

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP) WORKING GROUP MEETING #20

Thursday, December 7, 2017 ♦ 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Clara Park, Turner Hall, 4835 Clara Street, Cudahy, CA 90201

S U M M A R Y R E P O R T

INTRODUCTION

On December 7, 2017, California State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon of the 63rd Assembly District and the Rivers and Mountain Conservancy (RMC) co-hosted the twentieth meeting of the Working Group for the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan (LLARRP). The purpose of the meeting was to: review final drafts of signature concepts for templates; receive an introductory presentation on the Draft LLARRP document; and learn about the upcoming process for the Los Angeles River Master Plan Update.

Meeting Format and Agenda

The twentieth meeting of the Working Group occurred on December 7, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Clara Park, Turner Hall, 4835 Clara Street, Cudahy. Approximately 30 Working Group members and 20 community members participated in the meeting (Attachment B).

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer of the RMC opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and explaining the purpose and objectives of the meeting. Daniel Iacofano of MIG, Inc., served as meeting facilitator and provided an overview of the agenda (Attachment A) and meeting format before asking for self-introductions from all participants. Oliver Galang of Tetra Tech, Martin Leitner of Perkins + Will, and Jan Dyer of Studio MLA, all part of the project team, presented on the final draft signature concepts of four templates. Mr. Galang then provided an introductory overview of the Draft LLARRP document, which was publicly released that day. Finally, Keith Lilley of LA County Flood Control District provided an overview of the upcoming planning process for the LA River Master Plan Update.

During each presentation, Mr. Iacofano facilitated discussions with Working Group members and other participants to address questions and comments. During these discussions, Andy Pendoley of MIG recorded key outcomes and discussion points on a wall-sized piece of paper, or “wallgraphic.” A summary of the discussion points is provided in the following sections, and a copy of the wallgraphic is included in the appendix to this report.

SIGNATURE CONCEPTS: TEMPLATES

Mr. Leitner presented the final drafts of the following templates: Multi-Use Trail Enhancements; Connectivity/Complete Streets and Wayfinding/Welcoming; and Concrete Channel Enhancements. Ms. Dyer presented the final draft of the Bridges and Crossings template. The presenters explained that the templates are intended to provide a menu of options that may be applied to different contexts and conditions along the corridor and in adjacent communities. Detailed plans and designs would be required for specific projects and locations in the future. Following each presentation, Working Group members asked questions, with project team responses in *italics*, as follows:

Multi-Use Trail Enhancements

- Be flexible in how widths and buffer treatments are applied at each location, particularly in designing for shared and constrained spaces
 - Include close attention to the unique perceptions of horses and their riders in shared spaces
- Study speed and transition controls for people riding bicycles at access and connection points on multi-use trails
 - Features could include signage, wider spaces, and other design cues

Connectivity/Complete Streets and Wayfinding/Welcoming

- Formalize existing equestrian trails with signage, particularly east-west connections
- Engage Caltrans in designing safer ramps and interchanges at freeway/local street connections, particularly along the I-710 Corridor
- Define and promote the benefits of complete streets to local cities, including but not limited to best management practices, water quality and stormwater

Concrete Channel Enhancements

- Study options for public safety measures to support public access to the channel, to include but not be limited to:
 - Signage
 - Notifications
 - Public safety/maintenance staff located on the corridor
 - Public access to terracing
 - Multiple access points

Bridges and Crossings

- What locations would include use of pre-fabricated bridges and crossings? – *This would depend upon a given location’s need for a crossing related to user/mode types and volumes, as well as the available connection points*
- Include more views in the template to showcase the possibilities
- What locations are proposed for bridges and crossings? – *The Draft LLARRP identifies Martin Luther King Way, the Rio Hondo Confluence, connections to the City of Cudahy, and more potential locations.*
- Include safety features for highway interchanges
- Identify specific locations that are ideal for iconic designs applied to bridges and crossings
- How will traffic detours be addressed during construction of bridges and crossings? – *This would be addressed during each project’s design and construction.*

INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT LLARRP

Mr. Galang provided an introduction of the Draft LLARRP, which was released for public review on December 7. Working Group members provided comments, as follows:

- Strengthen the prominence and profile of housing and displacement in the document to reflect the level of deliberation and discussion during the planning process
 - Convert the section from an appendix item to a chapter in the main document
 - Include specific recommendations to local jurisdictions for implementing the tools
- Conduct in-depth public participation as part of public review of the document
- Move the description of metrics to an earlier portion of the document
- Clarify descriptions of the watershed versus the LLARRP plan area (i.e., the 1-mile buffer)
- Describe the current conditions of and potential benefits of LLARRP implementation related to the river corridor
- Emphasize the Working Group’s and partner stakeholders’ engagement as the primary driver of the LLARRP development

LA RIVER MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Lilley provided an overview of the upcoming planning process for updating the LA River Master Plan. Working Group members asked questions, with project team responses in *italics*, as follows:

- How would the Working Group proposed from Assembly Bill 466 be involved in the planning process? – *The group would conduct its work in parallel to this planning process, with close coordination between efforts.*
- How will current planning in the tributaries be integrated into this process? – *The County and Army Corps of Engineers will coordinate closely.*
- How will conflicts be reconciled between outcomes and policies from upper and lower river planning efforts? – *The LLARRP will be included in the planning process, and any conflicts will be studied closely.*
- Who will be on the steering committee? – *This determination is still in process.*

NEXT STEPS

Mr. Iacofano concluded the meeting by thanking Working Group members and reviewing upcoming meeting dates and milestones, which are listed on the project website, and include the following:

- Plan Review Sessions for the Draft LLARRP
 - December 13, 2017, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount
 - December 14, 2017, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Conservation Corps of Long Beach, 340 Nieto Avenue, Long Beach
 - December 20, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Conservation Corps of Long Beach, 340 Nieto Avenue, Long Beach
- Community Event, December 16, 2017, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Plaza Mexico, 3100 E. Imperial Hwy, Lynwood
- Working Group Meeting #21, January 4, 2018, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, City of South Gate
- Working Group Meeting #22, February 1, 2018, (TBD)