

February 24, 2025

Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-0010

Submitted via email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Evidence for Record – R9 Biological Objective

Dear Ms. Tyler,

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), the County of San Diego, the City of San Diego, the County of Orange and Orange County Flood Control District (collectively, the Permittees) herewith submit new evidence in response to the Notice dated January 22, 2025 from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) concerning the proposed amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin to incorporate a water quality objective for biological condition adopted by the San Diego Water Board (SDRBO).

The Permittees appreciate the opportunity to provide new evidence relevant to the use of the proposed SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region (“modified streams”). As further detailed in the attachments, this evidence is specifically relevant to the issues of technical feasibility, public health and safety inherent in the proposed application of the SDRBO to modified streams that serve as flood control channels, and the Permittees urge the State Board’s consideration.

In summary, the Permittees submit into the administrative record the following:

- Channel engineering and CSCI data for waterbodies in the San Diego Region (Documents labeled as C-1, C-2, etc.). These submittals provide new analysis conducted in 2024 and 2025 about anthropogenic and physical channel modifications in the San Diego Region and CSCI data within the modified channels. The submittals also provide information about flood control channels that are a defined subset of the modified channels. Information about flood control channels as a subset of modified channels is provided for consideration of the additional constraints on biological integrity that could arise due to the requirements to maintain these channels to protect the safety of residents and infrastructure.
- Flood control maintenance information (Documents labeled as F-1, F-2, etc.). Information about flood control channel maintenance activities and requirements and public perspectives on flood control channel maintenance are provided to allow

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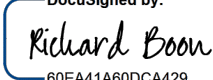
consideration of the probable conflicts that could arise between maintaining channels for flood control purposes and attaining the SDRBO.

- Post-2020 Scientific Literature. Recently published scientific articles describing the challenges of restoring modified channels to natural biological conditions and the relationship between biological integrity and flood control management in urban waterbodies are provided (Documents labeled as L-1, L-2, etc.).

Each document is accompanied by a statement of the relevance of the evidence to the use of the SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region.

Thank you for your consideration of this new evidence. If State Board staff have any questions, or need additional information, please contact the District [Matt Yeager at (951) 955-0843 or myeager@rivco.org], the County of San Diego [Neil Searing at (619) 629-8627 or Neil.Searing@sdcounty.ca.gov], the City of San Diego [Vicki Kalkirtz at (858) 541- 4326 or vkalkirtz@sandiego.gov] or the County of Orange and Orange County Flood Control District [Cindy Rivers at (714) 955-0674 or cindy.rivers@ocpw.ocgov.com].

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

60EA41A60DCA429...
Richard Boon
Chief of Watershed Protection Division
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District


Neil Searing, Interim Watershed Group Program Manager
County of San Diego


Todd Snyder, Stormwater Department Director
City of San Diego

DocuSigned by:

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Amanda Carr, Deputy Director
OC Environmental Resources / OC Public Works
County of Orange and Orange County Flood Control District

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Cc: Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Rebecca Fitzgerald, State Water Resources Control Board

Statement of the Relevance of Document C-1 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

C-1: GIS Files of Channel Engineering and Flood Control Information in the San Diego Region

C-1 is a package of GIS layers compiled in February 2025 and obtained in October and December 2024 from the County of Orange, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, City of Murrieta, County of San Diego, and the City of San Diego (as described in the Technical Memorandum, Document C-4, submitted herewith), as well as from the San Diego Region Watershed Management Area Analysis conducted for the San Diego Region MS4 permittees. The layers provide information about channel modifications in the San Diego Region. The GIS layers support a new analysis in the Technical Memorandum, Document C-4, which identifies additional modified channels in the San Diego Region where CSCI data have been collected and which illustrates the wide range of different types of channel modifications that exist in the region. The layers also show the complexities of the channel modifications in the region as well as how waterbodies can have a variety of channel modifications within a given reach. The channel engineering information in the GIS layers supports the analysis in Document C-4 regarding the ability of waterbodies in the San Diego region considered “soft bottom flood control channels” based on the criteria below to achieve the 0.79 CSCI numeric objective in the SDRBO:

- Streams which are not defined as a “hardened streambed segment” in Chapter 3 of the San Diego Water Board’s Biological Objectives SDRBO; and
- Modified from a natural state through straightening, hardening (with concrete, riprap, or other impervious substance) of one or more banks or a portion thereof, or by other means of modification; and are either
 - owned, operated or maintained by a flood control agency/district; or
 - owned, operated, or maintained by a local government or other entity responsible by law for maintaining the stream segment, and used to control water flow to minimize or prevent flooding, protect life or property from the effects of flooding and/or to comply with federal agency flood management or insurance requirements.

The GIS layers are relevant to the State Water Board’s consideration of the implementation of the SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because the layers provide additional information to support analysis of the CSCI data applicable to such streams (and in particular flood control channels) in the San Diego Region set forth in Document C-4. In particular, the channel engineering GIS layers allowed the authors of the Technical Memorandum to evaluate CSCI data in additional modified channel locations that were previously not classified. The flood control classification allows for further analysis of the implications of attaining the biological objectives in these channels. The information provided by the GIS layers relates solely to the San Diego Region. The information provided in the GIS layers, as reflected in the analysis in Document C-4, is directly relevant to the implementation of

the SDRBO in modified channels, specifically channels used for flood control. This information is thus directly relevant to the question of how the San Diego Water Board intends to implement the SDRBO in modified, soft-bottom streams. Thus, the information contained in Document C-1 should be included in the Administrative Record.

Document C-1 is a folder of GIS files entitled *C-1 GIS Files of Channel Engineering and Flood Control Channels in San Diego Region* and is submitted separately from the pdf submittal.

C-1 is provided as a separate folder of GIS files entitled:

GIS Files of Channel Engineering and Flood Control Channels in San Diego Region

Statement of the Relevance of Document C-2 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

C-2: Channel Engineering Classification Methodology

Document C-2 consists of a Channel Engineering Classification Methodology, created in February 2025, which provides a key to the various codes in the GIS file metadata contained in Document C-1 and explains how those codes were utilized by the authors of Document C-4 to identify flood control channels potentially covered by the San Diego Region's Biological Objectives (SDRBO). Document C-2 is thus closely related to Document C-1, because it provides information necessary to understand the channel classifications in Document C-1. Thus, the relevance statement for Document C-1 is equally applicable to Document C-2. The information in Document C-2 pertains solely to the San Diego Region. The GIS Files Data Dictionary is therefore directly relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region, specifically channels used for flood control. Thus, Document C-2 should be included in the Administrative Record.

C-2: Channel Engineering Classification Methodology

This document provides the methodology used to classify channel segments in the GIS files in Document C-1 as modified and flood control channels.

For all classified datasets described below:

- Only channel segments within reaches classified as WARM or COLD were selected for further classification.
- Pipe infrastructure was removed.
- A field (column) named “ChEng_LWA” was appended to each dataset and includes channel engineering classifications.
- A field (column) named “FC_LWA” was appended to the datasets, where applicable, and includes flood control channel classifications.
- Field and attributes considered in the channel engineering and flood control channel designation are described further below.

LAYER: OC_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: Orange County
- The key included in the table below was provided by the agency and used to determine channel engineering classifications. For some, satellite imagery was necessary for final determination.
- All channels included in the dataset defined as “Regional” (*FacilitySy*) and with *Ownership* as “DISTRICT” were classified as flood control channels.

Field: <i>FacilityType</i>	Field: <i>FacilityDesc</i>	Field: <i>Material</i>	Biological Objective Classification Provided by Agency
Concrete Soft Base	RCR	Conc Soft Base	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	RCT	Conc Soft Base	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	RCT	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	RCT	Concrete/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	RCT	Steel/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	TRAP	Celluar Conc	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	TRAP	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	TRAP BRDG	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Concrete Soft Base	TRAP BRDG	Concrete/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)

Field: <i>FacilityType</i>	Field: <i>FacilityDesc</i>	Field: <i>Material</i>	Biological Objective Classification Provided by Agency
Concrete-Lined	2-RCR	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	3-RCB	Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	Outlet	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCB	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Concrete/Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Riprap	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Soil Cement	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCR	Steel/Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCT	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCT	Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCT	Riprap	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCT	Soil Cement	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RCT	Steel/Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RECT BRDG	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RECT BRDG	Riprap	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	RECT BRDG	Soil Cement	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	Transition	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	TRAP	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	TRAP	Riprap	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	TRAP BRDG	Celluar Conc	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	TRAP BRDG	Concrete	Hardened Bottom

Field: <i>FacilityType</i>	Field: <i>FacilityDesc</i>	Field: <i>Material</i>	Biological Objective Classification Provided by Agency
Concrete-Lined	TRAP BRDG	Earth	Mixed Results ¹
Concrete-Lined	TRAP BRDG	Riprap	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined	TRAP BRDG	Steel/Earth	Hardened Bottom
Concrete-Lined		Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Earth Channel	3-RCB	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Earth Channel	ET	Concrete	Mixed Results ¹
Earth Channel	ET	Earth	Natural
Earth Channel	ET	Riprap	Likely Modified (Soft Bottom), some Natural ¹
Earth Channel	Natural	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	Natural	Riprap	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	TRAP	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	TRAP	Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	TRAP	Riprap	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	TRAP BRDG	Concrete	Mixed Results ¹
Earth Channel	TRAP BRDG	Earth	Mixed Results ¹
Earth Channel	VEE	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	VEE	Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	VEE	Metal	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Earth Channel	VEE	Riprap	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Natural Watercourse	ET	Concrete	Mixed Results ¹
Natural Watercourse	ET	Earth	Natural
Natural Watercourse	ET	Riprap	NA (this reach is underground)
Natural Watercourse	Natural	Concrete	Likely Natural, some Modified (Soft Bottom) ¹

Field: <i>FacilityType</i>	Field: <i>FacilityDesc</i>	Field: <i>Material</i>	Biological Objective Classification Provided by Agency
Natural Watercourse	Natural	Concrete/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Natural Watercourse	Natural	Earth	Natural (with some ambiguity - lower Aliso Creek should be considered modified) ¹
Natural Watercourse	Natural	Riprap	Mixed Results ¹
Natural Watercourse		Earth	Mixed Results ¹
Riprap Channel	ET	Celluar Conc	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Concrete/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Riprap	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Soil Cement	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	ET	Steel/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Riprap Channel	RCB	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
Riprap Channel	RECT	Concrete	Mixed Results ¹
Riprap Channel	TRAP BRDG	Concrete	Mixed Results ¹
Riprap Channel	TRAP BRDG	Concrete/Earth	Hardened Bottom
Riprap Channel	TRAP BRDG	Earth	Mixed Results ¹
Riprap Channel	TRAP BRDG	Riprap	Mixed Results ¹
Sheetpile Soft Base	TRAP	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Sheetpile Soft Base	TRAP	Steel/Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Sheetpile Soft Base	TRAP BRDG	Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)

¹ Channel engineering could not be determined solely based on features. Satellite imagery was used to classify channel engineering. Classifications were qualified with "Likely".

LAYER: CSA_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: City of San Diego
- The feature *Substrat_1* was used first to determine channel engineering classification. Channels defined with hard bottom material (i.e., concrete, guinite, riprap) were classified as ‘Hardened Bottom’. Those with earthen bottom and hard bank material were classified as “Modified (Soft Bottom)”. Channel segments with both earthen bottom and earthen bank were classified as “Natural”. If information was not provided in this field, channel engineering was determined based on *Substrate*.
- The table below includes classifications using the *Substrate* field for channel segments without *Substrat_1* information.
- All channels defined as “Modified (Soft Bottom)” were assumed to be flood control channels.

Field	Attribute	Biological Objective Definition
<i>Substrate</i>	Earthen	Natural
	Earthen & Concrete	Modified (Soft Bottom)
	Earthen & Concrete & Riprap	
	Earthen & Riprap	
	Concrete	Hardened Bottom
	Concrete & Riprap	
	Riprap	

LAYER: WMAA_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: San Diego Region
- Bed and bank material information was used along with *Reach_Type* to determine channel engineering classifications. All channels defined with bed material as “Earth” and hardened bank material (i.e., concrete, riprap) were classified as “Modified (Soft Bottom)” regardless of *Reach_Type*. For channels with both bed and bank material as “Earth”, *Reach_Type* was used to classify channel engineering.
- The table below includes the field and attribute information used to classify channel engineering.
- Ownership was not included in the dataset, so flood control channels could not be defined.

Field: <i>Reach_Type</i>	Field: <i>Bed_Material</i>	Field: <i>Bank_Material</i>	Biological Objective Definition
Natural Constrained	Earth	Earth	Natural
Natural Un-constrained	Earth	Earth	
Engineered Un-constrained	Earth	Earth	Modified (Soft Bottom)
Engineered Constrained	Earth	Earth	
Natural Constrained	Earth	Concrete	
Natural Constrained	Earth	Riprap	
Natural Un-constrained	Earth	Riprap	
Engineered Constrained	Earth	Concrete	
Engineered Un-constrained	Earth	Concrete	
Engineered Constrained	Earth	Riprap	
Engineered Un-constrained	Earth	Riprap	
Natural Constrained	Concrete	Concrete	
Engineered Constrained	Riprap	Riprap	
Engineered Un-constrained	Riprap	Riprap	
Engineered Constrained	Concrete	Concrete	

LAYER: SD_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: San Diego County
- This dataset did not include information on bed vs. bank material, so specific channel engineering classifications could not be assigned. Channel segments with *Channel_ma* as “Concrete” or “Brow Ditch” include both hardened bottom and soft bottom modified channels. For those with *Channel_ma* as “Natural”, channel engineering was classified as “Likely Natural”.
- Channel segments with *Ownership* listed as “FC” were assumed to be for flood control purposes. These were classified with the term “Flood Control Channel”, though they include both hardened and soft bottom channels.

LAYER: RCFC_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Channel Engineering classifications were provided directly by the agency.
- All modified channel segments were classified as Flood Control Channels.

LAYER: MURRIETA_CHANNELS

- Jurisdiction: City of Murrieta
- Additional information could not be provided to interpret the dataset, thus only segments with associated CSCI data were classified, and qualified with “Likely”. For these channels, the maintenance organization (*Maintained*) was not specifically defined, and they were not designated as being modified by the City (*City_Maint* = “N”). As such, no flood control channels were identified within this dataset.

Statement of the Relevance of Document C-3 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

C-3: CSCI Data and Channel Engineering Classifications in the San Diego Region

C-3 is an Excel file that sets forth various data regarding CSCI and channel engineering data obtained from various sources. The CSCI data sources were the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN). The SCCWRP CSCI and channel engineering data were obtained from the SCCWRP GitHub website¹ on February 7, 2025. The data in the file were obtained from the ChannelEng tab within the spreadsheet. The CEDEN CSCI data were downloaded on February 5, 2025. Document C-3 also includes channel engineering information from the GIS layers included in Document C-1 and from a Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) Channel Engineering database download obtained October 14, 2024 from the website <https://nexus.sccwrp.org/smcdatabase>. Document C-3 is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO) in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it provides a complete listing of available CSCI data for modified channel and flood control channel designations. This includes new CSCI data collected since November 2020 in the San Diego Region as well as new modified channel and flood control channel designations for all of the sites in the dataset. This new information allows for a more complete assessment of the number of modified and flood control channels in the San Diego Region which can meet the 0.79 CSCI score in the SDRBO. The data in Document C-3 also allows for a review of all available data available for each site, over time, where more than one data point has been collected at a given site. Thus, the information in Document C-3 is directly applicable to the issue of how the SDRBO will be implemented in soft bottom modified channels in the San Diego Region, and potential limitations on such implementation. Thus, Document C-3 should be included in the Administrative Record.

C-3 is included as an excel file entitled *C-3 CSCI_CE_San_Diego_Region.xlsx*, separate from the pdf submittal.

¹ https://github.com/SCCWRP/ModifiedChannelThresholds/raw/main/inst/extdata/Data%20sets%20used%20in%20each%20analysis_final.xlsx

C-3 is provided as a separate excel file entitled:

C-3 CSCI_CE_San_Diego_Region.xlsx

Statement of the Relevance of Document C-4 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

C-4: Examination of Available Channel Engineering and CSCI Data in the San Diego Region Technical Memorandum

Document C-4 is a technical memorandum prepared by Ashli Desai and Lauren Steinberg of Larry Walker Associates (LWA) summarizing and analyzing the data included in Documents C-1 and C-3. The technical memorandum provides an overview of the differences between different sources of channel engineering information, the number of additional sites with CSCI data that were able to be classified using the GIS information provided in Documents C-1 based on the approach described in C-2. This analysis provides additional data for consideration prior to determining if modified stream segments, including flood control channels, can attain the biological objectives in the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO). The analysis identifies differences regarding classifications of modified channels as well as the lack of information on certain channels expected to be included within the SDRBO. The technical memorandum also provides an analysis of the total number of CSCI scores in the San Diego Region for sites in modified and flood control channels and the number of those scores that can meet the 0.79 CSCI score in the SDRBO. Finally, the memorandum provides current aerial photographs of flood control and other modified channels which meet, and flood control channels that do not meet, the 0.79 CSCI score so that State Board members have further information regarding the types of streambeds which appear to be more or less susceptible to meeting the SDRBO. Document C-4 is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it provides a more complete and updated understanding of the number of CSCI scores in the San Diego Region that were collected in soft-bottomed modified channels and flood control channels and demonstrates that a larger dataset is available than has been previously analyzed. This new information allows for a more complete assessment of the number of modified and flood control channels with soft bottoms that meet the biological objectives in the San Diego Region and thus is directly relevant to how the San Diego Water Board implements the SDRBO in that region. Thus, Document C-4 should be included in the Administrative Record.

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM



DATE: February 22, 2025

**ASHLI DESAI, LAUREN
STEINBERG**

2535 Ocean Park Blvd., Suite 211

Santa Monica, CA 90405

310.394.1036

SUBJECT: Examination of Available Channel Engineering and CSCI Data in the San Diego Region

Introduction

The purpose of the memo is to provide an overview of newly compiled channel engineering and CSCI data in the San Diego Region. This memo provides a summary and analysis of data included in the following additional submittals:

- C-1 GIS Files of Channel Engineering and Flood Control Information in the San Diego Region
- C-3 CSCI data and channel engineering classifications in the San Diego Region

The technical memorandum summarizes the types of channel engineering information available from multiple sources, the methods that were used for classifying waterbodies in those sources, and the differences in the waterbody classifications between the various data sources. The memorandum then provides an analysis of available CSCI data that were collected in channels that were identified as being modified with soft bottoms and flood control channels with soft bottoms.

For the purposes of the analysis presented in this memorandum, modified channels with soft bottoms are defined as waterbody segments that have been:

- Modified from a natural state through straightening, hardening (with concrete, riprap, or other impervious substance) of one or more banks or a portion thereof, or by other means of modification.

Flood control channels with soft bottoms are defined as modified channels with soft bottoms that are either:

- owned, operated or maintained by a flood control agency/district; or
- owned, operated, or maintained by a local government or other entity responsible by law for maintaining the stream segment, and used to control water flow to minimize or prevent flooding, protect life or property from the effects of flooding and/or to comply with federal agency flood management or insurance requirements.

For the remainder of the memorandum, these channel segments will be referred to as modified soft bottom channels and soft bottom flood control channels. Soft bottom flood control channels are a subset of modified soft bottom channels. Hardened bottom modified channels are not summarized in this memorandum, but data on hardened bottom channels and natural channels are included in the data sources C-1 and C-3.

Summary of Channel Engineering Information in the San Diego Region from MS4 Permittees

Channel engineering information was obtained from the San Diego County MS4 Permittees for the following jurisdictional areas: Orange County, Riverside County, San Diego County, City of Murrieta, and City of San Diego (Permittees). The Orange County dataset was provided as a geodatabase file by the County of Orange Department of Public Works on October 29, 2024. The datasets for Riverside County and City of Murrieta were provided by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC) as separate shapefiles on October 24, 2024. The dataset specific to facilities operated and maintained by RCFC was provided by RCFC as a shapefile on December 31, 2024. The San Diego County dataset was obtained from the San Diego Regional Data Warehouse¹ on October 28, 2024. The City of San Diego dataset was provided as a shapefile on October 24, 2024 by Rick Engineering. Channel engineering information was also obtained from the San Diego County Regional Watershed Management Area Analysis (WMAA) mapping data from the Project Clean Water website².

Datasets were overlaid with beneficial use designations identified in the Basin Plan³. Only channel segments classified with WARM or COLD beneficial use were selected for additional classification. The process used to determine channel engineering and flood control channel designations is described below.

Information to determine channel engineering and flood control channel classifications varied between each of the datasets. A summary of the available information for each dataset is included in the table below.

¹ <https://geo.sandag.org/portal/home/item.html?id=b8f6a67ff15342798277dccb3e1c7d>

² <https://projectcleanwater.org/document/comprehensive-wmaa-mapping-data/>

³ <https://gispublic.waterboards.ca.gov/portal/home/item.html?id=8cec6b5f060a47e5b04ad2837cd4573a>

Table 1. Summary of Data Types Included in Agency Datasets

Dataset	Line Type	Material	Bed vs. Bank Material	Ownership/Maintenance
Murrieta	Yes	Yes	No	Some
Orange County ¹	Yes	Yes	Some ²	Yes
San Diego County	Yes	Yes	No ³	Yes
City of San Diego	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
WMAA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
RCFC	Yes	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁴	Yes

¹ Agency provided unique combinations of included data types to discern whether channels were modified or natural.

² Some were described as “xx-lined”.

³ Channel lining information was included, however not consistently applied, so instructed by agency to not consider these.

⁴ Agency classified channel engineering manually and provided updated layer.

For the Murrieta dataset, additional information to interpret channel engineering could not be provided, thus channel engineering and flood control classifications were not defined for the full dataset. Only for channels with associated CSCI data, channel engineering was inferred using information within the dataset, supplemented with satellite imagery, and designations were qualified with “Likely”.

For the Orange County dataset, channel engineering classifications were determined based on the unique combinations of features (e.g., Facility Type, Facility Description, Material). The list of unique combinations designating modified vs. unmodified channels was provided by the agency. Some combinations had mixed results. For these, channel engineering was inferred using information within the dataset, supplemented with satellite imagery, and designations were qualified with “Likely”. All identified modified channels designated as regional with Flood Control District (District) ownership were classified as flood control channels.

For the San Diego County dataset, channel lining information was not available, and thus soft bottom vs. hardened bottom classifications could not be distinguished. Channels are defined as either natural, modified, or undefined. Flood control channels were defined as any modified channel with ownership of Flood Control (FC). None of the channels within this dataset had associated CSCI data.

For the City of San Diego dataset, channel engineering was determined using the two substrate fields included in the dataset. If both channel bank and bed information were included, “Substrat_1” was used to classify channel engineering. Otherwise, classification was determined based on “Substrate”. Ownership is not included in the dataset; however, all are maintained by the City and support flood control conveyance. As such, all identified modified channels were designated as flood control channels.

For the WMAA dataset, information on channel modification was included (e.g., Engineered, Natural), in addition to channel bed and bank information. These were used to classify channel engineering, including identification of modified channels. Ownership is not included in the dataset, so flood control channels could not be identified.

For the RCFC dataset, the channel engineering classifications were determined manually by RCFC. All channels in this dataset are owned and operated by RCFC and thus all are for flood control purposes. None of the channels within this dataset had associated CSCI data.

Information on fields and codes used to classify channel engineering and flood control channels, specific to each dataset, is provided in the Channel Engineering Classification Methodology (C-2).

Comparison of Channel Engineering Information in the San Diego Region from Permittees and the SCCWRP Dataset Classifications

The channel engineering information obtained from the Permittees was compared to the channel engineering information from two other sources. The Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) Channel Engineering database download obtained October 14, 2024, from the website <https://nexus.sccwrp.org/smcdataquery>. Channel engineering information was also obtained from the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) dataset supporting the analysis in Mazor, R.D., et. al, 2024⁴. The data were obtained from the website provided in the report⁵ on February 7, 2025. The data used in the analysis was taken from the ChannelEng tab within the spreadsheet. The SCCWRP and SMC datasets use the following classifications:

- Soft bottom, 0 hard sides
- Soft bottom, 1 hard side
- Soft bottom, 2 hard sides
- Hardened bottom
- Natural

For the purposes of this analysis, the three soft bottom categories were used to identify modified soft bottom channels. Flood control channels are not defined in either of these data sources.

The Permittee channel engineering information was compared to the channel engineering classifications in the SMC and SCCWRP files to identify similarities and differences between the data sources. The SCCWRP dataset includes two different channel engineering classifications, one based on field observations collected during bioassessment monitoring events, and one based on available physical habitat (pHab) data. The two methods result in different

⁴ Mazor, R.D., A.C. Rehn, N. Lombardo, and M. Sutula. 2024. A technical foundation for biointegrity and eutrophication indicators and thresholds for modified channels, intermittent streams, and streams on the Central Valley floor. Technical Report 1367. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA.

⁵ https://github.com/SCCWRP/ModifiedChannelThresholds/raw/main/inst/extdata/Data%20sets%20used%20in%20each%20analysis_final.xlsx

classifications for 32 sites⁶. The classifications based on field observations are used for the analysis in this memorandum.

The following table summarizes the number of sites in the San Diego Region in each channel engineering classification based on the various datasets. Based on the information from the three data sources, channel engineering information is not available for over 200 sites and the majority of sites in the San Diego Region are in natural waterbodies.

Table 2. Summary of Number of Sites in Each Classification

Dataset	Natural	Modified Soft Bottom	Modified Hardened Bottom	Not Classified
MS4 Permittees	135	68 ^a	20	353
SMC	282	27	21	246
SCCWRP	274	27	23	252

a. 27 of these modified soft bottom channels are also flood control channels. Additional flood control channels may be identified if ownership and maintenance information can be obtained for the WMAA GIS layer.

Whether or not a site would be considered as being located in a soft-bottom modified channel varies for multiple monitoring locations depending on which data source is used to determine the classification. The following summarizes some of the differences in the site classifications between the datasets.

- 3 sites are classified as modified with soft bottoms in the SCCWRP dataset but were identified as natural in the Permittee dataset.
- 3 sites are classified as modified hardened bottom in the SCCWRP dataset but were identified as modified soft bottom channels in the Permittee dataset.
- 18 sites are classified as modified channels with soft bottoms in the Permittee dataset, but as natural in the SCCWRP dataset.
- Using channel engineering information from the Permittee dataset resulted in the ability to classify 30 sites as modified soft bottom channels that were not able to be classified using the SCCWRP or SMC datasets.

Summary of the CSCI data in Flood Control Channels

CSCI data were obtained from two sources:

- SCCWRP data - The data were obtained from the SCCWRP GitHub website⁷ on February 7, 2025. The data used in the analysis was taken from the ChannelEng tab within the spreadsheet.

⁶ See the SCCWRP CSCI and CE tab in Document C-3.
⁷ https://github.com/SCCWRP/ModifiedChannelThresholds/raw/main/inst/extdata/Data%20sets%20used%20in%20each%20analysis_final.xlsx

- California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) downloaded on February 5, 2025.

For some sites, the two datasets contained data collected on the same day at the same site and in some cases multiple replicates were collected at the same site on the same date. For older data, when the two datasets contained data collected on the same day at the same site, the results were often different.

The datasets were analyzed separately and together. For the combined dataset, when more than one sample was collected on the same date in the two datasets, the highest value was used for the sample date. For the analysis, sites were classified as modified soft bottom channels if they were identified as modified soft bottom channels in any of the data sources described in the previous section.

For the analysis, the CSCI results were compared to the value of 0.79 proposed in the November 18, 2020 basin plan amendment [R9-2020-0234] adopting biological objectives for the San Diego Region (hereinafter, SDRBO). Samples that are above 0.79 are considered to be meeting the SDRBO, and those below 0.79 are not meeting the SDRBO.

Table 3. Number of Samples in Modified Soft Bottom Channels Meeting the SDRBO in all datasets

Classification	Total # samples	Number of samples meeting SDRBO	% meeting SDRBO
SCCWRP Dataset ¹	108	6	5.6%
CEDEN Dataset ¹	178	9	5.1%
Combined Dataset	177	11	6.2%

1. These datasets contain multiple samples collected on the same day.

Table 4. Number of Samples in Soft Bottom Flood Control Channels Meeting the SDRBO in all datasets

Classification	Total # samples	Number of samples meeting SDRBO	% meeting SDRBO
SCCWRP Dataset ¹	20	0	0%
CEDEN Dataset ¹	49	2	4.1%
Combined Dataset	45	2	4.4%

1. These datasets contain multiple samples collected on the same day.

In addition to evaluating the total number of samples, the number of sites meeting the SDRBO was identified by taking the maximum value observed at the site. If the maximum observed value was higher than the SDRBO, then the site was identified as meeting the SDRBO. [Table 5](#) summarizes the number of sites meeting the SDRBO in the SCCWRP and Combined datasets.

Table 5. Number of Sites Meeting the SDRBOs in the SCCWRP and Combined Dataset

Classification	Total # sites	Number of sites meeting SDRBO	% meeting SDRBO
Modified Soft Bottom Channels			
SCCWRP Dataset	50	5	10%
CEDEN Dataset	77	6	7.8%
Combined Dataset	78	9	11.5%
Soft Bottom Flood Control Channels			
SCCWRP Dataset	16	0	0%
CEDEN Dataset	27	1	3.7%
Combined Dataset	27	1	3.7%

The sites meeting the SDRBO were evaluated in more depth. The following table summarizes information about each site and the data collected at the sites.

Table 6. Summary of Data Collected at Sites Meeting the SDRBOs in the Combined Dataset

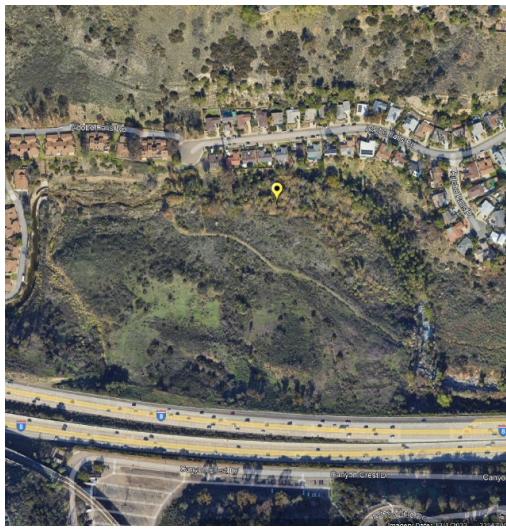

Site Code	Soft Bottom Flood Control (FC) or Modified Channel	Count	Max	Min	Average	Number Meeting SDRBO	Date of Sample Meeting SDRBO
907ALVUPR	FC	2	0.91	0.82	0.86	2	6/14/20, 6/13/23
904AHC004 ¹	Modified, Not FC	19	0.80	0.17	0.59	1	11/16/98
904CBAHC6 ¹	Modified, Not FC	10	0.87	0.41	0.66	1	5/25/01
907SDSDR8	Modified, Not FC	9	0.84	0.29	0.63	1	11/14/99
SMC01987	Modified, Not FC	2	0.81	0.68	0.74	1	6/15/12
SMC00910 ²	Modified, Not FC	9	0.84	0.41	0.63	1	5/17/99
903M20208	Modified, Not FC	1	0.96	0.96	0.96	1	6/12/17
907S11430 ³	Modified, Not FC	1	0.87	0.87	0.87	1	7/12/12
SMC11430 ³	Modified, Not FC	2	0.96	0.87	0.91	2	7/12/12, 6/5/24
Total		64				14	

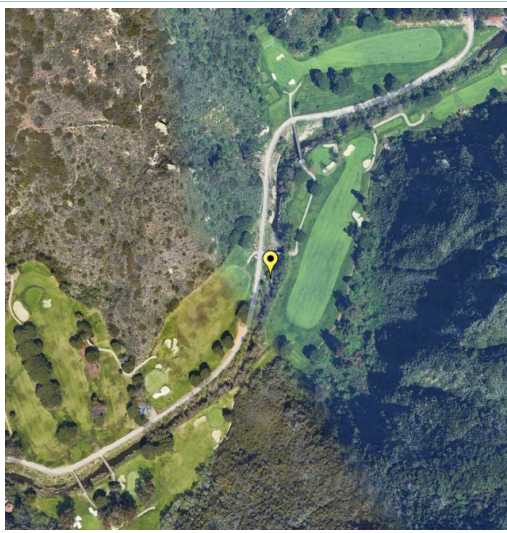
1. Sites 904AHC004 and 904CBAHC6 are located near each other and could be considered the same site.
2. This site is classified as a modified channel in the SCCWRP dataset, but a natural channel in the Permittee channel classification dataset.
3. Sites 907S11430 and SMC11430 are located near each other and could be considered the same site.

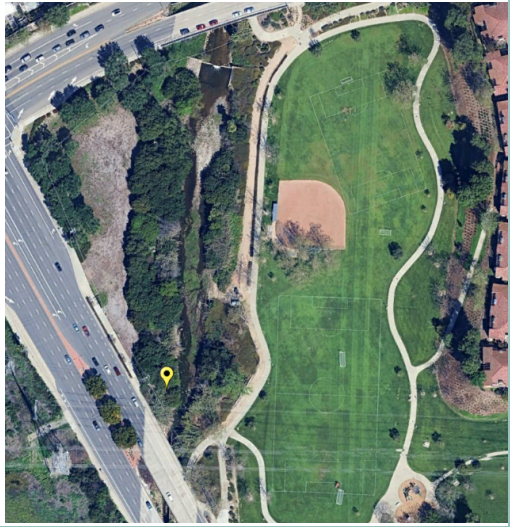

Google Earth Images of the Soft Bottom Flood Control and Modified Channels Meeting the SDRBO

For reference, Google Earth images of the soft bottom flood control and modified soft bottom channels meeting that SDRBO are organized in the table below. The site code, site name, and whether the site is a soft bottom flood control channel, or a modified soft bottom channel not designated as a flood control channel are included. For channel segments with differing channel engineering classifications between datasets, both are included.

Table 7. Google Earth Images of the Soft Bottom Flood Control and Modified Channels Meeting the SDRBO

Site Code	Site Name	Channel Engineering Classification by Dataset	Flood Control Channel	Satellite Imagery
907ALVUPR	Alvarado Creek upper SDSU restoration	<p>Permittee Dataset: Modified Soft Bottom</p> <p>SCCWRP Dataset: N/A</p>	X	
904AHC004; 904CBAHC6	Agua Hedionda Creek 6	Modified Soft Bottom ¹		

Site Code	Site Name	Channel Engineering Classification by Dataset	Flood Control Channel	Satellite Imagery
907S11430	Coches Creek, Los (SMC Code SMC11430)	Modified Soft Bottom ¹		
SMC00910	Aliso Creek Country Club Road upstream of Hwy 1	Permittee Dataset: Natural SCCWRP Dataset: Modified Soft Bottom		
903M20208	Double Canyon	Modified Soft Bottom ¹		

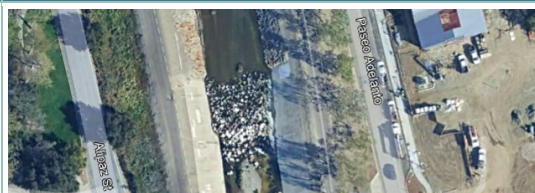
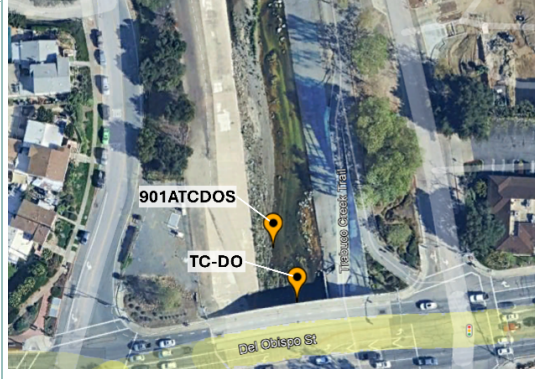
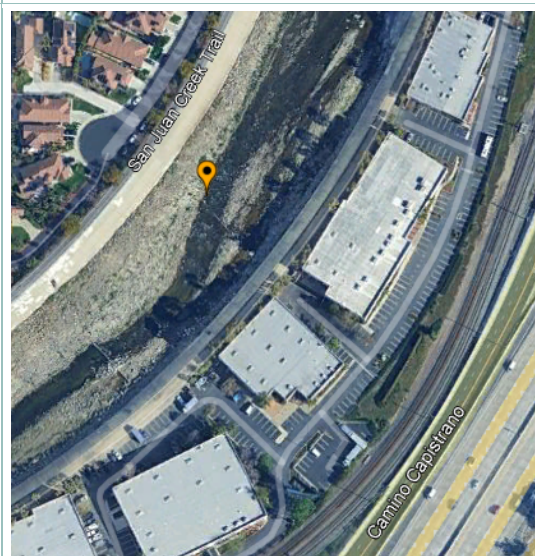
Site Code	Site Name	Channel Engineering Classification by Dataset	Flood Control Channel	Satellite Imagery
SMC01987	Aliso Creek at Sheep Hills Park	Modified Soft Bottom ¹		
907SDSSDR8	San Diego River 8	<p>Permittee Dataset: Modified Soft Bottom</p> <p>SCCWRP Dataset: Unclassified</p>		

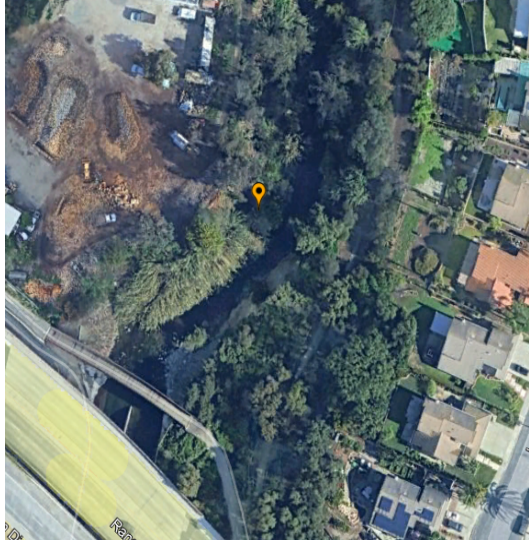

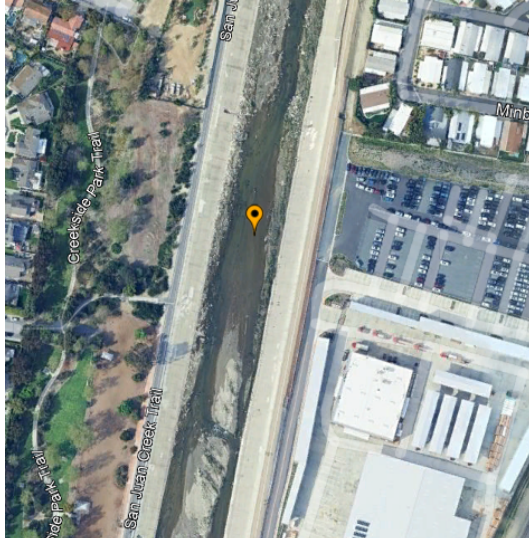
1. Channel engineering classification was consistent across SCCWRP and Permittee datasets.

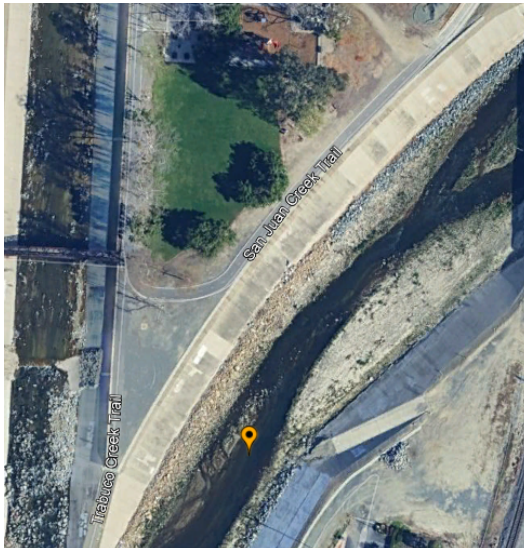
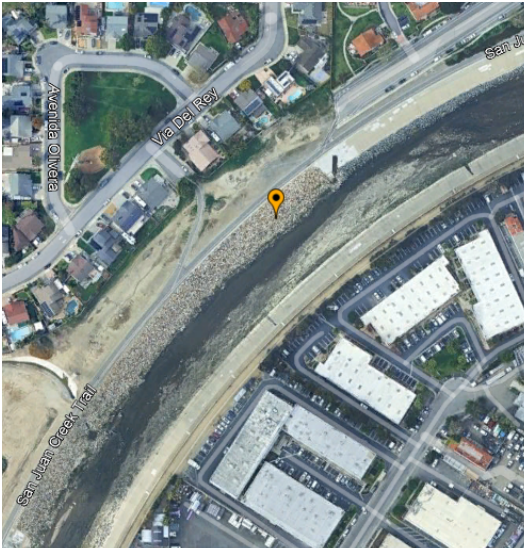
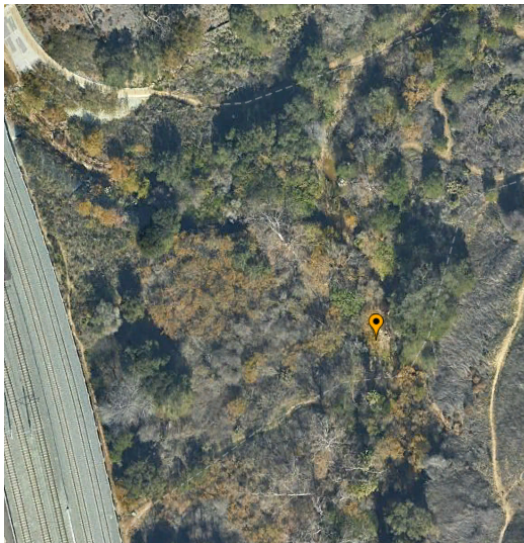
Google Earth Images of the Soft Bottom Flood Control Channels Not Meeting the SDRBO


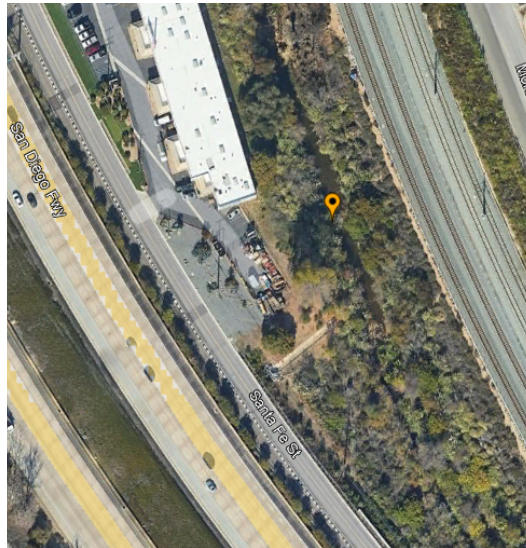
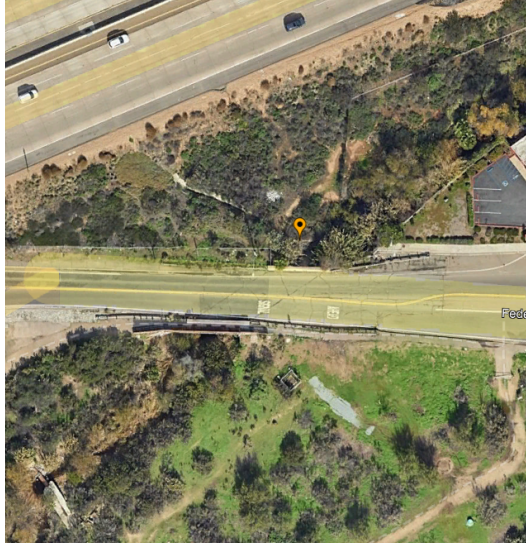
For reference, Google Earth images of the soft bottom flood control channels not meeting the SDRBO are organized in the table below. The site code and site name are included.

Table 8. Google Earth Images of the Soft Bottom Flood Control Channels Not Meeting the SDRBO

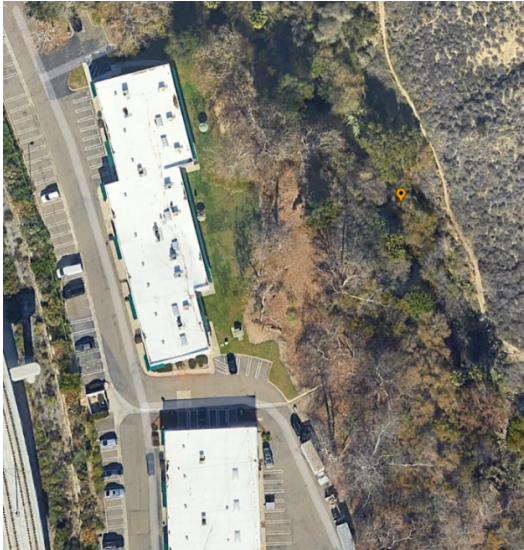

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
901ATCDOS	Arroyo Trabuco above Del Obispo St.	
TC-DO	TC-DO	
901M14145	L01 D/S L02 Confluence	

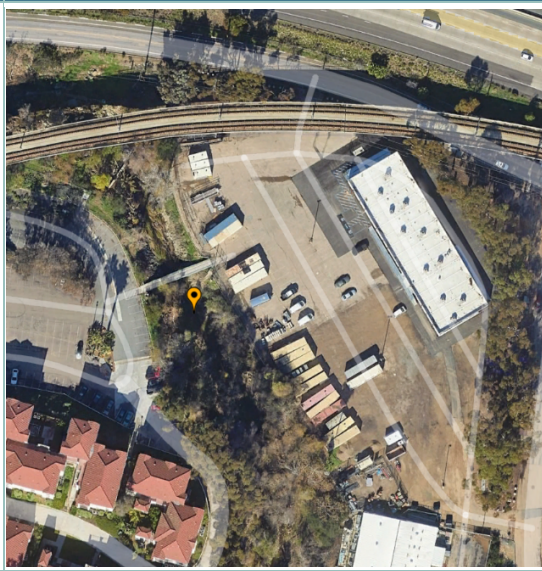
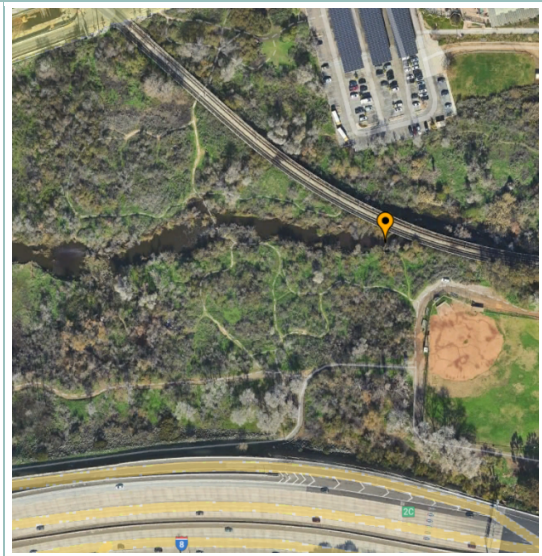

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
901PS0057	Arroyo Trabuco 57	
901S06030	San Juan Creek above La Novia Ave.	
901S12942	San Juan Creek ~0.2mi above Stonehill Dr.	

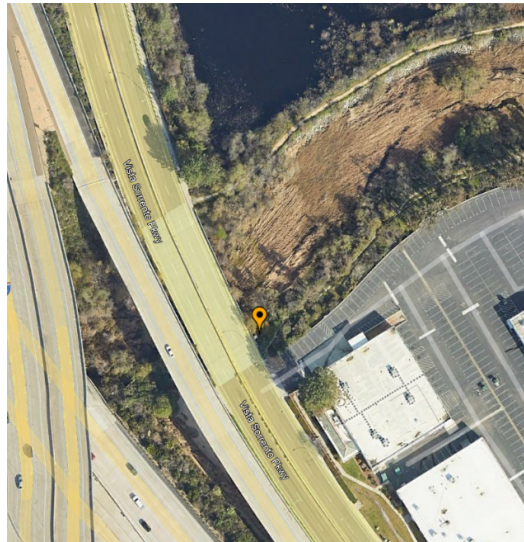
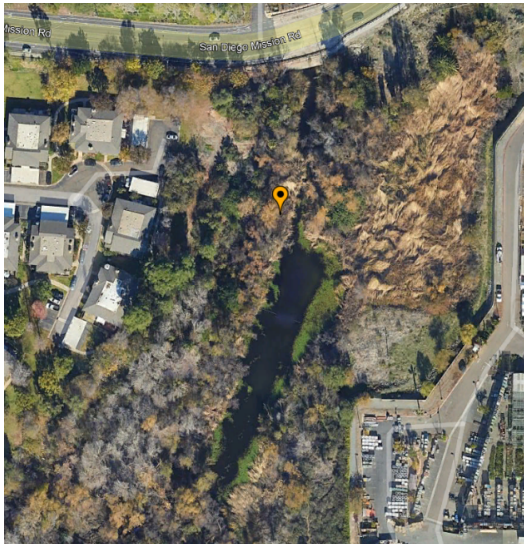
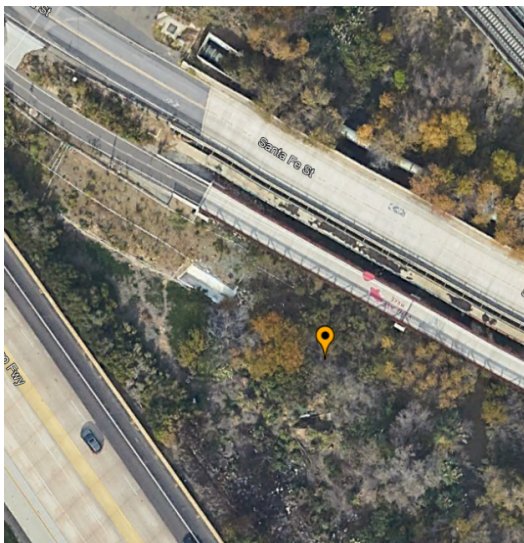
Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
901S39498	San Juan Creek above Arroyo Trabuco	
901SJSJC9	San Juan Creek 9	
906LPRSC4	Rose Canyon Creek 4	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
906M21770	Carrol Canyon Creek (906M21770)	
906M23318	Rose Canyon	
908CCTNFA	Chollas Creek Trib. near Federal Ave	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
908CLCANB	Chollas Creek above National Blvd	
SMC01934	Trabuco Creek u/s San Juan Creek confluence	
SMC04806	Carroll Canyon Creek	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
SMC05702	Not Available	
907ALVLWR	Alvarado Creek, lower SDSU restoration	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
907ALVPED	Alvarado Creek, upstream of pedestrian bridge	
907SDRS1x	San Diego River Sefton Park	
CC-NF54	Chollas Creek MLS	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
LPC-MLS	Los Penasquitos Creek MLS	
SDR-TWAS-1	San Diego River TWAS 1	
MB-TWAS-1	Mission Bay TWAS 1	

Site Code	Site Name	Satellite Imagery
901S06851	Oso Creek ~0.5mi below Crown Valley Pkwy	
901M14153	L01 0.5 miles upstream of Stonehill	
ALC_Trabuco	Aliso Creek at Trabuco Road	

Statement of the Relevance of Document F-1 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

F-1: Flood Control Channel Operation, Maintenance, and Risk Management Technical Memorandum

F-1 is a technical memorandum summarizing typical channel operation and maintenance information for flood control channels in the San Diego Region. The technical memorandum provides an overview of the flood control channel maintenance activities that are requirements for communities to obtain flood insurance and for flood protection. The required maintenance activities include vegetation and sediment removal activities that have the potential to impact biological integrity in flood control channels. The information provided in the technical memorandum is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO) in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it describes the mandated activities that Permittees must undertake in certain of those streams, e.g., flood control channels, to maintain designed capacity in those channels and to reduce the cost of flood insurance for residents. The description of the required activities, along with the information about flood risks in the region provides evidence for the State Board to more fully assess whether such required activities could impact the ability of flood control channels to serve their intended flood protection function and meet the SDRBO. The information in F-1 is therefore directly relevant to how the SDRBO is to be implemented in modified soft-bottom channels that also serve as critical flood control infrastructure. Thus, F-1 should be included in the Administrative Record.



Memorandum

Date: February 22, 2025

Subject: FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND RISK MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Introduction

This Technical Memorandum addresses the nature of maintenance activities in streambed segments within the San Diego Region that are necessary to maintain capacity to prevent flooding. This memorandum, and a separate technical memorandum describing the types of flood control infrastructure within the Region and associated California Stream Condition Index (CSCI) scores (document C-4), are submitted by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the County of San Diego, the County of Orange and Orange County Flood Control District, and the City of San Diego (Copermittees).

This memorandum discusses the nature of required maintenance of flood control channels to maintain their flood control function and the potential for those maintenance activities to impact channel habitat. It also discusses the relationship between channel maintenance activities and national flood insurance administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Flood Risk and Channel Maintenance

In heavily populated Southern California, and within the urbanized portions of the San Diego Region, numerous residences, businesses, and public infrastructure (such as wastewater treatment plants) are located adjacent to or near streams that are prone to flooding. Over time, many of those streams have had their natural streambed modified by either federal (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) or local flood control agencies to provide flood protection to these areas through the construction of protective infrastructure, such as levees, and/or by promoting the swift movement of flood waters through the channel. A number of the modified streams, while they may have been straightened and/or feature “hard” sides (such as concrete or riprap), still have earthen or “soft” bottoms and thus fall outside of the “hardened” streambed exemption in the November 18, 2020 basin plan amendment [R9-2020-0234] adopting biological objectives for the San Diego Region (hereinafter, SDRBO). For a description of the types of channel modifications employed for flood control in the San Diego Region, please see accompanying Technical Memorandum on Channel Engineering and CSCI Scores (C-4).

Flood Control Channel Maintenance and National Flood Insurance

According to FEMA, standard private property insurance for businesses and private residences to cover flood loss is often unavailable or unaffordable. To implement the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, FEMA has developed the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to

fill this gap in insurance coverage for communities that participate in the program¹. To participate in the NFIP, communities must implement minimum floodplain management standards³. If communities choose to go beyond the minimum floodplain management standards, they can earn NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) discounts on premiums from 5% to up to 45%². The Counties of Orange³, Riverside⁴, San Diego⁵ and the City of San Diego⁶ all participate in the CRS program.

To participate in the CRS program, communities first apply to join. The community's activities and performance are reviewed during a verification visit, after which FEMA establishes the credit level. Annually, the community submits a recertification⁷. The CRS program includes 19 public information and floodplain management activities that communities can implement to increase their CRS class, including Flood Damage Reduction, which includes implementation of a "Drainage System Maintenance Program" (DSMP).

Drainage System Maintenance Program Summary

The DSMPs implemented by Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties and the City of San Diego include comprehensive strategies to ensure the effective management of flood channels. These programs are aimed at ensuring that the existing flood control channels operate efficiently and fulfill their flood control function. DSMP components include program documentation, physical inspections, maintenance activities, and biological mitigation. A description of what each component entails is provided below.

Program Documentation

Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties and the City of San Diego have documented the framework and implementation actions for their DSMPs. This documentation details the procedures and frequency for channel inspections and the methods for maintaining flood control channels. It sets forth procedures for clearing vegetation overgrowth, sedimentation, and/or debris, as well as requirements for repairing or replacing aging or damaged channel infrastructure.

Physical Inspections

Physical inspections of flood control channels involve both routine inspections by flood control agencies and inspections based on resident input. Copermittedes maintain a dedicated telephone line and/or web application that allows the public to report channel maintenance problems such as heavy vegetation, clogging, and sedimentation. Numerous service requests

¹ [A Brief History of the NFIP](#)

² [Community Rating System – Local Official's Guide to Saving Lives, Preventing Damage, and Reducing the Cost of Flood Insurance](#)

³ [Orange County Public Works: Flood Insurance Resources](#)

⁴ [Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District: Flood Insurance](#)

⁵ [County of San Diego Department of Public Works: Community Rating System](#)

⁶ [City of San Diego Stormwater: Floodplain Management](#)

⁷ [Community Rating System Overview and Participation](#)

related to flood control channel maintenance are received annually. For example, from 2018 to 2025, the City of San Diego received 1,656 service requests, and from 2017 to 2025, the County of Orange received 1,858 service requests.

Maintenance Activities

Flood control channel maintenance activities aim to maintain the design function of the channel to protect citizens and property from flooding hazards. Different maintenance activities are required depending on the channel's condition and follow maintenance plans established by the flood control agency (which can be a flood control district or a municipality.) Examples of maintenance plans within the San Diego Region are provided in the References section, including City of San Diego (2020), County of Orange (2014), and County of San Diego (2018). Maintenance activities are conducted throughout the year and include both routine and emergency activities. An example of the types and frequency of channel maintenance activities conducted in the San Diego Region is included as Document F-2, the City of San Diego's 2024 *Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan Annual Report*.

The four main categories of maintenance are Trash and Debris Removal, Vegetation Management, Sediment Removal, and Structural Maintenance. A qualified biologist reviews each maintenance project to determine if significant biological impacts require mitigation as required by applicable permits, and to ensure that work does not occur during certain protected species' breeding seasons.

Trash and Debris Removal

Trash and debris removal from channels involves either manually or mechanically removing accumulated trash and debris that are in the flood control channel bed. Trash and debris can trap sediment and vegetation to create dams and/or raise the channel's bottom depth, thus reducing the design function of the channel.

The level of trash and debris accumulation and access to the channel determines if maintenance is done manually or mechanically. Manual removal entails maintenance crews entering the channel on foot and collecting the debris. Mechanical removal will require use of heavy equipment such as bobcat/skip loaders, large loaders, and mobile cranes. Entry into the channel either by foot or machine can potentially disturb the habitat in a flood control channel, including modified soft-bottom streams used for that purpose.

Vegetation Maintenance

Vegetation density and vegetation type influence the design function of flood control channels. It may even have an inverse relationship. A graphic example of the potential inverse relationship between vegetation and channel capacity is shown in the following figure from Document F-3, *LA River Master Plan*.

VEGETATION AND CHANNEL CAPACITY HAVE AN INVERSE RELATIONSHIP

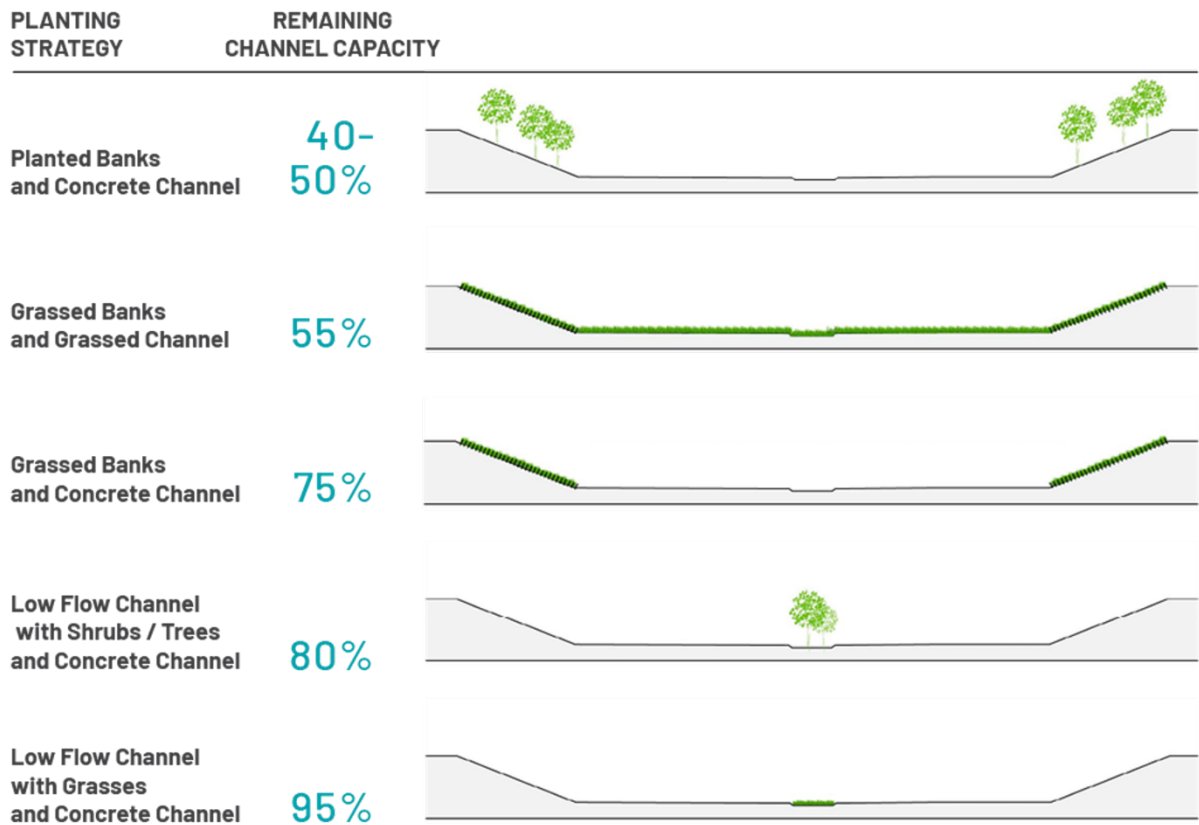


Figure 12. Vegetation and Channel Capacity Have an Inverse Relationship. Different combinations and locations of planting within the LA River channel have particular impacts on channel capacity. Whether the planting consists of grasses or trees and shrubs, and whether the planting is on the banks, on the channel bottom, or in the low flow area, are all factors that alter the channel's ability to convey water effectively. This example shows scenarios for river mile 11.8 near the Rio Hondo Confluence.

Vegetation can include plant growth, tree limbs, or other natural plant debris, as well as invasive species, such as *Arundo donax*. Agencies which maintain flood control channels must remove and cut back vegetation to maintain the design function (Los Angeles County, 2022). Like trash and debris removal, vegetation maintenance can be accomplished using both manual and mechanical methods.

Less intensive vegetation maintenance activities can include mowing and clearing above-ground vegetation, which leaves root systems mostly intact. Trimming can also be used to remove woody vegetation or overhanging vegetation that is generally above waist height. Flood control agencies also remove vegetation chemically through the application of herbicides pursuant to approved maintenance plans. All of these maintenance activities have the potential to disturb or remove available habitat within a flood control channel.

More intensive vegetation removal activities include grubbing or blading. Grubbing involves the removal or destruction of vegetation by disturbing the root system or soil surface. This is done through mechanical, chemical, or other means, such as cutting or driving over above-ground vegetation. Blading involves the removal of above-ground vegetation with a straight-blade bulldozer. If vegetation is removed, root systems are removed up to the as-built channel bottom depth. Vegetation removal will involve the presence of heavy equipment in the channel, such as bulldozers, bobcats/skip loaders, backhoes, large loaders, mobile cranes, long boom excavators, etc. When vegetation and root systems are removed, the habitat in the channel may be even more substantially altered.

Sediment Removal

With the flow of water over time, sediment and silt accumulate in flood control channels and must be routinely removed to maintain the channel's design function (Los Angeles County, 2022). Routine sediment removal is completed to the as-built channel level or established maintenance baseline and does not expand the channel's capacity. The removal process involves mechanical grading and vehicles to haul away the accumulated sediment. This maintenance is intended only to restore the channel's flow design function.

Sediment removal includes excavation and dredging. Excavation can be completed by either entering the channel or using excavators from the side of the channel. Excavation requires mechanized equipment ranging in size from small skid-steers to large bulldozers and backhoes. When possible, equipment is staged on the banks of the channel and reaches into the channel to remove the accumulated sediment and silt. Dredging involves removing sediment when standing water is still present. Dredging requires a hydraulic dredger placed in the channel. A settling tank system on the channel bank is used to remove the sediment and return water to the channel.

Due to the intensive nature of the activity and the removal of the channel substrate, sediment removal activities will affect habitat within a flood control channel.



Bank Stabilization

Over time, or after flood events, it may be necessary to implement physical repairs to the bank structure of flood control channels. This involves repairing or stabilizing banks to their

as-built or original condition (City of San Diego, 2020). Bank repair is essential to prevent further bank destabilization, protect adjacent properties, reduce flood risk, minimize erosion and downstream sediment yields. In some cases, the bank may consist of concrete, riprap, or other hardened materials. Heavy equipment such as bulldozers, excavators, bobcats, backhoes, or scrapers may be used both inside and outside of the channel to effect necessary repairs. Bank stabilization activities also have the potential to disturb the habitat in flood control channels.

All of these examples of channel maintenance involve extensive work within the channel bounds, and in many cases outside of it. The use of heavy equipment and the impacts of personnel entering the channel may alter the channel's character, including its vegetation, sediment substrate and shade profiles. Appendix C in Document F-2 includes pictures of alteration in channel vegetation, habitat, and characteristics after channel maintenance was conducted during 2024. A few examples are shown in the following pictures.

Pomerado 1 (1-04-030) Routine Maintenance

	
<p>Pomerado 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>View of storm drain west of Bernardo Oaks Dr. prior to vegetation removal, facing west.</p> <p>(November 7, 2023.)</p>	<p>Pomerado 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>View of storm drain west of Bernardo Oaks Dr. after vegetation removal, facing west.</p> <p>(January 19, 2024)</p>

Rolando 2 (5-04-048) Routine Maintenance

	
<p>Rolando 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>Rolando 2 channel, pre-maintenance condition. Photo taken from eastern extent of maintenance area, facing west.</p> <p>(February 15, 2024)</p>	<p>Rolando 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>Post-maintenance: Rolando 2 channel, post-maintenance condition.</p> <p>(February 19, 2024)</p>

Biological Mitigation

Drainage System Maintenance Programs are designed to minimize the impact of stormwater maintenance on the environment through practices that commonly include the assessment of sensitive biological resources by a qualified biologist, adoption of mitigation measures that avoid, minimize, or compensate for adverse effects on biological resources, and inspections during and after maintenance activities to document the condition of biological resources. Various regulatory programs require biological mitigation for significant biological impacts or permanent habitat degradation, or loss associated with DSMP implementation. Biological mitigation measures are typically implemented in a designated mitigation area located outside of the flood control channel due to the lack of area to address biological impacts within the channel itself. Biological mitigation measures can include both upland and wetland mitigation. For example, in 2024, mitigation projects within the City of San Diego included a combination of purchased mitigation credits and City-funded construction projects to create new or enhance existing wetlands. One of these projects is the 57-acre San Diego Wetlands Restoration project, a compensatory mitigation effort that generates wetland mitigation credits by restoring habitat and native plant communities through the reduction and removal of trash and debris, site protection, and removal of non-native plants.

Two further mitigation projects in the County of Orange are the Narco Channel Project and the Gavin Basin Restoration project. The Narco Channel project included expanding, restoring, and enhancing wetland habitat within the channel by removing exotic/invasive plant species, accumulated sediment, and riprap, as well as widening the channel. The Gavin Basin Restoration project is an onsite wetland restoration effort that includes the removal of invasive

plant species, flow channel modifications, and the establishment of a seed nursery to support future plantings.

Conclusion

Each year, flooding causes hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of damage to individuals living in communities around the country (FEMA, 2023). As discussed in this Technical Memorandum, the Copermitees must perform channel maintenance to maintain the function of their flood control channels to protect life and property. In addition, channel maintenance is also required to enable residents to obtain flood insurance and to reduce the costs of that insurance. The channel maintenance activities described in this memorandum require the removal of accumulated vegetation and sediment, which will likely impact the biological condition of the stream segment through changes in how quickly the stream flows, its substrate, and shade availability. Although best practices are implemented to minimize biological impacts, when possible, some channel maintenance activities result in significant, long-term biological impacts that may be mitigated in off-site mitigation projects.

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Statement of the Relevance of Document F-2 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

F-2: City of San Diego, 2024. *Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan Annual Report*, November. Storm Water Department

F-2 is an example of a recent flood control channel maintenance plan annual report from the City of San Diego. The information in the report was used to develop the flood control channel technical memorandum (F-1) and the report provides an example of maintenance activities for a municipal agency that is not a flood control district. Appendix B of the report provides a summary of biological mitigation in flood control channels including some that would be subject to the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO). Appendix C provides pre- and post-maintenance photos of various flood control reaches, illustrating the changes in condition of the reaches before and after the maintenance activities described in F-1. The annual report is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the SDRBO in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it provides recent evidence of the types of maintenance activities that occur in those streams that serve as flood control channels, which is relevant to the impacts on streams potentially subject to the SDRBO and thus how the SDRBO would be implemented by the San Diego Water Board and because it provides supporting information for the F-1 technical memorandum. Thus, F-2 should be included in the Administrative Record.

Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024



THINK BLUE®

City of San Diego
Stormwater Department

November 2024

City of San Diego Stormwater Department

2781 Caminito Chollas

San Diego, CA 92105

Executive Summary

The City of San Diego’s (City) Stormwater Department (SWD) protects and enhances San Diego’s vibrant communities through exceptional public service and infrastructure that reflects the importance of clean water and flood-safe communities. SWD also views stormwater as a valuable resource which supports public health, the economy, the environment, and the water supply. SWD works to provide clean waterways and flood-safe communities across San Diego by maintaining stormwater facilities in accordance with the City Charter and Council Policy.

Stormwater facilities are typically located within environmentally sensitive areas that are also habitat for sensitive wildlife and plants, which are highly regulated by local, state, and federal agencies. With stakeholder and regulatory agency input, SWD developed the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP) which balances the City’s need to be responsive and transparent, provide flood control, and to minimize and mitigate any adverse environmental effects that result from its activities (City of San Diego, 2020a). The MWMP covers project- and program-level activities and authorizes maintenance and repair across stormwater assets and was adopted by City Council in March 2020.

SWD completes an annual report to document stormwater facility maintenance activities and associated mitigation pursuant to Section 4.1 of the MWMP, Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Section 4.4.1.5, and the requirements of several regulatory permits. This current fiscal year (FY) 2024 annual report covers the fourth year of MWMP activities that occurred between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 in which SWD removed approximately 66060.42 tons of sediment and vegetation. More detail on the background of the program is provided in Section 1. Prior to the approval of the MWMP in 2020, the City used the Master Storm Water System Maintenance Program (MMP). The MMP is no longer in effect, and now the City uses the MWMP to achieve its stormwater maintenance goals.

During FY 2024, SWD performed the following maintenance projects which are discussed in Section 2 (listed from North to South):

Routine Maintenance-

- Pomerado 1 (1-04-030)
- Titus 1 (5-02-162)
- Rolando 2 (5-04-048)

Emergency Maintenance-

- Industrial 1 & 2 (2-01-120 & 2-01-122)
- Tripp 1 (2-01-130)
- Roselle 2 (2-03-000)
- Flintkote 1 (2-03-100)
- Dunhill 1 (2-03-150)
- Garnet 2 & Damon 1 (3-02-003 & 3-02-005)
- PB Olney 1 & MBHS 1 (3-02-101 & 3-02-103)
- Mission Gorge 2 (4-07-004)
- Cowles Mountain 1& 2 (4-07-901 & 4-07-911)
- Baja 1 (4-08-105)
- Washington 1 (5-02-151)
- National 1 (5-04-004)
- Home 1 & 2 (5-04-220 & 5-04-224)
- Ontario 1 (5-04-237)
- Wightman 2 (5-04-239)
- Alpha 1(5-05-006)
- Ocean View 1 (5-05-008)
- Acacia Grove 2 (5-05-103)

- Castana 1 (5-05-205)
- Jamacha 1 (5-05-603)
- Parkside 1 (5-11-003)
- Grove 1 (5-22-023)
- Cedar 1 & 2 (5-22-008 & 5-22-010)
- Cerissa 1 (5-22-016)
- Tocayo 1 (6-02-115)
- Tocayo 2 (6-02-118)
- Smythe 1 (6-03-147)
- Smuggler's Gulch 1 (6-01-100)

In FY 2024, SWD remained in compliance with all MWMP regulatory permits and agreements during the implementation of project-level as well as program-level activities at its facilities. For routine maintenance projects approved and completed as part of the MWMP, SWD will conduct ongoing repeat maintenance within the assessed and mitigated impact areas in compliance with its approvals. In such instances, SWD will provide the necessary pre-maintenance notification to the agencies. For facilities where certain approvals may lapse, SWD will obtain follow-up authorizations prior to the start of maintenance. Emergency maintenance was completed in FY 2024 when it was determined that there was a sudden and imminent threat to life, property, and/or essential public services requiring immediate action. During this fiscal year, SWD also completed numerous minor maintenance activities. By definition, minor maintenance activities do not result in significant environmental impacts, do not require compensatory mitigation, and the details of such activities are not included in this annual report.

The MWMP and approved regulatory permits require that compensatory mitigation be provided to offset impacts to biological resources (e.g. uplands or wetlands) related to maintenance activities. Section 3 provides the status of the compensatory mitigation sites associated with the FY 2024 routine and emergency channel maintenance projects as follows:

- Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement
- Tijuana River Emergency Channel Mitigation
- Tijuana River Valley In-Channel Enhancement Area and the Out-of-Channel Enhancement Area
- San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank
- Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank
- Wetland Mitigation Plan for 2015/16 Emergency Channel Maintenance (2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan)
- Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River)
- Smythe-Bandola Wetland Mitigation
- El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation
- Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation

Section 4 of this report provides information on routine channel maintenance projects prioritized for FY 2025 (July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025). Planning for FY 2025 projects began in FY 2024 for the following:

- Pomerado 1 (1-04-033)
- Pomerado 2 (1-04-033)
- Industrial 1 (2-01-120)
- Industrial 2 (2-01-122)
- Tripp 1 (2-01-130)
- Roselle 1 (2-03-000)
- Roselle 2 (2-03-002)
- Flintkote 1 (2-03-100)
- Dunhill 1 (2-03-150)
- Garnet 2 (3-02-003)
- Damon 1 (3-02-005)
- PB Olney 1 (3-2-101)

- MBHS 1 (3-02-103)
- Mission Gorge 1 (4-07-002)
- Mission Gorge 2 (4-07-004)
- Mission Gorge 3 (4-07-009)
- Missoin Gorge 4 (4-07-011)
- Alvarado 1 (4-07-021)
- Cowles Mountain 1 (4-07-901)
- Cowles Mountain 2 (4-07-911)
- Baja 1 (4-08-105)
- Washington 1 (5-02-151)
- Washington 2 (5-02-153)
- Titus 1 (5-02-162)
- Rolando 2 (5-04-048)
- National 1 (5-04-004)
- National 2 (5-04-006)
- Home 1 (5-04-220)
- Home 2 (5-04-224)
- Auburn 2 (5-04-236)
- Wightman 2 (5-04-241)
- Oceanview 1 (5-05-008)
- Alpha 1 (5-05-006)
- Charles Lewis 1 (05-05-016)
- Acacia Grove 2 (5-05-103)
- Castana 1 (5-05-205)
- Jamacha 1 (5-05-603)
- Jamacha 2 (5-05-606)
- Solola 1 (5-05-020)
- Solola 2 (5-05-023)
- Cedar 1 (5-22-008)
- Cedar 2 (5-22-010)
- Cerissa 1 (5-22-016)
- Grove 1 (5-22-023)
- Tocayo 2 (6-02-118)
- Smythe 1 (6-03-147)

Due to aging infrastructure and the ever-changing environmental conditions, emergency maintenance is sometimes required which is an approved activity under the MWMP. Although SWD seeks to proactively maintain its infrastructure, unforeseen emergency conditions may arise in FY 2025 or in subsequent years that will require immediate action. When emergency response is necessary, SWD provides proper notification to the resource agencies prior to the start of work and only completes the minimum amount of maintenance necessary to alleviate the emergency conditions.

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- B Master Stormwater Facility and Mitigation List
- C Pre- and Post- Maintenance Photos

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Under City of San Diego (City) Charter Section 26.1 and Council Policy 800-04 (City of San Diego, 2012), the City is responsible for maintaining adequate drainage facilities to remove stormwater runoff in an efficient, economic, and environmentally and aesthetically acceptable manner for the protection of property and life. The City is responsible for the maintenance of public drainage facilities that are designed and constructed to City standards and located within a public street or drainage easement dedicated to the City. The City's Stormwater Department (SWD) does the necessary work to meet these needs with a vision of providing clean waterways and flood-safe communities across San Diego.

SWD operates and maintains drainage channels, ditches, and basins that convey stormwater and urban runoff (e.g. from irrigated landscaped areas, driveways, and streets) to downstream receiving waters for the purpose of reducing flood risk and for the effective management of water resources in the City. Other components of the City's stormwater system include but are not limited to over 1,000 miles of storm drainpipe, 6 miles of levees, 15 pump stations, and over 46,000 structures.

Maintenance of channels primarily involves the removal of sediment, vegetation, debris, and trash to maximize stormwater conveyance capacity in support of the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. SWD conducts a comprehensive list of both maintenance and repair activities that are outlined in the MWMP and discussed in this report. The long-term performance of the entire system is dependent upon ongoing and proper maintenance of channel sections essential for flood control.

Historically, maintenance of stormwater conveyance system facilities occurred on an as-needed basis as a part of normal City operations without public review or regulatory permits. In 2013, the City adopted the Master Storm Water System Maintenance Program (MMP) to govern channel operation and maintenance activities based on a certified final recirculated Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Subsequently, a lawsuit was filed against the MMP (*San Diegans for Open Government et al. v. City of San Diego*, San Diego Superior Court Case No. 37-2011-00101571), and the City entered into a settlement agreement that required, among other things, that the MMP PEIR be considered null and void as of September 2018 (*SDOG v. City of San Diego* 2013).

In response, the City prepared the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP) and its EIR to guide SWD activities. The MWMP was approved by City Council in 2020 and was developed through a collaborative and iterative process involving City staff and multiple stakeholders including nonprofit organizations, community groups, resource agencies, and the public.

The following are the primary objectives of the MWMP:

1. Public safety and flood risk reduction
 - Protect life and property adjacent to, downstream, and upstream of affected channels from flooding and environmental degradation.
2. Responsiveness to reduce flood risk
 - Provide for timely and consistent routine operations and maintenance in the affected channels and associated stormwater conveyance infrastructure.

3. Avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential effects to environmental resources
 - Avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate significant adverse environmental effects resulting from routine maintenance of stormwater facilities.
 - Incorporate and adapt to water quality management strategies intended to protect water quality and address flooding impacts.
4. Proactive and timely approval process
 - Provide project-level analysis upfront to expedite subsequent authorizations for routine and preventative maintenance activities within stormwater facilities.
 - Identify a review-and-approval process to include additional stormwater facilities and maintenance activities that follow the protocols and requirements of the MWMP.
 - Reduce the need to conduct emergency maintenance during significant storm events by implementing preventative maintenance activities.

The objectives of the MWMP outline the responsibility of SWD to be responsive to newly identified flood risks while obtaining streamlined approvals for routine preventative maintenance that reduce these risks. To accomplish this, the MWMP identifies the following:

1. A range of plan-wide activities that may occur throughout the stormwater system where flood risks may arise and that would be conducted in accordance with a regulatory framework identified under the MWMP and associated permits.
2. A list of Facility Maintenance Plans (FMPs) that provide specific details and requirements for many but not all facilities that are likely to require routine maintenance and repair.

Together, these two components provide operational flexibility as well as site-specific information about SWD facilities that require maintenance and repair, and it also attempts to streamline the review and approval process that is required before maintenance can begin. In preparing the MWMP, once the purpose and intent of the plan were established, SWD conducted technical and environmental analysis in support of its EIR to determine the scope, scale, and potential environmental impacts at each facility where an FMP was developed. In addition to the FMPs, SWD included a majority of its systemwide facilities and maintenance needs in the EIR review process. The MWMP and its EIR were analyzed and considered by each of the six regulatory agencies that issued permits and approvals for the MWMP. Overall, the EIR analyzed SWD activities at the project-level for facilities where an FMP was developed and at the program-level (discussed in more detail below) for activities that included but were not limited to minor maintenance, compensatory mitigation sites, and emergencies. This was done in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

As a result of these efforts, a final MWMP was developed that included a framework for conducting routine maintenance for 66 Facility Maintenance Plans (FMPs) (50 channels/ditches, 6 basins, and 10 structure groups) that were analyzed at the project-level in the EIR. Program-level activities included in the MWMP cover minor maintenance or repair projects that do not impact Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) (including jurisdictional/coastal resources), as well as changed conditions for new or substantially amended FMPs, design and construction of compensatory mitigation sites, and emergency maintenance or repair projects. Both the project- and program-level elements were implemented to support the maintenance needs of the City's stormwater system. SWD can also amend the MWMP, as necessary, to identify additional or project-specific activities and facilities that may not have been included or considered. The MWMP EIR (Project No. 616992; SCH No. 2017071022) was certified by the San Diego City Council in June 2020 (City of San Diego, 2020b). The MWMP and associated EIR have no expiration date.

In accordance with the MWMP goals and objectives, SWD completes annual evaluations for FMP covered facilities to prioritize upcoming maintenance (further discussed in Section 2.0) based on hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) analysis, potential flood risks, and stakeholder input. The priority list of the facilities SWD anticipates maintaining in any upcoming fiscal year is required to be distributed to the regulatory agencies before July 1st. This provides the agencies the location and quantity of facilities SWD expects to submit for their review and approval. Because resource agency review must occur within a short timeframe, SWD attempts to begin its prioritization, planning and permitting phase early, often before the fiscal year in which maintenance would occur. However, depending on resource availability and other factors, this is sometimes not possible and SWD relies on the agencies to assist by helping expedite the review and approval of its submittals when necessary.

In general, the goal of SWD is to avoid or minimize impacts to environmental resources for the activities that it performs. When SWD completes its planned routine maintenance projects, it also ensures permit conditions and required mitigation measures are implemented. For emergency projects every effort is made to minimize impacts and environmental monitoring is completed in support of permit and notification requirements. These activities are then reported to the resource agencies annually and include details about the compensatory mitigation provided or obtained for each completed project where mitigation was required.

The remainder of this report discusses MWMP approvals, reporting requirements, and the activities implemented by SWD over the past fiscal year to meet the goals of the MWMP. Section 1.3 details the requirements of this report.

1.2 Regulatory Approvals

Many of the maintenance activities identified in the MWMP require review or approval under various regulations; including but not limited to the Clean Water Act (CWA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), California Coastal Act, California Fish and Game Code, California Porter-Cologne Act, CEQA, and the City of San Diego Municipal Code. Additionally, as part of the subsequent and streamlined review process established by the MWMP for all project and many program level activities prior to the start of work, SWD often works with the public, various stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, and environmental groups in an effort to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate MWMP related impacts.

The following is a brief status of each of the regulatory permits and the coordination completed in association with the MWMP:

Local

- The MWMP EIR (Project No. 616992; SCH No. 2017071022) and associated Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program were certified and adopted by the San Diego City Council on June 9, 2020
- A Master Site Development Permit (SDP; No. 2392210) was approved by the San Diego City Council on June 23, 2020 and does not have an expiration date.

State

- A Master 401 Water Quality Certification (No. R9-2021-0115) was issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) San Diego Region on May 13, 2021 and is valid until May 13, 2026 (or when the USACE RGP 102 Section 404 permit expires, if sooner).

- A Master Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA; No.1600-2019-0226-R5) was issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on May 10, 2021 and is valid until April 30, 2031.
- A Coastal Development Permit (CDP; No. 6-20-0356 on appeal A-6-SAN-20-0029) was approved by the California Coastal Commission (CCC) on May 12, 2021 and is valid until May 12, 2026 with a 5-year extension request option.

Federal

- A Regional General Permit (RGP 102; No. SPL-2018-00652) was issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on June 24, 2021 and is valid until June 17, 2026.

Each permit listed above generally requires SWD to prepare a Maintenance Plan and conduct a pre-maintenance impact assessment for its facilities where maintenance is proposed. If environmental impacts would occur, SWD must first process a Substantial Conformance Review (SCR, further discussed in Section 2.0) and submit notifications for approvals to the agencies before initial maintenance or related work can begin. This typically occurs for project-level FMPs as well as some program-level activities listed in the previous section.

In the case of the federal USACE RGP 102, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Section 7 consultation was completed, and a Biological Opinion (BO) was issued in support of the MWMPs RGP 102 approval. On-going consultation with the USFWS is expected to continue for facility maintenance activities as well as mitigation site development where suitable habitat exists and has the potential to support federally listed endangered species. SWD will continue to work with the USACE and USFWS to streamline this coordination as necessary. The USACE also obtained a historic resources Section 106 consultation that was required by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) during the RGP 102 review and approval process. This was done to consider the potential effects on cultural resources related to MWMP facility maintenance activities.

This annual report will be distributed to the resource agencies in conformance with the reporting conditions established by the permits. In addition to the reporting requirements outlined in the MWMP and the background provided in Section 1.1 above, the following section identifies specific agency reporting details that are also included in this document.

