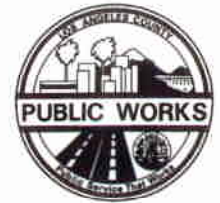


LOS ANGELES RIVER



MASTER PLAN UPDATE

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Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works

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THE LOS ANGELES RIVER BIKEWAY Piecing it Together

The Master Plan identifies an opportunity for a continuous bikeway along the Los Angeles River. The bikeway would not only serve for recreational purposes, but also as an alternate means of transportation to work, school, and other destinations along the River. Piece by piece, this continuous route will come together with the help of planners, engineers, and bicyclist advocates.

The most current bikeway planning has been conducted through the Master Plan Bikeway Subcommittee. The Subcommittee has been meeting monthly, since the direction of the Board of Supervisors in December 1999, to consider connection alternatives between the Arroyo Seco Bikeway and the Los Angeles River Bikeway which would link the Los Angeles River Center, Union Station, and Elysian Park. In 1999, the City of Los Angeles received some funding for this phase of the bikeway and continues to actively seek funding from the MTA's Call for Projects. As with the overall implementation of the Master Plan, funding is the integral part of achieving the goal of a continuous bikeway. For now, the bikeway will continue to be constructed by segments as funding becomes available. The bikeway map identifies the current segments of the Los Angeles River Bikeway.



FIFTH ANNUAL EARTH DAY EVENT

The Fifth Annual Los Angeles River Master Plan Earth Day event took place on April 19, 2001. The event was organized through a collaborative effort between Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's Office, Los Angeles County Public Works, Studio City Residents Association, Carpenter Avenue Elementary School, and The River Project. Preparations for the event involved several weeks of planning and educating the students about the Los Angeles River. All planning and design efforts were brought together in a concept drawing, prepared by landscape architect Mary Sager McFadden, which depicts a comprehensive landscaping project on the south side of the River between Laurel Canyon and Radford Avenue, in Studio City.

Earth Day 2001 served as a groundbreaking event for the landscaping project that will be completed next year. Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky served as master of ceremonies and speakers included Public Works Director Jim Noyes, Tom LaBonge of the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Studio City Residents Association President Tony Lucente, Principal Barbara Grey and students of Carpenter Avenue Elementary School, and Melanie Winter of The River Project. (Continue on Page 3)



Poster prepared by Mooler Ang, LACDPW.



From left to Right: Tom LaBonge (Department of Water and Power), Melanie Winter (The River Project), Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (SD3), students Spike Dennis and Amy Leavitt (Carpenter), Jim Noyes (Public Works), Barbara Grey (Carpenter), Tony Lucente (Studio City Residents Association)

EARTH DAY 2001



Students admire their story books along the river fencing.

There were approximately two hundred participants which included members of the Studio City Residents Association and students, along with friends and family of Carpenter Avenue Elementary School. The planting event was lead by Chuck Arnold of North East Trees who enthralled the participants as he educated them on the proper way of planting trees and shrubs. Overall, 12 native trees (including Western Sycamore, Fremont Cottonwood, and Western Redbud) and one hundred native shrubs were planted. Name tags were placed by the plants to identify the plant species.

Earth Day 2001 would not have been possible without the participation and contributions from various groups. Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky donated the t-shirts. Trust for Public Land donated \$500 to help provide refreshments for volunteers. Body Rush Fitness Center donated bottled water. Georgio's California Pizza and Pasta restaurant assisted in providing lunch. North East Trees provided educational guidance on planting trees and shrubs. Lastly, the students of Carpenter Avenue Elementary School provided a vision to restore the Los Angeles River through speeches, songs, and story books that depicted the Los Angeles River.

With the Studio City Residents Association's community support, the Master Plan goals will be achieved as the Los Angeles River through Studio City becomes a more aesthetically pleasing restored site.



Chuck Arnold of North East Trees instructs on how to properly plant a shrub.

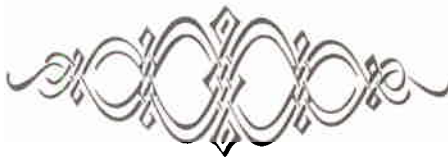


Volunteers begin planting one hundred shrubs and twelve trees.

