

Lower Los Angeles River  
**Implementation Advisory Group Committee Meeting**

September 22, 2022 | 10 A.M. – 12 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. IAG Committee Meeting Summary**

- Email Distribution List Update

Michelle Loekman (PW) provided the update on the Email Distribution List. The poll to gauge interest to receive additional information and or participate in IAG is ongoing. Link to poll can be found here: <https://lowerlariver.org/>

**III. Agency / Project Updates**

- San Gabriel & Lower LA Rivers & Mountains Conservancy (RMC)
  - Southeast LA (SELA) Cultural Center

Suely Saro (RMC) provided the update on the SELA Cultural Center. The Cultural Center recently received an additional \$50 million in funding from the Budget Act of 2022, bringing its total of \$124 million in state funding. RMC is applying for additional local, state and federal grants for the project. RMC will be releasing the RFP for a CEQA planning consultant and is looking to start CEQA process in January 2023. In addition, outreach for the project will begin early next year. Additional information can be found here:

<https://www.selaculturalcenter.org/>

- River Ranger Pilot Program REACH Zone at the Lower LA River and Rio Hondo Confluence

Suely Saro (RMC) provided the update on the River Ranger Pilot Program. River Ambassador program is ongoing; consists of 10 ambassadors through the Conservation Corps of Long Beach. Other partners include River in action (K-5 education workshop) and Nature 4 All. Deadline extended to submit RFP for evaluation services to October 21, 2022.

- Conservation Corps of Long Beach
  - DeForest Park

David Sall (CCLB) provided the update on Deforest Park. New Environmental Education Center at Deforest Park which is a multiuse education and training



center for CCLB members as well as community gathering space. Grand opening on October 26, 2022.

- Wrigley Greenbelt

Dan Knapp (CCLB) provided the update on the Wrigley Greenbelt Project. Construction is ongoing; Estimated construction completion – December 2022/January 2023.

- City of South Gate

- Urban Orchard

Gladis Deras provided the update on the Urban Orchard Project. Project is currently under construction (first Phase of 3 phases). Wetland and installation of underground reservoir is ongoing. Anticipated construction completion in early 2023

#### **IV. Grant / Funding Opportunities**

- Safe Clean Water Program - <https://safecleanwaterla.org/>.

Erin Pang (SGA Marketing) provided the update on the SCW Program. Project funded thus far include 134 Infrastructure projects, 48 Technical Resources projects, and 18 Scientific Studies. Within the LLAR Watershed, SCW has funded 12 Infrastructure projects, 3 Technical Resources projects, and 6 Scientific Studies. Annual Application due July 31 every year. Within this round, there have been 2 infrastructure projects (Spane Park and LB-MUST Phase 2) and 1 Scientific Study (Ground Truth: guiding a soils-based strategy for impactful nature-based solutions)

- RMC Lower LA River Grants, On-Going Call for Projects - <http://rmc.ca.gov/grants/>

Suely Saro (RMC) provided the update on the RMC Grant Opportunities. that include the following: 1. Non-Bond Priorities Grant Program – 1<sup>st</sup> round of applications were due August 31, 2022; 2<sup>nd</sup> round of applications are due January 31, 2023. 2. Prop 1 and Prop 68 Grants are ongoing.

- Imperial Wetlands: Wetlands Program Development Grant

Michelle Loekman (PW) provided an update on the Imperial Wetlands Program Development Grant. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reached out to the County regarding the Grant. Imperial Wetlands Project which is one of the opportunity sites from the Rio Hondo Confluence Area Project, may be a good candidate to receive funding towards the planning/development of a wetlands program. EPA is asking the County for assistance in identifying state/local government and groups who they can reach out to initiate the application for the grant. Additional information can be found here:

<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetland-program-development-grants-and-epa-wetlands-grant-coordinators>

## **V. Lower LA River Events**

- Parque Dos Rios Ribbon Cutting – October 15, 2022, at 10:00am
  - Contact Johnathan Perisho at [jperisho@wca.ca.gov](mailto:jperisho@wca.ca.gov) for more information.
- Deforest Park Environmental Education Center Grand Opening – October 26, 2022, at 5:00pm
- City of South Gate Artwalk – October 15, 2022, at 2:00pm
  - <https://www.cityofsouthgate.org/Government/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Search-Programs-Activities/South-Gate-Museum-Art-Gallery>

## **VI. Open Forum / Public Comment**

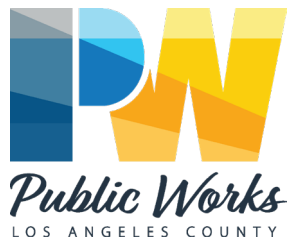
## **VII. Next Steps**

Next IAG Meeting – Thursday, December 8, 2022, 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.



