

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP)

WORKING GROUP MEETING #2

Thursday, June 2, 2016 ♦ 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Bateman Hall, 11331 Ernestine Avenue, Lynwood, CA 90262

S U M M A R Y R E P O R T

INTRODUCTION

On June 2, 2016, California State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon of the 63rd Assembly District and the Rivers and Mountain Conservancy (RMC) co-hosted the second meeting of the Working Group for the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan (LLARRP). The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the project mission, preliminary plan elements, Working Group Organizational Framework, Conceptual Planning Process, and Communications Plan.

Meeting Format and Agenda

The second meeting of Working Group occurred on June 2, 2016, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Bateman Hall, 11331 Ernestine Avenue, Lynwood. Approximately 40 representatives participated, and 10 staff from participating agencies also attended to listen and learn.

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer of the RMC opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and explaining the purpose and objectives of the meeting. He then introduced Daniel Iacofano of MIG, Inc., who served as meeting facilitator and provided an overview of the agenda (Attachment A) and meeting format before asking for self-introductions from all participants. A copy of the sign-in sheets is included as Attachment B.

During the meeting, Mr. Iacofano and Chad Helmle of Tetra Tech, the technical consultant for river planning and engineering to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, included PowerPoint slides to support review of agenda items and discussion points. A copy of the PowerPoint slides is included as Attachment C. Andy Pendoley of MIG recorded key discussion points on a wall-sized piece of paper with maps of the Lower LA River, or “wallgraphic.” A summary of the discussion is provided in the following sections, and a photo-reduced copy of the wallgraphic is included at the end of this report as Attachment D.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

The following sections provide a summary of discussions among Working Group members. Discussion topics included: brief summary of Working Group Meeting #1; preliminary project

mission and plan elements; Working Group Organizational Framework, Conceptual Planning Process, Communications Plan, and next steps.

Summary of LLARRP Working Group Meeting #1

Participants reflected on the summary report of Working Group Meeting #1 as presented by Mr. Iacofano, and provided comments about the future planning process.

- Ensure that the planning effort includes the river tributaries
- Identify funding sources and opportunities during planning efforts to support implementation

Preliminary Project Mission and Project Elements

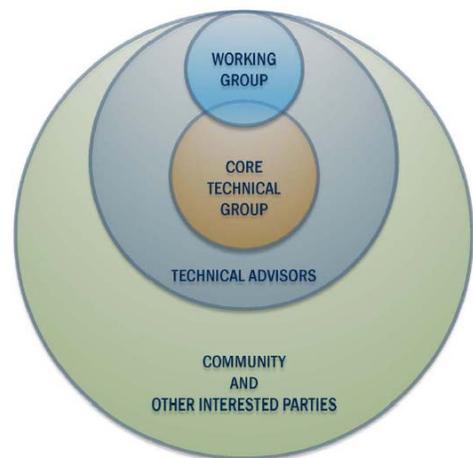
Participants provided feedback on the project mission and project elements, particularly regarding the proposed Focus Areas, as presented by Mr. Helmle.

- Social Justice and Equity: Extending across all Focus Areas
- Community Economics: Supporting large and small business growth
- Housing: Expanding options and opportunities (as a separate Focus Area, not under Land Use)
- Environmental Education: Educating the community on the importance and value of the River environment
- Citizen Science: Engaging the community in scientific analysis of the River

Working Group Organizational Framework

Mr. Iacofano presented the proposed Working Group Organizational Framework and reviewed the purpose, charge, member responsibilities, operating principles, member groups, and structure. Participants provided feedback and proposed revisions.

