

An aerial, black and white photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, a large stadium with a curved roof is visible. A river flows through the city, with a bridge crossing it. The city buildings are dense, and the sky is filled with clouds. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

*URBAN TRAILS:
Connecting Cities to Nature*

Moderator:

JEFF HUTCHINS, Principal • Mia Lehrer + Associates

Presenters:

MARGOT JACOBS, Associate • Mia Lehrer + Associates

LISA SOGHOR, Deputy Executive Officer • MRCA

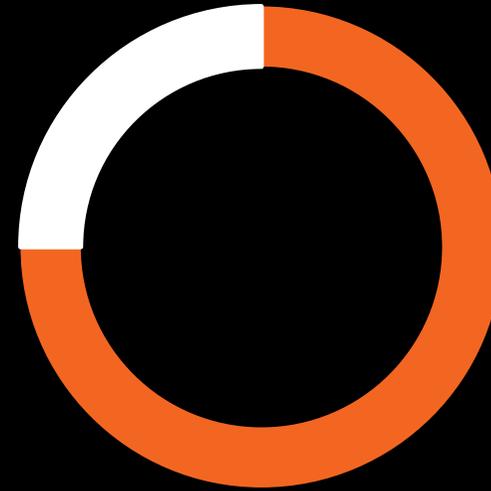
*GREG GAUTHIER, Manager Southern California Wetlands
Recovery Projects • State of California Coastal Conservancy*

TODAY



*54% of population
living in cities*

2050



*75% of population
living in cities*



*How can we connect urban neighborhoods
plighted with a scarcity of open space to nature?*

A scenic view of a river with a city skyline in the background. The river is filled with water and has several small islands of green vegetation. The city skyline is visible in the distance, with several tall buildings. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is a mix of nature and urban development.

*PROMOTING CONNECTED, HEALTHY,
SUSTAINABLE, MEMORABLE, CITIES*



LOS ANGELES, A CITY, A COUNTY, A METROPOLITAN AREA 3.8 MILLION - 18,500,000 MILLION

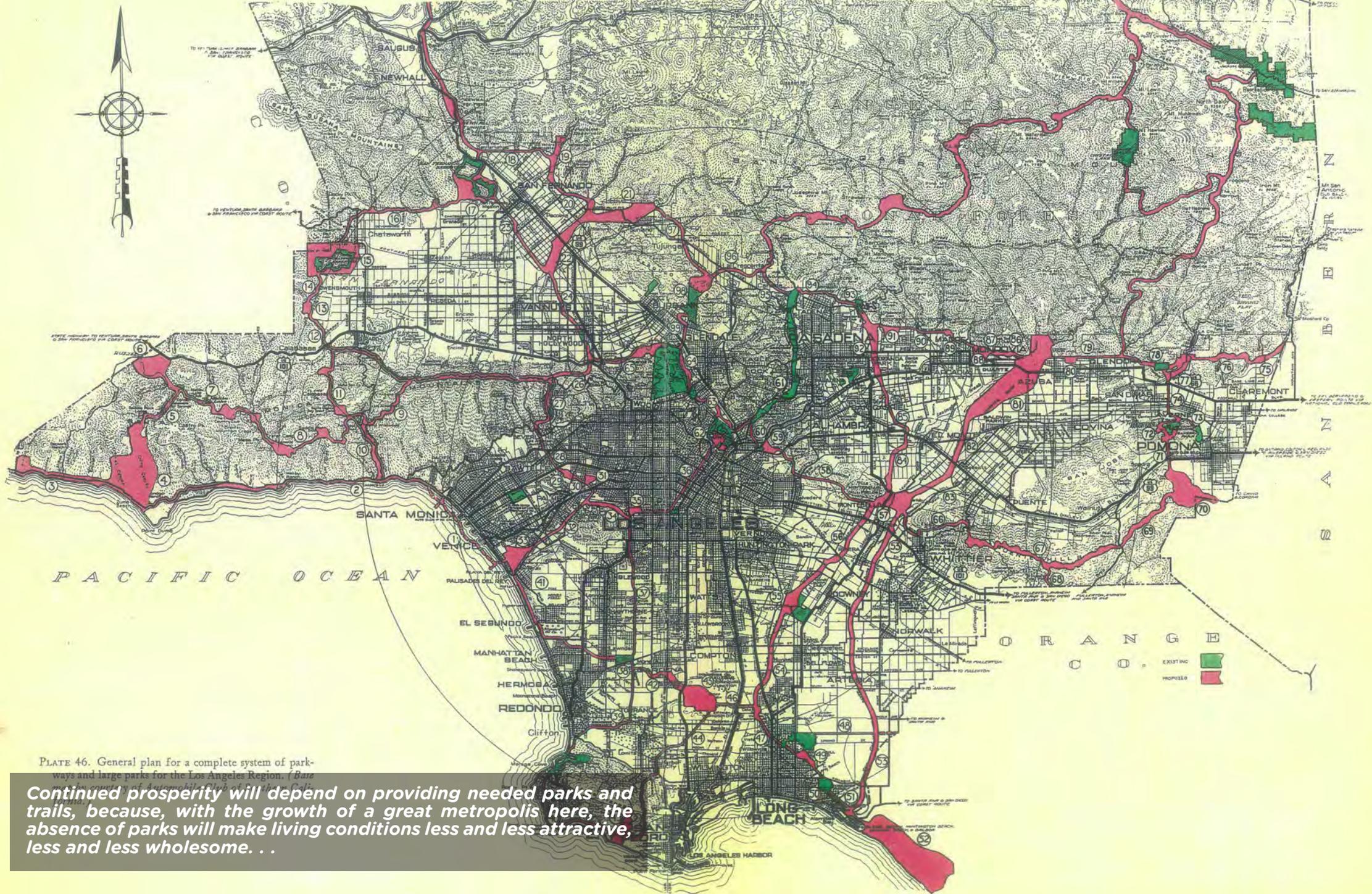
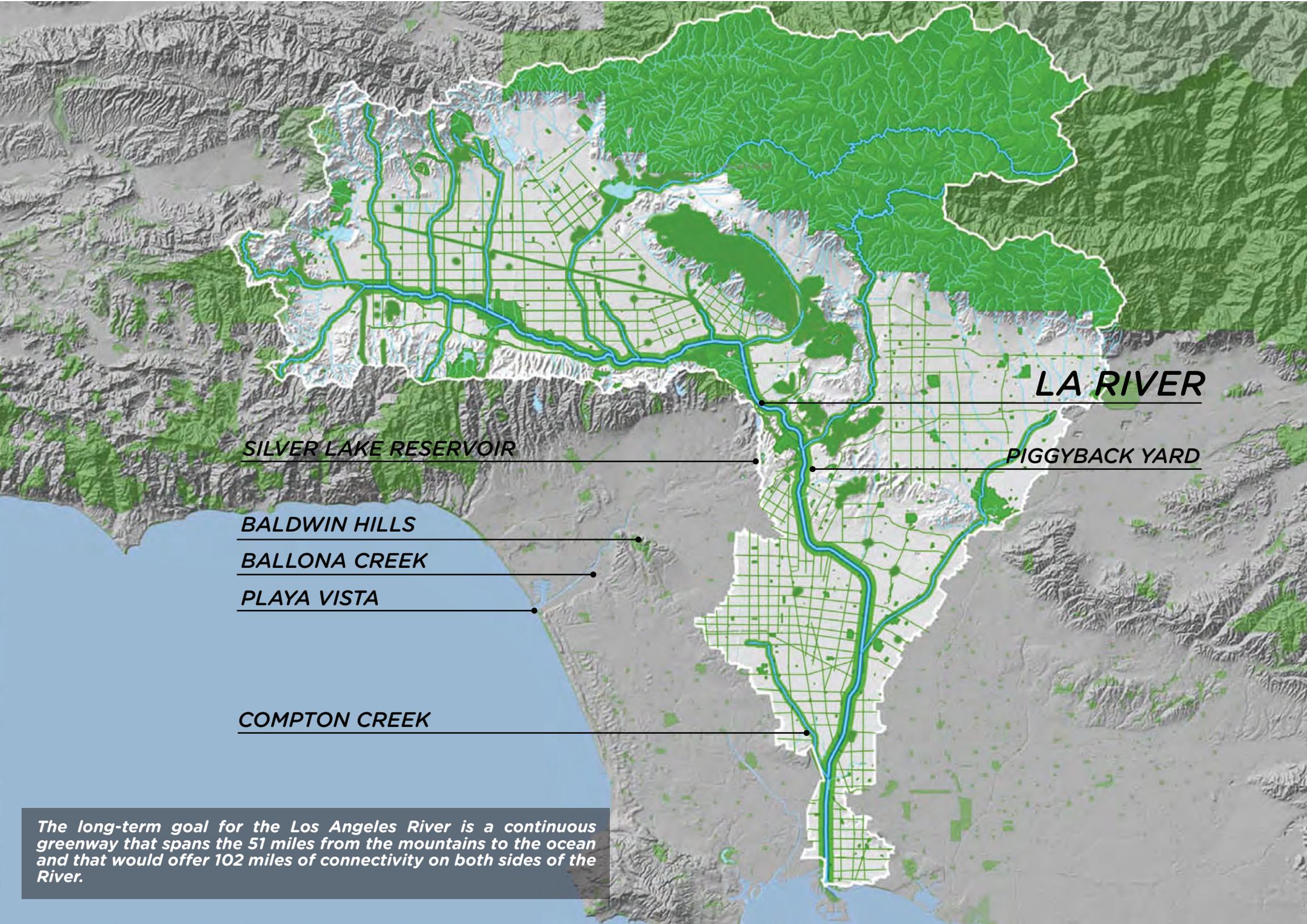


