

BELL GARDENS





CITY OF BELL GARDENS

POPULATION (1994): 43,700; LAND AREA: 2.39 SQ. MI.

Bell Gardens (incorporated in 1961) is located 9.1 miles southeast of the Los Angeles City Hall. It ranks 41st in terms of population in Los Angeles County, and had a median family income of \$23,308 in 1989. Like Bell, Bell Gardens sits next to the Los Angeles River in the industrial core of the county. Land use is mixed residential, with some industrial and commercial uses. The job base is moderate in size, dominated by manufacturing and services. Approximately 88% of the city's population is Hispanic, while 10% is White.

ISSUES

- The problems of gangs and graffiti need to be addressed.
- There is a need for improved maintenance of facilities.
- There is a need for increased parkland. The city has only 16 acres of parkland. The recommended National Standard for a city of this size is 220 acres (5 acres/1,000 residents).

ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS


- The City's General Plan designates most of the residential areas as high-density residential. The major thoroughfares are designated major commercial.
- The city recreational master plan of September 1994 includes the river with a trail connection as an additional element to its open space plan (Section 3-6).

JURISDICTIONAL PLANNED PROJECTS

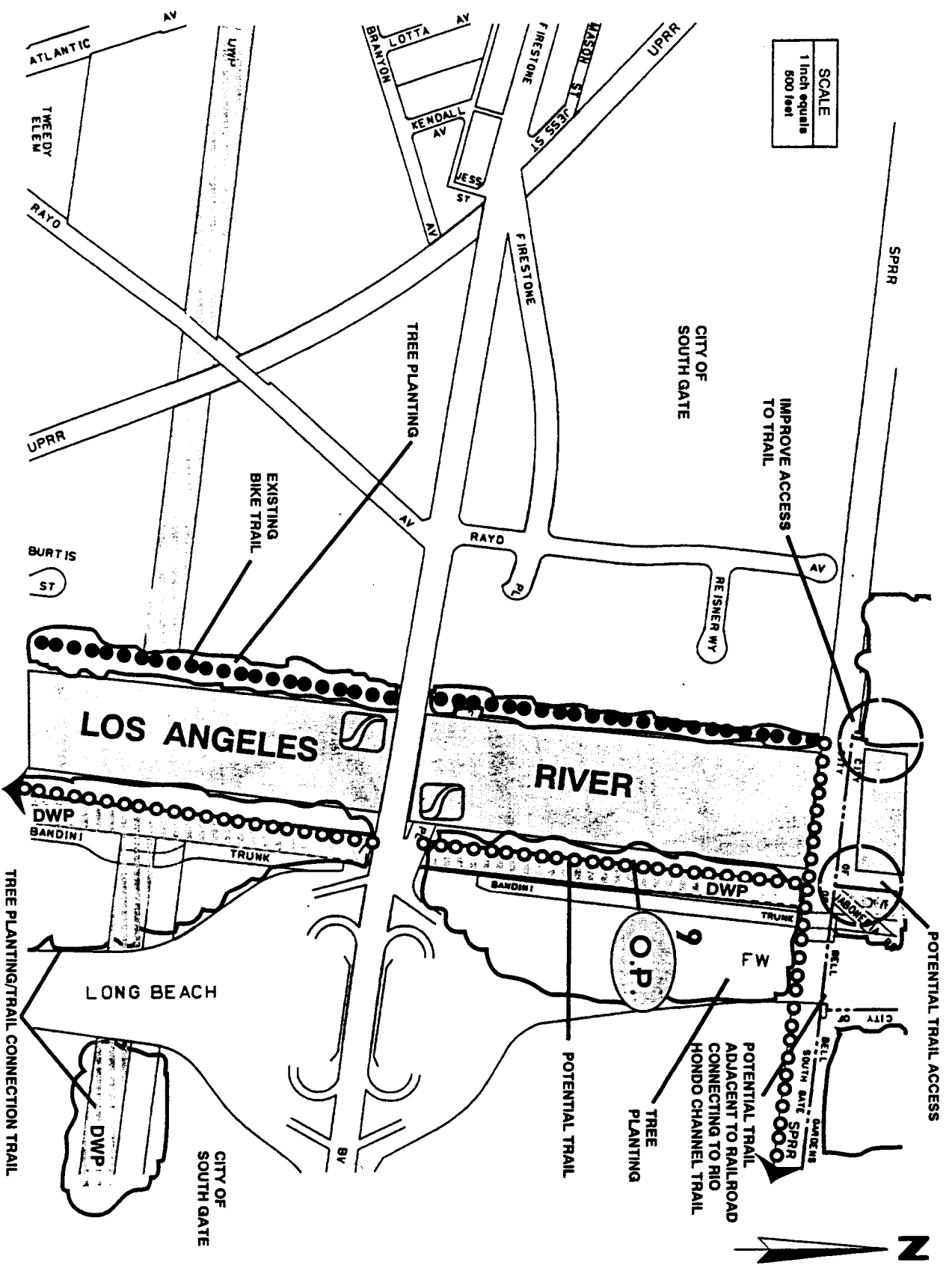
- Redevelopment area adjacent to the river.
- The city has plans to develop Jaboneria/Shull Park, a ten-acre site with connection to the river trail. The project may include a major sports complex.
- The city desires a trail connection from the river to Ford Park on Rio Hondo trail.
- A multiple-city rail-to-trail project at the railroad (at the southern edge of the city).

