

# Upper LA River & Tributaries Revitalization Plan

## Informational Meeting

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Rose Goldwater Community Center  
21710 Vanowen St, Canoga Park, CA 91303**

## S U M M A R Y

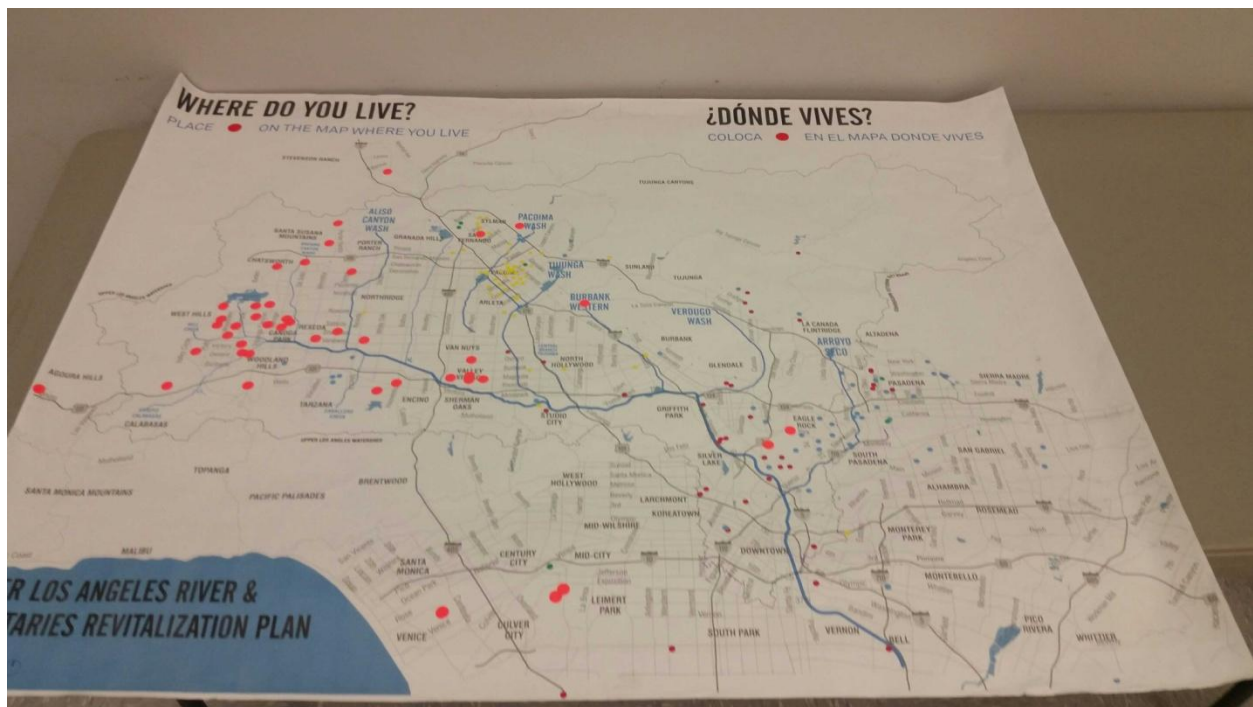
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### Introduction

On April 9, 2019 The Valley Economic Alliance/Mulholland Institute hosted an informational community meeting to solicit input into the Upper LA River & Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan. The role of the The Valley Economic Alliance/Mulholland Institute is to conduct community outreach for this planning effort. Prior to the meeting the The Valley Economic Alliance/Mulholland Institute used a variety of communication methods to promote the meeting. Approximately 45 community members attended the meeting.

### Station 1: Tell us where you live

Community members placed dots on a map of the study area to show where they live.



**Station 2: Tell us what you do at the River**

Participants responded to a series of questions related to the tributaries and sections of the LA river that are being studied. The following is a synopsis of the responses.

