LOS ANGELES RIVER RANGER PROGRAM PLAN

Los Angeles River Cooperation Committee
July 1, 2019
Recent Investment in the LA River

» Planning efforts

» Implemented projects

» Funding for further improvements

» Growing need for collaborative efforts to ensure public safety, education, and resource improvements

» AB 1588
Legislation, AB 1558: Los Angeles River Ranger Program

» Requires development of a river ranger program to provide a network of river rangers who assist the public at sites along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries

» Program to be developed through collaboration by:
  • San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy (RMC)
  • Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC)
  • Department of Parks and Recreation
  • California Conservation Corps
  • State Lands Commission
RMC was created in 1999 and covers 68 cities in LA & Orange County

Jurisdiction Includes Five Rivers
- Lower Los Angeles River
- San Gabriel River
- Santa Ana River
- Santa Clara River
- Rio Hondo River Creek

Tributaries & Washes
San Jose Creek; Coyote Creek; Carbon Creek; Compton Creek
Completion of Lower LA River Revitalization Plan (AB 530)

155 Projects identified in the Plan

Grant Funding underway for project implementation
Current Los Angeles River RRZ
Planning Process Overview

Phase 1: Build Consensus around Program Description
- Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement
- Program and Services Inventory
- Background Research and Case Studies
- Program Description and Framework to meet intent of AB1558

Phase 2: Develop River Ranger Program Establishment Plan
- Ongoing Outreach
- Plan and Pilot Program Development

Phase 1: March to June 2018
Phase 2: June 2018 to Spring 2019
Making the Los Angeles River Safer and More Inviting

As the Los Angeles River is embraced as a community resource, the need for public safety, education, and resource improvements is becoming more urgent. The Los Angeles River: River Ranger Program requires development of a program to provide a network of river rangers to assist the public along the River and its tributaries.

What are the Program Goals?

The mission of the program is to partner with communities and local agencies to promote access, safety, maintenance, resource protection, recreation, education, volunteer and work opportunities, and other community benefits. Topics that the Program will address are identified below. For more information, see the Phase 1 Report at smmhc.ca.gov/index.html and rmc.ca.gov.

In Phase 1:

- 12 Community Partner Organizations Supported Outreach
- 1300+ Surveys Completed
- 20 Events Attended

Role of a “River Ranger”

- Safety Concerns
- Trash/Debris
- Water Quality
- Maintenance
- Crime
- Maintenance & Operations
- Education & Recreation Programs
- Safety Presence
- River Access & Connectivity

Stakeholder Cities:
- Bell
- Bell Gardens
- Carson
- Commerce
- Compton
- Downey
- Gardenia
- Hacienda
- Huntington Park
- Long Beach
- Los Angeles
- Lynwood
- Maywood
- Monterey
- Paramount
- Pasadena
- Pico Rivera
- San Fernando
- South Gate
- South Pasadena
- Vernon

It’s not too late to share your thoughts!

Complete the LA River Ranger Outreach Survey:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/LARiverRangerOutreach
Your input will help determine program components and priorities.

Thank you!

For comments and questions, please contact:
Marybeth Vergara, RMC at riverjars@smmhc.ca.gov - or - info@smmhc.ca.gov

LOS ANGELES RIVER RANGER PLAN
Haciendo al Río Los Ángeles Más Seguro y Atractivo

A medida que el Río Los Ángeles es adoptado como un recurso de la comunidad, se vuelven más urgentes la seguridad pública, la educación y el mejorar los recursos disponibles. El proyecto de ley AB 1558 Río Los Angeles: Programa de Guardaparques requiere el desarrollo de un programa para proporcionar una red de guardaparques que asista al público a lo largo del río y sus fuentes.

¿Cuáles son las metas del programa?

La misión del programa es trabajar en conjunto con las comunidades y agencias locales para promover el acceso, la seguridad, el mantenimiento, la protección de recursos, la recreación, la educación, el voluntariado y las oportunidades laborales y otros beneficios para la comunidad. Los temas que abordará el Programa se identifican a continuación. Para obtener más información, consulte el informe de la Fase 1 en smmc.ca.gov/index.html y rmc.ca.gov.

