

Lower Los Angeles River
Implementation Advisory Group Committee Meeting

December 8, 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 an update on how to get involved and join the IAG Committee group. If interested in joining the IAG Committee Group, please email us at LowerLARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov or complete the survey found at the website <https://lowerlariver.org/>.

III. Agency / Project Updates

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

Joseph Gonzalez (RMC) provided an update of the Southeast LA (SELA) Cultural Center. The project will be moving forward with the CEQA process and is planning to release the RFP by January 2023. A culinary component to the Cultural Center was recommended as part of the community input. Unfortunately, due to size constraints, a café and not an industrial kitchen is being considered. It was announced that this is Joseph's last week with RMC and Suely Saro will take over the duties overseeing the project.

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

Suely Saro (RMC) provided the update for the River Ranger Program. The River Ambassador Program is still ongoing, in which the Cohort that began on June 20th, 2022, will be coming to an end in January 2023. Recruitment for the second Cohort has begun. Natalia Doshi has been assigned as the new project manager for the Pilot Program. An RFP for the program evaluation services was released April 2022 and an intent to award to Ersoylu Consultant has been posted. The agreement is pending.



- DPR Lower LA River Trail Restoration and Access Project

Sheela Mathai (DPR) provided the update for the Lower LA River Trail Enhancement & 72nd Street Gateway Access project. The project has identified a 1-mile trail enhancement area with potential opportunities to incorporate additional park improvements as needed and/or to mitigate issues the 72nd Street Equestrian Park is facing with illegal after hours use and horse racing. An application for funding has been submitted to RMC through their Prop 1 and Prop 68 Small Grants Program. The funding will be used to increase community engagement and “design” plans for the project. The project is slated to start in late spring/summer 2023, upon funding approval by the RMC Board.

- Lower LA River Community Restoration and Revitalization Projects, Community Engagement and Outreach

Suely Saro (RMC) provided an update on the Lower LA River Community Restoration and Realization Projects, Community Engagement and Outreach. An RFP was sent to organizations to assist in outreach and three organizations have been selected, which are the SELA Collaborative, MIG, and SGA Marketing.

- Conservation Corps of Long Beach

- DeForest Park

Dan Knapp (CCLB) provided the update on DeForest Park. The new Environmental Education Center at Deforest Park which is a multiuse education and training center is now open. The education center serves as a resource node for CCLB, specifically for services within the lower reach of the LAR. It also functions as a community gathering space. The site does provide public access to bathroom facilities and outdoor amenities to the community. There are future plans for the facility to serve as the first fully zero emission demonstration site.

- Wrigley Greenbelt

Dan Knapp (CCLB) provided the update on Wrigley Greenbelt. Construction is ongoing; Hardscaping is completed just waiting to install the drip irrigation system. Planning to plant over 20,000 native plants and trees in the upcoming weeks. The City of Long Beach has acquired extra funding that will be used to add additional amenities to the site and improve fencing. This will push anticipated completion date of the project to January 2023.

- **City of South Gate**

- **Urban Orchard**

Gladis Deras (City of South Gate) provided the update on Urban Orchard Project. Project is currently under construction. Wetland and installation of underground reservoir is 90% completed. Tree planting was completed in October 2022 with the help of Conservation Corps. Anticipated construction completion in early 2023.

- **Watershed Conservation Authority**

- **Parque Dos Rios**

Michelle Loekman (PW) provided the update on Parque Dos Rios Project on Jonathan Perisho's (WCA) behalf. An official ribbon cutting event was held for Parque dos Rios improvements on October 15th.

Additional interpretation panels displayed at the event are being fabricated for installation, and work continues with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach River Ambassadors and MRCA rangers on establishing a presence and maintaining the site

- **Public Works**

- **PERA**

Ezekiel Okoya (PW) provided the update on PERA Project. Construction has been completed as of October 2022 and is currently open to the public. PW is working with CCLB, who is performing daily maintenance at the site.

- **General Updates – Michelle Loekman (PW)**

Michelle Loekman (PW) shared general Public Works Updates. PW has conserved over 23,000 ac-feet of water including reclaimed and imported water for this storm season thus far. In addition, 75 bins or about 900 tons of trash/debris was removed through the LA River trash boom for the November 7/8th storm alone.

IV. Grant / Funding Opportunities

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

Joseph Gonzalez (RMC) provided the update on the RMC Grant Opportunities including the following: 2nd round of applications for RMC's Non-Bond Priorities Grant Program are due January 31, 2023, and Prop 1 and Prop 68 Grants are ongoing.

- Safe Clean Water – How to Share Your Opinion on the Upcoming Year 4 Funding Decision

Tara Dales (SCW) provided the update on how to share your opinion for the Safe Clean Water upcoming year funding. If interested in sharing your opinion, complete a Comment Card Form available on the Safe, Clean Water website <https://safecleanwaterla.org/lower-los-angeles-river-watershed-area/> and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov or attend the next WASC meeting on Jan 24th, 2023. Feel to also reach out to the watershed coordinator for help tdales@sgamarketing.com.

V. Lower LA River Events

- Agua por Vida Art Mural Project – February 2023
 - Event date and time is tentative, for more information, email Laura Cortez at aurac.eycej@gmail.com
- River In Action: Water Museum Field Trip – January 21st, 2023 at 11 am – 1 pm
 - Space is limited, register at www.riverinaction.org
- Nature for All: Tour the LA River by bike January 28th, 2023 at 10 am – 1 pm
 - Meet at Hollydale Park
 - For questions, email julio@lanatureforall.org

VI. Open Forum / Public Comment

VII. Next Steps

Next IAG Meeting – Thursday, March 23, 2022, 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.