1.3 Annual Report Requirements

To meet conditions of the authorizations listed below, this report includes:

City of San Diego (City) MWMP Section 4.4 and EIR: (Project No. 616992; SCH No. 2017071022)

- Tabular summary of the acreages of sensitive vegetation impacted at each facility that was maintained and mitigation provided (Section 2);
- Updated master stormwater facility list to reflect the facilities for which impacts have been mitigated and no additional mitigation will be required (Appendix B);
- Summary of the status of mitigation that has been carried out during the current and previous years to mitigate for impacts to upland and wetland vegetation and sensitive species (Section 3, Table 11);
- Scaled map of each affected stormwater facility (Appendix A); and
- Digital date-stamped photographs of each area that was maintained in the reporting year (Appendix C).

As stated in the MWMP Section 4.4 the annual report will not include minor maintenance activities that do not have any impacts that require compensatory mitigation.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) 401 Certification (No. R9-2021-0115)

- A list of facilities on which maintenance was performed during the previous year, including the type and area of impact, start and end dates of maintenance, and photo documentation of maintenance activities and construction BMPs (Section 2 and Appendix C);
- Status of mitigation for each facility, such as proof of mitigation credit purchase or status of permittee-responsible mitigation (Section 3, Table 11);
- An updated master list of all facilities in the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan, including facility status and maintenance history (Appendix B);
- Monitoring activities, and monitors (Section 2);
- A description of maintenance delays encountered or anticipated that may affect the schedule (Section 2); and
- A description of each incident of noncompliance during the annual monitoring period, its cause, and corrective action taken (not applicable for FY 2022).

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) 1602 Agreement (SAA; No.1600-2019-0226-R5)

- Maintenance that was performed at each facility, including the type and area of impact (Section 2);
- Start and end dates of project activities for each facility (Section 2);
- Photo documentation (Appendix C); and
- Master table of all facilities included in the MWMP including facility status and history of maintenance (Appendix B).

California Coastal Commission (CCC) - Coastal Development Permit (Nos. 6-20-0356 and A-6-SAN-20-0029)

- Annual Report not specified as a requirement by the permit. SWD provides the report to the CCC as a courtesy.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 Regional General Permit (RGP 102; No. SPL-2018-00652)

- Start and end dates of project activities for each facility (Section 2);
- Permanent and temporary impact acreage, and mitigation acreage (Section 2);
- List of projects inspected for compliance (not applicable for FY 2022);
- Photo documentation (Appendix C); and
- Master table of facilities that includes status and history of maintenance (Appendix B).

US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Informal Section 7 Consultation (FWS-SDG-20B0083-2111395)

- Document activities that were conducted in the previous year (Section 2); and
- Confirm authorized impacts were not exceeded (Section 2).

2.0 Routine and Emergency Maintenance Activities (FY 2024)

Under the MWMP, SWD identifies and prioritizes routine channel maintenance work for the upcoming fiscal year that considers, as a primary objective, the ability of each facility to meet SWD’s flood risk management goals. Each fiscal year, a list of priority channels is compiled for consideration. In prioritizing the channels for maintenance, SWD also considers environmental resource impacts and the availability of mitigation, relevant water quality regulations and pollutant priorities in each watershed, public input, and its resource constraints. Once the priority list has been finalized, SWD prepares detailed Maintenance Plans and evaluates those plans to determine conformance with the MWMP EIR and regulatory permits through a streamlined review procedure developed for the MWMP. This includes the Substantial Conformance Review (SCR) process established by the City and the Coastal Commission, as well as the notification procedure necessary for resource agency review. Table 7 of the MWMP and Table 2.2 of the EIR identified as “DSD Subsequent MWMP Process Flow Chart” establishes the City’s SCR review process. The Coastal Commission’s review process for MWMP project-level activities is through the SCR process, however the process for program-level activities can vary.

The process of prioritization, Maintenance Plan preparation and impacts analysis, SCR review, and notifications was completed for all the Routine Maintenance projects listed in Table 1 below and will be initiated for those projects listed in Section 4 Table 33 for the FY 2025 Annual Work Plan. Emergency projects listed have either completed the notification and permit review phase or are in process for After-the-Fact (ATF) permits. A summary of all maintenance completed for Routine and Emergency maintenance including vegetation impacts and mitigation for facilities maintained during FY 2024 is included in Table 1 below. More specific details about each facility maintained are included in Section 2.1 through 2.30. Figure 1 in Appendix A depicts an overview of the location of these facilities and Figure 2 shows associated mitigation sites.

A Master Stormwater Facility and Mitigation List reflecting facilities that have been maintained and impacts mitigated in FY 2024 under the MWMP is included in Appendix B.

None of the facilities maintained in FY 2024 were required to be inspected by the USACE or any other regulatory agency for compliance. Each project was monitored by qualified staff and all activities were compliant with all environmental permits; no remedial actions were necessary.

Table 1: MWMP Facilities Maintenance and Associated Mitigation for Fiscal Year 2024

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
Routine Projects						
5-02-162	Pomerado 1	City – SDP 2392210, EIR #616992 (SCR PRJ #1098134, approval #PMT 3232125) USACE – 404 RGP 102 (SPL-2018-00652), RGP 102 Verification # (SPL-2023-00416) RWQCB – 401 (R9-2021-0115) (Authorization received 6/20/2023)	11/7/23 to 11/29/23	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.24	Purchased 0.48 acre at the San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.24	
5-02-162	Titus 1	City – SDP 2392210, EIR #616992 (SCR PRJ #1105201, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/12/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.01	Purchased 0.02 acre at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.01	
5-04-048	Rolando 2	City – SDP 2392210, EIR #616992 (SCR PTS #696093, approval #3232125) USACE – 404 RGP 102 (SPL-2018-00652), RGP 102 Verification # (SPL-2023-00545), RWQCB – 401 (R9-2021-0115) (Authorization received 6/20/2023)	11/7/23 to 2/19/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.25	Previously mitigated with 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and purchase of 0.18 acre at Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.25	
Emergency Projects						

¹ All impacts to USACE jurisdictional resources were temporary.

² Detailed breakdowns of project impacts to vegetation communities are included in the individual project subsections below. Tier IV habitat impacts are not included in this table.

³ Additional information regarding the status of mitigation for these projects is provided in Section 3, Table 11.

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
2-01-120 2-01-122	Industrial 1 & 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	1/31/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	0.069	Allocated 0.10 acre of mitigation credit at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation and 0.215 acre of mitigation credit at the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites.
					N/A	Previously mitigated in 2021 at El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.069	
2-01-130	Tripp 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/1/24 to 3/9/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2010 and 2022 at the El Cuervo Del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites.
				CDFW/CCC/City	N/A	
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
2-03-000	Roselle 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/14/24 to 3/26/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	N/A	Previously mitigated in emergency and routine maintenance projects at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
2-03-100	Flintkote 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/5/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	N/A	Previously mitigated in routine maintenance projects at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
2-03-150	Dunhill 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/13/24	CCC/City	0.11	Allocated 0.44 acre of mitigation credit at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation site.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.11	
3-02-003 3-02-005	Garnet 2 & Damon 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/29/24 to 5/19/24	Garnet 2- USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City Damon 1- USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.00 0.00	Mitigation not required, as described in section 2.7 below.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.00	

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
3-02-101 3-02-103	PB Olney 1 & MBHS	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/11/24 to 3/23/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /CCC/City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2021 during routine maintenance at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites for all jurisdictional aquatic resources; the Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank was used for all upland mitigation needs.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
4-07-004	Mission Gorge 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/28/24 to 4/05/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
4-07-901 4-07-911	Cowles Mountain 1 & 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/25/24 to 3/29/24	Cowles Mountain 1 USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.00	Mitigation not required, as described in section 2.10 below.
				Cowles Mountain 2 (Formerly called San Carlos Channel map 54) USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2014 at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
4-08-105	Baja 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/22/24 to 3/27/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2018 and 2019 at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) and Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-02-151	Washington 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/18/24 to 3/20/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 through the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-04-004	National 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ-#1120115 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00071) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0049) (authorization received on 1/15/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47759)	1/27/24 to 1/28/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River), and in 2021 & 2022 with an additional Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) purchase and performed as Repeat Maintenance.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-04-220 5-04-224	Home 1 & 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ-#1120115 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00071)	1/27/24	Home 1 USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan.

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
		RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0049) (authorization received on 1/15/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47759)		Home 2 USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2022 & 2023 at Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) and Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank and performed as Repeat Maintenance.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-04-237	Ontario 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ-#1124619 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	2/21/24 to 3/4/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.00	Mitigation not required, as described in section 2.17 below.
				CDFW/City	0.00	
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.00	
5-04-241	Wightman 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ-#1120115 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00071) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0049) (authorization received on 1/15/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47759)	1/28/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.02	Request to purchase 0.08 acre mitigation at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) submitted. Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending determination by Public Utilities Department (PUD).
				City	0.02	
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.04	
5-05-006	Alpha 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ 1094226 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00071)	1/24/24 to 1/31/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	1.01	Previously mitigated at Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) in 2022 & 2023 for emergency and planned 2023 & 2024 routine

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
		RWQCB- 401 RGP (R9-2024-0049) (authorization received on 1/15/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47759)		CDFW/City	0.41	maintenance. Subsequently, in FY24 an additional 2.02 acres of mitigation credits were purchased at Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) for emergency impacts.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					1.01	
5-05-008	Ocean View 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3295213 (ATF SCR PRJ 1094226 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00071) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0049) (authorization received on 1/15/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47759)	1/24/24 to 1/31/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.82	Previously mitigated in 2022 & 2023 emergency at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). In FY24, an additional 1.64 acres of mitigation credits were purchased at Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) for emergency impacts.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.82	
5-05-103	Acacia Grove 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ-#1124619 in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	2/12/24 to 2/13/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.00	Mitigation not required, as described in section 2.21 below.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.00	
5-05-205	Castana 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/28/24 to 4/3/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.00	Mitigation not required, as described in section 2.22 below.

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.00	
5-05-603	Jamacha 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	2/9/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-11-003	Parkside 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	4/9/24 to 4/16/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
5-22-023	Grove 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/6/24 to 3/9/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.20	Request to purchase 0.40 acre mitigation at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) submitted. Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending determination by PUD.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.20	

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
5-22-008 5-22-010	Cedar 1 & 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 5 (ATF SCR in submittal process) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (SCR in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	3/6/24 to 3/16/24	Cedar 1 USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	0.193	Previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site. In FY24, an additional 0.718 acre of mitigation is allocated at the Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site.
				Cedar 2 USACE/RWQCB/CDFW CCC/City	N/A	Cedar 2 was previously mitigated in 2015 & 2016 at Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.193	
5-22-016	Cerissa 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	1/31/24 to 2/2/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	0.07	Request to purchase 0.26 acre mitigation at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) submitted. Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending determination by PUD.
				CDFW/City	0.06	
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.13	
6-02-118	Tocayo 2	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	1/30/24 to 3/19/24	CCC/City	0.03	Allocated 0.11 acre of mitigation at Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					0.03	

Facility Number	Facility Segment Name	Authorizations	Maintenance Start and End Date	Jurisdiction ¹	Impact (acres) ²	Mitigation ³
6-03-147	Smythe 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3304128 (ATF SCR PRJ #1123823, in review) USACE – 404 RGP 63 Verification # (SPL-2024-00115) RWQCB- 401 RGP 63 (R9-2024-0054) (authorization received on 3/21/2024) CDFW- 1602 (Emergency Notification, EPIMS-SDO-47897)	1/31/24 to 4/12/24	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /City	N/A	No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	
6-01-100	Smuggler's Gulch 1	City- Emergency SDP No. 3300910 PRJ 1117784 and (ATF SCR PRJ #1111938 in review) CCC – CDP 6-20-0356 (ATF SCR approved 9/2/2022) USACE – 404 RGP 102 (SPL-2009-00719-RRS) and prior approvals cover activity RWQCB – 401 WQC (R9-2016-0228-0115) and prior approvals cover activity CDFW – SAA No. (1600-2019-0226-R5) and prior approvals cover activity	3/12/24 - ongoing	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW /CCC/City	N/A	Maintenance performed by County of San Diego. No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance.
Total Jurisdictional Impacts					N/A	

Routine Maintenance Projects

Routine maintenance and associated activities within the Pomerado 1 concrete channel, the Titus 1 earthen channel and Rolando 2 earthen channel segments were required to reduce flood risk to adjacent properties and infrastructure and to ensure the long-term reliability of City infrastructure. Routine maintenance authorized through demonstration of conformance with the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP) Environmental Impact Report (Project No. 619992; SCH No. 2017071022) and its applicable permits, listed in Table 1, above.

BMPs were implemented in accordance with each project's Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP).

Photographs showing conditions before and after maintenance in FY 2024 are included in Appendix C. The projects were monitored by qualified staff and activities were compliant with approved permits and authorizations; no remedial actions were required.

2.1 Pomerado 1 (1-04-030) - Routine Channel Maintenance

The Pomerado 1 facility segment is a concrete channel located north and west of the intersection of Pomerado Road and Rancho Bernardo Road. The segment occurs both in a residential area west of Bernardo Oaks Drive and south of Frontera Road as well as along Rancho Bernardo Road between Bernardo Oaks Drive and Pomerado Road. The project is within the Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Area. The facility is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

Routine maintenance activities were initiated on November 7, 2023 and completed on November 29, 2023. The purpose of the proposed routine maintenance and associated activities at this facility segment was to reduce flood risk to adjacent properties and infrastructure. Maintenance was performed to restore the as-built flood conveyance capacity through the removal of accumulated sediment and vegetation within the facility segment using mechanized equipment (e.g., crane, Bobcat, excavator, dump trucks, and fuel-powered hand tools) to ensure the long-term reliability of the City's stormwater infrastructure flood control function.

Results of the maintenance impacts totaled 1.23 acres (approximately 232 linear feet). A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 2 below. Approximately 1,170 cubic yards (1,764.96 tons) of sediment and vegetation was removed. Minor concrete repair occurred in Pomerado 1 which resulted in impacts to approximately 50 square feet of concrete paneling and the installation of 14 cubic yards of concrete. All concrete repair occurred within the previously approved maintenance impact footprint to meet as-built conditions.

ICF/Rocks biologists conducted biological monitoring to ensure compliance throughout the duration of maintenance activities, during which the biologist and City crews coordinated to address any monitor recommendations to ensure project compliance with project permit authorizations for the routine maintenance activities. Additionally, noise monitoring was conducted at the edge of residentially zoned properties and the levels did not exceed the City's acceptable 12-hour 75 dBA threshold. As such, no additional noise attenuation measures were required.

All activities occurred outside of the avian breeding season. However, as a precaution, pre-maintenance clearance surveys of the project area were conducted during full-time monitoring visits between November 7 and November 13, 2023 to ensure that no early nesting occurred within the project area.

Unavoidable impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Pomerado 1 facility segment, including freshwater marsh (concrete-lined) and disturbed wetland (concrete-lined), did occur as a result of maintenance activities. Impacts on sensitive vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Pomerado 1 facility have been mitigated through the purchase of 0.48 acres credits at the San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank for wetland areas. Impacts to Tier IV vegetation communities (i.e. disturbed land, eucalyptus woodland, and ornamental plantings) and unvegetated concrete-lined channels would not require mitigation.

Table 2: Pomerado 1 Routine Channel Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete-lined channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.99
Disturbed wetland (Concrete lined) (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.18
Freshwater Marsh (Concrete lined)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.06
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	IV	0.14
Urban/Developed((12000)	IV	0.65
Total		2.02

2.2 Titus 1 (5-02-162) - Routine Channel Maintenance

The project site is located within the flood control channel section northeast of the intersection of Titus Street and Pringle Street, occurring adjacent to a residential area near Interstate 5 in the Mission Hills neighborhood. The Titus 1 maintenance area extends northeast from residential developments along Titus Street. The facility is within the Uptown Community Planning Area and the City's Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary but outside of the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

Routine maintenance activities were initiated and completed within the Titus 1 facility, an earthen channel segment, on March 12, 2024. While this was the first round of maintenance conducted at the Titus 1 facility segment under the existing SCR approvals, the work was also conducted in response to an intense storm and associated severe flooding that occurred on January 22, 2024 and from a secondary storm event, which occurred from February 1st through 9th that brought up to 1.04 inches of precipitation. Emergency repairs were determined necessary in numerous stormwater facilities throughout the City, including Titus 1, where the emergency situation further exacerbated the need to conduct the approved routine maintenance activities.

Temporary flow diversion Best Management Practice (BMPs), as noted in the approved Maintenance Plans, were not required as the channel was void of drainage flows. The City crew and Urban Corps began with vegetation trimming and removal utilizing chainsaws and weed-whackers to remove two trees and clear non-native vegetation. Crews then utilized an excavator to remove accumulated material and load it into dump trucks. Heavy equipment frequently traversed in and out of the maintenance area during work via the designated access route

A Dudek biologist conducted full-time biological monitoring during routine maintenance work at the Titus 1 project, during which the biologist and City crews coordinated to address any monitor recommendations to ensure project compliance with project permit authorizations for the routine maintenance activities.

Maintenance activities occurred during the avian breeding season (January 15th to September 15th). As such, a pre-construction nesting bird survey was completed for general avian species, raptors, and coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) given the maintenance work was located within and adjacent to the MHPA. The survey was negative. Additionally, noise monitoring was conducted at the edge of residentially zoned properties and the levels did not exceed the City's acceptable 12-hour 75 dBA threshold. As such, no additional noise attenuation measures were required.

Routine maintenance work resulted in impacts to both vegetated and unvegetated portions of the maintenance areas totaling 0.03 acre (53 linear feet) within the Titus 1 facility. Table 3 provides details regarding impacts to specific vegetation communities and land covers. Approximately 19.45 cubic yards (29.18 tons) of sediment and vegetation were removed from the maintenance areas.

Unavoidable impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Titus 1 facility segment, including natural flood channel and developed concrete-lined channel (disturbed wetland [unvegetated concrete-lined]), did occur as a result of maintenance activities. This facility segment was previously permitted through emergency maintenance conducted in 2015/2016; however, compensatory mitigation for impacts to natural flood channel was not previously provided based on mapping collected prior to the emergency work. Therefore, mitigation credits were required. The 0.02 acre of compensatory mitigation required was allocated in FY 2023 at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) to achieve a no-net loss of wetland area (i.e., at least 1:1 rehabilitation), in accordance with the requirements in the MWMP and San Diego Biological Guidelines (SDBG) (City of San Diego 2018). Impacts to Tier IV vegetation communities (i.e. disturbed land, eucalyptus woodland, and ornamental plantings) and unvegetated concrete-lined channels would not require mitigation.

Table 3: Titus 1 Routine Channel Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete- lined channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
Disturbed Land (11300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
	CDFW	0.01
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	CDFW	0.01
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	IV	<0.01
Disturbed Land (11300)	IV	0.04
Urban/Developed (12000)	IV	0.02
Total		0.09

2.3 Rolando 2 (5-04-048) - Routine Channel Maintenance

The project site is located within the flood control channel sections south of the shopping center on University Ave in between Rolando Boulevard and Aragon Drive (Figure 1). The Rolando 2 maintenance area extends east from Rolando Boulevard and terminates approximately 350 feet west of Aragon Drive (Figure 2). A shopping center is located to the north of the maintenance area and residences are located to the south. The project is within the Mid-City Eastern Area Community Planning Area. The facility is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

Routine maintenance activities were initiated within the Rolando 2 facility segment on January 7, 2024 and concluded by February 19, 2024, in conformance with the Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan (MWMP) Environmental Impact Report (Project No. 616992; SCH No. 2017071022) and its applicable permits. Due to an emergency situation that occurred after flooding in the City in January 2024, work on the project area paused on January 19, 2024 and did not resume until February 15, 2024. All remaining vegetation and sediment was removed from the channel by February 19, 2024; all diversion and other Best Management Practice (BMP) materials were removed from the Rolando 2 channel segment following completion of work.

Dudek biologists conducted biological monitoring to ensure compliance throughout the duration of maintenance activities, during which the biologist and City crews coordinated to address any monitor recommendations to ensure project compliance with project permit authorizations for the routine maintenance activities. Because maintenance activities occurred during the avian breeding season (January 15th to September 15th), necessary pre-construction nesting bird surveys were completed for general avian species and raptors. All surveys were negative.

Routine maintenance work resulted in impacts to both vegetated and unvegetated portions of the maintenance areas totaling 0.616-acre (2,379 linear feet) within Rolando 2. Table 3 provides details regarding impacts to specific vegetation communities and land covers. Approximately 473 tons of sediment and vegetation were removed from the maintenance areas.

Unavoidable impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Rolando 2 facility segment, including riparian scrub [southern willow scrub] and natural flood channel, did occur as a result of maintenance activities. Impacts to sensitive vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in Rolando 2 were previously permitted and mitigated through credits assigned in the Wetland Mitigation Plan for 2015/2016 Emergency Channel Maintenance and the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). These mitigation sites have been fully installed and are currently in the 3-year and long-term management phases, respectively (Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project received final agency sign-off). Since actual impacts to sensitive vegetation communities occurred within the same footprint as previous emergency maintenance impacts for which one-time mitigation was already provided and that mitigation is functional and in good standing, or no additional mitigation was required. Impacts to Tier IV vegetation communities (i.e. disturbed land, eucalyptus woodland, and ornamental plantings) and unvegetated concrete-lined channels would not require mitigation.

Table 4: Rolando 2 Routine Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed Concrete-lined channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.002
	CDFW	0.02
Disturbed Land (11300)	CDFW	0.27
Eucalyptus Woodland (79100)	CDFW	0.01
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.004
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	CDFW	0.06
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (Disturbed) (63320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.25
Disturbed Land (11300)	IV	0.02
Urban/Developed (12000)	IV	0.29
		0.926

Emergency Channel Projects

On January 22, 2024 an unprecedented rain event that caused severe flooding occurred in San Diego. Site evaluations of the facility segments were conducted by City engineers starting on January 24, 2024 to assess the levels of sediment, vegetation, and debris within the channels as a result of the intense storm and associated severe flooding that occurred. Due to impending conditions and precipitation forecast to provide upwards of 1.04 inches of rain beginning the morning of February 1, 2024, emergency actions were taken to clear deposited sediment, debris, and vegetation of several channels to alleviate the threat of further flooding to adjacent properties and infrastructure.

On January 25, 2024 emergency actions were taken to alleviate the threat to life and property. Due to the sudden nature of the emergency conditions, work was initiated on January 26, 2024. Additionally, the secondary storm event, which occurred from February 1st through 9th, brought up to an additional 1.04 inches of precipitation, further exacerbating the conditions (USDA NRCS 2024). In addition to the clearing of sediment, debris, and vegetation, emergency repairs were determined necessary in numerous stormwater facilities throughout the City and such repairs were initiated as soon as possible between approximately January 30, 2024 and May 31, 2024.

While emergency maintenance work was within the avian nesting season (January 15th - September 15th), biological monitoring occurred throughout the maintenance work and no nesting avian species were detected during emergency maintenance activities.

Photographs showing conditions before and after maintenance in FY 2024 are included in Appendix C. The project was monitored by qualified staff and activities were compliant with approved permits and authorizations; no remedial actions were required.

2.4 Industrial 1 & 2 (2-01-120 & 2-01-122) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located west of Interstate 5, south of the intersection of Sorrento Valley Road and Carmel Mountain Drive, and east and west of Sorrento Valley Road. Industrial 1 and Industrial 2 are located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ) and adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary.

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Industrial 1 and 2 channels. The Industrial 1 channel is earthen-bottomed while the Industrial 2 channel is concrete-lined throughout their respective emergency maintenance areas. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed vegetation, sediment, and debris from the channels using excavators and dump trucks staged outside of the channel (i.e., "pure excavation" methods resulting in no regulated discharge of fill or dredge material as defined under the federal Clean Water Act). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 67.5 cubic yards (102 tons) of accumulated vegetation, sediment, and debris from approximately 102 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Industrial 1. Furthermore, the project removed approximately 292.5 cubic yards (439 tons) of accumulated vegetation, sediment, and debris from approximately 101 linear feet of the concrete-lined segment of Industrial 2.

The emergency work at Industrial 1 & 2 was initiated on January 31, 2024, and completed on February 1, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

A portion of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in Industrial 1 were previously impacted under recent permits. The Coastal Development Permit identified mitigation requirements for a portion of the 2024 emergency impact area. That mitigation requirement is being fulfilled at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation site. Mitigation for additional impacts that occurred during the FY24 Emergency maintenance is allocated at the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement site.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Industrial 2 facility segments were previously permitted as part of emergency maintenance activities that occurred in October 2021 and one-time mitigation was provided at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement sites.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Industrial 1 & 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>Industrial 1</i>		
Developed Concrete-lined Channel	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.002
Freshwater Marsh (Concrete-lined) (52400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.008
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.061
Subtotal		0.071
<i>Industrial 2</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Subtotal		N/A
Total		0.071

2.5 Tripp 1 (2-01-130) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located west of Interstate 5, east of Sorrento Valley Road, approximately 200 feet south of Tripp Court. Tripp 1 is located approximately 600 feet northeast of the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary. Additionally, Tripp 1 is located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The Tripp 1 emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, debris, etc.) to restore the conveyance capacity of the channel, which is concrete-bottomed with concrete-lined banks throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, vegetation, and

debris from the channel using skid steers, an excavator, tree-trimming power tools, and dump trucks staged above the banks of Tripp 1. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 1,533 cubic yards (2,039 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 1,457 linear feet of the concrete-lined Tripp 1 facility.

The emergency work at Tripp 1 was initiated on March 5, 2024, and completed on March 8, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Portions of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Tripp 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of emergency (2010) and routine (2022) maintenance activities. Mitigation was provided at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement mitigation projects. The upstream portion of Tripp 1 did not require emergency maintenance in 2010 and was not included in routine maintenance in 2022. Impacts resulting from FY 2024 emergency maintenance activities do not require mitigation.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Tripp 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed Concrete-lined Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.10
	CDFW/CCC/City	0.18
Disturbed Wetland (concrete-lined) (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.11
	CDFW/CCC/City	0.05
Freshwater Marsh (concrete-lined) (52400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (6300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
	CDFW/CCC/City	0.02
Total		0.35

2.6 Roselle 2 (2-03-000) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located west of Interstate 805, northeast of Roselle Street and southwest of Sorrento Valley Road approximately 0.1 miles northwest of Tansy Street. Roselle 2 is located approximately 600 feet northeast of the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary. Additionally, Roselle 2 is located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, debris, etc.) to restore the conveyance capacity of the channel. The Roselle 2 channel is concrete-bottomed with concrete-lined banks throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, vegetation, and debris from the channel using skid steers, an excavator, a front loader, tree-trimming power tools, and dump trucks staged above the banks of Roselle 2. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 6,776 cubic yards (9,012 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 2,323 linear feet of the concrete-lined segment of Roselle 2. Impacts resulting from the FY 2024 emergency maintenance activities do not require mitigation.

Emergency work at Roselle 2 was initiated on March 14, 2024, and completed on March 26, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities, to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Emergency work occurred within segments of the Roselle 2 channel that have been previously included in emergency and routine maintenance project (i.e., vegetation impacts have been previously permitted and mitigated at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement mitigation projects.

Table 7: Roselle 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.7 Flintkote 1 (2-03-100) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The Flintkote 1 channel emergency project at is located between Flintkote Avenue and Roselle Street, and between Roselle Street and Peñasquitos Creek in northwestern San Diego. Flintkote 1 is located adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary which covers Peñasquitos Creek, and is also located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Flintkote 1 channel. The channel is concrete-lined throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment from the Flintkote 1 channel using an excavator and skid steer. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

Approximately 53 cubic yards (80 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris was removed from approximately 1000 linear feet of the emergency project of the Flintkote 1 channel.

The emergency work at Flintkote 1 was initiated and completed on March 5, 2024. A qualified monitoring biologist conducted a spot check monitoring visit during emergency maintenance activities, to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

The emergency maintenance work area is a channelized, concrete-lined stormwater conveyance channel that does not support vegetation, and work occurred entirely within segments of the Flintkote 1 channel that have been previously included in routine maintenance projects (i.e. vegetation impacts have been previously permitted and mitigated at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase 1 Wetland Mitigation and Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement mitigation projects).

Table 8: Flintkote 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.8 Dunhill 1 (2-03-150) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Dunhill 1 channel is located on the south side of Dunhill Street, between Roselle Street and Tower Road in northwestern San Diego. Dunhill 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary but is located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the channel (Figure 2). The Dunhill 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment from the channel using an excavator and skid steer staged above the banks of the facility (i.e., pure excavation). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 21 cubic yards (32 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 448 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Dunhill 1.

The emergency work at Dunhill 1 was started and completed on March 13, 2024. A qualified monitoring biologist conducted a spot check monitoring visit during emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

The emergency maintenance work area is an earthen stormwater conveyance channel supporting primarily disturbed wetland vegetation and disturbed freshwater marsh vegetation. Impacts to resources in the Dunhill 1 channel were limited to the area previously authorized, and mitigation was allocated (under a Coastal Development Permit), based on planned maintenance. Mitigation for these impacts was allocated at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation site. No differences have occurred in the acreages of the wetland habitat within the previously authorized area since the 2021 CDP.

Table 9: Dunhill 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Disturbed Wetland (64000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.08
Disturbed Freshwater Marsh (524000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.03
Total		0.11

2.9 Garnet 2 & Damon 1 (3-02-003 & 3-02-005) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located within Rose Creek, west of Interstate 5 and on either side of Mission Bay Drive. The Damon 1 facility is on the east side of Mission Bay Drive, stretching from Damon Avenue and Bluffside; Garnet 2 is on the west side of Mission Bay Drive, extending west and south as Rose Creek flows towards Mission Bay beneath Garnet Avenue. Damon 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ); the Garnet 2 facility contains MHPA lands and sits adjacent but outside of the COZ.

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, debris, etc.) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Damon 1 and Garnet 2 facilities. The Damon 1 and Garnet 2 channels are completely concrete lined throughout their emergency maintenance areas. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, vegetation, and debris from the channel using excavators, bulldozers, bobcats, front-end loaders, and dump trucks staged both in the channels and above the banks of the Damon 1 and Garnet 2 facilities. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency work removed approximately 10,923 cubic yards (16,385 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 685 linear feet of the concrete-lined segment of Damon 1 and from approximately 379 linear feet of the concrete-lined portion of Garnet 2.

The emergency work at Garnet 2 & Damon 1 was initiated on March 29, 2024, and completed on May 19, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Prior to the emergency situation that occurred in January 2024, no routine or emergency maintenance has been conducted in the Damon 1 or Garnet 2 facility segments. Emergency maintenance in 2024 included removal of trash, sediment, and vegetation from these channels totaling approximately 1,064 linear feet. Since no impacts were previously permitted at these segments, no mitigation has been assigned to either facility. Impacts resulting from the FY 2024 emergency maintenance activities do not require mitigation.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 10 below.

Table 10: Garnet 2 & Damon 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>Garnet 2</i>		
Developed Concrete-lined Channel (62400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.26
Eucalyptus Woodland (Concrete-lined) (79100)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.03
Eucalyptus Woodland (Concrete-lined) (79100)	CDFW/City	<0.01
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Forest) (Concrete-lined) (63000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.63
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (Concrete-lined) (63000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (Concrete-lined) (63000)	CDFW/City	<0.01
Subtotal		0.95
<i>Damon 1</i>		
Developed Concrete-lined Channel (62400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.95
Disturbed Wetland (Concrete-lined)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.08
Disturbed Wetland (Arundo-dominated) (Concrete-lined) (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.06
Eucalyptus Woodland (Concrete-lined) (79100)	IV	0.04
Ornamental Planting (Concrete-lined) (11000)	IV	0.06
Disturbed Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (Concrete-lined) (61300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.31
Riparian Forest (Southern Riparian Forest) (Concrete-lined) (61300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.28
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (Concrete-lined) (6300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.09
Subtotal		1.87
Total		2.82

2.10 PB Olney 1 & MBHS 1 (3-02-101 & 3-02-103) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located west of Interstate 5, partially adjacent to Mission Bay High School to the east and Pacific Beach Drive to the south. PB-Olney 1 and MBHS 1 is located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ) and adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary.

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the PB-Olney 1 and MBHS 1 facilities. The PB-Olney 1 channel is concrete-lined; the MBHS 1 channel is earthen-bottomed. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed vegetation, sediment, and debris from the channels using excavators and a dump truck staged outside of the channel (i.e., “pure excavation” methods resulting in no regulated discharge of fill or dredge material as defined under the federal Clean Water Act). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 35 cubic yards (52 tons) of accumulated vegetation, sediment, and debris from approximately 922 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of PB-Olney and 1,072 linear feet in the MBHS 1 facility.

The emergency work at PB Olney 1 & MBHS 1 was initiated on March 11, 2024 and was completed by March 23, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the MBHS 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that most recently occurred in 2021 and one-time mitigation was provided at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement mitigation sites for all wetland, streambed, and other jurisdictional aquatic resources; the Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank was utilized for City-only required upland habitat. Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the PB Olney 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that most recently occurred in 2021 and one-time mitigation was provided at the El Cuervo del Sur Phase I Wetland Mitigation and the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement mitigation sites for all wetland, streambed, and other jurisdictional aquatic resources; the Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank was utilized for City-only required upland habitat. Emergency work occurred entirely within an area that was previously authorized and mitigated.

Table 11: PB Olney 1 & MBHS 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>PB Olney 1</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
<i>MBHS 1</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.11 Mission Gorge 2 (4-07-004) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located north of Interstate 8, approximately 250 feet south of Mission Gorge Place in Mission Valley, surrounding lands are dominated by developed commercial areas. Mission Gorge 2 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Mission Gorge 2 channel. The Mission Gorge 2 channel is concrete-lined bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed vegetation, sediment, and debris from the channel using excavators and dump trucks. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 470 cubic yards (670 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 522 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Mission Gorge 2.

The emergency work at Mission Gorge 2 was initiated on March 28, 2024, and completed on April 15, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Mission Gorge 2 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that occurred in 2023; one-time mitigation was provided at the City’s Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). The limits of the emergency maintenance work were confined to the previously permitted and mitigated areas within Mission Gorge 2.

Table 12: Mission Gorge 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.12 Cowles Mountain 1 & 2 (4-07-901 & 4-07-911) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located south of Navajo Road within the Murray Reservoir watershed, south and east of Cowles Mountain in eastern San Diego. The Cowles Mountain 1 & Cowles Mountain 2 facilities are not located within the City’s Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Cowles Mountain 1 and 2 facilities. Cowles Mountain 1 and 2 are concrete lined throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using a skid steer and other heavy vehicles to remove material from the facility; two excavators were in use, one in the channel and one outside the channel; crew with hand tools also assisted with this process in the channel. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location using dump trucks.

The emergency project removed approximately 58 cubic yards (87 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 697 linear feet of the concrete-lined Cowles Mountain 1 facility; approximately 3 cubic yards (4 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 2,891 linear feet of the concrete-lined Cowles Mountain 2 facility.

The emergency work at Cowles Mountain 1 & 2 was initiated on March 25, 2024 and was completed by March 29, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Cowles Mountain 1 has not been previously included in any emergency or routine maintenance project (i.e., vegetation impacts have not been previously permitted or mitigated). Impacts resulting from the Cowles Mountain 1 FY 2024 emergency maintenance activities do not require mitigation. Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Cowles Mountain 2 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that occurred in 2014 with one-time

mitigation provided at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) (facility was referred to as San Carlos Channel Map 54).

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 13 below.

Table 13: Cowles Mountain 1 & 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>Cowles Mountain 1</i>		
Developed concrete-lined Channel (62400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.1
Disturbed Wetland (concrete-lined) (65100)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Freshwater Marsh (concrete-lined) (disturbed) (52400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Riparian Scrub (concrete-lined) (63000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Ornamental Plantings (concrete-lined) (11000)	IV	0.02
Subtotal		0.15
<i>Cowles Mountain 2</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Subtotal		N/A
Total		0.15

2.13 Baja 1 (4-08-105) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located north of El Cajon Boulevard within Norfolk Canyon Creek, south of the intersection of Baja Drive and 54th Street. Baja 1 is adjacent to, but not located within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA); the Baja 1 facility is not within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Baja 1 channel. The Baja 1 channel is concrete lined throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using a skid steer and other heavy vehicles to remove material from the facility; two excavators were in use, one in the channel and one outside the channel; crew with hand tools also assisted with this process in the channel. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location using dump trucks.

The emergency project removed approximately 101 cubic yards (152 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 1,369 linear feet of the concrete-lined Baja 1 facility.

The emergency work at Baja 1 was initiated on March 22, 2024 and was completed by March 27, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Baja 1 facility segments were previously permitted as part of the routine maintenance activities that occurred in 2018 and 2019 and one-time mitigation was provided at the City's Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) and the Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank.

Table 14: Baja 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.14 Washington 1 (5-02-151) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located parallel with Washington Street, north of the intersection of Washington Street and San Diego Avenue. Washington 1 is not located within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Washington 1 channel). The Washington 1 channel has an earthen-bottom throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using a skid steer to remove material from the facility. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location using dump trucks.

The emergency project removed approximately 86 cubic yards (129 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 217 linear feet of the concrete-lined Washington 1 facility.

The emergency work at Washington 1 was initiated and completed on March 22, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of

maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Washington 1 facility segments were previously permitted as part of the emergency maintenance activities that occurred in 2015/16; one-time mitigation was provided through the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).

Table 15: Washington 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.15 National 1 (5-04-004) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located east of Interstate 5, within Chollas Creek from the area just south and north of the National Avenue street crossing/bridge. National 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the National 1 channel. The National 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using excavators, bulldozers, bobcats, front-end loaders, and dump trucks staged both in the channels and above the banks of National 1. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 141 cubic yards (211.20 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 209 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of National 1.

The emergency work at National 1 was initiated on January 27th, 2024, and completed on January 28, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the National 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that occurred between October 2021 and January 2022 and one-time mitigation was provided at the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and the City’s Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). The limits of the emergency maintenance work were confined to the previously permitted and mitigated areas within National 1.

Table 16: National 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.16 Home 1 & 2 (5-04-220 & 5-04-224) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located north of Interstate 94, within Auburn Creek, Home 1 is just northeast of the intersection of Home Avenue and Federal Boulevard, and Home 2 is southeast of the intersection of Home Avenue and Spillman Drive. Home 1 and Home 2 are not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The Home 1 and Home 2 emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment, debris, and vegetation) to restore the conveyance capacity of the channel. The Home 1 and Home 2 channel segments are earthen-bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, debris, and vegetation from the Home 1 channel using skid steers in the channel and hand tools (i.e., chain saws), and from the Home 2 channel using long reach excavator staged outside the channel on Spillman Drive. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The Home 1 emergency project removed approximately 63 cubic yards (94.50 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 58 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of the channel segment. The Home 2 emergency project removed approximately 30 cubic yards (45 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 0.5 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of channel segment.

The emergency work at Home 1 and Home 2 was initiated and completed on January 27, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Home 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of emergency maintenance activities that occurred in 2016 and one-time mitigation was provided as part of the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan Project. A small segment of natural flood channel and disturbed wetland (Arundo-dominated) was impacted outside of the previously permitted limits; however, the total emergency impacts are less than previously permitted and mitigated.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Home 2 facility segment were previously permitted as part of routine maintenance that occurred in November 2022 and one-time mitigation was provided at the City’s Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) and Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank. The limits of the emergency maintenance work were confined to the previously permitted and mitigated areas within Home 2. Furthermore, the emergency maintenance work within Home 2 was carried out through pure excavation methods (i.e., no discharge of dredge or fill material as defined by the Clean Water Act).

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities for Home 1 and Home 2 is included in Table 17 below.

Table 17: Home 1 & 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>Home 1</i>		
Disturbed Wetland (Arundo-dominated) (65100)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.04
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.01
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	CDFW/City	<0.01
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
Urban/Developed (12000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
Subtotal		0.06
<i>Home 2</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		0.06

2.17 Ontario 1 (5-04-237) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Ontario 1 channel is located on the northeast of the intersection of Ontario Avenue and Auburn Drive, continuing northeast to just south of the intersection of 50th Street and Wightman Street in San Diego. Ontario 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Ontario 1 channel. The Ontario 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using a

bobcat, excavator, skid-steer, and dump trucks staged both above the banks and in the channel/ditch bottom of Ontario 1. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 30 cubic yards (45 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 958 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Ontario 1.

The emergency work at Ontario 1 was initiated on January 30, 2024, and completed on March 4, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

The Ontario 1 channel has not been previously included in any emergency or routine maintenance project (i.e., vegetation impacts have not been previously permitted or mitigated). A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 19 below. Since no compensatory mitigation is proposed for unvegetated, invasive, and herbaceous vegetation on the basis that periodic maintenance has minimal effects on habitat function, including water quality and all impacts are on these habitat types, no mitigation is proposed for Ontario 1.

Table 18: Ontario 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete-lined Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
	CDFW/City	0.03
Disturbed Wetland (Arundo) (65100)	CDFW/City	0.01
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.06
	CDFW/City	<0.01
Disturbed Land (11300)	IV	0.10
Urban//Developed (12000)	IV	<0.01
Total		0.22

2.18 Wightman 2 (5-04-239) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located east of Interstate 15, within Auburn Creek from the area just north and east 50th Street and Wightman Street. Wightman 2 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Wightman 2 channel. The Wightman 2 channel is earthen bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews also removed approximately four willow (*Salix* sp.) trees during emergency maintenance activities. Sediment and debris were removed from the channel using a small excavator, hand tools, and dump trucks staged outside the channel. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 80 cubic yards (120 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 65 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Wightman 2.

The emergency work at Wightman 2 was initiated and completed on January 28, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Emergency work occurred within areas not previously included in any maintenance area. Impacts to jurisdictional vegetation and land covers compensatory mitigation has been requested at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending a determination by the Public Utilities Department (PUD).

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 19 below.

Table 19: Wightman 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	CDFW/City	0.02
Total		0.04

2.19 Alpha 1 (5-05-006) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

Emergency maintenance was required within the Alpha 1 channel segment in both 2023 and 2024. Alpha 1 was permitted and planned for routine maintenance in 2024, however emergency channel cleanings were required and occurred prior to planned routine maintenance. Because the City After-the-Fact SCR for the 2023 Alpha emergency was not completed prior to the 2024 emergency work, the 2024 channel emergency was combined under the same SCR number.

The Alpha 1 emergency project is located within South Chollas Creek, east of Interstate 5 from just northwest of the intersection of Birch Street and Beta Street to the National Avenue street crossing/bridge east of the intersection of South 41st Street and National Avenue. Alpha 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, debris, etc.) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Alpha 1 channel. The Alpha 1 channel is earthen-bottomed with earthen and concrete-lined banks throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, vegetation, and debris from the channel using excavators, bulldozers, bobcats, front-end loaders, and dump trucks staged both in the channels and above the banks of Alpha 1. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 5,004 cubic yards (7,506 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 5,032 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Alpha 1.

The emergency work at Alpha 1 was initiated on January 26, 2024, and completed on January 31, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Emergency work partially occurred within the previously impacted and mitigated portions of the Alpha 1 channel, as well as lands not previously included in emergency and routine maintenance. Impacts to jurisdictional vegetation and land covers compensatory mitigation is provided at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 20 below.

Table 20: Alpha 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete-lined Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
	CDFW/City	0.07
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	1.08
	CDFW/City	0.13
Disturbed Wetland (Arundo-dominated) (65100)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.06
	CDFW/City	0.13
Disturbed Wetland (Palm-dominated) (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.02
Freshwater Marsh (52400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.39
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.55
	CDFW/City	<0.01
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.94
	CDFW/City	0.37
Riparian Scrub (6300)	CDFW/City	0.02
Riparian Scrub (Southern Willow Scrub) (6300)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.05
	CDFW/City	0.02
Disturbed Land (11300)	CDFW/City	0.11
Eucalyptus Woodland (79100)	CDFW	0.01
Ornamental Plantings (11000)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	<0.01
Total		3.37

2.20 Ocean View 1 (5-05-008) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project was located within South Chollas Creek, east of Interstate 5 from just northeast from just north of the National Avenue street crossing/bridge to south of the Ocean View Boulevard street crossing just southwest of the intersection of South 42nd Street and Ocean View Boulevard (Figure 2 - Maintenance Impacts). Ocean View 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The emergency project removed approximately 1,712 cubic yards (2,568 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 1,765 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Ocean View 1.

The emergency work at Ocean View 1 was initiated on January 28, 2024 and completed on January 31, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Emergency work partially occurred within areas impacted during FY23 emergency maintenance, as well as lands not previously included in any maintenance area. Table 22 provides details regarding emergency impacts to specific vegetation communities and land covers, as well as potential jurisdictional waters, that were not previously permitted. Impacts to jurisdictional vegetation and land covers compensatory mitigation is provided at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River).

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 21 below.

Table 21: Ocean View 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete-lined Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.34
	CDFW/City	0.31
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.48
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.82
Total		1.64

2.21 Acacia Grove 2 (5-05-103) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Acacia Grove 2 channel is located on the north side of Acacia Grove Way, between S 36th Street and S 37th Street in southeastern San Diego. (Figure 2 – Maintenance Impacts). Acacia Grove 2 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Acacia Grove 2 channel. The Acacia Grove 2 channel has an earthen bottom throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, debris, and vegetation from the channel using skid steers in the channel and hand tools (i.e., chain saws). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 103 cubic yards (155 tons) of vegetation, and debris from approximately 33 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Acacia Grove 2.

The emergency work at Acacia Grove 2 was initiated on February 12, 2024 and completed by February 13, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

No portion of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Acacia Grove 2 facility segments were previously permitted. Based on the impacts that occurred (exclusive to invasive species), mitigation is not likely required for emergency maintenance activities at Acacia Grove 2.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 22 below.

Table 22: Acacia Grove 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.1
Total		0.1

2.22 Castana 1 (5-05-205) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project is located northeast of the intersection of Euclid Avenue and Imperial Avenue, within the Encanto Branch of South Chollas Creek in southeastern San Diego. The project is bounded by Groveland Drive to the north, Castana Street to the south, San Jacinto Drive to the east and Euclid Avenue to the west. Castana 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment, debris, and vegetation) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Castana 1 channel. The Castana 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, debris, and vegetation from the channel using skid steers in the channel and hand tools (i.e., chain saws). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 43 cubic yards (29 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 240 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Castana 1.

The emergency work at Castana 1 was initiated and completed on March 27, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

No portion of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Castana 1 facility segment was previously permitted. Based on the impacts that occurred (exclusive to disturbed wetland and natural flood channel), impacts resulting from FY 2024 emergency maintenance activities are not anticipated to require mitigation.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 23 below.

Table 23: Castana 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.015
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.015
Total		0.03

2.23 Jamacha 1 (5-05-603) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Jamacha 1 channel was located from near the intersection of Jamacha Road and 69th Street to west of the intersection of Jamacha Road and 68th Street. Jamacha 1 is not located within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment, debris, and vegetation) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Jamacha 1 channel. The Jamacha 1 channel has an earthen-bottom throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using a skid steer to remove material from the facility. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location using dump trucks.

The emergency project removed approximately 86 cubic yards (129 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 423 linear feet of the earthen Jamacha 1 facility.

The emergency work at Jamacha 1 was initiated on and completed on February 9, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Jamacha 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of emergency maintenance that occurred in 2015/16; one-time mitigation was provided through the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan and the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). The limits of the emergency maintenance work were confined to the previously permitted and mitigated areas within Jamacha 1.

Table 24: Jamacha 1 & 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.24 Parkside 1 (5-11-003) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Parkside 1 channel was located parallel to Parkside Avenue from the intersection of Garber Avenue and Parkside Avenue to northeast of the intersection of Dusk Drive and Parkside Avenue. Parkside 1 is not located within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) or the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment, debris, and vegetation) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Parkside 1 channel. The Parkside 1 channel has a concrete-lined bottom throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, debris, and vegetation from the channel using an excavator and skid steer to remove material from the facility. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location using dump trucks.

The emergency project removed approximately 145.73 cubic yards (218.60 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 1,187 linear feet of the concrete-lined Parkside 1 facility.

The emergency work at Parkside 1 was initiated on April 15, 2024 and completed on April 16, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Parkside 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of emergency maintenance that occurred in 2015/16; one-time mitigation was provided through the 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan. The limits of the emergency maintenance work were confined to the previously permitted and mitigated areas within Parkside 1.

Table 25: Parkside 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.25 Grove 1 (5-22-023) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Grove 1 channel was located on the north side of Grove Avenue, between the 27th Street and 25th Street, in southern San Diego. Grove 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The Grove 1 emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the channel. The Grove 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout most of the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using an excavator and dump trucks staged above the banks of the channel (i.e., “pure excavation” methods resulting in no regulated discharge of fill or dredge material as defined under the federal Clean Water Act). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 463 cubic yards (694 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 1,454 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Grove 1.

The emergency work at Grove 1 started on March 6, 2024, and lasted until March 9, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Emergency work occurred within segments of the Grove 1 channel that have not been previously included in emergency and routine maintenance projects (i.e., vegetation impacts have not been previously permitted or mitigated under the City SDP, USACE, RWQCB, or CDFW permits). A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 26 below. As noted above, the emergency maintenance work within Grove 1 was carried out through pure excavation methods (i.e., no discharge of dredge or fill material as defined by the Clean Water Act). Based on the impacts that occurred, 0.40 acre of mitigation credit was requested at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending a determination by the PUD.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 26 below.

Table 26: Grove 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.43
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.20
Total		0.63

2.26 Cedar 1 & 2 (5-22-008 & 5-22-010) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency projects at the Cedar 1 & 2 channels were located just north of the intersection of Palm Avenue and 18th street, occurring between a mix of residential and commercial areas in southern San Diego.. Cedar 1 & 2 are not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary but are located within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

The emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Cedar 1 & 2 channels. The Cedar 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout most of the emergency maintenance area; the Cedar 2 channel is concrete-lined. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using an excavator and dump trucks staged above the banks of downstream portion of Cedar 1 and various equipment operating within the facility in the downstream portion of Cedar 1 and throughout Cedar 2 to push material to areas where it could be removed. Access was taken from a disturbed lot immediately north of the upstream end of Cedar 1. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 338 cubic yards (506 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 580 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Cedar 1. Approximately 37 cubic yards (56 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 550 linear feet were removed from the earthen bottom segment of Cedar 2.

The emergency work at Cedar 1 & 2 was initiated on March 4, 2024, and completed on March 11, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Cedar 1 facility segment was partially previously permitted by the 2015/16 emergencies at the Hollister Quarry Mitigation site. The remainder of the segment (approximately 515 linear feet) has not been previously permitted or mitigated. Mitigation for additional impacts that occurred at Cedar 1 during FY24 emergency maintenance will be provided at the Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 27 below.

Table 27: Cedar 1 & 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
<i>Cedar 1</i>		
Disturbed Wetland (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.166
Natural Flood Channel (64200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.027
Subtotal		0.193
<i>Cedar 2</i>		
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.27 Cerissa 1 (5-22-016) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Cerissa 1 channel was located on the north side of Coronado Avenue, between the South Bay Swap Meet facility and Mendoza Elementary School, in southern San Diego. Cerissa 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Cerissa 1 channel (Figure 2). The Cerissa 1 channel is earthen-bottomed throughout most of the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using an excavator and dump trucks staged above the banks of Cerissa 1 (i.e., “pure excavation” methods resulting in no regulated discharge of fill or dredge material as defined under the federal Clean Water Act). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 460 cubic yards (690 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 98 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Cerissa 1.

The emergency work at Cerissa 1 was initiated and completed on January 31, 2024. Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

No portion of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Cerissa 1 facility segment was previously permitted. Based on the impacts that occurred, 0.26 acre of

mitigation credit was requested at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River). Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending a determination by the PUD.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 28 below.

Table 28: Cerissa 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	0.07
	CDFW/City	0.06
Total		0.13

2.28 Tocayo 2 (6-02-118) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Tocayo 2 channel was located west of Interstate 5 from just southwest of the intersection of Oro Vista Road and Tocayo Avenue to just southeast of Hollister Street and Tocayo Avenue. Tocayo 2 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary; however, is within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., vegetation, sediment, debris, etc.) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Tocayo 2 channel. The Tocayo 2 channel is concrete-bottomed with concrete-lined banks throughout the emergency maintenance area. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment, vegetation, and debris from the channel using an excavator, bulldozer, skid steer, bobcat, front-end loader, and dump trucks staged both in the channels and above the banks of Tocayo 2. All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 29 cubic yards (43.5 tons) of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris from approximately 2,479 linear feet of the concrete-bottomed segment of Tocayo 2.

The emergency work at Tocayo 2 was initiated and completed on March 19, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

No portion of the impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Cerissa 1 facility segment was previously permitted. Based on the impacts that occurred, 0.11 acre of mitigation credit is allocated at the Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation site.

A detailed breakdown of impacts to individual vegetation communities is included in Table 29 below.

Table 29: Tocayo 2 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
Developed concrete-lined Channel (62400)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.41
	CDFW/CCC/City	0.85
Disturbed Wetland (concrete-lined) (11200)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.02
Riparian Forest (Southern Willow Forest; Concrete -lined) (61320)	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	0.01
	CDFW/CCC/City	0.01
Ornamental Planting (Concrete-lined Channel) (11000)	IV	0.04
	IV	0.05
Total		0.94

2.29 Smythe 1 (6-03-147) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

The emergency project at the Smythe 1 channel was located south of Interstate 905, just north of Shooting Star Drive, and located between Smythe Avenue and Del Sur Boulevard. Smythe 1 is not located within or adjacent to the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) boundary nor within the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ).

This emergency project removed material (i.e., sediment and debris) to restore the conveyance capacity of the Smythe 1 channel. The Smythe 1 channel is earthen bottomed throughout the emergency maintenance area, with various concrete-lined flow structures located across the facility. City of San Diego and contractor crews removed sediment and debris from the channel using excavators and dump trucks staged above the banks of Smythe 1 (i.e., “pure excavation” methods resulting in no regulated discharge of fill or dredge material as defined under the federal Clean Water Act). All material was hauled to an approved disposal location.

The emergency project removed approximately 603 cubic yards (904 tons) of accumulated sediment and debris from approximately 1,356 linear feet of the earthen bottom segment of Smythe 1.

The emergency work at Smythe 1 was completed on April 12, 2024 and represented the minimum impacts necessary to alleviate the threat to life and property due to the unexpected flood risk.

Qualified monitoring biologists were on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area.

Impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation communities and jurisdictional aquatic resources in the Smythe 1 facility segment were previously permitted as part of the routine maintenance activities that occurred in

2016 and one-time mitigation was provided at the Smythe-Bandola Mitigation site and the Marron Valley Cornerstone Conservation Lands Bank.

Table 30: Smythe 1 Emergency Maintenance Impacts

MWMP Mapping Vegetation Community (Holland/ Oberbauer Code)	Jurisdiction or SDBG Tier	Maintenance Impacts (acres)
No impacts occurred due to repeat maintenance	N/A	N/A
Total		N/A

2.30 Smuggler’s Gulch 1 (6-01-100) - Emergency Channel Maintenance

Emergency removal of accumulated sediment, vegetation, and debris was initiated by the County of San Diego (County) for Smuggler’s Gulch 1 (6-01-100) in order to provide public safety and protection of property. Smuggler’s Gulch 1 is an earthen channel in the Tijuana River watershed and is located approximately 1,500 feet north of Monument Road which conveys flows downstream within the Smuggler’s Gulch channel that leads towards the Pilot Channel. The facility is located entirely within the City’s Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) and the Coastal Overlay Zone (COZ) in the Tijuana River Valley Community Plan. The County applied for the emergency Site Development Permit on June 7, 2024.

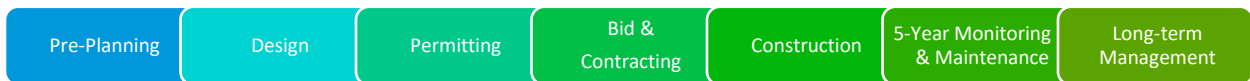
The County provided monitoring biologists on-site conducting full-time and spot check monitoring visits throughout the duration of emergency maintenance activities to ensure that work was limited to the minimum necessary to alleviate emergency conditions. The monitoring biologist present at the start of maintenance was able to confirm and update, as necessary, the previously mapped vegetation communities and land cover types within the emergency impact area. The biologist also monitored for any nesting bird species as this was in the nesting season.

As part of the on-going emergency maintenance, the City of San Diego will repair the berm breach that occurred on the western side of the channel which allowed water, debris and sediment to flow westerly across the neighboring property. Work for the breach repair will be conducted during Fiscal Year 25.

3.0 Mitigation Projects

In accordance with the MWMP regulatory permits, one-time mitigation is required for significant biological impacts resulting from implementation of the MWMP. Table 32 lists the status of mitigation sites that mitigate for impacts from FY 2024 MWMP channel maintenance activities. To help define a site’s status, SWD has divided the mitigation process into seven phases (Diagram 1). These phases may overlap one another, or a project can be in two or three phases at a given time, but in general are used to help describe a mitigation project’s status.

Diagram 1: Mitigation Process



Sections 3.1 – 3.4 provide additional detail regarding the mitigation sites related to FY 2024 channel maintenance activities. Figure 2 of Appendix A provides the geographic locations of these mitigation sites.

In addition to the mitigation sites already assigned to MWMP facilities, SWD is actively developing additional mitigation sites, including some identified as Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects and are therefore being developed by the Engineering & Capital Projects Department. These future potential mitigation sites may serve as permittee-responsible mitigation for specific prioritized MWMP facilities or advanced permittee responsible mitigation with credit acreage that may be assigned to MWMP facilities as they are prioritized.

Table 31: Mitigation Sites Associated with MWMP Facilities- FY 2024 Status

Mitigation Site	Reviewing Agencies ¹	Status	MWMP Facilities Mitigated/Allocated in FY24	MWMP Watershed/Watershed Management Area	Mitigation Site ²
FY 2024 MWMP Maintenance Related Mitigation Sites (See Sections 3.1 – 3.3)					
Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement	City/CCC/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Long-term Management	Flintkote-1, Industrial-1, Industrial-2, MBHS-1, PB-Olney-1, Roselle-2, Tripp-1	Los Peñasquitos / Peñasquitos	PRM ³
Tijuana River Emergency Channel Mitigation	City/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Long-term Management	Smugglers Gulch-1	Tijuana River/Tijuana River	PRM
Tijuana River Valley In-Channel Enhancement Area and the Out-of-Channel Enhancement Area	City/CCC/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Long-term Management	Smugglers Gulch-1	Tijuana River/Tijuana River	PRM
San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CITY	Long-Term Management	Pomerado-1, Pomerado-2	San Luis Rey	Mitigation Bank
Marron Valley Cornerstone Lands Conservation Bank	CITY	Long-Term Management	Baja-1, MBHS-1, PB-Olney-1, Smythe-1	Tijuana/Tijuana	Mitigation Bank
2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan	City/RWQCB	5-Year Monitoring & Maintenance Construction	Cottonwood-1, Cottonwood-2, Jamacha-1, National-1, National-2, Parkside-1, Rolando-1, Rolando-2, Washington-1	Pueblo and Sweetwater/ San Diego Bay	PRM

¹ City= City of San Diego; CCC = California Coastal Commission; USACE = US Army Corps of Engineers; RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

² PRM = Permittee Responsible Mitigation; APRM = Advanced Permittee Responsible Mitigation; Mitigation Bank = Agency Approved Mitigation Bank

³ An additional 0.66 acre of credit was approved by the USACE and the RWQCB

⁴ Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending determination by PUD

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Mitigation Site	Reviewing Agencies ¹	Status	MWMP Facilities Mitigated/Allocated in FY24	MWMP Watershed/Watershed Management Area	Mitigation Site ²
Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River)	City/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	5-Year Monitoring & Maintenance	Baja-1, Cottonwood-1, Cottonwood-2, Cowles Mountain-2, Jamacha-1, Mission Gorge-2, National-1, National-2, Parkside-1, Rolando-1, Rolando-2, Titus-1, Washington-1, Alpha-1, Oceanview-1, Titus-1, Grove-1 ⁴ , Cerissa-1 ⁴ , Wightman-2 ⁴	San Diego River/San Diego River	APRM
Smythe-Bandola Wetland Mitigation	City/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Construction	Smythe-1	Tijuana River/Tijuana River	PRM
El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation	City/CCC/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Bid & Contracting	Dunhill-1, Industrial-1	Los Peñasquitos / Peñasquitos	APRM
Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation	City/CCC/USACE/RWQCB/CDFW	Bid & Contracting	Cedar-1, Cedar-2, Tocayo-2	Otay/San Diego Bay	APRM

¹City= City of San Diego; CCC = California Coastal Commission; USACE = US Army Corps of Engineers; RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

²PRM = Permittee Responsible Mitigation; APRM = Advanced Permittee Responsible Mitigation; Mitigation Bank = Agency Approved Mitigation Bank

³ An additional 0.66 acre of credit was approved by the USACE and the RWQCB

⁴ Mitigation at this location is subject to credit availability, pending determination by PUD

3.1 Long-Term Management Mitigation Sites

3.1.1 Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Phase I Enhancement

The Los Peñasquitos Canyon Enhancement Project was designed to provide wetland enhancement mitigation for maintenance impacts to channels in the Los Peñasquitos Hydrologic Unit. The site is located within the upper reach of Lopez Canyon Creek to the east of Interstate 805. The mitigation work consisted of removing 8.5 acres of non-native species found within and adjacent to jurisdictional waters in Lopez Canyon, as well as supporting the well-being of native species of plants and animals in order to provide 6.64 acres of mitigation credit for channel maintenance impacts, as described in the *Final Los Peñasquitos Wetland Enhancement Plan* (URS Corporation, February, 2014a).

The project provides wetlands enhancement mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Industrial-1
- Industrial-2
- Tripp-1
- Roselle-2
- Flintkote-1
- PB-Olney-1
- MBHS-1

3.1.2 Tijuana River Emergency Channel Mitigation

The Tijuana River Emergency Channel Maintenance Mitigation project occurred in the early 1990's and resulted in construction of the Pilot Channel. Mitigation for the Tijuana River Emergency Channel Maintenance occurred in the mid-1990's and consisted of the creation of a 13.21-acre site, 9.43 acres of which was wetlands creation to compensate for the construction of the Pilot Channel. The mitigation project was completed in 2001 with sign-off from all applicable environmental regulatory agencies.

As part of the long-term monitoring, on June 5, 2024, Balk Biological assessed the site and verified the mitigation area was still meeting USFWS performance standards. Established vegetation remained consistent with what was observed during the 2013 through 2024 site evaluations, which consists of a mosaic of native riparian and wetland vegetation communities throughout the project area. While the site exhibits natural changes as dictated by field conditions, the location and composition of vegetation communities is substantially consistent with the project design, and the site remains suitable for supporting the continued utilization by least Bell's vireo.

The project provides compensatory wetland mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Smuggler's Gulch-1

3.1.3 Tijuana River Valley In-Channel Enhancement Area and the Out-of-Channel Enhancement Area

In addition to the creation of wetlands described above, wetland enhancement was completed as additional mitigation for the continued maintenance in the Pilot Channel and Smuggler’s Gulch. The wetland enhancement occurred in two locations per the regulatory permits, 4.31-acres Out-of-Channel and 4.31-acres In-Channel, and included removal of three target species - giant reed (*Arundo donax*), castor bean (*Ricinus communis*) and salt cedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*). The Out-of-Channel mitigation area is adjacent to the channel maintenance areas. The mitigation site is within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park on City and County of San Diego property.

The five-year maintenance and monitoring period for the project was completed in December 2018. At that time, the City obtained sign-off that the project had achieved its 5-year performance standards from the regulatory agencies (USACE, USFWS, RWQCB, CCC and City of San Diego Development Services Department) by May 2019. With the five-year maintenance and monitoring period for the project complete, the project is in its long-term maintenance and management phase.

Balk Biological performed site reviews to confirm continued compliance with performance standards outlined in the project permits on June 5, 2024. Established vegetation remains consistent with what was observed during the 2013 through 2024 site evaluations, which consists of a mosaic of native riparian, wetland, and transitional vegetation communities throughout the project area, meeting the success criteria to completely eliminate the three target invasive plants.

The project provides compensatory wetland mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Smuggler’s Gulch-1

3.1.4 San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank

The San Luis Rey Wetland Mitigation Bank (SLR) is adjacent to the San Luis Rey River located in the City of Oceanside, within the County of San Diego. The SLR Bank occurs within the San Luis Rey-Escondido 8-digit HUC. The SLR Bank is a 54-acre mitigation project and is currently managed by Wildlands, Inc. The mitigation bank was approved by regulatory agencies in 2014 and construction was finished in 2015. This project is in long-term management.

The San Luis Rey Mitigation Bank has previously provided compensatory wetland mitigation for the following FY24 Emergency maintenance facilities:

- Pomerado-1
- Pomerado-2

3.1.5 Marron Valley Cornerstone Lands Conservation Bank

The Marron Valley Cornerstone (MVC) Mitigation bank is managed by the City of San Diego’s Public Utilities Department and is located near the confluence of Tecate Creek and Cottonwood Creek. MVC is composed of 10,400 acres of City of San Diego owned land that was reserved for a four-phased mitigation

project. MVC was implemented along with the City's Multiple Species Conservation Program in 1997, with the goal of providing valuable adjoining habitat for native and endangered species protection. The mitigation bank has three tiers of upland mitigation credit available: Tier II (coastal sage scrub & coastal sage scrub/chaparral, Tier IIIA (mixed chaparral & chamise chaparral), and Tier IIIB (non-native grasslands).

The Marron Valley Cornerstone Mitigation Bank has previously provided upland credit for the following FY24 Emergency maintenance facilities:

- Baja-1
- Mission Bay High School (MBHS-1)
- Pacific Beach/Olney Drive (PB-Olney-1)
- Smythe-1

3.2 Construction and/or 5-Year Maintenance & Monitoring Mitigation Sites

3.2.1 Wetland Mitigation Plan for 2015/16 Emergency Channel Maintenance (2015/16 Emergency Channel Maintenance Plan)

This mitigation plan was developed primarily to address mitigation required by the RWQCB and City for multiple emergency maintenance projects in FY 2016. The mitigation is expected to serve as one-time mitigation for future routine maintenance under the MWMP at these facilities. The *Wetland Mitigation Plan for 2015/16 Emergency Channel Maintenance* (Dudek, May 2019) includes re-establishment, rehabilitation, and enhancement activities and consists of four (4) separate mitigation areas: Chollas Creek, South Chollas Creek, Washington, and Paradise Canyon. Enhancement (invasive plant removal and treatment) was initiated at Washington and a portion of the South Chollas Creek site in FY 2021. In addition to the enhancement and re-establishment mitigation implemented in 2021 and currently in year 2 of the 5-Year Maintenance & Monitoring period, rehabilitation is actively being installed at South Chollas and Paradise Canyon Open Space in accordance with the Mitigation Plan. Work is expected to continue in FY 2025 and annual monitoring reports will be prepared and submitted to the RWQCB in accordance with the final Wetland Mitigation Plan.

The project provides wetland mitigation for the following FY24 Emergency channel maintenance locations:

- Washington -1
- National-1
- National-2
- Rolando - 1
- Parkside-1
- Rolando-2
- Jamacha-1
- Cottonwood-1
- Cottonwood-2

3.2.2 Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River)

The City's Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) is an Advanced Permittee Responsible Mitigation (APRM) site located within the floodplain of the San Diego River between I-15 and I-805. The Project has been implemented and is managed by the City's Public Utilities Department (PUD) to generate

compensatory mitigation credit by providing rehabilitation and enhancement of approximately 57 acres within the San Diego River. Installation of the project ended on October 20, 2017, and the plant establishment period (PEP) was considered complete on February 23, 2018, thereby initiating the 5-year maintenance and monitoring period. The Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) Year Five Monitoring & Maintenance period (February 23, 2022 – February 23, 2023) concluded during FY24 and the PUD sent the Year 5 Annual Report to the regulatory agencies in May 2023. The Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) has received final sign-off, releasing 100% of the site's available credits.

From FY 2015 – FY 2022, the SWD has purchased approximately 14.7 acres of mitigation credits at this site through multiple purchases of credit which have been allocated for the following past MMP and MWMP routine and emergency projects:

- Murphy Canyon - *Routine Maintenance*
- Alvarado Creek - *Routine Maintenance*
- San Carlos Creek - *Emergency Maintenance*
- Reservoir Drive - *Emergency Maintenance*
- Auburn Creek - *Routine Maintenance*
- South Chollas Creek - *Routine Maintenance*
- Montezuma - *Routine Maintenance*
- 2015-2016 El Nino Season Emergency Projects (partially satisfied mitigation obligations):
 - Chollas Creek at Rolando - *Emergency Maintenance*
 - Chollas Creek at National - *Emergency Maintenance*
 - Cottonwood Creek - *Emergency Maintenance*
 - Jamacha Channel - *Emergency Maintenance*
 - Washington Channel - *Emergency Maintenance*
- Mission Gorge 3 & 4 - *Routine Maintenance*
- Camino Del Rio 1 - *Emergency Maintenance*
- Camino Del Arroyo 1 - *Emergency Maintenance*

In FY 2023, the SWD purchased an additional 1.385 acres of compensatory mitigation credits at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) for following routine and emergency projects:

- Alpha 1 & Oceanview 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*
- Alpha 1 – *Routine Maintenance*
- Titus 1 – *Routine Maintenance*

In FY 2024, the SWD purchased 3.66 acres of compensatory mitigation credits at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) for channel facilities where emergency maintenance was needed due to the unprecedented rain events in January 2024. For Alpha 1 and Oceanview 1, the maintenance work that occurred during the 2024 emergencies exceeded the areas where work was previously authorized. For these facilities, additional compensatory mitigation is being provided for the removal of riparian vegetation in areas that were not previously authorized.

- Alpha 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*
- Oceanview 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*

In FY24, the SWD has requested to purchase 0.74 acres of compensatory mitigation credits at the Stadium Wetland Mitigation Project (San Diego River) for the following channel facilities where emergency

maintenance was needed due to unprecedented rain events in January 2024. The approval for this mitigation purchase request is subject to credit availability, pending a determination by the PUD.

- Grove 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*
- Cerissa 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*
- Wightman 1 – *Emergency Maintenance*

Subsequent maintenance of any of these previously mitigated facilities would likely not require additional mitigation beyond what was previously required and provided since the MWMP allows for one-time mitigation for facilities that have been previously permitted and mitigated.

3.2.3 Smythe-Bandola Wetland Mitigation

The The Smythe Channel and Via De La Bandola Channel Mitigation Project is a Permittee Responsible Mitigation project for impacts resulting from the Smythe and Via de la Bandola channel emergency maintenance that occurred in 2015 and 2016. The Smythe Bandola Mitigation site is located along the Tijuana River, within the City of San Diego, immediately south of the Tijuana River Pilot Channel. In FY24 this project is in the construction phase. This mitigation project is a 5.6-acre mitigation site that involves removing invasive, non-native vegetation and planting native container plants and seed mixes.

The project provides compensatory wetland mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Smythe Channel

3.3 Bid & Contracting Mitigation Sites

3.3.1 El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Wetland Mitigation

The El Cuervo del Sur Phase II Mitigation (El Cuervo Phase II) site is located within the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve within the watershed for Los Peñasquitos Creek. The El Cuervo Phase II project is intended to establish 1.65 acres of wetland habitat (creation/establishment) within the COZ and the City's MHPA. In FY25, this project is in the bid & contracting phase and is anticipated to be implemented in Fall 2025. The proposed wetland establishment will consist of grading existing upland habitat to elevations capable of supporting wetland vegetation and hydrology; installing temporary above-grade irrigation, container plantings, and seed; and removing non-native vegetation to establish and support the native wetland vegetation. These efforts will improve the functions and services of the Phase II mitigation site.

The project provides compensatory wetland mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Industrial-1
- Dunhill-1

3.3.2 Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation

The Hollister Quarry Wetland Mitigation project was designed to provide mitigation for the past 2016 emergency at Nestor Creek (Cedar-1, Cedar-2, Tocayo-2, Valeta-1) as well as future maintenance and repair impacts that may occur in the Otay watershed/San Diego Bay Watershed Management Area and other identified Service Areas. The site is located within OVRP immediately east of Interstate 5 and east of Hollister Street. In FY24 this project is in the bid & contracting phase and is anticipated to be implemented in Fall 2025. This mitigation project is a 2.36-acre mitigation site that will involve the lowering of adjacent upland habitat to meet existing wetlands, removing invasive non-native vegetation, and planting native container plants and seed mixes, including trees.

The project provides wetland compensatory mitigation for the following FY24 channel maintenance locations:

- Cedar-1
- Cedar-2
- Tocayo-2

4.0 Conclusions and Future Projects

Over the FY 2024 maintenance period, routine maintenance was completed at three (3) channel facilities and emergency maintenance at thirty-two (32). These projects allowed for removal of accumulated trash, sediment, and debris which restored conveyance capacity and reduced flood risk while also maintaining the long-term reliability of the City’s stormwater infrastructure. SWD is committed to provide required compensatory mitigation for wetland and upland impacts associated with its ongoing maintenance activities that affect sensitive biological resources. Section 3 identifies ten (10) approved sites that SWD used to mitigate for its FY 2024 impacts. Additional sites are being implemented to provide creation (establishment), restoration (re-establishment or rehabilitation), enhancement, and acquisition mitigation acreages/credits for future SWD activities. It is important to note that the one-time mitigation approach approved as part of the MWMP, its certified EIR, and by the agencies will allow for subsequent maintenance to occur within a facility that has been previously permitted and mitigated without requiring additional mitigation if activities remain within the approved project impact footprint. Lastly, all maintenance activities identified in this report were conducted in compliance with the MWMP and all associated regulatory permits, and it is the intent of any future activities to achieve similar compliance.

Table 33 lists the facilities that SWD expects to maintain in FY 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025).

