Lower Los Angeles River Implementation Advisory Group Meeting

March 24, 2021 | 10 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Online Meeting/ Conference Call

AGENDA & SUMMARY

Purpose & Charge: Provide a public venue for discussion of proposed projects related to the Lower LA River, ensure proposed projects are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan, and maximize multi-use opportunities and community benefits

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Discussion Items

• LA River Master Plan Update

Mark Beltran (LA County Flood Control District) provided an update of the Los Angeles River Master Plan (LARMP) Update. The public comment period to review the LARMP Update and its Program Environmental Impact Report had recently been extended to May 13, 2021. Since its release, Public Works has been responding to various request/inquiries and provided presentations for various groups. Public Works is currently evaluating options for hosting virtual public info sessions dedicated to the LARMP Update. Additional details of these events will be forthcoming.

• Rio Hondo Confluence Area Project (RHCAP) Update

Lee Alexanderson (LA County Flood Control District) provided an update for the Rio Hondo Confluence Area Project. To recap, the site design concept report was completed in September 2020 which highlighted 12 opportunity areas, or concepts, at the confluence. Public Works is considering development of the Blue Park Concept, which involves channel low flow modifications, as well as opportunities for the public to access the channel. Additional information can be found at: https://lowerlariver.org/riohondoconfluence/.

• SELA Cultural Center Update

Joe Gonzalez (RMC) and Sam Gehry (Gehry Partners) provided the update on the SELA Cultural Center (Center). The project is currently wrapping up the design schematic phase and moving into the CEQA Environmental Impact Report process. Different forms of community outreach and engagement efforts includes digital outreach (Facebook campaigns, online surveys, and digital billboards), stakeholder meetings, and printed mailers. These engagement efforts will continue where focus will shift to presenting the schematic design of the Center.

• Project Information Packet (PIP) Update

Michelle Loekman (LA County Flood Control District) provided an update on the Project Information Packet (PIP). The PIP is a tool in which project proponents can use to submit to the Lower LA River IAG for review and ensure its consistency



with the Lower LA River Plan. The PIP website was recently published live on the Lower LA River site, and Michelle provided a user walkthrough showcasing its components and the process on how to submit projects. The PIP can be found at the following link: <u>https://pw.lacounty.gov/apps/llarpip/</u>

III. RMC Update

• LLARRP Reconvening Debrief

Suely Saro (RMC) provided the recap of the LA River Revitalization Reconvening Debrief. The event was held on December 10, 2020 and served as an opportunity to discuss the current context and projects identified in the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan, as well as give participants a chance to discuss their perspectives. The event consisted of participants breaking into several groups based on river segments for discussion of various needs within each reach. Key themes that stemmed from the group discussions included: engaging the community, preventing gentrification, and stabilizing communities, and creating healthy and safe spaces.

• On-going Grant Opportunities (Prop 1)

Joe Gonzalez (RMC) provided the update on the ongoing RMC Grant opportunities. Current available funding sources for the RMC grants includes \$30 million from Prop 1(Water Bond) and \$30 million from Prop 68 (Park & Water Bond). Grants are dedicated to the Lower LA River corridor, and typically range between \$200,000 and \$2 million. Regional call for projects that were submitted in January are currently under review and RMC will make recommendations on those submitted through the summer.

• River Ranger Program

Suely Saro (on behalf of the Watershed Conservation Authority [WCA]) provided an update on the River Ranger Program. WCA is in the process of developing the pilot program at Reach 1 – located near the LA River and Rio Hondo Confluence. WCA is bringing on the Conservation Corps of Long Beach to assist with developing a River Safety Ambassador Program. WCA is also convening on an advisory committee that will provide feedback on the Pilot Program. The committee will feature a variety of stakeholders, including adjoining Cities, law enforcement, and NGOs.

IV. Open Forum / Public Comment

Carlos Campero of LA Conservation Corps inquired the status of the Compton Creek Working Group and whether it is convening again particular interest is with regards to Studio MLA's Alondra Gateway Park Project and its status. Joe Gonzalez will check in with RMC staff and get back to him.

