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
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 LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov
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

WELCOME
MEETING PURPOSE, AGENDA, AND OBJECTIVES

PURPOSE OF TODAY’S MEETING

1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS
2. POLICY FRAMEWORK AND GOAL-DRIVEN IMPLEMENTATION
3. PAST PROJECTS REVIEW AND NEW PLANNING FRAMES
4. DESIGN GUIDELINES & GAP ANALYSIS METHODS

MEETING AGENDA

WELCOME AND PURPOSE
- River story
- Welcome
- Roundtable Introductions
- Agenda and Objectives Overview
- Steering Committee Updates

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE
- Other Meetings
- Snapshot of Input from Long Beach and Friendship Auditorium Community Meetings
- Youth Summit Report
- Discussion/ Q&A

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT
- Agenda Focus and Attendance
- Setting Vision
- Top Ideas for Action Under Each Goal
- Inventory and Analysis Discussion Themes
- Discussion/ Q&A

GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK
- Comparison of Plan Structures
- Comparison of Plan Goals
- Example Goal, Actions, and Methods from the 2020 Plan.
- Discussion/ Q&A

PLANNING FRAMES
- 1966 Plan Reaches and Projects Completed
- Proposed Planning Frames for 2020 Plan
- Process of Determining Frames
- Discussion/ Q&A

DESIGN GUIDELINES
- Landscape and Planting Design Guidelines
- Sign Guidelines
- Other Topics Considered
- Discussion/ Q&A

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS
- Review Existing Projects
- Locating Projects by Needs and Opportunities
- Project Cadence
- Gap Analysis Method
- Discussion/ Q&A

PUBLIC COMMENT
- Verbal Comments
- Comment Cards
- Email Comments Anytime to LARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov

WRAP UP
- 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. **LAUNCH**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 11 April 2018
   - Dialogue Focus: Vision Brainstorming, Project Schedule and Scope

2. **INVENTORY & VISION PRINCIPLES**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 27 June 2018
   - Dialogue Focus: Draft Vision Principles, Existing Conditions, Literature Review, Community Outreach Plan

3. **GOALS & ANALYSIS**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 26 September 2018
   - Dialogue Focus: Draft Vision and Goals, Goal-Driven Planning, Jurisdictional Boundaries

4. **GAPS & PLANNING**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 12 December 2018
   - Dialogue Focus: Gap Analysis and Prioritization, Geographical Gap Analysis Intro

**2019**

5. **PRIORITIES & OPPORTUNITIES**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 10 April 2019
   - Dialogue Focus: Goal Analysis and Reach Prioritization, Draft Planning Concepts, Task of Contacts

6. **DESIGNS & PLANS**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 26 June 2019
   - Dialogue Focus: Planning Concepts and Policies

7. **PLANS & STANDARDS**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 25 September 2019
   - Dialogue Focus: Design Concepts and Design Standards Update

8. **DRAFT REVIEW**
   - Key Theme & Planned Date: 11 December 2019
   - Dialogue Focus: Draft of Los Angeles River Master Plan Update
Q & A AND DISCUSSION

COMMUNITY ENGAGMENT UPDATE

ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

COUNCIL FOR WATERSHED HEALTH SYMPOSIUM
September 27, 2018

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
October 1, 2018

AB466
October 25, 2018

GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
November 7, 2018
YOUTH SUMMIT
NOVEMBER 1, 2018

800 STUDENTS
IN ATTENDANCE
Community members attended the Canoga Park meeting
Community members attended the Cudahy meeting
Community members attended the Long Beach meeting
Community members attended the Friendship Auditorium meeting
Completed digital and in-person surveys as of November 20, 2018
Completed youth surveys

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

- Digital Survey Respondents
- Canoga Park Attendees
- Cudahy Attendees
- Friendship Auditorium Attendees
- Long Beach Attendees
- Youth Survey Respondents

OVER 1,450 ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY MEETINGS & SURVEY

167 Community members attended the Canoga Park meeting
126 Community members attended the Cudahy meeting
129 Community members attended the Long Beach meeting
214 Community members attended the Friendship Auditorium meeting
495 Completed digital and in-person surveys as of November 20, 2018
332 Completed youth surveys

GENERATIONS REPRESENTED:
(Total from Survey + Community Meetings + Youth Summit)

- The Greatest Generation (1909-1945) 3%
- Baby Boomers (1946-1964) 22%
- Gen Xers (1965-1979) 18%
- Millennials (1980-2000) 30%
- Gen Z (2001-2018) 26%
**WHICH ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?**

