

# LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP) WORKING GROUP MEETING #4

Thursday, August 4, 2016 ♦ 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Bell Community Center, 6250 Pine Avenue, Bell, CA 90201

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

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### INTRODUCTION

On August 4, 2016, California State Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District and the Rivers and Mountain Conservancy (RMC) co-hosted the fourth meeting of the Working Group for the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan (LLARRP). The purpose of the meeting was to review suggested River Segment Committees and Plan Element Committees, and develop preliminary ideas toward assets, issues, and opportunities along the River.

### Meeting Format and Agenda

The fourth meeting of the Working Group occurred on August 4, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Bell Community Center, 6250 Pine Avenue, Bell. Approximately 38 representatives participated, and roughly 20 members of the public and staff from participating agencies also attended to listen and learn (Attachment B).

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.

Mr. Iacofano then introduced Mark Pestrella, Chief Deputy Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, who shared his recommendation to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to update the Los Angeles River Master Plan and enter into non-financial, cooperative agreements with other organizations to share information.

During the meeting, Mr. Iacofano included PowerPoint slides to support review of agenda items and discussion points (Attachment C). Working Group members then participated in breakout sessions organized by three segments of the Lower L.A. River, where they mapped issues and opportunities related to the segments and local communities. During their reports back to the larger Working Group, Andy Pendoley of MIG recorded key points break out sessions on a wall-sized piece of paper, or “wallgraphic.” A summary of the discussion and detailed discussion points from the breakout sessions are provided in the following sections, and a photo-reduced copy of the maps and wallgraphic is included as Attachment D.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

The following sections provide a summary of discussions among Working Group members. Discussion topics included: breakout sessions and reports back, as organized by river segments; and next steps.

### Breakout Sessions

Mr. Iacofano introduced delineations for three River segments: City of Vernon to Rio Hondo Channel, Rio Hondo Channel to Compton Creek, and Compton Creek to the L.A. River Outlet. He asked Working Group members to join their preferred River Segment Committee in a breakout session. The purpose of the breakout sessions was to begin to identify and map key assets, issues, opportunities and partners along each segment. Each River Segment Committee recorded their input and ideas with an aerial map, icon cut-outs for the map, markers, tape and a map legend to guide the exercise.



Working Group members self-facilitated their discussions, while project team members provided support by recording discussion points on flipchart pages. Following is a summary of the detailed discussions recorded on the flipcharts and the report backs summarized on the wallgraphic as provided by each breakout group to the larger Working Group.

### ***City of Vernon to Rio Hondo Channel Segment***

#### ***Issues***

- Railroads
- Trail dead-ends
- Industrial uses
- Closed-off roads
- Brownfields
- I-710
- East-West connections
- Lack of amenities
- Homelessness
- Width of right of way
- Potential for gentrification

#### ***Opportunities***

- Use existing bridges to improve connectivity
- Strengthen bike connectivity between L.A. River and Rio Hondo
- Create greenways
- Install signage/wayfinding
- Expand access at key locations
- Use easements to facilitate access and connectivity
- Add amenities to areas adjacent to industrial areas that can be used by community local employees by day and residents on nights and weekends
- Expand Wifi/lighting
- Create multi-use trails (horse, bike, ped)
- Turn businesses to face and engage the river
- Utilize the utility corridors for connectivity, access and trails
- Create pocket parks from small parcels, empty lots and warehouses
- Create job trails that connect to Vernon

#### ***Partners***

- Local municipalities
- Trust for Public Land Los Angeles
- Imperial Equestrian Center
- From Lot to Spot

- East Yards Communities for Environmental Justice
- Southeast Los Angeles Civic Leadership Academy
- Neighborhood Watch Groups
- L.A. Bicycle Coalition
- Compton Jr. Posse

### ***Rio Hondo Channel to Compton Creek Segment***

#### ***Issues***

- Poor connectivity
- Poor visibility

#### ***Opportunities***

- Include different users and communities
- Leverage existing assets
- Promote economic development for local and small businesses
- Expand cross-river and corridor connectivity especially on the West side.
  - Asphalt or dirt trails
- Improve safety and visibility at undercrossings
- Balance people, nature, and development
- Focus on nature restoration
- Develop transit/river links with L.A. Metro
- Pursue joint use agreements between schools, parks, and the river

#### ***Partners***

- Community based organizations
- Local businesses
- Health care providers and clinics
- Work source centers
- Local municipalities
- Law enforcement
- L.A. County
- Metro