PLATE 46. General plan for a complete system of parkways and large parks for the Los Angeles Region. (Base

Continued prosperity will depend on providing needed parks and trails, because, with the growth of a great metropolis here, the absence of parks will make living conditions less and less attractive, less and less wholesome. . .



LA RIVER

SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR

PIGGYBACK YARD

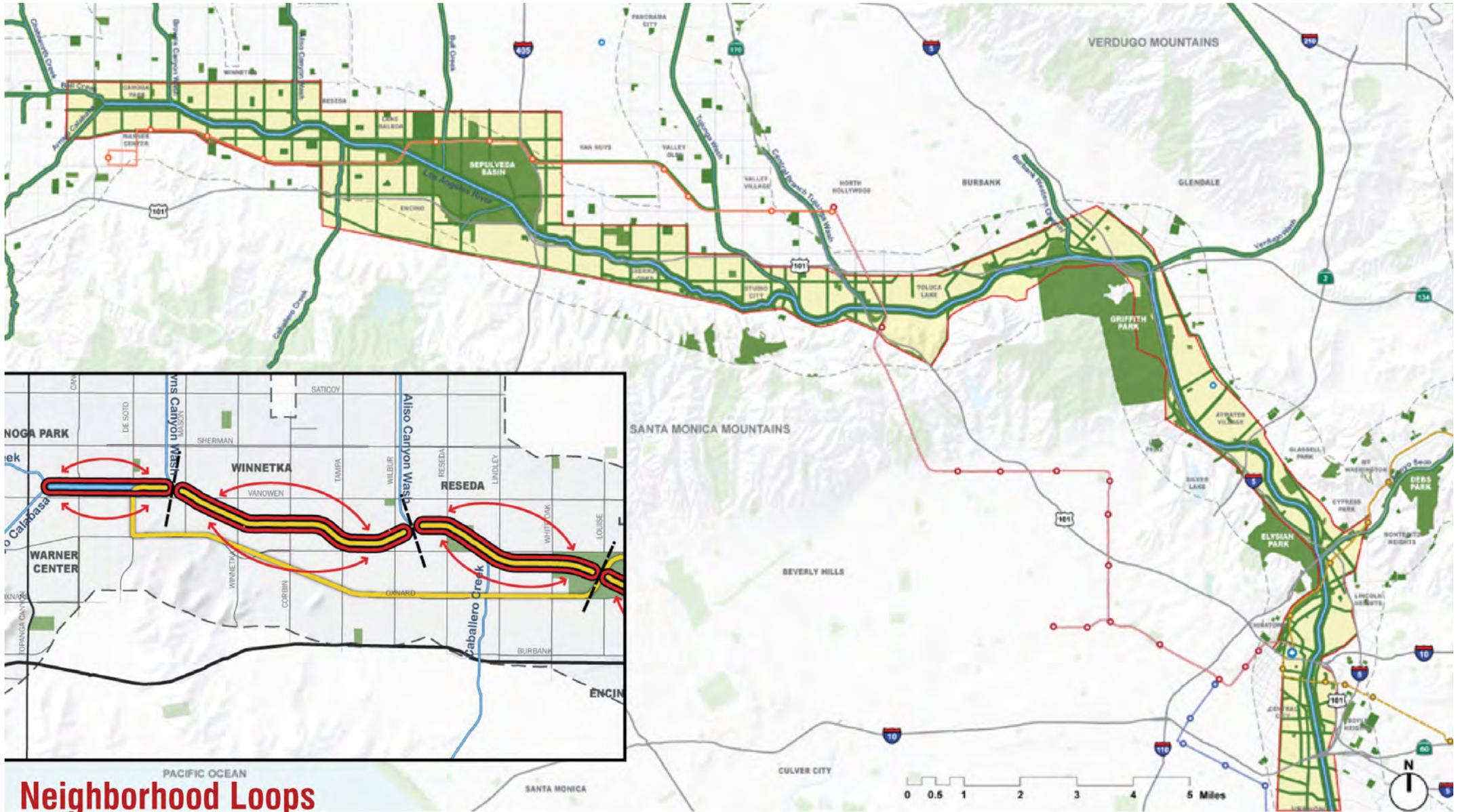
BALDWIN HILLS

BALLONA CREEK

PLAYA VISTA

COMPTON CREEK

The long-term goal for the Los Angeles River is a continuous greenway that spans the 51 miles from the mountains to the ocean and that would offer 102 miles of connectivity on both sides of the River.

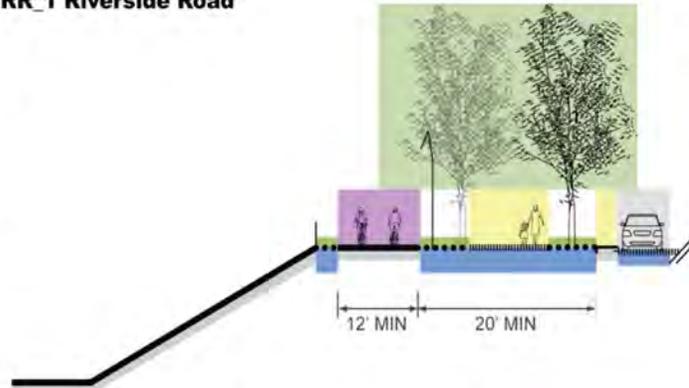


Riverside Roads

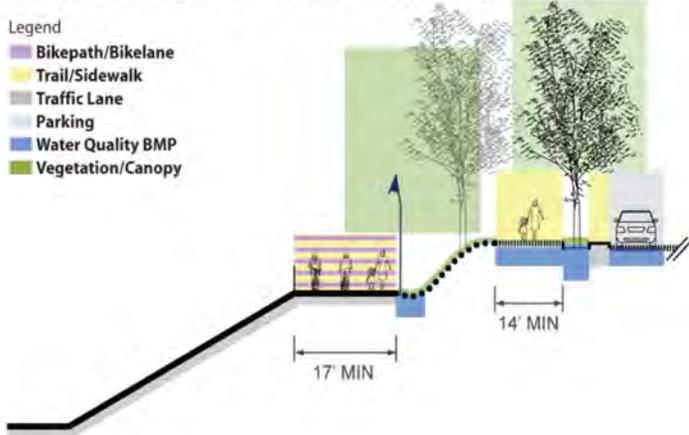
Streets fronting on the river, designed to face and improve river access and amenities.

- Use Street ROW to create enhanced river edge trails, amenities, and ecology.
- Treat storm water run-off from adjacent hard trails and streets.
- Use porous paving and other BMPs.
- Provide multiple circulation routes.