- **protect vulnerable plants/animals** 504
- **supplement water supply** 471
- **healthy, socially connected comm.**
- **access to arts, culture, ed., rec.** 444
- **address homelessness** 431
- **manage flood risk** 339
- **opportunities for affordable housing** 289
- **better access to parks** 260
- **mobility and access to pub. transp.** 255
- **better access to trails** 251
- **improve river water quality** 149
- **connect natural/habitat areas** 143

*Source: Community Meetings, Survey, and Youth Summit*

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

- **potential**
- **dirty**
- **concrete**

**WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM VISITING THE LA RIVER?**

- **safety concerns** 527
- **not well-maintained** 402
- **lack of restrooms** 358
- **lack of activities** 334
- **do not know where to go** 318
- **not well lit** 271
- **not enough shade** 264
- **do not know what's there** 255
- **no place to park** 200
- **no easy way to bike there** 152
- **too far from home** 149
- **not accessible by transit** 112
- **not acc. to people w/disabilities** 83
- **too crowded** 30

*Source: Community Meetings, Survey, and Youth Summit*
WHAT IS THE HIGHEST YOU HAVE SEEN THE WATER LEVEL IN THE RIVER?

- Less than Half Way Up Its Banks/Levees: 22%
- Half Way Up Its Banks/Levees: 26%
- More Than Half Way Up Its Banks/Levees: 23%
- Over-Topping Its Banks/Levees: 22%
- Walking More Than Halfway Up Its Channel Only: 6%
- More than Half Way Up Its Banks/Levees: 1%
- Do Not Know What Is There: 1%

Source: Community Meetings, Survey, and Youth Summit

IN WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED ALONG THE LA RIVER?

- Walking: 617
- Biking: 524
- Nature watching/citizen science: 212
- Community gatherings/events: 197
- River clean-up event: 185
- Observed art performances: 129
- Water-based activities (eg kayaking): 91
- Skateboarding: 81
- Horseback riding: 81
- Creative self expression: 74
- Fishing: 53

Source: Community Meetings, Survey, and Youth Summit

LA RIVER MASTER PLAN
COMMUNITY MEETING
STUDIO CITY

JOIN US FOR A MEETING WHERE YOU’LL:
- Share your thoughts on the future of the LA River
- Hear the vision of the LA River Master Plan
- Receive updates on river-related issues

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Location: Oakwood School
11600 W Magnolia Blvd,
North Hollywood, CA 91601

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided, and parking is free.

For information, visit LARiverMasterPlan.org for email updates and event recap.
Q & A AND DISCUSSION

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORT

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS #3

October 3, 2018
Metro Building

Thank you Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Environment Subcommittee  Water Subcommittee  People Subcommittee

REVISED VISION & GOALS
Initial Input on Actions

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

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

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

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.
**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

**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: O&M process  
- Establishment of invasive species in tributaries makes permanent removal from river difficult  
- Potentially a Public Works guidebook

**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

Goal: Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.
- 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

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.
- O&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.
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.

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.
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)

2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

**Goal (9)**
- Actions
  - PARTIES RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION
  - POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS
  - GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES
  - ORDER-OF-MAGNITUDE COST
  - EXISTING FUNDING SOURCES
  - POTENTIAL NEW FUNDING SOURCES
- Frame (9)
  - Projects

GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK

1996 PLAN GOALS

**Aesthetics**
- 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.
- Consider storm water management alternatives.

**Flood Management and Water Conservation**
- Ensure that flood control and public safety needs are met.

**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.

GOAL-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK

EVALUATION OF 1996 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

**Reaffirm**
- Still Relevant

**Reinforce**
- Needs More Specificity

**Revise**
- Needs to be Reworded

**Remove**
- 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-DRIVEN FRAMEWORK

GOAL: AN IDEAL FUTURE STATE

POTENTIAL ACTIONS
- Movements toward the ideal state

POTENTIAL METHODS
- Specific implementation steps for each action

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-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.

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.

Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.

Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.

Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.

Foster learning and opportunities for education.

Improve regional water supply reliability.

Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

Provide protective and resilient flood management.

Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.

Support healthy, connected ecosystems.

