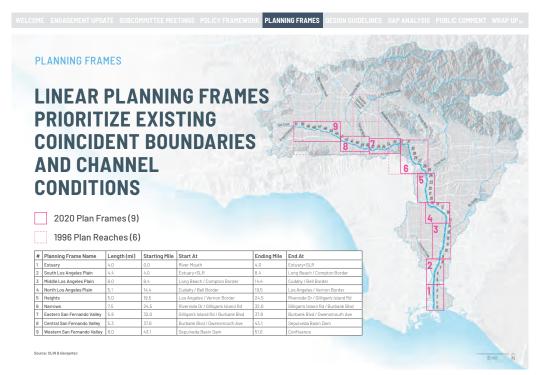
## **RULES FOR DETERMINING FRAMES**

#### **GOVERNING BOUNDARIES**

- 1) MUNICIPALITIES
- + Don't split municipalities
- 2) HYDRAULIC REACHES
- + Don't combine hard and soft bottom, trapezoidal and box sections

#### IN ALIGNMENT WITH GOVERNING BOUNDARIES

- 3) ECO REGIONS
- + Coincident boundaries







#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## **DESIGN GUIDELINES**



## LARMP Landscape and Planting Design Guidelines

- Plan prepared in January 2004 by Benshoof, Withers, Sandgren, LTD with other contributors
- Prepared specifically for the public ROW adjacent to the LA River
- Advises on plant communities along different stretches of the river, where to plant, site furnishings, lighting, soils, and BMP's for watershed protection



#### LARMP Sign Guidelines

- Prepared in August 2003 by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
- Prepared to create a framework for consistent signage and reinforce an identity for the LA River park system
- Components of the guidelines include standard design elements, design specifications, and installation and maintenance methods

Source: Los Angeles County Public Works, LA River Master Plan Sign Guidelines, 2003; LA River Master Plan Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes, 2004

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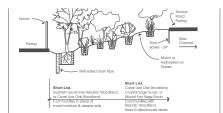
DESIGN GUIDELINES

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#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## SITE PREPARATION AND PLANT INSTALLATION

- Soil Amendments
- Contract to collect and grow native species
- Install seed container plants in late fall to early spring per planting specifications
- Place trees in areas that have deeper soils and receive more moisture
- Locate container plants away from paving and walls according to setbacks in plant list



Trees in dife(sunnier areas		
NOTES:		
- Contract to collect Los Angeles River watershed seed and grow native species	<ul> <li>Install seed and container plants in late fall to winter per planting specifications</li> </ul>	
- Small container sizes are preferred	<ul> <li>Locate container plants according to setback guidelines in Design Guideline 3 (pages 30-36)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Locate most trees in areas that have deeper soils and receive more moisture</li> </ul>	and Appendix B	

Part II - LAR Planting Guidelines

unty Public Works, LA River Master Plan Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes, 2004 Diagram on page 46, Figure 10.1, of LA

Figure 10.1, of LARMP Landscape Guidelines

## **FENCES AND GATES**

- Fencing must be evaluated in terms of function, aesthetics, and the perception of safety vs. real hazards
- Technical diagrams, height and spacing requirements, and examples are presented for different fence types

LARMP Landscape Guidelines - Jan 2004

#### FENCE, TUBULAR STEEL

- 60" min. height along rectangular channel, and any slope greater than 2:1
   Footloop
- Footings-36" deep by 12" dia. minimum
   Posts-
- \* square, 3/16 thick steel tube, maximum 8' o.c.
   \* Top and Bottom Rails2" square, 3/16" thick steel tube
- Square, 3/16" thick steel tube
   Pickets " square, 11 ga. steel tube, 4 1/2"
   o.c. Pickets less than 3/4" to be soliced pickets greater than 1" to be 1/8".

#### Design Considerations • All fence materials to have gal

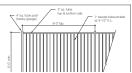
finish. Color optional.

Consider artistic opportunities (see

## Maintenance Periodic checks for corrosion, bent or

Available from





ource: Los Angeles County Public Works, LA River Master Plan Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes, 200

lagrams on page 65, Figure 14.2 + 14.3, of LARMP Landscape Guid

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#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES: WHAT IS MISSING?