RR_1 Riverside Road



RR_2 Riverside Road with Sloped River ROW



- Legend
- Bikepath/Bikelane
 - Trail/Sidewalk
 - Traffic Lane
 - Parking
 - Water Quality BMP
 - Vegetation/Canopy

Paseos

Pedestrian thoroughfare provides access midblock or where roads are not necessary.

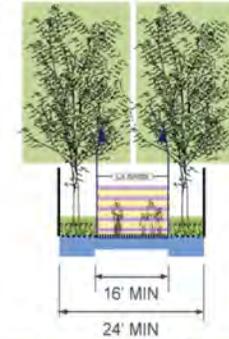
- Service / emergency vehicle access
- Native tree & shrub planting
- Shade structures
- Water Quality: Permeable Paving, Biofiltration, Bioswale, and/or Infiltration Strips.
- Vegetal buffer from adjacent uses (Parking lots, Service Yards, etc.)
- Wayfinding Signage
- Public Art

Paseo Promenades

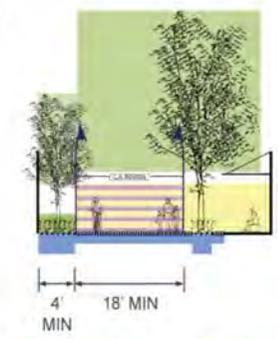
Enhanced pedestrian connections to River through proposed and existing development. Potential commercial or open space promenade.

- Service / emergency vehicle access
- Native tree & shrub planting
- Shade structures: Pergolas
- Themed / public art
- Water Quality: Permeable Paving, Biofiltration, Bioswale, and/or Infiltration Strips.
- Vegetal buffer from adjacent uses (Parking lots, Service Yards, etc.)
- Wayfinding Signage
- Furniture / Public Art

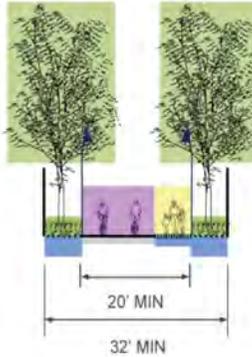
P_1



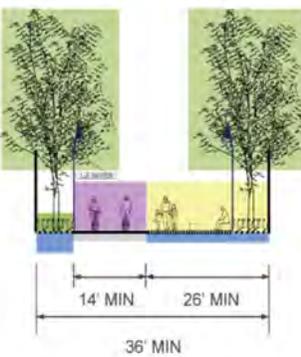
PP_1



P_1



PP_2



- Legend
- Bikepath/Bikelane
 - Trail/Sidewalk
 - Traffic Lane
 - Parking
 - Water Quality BMP
 - Vegetation/Canopy

JURISDICTION WITHIN RIVER RIGHT OF WAY

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS Flood Protection Regulations

LA COUNTY River Management and Maintenance

LA CITY Stormwater and Treatment Plant releases into the River



JURISDICTION OVER PRIVATE & PUBLIC PROPERTY

LA CITY Planning Department

LA CITY Bureau of Engineering

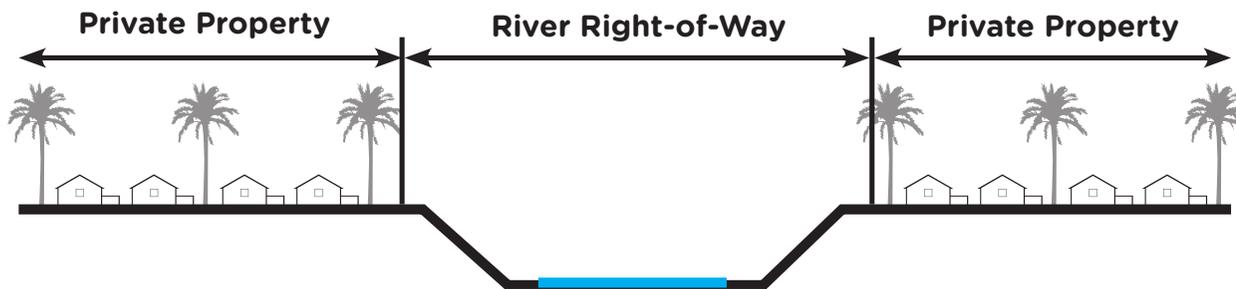
LA CITY Recreation and Park Department

LA Department of Water and Power

Special Districts

Other Cities (The River flows through 18 cities)

The first 32 miles of the River that flow through the City of Los Angeles intersect 7 U.S. Congressional Districts, 10 Council Districts, approximately 20 Neighborhood Council areas, and 12 Community Plan areas.



JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

A cooperative agreement between the City and the County for the River Right-of-Way for Army Corps participation by MOU

- River Construction
- Right-of-Way Management and Maintenance
- Public Liability

GOVERNMENTAL

LOS ANGELES RIVER FOUNDATION

A non-profit organization tasked with raising funds to support the ongoing revitalization of the River

- River-Related Improvements
- Economic Development
- Public Space Management and Maintenance

PHILANTHROPIC

REVITALIZATION CORPORATION

A non-profit nongovernmental organization tasked with implementing the Plan through land development and project management

- River-Related Improvements
- Economic Development
- Public Space Management and Maintenance

ENTREPRENEURIAL

SELECT STAKEHOLDERS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES GOVERNMENT