# Urban Orchard Construction Update

**Gladis Deras,  
September 22, 2022**



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA





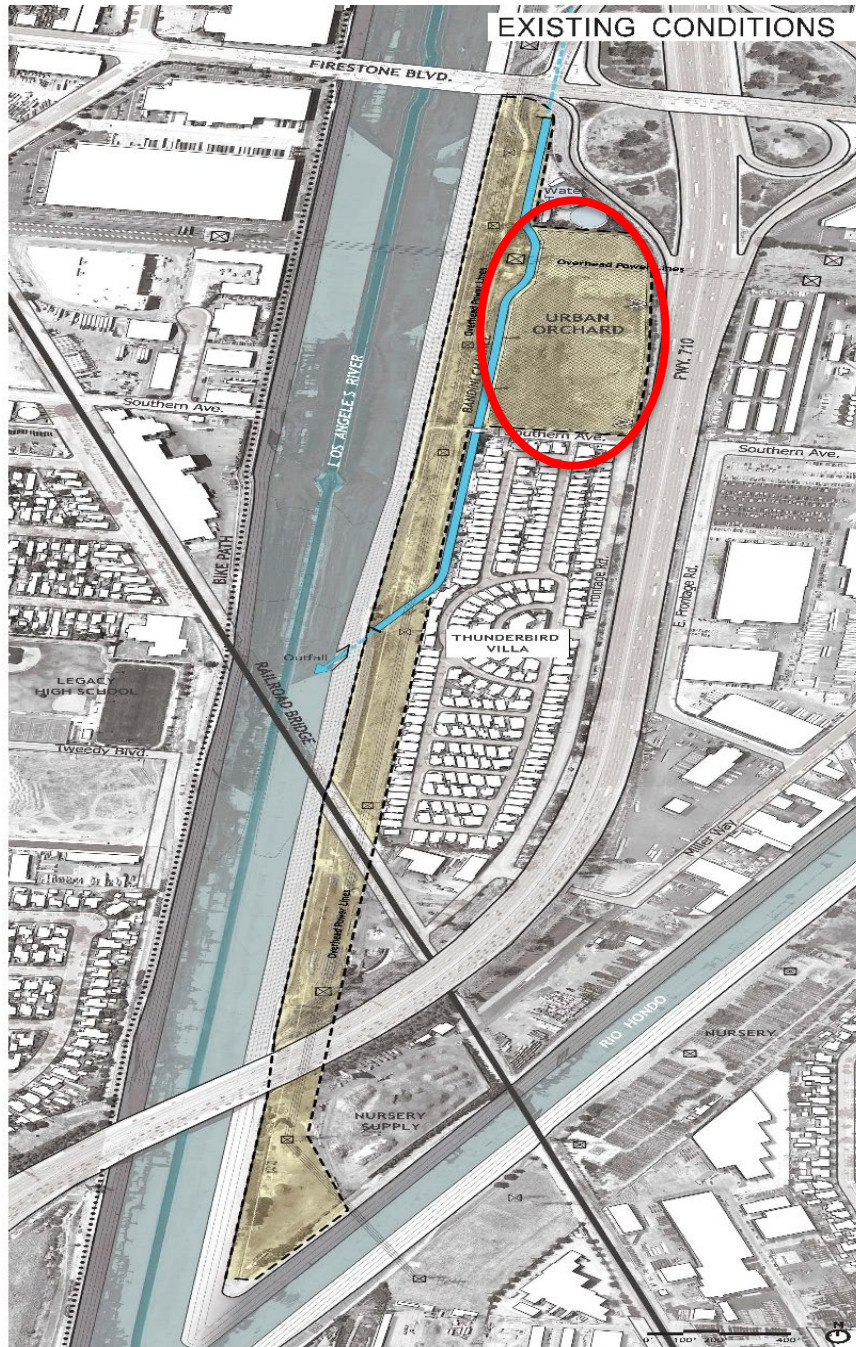
# Centrally Located Within the Region







## EXISTING CONDITIONS



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA







- Diversion of stormwater from the Bandini Channel
- Underground stormwater reservoir for 2 acre-feet
- Wetland
- Orchard with 196 fruit trees
- Picnic areas & plaza Nature-based playground Multi-use trails
- Education building & garden with raised planter beds







The Urban Orchard – Aerial



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA







The Urban Orchard – Bandini Channel  
Drop Inlet



TETRA TECH







## The Urban Orchard – Underground Reservoir



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA







## The Urban Orchard – Wetland



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA







The Urban Orchard – Stream and bridge



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA







The Urban Orchard – Plaza area, shade structure, picnic tables, and benches



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-  
MLA





# Urban Orchard Summary



- Wetland construction is ongoing
- Bandini Channel drop inlet completed
- Installation of underground reservoir ongoing
- Anticipated construction completion early 2023





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# Questions?

# THANK YOU



# SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



PRESENTED BY THE WATERSHED  
COORDINATOR



# AGENDA

**SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

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**SUMMARY OF LATEST PROJECT  
APPLICATIONS**

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**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**



The background of the slide is a deep blue underwater scene. Sunlight rays penetrate from the top, creating a bright, hazy glow. Numerous small, clear bubbles are suspended in the water, some catching the light. In the lower right, there are larger, darker, out-of-focus shapes that appear to be rocks or submerged objects.

# **SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

## OVERVIEW

# PASSED AS 'MEASURE W' IN 2018



## **CAPTURE IT**

Increase water supply



## **CLEAN IT**

Reduce volume of trash that reaches waterways and the ocean



## **MAKE IT SAFE**

Eliminate toxins and chemicals from our waterways



## **MAKE IT FOR EVERYONE**

Provide community benefits

## **VISION:**

By modernizing our 100-year-old water system, we can better protect public health and our environment, and maximize a cleaner, locally controlled water supply.