Table 32: Annual Work Plan (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

WMA/Watershed	Facility Group Name	Facility No.	Segment Name and Number	Coastal Zone
<i>FY 24 Emergency/Routine Maintenance</i>				
San Dieguito River/ San Dieguito	Green Valley Creek- Pomerado	1-04-030	Pomerado 1	No
San Dieguito River/ San Dieguito	Green Valley Creek- Pomerado	1-04-033	Pomerado 2	No
Penasquitos	Los Penasquitos Lagoon-Industrial	2-01-120	Industrial 1	Yes
		2-01-122	Industrial 2	Yes
Mission Bay	Mission Bay - MBHS	3-02-101	PB-Olney 1	Yes
Mission Bay	Mission Bay - MBHS	3-02-103	MBHS	Yes
Los Penasquitos	Soledad Canyon Creek - Sorrento	2-03-000	Roselle 1	Yes
Penasquitos	Soledad Canyon Creek- Dunhill	2-03-150	Dunhill 1	Yes
Mission Bay/ Penasquitos	Rose Creek- Garnet	3-02-003	Garnet 2	No
Mission Bay/ Penasquitos	Rose Creek- Garnet	3-02-005	Damon 1	No
San Diego River	Alvarado Canyon Creek / Mission Gorge	4-07-004	Mission Gorge 2	No
		4-07-009	Mission Gorge 3	
		4-07-011	Mission Gorge 4	
San Diego River		4-07-901	Cowles Mountain 1	No

WMA/Watershed	Facility Group Name	Facility No.	Segment Name and Number	Coastal Zone
<i>FY 24 Emergency/Routine Maintenance</i>				
	Murray Reservoir- Cowles Mountain	4-07-911	Cowles Mountain 2	No
San Diego River	Norfolk Canyon Creek- Fairmount	4-08-105	Baja 1	No
San Diego Bay	Washington Canyon Creek- Washington	5-2-151	Washington 1	No
		5-2-153	Washington 2	
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Mission Hill Canyon Creek – Titus	5-02-162	Titus 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Chollas Creek - National	5-04-004	National 1	No
		5-04-006	National 2	
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Chollas Creek – Rolando	5-04-048	Rolando 2	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Auburn Creek- Home	5-04-224	Home 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Auburn Creek- Auburn	5-04-236	Auburn 2	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Auburn Creek- Wightman	5-04-241	Wightman 2	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek – Southcrest	5-05-006	Alpha 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek – Southcrest	5-05-008	Ocean View 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek- Marketplace	5-05-016	Charles Lewis 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek- Acacia Grove	5-05-103	Acacia Grove 2	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek Encanto Branch- Castana	5-05-205	Castana 1	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	South Chollas Creek Encanto Branch- Jamacha	5-05-603	Jamacha 1	No
		5-05-606	Jamacha 2	No
San Diego Bay/ Pueblo San Diego	Paleta Creek- Solola	5-05-020	Solola 1	No
		5-05-023	Solola 2	No
Sweetwater	Sweetwater River - Parkside	5-11-003	Parkside 1	No
San Diego Bay	Nestor Creek- Nestor	5-22-023	Grove 1	No
San Diego Bay	Nestor Creek- Nestor	5-22-008	Cedar 1	Yes
		5-22-010	Cedar 2	Yes
San Diego Bay	Nestor Creek- Nestor	5-22-016	Cerissa 1	No

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WMA/Watershed	Facility Group Name	Facility No.	Segment Name and Number	Coastal Zone
<i>FY 24 Emergency/Routine Maintenance</i>				
Tijuana River	Tijuana River-Tocayo	6-02-115	Tocayo 1	Yes
		6-02-118	Tocayo 2	
Tijuana River	Tijuana River-Smythe	6-03-147	Smythe 1	No
San Diego River/ San Diego River	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Alvarado	4-07-021	Alvarado 1	No

5.0 References

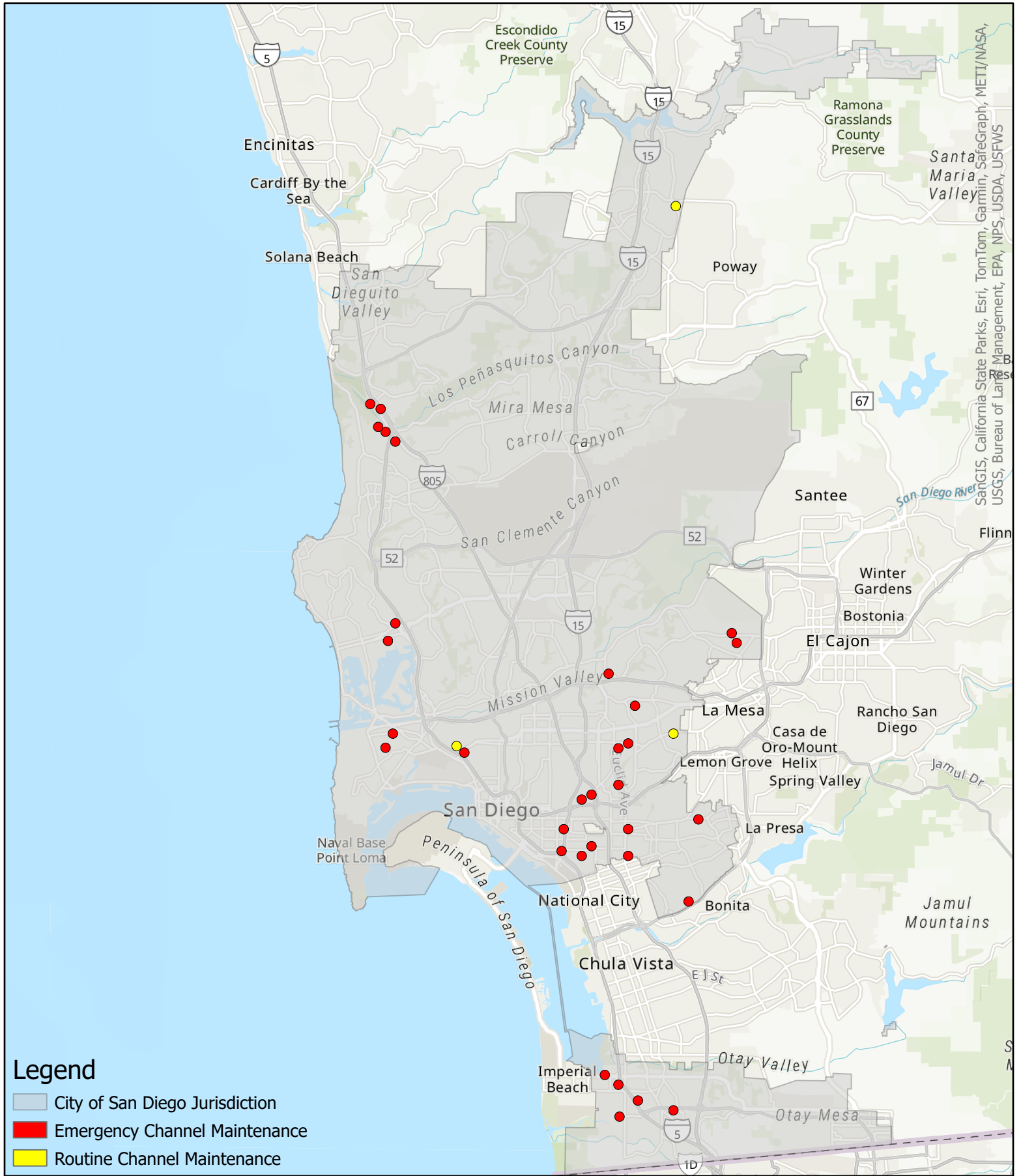
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Appendix A

Municipal Waterways Maintenance Plan Annual Report Figures



SanGIS, California State Parks, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS



Figure 1. MWMP Maintenance Projects Completed in FY 24



 Maintenance Area



Pomerado 1 (1-04-030)
FY 24 Routine Channel Maintenance
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October 2024



 Maintenance Area



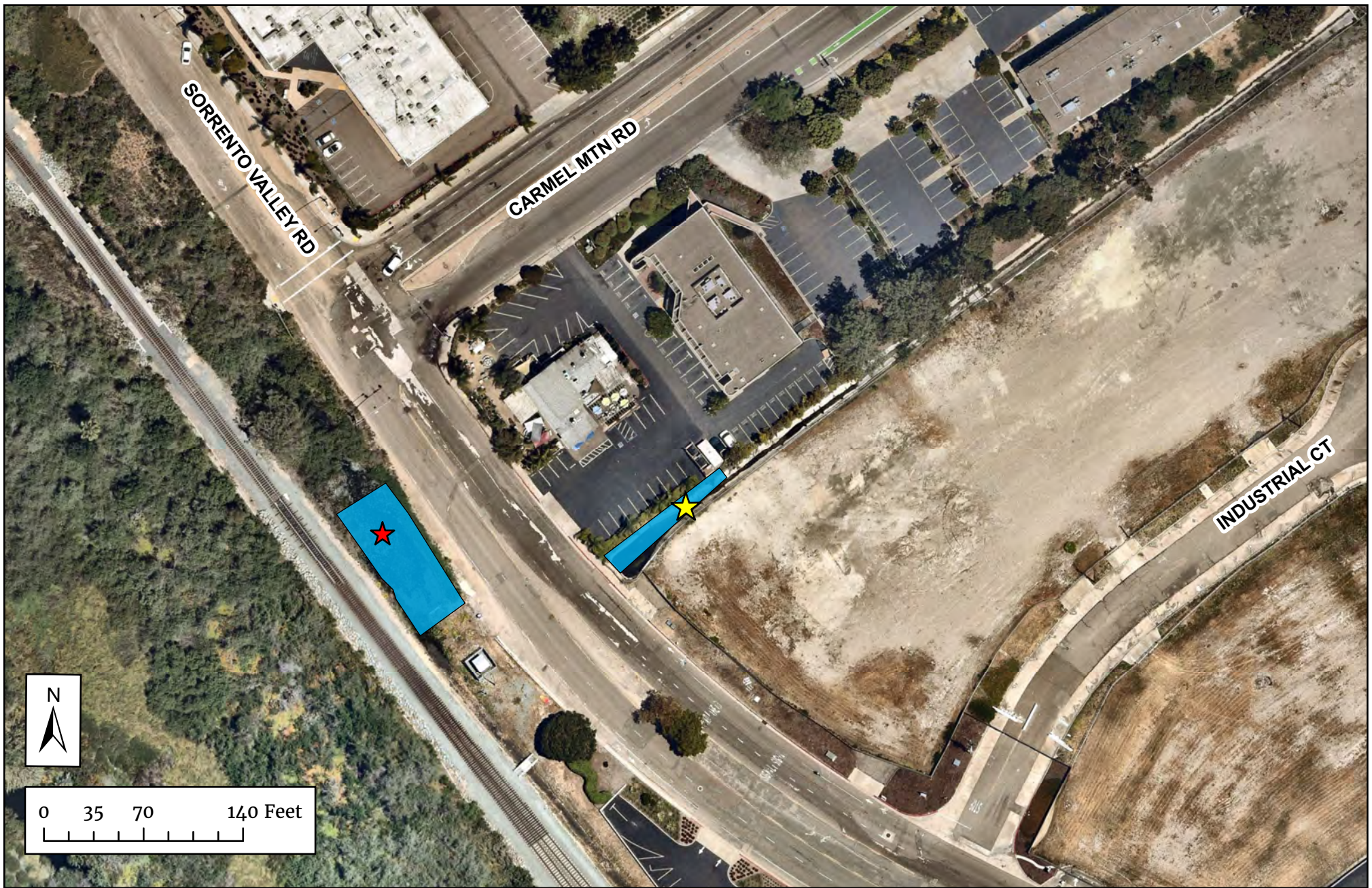
Titus 1 (5-02-162)
FY 24 Routine Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



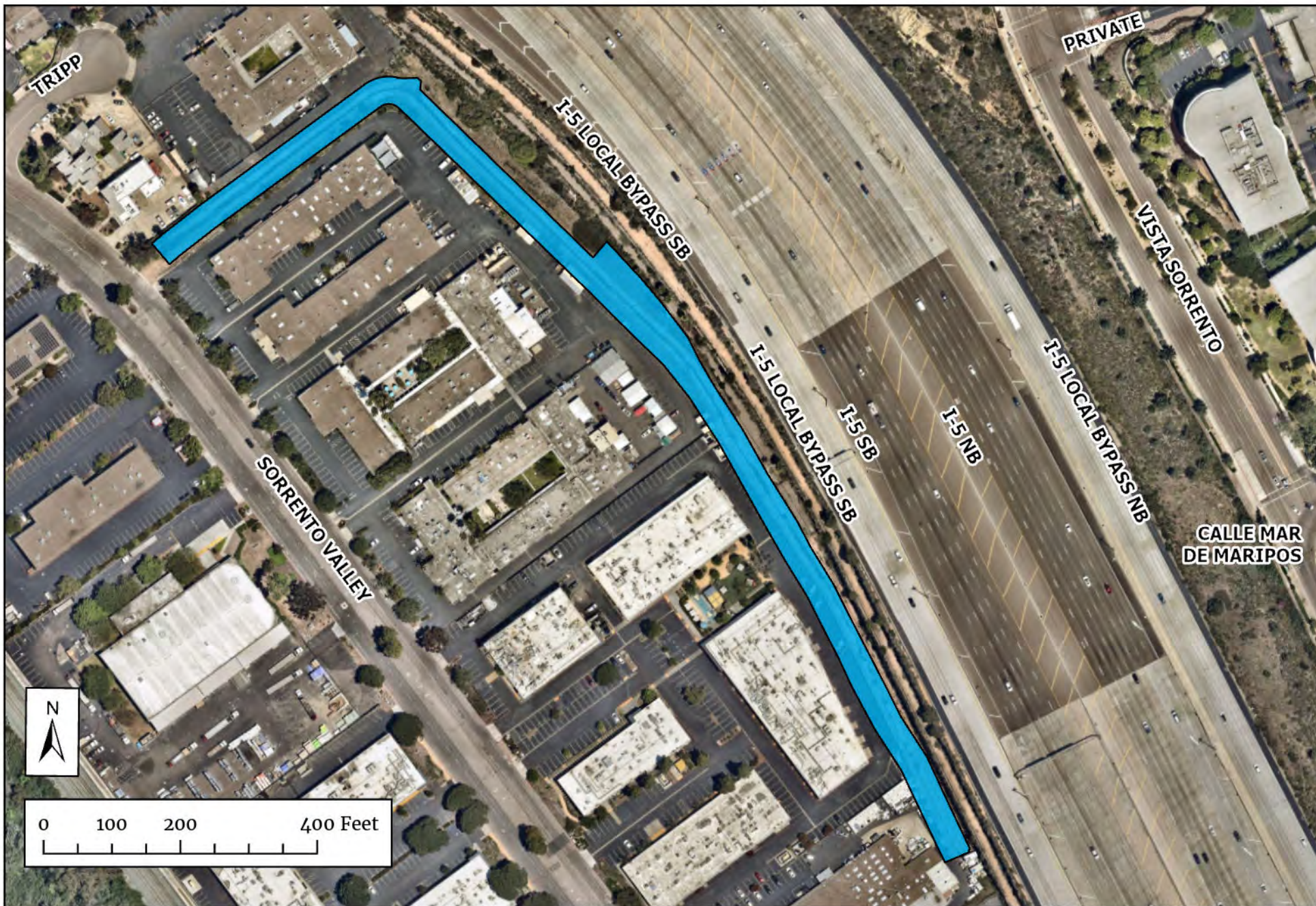
Rolando 2 (5-04-048)
FY 24 Routine Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area  Industrial 1
 Industrial 2

Industrial 1 (2-01-120) & 2 (2-01-122)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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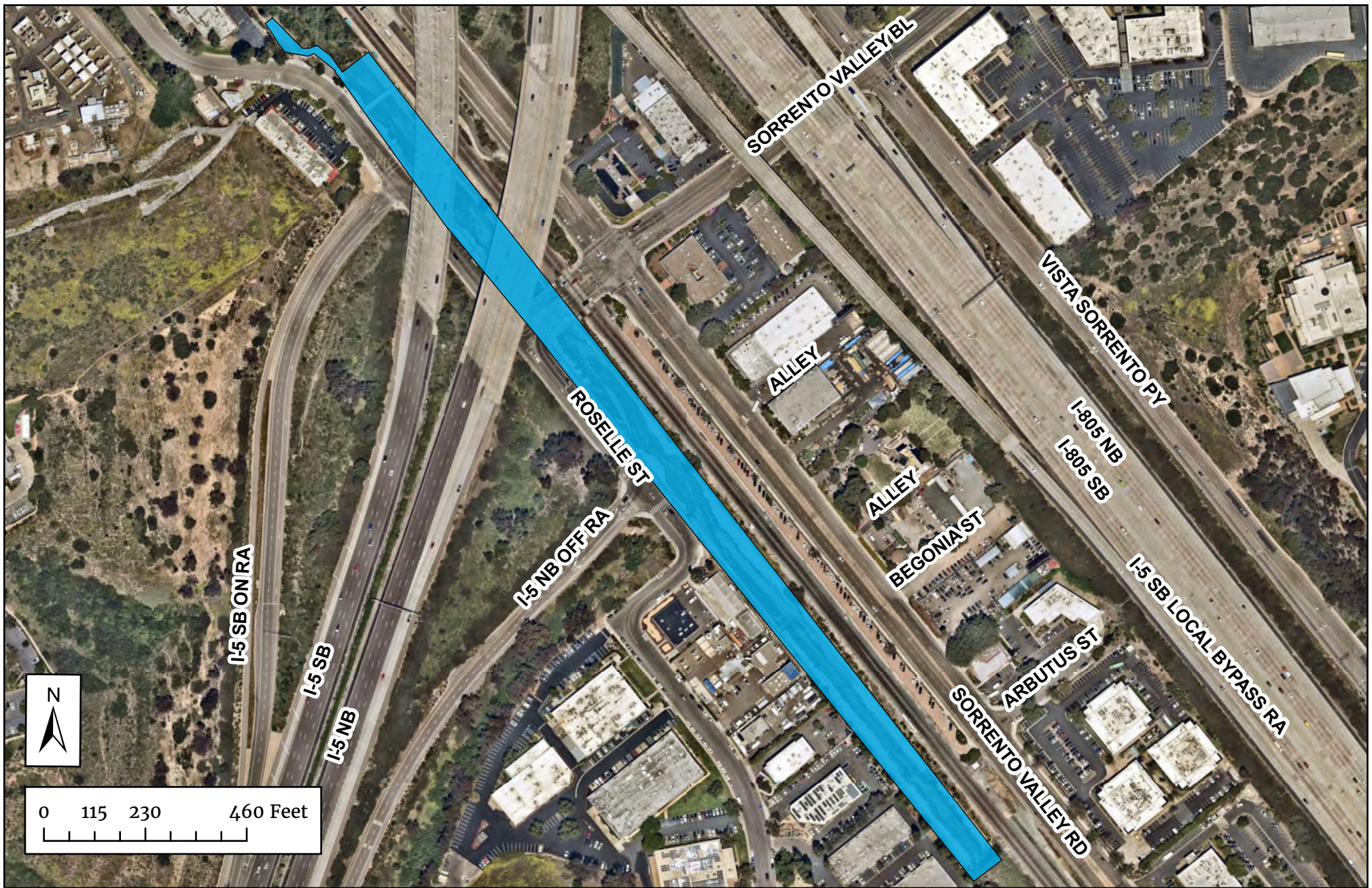




 Maintenance Area



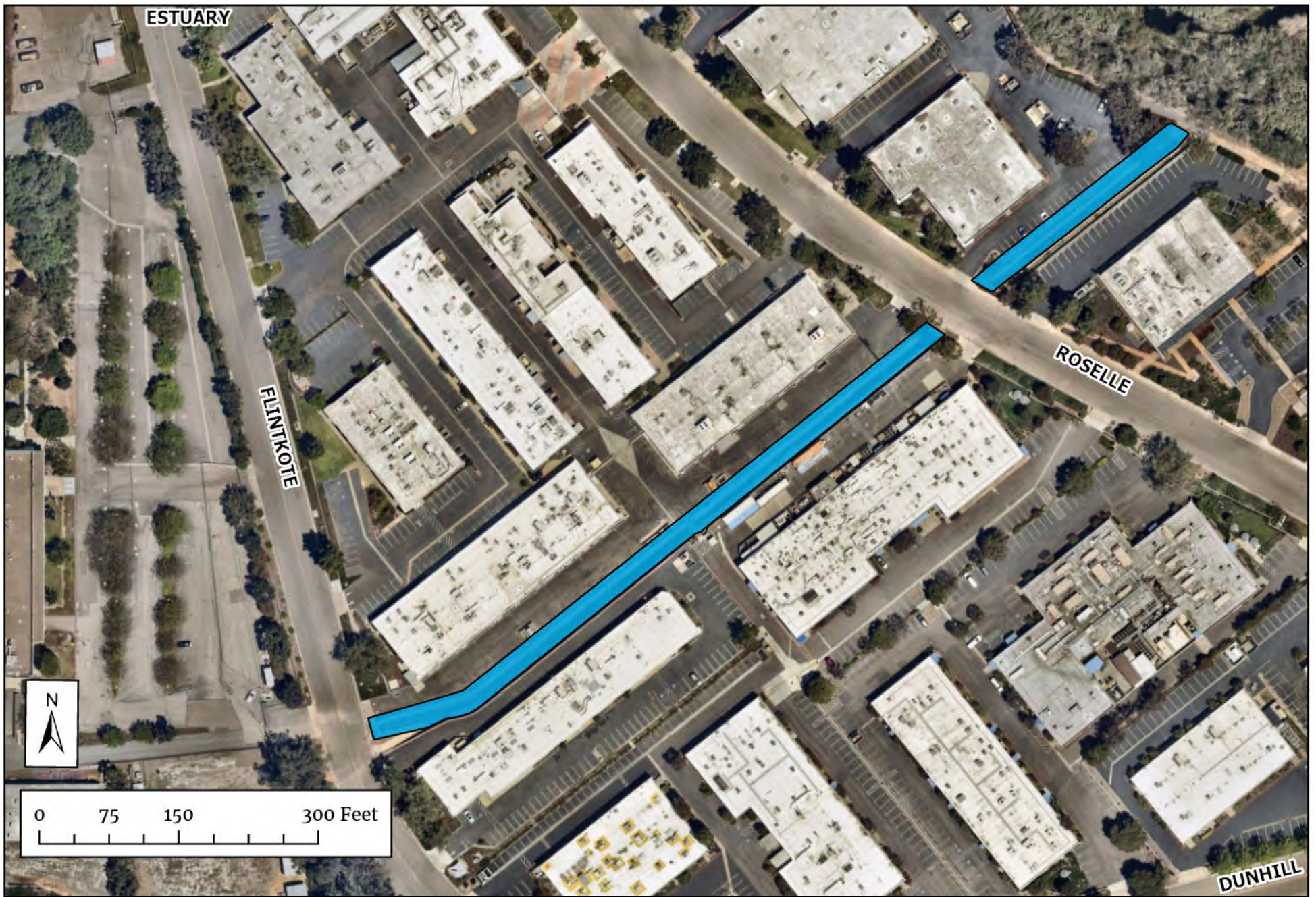
Tripp 1 (2-01-130)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Roselle 1 (2-03-000)
 FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Flintkote 1 (2-03-100)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



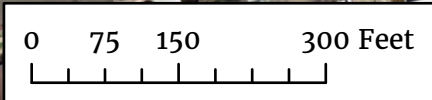
Dunhill 1 (2-03-150)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area  Garnet 2
 Damon 1



Garnet 2 (3-02-003) & Damon 1 (3-02-005)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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- Maintenance Area
- MBHS 1
- PB Olney 1

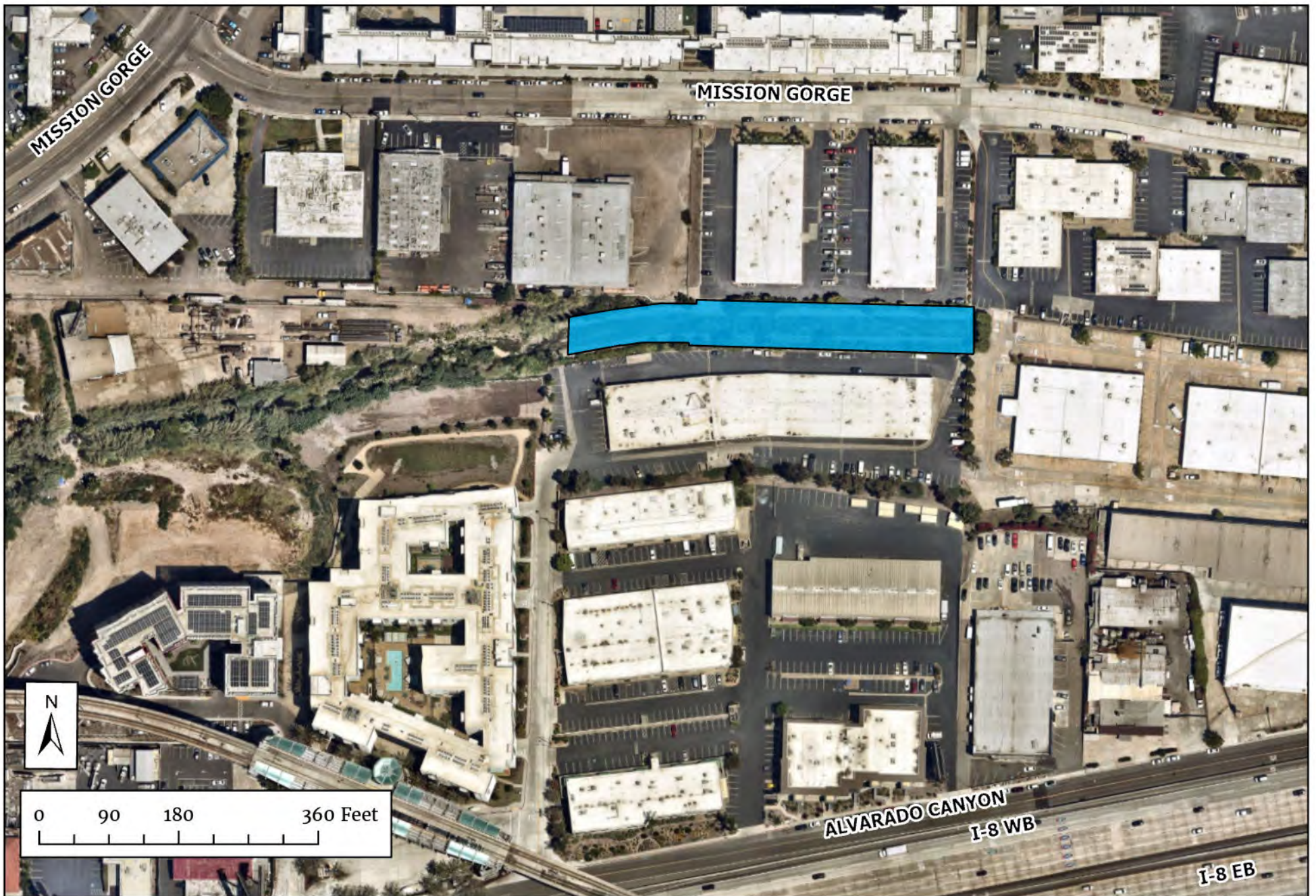
PB Olney 1 (3-02-101) & MBHS 1 (3-02-103)

FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance

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 Maintenance Area



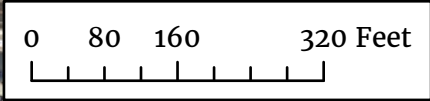
Mission Gorge 2 (4-07-004)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Cowles Mountain 1 (4-07-901)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



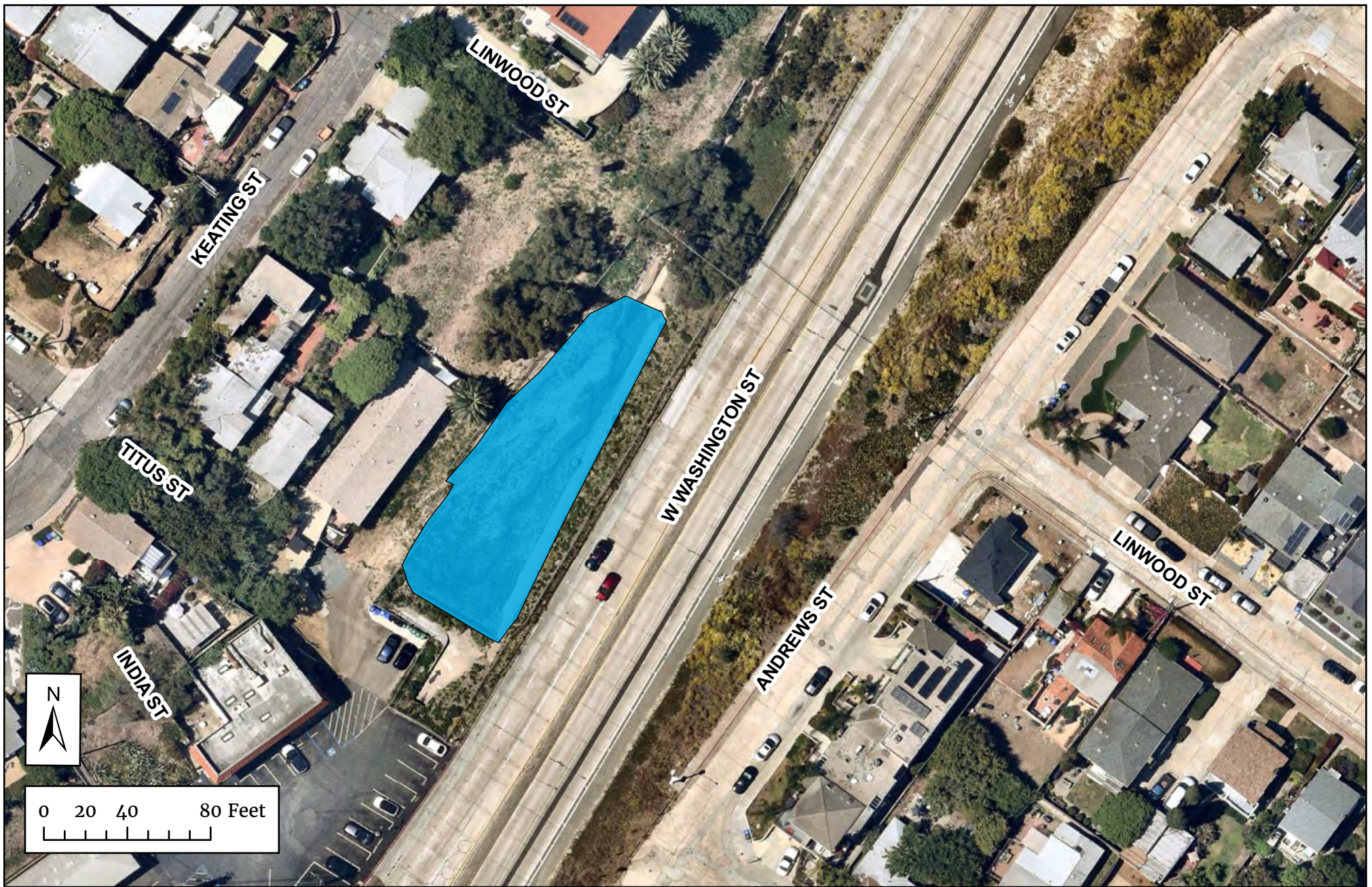
Cowles Mountain 2 (4-07-911)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Baja 1 (4-08-105)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



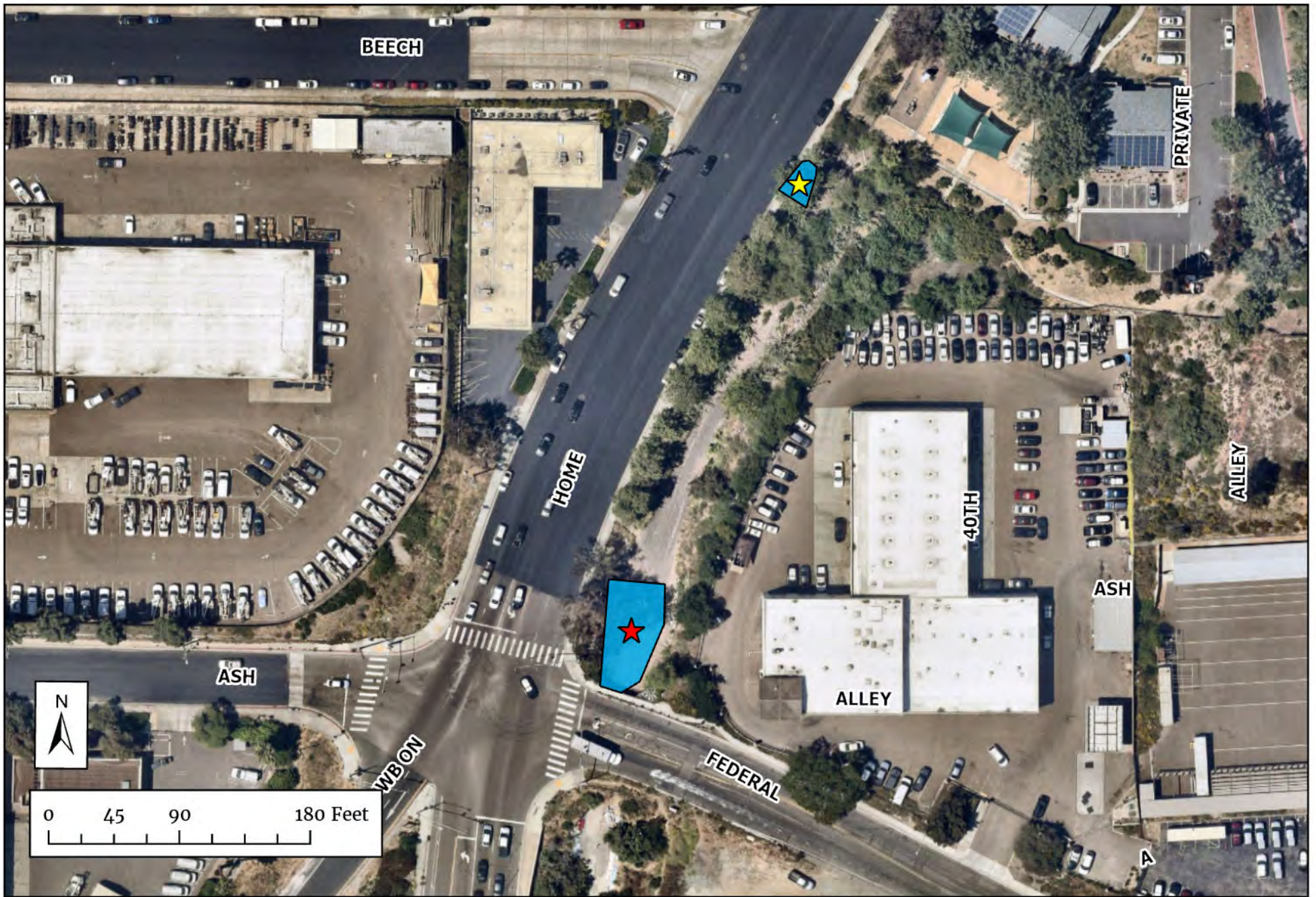
Washington 1 (5-02-151)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



National 1 (5-04-004)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area


 Home 1

 Home 2



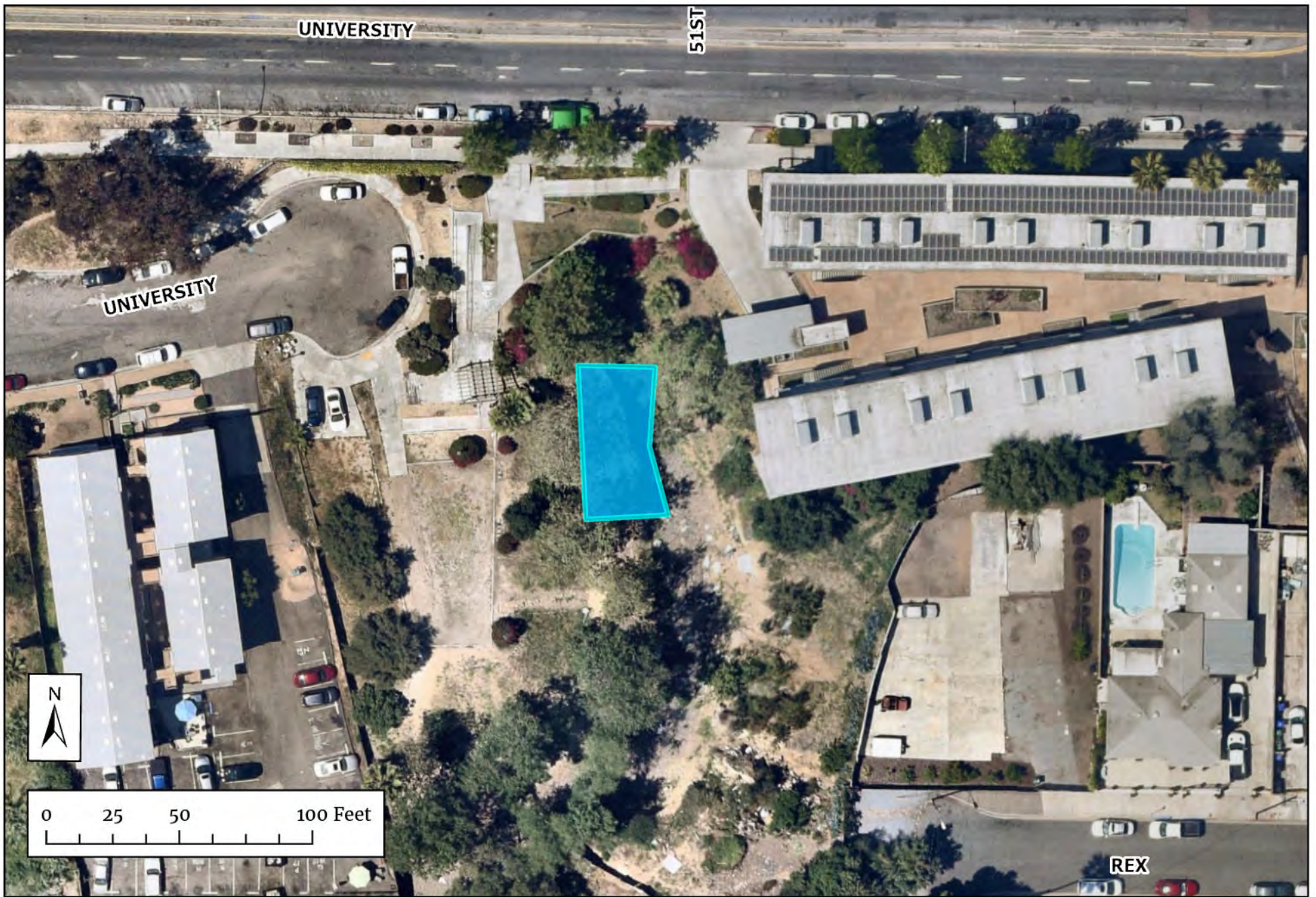
Home 1 & 2 (5-04-220 & 5-04-224)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



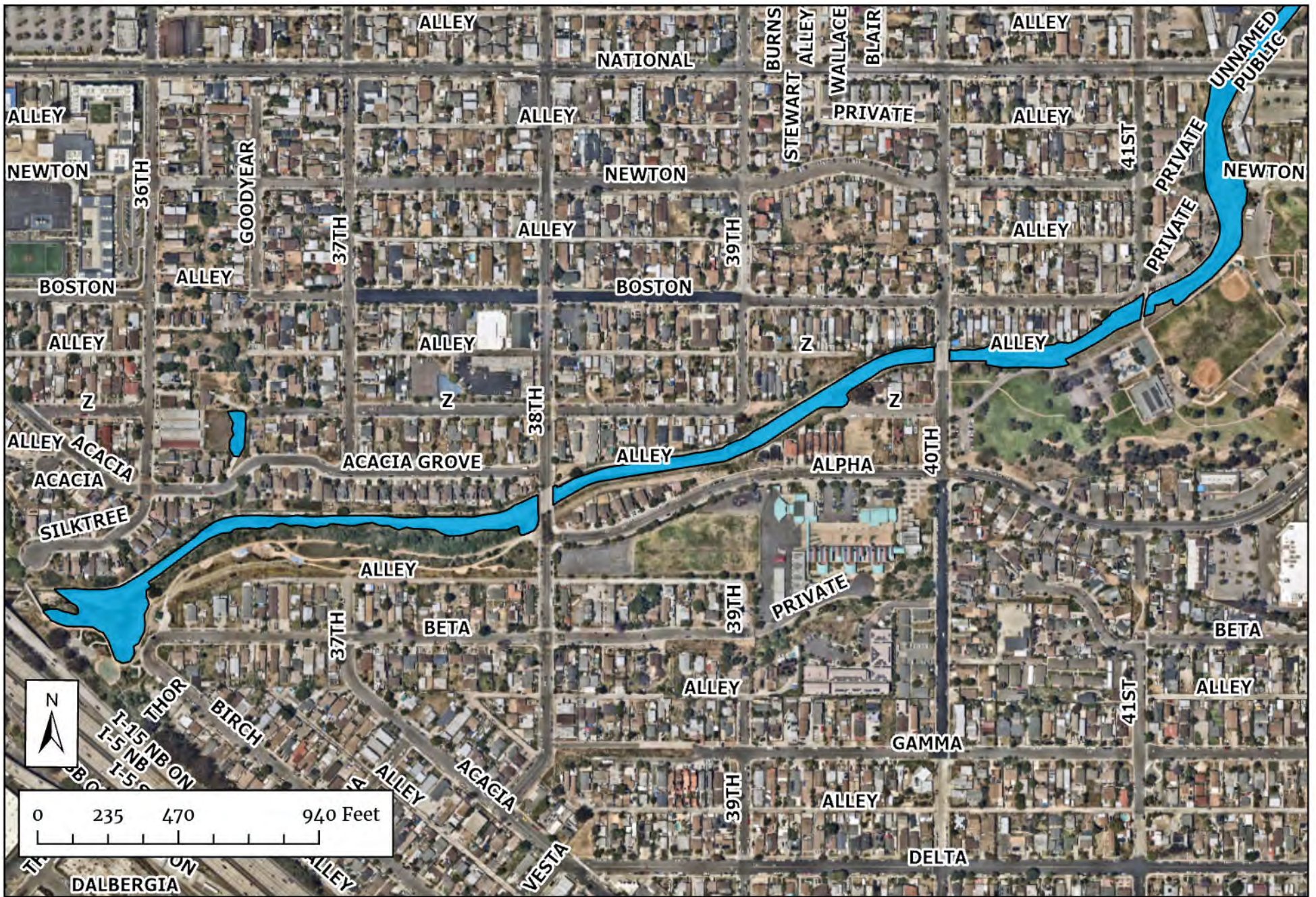
Ontario 1 (5-04-237)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



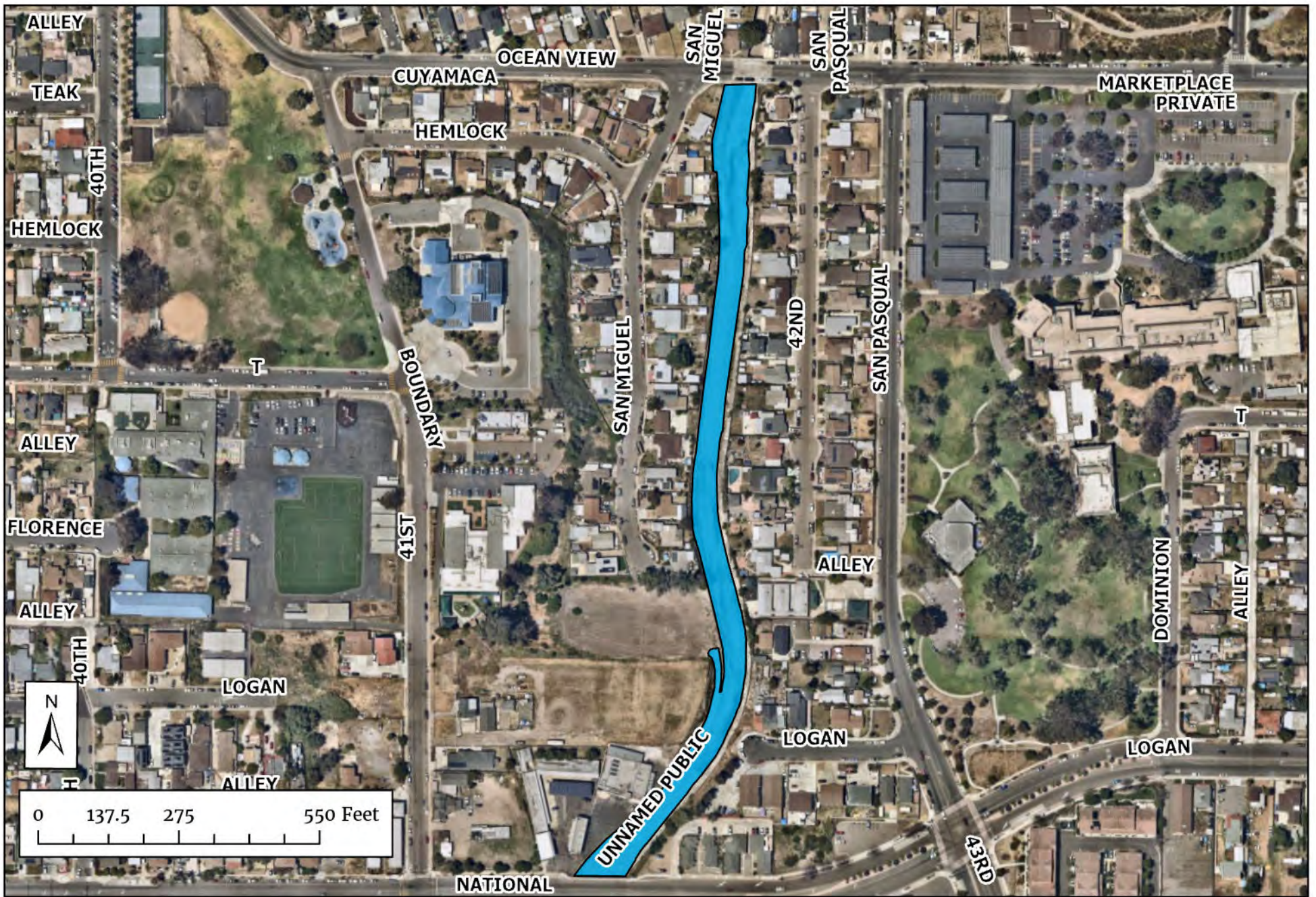
Wightman 2 (5-04-241)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Alpha 1 (5-05-006)
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 Maintenance Area



Ocean View 1 (5-05-008)
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 Maintenance Area



Acacia Grove 2 (5-05-103)
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 Maintenance Area



Castana 1 (5-05-205)
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 Maintenance Area



Jamacha 1 (5-05-603)
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 Maintenance Area



Parkside 1 (5-11-003)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Grove 1 (5-22-023)
 FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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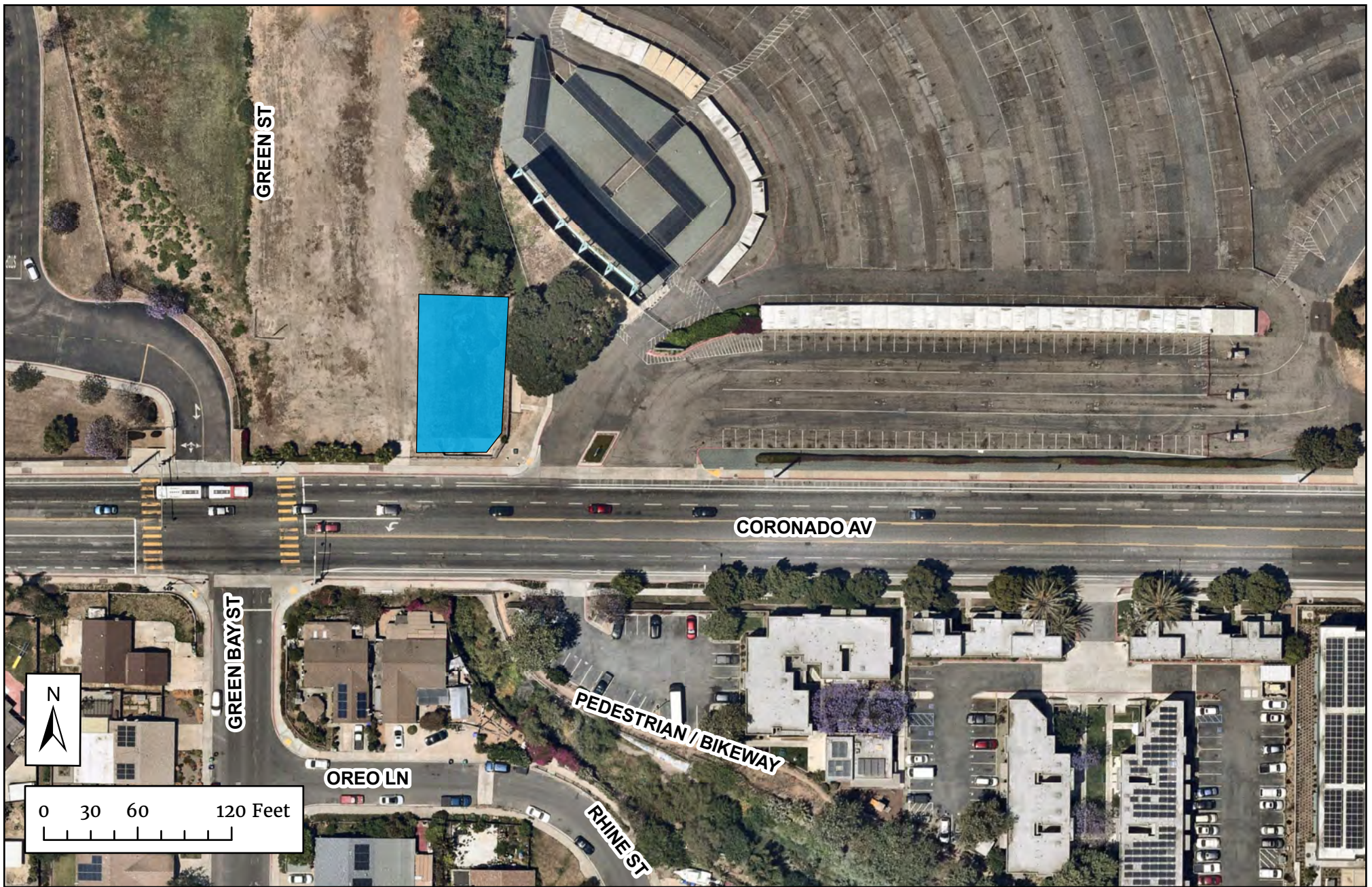
Maintenance Area

★ Cedar 1

★ Cedar 2



Cedar 1 (5-22-008) & 2 (5-22-010)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



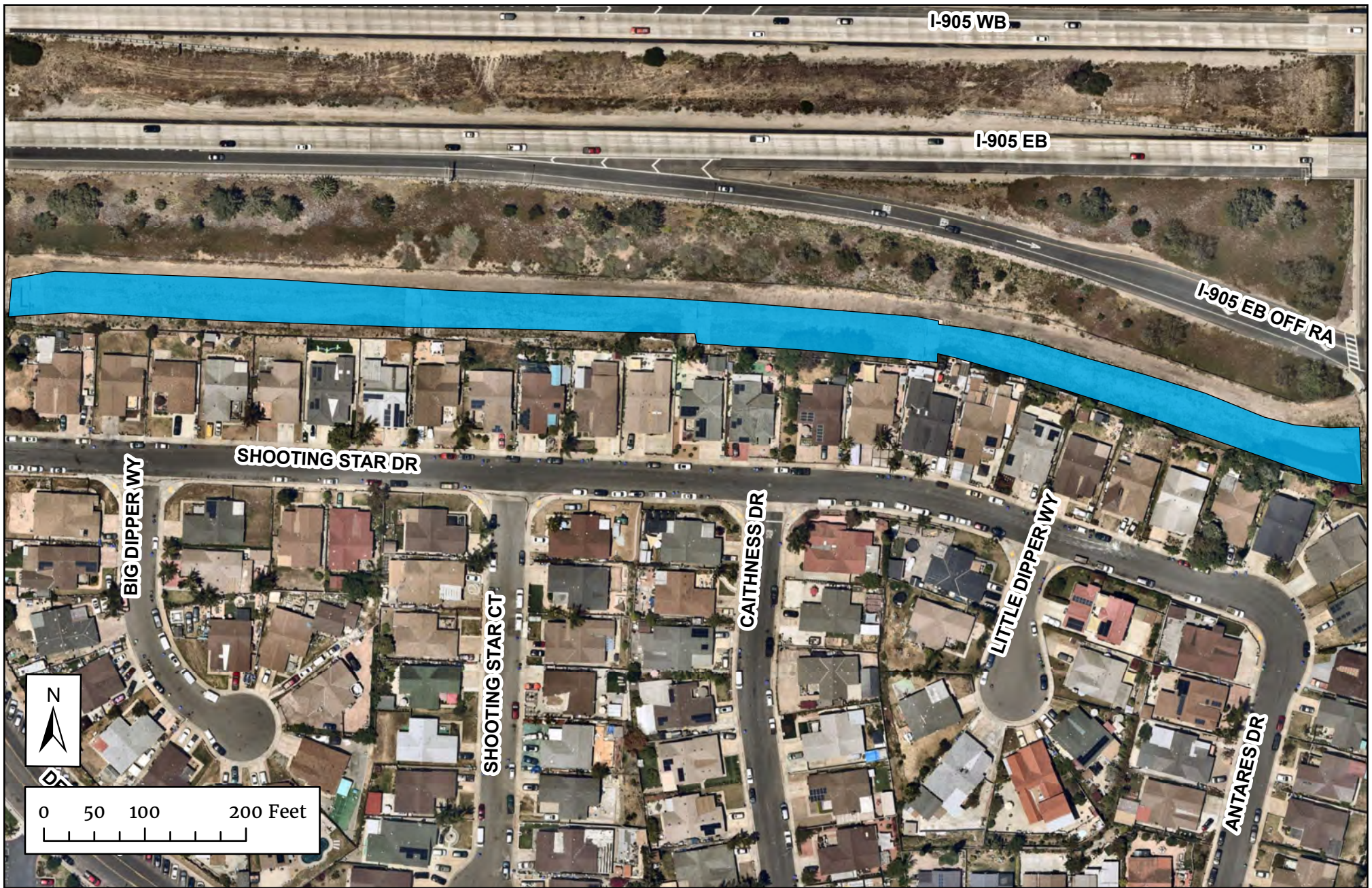
Cerissa 1 (5-22-016)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Tocayo 2 (6-02-118)
 FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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 Maintenance Area



Smythe 1 (6-03-147)
FY 24 Emergency Channel Maintenance
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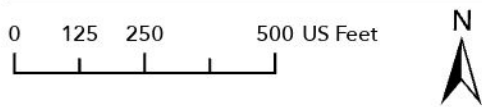
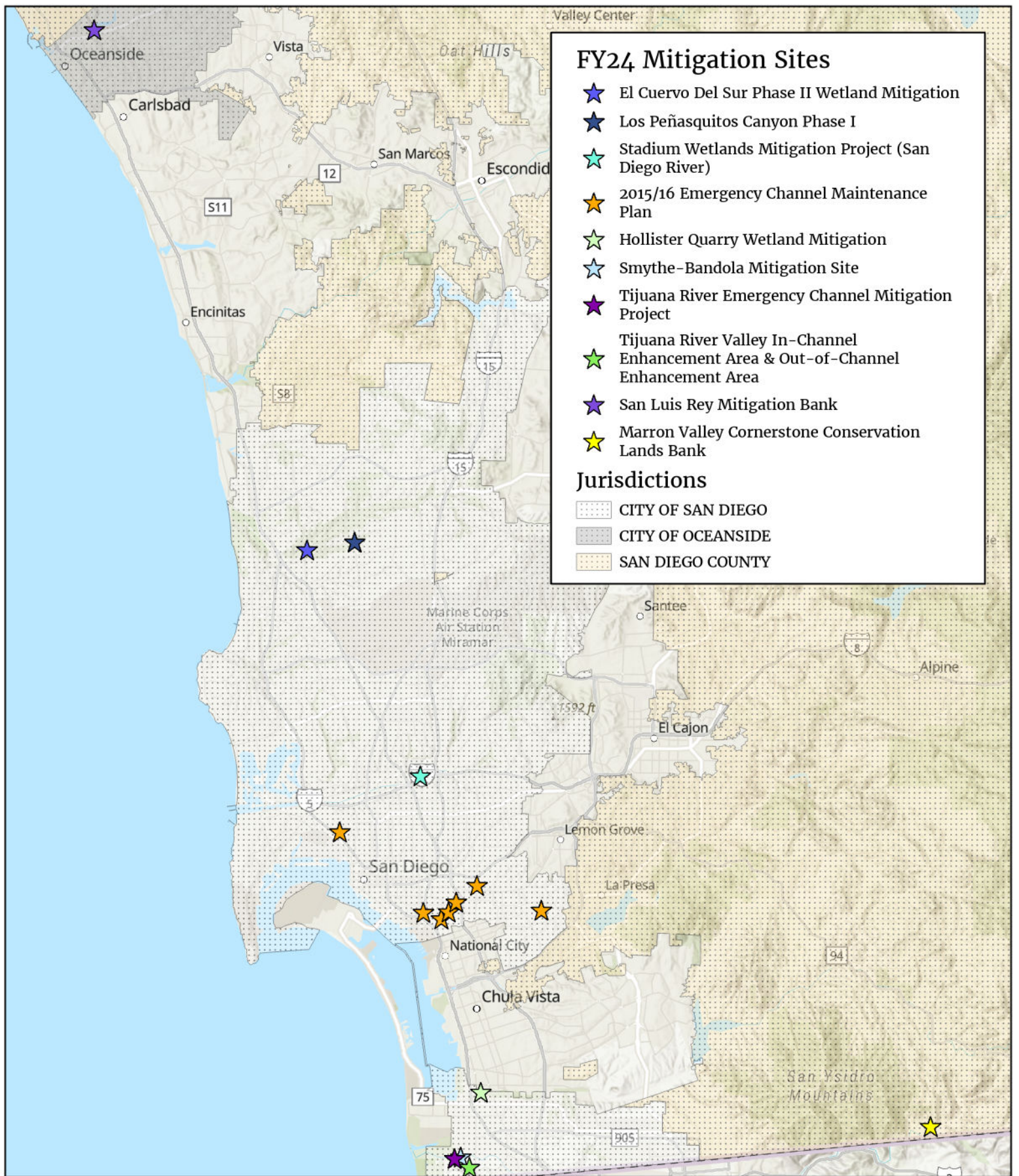


Figure 2. Mitigation Sites for FY24 Stormwater Department Channel Maintenance

Appendix B

Master Stormwater Facility and Mitigation List

Master Stormwater Facility and Mitigation List

Facility Number	Facility Type	Facility Group Name	Segment Name- Number	Date of Most Recent Maintenance ¹	Mitigation Required (USACE/ RWQCB/ CDFW/ CCC/ City) ²	Mitigation Site(s)
San Diego River Watershed						
1-04-030	Channel/Ditch	Green Valley Creek - Pomerado	Pomerado-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
1-04-033	Channel/Ditch	Green Valley Creek - Pomerado	Pomerado-2	Pre 2011	None to date	San Luis Rey
1-04-200	Basin	Green Valley Creek - Paseo del Verano	Paseo del Verano-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
Los Penasquitos Watershed						
2-01-120	Channel/Ditch	Penasquitos Lagoon - Industrial	Industrial-1	2010	CCC	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase II El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I
2-01-122	Channel/Ditch	Penasquitos Lagoon - Industrial	Industrial-2	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase II (add'l mit.) El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I
2-01-130	Channel/Ditch	Penasquitos Lagoon - Tripp	Tripp-1	2010	CCC/City	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I
2-01-200	Channel/Ditch	Los Penasquitos Canyon Creek - Black Mountain	Black Mountain-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
2-01-210	Channel/Ditch	Los Penasquitos Canyon Creek - Black Mountain	Black Mountain-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
2-01-900	Basin	Los Penasquitos Canyon Creek - 5-805 Basin	5-805 Fwy-1	2008	Self-mitigating	
2-03-000	Channel/Ditch	Soledad Canyon Creek - Sorrento	Roselle-1	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	El Cuervo Famosa
2-03-002	Channel/Ditch	Soledad Canyon Creek - Sorrento	Roselle-2	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I
2-03-012	Channel/Ditch	Carroll Canyon Creek - Carroll	Carroll Canyon-1	2016	City	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I El Cuervo del Sur - Phase I
2-03-100	Channel/Ditch	Soledad Canyon Creek - Flintkote	Flintkote-1	2022	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	LPC Enhancement - Phase I
2-03-150	Channel/Ditch	Soledad Canyon Creek - Dunhill	Dunhill-1	Pre 2011	CCC	El Cuervo del Sur - Phase II
2-05-140	Channel/Ditch	Chicarita Creek - Via San Marco	Via San Marco-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
HW04220	Structure	10405 Sorrento Valley Road		Pre 2011	None to date	
Mission Bay Watershed						
3-00-120	Channel/Ditch	Torrey Pines - Torrey	Torrey Pines-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
3-00-150	Basin	Alta La Jolla - Vickie	Vickie-1	2016	Self-mitigating	
3-02-101	Channel/Ditch	Mission Bay - Mission Bay High School	PB-Olney-1	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I Marron Valley Cornerstone (Upland, City-only)
3-02-103	Channel/Ditch	Mission Bay - Mission Bay High School	MBHS-1	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	Cuervo del Sur - Phase I LPC Enhancement - Phase I Marron Valley Cornerstone (Upland, City-only) El Cuervo del Sur - Phase II LPC Enhancement - Phase II
3-02-130	Channel/Ditch	Mission Bay - Mission Bay Drive	Mission Bay Drive-1	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City</u>	
3-03-901	Channel/Ditch	Miramar - Engineer	Engineer-1	2017	None	
3-04-055	Channel/Ditch	Teclote Creek - Chateau	Chateau-1	2021	None	
3-04-160	Channel/Ditch	Teclote Creek - Genessee	Genessee-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
3-04-250	Channel/Ditch	Teclote Creek - Chateau	Chateau-2	2016	None to date	
San Diego River Watershed						
4-01-103	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Nimitz	Nimitz-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-01-105	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Nimitz	Nimitz-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-01-107	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Nimitz	Nimitz-3	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-01-120	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Valeta	Valeta-1	Pre 2011	CCC	Hollister Quarry
4-03-101	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Camino del Rio	Camino del Arroyo-1	2022	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-03-103	Channel/Ditch	San Diego River - Camino del Rio	Camino del Rio-1	2022	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-04-006	Channel/Ditch	Murphy Canyon Creek - Murphy Canyon	Murphy Canyon-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-07-002	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Mission Gorge	Mission Gorge-1	2017	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-07-004	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Mission Gorge	Mission Gorge-2	2017	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-07-009	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Mission Gorge	Mission Gorge-3	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-07-011	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Mission Gorge	Mission Gorge-4	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-07-021	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Alvarado	Alvarado-1	2022	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-07-023	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Alvarado	Alvarado-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-07-250	Channel/Ditch	Alvarado Canyon Creek - Alvarado	Alvarado-3	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-07-901	Channel/Ditch	Murray Reservoir - Cowles Mountain	Cowles Mountain-1	2018	None to date	
4-07-911	Channel/Ditch	Murray Reservoir - Cowles Mountain	Cowles Mountain-2	2018	City	Stadium Mitigation Site
4-08-008	Channel/Ditch	Norfolk Canyon Creek - Fairmount	Fairmount-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-08-011	Channel/Ditch	Norfolk Canyon Creek - Fairmount	Fairmount-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-08-014	Channel/Ditch	Norfolk Canyon Creek - Fairmount	Fairmount-3	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-08-017	Channel/Ditch	Norfolk Canyon Creek - Fairmount	Fairmount-4	Pre 2011	None to date	
4-08-105	Channel/Ditch	Norfolk Canyon Creek - Fairmount	Baja-1	2019	RWQCB/City	Stadium Mitigation Site Marron Valley Cornerstone (City only)
HW02437	Structure	2087 Hotel Circle South		2016	None to date	
HW02440	Structure	901 Hotel Circle South		2017	None to date	
IN10399	Structure	1277 Cam. Del Rio South		2017	None to date	
OT03321	Structure	1660 Hotel Circle North		2017	None to date	
OT03537	Structure	1331 Washington		Pre 2011	None to date	
OT05573	Structure	5505 Friars Road		2016	City	Sefton Field
Pueblo San Diego Watershed						
5-02-140	Basin	Maple Canyon Creek - Maple	Maple-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-02-151	Channel/Ditch	Washington Canyon Creek - Washington	Washington-1	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-02-153	Channel/Ditch	Washington Canyon Creek - Washington	Washington-2	2021	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-02-162	Channel/Ditch	Mission Hill Canyon Creek - Titus	Titus-1	2016	None	
5-03-011	Channel/Ditch	Powerhouse Canyon Creek - Pershing	Pershing-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-03-100	Channel/Ditch	Powerhouse Canyon Creek - Pershing	Pershing-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-03-901	Channel/Ditch	San Diego Bay Unnamed Tributary - 28th St	28th St-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-004	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - National	National-1	2022	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-04-006	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - National	National-2	2022	<u>USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/City</u>	Stadium Mitigation Site 2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-04-044	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - Rolando	Cartagena-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-046	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - Rolando	Rolando-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-048	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - Rolando	Rolando-2	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-04-101	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek Unnamed Tributary - Martin	Martin-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-163	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - J St	J St-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-220	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Home	Home-1	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan Stadium Mitigation Site
5-04-224	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Home	Home-2	2019	RWQCB/City	Marron Valley Cornerstone (City only)
5-04-227	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Home	Home-3	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-231	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Home	Home-5	2020	RWQCB/City	Stadium Mitigation Site Otay Reed (City only)
5-04-239	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Wightman	Wightman-1	2016	None to date	
5-04-241	Channel/Ditch	Auburn Creek - Wightman	Wightman-2	2016	RWQCB/City	Onsite Restoration
5-04-260	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek Unnamed Tributary - Megan	Megan-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-262	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek Unnamed Tributary - Megan	Megan-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-04-280	Channel/Ditch	Chollas Creek - 54th St	54th St-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-05-006	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek - Southcrest	Alpha-1	2021	None to date	Stadium Mitigation Site
5-05-008	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek - Southcrest	Ocean View-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-05-021	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek - Euclid	Euclid-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-05-035	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek - Federal	Federal-1	2019	City	Stadium Mitigation Site HAF/Cornerstone

Facility Number	Facility Type	Facility Group Name	Segment Name- Number	Date of Most Recent Maintenance ¹	Mitigation Required (USACE/ RWQCB/ CDFW/ CCC/ City) ²	Mitigation Site(s)
5-05-037	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek - Federal	Federal-2	2019	None	
5-05-205	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek Encanto Branch - Castana	Castana-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-05-306	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek Encanto Branch - Imperial	Imperial-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-05-603	Channel/Ditch	South Chollas Creek Encanto Branch - Jamacha	Jamacha-1	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-06-005	Channel/Ditch	Paleta Creek - Cottonwood	Cottonwood-1	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-06-008	Channel/Ditch	Paleta Creek - Cottonwood	Cottonwood-2	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
5-06-020	Channel/Ditch	Paleta Creek - Solola	Solola-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-06-023	Channel/Ditch	Paleta Creek - Solola	Solola-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
HW04013	Structure	4202 J Street		Pre 2011	None to date	
OT03694	Structure	3644 Roselawn		2016	None to date	
OT054671	Structure	1206 Goodyear		2016	None to date	
Sweetwater Watershed						
5-11-003	Channel/Ditch	Sweetwater River - Parkside	Parkside-1	2016	RWQCB/City	2015/16 Emergency Mitigation Plan
Otay Watershed						
5-22-008	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	Cedar-1	2016	CCC/City	Hollister Quarry
5-22-010	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	Cedar-2	2010	CCC/City	Hollister Quarry
5-22-013	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	Dahlia-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-22-016	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	Cerissa-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-22-023	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	Grove-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-22-028	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Nestor	30th St-1	Pre 2011	RWQCB/CDFW/City	Otay Reed
5-22-110	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Outer	Outer-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
5-22-112	Channel/Ditch	Nestor Creek - Outer	Outer-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
Tijuana River Watershed						
6-01-020	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Pilot and Smugglers	Pilot Channel-1	2019	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	TJ Emergency Mitigation Site TJ Enhancement Site
6-01-100	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Pilot and Smugglers	Snuggler's Gulch-1	2022	USACE/RWQCB/CDFW/CCC/City	TJ Enhancement Site
6-02-118	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Tocayo	Tocayo-2	Pre 2011	CCC	Hollister Quarry
6-03-136	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Smythe	Via Encantadoras-1	Pre-2011	It was determined that the City of San Diego does not have maintenance responsibility for	
6-03-138	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Smythe	Via Encantadoras-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
6-03-143	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Smythe	Via Encantadoras-3	Pre 2011	None to date	
6-03-147	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Smythe	Smythe-1	2016	USACE/RWQCB/City	Smythe-Bandola Mitigation Site
6-03-150	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - Smythe	Via de la Bandola-1	2016	USACE/RWQCB/City	Smythe-Bandola Mitigation Site
6-04-251	Basin	Spring Canyo Creek - Cactus	Cactus-1	Pre 2011	None to date	
6-04-253	Basin	Spring Canyo Creek - Cactus	Cactus-2	Pre 2011	None to date	
6-05-110	Basin	Tijuana River - Siempre Viva	Siempre Viva-1	2019	None	
6-06-011	Channel/Ditch	Tijuana River - La Media	La Media-1	Pre 2011	None to date	

NOTES

1 - Pre 2011 indicates that facility was likely maintained prior to 2011 but has not been maintained since that time. Dates in **BOLD** are construction dates; these facilities have yet to be maintained following construction.

2 - City = City of San Diego; CCC = California Coastal Commission; USACE = US Army Corps of Engineers; RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board; CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife; None = routine maintenance was completed without any mitigation requirements; None to date = routine maintenance has not been conducted. Agency names in **BOLD** indicate that MWMP permits were utilized for most recent maintenance approval. All other approvals pre-date the MWMP.

Appendix C

Pre- and Post- Maintenance Photos

Pomerado 1 (1-04-030) Routine Maintenance



Pomerado 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

View of storm drain west of Bernardo Oaks Dr. prior to vegetation removal, facing west.

(November 7, 2023.)

Pomerado 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

View of storm drain west of Bernardo Oaks Dr. after vegetation removal, facing west.

(January 19, 2024)

Titus 1 (5-02-162) Routine Maintenance



Titus 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

View of the Titus 1 channel, pre-maintenance. Photo taken facing north.

(March 12, 2024)

Titus 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

View of the Titus 1 channel, post-maintenance. Photo taken facing north.

(March 12, 2024)

Rolando 2 (5-04-048) Routine Maintenance

	
<p>Rolando 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>Rolando 2 channel, pre-maintenance condition. Photo taken from eastern extent of maintenance area, facing west.</p> <p>(February 15, 2024)</p>	<p>Rolando 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>Post-maintenance: Rolando 2 channel, post-maintenance condition.</p> <p>(February 19, 2024)</p>

Industrial 1 (2-01-120) Emergency Maintenance

	
<p>Industrial 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>Pre-maintenance condition of Industrial 1 channel west of Sorrento Valley Road, facing west.</p> <p>(January 30,2024)</p>	<p>Industrial 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.</p> <p>(February 1, 2024)</p>

Industrial 2 (2-01-122) Emergency Maintenance



Industrial 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Industrial 2 channel east of Sorrento Valley Road, facing northeast.

(January 30, 2024)



Industrial 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(January 31, 2024)

Tripp 1 (2-01-130) Emergency Maintenance



Tripp 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Tripp 1 channel, facing northwest.

(March 5, 2024)



Tripp 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material, facing west by northwest.

(March 8, 2024)

Roselle 2 (2-03-000) Emergency Maintenance



Roselle 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Roselle 1 channel, facing east by southeast.

(March 13, 2024)

Roselle 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material, facing southeast.

(March 15, 2024)

Flintkote 1 (2-03-100) Emergency Maintenance



Flintkote 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Post-maintenance condition of Flintkote 1 channel, facing southwest

(March 13, 2024)

Flintkote 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post-maintenance condition of Flintkote 1 channel, facing southwest.

(March 13, 2024)

Dunhill 1 (2-03-150) Emergency Maintenance



Dunhill 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Dunhill 1 channel, taken from western edge, facing east.

(February 22, 2024)

Dunhill 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel.

(March 13, 2024)

Garnet 2 (3-02-003) Emergency Maintenance



Garnet 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Garnet 2 channel downstream of Mission Bay Drive.

(April 5, 2024)

Garnet 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of vegetation.

(April 19, 2024)

Damon 1 (3-02-005) Emergency Maintenance



Damon 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Damon 1 channel upstream of Mission Bay Drive.

(March 28, 2024)



Damon 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(April 28, 2024)

PB Olney 1 (3-02-101) Emergency Maintenance



PB Olney 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of northeastern end of PB-Olney 1 channel, facing east.

(March 1, 2024)





PB Olney 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of vegetation.

(March 13, 2024)

MBHS 1 (3-02-103) Emergency Maintenance

	
<p>MBHS 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>Pre-maintenance condition of MBHS 1 channel, facing northwest.</p> <p>(March 13, 2024)</p>	<p>MBHS 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>Pre-maintenance condition of MBHS 1 channel, facing south.</p> <p>(March 13, 2024)</p>

Mission Gorge 2 (4-07-004) Emergency Maintenance

	
<p>Mission Gorge 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1</p> <p>Pre-maintenance condition of Mission Gorge 2 channel, facing east.</p> <p>(April 2, 2024)</p>	<p>Mission Gorge 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2</p> <p>Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.</p> <p>(April 5, 2024)</p>

Cowles Mountain 1 (4-07-901) Emergency Maintenance



Cowles Mountain 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Cowles Mountain 1 channel north of San Carlos Drive, facing south by southeast.

(March 26, 2024)



Cowles Mountain 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(March 27, 2024)

Cowles Mountain 2 (4-07-911) Emergency Maintenance



Cowles Mountain 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Cowles Mountain 2 channel east of Lake Badin Drive, facing east by northeast.

(March 26, 2024)



Cowles Mountain 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(April 3, 2024)

Baja 1 (4-08-105) Emergency Maintenance



Baja 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Baja 1 channel, taken from southern edge, facing east by northeast.

(January 19, 2024)



Baja 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel.

(March 22, 2024)

Washington 1 (5-02-151) Emergency Maintenance



Washington 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Washington 1 channel, west of Washington Street, facing north.

(February 2024)



Washington 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(March 19, 2024)

National 1 (5-04-004) Emergency Maintenance



National 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated vegetation and debris in channel north of National Ave.

(January 25, 2024)



National 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of National 1 showing removal of material.

(January 28, 2024)

Home 1 (5-04-220) Emergency Maintenance



Home 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated clothing, debris and willow trees in Home 1 channel east of Home Ave, facing north.

(January 27, 2024)



Home 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of debris and vegetation.

(January 27, 2024)

Home 2 (5-04-224) Emergency Maintenance



Home 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated vegetation and debris in culvert, facing south.

(January 27, 2024)



Home 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(January 27, 2024)

Ontario 1 (5-04-237) Emergency Maintenance



Ontario 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated debris in Ontario 1 channel east of Auburn Street, facing west.

(January 28, 2024)



Ontario 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material

(March 1, 2024)

Wightman 2 (5-04-239) Emergency Maintenance



Wightman 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Wightman 2 channel south of University Ave, facing north.

(January 28, 2024)



Wightman 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel at Wightman 2.

(January 28, 2024)

Alpha 1 (5-05-006) Emergency Maintenance



Alpha 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated vegetation and debris in Alpha channel east of 38th Street.

(January 28, 2024)



Alpha 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material

(April 11, 2024)

Ocean View 1 (5-05-008) Emergency Maintenance



Ocean View 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated vegetation and debris at southern extent of Ocean View 1 channel, north of National Avenue.

(January 29, 2024)



Ocean View 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(April 11, 2024)

Acacia Grove 2 (5-05-103) Emergency Maintenance



Acacia Grove 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Photo showing maintenance crew active in Acacia Grove 2 to remove Arundo sp. regrowth.

(February 13, 2024)



Acacia Grove 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post-maintenance condition of Acacia Grove 2 channel north of Acacia Grove Way, facing south.

(May 29, 2024)

Castana 1 (5-05-205) Emergency Maintenance



Castana 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Castana 1 channel, facing northeast.

(March 26, 2024)



Castana 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of vegetation.

(April 5, 2024)

Jamacha 1 (5-05-603) Emergency Maintenance



Jamacha 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Jamacha 1 facing southwest.

(February 9, 2024)



Jamacha 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(June 12, 2024)

Parkside 1 (5-11-003) Emergency Maintenance



Parkside 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Parkside 1 channel, taken from northern edge, facing east.

(April 5, 2024)



Parkside 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel.

(April 16, 2024)

Grove 1 (5-22-023) Emergency Maintenance



Grove 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Grove 1 channel in eastern portion, facing west.

(March 1, 2024)



Grove 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

March 6, 2024

Cedar 1 (5-22-008) Emergency Maintenance



Cedar 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Cedar 1 channel, taken from northern edge, facing east by southeast.

(March 6, 2024)



Cedar 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel, taken from southern edge, facing northwest.

(April 2, 2024)

Cedar 2 (5-22-010) Emergency Maintenance



Cedar 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Pre-maintenance condition of Cedar 2 channel, taken from southern edge, facing north.

(March 6, 2024)



Cedar 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material, taken from northern edge, facing south.

(April 2, 2024)

Cerissa 1 (5-22-016) Emergency Maintenance



Cerissa 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated vegetation debris in Cerissa 1 channel north of Coronado Avenue.

(January 31, 2024)



Cerissa 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(January 31, 2024)

Tocayo 2 (6-02-115) Emergency Maintenance



Tocayo 2 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

Accumulated debris and sediment and overgrowth of non-native grasses/weeds in Tocayo 2 channel west of Oro Vista Road. Photo collected at start of maintenance.

(March 16, 2024)



Tocayo 2 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material.

(March 18, 2024)

Smythe 1 (6-03-147) Emergency Maintenance



Smythe 1 Pre-Maintenance- Photo 1

: Accumulated vegetation debris in Smythe 1 channel at concrete-lined drainage structure.

(January 30, 2024)



Smythe 1 Post-Maintenance- Photo 2

Post maintenance condition of channel showing removal of material at drainage structure.

(April 10, 2024)

Statement of the Relevance of Document F-3 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

F-3: Los Angeles County, 2022. *LA River Master Plan*, June. Los Angeles County Public Works

F-3 consists of excerpts of the LA River Master Plan, a document produced in 2022 by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works with respect to flood control, cultural, recreational, environmental resiliency and other future goals for the Los Angeles River in Region 4 (full document available at <https://pw.lacounty.gov/uploads/swp/LARiverMasterPlan-FINAL-DIGITAL-COMPRESSED.pdf>). The excerpts provided relate to the relationship between the hydraulic capacity of flood control channels and the presence of certain vegetation in those channels. Even though the excerpts concern a river in the Los Angeles Region, the information contained therein is applicable to the San Diego Region because it reflects hydrological concepts that apply equally to all flood control channels in the state, including those in the San Diego Region. The plan is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO), as it discusses in some detail flood risk and channel capacity requirements for modified, soft-bottomed stream segments similar to those found in the San Diego Region. As such, it provides supporting information for the F-1 technical memorandum's discussion of the necessity for the maintenance of flood control channels, and potential adverse impacts on biological integrity. Thus, F-3 should be included in the Administrative Record.

LA RIVER

MASTER

PLAN



JUNE 2022

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APPENDICES

Volume I: Design Guidelines

Volume II: Technical Backup Document

**FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
THE HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS
OF THE LA RIVER WATERSHED IN
APPENDIX VOLUME II: TECHNICAL
BACKUP DOCUMENT**

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LA RIVER AND WATERSHED (CONTINUED)

What is so complicated about widening and naturalizing the river?

Large-scale widening of the existing LA River channel could provide additional flood conveyance capacity while also potentially allowing for concrete removal, but this strategy is not pursued in this Master Plan due to its serious social implications.

As described in the previous pages, vegetation and flood capacity have an inverse relationship. Adding trees and shrubs increases channel friction and slows down the water so the channel must become wider to maintain the same flood conveyance capacity. A naturalized channel for the LA River would need to be three to seven times the width of the current channel to maintain a 1% (100-year) flood capacity.

The additional space needed for channel widening would require the displacement of people, businesses, and infrastructure adjacent to the LA River. In a 3X widening scenario, this would amount to nearly 21,000 displaced residents and major impacts on government and industrial land. Over 35 miles of freeway, 60 miles of transmission lines, and 20 miles of railroad would be affected (see Figure 13).

In a 5X widening scenario, the number of displaced residents would rise to 60,000. In a 7X widening scenario, the maximum widening studied, over 107,000 people would be displaced, and nearly 60 miles of freeway, 108 bridges, 90 miles of transmission lines, and 620 critical facilities would need to be relocated (see Figure 13).

Freeway construction in LA County displaced a quarter-million people between the 1940s and 1960s. The burden of this displacement disproportionately impacted poor communities and communities of color. It is important to recognize that some channel modification strategies would disturb communities to a similar extent. The period of urban renewal is a sweeping example of how displacement in the name of “projects for the public good” carries a contentious legacy, nationally as well as locally.

While there may be strategic locations in the LA River watershed where channels can be widened into a right-of-way or an acquired mosaic of parcels, a holistic 51-mile restoration strategy is not realistic, even on a generational timeline.

For more information on the hydrology of the LA River watershed or LA River hydraulics, refer to Chapter 3 in Appendix II: Technical Volume.

VEGETATION AND CHANNEL CAPACITY HAVE AN INVERSE RELATIONSHIP

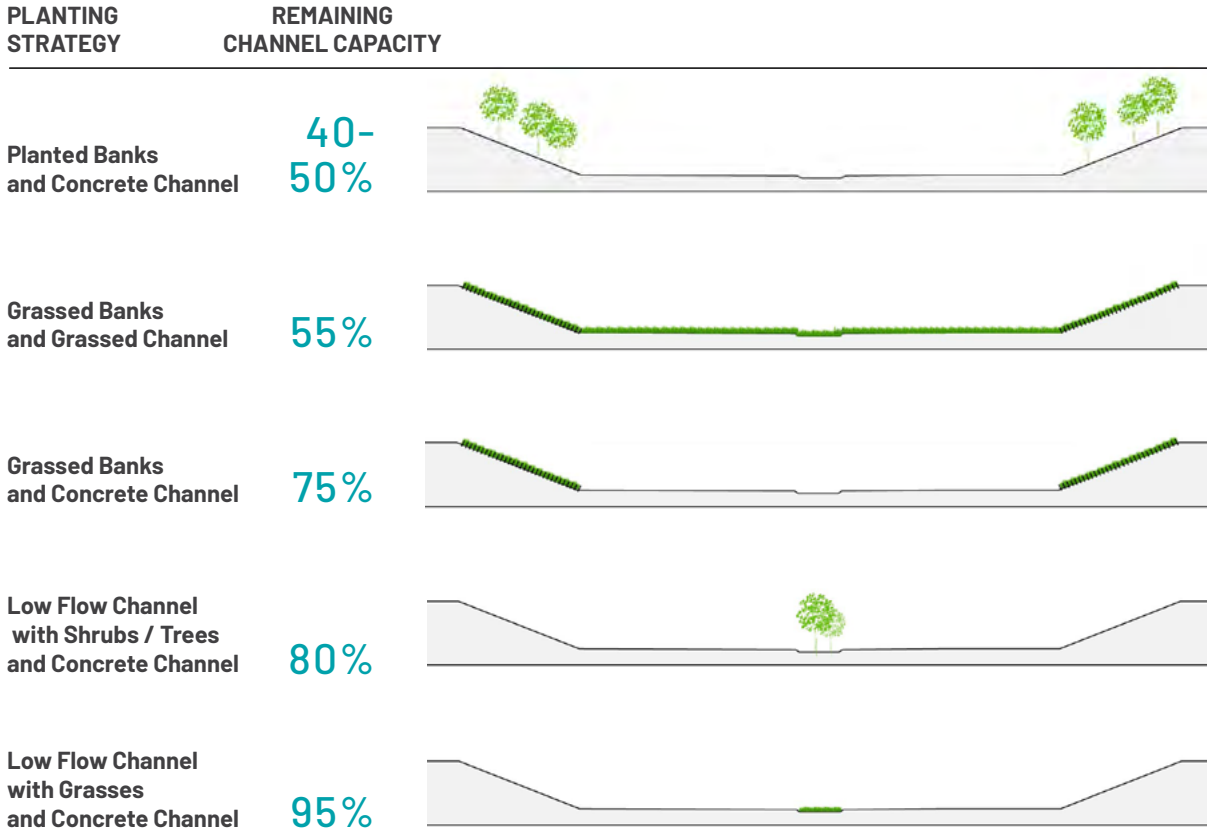


Figure 12. Vegetation and Channel Capacity Have an Inverse Relationship. Different combinations and locations of planting within the LA River channel have particular impacts on channel capacity. Whether the planting consists of grasses or trees and shrubs, and whether the planting is on the banks, on the channel bottom, or in the low flow area, are all factors that alter the channel's ability to convey water effectively. This example shows scenarios for river mile 11.8 near the Rio Hondo Confluence.

WHAT'S AT STAKE WITH RIVER WIDENING

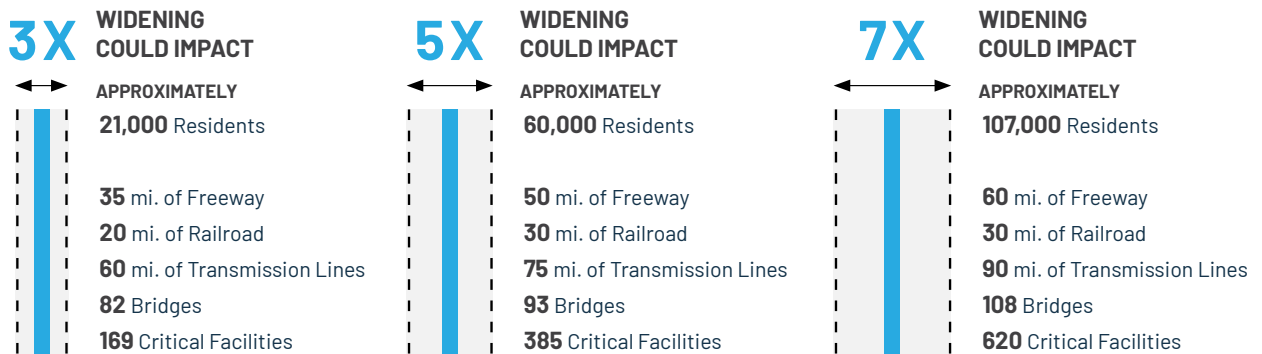


Figure 13. What's at Stake with Holistic River Widening. River widening requires property acquisition that would displace people, businesses, and infrastructure in the communities adjacent to the LA River. Between 21,000 and 107,000 people might be displaced if the river were widened three to seven times its current width. There would also be major consequences for roads, railways, transmission lines, and other public services.

GOAL ONE

REDUCE FLOOD RISK AND IMPROVE RESILIENCY

The LA River did not always look like it does today. In the mid 1800s, the LA River was a braided stream that, during wet weather events, spread out over vast amounts of flat land.¹¹⁴ As agricultural diversions, transportation infrastructure, and cities grew around the river, this vast floodplain was encroached upon by buildings and roads. After increasingly devastating floods, it was engineered into a concrete channel with basins, dams, levees, and floodwalls to move stormwater as quickly as possible to the Pacific Ocean to reduce flood risk to these communities. Not all areas of the river have equal conveyance capacity. In some areas, low channel capacity makes the probability of flooding of the river adjacent communities in any given year as high as 25%.¹¹⁵ There will always be financial and physical limits to flood risk infrastructure. Therefore, we must strive for resilient communities that can respond to extreme flood events that exceed the river channel's capacity. With the threat of a changing climate, the importance of reducing flood risk increases as the frequency and intensity of extreme storms change.

LA COUNTY FLOOD RISK REDUCTION NEED



Figure 150. LA County Flood Risk Need. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019. Floodplain data from the LA County GIS Data Portal Flood Zones dataset, which is based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood hazard layers. More recent floodplain mapping was used between river miles 22 and 34 based on the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), October 2016, Floodplain Management Services Special Study LA River Floodplain Analysis. The Cal-Adapt Sea Level Rise Tool was used to identify 1.41 meters (4.6 feet) as the likely maximum increase in sea level rise by the end of the century. Though there is some uncertainty, a 1.41 meter maximum conforms with California's Climate Change Assessments to date, which are estimated for California under the A1B and A2 emission scenarios. Channel capacity data was compiled from various sources including: US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles District. 1996a, 1996b, 1997a, 1997b, and 1999. Los Angeles County Drainage Area Improvement Projects. Design Analysis Report and Design Memoranda; USACE Los Angeles District. 1991. Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA): Review, Part I Hydrology Technical Report: Base Conditions; USACE: Los Angeles District. 2015. Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Feasibility Report, Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, Appendix E. Table 17: Original Design Discharge and Existing Channel Capacity; USACE. 1953. Design Memorandum No. 1 Hydrology for Los Angeles River Channel, Owensmouth Avenue to Sepulveda Flood Control Basin; Geosyntec analysis using HEC-RAS models (USACE Los Angeles District. 2005. Los Angeles County Drainage Area Upper Los Angeles River and Tujunga Wash HEC-RAS Hydraulic Models).

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION NEED

Flood risk is related to both the capacity of the LA River channel to convey water in large storms and the area outside of the channel impacted by flooding.

To evaluate need related to flooding along the LA River corridor, the level of existing channel capacity was analyzed and combined with the floodplains directly associated with the LA River. Areas that may be subjected to sea level rise inundation and areas with high amounts of critical infrastructure and facilities in the floodplain were also assessed.

LA River Channel Capacity

The "Level of Channel Capacity" refers to the statistical return period that channel capacity is exceeded. Locations in the river with capacities to convey storm events with a greater than the 1% (100-year) flood event should be assessed for improvements. Areas with a very high need have capacity to convey no more than a 10% (10-year) flood event. Areas with a general need fall between the 10% (10-year) and 1% (100-year) conveyance capacities.

LA River Flood Risk Reduction Need

Floodplains

Floodplains are the lowland areas that border a river and though usually dry are subject to flooding. Floodplains are most commonly mapped where models indicate a 1% annual chance of flooding (100-year floodplain) or a 0.2% annual chance of flooding (500-year floodplain) in any given year (i.e., areas with a flooding recurrence interval of 500 years, on average). Areas within the 1% floodplain were identified as very high need and require flood management improvements. A degree of risk should be considered for the 0.2% floodplain, which was identified as general need. Areas not in a 1% or 0.2% floodplain were considered to have no need.

Sea Level Rise

Areas subject to sea level rise, including approximately the lower 3 miles of the channel, have a higher need for flood risk reduction.

Critical Infrastructure and Facility Density

Critical infrastructure and facility types such as emergency facilities, evacuation routes, and wastewater treatment plants were included based on facility types identified in the 2016 LA County Comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan, and were collected from various sources. Given the lack of detail about the size of specific facilities, the relative density of facilities was used. Areas that had the highest density qualified as very high need, and areas with the lowest density qualified as general need. All areas outside of the floodplain were considered to have no need.

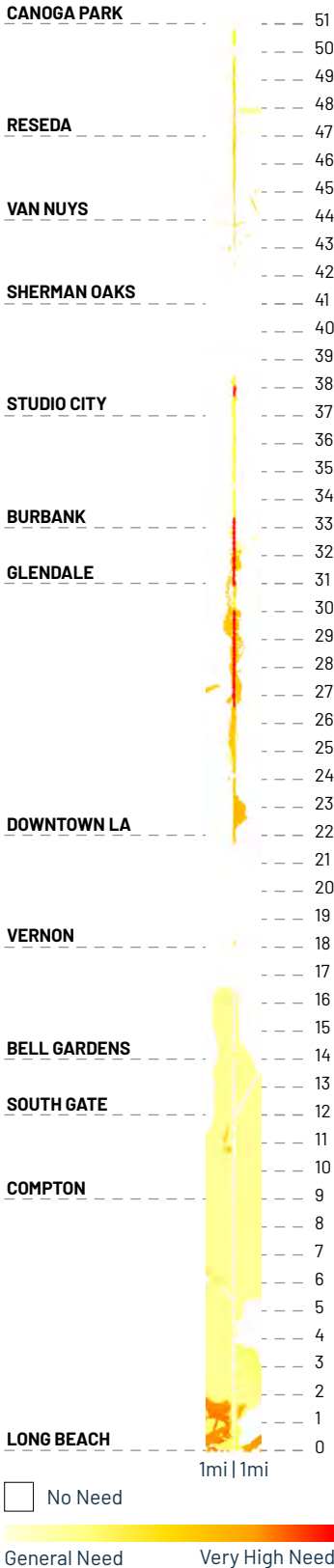


Figure 151. LA River Flood Risk Needs Ruler.

REDUCE FLOOD RISK AND IMPROVE RESILIENCY.

ACTIONS

1.1. Maintain existing flood carrying capacity of all reaches of the LA River channel.

Because existing development gets close to the channel, it is critical to maintain the existing flood carrying capacity of all reaches of the river to manage flood risk for people and property during storm events.

- 1.1.1. Review new projects within and along the LA River to ensure that flood risk is not increased.
- 1.1.2. Review new projects with in-channel components to ensure the flood carrying capacity of the river is not reduced.

1.2. Increase capacity of the river in high risk areas to provide flood risk reduction to at least the 1% (100-year) annual chance flood event or to a level recommended by a risk assessment.

Levels of flood risk management vary along the 51-mile channel. The 1% (100-year) event is used as a target in this plan because it is the standard for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and studies show that using this standard can, on average, save \$7 for every \$1 spent on flood mitigation for riverine environments.¹⁶ Future local risk assessments may indicate that capacities should be increased. One way to reduce flood risk in communities near the LA River is to increase the conveyance capacity of the river, so that it can safely pass larger storm flows to the Pacific Ocean.

- 1.2.1. Implement capacity increasing measures as appropriate, such as modifying the channel, deepening the channel, raising levees, building bypass channels or tunnels, removing invasive plants, or removing sediment from the channel.
- 1.2.2. Manage sediment and invasive plants using best practices before they accumulate in the river channel.
- 1.2.3. Manage dry-weather flows to discourage the growth of invasive and non-native vegetation within the flood channel.
- 1.2.4. Retrofit infrastructure and other obstructions, such as bridges, to remove hydraulic constrictions.
- 1.2.5. Prioritize natural features and processes for flood risk reduction.
- 1.2.6. Partner with LA County Agricultural Commissioner to identify strategies to reduce sources of invasive plant populations in the watershed that could increase populations in the river.

1.3. Reduce peak flood flows into the river.

In addition to increasing capacity of the river, flood risk can also be improved by reducing the amount of water that enters the LA River at peak flows. Upstream storage or detention facilities, such as dams, help to store runoff during large storm events and slowly release the water so as not to exceed the downstream channel capacity. Groundwater recharge facilities direct stormwater to spreading grounds, where the water can percolate into the groundwater basins for later use.