COUNTY, STATE, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



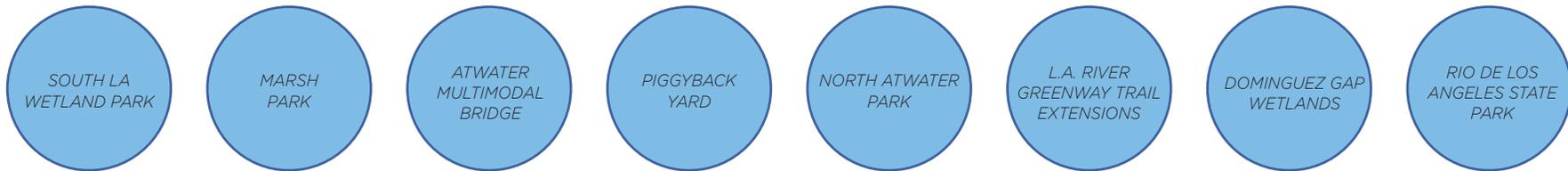
ORGANIZATIONS



SELECT PLANS + POLICIES

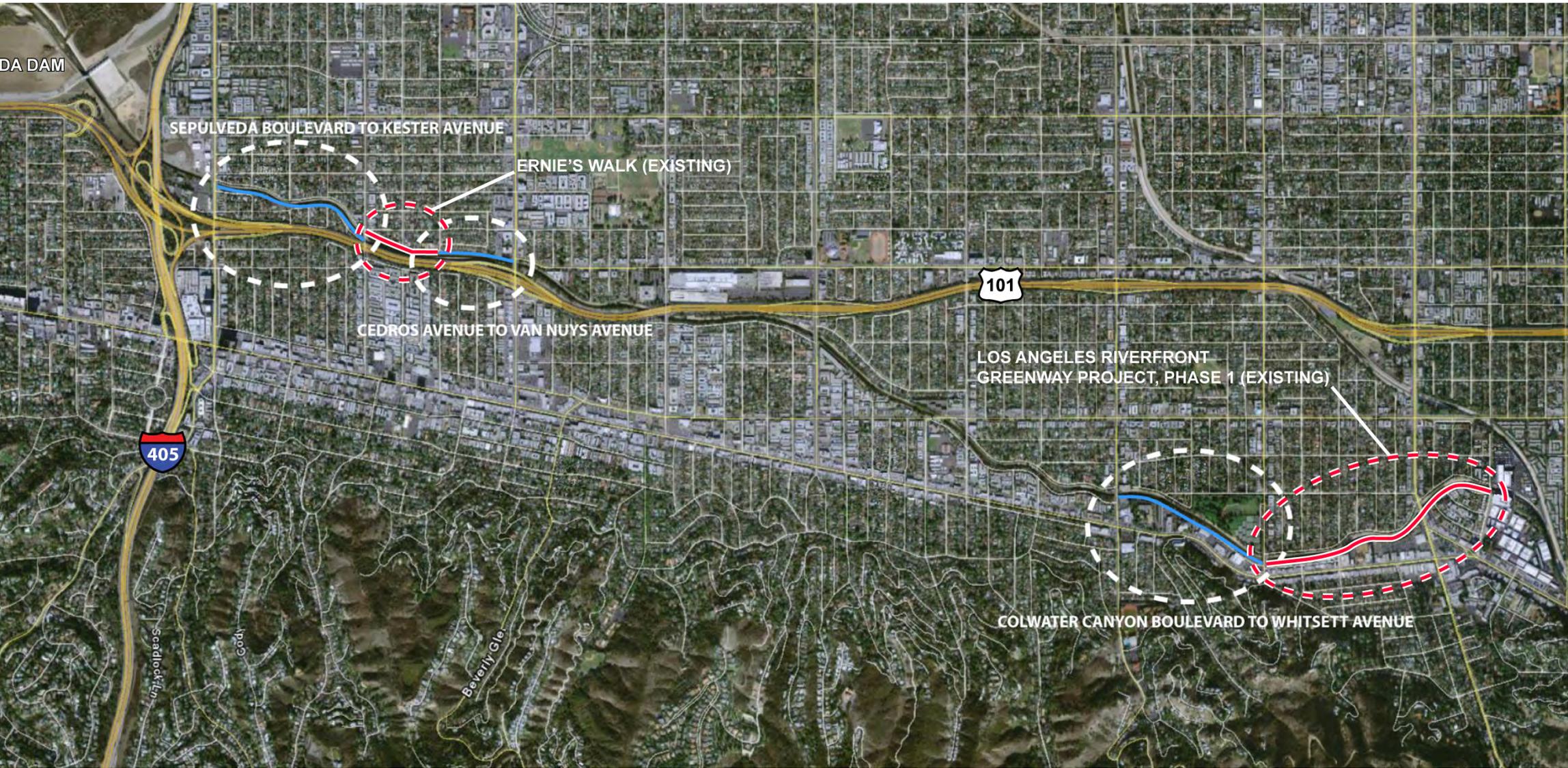


SELECT PROJECTS



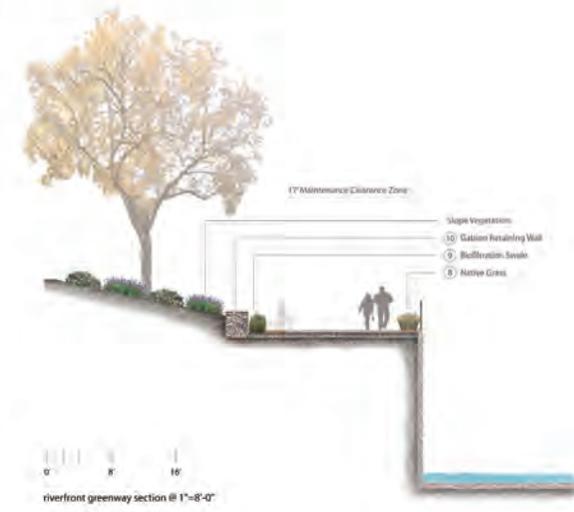
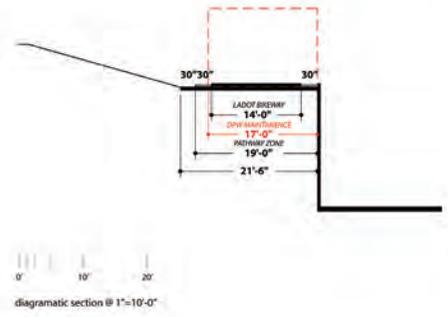
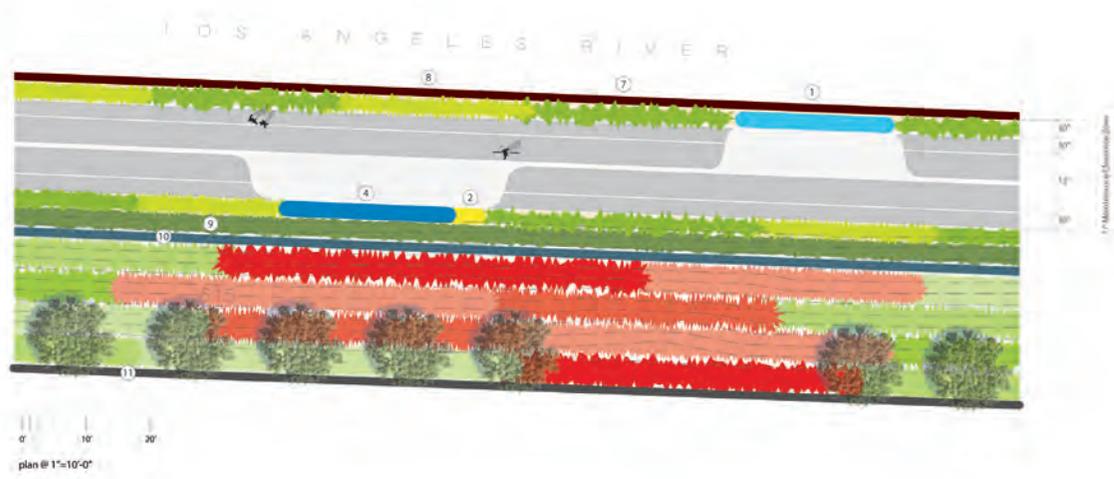
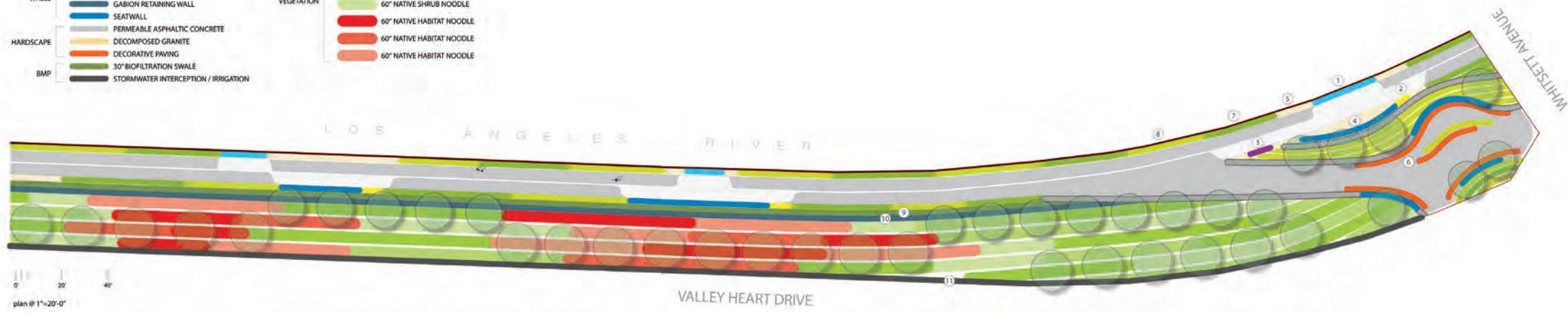


THE PATH TOWARDS REVITALIZING THE RIVER BUILDING UPON GROWING MOMENTUM





- | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| AMENITIES | 1 INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE | 2 LIGHTING | 3 BICYCLE RACK | 4 SEATWALL |
| WALLS | CONCRETE RUBBLE RETAINING | GABION RETAINING WALL | PERMEABLE ASPHALTIC CONCRETE | DECOMPOSED GRANITE |
| HARDSCAPE | DECOMPOSED GRANITE | DECORATIVE PAVING | 30" BIOFILTRATION SWALE | STORMWATER INTERCEPTION / IRRIGATION |
| BMP | | | | |
-
- | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| VEGETATION | 30" NATIVE GRASS NOODLE | 30" NATIVE SHRUB NOODLE | 60" NATIVE HABITAT NOODLE | 60" NATIVE HABITAT NOODLE | 60" NATIVE HABITAT NOODLE |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|





MITIGATING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT *THE LOS ANGELES RIVER GREENWAY PHASE ii Under Construction*