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- Very comprehensive
- · Robust planting lists and community knowledge

WHAT IS STRONG

- Acknowledgment of setbacks and different channel conditions
- Detailed guidelines for site planting installation and maintenance
- Includes information regarding fences and gates, site amenities, trails and paths, and signs
- Separate out amenities and materials from planting guidelines

WHAT WE CAN IMPROVE

- Address safety and visibility for planting buffers and screening (or lack thereof)
- Updated nursery supply sources, potential for new nurseries along the LA River
- Nuanced plant reaches along the river Identify critical habitat areas
  - +Highlight key / cornerstone species, along with complimentary species
  - +Address micro-climates along channel section
  - +Graphic vignettes
- Resilience issues climate change, drought, and wildfires
- Engagement and Coordination with the Army Corps design guidelines for levees

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DESIGN GUIDELINES

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#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## **INFORMATIONAL SIGNS**

- Purpose: To inform visitors about a place, and include park entry signs and other non-regulatory signs.
  - + Owner / operator
  - + Funding sources
  - + Agencies and organizations involved
- · Location:
  - + Determined by the park owner / operator
  - + Suggested location is the primary entrance, visible from street or trail, to aid in finding the park
  - + Can also be an architectural gateway structure or sculpture









Discram on page 14. Figure 3.3.2. of LARMP Sign Guidelin

urce: Los Angeles County Public Works, LA River Master Plan Sign Guidelines, 2003

ESIGN CHIDELINES

## INTERPRETIVE SIGNS AND DISPLAYS

- Purpose: To educate park visitors about:
  - + Geomorphology / engineering of the river
  - + Ecological restoration, wildlife
  - + Natural and cultural histories of Los Angeles
- · Location:
  - + Determined by park owner or trail operator
  - + In river parks or access points to trails
  - + Suggested locations include overlook areas, bulb-out areas off main trails, and major river parks and access points
  - + Should provide views of the topic
  - + Similar to National Park Service's Wayside Exhibit Guidelines



Source: Los Angeles County Public Works, LA River Master Plan Sign Guidelines, 2003

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DESIGN GUIDELINES

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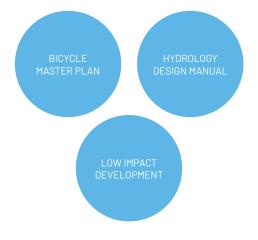
#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## SIGN GUIDELINES: WHAT IS MISSING?

WHAT IS STRONG	WHAT WE CAN IMPROVE
Clear breakdown of signage categories and functions	Defined sign hierarchy
Clear graphic instructions	River mile expression (beyond pavement striping)
Examples of where to use different types of signs and mock-ups	Signage as an opportunity for art / expression of local communities
Guidance for signage that points to the LA River Bike Path along adjacent roadways	Understanding sequence / arrangement of signage at access points
	Signage along perpendicular routes that connects you to the river
	Safety signage showing how to get out of the river
	Modern timeless aesthetic
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#### **DESIGN GUIDELINES**

## **DESIGN GUIDELINES: OTHERS REVIEWED**

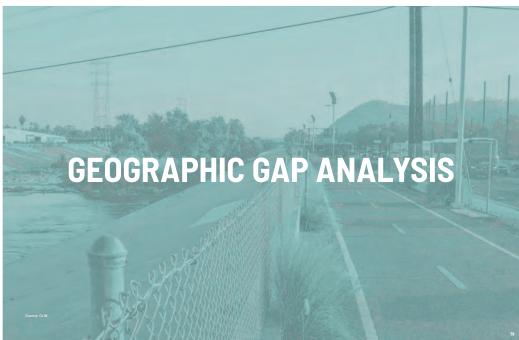


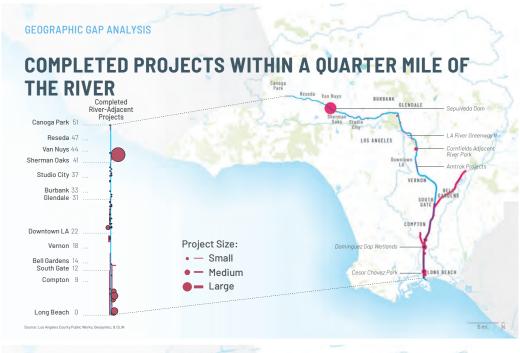
## WHAT CAN WE IMPROVE?

Additional design items and considerations to include in future design guidelines:

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES	MATERIALS	ACCESS AND MOBILITY
Cadence of facilities and amenities along the River	Cohesive selection and guidelines	Consistent access point frequency
+ Types + Frequency	Clear visual identity	Lighting
+ Location	Consider both environmentally and maintenance-friendly choices	Safe crossings
Kiosks	,	ADA accessibility
Information and education stations		Clear direction to access points
Shade structures		
Wi-fi availability		
Site furnishings		









**GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS** 

## **HOW DO WE LOCATE NEW PROJECTS?**

Align need, opportunity, and cadence along the LA River Corridor.



## **NEED**

Determine where there are significant people, water, or environment needs and vulnerabilities that are not met by existing proposed projects.