UPDATES

Dominguez Gap Wetlands Study

The County of Los Angeles hired CH2M Hill to prepare a wetlands study of the Dominguez Gap Spreading Grounds in Long Beach. The study presents three alternatives for converting the existing spreading grounds into a wetlands habitat with passive recreational and educational features while balancing its flood protection and water conservation capacities. A fourth alternative was added to keep the west basin for infiltration only. Additional input will be received from the affected agencies and community, prior to selecting an alternative for implementation.



Los Angeles River Landscape Standards and Guidelines

The Los Angeles River Landscape Standards and Plant Palette is in the process of being finalized for the County of Los Angeles. Withers, Sandgren, & Smith, a local landscape architecture firm, is compiling comments received for the second draft. The final document will be completed Summer 2001.

NEW RIVER GARDEN PARK
A Celebration of the River

The Cypress Park community celebrated the grand opening of River Garden Park on Saturday November, 4 2000. A mariachi band played while guests walked around the trails, admiring the landscape, and kids ran around the nature exhibits to play games and make clay animals. The opening ceremony began with Lewis MacAdams, poet and founder of Friends of the Los Angeles River, reading a poem from one of his books. The honored speakers that followed included State Senator Richard Polanco, Secretary of Resources Mary Nichols, Speaker Emeritus Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Hernandez, and Assemblymember Scott Wildman. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Mountains Recreation and

Conservation Authority, a joint powers authority, lead the construction of River Garden Park with state and local park funds. Conveniently located at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, which has a river exhibit that offers a tour of the River's history and ecological attributes, the park features an artistic simulation of the Los Angeles River and it's native plant surroundings, as designed by landscape architect Calvin Abe. Water springs from a mosaic monument that depicts the River's headwaters, flows down a path with natural walls, and passes through an interpreted concrete channel. The park celebrates the River's life and surrounding communities.



River Garden Park's simulation of the River.

ASSEMBLY BILL 1147
More Money, More River Interest!

On September 30, 2000, Governor Gray Davis approved Assembly Bill 1147 which will in part assist with the current Los Angeles River Restoration. AB 1147 will permit Public Works to receive a partial reimbursement of it's expenditures on the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) Project. Under the direction of the State Secretary of Resources, an Executive Advisory Committee will be convened to identify rehabilitation, restoration, and implementation of

projects that may be selected for some funding from the County's LACDA reimbursement. The Los Angeles River Master Plan Advisory Committee has started developing a list of recommended projects along the River and its tributaries, consistent with the AB 1147 requirements. According to AB 1147, projects should be identified along the River and tributaries to incorporate comprehensive river restoration.

CITY OF BELL Beautifies the River's Entrances

The City of Bell is undertaking an effort to assist in the revitalization of the River. The 2.8 square mile city, which has very little park and open space, has taken the opportunity to improve the River's access points. The improvements include landscaping with native plants, the installation of drip irrigation, and river rock features. Construction of the improvements for Gage and Florence Avenues was completed in November 2000



Gage Avenue, heading towards the River.

with 1992 Proposition A funds. The City is looking to further the improvements to Randolph Street during the next fiscal year and seek funding for landscaping the River's westerly embankment.

FUNDING FOR RIVER PROJECTS

The following are funding opportunities that have been specific to the local River interests. The deadlines for applications have passed, but it is important to note that funding opportunities continue to become available for the growing River interests. You may refer to the River Funding Bulletin, for future funding.

Prop A

Each County Supervisorial District is allocating \$4.5 million in Proposition A funds for projects that promote recreation and open space along the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers. Applications were due on March 15, 2001. The priority projects being considered include trails, pocket parks, public access points, and natural habitat restorations.

Proposition 13

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, under the direction of the State Resources Agency, requested proposals for funding consideration from Proposition 13. The Proposition 13 monies were set aside according to Water Code Section 78682 and were made available to the San Gabriel River

(\$5 million) and the Lower Los Angeles River (\$5 million). The deadline for proposal applications was on March 29, 2001. In May 2001, the State Water Resources Control Board awarded \$600 thousand in funding for the development of Arroyo Seco, Compton Creek, and Rio Hondo Watershed Management Plans.

Proposition 204.