**Did you know there is a river?**

Yes: 21

No: 1

**Do you know what a tributary is?**

Yes: 20

No: 2

**What do you do when you visit the river?**

Walk/Run: 12

Kayak: 2

*Not yet, but will*

Bike: 10

*Not yet, but will*

Go to a park: 6

Other: Comments provided below

- *Ziplining*
- *Check the status of the homelessness issue*
- *I agree – how are we serving those experiencing homelessness?*

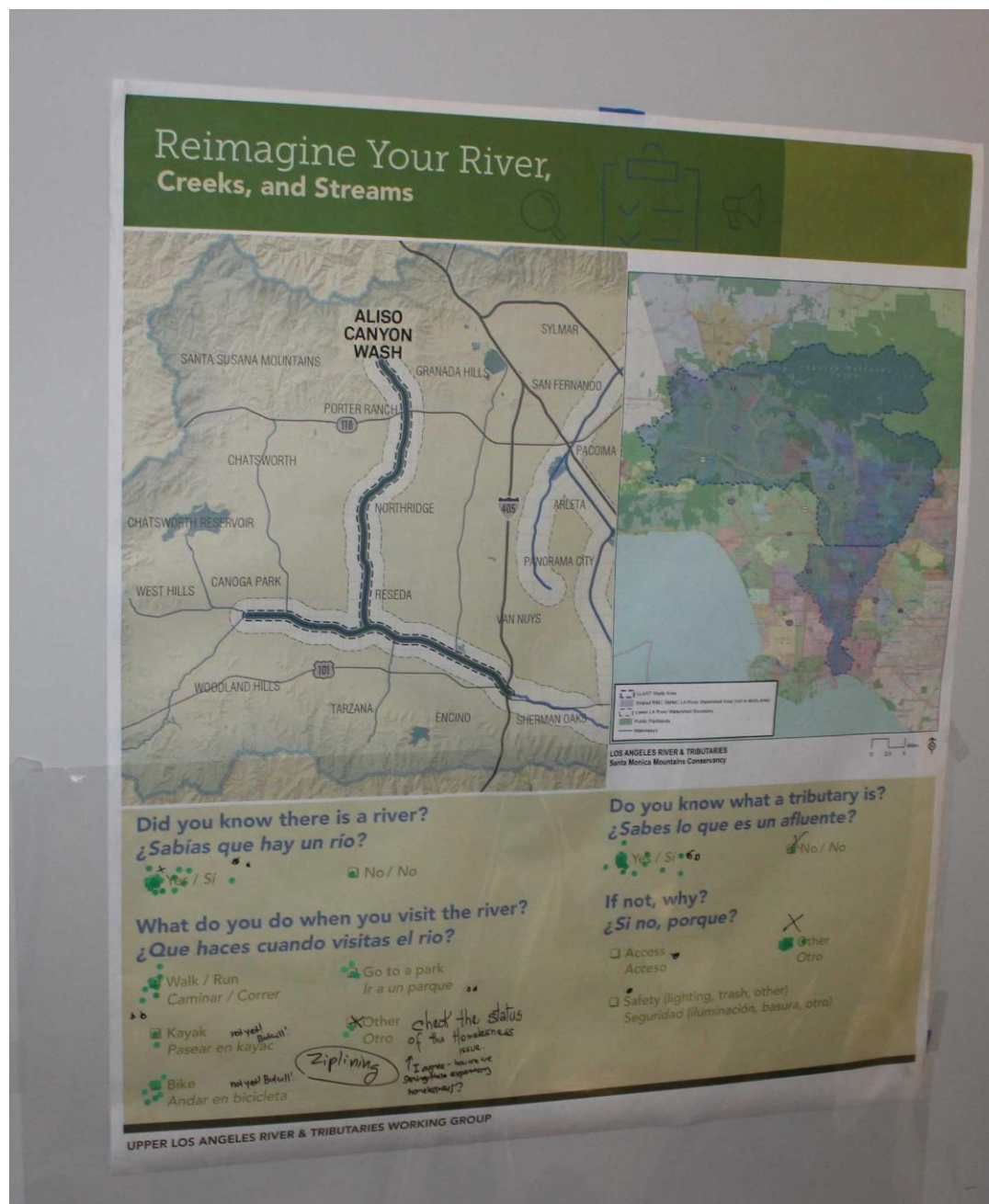
**If not, why?**

Access: 1

Safety (lighting, trash, other): 1

Other: 9

- *Check the status of the homelessness issue*
- *I agree – how are we serving those experiencing homelessness?*