- 1.3.1. Evaluate regional scale upstream dams and detention basins for opportunities to reduce flood risk downstream.
- 1.3.2. Increase capacity of existing dams and detention basins through measures such as clearing debris, deepening basins, increasing dam and levee heights, and improving real-time controls.

1.4. Include climate change research in the planning process for new projects along the river.

Current infrastructure in and along the LA River was designed based on historic climate data. However, a changing climate is likely to increase the frequency of extreme precipitation events that result in flows that may exceed the channel's current capacity. New projects along the LA River must consider the long-term impacts of climate change and the need to incorporate resilient infrastructure to handle these extreme events.

- 1.4.1. Conduct an inter-institutional study on climate change impacts in the LA Basin and how they impact hydrology and sea level rise.
- 1.4.2. Apply the latest accepted climate change prediction models in flood risk reduction planning.



Figure 152. Sepulveda Basin is an important asset to reduce peak flows on the LA River. Source: OLIN, 2019.



Figure 153. A worker removes invasive plant material from the channel near the Glendale Narrows, a maintenance practice that helps to increase the flood capacity of the LA River. Source: US Army Corps of Engineers, LA River Arundo Removal, 2004.

REDUCE FLOOD RISK AND IMPROVE RESILIENCY. (CONTINUED)

1.5. Update and improve emergency preparedness.

Although flood infrastructure is in place to protect life and property, flooding can still pose a threat to communities within the floodplain during an extreme storm event. These communities, which are protected from routine floods, must still be prepared. The LA River is flashy, meaning water levels in the river can rise rapidly in a matter of hours. Having emergency action plans in place, exercising those plans, and installing effective communication protocols can expedite response times and save lives.

- 1.5.1. Evaluate, update, or develop appropriate Emergency Action Plans that cover specific areas of the river where needed, including the dams and levees along the mainstem and the tributaries.
- 1.5.2. Conduct emergency preparedness exercises that test Emergency Action Plans.
- 1.5.3. Improve flood forecasting capabilities and monitoring for the river corridor.
- 1.5.4. Update and improve flood inundation maps.
- 1.5.5. Develop appropriate warning systems such as sirens, lights, or geo-targeted text message alerts to inform users of impending rain or rising water.
- 1.5.6. Evaluate critical infrastructure and facilities located in the floodplain, and encourage the use of best practices to reduce vulnerability to flood hazards.
- 1.5.7. Review and revise policies regarding closing the river trail during storms.
- 1.5.8. Assist emergency managers, local law enforcement, social service providers for vulnerable populations, and emergency responders in developing emergency response and evacuation plans for river adjacent communities, river users, special needs populations, and persons experiencing homelessness.

1.6. Increase public awareness of flood hazards and river safety.

Although flooding is the most common type of natural disaster in the country, the threats of flooding are often discounted by residents of Los Angeles County. The lack of recent floods coupled with severe droughts have rendered most people living adjacent to the LA River unaware of potential flood risk. People who understand their own flood risk are more likely to take actions to reduce their risk and stay safe during a flood.

- 1.6.1. Develop a website to assist in educating other agencies, cities, and the general public on river issues, including flood risk management and dangers posed by the river during heavy rainfall events.
- 1.6.2. Post consistent signage and communication about flood risk and river safety on bridges and access points.
- 1.6.3. Develop and implement an educational program on flood and river safety.
- 1.6.4. Encourage river adjacent residents and businesses to develop tailored emergency and evacuation plans.
- 1.6.5. Encourage residents and businesses in the floodplain to consider purchasing flood insurance, and provide them with information on flood risk, available resources, and flood insurance.
- 1.6.6. Encourage public awareness campaigns to include translation to languages spoken in local communities and coordination with a network of local leaders that can help lead different groups based on culture, age, and other community factors.

1.7. Improve flood facility operations and maintenance.

Dams, levees, channels, and other flood management projects, like all infrastructure, require proper operations and maintenance. Increased investment in operations and maintenance of LA River infrastructure can increase its effectiveness and lengthen its useful life, providing a greater return on initial capital outlays.

- 1.7.1. Expand coordination between responsible flood management agencies including the US Army Corps of Engineers and the LA County Flood Control District and consolidate responsibilities under the LA County Flood Control District through divestiture or deauthorization to streamline operations and maintenance, facility management, funding, and permitting.
- 1.7.2. Manage sediment and invasive vegetation in the river channel using best management practices.
- 1.7.3. Implement new technologies such as real-time monitoring, reporting, and controls.
- 1.7.4. Update the flood risk and pumping plant telemetry systems.
- 1.7.5. Update and improve the mapping of the watershed's storm drains, channels, access, and jurisdictional ownership.
- 1.7.6. Continue to implement, review, and improve dam and levee safety programs that ensure the flood management infrastructure delivers intended benefits while reducing risks to people, property, and the environment through continuous assessment, communication, and management.

1.8. Implement consistent floodplain management practices across the region.

Floodplain management is fundamental to reducing losses from floods. Adopting regionally consistent floodplain management practices, such as managing development in the floodplain, will help to reduce potential catastrophic flood damage and improve community resilience to flooding.

- 1.8.1. Update and improve hydrologic data and models for the LA River watershed.
- 1.8.2. Update and improve flood inundation mapping, and consider local assessments for flood risk.
- 1.8.3. Manage floodplain development and support community activities in coordination with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- 1.8.4. Support communities in maintaining and improving their Community Rating System scores.
- 1.8.5. Work to ensure the levees along the LA River are certified by FEMA.
- 1.8.6. Encourage flood resilient projects in the 1% (100-year) floodplain.
- 1.8.7. Encourage and prioritize resilient retrofits of existing critical infrastructure in the 1% (100-year) floodplain and consider for the 0.2% (500-year) floodplain.

**SYSTEMATICALLY REMOVING
INVASIVE VEGETATION AND
SEDIMENT PILES, WHILE
ALSO MAINTAINING REFUGE
HABITAT, WILL INCREASE
CHANNEL CAPACITY AND
SPECIES DIVERSITY**

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION IN THE NARROWS

The Narrows planning frame of the LA River presents a specific set of issues because the channel has limited capacity to convey flows greater than the 2% event (50-year), and in some locations the levels are as low as the 10% (10-year) or even the 25% (4-year) events.¹³⁵ At the same time, the Narrows offers multiuse opportunities not found elsewhere along the LA River, including ecosystems with opportunities for ecological improvements and recreational attributes such as kayaking and birdwatching. There are several strategies available to improve the flood conditions in the Narrows that have the capability to increase conveyance to as high as the 2% (50-year) or even the 1% (100-year) flood events. Depending on the goals, these strategies need to be explored in concert to develop the best project available for the LA River system.

CHANNEL REHABILITATION AT THE NARROWS

In addition to documented areas of willow, cottonwood, and other native vegetation,¹³⁶ large woody and non-native invasive species, along with mass sediment accumulation in the soft bottom reaches of the LA River, specifically in the Narrows, restrict flows during larger events (2%, 1%, and 0.2%), which would cause the river to overtop its banks. The larger, non-native and invasive species (*Arundo donax*, jubata [*Cortaderia jubata*], Mexican fan palm [*Washingtonia robusta*], Canary Island date palm [*Phoenix canariensis*]) have become overgrown with only intermittent maintenance for the past

several decades, and in combination with the sediment buildup along the channel bottom, flood risk has increased significantly. Rhizomatic root systems of species such as *Arundo* trap sediment and create large hummocks within the channel, often 10 feet high, restricting flows and creating low value habitat when compared to native plant species. Invasive species such as *Arundo* also thrive in the year-round dry weather flows in the Narrows which is rich in nitrogen from treated effluent from upstream wastewater treatment facilities that discharge into the LA River.

A channel rehabilitation program could reduce flood risk in several stretches along the Narrows. If the rehabilitation removes sediment and replaces existing vegetation with native grasses, capacities in some reaches may increase from below 35,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to the original design discharge of 78,000 cfs, more than doubling the carrying capacity of the current channel itself, from the 25% (4-year) event to greater than the 2% (50-year) event.¹³⁷ A combination of this approach with other flood risk reduction strategies, including bridge modifications and a bypass tunnel, could potentially bring the LA River in the Narrows up to the 1% flood event capacity goal.

However, given the range of needs in this area of the river, a more strategic, multi-beneficial channel rehabilitation program that would still significantly reduce flood risk within the Narrows while also providing the added benefits of

CHANNEL REHABILITATION

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SYSTEM-BASED
FRAME 5-7, RM 24.5-32

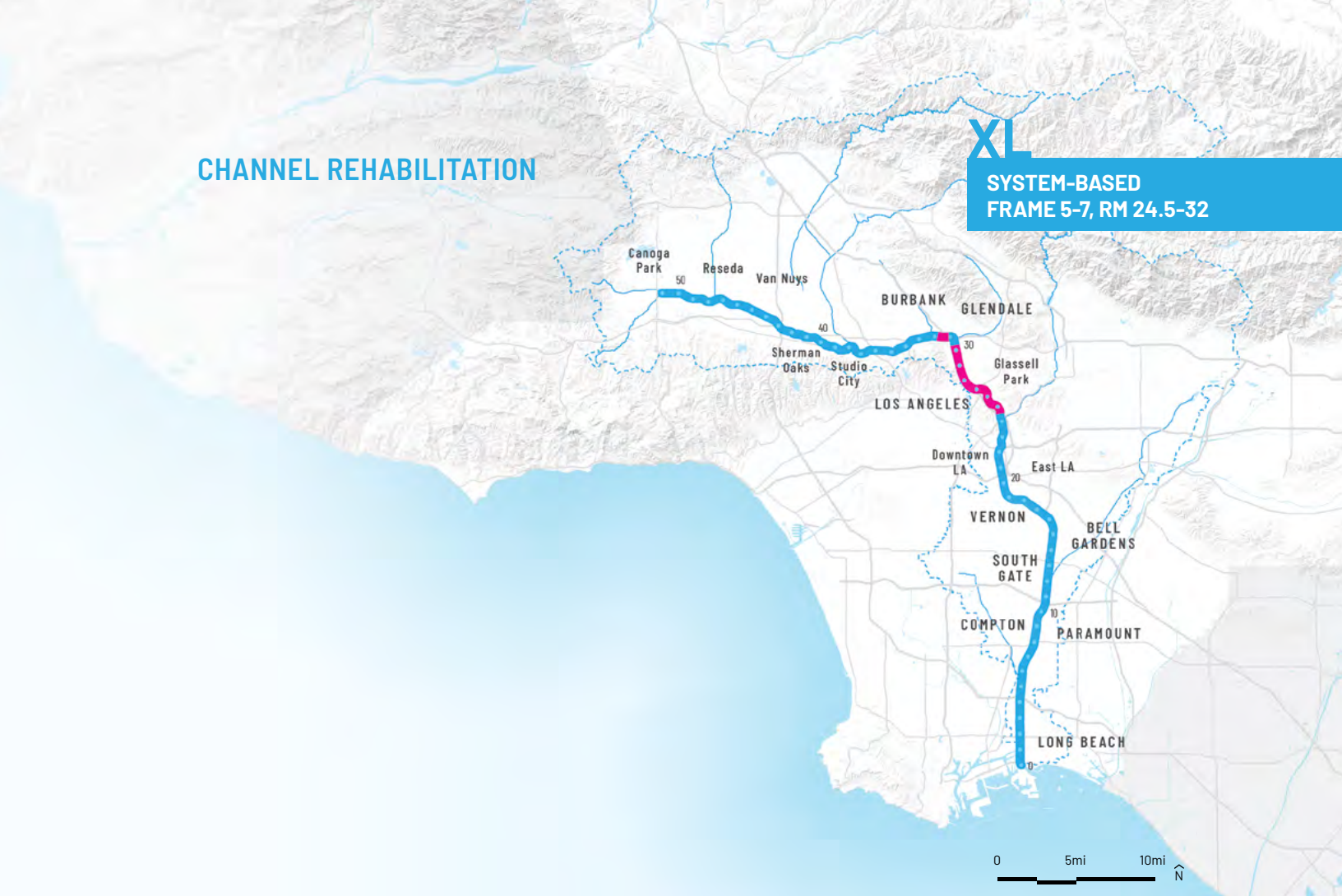


Figure 275. Soft-bottom sections of the river within the Narrows. Source: OLIN, Geosyntec, 2019.

increasing native vegetation along the channel could be followed. Through this approach, biodiversity of native mammals, avian, and insect species that rely on native vegetation would be increased. There would also be a decreased need for the installation of unsightly temporary flood barriers, which are often installed by jurisdictional agencies to reduce flood risk and block access to the river. This approach, while not strictly meeting the freeboard requirements¹³⁸ throughout the Narrows, could enable the 4% (25-year) event to be mostly contained within the channel, except for a few locations where overtopping may be expected.

In a multi-beneficial channel rehabilitation program, the ideal resulting river cross section would include native grasses, species such as willows that “lay down” during flood events (such as, but not limited to, arroyo willow [*Salix lasiolepis*], black willow [*Salix gooddingii*], red willow [*Salix laevigata*], sandbar willow [*Salix exigua*]), and some native riparian trees (such as,

but not limited to, Fremont cottonwood [*Populus fremontii*], coast live oak [*Quercus agrifolia*], California sycamore [*Platanus racemosa*], California walnut [*Juglans californica*]) along with a reduction of sediment mounding on the channel bottom. Further detail on recommended native species and plant communities can be found in Appendix Volume I: Design Guidelines, Chapter 5. Natural sediment transport processes will still allow some accumulation of sediment, and the removal of the large piles of sediment and the *Arundo* rhizome root hummocks will reduce the large piles that exist within the flood channel. Considering that smaller and larger storm events will continue, the implementation of a long-term adaptive management approach is important. Future storm events will continue to shape and contour the channel, and maintenance will help support a healthy viable ecosystem that can co-exist with decreased flood risk to the community.

Refuge Habitat Identification and Patchwork Removal Process

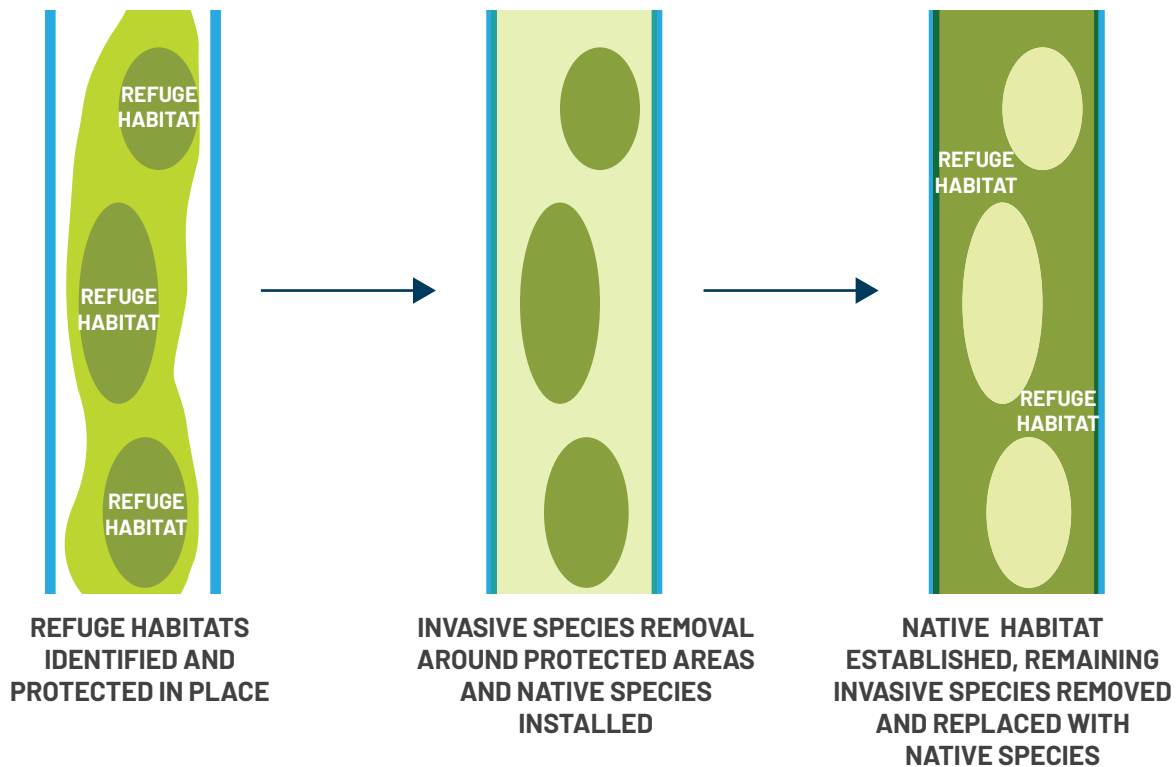


Figure 276. Refuge Habitat Identification and Patchwork Removal Process. The patchwork removal process for invasive species first identifies refuge habitats to be protected in place based on the range of the key species established by ecologists and an ecological survey. Then, invasive species are removed from the areas outside of the refuge habitat zones and native species such as willows and grasses are installed. Once this installed native habitat is established, the remaining invasive species are carefully removed from the original refuge habitat areas. Adaptive management by qualified professionals is crucial for the success of this strategy. Source: OLIN, 2019.

Process

Despite the advantages of channel rehabilitation for flood risk reduction, it is critical that this type of project be implemented in an environmentally responsible way that identifies, creates, and maintains refuge habitats for keystone species during periods of invasive species and sediment removal. Invasive species removal must be carried out by a trained team of landscape maintenance workers with specialized heavy equipment that can identify species and selectively remove invasive vegetation and their root systems. This method would be a patchwork removal process by first identifying and protecting critical habitat zones, then sequentially removing invasive species in the areas outside of the protected zones and installing native plant species. Only once the installed native habitat is established should the careful removal of the invasive species in

the protected zones be completed. Ecologists, arborists, and other vegetation specialists should consult and supervise the patchwork removal process. All native plant species should be installed and maintained through establishment, following requirements set forth in Appendix Volume I: Design Guidelines, Chapter 5. The process of channel rehabilitation is not a singular 11-mile process to be carried out once and left alone for 20 years. Instead, this will require an ongoing multi-year adaptive management strategy that includes measures such as consistent monitoring and removal of any reintroduced non-native invasive species and native plant species replacement as needed while the habitat becomes established. In association with this program, a concerted effort should be made to clear the upper tributaries and watershed of the highly invasive non-native vegetation species to reduce the chances of recolonization.

**IT IS NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY
KEYSTONE WILDLIFE, INSECTS,
AND INVERTEBRATE SPECIES
ALONG THE CHANNEL THAT
SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AND
DETERMINE THEIR RANGE**

Refuge Habitats

Prior to beginning channel rehabilitation, it is necessary to identify native, endemic keystone wildlife, insects, and invertebrate species along the channel that should be maintained and determine their maximum range of habitation. The LA River Master Plan biodiversity profiles indicate desirable species ranging from large fauna to insects that can guide this process. The LA River Design Guidelines plant lists specify native plant communities and key indicator species within each community. At a minimum, one to two species in each category should be selected to serve as target species to determine an appropriate refuge habitat area.

Overlapping the range of target species will assist in determining the maximum distance that a refuge habitat can be from an area of invasive species and/or sediment removal. This patchwork pattern would define the ongoing process of adaptive vegetation and habitat management. A refuge habitat should not be disturbed until the adjacent rehabilitated area can meet the same habitat needs, allowing wildlife or other species to migrate to the rehabilitated area. It is expected that rehabilitated areas can meet habitat needs within the first few years after rehabilitation, so the process of channel rehabilitation will be ongoing. ^{139 140}

Hydraulic Considerations

The process of creating refuge habitats will result in a patchwork pattern of invasive species and sediment removal so each section of channel rehabilitation undertaken would be studied for specific hydraulic effects. As the invasive species and sediment removal process is planned, and the adaptive management program is developed, consideration would be made to create passageways for large volumes of water during times of high flows.

Existing and Alternative Sections of the Narrows Channel Rehabilitation

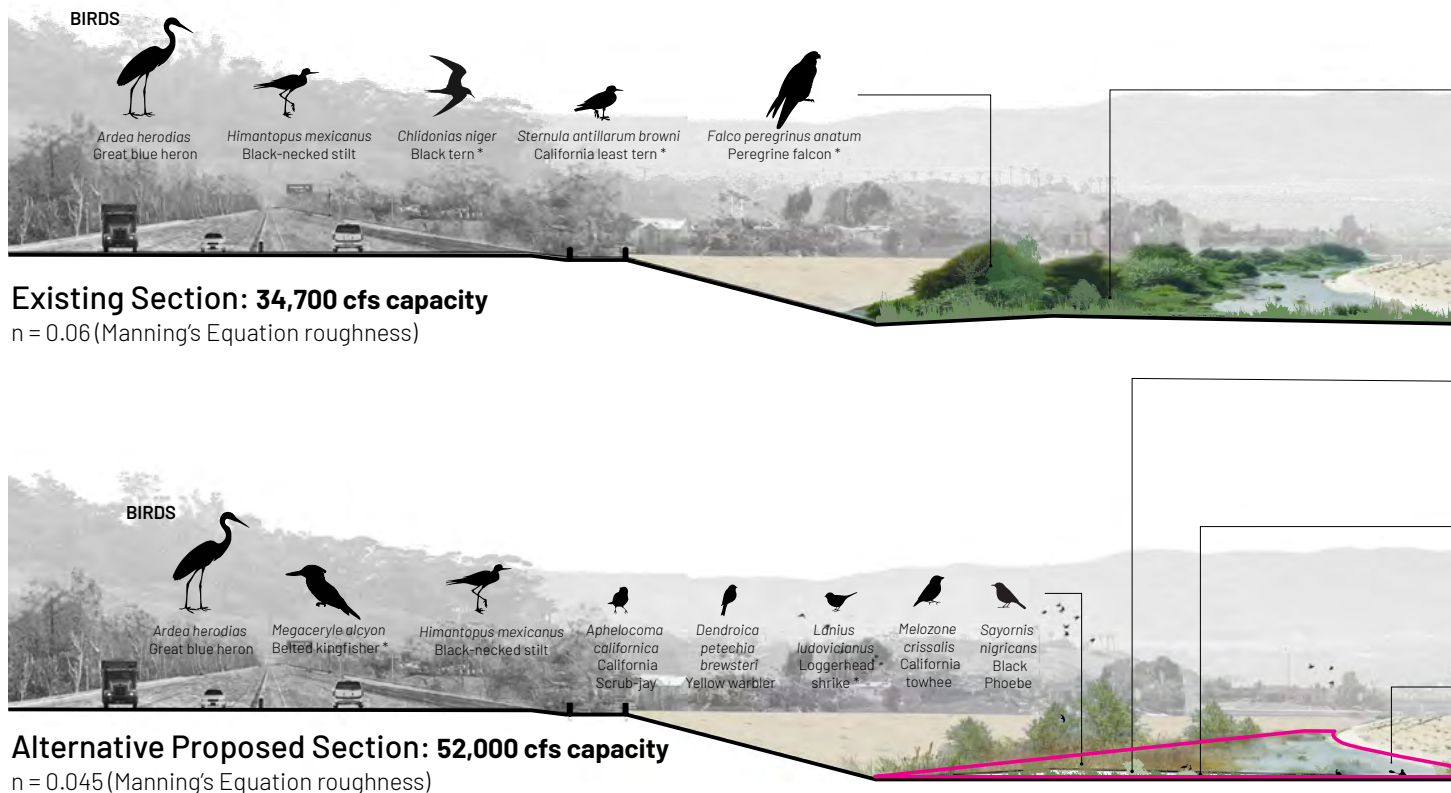


Figure 277. Existing and Alternative Proposed Sections of the Narrows Channel Rehabilitation. Rehabbing the Narrows lowers the roughness coefficient while also improving habitat and biodiversity in the channel, which includes, but is not limited to, a wide array of bird, mammal, and insect species. The top section shows current existing conditions while the bottom section shows the channel after the proposed rehabbing.

Adaptive Management

Ongoing observation and management of habitat areas should be continuously carried out over time by a team of specialized scientists, ecologists, plant specialists, and environmental engineers. Wildlife monitoring should begin prior to any channel rehabilitation work. Any changes observed can be compared to the initial baseline ecosystem function.

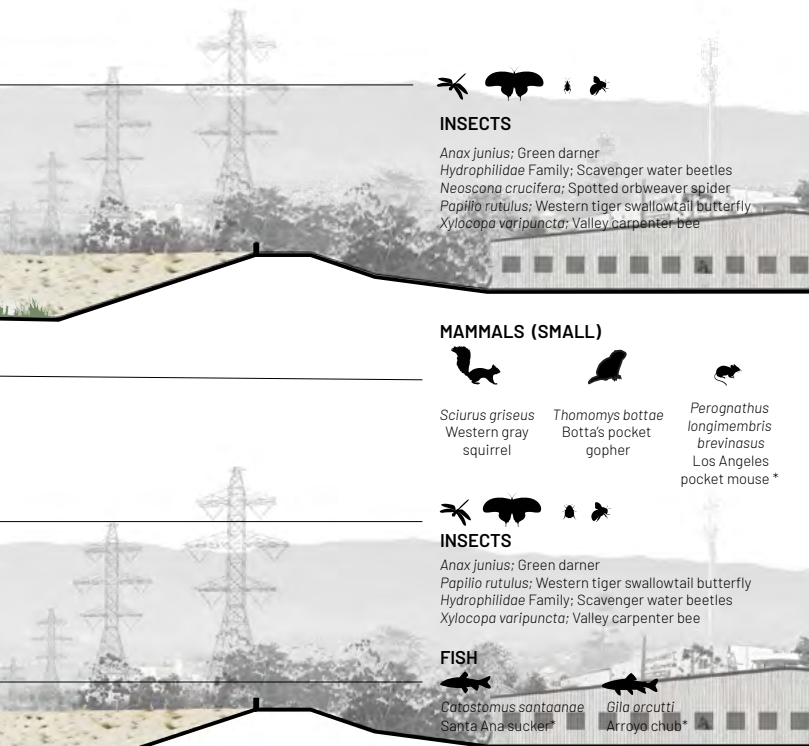
Monitoring of ecosystem function not only includes observations of keystone species but also includes allowances for the dynamic biological, geochemical, and physical processes that occur within the riparian habitat. Ecosystem functions such as nutrient cycling, providing connected shade, or filtering pollutants should be encouraged in the adaptive management work. This requires that a trained team of landscape maintenance workers engage in practices

contrary to typical landscape maintenance. For example, organic matter and debris from native vegetation should not be cleared, and refuge habitat should be left undisturbed. As invasive species are removed, constant monitoring and maintenance is required to ensure that invasive species do not encroach into recently cleared areas.




Adaptive management practices should be flexible enough so that they can be adjusted over time as scientific observations are made and the ecosystems themselves change. Practices may also vary throughout different times of the year to best react to the varying conditions of the river.

Hydraulic performance should be monitored over time to determine which species have the greatest impact on the capacity of the channel.

SEVERAL OPTIONS WERE EXPLORED FOR THIS SECTION OF THE RIVER. FOR MORE DETAIL, SEE APPENDIX VOLUME II: TECHNICAL BACKUP DOCUMENT



PLANT COMMUNITIES

-  ALLUVIAL FAN SAGE SCRUB
-  SOUTHERN COTTONWOOD-WILLOW RIPARIAN FOREST
-  PERENNIAL FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

Education and Engagement

The Narrows provides a unique opportunity in LA to study, learn, and experience native ecosystems if properly managed and maintained. Local schools as well as colleges and universities could benefit from learning about the adaptive management process, native plants, native wildlife, and hydraulics. School curriculum for nearby elementary or secondary schools could help provide much needed education on the importance of native ecosystem adaptive management, native plant communities, and native wildlife.

Local communities could also be engaged through wildlife monitoring programs that highlight specific native keystone species. Programs might include wildlife cameras, educational exhibits about the adaptive management process, or tours and nature walks.

Green Jobs/Local Jobs/Youth Internship Potential

The labor-intensive process of selective invasive species removal and adaptive management could provide a local jobs opportunity, job training for working with native plant systems, or a teen internship program for local high school students. Another opportunity would be the integration of native plant and ecosystem job training with criminal justice reform initiatives or jobs programs for persons experiencing homelessness.

Planning for workforce development is essential to this process as typical vegetation removal processes will not meet the needs of a nuanced program for invasive species and sediment removal along with strategic adaptive management.

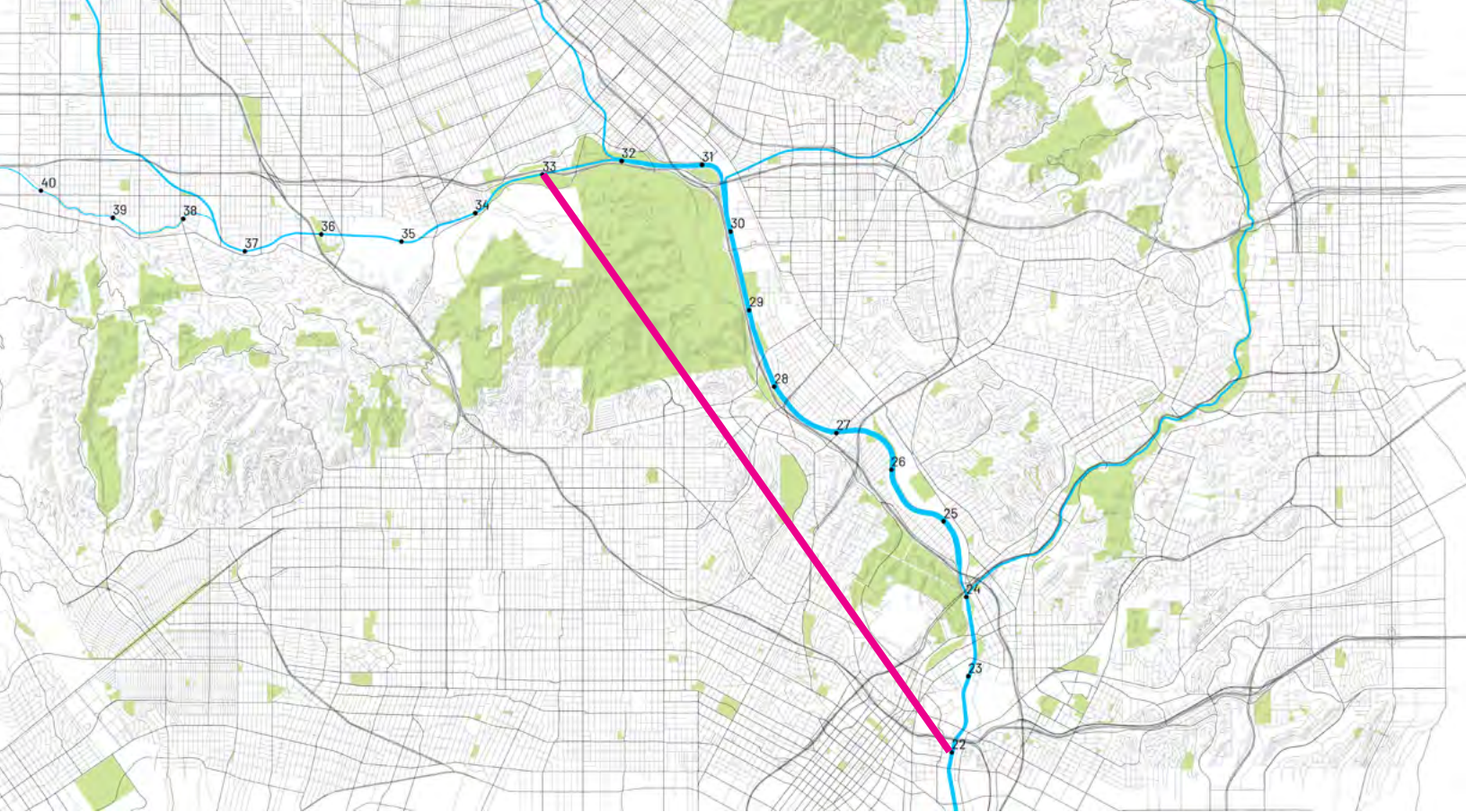


Figure 278. A bypass tunnel would divert water at river mile 33 and return it to the river at river mile 22.

BYPASS TUNNEL

Currently, the 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, and 0.2% flood events are shown to cause varying levels of flooding along the Narrows. Channel rehabilitation in the Narrows to remove invasive species and replace with a range of native species including grasses and some riparian trees could lower the water surface elevation throughout the Narrows improving capacity. The 4% (25-year) flood event would generally not meet the freeboard requirements, but the flow would be largely contained within the riverbanks, except at a few locations. Addition of a bypass tunnel could further improve the capacity. For example, a large bypass tunnel, diverting water from the channel upstream of the Headworks property at river mile 33 and returning it back into the channel downstream of Piggyback Yard at river mile 22, could provide approximately 20,000 cfs of additional capacity. This could result in the 2% (50-year) flood event being largely contained within the riverbanks, although the freeboard requirements would not be met, and overtopping would be expected in some locations.

The bypass tunnel may enable the 1% (100-year) flood event conveyance goal in the Narrows to be achieved, but this would also require rehabilitation of the channel to add native grasses and modification of several bridges to clear span.

Size, Hydraulic Considerations, and Multi-Benefits

The concrete tunnel would be approximately 40 feet in diameter and nine miles long, with a 0.6% slope. The inlet may consist of a lateral weir on the existing channel approximately 1,000 feet long leading to a forebay and tunnel entrance. Additional hydraulic considerations for the inlet and outlet would have to be evaluated during design. This tunnel could provide some of the needed relief required during very large flood events while also providing much needed storage within the system, allowing for multiple benefits (i.e., water supply and water quality) to be accrued even during smaller storms. Multiple precedents for this type of intervention exist.



Figure 367. Channel lining, sub-drain hatch, and weep holes along the side of the LA River channel. Source: Geosyntec, 2018.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION O&M

Planning for the flood risk reduction projects and system proposals in the LA River Master Plan Update is critical for ensuring the physical feasibility and future success of projects along the river. The USACE and the LACFCD have a combined responsibility in performing operations and maintenance of flood facilities to manage flood risk along the LA River and its tributaries. Clear delineation, tracking, and enforcement of operations and maintenance responsibilities by other agencies for adjacent and overlapping facilities, such as recreational amenities, are critical for ensuring that crucial operations and maintenance is performed at all pertinent locations. Increased coordination between the operations and maintenance entities along the river could enhance efficiencies in comprehensively maintaining the physical functionality of the flood management systems, especially as projects are proposed along the reimagined river.

Flood facility operations and maintenance includes inspections and repairs to elements such as:

Channel Lining

Primary operations and maintenance concerns for the structural concrete and grouted riprap-lined channels includes cracking, separation of joints, concrete spalling, vegetation, and uplift of invert slabs. These deficiencies can weaken the structure and create a larger operations and maintenance issue if left unaddressed.

Subdrains

Subdrain systems, which consist of networks of pipes, groundwater relief vaults, cleanouts at channel bottoms, and multiple rows of weep holes along channel sides, are typically present to mitigate for potential build-up of water pore pressures underneath and behind channel sides. Making sure these features are maintained and free of debris is critical to the performance of the channels.

Outfalls

There are many side drain outfalls that drain the local sub-watersheds and discharge into the LA River throughout its 51 miles. Oftentimes, they get clogged with debris and vegetation or require structural repairs to the flap gates.

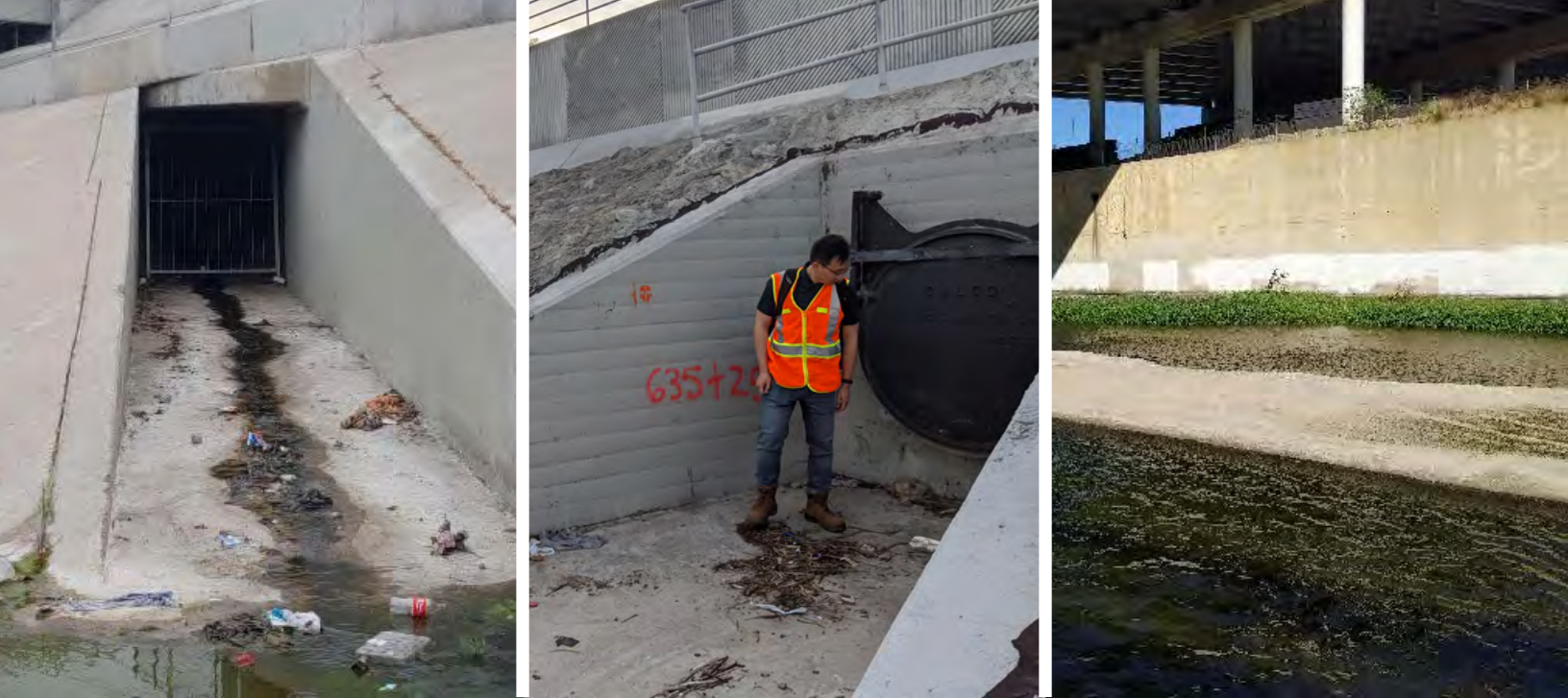


Figure 368. Outfall, soft bottom sediment and vegetation build-up inspection, and concrete bottom build-up. Source: Geosyntec, 2018.

Trash, Sediment, and Non-native Invasive Vegetation Management

The earthen-bottom portion of the LA River typically accumulates large amounts of trash, sediment, and non-native invasive vegetation. Routine removal of the debris and management of non-native invasive vegetation using best practices is critical to the facility to maintain the capacity of the channel. Non-native invasive vegetation removal should follow the patchwork process described in detail in the Narrows channel rehabilitation project example in Chapter 9. This process first establishes refuge habitats based on the range of key wildlife species identified by qualified professionals, such as ecologists. Removal of non-native invasive species would occur with specially trained crews in areas outside of the refuge habitat, installing additional native species. Once these species are established, the remaining non-native invasive species may be removed. Vegetation along levees that is not properly installed or maintained can be a hindrance to visual inspections, maintenance access, and emergency flood fighting (if needed). All vegetation planted along levees should be in accordance with prevailing USACE guidelines as outlined in chapter 5 of Appendix Volume I: Design Guidelines.

Visual inspections should occur at regular intervals (i.e., semi-annually) in addition to after a large storm event to ensure that the flood risk reduction infrastructure can continue to perform as intended. A visual inspection program is important to identify deficiencies and establish operations and maintenance priorities.

Because the current operations and maintenance responsibility for the LA River falls on both the LACFCD as well as the USACE, the operations and maintenance budget for the LA River system comes from multiple sources. In California, studies of various river systems have shown an average annual operations and maintenance cost per urban levee mile to be \$54,000 (in 2019). National examples from the USACE reach as high as \$75,000-\$100,000 (in 2019) per mile per year for urban and rural levees. These do not include major replacement costs.

Over time, flood risk reduction infrastructure will require replacement. Additionally, a large storm event that causes significant flooding could alter operations, maintenance, and replacement priorities. In these instances, rather than rebuilding infrastructure in the same way for expediency, current practices should be reviewed and adapted to improve resiliency and provide multiple benefits.

3.

HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS

HYDROLOGIC AND HYDRAULIC ANALYSES AND MODELING ARE REQUIRED TO ASSESS SUITABILITY AND APPLICABILITY OF POSSIBLE STRATEGIES ALONG THE LA RIVER AND WITHIN THE LA RIVER WATERSHED

The LA River Master Plan identifies a flood risk reduction goal to provide conveyance capacity for the “1% flood” along the entire LA River. Deficient reaches along the channel have been identified where this goal is not currently met, including portions in the upper river above Sepulveda Flood Control Basin and most notably within the Glendale Narrows reach (also known as the ARBOR reach, river miles 22 to 33).

There are a range of possible strategies and combinations of strategies that may be used to achieve the goal. Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses and modeling are required to assess suitability and applicability of possible strategies along the LA River and in the LA River watershed. These strategies and technical analyses are described in the following chapter, including a definition of

the “1% flood,” a description of the existing flood risk reduction system, descriptions of available strategies, and results of hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and calculations.

Many of the ideas and much of the analyses in the following chapter were developed as part of an in-depth workshop conducted by the LARMP Team in March 2019. The workshop had the goals of informing the LARMP subcommittee members on the hydrology and hydraulics of the LA River with specific focus on the challenges of flood risk reduction, soliciting input regarding ideas and opportunities for flood risk reduction, and robustly and scientifically evaluating potential solutions and opportunities.

85TH PERCENTILE 24-HOUR RAINFALL DEPTH

Total Rainfall (inches):

- 0.20 - 0.45
- 0.45 - 0.70
- 0.70 - 0.95
- 0.95 - 1.20
- 1.20 - 1.45



Figure 58. 85th Percentile 24-hour Rainfall Depth. Precipitation in the LA River watershed over 24 hours for an 85th percentile storm. The 1% storm event is approximately an order of magnitude (i.e., 10 times) larger than the typical storm events that are experienced several times per year. Source: Los Angeles County GIS Data Portal, 85th and 95th Percentile Rainfall, 2016, Los Angeles County GIS Data Portal, Rainfall Intensity, 2011; Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

THE 1% FLOOD EVENT EXPLAINED

The 1% flood, which is often referred to as the 100-year flood, is a flood event that has a 1 in 100 chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. A common misunderstanding is that the 100-year flood is likely to occur only once in a 100-year period. In fact, there is approximately a 63% chance of one or more 100-year floods occurring in any 100-year period, and about a 25% chance of occurring during a 30-year period. The 1% terminology used in the LARMP is to recognize that the time between two 100-year events is generally not 100 years (e.g., two 100-year events could occur in consecutive years or even in the same year). Similarly, the 2% flood is synonymous with the 50-year event and the 0.2% flood is synonymous with the 500-year event (Figure 59).

Recurrence Interval (years)	Annual Exceedance Probability (%)
2	50
5	20
10	10
25	4
50	2
100	1
200	0.5
500	0.2

Figure 59. Recurrence Interval and Annual Exceedance Probability. Source: USGS, 2019.

100-YEAR STORM PRECIPITATION OVER 24 HOURS



Figure 60. 100-year Storm Precipitation Over 24 Hours. Precipitation in the LA River watershed over 24 hours for a 1% storm event. The 1% storm event is approximately an order of magnitude (i.e., 10 times) larger than the typical storm events that are experienced several times per year. Source: Los Angeles County GIS Data Portal, 85th and 95th Percentile Rainfall, 2016, Los Angeles County GIS Data Portal, Rainfall Intensity, 2011; Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

For the LA River watershed, the 1% storm event corresponds to a large multiple-day precipitation event where the watershed becomes saturated and then culminates with peak 24-hour rain totals in excess of 6 inches in Downtown LA and almost 15 inches at Mt. Wilson (Figure 58). The 6 inches falling in Downtown LA during a 1% event compares to the approximately 0.75 inches of rain during an 85th percentile storm⁶ that water quality projects (e.g., LID and BMPs) are typically designed to capture and/or infiltrate (Figure 59). The 1% storm event is approximately an order of magnitude (i.e., 10 times) larger than the typical storm events that are experienced several times per year. The 1% flood risk reduction goal aims to protect lives and property from flood and inundation for storms at a minimum of up to the 1% event.

**THE 1% STORM EVENT IS
APPROXIMATELY AN ORDER OF
MAGNITUDE (I.E., 10 TIMES) LARGER
THAN THE TYPICAL STORM EVENTS
THAT ARE EXPERIENCED SEVERAL
TIMES PER YEAR**

LA RIVER WATERSHED

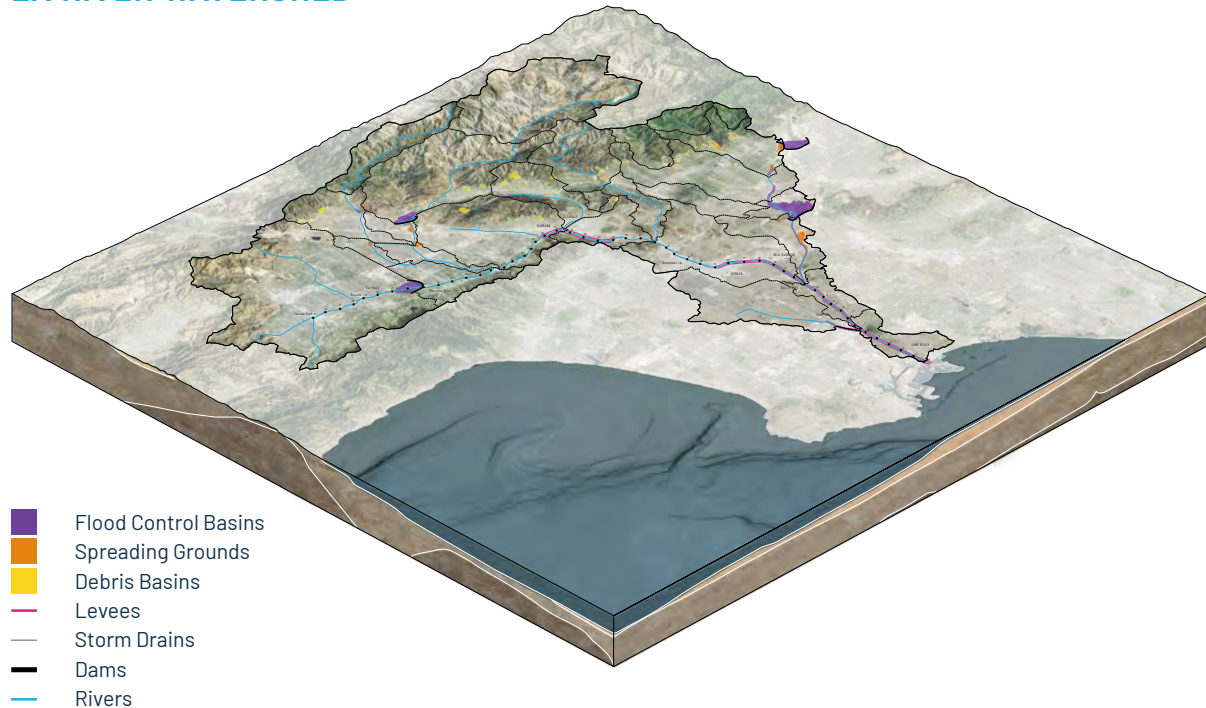


Figure 61. This diagram shows the LA River watershed, including major flood risk reduction infrastructure. Source: LA County GIS Data Portal, Google Earth, Geosyntec, OLIN.

EXISTING FLOOD RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM

The LA River watershed is comprised of natural streams and channels in the mountainous areas that convey the large volumes of run-off down to the alluvial plain (Figure 61). Within the plain these channels are mostly engineered (i.e., concrete lined or stabilized with rock or rip-rap protection) and convey the run-off to the main LA River channel. Flow in some of these channels may be regulated by large-volume flood control basins, such as Big Tujunga and Hansen Dams, that serve to reduce peak flows. Spreading grounds, such as Tujunga Spreading Grounds, are designed to infiltrate water diverted from the channels into the ground during smaller, more frequent events. These are designed for water supply purposes and provide only limited reduction in peak storm flows. Debris basins are often located near the mouths of steep canyons and are designed primarily to stop mud and debris from flowing downstream.

The main LA River channel is mostly concrete lined, except the soft-bottom portions in the Sepulveda Flood Control Basin, the Glendale Narrows, and the estuary near the mouth of the LA River in Long Beach. One of the large in-line flood control basins, the Sepulveda Basin, provides more than 17,000 acre-feet (AF) of active flood storage that is used to reduce peak flows in the upper river. Additional flood risk reduction is provided by levees along the Glendale Narrows and the lower river below the Rio Hondo confluence. The primary purpose of the existing system of channels, levees, and flood control basins is to collect the runoff and convey it out to the ocean as quickly as possible.

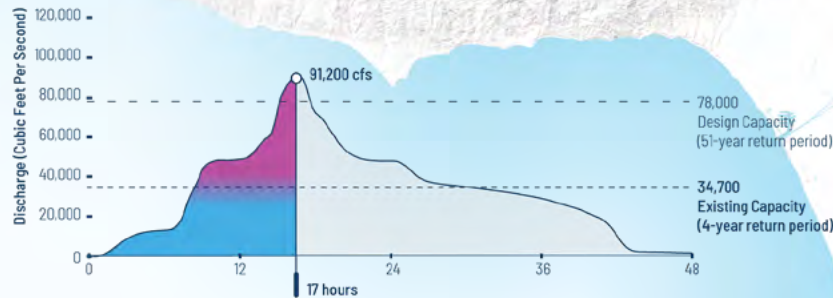
The engineered system has substantially reduced flood risk since the devastating floods of the 1930s, but there are still portions that do not meet the 1% flood risk reduction goal. Most notably is the Glendale Narrows reach, upstream of Downtown LA as illustrated in Figure 62 which shows results of a HEC-HMS⁷ model simulation of a 1% event.

EXISTING 1% FLOOD EVENT

HEC-HMS Model:

Glendale Narrows (River Mile 29)

Hydrograph



Channel Section

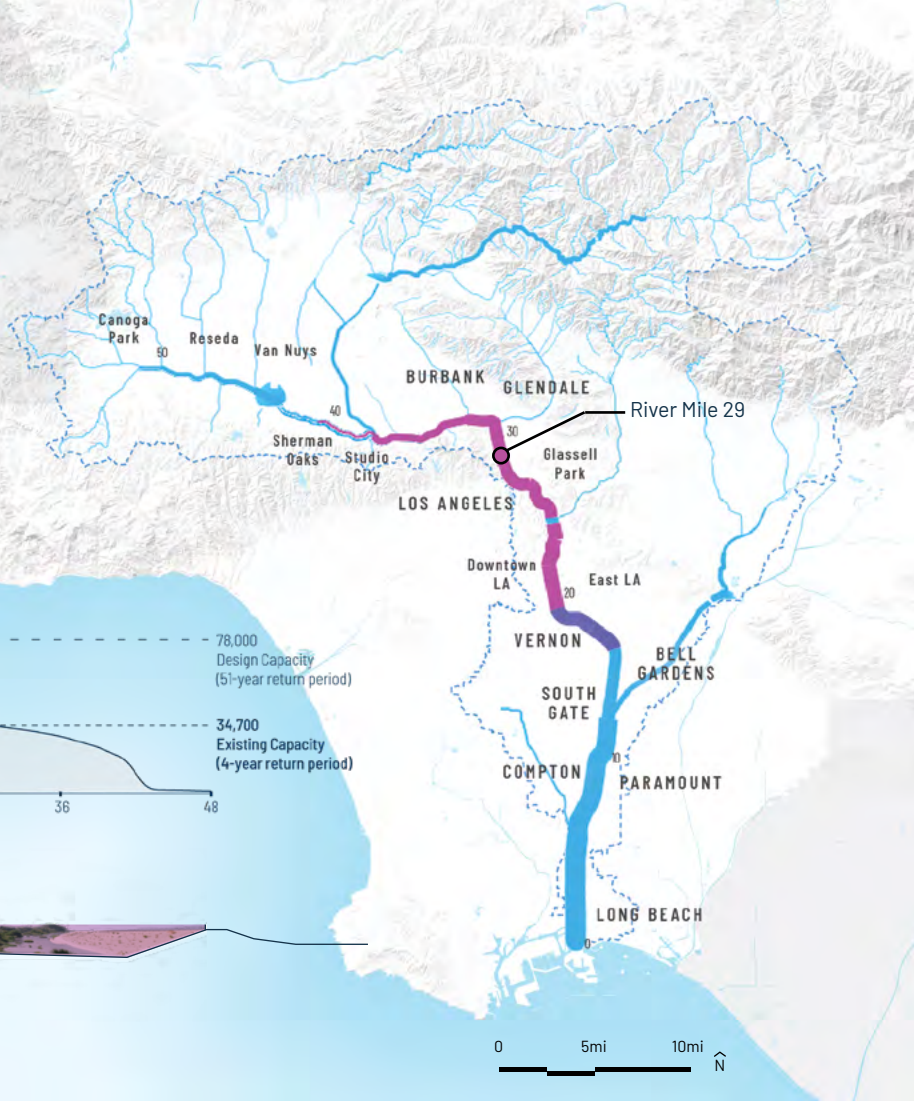


Figure 62. Existing 1% Flood Event. HEC-HMS model simulation of a 1% precipitation event indicating sufficient channel capacity (blue); deficient (pink); or near deficient (purple) channel capacity. The Glendale Narrows reach has deficient channel capacity. Source: LA County GIS Data Portal, Google Earth, Geosyntec, OLIN.

HYDROLOGIC MODEL

The HEC-HMS model is designed to model event-based precipitation (e.g., 50%, 1%, 0.2% storms) and includes infiltration into pervious surfaces (e.g., soils), excess surface run-off from subwatersheds, routing through flood control basins, and routing through channels. The output from the model is a prediction of flow rates throughout the channelized system for the entire duration of the storm (i.e., hydrographs at all locations in the channels). Comparison of these flow rates against available channel capacity, as determined by hydraulic models or calculations, can then be made to assess the ability of the system or portions of the system to safely convey floods.

The plan view of Figure 62 illustrates the flow state during the peak of the hydrograph at river mile 29, in the Glendale Narrows. The thickness of the lines indicates relative flow rates (i.e., thicker lines denote higher flow rates). Blue lines indicate flow rates within the local channel capacity, pink lines indicate flow rates that exceed capacity, while the purple lines indicate flow rates near (within approximately $\pm 10\%$) capacity. The hydrograph (i.e., plot of flow rate versus time) at river mile 29 is also illustrated with the same color coding to indicate whether flow is below, above, or near the estimated existing channel capacity of 34,700 cubic feet per second (cfs). Finally, a cross section indicates the depth of the water in the channel. The modeling results clearly indicate deficient channel capacity throughout the Glendale Narrows, as has been noted in other studies⁸ where a protection level below the 25% event has been estimated. A range of different strategies can be considered to bring this portion of the channel up to meet the 1% flood risk reduction goal.

REDUCE FLOWS TO THE CHANNEL	INCREASE CHANNEL CAPACITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Impact Development • Best Management Practices • Distributed Storage • Increase Capacity of Sepulveda and Hansen Flood Control Basins • Additional Flood Control Basins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Channel Width • Increase Levee Height • Diversions or Bypass Tunnels • Refurbishment • Concrete Bottom

Figure 63. Strategies to improve flood risk reduction for the LA River.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES

Fundamentally, there are two categories of strategies to improve flood risk reduction, and details are shown in Figure 63.

- Reduce flows to the channel
- Increase channel capacity

Reducing flows to the channel may be achieved through widespread implementation of low impact development (LID), best management practices (BMP), and distributed storage. These strategies may reduce the run-off by enabling increased infiltration and/or storage that locally removes a portion of the total rainfall from running into the channels and ultimately the LA River. These distributed approaches may also provide water quality and water supply (i.e., groundwater recharge) benefits. An alternative strategy to the distributed approach is to provide larger-scale regional storage facilities, such as the Sepulveda and Hansen Flood Control Basins. Increasing the size of existing basins, and/or providing additional new basins may assist in peak flow reduction.

Increasing the capacity of the channel may be achieved through widening, adding levees or increasing height of existing levees, decreasing hydraulic roughness (e.g., removing vegetation), or constructing a bypass (e.g., a tunnel).

The effectiveness of the different approaches, and whether they are feasible to make meaningful improvements in flood risk reduction, were evaluated through hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and analyses as described below.

REDUCE FLOWS TO THE LA RIVER

In the following sections, the HEC-HMS model was used to evaluate the effectiveness of the different ways to reduce flows to the LA River.

Widespread Implementation of LID/BMP/Distributed Storage

The widespread implementation of LID/BMP/ distributed storage each have the effect of locally removing a portion of the total rainfall (e.g., by enabling direct infiltration or temporary storage and infiltration) from running into channels that feed the LA River. This will generally decrease

NARROWS 1% FLOOD EVENT

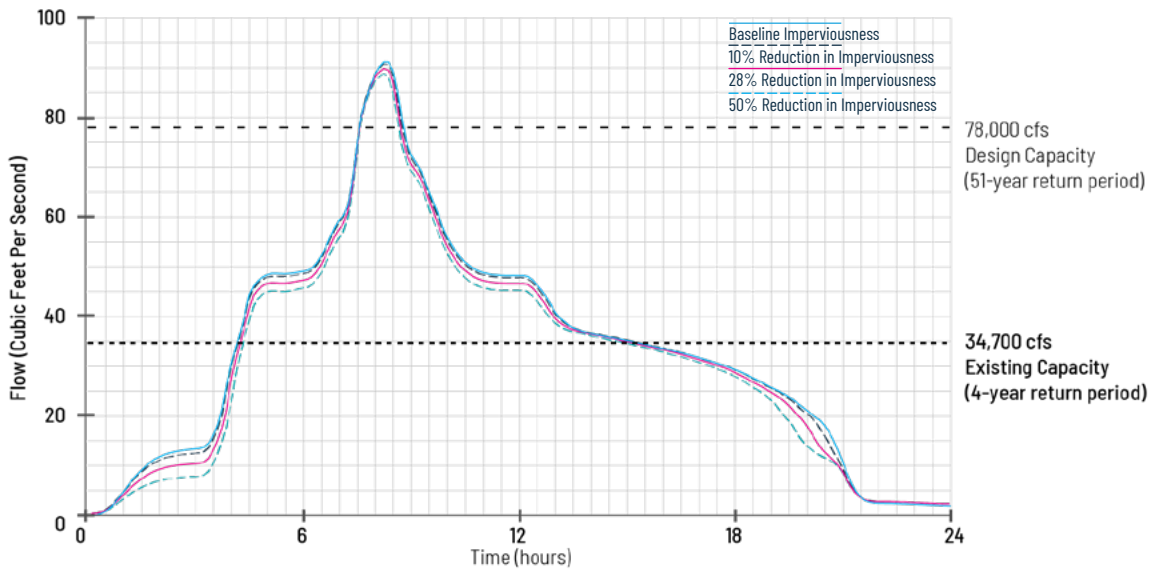


Figure 64. Hydrographs for 1% flood at river mile 29 from HEC-HMS simulations with baseline (existing) impervious area and reductions in impervious area of 10%, 28% (to meet 2037 EWMP goals), and 50%. Model results indicate some flow rate reduction early in the hydrograph, but minimal reduction of the peak flow. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

flows to the river. These measures are typically implemented and designed to meet water quality objectives in terms of removing mandated loads of pollutants of concern. For example, the Upper LA River (ULAR) Enhanced Water Quality Management Plan (EWMP) calls for an additional 5,186 AF of stormwater to be detained and infiltrated for each design storm event by year 2037 to meet the goals for metals, toxics, and bacteria.⁹ To model this implementation in HEC-HMS, the percent of impervious area throughout the watershed was decreased to enable more rainfall to infiltrate into the ground. Through iterative HEC-HMS simulations, it was determined that decreasing the imperviousness in the urbanized areas by 28% would result in an additional 5,186 AF of water being infiltrated into the ground during a typical 50% rain event (i.e., a 2-year event). Therefore, the 2037 EWMP goals can be modeled in HEC-HMS by applying a 28% reduction in impervious area to represent the widespread implementation of LID/BMP/distributed storage.

Results of the modeling, including additional simulations with 10% and 50% reductions in imperviousness, are presented as hydrographs in Figure 64. The modeling indicates that widespread implementation of LID/BMP/distributed storage may result in flow rate reduction early in the storm (i.e., the separation between the curves within the first few hours), but has minimal effect on reducing the peak flows. This is due to the LID/BMP/distributed storage throughout the watershed filling up or becoming close to fully saturated within the first few hours of the storm, so that by the time the peak rainfall occurs there is only a minimal reduction in run-off. Fundamentally, the 1% storm event is approximately an order of magnitude (i.e., 10 times) larger than the typical storm events that the LID/BMP/distributed storage are designed for, and as such these green infrastructures become overwhelmed during extreme storm events.

STATISTICAL PEAK FLOW ANALYSES

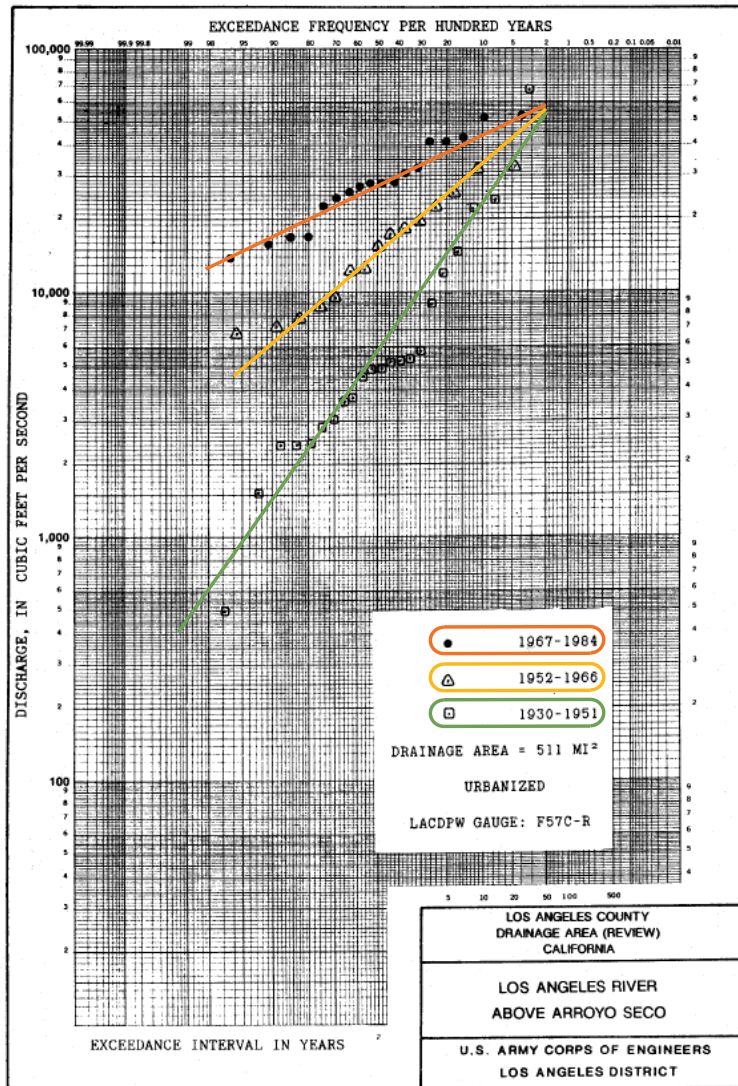


Figure 65. 1991 USACE Statistical Peak Flow Analysis. Source: US Army Corps of Engineers: Los Angeles District. 1991. Los Angeles County Drainage Area: Review, Part I, Hydrology Technical Report, Base Conditions, Geosyntec, OLIN.

The modeling results are supported by historical data that indicate that urbanization (i.e., increased impervious area) has not resulted in substantial changes to the magnitude of the 1% flows in the LA River. Figure 65 and Figure 66 presents a statistical peak flow analysis of historical flow data in the LA River above the Arroyo Seco inflow (i.e., immediately downstream of the Glendale Narrows). The figure indicates three different lines corresponding to three different time periods and three different levels of development (e.g., imperviousness). For frequent events (e.g., the 50% storm that occurs on average every two years) the increased urbanization (i.e., increased imperviousness) over time has resulted in peak flows that are approximately 5 times higher (i.e.,

an increase from approximately 6,000 cfs in 1930-1951 to approximately 29,000 cfs in 1967-1983). By contrast, the three lines converge and indicate much lower relative differences for the larger, less frequent events. For example, the statistics indicate minimal change in the peak flow for the 1% event as a result of increased imperviousness. This is due to the pervious portions of the watershed becoming saturated (i.e., full of water) and behaving like an impervious surface during the large, multi-day storm event. This indicates that the implementation of LID/BMP/distributed storage, which aims to make the watershed behave in a more pervious manner, is not an effective flood risk mitigation strategy.

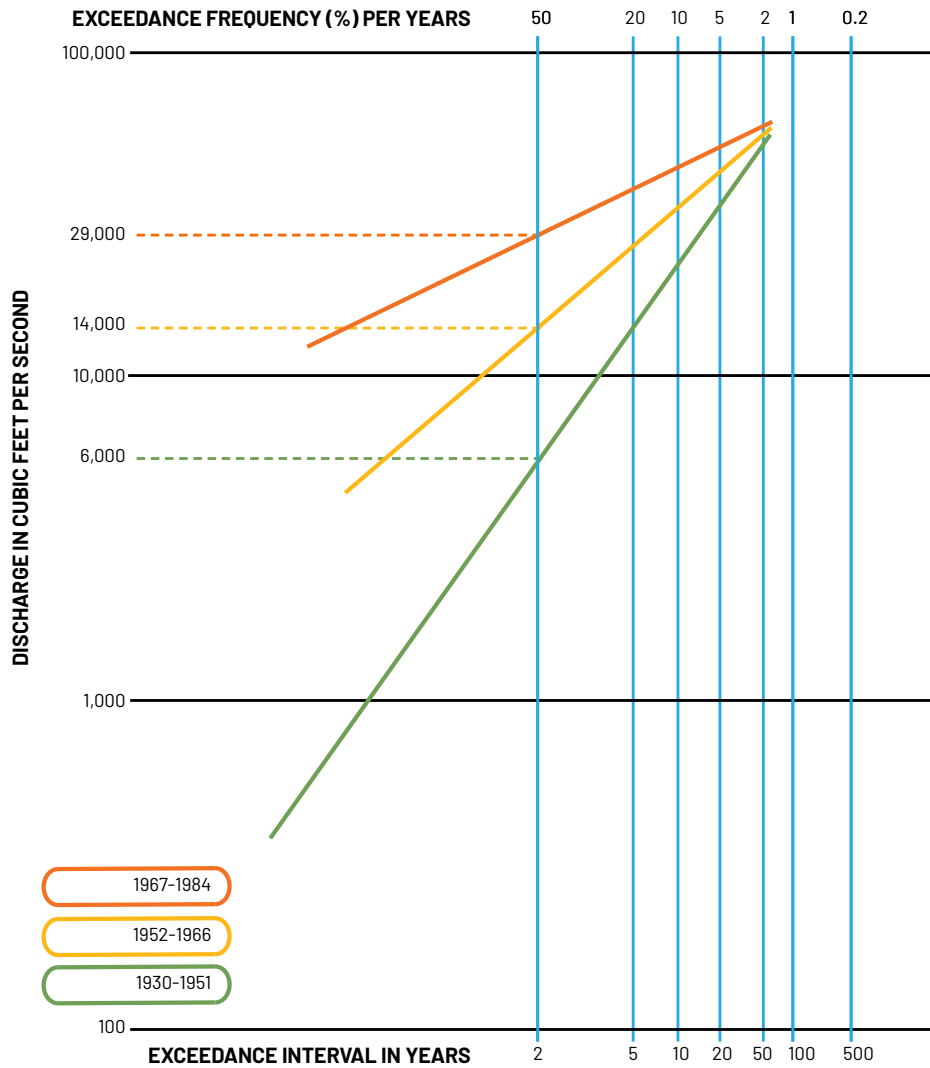


Figure 66. Statistical Peak Flow Analyses of Historical Flow Data in LA River Above Arroyo Seco. The Green line represents 1930 to 1951 (least developed, least imperviousness), orange line represents 1952 to 1966, and red line represents 1967 to 1984 (most developed, most imperviousness). Lower horizontal axis represents the exceedance interval in years, upper horizontal axis represents exceedance frequency per 100 years (and is the same as the annual percent chance of exceedance), and the vertical axis represents the peak discharge. These lines indicate that imperviousness in the watershed has substantial effect on smaller, more frequent storms but much less effect on larger, less frequent storms. Source: US Army Corps of Engineers: Los Angeles District. 1991. Los Angeles County Drainage Area: Review, Part I, Hydrology Technical Report, Base Conditions, Geosyntec, OLIN.

Despite the minimal effect of the LID/BMP/distributed storage measures on reducing peak flows to the LA River during extreme events, they do provide substantial water quality benefits, and some water supply benefits, during smaller rain events that occur more frequently (i.e., several times per year).

THE MODELING INDICATES THAT WIDESPREAD IMPLEMENTATION OF LID/BMP/DISTRIBUTED STORAGE MAY RESULT IN FLOW RATE REDUCTION EARLY IN THE STORM, BUT IT HAS MINIMAL EFFECT ON REDUCING THE PEAK FLOWS

SEPULVEDA AND HANSEN FLOOD CONTROL BASINS PROVIDE 10 TIMES MORE STORAGE THAN THE 2037 EWMP GOALS, AND THIS STORAGE MAY BE ACTIVELY MANAGED FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT



SEPULVEDA BASIN



HANSEN BASIN



BURBANK-VERDUGO, MODELED BASIN AREA

Larger Flood Control Basins

There are several flood control basins within the LA River watershed, though two of them are much larger and play more significant roles than the others. Sepulveda and Hansen Flood Control Basins (Figure 67) collectively provide more than 51,000 AF of active flood control storage and play key roles in flood risk management for the LA River. In addition to relatively large storage volumes (e.g., 10 times more storage than the 2037 EWMP goals), the timing of releases from these basins can be controlled by raising and lowering gates within the dams. For example, during the early part of a storm, gates can be kept open to allow water to pass through the basin, thereby maintaining available storage until it is needed during the peak of the storm. This active management is more effective than the passive management that would be provided by widespread implementation of LID/BMP/distributed storage that saturates or fills up during the early part of the storm, prior to the peak of the event.

Expanding the size of the existing flood control basins (e.g., increasing footprint and/or excavating and/or raising the dams and levees) may be one approach to increase flood risk reduction. The HEC-HMS model was modified to set the outflows of both Sepulveda and Hansen basins to zero. This effectively represents basins that are sized large enough to contain all the inflow to the basins during a storm event. Results are plotted in Figure 8 and indicate only a modest reduction in the peak flow of the 1% flood. This indicates that the current basins are appropriately sized for the region's hydrology and suggests that the main flood peak originates in watersheds downstream of Sepulveda and Hansen Basins. The expense to increase the size of these basins is likely not worth the marginal benefits in terms of reducing the peak flow rate for the 1% flood.

Figure 67. Scale of existing Sepulveda and Hansen Basins, respectively providing 18,000 AF and 33,000 AF of active flood control storage, and hypothetical location of a Burbank-Verdugo Basin. There is unlikely to be room for new basins at appropriate locations in the heavily urbanized region without significant land acquisition.
Source: Google Earth, Image Landsat / Copernicus, 2018.

NARROWS 1% FLOOD EVENT WITH LARGER BASINS

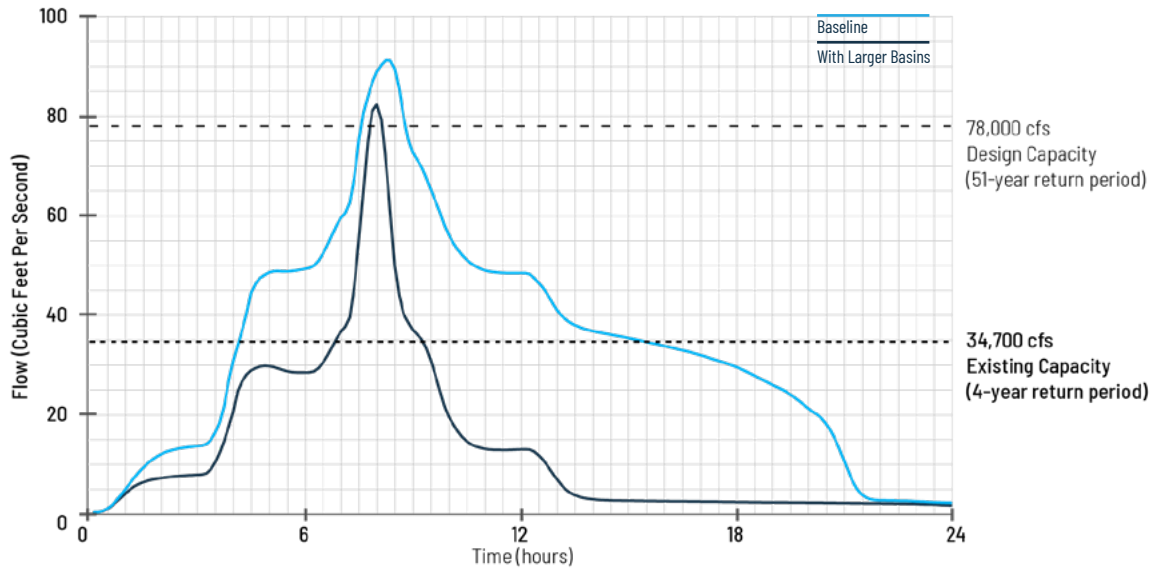


Figure 68. Hydrographs for 1% flood at river mile 29 from HEC-HMS simulations for baseline (existing conditions) and Sepulveda and Hansen Basins expanded to contain all upstream inflows (i.e., maintain zero outflow). The hydrograph indicates substantial reduction of flows and volume in the Glendale Narrows pre and post peak, but much less reduction of the major peak flow. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

NARROWS 1% FLOOD EVENT WITH EXTRA BASINS

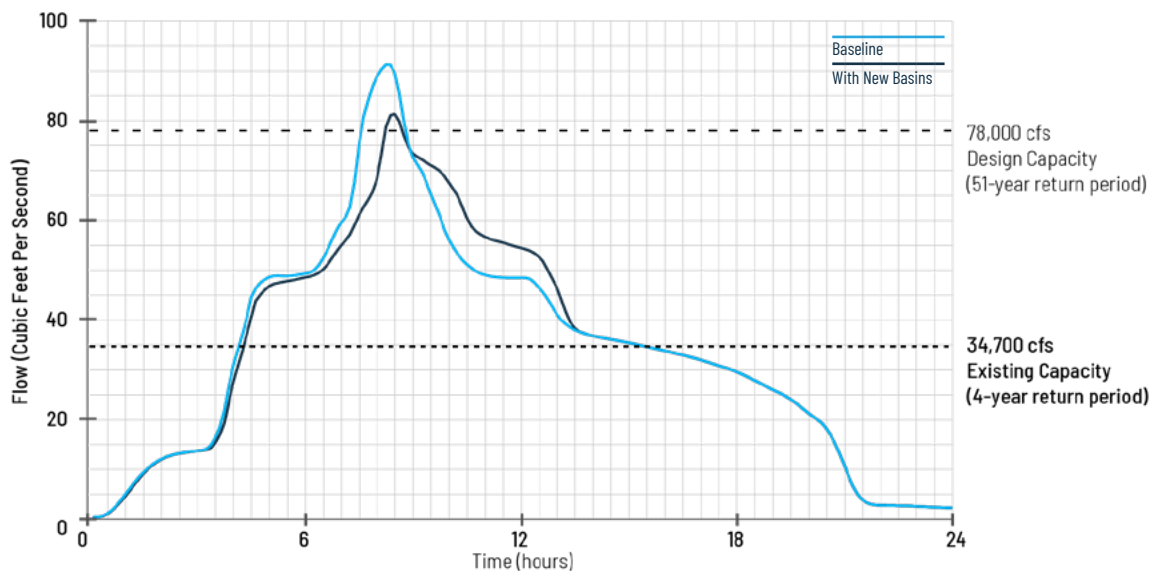


Figure 69. Hydrographs for 1% flood at river mile 29 from HEC-HMS simulations for baseline (existing conditions) and a new hypothetical Burbank-Verdugo Basin to regulate flows from Burbank and Verdugo Washes. The hydrograph indicates only modest reduction in peak flows in the Glendale Narrows, although it is possible that operations of the basin may need to be optimized. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

New Burbank-Verdugo Flood Control Basin?

Analyses of the HEC-HMS model results used to assess the benefits of expanding Sepulveda and Hansen Basins indicated that the peak flow largely came from uncontrolled run-off from Burbank and Verdugo Washes. Adding a flood control basin to manage these flows is another approach that may be used to increase flood risk reduction of the LA River. A hypothetical Burbank-Verdugo Basin was added to the HEC-HMS model to regulate flows in the Burbank and Verdugo Washes. The size and operations of the new hypothetical basin were the same as those used in Sepulveda Basin.

Results are plotted in Figure 69 and indicate only a modest reduction in the peak flow of the 1% flood, although it is noted that the operation of the new basin has not been optimized. Even if the basin operations could be better optimized there is unlikely to be room to construct a new basin capable of intercepting flows from Burbank and Verdugo Washes in the heavily urbanized region (Figure 67).

CHANNEL STRATEGIES: GLENDALE NARROWS

(A) EXISTING SECTION: 34,700 CFS CAPACITY

N=0.06



(B) WIDENED CHANNEL: 95,000 CFS CAPACITY



(C) RAISED LEVEE/WALL: 95,000 CFS CAPACITY

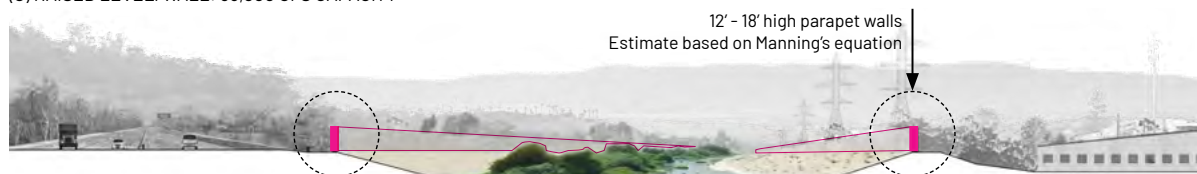


Figure 70. Section schematics of approaches to increase capacity of the LA River channel in the Glendale Narrows: (a) existing channel, (b) widened channel, (c) raised levee/wall. Estimated channel capacities are provided in each sub-caption and range from 34,700 cfs in the existing condition to approximately 95,000 cfs for a raised levee/wall. The estimated peak flow rate for the 1% flood is approximately 95,000 cfs. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

INCREASE CHANNEL CAPACITY OF THE LA RIVER

There are a range of approaches to increase the channel capacity of the LA River in the Glendale Narrows, as illustrated in Figure 70. These approaches are analyzed and discussed below.

Channel Widening

Widening the existing river channel would increase capacity and improve flood risk mitigation. Approximate calculations (excluding the effects of bridges and transitions) indicates that the width would need to be widened approximately 2 to 3 times to convey the 1% flood (Figure 70). This approach has many challenges, including acquisition of surrounding land, the need to lengthen numerous bridges and realign associated roads, and the requirement that widening would need to be continued for relatively long reaches and/or require careful design of the transition back to existing channel downstream.

Increase Levee Height / Parapet Walls

Increasing the height of the existing levees and/or adding parapet walls to the existing river channel would increase capacity and improve flood risk mitigation. Approximate calculations (excluding the effects of bridges and transitions) indicates that parapet walls would need to be approximately 12 to 18 feet high to convey the 1% flood (Figure 70).

This approach has many challenges, including the need to raise several bridges, reduced connectivity to the river for both wildlife and people, and visual impairment.

Bypass Tunnel

Construction of a bypass tunnel to divert a portion of the flow from the channel upstream of the Glendale Narrows to downstream of the Glendale Narrows would increase overall capacity and improve flood risk mitigation (Figure 71). As an example, a 40-foot-diameter concrete tunnel running from river mile 33 directly to river mile 22 was evaluated. Approximate hydraulic calculations indicate the tunnel could convey approximately 20,000 cfs. This approach alone would not be enough to meet the 1% flood risk capacity goal, although larger and/or multiple tunnels could be explored.

The hydraulics of the intake and outtake structures may present a challenge for this approach. For example, a very long overflow weir from the main river channel into the tunnel or tunnel forebay may require a large footprint. If designed appropriately, the bypass tunnel may provide ancillary water supply and water quality benefits through enabling storage of water in the tunnel for subsequent treatment and use during and after smaller storms.

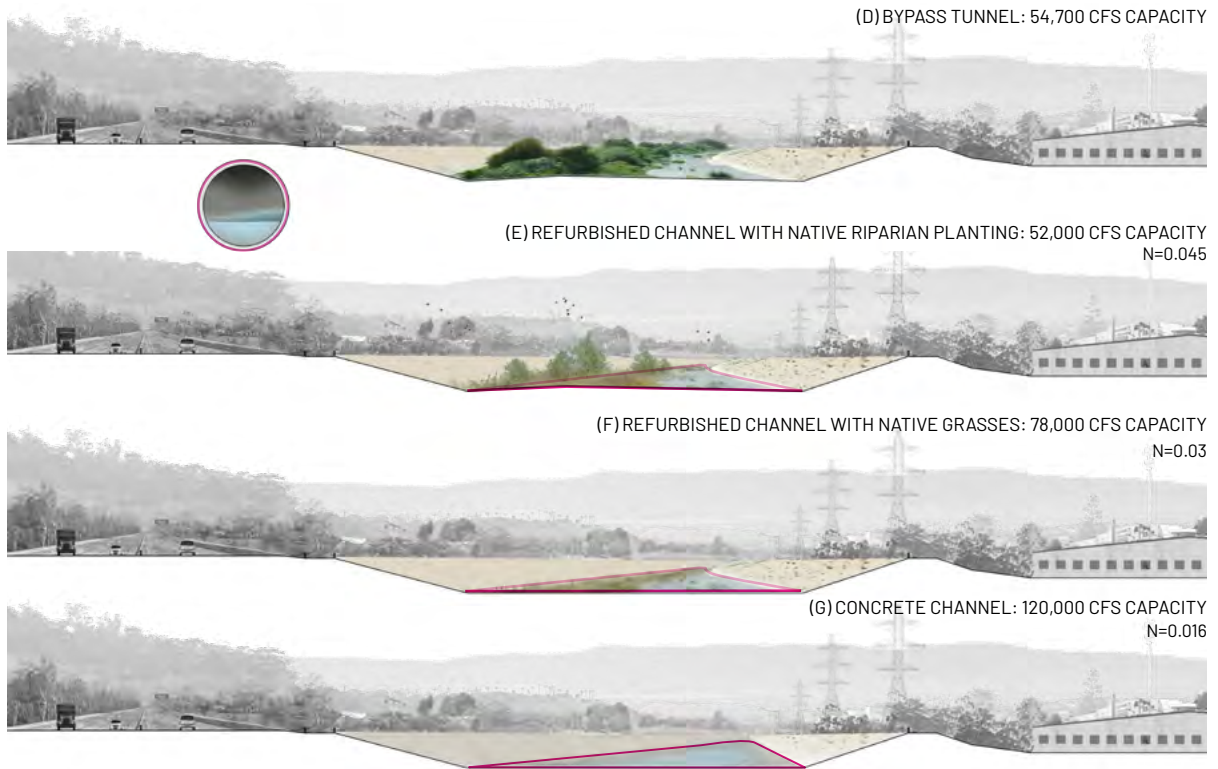


Figure 71. Section schematics of approaches to increase capacity of the LA River channel in the Glendale Narrows: (d) bypass tunnel, (e) refurbished channel with native riparian planting, (f) refurbished channel with native grasses, and (g) concrete channel. Estimated channel capacities are provided in each sub-caption and range from 54,700 cfs in the bypass tunnel to approximately 120,000 cfs for a concrete channel. The estimated peak flow rate for the 1% flood is approximately 95,000 cfs. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

Channel Refurbishment (Grasses)

Since construction of the original channel, the Glendale Narrows reach has become heavily vegetated and built up with sediment, resulting in decreased hydraulic capacity. Refurbishment of the channel to something nearer to the original as-built condition would increase capacity and improve flood risk mitigation. Refurbishment would involve removing invasive vegetation (i.e., vegetation, such as *Arundo*, that would not be present without the constant supply of waste water) from the channel, removing sediment from the channel bottom, replacing vegetation with native grasses, and ongoing maintenance (Figure 71). Approximate calculations indicate that this would substantially improve flood risk mitigation, to approximately the 2% protection level, but would not meet the 1% protection level goal. Additionally, it is noted that under these conditions many of the bridges and bridge piers behave as constrictions, and may have to be redesigned (e.g., clear-span).