V. Next Steps

- a. Possible Project Presentations for next IAG
 - i. South Gate Urban Orchard
 - ii. Trout Unlimited Channel Enhancements



iii. Other Projects?b. IAG Meeting – June 23, 2021, 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.







SELA CULTURAL CENTER ENGAGEMENT

PHASE 1 MAR-MAY 2020 DIGITAL **OUTREACH** Project website and online survey Facebook page and campaign PRINTED PHASE 2 **DPET Phase 1 and 2 MATERIALS JUNE-DEC 2020** Email blasts **Digital billboard** City publications Physical mailers PHASE 3 **MEETINGS APRIL 2021** In-person stakeholder meetings Virtual stakeholder meetings Public events presentations Virtual public meetings PHASE 4



Gain feedback from stakeholder meetings, public forums, and digital outreach

Present stakeholder feedback, Digital Public Engagement Tool (DPET) results, building program, diagrams, and Concept Design

Present proposed Schematic Design that will be studied through the EIR

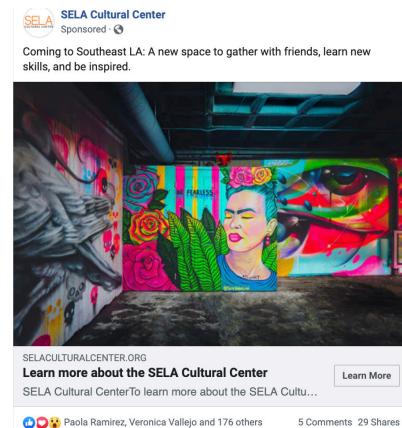
Project updates during CEQA/ EIR process

PHASE 1 & 2 ENGAGEMENT

FACEBOOK

Phase 1: April 2020 - August 2020 Phase 2: December 2020 - March 2021





Like Comment

Share

WEBSITE March 2020 - Present SELACULTURALCENTER.ORG SELA **SELA Cultural Center** bout the SELA Cultural Center a **SUBSCRIBERS AND VISITS** 926 5,411 email subscribers unique visitors



WEBSITE SURVEY

25 Spanish



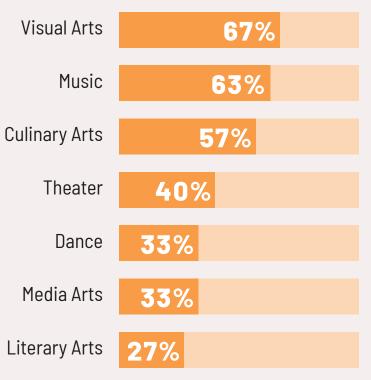


DIGITAL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TOOL (DPET)