### **Station 3: Share your vision for the tributaries**

Community members viewed visionary examples of opportunities for the tributaries. The following is a summary of the results across the 5 themes.

#### **Aesthetics**

##### ***Lighting***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 12  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 5  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 3  
Love it: 9  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

##### ***Defined Walkways***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 2

Ex. 2  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 3  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 13  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

#### **Additional Comments:**

- *None*

##### ***Landscaping***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 10  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

#### **Additional Comments:**

- *None*

## Wayfinding

Ex. 1

Love it: 9

Like it: 0

Neutral: 0

Ex. 2

Love it: 5

Like it: 2

Neutral: 0

Ex. 3

Love it: 8

Like it: 1

Neutral: 1

## Additional Comments:

- None

**Reimagine Your River**  
Creeks, and Streams

**Aesthetics / Estética** Consider the images below and tell us what you think / Considera las imágenes de abajo y dinos lo que piensas love it / le encanta 😊, like it / le gusta 😊, or feel neutral / o se siente neutral 😊

**Lighting / Alumbrado**

**Defined Walkways / Pasillos definidos**

**Landscaping / Paisajismo**

**Wayfinding / Orientación**

**Environment**  
***Resource Conservation***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 2  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 3  
Love it: 12  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

***Sustainability***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 9  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 7  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

***Habitat Restoration***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 11  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

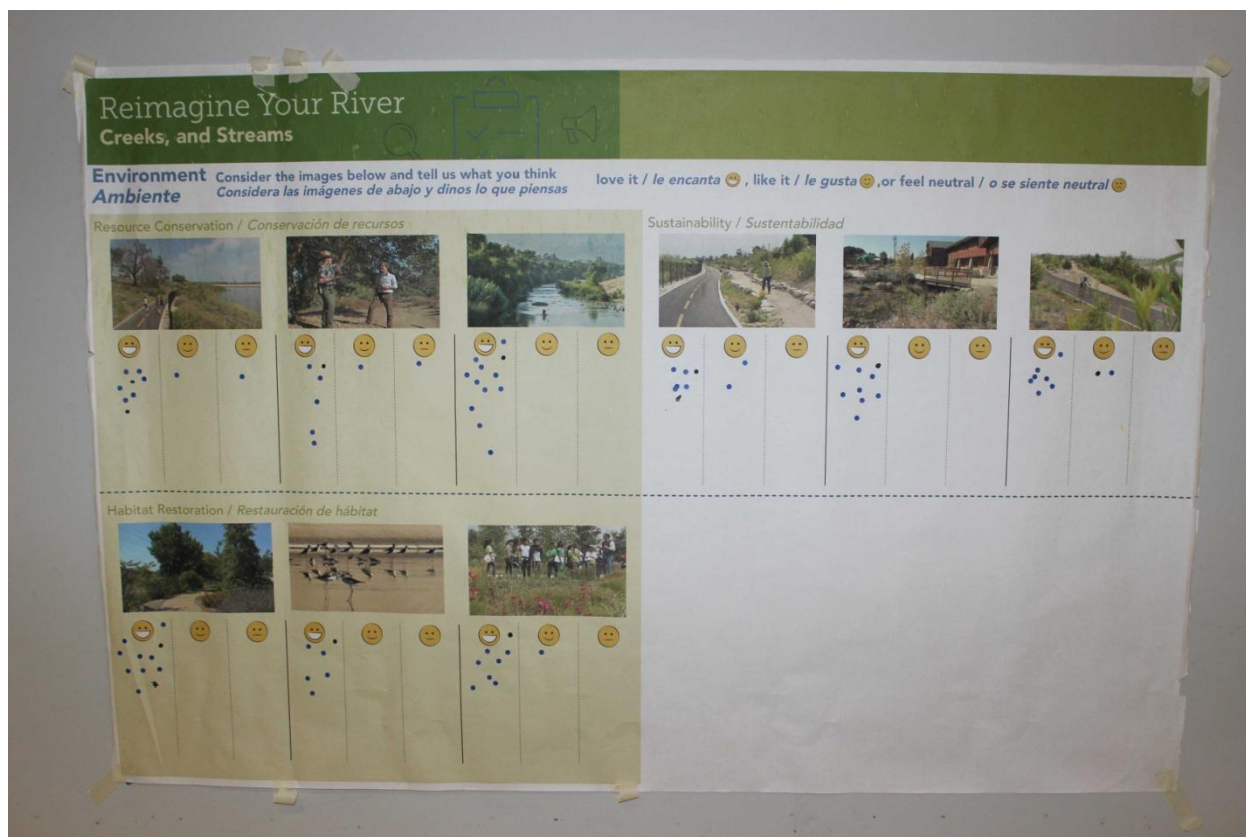
Ex. 2  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*