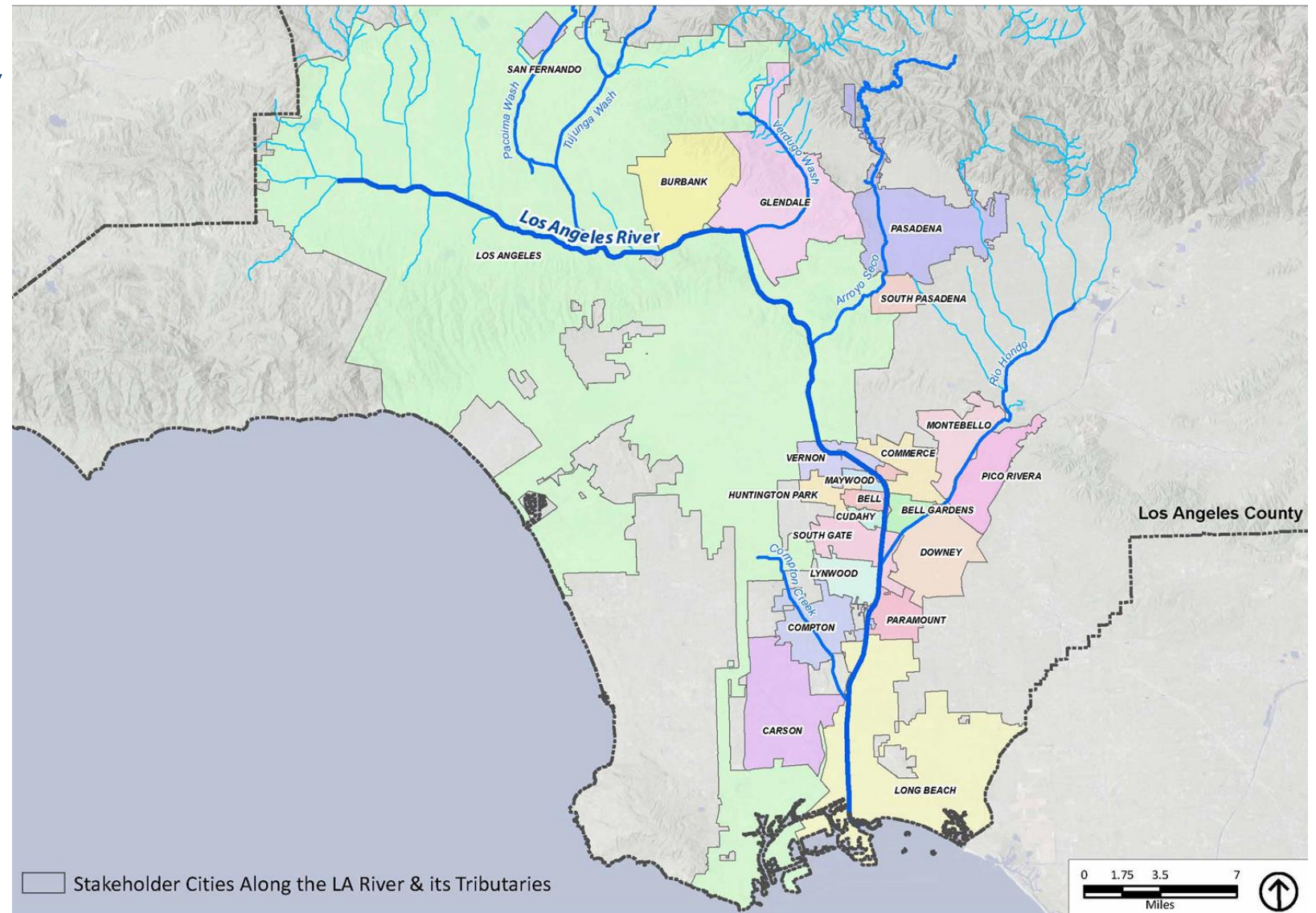
Los Angeles River Ranger Pilot Program



Program Overview

- Goals
 - Foster **connections** between communities
 - Promote **safe, equitable usage** and stewardship
 - **Activate** it as a connected greenway

Completed in May 2019
by RMC, SMMC, WCA
and MRCA



Program Overview

- REACH Zone at Rio Hondo Confluence
- Approximately 5 miles
- Cities of South Gate, Downey, and Bell Gardens
- Advisory Committee meetings since May



Services Provided



Public Safety
(River Ambassadors)



Maintenance
(River Ambassadors)



Outreach
(River Ambassadors)



Interpretive and
Educational
Programs



Administrative Coordination
(Advisory Committee)

Administrative Updates

- New Project Manager: Natalia Doshi
- RFP for Program Evaluation Services released April 2022
 - And Intent to Award to Ersoylu Consultant was posted a week ago
 - Agreement is pending

River Ambassador Program

- Implementation began with Cohort I on June 20th, 2022 and ends in January 2023. Recruitment of Chort II.



Safety



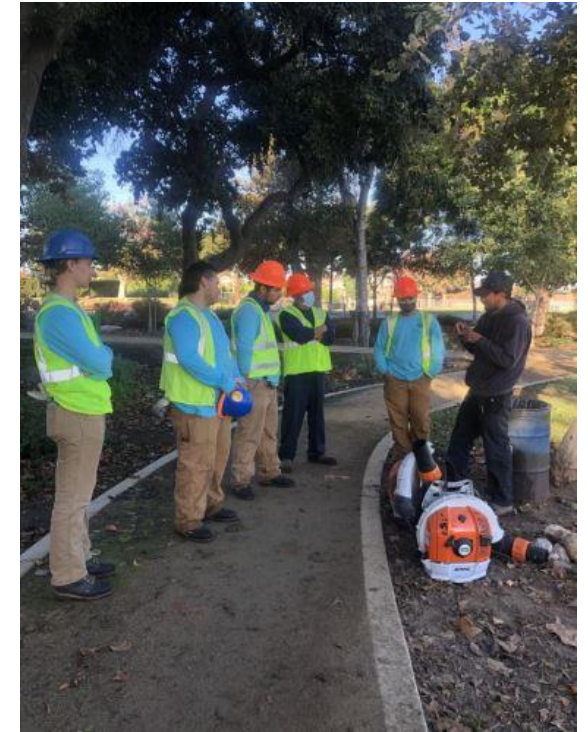
Education



Stewardship



River Ambassador Program






Recreation and Interpretive/ Educational Programming



**NATURE
FOR ALL**


PROTECT • CREATE • CONNECT



Don't miss out on FREE public programs for Southeast L.A. residents!

NATURE FOR ALL LOWER L.A. RIVER PROGRAMS!

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT NATURE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?