En la FASE 1:

- **12** Organizaciones Comunitarias Ayudaron con el Alcance Comunitario
- **1300+** Encuestas Completadas
- **20** Eventos Atendidos

**Temas de Sanidad y Seguridad**
- Basura/Escobros
- Calidad del Agua
- Seguridad mediante su Presencia
- Cuidar Recursos Naturales
- Mantenimiento y Operaciones
- Educación y Programas Recreativos
- Aceso a y Conectividad del Río

**Rol del “Guardaparques”**
- Crimen
- Mantenimiento

¡Aún no es demasiado tarde para contribuir su opinión!

Complete la encuesta de Alcance sobre los Guardaparques del Río Los Ángeles en surveymonkey.com/r/LARiverRanger-Outreach

Su contribución ayudará a determinar los componentes y prioridades del programa. ¡Muchas Gracias!

**Para comentarios y preguntas, por favor contacte a:**
Marybeth Vargas, RMC - mvargas@smmc.ca.gov - or - info@smmc.ca.gov

**LOS ANGELES RIVER RANGER PLAN**
Steering Committee

» San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy (RMC) & Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA)
» Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) & Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA)
» Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
» Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
» Office of Assemblymember Cristina Garcia
» Office of Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
» PlaceWorks
Stakeholder Committee

CITIES:
- Burbank
- Glendale
- Los Angeles
- Pasadena
- Bell
- Bell Gardens
- Carson
- Commerce
- Compton
- Cudahy
- Downey
- Huntington Park
- Long Beach
- Lynwood
- Maywood
- Paramount
- South Gate
- Vernon
- Pico Rivera
- Montebello
- South Pasadena
- San Fernando

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:
- LA County Homeless Services
- CCC (CA Conservation Corps)
- LACC (LA Conservation Corps)
- LBCC (Long Beach Conservation Corps)
- State Lands Commission
- California State Parks
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Pacoima Beautiful
- FOLAR (Friends of the LA River)
- MDLT (Mujeres de la Tierra)
- FLTS (From Lot to Spot)
- LA County Bike Coalition
- River LA
- Tree People
- North East Trees
Phase 1 Public Outreach

» Over 1300 surveys completed online and at outreach events
» Additional input provided through event poster activities to be included in final report
» Built interest base for future extensive outreach activities
Community Outreach Events and Survey Participation

Survey Respondents by Zipcode:
- 1 - 3
- 4 - 9
- 10 - 16
- 17 - 42
- 43 - 94

Los Angeles River

Los Angeles County

Miles
Emerging Themes from Stakeholder Meetings

Defining the River Ranger Program

» Priorities for River Rangers:
  • Public safety
  • Access and connectivity
  • Provide education on the history/resources
  • Offer recreation-oriented programming
  • Handle clean-up/maintenance
  • Address homeless issues
  • Coordinate with other agencies/partners
Initial Mission Statement for River Ranger Program

The mission of the River Ranger Program is to provide a safe and inviting Los Angeles River by ...

- Coordinate with existing city/County/agency efforts where desired;
- Providing a stand-alone level of service along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries.
What the River Ranger Program may address based on what we’ve heard:

» Peace Officer
» River Safety
» Maintenance and Clean-Up
» Homeless Outreach
» Resource Protection
» Recreation Programs
» Education Programs
» Administration & Coordination
Conclusions and Next Steps

» Continued Outreach- sharing results from Phase I; more public input for Phase II
  • Close on input January 2019

» Stakeholder Meetings
  • #5 (December 2018)
  • #6 (January 2019)

» Draft Plan, Phase II
  • February/March 2019
    ➢ *Pilot Programs for implementation recommendation
    *contingent on funding
Thank you!

Marybeth Vergara, Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
Mvergara@RMC.CA.GOV

Sally Gee, Watershed Conservation Authority
Sally.Gee@WCA.CA.GOV

Fernando Gomez, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
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Sarah Rascon, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Sarah.Rascon@MRCA.CA.GOV
Link Union Station (Link US) Project
LA River Cooperation Committee (LARCC)
July 1, 2019
**Proposed Changes to Draft EIR Project**

1. Removal of Above-Grade Passenger Concourse
2. Removal of loop track
3. Removal of property takes
4. Removal of construction staging areas and construction access
Comparison of Concourse Options

