Atwater Village
East Bank River Way

Atwater Village
Neighborhood Council
LA River Committee

October 2, 2017 • LA River Cooperating Committee
Location

- Western edge of Atwater Village in northeast LA
- Segment from Verdugo Wash to Fletcher bridge (134 to 2)
- Part of Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail corridor
Project Intent & Goals

• Creation of a legal pathway and access points in Atwater Village
  ▫ Consideration of community assets, ownership and easement patterns along corridor
  ▫ Challenges at Colorado Blvd, Los Feliz Blvd, Hyperion Bridge, Fletcher Dr.

• Enhance river as a resource for residents and visitors
Process

• Establish project team (early 2016)
• Develop outreach and engagement strategy (2016)
• Gather information, identify existing conditions (2016-early 2017)
• Analyze opportunities, challenges and key issues (mid-2017)
• Develop recommendations (late 2017)
  ▫ Access points
  ▫ Trail nodes/pocket parks
  ▫ Design and management recommendations
  ▫ Implementation strategies
Challenges: Colorado Blvd Connection

- Colorado Blvd freeway exit
- Transmission tower
Challenges: Los Feliz Blvd Connection

- Los Feliz Blvd high volume road
- Levee (Chanel Wall) is vertical
- Curve in Los Feliz Blvd may hinder driver’s view of pedestrian activated crosswalk unless signage/flashing lights are in place
- Long reroute to bike path bridge and nearest signalized crosswalk
Challenges: Hyperion Bridge/Glendale Blvd Connection

- 8 lanes of traffic with no direct line of sight
- Hyperion Blvd bridge structure blocks access across to Glendale Blvd east and west
- North side (service road): Bridge Balustrade blocks access to Glendale Blvd.
Challenges: Hyperion Bridge/Glendale Blvd Connection
Challenges: Fletcher Blvd Connection

- Traffic speed
- 2-fwy entrance (north) no stop before entry
- Bridge: would need to analyze utility towers and downward slope on south side of Fletcher
Public Outreach

- Tabled at events (River Clean-up, Off Dah Hook, farmers markets, etc.)
- Morning at the River event
- Public workshop
- Sidewalk workshop at library
- River walk events
Partners

- Atwater Village Neighborhood Council – River Committee
- City of Los Angeles
  - Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell (CD-13)
  - Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti – LARiverWorks
  - Department of Recreation & Parks
- North East Trees
- National Park Service – Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program
Questions?
LA River Low Flow Study & Water Supply Potential Review

October 2, 2017
LA River Cooperation Committee Meeting
Collaborative approach to develop an integrated framework for managing the City’s watersheds, water resources, and water facilities in an **environmentally**, **economically**, and **socially** beneficial manner.
One Water LA 2040 Plan

- Expected Completion in Nov 2017
- Outlook to 2040
- Multiple tasks/initiatives
- PEIR to immediately follow
• Overview of One Water LA

• LA River Flow Study Purpose and Objectives

• LA River Tasks, Assumptions, Criteria

• LA River Flow Study findings, including gaps and additional studies needed

• Next Steps
To identify considerations, assumptions, and areas of future study necessary to determine optimal flow conditions in the LA River.

These conditions would balance the City’s water supply needs with the River’s water-dependent uses and regulatory requirements.
Existing low flow conditions in the LA River over the last 3 years.

Potential future range of low flow conditions in the LA River.

Gain understanding of the **water budget** assumptions in the USACE’s ARBOR study.

Develop conceptual **adaptive water management** alternatives.
Process For LA River Tasks

1. Review of historical LA river Ecological surveys
2. Low Flow Analysis
3. ARBOR Project Flow Evaluation
4. LA River Water Storage Potential and Maintaining Optimal Flow Using Level Controls

Reviews, Study evaluations, Modeling Results, & Outcomes

One Water LA 2040 Plan
LA River Historical Ecological Surveys

- Water IRP study (2006)
- Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) evaluation (2004)

- 70% current vegetation invasive and/or non-native
- Water demands impacted by current vegetation
- Invasive removal program started: Mapping, Survey, & Analysis for extent of vegetative intrusion
Dry Weather Flow Analysis

- HEC-RAS Modeling along entire LA River
- Three sites modeled in more detail due to **channel complexity**, sufficient **bathymetric data**, and other available data:
  1. Los Feliz
  2. Taylor Yard
  3. Willow St.
### Driest Year Flow Analysis Results