## Safety Lighting

Ex. 1  
Love it: 13  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 5  
Like it: 4  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 11  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

## Improved Access

Ex. 1  
Love it: 7  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 2  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 3  
Love it: 12  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *Better surface for walking*
- *Better for cyclist*

**Multimodal Accessibility**

Ex. 1  
Love it: 14  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 2  
Love it: 11  
Like it: 4  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 4  
Like it: 6  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *Walking*
- *Make the surface composite rubber*



**Reimagine Your River  
Creeks, and Streams**

**Safety**  
**La seguridad**

Consider the images below and tell us what you think  
Considera las imágenes de abajo y dínos lo que piensas

love it / le encanta 😊, like it / le gusta 😊, or feel neutral / o se siente neutral 😊

**Lighting / Alumbrado**

**Improved Access / Acceso mejorado**

**Multimodal Accessibility / Accesibilidad multimodal**

Walking  
ruins the surface composite  
rubber

Better surface for walking

Better for cyclist

## Access Community Amenities

Ex. 1  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 5  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 11  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 4

## Open Spaces

Ex. 1  
Love it: 7  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 5  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 8

Like it: 0  
Neutral: 1

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

***Recreation***

Ex. 1  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 3

Ex. 2  
Love it: 5  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 5

Ex. 3  
Love it: 5  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 4

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

**Defined Points of Access**

Ex. 1  
Love it: 10  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 7  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

**Reimagine Your River  
Creeks, and Streams**

**Access  
Acceso** Consider the images below and tell us what you think  
Considera las imágenes de abajo y dínos lo que piensas

love it / le encanta 😊, like it / le gusta 😊, or feel neutral / o se siente neutral 😊

**Community Amenities / Comodidades de la comunidad**

**Open Spaces / Espacios abiertos**

**Recreation / Recreación**

**Defined Points of Access / Puntos de acceso definidos**

## Infrastructure Sidewalks

Ex. 1  
Love it: 10  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 2  
Love it: 10  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 1

Ex. 3  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

## Drainage

Ex. 1  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 2

Ex. 2  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 3  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 10  
Like it: 1  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*

