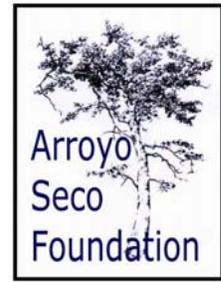


## APPENDIX C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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# Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



## **Stakeholder Committee** *(Participants Invited as of 11/3/00)*

### **Non-Profit Organizations**

Above the Bowl Neighborhood Association  
Alta San Rafael Association  
Altadena Family Apartment  
Altadena Foothills Conservancy  
Altos Arroyo Association  
American Youth Soccer Organization  
Arroyo Arts Collective  
Arroyo Seco Community Action  
Arroyo Seco Magnet School  
Arroyo Seco Residents  
ARTScorpLA  
National Audubon Society, Audubon Center  
Audubon Society, Pasadena  
California Cycleways  
California Native Plant Society  
Castle Green Association  
Cleveland Neighborhood  
Continental Townhomes Homeowners Assoc.  
Cypress-Lincoln-Villa  
Del Mar Townhouses  
East Arroyo Neighbors  
East Arroyo Residents  
East Arroyo Terrace  
East California Neighborhood Association  
Equestrian Trails, Inc.  
Five Acres  
Flintridge Foundation  
Florecita Farm Association Neighbors  
Foothill Area Community Services  
Friends of Debs Park  
Friends of the Los Angeles River  
Friends of the San Gabriel River  
Gabrielino / Tongva Tribal Council  
Hahamongna Watchdog Group  
Heritage Homeownership Partners  
Highland Park Chamber of Commerce  
Highland Park Heritage Trust  
Historical Society of Southern California  
La Cresta Drive Association  
Lincoln Avenue PAC  
Lincoln Heights Preservation Association  
Lincoln Howard Arroyo Freeway Association  
Lincoln Town Homes Neighborhood Watch  
Linda Vista/Annandale Association  
Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed  
Council

Los Angeles Conservation Corps  
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition  
Montana Central Banner  
Muir Heights Association  
Neighborhood Housing Services  
Neighborhood Strengthening Project  
New Horizon School  
Orange Grove Village No. 1 HOA  
Outward Bound Adventure  
Pasadena Beautiful Foundation  
Pasadena Garden Club  
Pasadena Heritage  
Pasadena Historical Museum  
Pasadena Tournament of Roses  
People for Pasadena Parks  
Putney Area Neighbors  
San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy  
San Pasqual Stables  
San Rafael Association  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory  
Committee  
Save Open Space in the Arroyo Seco Parklands  
Save South Pasadena Arroyo Seco Parklands  
Seco Neighborhood Association  
Sierra Club  
Singer Park Neighborhood Association  
South Coast Wildlands Project  
Sunset Oaks Neighborhood Association  
The Wildlands Conservancy  
Theodore Payne Foundation  
Tom Sawyer Camps, Inc.  
TreePeople  
Trust for Public Land  
W.D. Edison Neighborhood Association

### **Institutional / Business**

Art Center College of Design  
California Institute of Technology  
California Polytechnic State University, Pomona  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory Hiking Club  
La Canada High School  
La Pintoresca Library  
Occidental College  
Occidental College, Urban and Environmental Policy  
Institute  
Pasadena City College

Pasadena Cyclery  
Pasadena Star News  
Rose Bowl Aquatic Center  
Sapphos Environmental  
Southern California Edison  
Takata Associates  
Zander and Associates

**City**

City of La Canada Flintridge  
Mayor David Spence  
City Manager Jerry Fulwood  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Planning Commission  
Public Works and Traffic Commission  
Unified School District

City of Los Angeles

Mayor Richard Riordan  
Bureau of Engineering, Stormwater Division  
Councilmember Mike Hernandez  
Councilmember Nick Pacheco  
Department of City Planning  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Recreation and Parks  
Department of Transportation  
Department of Water and Power  
Environmental Affairs Department  
Unified School District

City of Pasadena

Mayor Bill Bogaard  
Central Arroyo Master Plan Advisory Committee  
City Manager Cynthia Kurtz  
Councilmember Joyce Streater  
Councilmember Steve Madison  
Department of Public Works  
Equestrian Mounted Police  
Parks and Natural Resources  
Parks Commission  
Pasadena Blueline  
Planning and Permitting  
Rose Bowl Operating Company  
Unified School District

City of South Pasadena

Mayor Dorothy Cohen  
City Manager Sean Joyce  
Community Services Department

**County**

Altadena Town Council  
Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division  
Los Angeles County Natural History Museum

Los Angeles County Open Space District  
Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Los Angeles County Supervisor  
Mike Antonovich

**Regional**

Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority  
Metropolitan Water District  
Metropolitan Transit Authority  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Southern California Association of Governments

**State**

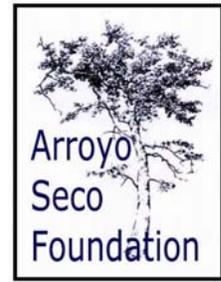
Assemblymember Antonio Villaraigosa  
Assemblymember Jack Scott  
Assemblymember Scott Wildman  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Department of Transportation  
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Senator Adam Schiff  
Senator Richard Polanco  
State Coastal Conservancy  
Water Resources Control Board

**Federal**

Army Corps of Engineers  
Congressmember James Rogan  
Congressmember Xavier Becerra  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Federal Emergency Management Act  
Forest Service, Angeles National Forest  
National Park Service-Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program



# Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



## *November 16 Stakeholder Meeting Stakeholder Input by Topic*

The following information is a synthesis of the input provided by the participants of the November 16, 2000 Stakeholder Committee meeting. During the workshop portion of the meeting, the Committee was divided into small groups to develop lists of the key issues and concerns of the stakeholder organizations. The following input was grouped by topic/theme.