## **HOW?**

Through the funding of:

multi-benefit  
stormwater &  
urban runoff capture  
projects

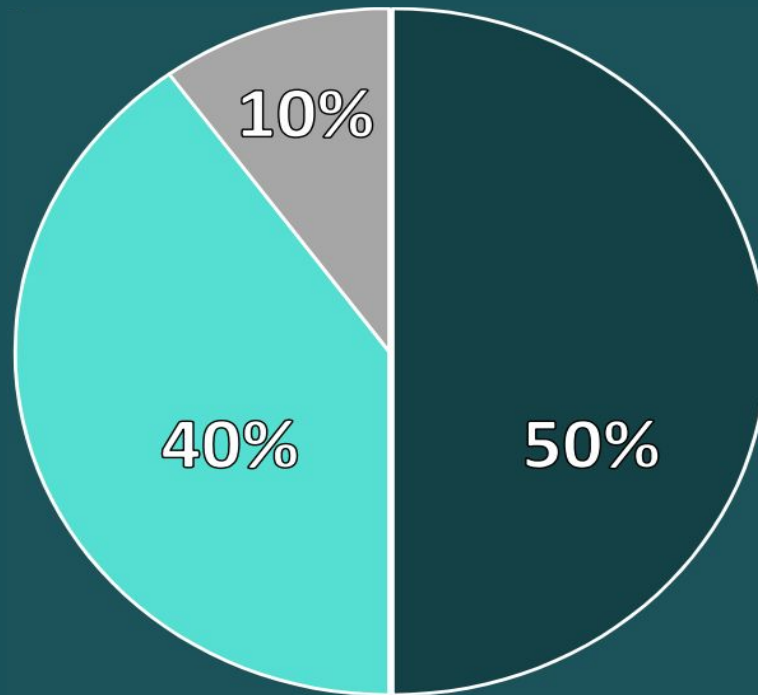
## **WHO?**



# SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Revenue is generated from a special parcel tax.

2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable surface area properties  
in the LA County Flood Control District.



**Regional Program**  
(50% ~ \$142.5M annually)

**Municipal Program**  
(40% ~ \$114M annually)

**District Program**  
(10% ~ \$28.5M annually)

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Total Program: Approx. \$285M annually



# TYPES OF PROGRAMS FUNDED

## BY THE REGIONAL PROGRAM:

1

### INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

For the design, construction or operation & maintenance costs for projects with completed Feasibility Study