***Pedestrian Lighting***

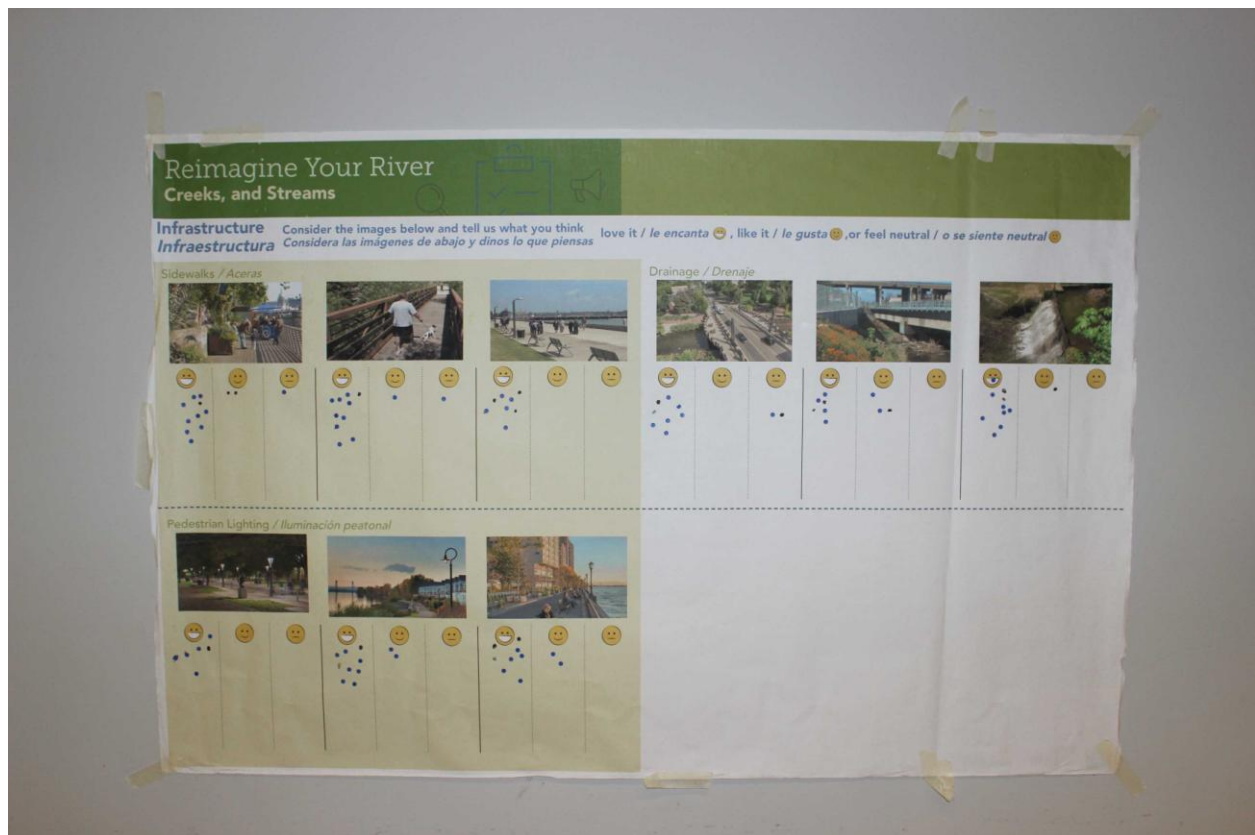
Ex. 1  
Love it: 6  
Like it: 0  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 2  
Love it: 9  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

Ex. 3  
Love it: 8  
Like it: 2  
Neutral: 0

**Additional Comments:**

- *None*



#### Station 4: Storytelling

Community members were asked to share a memorable experience along/in the river. Below is a summary of key ideas taken from the videos that were recorded and stories that were written on the comment cards.

#### Video Summaries – April 9, 2019 – Upper Los Angeles River & Tributaries

##### Chris R.

Interested in recognizing Bell Creek as the origin of the Los Angeles River. It extends from "Topanga Canyon to the end of it." It is all single family residential along there and should not be opened up for biking and other access as this would give access to people's back yards, and be a disruption of those neighborhoods. Discussion of "drainage ditches" and the ability of using Pierce College's farm area for mitigation of storm water runoff.