#### **EXAMPLE:** LOCATING NEW PARKS

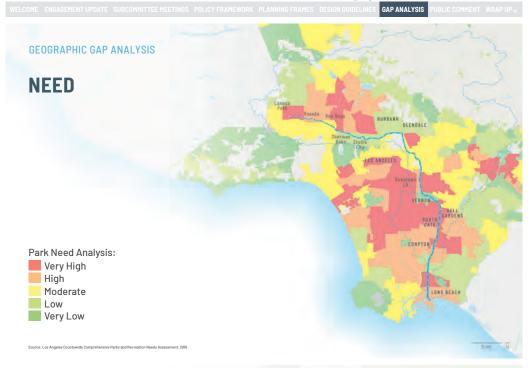
- 1. Park Needs Analysis:
  - Park Land (acres of park per 1000 people)
  - Park Access (distance to parks)
  - Park Pressure (park land availability)

#### 2. CalEnviroscreen 3.0:

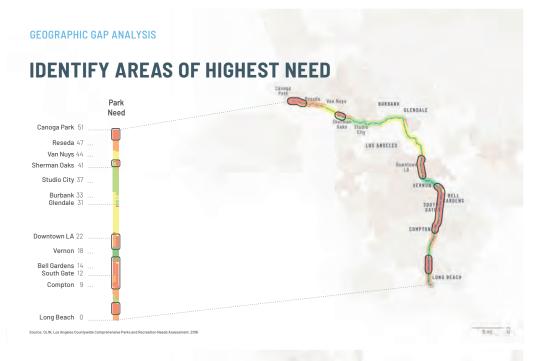
• 20 Indicators for Pollution Burden and Population Characteristics

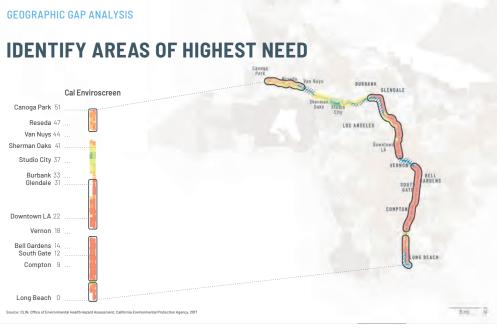


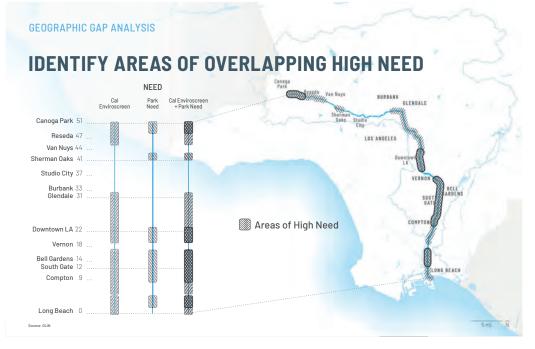












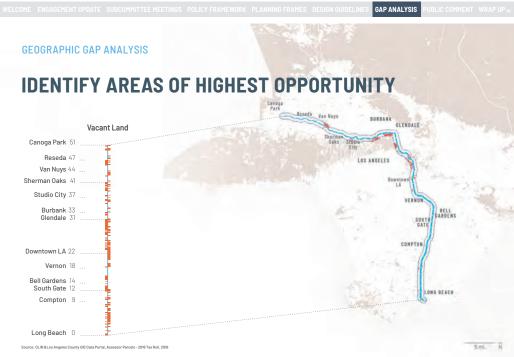
## **OPPORTUNITY**

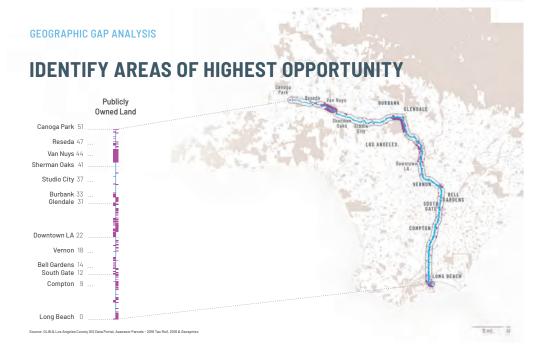
Capitalize on areas that have the greatest capacity to site new projects.

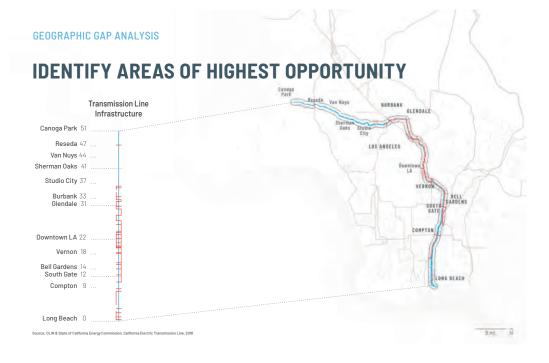
#### **EXAMPLE: LOCATING NEW PARKS**

- 1. Vacant Land
- 2. Publicly Owned Land
- 3. Rights of Way









**GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS** 

## **COMPARE AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED & OPPORTUNITY**



**GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS** 

## **COMPARE AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED & OPPORTUNITY**



## **CADENCE**

Confirm projects are distributed along the river equally and vary in scale.