Q & A AND DISCUSSION
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)
9. East Valley LA River Greenway/Bikeway (Varies)
10. Elysian Park (24.3)
11. Elysian Valley Gateway Park (26.1)
12. Ernest’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. Julius Russ Azusa Park (13.5)
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. Sunnymoore 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

Initial Demonstration Projects List

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

1. Expand on the North East Trees planting projects near Arroyo Seco
2. Soccer field in Vernon
3. Dominguez Gap planting
4. Los Feliz walkway to Colorado Blvd
5. Glendale river front trail connection to Bette Davis Picnic Area
6. Fletcher Drive Park
7. Los Angeles River signs
8. Flood management and water conservation public information program
9. Golf driving range in Vernon
10. Tree planting along the river at City of Los Angeles soccer fields
11. Fish ponds along river at 405 and 710 freeways
12. River safety training site, short and long term approaches
13. Erosion control planting on levee in Paramount
14. Tree planting projects in the cities of: Compton, Bell, and South Gate
15. Trout stocking of river (longer-term project)
16. Interpretive site for engineering and industrial use of the river in the cities of: Vernon, downtown Los Angeles, and Compton
17. Connection to park on Golden Avenue in Long Beach

Demonstration Projects Selection

Criteria:

- Site
- Funding
- Community Support
- Meets River Goals
- Short Implementation
- Maintainability

Four Demonstration Projects Selected:

1. Tujunga Wash/Hansen Dam Interpretive Site
2. Los Feliz Riverwalk
3. Dominguez Gap Environmental Enhancement
4. Wrigley Greenbelt Trail Enhancement

6 Reaches of the River

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, Aitwater 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)
PLANNING FRAMES

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

PLANNING FRAMES

LINEAR PLANNING FRAMES

PRIORITY EXISTING COINCIDENT BOUNDARIES AND CHANNEL CONDITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Planning Frame Name</th>
<th>Length (mi)</th>
<th>Starting Mile</th>
<th>Start At</th>
<th>Ending Mile</th>
<th>End At</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Estuary</td>
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<td>LA River</td>
<td>4.0 Estuary+SLR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Los Angeles Plain</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.0 Estuary+SLR</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>8.4 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Middle Los Angeles Plain</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>8.4 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>14.4 LAX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>North Los Angeles Plain</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>14.4 LAX</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>19.5 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Heights</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>19.5 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>24.5 LAX</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Narrows</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>24.5 LAX</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>32.0 LAX</td>
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</tr>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Eastern San Fernando Valley</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>32.0 LAX</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>37.8 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Central San Fernando Valley</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>37.8 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>43.1 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Western San Fernando Valley</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>43.1 Sepulveda Basin Dam</td>
<td>LAX</td>
<td>51.0 LAX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OLIN & Geosyntec

Q & A AND DISCUSSION

Source: USACE, Los Angeles District, EHyperionAve1928, http://cespl.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=e15694dbf7c54f8c96285a0e74039e69
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

Example Diagram:

- Channel
- Service Road
- Paving
- Root Barrier - 24"
- Perforated Drain Pipe
- Fence
- Mulch or Hydroseed on Slopes

Southern Sycamore Riparian Woodland, or Coast Live Oak Woodland Communities in areas of more moisture & deeper soils

Coast Live Oak Woodland, Coastal Sage Scrub, or Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub Communities with Periodic Woodland Trees in drier/sunnier areas

NOTES:
- Contract to collect Los Angeles River watershed soil and grow native species
- Small container sizes are preferred
- Locate container plants in areas that have deeper soils and receive more moisture
- Install seed and container plants in late fall or early spring per planting specifications
- Locate container plants according to setback guidelines in Design Guidelines (pages 30-36) and Appendix B
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.

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

Design Considerations
- All fence materials to have galvanized coating

Maintenance
- Periodic checks for corrosion, bent or damaged pickets. Replace as necessary.

Available from
- See Appendix C.

LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES: WHAT IS MISSING?

**WHAT IS STRONG**
- Very comprehensive
- Robust planting lists and community knowledge
- 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

**WHAT WE CAN IMPROVE**
- Separate out amenities and materials from planting guidelines
- 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

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
**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

---

**SIGN GUIDELINES: WHAT IS MISSING?**

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

---

**DESIGN GUIDELINES: OTHERS REVIEWED**

- Bicycle Master Plan
- Hydrology Design Manual
- Low Impact Development
WHAT CAN WE IMPROVE?