Phase 1: April 22nd - April 30th 2020 Phase 2: July 6th - July 9th 2020



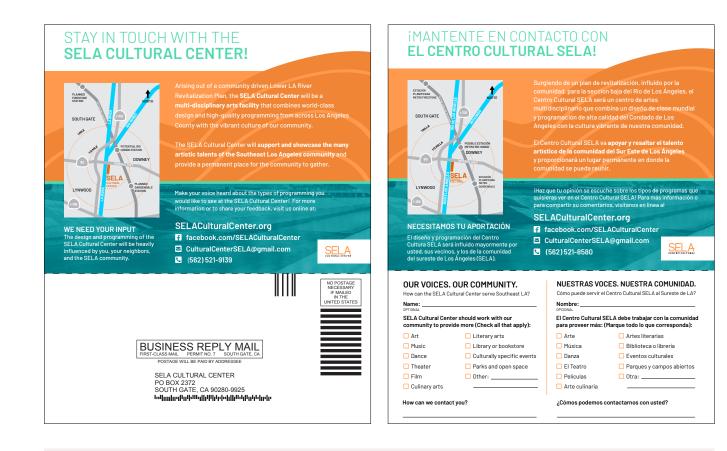
DESIRED ARTS PROGRAMS



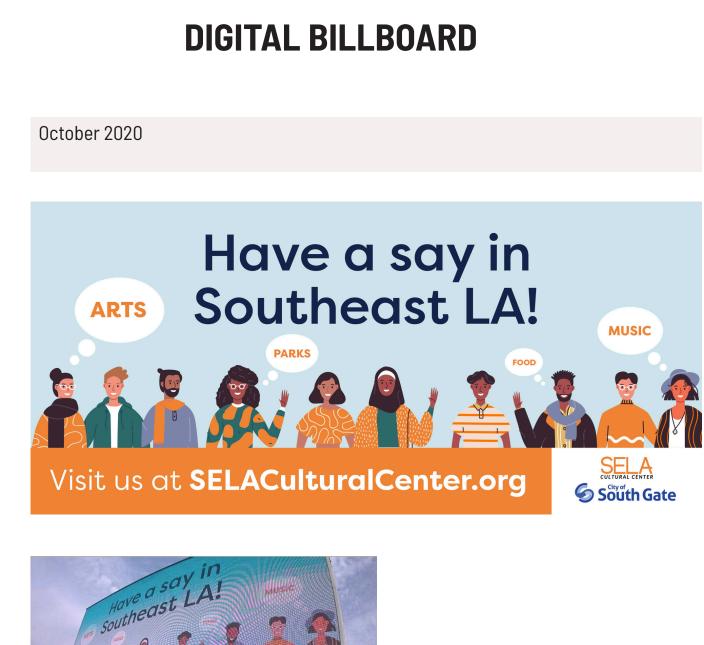
PHASE 1 & 2 ENGAGEMENT

MAILERS

Distribution began February 27th 2021



1077 responses received









SITE PLAN





We would love to hear from you! SELACulturalCenter.org culturalcentersela@gmail.com





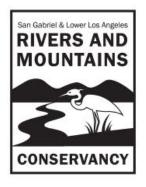
Our mission is to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within our jurisdiction.



LLAR Reconvening! Virtual Lower Los Angeles River Working Group Reconvening December 10, 2020 • 4:00 – 6:00 pm











LLAR Reconvening Key Themes

Following are key themes that emerged across the small group discussions:

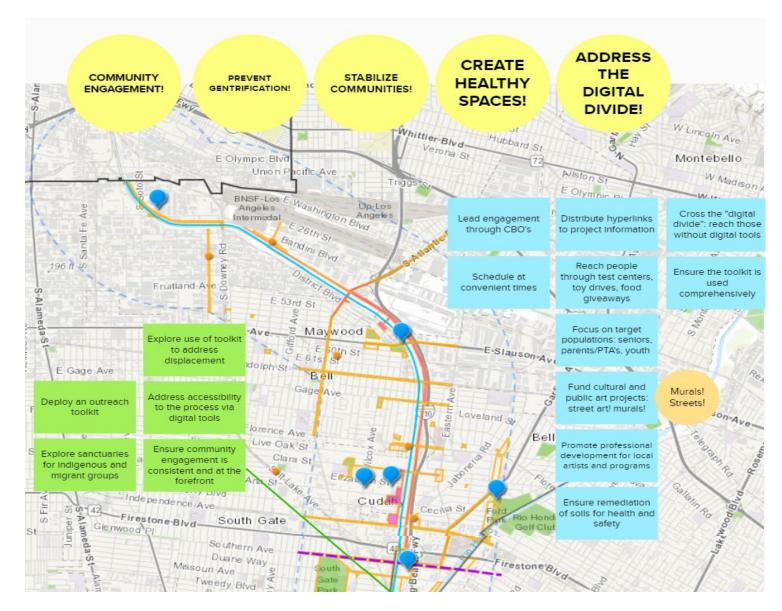
Engage the Community. Continued community engagement in current and future projects and programs on the river corridor is critical to ensuring these efforts respond to community needs. Creative and targeted engagement that is linguistically and culturally relevant and that bridge the "digital divide" with multiple techniques should drive these efforts.

Prevent Gentrification and Stabilize Communities. As river-oriented development is anticipated to influence gentrification along the river corridor, current economic conditions are also destabilizing communities. Project leaders and jurisdictions should proactively address these impacts through the Community Stabilization Toolkit.

Create Healthy and Safe Spaces. Projects should focus on creating healthy and active spaces that support community members' health and well-being through parks, recreation, arts, and similar efforts. Additionally, remediation of unhealthy and unsafe conditions at specific locations should be part of project designs.