Channel Refurbishment (Riparian)

Planting with native riparian trees (Figure 71) can be considered as an alternative to replacement with grasses. This will provide enhanced habitat compared to current conditions, and if carefully

implemented over several years utilizing a 'patchwork' approach, this would enable a range of existing wildlife to be maintained in the Glendale Narrows. Provided appropriate tree species are selected and managed to keep appropriate density (i.e., less dense than current), and excess sediment and *Arundo* hummocks are removed, the channel capacity may be increased by approximately 50% from current conditions. This would improve capacity from worse than 20% protection level to better than 10% protection level.

Concrete Bottom

Placement of concrete on the channel bottom (Figure 71) would reduce friction and substantially increase channel capacity. Approximate hydraulic calculations indicate that this strategy would exceed the 1% flood risk protection goal. This approach would also require many bridges to be redesigned (e.g., clear span). Additionally, the rising groundwater in the region of the Glendale Narrows, which prevented laying of concrete during the original construction, would have to be mitigated (e.g., through continuous and managed groundwater pumping).

INCREASED CAPACITY: 1% FLOOD EVENT

HEC-HMS Model:

Glendale Narrows (River Mile 29)

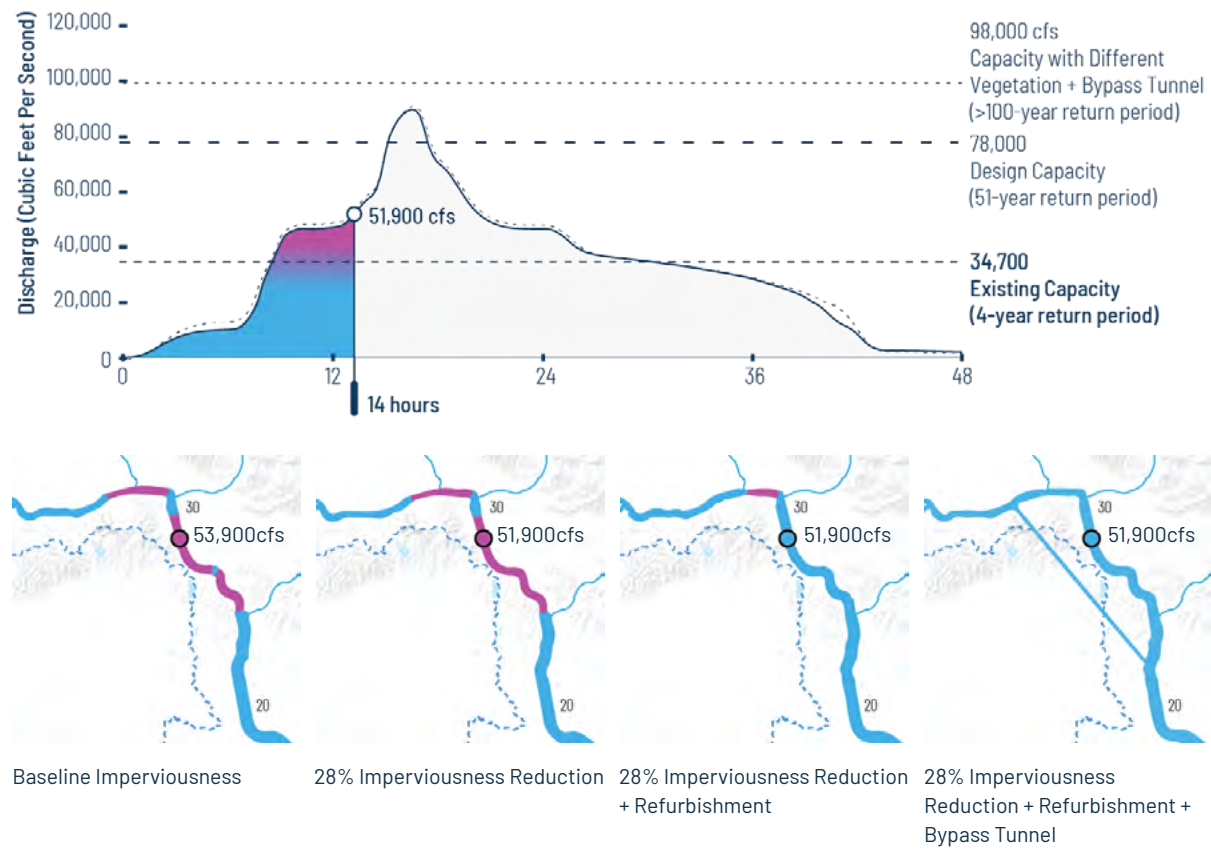


Figure 72. HEC-HMS model simulation prior to the peak of a 1% precipitation event at the Glendale Narrows for existing conditions and combinations of different flood risk mitigation strategies. Colors indicate sufficient (blue), deficient (pink), or near deficient (purple) channel capacity. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

COMBINATIONS OF APPROACHES

Many of the above approaches improve flood risk reduction, but do not meet the 1% capacity level goal on their own. Combinations of approaches were evaluated as an illustrative example. The approaches evaluated include full implementation of the 2037 EWMP goals (i.e., 28% imperviousness reduction) based on the assumption that these will be implemented for water quality benefits, channel refurbishment, and a bypass tunnel.

Results of the analyses reinforce the minimal effect that LID/BMP/distributed storage has on flood risk management (compare first two frames of Figure 72) but does indicate substantial benefit from channel refurbishment and bypass tunnel (last two

frame of Figure 73) for flow rates below the peak. For the peak flow rate of the 1% event, the effect of channel refurbishment on its own does not provide adequate capacity throughout the Glendale Narrows (third frame of Figure 73). A combination of channel refurbishment and a bypass tunnel provides enough capacity to meet the 1% flood risk reduction goal throughout much of the Glendale Narrows, except for a short reach immediately upstream of Verdugo Wash (Figure 73). This region is adjacent to Ferraro Fields, and the available open space there may provide opportunities to implement other local strategies to reduce flood risk, such as construction of a dry arroyo around

INCREASED CAPACITY: 1% FLOOD EVENT

HEC-HMS Model:

Glendale Narrows (River Mile 29)

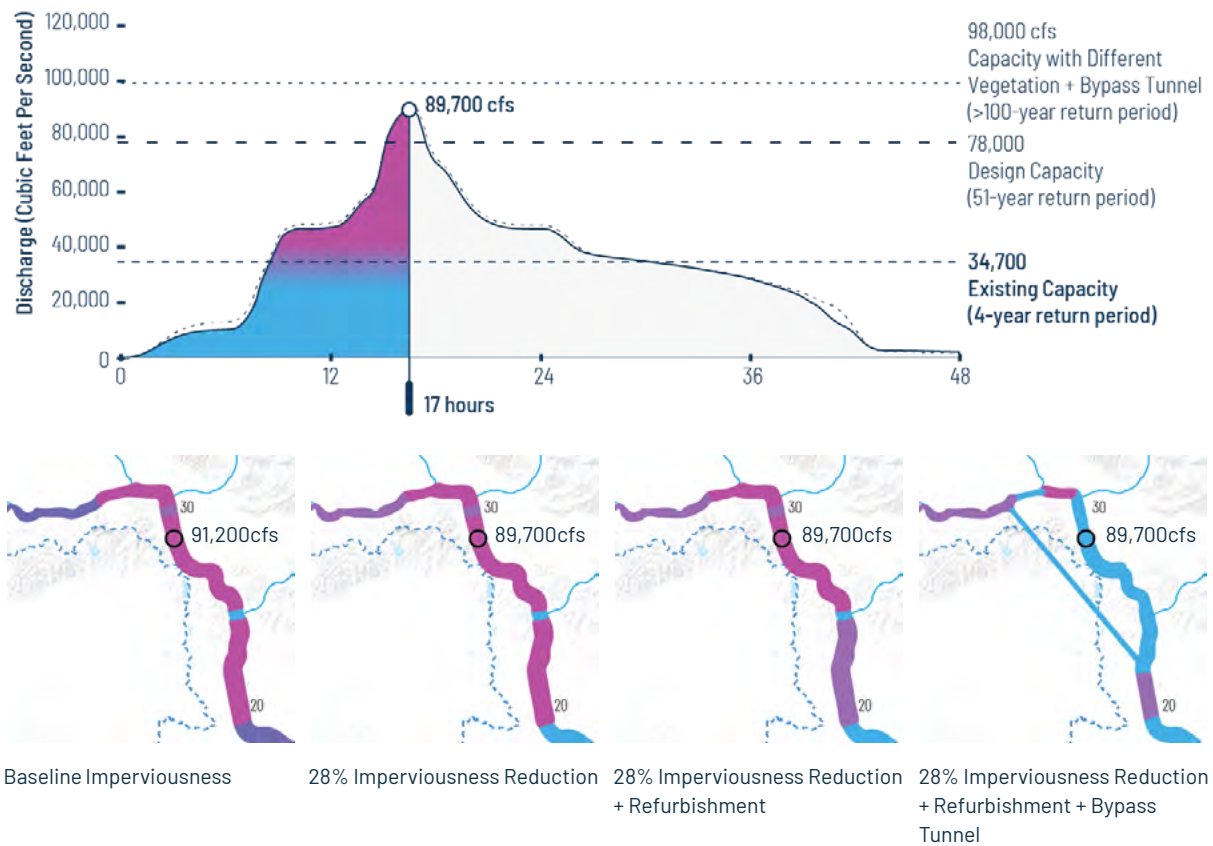


Figure 73. HEC-HMS model simulation at the peak of a 1% precipitation event at the Glendale Narrows for existing conditions and combinations of different flood risk mitigation strategies. Colors indicate sufficient (blue), deficient (pink), or near deficient (purple) channel capacity. Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2019.

the fields to provide additional conveyance during extreme events. The figure also indicates that the channel is near capacity immediately upstream and downstream of the diversion tunnel (fourth frame of Figure 73), and this should be accounted for in the hydraulic design of the tunnel intake and outtake structures.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

These hydrologic and hydraulic analyses demonstrate that flood risk reduction remains a high need in various locations along the LA River, and specifically in the Glendale Narrows where channel capacity is estimated to be exceeded by the 25% event. There are many strategies that can be used to improve the capacity and reduce peak flows in the river and move towards the 1% flood risk reduction goal. These strategies need to be robustly and scientifically evaluated for effectiveness (e.g., hydrological and hydraulic analyses) and also need to be balanced with other needs and goals for the river.

Statement of the Relevance of Document F-4 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

F-4: FEMA, 2023. *Community Rating System, a Local Official's Guide to Saving Lives, Preventing Property Damage, and Reducing the Cost of Flood Insurance*, March.

F-4 provides an overview of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) floodplain management measures that are needed for communities to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and obtain discounts on premiums for their residents. The guide and the associated FEMA Coordinator's Manual (<https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/community-rating-system>) were used to develop the flood control channel technical memorandum (F-1) and provide more detail on the requirements for channel maintenance to maintain flood insurance. The guide is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it provides documentation of flood control channel operation and maintenance requirements from the federal government to allow their residents to obtain flood insurance. Thus, F-4 should be included in the Administrative Record.



Community Rating System

A Local Official's Guide to Saving Lives, Preventing Property Damage, and Reducing the Cost of Flood Insurance

FEMA B 573 / 2023

March 2023



FEMA

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The Community Rating System Works

Every year, flooding causes hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of damage to homes and businesses around the country. Standard homeowners and commercial property insurance policies do not cover flood losses. To meet the need for this vital coverage, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The NFIP offers reasonably priced flood insurance to all properties in participating communities. To participate, communities must implement the NFIP's minimum floodplain management standards.

The NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) credits community efforts beyond those minimum standards by providing discounts on flood insurance premiums for the community's property owners.

CRS discounts on flood insurance premiums range from 5% up to 45% (see Table 1), based on the participating community's CRS class. A community's CRS class is determined by credit points that are awarded to communities. The discounts provide an incentive for communities to implement additional flood protection activities that can help save lives and property when a flood occurs.

The CRS provides credit under 19 public information and floodplain management activities described in the CRS Coordinator's Manual.

You're probably already doing many of these activities. To get credit, community officials will need to prepare documentation that verifies these efforts.

The CRS assigns credit points for each activity. Table 2 lists the activities and the possible number of credit points for each one. The table also shows the average number of credit points communities earn for each activity. These averages may give you a better indication than the maximums of what your community can expect.

To be eligible for a CRS discount, your community must do Activity 310 (Elevation Certificates). If you're a designated repetitive loss community, you must also take the steps described in Section 502, Repetitive Loss Category. All other activities are optional.



The total number of points your community earns determined your CRS class. Your discount on flood insurance premiums is based on your CRS class.

For example, if your community earns 4,500 points or more, it qualifies for Class 1, and property owners get a 45% discount on their insurance

premiums. If your community earns as little as 500 points, it's in Class 9, and property owners get a 5% discount. If a community does not apply or fails to receive at least 500 points, it's in Class 10, and property owners get no discount.

Table 1, below, shows the number of points required for each class and the corresponding discount.

Table 1. How Much Discount Property Owners in Your Community Can Get

<i>CRS Class</i>	<i>CRS Discount</i>	<i>Credit Points Required</i>
1	45%	4,500+
2	40%	4,000–4,499
3	35%	3,500–3,999
4	30%	3,000–3,499
5	25%	2,500–2,999
6	20%	2,000–2,499
7	15%	1,500–1,999
8	10%	1,000–1,499
9	5%	500–999
10	0%	0–499

Table 2. What You Can Do to Get Credit

Series 300	Public Information	Maximum Points*	Average Points*
	This series credits programs that advise people about the flood hazard, flood insurance, and ways to reduce flood damage. The activities also provide data insurance agents need for accurate flood insurance rating.		
310	Elevation Certificates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have written procedures for managing floodplain-related certificates for new construction in the floodplain. (At a minimum, a community must maintain certificates for buildings built after the date of its CRS application.) ▪ Maintain a rate of 90% accuracy of all certificates. 	116	36
320	Map Information Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide Flood Insurance Rate Map information to those who inquire, and publicize this service. 	90	78
330	Outreach Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribute outreach projects with messages about flood hazards, flood insurance, flood protection measures, and/or the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. 	350	87
340	Hazard Disclosure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Real estate agents advise potential purchasers of flood-prone property about the flood hazard. ▪ Regulations require notice of the hazard. 	80	15
350	Flood Protection Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The public library and/or community's website maintains references on flood insurance and flood protection. 	125	48
360	Flood Protection Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Give inquiring property owners technical advice on protecting their buildings from flooding, and publicize this service. 	110	59
370	Flood Insurance Promotion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess flood insurance coverage in the community; promote flood insurance through meetings, technical assistance, brochures, or other means. 	220	40
Series 300 Total		1,091	392

* Maximum and average points are subject to change. See the *CRS Coordinator's Manual* for current information.

Series 400	Mapping & Regulations	Maximum Points*	Average Points*
	This series credits programs that limit floodplain development or provide increased protection to new and existing development.		
410	Floodplain Mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop new flood elevations, floodway delineations, wave heights, or other regulatory flood hazard data for an area not mapped in detail by the flood insurance study. ▪ Have a more restrictive mapping standard. 	850	78
420	Open Space Preservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guarantee that currently open public or private floodplain parcels will be kept free from development. ▪ Incentivize keeping the floodplain open with zoning restrictions, lot size requirements, or other regulations. 	2,870	471
430	Higher Regulatory Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limit new buildings and/or fill in the floodplain. ▪ Require freeboard. ▪ Require soil tests or engineered foundations. ▪ Require compensatory storage. ▪ Require coastal construction standards in AE Zones. ▪ Have regulations tailored to protect critical facilities or areas subject to special flood hazards such as alluvial fans, ice jams, subsidence, coastal erosion. 	2,462	272
440	Flood Data Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep flood and property data on computer records. ▪ Use better base maps. ▪ Maintain elevation reference marks. 	222	127
450	Stormwater Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regulate new development throughout the watershed to ensure that post-development runoff is no greater than pre-development runoff. ▪ Regulate new construction to minimize soil erosion and protect or improve water quality. 	755	110
Series 400 Total		7,159	1,058

Series 500	Flood Damage Reduction	Maximum Points*	Average Points*
	This series credits programs that reduce the flood risk to existing development.		
510	<p>Floodplain Management Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Using a standard planning process, prepare, adopt, implement, and update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a comprehensive flood hazard mitigation plan, and/or ○ a plan to protect natural functions within the community's floodplain, and/or ○ a plan for managing substantial flood damage to properties in the community, and/or ○ a plan to conserve and/or recover threatened and endangered species in the floodplain. ▪ Prepare an analysis of the repetitive flood loss areas within the community. <p><i>Note: Category C repetitive loss communities must receive credit for either the floodplain management plan or the repetitive loss area analysis, above.</i></p>	762	197
520	<p>Acquisition & Relocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acquire and/or relocate floodprone buildings so that they are out of the floodplain, and the floodplain remains open 	2,250	176
530	<p>Flood Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect existing floodplain development by floodproofing, elevation, or minor flood control projects. 	1,600	64
540	<p>Drainage System Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have a program for and conduct annual inspections of all channels and detention basins; remove debris as needed 	470	203
Series 500 Total		5,082	640

Series 600	<i>Flood Preparedness</i>	Maximum Points*	Average Points*
	This series credits emergency services and flood warning and response programs that save lives and protect property		
610	Flood Warning and Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide early flood warnings to the public, and have a detailed flood response plan keyed to flood crest predictions. ▪ Incorporate substantial damage assessments into flood response operations. 	365	266
620	Levees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annually inspect and maintain existing levees; have a system for recognizing the threat of levee failure and/or overtopping, disseminating warnings, and providing emergency response; and coordinate with operators of critical facilities. 	235	111
630	Dams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have a high-hazard-potential dam that could affect the community; have a system for recognizing the threat of dam failure, disseminating warnings, planning and practicing emergency responses; and coordinating with operators of critical facilities. 	160	38
Series 600 Total		760	415
Total for All Series		14,092	2,505



Additional Credit

Your community can get additional credit for regulating development outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) to the same standards as development inside the SFHA. There is also credit for assessing future flood conditions, including the impacts of future development, urbanization, sea level rise, and changing weather patterns. See the *CRS Coordinator's Manual* for full details.

Many communities can qualify for what the CRS calls “state-based credit,” based on the activities or regulations a state or regional agency implements within communities. For example, some states have disclosure laws eligible for credit under Activity 340 (Hazard Disclosure). Any community in those states can receive the state-based credit.

Your community may want to consider floodplain management activities not listed in the *CRS Coordinator's Manual*. You should evaluate these activities for their ability to increase public safety, reduce property damage, avoid economic disruption and loss, and protect the environment. In addition, you can request a review of these activities to determine whether they could be eligible for CRS credit. FEMA welcomes innovative ways to prevent or reduce flood damage.



How to Apply

Participation in the CRS is voluntary. If your community is in full compliance with the minimum floodplain management standards of the NFIP, you may apply. There's no application fee, and all CRS publications are free.

Your community's chief executive officer (your mayor, city manager, or other top official) must appoint a CRS Coordinator to serve as the liaison between the community and FEMA. The coordinator should know the operations of all departments that deal with floodplain management and public information. And the coordinator should be able to speak for the community's chief executive officer.

To begin the application process, your community submits a letter of interest to your FEMA Regional Office and documents that you are implementing floodplain management activities that warrant at least 500 CRS credit points. On the CRS website (<https://www.fema.gov/community-rating-system>) you can find a sample letter; the CRS Quick Check, a tool that helps you assess your community's possible credit points; and further instructions.

You may also want to download from that website a copy of the *CRS Coordinator's Manual*, along with its *Addendum*. These two documents describe the program in full and provide specific information, including eligible activities, required documentation, and resources for assistance.

After your community applies for a CRS classification, the CRS will verify the information and arrange for flood insurance premium discounts.

Help is available through the contact information below.

- CRS-related materials and many more resources are available at <https://www.fema.gov/community-rating-system>.
- For more information, email <mailto:fema-crs@fema.dhs.gov> or nfipcrs@iso.com.

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Statement of the Relevance of Document F-5 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

F-5: Public Perspective on Flood Control Maintenance

F-5 is a comprehensive collection of media reports, public comments, and official records related to public perception of channel maintenance needs in 2024. The data sources are categorized by publication date, media source, and media type. It includes a brief description of the data source, links to the original content, and printed copies of the content. The information is relevant to the State Water Board's consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board's Biological Objectives (SDRBO) in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because it provides information regarding the public's concerns and interests in prioritizing channel maintenance, the damage and impacts from the flooding, and the potential changes in maintenance levels if channel maintenance activities need to be modified or curtailed to attain the SDRBO in modified soft-bottom streams. The information also provides insight into community priorities for flood control channels. This information pertains only to the San Diego Region and is relevant to how the San Diego Water Board may implement the SDRBO, given such issues, in modified soft-bottom streams that serve as flood control channels. Thus, F-5 should be included in the Administrative Record.

F-5 Public Perspectives on Flood Control Maintenance References

Ref. #	Title	Date Published	Media Source	Media Type	Brief Description	Link
F-5 Reference 1	Record Amount of Rain Causes Widespread Flooding in City of San Diego	1/22/2024	Inside San Diego	News	City news update to the community. Highlights City efforts to clear channels prior to storm.	https://www.insidesandiego.org/record-amount-rain-causes-widespread-flooding-city-san-diego
F-5 Reference 2	City Council Meeting Minutes*	1/22/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Multiple commenters commented on the flood.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecouncil/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=5887&doctype=3&site=council
F-5 Reference 3	Damage from flash flooding overwhelms southeast San Diego	1/23/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/damage-from-flash-flooding-overwhelms-southeast-san-diego/
F-5 Reference 4	Leucadia residents plead with city to finally fix longstanding drainage issues	1/26/2024	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/01/25/leucadia-residents-plead-with-city-to-finally-fix-longstanding-drainage-issues/
F-5 Reference 5	San Diego flooding victim who sued city after 2018 storm plans more legal action	1/26/2024	7 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/san-diego-flooding-victim-who-sued-city-after-2018-storm-plans-more-legal-action/3417289/
F-5 Reference 6	The City Said Cleaning a Channel Wasn't a Priority. Now Their Homes Are Devastated	2/1/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident and apartment complex management company testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/01/the-city-said-cleaning-a-channel-wasnt-a-priority-now-their-homes-are-devastated/
F-5 Reference 7	Southcrest homeowner plans to sue San Diego for a second time over storm preparations	2/3/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/southcrest-home-owner-plans-to-sue-san-diego-for-a-second-time-over-storm-preparations/
F-5 Reference 8	City Council Meeting Minutes*	2/5/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Public commenter commented on flood damages.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecouncil/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=5919&doctype=3&site=council
F-5 Reference 9	City Council Meeting Minutes*	2/6/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Public commenter commented on flood damages.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecouncil/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=5914&doctype=3&site=council
F-5 Reference 10	Activist calls for city to prioritize stormwater infrastructure	2/7/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/activist-calls-for-city-to-prioritize-stormwater-infrastructure/
F-5 Reference 11	'Cowboy' longing for home after heavy rains and flooding in Tijuana River Valley	2/7/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/border-report/cowboy-longing-for-home-after-heavy-rains-and-flooding-in-tijuana-river-valley/
F-5 Reference 12	Morning Report: 'We Are Confused, We Are Angry'	2/8/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/08/morning-report-we-are-confused-we-are-angry/
F-5 Reference 13	Residents Displaced by Floods Demand Answers	2/8/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/08/residents-displaced-by-floods-demand-answers/
F-5 Reference 14	New legal claims against San Diego over January flooding seek class-action status	2/10/2024	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/02/10/new-legal-claims-against-san-diego-over-january-flooding-seek-class-action-status/
F-5 Reference 15	Heavy rains offer revelations and reminders about environment, inequality	2/11/2024	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains testimonial from CBO on lack of investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/02/11/heavy-rains-offer-revelations-and-reminders-about-environment-inequality/
F-5 Reference 16	More flood victims seeking lawsuit against City of San Diego	2/12/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains testimonial from attorneys on lawsuits.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/more-flood-victims-seeking-lawsuit-against-city-of-san-diego/
F-5 Reference 17	City Council Meeting Minutes*	2/12/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Public commenter commented on flood damages.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecouncil/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=5925&doctype=3&site=council
F-5 Reference 18	Trust Between Southeastern San Diego Flood Survivors and Local Government Is Dead	2/15/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/15/trust-between-southeastern-san-diego-flood-survivors-and-local-government-is-dead/

F-5 Reference 19	City Council Environmental Committee*	2/15/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Written comment on importance of wetland management for flood protection.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecomm/Documents/ViewDocument/Environment%20Written%20Public%20Comment%2002.15.24.pdf.pdf?meetingId=5944&documentType=Agenda&itemId=230792&publishId=822695&isSection=false
F-5 Reference 20	Dozens of flood victims learn next legal steps, push for policy changes at weekend event	2/17/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure. Coverage on a community meeting.	https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/dozens-of-flood-victims-learn-next-legal-steps-push-for-policy-changes-at-weekend-event/
F-5 Reference 21	VOSD Podcast: Lost Trust	2/23/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/23/vosd-podcast-lost-trust/
F-5 Reference 22	Cup of Chisme: Why They're Talking About Us	2/25/2024	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains testimonial about how residents of south crest do not trust the City to protect them from flooding.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2024/02/25/cup-of-chisme-why-theyre-talking-about-us/
F-5 Reference 23	City Council Environmental Committee*	3/14/2024	City of San Diego	City Council Meeting	Written comment on importance of wetland management for flood protection.	https://sandiego.hylandcloud.com/211agendaonlinecomm/Documents/ViewDocument/03.14.24%20Enviro%20Written%20Public%20Comment.pdf.pdf?meetingId=5983&documentType=Agenda&itemId=231842&publishId=833383&isSection=false
F-5 Reference 24	Hundreds of people sue San Diego over January floods, saying it 'absolutely failed' to manage stormwater	5/9/2024	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/05/08/hundreds-of-people-sue-san-diego-over-january-floods-saying-it-absolutely-failed-to-manage-stormwater/
F-5 Reference 25	Four months after the flood San Diego residents still digging their way out of disaster	5/21/2024	CBS8	News	Contains resident testimonial about storm channels being full and requesting they be cleaned.	https://www.cbs8.com/article/news/local/four-months-after-san-diego-flooding/509-63f8b355-2141-4294-be3c-cc45d81b853a
F-5 Reference 26	700+ flood victims sue City of San Diego, alleging it failed to maintain Chollas Creek	9/11/2024	7 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial about storm channels being full and requesting they be cleaned.	https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/flood-victims-sue-city-of-san-diego-chollas-creek/3620815/
F-5 Reference 27	What San Diego is – and isn't – doing to fix its 'failing' stormwater system	9/23/2024	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2024/01/28/what-san-diego-is-and-isnt-doing-to-fix-its-failing-stormwater-system/
F-5 Reference 28	What Has and Hasn't Happened in the Year Since San Diego's Devastating Floods	1/22/2025	Voice of San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://voiceofsandiego.org/2025/01/22/what-has-and-hasnt-happened-in-the-year-since-san-diegos-devastating-floods/
F-5 Reference 29	'Where's the help?' San Diego residents blame a debris-filled Chollas Creek for flooded homes	1/25/2025	7 San Diego	News	Contains resident testimonial about storm channels being full and requesting they be cleaned.	https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/wheres-the-help-san-diego-residents-blame-a-debris-filled-chollas-creek-for-flooded-homes/3414174/
F-5 Reference 30	One year after historic flooding, these San Diego neighbors are 'here in the fight'	1/27/2025	San Diego Union Tribune	News	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2025/01/26/one-year-after-historic-flooding-these-san-diego-neighbors-are-here-in-the-fight/
F-5 Reference 31	San Diego Storm Clean Up Residents remove layers of mud from streets and houses	1/23/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lraVmUcDAo
F-5 Reference 32	Will disastrous flooding force San Diego to finally fix its storm drains?	1/23/2024	KPBS Public Media	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	http://youtube.com/watch?v=BOzZceFORAA
F-5 Reference 33	Southcrest neighbors for years have wanted a congested flood channel cleared. They were ignored	1/24/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	http://youtube.com/watch?v=Fv5EE8hicMg
F-5 Reference 34	Southcrest Residents Blame City Of San Diego For Flooded Homes	1/24/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f3VV8OJftc
F-5 Reference 35	Neighbors band together after flood damage as they await help from San Diego leaders	1/24/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5JaU9aIyuo
F-5 Reference 36	San Diego storm, flooding aftermath 11 AM update	1/24/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nm6uQXvohHY

F-5 Reference 37	Flood victims take frustrations to city council one week after storm	1/29/2024	ABC 10 News	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I90HpmVrPgU
F-5 Reference 38	San Diego rain has Southcrest residents thinking about flooding	2/1/2024	KPBS Public Media	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6G0gnSuPGs
	San Diego rain has Southcrest residents thinking about flooding	2/1/2024	KPBS Public Media	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6G0gnSuPGs
F-5 Reference 39	San Diego flood victims consider suing city after Jan. 22 storm	2/3/2024	ABC 10 News	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUy0oRuj0TU
F-5 Reference 40	San Diegans survey damage after severe flooding in Southcrest NBC 7 San Diego	2/7/2024	NBC 7 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boygAHu2rbA
F-5 Reference 41	San Diego residents rally at Chicano Park over City's flood response	2/7/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Jwlfish0Ng
F-5 Reference 42	San Diego flood victims speak out at city council meeting	2/12/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQ3D0j2utKU
F-5 Reference 43	Alliance San Diego helps flood victims connect with lawyers	2/17/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oYIspv-hms
F-5 Reference 44	Ongoing concerns over flooding	4/1/2024	ABC 10 News	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdhroENvO8A
F-5 Reference 45	Hundreds of South San Diego flood victims sue the city of San Diego	5/7/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFatRYiATfg
F-5 Reference 46	Neighborhoods still rebuilding after January 2024 flooding swept San Diego	5/23/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75yvn1pib4k
F-5 Reference 47	New lawsuits filed against City of San Diego over Jan. flooding	5/30/2024	ABC 10 News	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdIBziwCUXc
F-5 Reference 48	San Diego residents still dealing with storm water problems months later NBC 7 San Diego	6/11/2024	NBC 7 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFVEFAUM9dY
F-5 Reference 49	Six months since historic flooding	7/22/2024	Fox 5 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cw3fucPhLc
F-5 Reference 50	ABC10 San Diego Interview Flooding Lawsuit Update (September 2024)	9/13/2024	The Law Office of Evan W. Walker	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3EoSHNITaoE
F-5 Reference 51	City efforts to clean storm channels in southeast San Diego	9/18/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UM-jZ0O380U
F-5 Reference 52	700 more flood victims file lawsuit against San Diego	10/9/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRrG7IIYiGM
F-5 Reference 53	One year after historic flooding, Southcrest residents remain critical of city officials	1/21/2025	Fox 5 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wThxt_BJQu0
F-5 Reference 54	It's been one year since floods devastated southeast San Diego. Families are still recovering	1/22/2025	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTlCe7QN90
F-5 Reference 55	Southcrest awaits stormwater upgrades as Jan. 22 flood victims struggle to recover	1/23/2025	KPBS Public Media	Youtube Video	Contains nonprofit testimony of lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0PWHfYcZyg
F-5 Reference 56	San Diego residents hit by flood damage say they feel 'betrayed' and ignored #news	1/24/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/shorts/T02x61BeSAQ
F-5 Reference 57	Residents demand answers from government officials, mayor after severe damage caused by storm #news	1/23/2024	CBS8 San Diego	Youtube Video	Contains resident testimonial that there lack of City investment in flood-control infrastructure.	https://www.youtube.com/shorts/97mPqUvsa0



News & updates from the City of San Diego
(<https://www.sandiego.gov>)

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Record Amount of Rain Causes Widespread Flooding in City of San Diego

JANUARY 22, 2024, 9:42 PM

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During an intense rain storm on Monday, Jan. 22, the City of San Diego experienced widespread flooding throughout the city. Hundreds of people were rescued from their homes and flooded areas in the communities of Mountain View and Southcrest. The San

Diego Fire-Rescue Department swift water rescue team also responded to multiple locations along the San Diego River, in low-lying areas near the coast, and the Tijuana River Valley.

On Monday, the Red Cross opened an overnight emergency shelter at Lincoln High School, 4777 Imperial Ave., for residents impacted by flooding and storm damage. Mayor Todd Gloria declared a local emergency [PDF](#) in response to the storm.

The National Weather Service reported that Jan. 22 was the fourth wettest day on record in San Diego history, with 2.72 inches of rain recorded at the San Diego International Airport. Prior to the storm, City crews were deployed clearing storm drains, monitoring pump stations and doing other prep work to help reduce the risk of flooding. However, many of the City's stormwater pump stations reached capacity during the rain event, with substantial flooding causes power outages at the pump station servicing the Sports Arena/Midway district.

According to the City's Stormwater Department, widespread flooding that occurred across the city is what happens when heavy rainfall overwhelms an aging stormwater system with limited capacity. Monday's record rainfall revealed the fragile state of the City's stormwater infrastructure and the need for significant investments going forward to prevent the current situation from becoming the new normal for San Diego. Prior to the storm, the City had several hundred employees out in the field clearing storm drains and doing other prep work to help reduce flood risk citywide.

Due to flooding, the City had to evacuate two homeless shelter locations: the City's 16th & Newton Bridge Shelter and the 20th & B Safe Sleeping site. A temporary emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness was set up at the Balboa Park Activity Center, with individuals from the Safe Sleeping site also being temporarily moved to Golden Hall in the City's Civic Center.

Other closures impacting City facilities include the San Diego Central Library, which was closed on Monday, Jan. 22, due to flooding in the underground parking garage.

For ongoing updates on storm impacts, visit the City's storm emergency webpage (<https://www.sandiego.gov/storm>).



(<https://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk>)

City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

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**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024
AT 10:00 AM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 12TH FLOOR**

Table of Contents

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLOSED SESSION

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST, CITY CLERK COMMENT

Item 200: Update on the Redevelopment of the City-Owned Real Property Located at 3220, 3240, 3250 and 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard (Midway Site)

Item 201: Proposed Revisions to Shared Mobility Device (SMD) Program

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Council President Elo-Rivera at 10:02 a.m. Councilmember von Wilpert arrived to the meeting at 10:03 a.m. Councilmember Moreno arrived to the meeting at 10:06 a.m. The meeting was recessed by Council President Elo-Rivera at 10:21 a.m. into Closed Session, to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by Council President Elo-Rivera at 2:04 p.m. with Council District 4 vacant. The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 4:55 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING

PRESENT:

CD-1 Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava
CD-2 Councilmember Jennifer Campbell
CD-3 Councilmember Stephen Whitburn
CD-4 vacant
CD-5 Councilmember Marni von Wilpert
CD-6 Councilmember Kent Lee
CD-7 Councilmember Raul A. Campillo
CD-8 Councilmember Vivian Moreno
CD-9 Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

ABSENT:

None.

CITY CLERK:

Fuentes (km)

ROLL CALL

- (1) Council President Pro Tem LaCava-present
- (2) Councilmember Campbell-present
- (3) Councilmember Whitburn-present
- (4) Council District vacant
- (5) Councilmember von Wilpert-not present
- (6) Councilmember Lee-present
- (7) Councilmember Campillo-present
- (8) Councilmember Moreno-not present
- (9) Council President Elo-Rivera-present

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by City Clerk Diana J.S. Fuentes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Whitburn.

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Real Property Negotiators, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.8:

CS-1 Property: Approximately 48.5-acre Sports Arena site, located at 3500, 3250, 3220, and 3240 Sports Arena Boulevard, in the Midway-Pacific Highway Community

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

DCA Assigned: K. J. Reisch and D. G. Williams

The City will provide instruction to its negotiating team (Deputy Chief Operating Officer Casey Smith and Economic Development Director Christina Bibler) regarding potential price and terms of payment with Midway Rising, LLC, for the approximate 48.5-acre Sports Arena site, located at 3500, 3250, 3220 and 3240 Sports Arena Boulevard, in the Midway-Pacific Highway Community.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:04 AM

Public testimony by Audra and Lori Saldaña.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

Conference with Labor Negotiators, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6:

CS-2 City Designated Management Team Representatives:

Timothy Davis, Burke, Williams, & Sorensen LLP, Labor Negotiation Consultant
Mark Wilson, Burke, Williams, & Sorensen LLP, Labor Negotiation Consultant
Eric K. Dargan, Chief Operating Officer
Matthew Vespi, Chief Financial Officer
Kris McFadden, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Kristina Peralta, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Casey Smith, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Julie Rasco, Director, Human Resources Department
Abby Jarl-Veltz, Assistant Director, Human Resources Department
Jeremy Culuko, Deputy Director, Human Resources Department
Jonnabelle Domingo, Supervising Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Dan Mottola, Supervising Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Erik Hanson, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Manuel Quintero, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Abegaile Serafico, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Jennifer Manos, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Kawanda McLendon, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Walter Castillo, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department

Sophia Williams, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Linda Chambers, Senior Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department
Scott Harris, Program Coordinator, Human Resources Department
Brian Mallard, Program Coordinator, Human Resources Department
Angela Colton, Director, Risk Management Department
Quennelle Allen, Deputy Director, Risk Management Department
Carly Danney, Benefits Manager, Risk Management Department
Rolando Charvel, Department of Finance Director and City Comptroller
Benjamin Battaglia, Assistant Director, Department of Finance
Jeffrey Peelle, Assistant Director, Department of Finance
Chris Purcell, Financial Operations Manager, Department of Finance
Sally Rubi, Financial Operations Manager, Department of Finance
Luis Mateos, Payroll Manager, Department of Finance
Nicholas O'Donnell, Principal Accountant, Department of Finance
Virgilio Afan Jr., Program Coordinator, Department of Finance
Colin Stowell, Fire Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
David Gerboth, Assistant Fire Chief Fire-Rescue Department
John Wood, Assistant Fire Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
James Gartland, Lifeguard Chief Fire-Rescue Department
Robert Logan, Deputy Fire Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
David Nisleit, Police Chief, Police Department
Chris Mcgrath, Executive Assistant Chief, Police Department
Terence Charlot, Assistant Police Chief, Police Department
Jim McNeill, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
M. Travis Phelps, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney, solely for negotiations with the Deputy City Attorneys Association
Jean Jordan, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney, solely for negotiations with the Deputy City Attorneys Association
Jonathan Ferreras, Program Coordinator, Office of the City Attorney, solely for negotiations with the Deputy City Attorneys Association

Following Management Team representatives to execute tentative agreements and memoranda of understanding reached in meet and confer, and to present all tentative agreements and memoranda of understanding reached in meet and confer to the Council for final determination and approval by the Council as to policy and the City Attorney as to form or correctness:

Timothy Davis, Burke, Williams, & Sorensen LLP, Labor Negotiation Consultant
Mark Wilson, Burke, Williams, & Sorensen LLP, Labor Negotiation Consultant
Eric K. Dargan, Chief Operating Officer
Matthew Vespi, Chief Financial Officer
Alia Khouri, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Julie Rasco, Director, Human Resources Department
Abby Jarl-Veltz, Assistant Director, Human Resources Department
Jonnabelle Domingo, Supervising Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department

Designated as representatives within the meaning of California Government Code Section 54957.6(a):

Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst
Jillian Andolina, Deputy Director, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst
Lisa Byrne, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst
Baku Patel, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst, solely for negotiations with the San Diego City Firefighters, I.A.F.F., Local 145, and California Teamsters Local 911

Designated as representatives within the meaning of California Government Code Section 54957.6(a):

Jim McNeill, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Jean Jordan, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Leslie Fitzgerald, Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Kristin Zlotnik, Chief Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Joan Dawson, Senior Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Alison Adema, Senior Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Thomas Brady, Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney
Miguel Merrell, Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney

Employee organizations:

San Diego City Firefighters, International Association of Fire Fighters (I.A.F.F.), Local 145
Teamsters, Local 911 (Teamsters)
San Diego Police Officers Association (SDPOA)

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

ACA Assigned: J. McNeill

The purpose of this closed session meeting is to review the City's position and instruct the City's designated representatives to meet and confer over the terms and conditions related to successor Memoranda of Understanding with the San Diego City Firefighters, I.A.F.F. Local 145 (Local 145); California Teamsters Local 911 (Local 911); and San Diego Police Officers Association (POA).

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:04 AM

Public testimony by Audra.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):

CS-3 *Climate Action Campaign, et al. v. City of San Diego*

San Diego Superior Court Case No. 37-2022-00036430-CU-TT-CTL

Risk Management Department Claim File No.: 30636

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

DCA Assigned: J. Mickova Will

This case arises from Petitioner's challenge to the City's passage of the 2022 Climate Action Plan (CAP) and 2022 CAP Update Package. The City Attorney's Office will update the Mayor and City Council on the status of the litigation and seek direction.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:04 AM

Public testimony by Audra and Lori Saldaña.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

CS-4 *Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation v. City of San Diego*

San Diego Superior Court Case No. 37-2023-00006754-CU-TT-CTL

Risk Management Department Claim File No.: 31798

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

CDCA Assigned: T. L. Krentz

This case arises from Petitioner's challenge to the City's approval of the Mira Mesa Community Plan Update. The City Attorney's Office will update the Mayor and City Council on the status of the litigation and seek direction.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:04 AM

Public testimony by Audra and Lori Saldaña.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT-1:

U.S. citizen concerned with the integrity of the U.S. Constitution commented on First amendment of the U.S. Constitution applied to the 14th amendment.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:22 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-2 (virtual):

Terri-Ann Skelly commented on marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:25 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-3 (virtual):

Lori Saldaña commented on unhoused residents.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:27 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-4 (virtual):

Barbara Gordon commented on secondhand tobacco and marijuana smoke.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:29 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-5 (virtual):

Becky Rapp commented on marijuana causing psychosis.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:31 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-6 (virtual):

Francine Maxwell commented on Southeast San Diego residents and flood.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:33 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-7 (virtual):

Kathleen Lippitt commented on substance use.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:35 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-8 (virtual):

Kelly McCormick commented on fentanyl.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:37 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-9 (virtual):

Megan Stuart commented on Southeast San Diego flooding.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:39 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-10 (virtual):

Peggy Walker commented on banning tobacco.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:41 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-11 (virtual):

Al Del Mastro commented on senior housing.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:43 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-12 (virtual):

Lauren Harriman commented on tobacco.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:45 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-13 (virtual):

Audra commented on climate and weather.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:47 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-14 (virtual):

Katherine Douglas commented on privacy ordinance requirement.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:49 PM

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST, CITY CLERK
COMMENT

None.

Item 200: Update on the Redevelopment of the City-Owned Real Property Located at 3220, 3240, 3250 and 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard (Midway Site).

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 2.

Proposed Actions:

ITEM PRESENTED

This item is informational only.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Casey Smith, (619) 236-6573

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:05 PM

Item 201: Proposed Revisions to Shared Mobility Device (SMD) Program.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no expenditures associated with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-289) DIRECTION GIVEN

Resolution determining that the Ordinance amending Chapter 8, Article 3, Division 3 of the San Diego Municipal Code by amending sections 83.0305, 83.0307, 83.0308, and 83.0310, relating to Shared Mobility Devices is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (O-2024-54) DIRECTION GIVEN

Introduction of an Ordinance amending Chapter 8, Article 3, Division 3 of the San Diego Municipal Code by amending sections 83.0305, 83.0307, 83.0308, and 83.0310, relating to Shared Mobility Devices.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee meeting on November 8, 2023.

ACTION: Motion by Chair Lee, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to approve staff's proposed actions and forward this item to full Council for consideration with the request that the Office of Council District 6 continues to work with the City Attorney's Office to finalize municipal code language and provide legal analysis, in addition to working with the Independent Budget Analyst to determine the fiscal impact of the proposed fee modification prior to a City Council hearing on this item.

VOTE: 3-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, von Wilpert-yea, Monica Montgomery Steppe-not present.

Council District 6: Katherine Johnston, (619) 236-7053

City Attorney Contact: Cassandra Mougin

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:59 PM

MOTION BY KENT LEE TO DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND SUSTAINABILITY AND MOBILITY DEPARTMENT WORK WITH COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 OFFICE TO REVIEW PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS AND COME BACK TO COUNCIL AT A FUTURE DATE. Second by Sean Elo-Rivera.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert;

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

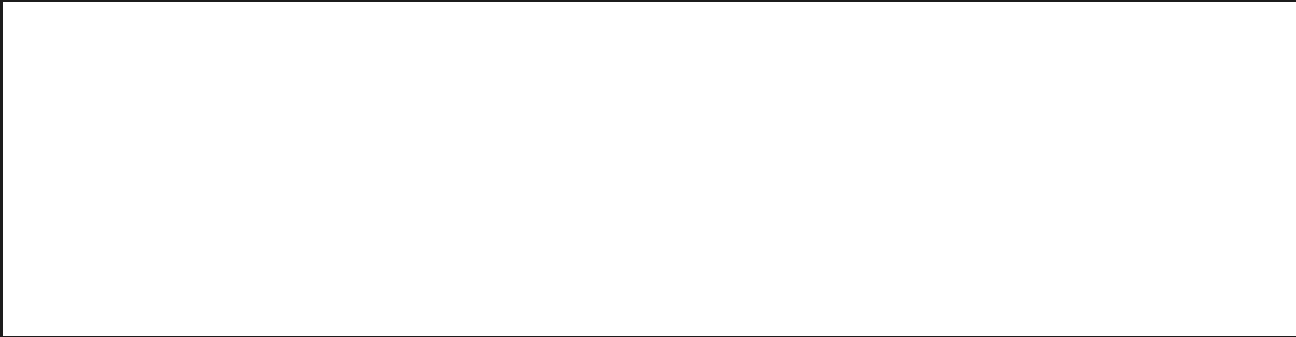
The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 4:55 p.m. in honor of the memory of:

James M. Fitzgerald as requested by Council President Pro Tem LaCava; and Charles Pretto as requested by Councilmember Campbell.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:52 PM

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LOCAL

Damage from flash flooding overwhelms southeast San Diego

by: [Kasia Gregorczyk](#)
 Posted: Jan 23, 2024 / 10:55 AM PST
 Updated: Jan 23, 2024 / 11:04 AM PST

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This is an archived article and the information in the article may be outdated. Please look at the time stamp on the story to see when it was last updated.

SAN DIEGO -- The devastating aftermath of Monday's heavy rainfall and flash flooding is evident throughout San Diego's Southcrest neighborhood.

As people returned to the neighborhood Monday evening to assess the damage, those who evacuated came back to cars, personal belongings, debris and dirt littering the streets.

"A lot of people are in shock," Japhet Perez Estrada told FOX 5 Monday. "People are upset because we as a community have been complaining about the canal, because it's always filled. There's debris there, it's overgrown and this isn't the first time it's flooded."

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Perez Estrada was in chest-deep water at one point heading back to his Southcrest home to save the family cats. Others were seen standing on cars or huddled on top of roofs — some with their pets –awaiting rescue.

So much water was flowing through the neighborhood at one point that a resident was seen evacuating a woman holding a cat on a wave-runner.

“We had to swim out,” said Southcrest resident, Melinda Soltero. “I have a two-year-old a one-year-old and I had to hold them both up on my shoulders.”

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Long-standing complaints about the nearby creek and poor drainage were common among nearly every resident of the neighborhood that FOX 5 spoke with on Monday.

Below: FOX 5's Kasia Gregorczyk on water rescues in Southcrest on Monday, Jan. 22.

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Cal Fire captain dies after found with multiple stab wounds in Ramona

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“It overflows and they never clear it out so the water from the creek,” Soltero said. “Every time it rains, it just comes out here.”

The City of San Diego declared a [local state of emergency](#) Monday evening due to the extreme rain and damage left from flash flooding.

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A spokesperson for the city sent FOX 5 the following statement in response to the concerns in Southcrest Monday:

“

The widespread flooding we’re seeing in the city of San Diego is what happens when heavy rainfall overwhelms an aging stormwater system with limited capacity. Today’s record rainfall reveals the fragile state of our stormwater infrastructure and the need for significant investments going forward to prevent the current situation from becoming the new normal for San

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“It dropped so much water ... it put so much water on the streets and into the storm drains,” San Diego Fire-Rescue Battalion Chief Craig Newell said to FOX 5 Tuesday morning. “It would have overwhelmed any storm drain system. It far exceeded the 100-year flood maps that FEMA has given for this area. It far exceeded what FEMA would say is a catastrophic, destructive, once-in-a-lifetime flooding event.”

About [2.73 inches of rainfall](#) was recorded through midnight at sites in the City of San Diego, passing the previous record for the wettest January day by 0.2 inches. According to the National Weather Service, it came in fourth to the wettest day on record for the city.

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FOX 5's Elizabeth Alvarez and Danielle Dawson contributed to this report.

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Leucadia residents plead with city to finally fix longstanding drainage issues

Monday’s record-setting rainstorm sent new round of flooding into small businesses, homes near Leucadia Roadside Park

The downtown Encinitas sign.

(Charlie Neuman / San Diego Union-Tribune/Zuma Pre)

The downtown Encinitas sign.



By **BARBARA HENRY**

UPDATED: January 26, 2024 at 12:35 AM PST

With buckets and sandbags, the people who live and work near Leucadia Roadside Park desperately fought an ultimately unsuccessful battle to keep rising floodwaters from entering their homes and businesses as a record-setting rainstorm hammered the region Monday, Jan. 22.

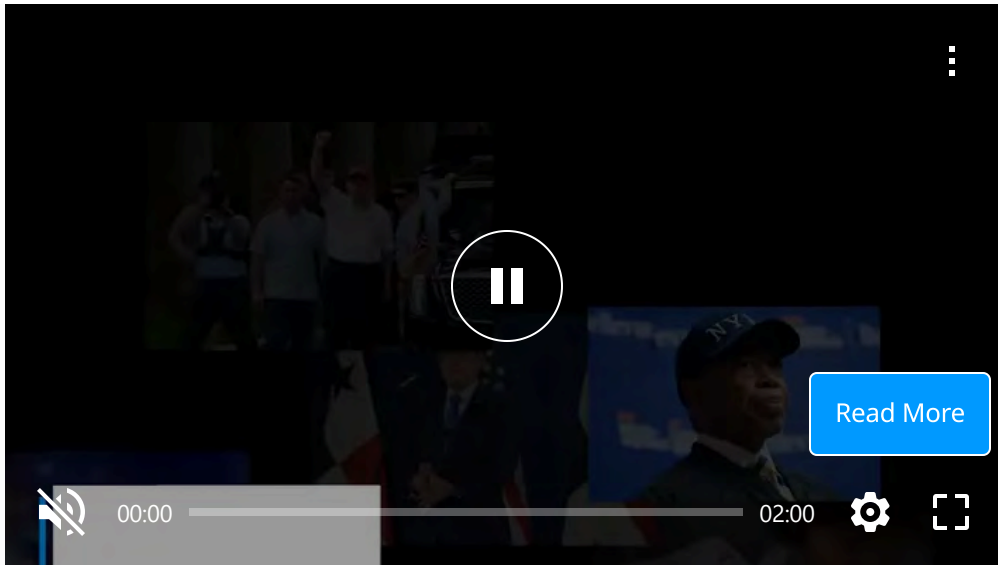
Two days later, they pleaded with the Encinitas City Council to finally resolve drainage problems that have bedeviled the low-lying area for decades, saying the city's previous attempts have done little, if anything, to improve the situation. The Jan. 22 storm, which dropped more than 3 inches of rain onto Encinitas, provided ample evidence that drainage is still a huge unresolved issue in Leucadia, they said.

Stacy Reddell, the new executive director of the Leucadia 101 Main Street Association, listed all of the small businesses that sustained damage from the recent flooding, including coffee shops, a pizza place and a ceramics studio. Some people, particularly the owners of The Mudd House Studio, were "completely devastated" by the amount of water that came pouring into their buildings after the roadways around the park on Coast Highway 101 began flooding Jan. 22, she said.

On its web site, The Mudd House has announced that it is now closed due to flooding damage. A GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-repair-the-mudd-house-from-storm-damage>) has been set up to pay for an estimated \$25,000 repair project.

Noting that "the rainy season is just getting started," Reddell told the council Wednesday, Jan. 24, that her Main Street business organization wants to work with the city to have a "real plan in place" to combat the next storm. And, she stressed, her organization also wants the city to quickly pursue a major construction project to permanently fix the area's drainage problems.

Nikolas "Nikki" Harth, the new president of the Leucadia 101 Main Street Association, said he felt the city had "failed the residents and businesses in a huge way" with the latest flooding incident. Harth operates two businesses — Coffee Coffee and Surfhouse hotel — that were impacted by the rising water Jan. 22.



Leucadia resident Gary Murphy said the city's public works department tried valiantly to pump the water out of the area Jan. 22, but said that obviously isn't a good fix for the drainage problem, especially as there was far more water than the pumps could handle. A longtime community advocate who's been lobbying for years for storm drain improvements, Murphy asked for Mayor Tony Kranz to host a joint community forum with him to debate the city's storm drain construction options.

"It won't get out of hand," he promised the mayor, saying they've been friends for years and could act like adults while debating.

Kranz didn't agree to take him up on his offer, but said the council will be placing the drainage issue on its Feb. 14 meeting agenda. During that discussion, the council will hear the latest plans for the next phase of the Leucadia Streetscape project, which includes stormwater drainage improvements, Kranz said. Begun in 2020, Streetscape is a multi-year, massive renovation of Leucadia's portion of Coast Highway 101, and includes everything from traffic circle roundabouts to new sidewalks.

"It's going to be an important conversation," Kranz said as he encouraged people to attend or watch the Feb. 14 council meeting online.

Calling the recent flooding situation "heartbreaking," Kranz said that residents and business owners whose structures sustained damage can file for disaster relief assistance because both the state of California and San Diego County have declared states of emergency due to the Jan. 22 storm. The city of

Originally Published: January 25, 2024 at 7:34 PM PST

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SAN DIEGO

San Diego flooding victim who sued city after 2018 storm plans more legal action

Greg Montoya and a few other residents of Beta Street settled with the city in November 2023 after a three-year battle over the adequacy of storm drains. He says the drainage has not improved

Published January 26, 2024 • Updated on January 26, 2024 at 11:23 pm



NBC 7's Dave Summers spoke with a San Diego flood victim who says he received damages in a settlement with the city from a storm back in 2018.

Many flood victims in San Diego are still dealing with their hardships on city and county for failing to maintain storm drains.



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One flood victim told NBC 7 he received damages in a settlement with the city from a storm in 2018.

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How many more payouts could there be from this week's deluge?

Beta Street homeowners have spent most of the week bailing out.

Get top local stories in San Diego delivered to you every morning. Sign up for NBC San Diego's News Headlines newsletter.

"What's got me the most scared is it's going to rain again," homeowner Greg Montoya said.

He says his struggle with storm damage and flooding has been the better part of two decades.

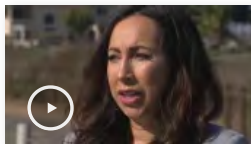
"If you got 20 years of documentation, asking them to fix it, and they don't fix it, it's pretty frustrating," Montoya said.

Local



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6 HOURS AGO

San Diego County Democratic Party endorses Aguirre for District 1 Supervisor seat

He estimates flood waters from Monday's storm cost about \$350,000 in damage.

"You can go in the house, and a lot of things are in there," Montoya said. "It was flooded. My garage was flooded."



Watch News 24/7

Montoya and a few other residents of Beta Street settled with the city in November of 2023 after a three-year battle over the adequacy of storm drains. He says the drainage has clearly not improved.

A walk down Beta Street feels more like a walk through a war zone, homeowners say. In front of each of the homes are trash piles stacked shoulder-high. It's saturated debris from inside the houses. Homeowners keep their windows and doors open to improve air circulation.

How they'll pay for the rebuild also weighs heavy on their minds.

"I don't know where I am going to go. I'm kind of scared about it, too – scared of being homeless," resident Brandon Torres said.

An email from city of San Diego spokesperson Rachel Laing wrote, in part, "The city has received storm-related claims. As always, we will thoroughly investigate each claim received."

Another email sent to NBC 7 from city spokesperson Arian Collins wrote, in part, "Any claim against the city must be made in writing and be completed in accordance with the California Government Code."

Since 2019, Montoya says he posted 15 requests on the city's "Get It Done" app to clean out the creek behind his house. NBC 7 has verified 10 of those still in the system.

NBC 7 found the street department cleaning out the creek on Friday afternoon. But better late than never won't prevent Montoya from filing another claim.

"It's tough because they fight viciously, but I am determined" Montoya said.

The city provides two websites for residents who wish to get information about filing a claim, which can be found [here](#).

This article tagged under:

NEWS

The City Said Cleaning a Channel Wasn't a Priority. Now Their Homes Are Devastated

Property managers of a Rolando affordable-housing complex asked the city to clean a stormwater channel four months ago. The city told them it was a low priority. Now 57 families are displaced.

by [Lisa Halverstadt](#) and [Juan Estrada](#)

February 1, 2024



Eleanor Rubalcaba's apartment got severely flooded during the Jan. 22 flood. She and other residents were told they do not have to pay rent for February. She received a stipend of \$1,500 but is afraid to spend the money because she says it will go fast. / Ariana Drehsler for Voice of San Diego

Nearly four months before last week's downpour, managers of a 93-unit affordable-housing complex in Rolando asked the city to clean the canal alongside it. The city didn't get to it until it was too late.

Last week, water burst through fencing separating the channel from the Village Green Apartments and poured into dozens of apartments, leaving 57 families temporarily displaced.

City crews on Monday finally cleared some brush from the area, including a large palm blocking a significant portion of the storm drain. It wasn't clear whether the palm was there before the flooding devastated the apartment complex.

What is clear is this wasn't the first flood to hit the Village Green apartments and that property managers tried to avert a crisis before the latest one ravaged dozens of homes. The city, however, didn't deem cleaning the channel next to the apartment complex a priority project until after last week's storm.



Eleanor Rubalcaba sanitizes her 3-year-old granddaughter's dolls. Her granddaughter lives with her at the Village Green Apartments in Rolando on Jan. 29, 2024. / Ariana Drehsler for Voice of San Diego

The city's Get It Done website shows there were more than a half dozen requests to clean the channel over the past several years, including in January 2017 when someone submitted a photo showing floodwaters spilling from the canal into Village Green's parking lot and into multiple apartments.

ConAm Management Corp., which manages the apartments, kicked off its latest series of requests for canal cleaning on Sept. 28. By early December, emails obtained by Voice of San Diego after a public-records request show a ConAm manager emailed a staffer in Council President Sean Elo-Rivera's office to ask for help.

In early January, Elo-Rivera's staffer got word from a deputy director in the city's Stormwater Department that cleaning up the channel next to Village Green wasn't a priority project.

Deputy Director Eddie Salinas wrote that the city ranked the channel known as Cartagena 1 channel 41st out of 174 channels after an April inspection and noted that it was downstream of two other Rolando area channels, including one where a maintenance project was set to begin in February.

"Cartagena 1 is not planned for maintenance due to its lower ranking when compared to other higher-ranking channels," Salinas wrote on Jan. 5.

Salinas also described environmental reviews necessary before maintenance work and staffing challenges.

"Once we are done with our channel work, we will have the ability to revisit Rolando Park for any minor maintenance opportunities that we can perform without permits," Salinas wrote.

The rain hit before the other Rolando area maintenance project was set to begin.

A week after the storm highlighted the inadequacies of San Diego's storm and drainage infrastructure throughout the city, Village Green residents are continuing to process what happened and question whether the flooding could have been prevented.



View of a channel alongside Village Green Apartments in Rolando that had already been cleaned out of debris and plant materials on Jan. 29, 2024. / Ariana Drehsler for Voice of San Diego

Monica Hill, who has lived at Village Green for 15 years, is among the displaced residents. She lost a living room set, two beds, pictures and a slew of other items.

Since the storm, Hill said she's been anxious and struggling to sleep. For now, she and other tenants are staying in hotels with support from Wakeland Housing and Development Corp., which owns the apartment complex.

"I was traumatized, just had never seen anything like that before," Hill said, recalling the panic she and neighbors experienced when water poured into their homes.

Hill said residents requested channel cleaning at multiple community meetings last year. She said the area has long been littered with branches, clothes, trash and at one point before the latest storm, a tree stump.

"We just want the city to be accountable," Hill said. "You were asked several times to have a cleanup."

When Hill's neighbor Frida Medina awoke last Monday, she said her apartment was already underwater. Medina and her partner Toni Cass, jolted awake by Medina's cries for help, rushed downstairs on the first floor of their unit to check on their dog and two cats who were thankfully safe and then scrambled to gather their things. The couple said San Diego police ultimately broke a sliding glass door so they could leave their apartment, a move that also led water and debris to rush into their home.



Frida Medina, 25 (right) and Toni Cass, 29 (left) stand in their apartment that got severely flooded on the first level at the Village Green Apartments in Rolando on Jan. 29, 2024. Between Medina and Cass, a car has been totaled due to the flooding, electronics, a couch, a loveseat to name a few items. / Ariana Drehsler for Voice of San Diego

They made it out safely but are now they are left assessing the destruction – and how it changed their lives overnight. They lost a car, a computer, vinyl records, books, appliances and more.

“It was so, so overwhelming and sad,” Medina said. “We just stand in the middle of the living room just crying, hugging ourselves, just trying to make sense of any of it.”

Medina and Cass are also convinced channel maintenance could have been a game changer – and that more is needed. They described palms and shrubs lining the concrete channel that they believe may have contributed

to last week's flooding and could fuel future floods.

Both were glad city workers came out Monday but said they had more work to do. Palms and shrubs remain.

City spokesman Craig Gustafson confirmed the channel hasn't received significant maintenance in recent years in part because it's a "concrete-lined channel that historically has had minimal vegetation growth."

The last notable project, he wrote in an email, was when the city removed a strand of palms in 2018.

Gustafson said the city prioritizes channel projects after annual inspections by ranking them on factors including the probability of flooding, structural damage, level of vegetation and debris. Ultimately, the spokesman said, the Stormwater Department's annual budget only allows the city to pursue clearing and maintenance in four of its roughly 200 channel segments each year.

Clearing a storm drain can be relatively easy and the city can complete requests deemed emergencies within 24 hours, Gustafson wrote, but requests to remove vegetation or maintain a stormwater channel – as in the case of channel near the Village Green Apartments – are more complex.

"Working inside the channels requires regulatory approval from various agencies, including U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and in many cases proof that compensatory mitigation (i.e., creation or enhancement of wetlands off-site) can be provided. This can be a lengthy process with significant budget implications," Gustafson wrote. "The decision to maintain a stormwater channel is a financial commitment, not just an operational decision."

That's **being disputed** by at least one agency, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, which told Voice that the city has clearance to do routine channel maintenance before storms.

Gustafson said the city was ultimately able to clean the channel near Village Green Apartments this week – plus **work in a slew of other areas** – by diverting staff from other functions to channel clean-up and maintenance work.

Elo-Rivera, who represents the Rolando area, has visited Village Green residents multiple times since last week. He said he appreciated that city staff addressed urgent needs in the channel next to the apartment complex. He'd still like to see staff completely clear brush on the west side of the channel.

Still, Elo-Rivera said he wasn't sure whether cleaning the channel as residents and property managers requested would have stopped water from spilling into the property.

For now, Elo-Rivera said, he's focused on ensuring displaced residents in Rolando and elsewhere have access to necessities such as food and shelter and a [November ballot measure](#) he announced he plans to push to increase city resources for both stormwater projects and disaster relief. If the City Council forwards the yet-to-be-detailed measure to voters and voters sign off, the new tax could help address [\\$1.6 billion in projects](#) the city now can't afford.

"I don't want San Diego to move on and forget about these communities because there is a lot of tragedy that's gonna deserve our attention for a very long time," Elo-Rivera said.



Eleanor Rubalcaba's apartment got severely flooded last week. She along with other residents were told they do not have to pay rent for February. She received a stipend of \$1,500 but was afraid to spend the money because she says it will go fast. / Ariana Drehsler for Voice of San Diego

Rebecca Louie and Gama Vazquez of Wakeland told Voice their company, which owns the apartment complex, is also focused on aiding residents. Earlier this week, the company [doled out \\$30,000 it raised](#) for the cause to residents to fund hotel stays and other needs until Feb. 17. They have teamed with Elo-Rivera's office and others to [supply clothes, food and diapers](#). They are expecting it will take a couple months to do repairs that will allow the 57 families to return.

Like Village Green residents, they also can't help but reflect on whether the strife all have experienced could have been avoided.

“Could this have been prevented? Possibly,” Vazquez said. “I just don't know that for a fact right now but looking back in hindsight, with all the households that have been impacted and all the damage to the property and the units, it's devastating.”

MacKenzie Elmer contributed to this report.

Pingback:

The City Said Cleaning a Channel Wasn't a Priority. Now Their Homes Are Devastated

Tom A.

February 2, 2024 at 7:21 am

This is a major 'fail' by the City, another example of a bureaucratic blunder. This is a concrete channel, constructed to move water safely away from people and property. The technology and equipment exist to 'clean' channels on a regular basis before mud, debris, and growth

▼ Expand comments

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LOCAL

Southcrest homeowner plans to sue San Diego for a second time over storm preparations

by: [Alani Letang](#)
Posted: Feb 3, 2024 / 07:32 PM PST
Updated: Feb 3, 2024 / 11:05 PM PST

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SAN DIEGO ([FOX 5/KUSI](#)) — Southcrest homeowner Greg Montoya said he plans to sue the city of San Diego for a second time over its handling of clearing storm drains and trashed alleys.

The attorney on the case, Evan Walker, tells us the city has a month and a half to respond to the claims. On Saturday, outside Montoya’s home, he and Walker gathered neighbors to discuss their rights and options for compensation.

“Total disaster, and it could’ve been avoided. It could’ve been avoided,” said Greg Montoya, a longtime Southcrest home owner.

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Montoya has lived in the same Southcrest home on Beta Street for 30 years. The January 22 floods left his home in disarray. Montoya gave FOX 5 a tour of his home and property.

| Short-term shelter opening in San Diego-owned hotel for flood victims >

“I don’t even remember what I was grabbing, starting taking pictures, the refrigerator was tossed over and I was trying to get it back in place. It was pretty rough,” Montoya said.

“I had a collection of LIFE magazines all ruined. The originals... Still wet,” Montoya added.

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Pointing to antique furniture, Montoya said, “this one here had all my family stuff, ruined, ruined, ruined.”

For decades, Montoya said he has been documenting the alley and storm drains around his home when it rains. Montoya told FOX 5 he has sent countless emails and pictures begging the City of San Diego to clean the alley behind his home, underneath the 38th street bridge, and the storm drain at the end of Beta Street.

| Thousands of donations pour in for flood survivors ahead of more rain >

Montoya said he even requested that the city add more storm drains around homes.

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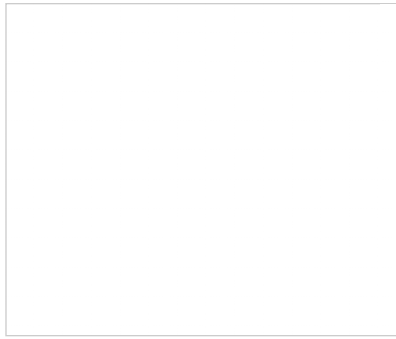
Gaylord Pacific Resort in Chula Vista hiring hundreds for 2025 opening



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“You can see the water line in my garage, see the water line, see where the camper is, look at the garage door, that’s how high the water was in the garage. It tossed and turned everything in there. It flooded out my son’s car,” Montoya explained while walking in his backyard.

Montoya said before Thursday’s rain, the city had cleared some of the drains and alleys, which he said will help for now.

| Southcrest community steps up to help neighbors impacted by flood >

“There is so much trash still,” Montoya explained as he walked in the alley behind his home.

“Look at all the trash, and that’s clean compared to what it was,” Montoya added as he continued walking toward the 38th Street bridge.

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“But it’s still a long way from being cleaned correctly. I’m hoping they don’t do another band aid like they always do, and say ‘that’s good,’ and walk away,” Montoya stressed.

Montoya told FOX 5 the city’s inaction is why he sued in 2019 after the December 2018 flooding. The city settled for around \$209,000. However, Montoya said the city’s absence is persistent and plans to sue again.

| Drone video captures aftermath of flooding in Southcrest >

“They need to make everybody right, because they’ve known of the problem. There is no way they can say they didn’t know. That is incorrect,” Montoya said.

“If the city hasn’t done their part and there is something to be done legally, these people have a right to compensation,” said Evan Walker, the flood attorney for the law office of Evan W Walker.

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Gaylord Pacific Resort in Chula Vista hiring hundreds for 2025 opening



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Walker represented Montoya in the 2019 lawsuit and still going forward with the latest flood situation.

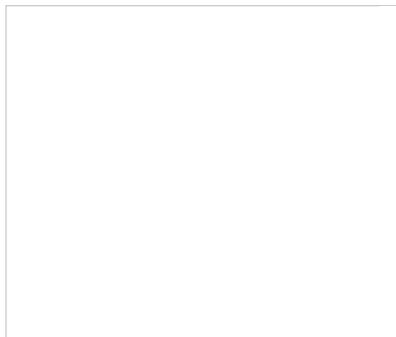
“Does this feel like deja vu?” FOX 5 asked Walker.

| Southcrest residents rummage through heaps of mud, days after flooding wiped out homes >

“Absolutely it’s deja vu. I feel bad for all the people who have had to go through this when the city could’ve fixed it years ago when we asked them too,” Walker answered.

Walker said this week he filed a Government Tort Claim against the City of San Diego. The city will have 45 days to accept or reject.

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| Southcrest residents blame City of San Diego for flooded homes >

If the city rejects the claim, Walker said he will file the suit on behalf of Montoya. Meanwhile, Walker is trying to help other neighbors if they are interested in getting compensation from the city.

Walker said he has two goals, one is “to get the compensation that they are due. And secondly the city steps up and maintains Chollas Creek and the drainage issues that have plagued the Southcrest neighborhood.”

“We will send that message where they will actually start maintaining that area. They’ve never really taken care of this area of San Diego,” Montoya commented.

[Suggest a Correction](#)

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Gaylord Pacific Resort in Chula Vista hiring hundreds for 2025 opening



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City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2024
AT 10:00 AM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 12TH FLOOR**

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NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, IBA, CITY CLERK COMMENT

Item 200: This Item has been removed from Agenda

Item 201: Reappointments to the Commission on Police Practices

Item 202: Consideration of Nominees for Appt to the Commission on Police Practices

Item 203: Scripps Mercy Hospital - Project No. 658548

Item 250: Submission of Ballot Proposals for the November 5, 2024, Ballot

Item S400: Update on the City's Response to the Winter Storm Event on 01/22/2024

Item S401: Requesting Expeditious Submission and Approval for a Major Federal Disaster Declaration in Response to the Winter Storm Event

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Council President Elo-Rivera at 2:00 p.m. Councilmember Lee arrived to the meeting at 2:03 p.m. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 2:46 p.m. for the purpose of a break. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the meeting at 2:51 p.m. with all Councilmembers present and Council District 4 vacant. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 2:53 p.m. for the purpose of a break. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the meeting at 2:59 p.m. with all Councilmembers present and Council District 4 vacant. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 3:02 p.m. for the purpose of a break. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the meeting at 3:08 p.m. with all Councilmembers present and Council District 4 vacant. Councilmember Moreno left the meeting at 5:38 p.m. Councilmember Campbell left the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Councilmember Lee left the meeting at 6:10 p.m. The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 6:11 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING

PRESENT:

CD-1 Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava

CD-2 Councilmember Jennifer Campbell

CD-3 Councilmember Stephen Whitburn

CD-4 vacant

CD-5 Councilmember Marni von Wilpert - (Pursuant to California Government Code section 54953(f), participated remotely for just cause due to contagious illness with no individual 18 years of age or older present in the room.)

CD-6 Councilmember Kent Lee

CD-7 Councilmember Raul A. Campillo

CD-8 Councilmember Vivian Moreno

CD-9 Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

ABSENT:

None.

CITY CLERK:

Fuentes (km)

ROLL CALL

- (1) Council President Pro Tem LaCava-present
- (2) Councilmember Campbell-present
- (3) Councilmember Whitburn-present
- (4) Council District vacant
- (5) Councilmember von Wilpert-present
- (6) Councilmember Lee-not present
- (7) Councilmember Campillo-present
- (8) Councilmember Moreno-present
- (9) Council President Elo-Rivera-present

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by City Clerk Diana J.S. Fuentes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Moreno.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT-1:

U.S. Citizen concerned with the integrity of the U.S. Constitution commented on application of the 14th Amendment on the First Amendment.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:36 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-2 (virtual):

Becky Rapp commented on potential school shooting in Rancho Bernardo High and marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:38 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-3 (virtual):

Barbara Gordon commented on heart health month and marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:40 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-4 (virtual):

Megan Stuart commented on marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:42 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-5 (virtual):

Francine Maxwell commented on trainings on civics 101, Council Policy 700-11, and first responders.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:44 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-6 (virtual):

Blair Beekman commented on Southcrest and priorities on federal funding dollars.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:46 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-7 (virtual):

Lori Saldaña commented on Mayor and thanked George Biagi.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:48 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-8 (virtual):

Peggy Walker commented on marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:50 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-9 (virtual):

Joy Sunyata commented on customer service and updates.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:52 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-10 (virtual):

Lawrence Le Blanc commented on Hamas.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:55 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-11 (virtual):

Alya commented on Israel.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:57 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-12 (virtual):

Truth commented on SANDAG meeting.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:58 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-13 (virtual):

Kelly McCormick commented on smokeless tobacco.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:00 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-14 (virtual):

Dan Pr commented on Israel.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:02 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-15 (virtual):

Lauren Harriman commented on cancer prevention month.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:04 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-16 (virtual):

Audra commented on community and policies.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:05 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-17 (virtual):

Barrett Holman Leak commented on speaker's corner for protests.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:07 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-18 (virtual):

Lena Geller commented on Jewish events.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:09 PM

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST, CITY CLERK
COMMENT

None.

Item 200: This item was removed from the Agenda.

Item 201: Reappointments and Term Extensions to the Commission on Police Practices.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-10) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance exempting the appointment process and term lengths in San Diego Municipal Code sections 26.1104 and 26.1105 to reappoint Clovis Honoree, Maria Guadalupe Lozano-Diaz, Yvania Rubio, Darlanne Mulmat, Alec Beyer, Octavio Aguilar, Dr. Dennis Brown, and James Justus to the Commission on Police Practices for terms expiring on June 30, 2024, and extending by one year the terms of the Commission on Police Practice members Cheryl Canson, Christina Griffin-Jones, Gloria Tran, Laila Aziz, Brandon Hilpert, Dwayne Harvey, Bonnie Benitez, Dennis Larkin, Dalia Sherlyn Villa De La Cruz, and Jaylene Vazquez such that their terms expire on June 30, 2025.

This item is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Council District 9: Luz Anaya Luna, (619) 236-6699

City Attorney Contact: Kathy Steinman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:04 PM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO INTRODUCE. Second by Stephen Whitburn.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 202: Consideration of Nominees for Appointment to the Commission on Police Practices.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-309 Cor. Copy) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315329

Resolution making City Council appointments of the District 6 member for a term ending June 30, 2024, and the District 9 member for a term ending June 30, 2025, to the Commission on Police Practices.

Subitem-A is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-308 Cor. Copy) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315330

Resolution making City Council appointments of two at-large members to the Commission on Police Practices for terms ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025.

Subitem-B is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Council District 9: Luz Anaya Luna, (619) 236-6699

City Attorney Contact: Kathy Steinman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:12 PM

City Clerk Fuentes announced the results of Subitem A's Round 1 of the balloting as follows:

A total of 1 vote for Carl Preston Weaver, Jr and a total of 7 votes for Stephen E. Chatzky for the District 6 member with a term ending June 30, 2024; and a total of 6 votes for Armando Flores and a total of 2 votes for Jeffrey Citriniti for the District 9 member with a term ending June 30, 2025.

City Clerk Fuentes announced that Stephen E. Chatzky has been appointed as District 6 member for a term ending June 30, 2024; and Armando Flores has been appointed as a District 9 member for a term ending June 30, 2025.

City Clerk Fuentes announced the results of Subitem B's Round 1 of the balloting as follows:

A total of 1 vote for Ada Liz Rodriguez, a total of 1 vote for David Burton, a total of 2 votes for Imani T. Robinson, and a total of 3 votes for John T. Armantrout for the at-large member with a term ending June 30, 2024; a total of 4 votes for Ada Liz Rodriguez, a total of 2 votes for David Burton, and a total of 2 votes for John T. Armantrout for the at-large member with a term ending June 30, 2025.

City Clerk Fuentes announced that no appointees were selected for Round 1.

City Clerk Fuentes announced the results of Subitem B's Round 2 of the balloting as follows:

A total of 1 vote for David Burton, a total of 3 votes for Imani T. Robinson, and a total of 6 votes for John T. Armantrout for the at-large member with a term ending June 30, 2024; a total of 5 votes for Ada Liz Rodriguez, a total of 2 votes for David Burton, and a total of 1 vote for John T. Armantrout for the at-large member with a term ending June 30, 2025.

City Clerk Fuentes announced that John T. Armantrout has been appointed as at-large member for a term ending June 30, 2024; and Ada Liz Rodriguez has been appointed as at-large member for a term ending June 30, 2025.

Item 203: Scripps Mercy Hospital - Project No. 658548.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

None with this action. All costs associated with the cost of this project are paid from a deposit account maintained by the applicant.

Council District(s) Affected: 3.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-303) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315331

Resolution certifying Environmental impact report no. 658548/sch no. 2021040374 and adopting the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program, related to the Scripps Mercy San Diego Hospital Campus Project located at 4077 Fifth Avenue.

Subitem-A is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-301) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315332

Resolution approving of Planned Development Permit no. 2410288, Conditional Use Permit no. 2410279 amending Conditional Use Permit no. 304755, Site Development Permit no. 2410289 to amend Site Development Permit 531932, and Neighborhood Use Permit no. 2609691, to demolish existing structures; construct new medical office and hospital space, with parking, all a part of the Scripps Mercy San Diego Hospital Campus Project, located at 4077 Fifth Avenue.

Subitem-B is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Subitem-C: (R-2024-302) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315333

Resolution approving Tentative Map no. 2421177 and Easement Vacation no. 2410324 to consolidate and subdivide the existing lots into five new lots, and to vacate certain public easements which will no longer be needed to serve a public use, all a part of the Scripps Mercy San Diego Hospital Campus Project, located at 4077 Fifth Avenue.

Subitem-C is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Development Services: Martha Blake, (619) 446-5375

City Attorney Contact: Noah Brazier

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:03 PM

Public testimony by Tom Gammieri, Robin Madaffer, Tim Jacoby, Ben Nicholls, James Grisolia, Audra, Jordan Latchford, Dan Smiechowski, and Lori Saldaña.

MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

NOTE: The following Public Notice was for public record only. This item did not require Council action or public testimony.

Item 250: Submission of Ballot Proposals for the November 5, 2024, Ballot.

City Council Policy 000-21 establishes a procedure for submittal of ballot proposals, other processes -including citizen initiatives- may come before the City Council for consideration at other times. The Council Policy states that members of the public, Councilmembers, the Mayor or mayoral departments, independent department directors, or a public agency shall submit proposals to the City Clerk, who shall then transmit them promptly to Committee for review and comment. Please submit all proposals to cityclerk@sandiego.gov (mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov). The City Clerk’s Office has established the following calendar for the November 5, 2024, election.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAYS BEFORE ELECTION</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Friday, 03/29/2024	221	LAST DATE (5:00 p.m.) for public, departments and agencies to submit ballot proposals to City Clerk for review by Committee
Thursday, 04/18/2024	201	Initial Committee review Measures that advance from initial review proceed to a second Committee review, where the Committee will decide if they will be presented to the full Council for consideration
Wednesday, 6/05/2024	153	Measures that advance from initial review proceed to a second Committee review, where the Committee will decide if they will be presented to the full Council for consideration.

Monday, 06/10/2024	148	First Day Council discusses measures and adopts ordinances by City Attorney to place measures on the ballot
Friday, 08/09/2024	88	Last Day Council discusses measures and adopts ordinances by City Attorney to place measures on the ballot
Monday, 8/12/2024	85	Last day to submit the Fiscal Impact Analysis; Ballot and Title Summary; and Impartial Analysis with City Clerk
Wednesday, 8/14/2024	83	Last day to file ballot arguments with City Clerk

Please check posted agendas for additional information. If you have questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000 or via e-mail at cityclerk@sanidiego.gov (mailto:cityclerk@sanidiego.gov).

Item S400: Informational Update on the City’s Response and Recovery Efforts to the Winter Storm Event Occurring on January 22, 2024.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

This item is information only.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

ITEM PRESENTED

This item is informational only.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Office of the Mayor: Matt Yagyagan, (619) 236-6330

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 3:11 PM

Item S401: Resolution Requesting Expeditious Submission and Approval for a Major Federal Disaster Declaration in Response to the Winter Storm Event Occurring on January 22, 2024.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no costs associated with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-343) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315334

Resolution requesting the Governor of California to request and the President of the United States to declare a major disaster for the January 22, 2024, storm.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Government Affairs: Adrian Granda, (619) 533-5965

City Attorney Contact: Michelle Garland

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:37 PM

MOTION BY VIVIAN MORENO TO ADOPT. Second by Sean Elo-Rivera.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 6:11 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:11 PM

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City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

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**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
 MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
 OF
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024
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APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Item 30: James Nagelvoort Day

Item 31: Shiela Gigante Day

Item 32: San Carlos Little League Opening Day

Item 33: Allied Gardens Little League Opening Day

Item 34: Sharmaine Moseley Day

Item 50: Exemption of One (1) Program Manager Position and One (1) Program Coordinator Position in the Purchasing & Contracting Department from the Classified Service

Item 51: Authorization to Extend the Current Contract for Annual Audit Services Related to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Single Audit, and Other Audit Services and Increase the Not-to-Exceed Contract Amount

Item 52: Ordinance Amending the San Diego Municipal Code Relating to the San Diego City Employees Retirement System Regarding Unwinding of Proposition B for Separated Employees

Item 53: Exemption of a Program Coordinator Position in the Office of the City Attorney from the Classified Service

Item 54: Exemption of One Program Manager Position in the Compliance Department from the Classified Service

Item 55: Proposed Amendments to the Transparent and Responsible Use of Surveillance Technology Ordinance (TRUST Ordinance)

Item 100: Resolution Approving a Side Letter Agreement Between the City Of San Diego and San Diego Municipal Employees Association to Amend Article 21 of the Memorandum Of Understanding Related to Special Assignment Pay for Police Property and Evidence Specialists and Police Property and Evidence Supervisors

Item 101: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Moli Lor and Elvis Lam DBA Christy's Donuts Covering Approximately 909 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 118) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 102: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Rivan Samuail dba Clown Market Covering Approximately 960 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 130) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 103: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Rafael Gonzalez Figueroa Covering Approximately 2,730 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 120) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 104: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, including options to extend the term, with Infinity Nails & Spa, Inc. covering approximately 910 square feet of retail space (Suite 117) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 105: Two (2)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Learn to Fly San Diego LLC Covering Approximately 909 Square Feet (Suite 116) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 106: Two (2) -Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, including Options to Extend the Term, with Marv Golden Discount Sales, Inc. Covering Approximately 2,355 Square Feet (Suite 102) of Retail Space at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 107: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Kham and Thanathone Chareunshouk Covering Approximately 2,111 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 114) within Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 108: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Nicholas and Zulay Romero DBA Rawknykz Barber Shop Covering Approximately 662 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 106) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

Item 109: Appointment of an Alternate to the North County Transit District Directors Board of Directors

Item 330: Authorize the City to Apply, Accept, Appropriate, and Expend Funding from the California Board of State and Community Corrections Public Health and Safety Cohort 3 Grant Program

Item 331: Authorization to Submit Used Oil Payment Program Applications to California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for Fiscal Years 2024/25 –2029/30

Item 332: Authorization to Apply for Local Assistance Specified Grant Program, Administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation

Item 333: Financial Training for City Council: Effective Capital Planning, Financing, and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Delivery

Item 334: Residential Tenant Protections Ordinance Amendments for Consistency with California Senate Bill 567

Item S500: Reappointment to the Human Relations Commission

Item S501: Appointment and Reappointments to the Human Relations Commission

Item S502: Informational Update from the Southeast Disaster Response Team

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Council President Elo-Rivera at 10:04 a.m. Councilmember Campillo arrived to the meeting at 10:07 a.m. Councilmember Whitburn left the meeting at 11:58 a.m. The meeting was recessed by Council President Elo-Rivera at 12:25 p.m. for the noon recess

to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by Council President Elo-Rivera at 2:01 p.m. with Council District 4 vacant. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 4:18 p.m. to convene the Housing Authority meeting. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the regular meeting at 5:12 p.m. with Councilmember Whitburn not present and Council District 4 vacant. The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 5:13 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING

PRESENT:

CD-1 Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava

CD-2 Councilmember Jennifer Campbell

CD-3 Councilmember Stephen Whitburn

CD-4 vacant

CD-5 Councilmember Marni von Wilpert - (Pursuant to California Government Code section 54953(f), participated remotely for just cause due to contagious illness with no individual 18 years of age or older present in the room.)

