

Executive Meeting Summary

Project Title: AB 466 UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES REVITALIZATION PLAN

Purpose of Meeting: People and Recreation Committee Meeting- September 2018

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REVITALIZATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Upon discussion, the goals and objectives are high level themes and key concepts for overall Plan with input:

- Focus on community engagement especially in underserved communities; emphasis on environmental justice.
- Focus on Tributaries where there is not already planning or project building efforts; especially those that are neglected shall be prioritized-*the most impact will be where there is no planning*
- Refer to previous planning efforts whenever possible and fill in gaps. Also, identify and incorporate inconsistencies.

COMMITTEE PURPOSE

The purpose of the People and Recreation committee is to identify and prioritize opportunities that focus on the community need for public spaces and recreation within the Upper Los Angeles River and its Tributaries.

- *This should include: culture, arts, special needs community, economic and workforce development opportunities; recreation and equitable access for all, integrating water and environment committee.*
- *Public spaces that are inclusive and inspire, while promoting emphasis on community and open space.*

COMMITTEE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Create inclusive access for all to the river (think of all users- including special needs community) while improve access and connectivity for all to the River and tributaries
- Focus on social and environmental justice, and social equity during planning process
- Incorporate educational and recreational opportunities
- Feature and promote the importance of community values and local culture
- Identify habitat restoration; passive recreation opportunities; eco-system and habitat; and recreational opportunities which will inform base flows.

Initial committee goals and objectives. Each goal will be assigned metrics to use for baseline conditions and as progress measurements for the projects to show success. Working Group (WG) member (Ballin) requested that language to include the special needs community should be added. WG member (Affeldt) suggested adding economic development and opportunity; members (Stedge), (Luna) agreed. Member (Sap) asked about incorporating public space and cultural inspiration and art; (Ramos) requested adding the words innovative and inclusive to expand on how to address climate change and how to create new concepts for businesses and recreation. Luna requested there be a recreation component related to water levels. He would also like to identify opportunities to provide habitat and passive recreation opportunities concurrently. It was also requested that promotion of education and recreational opportunities is important, no one will use what they do not know about.

Technical committee meeting timeline; purpose goals and timeline, review of existing efforts and example case studies; develop program goals and prioritization framework identify priority opportunities, project concept development, develop revitalization plan. The plan aims to include implementable projects with guidance on funding for each one.

Overlap between the committees and working group; executive summaries of each committee meeting for the working group, action items from the committee meetings discussed during the working group meeting, and the chair of each committee providing an oral summary of the committee meetings to the working group. SMMC staff (Edmiston) noted that the work from the committees would be approved by the working group in a rolling process.

Education and community engagement components. Regional and local non-profits will deliver three sets of community meetings at key points in the process; kick off, mid-point (after initial development of design concepts),

and when the draft plan is developed. A community outreach plan is being developed as a guide. Community engagement will serve to validate or realign the planning effort to coincide with milestones in the planning effort. MRCA staff (Rascon) stated that this process will begin in October.

PRESENTATION OF LITERATURE REVIEW BY GEOSYNTEC

Literature review included the 16 most applicable documents regarding the Upper LA River and Tributaries; over 50 documents looked at. Key themes for all plans include; *water quality, active transportation, water supply, open space and recreation, ecosystem and habitat, community engagement, restore ecosystem function, integration, agency coordination, vision of the community, revitalization, and flood management*. The current draft is a living document and edits are encouraged. Flood risks as it pertains to tributaries adding water to mainstem- not addressed. MRCA to provide document to all technical committee members for review.

ATTENDEES

Committee Members: Sylvia Ballin, John Popoch (alternate designee for Bob Blumenfield)*, Miguel Luna, Carolina Hernandez (alternate designee for Mark Pestrella)*, Marsha Ramos, Michael Affeldt (alternate designee for Barbara Romero)*, Craig Sap, Brian Stedge, Matt Weiner, and Sean Woods.

*Non-voting member designee. *Pending legislation SB 1126 would allow appointees to designate an alternate in his or her place.*

ACTION ITEMS AND NEXT STEPS

MRCA: Provide draft literature review document to technical committee members.

Project consulting team: Provide technical review of draft literature review, provide summary of input of purpose goals and objectives. Create a data collection analysis of all major tributaries within the watershed.

WG member (Popoch) requested adding Aliso Creek as a tributary to study area. The committee unanimously recommended that the consultant provide a data collection analysis of all major tributaries within the watershed as a guideline for how each aligns with the goals and intentions of this planning effort. SMMC staff (Edmiston) requested the plan mission be changed to include bullet points to incorporate all comments