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

- Provide access points on Florence, Clara and Gage Streets, as well as at the railroad bridge.
- Develop a network of trails along the river with the creation of a loop trail system between existing and planned city parks and schools using the Los Angeles River as the western branch and the Rio Hondo as a southern branch.

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- Assure public safety through site design and educational programs at parks and schools.
 - Improve native vegetation along river by planting a greenway along the eastern bank.
 - Improve wildlife habitat through site design at the planned City Park, and by encouraging plantings in the City of Bell easement and South Gate property.



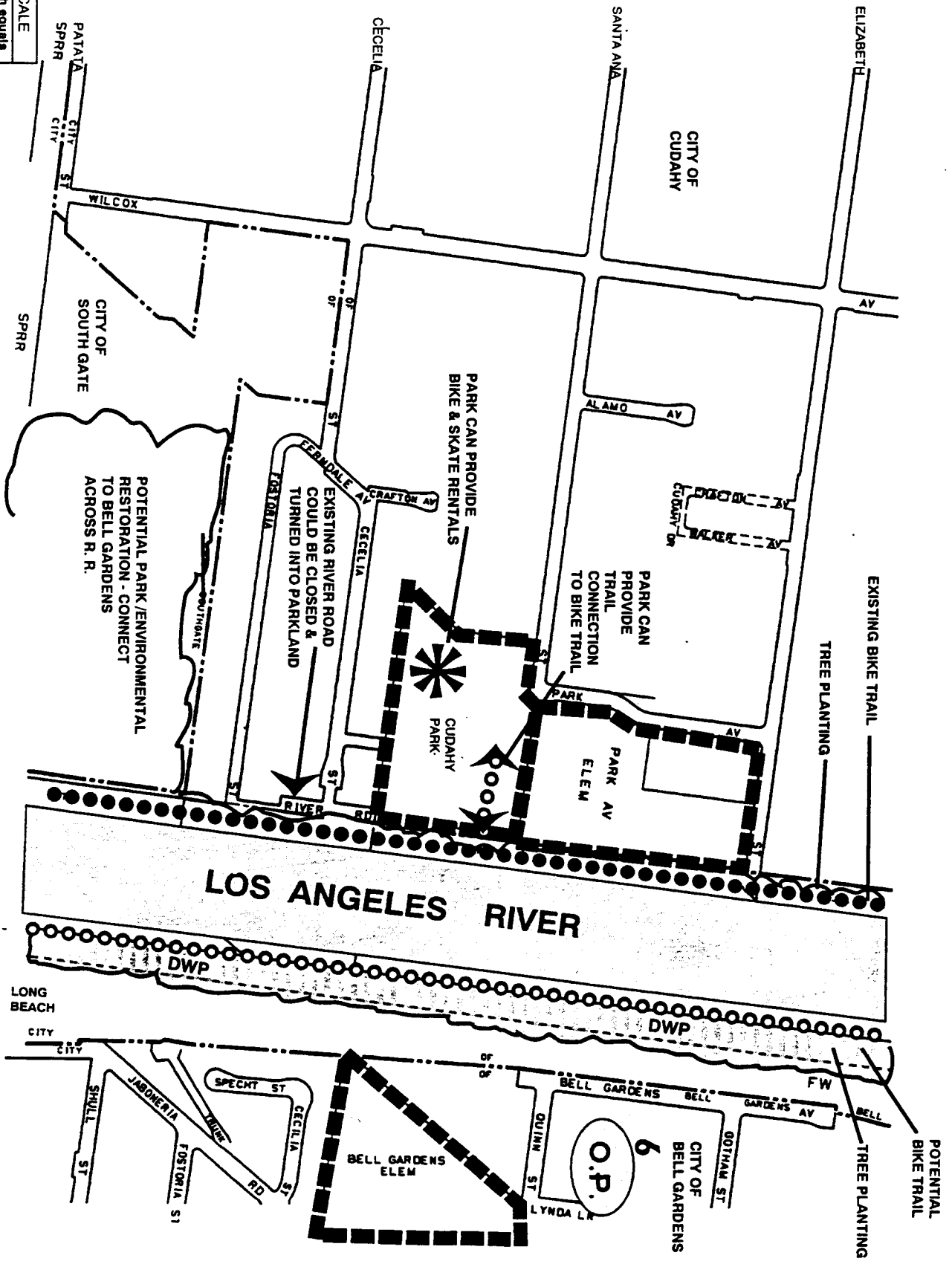


SCALE
1 inch equals
500 feet



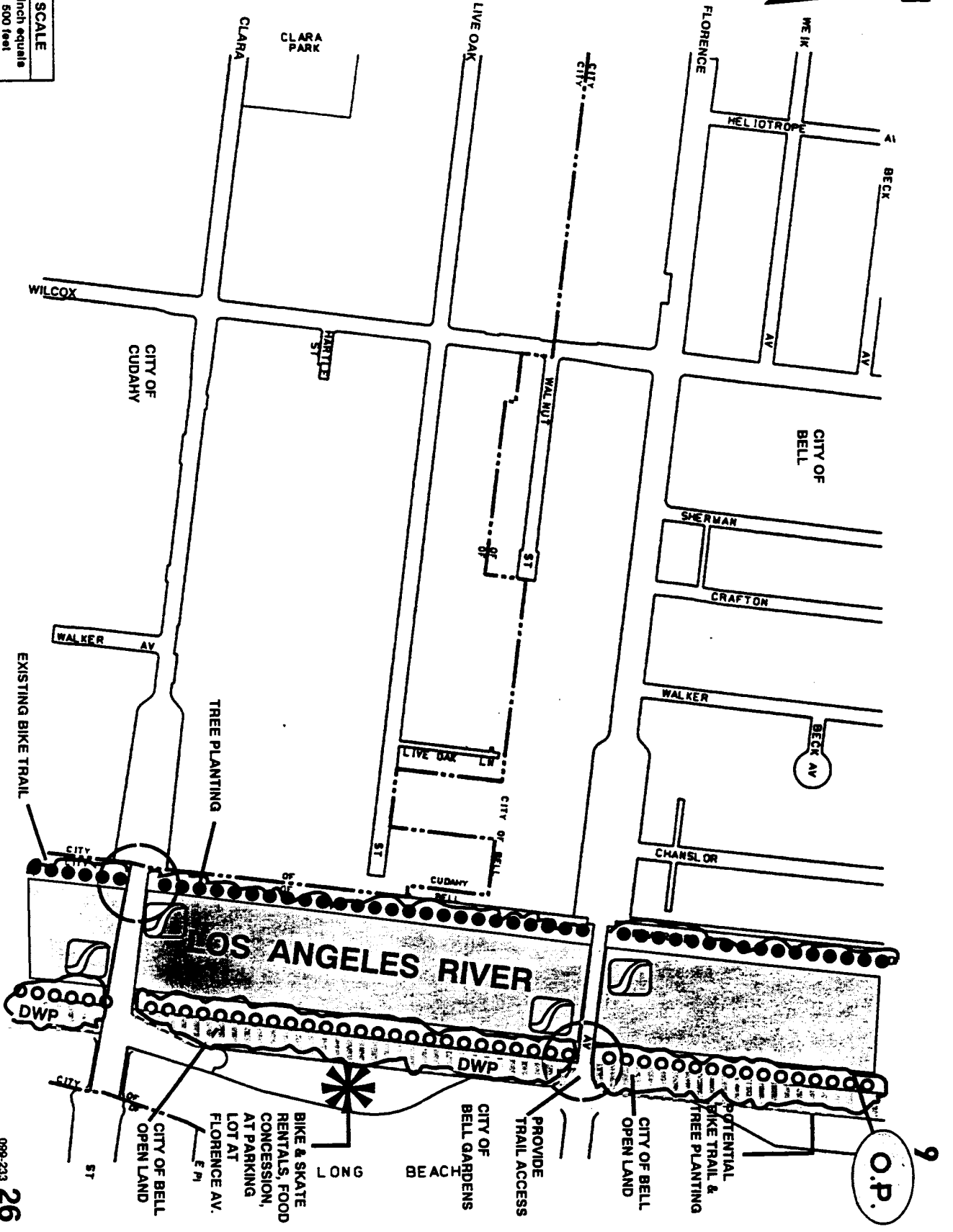


SCALE
1 inch equals
500 feet





SCALE
1 inch equals 500 feet



O.P.

SCALE
 1 inch equals
 800 feet