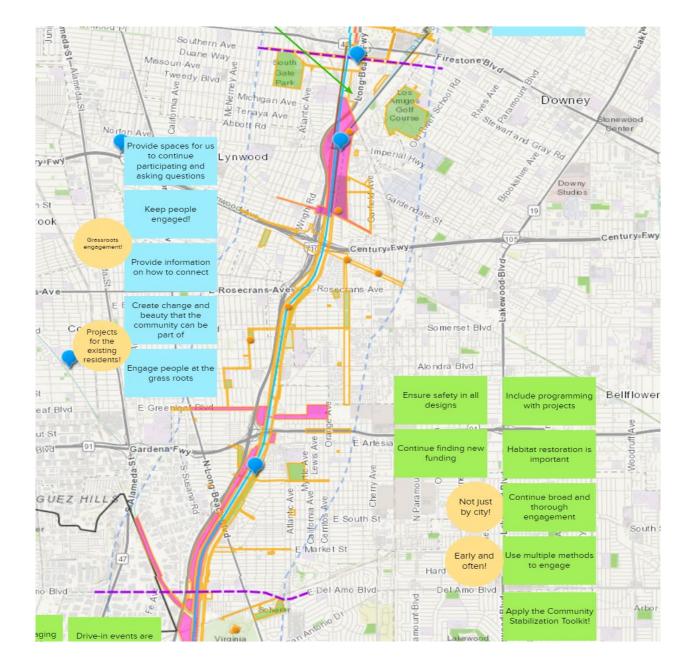


SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Upper Reach



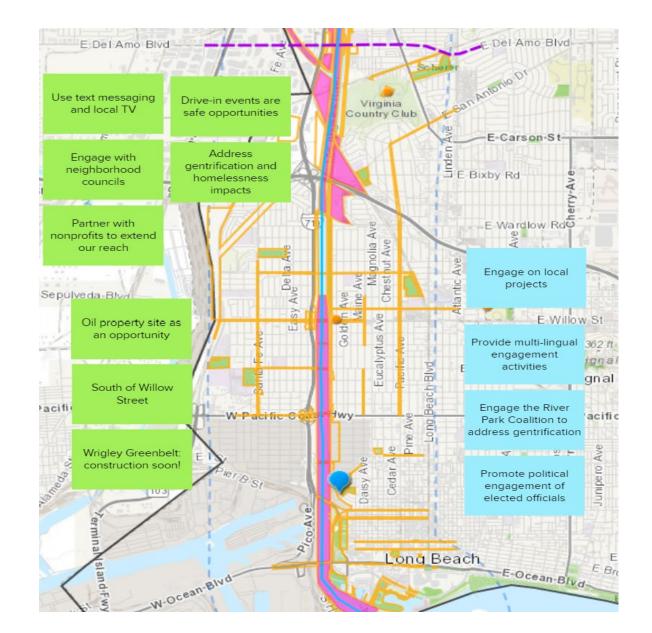


SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Middle Reach





SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Lower Reach





RMC Grant Program



Implementation at least 80% Planning up to 10% Technical Assistance* up to 10% *only Prop 68

Purpose:

- Developing urban recreation, watershed improvement, and habitat restoration projects
- Provide workforce opportunities and access for DACs
- Grants typically between
 \$200k \$2M
- Small and Very Small Grants available for easier access
- Available next 2-3 years

More info: www.rmc.ca.gov Email: info@rmc.ca.gov

LOS ANGELES RIVER RANGER PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

May 24, 2019



MISSION

The mission of the River Ranger Program is to foster connections between communities, agencies, and resources to promote safe, equitable usage and stewardship of the LA River and its tributaries as an activated and connected greenway that supports ecological, social, and recreational opportunities.

VISION

How the River Ranger Program and a revitalized river will impact communities in the future...

As the river is being revitalized and embraced as a community resource, the River Ranger Program will ensure safe, enjoyable and equitable experiences along the LA River and its tributaries by promoting equitable access, recreational and educational opportunities, community engagement, and resource protection along this vital resource. The River Ranger Program will provide opportunities to experience the River as a safe and inviting place, and to participate in its enhancement through volunteer or employment programs.



River Ranger Pilot Program