### ***Compton Creek to L.A. River Outlet Segment***

#### ***Issues***

- Development conflicts between public and private space
- Difficult river crossings

### ***Opportunities***

- Leverage new/existing parks
- Create cross-river trail access
- Utilize soft bottom sections of the river
- Improve access and amenities for the Westside
- Link to Long Beach with bicycle infrastructure

### ***Partners***

- Local municipalities
- River advocates
- Equity advocates
- Schools
- Port of Long Beach
- Equestrian Advocates
- Job development
- Small businesses
- Cultural groups

### **NEXT STEPS**

Mr. Iacofano and 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, September 8, 2016, South Gate
- Thursday, October 6, 2016, Downey
- Thursday, November 3, 2016, Maywood
- Thursday, December 1, 2016, Bell Gardens

**ATTACHMENT A: AGENDA**

**LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARRP)  
WORKING GROUP PROJECT MEETING No. 4**

Thursday, August 4, 2016  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Bell Community Center**  
6250 Pine Avenue  
Bell, CA 90201

Meeting Objectives:

1. Initiate River Segment Committee discussions.
2. Schedule Plan Element Committee meetings.

**A G E N D A**

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6:00 pm	I.	<b>Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Overview</b> Mark Stanley, Executive Officer, RMC Daniel Iacofano, Meeting Facilitator, MIG
6:05 pm	II.	<b>Los Angeles County Update</b> Mark Pestrella, Chief Deputy Director, LACDPW
6:20 pm	III.	<b>Brief Summary of LLARRP Working Group Meeting No. 3</b>
6:25 pm	IV.	<b>Suggested River Segment Committees: Breakout Session</b> A. Community assets B. Issues and challenges C. Ideas and opportunities
7:45 pm	V.	<b>River Segment Committees Reports to Full Working Group</b>
8:20 pm	VI.	<b>Plan Element Committees</b> A. Participants B. Meeting schedule
8:45 pm	VII.	<b>Summary and Next Steps</b>
8:50 pm	VIII.	<b>Announcements and Public Comment</b>
9:00 pm	IX.	<b>Meeting Close...and Networking!</b>

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**ATTACHMENT C: POWERPOINT**



## Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions and Overview
- Los Angeles County Update
- Summary of Meeting #3
- Suggested River Segment Committees: Breakout Session
- Reports Back to Working Group
- Plan Element Committees
- Summary and Next Steps
- Announcements and Public Comments

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN (LLARP)  
 WORKING-GROUP PROJECT MEETING No. 4  
 FRIDAY, August 5, 2016  
 9:00am - 4:00pm  
 8th Community Center  
 4000 Main Street  
 Bldg. 1A 1000

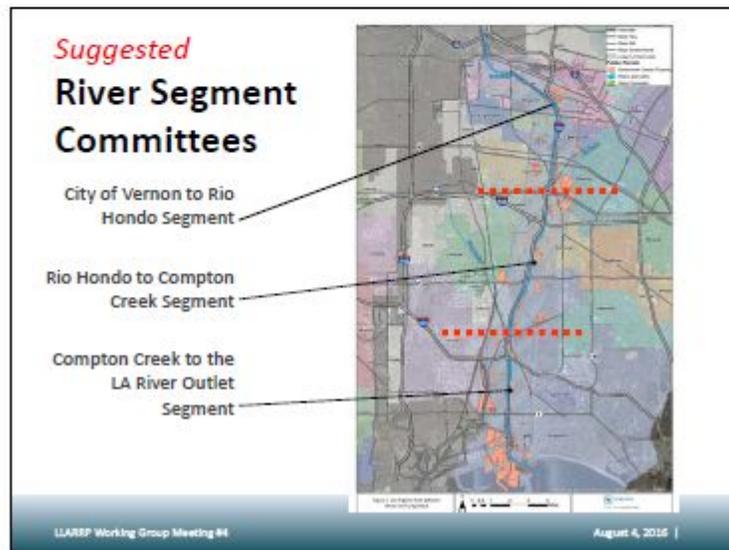
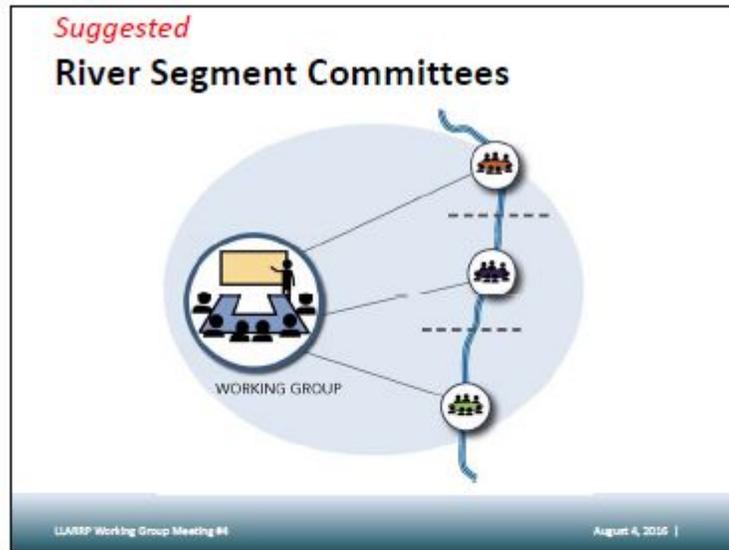
Meeting Objectives:  
 1. Update River Segment Council on decisions.  
 2. Schedule River Segment Committee meetings.