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council assisted in selecting grantees for \$600,000 in Proposition 204 funds through the Coastal Conservancy. In December 2000, the projects that received funding were announced. The projects included: City of South Gate's Riparian Restoration Project; Friends of the River's Taylor Yard Sampling, Tujunga Wash Hydrodynamic Study, and Los Angeles River Greenway Community Design Plan; North East Trees' Bikeway and Greenway Planning Study; and National Audobon Society's Design Studies for Site Restoration Design Plan.



SIGNAGE PROGRAM

On October 25, 2000, the Master Plan Advisory Committee approved the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's (MRCA) proposal to prepare the Signage Standards and Guidelines, at no cost to Public Works. A Subcommittee was formed to assist in the development of the Signage Manual, with representatives from organizations such as Caltrans, North East Trees, Friends of the Los Angeles River, The River Project, City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Gateways Cities Council of Governments, Arroyo Verdugo Council of Governments, National Park Service, and the Board of Supervisors.

The Subcommittee has been meeting regularly to advise MRCA on specific design alternatives for the various sign types. The sign types include warning/safety, guide/informational, regulatory, and destination/distance signs. The Signage Manual will provide specifications for the design, placement, and installation/mounting of these signs. After the Signage Manual is completed (completion anticipated for Summer 2001), MRCA will install five demonstration signs along the River.

CESAR E. CHAVEZ PARK IN LONG BEACH

Last fall on November 18, 2000, the City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department held an opening for the second phase of the development of the Cesar E. Chavez Park. The thirteen acre park is the first new park in Long Beach in over twenty years. The park features many amenities including picnic tables, basketball courts, park benches, and grassy play areas. The second phase of the park project involved the construction of a community center and further phases are proposed to provide a family aquatic center, an amphitheatre, a gymnasium, and a connection to the LARIO Bicycle Trail, which is part of the Master Plan. Until officially completed, the Cesar E. Chavez Park will continue to provide a recreational opportunity in one of the most densely populated low-income neighborhoods in downtown Long Beach.



Cesar E. Chavez Park

NORTH EAST TREES' EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Dedication of "Water with Rocks" Entrance Gates



"Water with Rocks" gates sculpted by artist Brett Goldstone.

North East Trees held an early Earth Day event on April 14, 2001, on the east bank of the Los Angeles River, north of Fletcher Drive. The event was held to commemorate the "Water with Rocks" gates sculpted by artist Brett Goldstone. The participants included local students from the Kiwanis Club of Los Angeles (college students from Circle K and high school students from Key Club). The event involved weeding the site and planting several native shrubs and trees. Speakers included Scott Wilson of North East Trees, Tom LaBonge of City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Assemblymember Dario Frommer, and Brett Goldstone's wife.

CUDAHY RIVER CLEAN-UP

On April 21, 2001, a River Clean-up event was held in honor of Earth Day along the River through the City of Cudahy. The event was organized by Assemblymember Marco Firebaugh's Office, Trust for Public Land, Los Angeles Conservation Corps, and CALPIRG. Over two hundred participants from local schools, along with family and friends, joined to pick up trash along the River levees and bikeway. The participants also removed graffiti along the levee walls. Speakers for the event included Assemblymember Firebaugh, California's First Lady Sharon Davis, Secretary of Resources Mary Nichols, Cudahy Councilmember Juan Romo, Los Angeles Conservation Corps' Executive Director Bruce Saito, and representatives from CALPIRG.



Cleaning along the River.

Los Angeles River Master Plan RIVER FUNDING BULLETIN SPRING 2001

GRANTOR/RANGE	PURPOSE	DEADLINE	CONTACT
Clarence E. Heller Foundation \$5,000 to \$600,000	Support of programs in the environment, human health, education, and the arts.	Ongoing	Joanna Stevenson One Lombard Street, Suite 305 San Francisco, CA 94111 (415) 989-9839 http://cehcf.org
Surdna Foundation, Inc.	Supports more efficient, economically sound, environmentally beneficial and equitable use of land and natural resources.	Ongoing	Edward Skloot, Executive Director 330 Madison Avenue, 30 th Floor New York, New York 10017-5001 http://www.surdna.org
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	Supports non-profit organizations with efforts of conservation and restoration of natural resources through means that respect the economic, cultural, and social aspirations of Western communities.	Quarterly	525 Middlefield Rd, Suite 200 Menlo Park, CA 94025 (650) 329-1070 http://www.hewlett.org
W. Alton Jones Foundation	The Sustainable World Program supports programs that balance economic and environmental needs.	Ongoing	Attn: Sustainable World Program 232 East High Street Charlottesville, Virginia 22902 http://www.wajones.org
Weingart Foundation \$5,000 to \$1,000,000+	Support of established non-profit agencies involved with projects the benefit the general community.	Ongoing	1055 W. 7 th Street Suite 3050 Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 688-7799 http://www.weingartfnd.org

The following are grants offered through Proposition 12 fund allocations.