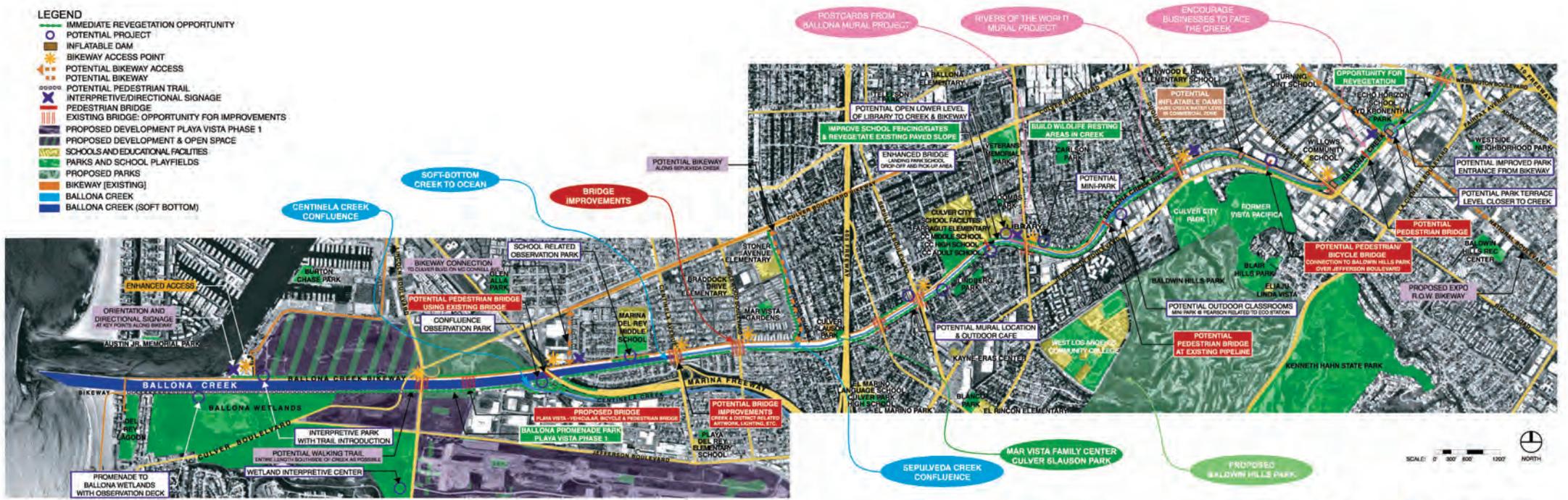


PLACEMAKING STRATEGIES

- NELA COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES
- QUARTER MILE BUFFER
- HALF MILE BUFFER
- WATER BODIES
- RIVER CROSSINGS CURRENT
- RIVER BIKE & PEDESTRIAN PATH
- BIKE FRIENDLY STREETS
- FUNDED BIKE LANE
- EXISTING BIKE LANES PATHS, ROUTES
- METRO LINK STOP
- METRO LINK STOP
- METRO GOLD LINE
- METRO RED LINE
- BUS LINES
- RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION
- EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
- MEDICAL FACILITIES
- PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES
- LIBRARY
- SOCIAL SERVICES
- RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
- INFRASTRUCTURE



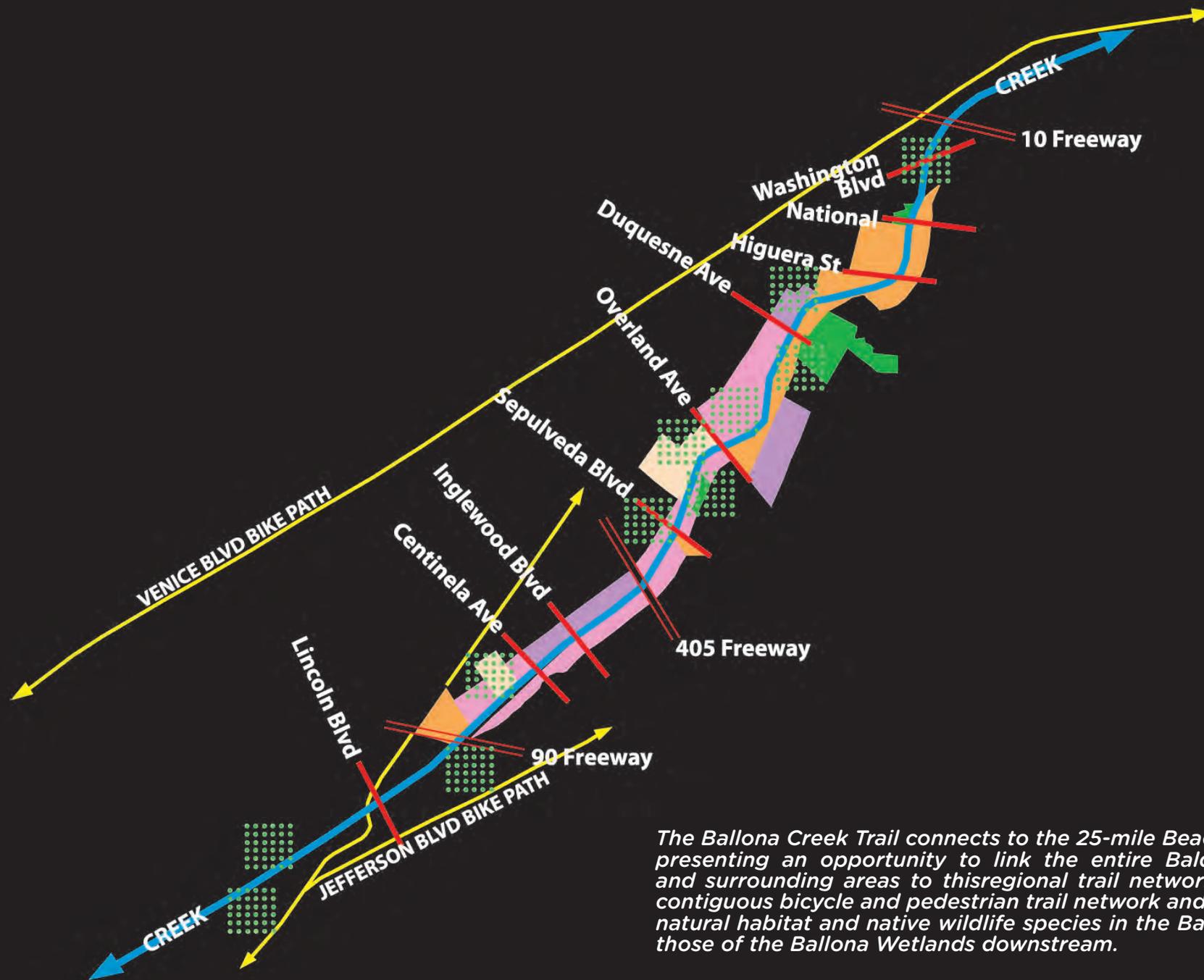
- LEGEND**
- IMMEDIATE REVEGETATION OPPORTUNITY
 - POTENTIAL PROJECT
 - INFLATABLE DAM
 - BIKEWAY ACCESS POINT
 - POTENTIAL BIKEWAY ACCESS
 - POTENTIAL BIKEWAY
 - POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
 - INTERPRETIVE/DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE
 - PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
 - EXISTING BRIDGE: OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPROVEMENTS
 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAYA VISTA PHASE 1
 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT & OPEN SPACE
 - SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES
 - PARKS AND SCHOOL PLAYFIELDS
 - PROPOSED PARKS
 - BIKEWAY [EXISTING]
 - BALLONA CREEK
 - BALLONA CREEK (SOFT BOTTOM)



BALLONA CREEK TRAIL & BIKEWAY MASTER PLAN STUDY DIAGRAM

JUNE 2001





The Ballona Creek Trail connects to the 25-mile Beach Bike Path, presenting an opportunity to link the entire Baldwin Hills Park and surrounding areas to this regional trail network, to provide a contiguous bicycle and pedestrian trail network and to reconnect natural habitat and native wildlife species in the Baldwin Hills with those of the Ballona Wetlands downstream.



The expanded park will extend into adjacent park-poor communities with greenways, pedestrian and bicycle trails, and will connect to important existing and planned regional trail systems, including the Ballona Creek Trail, the Stocker Street Trail and the La Brea Avenue Trail. This park has the potential of the unit to provide regional recreation opportunities for millions of people within a 10 mile radius, and many scenic vista points from which most of the Los Angeles Basin, Pacific Ocean and local mountains can be viewed.