### **HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION**

- Restore natural river where there is sufficient flood control
- Increase water flow through the Arroyo Seco
- Make Arroyo Seco into a multi-purpose/use area such as flood management, recreation, habitat (similar to Sepulveda Basin)-- Identify case studies from other areas with similar issues for information
- Identify case studies from other areas with similar issues for information
- Look at long-range potentials
- Revisit/consider what level of flood control is needed with regard to political and economic concerns
- Any improvements must not add more impermeable surfaces (concrete, asphalt)
- Flood control/protection must be maintained
- Regional Water Quality Control Board and Prop. 13 funding
- Agency Regulations and 401 certifications—make sure to get appropriate permits

### **WATER RESOURCES/ QUALITY**

- Conduct pre- and post- monitoring to see/quantify the results/benefits—water quality, urban heat island effect/tree planting, flow volumes—include recommendations for monitoring in technical report
- Water quality--consider progressive improvements (i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> plant habitat, 2<sup>nd</sup> safe for kids, 3<sup>rd</sup> fish habitat, 4<sup>th</sup> safe to drink)
- Education and outreach about water issues and to build support/involvement—use simple terms, an engaging approach
- Concerns with JPL Runoff/discharge, golf course runoff, storm drain runoff

### **HABITAT RESTORATION**

- Habitat restoration, removal of exotic plants—need paid labor as well as volunteers
- Minimize lighting of open space for wildlife habitat protection
- Aggressive tree planting to soften hardscape, prevent soil erosion, improve air quality
- Look at shape of channel with regard to habitat
- Develop Arroyo Seco as a wildlife corridor that integrates recreation and connects with existing parks, corridors and mountains
- Look at long-range potentials

### **RECREATION/ OPEN SPACE**

#### **Expansion of Parkland/ Open Space**

- Acquire existing open space in watershed (i.e. Mount Olympus)
- Convert brownfields to parks—
- Brownfields—how many? How close to creek? Expense? Who is going to help?
- Expansion of existing recreation facilities
- Montecito Hts./Debs Park--incorporate open space into community
- Protect/ restore open space
- Explore possibility of acquiring land for connections (possibly trails?) in upper watershed to Millard Canyon

- Identify existing recreational facilities in cities (i.e. new skate park in South Pasadena, existing municipal service yards, infrastructure, stables)
- Re-examine current zoning and its relationship to remaining open space

### **Access/ Connections**

- Connect/ link existing resources (i.e. pedestrian trails, bikepaths, equestrian trails, open space)—connect to regional resources such as Rim of the Valley trail
- Improve access from communities to existing and future trails
- Make eastside of Arroyo Seco accessible to pedestrians
- Provide access to under-used/vacant lands which could be added to the open space network
- Encourage design of hiking trails/bikepaths as integrated part of future land plans
- Many little parks give a feeling of disconnection

### **Design Elements/ Considerations**

- Use native landscape/ vegetation, riparian, coastal sage scrub, chaparral (less maintenance)
- If walls are to be built along parkway, design can be integrated into park concepts (i.e. see-through fencing)
- Treat concrete walls as art projects, wildlife displays, etc.
- How does confluence with LA River get addressed? Should be more natural or re-done as urban park?
- Better integrate Arroyo Seco into Highland Park
- Provide continuity to the Arroyo Seco—it should appear as one unit or entity across city boundaries
- Develop plan for parking/traffic management-shuttle, blueline, parkway,

### **Safety**

- Need one ranger unit for Arroyo Seco
- Work with cities and police for enforcement issues
- Safety—work with law enforcement agencies. How safe will trail be? Lighting? Check residents' preferences—bike team patrol, equestrian patrol
- Attractive design will attract “positive”, active use
- Increase parks and the number of people in the Arroyo Seco to make it more safe and secure

### **CULTURAL/ HISTORIC RESOURCES**

- Higher priority should be given to cultural & natural features
- Integrate Historic/Cultural Resources into landscape
- Rehabilitate Arroyo Seco Parkway to original identity/concept
- Parkway relationship must be evaluated. Function and aesthetics (no sound walls!)—parkway vegetation could be integrated with park design
- Provide continuity to the Arroyo Seco—it should appear as one unit or entity across city boundaries
- Identify historical locations/ cultural buildings