XL

ex: Regional Park, Water Recharge Area, Affordable Housing Development

L

ex: Community Park, Cultural Center

M

ex: Neighborhood Park, Housing, Community Center, Bridge

S

ex: Pocket Park, Park Node, Access Gateway, Restroom & Premium Shelter

XS

ex: Basic & Comfort Shelter, Lighting, Signage, Benches

WELCOME ENGAGEMENT UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS POLICY FRAMEWORK PLANNING FRAMES DESIGN GUIDELINES

GAP ANALYSIS

IBLIC COMMENT WRAP UP 84

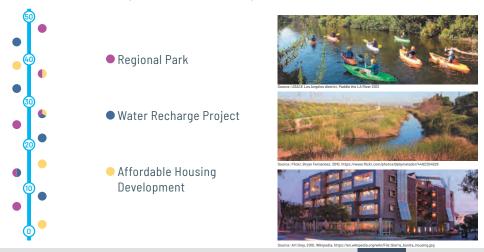
#### **GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS**

## CADENCE: XS (EXTRA SMALL)



#### **GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS**

## CADENCE: XL (EXTRA LARGE)



## **CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS**

	WATER SUPPLY	WATER QUALITY	FLOOD RISK
NEEDS	Continuous	Water Quality Priority EWMP/WMP Shortfall TMDL Composite	Flood Hazard Area Tsunami & Sea Level Rise Flood Control Structures Critical Infrastructure/Facilities
OPPORTUNITIES	Vacant Land Public Land Ownership Infrastructure ROW Recharge Area	Vacant Land Public Land Ownership Infrastructure ROW Stormwater Outfalls	Vacant Land Public Land Ownership Infrastructure ROW
CADENCE	Not Applicable	Continuous	Continuous

WELCOME ENGAGEMENT UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS POLICY FRAMEWORK PLANNING FRAMES DESIGN GUIDELINES GAP ANALYSIS PUBLIC COMMENT WRAP UP 37

**GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS** 

## **CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS**

	PARKS	TRAILS/ACCESS	HABITAT	HOUSING
	Parks Needs Assessment	Existing Trails	Species Observations	Displacement Risk
NEEDS	CalEnviroscreen	Public Transit within 1 mi	Protected Areas	% Home Ownership
NEED2	Health Composite	Health Composite	CNDDB Species	% Severely Rent Burdened
			Existing Vegetation	
	Vacant Land	Vacant Land	Vacant Land	Vacant Land
OPPORTUNITIES	Public Land Ownership	Public Land Ownership	Public Land Ownership	Public Land Ownership
UPPURTUNITIES	Infrastructure ROW	Infrastructure ROW	Infrastructure ROW	
		Floor Control Structures	Tributary Confluences	
CADENCE	Park Classification	Continuous	Varies	By City

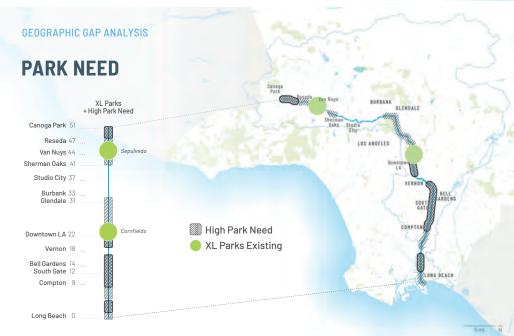
WELCOME ENGAGEMENT UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE HEETINGS POLICY FRAMEWORK PLANNING FRAMES DESIGN GUIDELINES GAP ANALYSIS PUBLIC COMMENT WRAP UP #

**GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS** 

## **CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS**

	ART/CULTURE	EDUCATION
NEEDS		
OPPORTUNITIES		
CADENCE	Varies	Varies







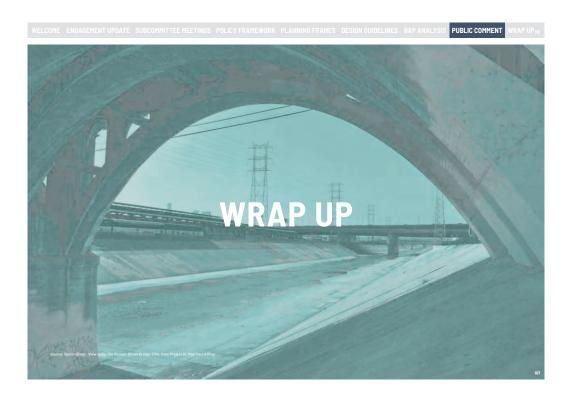






## **PUBLIC COMMENT OPTIONS**

- Verbal comments
  - Speakers to be called in order of speaker cards submitted (optional)
  - Up to 15 minutes total for the Public Comment item
  - Total time per person will depend on number of speaker cards received
- Comment cards
- Email comments to LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov



## **Upcoming Steering Committee Meetings:**

• Steering Committee Meeting #5 - April 10, 2019

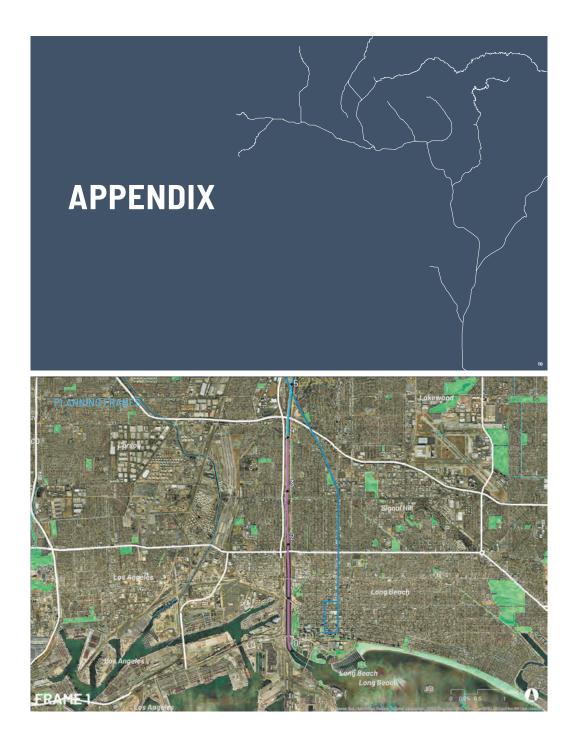
## **Upcoming Community Engagement Meetings:**

- Community Meeting (Studio City/Burbank/Glendale) December 13, 2018
- Community Meeting (Reseda) February 2019
- Community Meeting (South Gate) March 2019
- Community Meeting (Compton) April 2019

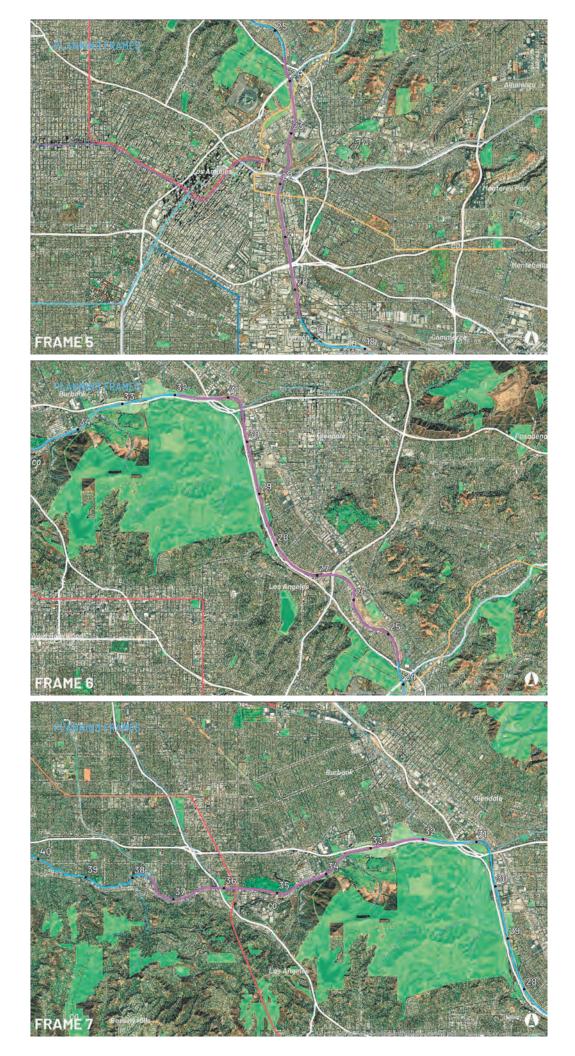
INPUT, QUESTIONS, IDEAS? Contact Carolina Hernandez at (626) 458-4322 or LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov

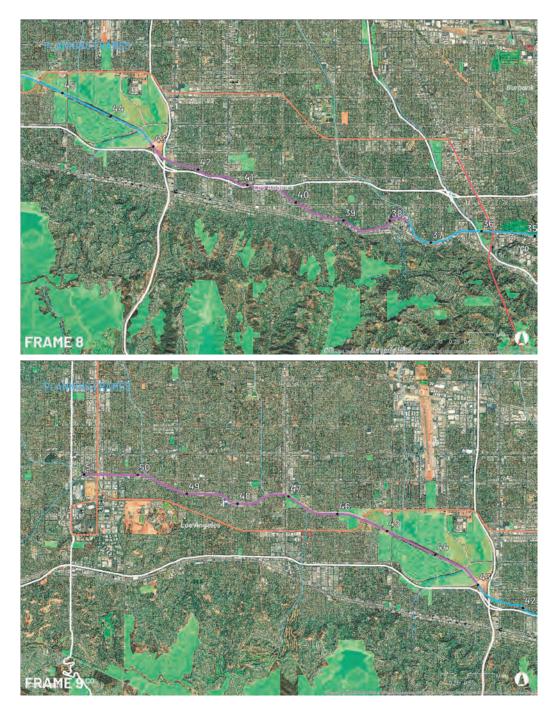


## LARiverMasterPlan.org



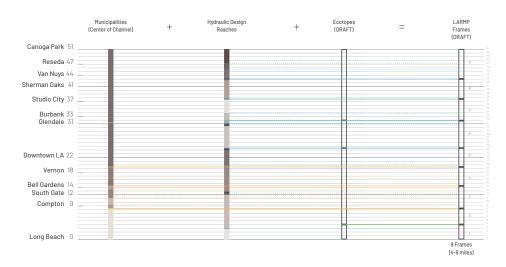






PLANNING FRAMES

## **RIVER RULERS DETERMINE FRAMES**





## Appendix C

# **Draft Vision, Goals, and Actions**

## Los Angeles River Master Plan Update | DRAFT Vision, Goals, and Actions

1996: Los Angeles River Master Plan

Mission Statement: The Los Angeles River Master Plan provides for the optimization and enhancement of aesthetic, recreational, flood control and environmental values by creating a community resource, enriching the quality of life for residents and recognizing the river's primary purpose for flood control.

#### Goals:

- 1. Ensure flood control and public safety needs are met
- 2. Improve the appearance of the river and the pride of the local communities in it.
- 3. Promote the river as an economic asset to the surrounding communities.
- 4. Preserve, enhance and restore environmental resources in and along the river.
- 5. Consider stormwater management alternatives
- 6. Ensure public involvement and coordinate Master Plan development and implementation along jurisdictions
- 7. Provide a safe environment and a variety of recreational opportunities along the river
- 8. Ensure safe access to and compatibility between the river and other activity centers

**2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 1:** Los Angeles River Master Plan Update June 2018-August 2018

Draft Vision: A reimagined River to connect and serve the diverse communities of LA County.

Draft Mission Statement: The Los Angeles River Master Plan Update builds on over two decades of planning efforts to create a 51-mile connective corridor of parks and trails, cultural resources, recreation opportunities, and environmental systems that enrich the quality of life and improve the health of residents, while providing flood risk management.

#### **Draft Goals:**

- 1. Reinforce local culture and community.
- 2. Provide a protective and resilient flood management infrastructure.
- 3. Identify and address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.
- 4. Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
- 5. Support healthy, connected ecosystems.
- 6. Improve local water supply reliability.

**2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 2:** Los Angeles River Master Plan Update September 2018 – October 2018

### The Reimagined River

A 51-mile connective river corridor of parks, trails, ecosystems, and cultural resources to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of LA County, while providing flood risk management.

#### **Draft Goals:**

The LARMP Update creates a framework that will:

- · Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.
- Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.
- Enhance opportunities to equitably access the river corridor.
- Foster learning and opportunities for education.
- Improve regional water supply reliability.
- Promote healthy, safe, clean water.
- Provide a protective and resilient flood management infrastructure.
- Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
- Support healthy, connected ecosystems.

**2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 3:** Los Angeles River Master Plan Update November 2018 – present

## The Reimagined River

A 51-mile connective river corridor of parks, trails, ecosystems, and cultural resources to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of LA County, while providing flood risk management.

- 1. Goal: Provide protective and resilient flood management.
  - 1.1. Provide flood protection along the entire length of the river.
  - 1.2. Identify solutions to reduce pressure on the river channel.
  - 1.3. Encourage municipalities and other jurisdictions to evaluate critical infrastructure and facilities located within the 500-year floodplain to determine appropriate level of flood protection.
  - 1.4. Coordinate unified practices and policies for management along the river.
  - 1.5. Encourage only flood resilient projects or development within the 100-year floodplain.
  - 1.6. Develop operations and maintenance best practices to ensure intended flood risk reduction benefits are met.
  - 1.7. Continue to improve and refine emergency response.
  - 1.8. Improve signage and communication about flood risk.
  - 1.9. Develop multi-benefit projects that support flood resilience while providing water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.

- 2. Goal: Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
  - 2.1. Create 51 miles of connected open space.
  - 2.2. Provide support facilities at a regular cadence along the length of the river, on both sides.
  - 2.3. Create unified design guidelines for adjacent parks and river amenities that are flexible enough to reflect the diversity of local communities.
  - 2.4. Encourage compatibility of the river and adjacent land uses.
  - 2.5. Repurpose single-use spaces, such as power-line easements, rail rights-of-way, or flood infrastructure, to serve multiple functions.
  - 2.6. Fill trail and sidewalk gaps to connect nearby recreation spaces to the river.
  - 2.7. Promote safety along the river.
  - 2.8. Develop multi-benefit projects that provide park space while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.
- 3. Goal: Support healthy, connected ecosystems.
  - 3.1. Increase species biodiversity and focus on the use of native plants in and around the river corridor where possible.
  - 3.2. Encourage cities along the river to adopt sustainability strategies.
  - 3.3. Create a connective network of habitat patches and corridors to facilitate the movement of animals.
  - 3.4. Use environmentally responsible practices for operations and maintenance of the river channel and adjacent lands.
  - 3.5. Use the river corridor as a living laboratory.
  - 3.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that enhance ecosystems, while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.