LINKING RESIDENTS TO AMENITIES *SILVER LAKE RESERVOIR 2008*



Water for the Next 100 Years

New Purpose, New Life for the Silver Lake Reservoirs.

The Water Cycle: The Giver of Life

In an era of climate change and uncertain rainfall, we can learn from nature's endless cycle and conserve our limited supplies – by capturing and reusing this precious resource in new ways.

Silver Lake as a Future Water Source

Set in its own watershed near the Los Angeles River, Silver Lake has the potential for more efficient use of water that's now wasted. Several options may be feasible, with the existing storm drain system and old unused pipelines. How can Silver Lake be part of a more sustainable water future?

A Viable Ecosystem; New Public Benefits

The new Silver Lake Reservoirs can become a more complete ecosystem, with new wildlife habitat, public space, and opportunities for community enjoyment. What new park or feature can you imagine?



Renovation of Echo Park Lake includes wetlands for stormwater cleansing and reduced water use.

A Sustainable Future:

What Could We Build? No longer to be used for drinking water, the Reservoirs may play an important role in our water future. As Los Angeles faces critical water challenges, a new sustainable solution may be right before our eyes. Many cities have created similar successful projects.

Wetlands:

Natural Water Cleansing



2

Wetlands are nature's system for cleaning water. Plants and microorganisms break down pollutants and provide food and habitat for wildlife – as they release purified water back into rivers and lakes. In addition to water purification, wetlands assist in flood control and stabilizing slopes.

Terracing:

Stormwater Treatment



3

How might rainwater from Silver Lake's watershed be captured, cleansed and rerouted for other uses?

Can the Reservoirs' steep asphalt banks be replaced with terraced wetlands that provide natural stormwater cleansing and new habitat?

Could Silver Lake utilize high quality recycled water as a component of its water source?

Recycled Water:

The Purple Pipe Solution



4



Revitalization of Los Angeles River will offer terraced banks, stormwater treatment and public enjoyment.

5

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land where water drains to the lowest point. It includes all the rivers, streams and underground flow. Silver Lake is a micro-shed within the Ballona Creek Watershed. The Los Angeles River is a larger watershed, and both flow to the ocean.



6



METABOLIC STUDIO

Provided by Silver Lake Reservoirs Conservancy
in cooperation with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.
Support provided by Metabolic Studio.

1, 2 © Craig Collins ©; Courtesy of Robert Lurie
4. Courtesy of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
5. Courtesy of Mita Leifer + Associates, Wank Associates, Civitas and Tatra Tech
6. © Mita Leifer + Associates



Outlining sustainability guidelines for new development establishing targets for alternative energy savings, water savings, waste reduction and heat island reductions including alternative modes of transportation, a trail network and filtration of water through a riparian zone and wetlands.



The beneficial uses of the Alamo River include warm freshwater habitat, wildlife habitat, preservation of rare, threatened, and endangered species, and contact and non-contact recreation. Clean-up of the Alamo River will further benefit Earl Walker Park which has been underutilized by the Holtville community for decades.



DESPITE THE CHALLENGES **ALAMO RIVER TRAIL** *Ongoing*

A PLAN THAT

redevelops the City's existing flood control channel and adjacent land into a safe, ecologically beneficial, multi-use, public greenway.

encourages comprehensive and collaborative strategies for environmental resource enhancements, open space provisions, water quality improvements, and sustainable economic development.

transforms a blighted, under-utilized resource into a valuable amenity, promoting civic pride and regional identity.



PROMOTE ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- Improve Riparian Habitat Quality and Quantity
- Integrate and Recommend Watershed Best Management Practices
- Improve Water Quality
- Instill Stewardship Principles
- Create a Native Plant Landscape
- Maintain and Improve Flood Protection
- Utilize Sustainable Practices and Materials to Conserve Materials and Energy

EXPAND AND ENHANCE THE CREEK CORRIDOR

- Reestablish Creek Identity within the City
- Create adjacent Open Spaces and Development that Enhance the Natural Qualities of the Creek
- Increase and Improve Open Space and Recreation Opportunities
- Connect Open Space to the Creek
- Improve Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Equestrian Access and Safety
- Improve Physical Access to the Creek
- Reinforce Visual Connections to the Creek

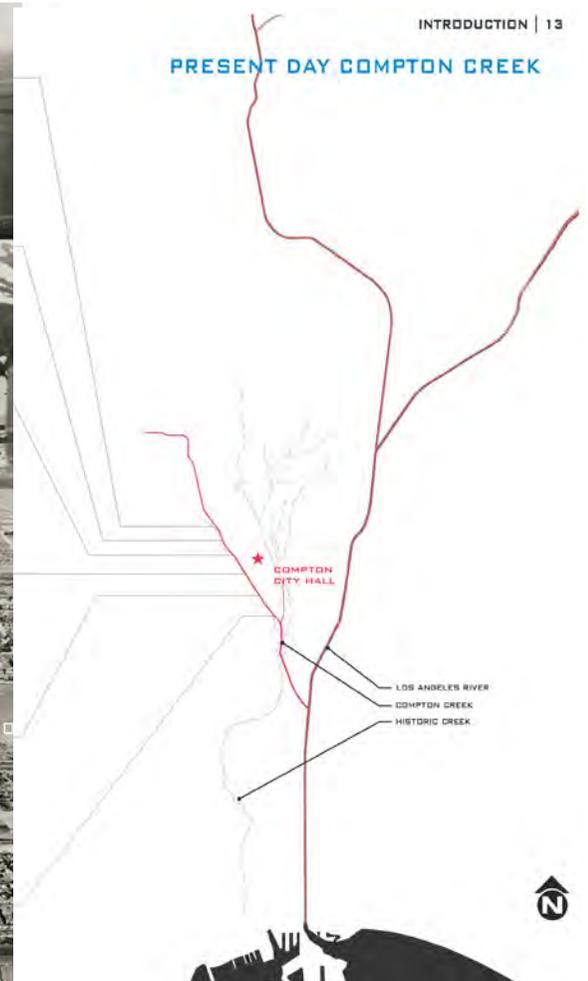
IMPROVE COMMUNITY AND CITY

- Implement Multi-Objective Planning Projects
- Provide a Framework for Public Recreation and Non-Motorized Transportation
- Improve Environmental Awareness and Stewardship
- Improve Public Health
- Enhance Public Safety
- Extend and Relate the Fabric of the City to the Creek
- Link Natural Systems to Economic Development
- Improve Access to Public Amenities
- Reinforce and Improve East-West connections to and across the Creek
- Connect Creek-adjacent schools to the Creek