I am concerned over liability resulting from access, such as the dangers of drowning and other injury. Logically, might need lifeguards if access is given to the waterway. Access should not be given to the "whole" system.

##### Brittany B.

I am an educator and I believe communities should be given more access to education on the river.

**Priscilla**

I'm excited about what is coming. My story is about growing up in San Bernardino in the 1950s and 1960s. We would go up in the hills and have a picnic. We played in the San Gabriel River. You could even swim there. I would like to see more access for recreation. Kids now days just don't know about these things.

**Bill R.**

The L.A. River means a lot. In March of 1938 it rained for five days straight. The wave of water flooded and washed away everything in its path. After that, the Army Corps of Engineers built the flood control system so it would never happen again—all the way down to the harbor at Long Beach.

**Liz C.**

I live where the river begins. A lot of people don't know there is a river. That's why one of the streets is called Riverside Drive. It's great to throw things that float into the river—it's exciting. I would like to go out in a boat with my grandchildren. It's also nice to enjoy the flora and fauna along the river.

**Kalyani V.**

I am from India. There we would have school trips to the river to identify different species as part of nature. We would involve the school children.

**Joe G.**

I am from Reseda. I am interested in trails. I would like to see large continuous connecting trails as a resource for bike riding and such. There are currently many negative and disconnected sections. Better access along Aliso Creek. We have to keep in mind that the river and tributaries still have to control storm water, but make it friendly and utilize the space.

**Rod S.**

I live in West Hills. Participated in L.A. River Ride two years ago down by Griffith Park. I was unaware there were places you can stop. They have restaurants, rent a bike or get your bike fixed. I want to participate more. I would run, not more than 5K, and I might kayak. Events around the river would attract more people.

**Randy W.**

Our company produces videos for the San Fernando Valley. We now have a drone pilot. While practicing at Woodley Park we noticed the kayaks. We weren't aware of that and the potential that it offers. It was like being at a different time and place. But, there is an issue with the homeless around the river and its imperative that we deal with that issue in order to make the river a better place to play and work.

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**STATION FIVE – FRIENDS OF THE LOS ANGELES RIVER (FOLAR)  
THE *RIVER ROVER***

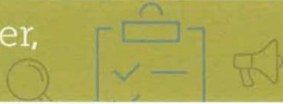
**PUBLIC AWARENESS – BRINGING THE RIVER TO THE PEOPLE**

Participants in the workshop wrapped up the evening with the opportunity to experience and explore the Los Angeles *River Rover*—FOLAR's 38' Mobile Visitor and Education Center that travels the streets and freeways of Los Angeles bringing the River to the people. It takes visitors on a tour of the River's past, present and future. Guests learn about the LA River watershed at the interactive watershed table, touch beaver and coyote pelts, listen to the song of the Least Bell's Vireo, and share their vision for the River as they would like to see it.

# # #



## Reimagine Your River, Creeks, and Streams



Draw a picture of things you would like to do at the River!

*¡Haz un dibujo de las cosas que te gustaría hacer en el río!*

Share your vision

*Comparte tu vision*

I would like to have access to come  
close to flowing water, ponds, creeks.  
I would like access points to be clearly  
marked + also accessible for handicapped  
Places to sit. I would like educational  
displays to tell us the river history  
+ any other info.

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*Comparte tu vision*

I imagine walking with my husband and son along the upper LA River exploring the trails, following the water flow, observing wildlife and enjoying the sunshine. This space would be such a wonderful addition to our community. I look forward to riding our bikes and kayaking down the river!

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Share your vision  
Comparte tu vision

I would like sections of the river to be a safe, fun + healthy place I could spend time with my families. I have two kids, 13 + 10. I envision good security so I can feel safe. I see things like overnight local Campgrounds with BBQs you can make smores at. I see bike paths and ducks and maybe even a bird sanctuary. I envision a beautiful place that helps support a healthy environment. A place to make fun memories, maybe play Frisbee, ride scooters, just walk + maybe have cafe's to buy coffee, tea + pastries. With park benches to sit at. I look forward to this vision.