**STARTS
OCT. 29**

Sat. Oct. 29: 🌿 **Ecology of the LA River**
11:00am - 12:00 pm @ Hollydale Park

Sat. Nov. 26: 🌊 **Community Science on the LA River**
11:00 am-12:00 pm @ John Anson Ford Park

Sat. Jan.28: 🚴 **Tour the LA River by bike!**
10:00 am - 1:00 pm @ Hollydale Park

- Learn how **parks** and **water** along the Lower LA River form a support system for wildlife that live in and along the river.
- Learn where your water comes from, how the drought impacts us and **actions** you can take to be water-smart.
- Meet community members like you who care and want to **make a difference!**

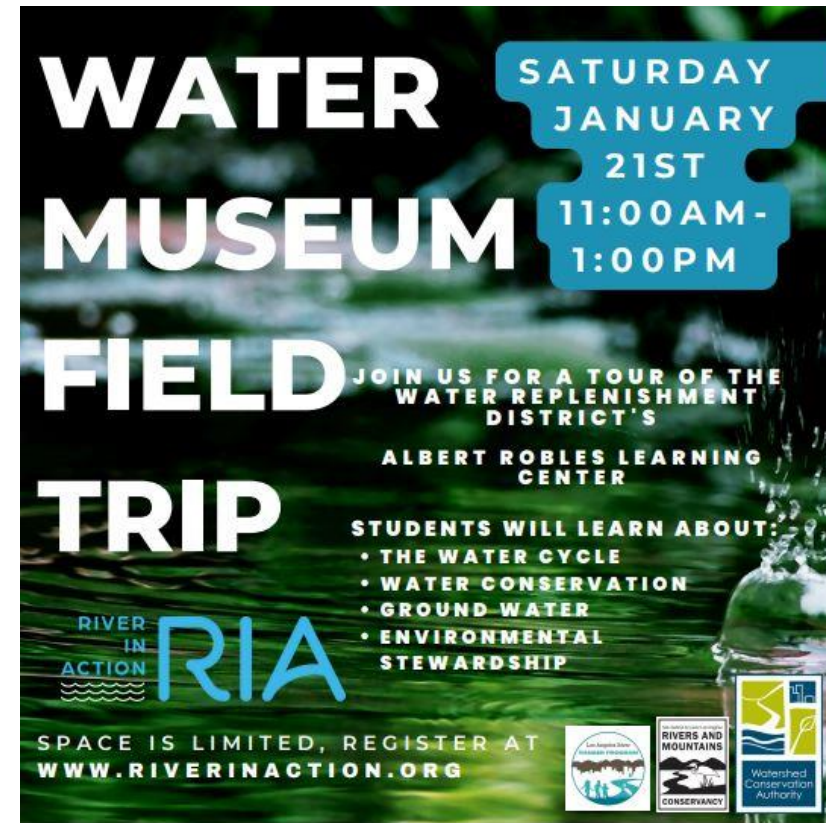




Free and open to the public. Programs meet at the parking lot.
For questions email: julio@lanatureforall.org

Month & date	Program Type	Topic/Themes	Site
October 29th	Workshop 1	Ecology of the LA River	JAFP
November 26th	Activity 1	Bike tour - Tracking our Water	River bikeway
January	Workshop 2	Community Science on the river	JAFP
February	Activity 2	Bike Tour - Upstream River Ecology	River - soft bottom @ SCR?
March	Workshop 3	Community Science, iNaturalist 101	JAFP, Community Garden, Rio Hondo bike path
April	Activity 3	Community Science - 2023 City Nature Challenge Bioblitz on the river	Along the river and adjacent parks
May	Workshop 4 + Bus Trip	Parks & Public Lands	Trip from JAFP to the Mountains
June	Activity 4	Equestrian Ride ? - Yo, Papa, Y El Rio	Along the river
July	Workshop 5	LA River Watershed	Circle Park
August	Activity 5	Bike tour + Interpretive Talk - From the confluence to the coast	Hollydale Park to Long Beach
September	Workshop 6	Ecology of the LA River	Trip from Hollydale Park to Mountains
October	Activity 6	Bike Tour - Recreating along the river	Hollydale to Long Beach
November	Activity 7	Equestrian Ride	
January	Workshop 7 & 8	LA River History	Hollydale Park
February	Activity 8	History of the LA River tour	TBD



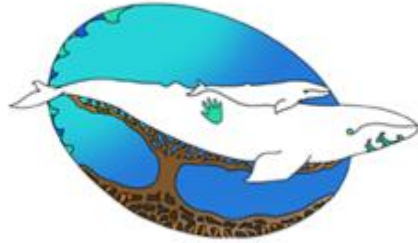
Recreation and Interpretive/ Educational Programming



“Adventures of Roxanna and the Lower LA River”



Recreation and Interpretive/ Educational Programming



SACRED PLACES INSTITUTE
FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Phase II: Implementation Technical Assistance Agreement Pending for
 - Tribal Engagement
 - Educational materials - tribal history of the LA River

Temporary River Ranger Signage

- Temporary wayfinding and directional signs
- LA River Master Plan signage guidelines
- River Ambassadors are assisting in assessing the locations of the wayfinding and directional signs

LA RIVER

MASTER

PLAN

APPENDIX VOLUME I

DESIGN GUIDELINES

For Updates

- Sign up for RMC Newsletter mailing list
- www.rmc.ca.gov



LOWER LA RIVER TRAIL ENHANCEMENT & 72ND STREET GATEWAY ACCESS PROJECT

DECEMBER 2022



PROJECT BACKGROUND

Planning History

Multi-Use Path Enhancements



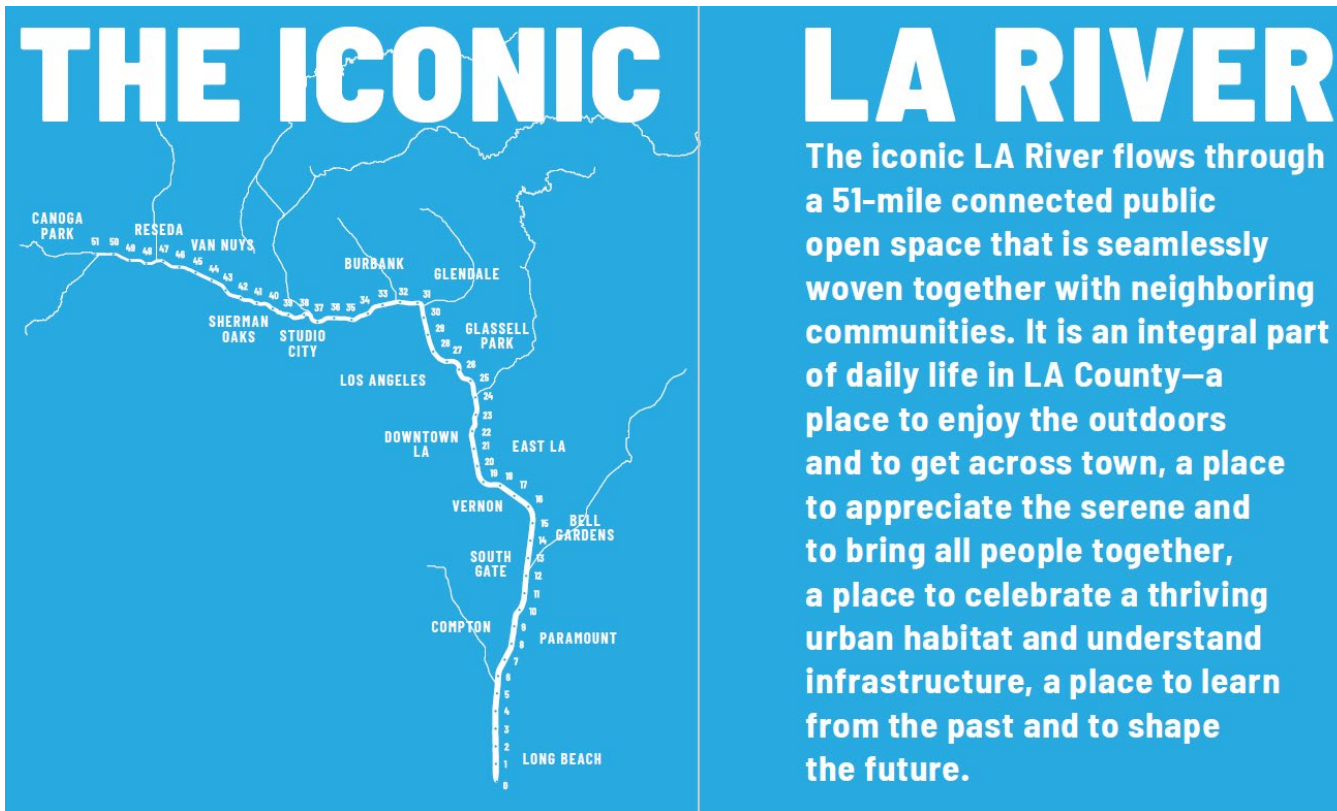
Existing and New Multi-Use Path Improvements

