

Lower Los Angeles River
Implementation Advisory Group Committee Meeting

December 5, 2024 | 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. Agency / Project Updates

o San Gabriel & Lower LA Rivers & Mountains Conservancy

o Proposition 4 (Melissa Bahmanpour – RMC)

With the approval of the Proposition 4 (State Measure 4) Climate Bond, RMC will receive additional funding for Open Space Habitat Revitalization Projects. Staff will be working on preparing grant guidelines and grant evaluation criteria for Board approval by the time Proposition 4 funds become available on July 1st, 2025.

o School Greening Grant (Melissa Bahmanpour – RMC)

RMC awarded a Proposition 1 Lower LA River Grant to the Council for Watershed Health for the School Greening Technical Assistance Project at the latest RMC's Board Meeting. The Council for Watershed Health will lead the effort to catalyze the development of school greening projects by selecting three school sites along the Lower LA River, offer 100% design for the three school sites and support the schools with applying for implementation funds. Effort will begin January 1, 2025. RMC staff may ask a staff member from the Council for Watershed Health to join the IAG Meetings so that they could provide updates and get feedback as this effort moves forward.

o Alondra Gateway Park (Melissa Bahmanpour – RMC)

Currently in construction in the City of Compton. Will reach substantial completion in January 2025.

o SELA Cultural Center (Melissa Bahmanpour – RMC)

This effort is transitioning to being led by the County and not the RMC. The SELA Cultural Center Advisory Panel will be hosting their 1st public meeting on

December 16th, 2024, from 10 am – 1:00 pm at the Lucy Avalos Community Center in the City of Lynwood.

- o East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice

- o Maywood Riverfront Park (Laura Cortez – EYCEJ, Miguel Leon – City of Maywood)

The project has fundraised about \$6.8 million and construction is expected to begin in summer 2025. Final designs for the inclusion of the Sleepy Lagoon and renovations will be provided in the next meeting. Additional information can be found on their website: <https://sleepylagoonmemorial.squarespace.com>.

- o City of South Gate

- o Urban Orchard (Gladis Deras – City of South Gate)

Urban Orchard received clearance to begin construction in January 2025 and anticipates completion of construction by early summer 2025. The mural for the Urban Orchard on the reservoir has been completed. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the City of South Gate will be revamped and will begin hosting public meetings in 2025.

- o City of Long Beach

- o LB-MUST (Cecilia Salazar – Long Beach PW)

Construction is ongoing for Phase 1 of the treatment facility and expected to be completed by the end of the year or early next year. The wetlands across from the treatment facility is currently open to the public. Phase 2 is currently in the planning and design stage.

- o Department of Parks and Recreation

- o Lower LA River Trail Restoration and Access Project (Sheela Mathai – DPR)

The project proposes improvements along 1.3 miles of the lower LA River trail and the 72nd St Equestrian Park in Long Beach. Phase I – development of schematic level design plans as well as a cost estimate, is now complete.. The project is estimated to cost within the \$12 – \$14 million range. DPR will work on pursuing funding for phase 2.

- o Flood Control District

- o Seasonal Rainfall Outlook (Ezekiel Okoya – District)



1. Precipitation that fell during the month of November was 0.27 inches which is 20% of average precipitation for the month.
 2. The seasonal outlook for LA County is below average precipitation but there is the chance for one or two storm events to bring significant totals. Overall total for the 6-month period (Nov-April 2025) is expected to be 6.72-10.72 inches which is about 44-70% of the annual average.
 3. Flood Control District spreading grounds are ready to capture and conserve storm runoff.
- o LARMP Implementation Meeting (Eber Navarrete – District)
1. The LARMP is an update of the original 1996 Master Plan. LARMP is based on a literature review of 140 relevant planning documents and the LARMP does not aim to replace any of the existing LAR planning documents but instead aims to incorporate the recommendations to provide an organized planning document for LA County.
 2. LACFCD team is currently working on the third annual report to the Board of Supervisors. On November 18, 2024, the implementation team held their internal bi-annual meeting to provide mid-year progress updates on projects and policies tied to the 9 goals of the LARMP. The updates will be included in the annual report and will be submitted in June 2025.

III. Grant / Funding Opportunities

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

Melissa Bahmanpour (RMC) provided an update on the Lower LA River Grants and On-Going Call for Projects and stated that funding is still available for Lower LA River projects. In January 2025, the Department of Finance will make their final decisions about what funds will be diverted to the General Fund, as the State budget may not have sufficient funding. Due to this, RMC will put a pause on on-going call for projects, but RMC still encourages the submittal of concept proposals to keep projects on their radar when Proposition 4 funds become available.

- o Safe Clean Water Program
 - o Jeremy McGranahan (LLAR SCW Coordinator) provided the update on the Safe Clean Water Program. The deadline for the Safe Clean Water Public Education and Community Education Grants Program for proposals for Round 2 will be January 31st, 2025. There will be another

rolling application until April 2025 and after that it will be on a first come first serve basis and dependent on available funding. The LLAR WASC meeting scheduled for December 24, 2024, has been canceled and rescheduled for January 28, 2025.

IV. Lower LA River Events

- o Trout Unlimited Community Exhibition – “Hacia El Rio”
 - o 15950 Paramount Blvd. Saturday December 14, 2024, 5-8PM

V. Open Forum / Public Comment

- o CCLB shared that they just got approved by the State to get their own boat to do clean ups at the mouth of the river.
- o Juan Ovalle from River Park Coalition (RPC) shared that he has approved the draft design for the new PERA, just south of the 405 freeway. The new PERA will include a picnic area, landscaping, and restoration of the area. RPC will be submitting plans for review to LACPW in the next few weeks/early next year.
- o Melissa Bahmanpour (RMC) provided an update on the McDonald’s Trust Parcel, adjacent to the proposed storage development at 3701 Pacific Place. The property is currently being appraised and is going through a third-party review process, which will then be reviewed by the State. The intent is for Watershed Conservation Authority to ultimately move forward with the acquisition once funds are available.

VI. Next Steps

Next IAG Meeting – Thursday, March 27, 2025, 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.



LOWER LA RIVER WATERSHED COORDINATOR IAG Update Meeting - December 2024



Safe Clean Water Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program

Purpose: support public education and community engagement efforts related to stormwater and urban runoff capture within the LA County Flood Control District

Website:

<https://waterfdn.org/safe-clean-water-program/>

Program Deadlines

- September 24, 2024 – Rolling application period opens
- November 8, 2024 – Deadline for Round 1 of proposal evaluation
- **January 31, 2025 – Deadline for Round 2 of proposal evaluation**
- April 4, 2025 – Deadline for Round 3 of proposal evaluation
- April 5, 2025 – Start of first-come-first-serve evaluation period
- May 31, 2025 – Rolling application period closes



Get in touch

- **Tara Dales – TDales@dpw.lacounty.gov**
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Exhibición Comunitaria

Community Exhibition

sábado/saturday
diciembre 14/december 14
5 - 8 PM

Horchatería Río Luna
15950 Paramount Blvd

Compartiendo fotos y experiencias en
comunidad con el Río de Los Ángeles.

*Sharing photos and experiences in
community with the Los Angeles River.*

todos bienvenidos | all are welcome

**Comida y
bebidas gratis!**

Free Food + Drinks!

 Instagram: @haciaelrio

 tinyurl.com/HACIAELRIO