1. At-grade concourse
   - Width > 350 feet
   - Draft EIR – Build Alternative
   - Estimated Cost: $3.3 Billion (2018)

2. Above-grade concourse with new expanded passageway
   - Width = 100 feet
   - Draft EIR Proposed Project
   - Estimated Cost: $2.8 Billion (2018)

3. New modified expanded passageway
   - Width = 140 feet
   - Final EIR Proposed Project
   - Estimated Cost: $2.3 Billion (2018)

Note: Under all three concourse options, the railyard will need to be raised by 15 feet in elevation to match the elevation of the run-through tracks structure over the US-101.
Proposed Modified Expanded Passageway
Final EIR Project* Reduced Property Impacts

*Final EIR Project is subject to Metro Board Approval.
Active Transportation Improvements

Potential Connection to LA River Path

Optional bike bridge
If additional funding is identified

Commercial Street with Proposed Bike Lanes
1. 14 agency and stakeholder meetings, including City of Los Angeles, Caltrans, Metrolink, CHSRA, MWD, First 5 LA, Little Tokyo Community Council and Business Association, etc.

2. William Mead Homes community meeting on January 26th

3. Union Station 80th Anniversary Celebration

4. Metro Accessibility Advisory Committee on May 9th

5. Metro Central LA Roundtable on June 3rd

6. Metro Technical Advisory Committee meeting on June 5th

7. Link US open house/community meeting at Union Station on June 6th

In addition, Social Media and E-Mail notifications and websites updates are provided to further reach out to a broader audience.
Environmental Review Timeline

CEQA

STAGE I
- Notice of Preparation
- 30-day Public Scoping Period
- Public Scoping Meeting
  
  Spring 2016

STAGE II
- Detailed Project Description
- Technical Studies
  
  Spring 2016 - Winter 2018/19

STAGE III
- Draft EIR
- 45-day Public Comment Period
- Public Hearing
  
  Winter - Spring 2019

STAGE IV
- Final EIR
- Board Certification
  
  Summer 2019

Ongoing Public Involvement within Each Stage

We Are Here

*Subject to Change
Link US Funding Plan

LINK US has 2 Phases: Phase A and Phase B

Phase A – Run-through tracks and rail communication and signals that will enable commuter and intercity rail trains (Metrolink and Amtrak) to realize early benefits with an interim two-track run-through configuration at LAUS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
<th>PHASE A</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Proposition 1A/High Speed Rail Bonds</td>
<td>$423M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIRCP</td>
<td>$398M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$129M</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$950M</strong></td>
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</table>

California High-Speed Rail Authority 2018 Business Plan includes **$423 million** for Link US.

As part of the 2018 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program under Metrolink’s SCORE program, Link US was awarded **$398 million**.
Phase B- New lead tracks, new modified expanded passageway, raising of the train yard, new platforms with up to 8 run-through tracks including accommodating HSR with 1 platform and 2 tracks.

1. Phase B is currently not funded

2. Preliminary cost estimate *$1.35 Billion

3. Metro is actively exploring funding options to complete Phase B

*Preliminary estimates, subject to change
1. The following video is meant to inspire a creative vision for a world class transit station at Union Station

2. Proposed buildings shown are NOT part of the Link US project. Future development shown will be in later phases.

3. Visual representation of the passenger concourse and other elements are conceptual renderings that are not funded and subject to change through future design and preliminary engineering.

Concept Video
Next stop: a more connected river path.
Overview and Background

- Close 8-mile gap between Elysian Valley and Maywood
- Create 32-mile path from San Fernando Valley to Long Beach
- $365M in Measure M funding
- Feasibility Study completed in 2016
Project Goals

- Efficient & sustainable mobility
- Equity
- Safety
- Access
- Health
- User experience
Project Phases

PHASE I: Conceptual Design

PHASE II: Environmental Clearance & Design

PHASE III: Final Design, Permitting & Acquisition

PHASE IV: Construction Support

Community Engagement

Outreach Contract

Technical Contract

Path Opens 2025-27
Existing Conditions

- Opportunities and constraints facing the project, include but are not limited to:
  - Biological Resources
  - Water Resources
  - Structures
  - Right of Way
  - Geotechnical
  - Hazardous Waste
  - Utilities
  - Historic Resources
Potential Alignment Options

- Potential path access points
- Alignment options
  - East Side
  - East Bank
  - Channel Bottom
  - West Bank
Community Engagement