### **OUTREACH/ EDUCATION**

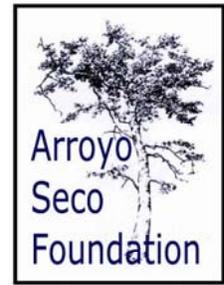
- Use this project as opportunity for demonstration of holistic approaches
- Develop internships with schools
- Create website Links, educational programs, email listserve
- Multiple languages in use—need to use translators
- Develop interpretive elements where restoration isn't feasible (110)
- Pay adequate attention to more difficult areas such as urban and higher density areas
- Educate community and including in process
- Graffiti and garbage removal—address as social issues—can this be discouraged by design? Do we understand the causes?
- Better integrate Arroyo Seco into Highland Park
- Develop educational programs for all ages including school and recreation programs
- Education and outreach about water issues and to build support/involvement—use simple terms, an engaging approach

## **IMPLEMENTATION/ MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS**

- Need more maintenance money for Parks and Recreation and Education/Training
- Reduce maintenance costs/ develop cost effective maintenance
- Integrate the work of existing groups so that are working together
- Develop incentives for local participation and ownership
- Clarify jurisdiction/responsibilities for Arroyo Seco maintenance and liability
- Concern that cities/ agencies won't work together
- How will this project work with the City of Pasadena Master Plan: get City of Pasadena to change section names of Arroyo Seco (i.e. from Lower Arroyo to Mid Arroyo to address greater context outside of Pasadena)
- Need an implementation strategy
- Use hard examples—case studies that demonstrate costs and practical issues
- Be wary of short-term solutions that may prevent / obviate long



# Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



## November 16 Stakeholder Meeting Stakeholder Input

The following information is a synthesis of the input provided by the participants of the November 16, 2000 Stakeholder Committee meeting. During the workshop portion of the meeting, the Committee was divided into small groups to develop lists of the key issues and concerns of the stakeholder organizations.

### Hopes/Aspirations/Vision

- Look at long-range potentials
- Integrate Historic/Cultural Resources into landscape
- Rehabilitate Arroyo Seco Parkway to original identity/concept
- Better integrate Arroyo Seco into Highland Park
- Develop Arroyo Seco as a wildlife corridor that integrates recreation and connects with existing parks, corridors and mountains
- Make Arroyo Seco into a multi-purpose/use area such as flood management, recreation, habitat (similar to Sepulveda Basin)
- Increase parks and the number of people in the Arroyo Seco to make it more safe and secure
- Protect/ restore open space
- Develop educational programs for all ages including school and recreation programs
- Provide continuity to the Arroyo Seco—it should appear as one unit or entity across city boundaries
- Integrate the work of existing groups so that are working together

### Data

- Regional Water Quality Control Board and Prop. 13 funding
- Re-examine current zoning and its relation to remaining open space
- Identify existing recreational facilities in cities (i.e. new skate park in South Pasadena, existing municipal service yards, infrastructure, stables)
- Identify case studies from other areas with similar issues for information
- Identify historical locations/ cultural buildings

### Issues/Concerns

- Pay adequate attention to more difficult areas such as urban and higher density areas
- Educate community and including in process
- Graffiti and garbage removal—address as social issues—can this be discouraged by design? Do we understand the causes?
- Safety—work with law enforcement agencies. How safe will trail be? Lighting? Check residents' preferences—bike team patrol, equestrian patrol
- Attractive design will attract “positive”, active use
- Be wary of short-term solutions that may prevent / obviate long term goals
- How will this project work with the City of Pasadena Master Plan: get City of Pasadena to change section names of Arroyo Seco (i.e. from Lower Arroyo to Mid Arroyo to address greater context outside of Pasadena)
- Clarify jurisdiction/responsibilities for Arroyo Seco maintenance and liability
- Concern that cities/ agencies won't work together
- Brownfields—how many? How close to creek? Expense? Who is going to help?
- Concerns with JPL Runoff/discharge, golf course runoff, storm drain runoff

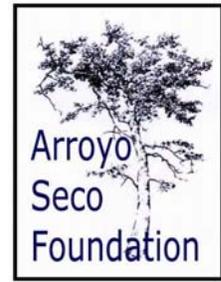
- Any improvements must not add more impermeable surfaces (concrete, asphalt)
- Flood control/protection must be maintained
- How does confluence with LA River get addressed? Should be more natural or re-done as urban park?
- Revisit/consider what level of flood control is needed with regard to political and economic concerns
- Agency Regulations and 401 certifications—make sure to get appropriate permits
- Explore possibility of acquiring land for connections (possibly trails?) in upper watershed to Millard Canyon
- Look at shape of channel with regard to habitat
- Many little parks give a feeling of disconnection
- Parkway relationship must be evaluated. Function and aesthetics (no sound walls!)—parkway vegetation could be integrated with park design
- Higher priority should be given to cultural & natural features

### **Potential Study Recommendations**

- Treat concrete walls as art projects, wildlife displays, etc.
- Use native landscape/ vegetation, riparian, coastal sage scrub, chaparral (less maintenance)
- Aggressive tree planting to soften hardscape, prevent soil erosion, improve air quality
- Restore natural river where there is sufficient flood control
- Increase water flow through the Arroyo Seco
- Acquire existing open space in watershed (i.e. Mount Olympus)
- Provide access to under-used/vacant lands which could be added to the open space network
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- If walls are to be built along parkway, design can be integrated into park concepts (i.e. see-through fencing)
- Use hard examples—case studies that demonstrate costs and practical issues
- Use this project as opportunity for demonstration of holistic approaches
- Conduct pre- and post- monitoring to see/quantify the results/benefits—water quality, urban heat island effect/tree planting, flow volumes—include recommendations for monitoring in technical report
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- Habitat restoration, removal of exotic plants—need paid labor as well as volunteers
- Need one ranger unit for Arroyo Seco
- Work with cities and police for enforcement issues
- Need more maintenance money for Parks and Recreation and Education/Training
- Develop plan for parking/traffic management-shuttle, blueline, parkway,
- Reduce maintenance costs/ develop cost effective maintenance
- Develop incentives for local participation and ownership
- Need an implementation strategy



## Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



*January 18, 2001 Stakeholder Meeting  
Stakeholder Verbal Input (Descriptions of the Maps)*

The following information was generated from an audio recording of each small group's description of the mapping that they produced during the January 18, 2001 stakeholder meeting.

### **Group A**

From Top to Bottom of Map:

- Area by JPL a favorite place
- S. Pasadena area by the golf course on fwy, has 3 things, skateboard park possibly going in where the recycling center was, a nature park next to York /Pasadena Ave., also concerned about 2 riding stables, one by LA boundary, the other in upper AS. Another by San Pasqual (boarding for horses, it's busier) some want to see it become something else, soccer fields).
- Debs Park becoming nature center/master plan being developed.
- Various projects/resources, programs that use at-risk youth, operation clean sweep for juvenile offenders (graffiti). Friends of Debs Park doing projects adding vegetation, bench, stone wall, used students from Nightengale Junior High. Wonderful, enthusiastic, optimistic, refreshing, positive experience. Have organized clean up on Marmion Way (free food helped).
- Lots of resources in NE Los Angeles that are overlooked, such as Lummis Home, Heritage Square, SW Museum (which let LACMA lease some storage and exhibit space—so SW Museum will be staying at their present site). Significant open space areas in Mt. Washington area, Elyria Canyon Park, small strip of park between Avenue 44 and Rainbow Avenue that was subject to landslide 20 yrs. ago that they hope to make into some sort of pocket park. Have a long strip of land associated with the Recreation Center. Some of these have been improved with grants given to the City of LA.
- Talked about AS Park branch at Via Marisol there's a little island of trees from Japan, it is very picturesque, cut off from rest of park, by Arroyo by small footbridge, very few people use it, it is a gem that should be looked into.
- Bureaucratic booby traps and how the rules of the municipalities seem overly encumbering and over delaying and sometimes to the point of canceling projects, pressure from developers to use land in ways that they don't like, especially in Altadena, like La Vina project.
- There are several small things that not many people know about, there's a natural spring in S. Pasadena area near the area where there's a proposed nature park. There is a Charter Oak Monument that is covered over with weeds, there are many obscure significant historic resources.
- Switzer's and Woodwardia Canyon were noted as being gems as well.
- Trash problems, that they think is coming from Rose Bowl (or from incidental park use), they're tired of cleaning it out.
- Another bureaucratic problem is the lack of multi-use of school sites for soccer and other uses

### **Group B**

Represented by garden clubs and horse back riders....

- The red were some jewels that were identified, including the Lummis Home, which needs to be integrated into the Arroyo more, and Heritage Square, that right now seems like an anomaly, but if they put in a stable, and made it more part of the Arroyo, where the community first started, could it help integrate it more as part of the Arroyo.
- The lower stable, Mrs. Williams' stable at York, there is a little 4-acre park, very beautiful
- The area behind Devils' Gate dam has been very natural for many years, but now, with the Arroyo toad habitat, and they think that it is a jewel as a natural place and shouldn't be developed, even for outdoor activities
- Some of the canyons are really special, because they haven't been developed.
- The Brown stands for their concerns about sedimentation and its impact on water quality.
- The two lines represent a desire for a division between pedestrian from bicycle, or anything mechanical (including bikes). It's a real problem up there for people who hike and ride horses.
- The blue dots represent a few of the debris basins they would like see removed. Overall they would like to see an overall more naturalized stream
- This means that we would like to see as much native plant growth return as possible used to define this space. In the more urban areas, where strictly natives may not be suitable, maybe use hybrids (or cultivars) or plant material that is still native but more adapted to the urban environment. Elimination of the non-native plants to increase wildlife habitat.
- The green dots are the stables, equestrian areas. And this line means that need to make a better equestrian trail. The Gabrielino trail hooks into the Pacific Crest Trail it was the main trail, it's really the I-5 of trails so it needs to be well planned, but well thought out.
- Use Arroyo area for groundwater recharge. Soccer fields, golf courses, and park space creates runoff that is very undesirable for the streams, they create pesticides, chemical fertilizers, all runoff into the streams, and the vehicles that park there, that debris also runs off. So they would like to see a concerted plan of asking cities, and in their zoning to have bioremediation really charge people to use plants to absorb runoff.
- Recharge area off of York, is an area where they pull out water so it might not be feasible from Water Company's perspective.
- It's all well and good to plan things, but it is the maintenance that makes it so degraded now, the dollars should be put in towards maintaining what we have, not putting in more stuff.
- The channel that runs through the gold course by the Rose Bowl, threats are continuing where there was a proposal to cover the channel to expand VIP parking, but they talked about making it more naturalized where the channel goes through the golf course.
- Also beyond parks and streams, encourage native plants.
- We should also be acquiring more private land so it is more integrated into open space.

