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# GLOSSARY

## 100-yr floodplain

The projected land covered by a storm with a 1 in 100 chance of a storm being equaled or exceeded in any 1 year, and it has an average recurrence interval of 100 years.

- United States Geological Survey; <https://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/106/>

## Arts

The expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.

- Dictionary.com

## Biodiversity

The variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem.

- Dictionary.com

## CalEnviroScreen 3.0 score (CES)

CalEnviroScreen is a science-based mapping tool that helps identify California communities that

are most affected by many sources of pollution, and that are often especially vulnerable to pollution's effects. CalEnviroScreen uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic information to produce a numerical score for each census tract in the state.

- California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment; <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>

## Climate resilience

Climate resilience is the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate.

- Center for Climate and Energy Solutions; <https://www.c2es.org/content/climate-resilience-overview/>

## Community engagement

The process by which organizations gather information from the community to aid in future planning efforts that will benefit of the community.

- Plan specific, as defined in the Community Engagement Plan in Volume 2, C.

## Community need

Essential resources that are lacking as indicated by the local people of the area in question.

- Child Welfare Information Gateway; <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/assessment/community/>

## Connectivity

The state or extent of being connected or interconnected with respect to access throughout and between communities

- Plan specific

## Corridor

A one-half mile offset on each side of the tributary. Used to represent the conditions of the people who live near or use the areas next to the tributaries. These areas are urbanized and largely impervious.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

## Cultural, arts, or education facility

Building or center that facilitates culture, arts, or education (ex. cultural and performing arts centers, museums, schools, etc.).

- Plan specific

## Culture

The customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

- Dictionary.com

### **Disadvantaged Community (DAC)**

A Disadvantaged Community is defined by the State of California as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual median household income.

- Coachella Valley Water District;  
<http://www.cvwd.org/365/Disadvantaged-Communities-Task-Force>

### **Economic and workforce development**

Development and supporting a manner that yields thriving businesses, and creates job training and career opportunities within the watershed.

- Plan specific

### **Ecosystem**

A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment.

- Dictionary.com

### **Ecosystem enhancement**

Ecosystem enhancement measures are those that actually improve the ecological condition of the development site after the development is complete. This means enhancement measures must be better than any avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures required to neutralize the impacts of the development on wildlife.

- Thomson Environmental Consultants;  
<https://www.thomsonec.com/teh/mitigation-and-enhancement-biodiversity-enhancement/>

### **Ecosystem health**

A healthy ecosystem is one that is intact in its physical, chemical, and biological components and their interrelationships, such that it is resilient to withstand change and stressors. It is a system that is not experiencing the abnormal growth or decline of native species, the concentration of persistent contaminants, or drastic anthropogenic changes to its landscape or ecological processes.

- The Seadoc Society;  
<https://www.seadocsociety.org/what-is-ecosystem-health>

### **Education**

The process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university.

- Dictionary.com

### **Equitable access**

Equal opportunity for access to the LA River and Tributaries regardless of disparity in income.

- Plan specific

### **Flood risk**

The likelihood and adverse consequences of flooding.

- United States Army Corps of Civil Engineers;  
[https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/portals/70/docs/iwrre-ports/2014-r-02\\_appendixa.pdf](https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/portals/70/docs/iwrre-ports/2014-r-02_appendixa.pdf)

### **Flood risk reduction**

Actions that are intended to reduce the likelihood or the potential adverse consequences of a future flood. They include actions to reduce the hazard, reduce exposure, and reduce vulnerability.

- United States Army Corps of Civil Engineers;  
[https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/portals/70/docs/iwrre-ports/2014-r-02\\_appendixa.pdf](https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/portals/70/docs/iwrre-ports/2014-r-02_appendixa.pdf)

### **Framework**

The community-driven technical approach (or “methods”) through which The Plan is developed and analyzed.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Funding**

Money provided, especially by an organization or government, for a particular purpose.

- Dictionary.com

### **Habitat**

The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

- Dictionary.com

### **Human access**

Point that provides the ability for humans to enter the LA river or tributaries.

- Plan specific

### **Improvements**

General types of actions that can be applied to enhance the space in alignment with the community desires, environmental needs, and the goals and objectives of The Plan.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Improved recreation element**

An already existing recreational space that has been made better using new features such as enhanced playing fields, amenities, restrooms, or paths.

- Plan specific

### **Iteration**

Repetition of the analysis with updates to the inputs based on feedback or additional data.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout

### **Local flood complaints**

Flooding issues identified by members of the community.

- Plan specific

### **Mainstem**

The 51 miles of the Los Angeles River from the headwaters in Canoga Park to its mouth in Long Beach.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout

### **Multi-benefit**

Providing improvements to meet more than one need, often in different realms such as both environmental and community revitalization.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout

### **Multipurpose**

One space that provides several functions or supports multiple activities.

- Dictionary.com

### **Nature based solutions**

Nature-based solutions to societal challenges as solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience.

