



The Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan aims to transform the Sepulveda Basin, a 2,000-acre area in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. This area serves as a flood risk management facility owned and managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The Corps has leased portions of the Basin to the City of Los Angeles and other public and private entities for various purposes, including recreation.

Currently, the Basin is not fully realizing its potential, and the nearby communities are in great need of parks and open spaces. In 2021, the City of Los Angeles, in collaboration with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountain Recreation and Conservation Authority, initiated the process of developing a Vision Plan for the future of the Basin. This plan places significant emphasis on natural system thinking and traditional ecological knowledge.

Since the project began at the end of 2022, it has progressed rapidly through the first two phases: Information Gathering and Early Idea Phases. Currently, the project is in the early stages of the Draft Plan phase, with completion expected by January 2024. During the first two phases, the project team conducted extensive research, data analysis, community outreach, and engagement efforts. To date, they have organized two major open-house-style community meetings, six design workshops with key stakeholders, three school sessions, twenty-four community pop-up events, fifteen walk-shops, two Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings, and presented at more than four Neighborhood Council Meetings. The third TAC meeting was conducted on October 4, 2023, and community meetings number three and four are scheduled for October 17, 2023, and October 18, 2023, respectively.

Drawing on community input, previous planning endeavors, climate and habitat research, technical data, and traditional ecological knowledge, the draft Vision Plan has emerged from three conceptual design ideas. These ideas were initially presented to the public during the second community meeting and were followed by a comprehensive survey and broad engagement. The draft Vision Plan includes an ambitious program covering implementation, operations, maintenance, and ongoing governance.

The Vision Plan envisions transforming the LA River and its tributaries in the Basin into naturalized systems, allowing the rivers and creeks to flow more freely instead of the current channelized systems. This design increases the flood capacity of the Basin, considering the increasing intensity of rainfall and prolonged drought periods expected due to climate change. While achieving robust river and habitat goals, the Vision Plan also enhances recreational opportunities and wildlife reserves. It incorporates elements of arts and culture, improved access

and transportation, nested loop trails, pedestrian and bicycle river crossings, as well as safety and security enhancements.

The Vision Plan outlines 46 separate projects divided into three phases for implementation over 25 years. In total, it proposes approximately \$4.8 billion in improvements for the Sepulveda Basin. Once completed, the Vision Plan will enhance over 600 acres of existing habitat, re-naturalize 450+ acres of the LA River and its tributaries, introduce cultural amenities to promote arts and education, increase flood capacity by 10% to reduce flood risk, add over 5 miles of new regional trails, create more than 15 miles of new multi-use loop trails, and establish a 2+ mile Kayak trail.