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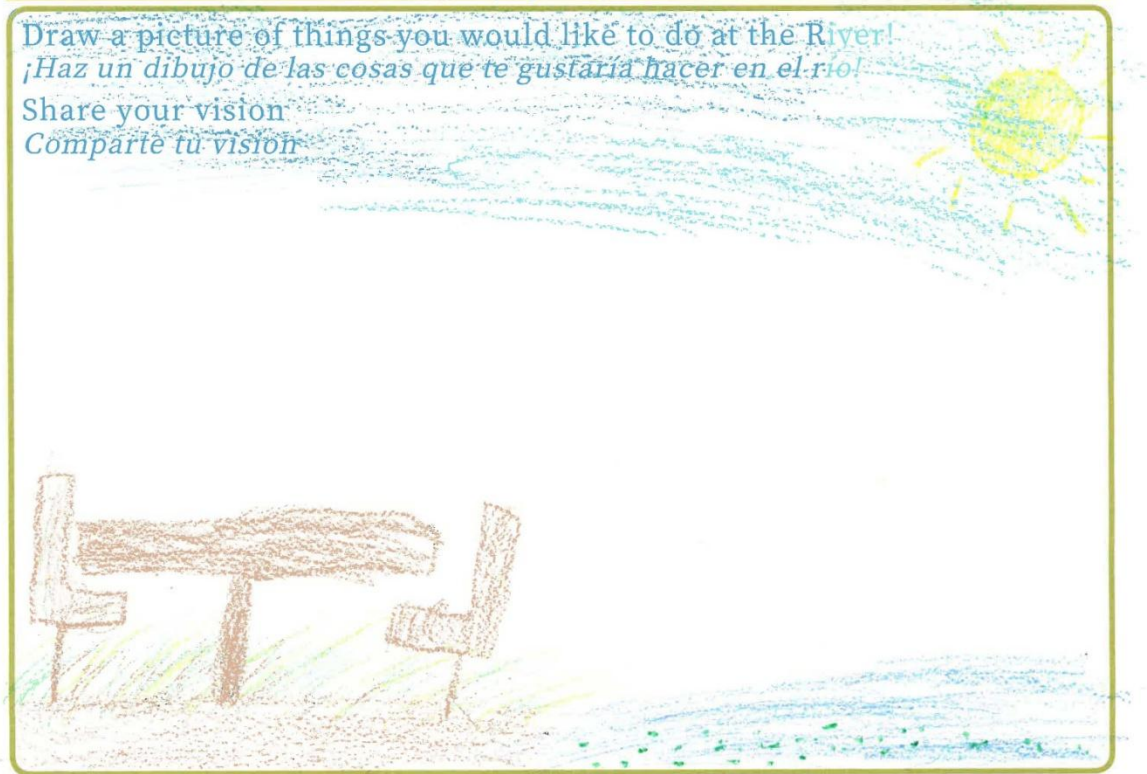
I actually think that it would be very neat to have a duck sanctuary to see & feed all the ducks breed, as ducks are very amusing to children. Make sure there are safety boundaries for children unless kayaking, etc. The river should have a beautiful - & picked up (clean) entrance & a beautiful inside too. There should be more than just greenery, I would love colorful gardens & spectacular lighting. Lighting brings the crowd in, especially photographers, as I know cuz I am one. It, the river place, will be very beautiful!!