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

**FACILITIES AND AMENITIES**
- Cadence of facilities and amenities along the River
  - Types
  - Frequency
  - Location
- Kiosks
- Information and education stations
- Shade structures
- Wi-fi availability
- Site furnishings

**MATERIALS**
- Cohesive selection and guidelines
- Clear visual identity
- Consider both environmentally and maintenance-friendly choices

**ACCESS AND MOBILITY**
- Consistent access point frequency
- Lighting
- Safe crossings
- ADA accessibility
- Clear direction to access points

Q & A AND DISCUSSION

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS
GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

COMPLETED PROJECTS WITHIN A QUARTER MILE OF THE RIVER

Completed River-Adjacent Projects

- Canoga Park 51
- Reseda 47
- Van Nuys 44
- Sherman Oaks 41
- Studio City 37
- Burbank 33
- Glendale 31
- Downtown LA 22
- Vernon 18
- Bell Gardens 14
- South Gate 10
- Compton 9
- Long Beach 0

Project Size:
- Small
- Medium
- Large

Source: Los Angeles County Public Health, Department of Public Health

PLANNING FRAMES

PROJECTS WITHIN A QUARTER MILE OF THE RIVER

- Canoga Park 51
- Reseda 47
- Van Nuys 44
- Sherman Oaks 41
- Studio City 37
- Burbank 33
- Glendale 31
- Downtown LA 22
- Vernon 18
- Bell Gardens 14
- South Gate 10
- Compton 9
- Long Beach 0

Project Status:
- Completed
- In-Development
- Planned

Project Size:
- Small
- Medium
- Large

Source: City of Los Angeles

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

HOW DO WE LOCATE NEW PROJECTS?

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

NEED

OPPORTUNITY

+ CADENCE
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

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

ASSESS NEED ALONG THE LA RIVER CORRIDOR

Park Need Analysis:
- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Very Low

Source: Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, 2016

IDENTIFY AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED


IDENTIFY AREAS OF OVERLAPPING HIGH NEED

Source: Cal Enviroscreen
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
IDENTIFY AREAS OF HIGHEST OPPORTUNITY

Canoga Park 51
Reseda 47
Van Nuys 44
Sherman Oaks 41
Studio City 37
Burbank 33
Glendale 31

Downtown LA 22
Vernon 18
Bell Gardens 14
South Gate 12
Compton 9

Vacant Land

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS
IDENTIFY AREAS OF HIGHEST OPPORTUNITY

Canoga Park 51
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South Gate 12
Compton 9

Publicly Owned Land

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS
IDENTIFY AREAS OF HIGHEST OPPORTUNITY

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

COMPARE AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED & OPPORTUNITY

Cal Enviroscreen + Park Need

SITE
Site With High Park Need & High Vacant Land Opportunity

OPPORTUNITY

Vacant Land
Publicly Owned Land
Transmission Line Infrastructure

Comparing areas of highest need and opportunity, the following areas were identified:

- Canoga Park
- Reseda
- Van Nuys
- Sherman Oaks
- Studio City
- Burbank
- Glendale
- Downtown LA
- Vernon
- Bell Gardens
- South Gate
- Compton
- Long Beach

Source: California Energy Commission, California Electric Transmission Line, 2018

Site with high park need and high vacant land opportunity:

Middle Segment Multi-use Easement and Crossover Site

Identified by City of Paramount's Lower Pomar Power Plan

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS
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

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

**CADENCE: XS (EXTRA SMALL)**

- Basic Shelter
- Comfort Shelter
- Premium Shelter

Source: OLIN

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

**CADENCE: XL (EXTRA LARGE)**

- Regional Park
- Water Recharge Project
- Affordable Housing Development

Source: USACE Los Angeles district, Paddle the LA River 2012
## CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS

<table>
<thead>
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### NEEDS

- Vacant Land
- Public Land Ownership
- Infrastructure ROW
- Recharge Area
- Continuous

### OPPORTUNITIES

- Vacant Land
- Public Land Ownership
- Infrastructure ROW
- Stormwater Outfalls
- Continuous

### CADENCE

- Not Applicable
- Continuous

---

## CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS

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### OPPORTUNITIES

- Vacant Land
- Public Land Ownership
- Infrastructure ROW
- Recharge Area
- Continuous

### CADENCE

- Park Classification
- Continuous
- Varieties
- By City

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## CRITERIA FOR GAP ANALYSIS

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- Varies
- Varies
PROPOSED EXTRA LARGE PARKS (XL)

GEOGRAPHIC GAP ANALYSIS

Q & A AND DISCUSSION

PUBLIC COMMENT
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
APPENDIX
### PLANNING FRAMES

#### RIVER RULERS DETERMINE FRAMES

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9 Frames (4-8 miles)
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.
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.**


9.2. 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
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LOCATION
Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters
900 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803
Conference Room A-B