CD-6 Councilmember Kent Lee

CD-7 Councilmember Raul A. Campillo

CD-8 Councilmember Vivian Moreno - (Pursuant to California Government Code section 54953(f), participated remotely for just cause due to childcare needs with no individuals 18 years of age or older present in the room.)

CD-9 Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

ABSENT:

None.

CITY CLERK:

Fuentes (cp/gS)

ROLL CALL

(1) Council President Pro Tem LaCava-present

(2) Councilmember Campbell-present

(3) Councilmember Whitburn-present

(4) Council District-vacant

(5) Councilmember von Wilpert-present

(6) Councilmember Lee-present

(7) Councilmember Campillo-not present

(8) Councilmember Moreno-present

(9) Council President Elo-Rivera-present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember LaCava.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT-1:

Tasha Williamson commented on policing.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:08 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-2:

U.S. Citizen Concerned with the Integrity of the U.S. Constitution commented on 14th Amendment applied to the 1st Amendment.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:10 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-3 (virtual):

Terri-Ann Skelly commented on synthetic cannabis products.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:13 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-4 (virtual):

Becky Rapp commented on Social Equity in Economic Development Program.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:15 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-5 (virtual):

Blair Beekman commented on war on Israel and Gaza; and peace.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:16 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-6 (virtual):

Audra commented on flood warning/climate.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:19 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-7 (virtual):

Megan Stuart commented on marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:21 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-8 (virtual):

Joy Sunyata commented on Quiet Zone; customer service; and updates in priority memos.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:23 PM

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST, CITY CLERK
COMMENT

None.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

None.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

APPROVED

1/1/2024 Adjourned

1/2/2024 Adjourned

1/8/2024

1/9/2024

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:07 AM

MOTION BY JENNIFER CAMPBELL TO APPROVE. Second by Stephen Whitburn.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

NOTE: The following Proclamations were NOT presented in Council Chambers.

Item 30: James Nagelvoort Day.

MAYOR GLORIA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM LACAVA, COUNCILMEMBER CAMPBELL, AND COUNCILMEMBER VON WILPERT'S RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVED

Proclaiming February 6, 2024 to be "James Nagelvoort Day" in the City of San Diego.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:31 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO APPROVE. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 31: Shiela Gigante Day.

COUNCILMEMBER CAMPILLO'S RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVED

Proclaiming February 10, 2024 to be "Sheila Gigante Day" in the City of San Diego.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:31 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO APPROVE. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 32: San Carlos Little League Opening Day.

COUNCILMEMBER CAMPILLO'S RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVED

Proclaiming February 10, 2024, to be "San Carlos Little League Opening Day" in the City of San Diego.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:31 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO APPROVE. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 33: Allied Gardens Little League Opening Day.

COUNCILMEMBER CAMPILLO'S RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVED

Proclaiming February 10, 2024, to be "Allied Gardens Little League Opening Day" in the City of San Diego.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:31 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO APPROVE. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 34: Sharmaine Moseley Day.

MAYOR GLORIA AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT ELO-RIVERA'S RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVED

Proclaiming February 6, 2024, to be "Sharmaine Moseley Day" in the City of San Diego.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:31 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO APPROVE. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 50: Exemption of One (1) Program Manager Position and One (1) Program Coordinator Position in the Purchasing & Contracting Department from the Classified Service.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

These positions were included in the FY 2023 Adopted Budget.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-55) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance authorizing the exemption of a Program Manager position and a Program Coordinator position in the City's Purchasing and Contracting Department from the Classified Service, based on advisory review and favorable comment by the Civil Service Commission on March 3, 2023. The Program Manager position oversee the Central Stores Division and the Program Coordinator position will supervise the Equal Opportunity Contracting Program. This Action is brought under San Diego Charter section 117(a)(17).

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Purchasing & Contracting: Claudia C. Abarca, (619) 236-5921

City Attorney Contact: Miguel Merrell

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO INTRODUCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 51: Authorization to Extend the Current Contract for Annual Audit Services Related to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Single Audit, and Other Audit Services and Increase the Not-to-Exceed Contract Amount.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

\$72,101.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-60) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance authorizing extension of agreement with Macias Gini & O'Connell LLP past five years for independent auditing services for Fiscal Years 2019 through 2023 and related actions.

6 votes required pursuant to Charter Section 99.Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Audit Committee meeting on November 15, 2023.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Tabshouri, second by Committee Member Maffia, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 5-0; Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea, Halpern-yea, Tabshouri-yea, Maffia-yea.

Office of the City Auditor: Danielle Knighten, (619) 533-3032

City Attorney Contact: Hilda R. Mendoza

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO INTRODUCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 52: Ordinance Amending the San Diego Municipal Code Relating to the San Diego City Employees Retirement System Regarding Unwinding of Proposition B for Separated Employees.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There is no known fiscal impact for the amendment to the Municipal Code.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-57) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance amending the San Diego Municipal Code relating to the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System regarding the unwinding of Proposition B for separated employees.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Human Resources: Abby Jarl-Veltz, (619) 236-6314

City Attorney Contact: Thomas J. Brady

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO INTRODUCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 53: Exemption of a Program Coordinator Position in the Office of the City Attorney from the Classified Service.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Adopt the following Ordinance which was introduced on 01/23/2024, Item 50 (Council voted 8-0, District 4-Vacant):

(O-2024-51) ADOPTED AS ORDINANCE O-21760 (New Series)

Ordinance authorizing the exemption of a Program Coordinator position in the Office of the City Attorney from the Classified Service, based on advisory review and favorable comment by the Civil Service Commission on December 7, 2023. This position will be responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing programming and services for the Your Safe Place - A Family Justice Center. This Action is brought under San Diego Charter section 117(a)(17).

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Office of the City Attorney: Jim McNeill, (619) 236-6220

City Attorney Contact: Miguel Merrell

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING AND ADOPT THE ORDINANCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 54: Exemption of One Program Manager Position in the Compliance Department from the Classified Service.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

The projected annual salary for this position is approximately \$151,200. The Compliance Department plans to fill this position early in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, incurring about a quarter of the annual cost for this position paid from the General Fund. These costs will be absorbed as part of Compliance Department's Fiscal Year 2024 budget through projected vacancy and non-personnel expenditure savings.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Adopt the following Ordinance which was introduced on 01/23/2024, Item 51 (Council voted 7-1, Councilmember Moreno-nay, District 4-Vacant):

(O-2024-53) ADOPTED AS ORDINANCE O-21761 (New Series)

Ordinance authorizing the exemption of a Program Manager position in the City's Compliance Department from the Classified Service, based on advisory review and favorable comment by the Civil Service Commission on December 7, 2023. This position will be responsible for overseeing the City's Capital Improvement Program Project Labor Agreement Monitoring Program. This Action is brought under San Diego Charter section 117(a)(17).

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Compliance Department: Christiana Gauger, (619) 236-7158

City Attorney Contact: Miguel Merrell

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING AND ADOPT THE ORDINANCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: Vivian Moreno;

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 55: Proposed Amendments to the Transparent and Responsible Use of Surveillance Technology Ordinance (TRUST Ordinance).

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Adopt the following Ordinance which was amended by Council action by interlineation at the time of introduction on 01/23/2024, Item 330, (Council voted 6-2, Councilmember Moreno-nay, Council President Elo-Rivera-nay, District 4-Vacant):

(O-2024-49 Rev. Cor. Copy 4) ADOPTED AS ORDINANCE O-21762 (New Series)

Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article 10, Division 1 of the San Diego Municipal Code by adding a new section 210.0101, renumbering and amending section 210.0101 to section 210.0102, adding a new section 210.0103, renumbering, retitling, and amending section 210.0102 to section 210.0104, renumbering, retitling, and amending section 210.0109 to a new section 210.0105, renumbering, retitling, and amending section 210.0103, subsections (a) through (d), to section 210.0106, renumbering and amending section 210.0104 to section 210.0107, renumbering, retitling, and amending section 210.0105 to section 210.0108, renumbering and amending section 210.0106 to section 210.0109, repealing section 210.0110 and renumbering and amending section 210.0107 to section 210.0110, renumbering and amending section 210.0108 to a new section 210.0111, and renumbering and amending section 210.0103, subsection (e) to a new section 210.0112, relating to the approval process for use of surveillance technology.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Public Safety Committee meeting on November 15, 2023.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Campbell, second by Chair von Wilpert, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; von Wilpert-yea, Montgomery Steppe-yea, Campbell-yea, Campillo-yea.

Office of the Mayor: Chloe Madison, (619) 236-6213

City Attorney Contact: Joan F. Dawson

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING AND ADOPT THE ORDINANCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo;

Nay: Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 100: Resolution Approving a Side Letter Agreement Between the City Of San Diego and San Diego Municipal Employees Association to Amend Article 21 of the Memorandum Of Understanding Related to Special Assignment Pay for Police Property and Evidence Specialists and Police Property and Evidence Supervisors.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

The Fiscal Year 2024 estimated General Fund impact is \$8,676.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-292) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315335

Resolution approving a Side Letter Agreement between the City of San Diego and the San Diego Municipal Employees Association, to amend Article 21 of the Memorandum of Understanding related to special assignment pay for Police Property and Evidence Specialists and Police Property and Evidence Supervisors.

6 votes required pursuant to Charter Section 11.2.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Human Resources: Abegaile Serafico, (619) 218-7439

City Attorney Contact: Miguel Merrell

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 101: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Moli Lor and Elvis Lam DBA Christy's Donuts Covering Approximately 909 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 118) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-329) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315336

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Christy's Donuts for a 909-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-330) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315337

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Christy's Donuts for a 909-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 102: Five (5-Year) Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Rivan Samuail dba Clown Market Covering Approximately 960 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 130) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-323) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315338

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Clown Market for a 960-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-324) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315339

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Clown Market for a 960-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

*Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun*

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 103: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Rafael Gonzalez Figueroa Covering Approximately 2,730 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 120) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-322) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315340

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with La Fuente Mexican Restaurant for a 2,730-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-321) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315341

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with La Fuente Mexican Restaurant for a 2,730-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

*Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun*

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 104: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, including options to extend the term, with Infinity Nails & Spa, Inc. covering approximately 910 square feet of retail space (Suite 117) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-325) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315342

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Infinity Nails & Spa, Inc. for a 910-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-326) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315343

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Infinity Nails & Spa, Inc. for a 910-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 105: Two (2)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Learn to Fly San Diego LLC Covering Approximately 909 Square Feet (Suite 116) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-316) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315344

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Learn to Fly San Diego, LLC for a 909-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-315) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315345

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Learn to Fly San Diego, LLC for a 909-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421

City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 106: Two (2) -Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, including Options to Extend the Term, with Marv Golden Discount Sales, Inc. Covering Approximately 2,355 Square Feet (Suite 102) of Retail Space at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-317) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315346

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Marv Golden Discount Sales, Inc. for a 2,355-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-318) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315347

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Marv Golden Discount Sales, Inc. for a 2,355-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 107: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Kham and Thanathone Chareunshouk Covering Approximately 2,111 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 114) within Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-327) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315348

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Pears Thai Cuisine Restaurant for a 2,111-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-328) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315349

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Pears Thai Cuisine Restaurant for a 2,111-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421

City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 108: Five (5)-Year Lease Agreement for Retail Space, Including Options to Extend the Term, with Nicholas and Zulay Romero DBA Rawknykz Barber Shop Covering Approximately 662 Square Feet of Retail Space (Suite 106) at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport, at 8690 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: 7.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-320) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315350

Resolution determining that approving a retail lease with Rawknykz Barber Shop for a 662-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Subitem-B: (R-2024-319) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315351

Resolution authorizing execution of a retail lease with Rawknykz Barber Shop for a 662-square foot suite in City-owned retail center located at 8690 Aero Drive and related actions.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting on January 11, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Committee Member Moreno, second by Vice Chair LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, LaCava-yea, Whitburn-yea, Moreno-yea.

Department of Real Estate and Airport Management: Christina Bibler, (619) 236-6421
City Attorney Contact: Brian Byun

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 109: Appointment of an Alternate to the North County Transit District Directors Board of Directors.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-304 Cor. Copy) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315352

Resolution confirming the appointment of Madison Coleman as an alternate to Councilmember Kent Lee on the North County Transit District Board of Directors through December 2024.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Council District 6: Madison Coleman, (619) 235-5283
City Attorney Contact: Kathy Steinman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 330: Authorize the City to Apply, Accept, Appropriate, and Expend Funding from the California Board of State and Community Corrections Public Health and Safety Cohort 3 Grant Program.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no cost share requirements. The grant funds shall be received on a reimbursable basis. Expenditures will be initially sourced from Grant Fund – State, and then reimbursed from the Grant Program. There is no requirement for continued expenditures or services once grant funding is depleted or terminated. State law requires that the funds supplement and not supplant funds otherwise available to law enforcement. The total revenue applied for in FY2024 is \$1,474,719.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-310) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315355

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to increase the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, and to accept, appropriate and expend \$1,474,719 and any additional Prop. 64 grant funding awarded by the Board of State and Community Corrections, contingent upon receipt of a fully executed Grant Agreement if the Grant Funding is secured.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Police: Jose Luis Romo, (619) 531-2739

City Attorney Contact: Lara Easton

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 11:49 AM

MOTION BY MARNI VON WILPERT TO ADOPT. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 331: Authorization to Submit Used Oil Payment Program Applications to California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for Fiscal Years 2024/25 –2029/30.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

This action is for acceptance of grant funding. No matching City funds are required for this grant payment program. The City anticipates the annual CalRecycle Used Oil Payment Program awards for Fiscal Year 2024-25 through and including Fiscal Year 2029-30 and will be in the range of \$150,000 – \$500,000 per fiscal year. The Used Oil Payment Program is non-competitive, and payment awards are calculated on a per capita basis.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

Subitem-A: (R-2024-314 Cor. Copy) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315356

Resolution determining that authorization to submit Used Oil Payment Program applications to CalRecycle is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment).

Subitem-B: (R-2024-313) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315357

Resolution authorizing the Mayor, or designee, to submit Used Oil Payment Program applications to CalRecycle for Fiscal Years 2024/2025 through and including Fiscal Year 2029/2030, to receive annual payments not to exceed \$500,000, to support the City's used oil and filter collection programs, and for all related actions.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Environmental Services: James Hay, (858) 627-3321

City Attorney Contact: Nicole M. Denow

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 11:54 AM

MOTION BY JOE LACAVA TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: Stephen Whitburn;

Vacant: District 4.

Item 332: Authorization to Apply for Local Assistance Specified Grant Program, Administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

\$6,057,714 of State grant funds will be requested for four Capital Improvement Program projects.

Council District(s) Affected: 1, 2, 4, 6.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-60) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315358

Resolution authorizing the Mayor, or his designee, to make an application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services –Specified Grant Program and take all necessary actions to secure funding in an amount not to exceed \$6,057,714 in Fund 600001 Grant Fund – State for improvements to the following projects: \$303,857 for the development of the Carmel Knolls Neighborhood Park Comfort Station, \$1,753,857 for improvements to the Penasquitos Creek Neighborhood Park Comfort Station, \$2,000,000 for improvements to the South Clairemont Community Park Recreation Center, and \$2,000,000 for upgrades to the Martin Luther King pool (herein collectively Projects).

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to add Capital Improvements Program (CIP) P24006 Penasquitos Creek Neighborhood Park Comfort Station, CIP P24008, South Clairemont Community Park Recreation Center Renovation, and CIP P24009 Martin Luther King Pool Improvements to the Capital Improvements Program.

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to: transfer an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from CIP S15028, Olive Grove Community Park ADA Improvements, to CIP P24006, Penasquitos Creek Neighborhood Park Comfort Station, within Fund 100012, Infrastructure Fund; transfer an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from CIP S15028, Olive Grove Community Park ADA Improvements, to CIP P24008, South Clairemont Community Park Recreation Center Renovation within Fund 100012, Infrastructure Fund; and transfer an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from CIP S15028, Olive Grove Community Park ADA Improvements, to CIP P24009, Martin Luther King Pool Improvements within Fund 100012, Infrastructure Fund.

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to close CIP S16039, Carmel Mission Park Comfort Station.

Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to accept, appropriate, and expend an amount not to exceed \$6,057,714 in Grant Program funding for the Projects, contingent upon receipt of a fully executed Grant Agreement if the Grant funding is secured; and for all related actions.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Parks & Recreation: Andy Field, (619) 235-1110

City Attorney Contact: Jane M. Boardman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 12:00 PM

MOTION BY JENNIFER CAMPBELL TO ADOPT. Second by Joe LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: Stephen Whitburn;

Vacant: District 4.

Item 333: Financial Training for City Council: Effective Capital Planning, Financing, and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Delivery.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

This is an informational item. There is no associated City Council action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

ITEM PRESENTED

This item is informational only.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Office of the Independent Budget Analyst: Erin Noel, (619) 235-5284

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:04 PM

Item 334: Residential Tenant Protections Ordinance Amendments for Consistency with California Senate Bill 567.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-66) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance amending Chapter 9, Article 8, Division 7 of the San Diego Municipal Code by amending sections 98.0702, 98.0704, and 98.0709, and by adding new section 98.0710, relating to Residential Tenant Protections.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Council District 9: Maya Rosas, (619) 236-6699

City Attorney Contact: Hilda R. Mendoza

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 3:42 PM

MOTION BY SEAN ELO-RIVERA TO INTRODUCE. Second by LaCava.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item S500: Reappointment to the Human Relations Commission.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no City expenditures being authorized with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: 3.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-338) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315353

Resolution confirming the reappointment of Tootie Thomas to the Human Relations Commission for a term ending July 22, 2027.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Office of Boards and Commissions: Chida Warren-Darby, (619) 533-3940

City Attorney Contact: Kathy Steinman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item S501: Appointment and Reappointments to the Human Relations Commission.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no City expenditures being authorized with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: 2, 7, 9.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-298) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315354

Resolution confirming the Mayor's appointment of Nicole Murray Ramirez and reappointments of Tyler Duncan and April Purcell to the Human Relations Commission for terms ending July 22, 2027.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Office of Boards and Commissions: Chida Warren-Darby, (619) 533-3940

City Attorney Contact: Kathy Steinman

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:10 AM

CONSENT MOTION BY STEPHEN WHITBURN TO ADOPT. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item S502: Informational Update from the Southeast Disaster Response Team.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

ITEM PRESENTED

This item is informational only.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item is informational only.

Council District 9: Brendan Dentino, (619) 236-6699

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:54 AM

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 5:13 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:13 PM

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LOCAL

Activist calls for city to prioritize stormwater infrastructure

by: [Ed Lenderman](#)

Posted: Feb 7, 2024 / 04:37 PM PST

Updated: Feb 7, 2024 / 04:37 PM PST


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This is an archived article and the information in the article may be outdated. Please look at the time stamp on the story to see when it was last updated.

SAN DIEGO (KUSI) — Community activist Shane Harris gathered victims of the Jan. 22 flooding for an appearance before a San Diego City Council committee meeting Wednesday.

Harris is urging the city to make stormwater and flood control improvements a top priority in the next budget.

Watch Ed Lenderman's

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DIRECTV

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BorderReport.com

BORDER REPORT

'Cowboy' longing for home after heavy rains and flooding in Tijuana River Valley

by: [Salvador Rivera](#)

Posted: Feb 7, 2024 / 04:56 PM PST

Updated: Feb 7, 2024 / 04:56 PM PST

SHARE    

This is an archived article and the information in the article may be outdated. Please look at the time stamp on the story to see when it was last updated.

SAN DIEGO ([Border Report](#)) — Randy Leach is affectionately known as “Cowboy” by people in the Tijuana River Valley, likely due to his blue jeans, boots and love for horses.

He doesn't live full-time in the valley but he is a constant presence in the area where he keeps his horse.

He's also known for his



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Not too long ago, he invited an entire family and guests celebrating a young lady’s *quinceañera* onto his property and allowed them to take pictures with the horses and saddles.

“I had the father on a swing with a saddle, everyone had a good time,” said Leach. “I’ve been here for 16 years.”

| Advocates worry about migrants as storm approaches San Diego >

In those 16 years, Leach has seen many things happen in the valley, but the rain and flooding the last couple of weeks stand out, especially the storm that hit on January 22.

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“It was a heavy, heavy rain, and it’s been flooded since then, they have not cleared it out.”

Leach was referring to Hollister Street, a north-south roadway that remains under a lot of standing water.

It is one of two ways to drive in and out of the Tijuana River Valley.

“Everything is muddy. You can’t pass that way,” he said. “We normally drive through it, but it’s spread out ... it’s gone so far.”



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Many ranches and corrals in the area also remain flooded.

Leach blames years of neglect and the failure to clear out debris, brush and trash from the river bed.

“If the city of the county had cleaned out all the way to the ocean it wouldn’t have been flooded,” he said.



Hollister Street in the Tijuana River Valley has been flooded and inaccessible for more than two weeks due to standing water. (Salvador Rivera/Border Report)

He also worries about the massive amounts of raw sewage from Mexico coming into the Tijuana River Valley on the U.S. side of the border, and says this problem is only getting worse.

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Leach says he's concerned about more rain and flooding in the forecast.

And he won't soon forget the sight of many of his friends and people in the area desperately trying to get their horses away from the rising waters.

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"Everyone was headed this way because we're on higher ground," he said.

Visit the [BorderReport.com](#) homepage for the latest exclusive stories and breaking news about issues along the U.S.-Mexico border

Considering what's going on, Leach admitted he's been thinking about moving away and buying a ranch in Montana, Idaho or back home in Wyoming.

"Maybe it's time to go home," he said.

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 MORNING REPORT

Morning Report: 'We Are Confused, We Are Angry'

by Voice of San Diego
February 8, 2024



Greg Montoya walks into his house Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, in the Southcrest neighborhood of San Diego. / Luke Johnson for Voice of San Diego

Victims displaced by the Jan. 22 floods gathered Wednesday in Barrio Logan to share heart-wrenching stories of survival and neighbors rescuing neighbors. They also expressed anger at the city for falling behind on [stormwater infrastructure maintenance](#).

“They didn’t do their job, I had to do their job,” said Jesse Preciado, a Shelltown resident who [dove into the flood waters to unclog a street drain](#). “All my neighbors did lose their houses for this reason, just because the city didn’t want to come check the drains.”

[We reported that more than 1,000 families](#) were displaced by the floods. Both government and nonprofit organizations have put people up in motels, but that money is quickly running out.

The Jackie Robinson YMCA placed Ana Ramirez and her two daughters in a hotel. The organization gave the family a 14-day hotel voucher, she said. Ramirez is just one of many families affected by the floods. She accepted assistance last week, but she says she doesn’t know what to do next.

“We are confused, we are angry,” Ramirez said.

She echoed many in attendance who questioned why the city didn’t do more to protect them. One woman blamed the flood for her mother-in-law’s death. She said her mother-in-law begged for help, but by the time the family made it inside the house, she was dead.

The residents and community activists marched around Barrio Logan to demand accountability from San Diego’s elected officials for neglecting the storm canals.

NEWS

Residents Displaced by Floods Demand Answers

by [Juan Estrada](#)
February 8, 2024



Greg Montoya walks into his house Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, in the Southcrest neighborhood of San Diego. / Luke Johnson for Voice of San Diego

This post first appeared in the Morning Report. [Subscribe to the daily newsletter here.](#)

Victims displaced by the Jan. 22 floods gathered Wednesday in Barrio Logan to share heart-wrenching stories of survival and neighbors rescuing neighbors. They also expressed anger at the city for falling behind on [stormwater infrastructure maintenance](#).

“They didn’t do their job, I had to do their job,” said Jesse Preciado, a Shelltown resident who [dove into the flood waters to unlog a street drain](#). “All my neighbors did lose their houses for this reason, just because the city didn’t want to come check the drains.”

[We reported that more than 1,000 families](#) were displaced by the floods. Both government and nonprofit organizations have put people up in motels, but that money is quickly running out.



Residents impacted by the Jan. 22 floods marched through Barrio Logan on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024.

The Jackie Robinson YMCA placed Ana Ramirez and her two daughters in a hotel. The organization gave the family a 14-day hotel voucher, she said. Ramirez is just one of many families affected by the floods. She

accepted assistance last week, but she says she doesn't know what to do next.

“We are confused, we are angry,” Ramirez said.

She echoed many in attendance who questioned why the city didn't do more to protect them. One woman blamed the flood for her mother-in-law's death. She said her mother-in-law begged for help, but by the time the family made it inside the house, she was dead.

The residents and community activists marched around Barrio Logan to demand accountability from San Diego's elected officials for neglecting the storm canals.

Anne

February 8, 2024 at 12:16 pm

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NEWS

New legal claims against San Diego over January flooding seek class-action status

The city has yet to respond to allegations that it failed to maintain flood channels for years



Ana Ramirez

San Diego, CA – January 23: Greg Montoya, 68, looks at a clogged storm drain after heavy rain Monday caused flooding near Birch and Una Streets in Southcrest on Jan. 23, 2024 in San Diego, California. Montoya was part of a lawsuit against the City that was filed in 2019 after other flooding issues. Montoya said he emailed the City last



By **JEFF MCDONALD** | jeff.mcdonald@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune

UPDATED: February 10, 2024 at 1:01 PM PST

The ramifications of the flooding that drove hundreds of people from their homes and caused millions of dollars in damage last month continue to swamp San Diego City Hall.

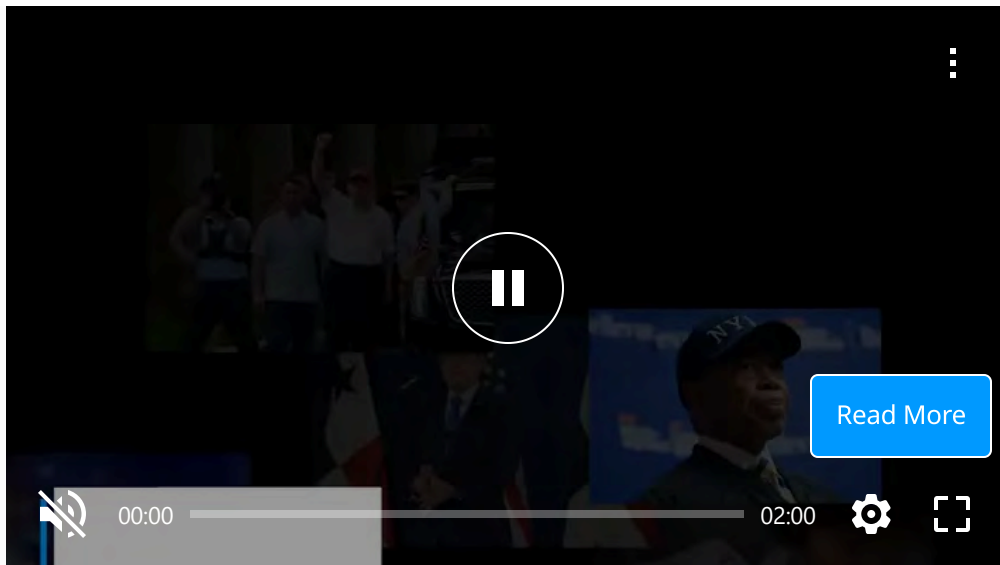
Three more legal claims have been filed against the city, accusing officials of failing to properly maintain flood channels and stormwater drains. The claims are required before any civil lawsuit can be filed, and the attorneys representing the claimants are seeking class-action status.

“The city of San Diego has admitted that for many years the city failed to adequately fund maintenance of the city’s stormwater network,” one of the claims says. “In so acting, the city of San Diego has violated its legal duty.”

City officials had no immediate response to the allegations in the claims, which seek at least \$250,000 each. Public agencies regularly decline to comment on legal proceedings so as not to jeopardize their positions in the courtroom.

The claims were filed by San Diego residents Juan Alberto Lopez, JoAnn Murphy and Adrian Manuel Rico, all of whom say they suffered major losses in recent weeks as a result of the city’s stormwater and flood-control failures.

“As a result of the city of San Diego’s failure to maintain its storm drain system in a workable condition, the surface water flow from the January and February 2024 rain has resulted in a taking of, or damage to, hundreds of homes,” the Rico claim states.



The documents say the failures were citywide, affecting at least 17 different neighborhoods from Southcrest and Chollas Creek to areas north of Interstate 8 such as Carmel Valley and Del Cerro.

“This claim seeks not only to recover damages for insured property owners, but also seeks injunctive relief requiring city action be taken to restore and maintain the city of San Diego’s storm drain system,” the claims say.

San Diego already had been served with a legal claim filed late last month by an attorney representing Beta Street resident Gregory Montoya.

Montoya was among a handful of Southcrest-area residents who sued the city five years ago, after storm waters from a 2018 rainstorm overflowed Chollas Creek and severely damaged their homes.

That case was settled for just over \$200,000, but the agreement did not require the city to make improvements to the flood channel that would have prevented future damage.

On Jan. 22, millions of gallons of unchecked storm runoff overtook Beta Street and nearby neighborhoods, washing away scores of cars and flooding hundreds of homes and apartments.

Many of those victims continue to be displaced, even though city and county officials have worked to provide emergency housing and other relief.

The San Diego Union-Tribune [reported days later](#) that the city has a

Under the current fee structure, homeowners pay just 95 cents per month toward infrastructure improvements that city officials say are badly needed and will cost \$2 billion or more.

Last week, [the City Council president proposed](#) raising such fees to help pay for upgrades, and this week the council said it [wanted aggressive action](#) on stormwater in the upcoming city budget.

Legal claims to public agencies must be filed and rejected before a lawsuit can proceed.

The claims filed this week say they expect to seek class-action status, which if granted would let the group of plaintiffs grow far beyond the three named claimants to include potentially thousands of victims.

Originally Published: February 10, 2024 at 8:00 AM PST

Around the Web

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OPINION

Heavy rains offer revelations and reminders about environment, inequality

Leslie Reynolds, executive director of Groundwork San Diego-Chollas Creek, and Alexander Gershunov, a meteorologist and statistician at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, discuss social and environmental consequences of recent rains and flooding





By **LISA DEADERICK** | lisa.deaderick@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune

UPDATED: February 11, 2024 at 6:32 PM PST

There are both revelations and reminders coming from the recent, heavy rainstorms in the region — that the effects of a warming climate mean an increase in these kinds of extreme weather events, and the most marginalized communities bear the brunt of the consequences that come from this damage to the environment.

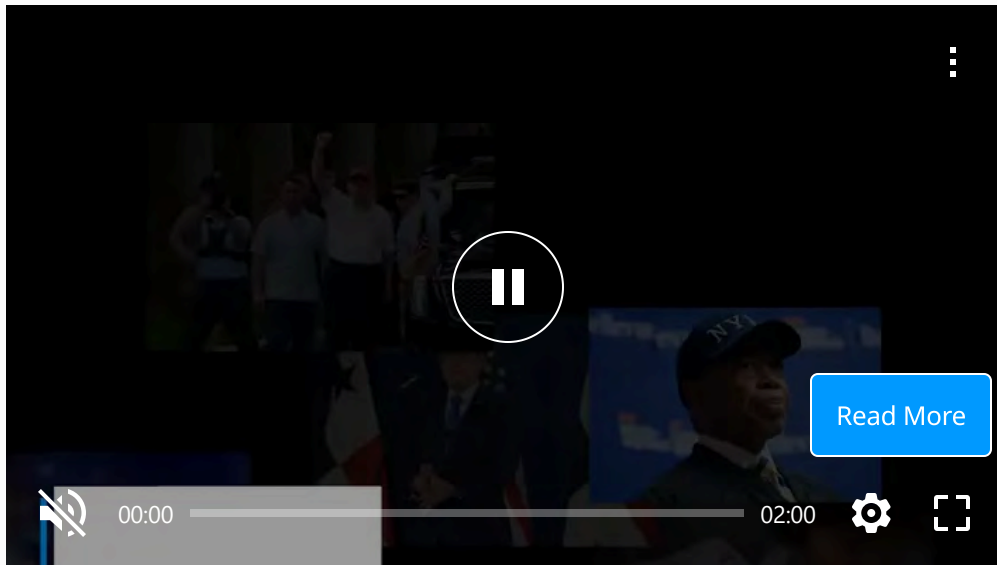
“Flood hazards are not equal across urban areas ... factors such as age, income, poverty, or access to healthcare affect the capacity of people and communities to anticipate, adapt and recover from hazards such as flooding,” according to [The Environmental Justice of Urban Flood Risk and Green Infrastructure Solutions project](#). “Environmental injustice of flooding occurs when the distribution of flood hazards disproportionately affects socially vulnerable communities. ... For example, impervious surfaces in urban areas tend to be more abundant in vulnerable communities, while green spaces are more scarce than in advantaged neighborhoods. Systematic or historical forms of exclusion or injustice such as the practice of redlining play an important role here as well and have been linked to an unequal distribution of green spaces and heat.”

In San Diego, we see this kind of flooding in the neighborhoods around Chollas Creek, where residents have begun working to educate themselves and find solutions for their communities.

“We’ve been working over the last seven or eight months with this incredible group of residents throughout the (Chollas Creek) watershed and it’s a program called [Resident Empowerment Training](#). They’ve been taking their time to try to figure out how best to understand solutions and advocate for those solutions,” said Leslie Reynolds, executive director of [Groundwork San](#)

Reynolds and [Alexander Gershunov](#), a meteorologist and statistician at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography who studies regional weather patterns and climate extremes, took some time to talk about the communities affected by these more intense rainstorms and the science behind them. (These interviews have been edited for length and clarity.)

Q: Your 2019 study, "[Precipitation regime change in Western North America: The role of Atmospheric Rivers,](#)" looks at the increase in the drenching rains coming from these atmospheric river events, is that correct?



Gershunov: It looks at climate model projections of expected precipitation regime change with future warming. The models project less frequent, but more intense precipitation in the warmer future. Together, these two signals cancel each other out when you look at total, annual precipitation, and we don't see much of a change in California in terms of the average total annual precipitation. Some models go drier and some wetter, depending on which of the two signals dominate (the less frequent versus more intense precipitation), but what is certain is that, in a warmer future, we will have more precipitation coming from more extreme events. The year-to-year variability, or the volatility of our hydroclimate will increase. Our hydroclimate is already extremely volatile and Southern California is probably the most volatile of any region of the United States, meaning that we almost never get normal, average precipitation in any particular year. We are usually either extremely dry or extremely wet, and that volatility is projected to increase. So, in that particular paper, we were specifically focusing on what are the mechanisms responsible for the increase in extreme precipitation, and we clearly identified atmospheric rivers as being responsible for this increase in extreme precipitation that all the climate models project for this region. That's what that paper was about. It's really about future climate projections, and that's not to say that it is happening already, so we need to be clear on the fact, that we have not seen those trends emerge yet, of more extreme precipitation in this region.

Q: Oh, that has not happened? I think most of us would look at what's been happening over the last couple of years and think that that was the case.

Gershunov: Most of us have very short memories. Weather data actually goes back, in some cases, to the 1850s. What has been happening in the last couple of years is certainly extreme, but it's not unprecedented. In California, we don't know whether there will be more or less precipitation in total, we know that in a warmer future, it will come in more intense, but less frequent spurts. It will come in even more intense and extreme atmospheric river precipitation. It's likely that we'll get less frequent precipitation, fewer storms, but the storms that we get are going to be wetter.

Q: What prompted you to take a look at this shift in the kind of rain we experience here? And what did you find about the role these heavier rains play?

Gershunov: If you think about that particular paper, our previous results showed this projected, future change in the precipitation regime where storms become less frequent, but more intense. So, we wanted to understand the mechanism that explains this change in the intensity of projected storms. We think we understand the mechanism by which storms become less frequent already, so it was a paper to explain what we already saw in the climate model because when you understand what the mechanisms are, that tells you a lot about what to expect because atmospheric river precipitation is a little different from precipitation from other storms. It's all water, but atmospheric rivers are typically warmer storms. What we can see is that this extremely volatile hydroclimate where we can get floods in the middle of drought is going to be exacerbated by climate change. We actually saw that back on January 22 of this year, when we got extreme precipitation from an atmospheric river while the region was in a state of drought.

Q: The neighborhoods around Chollas Creek have been hit especially hard by the flooding from these latest storms. How has Groundwork been responding to the recent flooding?

Reynolds: Groundwork, in the short term, has been working with resident leaders to get information out about resources that includes going to schools and churches and other neighborhood spots, and trying very hard to get the mayor's resource opportunities and lists out to the public in the most impacted areas [the City of San Diego released a fact sheet of currently available resources as of Feb. 8 [at sandiego.gov](https://www.sandiego.gov)]. Also, trying to talk with people on the ground to make sure that resource list reflects everything they need.

Q: Can you talk a bit about why neighborhoods like Encanto and Southcrest, along with others near the creek, are more vulnerable to these instances of flooding from extreme storms, versus other neighborhoods with greater resources? What's some of the historical context behind why these neighborhoods are more vulnerable?

Reynolds: These impacts are occurring in historically redlined communities [the practice of government maps outlining areas where Black people lived as risky investments for government-backed mortgages; a map of the redlined communities in San Diego, provided by the Mapping Inequality project, can be found [here](#)], which continue to be underinvested. For the 15 years we've been around, Groundwork has been working with residents and stakeholders to try to accelerate those investments and prioritize projects reflecting community needs.

The other contributing factor in our watershed is that the government came around in the '60s and laid concrete, what now is called gray infrastructure [traditional stormwater infrastructure that includes gutters, drains, and pipes, [according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)], throughout what was a beautifully functioning waterway, which has completely disrupted the entire hydrology of this stream system. The engineers, the city, now understand that that was an ill-advised — not a flood-abating solution, but a flood-contributing — solution. Now, [we're working with the city on a \\$10 million project](#) to dechannelize segments of the creek and improve the water flow and the water quality, and the community benefits. So, underinvestment is one reason and historical redlining and racism.

Q: What are some ways that Groundwork has been working with government agencies to improve conditions around Chollas Creek and mitigate these inequities?

Reynolds: We've been very gratified to have had the opportunity to work with numerous residents who have been prioritizing their water management needs. In particular, and with great credit to the mayor's office, the community raised up a serious need in Southcrest, which is one of the most impacted areas from the Jan. 22 storm, and the mayor has prioritized a project there to improve the storm drain and to maintain the creek in order to avoid future flooding in that community. So, a lot of our work has been about listening to the community, organizing their voices, and facilitating their conversations and participation in city funding allocation processes.

Q: What are some of the priorities that you're hearing from the people who live in these neighborhoods about their take on the environmental injustice that they experience and what they want to see done about it?

Reynolds: First of all, I'm sorry to say that many of these [residents have been taking the City of San Diego to court about chronic flooding over many years](#), so this is not a new problem. Obviously, the dramatic nature of the Jan. 22 storm is highly unusual, but flooding is not highly unusual in these communities, so their voices have, over the years, gone unnoticed. That is changing now, but that is the truth of it.

What the residents are really starting to advocate for are what are called multi-benefit solutions to water management. That means these residents are experiencing a broad spectrum of climate challenges and problems, so what they're advocating for now are solutions, which include investments in the things that they need. So, let's say you're putting in a stormwater project; you would also want them to put in additional trees, cool streets, trails, pervious pavement systems, drought-tolerant landscapes and biosoils [or a bioretention soil mix, a blend of materials that helps stormwater filtration], and all of the things that the residents need in order to protect themselves from what are going to be these terrible climate episodes. The solutions can't just be isolated, one-department solutions; they have to look at all of the climate challenges that these residents are facing and look at what we call multi-benefit solutions.

The city has all kinds of plans — they have a stormwater plan, they have a park master plan, they have a climate action plan, they have a tree equity plan — all of these things come out of different departments. I think what the residents are saying is, 'Please bring all of these things to bear on what we are experiencing from climate change.'

Q: As someone who studies climates, what stands out in your mind when thinking about the ways in which communities are forced to interact with the effects of these atmospheric rivers and the subsequent flooding and impact on water resources?

Gershunov: Unfortunately, our memory about weather extremes is short, and we've built housing and infrastructure in flood zones. For example, [Mission Valley floods regularly](#) when we get large, atmospheric river events. We live in the border region and the Tijuana River actually flows out into Imperial Beach, and with really big, atmospheric river events—and it's happened several times, the worst of these probably occurred in 2017, which was the year with the most intense atmospheric river activity on record that goes back to 1948—the precipitation and ensuing runoff overwhelmed the sewer system on Tijuana and millions of gallons of raw sewage spilled out into the Pacific Ocean and Imperial Beach. Obviously, there are huge impacts on the ecosystems and anybody who uses the coastal waters. Talking about disadvantaged communities, trailer parks are typically built in flood zones and regularly get flooded out. Locally, I personally witnessed a tragic washout of a homeless encampment in the stream bed of [Rose Creek](#). These areas around creeks are typically green, shady, and great places to weather a heatwave, but when a big, atmospheric river comes, especially a series of atmospheric rivers where rainfall saturates the ground, can cause these little creeks to swell into raging rivers. I've witnessed the aftermath of one of the floods in January of last year where people's tents and belongings were strewn all over the bushes and the trees around the creek. You could actually see how high the water rose when Rose Creek became slow from a sleepy creek to a raging torrent.

Q: You mentioned these tributaries and the maintenance of them, what does that maintenance ideally look like?

Reynolds: Actually, it's very simple, it's simply removing all of the nonnative vegetation that impedes the flow and causes flooding on the banks and on the residents' properties. So, it is the removal of nonnative vegetation, the maintenance and installation of good water management vegetation, and the removal of the trash that flows onto these residents' properties through no fault of their own, from upstream. It's just a really simple process of maintaining the creek. You don't have to denude the creek and take everything out; you take out the trash and the nonnative vegetation, and give these residents a beautiful waterway like other communities have. The San Dieguito River, the San Diego River, the Otay River—other people's rivers are beautiful resources and assets for their communities. So, what we're saying here is this is not a drainage system, this is an ecosystem to which the residents are entitled to all kinds of benefits: wildlife, aesthetics, walking, and biking. This is not just a place to maintain water flow, and that's why the green infrastructure is so important. Don't just throw down more concrete and more pipes; these people deserve the same kinds of watershed benefits that other communities have.

Q: What's important to understand about these events and how can that understanding be applied practically to respond to the effects of atmospheric rivers?

Gershunov: More effective warning systems should be developed, based on the excellent forecast that the National Weather Service provides, so that they can reach the population most severely impacted, and people who don't have the luxury of choice, so that people who don't have the luxury of choice are helped to get out of harm's way.

I'd like to clarify that the hydroclimate changes that we're talking about are projected for the future as the globe continues to warm from human activity; however, because we have not seen a trend toward more extreme precipitation actually emerge, I don't think we should be blaming climate change for every extreme precipitation event that we get. The responsibility for mitigating the aftermath of these extreme atmospheric rivers should not be automatically passed on to all of humanity for causing climate change. We fully expect these trends to emerge in the future, trends toward more extreme precipitation, especially from atmospheric rivers, but we have not observed those trends yet.

Reynolds: There are the obvious things that are donating to organizations that are serving these communities, and offering up volunteers to the organizations, including the mayor’s office, that are convening volunteer workforces to go and help. I think, in the longer term, what people can do is participate in some of our organizations. Come to some of our volunteer events, learn a little bit about our communities on the ground and carry those messages back to their own elected officials and to their own community planning groups, and so on, so that there are more people advocating for what is needed here than we have, frankly. We would love to have concerned outside residents included in what we’re doing and helping elevate the voices of our own residents because we need it.

I am just hoping that this emergency and disaster will create a process through which the residents can really begin to be heard, elevate their priorities, and get the investments they need and that this beautiful waterway will not be treated like a drainage ditch, but rather like an ecosystem which holds tremendous promise. It holds incredible, sacred Kumeyaay history and it holds incredible promise for our residents all along its banks, so we can’t just respond with emergency strategies.

Opinion: Editorials, commentary and reader reaction on the issues San Diegans care about most.

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Originally Published: February 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM PST

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REVCNTENT



LOCAL

More flood victims seeking lawsuit against City of San Diego

by: [Danielle Dawson](#), [Misha DiBono](#)
Posted: Feb 12, 2024 / 04:05 PM PST
Updated: Feb 12, 2024 / 05:40 PM PST

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SAN DIEGO ([FOX 5/KUSI](#)) — Another group of homeowners in San Diego neighborhoods impacted by last month’s catastrophic flooding announced on Monday their intent to file a class-action lawsuit against the city for the extensive damage that they say was preventable.

The suit, which has yet to be filed with the county court, is the [latest in a series of legal challenges](#) facing the city in the wake of the Jan. 22 floods that left hundreds of homes across the county with some form of water damage.

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the City of San Diego o:

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“It’s gaslighting, that’s what he’s doing when he says, ‘this was an act of God. Oh my gosh, I’m so sorry you guys.’ No, this was an act of man, not an act of God. You could have prevented this if you got in four years ago and prioritized what you saw could potentially happen,” said Harris.

In a press conference on Monday, Harris said the suit focuses on the claimed failures by the city and that they were aware of issues with their aging storm water system, but failed to adequately address it.

He pointed to a [scathing 2018 audit](#) of the city’s storm water system and failed efforts in 2022 to close a nearly \$1.6 billion deficit for critical infrastructure projects through a ballot measure as examples of San Diego officials’ awareness and inaction on the issue at the center of the suit.

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“There was an effort by the storm water department, knowing this issue was looming, to bring light to their severe under funding issue,” Harris said. “Specific projects were named, including the Chollas Creek culvert expansions, which is the cause of flooding in southeastern San Diego all the way through (Barrio Logan).”

| San Diegans impacted by Jan. 22 floods can now apply for a month of temporary housing >

Through the lawsuit, Harris says homeowners are seeking monetary damages for the destruction caused by the flooding and for San Diego to

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They say they have pages of evidence both from residents in the areas of southeast San Diego asking hardest hit on Jan. 22 asking the city to take care of the storm water system, as well as proposals presented to the city highlighting what could happen if the issue is ignored — some data going back 20 years.

“These are all the different instances over the years, over the last 20 years, where the city has been advised that their funding is inadequate,” explained attorney Michael Aguirre. “This is what’s called in the law an admission. An admission is binding in a court of law, and provides the basis for a judgment against the city.”

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Aguirre, along with his partner Mia Severson, will be helping victims maneuver the complicated process of filing claims.

The group is also asking the court to file an injunction against the city to require it to establish a storm water utility, prioritizing the storm water issues once and for all.

“We need a new storm water system. I walked in people’s homes where their water was up to their neck, whole cars swimming in a lake in the middle of Encanto!” exclaimed Harris, adding, “don’t tell me that’s not a priority.”

FOX 5 reached out to the city who said they do not comment on pending cases.

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San Diego leaders have [announced other possible solutions](#) to help close the funding shortfall, including a ballot measure to increase the water quality tax households pay from the current 95 cents.

[| San Diego exploring new tax measure to fund stormwater system projects >](#)

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This group has also launched a food drive, but are asking instead for donated restaurant gift cards. You can send them or drop them off at People's Association of Justice Advocates at 6125 Imperial Ave.

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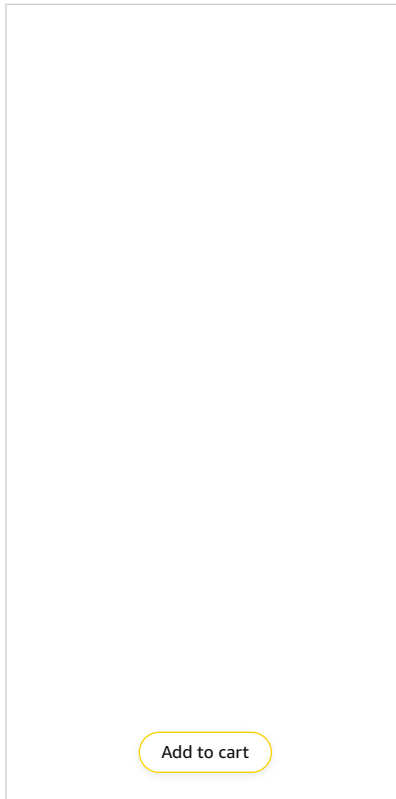
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City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

City Council Agendas, Results, and Minutes

**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
AT 10:00 AM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 12TH FLOOR**

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NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, IBA, CITY CLERK COMMENT

Item 200: FY 2025-2029 Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook

Item 201: Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

Item 202: CCC Modifications of the 2020 LDC Update to the SDMC and LCP

Item 203: CCC Modifications to the 2021 LDC Update and Coastal Program

Item 250: Submission of Ballot Proposals for the November 5, 2024, Ballot

Item S400: FY 2025 Updated City Council Budget Priorities

Item S401: Waiver of City Fees associated with January 22, 2024, storm damage

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Council President Elo-Rivera at 10:03 a.m. with Councilmember von Wilpert not present and Council District 4 vacant. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 10:14 a.m. to convene the Special Housing Authority meeting. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the regular meeting at 10:20 a.m. with Councilmember von Wilpert not present and Council District 4 vacant. The meeting was recessed by Council President Elo-Rivera at 10:21 a.m. into Closed Session, to be reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened by Council President Elo-Rivera at 2:02 p.m. with Council District 4 vacant. Councilmember Campillo left the meeting at 5:03 p.m. Councilmember Whitburn left the meeting at 5:59 p.m. Councilmember Moreno left the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Council President Elo-Rivera recessed the meeting at 6:52 p.m. to reconvene the Housing Authority meeting. Council President Elo-Rivera reconvened the regular meeting at 6:52 p.m. with Councilmember von Wilpert not present and Council District 4 vacant. The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 6:52 p.m.

ATTENDANCE DURING THE MEETING

PRESENT:

CD-1 Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava
CD-2 Councilmember Jennifer Campbell
CD-3 Councilmember Stephen Whitburn
CD-4 vacant
CD-5 Councilmember Marni von Wilpert
CD-6 Councilmember Kent Lee
CD-7 Councilmember Raul A. Campillo
CD-8 Councilmember Vivian Moreno
CD-9 Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

ABSENT:

None.

CITY CLERK:

Fuentes (km)

ROLL CALL

- (1) Council President Pro Tem LaCava-present
- (2) Councilmember Campbell-present
- (3) Councilmember Whitburn-present
- (4) Council District vacant
- (5) Councilmember von Wilpert-not present
- (6) Councilmember Lee-present
- (7) Councilmember Campillo-present
- (8) Councilmember Moreno-present
- (9) Council President Elo-Rivera-present

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by City Clerk Diana J.S. Fuentes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Campbell.

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):

CS-1 *Mark Skeels v. City of San Diego, et al.*

San Diego Superior Court Case No. 37-2022-00019254-CU-OE-CTL
Risk Management Department Claim File No.: 29296

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

DCA Assigned: D. E. Abad

Outside Counsel: J. McMullen, Gorden Rees Scully Mansukhani

Plaintiff alleges his termination was unlawful and brings a retaliation cause of action under Labor Code section 1102.5 against the City. The City Attorney's Office will update the Mayor and City Council on the status of the litigation and seek direction.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:05 AM

Public testimony by Audra.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant Exposure to Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2):

CS-2 Number of Cases: Multiple

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

SDCA Assigned: J. E. Taylor

The City Attorney's Office will update the Mayor and City Council regarding the significant exposure to litigation arising from claims relating to the construction of the Pure Water projects.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:05 AM

Public testimony by Lori Saldaña and Audra.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):

CS-3 *Daniel Vander Meer v. City of San Diego, et al.*

San Diego Superior Court Case No. 37-2020-00038094-CU-PA-CTL
Risk Management Department Claim File No.: 24528

REFERRED TO CLOSED SESSION OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

DCA Assigned: M. T. Neff

This case involves a car accident at the uncontrolled intersection of Catalina Boulevard and Del Mar Avenue in San Diego that Plaintiff claims was a dangerous condition. The City Attorney's Office will update the Mayor and City Council on the status of the litigation and seek direction.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 10:05 AM

Public testimony by Audra.

Council President Elo-Rivera closed the hearing.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT-1:

U.S. citizen concerned with the integrity of the U.S. Constitution commented on the 14th Amendment applied to the 1st Amendment.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:29 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-2:

Joy Sunyata commented on public comments.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:31 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-3 (virtual):

Blair Beekman commented on future of equity and masks.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:33 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-4 (virtual):

Lori Saldaña commented on public comment, budget priorities, and police.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:36 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-5 (virtual):

Kathleen Lippitt commented on flood damages and marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:38 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-6 (virtual):

Audra commented on item S401, illegals, and helping people.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:40 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-7 (virtual):

Carol Waterson commented on building stronger communities and budget.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:42 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-8 (virtual):

Peggy Walker commented on fentanyl.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:44 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-9 (virtual):

Becky Rapp commented on mental health and marijuana.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:46 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-10 (virtual):

Dan commented on Israel and hate crimes.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:48 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT-11 (virtual):

Truth commented on democracy.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:50 PM

MAYOR, COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY, INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST, CITY CLERK COMMENT

None.

Item 200: City of San Diego Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

ITEM PRESENTED

This item is informational only.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Engineering & Capital Projects: Rania Amen, (619) 533-6667

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 4:22 PM

Item 201: Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no City expenditures required with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-275) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315359

Resolution receiving and filing the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the City.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Audit Committee meeting on January 24, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Chair Moreno, second by Committee Member Maffia, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: 5-0; Moreno-yea, Whitburn- yea, Halpern-yea, Maffia-yea, Tabshouri-yea.

Department of Finance: William Weisman, (619) 236-6397

City Attorney Contact: Bret A. Bartolotta

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:04 PM

MOTION BY VIVIAN MORENO TO ADOPT. Second by Stephen Whitburn.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item 202: California Coastal Commission Modifications of the 2020 Land Development Code Update to the San Diego Municipal Code and Local Coastal Program.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no expenditures being authorized with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(O-2024-58) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article 1, Division 4 of the San Diego Municipal Code by amending Section 141.0421; and amending Chapter 14, Article 2, Division 5 by amending Section 142.0530 relating to accepting the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications for certification of the 2020 San Diego Land Development Code Update/Municipal Code Update.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Planning: Victoria Ortiz, (619) 236-6091

City Attorney Contact: Corrine Neuffer

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:10 PM

Public testimony by Blair Beekman, Audra, Lori Saldaña, and Kevin Hastings.

MOTION BY JOE LACAVA TO INTRODUCE. Second by Sean Elo-Rivera.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: Stephen Whitburn, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno;

Vacant: District 4.

Item 203: California Coastal Commission Modifications to the 2021 Land Development Code Update to the San Diego Municipal Code and Coastal Program.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

There are no expenditures being authorized with this action.

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

This action proposes to amend the Municipal Code and Local Coastal Program to adopt the California Coastal Commission's requested modifications to the 2021 Land Development Code Update. The City Council adopted the 2021 Land Development Code Update on January 11, 2022. State law requires the California Coastal Commission's certification of amendments to the Local Coastal Program before they can take effect in the Coastal Zone. The California Coastal Commission conditionally certified the 2021 Land Development Code Update and amendments to the Local Coastal Program with two modifications on September 7, 2023. For the 2021 Land Development Code Update to take effect within the Coastal Zone, the City Council must adopt the modifications.

(O-2024-63) INTRODUCED, TO BE ADOPTED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Introduction of an Ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article 2, Division 5 by amending Section 142.0528; and amending Chapter 14, Article 2, Division 7 by amending Section 142.0740, relating to the 2021 San Diego Land Development Code/Municipal Code Update.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Planning: Victoria Ortiz, (619) 236-6091

City Attorney Contact: Lauren Hendrickson

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:21 PM

Public testimony by Audra, unknown caller, Lori Saldaña, and Blair Beekman.

MOTION BY JOE LACAVA TO INTRODUCE. Second by Jennifer Campbell.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: Stephen Whitburn, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno;

Vacant: District 4.

NOTE: The following Public Notices were for public record only. These items did not require Council action or public testimony.

Item 250: Submission of Ballot Proposals for the November 5, 2024, Ballot.

City Council Policy 000-21 establishes a procedure for submittal of ballot proposals, other processes -including citizen initiatives- may come before the City Council for consideration at other times. The Council Policy states that members of the public, Councilmembers, the Mayor or mayoral departments, independent department directors, or a public agency shall submit

proposals to the City Clerk, who shall then transmit them promptly to Committee for review and comment. Please submit all proposals to cityclerk@sandiego.gov (mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov). The City Clerk's Office has established the following calendar for the November 5, 2024, election.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAYS BEFORE ELECTION</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Friday, 03/29/2024	221	LAST DATE (5:00 p.m.) for public, departments and agencies to submit ballot proposals to City Clerk for review by Committee
Thursday, 04/18/2024	201	Initial Committee review Measures that advance from initial review proceed to a second Committee review, where the Committee will decide if they will be presented to the full Council for consideration
Wednesday, 6/05/2024	153	Measures that advance from initial review proceed to a second Committee review, where the Committee will decide if they will be presented to the full Council for consideration.
Monday, 06/10/2024	148	First Day Council discusses measures and adopts ordinances by City Attorney to place measures on the ballot
Friday, 08/09/2024	88	Last Day Council discusses measures and adopts ordinances by City Attorney to place measures on the ballot
Monday, 8/12/2024	85	Last day to submit the Fiscal Impact Analysis; Ballot and Title Summary; and Impartial Analysis with City Clerk
Wednesday, 8/14/2024	83	Last day to file ballot arguments with City Clerk

Please check posted agendas for additional information. If you have questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000 or via e-mail at cityclerk@sandiego.gov (mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov).

Item S400: FY 2025 Updated City Council Budget Priorities.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source: N/A

Council District(s) Affected: Citywide.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-335 Rev.) ADOPTED AS AMENDED AS RESOLUTION R-315360

Resolution accepting the Independent Budget Analyst's Fiscal Year 2025 Revised Updated Report on City Council Budget Priorities and directing that the report, along with updated Councilmembers' Budget Priority Memoranda, be delivered to the Mayor's Office for consideration in preparing the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget.

This item is not subject to the Mayor's veto.

Committee Actions Taken:

This item was heard at the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee meeting on February 7, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Vice Chair Moreno, second by Committee Member LaCava, to recommend Council approval of staff's proposed actions with the following additions:

- a. "Funding for an enhanced storm water maintenance program that takes aggressive action to clear, maintain and upgrade storm water channels in close proximity to underserved neighborhoods, including creation of a Chollas Creek Stormwater CIP."
- b. Include the ED&IR Committee's recommendation on the use of the Council discretionary 1% of the 10.5% of the TOT to bring arts and culture to 6.5% of total TOT revenue.
- c. Prioritizing flood disaster response and recovery, including but not limited to staff time and a potential waiving of fees, that would assist those impacted by the floods, particularly in underserved communities.

VOTE: 4-0; Lee-yea, Moreno-yea, Elo-Rivera-yea, LaCava-yea.

This item was heard at the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting on January 10, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Chair Campillo, second by Committee Member Campbell, to approve the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee's recommendation for the FY 2025 Council recommendation on its preferred use of the 1% of the 10.5% Transient Occupancy Tax, and forward it to the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee for consideration as follows:

6.5% of total TOT revenue for Arts, Culture and Community Festivals (\$21.5 million per current projections) – Remaining funds to balance General Fund needs (\$10 million per current projections)

Request that the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst transmit this recommendation to the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee as part of its February 7, 2024, discussion on the Council's updated Budget Priorities Resolution.

VOTE: 3-0; Campillo-yea, Lee-yea, Campbell-yea.

Office of the Independent Budget Analyst: Lisa Byrne, (619) 236-5917
City Attorney Contact: Bret A. Bartolotta

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 2:25 PM

MOTION BY KENT LEE TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED TO: 1) INCLUDE ADDITIONS MADE AT THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 7, 2024; 2) IDENTIFY POSSIBLE EXPENDITURE REDUCTIONS WITHOUT REDUCING SERVICE LEVELS AS PART OF ITS REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET SO THAT THEY MAY BE DISCUSSED IN BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE; AND 3) EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF ADJUSTING KEY BUDGET DATES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TO PERMIT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO HAVE ONE ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING BUDGET MODIFICATIONS TO BE ADOPTED AT A LATER DATE. MAY 14 RELEASE OF MAY REVISION; MAY 16 BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE REVIEW MAY REVISION; MAY 23 MODIFICATIONS MEMOS TO INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST WITH A NEW DUE DATE OF MAY 22; JUNE 5 RELEASE OF INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST RECOMMENDATIONS WITH A NEW RELEASE DATE OF JUNE 4; RECOMMEND THE ADDITION OF A JUNE 7 BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET MODIFICATIONS; JUNE 10 COUNCIL APPROVES BUDGET WITH A NEW RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE TO JUNE 11; AND JUNE 11 SPILL OVER DATE RESERVED FOR BUDGET APPROVAL WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO RESERVE JUNE 12 OR JUNE 13. Second by Vivian Moreno.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Jennifer Campbell, Stephen Whitburn, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Raul A. Campillo, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: Joe LaCava;

Recused: (None);

Not Present: (None);

Vacant: District 4.

Item S401: Waiver of City Fees associated with January 22, 2024, storm damage.

Total Estimated Cost of Proposed Action and Funding Source:

Please refer to the Fiscal Considerations section of the Staff Report.

Council District(s) Affected: 4, 8, 9.

Proposed Actions:

(R-2024-353) ADOPTED AS RESOLUTION R-315361

Resolution waiving demolition, building permit fees and the refundable construction and demolition removal deposit and submission of waste management form for those impacted by the January 22, 2024, storm, establishment of Debris Assessment Program, and the identification of funds to reimburse the waived fees.

Committee Actions Taken: N/A

Development Services: Elyse Lowe, (619) 446-5423

City Attorney Contact: William Smith

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 5:30 PM

MOTION BY VIVIAN MORENO TO ADOPT. Second by Kent Lee.

Passed by the following vote:

Yea: Joe LaCava, Jennifer Campbell, Marni von Wilpert, Kent Lee, Vivian Moreno, Sean Elo-Rivera;

Nay: (None);

Recused: (None);

Not Present: Stephen Whitburn, Raul A. Campillo;

Vacant: District 4.

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Council President Elo-Rivera at 6:52 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION: Start Time: 6:52 PM

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GOVERNMENT

Trust Between Southeastern San Diego Flood Survivors and Local Government Is Dead

by [Will Huntsberry](#)
February 15, 2024



Damaged furniture and property sit on the curb of Beta St. Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, in the Southcrest neighborhood of San Diego after a series of heavy rains and flash floods struck the community in late January. / Luke Johnson for Voice of San Diego

This post has been updated.

On Wednesday, I sat under a carport in Shelltown with several flood survivors. A few weeks earlier, four generations of family members escaped through the window of the house; they huddled together on top of that exact carport. But at this moment, I was reading them the second sentence of an email Mayor Todd Gloria sent out this week.

“My team and I have been on the ground in the impacted communities since day one,” I read out loud.

There was a brief pause. Then they all burst into laughter.

The idea that local leaders have been there, that they have been leading recovery efforts, that they even care is so opposite to these people’s experience that Gloria’s statement hit them like a wave of the absurd.

“Maybe for a photo op!”

“Not on my street!”

“I haven’t seen him!”

The flood waters have receded, but in these southeastern San Diego neighborhoods a crisis of trust is now ripping through the streets. From block to block the narrative is the same: City officials knew for years the flood canals were clogged and did nothing to clean them. After the floods, city leaders didn’t jump into action to provide relief; it was neighbors and homegrown nonprofits.

The residents of these historically Black and Latino neighborhoods can draw but two conclusions. At best, city leaders don’t care if they are forced from their homes. At worst, city leaders *want* them gone.

“We’ve been hearing that a lot. There are a lot of folks who believe there is some intentionality behind all of this,” Justin Lipford, community engagement director of the YMCA of San Diego County, told me.

In other words, city leaders purposefully allowed Shelltown, Southcrest and Mountain View to flood, so that other people could take the land.

City officials, of course, have offered many explanations for why they never cleaned Chollas Creek. The amount of money for stormwater improvement is dangerously low. Certain [environmental regulations were hard to get around](#). They have also said the amount of rain was so severe that cleaning the canals would not

have stopped the floods. But none of this has resonated with the flood survivors. Would so many calls for a channel to be cleaned have gone unanswered in La Jolla they wonder?

Now, they are all forced to watch as the fabric of their community is torn apart.

Jessica Calix adored her neighbors in Southcrest. She rented a two-bedroom for \$1,650 per month — unheard of in today's rental market. Now, she's stuck in a motel, searching for a new place. She can barely find a studio apartment in the same price range.

That's bad for her and other renters, Calix said. But it's good for landlords.

“Landlords will clean their places up and rent them for an extra thousand dollars or more now,” Calix said.

Roughly 70 percent of people in Shelltown, Southcrest and Mountain View are renters, according to US Census data.

And it's not just renters being pushed out, according to the rumors going around. Stories of cheap cash offers for waterlogged houses are also making the rounds.

If city leaders cared, the thinking goes, they'd help the flood survivors get stable, temporary housing. That would give them the security they need to not sign away their leases or homes for cash. But that stability still hasn't materialized.

The flood **displaced more than a thousand people** — the full count is still not available — from their homes. A hodgepodge of nonprofit and government entities stepped in to provide motel vouchers. But now those vouchers are ending, and county officials are taking over motel placement. But the county program has had trouble getting up and running. An official admitted earlier this week that some people likely might be forced out of their current rooms before new ones are available.

This is only more evidence to the flood survivors that their government either doesn't care or actually wants them gone.

“They're trying to wipe out our legacy,” Clarissa Marin told me.

“You mean they want to wipe you off the map?” I asked.

“That’s exactly what they’re trying to do. What else would it be?” Marin said.

The relationship between government and Shelltown is only made worse when politicians talk about their successes dealing with the floods, Marin said.

“The more they have these emergency meetings with with 30-minute Powerpoint presentations, talking about how many lives they saved and how they were on the ground Jan. 22, only makes it worse, because everyone knows no one was there.”

As we sat under the carport, I asked if anything could be done to restore trust. Marin wanted an apology and, simply, for local leaders to do their jobs.

“Start with, ‘I’m sorry,’” Marin said. “And then show the communities that you’re actually willing to put the necessary controls in place that would protect everyone.”

I asked City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera about this.

“Regardless of whether [cleaning the canals] would have made a difference in preventing the floods, we should own the fact that the communities affected were due a lot more than they’ve gotten and I’m sorry for that to the extent I’m responsible,” Elo-Rivera said. “And even to the extent I’m not responsible, I signed up for this job and I now own all the bad decisions of the past until we remedy them.”

Elo-Rivera’s office sent a memo in December asking for one stretch of blocked creek in Rolando to be cleaned. It wasn’t and an [entire affordable housing complex flooded](#). He also previously held a press conference on Beta Street – one of the area’s to experience the most severe flooding in Southcrest – to draw attention to the city’s intense stormwater needs. Now, Elo-Rivera is [pushing for a November ballot measure](#) that would create a tax for flood prevention and other water quality issues.

He acknowledged flood survivors have every right to be furious. And he worried about the broken trust. He said he’d heard the refrain that local leaders purposefully allowed the flood to happen.

“At the end of the day there’s a relationship between government and the community. And just like any relationship, the longer you allow it to erode, the harder it is and the longer it takes to restore it... If something [bad] happens before you restore it, it’s broken for good,” Elo-Rivera said. “But this is the project. How we restore and earn that trust back... That is the biggest project any of us have in San Diego.”

Not everybody under the carport thought the city *purposefully* allowed the canals to become clogged.

Anna Ramirez had been letting others do most of the talking. She and her sister waded out of the floods, with her 3-year-old daughter in a large storage bin — both of them holding a side, as they pulled it through the water.

“My whole life, living here, it’s just always been neglected. We’ve been asking for help all these years and we’re still asking for it and we don’t ever know if we’re gonna get it,” Ramirez said. “They don’t care. They never have.”

Floods are nothing new to Shelltown. Thirty years ago, serious flooding hit parts of the neighborhood, Marin said. Her aunt went door to door, getting signatures for a petition to the city to fix the storm drain problems, she told me.

Jesse Preciado, a spearfisherman, who put on a wetsuit and [unclogged a drain on his street](#) during the floods, weighed in on this theme.

“We’ve been asking for 30 years already for a solution. [After the floods] it took them two days to clear the canals out. So we know they could’ve done it,” he said. “It’s a plan to get all the poor out, to get these low-income, ugly houses out of the way and build new houses. It’s a game plan.”

I asked Ramirez what she thought about that — whether she thought it was neglect or a plan.

“I agree with what he said, actually,” she told the group.

She went on to tell us the full story of what happened to her on Jan. 22.

She was at home, on a piece of property with multiple bungalows shared by her other family members. Her father called to say that it might flood. She moved two of the families’ cars and by the time she returned water was already inside her home.

First her and her sister got the baby out. Then she realized that another sister was in another unit and might be asleep. She went back alone and found her sister standing in the doorway in shock. She dragged herself along a fence to show her sister the way to higher ground.

As she made these trips back and forth, different neighbors kept calling for help. A pregnant woman’s belly was fully submerged. Someone else held a baby up above their head. Ramirez helped multiple people back to safety. Her and another neighbor pulled one person out of their window, because the doors wouldn’t open.

At some point, Ramirez could no longer get out. She had to get on a roof with other neighbors.

Soon after, the waters receded. She got down and walked to the edge of a nearby fence, where a firefighter was standing.

“And you know, at that point, I’m like, ‘Why?’” she said. “Knowing that they were standing there the whole time and they didn’t go in and help us. It’s just frustrating to know how close they were and they didn’t go in and save anybody.”

Correction: This post previously stated that City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera held a press conference on Beta Street during his campaign for City Council. It was after he was elected.

Pingback:

Trust between southeast San Diego flood survivors and local government is dead - LatesNews

chris schultz

February 16, 2024 at 7:04 am

You may not have the money, but the nice mayor waived the reconstruction fees. And what do you get for incompetence? Why another tax proposal while the mayor holds a sign saying protect our infrastructure. Vote Gloria and Elo-Rivera out!

▼ Expand comments

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From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 12:26:31 PM

Submitted on Thu, 02/08/2024 - 12:26

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Layla Figgs

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-16

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

SB 1137 marks an important step in Governor Newsom's commitment to move California beyond oil and instead prioritizing health and safety of Californians.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/17854

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Saturday, February 10, 2024 9:06:54 PM

Submitted on Sat, 02/10/2024 - 21:06

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Michael A Rancourt

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: La Mesa

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Although I am not a resident of San Diego, I teach at SDSU and of course spend a lot of time in the city.

California's climate goals require that it phases out and end extraction of oil and gas, as burning these fossil fuels emits the greenhouse gasses responsible for climate change and the climate disasters that have frequently impacted our communities, including the recent flooding.

Sincerely,

Mike Rancourt

La Mesa, CA

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19315

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Saturday, February 10, 2024 10:02:57 AM

Submitted on Sat, 02/10/2024 - 10:02

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Sofia Carrasco

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Sofia Carrasco and I live in District 1, in the Carmel Valley neighborhood. I am a high school student and member of Youth V. Oil and I am writing in support of item #4. As Californians and members of its diverse communities, it is critical that we maintain the right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. Yet Big Oil is one referendum away from drilling close to the homes of two million people, an event that would release dangerous amounts of air pollution and increase the risk of childhood leukemia, asthma, birth defects, and cardiac diseases among these low-income and BIPOC citizens. The City of San Diego has a responsibility to follow through with its climate goals, and the SD City Council has already shown support by passing the Youth v. Oil End Oil Drilling Resolution in 2022. As someone whose family has suffered the ramifications of a serious heart condition, I am staunchly against Big Oil's undemocratic campaign and am determined to prioritize the health and safety of its people, including youth, who are most vulnerable to developing air quality-related diseases. I appreciate the work of this council and thank you for your time.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19273

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 7:57:19 PM

Submitted on Fri, 02/09/2024 - 19:57

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Emma Weibel

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: La Jolla

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Emma Weibel and I live in District 1 (La Jolla). I am a junior at La Jolla High School and I am writing in support of item #4.

As a young person who suffers from severe climate anxiety, seeing the mass misinformation campaign Big Oil was able to conduct to put SB1137, lifesaving legislation that protects marginalized communities, on referendum was devastating.

We are asking the city council to stand against misinformation and the exploitation of these communities and our environment for corporate profit. Scientific studies show that oil extraction releases dangerous amounts of air pollution that have been connected to the cause of severe headaches, childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac diseases. Additionally, oil drilling disproportionately affects communities of color and low-income communities with 92% of people living near oil extraction sites in California being BIPOC.

3200 ft setback zones are essential to maintain a minimum degree of safety for people to live their lives; oil should not be drilled near communities, schools, places of play, etc. (or anywhere if we want to achieve a more just future).

We ask for the City of San Diego to stand up for those across California falling victim to big oil's greed.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19244

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 6:14:06 PM

Submitted on Fri, 02/09/2024 - 18:13

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Lorelei Abboud

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Lorelei Abboud and I am the vice president of the Climate Action Club at Santana. I am writing in support of item (blank) which is Youth v. Oil's Resolution for SB 1137. This resolution will support SB 1137 which was passed to protect neighborhoods from dangerous oil drilling. When oil is extracted close to communities it causes serious health consequences such as increased risk of leukemia, asthma and birth defects. But with SB 1137 there would be restrictions placed on oil drilling to ensure 3200 ft setbacks. These setbacks would reduce the dangerous air pollution that causes serious health problems in our communities. But despite the obvious risks of extraction sites big oil spent millions of dollars to repeal the bill having it appear as a referendum on the 2024 ballot. So the California people need your support of Youth v. Oil's Resolution for SB 1137 to protect their health.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19238

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 5:11:51 PM

Submitted on Fri, 02/09/2024 - 17:11

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Tallis K Arnold

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hi, my name is Tallis K Arnold. I live in Santee, I am a Senior at Santana High School, and I am writing in support of item #4. The fact that we, as a major Californian city, have set the precedent that community oil drilling is okay despite the numerous adverse health effects is embarrassing. Several studies have continually shown that oil drilling in Californian neighborhoods has led to higher rates of chronic diseases. What are we saying about our priorities when we allow this? Do you condone the prioritization of profits for large conglomerates over the health of our fellow Californians? Personally, I can't say that I do. I wouldn't be able to sleep at night if I knew that children in California were suffering from increased rates of early leukemia and asthma and I hadn't done something to support changing it. This issue is real. It's also affecting black and brown communities at shamefully higher rates than others. I'll keep fighting with all of our supporters until we get and keep the change we need. I'm grateful for your time in hearing my support for keeping SB 1137. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19233

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 4:59:56 PM

Submitted on Fri, 02/09/2024 - 16:59

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Taarika

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Encinitas

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Taarika S and I live in the Encinitas neighborhood. I am a student, and I am writing in support of item #4. Scientific studies show that oil extraction releases dangerous amounts of air pollution that have been connected to the cause of severe headaches, childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac diseases. 92% of people living near oil extraction sites in California are Black, Indigenous, and people of color. As a teenager, this world is my future, and decisions like these will heavily impact my life. Please vote your support of SB 1137 to make the world a safer place for your children and future generations. I appreciate this council and thank you all for your time.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19229

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 4:41:57 PM

Submitted on Fri, 02/09/2024 - 16:41

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Abby Deckert

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Abby Deckert and I'm the lead of the Youth v. Oil Campaign and a high school intern with SanDiego350. Protecting the health and safety of Californians is the bare minimum and the City of San Diego has a responsibility to continue their commitment in supporting these lifesaving 3200 ft setbacks. In 2022, SD City Council passed the Youth v. Oil End Oil Drilling Resolution, which among other asks to phase out fossil fuels, it called to roll out 3200 ft setback zones between oil extraction sites and communities. Californians should not have to face the risk of higher rates of childhood leukemia, birth defects, asthma, and more because of Big Oil's greed. Neighborhood oil drilling here in CA also disproportionately affects low-income and BIPOC communities further endangering frontline communities. It is crucial we don't lose our essential progress to Big Oil's undemocratically produced referendum and that is why it is critical that the council passes Youth v. Oil's resolution pledging their support for keeping SB 1137. I appreciate this council and thank you all for your time.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19226

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 4:08:02 PM

Submitted on Mon, 02/12/2024 - 16:07

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: William J. Carrasco

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: SAN DIEGO

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

California's climate goals require that it phases out and end extraction of oil and gas, as burning these fossil fuels emits the greenhouse gasses responsible for climate change and the climate disasters that have frequently impacted our communities, including the recent flooding. SB 1137 marks an important step in Governor Newsom's commitment to move California beyond oil and instead prioritizing the health and safety of Californians.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19526

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 6:44:08 PM

Submitted on Mon, 02/12/2024 - 18:44

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: L. Minna-Choe

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Laura Minna-Choe and I live in / work in District 1. I am a disaster duty officer - especially helping out hundreds of folks affected by our recent storms. I am writing in support of item #4.

Set backs are so important to our state-wide community's health. Drilling is happening too close to over 2 million homes. We need these curbs to help protect people's health as well as to help fight climate change - as we have seen in its devastating effects with the floods. Please support Item #4. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19556

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 6:37:17 PM

Submitted on Mon, 02/12/2024 - 18:37

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Anika Bull

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Anika Bull and I live in in District 9, in the Gilbert Dr. neighborhood. I am a high school student and member of Youth V. Oil, and I am writing in support of item #4. Big Oil has repeatedly shown a disregard for public health and safety, but San Diego doesn't have to. It is now common knowledge that oil extraction exposes its surrounding areas to air pollution, and studies have shown connections between proximity to extraction and serious health issues such as: childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac diseases. It is entirely devastating that we allow our children and community members to have their lives at risk, for the profit of big companies that could care less about the future of our planet. This is an issue that affects us all, but it is hurting already marginalized communities the hardest. Oil drilling disproportionately affects communities of color and low-income communities. 92% of people living near oil extraction sites in California are Black, Indigenous, and people of color. We cannot keep killing the people that make San Diego the beautiful place that it is. At the end of the day, an unliveable planet means and unattainable profit, so it is reckless and ridiculous to put innocent lives at risk for this. I urge you to listen to the facts but also to exercise your own empathy and put yourself in the shoes of the low income communities now having to deal with health problems they cannot afford, all for rich people to get even richer.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19555

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 6:24:41 PM

Submitted on Mon, 02/12/2024 - 18:24

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Keala Minna-Choe

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Keala and I am a resident of District 1 and a student at Canyon Crest Academy. I am writing in support of Agenda Item #4. As a young person who has experienced the harmful effects of climate change all of my life, I know that it is critical that California as a state transitions away from oil drilling. I also know that at the front of the oil extraction process, there are communities who suffer daily from exposure to toxic chemicals- which often result in adverse health effects. SB1137 was a critical health and safety buffer bill that frontline communities advocated for years to become a law. By signing the Youth v. Oil resolution, not only do you support the voices of young environmentalists in San Diego, but you send a message to the rest of California that you will not stand by while schools, hospitals, homes, parks, and places of work are put in jeopardy. As an individual who advocated for this bill in 2022, I urge you to say yes to this resolution- and for a safer, healthier future for all. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19552

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 6:16:09 PM

Submitted on Mon, 02/12/2024 - 18:16

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Ryan Mackenzie Berberet

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Ryan Berberet, and I live in District 9. I am a student, and I am writing in support of item #4. As fellow Californians, we are responsible for ensuring everyone has the right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. But Big Oil is drilling dangerously close to the homes of two million people—exposing our children to toxic pollution for profit is just wrong.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19548

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 4:15:47 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 16:15

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Alondra Guzman

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello my name is Alondra Guzman, I am part of the Climate Action Club at my high school and I am writing in support of item #4. Scientific studies show that oil extraction releases dangerous amounts of air pollution that have been connected to the cause of severe headaches, childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac diseases. SB 1137 marks an important step in Governor Newsom's commitment to move California beyond oil and instead prioritizing the health and safety of Californians.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19686

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 6:12:28 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 18:12

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Christopher Roberts

[REDACTED]

City:: SAN DIEGO

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Chris Roberts, I live in District 1 in Carmel Valley, and am retired. I write in support of agenda item #4. The California legislature passed SB 1137 in 2022 to implement 3200 ft safety zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. This law makes a lot of sense, because it is well documented that oil extraction releases dangerous toxic compounds that are linked to an array of serious diseases including severe headaches, childhood leukemia, and birth defects. SB 1137 supports environmental justice, since 92% of Californians that live within these safety zones are low income and black, indigenous, or people of color. Laws like SB 1137 are important for California to achieve its climate goals, which require phasing out extraction of fossil fuels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In 2022, the City of San Diego passed Youth v. Oil's End Oil Drilling Resolution, in support of SB 1137. Please consider prioritizing the Youth v. Oil resolution which pledges the City of San Diego's support to protecting fellow Californians' right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19702

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:10:55 AM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 00:10

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Lexi Rueff

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: San diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Lexi and I live in District 1, in the Pacific Beach neighborhood. I am writing in support of item #4. As fellow Californians, it is our responsibility to make sure everyone has the right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. But Big Oil is drilling dangerously close to the homes of two million people—exposing our children to toxic pollution for profit is just wrong.

In 2022 California legislators signed a bill, SB 1137, to implement 3200 ft safety setback zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. Big Oil chose to spend millions to try to repeal the bill, instead of just implementing it and supporting a sustainable future. That's why a referendum will appear on the Nov 2024 ballot, asking every California voter whether they want to keep the bill or repeal it. We need the City of SD to help keep this lifesaving bill!

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19727

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 11:22:20 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 23:22

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Ava Hoener

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Ava Hoener and I live in the city of Santee. I am a student and member of Youth v. Oil and I am writing in support of item #4. Oil drilling in close proximity to homes is extremely detrimental to the health of those who reside there. Most of these communities are made up of those who are lower income and BIPOC. Through Youth v. Oil, I have been working on raising awareness about the SB 1137 Resolution. I urge you to support our resolution, assuring 3,200 ft. setbacks between oil drilling sites and community centers. Our community should not have to worry about developing leukemia, asthma, or even birth defects because their representatives fail to protect them. It is extremely important that we continue to take action against Big Oil while protecting our community at the same time; it is crucial that we have your support for the SB 1137 Resolution.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19725

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8:54:03 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 20:53

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Nan Renner

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Honorable San Diego City Council,

I live in Ocean Beach (district 2) and work as a senior administrator at UC San Diego in La Jolla (district 1). I write in support of agenda item #4.

Please prioritize the Youth v. Oil resolution and support a pledge by the City of San Diego's to protect fellow Californians' right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods.

We must maintain the 3200 ft safety setback zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. We must not let the fossil fuel industry succeed in repealing this bill.

As a society, we must prioritize people over profit. A safe living environment should be a human right. We should not sacrifice some people and some places for oil extraction.

Dr. Nan Renner

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19710

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 6:12:25 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 18:12

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Christopher Roberts

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: SAN DIEGO

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Chris Roberts, I live in District 1 in Carmel Valley, and am retired. I write in support of agenda item #4. The California legislature passed SB 1137 in 2022 to implement 3200 ft safety zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. This law makes a lot of sense, because it is well documented that oil extraction releases dangerous toxic compounds that are linked to an array of serious diseases including severe headaches, childhood leukemia, and birth defects. SB 1137 supports environmental justice, since 92% of Californians that live within these safety zones are low income and black, indigenous, or people of color. Laws like SB 1137 are important for California to achieve its climate goals, which require phasing out extraction of fossil fuels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In 2022, the City of San Diego passed Youth v. Oil's End Oil Drilling Resolution, in support of SB 1137. Please consider prioritizing the Youth v. Oil resolution which pledges the City of San Diego's support to protecting fellow Californians' right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19702

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 4:15:44 PM

Submitted on Tue, 02/13/2024 - 16:15

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Alondra Guzman

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Santee

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: #4

Comments::

Hello my name is Alondra Guzman, I am part of the Climate Action Club at my high school and I am writing in support of item #4. Scientific studies show that oil extraction releases dangerous amounts of air pollution that have been connected to the cause of severe headaches, childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac diseases. SB 1137 marks an important step in Governor Newsom's commitment to move California beyond oil and instead prioritizing the health and safety of Californians.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19686

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 8:18:09 AM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 08:18

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Sydney Chan

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

My name is Sydney Chan and I live in District 1, in Carmel Valley. I am a high school student attending Canyon Crest Academy, an intern with Youth4Climate, and a volunteer with Youth v. Oil. I am writing in support of item #4, which would hold the City Council accountable in ensuring that environmental justice is a top priority by supporting the ballot measure that will implement SB 1137, which was signed into law in 2022 but delayed by unjust referendum efforts from oil corporations.