- **Participation:** Provide opportunities for the full range of participants and advisors to engage in the process.
 - Maintain consistent membership and participation of Core Technical Group members
- **Decision-Making:** Facilitate decision-making among the whole of the Working Group



- **Core Technical Group:**
 - Include staff representation from each City, allowing each City to determine the appropriate departmental representation (i.e., parks and recreation, public works, planning, etc.)
 - Ensure the Council of Governments (COG) participates and supports broader communication and information-sharing on behalf of the Core Group
 - Leverage outreach and communication efforts conducted by River LA and WCA to support information-sharing
 - Add representation: health and safety; social equity and justice
 - Add specific agencies: Trust for Public Land and City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
 - Ask for “on-call” or as-needed involvement from BTSC and Department of Justice
- **Subcommittees:** Consider a subcommittee structure to the Core Group that would be task and topic focused, and could include:
 - cities,
 - governance,
 - science and research,
 - environment and habitat,
 - youth, and
 - older adults
- **Technical Advisors:** Consider adding railroad representatives (BNSF)
- **Process:** Outline clear protocols for communications and reporting
- **Implementation:** Define how coordination, communication and collaboration will occur across all levels of the Working Group

Community Participation Processes

Participants discussed options for ensuring robust community participation in the planning process.

- Identify at least one technical representative from each community along the river to coordinate existing and proposed plans, on-going projects, programs, etc.
- Form topic-specific task groups drawing from WG members as well as other community experts on an as needed basis to explore issues and opportunities in depth.
- Use social media to call attention to the river and invite on-going commentary and feedback on its many possibilities
- Employ technology such as photo-voices, geo-tracking, community asset mapping, etc., as a way to capture community members ideas
- Conduct interactive and experiential "pop-up" activities along the river corridor on a periodic basis (e.g., bike rides, art walks, comment stations, etc.)
- Create an interactive mapping tool on the web to record community member comments and ideas.
- Conduct community surveys to identify top priorities, needs and opportunities

- Engage property owners and business owners along the corridor in a series of one-on-one interviews and meetings to explore opportunities for taking better advantage of their proximity to the river.
- Hold quarterly community workshops throughout the corridor to maintain continuity of community involvement around specific issues and phases of the project
- Provide interpretive stations with opportunities for comment and feedback at strategic points along the river
- Involve youth directly in on-going community outreach and engagement activities; offer paid employment to youth to accomplish specific community outreach tasks

Communications Plan

Participants discussed options for conducting communications to promote broad awareness and understanding of the planning process.

- Provide formal presentations and project updates to City Councils of the corridor
- Ask technical project team members to attend City Council meetings periodically to provide project updates during the public comment portions of regularly scheduled city Council meetings
- Provide talking points to WG members to facilitate self-reporting of LLARRMP efforts and activities
- Rotate WG meeting venues among River communities
- Add community representatives to the WG in order to fill any perceived gaps
- Publish benchmark reports of progress
- Establish a web-based project portal to share all documents, information and data (utilize the RMC website on a temporary basis)
- Provide briefing materials in multiple languages

Conceptual Planning Process

Participants provided feedback on the six-step, conceptual planning process, as presented by Mr. Helmle.

1. Assemble background information
2. Set and refine goals
3. Conduct watershed analysis
4. Identify opportunities
 - a. Include discussion of tolerance for opportunities
5. Develop concepts
 - a. Ensure concepts are feasible
6. Establish programmatic themes
 - a. Develop flexible themes
 - b. Identify corridor-wide and localized themes

NEXT STEPS

Mr. Stanley concluded the meeting by thanking Working Group members, and confirming among representatives of specific cities that the next three meetings would occur on the dates at the following locations:

- Thursday, July 7, 2016, Cudahy
- Thursday, August 4, 2016, Bell
- Thursday, September 8, 2016, South Gate

ATTACHMENT A: AGENDA

**LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP)
WORKING GROUP PROJECT MEETING No. 2**

Thursday, June 2, 2016
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Bateman Hall
11331 Ernestine Avenue
(Across from Lynwood Senior Center)
Lynwood, CA 90262

Meeting Objectives:

1. Review and discuss project mission and preliminary plan elements.
2. Review and discuss Working Group Organizational Framework.
3. Review and discuss Conceptual Planning Process and WG Communications Plan.