HISTORIC COMPTON CREEK



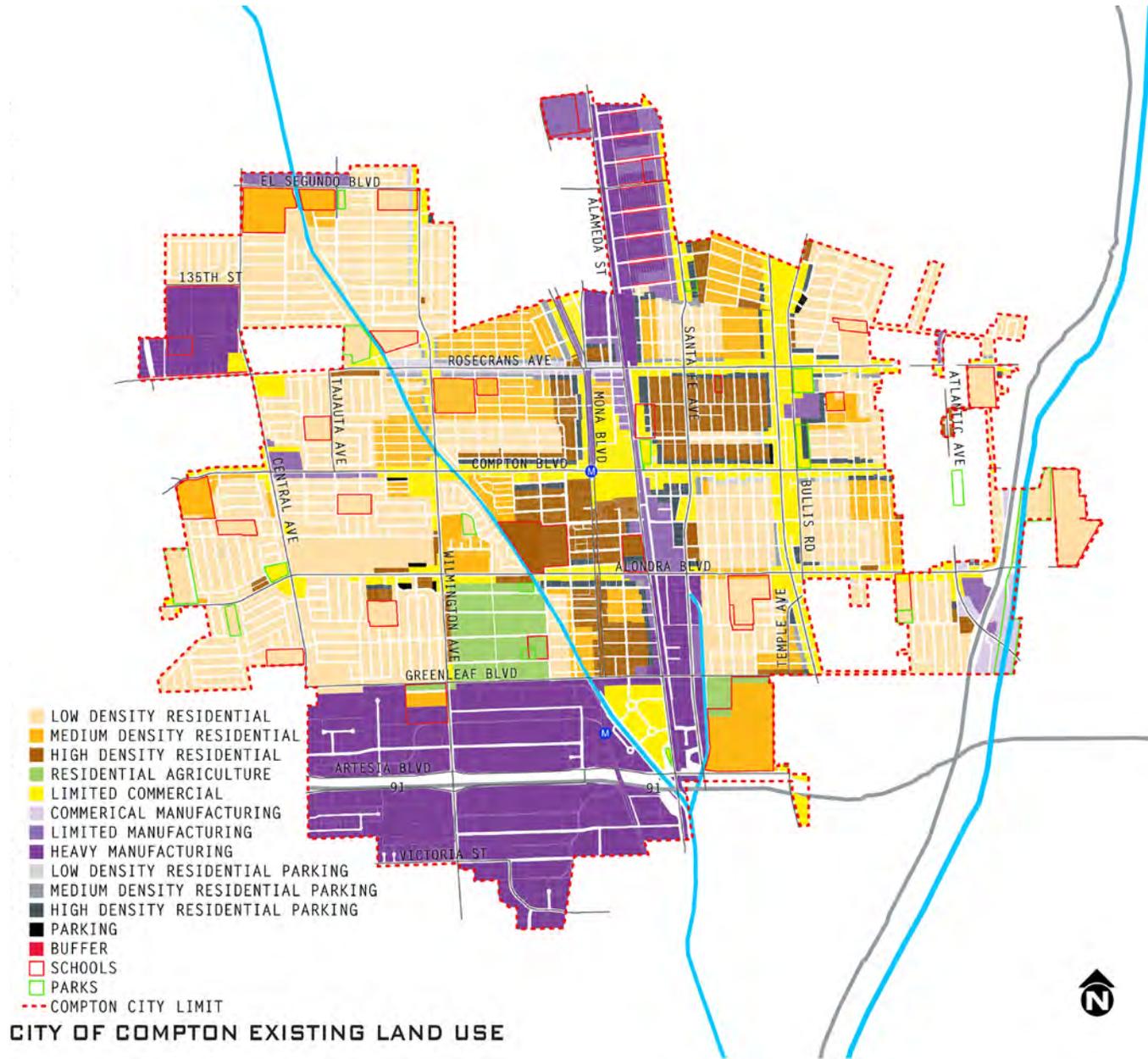
INTRODUCTION | 13
PRESENT DAY COMPTON CREEK

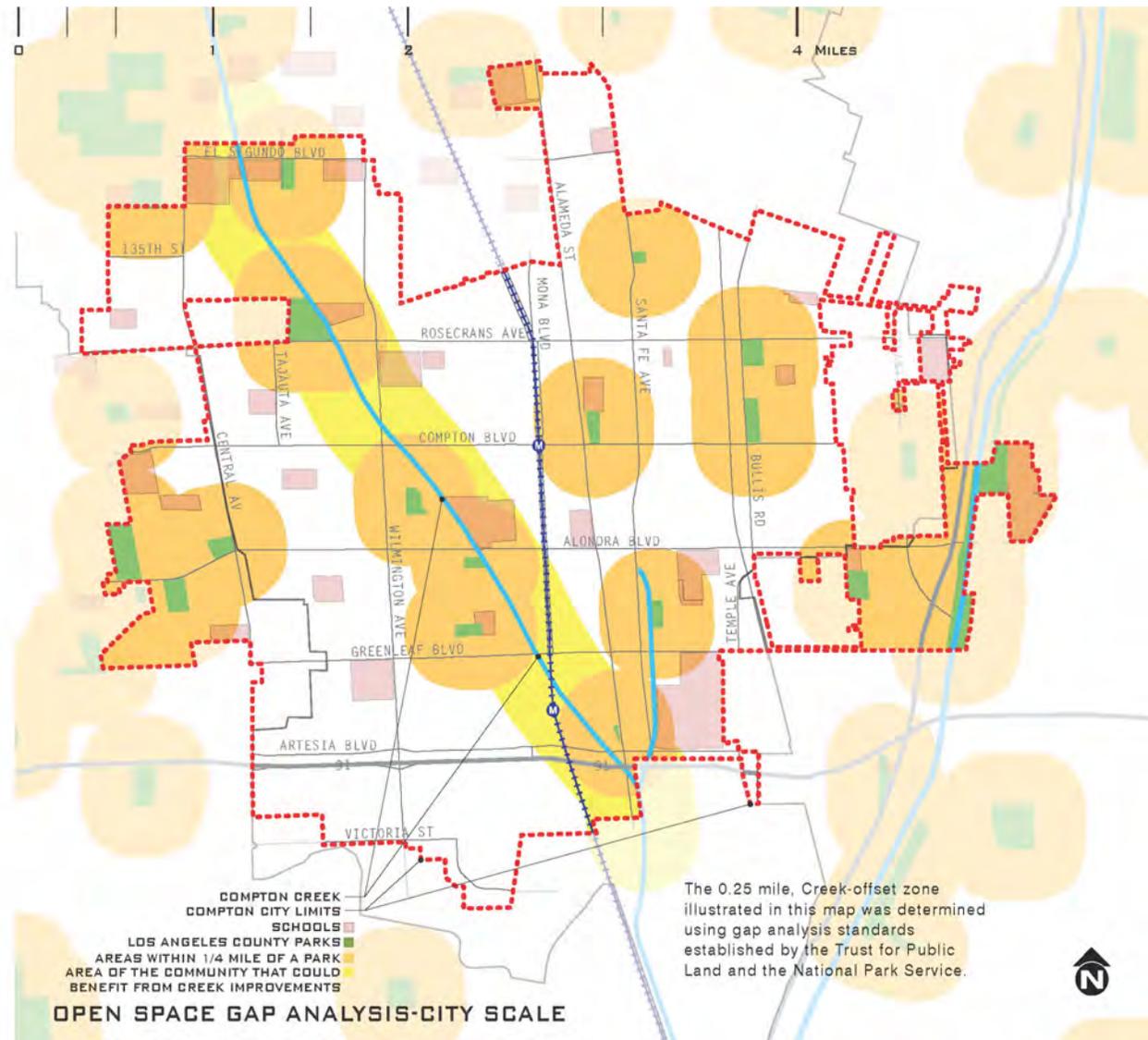




CENSUS 2000
 93,493 PEOPLE
 (38.5% UNDER THE AGE OF 18)
 22,327 HOUSEHOLDS
 18,620 FAMILIES
 56.84% HISPANIC
 40.3% AFRICAN AMERICAN
 16.7% WHITE
 0.7% NATIVE AMERICAN
 0.25% ASIAN
 1.05% PACIFIC ISLANDER
 3.62% OTHER