Habitat Conservation Fund

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is offering \$2 million under this program for the following project categories: anadromous, wetlands habitat, riparian habitat, and trails/programs. The deadline for applications is October 1, 2001. For further information, visit <http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants/hcf/hcf.htm>

Recreational Trails Program

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is offering \$2.2 million for non-motorized trails projects under this programs. Application deadlines are on October 1, 2001. For further information, visit <http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants/rtp/rtp00.htm>

STATUS OF LOS ANGELES RIVER MASTER PLAN PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETION DATE	PROPOSERS
<i>COMPLETED PROJECTS</i>			
Elysian Valley Gateway Park	Community park development by Knox Ave. River Rangers.	1996	SMMC
Ventura Boulevard Landscape	River landscaping on south bank at Ventura Blvd. and Kelsey St.	1996	Richard Deblasi, community resident
Rattlesnake Park	Development of pocket park featuring river rock walls, native landscaping, and benches adjacent to the Los Angeles River at Fletcher Drive.	1997	NET
1997 Earth Day Event	Tree planting along the River at Coldwater Canyon Ave.	April 1997	LACDPW, City of Los Angeles
City of LA - Bikeway Phase 1A	Bikeway from Riverside Dr. to Los Feliz Blvd.	September 1997	City of Los Angeles
LA River Greenway II	Tree planting and landscaping from Los Feliz Blvd. to Barclay St.	September 1997	NET, SMMC
Golden Shore Marine Reserve	A five-year wetlands demonstration wetlands restoration project. The study will be completed in January 2003.	January 1998	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department
1998 Earth Day Event	Tree planting at Valleyheart Dr. off Whitsett Ave.	April 1998	LACDPW, City of Los Angeles
Zanja Madre Park Amtrak Project	Development of park adjacent to River near Barclay St. Fencing/hydroseeding Washington Blvd. to 4 th St.	Spring 1998 1998	NET, MRCA Amtrak
1999 Earth Day Event	River clean-up event in Elysian Valley (at NET's rattlesnake park) and a dedication of the Great Heron Gate at the Fletcher Dr. access to the River.	April 1999	LACDPW, City of Los Angeles, FoLAR, USACE, others
Los Feliz Riverwalk	Installation and maintenance of walk from Sunnynook Dr. footbridge to Chevy Chase Dr.	July 1999	NET
LA River Center & Gardens	Development of 6.8 acres of former Lawry's Center into an interpretive center.	March 2000	MRCA
2000 Earth Day Event	50 sycamore and cottonwood tree planting on Wrigley Greenbelt on DeForest Ave. between Spring St. and Willow St.	April 2000	LACDPW, City of Long Beach
Stealhead Park	Development of park adjacent to River and Oros St.	April 2000	NET, MRCA
Oso Park	Development of park at the corner of Riverside Dr. and Oros St.	April 2000	NET, MRCA
LA River County Bikeway Improvements	Bike trail improvements along Southern Ave., from Atlantic Blvd. to Southern Ave.	May 2000	LACDPW
Julia Russ Asmus Park	Development of park at Jaboneria St. and Shull St.	August 2000	City of Bell Gardens, TPL, MRCA
Southern Avenue Bikeway and Park	Bikeway improvements along Southern Ave., from Atlantic Blvd. to the River, including signing, striping, slurring, and access gate improvements. Also, development of park at the corner of Atlantic Blvd. and Southern Ave.	August 2000	City of South Gate
City of LA - Bikeway Phase 1-D	Bikeway from Los Feliz Blvd. to Fletcher Dr.	August 2000	City of Los Angeles, DOT, BSS

PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETION DATE	PROPOSERS
COMPLETED PROJECTS			
LA River Gateway Improvements	Enhancements to access points, including landscaping and amenities to the LA County Bikeway at Gage Ave. and Florence Ave.	November 2000	City of Bell
River Garden Park	Park depicting Los Angeles River at the River Center and Gardens	November 2000	SMMC, MRCA
Water with Rocks Gates	Installation of decorative gates on the east side of the River, north of Fletcher Drive.	April 2001	NET
2001 Earth Day Event	Landscaping of south side of the River, between Laurel Canyon and Radford Ave in Studio City	April 2001	LACDPW, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's Office, SCRA, River Project
ADOPT-A-RIVER PROJECTS			
Ernie's Walk	Ernie LaMere landscaped and maintained a 1/4 mile section along the north side of the River in Sherman Oaks (between Kester and Cedros Avenues).	September 1992	Ernie LaMere, community resident
Village Gardeners	The Village Gardeners landscaped and maintain both sides of the River between Fulton and Coldwater Canyon Avenues.	1999	Village Gardeners
PROJECTS IN DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION			
Arroyo Seco Bikeway Connection	Construction of bikeway within the Arroyo Seco.		LACDPW
Arroyo Seco Park	Development of park at Avenue 35.		MRCA, City of Los Angeles
Cesar Chavez Park	Development of a multi-use park in downtown Long Beach.		Long Beach
City of Glendale's Riverwalk	Development of a Riverwalk parkway.		Glendale
Dominguez Gap	Development of wetlands study.		LACDPW
LA River Greenway	Landscaping from Whitsett Avenue to Laurel Canyon.		City of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation
LA River Greenway (Taylor Yard/Sunnynook)	Landscaping of a greenway from Taylor Yard to Sunnynook Dr.		DOT, DWP, NET
Maywood Riverfront Park	Development of a 7-acre park along the River at Slauson Ave.		City of Maywood, TPL
Outdoor Classrooms	Classrooms at LA River, Compton Creek, and Arroyo Seco.		MRCA
Paramount's River Murals	Two mural painting were completed along the River, in Summer 1999 and Spring 2000, respectively. The third mural will be completed in 2001.		Paramount
Tujunga Wash Restoration	Restoration of Tujunga Wash between Vanowen Boulevard to Oxnard Boulevard.		LACDPW, MRCA, SD3

Project Proponent Abbreviations:

SMMC - Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

DOT - Department of Transportation

LACDPW - Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

BSS - Bicycle Street Services

USACE - US Army Corps of Engineers

MRCA - Mountains and Recreation Conservation Authority

NET - North East Trees

LADWP - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

MTA - Metropolitan Transportation Authority

SCRA - Studio City Residents Association



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LOS ANGELES RIVER MASTER PLAN

If you are interested in implementing a project along the Los Angeles River, contact the local jurisdiction representatives at the following telephone numbers or the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.

SOUTHERN CITIES AREA

Carson Mr. Jerome Grooms
(310) 952-700

Long Beach Mr. Lon Maddox
(562) 570-6771

Department of Fish and Game Mr. John Sunada
(562) 590-5182

MID-CITIES AREA (cont'd.)

Cudahy Mr. Nick Mull
(323) 773-5143

Downey Ms. June Yotsuya
Mr. Desi Alvarez
(562) 904-7284

Lynwood Mr. Bruno Naulls
(310) 603-0220

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES AREA

Los Angeles Mr. Bob Fawcett
(213) 847-8282

Burbank Mr. Roger Baker
(818) 238-5278

Glendale Mr. Scott Reese
(818) 548-2004

MID-CITIES AREA

Bell Ms. Annette Peretz
(323) 588-6211

Bell Gardens Mr. Tony Ybarra
(562) 806-7722

Compton Ms. Linda Thomas
(310) 605-5809

Paramount Mr. Bill Pagett
(562) 220-2000
Ext. 2108

Maywood Ms. Linda Dovalis
(323) 562-5010

South Gate Mr. Oliver Mujica
(323) 563-9528

Vernon Mr. Kevin Wilson
(323) 583-8811

Commerce Mr. Robert Lipton
(213) 722-4805

Army Corps of Engineers Mr. Ted Masigat
(213) 452-3393

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Project Manager Ms. Maria Lopez
(626) 458-4342