A G E N D A

6:30 pm	I.	Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Overview Mark Stanley, Executive Officer, RMC Daniel Iacofano, Meeting Facilitator, MIG
6:45 pm	II.	Brief Summary of LLARRP Working Group Meeting No. 1
7:00 pm	III.	Preliminary Project Mission and Plan Elements
7:30 pm	IV.	Working Group Organizational Framework: A. Purpose and Charge B. Open Meeting Rules C. Operating Principles D. Working Group Structure E. Meeting Schedule
8:00 pm	V.	Conceptual Planning Process: A. Background Information B. Goals C. Watershed Analysis D. Potential Projects E. Initial Design Concepts F. Programmatic Ideas
8:30 pm	VI.	Working Group Communications Plan
9:00 pm	VII.	Summary and Next Steps
9:30 pm	VIII.	Meeting Close...and Networking!

ATTACHMENT C: POWERPOINT



Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions and Overview
- Summary of Meeting #1
- Preliminary Project Mission and Plan Elements
- Working Group Organizational Framework
- Conceptual Planning Process
- Working Group Communications Plan
- Summary and Next Steps

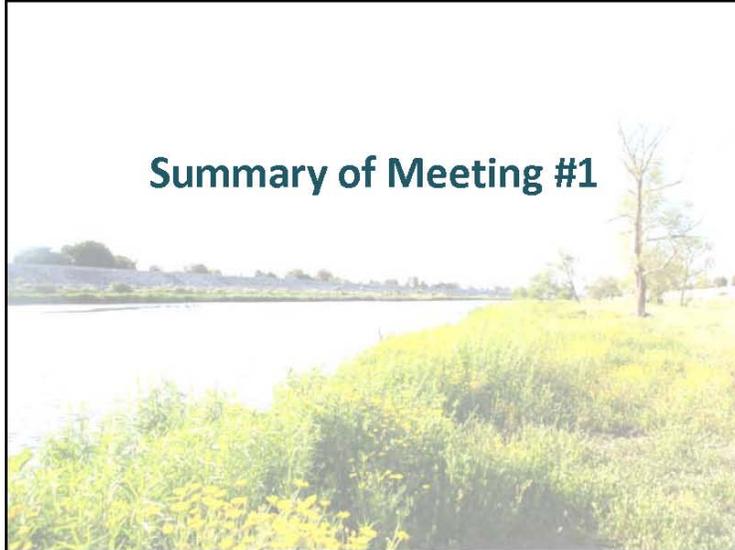
LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP)
 WORKING GROUP PROJECT MEETING No. 2
 Thursday, June 2, 2016
 9:00 am - 10:30 pm

Meeting Room
 1170 S. Bascom Avenue
 San Jose, CA 95128
 (408) 955-1100

A G E N D A

9:00 am	I.	Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Overview and Review of Meeting #1 David Forrester, Santa Clara Valley Water, and Doreen Williams, LLARRP
9:45 am	II.	Brief Summary of LLARRP Working Group Meeting No. 1
10:00 am	III.	Preliminary Project Mission and Plan Elements
10:30 am	IV.	Working Group Organizational Framework: 1. Purpose and Charge 2. Open Meeting Rules 3. Operating Procedures 4. Working Group Chair/Staff 5. Meeting Schedule
11:00 am	V.	Conceptual Planning Process: 1. Background Information 2. Goal 3. Vision and Objectives 4. Potential Risks 5. Initial Design Concepts 6. Programmatic Vision
11:30 am	VI.	Working Group Communications Plan
11:55 am	VII.	Summary and Next Steps
12:00 pm	VIII.	Meeting Close and Networking

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Overview and Existing Efforts

- LA River Master Plan
- Upper LA River Revitalization Master Plan
- LA River Integrated Development Visions
- Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Master Plan
- I-710 Corridor Project
- Long Beach RiverLink