## Reimagine Your River, Creeks, and Streams



Draw a picture of things you would like to do at the River!  
*¡Haz un dibujo de las cosas que te gustaría hacer en el río!*

Share your vision  
*Comparte tu visión*





## Reimagine Your River, Creeks, and Streams

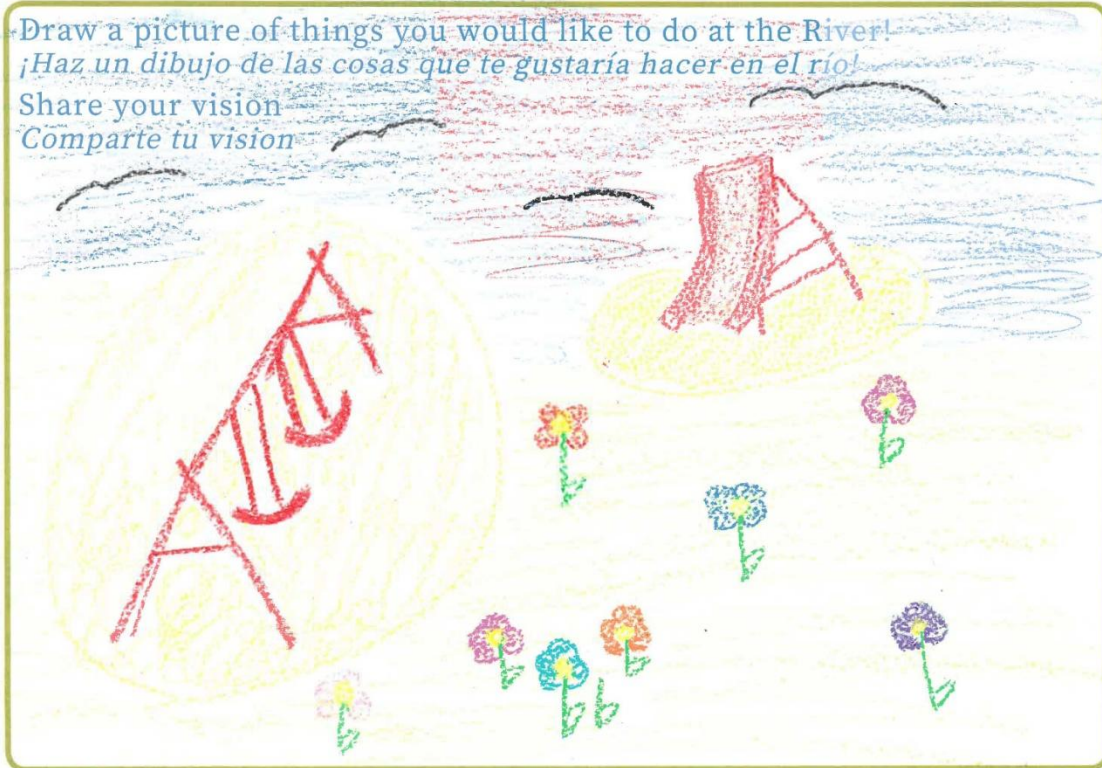


Draw a picture of things you would like to do at the River!

¡Haz un dibujo de las cosas que te gustaría hacer en el río!

Share your vision

Comparte tu vision





Reimagine Your River,  
Creeks, and Streams



Draw a picture of things you would like to do at the River!  
*¡Haz un dibujo de las cosas que te gustaría hacer en el río!*

Share your vision  
*Comparte tu vision*



## COMMENT CARDS

Share additional comments or ideas:

*Comparte comentarios o ideas adicionales:*

- Great concepts for the  
tribe/communities all move towards  
creating assets for the community
- The Pasaia Branch would benefit  
from appropriate lighting, landscaping, & paths
- Any thoughts on potential homeless  
persons mitigation?

Share additional comments or ideas:

*Comparte comentarios o ideas adicionales:*

PLEASE CONTINUE ADDING BIAPATAS !!

Share additional comments or ideas:

*Comparte comentarios o ideas adicionales:*

Please continue to ~~advertise~~ advertise this widely to the public



Reimagine Your River,  
Creeks, and Streams



Collect a stamp when you visit each activity.

*Obtiene un sello cuando visites cada actividad.*



Turn in this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave and receive a prize.

*Entregue esta hoja en la mesa de registro antes de irse y reciba un premio.*

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