#### U/S of City Limits to ARBOR Reach

**Notes:**
- Modeled various flow scenarios from these sources:
  - WRP Effluent
  - Groundwater upwelling
  - Dry weather urban runoff
- Flows to Downstream under Existing Conditions - **54.3 mgd (84.5 cfs)**

#### LA River Inflows and Outflows Flow Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Distance (miles)</th>
<th>WRP Effluent, Existing (mgd (cfs))</th>
<th>Groundwater Upwelling, Existing (mgd (cfs))</th>
<th>Dry Weather Urban Runoff, Existing (mgd (cfs))</th>
<th>Evap/ET, Existing (mgd (cfs))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>4.7 (7.4)</td>
<td>0.5 (0.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27.1 (42)</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.6 (0.9)</td>
<td>0.1 (0.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>5.0 (7.8)</td>
<td>0.7 (1.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbor</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12.3 (19.1)</td>
<td>3.6 (5.6)</td>
<td>3.2 (5.0)</td>
<td>2.4 (3.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.1 (3.3)</td>
<td>0.6 (1.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>39.3 (61.1)</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.6 (5.6)</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.6 (24.3)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.2 (6.5)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Taylor Yard Low Flow Hydraulic Modeling

Flow depth & velocity varies with flow rates and channel configuration.
Willow Street: Low Flow Hydraulic Modeling

Wetted apron supports growth of algal mat where shorebirds feed.
• Assumptions needing re-evaluation:
  • Future water demand
  • Infiltration rates
  • Types of habitat
  • Invasive species
  • Plant pallettes
Storage Potential Evaluation Focus

- Review Balboa study site
- Analyze LA River reaches and flows
  - Dry
  - Wet
- Treatment possibility for direct potable water
- Explore **storage techniques**
  - Rubber dams
  - Small water level devices/check dams - potentially reduce RW releases

1. Upstream of Sepulveda Dam
2. Sepulveda Dam
3. Upstream of Glendale Narrows (to Sepulveda Dam)
4. ARBOR
5. Upstream of City Limits (to ARBOR Reach)
• Potential In-channel storage: Use of rubber dams in river
  • Four locations evaluated
  • Volume of stormwater –up to 1,200 million gallons (MG) (3,700 AF)
  • Stormwater stored behind rubber dams could be conveyed to DCT and LAG for treatment and beneficial use.
  • Controlled releases - SW to provide a continuous flow into the LA River

• Potential Off-channel storage: Dams plus piping, pumps, and facility modifications
  • Two locations: Silver Lake & Sepulveda Dam Recreational Area
  • SW volume estimated to be 1,500 MG (4,600 AF)
• Rubber dam height max - **18 ft**
• **1.5 ft** freeboard
• Bank heights less than **19.5 ft**
• Dam location based on slope and depth of impoundment
• Overflow and/or outlet components are assumed for water level control
• Four LA River Sections with various dams
• Check dams/water leveling devices
  • 3 ft high
  • 1 foot water depth behind dam
• Scenarios: Check dams/ water leveling devices
  • 85% Water Reclamation Plant discharges reduction
  • 90% Water Reclamation Plant discharges reduction and use of water leveling devices
• Benefits
  • Up to 11,000 MG/year (34,000 AFY) for potable water
• Frequency of check dams unknown
List of Data Gaps and Needs

• Dry weather:
  • Uncertainty over time of incidental (dry weather) runoff quantities from urban areas. *How much will reach surface water bodies with Enhanced Watershed Management Programs and Stormwater Capture Master Plan project implementation*
  • Determining dry weather seasonal flow ranges- report used a ‘drastically low flow condition’ in the river -10 cubic feet per second (6 mgd)

• Localized conditions:
  • Site specific data such as soil-types, infiltration rates and evaporation rates

• Flows required to support habitat:
  • Determine habitat– type and quantity
  • Arundo and invasive habitat removal

• Flows required for each identified use

• Special Status Species (versus endangered and threatened):
  • Define if any and their needs
Recommended Future Studies and Evaluations