LOS ANGELES RIVER MASTER PLAN

Watershed Conservation Authority

RIVER LA

INTERSTATE CALIFORNIA 710

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Preliminary Framework and Principles

- Conduct a community-driven, collaborative process
- Ensure transparency in all deliberations
- Pursue equity in addressing needs, impacts and benefits for all communities
- Explore and promote multi-benefit policies, plans and designs
- Improve watershed health for the benefit of community health



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Desired Outcomes

- Social Justice and Equity Building
- Authentic Community Engagement
- Safety and Accessibility
- Public Health
- Watershed and Environmental Health
- Connectivity
- Community Economics
- Multi-Objective Approach, Structure and Implementation

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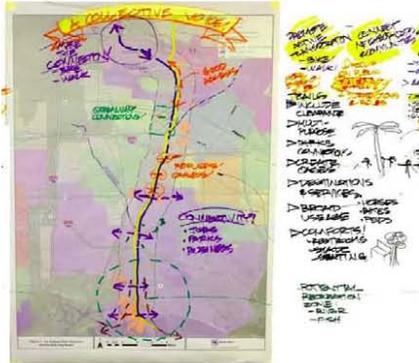
Partners

- Advocacy: Social and Environmental Justice
- Neighborhood and Community Groups
- Business Community and Major Employers
- Social Service Providers
- Policymakers and Representatives
- Public Agencies: Cities, County, State and Federal
 - Planning, public health, parks, recreation, engineering, public works, transportation, and natural resources



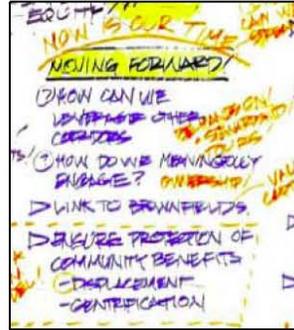
Initial Opportunity Areas

- Comprehensive trails approach
- Connectivity:
 - Cross-river
 - Inter-city
- Recreation
- River cleanliness



Planning and Engagement Topics (1/3)

- Set Working Group procedures and protocols
- Develop comprehensive, meaningful engagement process: ownership and stewardship
- Address gentrification and displacement
- Coordinate public and private efforts



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Planning and Engagement Topics (2/3)

- Learn from successes, challenges and best practices
- Create a coherent, multi-jurisdictional programming strategy



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Planning and Engagement Topics (3/3)

- Explain benefits of improvements to communities
- Improve water run-off and quality



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Preliminary Project Mission and Plan Elements



1
3 **Assembly Bill 530 Objective**

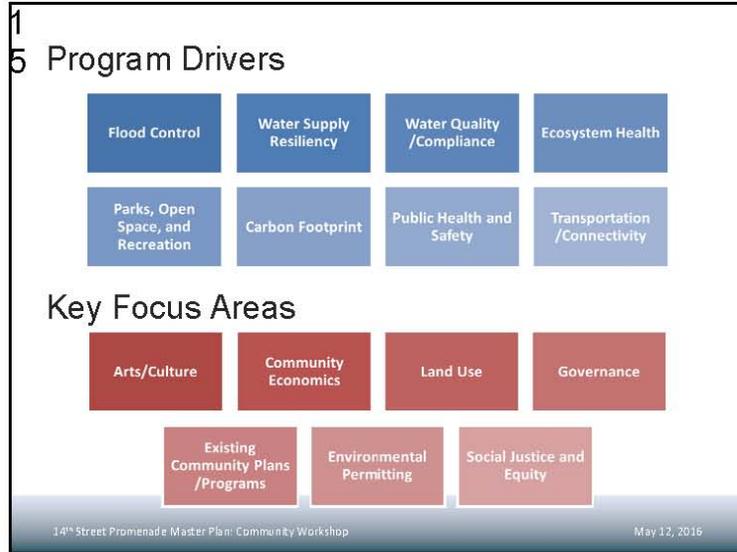
The **LLARRP** must be developed as required by Assembly Bill 530, which states that the team will use *“watershed-based planning methods... [to address] the unique and diverse needs of the Lower Los Angeles River and the communities through which it passes.”*

An aerial photograph showing a wide river with a bridge in the distance. A road with a signpost is visible in the foreground on the right side. The sky is clear and blue.

