



GABRIELEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS - KIZH NATION
Historically known as The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians recognized by the State of California as the
aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles basin

Monday, June 30, 2025

Christina Monde, P.E.
City of Pasadena Department of Public Works
100 North Garfield Avenue, Suite N306
Pasadena, CA 91101

Subject: Formal Comment on the Proposed Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project

Dear Christina Monde,

This correspondence is submitted as a formal response to the **Notice of Preparation for the Proposed Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project** within the region of *Hahamongna* Watershed. As you are aware, this area lies within our ancestral tribal territory and has long been recognized as a place of cultural, spiritual, and ecological significance to the Kizh Nation (Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians).

We must emphasize that this project area is not only home to known and potential tribal cultural resources—including the high probability of encountering ancestral human remains—but also serves as an ecological corridor that has sustained diverse species of bird life, terrestrial animals, and aquatic life for thousands of years. This riparian ecosystem is rare and fragile, and any disruption threatens irreversible damage to both cultural heritage and biodiversity. For these reasons, we urge that this project be reassessed with full tribal consultation during the environmental review to account for these intersecting impacts.

In regard to the original consultation for a smaller component of the project, after further review and a clearer understanding of its scope, we must also state that there was never a complete formal consultation conducted with our tribe under CEQA or AB 52, as required by law. Due to the sensitivity of the area and its known connection to sacred sites and tribal cultural resources, we are formally requesting full avoidance of this location. Proceeding without addressing the potential impacts to cultural and natural resources would not only be a violation of the spirit and letter of consultation laws, but a continued disregard for the history and sovereignty as the original stewards of this land.

We remain committed to protecting our heritage and environment, and we respectfully request meaningful engagement moving forward.

Respectfully,

Hereditary Chief Andrew Salas
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation

Andrew Salas, Chairman
Mike Jesus Lemos, Treasurer I

Nadine Salas, Vice-Chairman
Samantha Lemos, Treasurer II

Dr. Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary
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