

Upper LA River & Tributaries Revitalization Plan

Listening Sessions

Thursday, January 9, 2020

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Glendale Adult Recreation Center

201 E Colorado Blvd.

Glendale, CA 91205

and

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens

570 W Ave. 26

Los Angeles, CA 90065

S U M M A R Y

Introduction

On January 9, 2020, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation Authority (MRCA) hosted two Listening Sessions to solicit input into the Draft Upper LA River & Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan. The format for each session was an open house. Participants were presented with an update on the process and overview of the ways that they could provide their comments on the plan. Following the presentation, they had an opportunity to review the Draft Plan Volumes I and II. Volume I was available in English and Spanish and Volume II was available in English. Approximately 40 attendees were present at the sessions.

Sarah Rascon of MRCA opened each session with a welcome and overview. She explained that community participation is critical to the process and that the role of the NGO partners was to conduct outreach and engagement to ensure a broad range of community participation. She provided a brief presentation that summarized community engagement efforts for the first, second, and third phases of the ULART Revitalization Plan process. Ms. Rascon presented the ULART goals, the planning process, and the Draft Plan's organization. Ms. Rascon stated the technical team completed the Draft Plan in December 2019, at which time the Draft Plan was accessible to the public for review and comment.

Esmeralda García of MIG reviewed how participants could provide comments on the Plan throughout the public comment period, including during the listening sessions. She explained that participants could review digital or hard copies of the Draft Plan and submit written responses through the document web portal via the laptops in the center of the room or on comment sheets provided at the welcome tables at the front of the room. Additionally, community members could review a digital version of the Draft Plan and provide comments at a later time electronically through a web portal accessible on

the ULART project website. Ms. García explained how members of the public can scroll through the document, click on the exact location where they would like to comment, and submit comments on specific sections of the plan. If anyone would like to spend more time reviewing and writing comments, the user could create an account in order to save the comments made over an extended period of time before submitting. She provided the link to the web portal: <https://upperlariver.konveio.com/> (Spanish version: <https://upperlariver.konveio.com/espanol>). She reminded participants that the end of the comment period is January 21, 2020.

Following the presentations at each Listening Session, Ms. Rascon and Ms. García addressed community member questions about the process. The group was then invited to review the Draft Plan Volumes I and II and provide handwritten comments or through the web portal on computers provided during the sessions. Participants also had an opportunity to view renderings of proposed opportunity areas for each tributary as well as the project list.

Comments collected during the listening session, submitted in writing, and entered through the web portal will be compiled and reviewed by the planning team. All comments and responses will be included in the Final ULART Revitalization Plan.



Sarah Rascon presents at the Listening Session at the Glendale Adult Recreation Center



Sarah Rascon presents at the Listening Session at the LA River Center and Gardens