Lower LA Revitalization Plan (2018)

- Identified 155 multi-benefit project opportunities within 1-mile of the river
 - 7 signature projects were identified to meet the goals of the Plan
- 4 project templates for multi-use path enhancements, complete streets, river channel enhancements and bridge crossing improvements

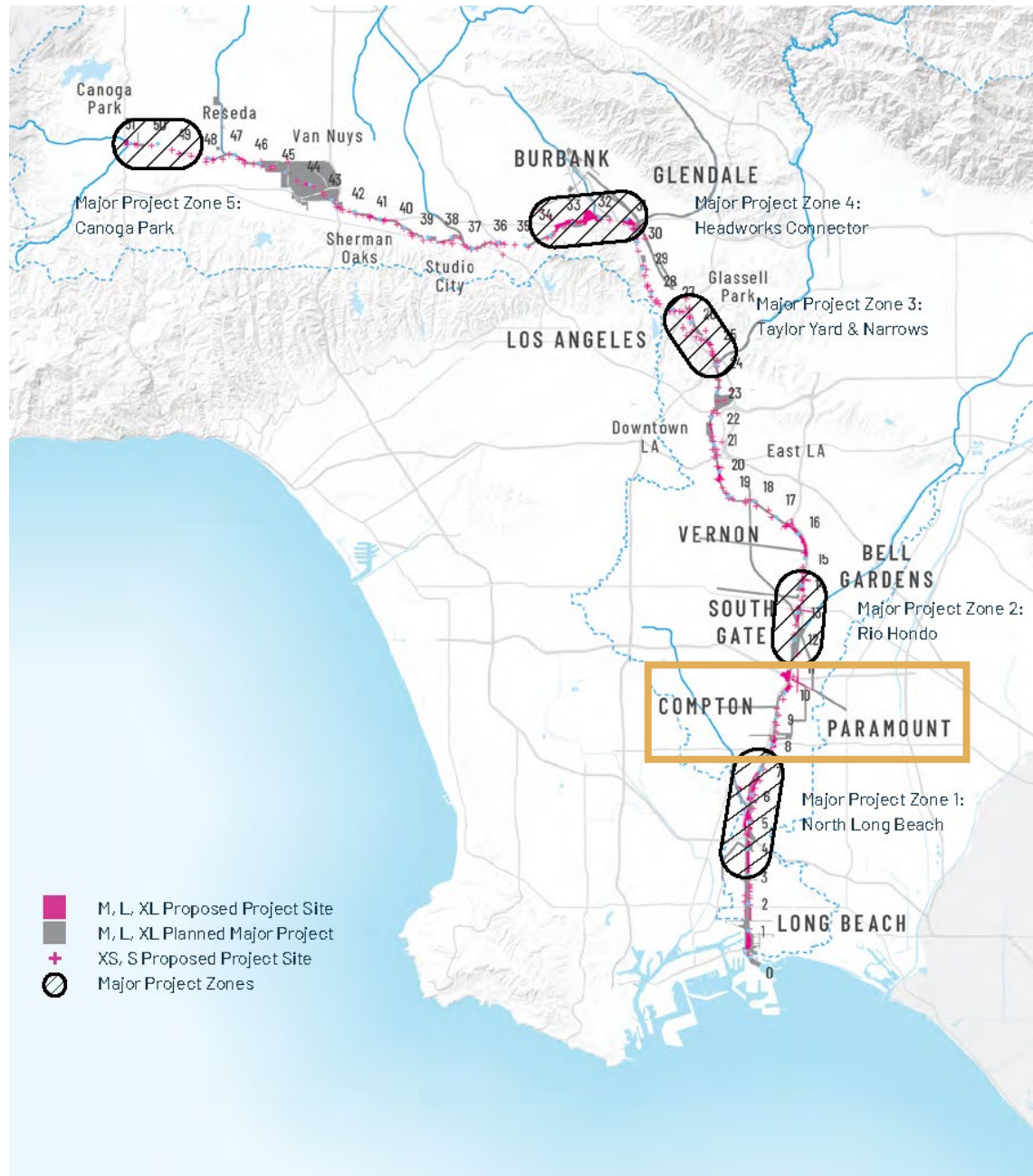