### 4. Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.

- 4.1. Create welcoming access points to the river trail to optimize access along its length, on both sides.
- 4.2. Complete the LA River Bike Path so that there is a continuous bicycle and pedestrian route along the entire river with equitable access.
- 4.3. Increase safe routes to the river.
- 4.4. Provide pedestrian and bicycle connections across the river.
- 4.5. Increase recreation uses, such as kayaking or birdwatching, within the corridor.
- 4.6. Ensure patrol, emergency, and maintenance vehicles have access to the river right of way.
- 4.7. Develop multi-benefit projects that enhance access to the river while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.
- 4.8. Promote the use of public transportation to connect to the river trail.

### 5. Goal: Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.

- 5.1. Develop a 51-mile arts and culture corridor along the river.
- 5.2. Utilize local resources and workforce to design, build, operate, and maintain projects and amenities along the river, where possible.
- 5.3. Encourage entities responsible for project development to continue to solicit input from communities along the river throughout implementation of this plan.
- 5.4. Encourage collaboration between neighboring communities to galvanize a LA River cultural identity.
- 5.5. Support river-oriented development at transit and river access points.
- 5.6. Promote the river as an active transportation corridor.
- 5.7. Improve the interface between the river corridor and adjacent communities.
- 5.8. Develop multi-benefit projects that strengthen communities while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.



## 6. Goal: Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.

- 6.1. Support cities along the river in adopting stronger homeless-support policies.
- 6.2. Ensure that the physical design of river improvement amenities is consistent with the physical and social character of each existing community and avoid overly 'upscale' improvements most likely to increase nearby housing prices.
- 6.3. Develop multi-benefit projects that support housing affordability while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.

### 7. Goal: Foster learning and opportunities for education.

- 7.1. Provide spaces for people of all ages and abilities to learn about the river, ecology, and the history of the cultures within the watershed.
- 7.2. Develop educational materials for people of all ages to learn more about the history, present, and future of the river corridor.
- 7.3. Prioritize connectivity to the river from schools, cultural centers, and other education facilities.
- 7.4. Encourage households and neighborhoods to adopt best practices in water management.
- 7.5. Promote the benefits of using the river trail to reduce chronic disease.
- 7.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that foster learning and education while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.

### 8. Goal: Improve regional water supply reliability.

- 8.1. Consider long-term trends, such as population growth, climate change, future supplies, resiliency, and sustainability, in water supply planning.
- 8.2. Capture and treat stormwater and dry weather runoff wherever possible before it reaches the river for infiltration, direct use, or release.
- 8.3. Divert and treat wet and dry weather flows within the LA River channel to recharge local aquifers or provide water for direct use as recycled water.
- 8.4. Coordinate efforts amongst the multiple jurisdictions and along the tributaries and other sub-watersheds.
- 8.5. Employ and encourage efficient water use.
- 8.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that support water supply reliability while providing flood risk management, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.

## 9. Goal: Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

- 9.1. Coordinate with the Watershed Management Program/Enhanced Watershed Management Program (WMP/EWMP) Groups
- 9.2. Prioritize pollutants of concern based on TMDL milestones.
- 9.3. Explore options to improve water quality that are nature based where possible.
- 9.4. Develop multi-benefit projects that support water quality while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.



## Appendix D

# **Input from Public Comment Cards**



#### Card 1

Relative to the gap analysis/opportunities identification, there are many schools within short walking distances of the river. Transportation is often identified as the primary barrier for fieldtrips/place-based learning so there's a huge opportunity to facilitate schools being able to access the river for multiple benefits. A few years ago, our program worked with LAUSD on a "safe routes to the river" study using 3 campuses as pilots. I can provide more information if it would be helpful. I understand from educators that updates to educational standards are emphasizing outdoor/ place-based/experiential learning so this is a strategically timely opportunity.