### *Group C*

- The green dots represent the LA City Parks and the blue line is the Blueline to Pasadena
- Areas of things that they would like to see changed or rehabilitated are over by Avenue 43--we would like to see a walkway across the freeway, because it is in bad shape (Sycamore Grove to Montecito Parks), think it is CalTrans. There is a freeway wall from Ave 57-Ave 52 that they would like to see demolished, one homeowner wanted to see it put in and so it went in.
- This is the Highland Park historical area here, these are the rabbit ears for the Debs Park and the nature center that the Audubon Society and LA City Recreation and Parks are putting in
- Also identified some areas that aren't as prone to the gang problems and the graffiti problems where we might be able to put in an interpretive center for the Arroyo (would that include the Native American interests?) Sure.
- There are some open areas where they would like to put some park stuff in or natural stuff.
- Put a bike path up the Arroyo...there was a small open space area that was acquired called Mt. Olympus, right here with Prop A funds.

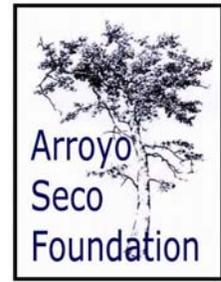
- Also identified some of the larger junior high and high schools that might have the potential for involving in outreach.

### ***Group D***

- We had a sculptor on our team, we have a bike, a horse, a coyote, and a man and a peacock....so all of the favorite places are represented here and the favorite past times--we have a horse enthusiast and
- The Hahamongna area was a favorite spot for several people on the team, what was interesting was that we were able to cover the whole arroyo.
- Starting up here, the issue of separating horse trails from bike trails is a very real one, where one of our team members has had that experience directly and could have been seriously injured, from bikes going too fast.
- La Canada came up a lot in this group, because there is a representative here from the City, and the favorite spot that came up was City Hall and there was also an issue with traffic at the intersection of the 2 and the freeway because there is...something happening there
- These represent favorite places in both sets of mountains, and the need for links between these areas for both people and wildlife,
- This represents the urban fabric being a (inaudible)
- We wanted to call out the Arroyo and a favorite trail for the equestrian folks, need water fountains
- The concept of stream braiding has come back here in this segment, but there are restrictions because of the golf course
- Another person showed where he used to live in the watershed where he would walk his kid to school to enjoy the center of the Arroyo so that was his favorite section here because he had that opportunity to traverse the Arroyo here.
- This trail of jewels represents the trail of jewels the, parks, that are up and down this portion of the LA portion of the Arroyo and we wanted that linkage to be very clear and very accessible
- Down here, one of our teammates, wanted to emphasize what she calls the United Colors of Benetton, because it is such a diverse area, and that the parks down here are real jewels to the community and there is a real treasure trove down here, but there aren't a lot of native plants.
- This is from another teammate who feels that being in the Arroyo in this portion represents this cradle or bowl feeling when you are in it and it is actually very nice. The topography lends itself to this nice enclosed feeling that is different than the upper or more urbanized portion of the Arroyo.
- Also , the Native American interests in Hahamongna Park are a concern



## Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



### *Community Meeting No.1 (December 3 & 5, 2000) Community Input by Topic*

The following information is a synthesis of the input provided by the participants of the December 3 and December 5, 2000 community meetings. During the workshop portions of the meetings, participants were divided into small groups to develop lists of the key issues and concerns. The following input is grouped by topic/theme.

#### **Categories:**

#### **HYDROLOGICAL RESTORATION**

- Benefits of naturalization offset costs—it's worth it
- Flood management—create floodplain
- Multi-use for parks—flood control and recreation (i.e. CalPoly idea to divert to South Pasadena park)
- Golf course good location for spreading basin
- Unpave parking lots
- Avenue 43 to confluence—inflatable dam, lake, cafes
- Remove concrete, naturalize channel, restoration, have soft bottom sections
- Concern with “faux” stream in Lower Arroyo—don't aim low, go for real, soft bottom river
- Big costs of naturalization
- Removal of flood channel/naturalization (central and Lower) and feasibility (including moving the concrete)
- Take out concrete in places, but keep flood management where needed
- Flood issues—protection, damage reduction, safety in channels
- How accommodate a wider channel if naturalized?
- Channel configuration inconsistent
- Potential impacts to houses adjacent to Arroyo (including erosion)
- Remove homes from floodplain
- What will happen to houses on Angeles National Forest lands?
- Build up of sediment—how to address existing dams that are full of debris

#### **WATER RESOURCES/ QUALITY**

##### **Water Quality**

- Flood control and water quality inter-related
- Water should be drinkable, swimmable, boatable, fishable
- Negative water quality impacting children in community
- Non-point source contaminants—dog/horse waste, weed control chemicals sprayed by City, street run-off
- Groundwater quality
- Maintain drinking water quality
- Ground water contamination plume (JPL) of concern
- Clean-up of toxic areas of soil and water
- Industry clean-up
- Volunteer water quality monitoring—local schools
- BMPs/education to improve water quality/create development guidelines
- Concerned about soccer fields in Hahamongna and water quality effects

