

RESTORATION OF LOWER ARROYO SECO, PASADENA - joint meeting

Ecologists, Vogl & <sup>''</sup>Ross present tentative program to  
City Committee, jointly, Parks & Heritage, 5 pm 7th Aug. '78

Verbal programming <sup>SUPERSEDES</sup> this outline; Wheeler residence.  
space is beneath each item for emendations.

(Ross alone made outline after 5 hours conference with Vogl)

I. RESTORATION OF THE NATURAL VEGETATION.

Just vegetation alone will fail; i.e. transplants, seedlings.

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| Sequence takes<br>time (years).                              | 1. Canopy (upperstory) must be grown for<br>shade-lovers --the understory.  |
| Dig-in humus --<br>compost.                                  | 2. Denuded soils need organic matter --could Parks<br>get us city compost?  |
| Basin to be dug;<br>water carried.                           | 3. Transplants need watering --if no rains come<br>Jan. to Apr.   |
| Reseed later;<br>embed screen.                               | 4. Seeding fails from drought,<br>and from rodent depredation. Screen costs \$.   |
| Ecological<br>specifications                                 | 5. The spot plant requires analysis and prescription:<br>wind, heat, frost, shade, soil, moisture, run-off,<br>rivals, chemical retardants. |
| At north end backhoe<br>a stream bed; get<br>water from dam. | 6. The streamside vegetation requires a nearly<br>year-around stream.   |

II. PRIORITIES OF EARLY PROGRAMMING --fall of '78.

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| Location<br>identity<br>by a grid<br>of markers. | 1. A grid of quadrangles over whole area with perman-<br>ent intersection markers. Vandal proof --suggest<br>driven pipe (city salvage?).<br>Practicum: project for PCC surveying class.<br>Negative: youthful surveyors will massacre the<br>west bank lush spots.    |
| Know<br>the land,<br>its<br>diversities.         | 2. Identification & listing of facies/aspects/soils.<br>Rocky, gravelly, clayey, limey, steep, flat, hot.<br>Example: the e.bank is hot, faces w. Still hotter<br>where e.bank curves to give s.face. Both contrast<br>with cooler w.bank. Seepage adds a 4th habitat. |

A manager is needed for people management.

Early/diverse plots are pilot plots to us.

Hope for a systematist to do this.

Ecological community identification. Serves the plant restorers for selections/groups.

Rooted shrubs onhand: 3 spp. (10+ each) garden raised.

Seed-gathering parties, Spring '79

It is now (Aug 7th) we will try to do

Fall '78 donors or donor workers or workers.

Donor Landscaper and our species list could make attractive frontage,

Donor group needed: } outright purchases; } volunteer workers. }

3. Individual planters (restorers) can have plots (grid-subareas) assigned ---such may be graduate students, botanists, plant lovers, gardeners, and members of this committee; also perhaps a group, as Audubon, or an adult garden club. Their selected restorations derives from the (following) program #5.

4. Establish a total presumptive listing of Arroyo Seco plants once here ---both spore and seed-bearers. Indicate species verified by early records.

5. Establish a species listing for the aspects and soils we have (in #2 above), and the minor plant communities thereon. Annotate for tolerances narrow/wide; e.g. sun demander, shade endurer, fails in wet clay, etc.

6. Shrub transplants can be made Jan. '79 if the grid is ready. This provides early experience Possibility: we may be able to layer or make cuttings for garden rooting this fall and transplanting next spring, '79.

7. Assorted seeding should begin by the fall '78 rainy season ---in spots (identifiable spots).  
a) wildflowers, hot, open and shady, both.  
b) brushland types  
c) woodland types

late for a) & b) gathering, but fair for c). which we will try to do --but not a complete job (impossible now)

Seed-purchase Fund for starts this fall from the Theodore Payne Foundation is needed. We could sow in Oct./Nov/Jan and gain a year's experience.

Appeal: is there a possible donor or group recognized by this committee for purchase of some selections of a) and b); might there be donors who also would do the labor and care of one spot?

8. Landscape Value Bordering Arroyo Drive. Heritage Commission/Parks to decide if we plant the top of e.bank or rim of Arroyo Drive (or not). If landscaped there are beautiful forms and colors of trees, shrubs, wildflowers native that would at times be breathtaking. It should not block the view into the Arroyo.

It interferes with restoration wholesale but could be guided if staffed by special group.