A G E N D A

9:00 am	I	Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Overview 8th Community Center/8th Street 8000 Main Street, Los Angeles, CA
9:30 am	II	Los Angeles County Update 8000 Main Street, Los Angeles, CA
10:00 am	III	Summary of LLARP Working Group Meeting No. 3
10:30 am	IV	Suggested River Segment Committees: Breakout Session A. Community Goals B. Needs and Challenges C. Ideas and Opportunities
1:00 pm	V	Water Segment Committee Report to Full Working Group
2:00 pm	VI	Plan Element Committees A. Participation B. Meeting Minutes
3:00 pm	VII	Summary and Next Steps
3:30 pm	VIII	Announcements and Public Comments
4:00 pm	IX	Meeting Close and Networking

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*Suggested*  
**Vernon to Rio Hondo Segment Committee**

JURISDICTIONS

- Bell
- Bell Gardens
- Commerce
- Cudahy
- Downey\*
- Maywood
- South Gate
- Vernon
- Sup. Districts 1 and 4\*



\* Also in other segments

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*Suggested*  
**Rio Hondo to Compton Creek Segment Committee**

JURISDICTIONS

- Compton
- Downey\*
- Lynwood
- Long Beach\*
- Paramount
- South Gate\*
- Sup. Districts 2\* and 4\*



\* Also in other segments

LIAREP Working Group Meeting #4 August 4, 2016

**Suggested**

## Compton Creek to LA River Outlet Segment Committee

JURISDICTIONS

- Carson
- Long Beach\*
- Sup. Districts 2\* and 4\*



\* Also in other segments

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**Suggested**

## River Segment Committee Breakout Questions:

1. What are the assets and characteristics that define this segment and its communities?
2. What are issues, challenges and liabilities that must be solved in this segment?
3. What are ideas and **opportunities of Revitalization** for this segment and its communities?
4. Who are key partners and communities of interest in this segment and its communities who may be engaged in the process:
  - Community leaders: formal and informal?
  - Community-based organizations?
  - Neighborhood-based organizations?

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## Mapping: Assets, Issues and Opportunities

<b>Development Opportunity</b> Catalytic development sites Development/Redevelopment Gentrification Other		<b>Nature and Open Space</b> Environmental/ecological restoration Land remediation Park land Recreation—Active Recreation—Passive Trails/Greenways Other	
<b>Infrastructure</b> Flood management Green infrastructure Maintenance Water supply/storage/recharge Other		<b>Social Amenities</b> Comfort/rest facilities Community centers Cultural resources Lighting Social gathering/activity areas Wifi Other	
<b>Connectivity</b> Access points/Trailheads Business access Bridges/connectors Signage—Interpretive Signage—Wayfinding Transportation Other		<b>Additional Ideas</b>	

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## Breakout Group Startup . . .