##### **Water Conservation/Supply**

- Preserve water/conserves/prevent run-off
- Harvest water to percolate/recharge water table--catchbasins
- Remove asphalt/concrete in parking lots to make multi-purpose

- Pocket park retention basins
- Naturalize golf course for better water management
- Permeable paving in communities

## **HABITAT RESTORATION**

### **Conservation/Restoration**

- Long term conservation planning needed
- Community ownership of preserve
- Habitat should be a big priority [in development of a watershed plan]
- Water quality important for habitat
- Wetlands important
- Restore/ naturalize stream
- Habitat restoration—who gets to help, volunteers/organizations, who makes decisions?
- Preserve open spaces for wildlife

### **Wildlife/ Habitat Connectivity**

- Encourage wildlife to return to watershed (i.e. salmon, trout, birds, coyotes, Arroyo chub)
- Wildlife is currently very resilient
- Presence of critical species in Hahamongna
- Combine habitat and recreation-- balance human uses with wildlife needs
- Arroyo as wildlife corridor—functions/functioned as a natural corridor
- Habitat—broadening extent vs. just a closed conduit—provide linkages

### **Vegetation/Plants**

- Native plants require floods
- Correct tree planting—good maintenance, proper pruning
- Native plants--smog tolerant plants
- Look at baseline historic and existing biological data as part of revegetation efforts
- Develop diversion channels for riparian purposes
- Remove non-native species (i.e. *Arundo donax*)
- Protect existing trees and vegetation
- Encourage people to replace lawns with native species to create habitat
- Naturalize golf courses—provide berries that attract birds, etc.

## **RECREATION/ OPEN SPACE**

### **Expansion of Parkland/ Open Space**

- Preserve/ expand natural, open space
- Land acquisition—buy back land/easements
- Acquire land in Arroyo

### **Access/ Connections**

- Provide better access to trails
- Issue of driving into Arroyo—encourage use of steps down as an alternative
- Encourage access to Arroyo through transit, pedestrian, Blueline
- Need better pedestrian links, especially in Rose Bowl area
- Link bike paths, pedestrian and equestrian trails
- Link cultural and educational facilities—link to youth
- Provide access across freeway for pedestrians/bicyclists
- Confluence area needs attention—get bikes, etc. through
- Connect Arroyo Seco to Elysian Park/Debs Park especially by foot
- Chain link fences block access
- Roads don't flow between South Pasadena and Highland Park and this limits access
- Fragmented areas between South Pasadena and LA River—need a connection at Avenue 43
- There is a break in links of South Pasadena parks, privatized
- Continuous bike access along river/ attractive
- Provide regional connections (Pt. Mugu, Baldy, Rim of the Valley Trail)
- Easement configuration

- Look at historical links
- Appropriate access (i.e. access to Arroyo for non-impacting uses)
- Accessibility to a natural experience

## **Design Elements/ Considerations**

### *General*

- South Arroyo areas are fundamentally different with different issues
- Southern stretch (L.A. River to South Pasadena) needs more attention
- Focus on what is unique to Arroyo
- Identify Arroyo as river, create regional identity (currently it is weak)
- Keep Arroyo as parkland

### *Aesthetics*

- Aesthetics a concern
- Chain link fences are ugly [existing, and in general]
- Make more beautiful--open minded approach to planning/management

### *Art*

- LA City has designed walls for murals (i.e. maybe could in Arroyo/channel walls also)
- Recent L.A. River stuff is great (art walk, new pocket parks, etc)
- All graffiti in earth tones
- More art work/murals/installations

### *Trails/Trail Uses*

- Longer bike path would get more users—currently, path doesn't go anywhere
- More/better/safer bikeways
- Fewer vehicles/including mountain bikes
- Can be a major commuter corridor
- Less use of Arroyo for transportation
- No bikes in Arroyo/Lower Arroyo (takes too much space—want passive/quiet uses)
- Recreational use interface/conflicts (bikes/pedestrians/equestrian, canoes/boats, motorized)
- Mountain bikers going too fast on pedestrian trails
- Separate bikes and pedestrians and horses
- Post rules/etiquette
- Equestrian uses are low impact and harmonious

### *Levels/Intensity of Use*

- Over use/impacts of existing recreation facilities and conflict of uses
- Soccer fields not good around Arroyo—too much land needed
- Archery land use excessive- too large/valuable site for small user group (annual lease)
- Low impact uses-- Encourage nature observation points/passive recreation/educational signage
- Active/organized vs. passive recreation
- Central Arroyo heavily used—will become bigger issue with population increases
- What is capacity to provide for users (recreational)
- Balance level of enjoyment in relation to number of users
- Non-motorized uses in Arroyo
- Balance of development/ planning--challenge with space uses
- No structures in natural areas
- Provide for human uses (beyond just habitat restoration)--integrate natural with need for recreation
- Apply lessons learned about activities in Arroyo (i.e. no casting pool, BFI's multi-use, other examples)
- Traffic—impacts of recreation
- Pasadena violates own Rose Bowl limits/laws by holding extra events--large Scale events displace other users
- Change (City of LA's) Recreation and Park's attitude to encourage use