≥ 85% of  
funds

2

### TECHNICAL RESOURCE PROGRAM

For the development of a Feasibility Study for a project concept

≤ 10% of  
funds

3

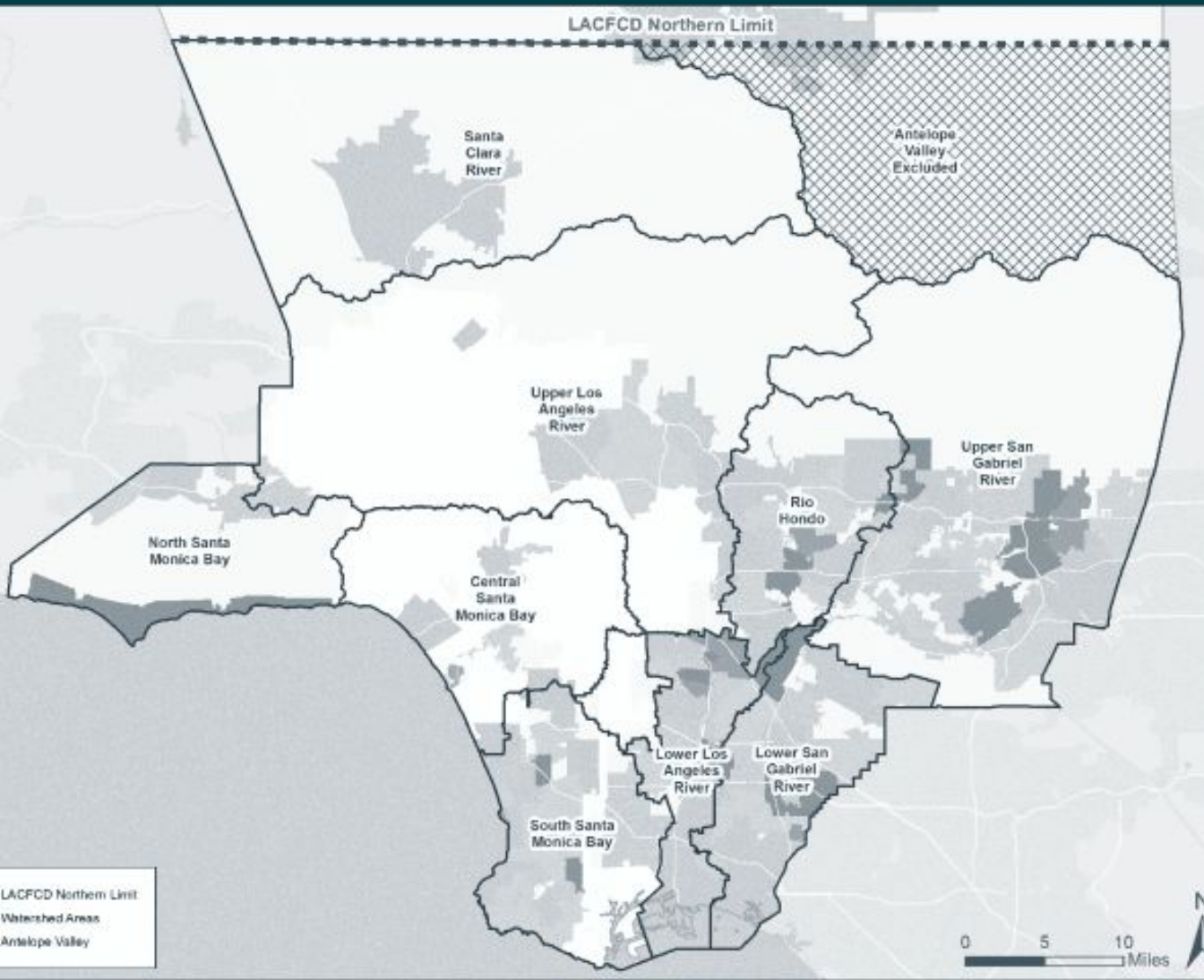
### SCIENTIFIC STUDIES PROGRAM

For studies related to increasing Stormwater or Urban Runoff capture and/or reducing Stormwater or Urban Runoff Pollution.

≤ 5% of  
funds

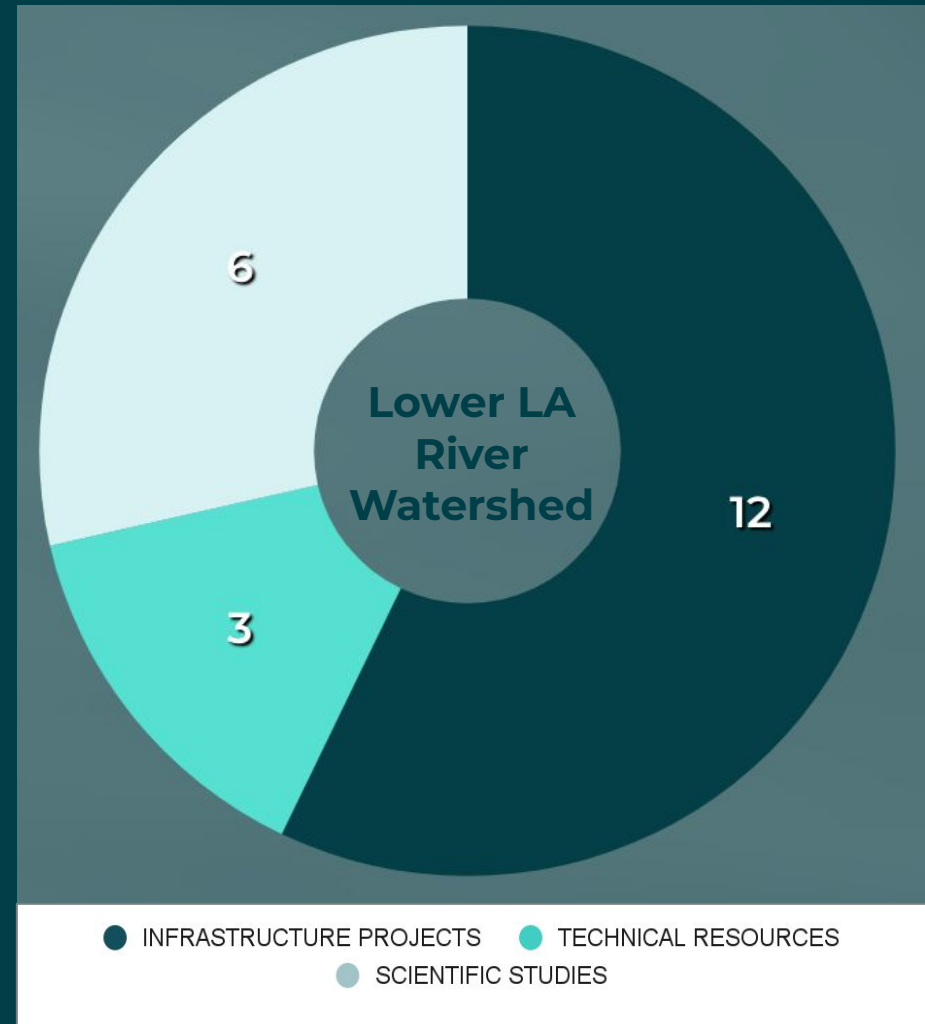
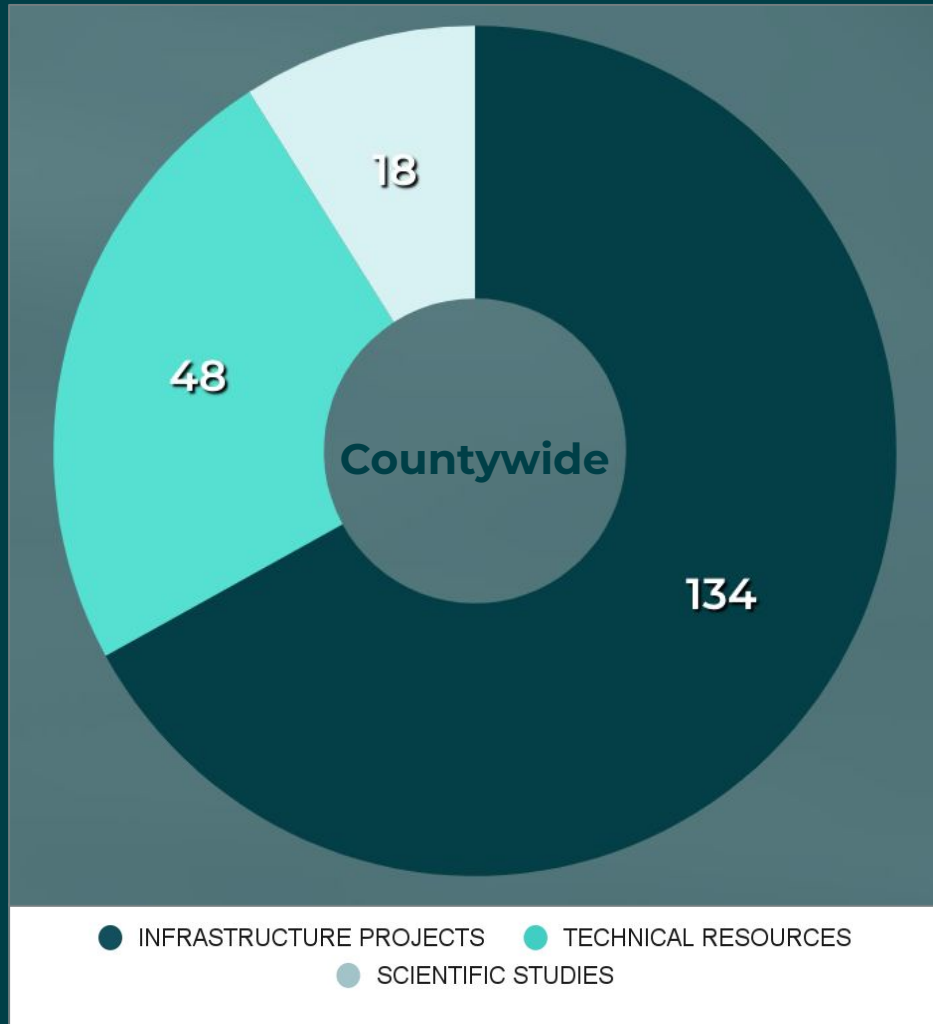
# REGIONAL PROGRAM ANNUAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