1
4 **Mission Statement**

Develop a *visionary plan* that builds upon existing planning efforts, integrates various community needs and benefits, and expresses a new and meaningful connection between the riverside communities and the river itself

An aerial photograph showing a river with a bridge in the distance. A road is visible in the foreground on the left side. The sky is clear and blue.



Purpose

Provide input and direction to the formulation of a revitalization plan for the LLAR

Lower LA River Revitalization Plan
Working Group Organizing Framework

PURPOSE AND CHARGE

The purpose of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan Working Group (WG) is to provide input and direction to the formulation of a revitalization plan for the revitalization of the Lower LA River.

The specific charge to this group is to:

- Provide direction on future vision, goals and objectives to guide preparation of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan starting on the riverpoint of all the sites, neighborhoods and communities of interest that lie alongside the Lower LA River;
- Articulate key community-based planning and design principles to be considered in the review of individual projects as well as to guide the physical development of the overall Lower LA River Revitalization Plan;
- Identify recommended strategies and actions for addressing community concerns regarding the environment, recreation, public and cultural aspects of proposed infrastructure improvements and new development consistent with urban sites, communities and neighborhoods; and
- Serve as a communication link between staff and consultants and the many cities, community groups, organizations and public agencies that are interested in and affected by proposals that may emerge from the Lower LA River Revitalization Planning process.

WG MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Throughout the WG process and charge, each member is held to fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Attend all WG meetings (or provide an alternate);
- Listen actively to the ideas and opinions expressed by all WG members, present staff and their associates, and all members of the community; engage in constructive discussion, and be open to alternative solutions and points of view;
- Review and respond to technical planning and policy information provided by staff and consultants and community members;
- Forward the merits of recommendations, substantiating and forming on the desirability of options and technical requirements;
- Indicate communication and other community members about the WG process; and
- Adhere to the WG's Operating Principles and cooperate with this process to the fullest extent possible.

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 Working Group Organizing Framework Page 1

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Charge

- Direct on vision, goals, and objectives, drawing on cities, neighborhoods and communities of interest
- Articulate planning and design principles for project review
- Recommend strategies and actions to address community concerns
- Serve as communication link: staff, consultants, cities, community groups, organizations, and public agencies

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Member Responsibilities

- Attend all WG meetings (or provide an alternate)
- Listen actively to all ideas and opinions, engage in constructive discussion, and be open to alternatives
- Review and respond to technical planning and policy information
- Present the views of constituencies, acknowledging diverse opinions and outlooks
- Inform constituencies about the WG process
- Adhere to the Operating Principles
- Help us make the process work!

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Operating Principles (1/2)

- Community-Driven Process
- Multi-Benefit Approach
- Social Equity and Environmental Justice
- Transparency
- Equal Participation
- Inclusivity
- Respectful and Responsible Engagement



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Operating Principles (2/2)

- Striving for Consensus
- Accessibility
- Facilitated Meetings
- Meeting Documentation



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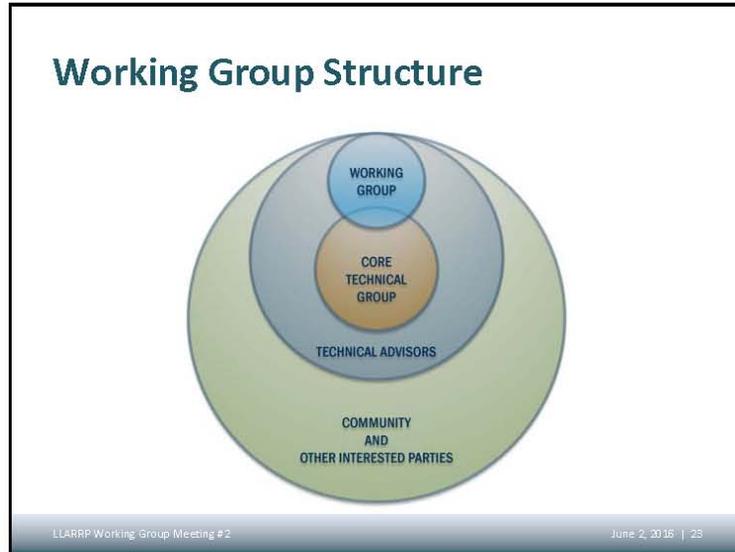
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Membership and Participation