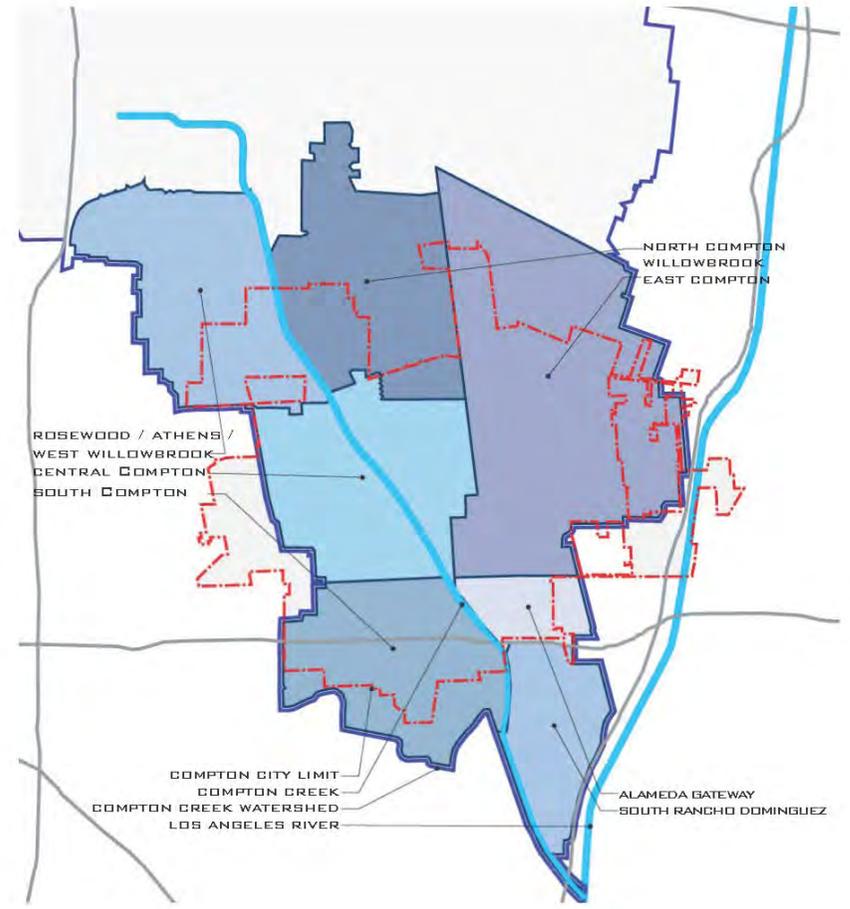


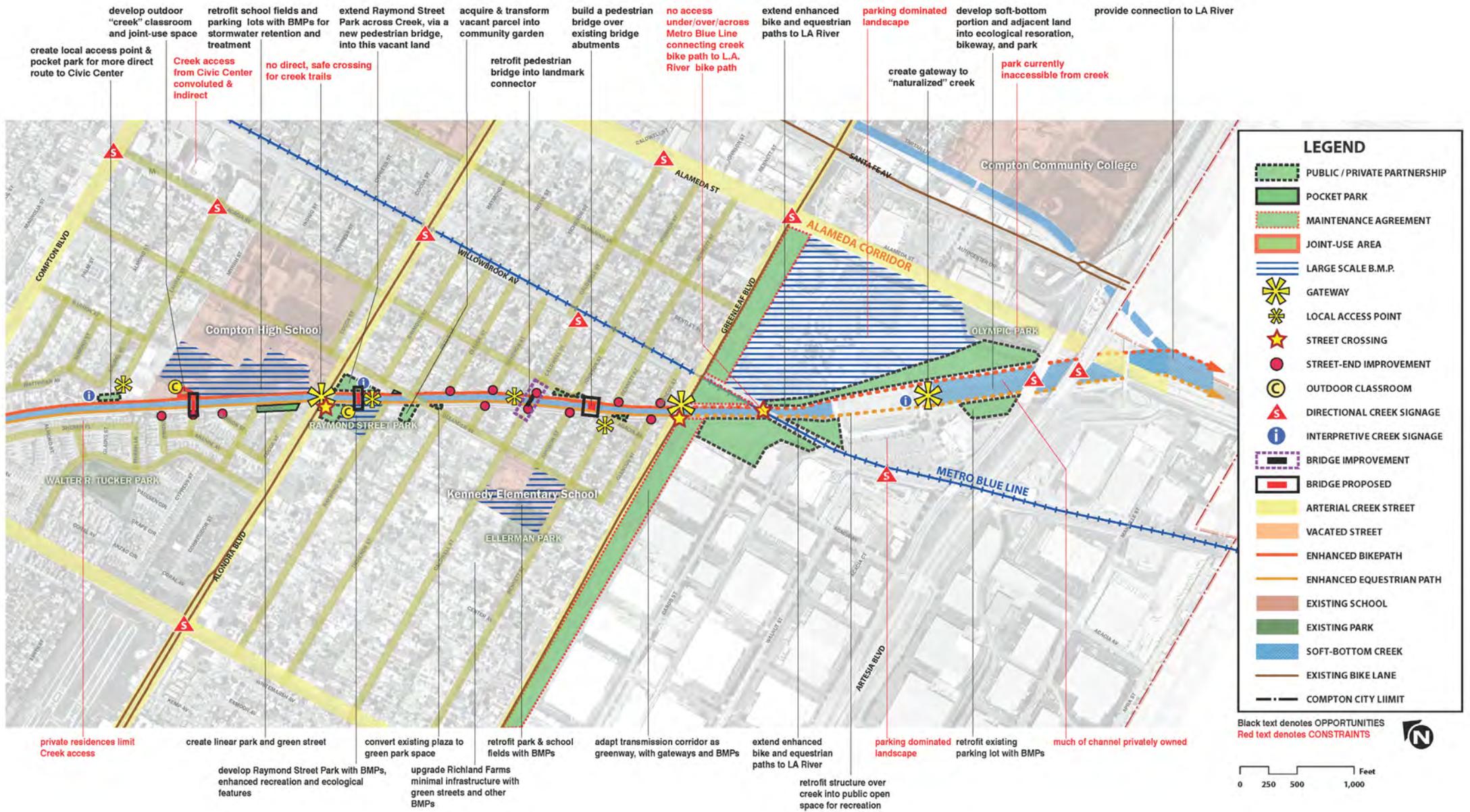




0 1 2 4 MILES

0 1 2 4 MILES





IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS COMPTON CREEK MASTER PLAN 2006



RAYMOND PARK CONCEPT PLAN

MATERIAL STUDIES: HERE ARE SOME DESIGNS WE LIKE. TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!



RETAINING WALLS

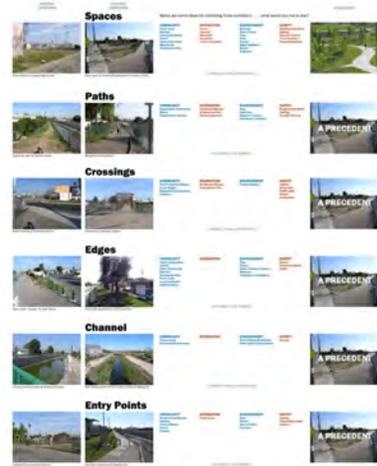


PAVING & GROUND COVER



BENCHES

MATERIAL STUDIES



COMPTON CREEK, CONTEXT & FOCUS AREAS

CREEK SYSTEMS BOARD



GATES AND FENCES



AMENITIES



SECURITY

SITE AMENITY STUDIES

CONCERNS

Who is going to be maintaining these improvements?
 How long will the Creek Garden Park project take?
 What is the status of the Bike Path and Equestrian Trail?
 Pragmatic issues like safety and garbage need to be addressed, in addition to big ideas.
 It is important to get Congress and the Federal Government involved in the Creek restoration effort.

SAFETY

Security cameras are too Big Brother - they should be more discrete
 Put cameras and lights on same pole

CREEK ECOLOGY

Use native plants and community gardens with farmers' markets
 Build native plant nurseries at McNair Elementary

COMMUNITY

In the past, Compton wasn't even at the table when decisions regarding the Creek were made. Now, the city and the community are at the table and are ready to act.
 Develop "River Rangers" concept where the community takes ownership of Creek and students learn about Creek ecology and maintenance in a program run by Park Rangers.
 Create a high expectation Creek Charter School adjacent to Tucker Park which focuses on environmental education
 Residents in Richland Farms are ready to help revitalize the Creek. If the city wants 50 guys to come out and do the work to clean it up, they'll do it.

ACCESS

Add access point from Tucker Park to Creek Bike Path
 Link bridges

RECREATION

Create Equestrian Park on city-owned parcel located north of Raymond Street Park, currently used for a storage facility
 Do not build an Equestrian Park adjacent to Ellerman Park and Kennedy Elementary School because of air quality issues
 Create bike path access under the 91 Freeway or through the existing culvert
 Expand baseball fields and add a running track at Washington Elementary School

BEAUTIFICATION

If we create something wonderful, people will take care of it.
 Improvements will yield pride and less future vandalism.
 We need to change community norms.
 Use local artists for mural designs
 Use Feng Shui in design.
 Nice Signage
 Place dumpsters with "green art" at major dump sites along Creek.

AMENITIES

Compton may not be Beverly Hills, but it's our Beverly Hills.
 It's important to remember that Beverly Hills doesn't have an amenity like Compton Creek.
 Blue Line Station potential for small scale retail to transition to park/entertainment uses
 Add jazz amphitheater to new Raymond Street pocket park
 Add small scale retail along Creek at Auto Zone site
 Add food stands along the Creek
 Add community gardens and native plant nurseries to Stockwell Street pocket park