PROJECT BACKGROUND

Planning History

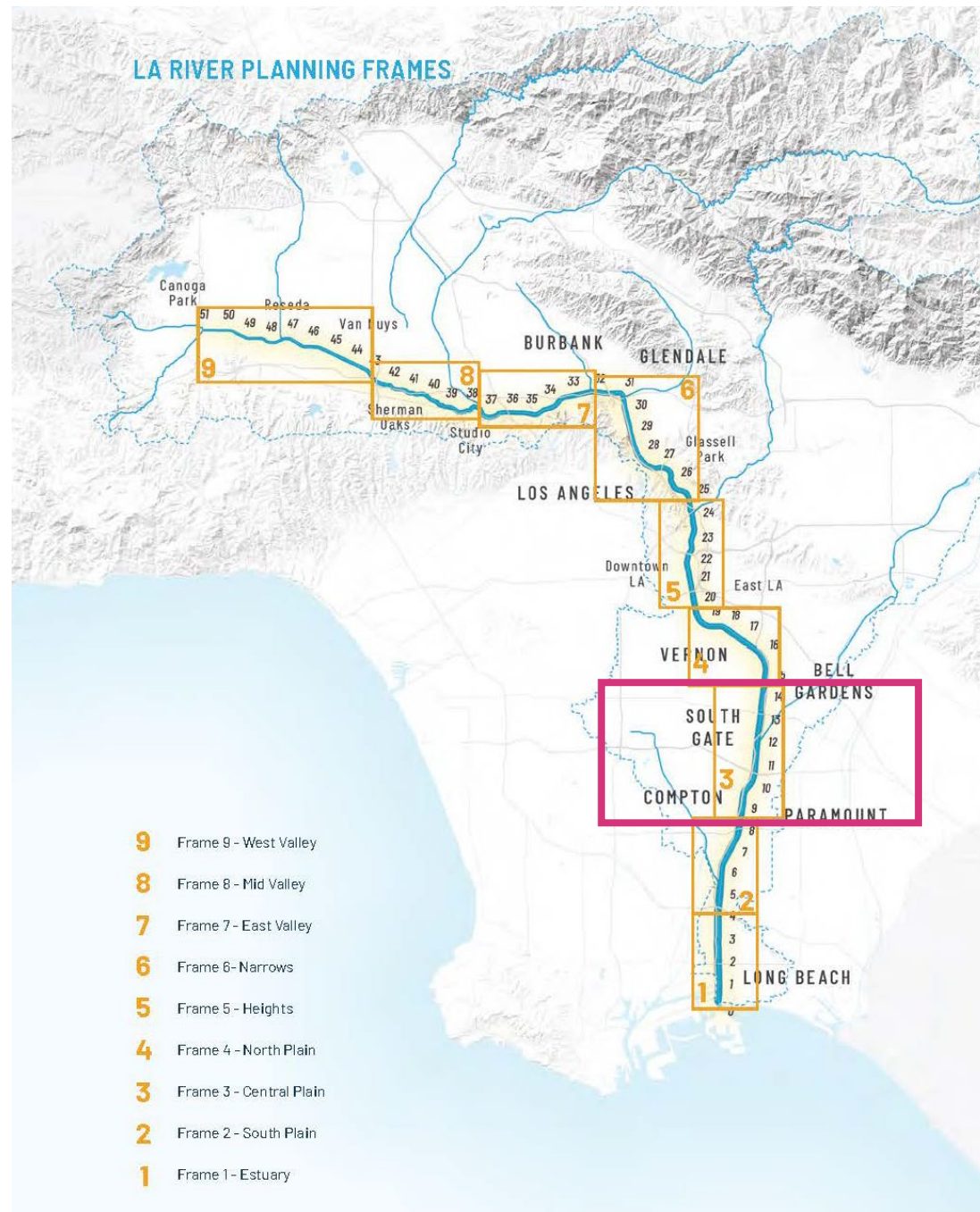


LA River Master Plan (adopted 2022)

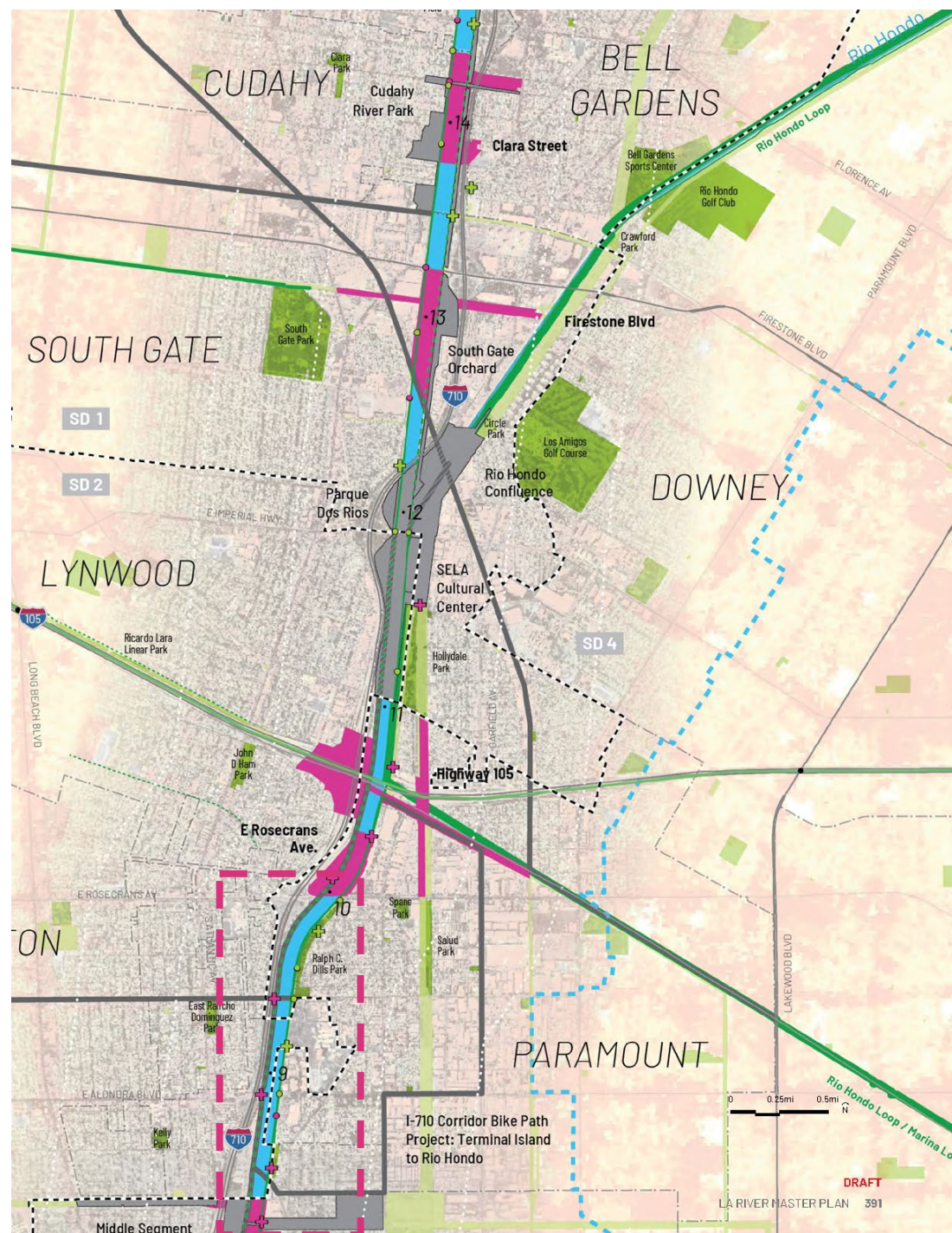
- Update to the 1996 LA River Master Plan
- Seeks to guide reimagined vision of the LA River over next 25 years
- Includes all 51 miles of the LA River
- Design Standards for park and trail improvements along the river