As a student and young person of color, I understand that supporting these setbacks is not just a climate action issue, but a health and safety issue as well. Frontline communities, which primarily consist of Black and Indigenous people of color, are most affected by birth defects, cancer, asthma, and other associated health risks that come from living near oil wells. It is the City's responsibility to support the protection of all Californians whose lives are affected by proximity to oil wells. Oil drilling does not occur in San Diego County, but the ballot measure will be presented to San Diegans and all Californians -- it is up to us as San Diegans to follow through with commitments to protecting the environment and communities and support the safety of all Californians.

Furthermore, I was involved with Youth v. Oil when we passed our End Oil Drilling Resolution 8-0 through City Council -- one of our asks was the support of 3,200 ft setbacks. I am asking the SD Environmental Committee to follow through with that commitment.

Thank you for reading. Please keep the health of Californians in mind and prioritize the Youth v. Oil Resolution.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19747

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 10:11:46 AM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 10:11

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Tanya Barach

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Tanya Barach and I am involved with my daughter with the Youth v. Oil Campaign with SanDiego350. Protecting the health and safety of Californians is the bare minimum and the City of San Diego has a responsibility to continue their commitment in supporting these lifesaving 3200 ft setbacks. In 2022, SD City Council passed the Youth v. Oil End Oil Drilling Resolution, with among other asks to phase out fossil fuels, it called to roll out 3200 ft setback zones between oil extraction sites and communities. Californians should not have to face the risk of higher rates of childhood leukemia, birth defects, asthma, and more because of Big Oil's greed. Neighborhood oil drilling here in CA also disproportionately affects low-income and BIPOC communities further endangering frontline communities. It is crucial we don't lose our essential progress to Big Oil's undemocratically produced referendum and that is why it is critical that the council passes Youth v. Oil's resolution pledging their support for keeping SB 1137. I appreciate this council and thank you all for your time.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19770

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 10:32:15 AM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 10:32

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Isabel White

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Encinitas

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Isabel White, I am a student at Canyon Crest Academy and I am writing in support of item #4. In 2022 California legislators signed a bill, SB 1137, to implement 3200 ft safety setback zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. Big Oil chose to spend millions to try to repeal the bill, instead of just implementing it and supporting a sustainable future. That's why a referendum will appear on the Nov 2024 ballot, asking every California voter whether they want to keep the bill or repeal it. We need the City of SD to help keep this lifesaving bill! As fellow Californians, it is our responsibility to make sure everyone has the right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. But Big Oil is drilling dangerously close to the homes of two million people—exposing our children to toxic pollution for profit is simply wrong. Thank you for reading and please consider prioritizing the Youth v. Oil resolution which pledges the City of San Diego's support to protecting fellow Californians' right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19773

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 10:56:22 AM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 10:56

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Xavier
City:: Holmes
State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15
Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment
Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Xavier Holmes and I am a proud supporter of Youth v. Oil. SB1137 is a monumental bill that will help improve the quality of life for tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of people across California. This is what we know:

We know that children are more likely to develop adverse health effects such as leukemia and asthma due to their proximity to oil drilling sites.

We know that Black, Brown, and Indigenous people disproportionately make up 92% of the communities that live near oil drilling sites.

We know that as San Diegans currently living on the occupied land of the Kumeyaay people, we must acknowledge our occupation by prioritizing the liberation of our indigenous communities from the consequences of the climate crisis.

Most importantly, we know that it is the sworn duty of San Diego City Council to protect the health and well-being of everyone that shares this land.

SB1137 is an undeniable first step towards protecting the most vulnerable of us, which is why I humbly request that the council pledge their support and pass Youth v. Oil's resolution. I appreciate the work of this council, and thank you for your time

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19775

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:54:52 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 12:54

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Karin Zirk, Ph.D.

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 5

Comments::

Environment Committee Comments

On behalf of the Friends of Rose Creek, we thank you for many great and forward-thinking items in this year's Environment work plan.

In regards to the section on "Water and Sustainability," we would like to suggest that the City of San Diego GO BOLD! Instead of segregating storm water from our natural environment, we should be striving to care for our natural waterways in a holistic fashion. In a city without enough open space, our natural creeks, like Chollas and Rose Creek, should be considered the critical natural resources they are and managed for habitat and to increase capacity of flows during high flow storm events. The rest of the years, these areas when filled with native vegetation provide cooling effects created by heat islands in the human-built environment. By allowing storm water to filter into the ground in natural areas, we provide water for a host of native plants.

In regards to the section on "Natural Resources: Trees" we respectfully request that the City's tree policy plan be updated to align with the Parks Master Plan regarding invasive non-native species. Specifically, we ask that the following policy language be adopted into the City's tree policies Co-Benefits: "CO5: Plant drought tolerant resilient trees that are not on the California Invasive Plant Council (CAL-IPC) list of invasives for southern California and native trees in parks ..."

Policies: "CSR3: Expand and maintain a healthy drought tolerant tree canopy of species not on the CAL-IPC..."

We are very supportive of the "Natural Resources" section. However, we respectfully request that in regards to the De Anza Natural Plan, you ask City Staff to compare how their plans stacks up against the ReWild Mission Bay plan in regards to creating functioning ecosystems that will survive to the year 2100, how well the plan will protect the human-built environment from sea-level rise, flooding, and storm surges. This environment includes two public schools, military housing, and the Pacific Beach's primary area

of affordable housing.

Furthermore, we would like to see City staff expand the wetlands footprint in this area to insure 80 acres of wetlands are remaining in the year 2100.

Finally, we strongly recommend that all land currently fronting Rose Creek be wetlands and upland habitat. With the intensity of rainfall increasing due to climate change, putting human constructed structures adjacent to a 36-square mile watershed that drains into Mission Bay is just planning for problems. Let's put human-built structures away from creeks and rivers and use the adjacent areas for wildlife and habitat and appropriate human recreational uses.

Also, we respectfully request that the City call out the importance of Recreation Ecology Studies in the work plans. This newer area of scientific study focuses on environmental impacts resulting from recreational activity in protected natural areas. This field of study includes research and monitoring assessments of biophysical changes, analyses to identify causal and influential factors or support carrying capacity planning and management, and investigations of the efficacy of educational, regulatory, and site management actions designed to minimize recreation impacts.

The "Wildlife Management" section is off to a great start. However, we respectfully request that the committee include "Wildlife Corridors" to allow species free movement between public lands and other open space areas.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19792

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:22:21 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 13:22

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: juliet bailey

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Chula vista

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-14

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

I am writing to urgently request your attention to the ongoing oil drilling activities in California. The environmental impacts of continued oil drilling in California are grave and well-documented. Not only does it exacerbate climate change by emitting greenhouse gases, but it also poses significant risks to public health and communities' livelihoods. By redirecting our efforts towards clean energy solutions, we can mitigate the impacts of climate change and create a healthier, more sustainable future for generations to come.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19798

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:40:51 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 13:40

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Diana Deckert

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: El Cajon

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Diana Deckert. I am a veterinarian who works in various parts of the county. I am writing in support of item #4.

Californians - both people and their pets - should not have to face the risk of higher rates of health problems that include childhood leukemia, birth defects, asthma, and more, because of Big Oil's greed.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19803

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:41:06 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 13:41

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: DEAN RANGER

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: SAN DIEGO

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

I want to thank you for your service to the community and encourage you to support Re_Wild Mission Bay!

(expanding the natural wetlands of DeAnza cove.

I also encourage you to support it's Wildest acreage plan -- this will help meet the Climate Action Plan goals of restoring tidal marsh, increasing coastal resilience, sequestering carbon, and improving water quality in the bay.

Thanks!

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19804

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:48:31 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 13:48

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Matilda Meyer

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Matilda Meyer and I live in District 1, in the Pacific Beach neighborhood. I am a student at Mission Bay High School and a member of the Eco Club and I am writing in support of item #4. As fellow Californians, it is our responsibility to make sure everyone has the right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods. But Big Oil is drilling dangerously close to the homes of two million people—exposing our children to toxic pollution for profit is just wrong.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19805

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 2:41:40 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 14:41

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Theo Martien

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Hello, my name is Theo Martien and I live in District 6. I am a current student, and former intern with SanDiego350 and I am writing in support of item #4.

In 2022 California legislators signed a bill, SB 1137, to implement 3200 ft safety setback zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other community sites. Big Oil chose to spend millions to try to repeal the bill, instead of just implementing it and supporting a sustainable future. That's why a referendum will appear on the Nov 2024 ballot, asking every California voter whether they want to keep the bill or repeal it. We need the City of SD to help keep this lifesaving bill! Thank you for reading and please consider prioritizing the Youth v. Oil resolution which pledges the City of San Diego's support to protecting fellow Californians' right to clean air and healthy neighborhoods.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19810

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 6:44:54 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 18:44

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Kelly Lyndon

[REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

My name is Kelly Lyndon, I live in the city of San Diego and I volunteer with several local organizations that advocate to accelerate equitable climate action.

I want to express my concern that neither the Climate Advisory Board nor the Resiliency Advisory Board have been seated. This committee approved these two new boards in November 2022, the full council approved them in March 2023, almost a year ago. I understand that numerous well-qualified candidates have applied to both boards, and yet the Mayor has not put them forward for council approval.

These public advisory boards were created to advise and assist with implementation of the City's Climate Action Plan and Climate Resilient San Diego Plan. As we saw with the recent flooding, the city needs all the help it can get to support its residents, especially those in communities of concern.

I have heard that these boards are being held up to wait for nominations for every single seat. This isn't necessary, boards can operate effectively with a few vacancies.

There are some actions that I would like this committee to consider to move the Climate and Resiliency Advisory Boards forward.

One is to request that the Council President exercise his authority to make the appointments to these boards, since the Mayor has delayed well beyond the 45-day deadline (per City Charter section 43(c) and Council Policy 000-13).

Another option is that if the current criteria for these boards is too hard to meet, that this committee work with the community to modify it to something more achievable.

I appreciate your support to ensure that both the Climate and Resiliency Advisory Boards can fulfill their intended purpose.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19837

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 9:56:47 PM

Submitted on Wed, 02/14/2024 - 21:56

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Kelly Lyndon

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 5

Comments::

My name is Kelly Lyndon, I live in the city of San Diego and I volunteer with several local organizations that advocate to accelerate equitable climate action, including the San Diego Building Electrification Coalition which I co-chair.

Thank you for holding the recent Environmental Roundtable, to solicit input on this committee's 2024 workplan. The workplan you have produced is broad and ambitious, and I appreciate the acknowledgement of the many areas that need attention.

I am glad to see the that holding the city accountable to its commitments in the Climate Action Plan (CAP) is a priority.

- I understand that budgets are tight, but as Chair LaCava said in his budget memo, "Lean years make for hard choices, yet our climate goals cannot sit by the wayside."
- The plans, progress and obstacles for CAP Implementation should be a frequent agenda item for this committee.
- And the committee should bring a laser focus on the equitable implementation of the CAP, including the Climate Equity Fund

There are several low-cost Building Electrification actions the city can take this year, urged on by this committee

- Quickly pass a "High Performance" Reach Code, which staff is currently evaluating. This encourages all-electric new construction and appears to be compliant with latest legal rulings, 3 other cities in the state have recently passed these.
- Pass a Building Performance Standard. There is a city-led Working Group that will be making recommendations using this well-known approach to decarbonize larger existing buildings throughout the city.
- Monitor the implementation of ZEMBOP, to ensure rapid decarbonization of city owned buildings, with minimal exceptions. Explore opportunities to accelerate decarbonization of leased buildings, especially those on longer-term leases. In particular, ensure that the upcoming Convention

Center renovations are all-electric.

Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19843

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 12:59:41 PM

Submitted on Thu, 02/15/2024 - 12:59

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Terrie Best

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

Good Afternoon Councilmembers.

I am Terrie Best of District 3. I'm writing on the importance of placing cannabis social equity retail outlets in Transit Priority Areas and Mixed-Use Zones in order to foster reduced carbon emissions as well as equity for the applicants.

The critical nature of Transit Priority Areas (TPAs) and Mixed-Use Zones are well supported by our City's Strategic Plan.

In making decisions about land use code as regards to these cannabis outlets, please allow a focused examination of how Transit Priority Areas are not only crucial to meet the city's strategic plan but are also instrumental in leveling the playing field for Social Equity applicants.

Placing retail cannabis outlets in TPA and Mixed-Use Zones corrects an implicit bias flaw in current policy.

This flaw is not only environmentally harmful and over reliant on emission-based transport but has been inequitable to over-policed communities and left patients without access to cannabis medicine.

Please support the Cannabis Social Equity plan known as SEED, including placing cannabis outlets in Transit Priority Areas so that we can be that much closer to meeting our strategic plan goals for emissions by 2035.

Thank you,

Terrie Best

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 3:19:16 PM

Submitted on Thu, 02/15/2024 - 15:19

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Katharine Harrison

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-15

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Thank you for the work you do to create a better environment for San Diegans.

I urge you to pass the resolution brought forth by Youth V Oil and oppose the referendum on SB 1137. This bill, already voted into law, is at the heart and center of California's climate forward policies. It is both about real physical consequences to those Californians who suffer the most from our still prolific oil and gas production and emblematic about who we are as a state and whom we say we serve. If the people who live next to oil and gas production sites cannot be protected from the injurious consequences to their bodies from the greedy, dying oil and gas industry, then I am ashamed to be a Californian. Our energy and climate future has to include every citizen's health and well being.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/19967

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:32:37 AM

Submitted on Thu, 02/22/2024 - 10:32

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Mark DAndrea

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: Carlsbad

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-02-28

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

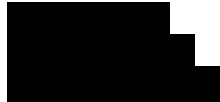
Agenda Item Number: item 4

Comments::

In order for the City of San Diego to achieve its imperative climate and equity goals, it is crucial that there is a bold show of support from the city making sure San Diegans know the city supports clean air and healthy neighborhoods. That's why community organizations are joining with Youth v. Oil, a local youth-led campaign of SanDiego350, asking the City Council to pass a resolution pledging the city's support for the Campaign for a Safe & Healthy California and keeping the lifesaving oil setbacks bill, SB 1137, in place when Californians vote on the statewide referendum on the Nov 2024 ballot. SB 1137 requires vital 3,200 ft setback zones between oil extraction sites and homes, schools, hospitals, and other sensitive sites. The effects of living in proximity to oil extraction sites are dangerous, causing higher rates of childhood leukemia, chronic headaches, birth defects, asthma, and more. Neighborhood oil drilling is an environmental and social justice issue, disproportionately impacting BIPOC and low-income communities. Though SB 1137 democratically passed through the Senate and Assembly and was signed into law by Gov. Newsom in September 2022, Big Oil gathered enough signatures to hold a referendum to repeal the bill, putting its fate in the hands of voters in the November 2024 election. In order to counter this obstruction of health and safety, we urge Californians to vote to "keep the law." The City of San Diego has already taken a strong stand on this issue. In 2022, the San Diego City

Council passed Youth v. Oil's End Oil Drilling resolution, which urged Gov. Newsom to implement health and safety setbacks between oil drilling sites and community spaces, stop issuing new permits, and phase out fossil fuel extraction in California. As Californians, we believe everyone deserves clean air and healthy neighborhoods, and as the largest city in San Diego, the City Council should move to support this lifesaving bill and pass the Resolution to support Keeping SB 1137 in the November Referendum.

Sincerely,



The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/20810



LOCAL

Dozens of flood victims learn next legal steps, push for policy changes at weekend event

by: [Alani Letang](#)
Posted: Feb 17, 2024 / 07:32 PM PST
Updated: Feb 17, 2024 / 10:52 PM PST

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This is an archived article and the information in the article may be outdated. Please look at the time stamp on the story to see when it was last updated.

SAN DIEGO ([FOX 5/KUSI](#)) — Advocating for flood survivors politically and legally was the goal of an event held by community organization [Alliance San Diego](#) and local law firm [Singleton Schreiber](#).

They spoke with flood survivors on their rights Saturday morning, and what they are asking of the City of San Diego. 

On Saturday at [Alliance](#) shared devastation.

er with stories of

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Lorena Gurele Montes lives in Shelltown on South 42nd Street. She said the Jan. 22 flood ruined the family’s two cars, her husband’s extensive record collection, and peewee soccer equipment from her daughter’s school, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

| San Diego approves plan to waive fees for flood-related property repairs >

“We just make due. Our school is able to help us get some of that back, but it’s a good \$200 worth of equipment that we have to come up with again,” Gurele Montes said.

Plus there was more loss inside her daughter’s room.

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“My keyboard, because that was my favorite toy that I played in,” described Lucia Montes.

Lorena said she is now seeking to file a claim with the city over improper drain cleaning.

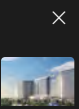
| San Diegans impacted by Jan. 22 floods can now apply for a month of temporary housing >

“It’s not just a loss of things, it’s the community and connection that we lost,” Gurele Montes said.

“They need the assistance of attorneys and advocates in order to get that help,” commented Andrea Guerrero, the executive director of Alliance San Diego.

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Gaylord Pacific Resort in Chula Vista hiring hundreds for 2025 opening



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[Alliance San Diego](#) has teamed with law firm [Singleton Schreiber](#) for their own flood damage claim. Now both agencies are looking to help flood survivors with compensation and policy change.

“We want to see substantial investment into the channels, a commitment to regular maintenance, fixing of the storm canals that were not functioning the day of the flood,” Guerrero said.

| [San Diego’s Assistance Center now virtual in aftermath of flooding](#) >

“The reality is, this was not the natural disaster the city has claimed it was. This was a planning disaster,” said Brett Schreiber, a founding partner of law firm Singleton Schreiber.

Schreiber said each case is individual. First they need to gather evidence, photos and videos before filing a claim with the City of San Diego and each person’s insurance.

ADVERTISEMENT



Schreiber said they do not take any money from their client’s insurance claims. Their fee is 25% of what government entities would be entitled to pay their clients.

Schreiber said, “This is about creating litigation, legal, political strategies, that will compensate people fully. Then, even more importantly, ensure that we are not doing this again.”

| [Grant applications open for nonprofits, small businesses affected by flooding](#) >

“I think that their approach to being individualized with each of us, and helping us to reclaim what we are owed as individuals is important, but

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Top Cardiologist Begg: Quit Eating Blueberries Before This Happens

Gundry MD

[Learn More](#)

People in San Diego are Loving Martha Stewart's Meal Kit

Martha Stewart & Marley Spoon

U.S. Cardiologist Warns About Blueberries For Breakfast

Gundry MD

[Watch Now](#)

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 VOSD PODCAST

VOSD Podcast: Lost Trust

by Nate John

February 23, 2024



Greg Montoya walks into his house Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, in the Southcrest neighborhood of San Diego. / Luke Johnson for Voice of San Diego

Last week, senior investigative reporter Will Huntsberry reported that some [residents in southeastern San Diego have lost trust in local government](#).

Staff at the San Diego mayor's office [called that reporting "dangerous."](#)

This week on the VOSD Podcast, hosts Scott Lewis, Andrea Lopez-Villafañá and Jakob McWhinney discuss the original story, how residents felt about the city’s neglect during the January floods, and responses by the mayor’s communication staff.

[Chida Warren Darby is also talking about trust](#). She’s a City Council candidate who also works for the mayor. Lewis [called her up last week](#) to see where she stands on current issues — including the city’s response to the Jan. 22 floods — as she seeks a critical council seat. Though she currently works for the mayor, she assured Lewis that she would not “be a puppet of the mayor.” She’s vying to fill the Council District 4 seat vacated by Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe.

And school layoffs are coming. McWhinney had the story this week expanding on [comments by San Diego Unified Board Vice President Cody Petterson](#), who said the district will need to cut staff due to a looming deficit.

It’s been a long time since schools have had to wrestle with these kinds of budget holes. But with Covid relief dollars drying up and enrollment declining, education leaders will have to decide where to cut soon.

Speaking of schools: The newest [edition of A Parent’s Guide to San Diego Schools is flying off the shelves](#). And a [metric we created](#) analyzing school test scores with the context of the income level of the families going to the school [has gotten national attention](#). On the show, we explain how the metric is used and what it tells us about school success.

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Voice of San Diego Podcast



Lost Trust

00:00 / 46:47



Anne

February 23, 2024 at 2:42 pm

How To Make the Most of Your Time Between Online Jobs From Home Introduction Sign up for job alerts and be first in line for the latest jobs tc that match your profile. Earn Daily \$650.

Here go.... <https://Earn4Daily4.blogspot.com>

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■ CUP OF CHISME

Cup of Chisme: Why They're Talking About Us

by [Andrea Lopez-Villafaña](#)
February 25, 2024



Fifth graders raise their hands while working on a class assignment at Madison Elementary School in El Cajon on Nov. 9, 2023. / Photo by Ariana Drehsler

A story we published is getting a lot of buzz this week.

For six years, we've compiled and analyzed school data to help San Diego families make the best choice for their children. We do this in partnership with UC San Diego Extended Studies Center for Research and

Evaluation. You can find all the data and other helpful articles in our, “A Parent’s Guide to San Diego Schools.”

[Download it here for free.](#)

We have articles on after-school care and other programs. We also have school performance data for more than 700 schools in San Diego. But one very important metric in the guide is our income vs. test score figure.

Here’s how it works: We take the percentage of students at each school who qualify for free and reduced-price meals to project how we’d expect a school to score on state tests. We used the number of students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals because that’s the best indication available of a school’s community poverty level. From there, we bring in the school’s test scores to determine where they stand within that projection. Schools with scores of “0” are performing exactly as well their poverty level would indicate, while schools with scores above “0” are doing better and schools with negative scores are doing worse.

[Our education reporter Jakob McWhinney explains](#) in a new piece why this metric is special. His story, and our metric, [are getting national attention.](#)

Here’s what they are saying: “This is such a smart way to move the conversation forward... honoring the fact that poverty matters, but reminding all of us that poverty is not a learning disability. Some schools are developing readers with success regardless of demographics. Let’s find them & learn from them,” [one person said on X.](#)

[Read more about the metric here.](#) McWhinney also put together a sort of guide to the guide. He summarizes all that the guide has to offer families. [Read about our guide here.](#)

On the note of celebrating success: McWhinney is working on a new monthly column that will examine the biggest issues in education — and how San Diego educators are adapting to approach them. It’s going to be very good. I’ll share more deets later, but wanted to give you a little bit of chisme. 😊

The Other Buzz



Greg Montoya sits in what used to be his bedroom Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, in the Southcrest neighborhood of San Diego. / Luke Johnson for Voice of San Diego

OK, we also stirred up buzz with another story. This time it had to do with the mayor's office. Grab some cafecito and let me catch you up.

After the devastating Jan. 22 storm, our reporters spent days with flood survivors. MacKenzie Elmer wrote about a local [man who helped unlog a drain](#). She also followed up on the [city's claims that they could not clear canals](#) in advance. Juan Estrada covered a protest held by the flood survivors [who demanded answers](#). Lisa Halverstadt uncovered that although residents asked the city to clean a canal by their homes, the [city determined it was low priority](#).

Our Will Huntsberry reported that more than [1,000 people were displaced](#) — and that was likely an undercount. He also spent hours and days talking to flood survivors.

In doing that, he found that something was growing among them: distrust.

Huntsberry reported that although the flood waters had receded, a crisis of trust was ripping through the streets. Some residents felt local government had not done enough to prevent the disaster or aid residents during and after the storm.

This graph in his story really hit me: “As [Anna Ramirez] made these trips back and forth, different neighbors kept calling for help. A pregnant woman’s belly was fully submerged. Someone else held a baby up above their head. Ramirez helped multiple people back to safety. Her and another neighbor pulled one person out of their window, because the doors wouldn’t open.”

[Read the full story here.](#)

After our story published, the mayor’s team felt there was crucial context missing. They provided us some stats and responses to the piece. [You can read that here.](#)

More Chisme to Start Your Week

- I moderated a mayoral candidate debate for the Community Budget Alliance on Saturday. [Here’s a recording of the debate.](#)
- The San Diego Water Authority is exploring [selling some of its de-salter water](#) to Orange County. It’s an interesting pursuit, and MacKenzie Elmer has all you need to know about why they want to move forward and what it means for the region. [Read that story here.](#)
- In her latest Sacramento Report, Deborah Brennan reports that there’s a fight brewing with a bill proposed by Assemblymember David Alvarez and the Port of San Diego. [Read that here.](#)
- ICYMI: Lisa Halverstadt has that 101 on Proposition 1. She explains what it could mean for San Diego County. [Read the explainer here.](#)
- And a San Diego Unified school board member [on teacher layoffs](#): they are coming. [Read more here.](#)

Anne

February 28, 2024 at 7:57 am

Online Earnings \$1280 per Day. A social media marketer promotes a product or a business through social media platforms. A social media marketer must understand how the social media platforms ek such as Facebook and Twitter provide and promote content to their subscribers.

GO >>>>>>>>>> <https://Profit3Revenue3.blogspot.com>

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From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 10:54:38 AM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 10:54

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: commenter

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: ITEM-4: De Anza Natural Amendment to the Mission Bay Park Master Plan

Comments::

Please add a wide bike trail around De Anza cove park. Please connect the bikeway in De Anza cove to the bikeway in Crown Point via protected bike lanes on Pacific Beach Dr and Crown Point Dr.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23657

From: [SD Council Committee](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Cc: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Environment Committee Meeting on March 14th - ITEM-4: De Anza Natural Amendment to the Mission Bay Park Master Plan
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 11:15:32 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 10:05 AM
To: SD Council Committee <CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov>; CouncilMember Joe LaCava <JoeLaCava@sandiego.gov>; CouncilMember Marni von Wilpert <MarnivonWilpert@sandiego.gov>; Councilmember Jennifer Campbell <JenniferCampbell@sandiego.gov>
Cc: Elliott, Brian <BElliott@sandiego.gov>; Joes, Vicky <VCJoes@sandiego.gov>; Young II, Eric <EYoung@sandiego.gov>; Suh, Joon <JSuh@sandiego.gov>; Chavez Ramirez, Lucero <LuceroCR@sandiego.gov>; Gloria, Liezl <LGloria@sandiego.gov>; Molina, Venus <VMMolina@sandiego.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Environment Committee Meeting on March 14th - ITEM-4: De Anza Natural Amendment to the Mission Bay Park Master Plan

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

Dear Environment Committee, Chair LaCava, Vice Chair von Wilpert, and Councilmember Campbell,

The Friends of Rose Creek is a community group caring for the orphan stretch of Rose Creek between Marian Bear Park in Clairemont and Mission Bay Park in Pacific Beach. We are a proud member of the ReWild Mission Bay Coalition.

Our vision is for lower Rose Creek to be an open space park providing recreational and learning opportunities and a clean, healthy, aesthetically pleasing environment for residents, visitors, businesses, and native plants and animals, while serving as an accessible link for bicyclists, pedestrians, and wildlife to move between Rose Canyon Park, Marian Bear Park, Mission Bay Park, and surrounding communities.

Thank you to City of San Diego Planning Department Staff, especially Scott Sandel, for the hard work over many years. The Friends of Rose Creek appreciate all the effort that has gone into this plan.

As one of the 86 members of the ReWild Mission Bay Coalition, we have been active in shaping the comment letter you have or will receive from the coalition regarding this agenda item. We support those comments 100%.

On behalf of the Friends of Rose Creek, we would like to start our strong support for the “**Wildest**” alternative studied in the PEIR. We feel very strongly that this alternative will perform the best over the next 75 years.

The “**Wetlands Optimized Alternative**” is also preferable to City’s proposed alternative.

Both alternatives provide the most opportunity for “**coastal dependent**” uses. Both alternatives provide plenty of acreage in Mission Bay Park for “**non-coastal dependent**” active recreation through space in the De Anza Cove area, the approved redesign of Fiesta Island and the newly kicked off planning efforts at South Shores.

Both the “Wildest” and “Wetlands Optimized Alternatives” also provide plenty of acreage for low-cost visitor accommodations. We sympathize with participants of “non-coastal dependent” active recreation in their pleas for more active recreation. However, as a regional park in the coastal zone, Mission Bay Park should focus on “coastal dependent” activities along coastal salt marshes, which are uses that cannot be enjoyed in other parts of the City of San Diego. This City needs more parks in general and the entire deficit cannot be met in the northeast corner of Mission Bay Park.

I personally have been caring for the salt marsh between Mission Bay Park and Rose Creek (as well as the fresh water portions of the creek) since 2004. When the City of San Diego stopped dredging the area downstream of Garnet, nature recreated a salt marsh that birds and community members enjoy daily. In the winter months, coming to a close as I write this, we have had scores of birds who summer in Alaska but prefer the Rose Creek Salt Marsh and Mission Bay for the winter. We have seen assorted teals, Bufflehead, Northern Pintails, Willets, Curlews, Grebes, Godwits, Cormorants, and so much more.

One reason the Friends of Rose Creek advocates for maximum wetlands restoration is that wetlands provide a crucial buffer between open water and the human built environment during high tide and storm surge events, like the ones San Diego has seen this winter. We have a public high school and an elementary school along Rose Creek, not to mention military housing for our service members and their families, as well as a residential community that has some of the most affordable housing in the beach communities. January 22nd saw too many of our children evacuating schools throughout San Diego County due to actual and potential flood threat and some schools are just now re-opening their doors. If we can protect two public schools in Pacific Beach with a few more acres of wetlands, do our children deserve any less?

As we work today to create a better planet for future generations and our grandchildren’s grandchildren, we need to think long term so that we leave the world in better shape than it is today.

Salt marshes sequester carbon, cool our neighborhoods and the planet, and are essential to the City of San Diego meeting its Climate Action Plan and other planning strategies. Because the CAP goals are fast approaching, we are asking the City to commit to restoring the wetlands at the mouth of Rose Creek by 2030. If we grade the land and remove the human built environment, the rest will be easily accomplished provided **we work with natural processes instead of against them.**

Specific actions we are requesting of the Environment Committee on March 14th.

- Recommend the “Wildest” alternative to the full City Council for consideration.
- Modify Recommendation 25 by changing the buffer along Rose Creek be changed from “100-foot average” to “100-foot minimum buffer along wetlands and the entire Rose

Creek frontage...” and add “on the water side of public access paths within the 100-ft minimum buffer, use landscaping to better protect the area from intrusion by domesticated animals and people” in

- Require a nature-based channel between Rose Creek and De Anza Cove that will function as habitat for birds, fish, and other species.
- Require that De Anza Cove remains off limits to motorized vehicles to create a safe space for our children to swim, kayak, and stand-up paddle board while protecting the wetlands proposed at the east end of the De Anza Cove Area.
- Require that if recreation island remains, only natural shoreline treatments are utilized and the island is planned to be reclaimed by nature due to sea-level rise.
- Direct City staff to create sound and visual barriers between the De Anza Area and the I-5 on-ramp and freeway to enhance visitor experiences within De Anza.
- Require Wildlife Agency approval for all General Development Plans (US Fish & Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish & Wildlife).
- Require community groups and Wildlife Agencies to be partners in developing and implementing the wetland management plans.

The Friends of Rose Creek stand by to partner with the City of San Diego to create wetlands that are natural functioning eco-systems, accessible for researchers and the public, improves water quality in Mission Bay and works towards improving the conditions in Rose Creek while providing habitat for the birds, butterflies, and bees we humans rely on for life!

As we often say “what happens in Rose Creek ends up in Mission Bay.”

On behalf of the Friends of Rose Creek,

Karin Zirk, Ph.D. (she/her/hers)

Executive Director

Friends of Rose Creek

***** Connecting Out Communities *****

SaveRoseCreek.org

From: [SD Council Committee](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for ITEM 4: De Anza Plan Update March 14th
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 11:28:47 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 11:24 AM
To: CouncilMember Joe LaCava <JoeLaCava@sandiego.gov>; CouncilMember Marni von Wilpert <MarnivonWilpert@sandiego.gov>; Councilmember Jennifer Campbell <JenniferCampbell@sandiego.gov>; SD Council Committee <CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for ITEM 4: De Anza Plan Update March 14th

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

PLEASE support the Wetlands Optimized Plan

I am lucky enough to live near De Anza and so enjoy it. This is a great opportunity to plan for more nature in our growing city.

Please **add a recommendation that a sound wall be installed** along the border of I-5 and De Anza and the rest of Mission Bay Park to improve the visitor experience and reduce both air and noise pollution.

Maintain the restriction against motorized boating in De Anza Cove to provide a safe place for our children to swim, kayak, and stand up paddle board

Require natural shorelines to allow habitat change to take place naturally with changes to our climate and average sea levels

Commit to creating the wetland management plan, including an implementation component, and completing wetland restoration by 2030, consistent with the existing City of San Diego Climate Action Plan and other relevant plans.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carolyn Chase
Pacific Beach
San Diego Earth Day

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 2:14:55 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 14:14

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Dan Silver

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Los Angeles

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Endangered Habitats League, a Southern California regional conservation group, appreciates the opportunity to comment.

The De Anza Natural Plan is much improved from the City's 2018 NOP, but falls short in several critical ways. By addressing these changes, the City's path towards a resilient shoreline and access opportunities will be clearer.

- Be more resilient to the future impacts of sea level rise; the proposal could result in environmental hazards, safety concerns and wasted money from putting costly infrastructure in the way of foreseeable impacts. Commit to transitional infrastructure on the proposed island.
- Include Wildlife Agency review and concurrence, demonstrating a commitment to input from the community. Future General Development Plans, project-level designs and management and access plans should commit to this since this Amendment and Programmatic EIR do not include enough project design details.
- Add a timeline or benchmarks, a problem recently identified and addressed in the City's Climate Action Plan settlement agreement.

These are several areas where DeAnza Natural must be improved to ensure this plan is the most protective of critical habitat, aligned with best practices and current climate science, and still allows for a balanced approach to use types that meet visitor needs and regulatory requirements.

Thank you for your consideration.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23704

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 4:38:25 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 16:38

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Kelly Lyndon

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 2

Comments::

My name is Kelly Lyndon, I live in the city of San Diego and I volunteer with several local organizations that advocate to accelerate equitable climate action, and am a member of the City's Climate Equity Working Group.

SuMo staff presented a summary of this program to the January 2024 Climate Equity Working Group. After the meeting I reviewed the RFP, and came away with an impression that the overall approach seems good, that staff has really put a lot of thought into how to do this, including financial penalties for not meeting certain requirements.

But I also realized that while there are some great aspirations for equitable implementation, that it wasn't clear what the contractor accountability would be to ensure this. I have been trying without success to meet with SuMo staff for nearly a month to discuss my questions, including some more detailed ones now that the Proposal from TUC was released for this meeting. It's not a good look when SuMo staff refuses to meet with a member of the Climate Equity Working Group on a topic related to climate equity. Maybe some of my questions could be easily answered, or I misunderstood something – I'm just asking for a conversation.

My main question is related to ensuring equitable deployment of chargers. Installations at all libraries, rec centers and beaches in the city are prioritized, but there are no specific requirements to ensure that an equitable number of chargers are installed in Communities of Concern. TUC said in their proposal that "chargers [will be] deployed to ensure site financial performance". Could they install one charger at Malcolm X library and 10 at the La Jolla library and meet the terms of the contract?

The RFP also requested an outline for customer engagement programs, including Communities of Concern, and no outline was provided in the TUC proposal – why not? Also, the subcontractor TUC selected for marketing (Smartify Media) doesn't appear to have any experience with San Diego and primarily sells digital panels and associated advertising. Too bad they didn't partner

with a local company with outreach experience in our Communities of Concern.

I also noticed that the subcontractor proposed to supply the EV Charger equipment, Loop Global, has a significant number of one-star reviews on both the Google and Apple play stores, all related to reliability. When I tried to download the app on my Android phone, I was unable to create an account, just like so many others. It's unclear from the RFP whether issues with the app are considered in uptime calculations.

It would be a shame for the city to go to all this effort to deploy Public EV chargers, and then have it come out later that very few are in Communities of Concern, neighbors don't know about them, and the app is flaky.

I request that staff address these equity-related questions before you move this contract forward.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23737

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 9:35:47 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 21:35

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Anne Fege

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 3

Comments::

This grant is an unprecedented opportunity for long-term tree sustainability, community support, and interdepartmental successes.

First, trees are long-lived if communities choose whether, why, and where trees are established. Decision-making needs to be authentically “with” communities and individuals, not “for” them. When Task 2 starts with, “Staff will identify [planting] locations,” that’s code for making decisions “for” communities. Property owners need to opt-in or opt-out and be given three species choices.

Second, cities achieve success when trees contribute to public health, economic development, walkability-transit, climate action, and equity. This grant offers economic development and jobs—but only if structured into procurement. Tree planting and watering need to be sourced to local small businesses and locals hired for the jobs. This also builds “ownership” and stewardship of the trees.

Third, site criteria can be stronger and more transparent, as they inform residents about suitability of each planting site, or how sites can be improved. Trees planted in the past ten years need to be checked for survival and conditions associated with healthy trees. Street trees that enter the “death spiral” after initial watering are wasting energy, labor, funds, canopy goals, and trust. Sustainability criteria focus on growing healthy trees over decades.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23778

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 8:14:01 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 20:13

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Darla Razzani

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Dear City of San Diego Environment Committee Members,

On behalf of the San Diego Parrot Head Club, I am writing in support of Campland On the Bay as a great space for community events and group camping opportunities, which our members have enjoyed for nearly three decades.

SDPHC is a 501 c(4) Civic Organization dedicated to preserving and improving the environment, and we are active in many community-orientated projects.

At our most recent annual Parrot Head festival at Campland On the Bay we raised \$40,000 for our two charities: Honor Flight San Diego and Us 4 Warriors. We had live music all weekend, a beer garden, silent auction, raffle, and games, and also used the time to mourn the loss of Jimmy Buffet.

Campland On the Bay is a fantastic community resource and a special place for our members, and we look forward to continuing our traditions for many years to come. Please support Campland's continued existence on the Bay and all the recreational activities our members love.

Sincerely,

Darla Razzani
for San Diego Parrot Head Club

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23766

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 8:06:51 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 20:06

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Ali Dressel

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 2

Comments::

Hello Environment Committee,

I first want to highlight and commend the City for developing and continuing to engage community members with the Climate Equity Working Group. This group is a vital and fantastic opportunity for communities to better engage with the City in co-developing a healthier, resilient, and more just society together.

I was disappointed, however, to hear that one of our Climate Equity Working Group members has not been listened to and actively dismissed regarding questions and concerns over the contract award to True Upside Consulting LLC.

These concerns are about equity and community engagement considerations, simply asking for more information regarding community engagement plans, outlines, and details on how the contractor plans to complete an equity program.

There is no doubt that we need more EV charging infrastructure in San Diego, and I appreciate the effort to integrate equity into contract requirements. But I urge the City to also listen to their Climate Equity Working Group, take the time to respond to meaningful questions, and use that feedback to strengthen equity integration so that it can be meaningful, impactful, and genuine. Please take these considerations into account when deciding to award a contractor and ensure that you have these questions answered for both yourselves and your constituents.

Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23765

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 6:17:21 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 18:17

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Kelly Lyndon

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

My name is Kelly Lyndon, I live in the city of San Diego, and I volunteer with several local organizations that advocate to accelerate equitable climate action.

I support ambitious wetland restoration in De Anza Cove, and ask that you make this plan as strong as you can.

This will improve water quality, provide flood protection and sequester carbon, while providing recreational opportunities.

Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23751

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 5:51:00 PM

Submitted on Wed, 03/13/2024 - 17:50

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Victor Ponce

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 2

Comments::

While the idea of putting EV charging station across the city is great. We need to ensure that these are also put in communities of concern with an equitable framework. The questions being raised by members of the CEWG should not be ignored especially after many failed attempts of reaching out to the respective staff. Please ensure that questions are answered and considered before moving forward.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23746

From: [SD Council Committee](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Important for March 14th input
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:55:44 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: laurie carlock [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 4:09 PM
To: SD Council Committee <CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important for March 14th input

This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments. _____

To our representatives; Joe Lecarva, Marni Wilpert, J.Campbell Those that care about our environment (Mother Earth) the next generation that we must consider when making choices, and our goals for 2030, JUST 5 YRS away!!

The wetlands being considered for THE WILDEST plan, are so important to the survival Of our oceans, natural environments that support animals, plants and Nature and Natural environments for people of this generation but esp for future generations.

Nature IS what is going to save us, yes, how many disasters do we need to experience in just the past 50 yrs.

WE have recently this yr. seen the highest, and most high tides this yr. These Natural Wetlands, not just a recreational park is the Nature that will save us. And we need to continue to protect these areas and improve them. Rose Creek is an Estuary, fact; the nursery to the ocean. How much hight water washing thru there can it filter and continue to produce the first stages of life for the ocean.

Rose Creek is a Riparian area, fresh water where trees grow, these trees hold back a wall of water full of large brush and trash that is caught in it's branches, volunteers yearly attempt to clear the mess out, repeating this wasteful energy, there are better ways. We must work to improve and protect these areas.

Audubon and UCSD has been working the land, marsh, endangered animals and brings this corner of NATURE to the public and educating tens of thousands who will be the next protectors of Nature.

We live in one of the few biospheres, the riches, most diverse areas of the planet. We need to take this RESPONSIBILITY seriously and protect it, improve it, and make sure many generations have the opportunity to learn from this amazing corner of NATURE. NATURE IS WHAT IS GOING TO SAVE US< YES THE PLANET. Thank you for representing us. Laurie Carlock, volunteer and friend of Rose Creek.

Sent from my iPad

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Burch, Tyler](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 8:10:15 AM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 08:10

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Craig Jones

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: Ca

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 3

Comments::

Strongly support! As a volunteer for the Urban Collaborative Project CDC, we are ready to implement street trees projects. Please see the pilot project workup for Chollas View sent by email to you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23821

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SD Council Committee](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] USFWS statement for Environment Committee Meeting 1 pm March 14, 2024
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 10:55:30 AM
Attachments: [FWSProposal_DRAFT.pdf](#)

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

Good morning,

The following statement will be presented today by Ms. Sandy Vissman at the City of San Diego Environment Committee meeting:

- As a representative of the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), we appreciate the City's efforts to expand native habitat in the northeast corner of Mission Bay.
- Habitat restoration meets the Service mission to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.
- For over a decade, the Service has been actively engaged in facilitating habitat restoration in northeast Mission Bay consistent with the City's Mission Bay Park Master Plan in part, to offset the historic loss and current underrepresentation of habitat compared to active recreation and commercial development in Mission Bay. Only 2 percent, or 82 acres of the historic 4,000-acre mosaic of wetlands habitat within Mission Bay, still exist and it occurs at the west side of the De Anza Natural project area. Our Coastal Program provided funding and technical assistance to restored habitat at the Kendal Frost Marsh Reserve and to complete the ReWild Mission Bay Wetland Feasibility Study.
- The Service is concerned that the proposed De Anza Natural Amendment to the Master Plan in its current form would weaken the existing Master Plan recommendations benefitting water quality, habitat for wildlife, and habitat-oriented recreation.
- Namely, we are concerned that the Amendment proposes filling of open water for non-wetland habitat, does not include a mechanism for maintaining wetlands as sea level rises, weakens existing guidelines for habitat buffers, and fails to identify specific locations for habitat-oriented recreation.
- In addition, the Service is concerned that the Amendment lacks the detailed information needed for a complete review and does not provide for Wildlife Agency review and concurrence for future projects tiering off the Amendment when the detailed information will be available.
- Although the Service continues to recommend the adoption of either the "ReWild Wildest" or "Wetlands Optimized" alternative, we have drafted and shared with the City suggested revisions to the De Anza Amendment to address our outstanding concerns and facilitate a resolution. These revisions are illustrated in this map (at the meeting we would show the map). To summarize:
 1. Fill should not be placed in open water or wetlands to create non-wetland habitat.
 2. Given the absence of project-level details in the Amendment and associated Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), the Wildlife Agencies

should have the opportunity review and concur with future projects tiering off the Amendment prior to City approval.

3. To ensure the persistence of wetlands in Mission Bay as sea level rises, the De Anza Peninsula should be designed with gradual contours and permit only infrastructure that will not be protected and will be removed to facilitate upward migration of wetlands with sea level rise.
 4. Designate habitats located east of Rose Creek for passive recreation or compatible uses, such as hiking, jogging, resting, birdwatching, rowing, and canoeing. Designate limited access within habitats west of Rose Creek to provide an area for wildlife relatively free of human disturbance.
 5. Require minimum 100-foot buffers between wetlands and open water and adjacent land uses, consistent with the City's Biological Guidelines.
 6. Require that all night lighting be directed away and/or shielded from native habitat such that native habitat is not illuminated.
- In summary, the Service requests that the Environmental Committee only approve the Amendment after our recommendations are incorporated. We are available and prepared to collaborate in person with the City to resolve our concerns and maintain the vision of the existing Master Plan.

thank you,

Anita Eng

Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

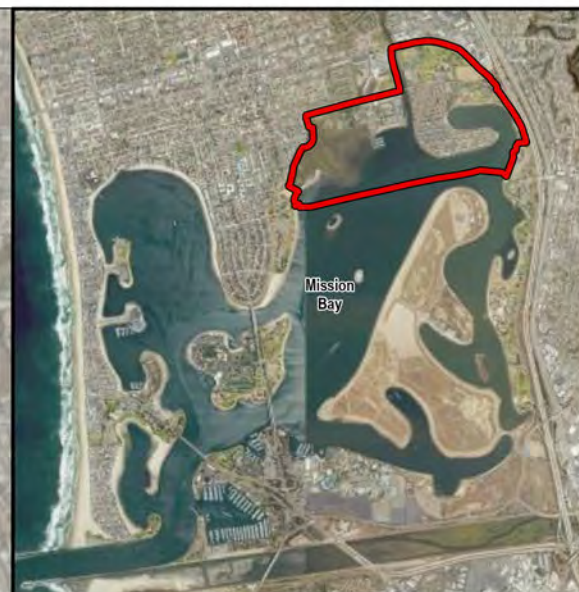
(she/her)

**Please email to schedule a call or meeting if needed.*



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

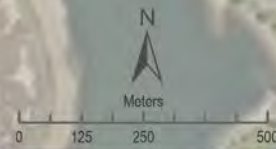
FWS Proposal - De Anza Natural Amendment



- Project Area
- UC Reserve Facilities
- Wetlands
- Upland
- Active Recreation
- Boat Facilities/Clubhouse
- Open Beach
- Regional Parklands
- Habitat-Oriented Recreation
- Low Cost Visitor Accommodations - Tent Camping
- Low Cost Visitor Accommodations - RV Camping
- Channel
- Nature Based Shoreline

DRAFT

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office
 2215 Salk Avenue, Suite 25C
 San Carlos, CA 95060
 (760) 711-9400
 Date: 3/5/2024
 System: Gabby\De Anza Natural\De Anza\De Anza.aprx



From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 11:48:14 AM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 11:48

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Lesley Handa

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: Discussion Item 4 - De Anza Natural Amendment to the Mission Bay Park Master Plan

Comments::

I would like to recognize the City of San Diego's receptiveness to prioritizing wildlife and the natural environment. We are grateful to the City of San Diego for protecting the wildlife at Point La Jolla. I monitor the area for birds monthly and these efforts have provided much-needed undisturbed habitat for wildlife including Birds of conservation concern, Western Gull and Heerman's Gull.

We hope the Environment Committee will continue to prioritize wildlife and nature. Per numerous studies and reports produced by scientists that provide guidance, we need to adequately prepare for Climate Change as wetlands will be lost to sea level rise. Most of Mission Bay is a waterpark, but it continues to support a biodiversity of birds rivaling San Diego Bay and it is crucial to plan now to sustain future habitat. For Federal and state endangered Ridgway's Rail and State Endangered Belding's Savannah Sparrow that only live in mid-level marsh habitat, this situation is dire. The decisions you make now are crucial to the future existence of these species and I urge you to plan for maximum wetlands in Mission Bay to help ensure these species are around in the future. Thank you.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23865

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 11:43:33 AM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 11:43

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Meinrat Andreae
City:: La Jolla
State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14
Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment
Agenda Item Number: ITEM-4: De Anza Natural Amendment to the Mission Bay Park
Master Plan

Comments::

Strong priority should be given to restore and expand natural wetland area in the De Anza region. This is essential for carbon storage, biodiversity, nature-based recreation, sea-level rise protection, and other environmental benefits.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23864

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 11:59:03 AM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 11:58

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Tracey Andreae

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: La Jolla

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

I support the restoration and expansion of the wetlands in the De Anza Cove area of Mission Bay. Wetlands are a very important habitat and it is worth remembering that Mission Bay was once a tidal march wetland, all of it.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23870

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Kessler, Natalie](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 12:36:19 PM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 12:36

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Charlie Nieto

Email: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: Item 4

Comments::

Over the past decade, the Pacific Beach Town Council has listened to the voices of its constituents and the broader community on the De Anza Cove issue. It is clear to everyone involved that plans for the northeast corner of Mission Bay Park will have major consequences for local stakeholders, San Diego residents, and tourists from near and far.

The Pacific Beach Town Council acknowledges the importance of preserving the natural resources and habitat in the De Anza Cove area of Mission Bay Park. As our city government pursues its overarching goal to combat climate change, we know that wetlands are one of the useful tools in doing so.

Our organization must also emphasize the immense value and crucial role the Bob McEvoy Youth Athletic Fields has in our community. Participation in youth sports provides immediate and long-term physical and mental health benefits for youth, their families, and communities. The youth of Pacific Beach, Clairemont and La Jolla share these athletic fields year-round for team baseball, softball, Little League, T-Ball, and soccer. The public tennis courts share space with pickle ball enthusiasts, and the golf course is used by residents from all over San Diego County both day and night, thanks to its lighting.

As advocates for our community, the Pacific Beach Town Council board of directors unanimously advise the Environment Committee and the City of San Diego to preserve the existing recreational facilities. Furthermore, for the health and well-being of all San Diegans, the PBTC strongly encourages the city to expand, not decrease active recreational spaces in Mission Bay Park.

Sincerely,

Charlie Nieto
President
Pacific Beach Town Council

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 1:06:43 PM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 13:06

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Susan Crowers

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: Item 4

Comments::

There is no doubt, it is important to protect the natural habitat and improve bay water quality with the De Anza Natural proposed project, but it's just as important to protect active recreation opportunities for residents of all ages in Pacific Beach and the surrounding communities who use these facilities. Participation in youth sports provides immediate and long-term physical and mental health benefits for youth, their families, and the community. The youth of Pacific Beach, Clairemont and La Jolla share the very cramped Bob McEvoy athletic fields year-round for baseball, softball, Little League, T-Ball, and soccer. The public tennis courts share space with pickle ball enthusiasts, and the golf course is used by residents from all over San Diego County both day and night, thanks to its lighting.

Pacific Beach will experience a population increase of 22,000+ residents along the Mission Bay Drive and Morena Blvd corridors immediately adjacent to this part of the park. Now is the time to not only protect, but to look for opportunities to enhance and expand active recreation and regional parklands for current and future residents and visitors. Dedicated active recreation land and sports facilities in Pacific Beach are but a fraction of what we see in other San Diego communities. We don't have a public (or high school) swimming pool, no skate park, and a bike path that abruptly ends when it hits the De Anza Natural project area. It's a fantastic shared us pathway around the entire bay, but not in this one relatively small section of PB. Our community deserves better. There are many varied and worthy interests vying for their fair share of the De Anza "pie" but I think recreation and our children's physical and mental health should be a top priority.

Thank you for listening and responding to the needs of residents while looking to preserve the natural resources of the De Anza Cove area.

Sincerely,

Susan Crowers
Volunteer and Director

Pacific Beach Town Council

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23878

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 1:30:13 PM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 13:30

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Patrick
Email:: Macpherson
City:: San Diego
State:: CA

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14
Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment
Agenda Item Number: 4

Comments::

Great Ecology is a habitat restoration firm representing Campland, with our main office in San Diego. We create habitats primarily in urban settings and we've consulted on and built dozens of projects in highly altered environments, including Port of San Diego's wetland mitigation bank in South San Diego Bay. Our guiding principles are based on bringing people to nature in urban settings. We have never felt it necessary to exclude people from experiencing nature.

Although the Amendment has been updated to clarify that allowable access for watercraft will be developed during the GDP process following analysis and public input, the Amendment still disallows access of motorized watercraft in De Anza Cove. The wetlands are proposed directly adjacent to an area that is already heavily used by campers and RVers. Although many elements of wetlands can be created or restored in an urban context, the proposed wetlands in de Anza Cove will never become pristine wetlands. In this case, we're talking about habitat in the single largest recreational waterbody in the eighth largest city in the United States. If the goal is to create urban wetlands that cannot be designed to handle modest boat wake, the project is destined to fail.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23884

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 2:03:57 PM

Submitted on Thu, 03/14/2024 - 14:03

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Kurt William Carlson, Municipal Golf Committee, Chairman

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: San Diego

State:: California

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-14

Comment Type: Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

Agenda Item Number: Item 4 - De Anza Cove Amendment

Comments::

2 major design issues of concern: 1-The 100' Landscape buffer along Rose Creek will negatively change MB Golf Course. 2-The pedestrian pathway along the north and east of Golf course will be a hazard and reduce size of the successfully profitable practice range. The Golf course has averaged over \$1M/year in net profits and contributed over half a million to General Fund the last 3 yrs. Please don't change course design as this would be catastrophic to thousands of golfers, young and old. It's vital to provide affordable and accessible public golf and active recreation for San Diego and recognize its societal, environmental and recreational benefits of MBGC.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/23888

From: [Zachary Zeilman](#)
To: [Councilmember Jennifer Campbell](#); [CouncilMember Marni von Wilpert](#); [CouncilMember Joe LaCava](#); [SD Council Committee](#)
Cc: [Climate Change San Diego](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support the Wildest Version of De Anza Natural Plan
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 12:01:36 PM

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Zack Zeilman
[REDACTED]

San Diego, CA 92107
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

March 14, 2024

Dear Councilmember Campbell, Von Wilpert, and Council President Pro-Tem LaCava,

I am writing to you as a resident of the City of San Diego, representative of the Surfrider San Diego Climate Change Committee, and a supporter of the ReWild Mission Bay project regarding the urgent need for wetlands restoration in Mission Bay and improvements to the De Anza Natural Plan. As someone who deeply values our local environment and the biodiversity it supports, I find it crucial to address these matters promptly and effectively.

Preserve and restore Mission Bay wetlands because they:

serve as a critical habitat for a wide variety of wildlife,
improve water quality,
sequester carbon and are required by the Climate Action Plan,
can reconnect Native American communities to their shoreline,
provide flood protection, and
Are brand new recreational opportunities in the park .

Furthermore, the De Anza Natural Plan presents an opportunity to make lasting improvements to our community's natural spaces. I urge the committee to consider the following actions to improve upon the De Anza Natural Plan:

Develop a speedy restoration timeline
Implement wildest (**most**) wetland acreage that increase wildlife habitat and native biodiversity

Create soft shorelines that respond to sea level rise and flood risk

There is so much bad news about our relationship with the environment and our impact on the world, but ReWild Mission Bay represents a positive, forward-thinking action that we can take as a community—it'll literally improve our health. The restoration of Mission Bay's wetlands and the improvement of the De Anza Natural Plan are critical steps toward restoring our natural heritage, meeting the goals of the Climate Action Plan, and fostering a sustainable future for San Diego. I am hopeful that with your leadership and commitment, we can achieve these goals together.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter. I am eager to see our city take bold steps toward environmental stewardship and sustainability. Please feel free to contact me if you require further information or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Zack Zeilman
Climate Change Committee Lead
Surfrider San Diego Chapter

From: [Joana Guerra](#)
To: [CouncilMember Joe LaCava](#); [Councilmember Jennifer Campbell](#); [CouncilMember Marni von Wilpert](#); [SD Council Committee](#)
Cc: [Climate Change San Diego](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support the Wildest Version of De Anza Natural Plan
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 12:29:10 PM

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

Joana Guerra

[REDACTED]

San Diego, CA 92104

[REDACTED]

March 14, 2024

Dear Councilmember Campbell, Von Wilpert, and Council President Pro-Tem LaCava,

I am writing to you as a born and raised resident of the City of San Diego and a supporter of the ReWild Mission Bay project regarding the urgent need for wetlands restoration in Mission Bay and improvements to the De Anza Natural Plan. As someone who deeply values our local environment and the biodiversity it supports, I find it crucial to address these matters promptly and effectively.

Preserve and restore Mission Bay wetlands because they:

- serve as a critical habitat for a wide variety of wildlife,
- improve water quality,
- sequester carbon and are required by the Climate Action Plan,
- can reconnect Indigenous communities to their shoreline,
- provide flood protection, and
- are brand new recreational opportunities in the park.

Furthermore, the De Anza Natural Plan presents an opportunity to make lasting improvements to our community's natural spaces. I urge the committee to consider the following actions to improve upon the De Anza Natural Plan:

- develop a speedy restoration timeline
- implement wildest (most) wetland acreage that increase wildlife habitat and native biodiversity
- create soft shorelines that respond to sea level rise and flood risk.

There is so much bad news about our relationship with the environment and our impact on the world, but ReWild Mission Bay represents a positive, forward-thinking action that we can take as a community—it'll literally improve our health. The restoration of Mission Bay's wetlands and the improvement of the De Anza Natural Plan are critical steps toward restoring our natural heritage, meeting the goals of the Climate Action Plan, and fostering a sustainable future for San Diego. I am hopeful that with your leadership and commitment, we can achieve these goals together.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter. I am eager to see our City take bold steps toward environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Sincerely,

Joana Guerra | San Diego Chapter Manager | [Surfrider Foundation](#)

[REDACTED]

she/her/ella ([What's this?](#)) | Amiga del océano

From: [Kurt Carlson](#)
To: [SD Council Committee](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] De Anza Cove Amendment
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 2:10:57 PM

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

2 major design issues of major concern:

1-The 100' Landscape buffer along Rose Creek will negatively change MB Golf Course.

2-The pedestrian pathway along the north and east of Golf course will be a hazard and reduce size of the successfully profitable practice range. The Golf course has averaged over \$1M/year in net profits and contributed over half a million to General Fund the last 3 yrs. Please don't change course design as this would be catastrophic to thousands of golfers, young and old. It's vital to provide affordable and accessible public golf and active recreation for San Diego and recognize its societal, environmental and recreational benefits of MBGC.

Kurt Carlson, Chair
San Diego Municipal Golf Committee

From: [Kurt Carlson](#)
To: [SD Council Committee](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] De Anza Cove Amendment, Item #4, Webinar ID: 160 670 8143#
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 4:57:32 PM

This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. La Cava,

Remember your promise to golf stakeholders last year and maintain the MB golf course as is. Please add a clause in the policy language to not disrupt this historic City Treasure of active recreation and programs that supports tens of thousands of golfers, schools, seniors and tourism for San Diego.

The San Diego Municipal Golf Committee is agreeable to the amendment, except that there is no guarantee that MBGC will be left untouched. The GDP and community process could allow the course to be expensively modified, esp by Rose Creek buffer and the proposed community pedestrian trails. The site plan proposes a creek buffer along Rose Creek reducing the ballfields and tennis courts by 100', which could push them directly east into the MB golf course. The trails will also affect the driving range practice area that is now attracting thousands of golfers weekly and generating tons of revenue with over 95k rounds per year. These plan options will reduce the golf course and should not be considered a plan enhancement.

In addition, the plan shows north and east pedestrian pathways ON THE GOLF COURSE and driving range, which is seriously hazardous for pedestrians and a city liability.

Mission Bay golf course just finished its \$13M remodel and its net revenue has increased to over \$1M/year in profits which provides over a half million dollars a year to the City's General Fund for the last 3 years.

Thank you.

Kurt Carlson, Chair
San Diego Municipal Golf Course

From: [Dynes, Ann](#)
To: [Kurt Carlson](#); [SD Council Committee](#); [CouncilMember Joe LaCava](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: De Anza Cove Amendment, Item #4, Webinar ID: 160 670 8143#
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 5:07:57 PM

****This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.****

Thank you for your assurance about existing active recreation preservation just now in your end of meeting remarks, Joe. I have listened to your committee since 1 pm and thank you for your service and for your understanding of the importance of the golf course. All the best!

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From: Kurt Carlson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2024 4:57:25 PM
To: CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov <CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov>
Subject: De Anza Cove Amendment, Item #4, Webinar ID: 160 670 8143#

Dear Mr. La Cava,

Remember your promise to golf stakeholders last year and maintain the MB golf course as is. Please add a clause in the policy language to not disrupt this historic City Treasure of active recreation and programs that supports tens of thousands of golfers, schools, seniors and tourism for San Diego.

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Mission Bay golf course just finished its \$13M remodel and its net revenue has increased to over \$1M/year in profits which provides over a half million dollars a year to the City's General Fund for the last 3 years.

Thank you.

Kurt Carlson, Chair
San Diego Municipal Golf Course

From: [SDGov Webmaster](#)
To: [Jordan, Sarah](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Environment Committee Public Comment Form
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2024 6:38:31 PM

Submitted on Sun, 03/24/2024 - 18:38

Submitted values are:

Contact Info

Name:: Michael wells

Email:: [REDACTED]

City:: Apple valley

State:: Ca

Meeting Info

Meeting Date:: 2024-03-24

Comment Type: Non-Agenda Comment

Comments::

Dear City of San Diego Environment Committee Members,

On behalf of our family and friends who camp annually at Campland on the Bay and hold our own "Easter Bash," I am writing in support of Campland On the Bay as a great space for community events and group camping opportunities.

This local treasure is a space where we create irreplaceable memories and share them year round. It's an especially healthy and unique natural environment for our kids and teenagers to safely enjoy the outdoors and bond with family.

Campland On the Bay is a fantastic community resource and a special place for us, and we look forward to continuing our traditions for many years to come. Please support Campland's continued existence on the Bay and all the recreational activities our family loves.

Sincerely,

Michael Wells

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/admin/structure/webform/manage/webform_1033493/submission/25361

LOCAL NEWS

Hundreds of people sue San Diego over January floods, saying it 'absolutely failed' to manage stormwater

In a \$100 million lawsuit, residents say city leaders knew for years that Chollas Creek and stormwater infrastructure around it were in urgent need of attention



Ana Ramirez

San Diego, CA – January 23: Greg Montoya, 68, heads inside his home to clean after heavy rain Monday caused flooding near Birch and Una Streets in Southcrest on Jan.



By **EMILY ALVARENGA** | emily.alvarenga@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune and **MAURA FOX** | Maura.Fox@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune
UPDATED: May 9, 2024 at 3:22 AM PDT

After yearslong battles with the city of San Diego over crumbling stormwater infrastructure in their southeastern San Diego neighborhoods, hundreds of people whose homes and businesses were damaged by flash flood waters in January are now suing the city.

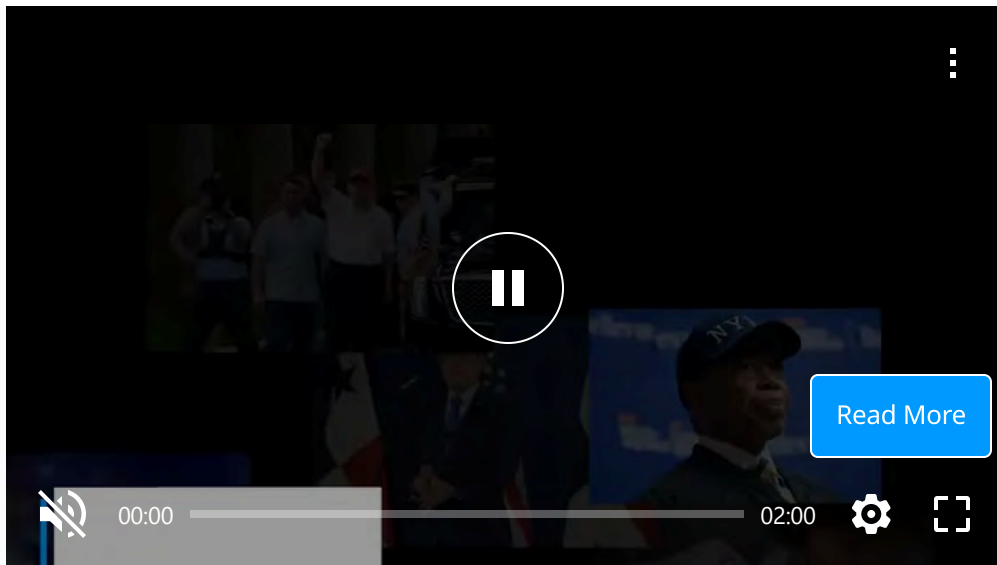
The \$100 million mass tort lawsuit has nearly 300 plaintiffs — homeowners and renters as well as business owners in the communities of Southcrest, Logan Heights and others along the Chollas Creek watershed.

The lawsuit contends that city leaders have known for years that the creek and stormwater infrastructure around it are in urgent need of attention.

“The city of San Diego failed in its duty to protect communities from flooding,” reads the complaint, filed Monday in San Diego Superior Court.

It says the city knew for years that its storm drains were clogged full of vegetation, sediment and debris and therefore “created a destructive state of affairs and absolutely failed their residents.”

It also contends that despite [years of warnings](#), the city failed to take the steps necessary to avoid flooding or increase stormwater revenue in the past two decades.



And it notes that the city's stormwater system makes up [the biggest share](#) of its infrastructure backlog. A city report from earlier this year found that stormwater needs had grown to [more than \\$2.2 billion](#) over the next five years — a figure higher than [the city's entire proposed annual budget](#).

The city itself has said that absent billions of dollars in new spending, the outdated and underfunded stormwater system “poses a risk of flooding and catastrophic failure,” city officials wrote in a [report](#) published earlier this year.

The city attorney's office declined to comment Wednesday on the pending litigation.

“The heart of that complaint is the clogging of Chollas Creek, which the city has known about for some time as a problem,” said Evan Walker, one of the five lawyers representing plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Walker said his office, along with contractors and appraisers, have been assessing the storm destruction since January to calculate the total cost of damages.

The suit he filed on behalf of flood victims lists six causes of action, ranging from negligence to creation of a dangerous condition for public property.

This isn't the first time the city has had to defend its aging flood-control network. Walker sued the city on behalf of some of the same residents after the same channel overflowed in 2018 and caused some of properties on Beta

That suit accused the city of not only knowing about but helping to create the failures that caused the flooding. It pointed to a concrete channel the city built to direct storm runoff from Chollas Creek but allowed to remain clogged, as well as an embankment above the channel that directed stormwater toward homes.

Residents eventually accepted just over \$200,000 to resolve the lawsuit. But the settlement did not require the city to correct the problem.

The events of 2018 were “more or less the same” as what residents experienced in January, Walker said, but the biggest difference “is the sheer magnitude of the damages and that people affected” in this year’s storms.

The 2019 case only had a handful of plaintiffs. But now, some of those who previously settled are suing the city again, under different causes of action.

Greg Montoya, a plaintiff in both lawsuits, said he watched in despair as his block was inundated once again — this time much more extensively — after the bridge at 38th Street, just upstream from his home, was clogged with debris.

“The bridge acted like a dam, and water couldn’t get through — so it overflowed, blew out all the fencing along the creek and started flooding down the street,” Montoya said. “It was a mess.”

At least 3 feet of water destroyed most of his belongings, and he has since been living in a hotel through [the county’s hotel voucher program](#) while he repairs his home.

Since the first lawsuit, Montoya says he’s kept pestering the city, sending numerous emails and reports via the city’s online Get It Done problem-reporting app in an effort to clear the storm drains.

“They just continue to show that they have a lack of interest in this area,” he said.

He hopes he and other flood victims are compensated for their losses but also that the city will implement a plan to fix the stormwater system. “I hope this time they take it more seriously and get something done,” he said.

Meanwhile, city leaders are working to close the stormwater infrastructure funding deficit with [a proposed parcel tax increase](#). The tax measure, which city officials hope to put on the November ballot, would raise anywhere from \$74 million to \$474 million a year for flood prevention and water quality projects.

The goal is to eliminate a [\\$1.6 billion shortfall](#) in the funding needed to complete crucial flood prevention and stormwater infrastructure improvements over the next five years — a gap that's grown so wide in part because the city's stormwater fee is only a small fraction of what other cities charge.

Should the tax hike appear on the November ballot and win approval from voters, it would mark the first such fee increase since Proposition 218 began requiring support from two-thirds of voters back in 1996.

San Diego's existing stormwater fee is about 95 cents per house each month — far less than the \$10 per month that city officials say is the true cost of what San Diego must do to prevent floods and water pollution.

Despite the funding struggles, city officials have suggested the January floods were unavoidable. In a February [press conference](#), city stormwater director Todd Snyder said the creek channel behind Beta Street wasn't designed to handle such an intense storm and would have been overwhelmed even if it had been maintained.

The city may also face more legal claims to come. Other residents like Gerardo Hernandez who aren't plaintiffs in the suit say they plan to pursue legal action of their own.

"Every person lost different amounts of money and property," Hernandez said. "So it's better to (sue) individually."

Hernandez has also been living at a hotel through the county's temporary lodging program after his Beta Street home flooded, and says he has been dealing with pain in his legs and hips since standing in cold water for five and a half hours the day of the flood.

In preparing to sue, he has been making a list of everything he lost, from toenail clippers to Christmas decorations to five vehicles. It's currently at 18

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LOCAL NEWS

Four months after the flood | San Diego residents still digging their way out of disaster

CBS 8 looks back at the January 22, 2024 flood, the slow recovery, and the work that still needs to be done.

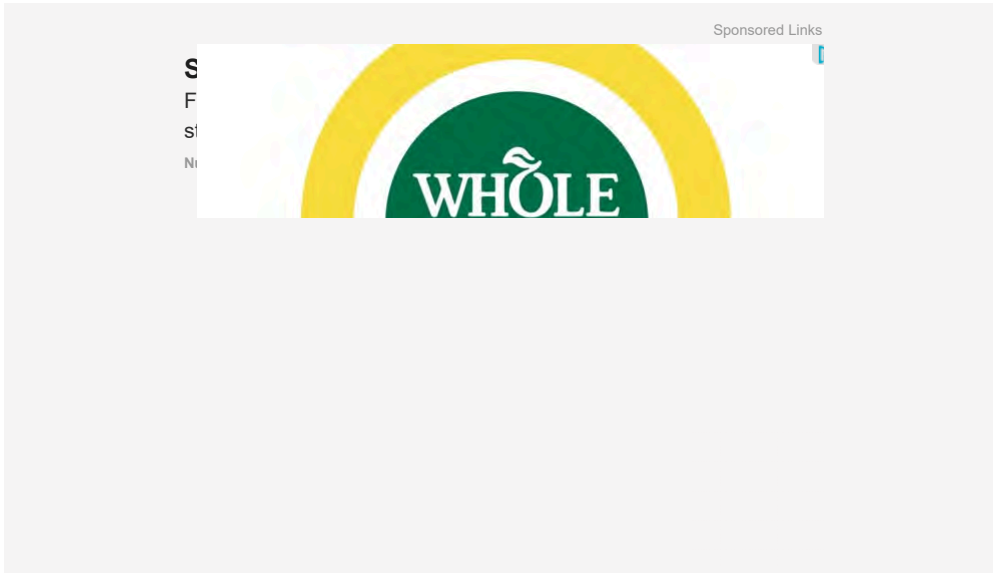


Author: CBS 8 Staff
 Published: 5:27 PM PDT May 21, 2024
 Updated: 7:27 AM PDT May 24, 2024



SAN DIEGO — Four months have passed since floodwaters from a [freak storm](#) inundated the unmaintained Chollas View Storm Channel, sending rushing water into neighborhoods, and destroying nearly everything in its path.

For hundreds of San Diegans, January 22nd was a life-altering day. Some lost cars, some lost possessions, while others lost their homes.



Within a matter of hours, the San Diego Fire Department conducted nearly 200 swift water rescues, residents reported damage to approximately 1,000 homes and businesses.

On the four-month anniversary of the unprecedented flood, CBS 8 looks back at the destruction and speaks to neighbors who despite being frustrated by aspects of the relief efforts forge ahead to fight their way back from disaster.

WATCH: Woman who lost 4 cars in January flood gives update on insurance claims, attorney gives update on class action lawsuit

Woman who lost 4 cars in January flood gives update on insurance claims

A rectangular placeholder for a video, containing a red play button icon in the center.

January 22, 2024: Day of the storm

Weather forecasters predicted a heavy rain storm would land in San Diego on January 22.

On January 21 at 1 pm, forecasters from the National Weather Service issued an official flood-watch flood watch.

The National Weather Service issued a flash-flood warning for South San Diego at 9:34 am on January 22, cautioning local officials and residents that flooding is "expected to begin shortly."

Related Articles

[Rain floods homes in Mountain View](#)

[What is the wettest day recorded in the city of San Diego's history?](#)

[Residents sound off to San Diego Mayor about lack of flood channel maintenance](#)

From 10:07 am to 12:07 pm, the storm stalled over South San Diego and portions of Lemon Grove, Spring Valley, and South La Mesa, dropping 3.15 inches of rain in two hours.

Many residents of San Diego neighborhoods, such as Mountain View, Encanto, Valencia Park, Shelltown, Southcrest, and Lincoln Park knew full well to take any major rain event seriously.

WATCH: Above San Diego | Southeastern San Diego - After the flood (Jan 23)

Above San Diego | Southeastern San Diego - After the flood



The South San Diego communities were prone to flooding. Situated in a low-lying flood plain, residents rely on the Chollas Creek Storm Channel to usher stormwater from Spring Valley west to San Diego Bay.

The storm channel, however, has failed before.

In 2018 a group of Encanto residents sued the city after their homes were flooded during a 2018 rain storm - the city settled the lawsuit in 2018.

Despite the settlement, the flooding in South San Diego persisted. Residents told CBS 8 that they would repeatedly call the city before any rain event to request that they clear the densely vegetated Chollas Creek channel.

ChatGPT explained: what is it and why is it important?

ChatGPT Explained

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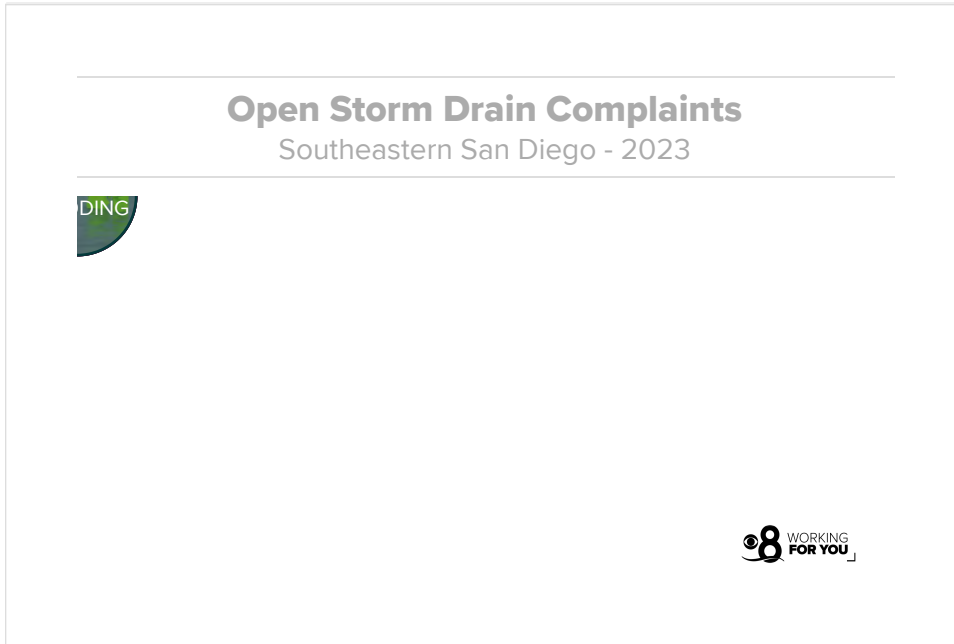
Ahead of the January 22 storm, was no different.

“We asked them to clean that channel out. It's full of debris up there. We got trees going in there. Those trees are growing in the flood channel,” Robert Banks, a homeowner on 42nd Street, told CBS 8 in the days after the January 22 flood.

In fact, CBS 8 discovered that residents requested that city crews clear out the channel on several occasions in the months and years leading up to the historic rain event.



1 of 3



Still picking up the pieces

Fast forward four months later and hundreds of San Diego residents find themselves with few answers.

While some wait for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help with repairs, others are now looking to sue the city to pay for their losses.

[CBS 8 first reported](#) on a class action lawsuit that 270 residents filed against the city for its failure to maintain the channel.

The complaint alleges that the city was aware that the cost to maintain and improve San Diego's aging stormwater system outpaced revenue. Yet, despite this, the city, according to the complaint, took "little to no action to develop and pursue a long-term funding strategy," causing what attorneys say was a "moderate inflow of failures into a deluge of need."

The city will soon face additional legal challenges.

Through a series of public records requests, CBS 8 has obtained more than two dozen tort claims, also referred to as precursors to lawsuits, over damages they suffered during the January 22 flood.

"I don't want, nor should I have to, take out another loan to replace my losses, my loss of income, my pain and suffering and anguish," reads a claim from one resident on 37th Street who had more than \$145,000 in damages to his home, his work truck and his tools. "I lived at

this address for 50-plus years, and we had water over the curb before...this was beyond comprehension, it is a wonder there wasn't loss of life in this area. This is a disgrace I need help."



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Heart doctor urges aging seniors to be careful

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10 "Ridiculous" Veteran Perks (See Full List)

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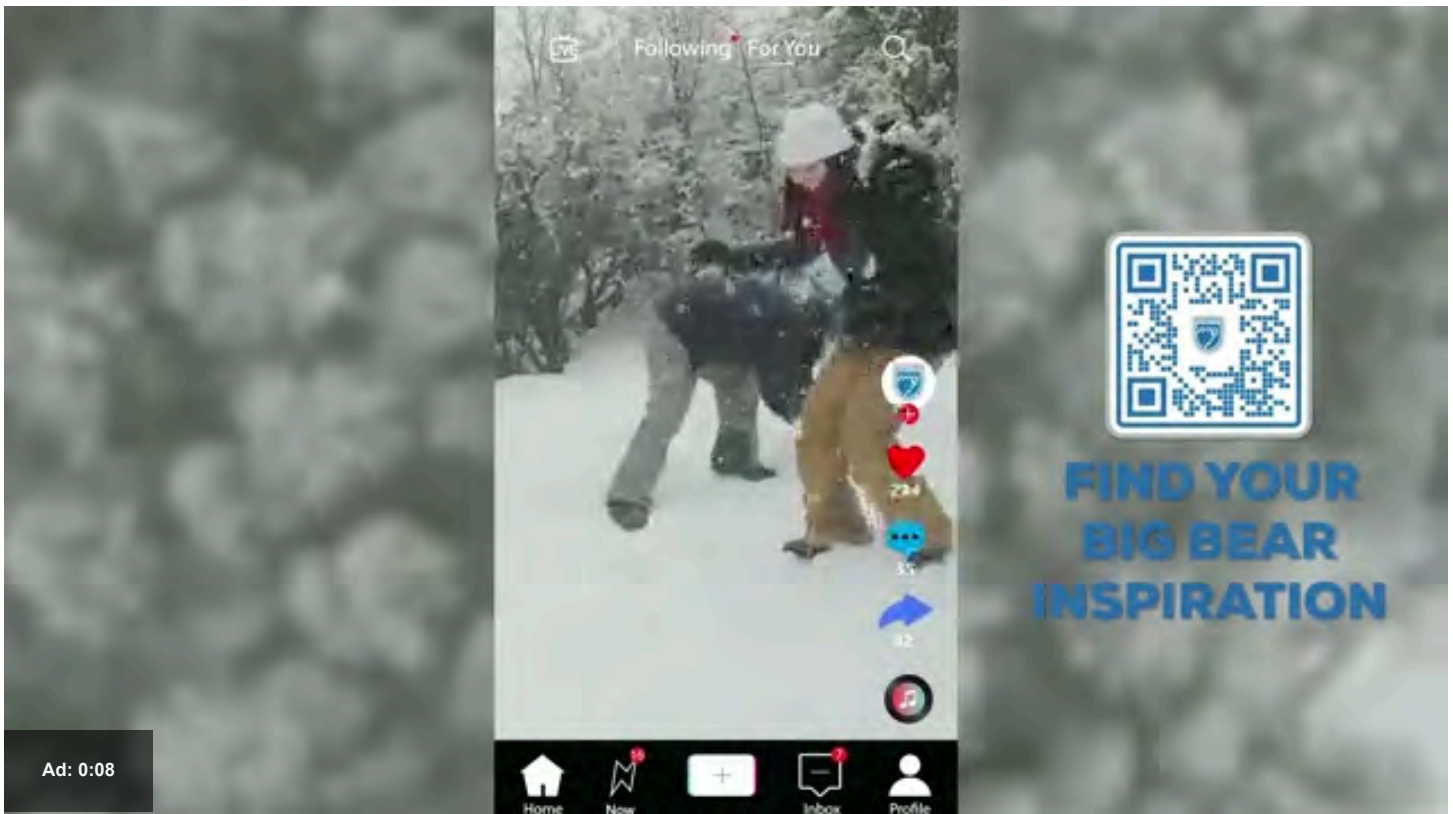


SAN DIEGO

700+ flood victims sue City of San Diego, alleging it failed to maintain Chollas Creek

"We all knew that the heavy rains were coming, and whether it was that day or it was going to be another day, the system was going to fail," the executive director of Alliance San Diego, one of the plaintiffs, said

By **Shelby Bremer** • Published September 11, 2024 • Updated on September 12, 2024 at 5:43 pm



Eight months after historic flooding tore through parts of San Diego, more than 700 people have filed a lawsuit alleging the city failed to maintain Chollas Creek. NBC 7's Shelby Bremer reports.

More than 700 people have joined a lawsuit against the City of San Diego, claiming it failed to maintain Chollas Creek ahead of the historic January rainfall, which they allege made the flooding far more devastating.


[Watch News 24/7](#)

“This is the story of the City of San Diego neglecting its maintenance obligations in the Chollas Creek channel and flooding thousands of south San Diegans—destroying their lives, homes, and businesses,” the suit reads.

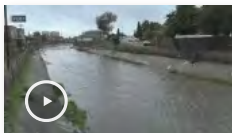
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The suit alleges before the rain of Jan. 22, the city knew Chollas Creek posed a flooding risk and must be maintained.

“Yet the City deliberately ignored these facts,” the suit reads. “Rather than perform preventative maintenance on the Channel to clear vegetation, sediment, and trash, the City only performed maintenance after the Channel overflowed. Rather than invest taxpayer dollars in infrastructure improvements and maintenance plans, the City moved funds dedicated to its stormwater infrastructure to less urgent projects.”

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Second group of January flood victims sues city of San Diego

The city does not comment on pending litigation. This latest lawsuit is one of several filed against the city in the wake of the floods, which attorneys anticipate will be combined into one complaint.

The lawsuit includes more than 700 plaintiffs, including two families who lost loved ones in the floods – bringing wrongful death claims – and several who have yet to be return home, still rebuilding nearly eight months later.

"The city failed to take routine, practical maintenance and actually keep these channels open and actually keep these channels open that would protect the folks of south San Diego," said attorney Domenic Martini, who filed the suit.

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"When the city failed to maintain Chollas Creek, it over grew with vegetation, with dirt and with sediment and debris, and it backed up into the rest of the infrastructure that was connected to it," Martini said. "And so ultimately, the city dammed the end of the channel, causing everything up in the higher elevation areas to build up and to overflow, to flood these folks."

One of the plaintiffs is Alliance San Diego, a nonprofit community organization whose new Barrio Logan office was damaged by the floods.

"It was devastating. We just bought this building," Andrea Guerrero, Alliance San Diego executive director, said. "We have to work hard to raise every dollar that we receive."

Guerrero said the organization had to halt its programming and services, was displaced for three months and has spent more than \$100,000 on repairs.

"The floods were not a natural disaster. They were a planning disaster," Guerrero said. "Let me be clear. We all knew that the heavy rains were coming, and whether it was that day or it was going to be another day, the system was going to fail. That's what the city knew, and that's what the city ignored."