### *Existing Recreation Uses*

- Leave the casting pond—make it more naturalized

- Youth recreation now more focused on organized activities
- Restoration of Brookside Park—consider Myron Hunt master plan (purportedly in Santa Barbara)
- Restore buildings at Fannie Morrison Center
- Ensure public open space is kept public and not privatized (i.e. Fannie Morrison Center)
- Do not allow Kidspace project--put natural stuff there instead or Parks and Recreation headquarters
- Naturalize golf course

#### *Desired Recreation Uses/Improvements*

- Stroller hike around Rose Bowl
- Skateboard park in concrete areas/under underpass areas
- Urban camping stations along river (Debs Park, mid-point)
- Community gardens
- Plant orange groves
- Vegetated bridges
- Provide for dog/pet uses—dog park--dogs off-leash a problem
- Noise issues
- Restore slide rock
- Jet ski waterpark—rules for motorized/ no motorized
- Riverwalks
- Use River water for water parks
- Terrace channel walls/river edges at Via Marisol, Sycamore Grove Park
- Provide safe pedestrian access to river/streams
- Use river water for water parks
- Restrooms along path
- Interpretive center/signs/better signage
- More trash receptacles

#### **Safety**

- Erosion and safety on hiking trails
- Path/trail uses around Rose Bowl need to be segregated for safety
- Safety/perception of safety—need “eyes on” the Arroyo and good emergency response times
- Safety—crime/accident prevention, education, attacks, homeless, substance abuse
- Safety patrols for entire area—need resources to provide adequate patrol
- Perceptions of unsafe areas make the areas unsafe and unused
- South Arroyo areas have safety concerns
- Solution to criminal/gang problems
- Lighting, sensor lighting, better access points, more frequent maintenance would contribute to safety
- Bike freeway would bring people into Arroyo and solve/lessen crime/gang problems
- Debs Park not used in Highland Park because perceived as not safe/gang area
- Safety concerns along bike path (more use/safety, call boxes)

#### **CULTURAL/ HISTORIC RESOURCES**

- There are many historic resources in Arroyo
- Lummis House can be a centerpiece of Arroyo—beautiful, existing place, could interpret cultural, flood/hydrology, Native Americans, natural systems
- Old bridges valuable, sites seem to be well protected—potential undermining, seismic issues
- Restore historic structures (mainly south of the Colorado St. Bridge)
- Old bridge foundations exist—potential resource?
- Leave legacy of how current generation inherited the Arroyo (i.e. leave it in the same condition)
- Historic interpretation—use of old/ historic stone paths—some were WPA projects
- Restore historic Bird Observatory
- La Loma Bridge—money for restoration/retrofit
- Stables on Arroyo—historic (since 1926) should be historic resource/possible National Register nominee

#### **OUTREACH/ EDUCATION**

- Need public education on the history, importance, nature, maintenance of the Arroyo
- Good use of volunteers—could use for maintenance

- Get kids involved—youth involvement may prevent vandalism
- Community teams to adopt a reach to maintain
- Form a lobby for hikers and nature lovers of the watershed
- Build sense of community and commitment to neighborhood
- Prevent neighborhood gentrification once Arroyo area becomes more desirable
- Inclusion (multi-cultural)—make it everyone’s river—multilingual, don’t alienate
- Arroyo as a community link/culturally
- Promotions/cultural history
- Have events: Arroyo fest, clean-up, parade up the channel, rubber ducky race
- Education for the children (through local schools) curriculum development—educational materials
- Involve schools in process—field trips to Arroyo/Arroyo as an environmental education resource

## **IMPLEMENTATION/ MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS**

### **Maintenance**

- Trail maintenance
- Long term maintenance—who? Long term commitment
- System for trash clean-up (i.e. Rose Bowl)
- At-risk youth employment for maintenance and education and to foster stewardship values
- Maintenance of parks in central and lower Arroyo (need basics like trash receptacles)

### **Fiscal Issues**

- Funding for park maintenance
- Long term maintenance funding should be identified to prevent further neglect of existing paths, trails and irrigation
- Funding sources—state/federal agencies, Prop 12 & 13,
- Issue of local taxes going up vs. broad-based funding (county-wide)
- Cities motivated to expand tax base
- Cities need grant administrators to maximize ability to obtain grant funds
- Financial incentives to keeping government status quo (golf course makes money for Rose Bowl)

### **Jurisdictional Issues**

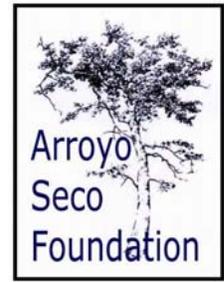
- Jurisdictions— need an organized responsible entity to oversee, possibly a watershed-based agency/Joint Powers Authority
- Who has the liability?

## **PLANNING PROCESS**

- Hold off on any new development until NET/ASF study done
- Will this study result in a framework for other agencies plans
- How network/partner to manage Arroyo Seco for consistency and how will it tie to LA River
- Coordinate with City of Pasadena--need to coordinate agencies and their planning efforts
- How outreach to everyone? Target zip codes? Notify/post via email or mail?
- Provide analysis on web site
- Include representatives from soccer and Kidspace groups and resident associations



## Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study



### *Community Meeting No.2 (March 22, 2001) Summary*

The following information is a summary of the March 22, 2001 community meeting. The following summarizes this meeting.