MAJOR PROJECT ZONES



**FOCUS AREA:
FRAME 3**



Existing Conditions

- LA River Mile Point
- LA River Channel
- Tributaries and Streams
- LA River Watershed Boundary
- Municipal Boundaries
- Major Roads and Highways
- Railroad Lines
- Metro Transit Line and Station
- Multiuse Trails and Class I Bikeways
- Transmission Lines
- Existing Private Right-of-Way
- Existing Park
- Pervious and Impervious Surface

LA River Master Plan Design Proposals

- M, L, XL Planned Major Project
- M, L, XL Proposed Project Site
- XS, S Planned Project
- XS, S Proposed Small Project
- Existing Access Point
- Existing Access Point to Improve
- Planned and Proposed Multiuse Trails and Class I Bikeways
- Proposed Regional Connectivity Loops
- Supervisorial District

FRAME 3: CENTRAL PLAIN



PROPOSED PROJECT

Trail Enhancements between 91 Fwy & Somerset w/
Access Gateway Improvements at 72 Equestrian Park

1-mile Trail Enhancement Area:

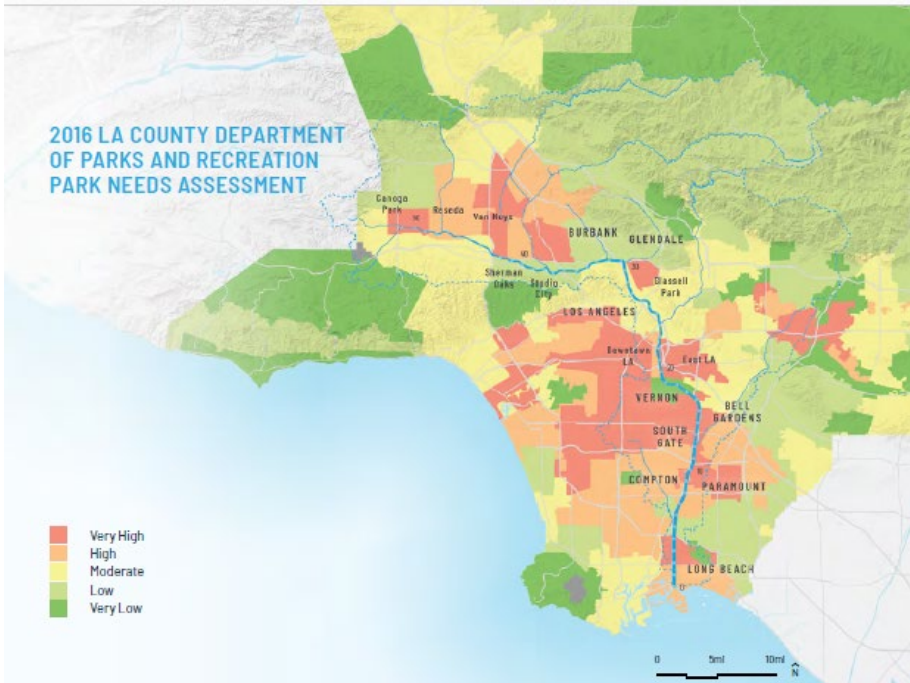
- Fencing upgrades & Minor landscape improvements
- Wayfinding & branding via signage and pavement markings
- Re-establish 0.40 miles of existing multi-use trail
- Possible underpass enhancements at Atlantic Ave. and Alondra Blvd (*potential collaboration opportunity with local artist/s*).
- Potential opportunity for innovative design solutions on several trail easements encroached upon by adjacent private properties

Access gateway improvements at 72nd Street Equestrian Park with potential opportunities to incorporate additional park improvements as needed and/or to mitigate issues park is facing with illegal after hours use and horse racing



RELEVANT INFO

- Opportunity to invest in existing DPR facilities that are located within and adjacent to disadvantaged communities with high park needs (*SDAC, DAC, Very High- and High Park Need*)
- Enhances area where the trail experience/amenities are lacking compared to southern segments located in Long Beach where there are new and/or improved linear parks directly contiguous to the trail.
- Agency Stakeholders:
Army Corps, FCD/DPW, Caltrans, Long Beach, Paramount, Compton