The percentage of funds received by each Watershed Area is proportional to the tax revenues collected within its boundaries



WATERSHED NAME	2020-21 REGIONAL TAX RETURN ESTIMATES
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$17.42M
Lower Los Angeles River	\$12.72M
Lower San Gabriel River	\$16.56M
North Santa Monica Bay	\$1.83M
Rio Hondo	\$11.49M
Santa Clara River	\$5.87M
South Santa Monica Bay	\$17.58M
Upper Los Angeles River	\$38.44M
Upper San Gabriel River	\$18.78M
ANNUAL REGIONAL TOTAL:	\$140.6M

# PROJECTS FUNDED TO DATE







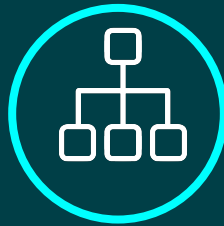
**ANNUAL APPLICATION:**  
**Due July 31st every year**



# FY 23-24 Applications:



**2 Infrastructure Projects**



**0 TRP Projects**



**1 Scientific Study**

## INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT- Spane Park

**Project Lead:** City of Paramount

**Additional Collaborators:** Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group

**Funding Requested:** \$18,913,128 - Construction

**Project Description:** Construction of a regional 8.6 acre-foot capacity stormwater capture and infiltration facility located at Spane Park beneath the the existing park surface. Facility connected to the Aquifer.

## INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB MUST) - Phase 2

**Project Lead:** City of Long Beach

**Funding Requested:** \$ 10,387,527- Design & Construction

**Project Description:** Phase 2 includes constructing a new park with 125, 000 gallon cistern and pump station, and connecting 5 existing pump stations to the LB MUST Facility. This conveyance will allow for additional dry weather flows and portions of first flush flows to be diverted to the LB MUST Treatment Facility rather than being discharged unabated into the Los Angeles River.

## SCIENTIFIC STUDY Ground truth: guiding a soils-based strategy for impactful nature-based solutions

**Project Lead:** Tree People

**Additional Collaborators:** University of California, Riverside; Craftwater Engineering

**Funding Requested:** \$498, 430

**Project Description:** This study proposes to evaluate on-the ground conditions in the LLAR watershed area to determine how existing soils can be modified to create a soils-based strategy that fits into a hybrid watershed management portfolio that combines centralized, engineering solutions with distributed nature-based solutions.



**GET INVOLVED**





# HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOU:

- Guide you in developing your project concept
- Help identify a public agency to “own” the project
- Guide you in applying to the Technical Resources Program
- Provide guidance on effectively engaging the community with your project concept
- Help identify cost-share partners



# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

1

**REQUEST A  
PRESENTATION**

2

**ATTEND AN APPLICATION  
REVIEW MEETING**

Attend a public meeting to  
voice your opinion on what  
projects get funded.

3

**DEVELOP A PROJECT  
CONCEPT**

Contact your Watershed  
Coordinator for assistance  
applying for SCW funding.

