



County of Los Angeles

Los Angeles River Master Plan Update | DRAFT Vision, Goals, and Actions

1996: Los Angeles River Master Plan

Mission Statement: The Los Angeles River Master Plan provides for the optimization and enhancement of aesthetic, recreational, flood control and environmental values by creating a community resource, enriching the quality of life for residents and recognizing the river's primary purpose for flood control.

Goals:

1. Ensure flood control and public safety needs are met
2. Improve the appearance of the river and the pride of the local communities in it.
3. Promote the river as an economic asset to the surrounding communities.
4. Preserve, enhance and restore environmental resources in and along the river.
5. Consider stormwater management alternatives
6. Ensure public involvement and coordinate Master Plan development and implementation along jurisdictions
7. Provide a safe environment and a variety of recreational opportunities along the river
8. Ensure safe access to and compatibility between the river and other activity centers

2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 1: Los Angeles River Master Plan Update June 2018-August 2018

Draft Vision: A reimagined River to connect and serve the diverse communities of LA County.

Draft Mission Statement: The Los Angeles River Master Plan Update builds on over two decades of planning efforts to create a 51-mile connective corridor of parks and trails, cultural resources, recreation opportunities, and environmental systems that enrich the quality of life and improve the health of residents, while providing flood risk management.

Draft Goals:

1. Reinforce local culture and community.
2. Provide a protective and resilient flood management infrastructure.
3. Identify and address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.
4. Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
5. Support healthy, connected ecosystems.
6. Improve local water supply reliability.



County of Los Angeles

2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 2: Los Angeles River Master Plan Update
September 2018 – October 2018

The Reimagined River

A 51-mile connective river corridor of parks, trails, ecosystems, and cultural resources to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of LA County, while providing flood risk management.

Draft Goals:

The LARMP Update creates a framework that will:

- Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.
- Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.
- Enhance opportunities to equitably access the river corridor.
- Foster learning and opportunities for education.
- Improve regional water supply reliability.
- Promote healthy, safe, clean water.
- Provide a protective and resilient flood management infrastructure.
- Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.
- Support healthy, connected ecosystems.



County of Los Angeles

2020 Proposed DRAFT VERSION 3: Los Angeles River Master Plan Update
November 2018 – present

The Reimagined River

A 51-mile connective river corridor of parks, trails, ecosystems, and cultural resources to improve health, equity, access, mobility, and economic opportunity for the diverse communities of LA County, while providing flood risk management.

1. Goal: Provide protective and resilient flood management.

- 1.1. Provide flood protection along the entire length of the river.*
- 1.2. Identify solutions to reduce pressure on the river channel.*
- 1.3. Encourage municipalities and other jurisdictions to evaluate critical infrastructure and facilities located within the 500-year floodplain to determine appropriate level of flood protection.*
- 1.4. Coordinate unified practices and policies for management along the river.*
- 1.5. Encourage only flood resilient projects or development within the 100-year floodplain.*
- 1.6. Develop operations and maintenance best practices to ensure intended flood risk reduction benefits are met.*
- 1.7. Continue to improve and refine emergency response.*
- 1.8. Improve signage and communication about flood risk.*
- 1.9. Develop multi-benefit projects that support flood resilience while providing water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*



County of Los Angeles

2. Goal: Provide equitable, inclusive, and safe parks, open space, and trails.

- 2.1. Create 51 miles of connected open space.*
- 2.2. Provide support facilities at a regular cadence along the length of the river, on both sides.*
- 2.3. Create unified design guidelines for adjacent parks and river amenities that are flexible enough to reflect the diversity of local communities.*
- 2.4. Encourage compatibility of the river and adjacent land uses.*
- 2.5. Repurpose single-use spaces, such as power-line easements, rail rights-of-way, or flood infrastructure, to serve multiple functions.*
- 2.6. Fill trail and sidewalk gaps to connect nearby recreation spaces to the river.*
- 2.7. Promote safety along the river.*
- 2.8. Develop multi-benefit projects that provide park space while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*