- Defining LA River water uses
- Establishing realistic water budgets under existing and revised habitat conditions
  - infiltration
  - groundwater upwelling
  - evapotranspiration rates
- Determining the difference between future available flows and flows for existing conditions and uses for the entire LA River.
- Creation of a predictive, dynamic modeling tool. Includes the spatial and temporal variability of flow
- Collaborative Environmental Study
• Collaborative/regional environmental study of cumulative impacts
• Integrating City Departments re: LAR studies
• Balancing water supply needs with water-dependent activities and habitat
• Planned and/or potential projects
• The future ‘look’ of the river
• Technology advances
• Study Completion Date:
  ➢ Nov 2017

• Stakeholder Informational Meeting:
  ➢ October 16 2017
  ➢ One Water LA, TNC, UCLA LA River Study Presentations
  ➢ Friendship Auditorium
  ➢ 1-3pm
Thank you

Questions?
Project Background
Assembly Bill 530

In 2015, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 530 (Rendon), authorizing the creation of a local “Working Group” to develop the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan.

Office of the Assembly Speaker, State of California
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
County of Los Angeles
Planning Process
Process Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
<th>Winter 2016</th>
<th>Spring 2017</th>
<th>Summer 2017</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
<th>Winter 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate existing conditions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop concept plans and options</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare draft and final plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plan Development Structure

- Working Group
- Agency Staff & Consultants
- Community, Technical, and Community Advisors (as needed)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working Group Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Businesses – Chamber of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Assembly District 63, Speaker Anthony Rendon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Bell Gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Cudahy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Downey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Huntington Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Long Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Lynwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Maywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Paramount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Paramount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of South Gate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council of Watershed Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of the LA River (FoLAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Lot to Spot (FLTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Cities COG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Water Management Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heal the Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach Conservation Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Conservation Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County Bike Coalition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County 1st District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County 2nd District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County 3rd District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Counsel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Water Quality Control Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Trust for Public Land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails4All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Waters Federal Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Replenishment District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed Conservation Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watts Reimagined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
River Segment Committees

- Vernon to Rio Hondo
- Rio Hondo to Compton Creek
- Compton Creek to LA River Outlet
Plan Element Committees
Five Focus Areas

- Community Economics, Health, and Equity
- Public Realm
- Water and Environment
- Implementation

Community Engagement
Community Economics, Health, and Equity

- Prevent gentrification-induced displacement
- Address homelessness
- Support and develop local business and workforce
- Increase equitable community access and assets
- Promote wellness and physical activity
- Increase community green infrastructure
Public Realm

- Enhance Connectivity
- Create Public Spaces
- Enhance Consistent User Experience and Access
Water and Environment

- Manage Flood Risk
- Enhance Local Water Capture and Use
- Improve Water Quality
- Conserve and Restore Habitat, Biodiversity, and Floodplain Functions
Community Engagement

- Listen to the community’s needs to improve the Lower LA River
- Build awareness of the Lower LA River and promote revitalization
- Continue to work with the community while building projects
Preliminary Conclusion

- Short-term and long-term implementation
  - List of opportunities that meet the Plan’s goals and objectives
  - 6 Signature Concepts at feasibility level
  - 6 Signature Concepts at concept level

- For future planning, continuous community outreach under the Watershed Education Program and the Plan will be incorporated in the updated LA River Master Plan.
Engagement Opportunities
Engagement Opportunities

- Community Presentations
- Lower LA River Bike Tours
- Trails Usage Education Sessions
- Pop-up Booths in Local Neighborhoods
- Community Workshops
- Online Questionnaire
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Monthly Working Group Meetings
Community Outreach: Previous Events

Kick Off Events

Community Workshops
Community Outreach: Previous Events

Lower LA River Bike Tours

Working Group Meetings
Community Outreach: Previous Events

Trails Usage Education Sessions

Pop-Up Booths
LA River Movie Night
Upcoming Events

- October
  - Oct 5 Working Group Meeting, Downey
  - Oct 7 Bike Tour & Community Workshop, Long Beach
  - Pop-up Booths:
    - Oct 7 at Outreach on the LA River, South Gate
    - Oct 8 at JetBlue Long Beach Marathon, Long Beach
    - Oct 14 at Maywood Educational Fair, Maywood
Learn More

Visit www.LowerLARiver.org

Attend a Working Group Meeting or join us at an event in your community!
DESIGN PHASE FEATURE LOCATIONS

- Reach 7
- Cornfields Feature
- 500’ Terraced Bank

Reach 8
RENDERING OF DESIGN PHASE FEATURES

500' Terraced Bank

Cornfields Feature