LA RIVER MASTER PLAN KIT OF PARTS



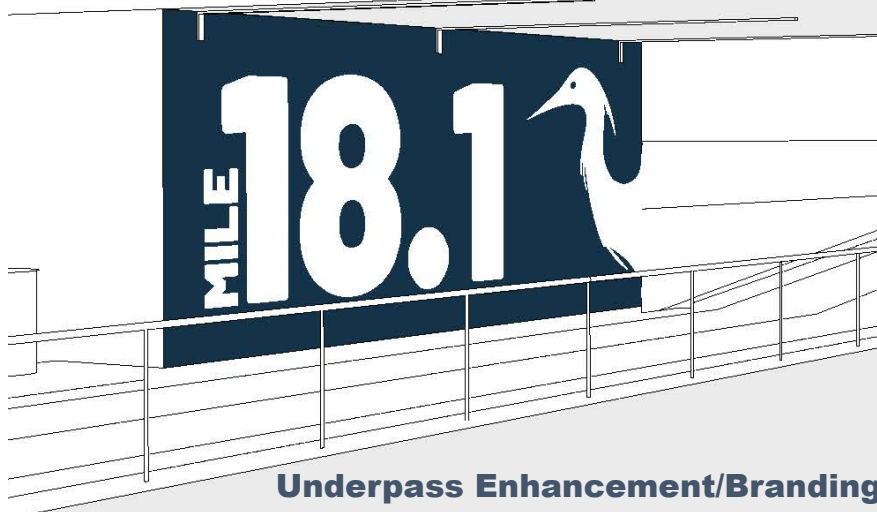
Fencing



Access Gateway



"XS" Project



Underpass Enhancement/Branding



Pavement Markings



Signage

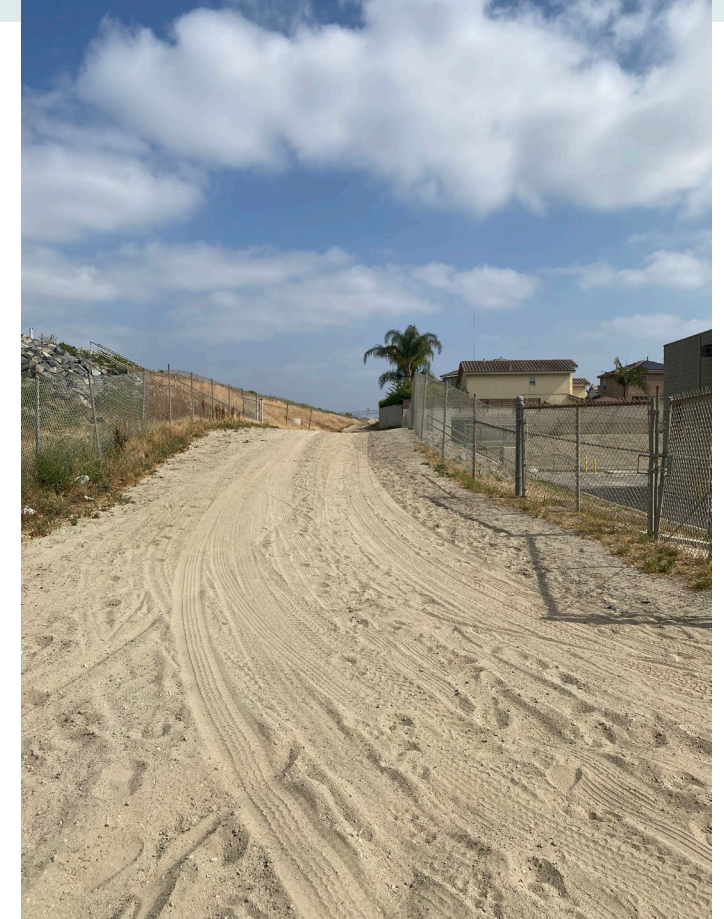
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

72nd Street Staging Area



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

72nd Street Equestrian Park



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Clear plant material overgrowth and re-establish trail



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Fencing conditions



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Underpass and shared trail conditions



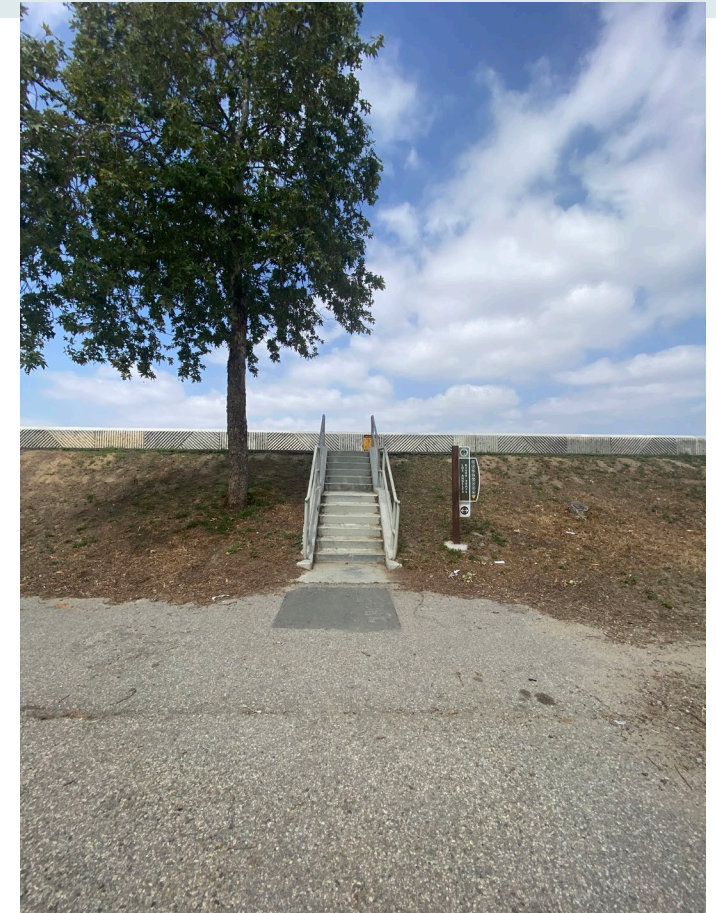
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Underpass and shared trail conditions