#### **Meeting Notes**

An update on Pasadena's planning process for the Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan was provided. A planning commission meeting had occurred earlier in the week. The trail plan included two alternatives: one proposing pedestrian and bicycle access; the other providing for pedestrian access, while prohibiting bicycle access. We were informed that opposition to bicycle access was strong. The commission ultimately voted to recommend that bicycles be prohibited.

The team was advised to add bird watching to the list of potential recreation activities.

It was noted that massive population growth is projected in California, with a concern that local government agencies are too willing to push urban development over conservation of natural resources.

Land conservation and mitigation banking are options in the effort to control land use problems.

The benefits of this project are equally important to discuss as the costs.

What do project proponents expect of taxpayers? What are the potential costs?  
(Grant resources were discussed.)

Very few people knew of this meeting. How can word be spread more broadly? (Community newspapers, local access channel on cable television, direct mail to city council members, KPCC public radio, speakers bureau, local schools, video production; overflight)

An impressive effort; meetings should be scheduled with enough time to encourage/allow attendance by elected and appointed officials.

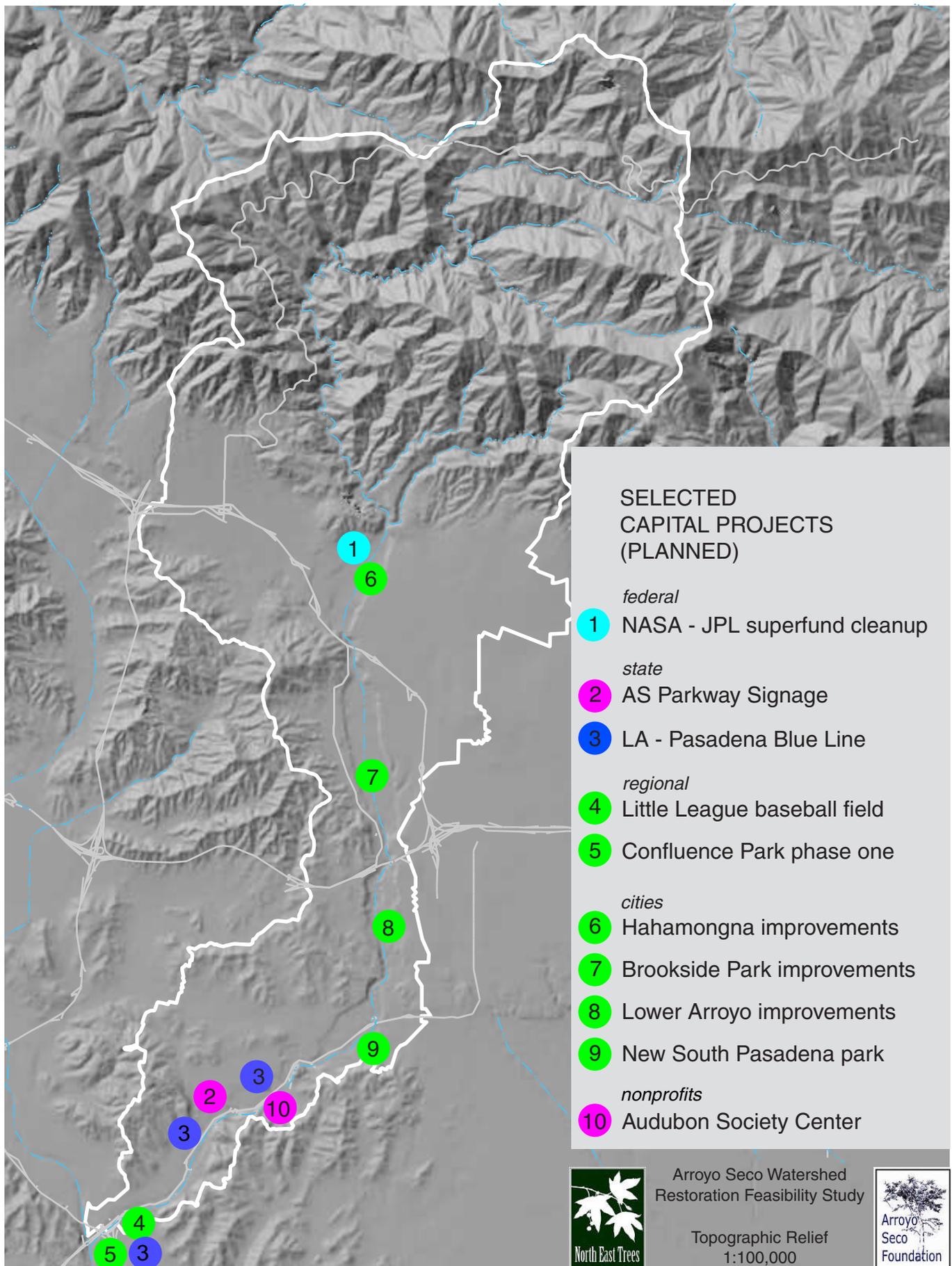


Figure 7