- Advocacy: Social and Environmental Justice Groups
- Neighborhood and Community Groups
- Business Community and Major Employers
- Social Service Providers
- Policymakers and Representatives
- Public Agencies: Cities, County, State and Federal
 - Planning, public health, parks, recreation, engineering, public works, transportation, and natural resources

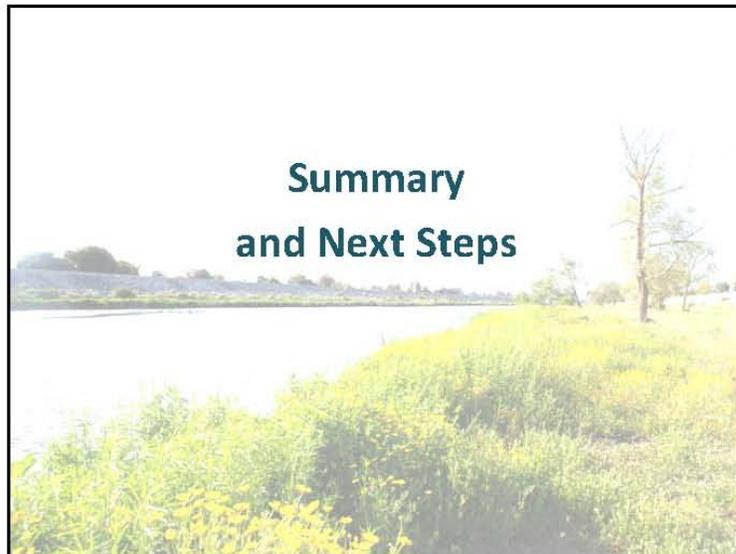
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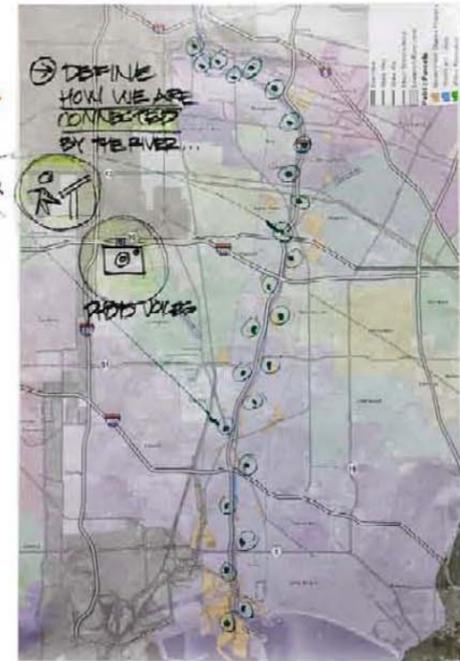
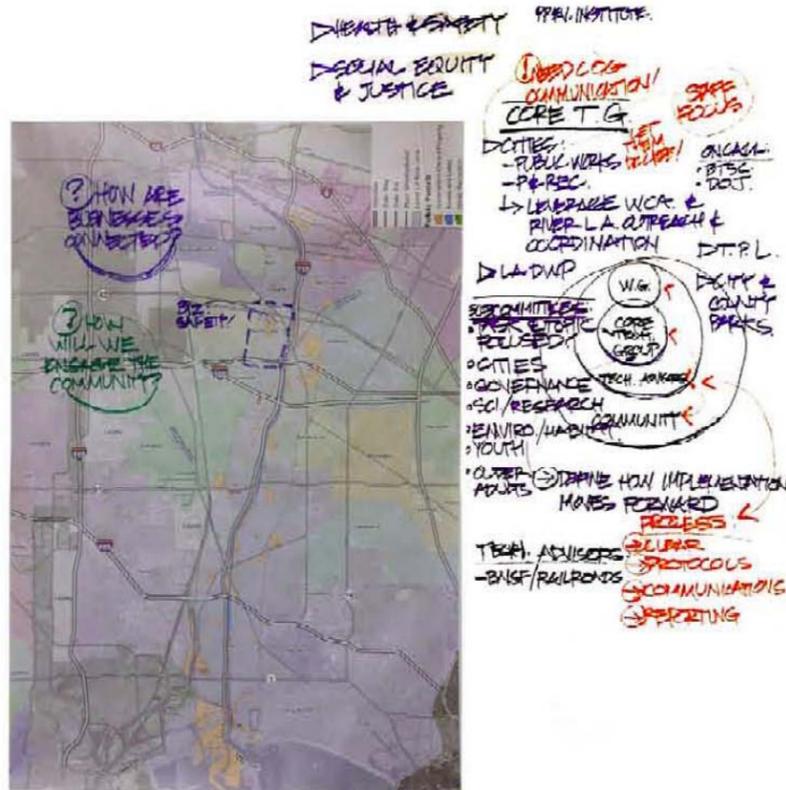