- Events
  Over 2,000+ reached

- Briefings
  City of LA
  City of Vernon
  County

- Stakeholder Roundtables

- 9 Open Houses/Community Meetings

- Youth Engagement

- Surveys
  3,000 + received

Metro
Preferred Access Points—Central

**CENTRAL**

1st St West
Union Station
7th St West
6th St Tunnel
4th St West
Mission Rd / Cesar Chavez

- Union Station
- Mission Rd / Cesar Chavez
- 1st St West
- 1st St East
- 4th St West
- 4th St East
- 6th St Tunnel
- 7th St West
- 7th St East / Jesse St Park
- Olympic Bl West
- Olympic Bl East
Preferred Access Points—South

SOUTH
- Washington Bl
- Atlantic Bl West
- Bandini-Soto Triangle
- Downey Rd East
- Atlantic Bl East
Preferred Path Types

PATH TYPE

- **40%**
  - Top of bank / cantilevered

- **11%**
  - Bottom of channel

- **32%**
  - Elevated

- **17%**
  - Incised
Alignment Evaluation Process

Feasible Alignment Options
Based on technical evaluation

Goals
Based on community input

Evaluation Criteria

Access Points & Path Types
Based on community input

POTENTIAL ALIGNMENTS

IDENTIFY TOP PERFORMING ALTERNATIVES
Benefits

+ **Equity:** path links communities with connections between Lincoln Heights, Boyle Heights, and Arts District.

+ **Health:** potential for community gathering areas.

Path Type

- 13% Elevated
- 52% Top of Bank
- 35% Incised

Alignment

- 36% West Bank
- 64% East Bank
- 8.12 Miles
- 10 Access Points

Future Opportunity

- Potential Access Point
- Elevated
- Top of Bank
- Incised
- Elevated Crossing

LA River Path Alignments

- Potential Access Point
- Channel Bottom
- Top of Bank
- On-Street

All lines and access point locations are approximate.
Alternative B

Benefits

+ *Access*: direct connections to services and job centers in Downtown LA, Little Tokyo, and Vernon

+ *User experience*: minimal grade change and unique vistas from elevated and top of bank paths

Path Type

Alignment

Future Opportunity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro Rail Line &amp; Station</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Path</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing Access Point</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LA River Path Alignments

- Potential Access Point
- Elevated
- Top of Bank
- Incised
- Elevated Crossing

Future Opportunity

- Potential Access Point
- Channel Bottom
- Top of Bank
- On-Street

All lines and access point locations are approximate.
Alternative C

Benefits

+ **Equity**: path links communities with connections between Lincoln Heights, Boyle Heights, and Arts District.

+ **Efficient and sustainable mobility**: Likely to remain open during flood events

Path Type

- 33% Incised Cortada
- 37% Top of Bank
- 30% Elevated Elevado

Alignment

- 50% West Bank Orilla Oeste
- 50% East Bank Orilla Este

LA River Path Alignments

- Potential Access Point
- Elevated
- Top of Bank
- Incised
- Elevated Crossing

Future Opportunity

- Potential Access Point
- Channel Bottom
- Top of Bank
- On-Street

All lines and access point locations are approximate.
Stay Connected

Lauren Cencic
Sr. Director, Countywide Planning

Michael Cortez
Community Relations Manager

W: 213.418.3423
lariverpath@metro.net
metro.net/projects/lariverpath
@metrolosangeles
losangelesmetro
LARC Project Update

- G1 Bowtie Parcel 18 AC
- Taylor Yard 42 AC
- Rio de Los Angeles State Park 40 AC
- G2 River Park 42 AC
3 DESIGN CONCEPTS

**AN ISLAND FOR BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCY**
Inspired by the story of the river: Sediment islands & channel and bridges

**A ECOCLOGICAL EDGE FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE**
Inspired by the dynamic natural processes - erosion, sedimentation and meandering water