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

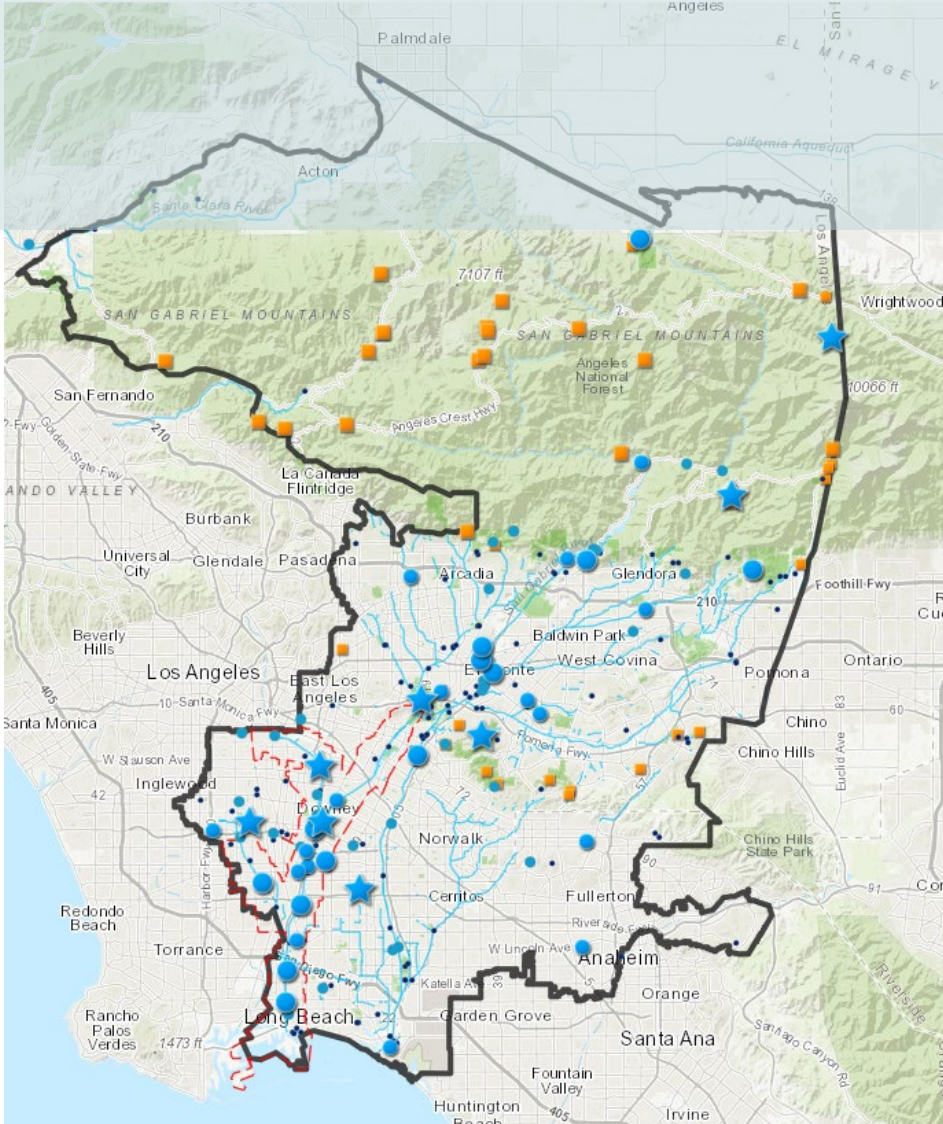
Trail Signage



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Multi-use trail adjacent to park facilities





PROJECT FUNDING

Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Grant Programs

RMC LLAR Grant Funding Opportunities

- Prop 1 Water Bond-LLAR
 - Ecosystems and watershed protection
 - Protect and enhance the lower LA river
 - Expand access to diverse populations
 - Secured matching funds
- Prop 68 Parks and Water Bond Act – LLAR
 - Develop urban recreation/habitat protection/restoration projects
 - Workforce development opportunities
 - Expand access to diverse populations
 - Secured matching funds
- Prop 1 and 68 Small Grants Program
 - \$50k to \$300k for jump-start projects, small design projects and project planning
- Prop 1 and 68 Very Small Grants Program
 - <\$50k for project planning, gap/emergency and high-need project implementation

Urban Orchard Construction Update

**Gladis Deras,
December 8, 2022**



TETRA TECH

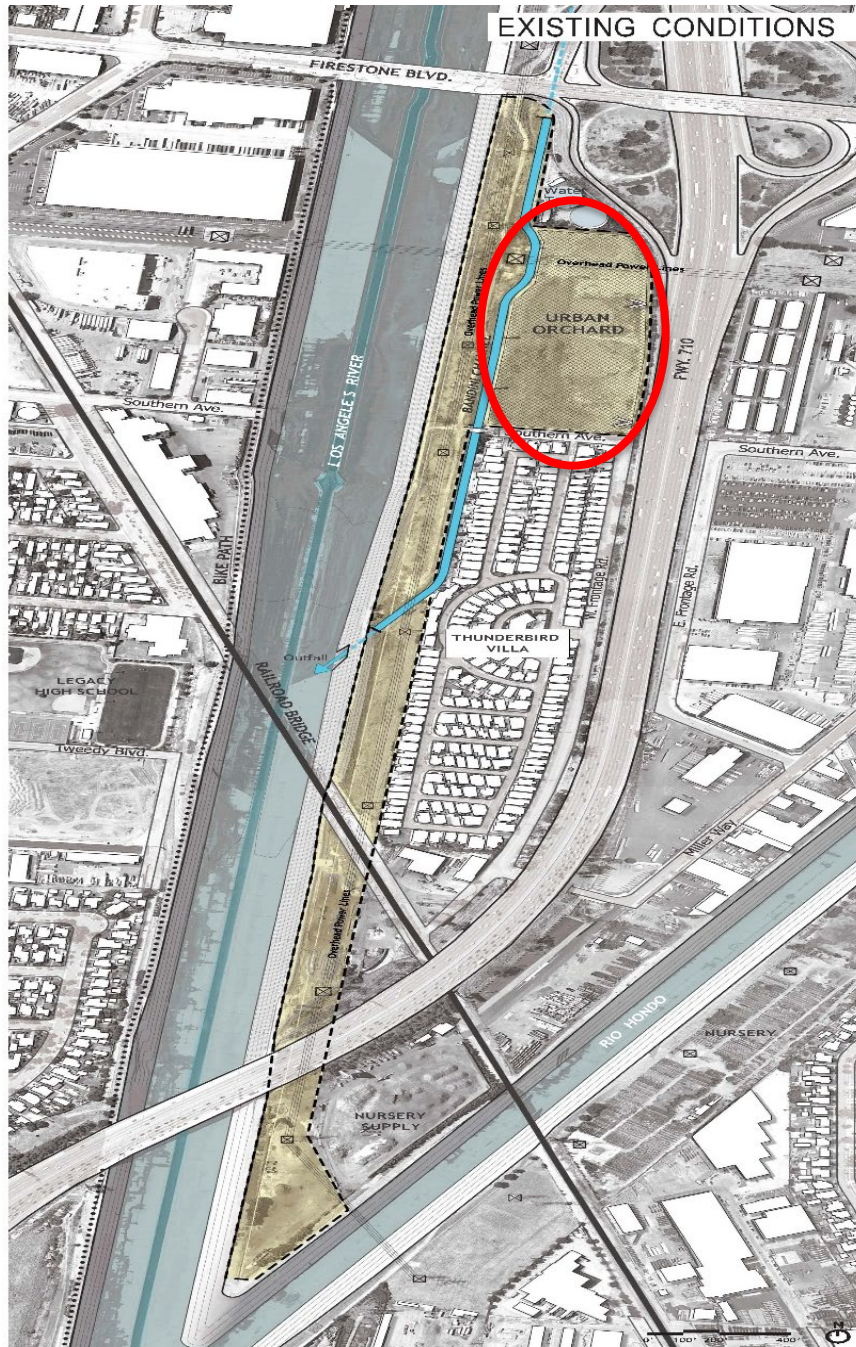
STUDIO-
MLA



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





Urban Orchard – Underground Reservoir



TETRA TECH

STUDIO-
MLA



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PUBLIC
LAND™



The Urban Orchard –
Education Building



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The Urban Orchard –
Education Building



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The Urban Orchard – Planting Event



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STUDIO-
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The Urban Orchard – Planting Event



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The Urban Orchard –
Planting Event



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Urban Orchard



- Anticipated construction completion early 2023



Questions?

THANK YOU



Parque dos Rios