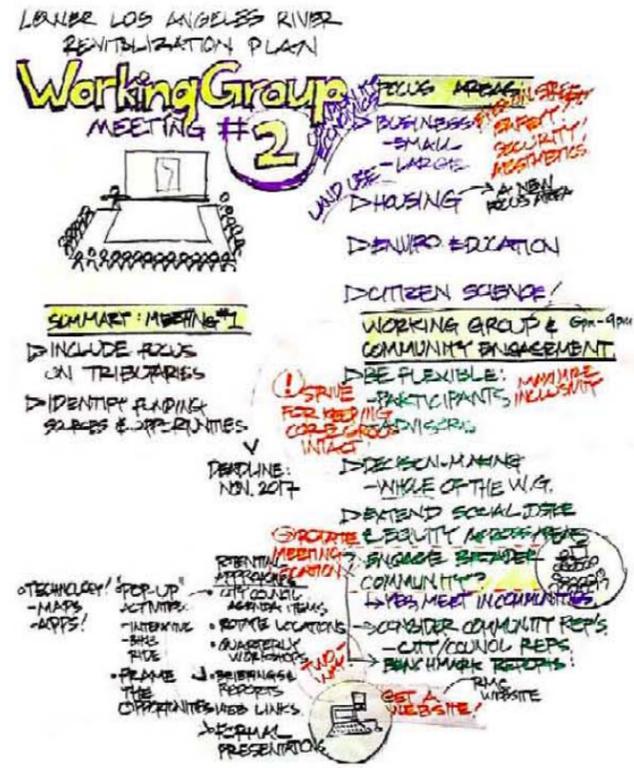
- ### Meeting Schedule
- First Thursday of each month
 - 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
 - Various communities along the LLAR
 - Through at least November 2017
- LLARRP Working Group Meeting #2 June 2, 2016 | 24







ATTACHMENT D: WALLGRAPHIC



4. I.D. OPPORTUNITIES
 ↳ AND OUR TOLERANCE FOR OPPORTUNITIES
5. DEVELOP CONCEPTS
6. ESTABLISH PROGRAMMATIC THEMES
 ↳ COORDINATE WITH LOCALS
- NEXT MEETING...
- THURSDAY, JULY 7 — OUDART
 - THURSDAY, AUG 4 — BELL
 - THURSDAY, SEPT 8 — SCURIGATE

