

# Executive Meeting Summary

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

**Purpose of Meeting:** People and Recreation Committee Meeting - April 25, 2019

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### POLLING ACTIVITY REGARDING PROJECT IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIZATION

A polling activity and paper ranking ballot aligned with key themes was presented to the committee to help determine areas of greatest needs per tributary and spark discussion. The polling results ballot and comments received are as follows:

Polling Results	People and Recreation - Committee Members						
	Aliso Canyon Wash	Pacoima Wash	Tujunga Wash	Burbank Western Channel	Verdugo Wash	Arroyo Seco	Upper Los Angeles River Watershed
<b>Nature Based Solutions</b>	2	4	1	3	1	1	4
<b>Watershed Management</b>	1	5	1	2	1	1	5
<b>Flood Risk</b>	2	4	4	1	3	2	6
<b>Open Space and Recreation</b>	2	1	3	6	2	3	1
<b>Safe Access</b>	2	2	2	4	4	5	3
<b>Community</b>	3	3	3	5	3	4	2

Note: 1 represents the top priority by column.

### Committee Member Comments

#### Aliso Canyon

- Flooding issues, near Santa Susana Trails (County Masterplan), 17 schools and 11 parks.

#### Arroyo Seco

- None

#### Burbank Western Channel

- None

#### Pacoima Wash

- Park poor, 40 schools within ½ mile, 6 parks
- The urban setting of this wash and sections of wide ROW make it optimal for creative open space/recreation project focus. Consider areas that should be closed off/secured for public safety.

#### Tujunga Wash

- Permeable soils, underserved with parks, flood issues – Sun Valley.
- The setting of this wash makes it more apt to nature-based solutions and less of a focus on recreation. One of the issues we have here is management of the natural area, especially in relation to homeless encampments and its multi-jurisdictional nature to remove trash and keep it clean.

#### Verdugo Wash

- None

#### Upper LA River Watershed

- Overall: working with the natural features of each wash to meet them with the building blocks that naturally fit; prioritizing natural solutions where recreation isn't available option and capitalizing on existing ROW, public land etc. for corridor level recreation.

### Additional Comments discussed by the working group:

Staff explained that these 6 key themes are not optional at any point throughout the watershed; therefore, the three categories of Nature based solutions, Flood Risk, and community should be required for all projects. Additional refinement of these categories is needed.

Polling Results	People and Recreation - Public						
	Aliso Canyon Wash	Pacoima Wash	Tujunga Wash	Burbank Western Channel	Verdugo Wash	Arroyo Seco	Upper Los Angeles River Watershed
Nature Based Solutions	5	6	5	2	2	1	6
Watershed Management	1	2	1	1	2	2	2
Flood Risk	1	1	1	3	4	5	1
Open Space and Recreation	2	4	2	5	2	4	4
Safe Access	3	5	3	4	1	3	5
Community	4	3	4	6	3	6	3

Note: 1 represents the top priority by column.

## Public Attendee Comments - collected from written forms

### Aliso Canyon

- We have droughts. We need to reserve out water in an organized way. The valley is overly hot.

### Arroyo Seco

- Up and coming location. Would love to see more open space in the big city, but water flow is not good when it rains!
- FOLAR, Verdugo Hills Scout Council.

### Burbank Western Channel

- None

### Pacoima Wash

- Needs more community-based locations that help families feel safe! It is a very close community who needs better open space and recreation.

### Tujunga Wash

- This location needs better efforts around nature-based solutions and watershed management.

### Verdugo Wash

- Halls, Pickens, and Eagle Canyons. Washes easements should be open for urban trails. Create a grass roots movement to build trails.

### Upper LA River Watershed

- Communities need to learn and grow to respect these items.

## REVIEW OF OVERALL PROJECT FRAMEWORK

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A review of the process, materials covered, input received from the working group and process timeline was presented.

## OVERVIEW OF PRELIMINARY PROJECT OPPORTUNITY SCREENING PROCESS AND SITES

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A sampling of sites identified throughout the watershed was presented. The committee discussed possible improvements for each site as well as the appropriate scale for projects included in the plan.

## ATTENDEES

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Committee Members: Michael Affeldt, Paola Bassignana, Bertha Ruiz-Hoffman, Miguel Luna, Genevieve Osmena, Julian Venegas, John Popoch, Craig Sap, and Thomas Seifert.

Project team: Sarah Rascon (MRCA), Melissa Vega (MRCA), Mia Lehrer (Studio-MLA), Jan Dyer (Studio-MLA), Jean Yang (Studio-MLA), Oliver Galang (Tetra Tech), Gina Palino (Tetra Tech), Ariel Jones (MIG)

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