4

**SHARE OUR  
COMMUNITY  
SURVEY**



**[safecleanwaterla.org](https://safecleanwaterla.org)**

**LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER  
WATERSHED COORDINATOR**

**Tara Dales**

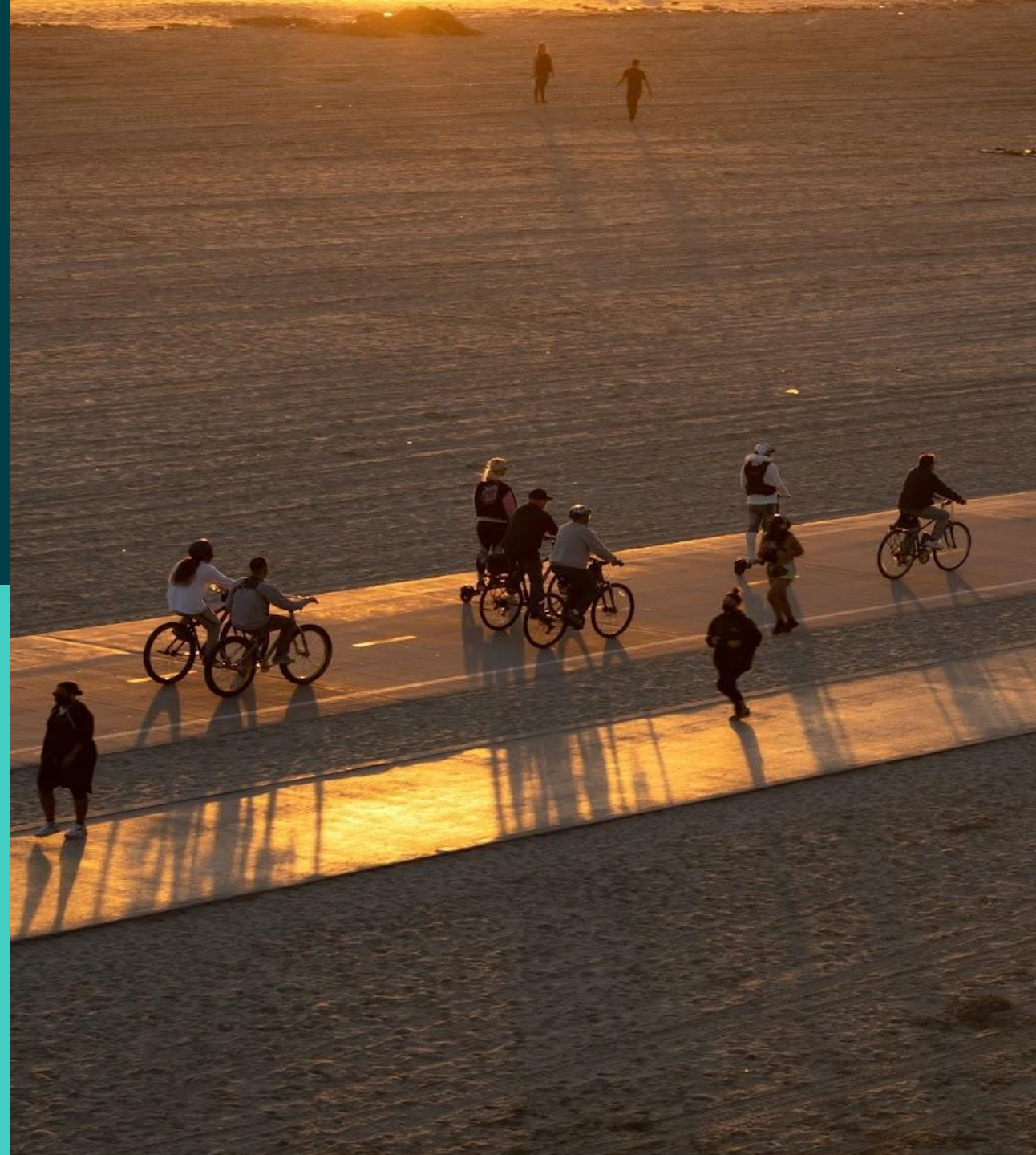
**[tdales@sgamarketing.com](mailto:tdales@sgamarketing.com)**

# SHARE OUR 2 MINUTE COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY

What water issues concern you the most?  
What does your community need more of?  
What outdoor areas need improvement?

LLAR Watershed Area  
Community Survey

[linktr.ee/safecleanwater](https://linktr.ee/safecleanwater)





# QUESTION & LINKS





### **EXPLORE PROJECTS:**

<https://portal.safecleanwaterla.org/scw-reporting/map>



### **TECHNICAL RESOURCE PROGRAM DETAILS:**

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SCWP-Technical-Assistance.pdf>



### **FEASIBILITY STUDY GUIDELINES:**

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Feasibility-Study-Guidelines-20190917-FINAL-1.pdf>



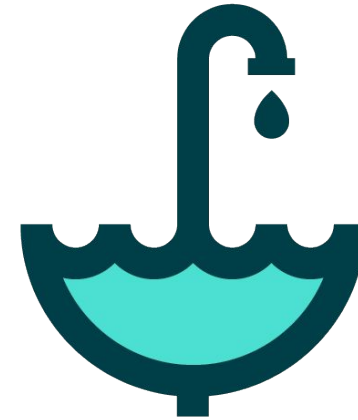
### **CALL FOR PROJECTS DISTRICT PRESENTATION:**

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/call-for-projects/>



### **PROJECT APPLICATION PORTAL:**

<https://portal.safecleanwaterla.org/projects-module/login>



All documents can be found on this website:

**[safecleanwaterla.org](https://safecleanwaterla.org)**

**LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER  
WATERSHED COORDINATOR**

**Tara Dales**

**[tdales@sgamarketing.com](mailto:tdales@sgamarketing.com)**



		Budget	Projections						
		FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	Future Funding	TOTAL	Annual O&M
A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected		\$12.4M	\$12.4M	\$12.4M	\$12.4M	\$12.4M		\$62.1M	
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D) ⓘ		\$14.8M	\$14M	\$23M	\$27.6M	\$33.9M			
C. Total Recommendation in Current SIP		\$4.7M	\$3M	\$1.8M	\$221k	\$77.2k	\$0	\$9.8M	\$316k
Total Allocated in Previous SIP(s)		\$8.4M	\$546k	\$6M	\$5.9M	\$200k	\$0	\$21.1M	\$1M
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C) ⓘ	\$2.3M	\$1.6M	\$10.5M	\$15.2M	\$21.5M	\$33.6M			Total: \$1.4M
E. Percent Allocated (C/B) ⓘ		89%	25%	34%	22%	1%		50%	

# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT- Spane Park

The Spane Park Project received an estimated **score of 89**.

**Project Lead:** City of Paramount

**Additional Collaborators:** Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group

**Funding Requested:** \$18,913,128 - Construction

**BMP Type:** Infiltration Facility      **Weather Type:** Wet

**Location:** 14400 Gundry Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

**Timeline:** Planning & Design completion (Dec 2022); Construction completion (June 2028)

**Cost Share:** None confirmed but applications pending

**Project Description:** Construction of a regional 8.6 acre-foot capacity stormwater capture and infiltration facility located at Spane Park beneath the the existing park surface. Facility connected to the Aquifer.

## Benefits include:

- Improve the water quality within the Los Angeles River
- Offset the potable water demand at the park
- Restore/rehabilitate park facilities & install a dedicated soccer field in the City of Paramount
- Educate the public on the local water supply and demands
- Construct a native California landscaping area with an ephemeral stream

## Claimed Disadvantaged Community Benefit:

- Located within a census tract designated disadvantaged.
- DAC members were engaged during a community event and 2 community workshops.
- The project will increase green space, shading, lighting and onsite parking as these were indicated as important factors to community members.
- 2 letters of community support



# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

## Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB MUST) - Phase 2

The Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment Project received an estimated **score of 73**.

**Project Lead:** City of Long Beach

**Funding Requested:** \$ 10,387,527- Design & Construction

**BMP Type:** Treatment Facility      **Weather Type:** Dry

**Location:** 901 DeForest Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

**Timeline:** Planning & Design completion (June 2024); Construction completion (June 2027)

**Cost Share:** \$7,9 M in cost share (43.3% funded through cost share)

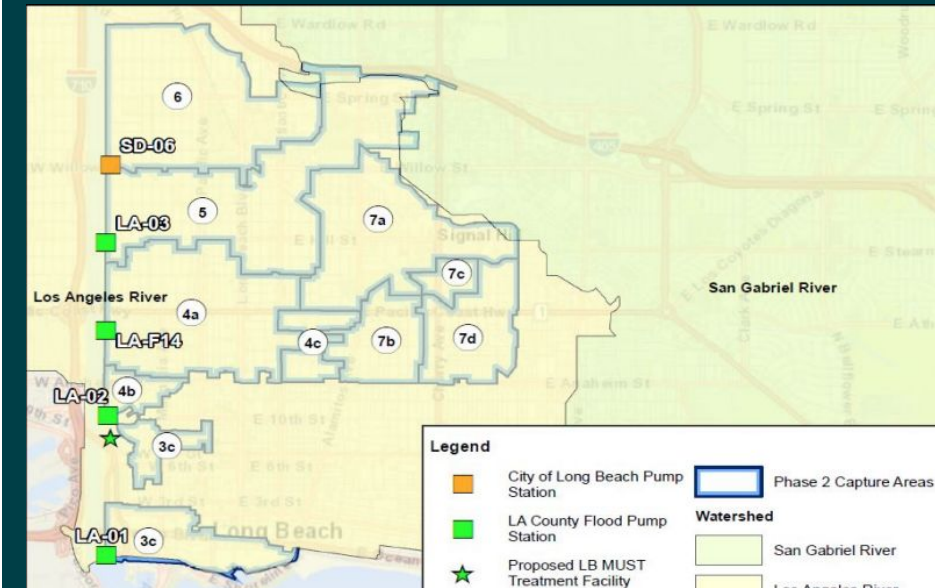
**Project Description:** Phase 2 includes constructing a new park with 125,000 gallon cistern and pump station, and connecting 5 existing pump stations to the LB MUST Facility. This conveyance will allow for additional dry weather flows and portions of first flush flows to be diverted to the LB MUST Treatment Facility rather than being discharged unabated into the Los Angeles River.

### Benefits include:

- Improved quality of the Los Angeles River, estuary, and nearby beaches.
- Treating 2 million gallons per day (mgd) and a planned future capacity of 4 mgd.
- Providing a new park in a previously industrial area.
- Reducing heat island effect through the planting of new trees and vegetation within the park.
- Addressing localized flooding through the extension of an existing bioswale.
- Water stored in cistern will be used to irrigate Cesar Chavez Park.