3. Goal: Support healthy, connected ecosystems.

- 3.1. Increase species biodiversity and focus on the use of native plants in and around the river corridor where possible.*
- 3.2. Encourage cities along the river to adopt sustainability strategies.*
- 3.3. Create a connective network of habitat patches and corridors to facilitate the movement of animals.*
- 3.4. Use environmentally responsible practices for operations and maintenance of the river channel and adjacent lands.*
- 3.5. Use the river corridor as a living laboratory.*
- 3.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that enhance ecosystems, while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*



County of Los Angeles

4. Enhance opportunities for equitable access to the river corridor.

- 4.1. Create welcoming access points to the river trail to optimize access along its length, on both sides.*
- 4.2. Complete the LA River Bike Path so that there is a continuous bicycle and pedestrian route along the entire river with equitable access.*
- 4.3. Increase safe routes to the river.*
- 4.4. Provide pedestrian and bicycle connections across the river.*
- 4.5. Increase recreation uses, such as kayaking or birdwatching, within the corridor.*
- 4.6. Ensure patrol, emergency, and maintenance vehicles have access to the river right of way.*
- 4.7. Develop multi-benefit projects that enhance access to the river while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*
- 4.8. Promote the use of public transportation to connect to the river trail.*

5. Goal: Embrace local culture and strengthen communities.

- 5.1. Develop a 51-mile arts and culture corridor along the river.*
- 5.2. Utilize local resources and workforce to design, build, operate, and maintain projects and amenities along the river, where possible.*
- 5.3. Encourage entities responsible for project development to continue to solicit input from communities along the river throughout implementation of this plan.*
- 5.4. Encourage collaboration between neighboring communities to galvanize a LA River cultural identity.*
- 5.5. Support river-oriented development at transit and river access points.*
- 5.6. Promote the river as an active transportation corridor.*
- 5.7. Improve the interface between the river corridor and adjacent communities.*
- 5.8. Develop multi-benefit projects that strengthen communities while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*



County of Los Angeles

6. Goal: Address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability.

- 6.1. Support cities along the river in adopting stronger homeless-support policies.*
- 6.2. Ensure that the physical design of river improvement amenities is consistent with the physical and social character of each existing community and avoid overly 'upscale' improvements most likely to increase nearby housing prices.*
- 6.3. Develop multi-benefit projects that support housing affordability while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*

7. Goal: Foster learning and opportunities for education.

- 7.1. Provide spaces for people of all ages and abilities to learn about the river, ecology, and the history of the cultures within the watershed.*
- 7.2. Develop educational materials for people of all ages to learn more about the history, present, and future of the river corridor.*
- 7.3. Prioritize connectivity to the river from schools, cultural centers, and other education facilities.*
- 7.4. Encourage households and neighborhoods to adopt best practices in water management.*
- 7.5. Promote the benefits of using the river trail to reduce chronic disease.*
- 7.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that foster learning and education while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*



County of Los Angeles

8. Goal: Improve regional water supply reliability.

- 8.1. Consider long-term trends, such as population growth, climate change, future supplies, resiliency, and sustainability, in water supply planning.*
- 8.2. Capture and treat stormwater and dry weather runoff wherever possible before it reaches the river for infiltration, direct use, or release.*
- 8.3. Divert and treat wet and dry weather flows within the LA River channel to recharge local aquifers or provide water for direct use as recycled water.*
- 8.4. Coordinate efforts amongst the multiple jurisdictions and along the tributaries and other sub-watersheds.*
- 8.5. Employ and encourage efficient water use.*
- 8.6. Develop multi-benefit projects that support water supply reliability while providing flood risk management, improving water quality, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*

9. Goal: Promote healthy, safe, clean water.

- 9.1. Coordinate with the Watershed Management Program/Enhanced Watershed Management Program (WMP/EWMP) Groups*
- 9.2. Prioritize pollutants of concern based on TMDL milestones.*
- 9.3. Explore options to improve water quality that are nature based where possible.*
- 9.4. Develop multi-benefit projects that support water quality while providing flood risk management, water supply reliability, providing park space, supporting ecosystems, and addressing other goals of the Master Plan.*