**A PARK AT THE HEART OF IT'S COMMUNITY**
Inspired by the natural, agricultural, cultural and industrial story of the site
### ISLAND | PROPOSED SITE FEATURES AND PROGRAM ELEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Feature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sycamore Grove</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Discovery Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Meadow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Willow Uplands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Low Flow Walkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Island Eco Reserve/Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. River Exhibition Pavilion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Floating Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. River Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Native Collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. The Crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Sculpture Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Amphitheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Arboretum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Viewing Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Taylor Yard Pedestrian Bridge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.5 ACRES OF PROPOSED BUILDING FOOTPRINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Park Office/Ranger Station*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Kayak Launch/Cafe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Recreational Camp + Restroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Youth Enrichment Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Cafe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Research Building*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Museum/Cultural Center*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Public Facility (Parking Below)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Kayak Launch/Cafe/Outdoor Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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SOFT EDGE | PROPOSED SITE FEATURES AND PROGRAM ELEMENTS

SITE FEATURE
1. Native Nursery
2. Elysian Bridge
3. Auditorium
4. The Cliff
5. La Luna
6. Discovery Play
7. Meadow
8. Bio-Plateau
9. The Fields
10. Boulder Beach
11. Ecological Stitch
12. The Esplanade
13. River Steps
14. Amphitheater
15. Land Bridge
16. Taylor Plaza
17. Parking
18. Taylor Yard Pedestrian Bridge

1.6 ACRES OF PROPOSED BUILDING FOOTPRINT
1. Park Office/Ranger Station
2. Kayak Launch/Café
3. Recreational Camping + Restrooms
4. Youth Enrichment Center
5. Café
6. Research Building (Parking Below)**
7. Museum/Cultural Center
8. Public Facility (Parking Below)*
9. Restaurant
10. Kayak Landing/Café/Kiosk

G2 TAYLOR YARD RIVER PARK
THE YARDS | PROPOSED SITE FEATURES AND PROGRAM ELEMENTS

SITE FEATURE
1. BUDDI-HEELE HABITAT MOUNDS
2. NURSERY + ARBORETUM
3. STORMWATER DEMONSTRATION GARDENS
4. RIVER WATER PUMP
5. INL WEELAND
6. RIVER AMPHITHEATER
7. NATURE PLAY
8. THE CANYONS
9. LAND BRIDGE
10. THE ROUND HOUSE
11. RIVER OUTFALL
12. FEATHERWING BRIDGE
13. MIRADOR
14. PRAIRI
15. VIEWING PLATFORM
16. RIVER STEPS
17. TAYLOR BOARDWALK
18. PLANTED EDGE ARMATURE
19. TAYLOR YARD PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

4.6 ACRES OF PROPOSED BUILDING FOOTPRINT
* 2 STORY BUILDING
** 3 STORY BUILDING

1. PARK OFFICE/RANGER STATION
2. KAYAK LAUNCH/CAFE
3. RECREATIONAL CAMPGROUND RESTROOMS
4. YUHI IR ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
5. CAFE
6. RESEARCH BUILDING
7. MUSEUM/EDUCATIONAL CENTER
8. PUBLIC FACILITY (PARKING BELOW)
9. RESTAURANT
10. KAYAK LANDING/CAFE/KIOSK
THANK YOU

WATER  CONNECTIVITY  PEOPLE
INCLUSIVE  SOIL  RESILIENT
HABITAT  INSPIRATIONAL  HISTORY
UNIQUELY  LOS ANGELES

PROJECT INFORMATION:
Katie Doherty, P.E.
Project Manager
Katherine.Doherty@lacity.org
Meeting Information

Date: Monday, July 1, 2019

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Location: Los Angeles County Public Works, Conference Room A
          900 South Fremont Ave
          Alhambra, CA 91802

Please note: Due to construction, the main HQ visitors parking lot is temporarily closed. The second level of the HQ parking structure will be made available for attendant-assisted visitor parking. To be safe, please plan for an additional 30 minutes to find parking.

Attendant-Assisted Parking
Attendant-assisted parking will be used to maximize parking space on the second level of the parking structure. When spaces become unavailable in the parking structure, attendants will park vehicles to allow for more parking. At the end of regular business hours, any vehicle keys left with attendant-assisted parking personnel will be returned to Public Works security in the HQ lobby.

ADA Parking
A section of the east side parking lot will be temporarily striped to provide accessible ADA parking spaces during the visitor parking reconstruction.

Overflow Parking
In the event that Attendant-Assisted Parking is filled, overflow parking is available across the street at 1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra. Parking fee is $5 per day. Credit and debit cards are accepted.