### Claimed Disadvantaged Community Benefit:

- Located within a census tract designated disadvantaged.
- Educational opportunities for its DAC through educational tours.
- 2 design charrettes conducted with community & 4 letters of community support.





# SCIENTIFIC STUDY

## Ground truth: guiding a soils-based strategy for impactful nature-based solutions

**Project Lead:** Tree People  
**Additional Collaborators:** University of California, Riverside; Craftwater Engineering  
**Funding Requested:** \$498, 430  
**Timeline:** Study completion (Dec 2025)

**Project Description:** According to the project application, a major gap to achieving reliable nature-based solutions is knowledge of urban soils and how they can be improved to meet water cycle management objectives while supporting climate resilient urban ecosystems. This study proposes to evaluate on-the ground conditions in the LLAR watershed area to determine how existing soils can be modified to create a soils-based strategy that fits into a hybrid watershed management portfolio that combines centralized, engineering solutions with distributed nature-based solutions.

- Benefits include:**
- Focusing on the use of soils in nature-based solutions contributes to two major objectives of the SCWP:
- Improve water quality: Soils can mitigate urban runoff by infiltrating stormwater; and
  - Increase water storage/supply: Healthy soils store water for use by plants and other components of natural systems.

- Study objectives:**
- Objective 1. Identify the properties of soils and simulate modifications that will optimize stormwater management and support vegetation. Translate the models into a calculator tool.
  - Objective 2. Model watershed-level strategies to identify opportunities for watershed management that integrate centralized water capture installations with distributed NBS.
  - Objective 3. Develop field validated and scientific model-derived landscape designs that can be adopted into practice.

**Application includes 5 letters of community support**

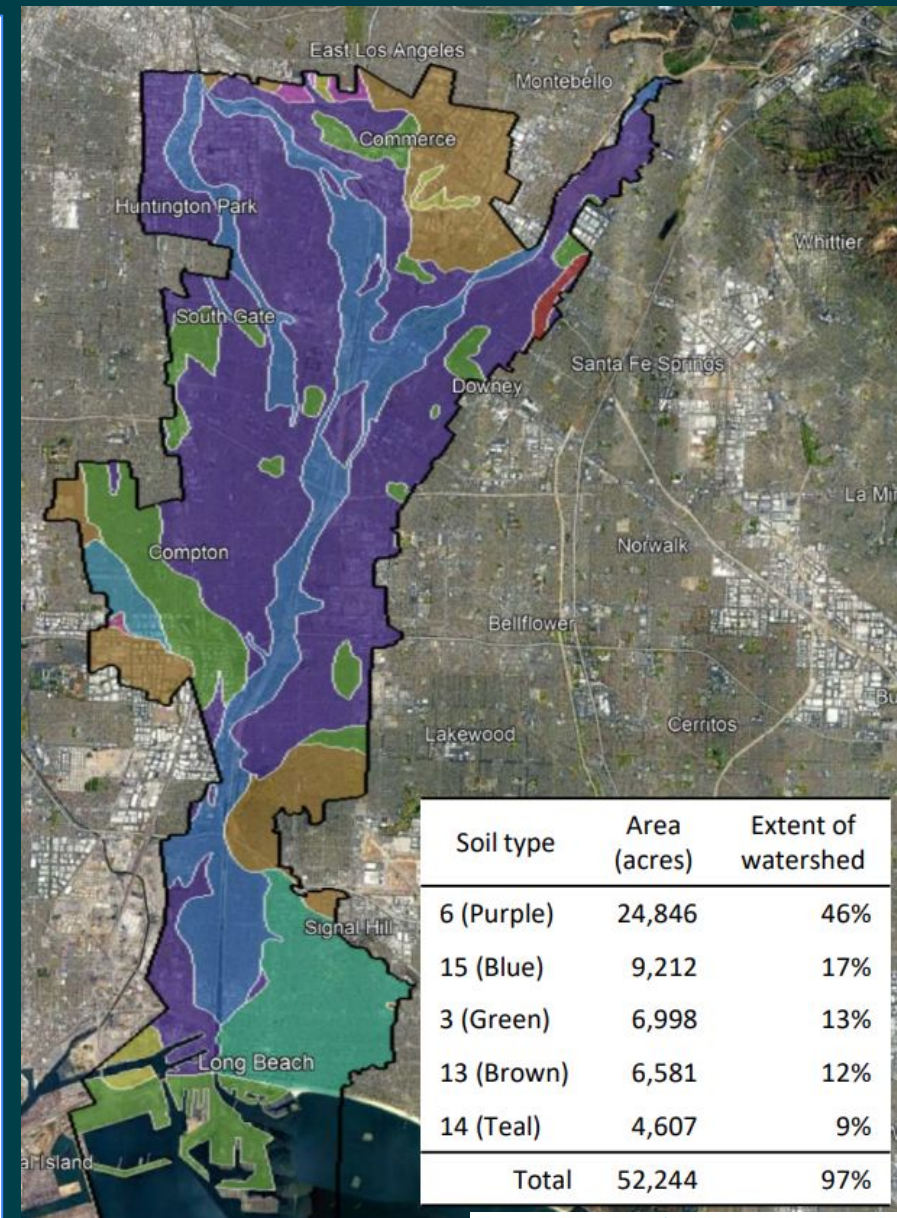


Figure 1. Map classifies the Lower Los Angeles River watershed by soil type. Five soil types comprise 97% of the total watershed extent.