## Appendix E

# **Steering Committee Sign-in Sheets**



Los Angeles River Master Plan Update Steering Committee Meeting December 12, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sign in for Steering Committee Members

#### LOCATION

Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters 900 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803 Conference Room A-B

NAME OF AGENCY	PRIMARY MEMBER	INITIALS	OFFICIAL ALTERNATE	INITIALS	NOTES
City of Downey	Sean Ashton				
City of Long Beach	Lena Gonzalez	136	Cory Allen	M	
City of Los Angeles (Mayor's Office)	Michael Affeldt		Katie Mika	1 1	
City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering	Gary Lee Moore		Deborah Weintraub Katherine Doherty	dw	
City of Paramount Public Works	Adriana Figueroa				
City of South Gate	Arturo Cervantes		Gladis Deras	m	
Council for Watershed Health	Eileen Alduenda	(6)	Yareli Sanchez		
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice	mark! Lopez		Alessandro Negrete	AN	
Friends of the LA River (FoLAR)	Marissa Christiansen		Stephen Mejía	SM	
From Lot to Spot	Viviana Franco		Enrique Huerta		
Heal the Bay	Challand	m	Katherine Pease		
neal tile bay	Shelley Luce	01	Amanda Wagner		
LA-Mas	Mia Lehrer				
Long Beach Conservation Corps	Dan Knapp		Kayla Kelly-Slatten	XX	
Los Angeles Business Council			Jacob Lipa		
Los Angeles Business Council	Mary Leslie	(	Devon Prove	DP	
Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission	Rudy Ortega				
Los Angeles County 1st District	Guadalupe Duran- Medina				
Los Angeles County 1st District	Waqas Rehman				
Los Angeles County 2nd District	Karly Katona				
Los Angeles County 3rd District	Katy Young		Virdiana Velez	99/	
Los Angeles County 4th District	Jocelyn Rivera-Olivas			V	
Los Angeles County 5th District	Chris Perry		Susie Osuna	M.	
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition	Jesi Harris		Lyndsey Nolan	X/	
Los Angeles County Business Federation	Hilary Norton		Lori Garcia		
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust	Keshia Sexton		Beth Kent		



Los Angeles River Master Plan Update Steering Committee Meeting December 12, 2018 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sign In for Steering Committee Members

## LOCATION

Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters 900 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803 Conference Room A-B

PRIMARY MEMBER	INITIALS	OFFICIAL ALTERNATE	INITIALS	NOTES
Bruce Reznick	X	Melissa von Mayrhauser	2	
Julia Salinas	85.	Sarah Schurtz		
Irma R. Muñoz	0	Paola Machan		
Veronica Padilla- Campos	,			
Antonio Hicks	Ant			
Deborah Smith		Renee Purdy	Tap	
Mark Chapley		Joseph Gonzalez	1/8	
mark Stanley		Marybeth Vergara		
		Brian Baldauf		
Joseph T. Edmiston		Melissa Vega		
		Sarah Rascon	82	
Gabrielle Weeks				
Peter Sellars		Julia Carnahan	AM 1	Indrew Mor
Shana Canquily			1311	torriel
			0111	pourin
lori kjer	00	RODIN MARK		
Justin Yee	MI	Anne Dove		
Eduardo DeMesa	V V	Chris Solek	-,	
Pauline K. Louie				
Robb Whitaker		Kimberly Badescu	KB	
Kaith Lily	Vous Eq.	PAFAER VILLERA	SNJ	
	Bruce Reznick Julia Salinas Irma R. Muñoz Veronica Padilla- Campos Antonio Hicks Deborah Smith Mark Stanley  Joseph T. Edmiston  Gabrielle Weeks Peter Sellars Shona Ganguly Tori Kjer Justin Yee Eduardo DeMesa Pauline K. Louie Robb Whitaker	Bruce Reznick Julia Salinas Irma R. Muñoz Veronica Padilla- Campos Antonio Hicks Deborah Smith Mark Stanley  Joseph T. Edmiston  Gabrielle Weeks Peter Sellars Shona Ganguly Tori Kjer Justin Yee Eduardo DeMesa Pauline K. Louie Robb Whitaker	Bruce Reznick  Julia Salinas  Irma R. Muñoz  Veronica Padilla- Campos  Antonio Hicks  Deborah Smith  Mark Stanley  Joseph Gonzalez  Marybeth Vergara  Brian Baldauf  Melissa Vega  Sarah Rascon  Gabrielle Weeks  Peter Sellars  Shona Ganguly  Tori Kjer  Justin Yee  Eduardo DeMesa  Pauline K. Louie  Robb Whitaker  Melissa von Mayrhauser  Sarah Schurtz  Paola Machan  Melissa Vega  Sarah Rascon  Kelsey Jessup  Robin Mark  Anne Dove  Chris Solek	Bruce Reznick  Julia Salinas  Irma R. Muñoz  Veronica Padilla- Campos  Antonio Hicks  Deborah Smith  Mark Stanley  Joseph Gonzalez  Marybeth Vergara  Brian Baldauf  Melissa Vega  Sarah Rascon  Gabrielle Weeks  Julia Carnahan  Catherine Gudis  Shona Ganguly  Tori Kjer  Justin Yee  Eduardo DeMesa  Pauline K. Louie  Robb Whitaker  Melissa von Mayrhauser  Sarah Schurtz  Paola Machan  Amelissa Vega  Sarah Rascon  Melissa Vega  Sarah Rascon  Catherine Gudis  Kelsey Jessup  Chris Solek  Kimberly Badescu