- European Commission;  
<https://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/index.cfm?pg=nbs>

### **Objectives**

The intentions of the planning effort broken down into smaller pieces to help hone in on the ways to attain the goals of The Plan.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Open space**

Land without buildings or a general descriptive term which places no restrictions on the use of the land. The definition of open space includes constructed open space (e.g. parks and plazas) and natural open space (essentially unimproved, with native habitat).

- City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning;  
[http://www.cityofvernon.org/images/community-services/Planning/Vernon\\_General\\_Plan.pdf\(Page 203\)](http://www.cityofvernon.org/images/community-services/Planning/Vernon_General_Plan.pdf(Page%203))

### **Opportunity areas**

Site-specific areas within ULART that have been identified for improvements by the Working Group, Committees, community, or as part of a gaps analysis.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Passive recreation element**

Refers to activities that are generally low impact such as hiking, fishing, picnicking, bird watching, or non-motorized boating.

- Common Ground Plan

### **Phase**

A distinct period or stage in a series of events or a process of change or development.

- Plan specific

### **Previous efforts**

Any action taken to assess or alter a site for improvements previous to the ULART plan.

- Plan specific

### **Public transit access point**

Location that links a form of public transportation (bus, metro, etc.) to a LA River access site.

- Plan specific

### **Recreation**

Activity done for enjoyment when one is not working resulting in mental and physical health benefits.

- Plan specific

### **Safe access**

Unobstructed point to enter a public place, river, or tributary suitable for all users.

- Plan specific

### **Scoring**

The numeric value assigned to each opportunity area describing how well the site aligns with the goals and objectives of The Plan.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Spreading basin**

Also known as groundwater recharge facilities, are areas with permeable underlying soils that are hydraulically connected to the underlying aquifer. These spreading grounds allow water to percolate into groundwater basins for later pumping for drinking water.

- Los Angeles County Public Works;  
<https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/SpreadingGround/>

### **Stormwater**

Water that originates during precipitation events and snow/ice melt. Stormwater can soak into the soil (infiltrate), be held on the surface and

evaporate, or runoff and end up in nearby streams, rivers, or other water bodies (surface water).

- Town of Kingston, MA;  
<https://www.kingstonmass.org/?SEC=98244A4B-6C67-49DB-8F75-2428CB6987B9>

### **Structural BMP**

Facilities that help to prevent pollutants in storm water runoff from leaving a developed property, entering our storm drains, and impacting our local waterways.

- County of San Diego;  
[https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/dpw/WATERSHED\\_PROTECTION\\_PROGRAM/watershedpdf/S-BMP/BMP\\_Program\\_Flyer.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/dpw/WATERSHED_PROTECTION_PROGRAM/watershedpdf/S-BMP/BMP_Program_Flyer.pdf)

### **Tributary**

A river or stream flowing into the Los Angeles River. There are 13 total identified in this plan and 6 selected for additional analysis.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Tributary Watershed**

All the land area that drains to the tributary. Represents the conditions that impact habitat, ecology, and water pollution because the water that flows over the entire watershed impacts the in-stream conditions.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Typologies**

Categories of land with common characteristics frequently dispersed throughout ULART that have been mentioned by the community, Working Group, or suggested by the project planning team.

- ULART Term Definitions Handout; Plan specific

### **Underserved community**

The term “underserved population” means a population of individuals, including urban minorities, who have historically been outside the purview of arts and humanities programs due to factors such as a high incidence of income below the poverty line or to geographic isolation.

- Office of Management and Budget; Appendix, Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2014;  
[https://definedterm.com/underserved\\_population](https://definedterm.com/underserved_population)

**Unmet drainage need**

Localized drainage issues can cause hazards, damage, or inconvenience to communities. These drainage issues could potentially be mitigated by new capital projects proposed in the Plan to help protect communities from flood impacts. Unmet drainage needs are quantified in units of linear miles requiring improvement.

- LLAR

**Water conservation**

Water resource management practices that reduce water use with the goal of improving overall water supply.

- Plan specific

**Watershed**

An area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall to a common outlet such as the mouth of a river or bay, the outflow of a reservoir, or a point along a channel.

- United States Geological Survey;  
[https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/watersheds-and-drainage-basins?qt-science\\_center\\_objects=0#qt-science\\_center\\_objects](https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/watersheds-and-drainage-basins?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects)

**Watershed Management**

Drainage area approach to improving water quality by identifying water resource problems and developing solutions through the coordination of both point source and nonpoint source regulatory efforts.

- California Waterboards;  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/watershed/#wmi](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/watershed/#wmi)

**Waterway**

A river, canal, or other route for travel by water.

- Oxford English Dictionary

**Wildlife access**

Point that provides the ability for local wildlife to have entry to the LA river.

- Plan specific

**Wildlife passage**

Capability of an area of land to facilitate wildlife movement in and around it.

- Plan specific