- Choose a moderator for your group
- Review the questions
- Use Google Earth to zoom-in to specific locations, as needed
- Place map pieces at locations, and write descriptive notes and comments:
  - Map
  - Flipchart
- Choose a group member to report back to the larger group

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- ## Community Economics, Health and Equity
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- Community-based land use planning and design
  - Local business and workforce development
  - Social equity: displacement and gentrification
  - Environmental justice
  - Healthy communities
  - Affordable housing
  - Access: mobility and connectivity
- LLARP Working Group Meeting #4 August 4, 2016 |

## Community Engagement



- Participatory planning and design
- Neighborhood-based
- Youth, young adults and families
- Education: science and environment
- Arts, culture and history
- High-tech: social media; web tools
- High-touch: activities in the River; field trips

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## Implementation



- Funding and financing
- Equity: investments and phasing
- Management and operations
- Governance
- Partners and stewards
- Technical support
- Environmental compliance and permitting
- Data and metrics tracking
- Integrated plans and programs

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### Public Realm: Parks, Open Space, Placemaking and Public Safety



- Safety: design and enforcement
- Community ownership and stewardship
- Diversity: users, spaces, facilities and programs
- Integration of local plans
- Inter-jurisdictional management and maintenance
- Connectivity to key destinations
- Accessibility and connectivity: people and businesses

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### Water and Environment



- Multi-objective and multi-benefit
- Flood management
- Green infrastructure
- Ecosystem health
- Watershed health
- Water supply and quality
- Brownfields and clean-up
- Carbon footprint
- Climate change
- Science and education
- Habitat restoration

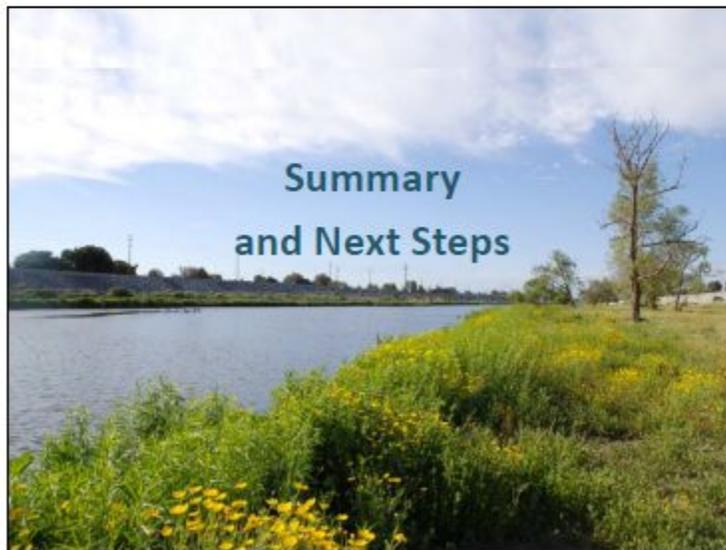
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## Coordination: Plan Element Committees

- Who should be added to the Committee?
- When should the Committee meet? (Suggest monthly)
- Where should the Committee meet?
- What is the agenda for the first meeting? (Suggested:)
  - Introductions
    - Working Group members
    - Supporting participants
  - Review of Operating Guidelines
  - Detailed Scoping of the Plan Element
  - Summary and Next Steps
    - Assignments
    - Next meeting date and location

LLARRP Working Group Meeting #4

August 4, 2016 |



## Meeting Schedule

- First Thursday of each month
- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Through at least November 2017
- Next meetings:
  - Thursday, September 8, 2016, South Gate
  - Thursday, October 6, 2016, Downey
  - Thursday, November 3, 2016, ???

LLARRP Working Group Meeting #4

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ATTACHMENT D: WALLGRAPHIC

LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION PLAN  
**Working Group #4**  
 AUGUST 4, 2016

- PROCESS...**
- 1. RFP'S?
    - YES: CONTRACTORS TO SUPPORT PLANNING
  - 2. LOCAL HIRE?
    - ENHANCED PROCESS: SMALL, MED, LARGE
    - GREATER EQUITY: SMALL & DEAD, BIZ
  - 3. TIMELINE?
    - ESTIMATE: 2 YRS.
  - 4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED?
    - EXPECT LOCAL N.G.O. OPPORTUNITIES.
    - NEED LOCAL EXPERTISE
  - 5. LOWER L.A. PLAN VS. FULL MASTER PLAN
    - LLAR W. GROUP & OUTCOME INCLUDED
    - RESPECT LOCAL PLANS.
- NEED PUBLIC OPINION TO BEAR?**
- LIGHTING & SAFETY: TODAY?
  - CLEAR & COORDINATED JURISDICTION: PARTNERS: COUNTY, CITY, COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP.
  - LOCAL CONTROL & SPONSORSHIP

NOV. 3: MIRAMONTE  
 DEC: BELL GARDENS