Guerrero and Martini said the lawsuit is about recovering damages – but also an effort to push the city to create a plan so flooding like what happened in January never happens again.

"The city does not have a routine maintenance plan for these channels, particularly Chollas Creek," Martini said. "What happens is the city comes in whenever there's flooding, and they clear the channels, and they clear the vegetation, but they don't have any plan for in between those flooding events."

The more than 700 plaintiffs in this suit are seeking damages upwards of \$200 million, Martini said.

A status hearing on the suit is scheduled for Oct. 11.

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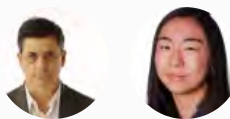
NEWS

What San Diego is – and isn't – doing to fix its 'failing' stormwater system

The city's outdated and underfunded stormwater infrastructure has left it vulnerable to the kinds of floods that ravaged southeastern communities last week

 City workers clear out debris in Chollas Creek

City workers clear out debris in Chollas Creek in Southcrest on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024. City workers have started clearing out the creek at South 38th Street and will work upstream. (Kristian Carreon / For The San Diego Union-Tribune)



By **JEFF MCDONALD** | jeff.mcdonald@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune and **KRISTEN TAKETA** |

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UPDATED: July 23, 2024 at 6:40 PM PDT

City leaders and others have known for years that the creek and stormwater infrastructure around it are in dramatic need of attention and that absent billions of dollars in new spending, the communities of Southcrest, Logan Heights and others along the channel that feeds San Diego Bay could seriously flood.

Year after year, city officials have outlined deficiencies in an outdated and underfunded stormwater system they describe as “failing.”

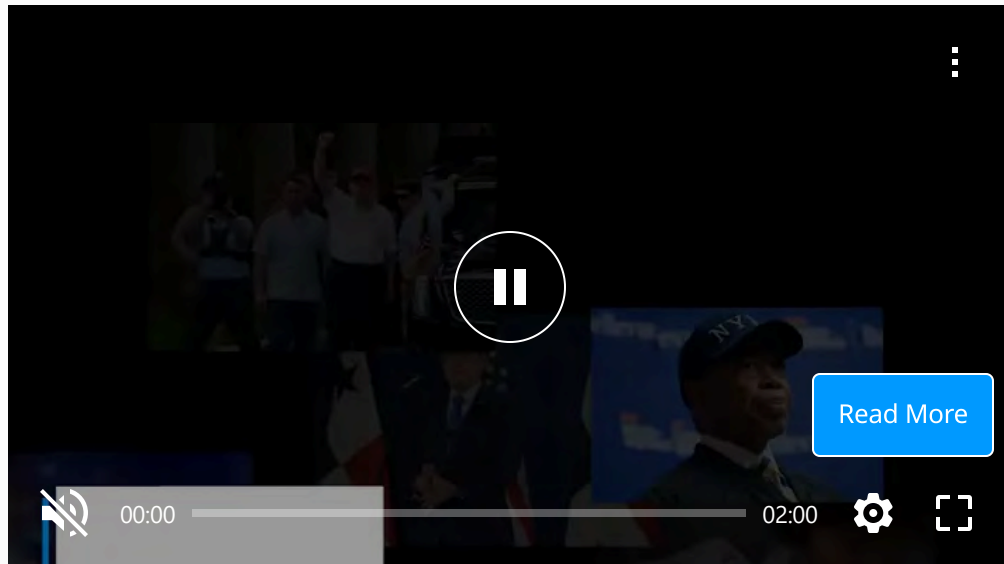
“The City’s stormwater infrastructure, most of which was built in the 20th Century, is past its useful life, resulting in system deterioration and failure,” city officials wrote in a 2022 infrastructure [report](#).

“Age, combined with deferred maintenance due to historic underfunding of the storm drain system, poses a risk of flooding and catastrophic failure,” city officials wrote in a [report](#) published earlier this month.

 A tree with garbage hanging on it is seen in Chollas Creek


A tree with garbage hanging on it is seen in Chollas Creek at Southcrest on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024. City workers began cleaning up the creek in response to flooding on Monday. (Kristian Carreon / For The San Diego Union-Tribune)

The backlog of projects aimed at shoring up the stormwater system is so extreme, it makes up the largest share of an infrastructure deficit that has swollen to more than \$5 billion — roughly equal to every dollar the city spends per year.



Quickly rising stormwater overran some of the city's neediest neighborhoods Monday, sending waves of mud and debris crashing into homes and dozens of residents fleeing to safety.

Many residents say Monday was far from the first time they have had flooding due to problems with the city's stormwater system. Now residents and advocates are calling for the city to do more to fix the system before future floods can bring repeat wreckage.

 Tenants stacked their personal items in the parking lot during the cleanup

Tenants stacked their personal items in the parking lot during the cleanup at an apartment complex on National Avenue in San Diego. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

Delays and backlogs

First developed more than a century ago, the city's network of pipes and drains is now old and outdated. It was built in a different time, when San Diego was far less densely urbanized and before climate change increased the severity and frequency of storms.

All told, the city needs some \$2.2 billion in stormwater upgrades over the next five years, according to a city infrastructure [report](#) released earlier this month. It doesn't have funding for at least \$1.6 billion of those identified needs.

That infrastructure need has ballooned over the years as needed projects go underfunded. In 2016, the city had estimated it would have \$416.2 million in stormwater capital needs from 2017 to 2022.

City officials say cost projections have risen over time because they are more comprehensively assessing their infrastructure than they have in the past, and a lot of what was built during the city's population boom of the 1950s and 1960s is now nearing the end of its lifespan.

[Last year](#), the stormwater department told elected officials that there were more than 1,000 known pipe failures that had yet to be addressed.


The failed pipes “pose (a) threat to health and safety,” the stormwater department said.

The city has approximately 200 segments of flood channels. Almost a third of them need “substantial maintenance,” the stormwater department wrote in a [report](#) to city councilmembers in November.

But the agency says it only gets enough money to maintain four segments a year.

Infrastructure failures contribute not just to flooding but to sinkholes, erosion and pollution in streets and alleys, the department said. They are also costly — infrastructure emergencies caused more than \$46 million in capital costs last fiscal year, [according to](#) the stormwater department.

Still, city leaders have repeatedly called Monday's atmospheric river a pounding so rare and severe that it would have overwhelmed any stormwater system, no matter how well-equipped.

 Garbage and other debris from Monday's flooding are seen piled up in Chollas Creek

Garbage and other debris from Monday's flooding are seen piled up in Chollas Creek in Southcrest on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024. City workers have started clearing out the creek at South 38th Street and will work upstream. (Kristian Carreon / For The San Diego Union-Tribune)

“Even a storm drain system that (was) designed to the golden standard today ... would have failed,” Kris McFadden, one of San Diego's deputy chief operating officers, said at a news conference Thursday.

Stormwater maintenance and capital projects are time-consuming, costly and full of bureaucratic hurdles to clear, McFadden added.

Flood channel projects take time to plan and carry out partly because they require multiple reviews and regulatory approval from several agencies, from state and federal wildlife agencies to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, officials said. The approval process takes years.

Not only do the actual projects have to be planned and conducted, but corresponding environmental mitigations must be conducted and paid for to offset the impacts of the channel projects. McFadden said.

McFadden noted on Thursday five stormwater construction projects starting this year, including upgrades in Southcrest Park and in Lomita. The projects are aimed at better controlling runoff and improving water quality. Two years ago, the city dredged the flood channel in Southcrest, he added.

McFadden said the city prioritizes which flood channel segments to upgrade first by considering public input and by measuring the risk, including which channels are most likely to fail and the extent of damage any failure might cause.

Last fiscal year, the city completed 22 stormwater capital projects, mostly storm drain repairs or replacements, [budget records](#) show. The current budget calls for beginning design and construction for 53 capital projects across the stormwater network this year — including a drain and channel upgrade along Beta Street, which flooded last week.

Flood-damage cleanup

Chronically underfunded

Problems with the stormwater system can largely be boiled down to one reason, officials have said: It doesn't get nearly enough funding.

The stormwater department gets only about a third of the money it needs on an annual basis, according to a November [report](#) from the department. It needs \$314 million annually on average, but it has a budget of only \$109 million.

In June 2018, then-City Auditor Eduardo Luna released a detailed report on San Diego's lagging stormwater system.

The 88-page performance audit spelled out deficiencies not only with the city's flood-control practices but with the fee structure that doesn't come close to generating the money needed to implement repairs.

San Diego charges single-family homes 95 cents a month to pay for stormwater costs — as little as one-tenth what other California cities charge for that service, the audit said. For multifamily and commercial customers, the fee is less than 7 cents per 100 cubic feet of water used.

“Current revenue sources are not sufficient to address storm water funding need,” the audit said.

Auditors also said the city should replace vulnerable pipes more quickly and write a plan to make improvements more efficiently. They made nine separate recommendations aimed at getting the needed upgrades prioritized and completed.

McFadden, the director of the city's Transportation and Storm Water Department at the time, agreed with all nine of the recommendations.

But even though city staff issued several proposals aimed at addressing the fixes and lapses in revenue, little has been done to increase the stormwater infrastructure fee, first put in place in 1996. The fee has not risen since.

McFadden and others blame California's Proposition 218, passed by California voters that same year. The so-called Right to Vote on Taxes Act requires a two-thirds majority vote before cities, school districts and other public agencies can impose special taxes.

“Proposition 218 has essentially frozen funding for stormwater management at 1996 levels,” [wrote](#) the California Stormwater Quality Association.

San Diego has not placed a stormwater fee increase before voters ever since.

Other local governments in California have successfully made the case to voters that spending on flood control is worth the investment.

In 2004, Los Angeles city voters passed a \$500 million bond to fund stormwater and clean-water projects. In 2018, Los Angeles County passed — on its second try — a stormwater tax increase of 2.5 cents per square foot of impervious surface. It generates \$280 million for projects a year.

Three years ago, San Diego officials [discussed](#) placing a stormwater tax measure on the ballot that was expected to raise about \$85 million a year. But they didn't pursue one after [survey results](#) suggested they might not receive the two-thirds voter approval needed for it to pass.

Instead, San Diego leaders have taken a different path toward securing money for managing stormwater — seeking grants and borrowing money.

But the loans are far from a cure-all, officials acknowledged in a [presentation](#) last year. Even that \$733 million would cover only one-third of the capital improvements needed over five years and does not include operations or maintenance needs.

 Greg Montoya, 68, looks at a clogged storm drain after heavy rain

Greg Montoya, 68, looks at a clogged storm drain after heavy rain Monday caused flooding near Birch and Una Streets in Southcrest on Jan. 23, 2024. Montoya was part of a lawsuit against the city that was filed in 2019 after other flooding issues. Montoya said he emailed the city last week telling them that storm drains were clogged and needed to be cleaned. (Ana Ramirez / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

'The drains aren't clean'

While San Diego officials have been sounding alarms over the aging flood-control network, lawyers defending the city in civil lawsuits have adopted a different position.

According to a legal complaint Southcrest resident Greg Montoya and others filed in 2019, the city not only knew about the threat for decades, it helped create the conditions that caused the flooding.

The city built a concrete channel to direct storm runoff from Chollas Creek but nonetheless allowed it to remain clogged, the lawsuit said. City work crews also constructed an embankment above the concrete channel behind Beta Street that then directed stormwater to nearby properties, the complaint alleged.

"That concrete channel was in a dangerous condition on or around Dec. 6, 2018 because it was clogged with vegetation restricting the water flow and causing water to back up and overflow the banks of the channel," the lawsuit said. "That condition caused plaintiffs' properties to flood."

Lawyers hired by San Diego argued that the city was not at fault.

An expert hired by the city "found that the 100-year flow in Beta Street will not cause flood impacts since plaintiffs' residences are adequately set back and elevated above the street," the city's lawyers wrote in a 2021 court filing.

"Collectively, the alley and Beta Street meet the city's criteria to avoid flooding

On Monday, he watched in despair as his block flooded once again.

Montoya told The San Diego Union-Tribune he was aghast as he watched Mayor Todd Gloria blame climate change and otherwise deflect responsibility for what happened to homes along Chollas Creek once again.

"I would tell the mayor that he made false statements," Montoya said. "I have documents that show the drains aren't clean."

The yearslong quandary in the stormwater system has not escaped the notice of clean-water advocates and other environmental groups. They have been pressing the city to do more to improve its watershed-management practices for a long time.

Groundwork San Diego – Chollas Creek is a local nonprofit founded in 2007 at the direction of city officials. Its mission was to create a master plan for the 32-square-mile watershed that stretches from City Heights and Encanto to Barrio Logan and San Diego Bay.

Executive Director Leslie Reynolds credits San Diego public officials for working to [develop and implement](#) a climate-friendly plan for a regional park, but she also said progress has been too slow.

"It's devastating," she said of last week's events. "There have been pockets throughout this watershed that have experienced flooding for decades, and historically the city's response has been inadequate."


Reynolds credited the Gloria administration for beginning upgrades along Chollas Creek in the area that flooded so many homes last week, but she said far more improvements need to be made.

"The problem is huge," she said. "We need improved levels of service for storm drain maintenance."

Phillip Musegaas of San Diego Coastkeeper also said the city has been slow to act.

"City agencies' failure to clear stormwater channels and creeks of trash and debris led to flooding impacts to homes and property that were much worse than they could have been," he said.

"These intense storms are not a fluke, they are the new normal," he said. "Continuing to ignore the funding problem will only make things worse, and continue to put San Diego residents' lives and property at risk."

 On Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, in Bonita, emergency personnel rescued two people trapped on a flooded section of Central Avenue, between Bonita Road and Sweetwater Road. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

On Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, in Bonita, emergency personnel rescued two people trapped on a flooded section of Central Avenue, between Bonita Road and Sweetwater Road. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

'This cannot happen every several years'

Many residents across San Diego also saw the threat posed by the recurring neglect of the city flood-control system.

Rob Campbell is a healthcare administrator from Encanto who repeatedly filed requests to the city for help, warning that the flood channel near his house was unsafe. He submitted photographs he took showing an old television, a shopping cart and heaps of garbage clogging up a culvert near his home.

The requests for service were routinely closed without the city taking any action, he said.

"It's super sad for all of the people who live in the affected areas," Campbell said. "It's not a secret that we are a low-resourced area. We have been historically underfunded. I don't know how else to advocate for the community. I have taken all the avenues I know how."

Prior to Monday, more than 2,600 complaints about the city's stormwater system had been filed in the past year to the city's online Get It Done problem-reporting application. More than a quarter of those were unresolved as of Thursday.

 City workers clear out debris in Chollas Creek in Southcrest

People have complained about clogged storm drains and flood channels blocked by heaps of trash and overgrown vegetation.

"Full grown trees in the ditches, water has no where to go but up into the streets and homes, city has not cleared in years," wrote one resident from the Shelltown neighborhood just south of Southcrest.

"This is the second time in eight years we have had massive flooding in our apartments due to the negligence of the city drains," someone from Golden Hill wrote. "This cannot happen every several years, as it is (devastating) to our investment and tenants who live here."

And from a resident in Clairemont: "Clean out the channel!!! This is the 4th time that I am reporting this."

Campbell, the healthcare administrator from Encanto, said in his experience city workers tend to close out complaints rather than fix the problems.

"That's pretty typical to close without having an actual resolution," he said. "That's a common thing. It's a major problem that you can't follow up with a Get It Done report. You are forced to re-report."

The stormwater department only conducts work for Get It Done requests that are straightforward, like clearing a storm drain or pipe, a city spokesperson said.

When requests concern more complicated issues that would take years and millions of dollars to fix, like clearing a flood channel, the department marks them as resolved, even if the work hasn't yet been performed, the spokesperson said.

Earlier last week, Gloria announced he had spoken with Vice President Kamala Harris about the city's flood damage and pressed the former California senator for federal relief.

The city said Friday it had set aside \$370,000 for grants to businesses and nonprofits affected by the storm, and on Saturday officials got word that the county will qualify for state relief for public infrastructure.

Originally Published: January 28, 2024 at 8:00 AM PST

 NEWS

What Has and Hasn't Happened in the Year Since San Diego's Devastating Floods

While some flood survivors have been able to return home, many others are still struggling to recover, rebuild their homes or find new places to live.

by [Claudia Boyd-Barrett](#)

January 22, 2025



Emmanuel Hurtado, owner of H&H Renovations, works to install new windows in rental units in Southcrest destroyed by the Jan. 22 floods. Many of the renters were low-income, immigrant families who were displaced by the disaster. Photo by David Poller.

This story is part of the Pulitzer Center's nationwide Connected Coastlines reporting initiative.

Jessica Calix has tried to make the 33-foot travel trailer she and her son Chago share at a north San Diego RV Park feel like their old rental home in Southcrest.

She's set up benches and toys outside for Chago and his friends to play with, strung lights over the trailer the way she used to over her front door, and hung up a smiling sun ornament that looks like the one they lost in the flooding that devastated parts of southeastern San Diego on Jan. 22.

But lately Chago has been asking Calix a question that breaks her heart, one that she doesn't know the answer to: Will we ever live in an apartment again?

"I basically told him, 'We're not going to be able to move soon,'" Calix said, sitting outside her trailer on a recent evening. "How do I explain the current housing market to an 8-year-old?"

Calix and Chago are among approximately 5,000 San Diego-area residents impacted by the [historic](#) downpour last January that led to dramatic flooding in parts of the city and county, with particularly severe damage in Southcrest and Shelltown. The mother and son were among hundreds of people who suffered severe property damage and displacement. Five people died. While some flood survivors have been able to return home, many others are still struggling to recover, rebuild their homes or find new places to live. Some survivors, particularly renters like Calix, have been forced to restart life elsewhere, with little hope of returning to their old communities.

Extreme flooding events, even in regions typically associated with dry weather like Southern California, are becoming more common as the climate warms. Climate change, driven primarily by burning fossil fuels, is changing weather patterns, leading to heavier and more dangerous downpours that can overwhelm infrastructure designed for more predictable times.

But Calix and others impacted by the disaster insist there is another force that exacerbated the flooding, one that also led to what many see as a disjointed and inadequate disaster response: Decades of government neglect and indifference toward San Diego's lower income neighborhoods. These neighborhoods, located primarily in southeastern San Diego city where much of the flooding happened, are among the most [economically stressed](#) and [environmentally burdened](#) areas in the region. They were also historically [redlined](#) — a racist, government-sponsored practice that made it difficult for people in those neighborhoods to get financial services such as mortgages and insurance, and concentrated low-income and people of color in flood-prone areas.

Residents say the legacy of discrimination continues to this day through lack of city investment in flood-control infrastructure, and inadequate disaster planning and support for those affected. The result is even greater hardship and precarity for people and communities already on the edge. The situation is also a microcosm of the inequitable distribution of risks from climate change, and an example of the challenges communities and governments must grapple with as floods and other weather-related disasters become more frequent.

“What happened on that day was a planning disaster,” said Andrea Guerrero, executive director of Alliance San Diego, a community organization whose offices in Barrio Logan were damaged in the flood. “That climate event happened throughout the county, but where was it felt, it was felt in the places where the city had failed to modernize and update its infrastructure.”

Alliance San Diego is among approximately 700 people and organizations now suing the city, alleging it failed to maintain stormwater infrastructure, and instead prioritized investments in wealthier communities. They point to a [2020 city report](#) that said segments of Chollas Creek, which flooded during the storm, had not been maintained and had the potential to cause property damage. The lawsuit also notes the city’s admission of a severe lack of funding to maintain stormwater infrastructure. Last year, the city estimated it needed about \$9 billion in infrastructure upgrades.

Nicole Darling, director of communications for the city, said it does not comment on pending litigation. But she said the city dispatched over 300 staff members to clean out storm drains and inlets before the rainstorm, including critical drains in the Chollas Creek area. One segment, close to Beta Street in Southcrest which suffered severe damage, was scheduled for upcoming debris removal at the time the storm happened, she said in an email.

Darling emphasized that the storm was historic and its impact unpredictable.

“This was an unprecedented storm,” she said. “It was the fourth wettest day in history. We’ve never seen this level of flooding before.”



Clariza Marin with the Harvey Family Foundation looks at a map showing damaged properties on and near Beta Street in Southcrest. Nearly a year after devastating floods in the Chollas Creek area of Southeastern San Diego, life is still not back to normal. Photo by David Poller.

Guerrero and others participating in the lawsuit said they want the city to compensate survivors for their losses and do more to prevent the Chollas Creek stormwater channel from flooding. Some community organizers and flood survivors are demanding other changes as well.

Clariza Marin, CFO for the Harvey Family Foundation, a community organization that has been on the front lines of helping those affected, said the response on the ground has been chaotic. She said local authorities need to work in collaboration with residents to create a disaster preparedness plan that reflects what community members need, so they can be better prepared for future disasters. She and other residents interviewed said they also want the city and county to provide more support to help the many survivors, both homeowners and former renters, who either didn't receive aid or didn't get enough to help them rebuild their lives. This would include assisting people like Calix who were displaced from the floods but didn't benefit from county and city financial aid to help them find housing.

“All of our resiliency planning should be community driven,” Marin said. “It shouldn’t be about scrambling to tell (residents) what I can do for you, what you’re going to have to accept.”

Darling pointed to various efforts by the city to support flood survivors, including money for temporary lodging and help for small businesses. She said city officials have been attending public meetings and listening to community feedback since the disaster. The city has also been distributing pamphlets to residents lining in floodplain areas about how to prepare for potential flooding in the future, she added.

Neglected Communities



Jessica Calix, who used to rent an apartment in Southcrest, speaks about her experience surviving the Jan. 22 flood. After months of living in hotels, she and her son moved into a trailer in an RV park in San Diego. Calix said she and dozens of other survivors she knows are struggling and did not get enough assistance to rebuild their lives. Photo by David Poller.

Calix, who is part African American, liked the multicultural community in the area around Beta Street in Southcrest where she and Chago settled in 2020. The sounds and smells were familiar. She felt comfortable. She liked the cost of rent even more — \$1,500 for two bedrooms, the same as she’d paid for a one-bedroom apartment in the northern, more expensive part of the city.

About 80 years ago, the federal government categorized large swaths of southeastern San Diego, such as Southcrest, as “hazardous,” declaring that the properties there were “high risk” for defaulting on loans largely because of the people who lived there: laborers, immigrants and people of color. Although redlining has since been outlawed, its impact continues to this day, with people in historically redlined communities experiencing [higher rates of poverty and ill health](#) than those in other non-redlined areas. Southcrest, Shelltown and other neighborhoods that suffered flood damage including Logan Heights and Barrio Logan have disproportionately higher rates of residents living in poverty compared to other parts of the city. These residents are also exposed to other negative factors that can impact their health, such as pollution from diesel fumes, hazardous waste sites and lead from housing, according to California’s Environmental Protection Agency.

It’s these types of economically and environmentally stressed locations that climate scientists say are most vulnerable to flooding, and where populations have the hardest time recovering from natural disasters. People of color and those living in mobile homes, in particular, are disproportionately exposed to flooding, [research shows](#). And these same populations as well as low-income people in general, have the [most difficulty](#) accessing federal flood disaster assistance.

“We know that risks of climate change are absolutely higher in communities of concern or communities that are historically marginalized,” said Darbi Berry, director of climate and environmental programs at the University of San Diego’s Nonprofit Institute and director of the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative.

But southeastern San Diego is also a haven for people priced out from more affluent areas of the city. Some neighborhoods are full of paid-off homes where families have lived for generations. Low-wage workers and immigrants are also drawn here, looking for an affordable place to rent in a city where the cost of housing seems to rise by the day.

A Shocking Loss



Juan Chavez shows how high the water reached when it flooded his mother-in-law's house in Southcrest on Jan. 22. Although the home had some flood insurance, the payout barely covered the cost of basic cleanup, he said. Photo by David Poller.

Calix's son, Chago, turned 8 the day the flood destroyed their rental home. The day started out normal enough. Calix dropped her son off at school in Point Loma, resisting Chago's pleas to let him stay home for his birthday. It was drizzling but she thought nothing of it. She promised to deliver some treats for him and his classmates later in the day and drove to a nearby party supply store.

But during her drive, normality ended. It started raining intensely. At an intersection, Calix noticed a car stuck in what looked like floodwater. By the time she got to the party supply store, she'd passed numerous other flooded streets and stranded cars. The store was closed and the parking lot flooded. Her mind leapt to the rental apartment she and Chago shared in Southcrest, 10 miles south. "Was it OK?" she wondered. "Were her neighbors OK?"

It wasn't until five hours later, after the floodwaters receded, that Calix was able to return to Southcrest and find out. She encountered devastation: streets and homes caked in black sludge, cars piled on top of each

other, dead animals, shellshocked neighbors — some of whom had narrowly escaping drowning. Her apartment looked like the inside of a muddy blender. Her and Chago's furniture, clothes and other possessions were destroyed, including her father's ashes and recently opened Christmas presents.

“To see all that devastation at once, it was very desperate,” said Calix, who spent the next several days trying to salvage what she could: a couple of bikes, a pet snake. “There was probably more stuff I could have saved off the walls, things up in cabinets, but I had to just walk away. I couldn't do it anymore. And neither could my kid.”

Renters in Peril



Chollas Creek, normally dry, overflowed its banks and flooded the surrounding neighborhood during a sudden rain storm in January, 2024. Water backed up when brush and debris was stuck at this bridge over the creek bed. Photo by David Poller.

Some of the people who suffer the most in the wake of flooding and other natural disasters are [renters](#) — a population that accounts for a third of U.S. households. Renters tend to have less wealth than homeowners, are less likely to have insurance to recoup lost belongings or the costs associated with displacement, and also

receive [less help from the government](#) after disasters. To add insult to injury, [research shows](#) that rents for the lowest-income households rise significantly after floods.

In other words, the people with the fewest financial resources to weather losses from a natural disaster get the least help to recover, and then end up paying even more for housing if they're lucky enough to find another place to live. In California, and in San Diego especially — where over [one in three households](#) already don't make enough to meet their basic needs, and where the average rent is [over \\$3,000 a month](#) — losses and displacement from a flood can result in a compounding cycle of long-term financial pain and housing insecurity.

That's the predicament Calix found herself in after the flooding. Even though she received \$5,000 in emergency assistance from FEMA, that wasn't enough to secure another apartment rental that she could afford on her salary as a massage therapist, she said. She was also in debt from having to replace clothes, toys and everyday items she lost in the flood, as well as extra gas and food while living in the hotels.

"It's overwhelming ... " Calix said. "It shouldn't be that way."

The county and city of San Diego, with support from other local cities and community organizations as well as the federal government, have tried to mitigate the challenges facing displaced flood survivors. The county allocated \$33.7 million to recovery efforts, including to help provide food, emergency lodging, fund home and infrastructure repairs and help residents secure federal disaster aid. Some of this funding went to a program that provided temporary accommodation for people in hotels after the flooding, and housed more than 2,200 people, or nearly 900 households, at its peak. That program ended in June. With about \$7 million in support from the county and city, the San Diego Housing Commission then provided up to \$15,000 in assistance to people still in emergency lodging near the end of the program to help them pay for rent, security deposits and other expenses to relocate.

But there have been problems. Numerous participants in the temporary lodging program have complained they were housed in unsafe or unsanitary hotels and evicted or threatened with eviction because of payment delays from the contractor hired to run the program. Many people who needed accommodation didn't even get the help because they didn't know about the program, had trouble accessing it, or were afraid to seek help because of their immigration status, said Clariza Marin, CFO of the Harvey Family Foundation. Others left before they were ready because of conflicting information from FEMA workers that led them to believe staying in the hotels would jeopardize their federal aid money, Marin and Calix said.

The housing commission also limited who could apply for the financial assistance to those still in the program on May 23 — a date by which many had left. That meant just 313 families initially received aid. The commission [recently expanded](#) eligibility to another 194 families who had applied but left the hotels earlier,

offering them up to \$5,500, But that doesn't cover all of the approximately 900 families that were in the program at its peak.

Calix is one of the flood survivors and former renters who, so far, has not qualified for financial help from the housing commission. She decided to leave the program after three months because at the last hotel she stayed at, she felt unsafe. She was also hearing about other people getting evicted and got nervous that she and Chago would be next. She never applied for aid because she assumed she wouldn't qualify. Now she's angry that she, and many of her neighbors, have been left out.

"We're all in a hole, and we're trying to get out and they just keep, you know, letting us fall deeper," she said. "To be told you get no help and other people do, it is very frustrating."

Low-Income Homeowners Suffer Too



Harold Roberts' home on Beta Street is still undergoing repairs. During the flood, water poured from the nearby creek and destroyed the ground floor. He had no insurance and the money he received from FEMA didn't cover the damage, he said. Photo by David Poller.

The disaster has been devastating for homeowners too. Many are low income and elderly and didn't have any or enough flood insurance. Several of those who received money from FEMA said it wasn't enough to cover the cost of the damage. According to Marin, some residents have been forced to take out loans, pay for repairs using credit cards, or live in flood-damaged moldy homes. Others have given up, abandoning or selling their residences to out-of-town buyers, she said.

Juan Chavez, a retired truck driver, has been trying to help his mother-in-law, 79, hold on to the Beta Street home she lived in for 30 years before the flood forced her to move in with him and his wife. She is wheelchair-bound and has dementia. Although the home had some flood insurance, the payout barely covered the cost of basic cleanup, he said. Chavez estimates he and his wife, a secretary, will have to cobble together \$100,000 of their own money to make the home livable again.

Across the street, Harold Roberts, 74, is still trying to get his home fixed after it was flooded with several feet of water. A caregiver for the elderly, he said he couldn't afford the \$6,000 a year he would have needed for flood insurance on his home, and the FEMA money he received only partially covered the damage. He lost his car and truck in the flood and spent six months at a motel in Chula Vista paid for by the county. Now he's among dozens of his neighbors receiving assistance from the Harvey Family Foundation to restore their homes.

"A lot of families, for a situation that they didn't cause, they're forced to go into debt in order to save what little they do have," said Armon Harvey, the foundation's CEO. "They lost cars, they lost everything, and now they have to dig into their own pockets, into their savings, just to save their homes."

Flood recovery is expensive. The average annual cost of flooding in the U.S. is over **\$32 billion** and rising. According to a recent study **[featured in the Fifth National Climate Assessment](#)**, California lost an average of \$1.7 billion annually to floods as of 2020. That's expected to rise to almost \$2 billion by 2050. Yet federal disaster assistance typically doesn't provide enough support to the people who need it the most, **[research shows](#)**.

A Last Resort

After several weeks in the hotel program, Calix learned that her grandfather was selling an old trailer. He offered to give it to her, if she paid for repairs and moving it. Calix saw it as her ticket out of the hotel program, and a chance at some kind of stability for herself and her son. She racked up more debts on her credit cards to pay for new tires, towing and a parking spot at a local RV Park.

Calix now pays about \$1,600 a month for her spot at the RV park. She and Chago have to move to a different park every six months because stays are time limited. She said she's grateful to have a place to live, but it

feels temporary. She's still in debt because of the disaster, and her credit score has suffered. If she had received \$15,000 from the Housing Commission like some of the other survivors, she could have paid off her debt and stabilized her financial situation enough to get an apartment, she said.

"It would have made a huge difference," she said. "We would be a lot further along. I'm basically falling behind and my stability is hanging on by a thread, to be honest, and that's the truth of it. We really needed that help and we're not the only ones."

Finding Solutions



Armon Harvey, president and founder of the Harvey Family Foundation, left, and Clariza Marin, the foundation's CFO, visit homes on Beta Street that their organization has been helping repair. There are still many more families with damaged homes that need help, Marin said. Photo by David Poller.

The Harvey Family Foundation has been trying to stem the exodus of low-income renters and homeowners from the flood-struck areas. Over the past year, they've received about \$700,000 in city and county funds and raised another \$500,000 in philanthropic support to help repair homes in Southcrest, Shelltown and neighboring communities. So far they've completed 73 home repairs with 14 more in the pipeline. These

include rentals, such as those owned by Tony Tricarico, 77, who before the flood rented 11 small apartments on his Beta Street property for between \$1,200 to \$1,400 a month.

The flood destroyed Tricarico's home and all the rental units on the property. He had no flood insurance and didn't qualify for FEMA aid. He was ready to give up and sell, he said. But the Harvey Family Foundation offered to help him restore the units if he didn't raise the rents and offered them back to the displaced families. He agreed. So far, three units are fixed and rented, another three will be completed soon. At least one of the families is living in a trailer in a nearby alleyway waiting to return, he said.

"I wanted to help" the renters, Tricarico said. "I've known them 20 years, I've watched their children grow up."

Much more funding is needed to help with repairs, Marin said. Even now she's receiving calls from distressed homeowners who have run out of insurance or FEMA money, or are newly discovering mold or other problems in their homes caused by the floods, she said.

Investments in infrastructure to prevent future flooding and make San Diego's most vulnerable communities more resilient to the effects of climate change are vital, Berry with UC San Diego said. Infrastructure projects should include green, nature-based solutions that remove concrete and create more spaces such as parks where excess water can be absorbed into the soil, she added. It's also important that officials take care to avoid "green gentrification" that drives up housing costs and displaces low-income residents, she said.

A state initiative called the [Transformative Climate Communities](#) program is working to address this challenge by funding community-led development and infrastructure projects designed to simultaneously improve climate resiliency and bring economic benefits to California's most disadvantaged communities. These include investments in affordable housing, bike lanes and walking paths, public transportation and community gardens. [Fresno](#) is one community that has successfully used this funding through its Transform Fresno initiative, Berry said. More recently, the San Diego Foundation and Environmental Health Coalition also [received the funds](#) to develop climate and community resilience projects in San Diego's central historic barrios.

The dilemma is that more investment is needed and San Diego taxpayers are reluctant to fund infrastructure projects, Berry said. Measure E, which would have raised the city's sales tax by 1 percent and generated up to \$400 million in additional general-fund revenue, including for infrastructure, was narrowly defeated in November.

She said she's hopeful that the passage of state Proposition 4, a \$10 billion bond to help California pay for efforts to address the impacts of climate change, including flood control and sea level rise protections, will

further improve climate resiliency in San Diego and elsewhere. But it won't be enough, she said.

“We can't keep waiting for disasters (in order) to respond,” she said. “We need to be proactive and not reactive, because we're well aware that the reactive systems that we have are not sufficient ... If we aren't building resilience, it's not going to get easier to respond” when disasters happen.

‘This Cannot Be the Norm’

Back at the RV park in north San Diego, Calix is trying to keep herself and Chago focused on the positive. But she, like many other flood survivors, is worried about the next disaster. Worried that the city still hasn't fixed the problems with its infrastructure. Worried that the local government has no plan in place to better help future disaster victims.

But, for her son, she takes a deep breath and tries to set those worries aside.

“At least we have a place to live,” she tells Chago. “At least we're not living in a car or sleeping on friend's couches,” like some of the other people they know.

At least they have each other. At least they survived.

Reporter Lauren DeLaunay Miller contributed to this story.

This story was produced in collaboration with the [California Health Report](#).

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SAN DIEGO

'Where's the help?' San Diego residents blame a debris-filled Chollas Creek for flooded homes

"This problem is for the city. The city hasn't cleaned the canyon for 40 years that I've lived on this property... nobody does," one resident said

Published January 24, 2024 • Updated on January 25, 2024 at 3:37 pm



NBC 7's Joey Safchik speaks to residents in Southeastern San Diego who say much of the damage was preventable.

How did this happen? That's what hundreds of Southeastern San Diego residents were asking after their homes were flooded with mud, water and debris, and their cars were swept away in a gushing street river by an unprecedented January storm.

Some of the worst flooding in the county Monday occurred in southeast San Diego, including in the communities of Southcrest, Encanto, Mountain View and Lincoln Park. About three inches of rain fell within a six-hour span, an unprecedented amount of rainfall for January and a region that typically averages around 2 inches of rain per month during the winter, according to meteorologists.

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Homeowners and renters shared video with NBC 7 of people on roofs trying to escape wild flash flooding. The aftermath showed a mud covering Beta Street and displaced vehicles stacked on top of each other. Inside homes, a floodline showed waters came up as high as an average person's shoulders. Property was destroyed and residents were doing whatever they could to clear the mess from their homes and salvage what was left.

Photos show damage left behind by record-setting January storm



A home in Southcrest following flooding from a unusual January storm on Jan. 24, 2024.

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Several neighbors told NBC 7 they blame the flooding on a clogged Chollas Creek, which snakes through several of the hardest-hit areas. Julietta Del Rio was one of the many Southcrest neighbors who said they raised the flag ahead of the storm.

"This problem is for the city. The city hasn't cleaned the canyon for 40 years that I've lived on this property... nobody does," Del Rio said.

Paul Quijano's home runs right along the canal and also blames a trash and debris-filled creek for causing the floods. As the water raged, it dumped out straight into his backyard and into his home.

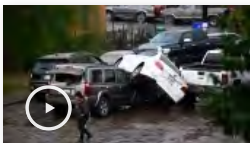
"When we bought this house two years ago, we knew it was a flood zone. We knew it was possible that this canal could flood but we've seen it in prior storms... it never overflowed," Quijanos said. This is the first time debris got caught with all the trash, on that side of the canal and it spilled over and it caused the flooding."

"Ultimately, I want the city to be transparent about their maintenance plan for the Chollas Creek because this is where it all started, this is where it got clogged," he added.



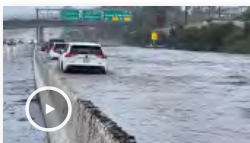
JAN 23, 2024

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JAN 23, 2024

'Thousand-year storm' causes millions in damage to San Diego



JAN 22, 2024

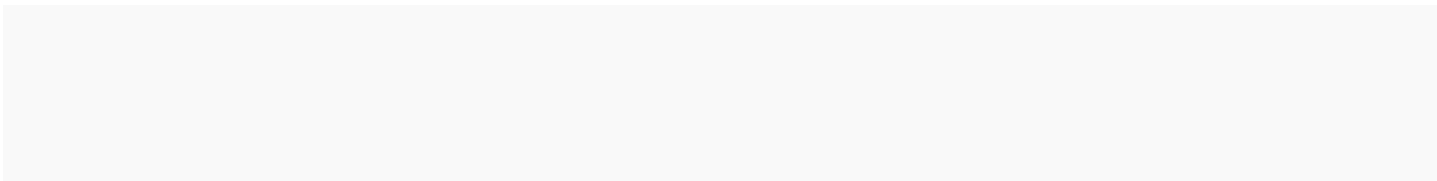
Historic storm prompts road closures, school closures, major flooding in San Diego County

While Quijano may not have seen anything like this, nearby resident Naomi Phillips-Terry, 88, saw this happen once before – in 1989. This time, water flooded her home up to her knees and was in every inch of the house.

"This should just never have happened again," Phillips-Terry said. "And I'm really upset as I get out about it because it's devastating. It really is."

Mattie Lopez questioned, "Where's the help? Where's the help that we need? It's too much, it's just too much."

Residents from the community were at the mayor's news conference Tuesday at the Red Cross located at Lincoln High School to question what happened and to ask for better maintenance for their neighborhood.





Trash and piles of debris were left from the floodwaters that came from Chollas Creek, which overflowed from the canal. NBC 7's Jeanette Quezada was in Southcrest, where she spoke to residents whose homes flooded.

The city of San Diego's Stormwater Department said the cause of the flooding was heavy rainfall combined with an "aging stormwater system with limited capacity."

"The amount of water that we received yesterday, there is not a drainage system that would have been able to accommodate all of that," Mayor Gloria said. "What happened yesterday was extraordinary. What we have down there, I do believe it needs to be improved."

Many people in the neighborhood don't have renters insurance and those that do, don't have insurance that covers floods; most insurance policies exclude flooding, mudslides and debris flow unless a supplemental "difference in conditions (DIC) policy is purchased from a separate company, [according to the California Department of Insurance](#). Some have little options but to hold out hope help is coming.

San Diego sees 4th wettest day on record. Here are the rainfall totals

Multiple storm systems soaked San Diego County over the past few days bringing some flooding, closure and weather warnings.



On Wednesday, the city's Environmental Services Department started removing accumulated trash and debris from storm-impacted areas in the communities of Southcrest, Mountain View and other neighborhoods.

Teams from the city's Transportation Department will be removing mud and sand from streets and addressing damage to streets and public sidewalks. If a street is experiencing flooding, or a city storm drain is clogged, residents can report it using the Get it Done app or by calling 619-527-7500. Residents can also help city crews expedite clean-up activities by parking vehicles off city streets while work is underway.

This week, stormwater teams are conducting inspections on city levees and storm channels. Six of the city's 15 stormwater pump stations were overwhelmed during Monday's storm; two remain out of service and crews are working around the clock to bring them back online, city officials said.

City crews were in the neighborhood for the last two days to clear out the storm system. The Stormwater Department said they received more than 500 calls regarding flooding and other issues during and following the rain.



A historic storm left Southcrest neighborhoods in apocalyptic conditions, NBC 7's Shandel Menezes reports.

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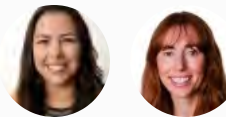
TOMORROW

68°

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One year after historic flooding, these San Diego neighbors are 'here in the fight'

Some have fled the threat of future floods. Some have returned to rebuilt homes. And others are still waiting.



By **EMILY ALVARENGA** | emily.alvarenga@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune
and **MAURA FOX** | Maura.Fox@sduniontribune.com | The San Diego Union-Tribune

UPDATED: January 27, 2025 at 5:57 AM PST



Almost a year later, this home on Beta Street shows very little sign of construction repairs from flood damage in the Southcrest community. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

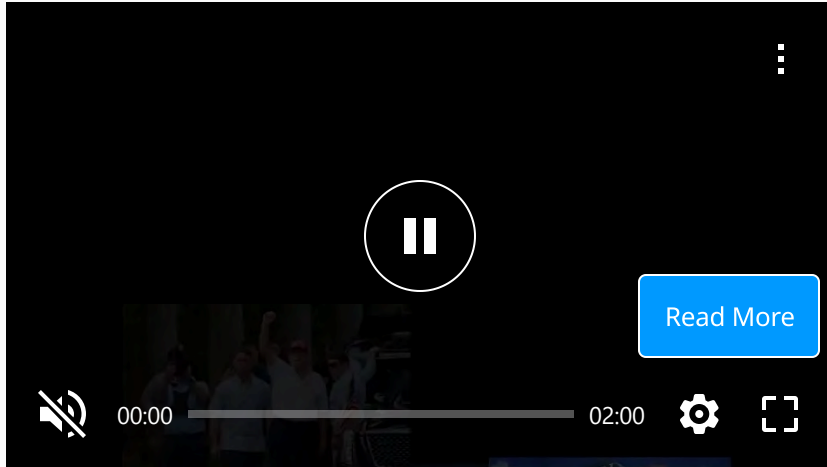
When a fire ravages a community, its impacts are clearly visible. Its billows and haze of smoke are seen for miles, and its flames leave behind only charred hillsides and husks of homes.

The same can't be said of a flood. The water that surges into homes and forces residents onto roofs can just as quickly recede, leaving only mud, muck and trash within hours.

More than a thousand families were forced from their homes Jan. 22, 2024 — one of the city's wettest days on record — when waterways like Chollas Creek in Southcrest overflowed into neighborhoods.

Some of those people are still working to rebuild. Some have moved away. Others have returned home.

The latter consider themselves lucky, even when their lives have been upended.



Sandra Garcia is one. Last January, she lost not just everything in her Shelltown home but also her husband of 47 years.



Sandra Garcia is among the flood survivors who attended the

“Everything was taken away from me. The videos of my kids and my husband, my wedding dress that I saved,” the 68-year-old said in Spanish. “Many beautiful, memorable things that I loved with all my heart — and my husband.”

Juan Manuel Garcia, 79, had been sick but stable and active, she said, showing a video of him singing in his wheelchair just weeks earlier.

On Jan. 22, they and their 10-year-old granddaughter had to be rescued by their son from the rising waters. Juan Manuel died four days later.

“I lost a lot, and I still haven’t absorbed the loss of my husband,” Garcia said.

Now, she’s trying to summon the courage she had to find last year — courage she says her husband gave her.

“It’s a lifetime that is impossible to forget,” she says, and it gives her strength. “I’m here in the fight, as they say, thankful for everything.”

Garcia is back home on Osborn Street. She drained her savings to rebuild. She still needs to replace lost belongings and pay her property taxes and a \$2,400 water bill. But she’s refused more help. She’s grateful, but she wants others to have it.



Shelltown residents Sandra and Juan Manuel Garcia were married for 47 years before he died last January, four days after historic floods swept through the couple’s home. (Courtesy of Sandra Garcia)

Her friend Elena Burgos, 66, still isn’t back home

Earlier this month, as she pulled up to her Beta Street house, she began crying. “I want to come home,” she said. “I’m tired of feeling homeless.”

Her Southcrest community was hit especially hard. Beta Street runs parallel to the Southcrest Trails Park that lines Chollas Creek, which was filled with vegetation and debris the day of the flood. For months after, the neighborhood was a ghost town.

Burgos drives by to check on her house every day. But this visit was her first in weeks when she had a key to get in and see the progress made.

Inside are new floors, new kitchen cabinets, a new sink. The bathrooms aren’t yet done. Only half the new windows are installed; others remain broken and taped.



Elena Burgos stands just outside her home in the Southcrest community on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025, in San Diego, CA. Burgos' is among the many homes that were flooded back in January 2024 and remains under construction. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

As she walked through the house, she pointed out where she might put a kitchen table and listed things she’d need right away — pans, spoons. “I’m going to start over,” she said.

It will be a long road to restore the home she grew up in, full of

Burgos is one of many neighbors along Beta still working to return to normal.

On a recent visit by San Diego Union-Tribune reporters, nearly all of the 61 properties that could be seen along the half-mile stretch were visibly impacted by the floods.

But that number is just a fraction of the local families who have been affected. Many properties are multi-family homes. Some have ADUs. Even single-family homes typically house more than one household, explained Clariza Marin, who has been helping organize flood recovery efforts.

Of those 61 homes, around 10 were still under active construction last week. More than 20 had either city-provided dumpsters still in their driveways or detritus still in their yards. At least one looked like it hadn't been touched since the floods; metal sheeting and debris littered the yard.

The process has dragged on despite a city effort to expedite the recovery by waiving permit fees for rebuilding — a move the city said this week had saved those residents about \$80,000.

Since the floods, the city of San Diego says it received 77 applications for flood-related construction permits, approved 59 and issued 67 permits — some applications were for multiple permits.

Last week, more than a quarter of those 61 homes along Beta had visibly new exteriors, whether a fresh paint job, vinyl fences or new windows. One looked like an entirely new manufactured home.

Marin says the city has worked to push through permits quickly, holding webinars in English and Spanish to help with paperwork. But it's not that easy, she adds. Some homes are so damaged or so old their owners must submit full building plans for electrical, plumbing and more.

“Yes, the city's waiving fees, and yes, they're being helpful with

Some flood victims have gotten city financial aid, after the county gave the San Diego Housing Commission \$4.2 million to create a program to help eligible homeowners and tenants fix their homes or find new ones. More than 400 families had gotten \$5.3 million as of [earlier this month](#).

But the aid came with specific parameters, it went only to city residents, and it was initially available only to families who had stayed in hotels on county vouchers just after the disaster.

To help people who weren't eligible, community groups like the Harvey Family Foundation created an aid program of their own to provide the construction, labor and materials to rebuild.

The group has completed 55 rebuilds, says Marin, who last year became its chief financial officer to help with flood recovery. It's actively working on another 12. Three homes are "stuck" — dealing with larger construction issues, such as foundation problems — and six more are being onboarded, with work set to begin in the coming weeks.

"We have an ambitious goal of completing 18 homes over the course of the next six to eight weeks," Marin said. "But that doesn't mean there's no more houses, because sadly we're still finding more houses."

She and Armon Harvey, the nonprofit's leader, have been going door to door in affected neighborhoods to find families who never got help. They've since gotten nonstop calls; they got four new leads in the last week alone.

"Some of the houses that we're just now finding — it's disgusting," she said. "They should not be living like that."

'A tough situation'

For all the damage, few people have sold their homes in Southcrest.

Only three homes on Beta and Birch sold in the last year, real estate data show, and one home on Beta had a for-sale sign up last week. The three-bedroom home appears newly renovated in photos and was listed on [Zillow](#) as pending sale for \$749,000. It last sold in 2023 for \$600,000.

But many former Southcrest tenants have left. And for some, another cliff is coming.

Families who leased new homes at rents higher than they could afford got a temporary reprieve with rental subsidies and other aid — but as it begins to run dry, they must once again find an affordable place to live.

Marin said she's already heard from six families in the past month who are behind on their rent and have received past-due or eviction notices.

"We're not in touch with even the majority of the flood survivors; we touched a small fraction," she added. "So if we're getting a few, that's an indication that it's actually affecting more."



Jerry Hernandez waits in the lobby of the Ramada Hotel in National City where he is living after his home in Southcrest flooded in January 2024. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

[Jerry Hernandez](#) was living in a rented home on Beta with his adult son and daughter when it flooded last January. Photos and mementos of his children's youth were lost to the floodwaters. In the aftermath, he went to the hospital twice for a stomach virus. His son got pneumonia.

In May, the two moved to Mission Valley. It's not ideal — their new apartment is harder for Hernandez, who's disabled, to move around. But the risk of staying in Southcrest, he says, was too great. In his seven years there, his home flooded twice when Chollas Creek overflowed.

The first time, in 2018, a group of neighbors sued the city. They settled for just over \$200,000, but the agreement didn't require the city to make improvements to the flood channel.

"They're cleaning out that creek, but people are still hesitant," Hernandez said. "The second flood was frightening. We don't want to go through that again after we lost everything."

Now, residents are suing again. Hernandez is one of the 1,500 plaintiffs involved in litigation accusing the city of stormwater system mismanagement they argue led to the 2024 flooding and damage. So far, at least 35 separate lawsuits have been filed demanding millions in damages. More are still coming.

A group of the plaintiffs' attorneys is coordinating to ensure the litigation is heard by the same judge and follows a similar timeline. But progress has been slow. There have only been a few hearings so far, and the case has been reassigned three times.

"We're sitting here almost a year later, and we still have concerned residents who ... don't feel confident that the city has addressed the problem," said lawyer Domenic Martini. "It's a tough situation for people to be in."

'We all helped each other'

Lisa Sheffield, a Kaiser nurse, lives in Spring Valley with her two adult sons and their fiancées, two grandchildren and her disabled husband, who gets dialysis treatment three times a week.

The day of the flood, a foot of water flowed through their home at the bottom of Dictionary Hill, ruining her husband's medical equipment. Debris flooded the yard, and floodwaters rose high enough to cover the steering wheel in her son's car.

Just after the flood, the family stayed at a Ramada hotel using a county voucher, then got \$14,000 from FEMA to help cover rent and expenses and finally moved home in June.

But the aid wasn't enough to cover their home repairs, and after her appeals for more failed, Sheffield withdrew half the money from her 401(k) — about \$45,000 — just to get the repairs started. She showed up to various [county meetings to tearfully plead](#) for more help.



Flood victims Keirington Pankey, center, and his mother, Lisa Sheffield, show photos of a flooded culvert near their Spring Valley home to Justin Gamble, Watershed Protection Program Manager at County of San Diego Public Works, at an assistance center for flood victims at the Spring Valley Library on Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024. (K.C. Alfred / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

She's spent at least \$150,000 to remediate mold, remove asbestos, install new floors, walls and cabinets and add a concrete drainage system to the backyard. She qualified for a Small Business Association loan to help, and she took out a second mortgage.

"I don't know how I'm going to replace my 401(k)," she said. Now, "that house is my retirement."

Other families like the Navarros on Beta Street know that struggle.

As of November, [Martha Navarro and her husband, Jose](#), had already spent about \$25,000 re-furnishing their home with beds for her two children, couches and cooking utensils. Their savings have taken a hit. And now they face higher flood insurance costs, too.

Earlier this year, their insurance company notified them that it would no longer provide flood coverage in their neighborhood starting in March. With a new plan, Navarro says their flood insurance rate will rise from about \$1,000 to between \$3,500 and \$5,000.

But she's happy to be back home near their neighbors. They've all grown closer through last year's ordeal.

Standing in her newly remodeled kitchen this month, she recalled the kindness of volunteers in the days following the floods — one woman cooked for them, others brought toothbrushes and diapers. "We all helped each other," she said.

That camaraderie was evident Wednesday evening, when dozens gathered outside a home on Osborn Street in Shelltown to honor the anniversary of the floods and the community's strength.

A vendor hired by the Harvey foundation served tacos, and volunteers dished up plates full of salmon, pasta salad and rice and beans. Dancers from Danza Azteca Maya and musicians

Isa Rosales, who runs a tamale business in El Cajon, was there serving meals — something she's done for survivors over the last year since the floods. She's seen how the community has struggled.

In the early days, she recalls, the streets were quiet and dark. But in time, residents would wait outside for her to arrive with dinner. Despite the destruction, "it felt like home still," she said.

There's a long way to go. But today, she said, "it's so much more alive."



People whose neighborhoods flooded last year attend the anniversary commemoration on the corner of Osborn and Cottonwood streets on Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025, in San Diego. (Nelvin C. Cepeda / The San Diego Union-Tribune)

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Around the Web

REVCONTENT

San Diego Storm Clean Up – Residents remove layers of mud from streets and houses

Transcript:

0:00

A mess. This is a hot mess.

0:03

Tonight.

0:03

Families are grappling with where to begin after massive flooding,

0:07

damaged their homes, yards and cars yesterday.

0:10

Good evening and thanks for joining us. I'm Marcella Lee.

0:12

This is the first full day of clean up.

0:14

People in mountain view are working to clear layers of mud.

0:17

Many are frustrated and feel this could have been prevented.

0:21

CBS eight abby black is live working for you tonight on what help is available now,

0:26

Abby,

0:28

this is what's happening right now.

0:30

You have the mayor's representatives that are walking down South 42nd street,

0:34

letting neighbors know that they can put their trash out on the curb

0:39

and it will be picked up tomorrow in a special delivery or special pick up.

0:43

They're handing out gloves and garbage bags because

0:45

many people lost their bins in this flood.

0:49

And this is just what the street looks like.

0:50

You have these many bobcats and people that are shoveling

0:54

layer and layers of mud off the street.

0:57

And then if we pan over the sons of the baker home,

1:01

they have been hard at work all day today trying to spray this

1:04

mud off their parents driveway and then there was a little electrical fire.

1:08

So it's just like one thing after another that keeps happening

1:11

and they're so overwhelmed and frustrated.

1:14

We are working for you to help you get their voices heard

1:17

and what they can do now to help.

1:20

I'm angry.

1:22

I'm

1:22

mad,

1:22

frustrated because Judy Banks says that she's reported countless complaints

1:26

to the city about the flood channel behind her.

1:28

At South 42nd Street House. I feel there's discrimination.

1:33

Southeast San Diego is so underserved.

1:35

Her husband Robert traces his fingers along the

1:38

water line outside of his mountain view home

1:41

inside their house, furniture thrown across the mud caked floors.

1:45

I'm not one for complaining,

1:48

but they got my goat this time.

1:50

Mr Banks is referring to the city, they had a chance to fix this

1:54

2018. Same thing happened. Well, it didn't get as high.

1:57

So we filed a claim with the city and they ignored it.

1:59

You're not going ignore this one.

2:02

The

2:03

bank says that they have flood insurance which is

2:05

separate from their home insurance and federally regulated.

2:08

It's required for the policy for your homeowners

2:11

insurance doesn't cover the floods and the banks want

2:13

the city on the hook to repair the damages.

2:15

No one will listen to us,

2:17

no one would listen. You know,

2:18

the mayor says that they need fema money to overhaul the aging drain systems

2:22

and no channel clearing would have kept

2:24

them from flooding in the unprecedented weather,

2:26

this could have been prevented.

2:27

You know, I don't care what nobody say if they had just came and did some,

2:31

some shearing,

2:33

cleared it out. The water can flow through.

2:35

Oh, no.

2:36

The banks and their neighbors say that they've looked in the past

2:38

long enough and will have to deal with what to do.

2:41

Now, we were struggling as it is and now it makes it even harder for us.

2:45

They're overwhelmed by where to start. This is a

2:50

but the banks and others are pushing their frustrations to

2:53

the side and taking it one day at a time,

2:56

it's going to be

2:56

ok.

2:59

What

3:00

like you heard from the banks and so many of their

3:02

families who are struggling right now and where they should start,

3:06

we talked to emergency officials on what they recommend on what they can do.

3:10

Now, now first,

3:11

you want to call your insurance company that

3:13

whether be your homeowners policy or your renters insurance

3:16

and see what will be covered and won't be covered.

3:19

You also want to document everything and take pictures of everything.

3:23

Second, you want to fill out a damage survey with the county. Now it

3:27

guarantee that you will get assistance but it could help secure government funds.

3:32

You also, if you need housing assistance, you can call the Red Cross.

3:36

And also if you need help with any other resources by calling to 11,

3:40

they will direct you in the,

3:42

they will direct you to the right people that you need

3:44

to talk to so you can get the appropriate resources.

3:47

We have all of this information and all these helpful links posted to CBS eight.com.

3:52

Click on the help button.

Will disastrous flooding force San Diego to finally fix its storm drains?

Transcript:

0:00

this is my little home this is my safe

0:03

place the place that I come and feel the

0:05

most comfortable and safe and warm

0:08

Robert Lopez has lived in this apartment

0:10

complex on National Avenue for about 7

0:12

months he was working an early shift as

0:15

a restaurant manager downtown when the

0:17

downpour started he came home in the

0:19

afternoon to this feel like I lost

0:23

everything it's

0:26

devastating the sudden and Rapid

0:28

rainfall overwhelmed San Diego's storm

0:31

drain system the apartments here sit

0:33

right next to choas Creek which quickly

0:36

became clogged with trash and vegetation

0:38

washed away from Upstream Lopez has no

0:42

family in San Diego and is now homeless

0:45

I basically just you know had a savior I

0:49

had an angel with me uh Sean my best

0:52

friend you know if it wasn't for her I

0:54

wouldn't have had a place to stay to put

0:56

this into perspective the last storm of

0:58

this severity was in the 1930s San Diego

1:01

mayor Todd Gloria declared a state of

1:03

emergency in response to the floods he

1:06

said Tuesday there was no way the city

1:09

could have been fully prepared

1:10

unprecedented event of this nature with

1:13

no loss of life is a miracle uh but it

1:15

was made possible because of the

1:16

diligence of a lot of public servants

1:18

who stepped into the breach and a lot of

1:20

neighbors who came together to support

1:21

one another we need that same kind of

1:23

can do Spirit over the next number of

1:25

weeks and months in order to make sure

1:26

that everyone who's been impacted are

1:28

able to survive this and hopefully come

1:29

out of this uh in a in a better place

1:31

still San Diego is well aware of its

1:34

underfunded storm drain system a report

1:37

released just this month found the city

1:39

would need to raise an additional \$1.6

1:42

billion in taxes or fees to fund all of

1:46

its storm drain needs that's more than

1:48

the unfunded needs of San Diego's roads

1:51

sidewalks and street lights combined

1:54

Andrew Bowen KPBS

1:56

news

Southcrest neighbors for years have wanted a congested flood channel cleared. They were ignored

Transcript:

0:00

Some people say they've been asking for months,

0:02

some even years for the city to clear it out a congested flood channel,

0:06

but they say nothing's done.

0:08

CBS eight's Esmeralda

0:09

Perez is live tonight in the South Crest neighborhood,

0:12

Esmeralda. What are some of the top concerns you're hearing from people there?

0:17

Yeah.

0:17

Well,

0:17

I spoke to many people here in this neighborhood

0:19

and they have a just a variety of concerns.

0:22

They want to know when help is going to become available for them and when

0:26

their living situation is going to get better and you know,

0:30

when they're going to be spending the night where they're going to be spending the.

0:33

Now

0:33

I want you to take a look at what's behind me.

0:35

It looks like someone's whole living room is just out in their front yard here.

0:40

Now, earlier today, about 100 people all gathered here in this street on a beta.

0:45

Now, they, they say that this amount of damage could have been prevented

0:50

every community in the whole San Diego County in the state in the nation.

0:55

So for everybody, federally wise and statewide city wise should maintain

1:01

their property, the roads and everything so everybody

1:04

can have a safe living environment

1:07

and not just nature.

1:08

This is what Beta Street looks like today.

1:10

After Monday's storm flooded this neighborhood today.

1:13

A crowd of them gathered all with damaged homes.

1:15

All saying this could have been prevented.

1:17

My house

1:18

just take a look. My house is ruined.

1:20

It's completely destroyed. Greg Montoya

1:22

filed a lawsuit in 2019 along with his neighbors.

1:25

When their homes got flooded, people could have died.

1:29

The city of San Diego. They, they are so neglectful,

1:32

you know, thank God nobody died.

1:34

They reached a settlement with the city of San Diego.

1:37

Now with Monday's heavy downpours,

1:39

his home is one of many that became flooded again.

1:41

At the moment, Greg is looking for an attorney to file a lawsuit

1:45

because I believe I can win because of the documentation that I have

1:49

CBS A reached out to the mayor's office for comments but have not heard back.

1:52

Greg says he reached out to the city several

1:55

times to get the storm channel near his home fixed

1:58

if they would have followed up with all the emails

2:00

that I sent them about cleaning the storm drains,

2:02

cleaning the channel

2:04

if they would have followed up with with that.

2:06

Like I asked them to do

2:08

that. We wouldn't be in this situation.

2:10

I spoke to attorney Evan Walker.

2:11

He represented Greg and other people affected in the suits filed in 2019.

2:16

He was in the neighborhood today to check up the damage and answer questions.

2:20

He recommends those affected to do several things.

2:23

Absolutely. Make the insurance claim

2:25

document

2:26

the day.

2:27

And secondly, if you think that the city is responsible for what happened,

2:31

understand that you could file a government tort claim,

2:34

it just has to be filed within a certain period of time

2:37

for

2:37

people like Mia

2:38

Gomez,

2:38

her flood insurance won't cover Monday's storm damage in her home.

2:41

Water has to be coming in through the roof.

2:44

So a leak,

2:45

flooding through a leak or

2:47

it has to be like a broken pipe where there's flooding.

2:51

Any ground water

2:53

doesn't cover as neighbors on Beta Street cleaned up.

2:56

People handed out coffee, bread and flowers. Claudia

2:59

Moreno

3:00

is one of those volunteers.

3:01

She wasn't affected by the storm but felt she had to do something to help.

3:05

I can only imagine what these people went through.

3:08

District eight council member, Vivian Moreno

3:10

represents this area. She spoke with people to see what resources they need.

3:14

Big dumpsters,

3:16

manpower people to come out and help clean up and also

3:20

um boxes.

3:24

Now, I do want to provide an update that just before going on air.

3:27

I did get a chance to speak to the city of San Diego's Deputy chief operating officer,

3:32

Chris mcfadden who oversees the storm water transportation and public utilities.

3:36

Now, he does acknowledge that this is a community impact.

3:39

Now, he also told me that even

3:41

systems that are engineered to today's standards are going to flood.

3:44

Now,

3:45

the city says this area is a flood plain and that

3:48

no amount of preparation could have a spirit of this amount of

3:50

damage that we'll have more details on the rest of his

3:54

response on the online version of this story at CBS eight.com,

3:58

Jesse.

3:59

Of course, we got quite a bit of rain,

4:01

especially for what we see here in San Diego normally.

4:04

But what other issues are people facing out there now? Because of all that.

4:09

Now, some residents that I spoke to just briefly before, you know, going on air,

4:13

they did tell me that they got their gas service cut off early this morning.

4:18

They received this notice on their front door and

4:21

they just don't know when it's going to come back and you know,

4:23

they needed some of the people that I spoke to say they've been

4:26

sleeping on their, in their cars and they just don't have a place to live because,

4:30

you know, their, their home is just not safe to do so.

4:33

A lot of people in need in that neighborhood,

4:35

hopefully moves are being made to get that happening there.

4:38

Esmeralda

4:38

Perez is live for us tonight. Esmeralda.

4:39

Thank you.

Southcrest Residents Blame City of San Diego For Flooded Homes

Transcript:

0:02

EVERYONE. AND THANK YOU FOR

0:03

JOINING MARIA ARCEGA-DUNN. I'M

0:05

ANDREW LURIA. WE START THIS

0:07

AFTERNOON WITH A STORY WE'VE

0:08

BEEN COVERING ALL THROUGHOUT

0:09

THE WEEKEND HAS BEEN 2 DAYS

0:10

NOW SINCE THAT MAJOR STORM

0:12

HITS SAN DIEGO. AND AMID THE

0:14

CLEANUP IN THE HARDEST HIT

0:15

AREAS OF SAN DIEGO. NOW A

0:17

POSSIBLE LAWSUIT IS IN THE

0:18

WORKS. AND PEOPLE IN SOUTH SAY

0:19

THEY BELIEVE THE CLOG STORM

0:19

DRAINS ARE TO BLAME.

0:21

>> OUR MISHA DIBONO STARTS US

0:22

OFF LIVE IN SOUTHCREST WITH

0:23

WHAT SHE'S LEARNING MIESHA.

0:28

>> YEAH, GOOD AFTERNOON. IT'S

0:29

HARD TO IMAGINE WHAT THESE

0:30

FOLKS ARE GOING THROUGH STREET

0:32

AFTER STREET DEVASTATED IN ALL

0:35

DIRECTIONS. THERE IS MUD

0:36

EVERYWHERE, DEBRIS EVERYWHERE,

0:39

FURNITURE AND MAJOR

0:39

APPLIANCES. IN THE BACK OF

0:43

THESE HOT, SEVERAL THESE HOMES

0:44

CARS AND THEY'RE NOT THE CARS

0:46

OF THE HOMEOWNERS, BUT JUST

0:46

THEY WOKE UP IN THE MORNING

0:47

AND THE CARS ARE THERE. NOW

0:48

THEY'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT

0:49

HOW TO GET RID OF THEM. ALMOST

0:51

ALL THESE RESIDENTS ARE

0:52

DISPLACED AND THEY'VE LOST

0:54

EVERYTHING. THE QUESTION NOW,

0:55

WHAT IS NEXT? AND ONE OF THESE

0:57

RESIDENTS AS THE CITY OF SAN

0:58

DIEGO NEEDS TO BE HELD

0:59

RESPONSIBLE.

1:02

>> YOU DON'T CLEAN. THE STORM

1:03

DRAINS ARE GOING TO BE AN ACT

1:06

OF GOD. SO I BELIEVE WE WILL

1:07

WIN IN A JURY TRIAL. ROUGHLY

1:10

200 RESIDENTS WHO HAVE

1:10

LITERALLY LOST EVERYTHING AND

1:11

ARE DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES

1:13

RALLY AROUND THEIR NEIGHBOR.

1:14

GREAT MONTOYA WHO PLANS TO SUE

1:15

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO PAY

1:17

FOR THE COST TO REBUILD THEIR

1:19

HOMES. FOLLOWING MONDAY'S

1:21

HISTORIC RAINS. WHAT CAUSED

1:22

PROBLEM WAS ALL THE DEBRIS

1:25

FROM THE STREETS NEVER GET

1:27

WHEN IN THERE THE BRIDGE WHERE

1:29

HE GOES ON TO THE BRIDGE. ALL

1:31

THE DEBRIS OUT THERE AND

1:32

STARTED BACKING OF ALL THE

1:32

CREEK. DRONE VIDEO SHOWS JUST

1:34

HOW WIDESPREAD THE DEVASTATION

1:35

ALL THESE HOMES, INCLUDING

1:38

MONTOYA, IS BACK UP TO CHOICE

1:41

CREEK GOT CAUGHT HERE. ALL THE

1:42

OF COURSE, IS GOING TO LOOK AT

1:44

IT'S NOT THEY HAVEN'T CLEANED

1:45

THIS MANY YEARS.

1:48

>> RESIDENTS UP AND DOWN THE

1:49

STREET TELLING US THE SAME

1:52

TERRIFYING STORY. FLOODWATERS

1:53

ROSE SO QUICKLY TRAPPING THEM

1:54

IN THEIR HOMES FORCING THEM TO

1:56

THEIR ROOFS WAS FLOATING

1:57

AROUND.

2:05

>> COACHES, THE COACHES DON'T

2:06

WORRY WATER WATERS EVERYWHERE.

2:08

YOU'LL YOU'LL SEE THE LINE OF

2:09

THE WATER HE'S GOT A LOOK AT

2:12

HERE. YOU CAN SEE WAY UP HERE.

2:18

>> SO THIS IS JUST ONE AREA OF

2:20

MANY. I MEAN, WE DROVE A

2:22

COUPLE MILES OF THIS WAY AND

2:24

IT'S THE SAME THING UP. THEIR

2:25

RESIDENT AFTER RESIDENT

2:26

SWEEPING OUT THEIR HOUSE

2:28

TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT

2:29

THEY'RE GOING TO DO NEXT. I

2:30

HAVE TO THE CITY HAS MADE SOME

2:31

GOOD PROGRESS IN THE HOURS

2:32

THAT WE HAVE BEEN HERE. THIS

2:34

SIDEWALK IS NOW CLEAR AND

2:36

THERE'S PILES ON ALL THE

2:36

CORNERS WHERE THEY ARE BEGIN

2:39

THE CLEANUP OUTSIDE. BUT AS

2:40

FOR WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN

2:41

WITH THESE HOUSES, WHO KNOWS,

2:42

WE TALKED TO A COUPLE

2:43

RESIDENTS. THEY DO HAVE FLOOD

2:44

INSURANCE, BUT FLOOD INSURANCE

2:46

DOES NOT COVER ACTS OF GOD. SO

2:48

THAT'S GOING TO BE A HUGE

2:49

PROBLEM FOR THESE FOLKS. THIS

2:51

IS A DISTRICT 8 CITY

2:52

COUNCILMEMBER, VIVIAN MARINO.

2:53

SHE WAS OUT HERE THIS MORNING

2:55

GOING INTO SOME OF THESE

2:56

HOMES, TALKING TO SOME OF THE

2:57

RESIDENTS PASSING OUT FLYERS

2:58

WITH IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

2:59

ON THEM. BUT AS TO WHETHER THE

3:03

CITY IS HAS ANY RESPONSIBILITY

3:05

IN THIS TALKING ABOUT THE

3:05

STORM DRAINS AT THIS POINT,

3:06

THEY JUST DON'T KNOW. SO

Neighbors band together after flood damage as they await help from San Diego leaders

Transcript:

0:00

That's right.

0:00

Residents here on B street in South Crest were devastated by Monday's

0:03

floods and while neighbors are helping neighbors try to get through this.

0:08

A lot of residents here are asking where's the city

0:15

Martin

0:15

home was completely wiped out by Monday's flood from the televisions to the piano,

0:21

to the bathroom, to the recently purchased RV.

0:24

Out back,

0:25

we don't got

0:25

no place to

0:26

live. We

0:27

don't got no,

0:28

we

0:28

got

0:29

on

0:32

and nothing so far from any government officials, the city

0:36

has not show up. Nobody has come to talk to us.

0:40

We are right now in the cold is cold.

0:42

Meanwhile, neighbors along the street are showing up for each other,

0:46

handing out food and water along the sidewalk and even driving through the

0:50

neighborhood to deliver pizza for these families who have nothing else to eat.

0:55

Help

0:55

the community out, man. We gotta

0:57

sit together, you know,

0:58

it's the people in the community that are helping out.

1:01

Um

1:02

but not,

1:03

not,

1:04

no, no one's come out and helped us at all and just a short distance away.

1:08

Nearly everything inside Ashley

1:11

Pacheco's parents' home on Beta Street was also destroyed.

1:14

We lost everything, furniture sofa, a

1:17

fridge,

1:19

everything,

1:20

letters, pictures,

1:22

all the memories. Thankfully, their dogs were rescued.

1:25

As was her elderly grandmother across the streets?

1:29

Nobody anticipated the severity of this storm.

1:31

Tuesday. May

1:32

to

1:32

Gloria emphasized that the city is focused on

1:35

helping residents and businesses recover from this devastation

1:39

help that these residents say can't arrive sooner. In

1:43

the meantime, Ashley Pacheco

1:44

plans to help her neighbors to report their damage.

1:48

Something the city is encouraging.

1:50

I

1:50

think if

1:51

enough

1:52

of

1:52

us report we can get

1:54

our

1:54

voices heard

1:55

and neighbors here are asking for the community's help,

1:57

especially donations like food and clothing.

2:00

For more information. Just go to CBS.eight.com.

2:03

Click on the online version of this story.

San Diego storm, flooding aftermath – 11 AM update

Transcript:

0:00

Give us a hand

0:01

and, and let us get off our knees in the mud. Just give us a little help on that.

0:06

Are they're the ones bleeding out there. Nobody's coming to help us.

0:09

Nobody.

0:11

You can hear the frustration from those San Diegans after the devastation

0:14

from the worst flooding in San Diego in nearly 90 years.

0:18

So Roger with us at 11 a.m. here on this Wednesday

0:20

stand on top of the aftermath of Monday's storm here.

0:23

I'm Eric Connors and I'm Anna Laurel and for Ne Amanpour,

0:26

we're learning more about the people affected by Monday's historic flooding.

0:29

Dozens of refugees who fled Afghanistan after the Taliban took over are now living

0:35

in a motel in National City because their apartment complex was badly flooded.

0:40

CBS eight's. Kelly has it all joins us live from their complex in mountain view.

0:44

Kelly, I'm sure you're hearing some harrowing stories from those families.

0:49

Absolutely. You know, like so many other Sandys,

0:52

the Afghan refugees who live at this complex here behind me on Delta Street.

0:56

They lost everything.

0:57

Now, many of them are families with very young Children,

1:00

including a baby who is just 10 days old now I spoke to her father.

1:04

He didn't really want to go on camera.

1:06

He didn't want to call attention to his family,

1:08

but he says he isn't sure what the future holds.

1:11

My wife called me

1:13

and he was

1:15

um uh the flooding has happened.

1:19

Please come early

1:22

and that was

1:23

in

1:24

Zia. He rushed home to get to his family.

1:25

He has three Children, including that 10 day old baby.

1:29

They fled Afghanistan in 2021 after the Taliban took over.

1:33

Zia says he had been working in logistics with the US military.

1:36

Now he says it was initially hard to get to

1:38

his family Monday because the water was so high,

1:41

they were able to make it out safely.

1:43

They in 20 five other refugee families staying at this complex

1:47

had to move to a motel because they had no electricity.

1:50

Zia took us into his apartment today to show us the

1:53

aftermath of flood or mud that is covering his floors,

1:57

much of what they own soaked in flood water.

2:00

Zia says he lost his job as a salesman late last month

2:03

and he is now looking for work to support his family.

2:06

Nancy Harmon, who has been working to help Afghan refugees for six years.

2:10

And she says she knows all of the families who live at this complex

2:13

and that's just heartbreaking. Seeing them struggle,

2:17

these people have been very traumatized having to leave their country,

2:20

their families behind.

2:24

I've just watched them struggle so much

2:27

and it takes a lot to get their apartments where we need

2:30

them to be where they have a couch and beds for everyone

2:33

and then to lose it all and have to start again is so hard.

2:38

Now today,

2:39

her colleague Barbara Cummins dropped off donations for some of the families.

2:43

They say all of the help they received back in 2021 is no longer there.

2:47

So a lot of times they use their own

2:48

money to purchase food and clothing for these families.

2:52

So back out your live,

2:52

you can see a tow truck here at the complex right now getting ready to to

2:56

some of the away some of these vehicles that were badly damaged in the flood waters.

3:00

But they are looking at for basics that these

3:02

families are looking for things just like blankets,

3:05

food, clothing,

3:07

car seats,

3:08

a lot of the car seats that were damaged in the flood waters

3:11

on Monday and can't be used for these are these Children can't,

3:14

can't, can no longer use them.

3:16

And we're going to have more information up on our website.

3:19

Some contact information if you would like to help out,

3:21

that's going to be up on CBS eight.com.

3:24

Just click on this story. Kelly has

3:26

it all CBS

3:26

eight.

3:27

There's so many details like car seats that are now ruined from these

3:31

people for these people and so many others that are dealing with this,

3:34

a truck full of mattresses being hauled away, right.

3:37

It's all those things really add up.

3:39

We've seen San Diego come together in

3:41

disasters before with our fires and everything.

3:43

We know

3:44

everyone's going to step up here again. As Kelly mentioned those details at CBS

3:47

eight.com. Thank you, Kelly. Kelly.

3:49

This morning,

3:49

we are working for you to get answers for storm victims who live near storm

3:53

channels. CBS H Regina

3:55

Rita is live in mountain view and Regina.

3:56

You've been finding out what people can do right now to get some help if they need it.

4:00

What has the city uh done so far?

4:02

Actually, we're gonna check in with Regina here in just a moment,

4:04

but we have been drying out.

4:05

That's the good news.

4:06

We got a little break here. Um So no wet weather in the near future.

4:10

Yes, people have been worried about that because we do have some rain next week.

4:14

Let's get right to Evan

4:16

Noran who's got a look at our forecast.

4:19

Well, we're finally not seeing any more green on the screen as we say,

4:22

there is plenty of white and gray out there throughout the morning commute.

4:26

It was mostly gray,

4:27

but we also have some opportunities throughout the

4:30

day for these clouds to break apart,

4:31

for us to get more sunshine in the mix.

4:33

Take a look at what the view was like as of about 9 a.m. today,

4:36

still incorporating some low clouds, a little bit of fog.

4:39

But again, the notable part of the forecast here was how dry it was.

4:44

We'll hold on to the dry skies coming up in just a bit.

4:46

We'll take a look at that eight day forecast where we finally have the

4:49

stretch of dry weather for San Diego and a good opportunity for sunshine too.

4:53

Details coming up.

4:56

Ok.

4:56

Now we want to get answers for those of

4:57

those folks that live near those storm channels.

5:00

They've been having a lot of problems. That's right.

5:02

That's where we saw all that bad flooding CBS Eight's Regina Yura

5:05

is live in mountain view, one of the hardest hit areas.

5:08

Regina, you've been finding out what people can do right now to get help.

5:11

What has the city done so far?

5:16

You guys and I can tell you that city crews are on scene right now,

5:19

actually cleaning up some of the mess.

5:21

They came here with their equipment.

5:23

Uh They've been actually clearing up some of the piles of trash.

5:27

That was somebody's belongings at one point.

5:29

But you can still see we are surrounded by mud.

5:32

There's a mountains and mountains of, of mud here,

5:36

especially pe people's belongings here that it was just not usable, just so much

5:41

furniture.

5:42

This is what we're looking at, but city crews are finally here picking up,

5:45

sweeping the streets and clearing up some of the area.

5:48

There are also

5:50

renewing some of the pipes. We've actually seen them put new pipes for this area,

5:56

but this is on 42nd street,

5:59

I did talk to a resident on 33rd and she's

6:02

still waiting for city crews to clean up her area.

6:05

And this is what she told us.

6:07

I called a guy, I think around five o'clock this morning,

6:10

he acted like he didn't know what I was talking about at streets.

6:12

And I said we need our street clean and

6:15

he's like, I don't know, I'm like, sir, I used to work for the city.

6:18

I know you guys do clean up

6:19

and this is what we need

6:21

and everything needs to be sanitized. And what have you. My

6:24

mother at 94 she, she 94 years old should not be going through this.

6:30

And that is a Caroline car.

6:32

She showed me the chair lift, her 94 year old mother had been stuck on,

6:36

on Monday for two hours while her home started to flood.

6:39

Fortunately, firefighters got there just in time.

6:42

Now, car gave us a tour of some of the damages, the inside just as bad as her backyard.

6:46

You can see the water levels there. Her little flower garden covered in mud

6:50

and all her outside furniture toppled over. At that same time, the flood service

6:55

she hired herself had just shown up to start cleaning.

6:58

The car tells me she didn't get any help from the city.

7:01

You just heard her seconds ago saying that she called to get some direction

7:04

and it seemed like the workers didn't even know where to direct her to

7:07

Carl.

7:08

Tells me that she had asked the city several times

7:11

about the inadequate storm drainage and the lack of maintenance.

7:14

Last week, she immediately contacted the city,

7:17

urging someone to come and make sure that storm

7:19

was cleared. And again, no one came. Now.

7:22

CBS eight is working for you trying to get answers on how to get assistance.

7:26

We reached out to the county emergency Services Department.

7:29

They encourage the people affected by the storm

7:31

to complete a survey on alert San diego.org.

7:35

Using that information,

7:36

the county can better assess the damage and use

7:38

it to apply for state and federal funding.

7:41

So back out here live, of course, if you

7:43

need food supplies or a place to stay,

7:45

you can also contact the Red Cross that we actually

7:47

have a full list on CBS a.com for more information.

7:51

But as far as car,

7:53

she is actually waiting for that flooding service company that she called

7:57

to get that cleared up and she's still waiting for the city hoping

8:01

that you know her situation

8:02

and

8:03

obviously gets better.

8:05

That's late is here and

8:08

I can hear the clean up efforts there but uh a long ways to go for those folks.

8:12

Thank you for that Regina.

8:13

Right now.

8:14

San Diego mayor Todd Gloria focused on recovery efforts

8:17

in the most impacted areas across the city.

8:19

Mayor Gloria walked through South Crest yesterday where

8:22

San Diego fire says more than 100 people,

8:24

more than 30 dogs were rescued from their homes in that neighborhood alone.

8:29

Mayor Gloria says the city is there to help

8:34

let folks know that my heart is with them.

8:36

And I ask San Diegans to hold every one of your neighbors

8:38

in your hearts who are having to deal with yesterday's events.

8:42

I also want to be clear that the city of San Diego

8:44

is doing and will continue to do everything it can to help.

8:49

Now,

8:49

some residents believe Mayor Gloria and the city should

8:52

have done more to prevent this from happening.

8:55

We just heard that also echoed in the interview that Regina just did with a woman

9:00

with dealing with all of this this morning

9:03

and this all comes as the city of San Diego,

9:05

the county and the state of California all declaring states of emergency

9:09

here due to the worst flooding we've seen in 90 years.

9:12

Now,

9:12

this is all part of an effort to help people

9:15

and businesses recover by freeing up and streamlining funding,

9:18

but it could still take weeks,

9:19

months even years for people to actually get some of that money in their hands.

9:23

Some impacted residents tell us they blame the city due

9:26

to a lack of maintenance on those nearby flood channels

9:30

to

9:30

the channel out. It is full of debris

9:33

up there is concrete down here, there's mud and dirt,

9:35

we got trees going in there.

9:37

Those trees you see right there, those trees are growing in flood channel.

9:41

The flood channel that overflowed is called South Choya

9:44

Creek and it runs from mountain view to South Crest City records show it was

9:48

supposed to be maintained as part of an

9:50

emergency maintenance plan dating back to 2016.

9:54

But the city says high costs and environmental reviews hindered the those efforts,

10:01

agencies require us when we remove vegetation from our channels.

10:05

We have to mitigate or purchase land

10:07

or put that native vegetation back somewhere off site.

10:11

The city is hopeful that now that a state of emergency has been declared,

10:14

federal funds might flow in

10:16

to the maintenance of these flood

10:18

control channels perhaps preventing another disaster.

10:21

The severe flooding left so many cars flooded and damaged CBS

10:26

eight is working for you to find out what you need

10:28

to get compensation.

10:30

One attorney tells us it should be covered

10:32

under auto comprehensive coverage for most people.

10:35

He says the most important thing is to get your claim in

10:38

before they start to pile up,

10:41

document,

10:43

document,

10:44

document,

10:45

photograph it,

10:46

videotape it and then make the claim as soon as possible.

10:52

Now,

10:52

that attorney says the insurance company will only pay

10:55

to fix your car up until a point.

10:57

If they think the damage will cost more to fix,

10:59

they'll pay you the fair market value for your vehicle which could

11:02

be lower for what you than what you owe or paid for.

11:06

Stay with CBS A for the latest on the storm. Recovery.

11:09

You can also go to CBS a.com and visit our social media pages.

Flood victims take frustrations to city council one week after storm

Transcript:

0:00

SHOWING THEIR FRUSTRATION WITH

0:01

CITY LEADERS.

0:05

>> MONDAY WAS THE FIRST TIME

0:06

THE COMMUNITY HAD A CHANCE TO

0:08

SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THEIR CITY

0:09

COUNCIL MEMBERS AS THEY MET

0:11

FOR THEIR CITY COUNCIL

0:13

MEETING. THEY WERE FRUSTRATED,

0:14

ANGRY AND PLEADING FOR HELP.

0:17

>> IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE WE

0:18

INTRODUCED YOU TO JERRY

0:19

HERNANDEZ JUST HOURS AFTER HIS

0:22

HOUSE FLOODED DURING THE STORM

0:24

IS STILL A LITTLE MESSY. I'M

0:25

HERE MONDAY NIGHT. HE ALLOWED

0:27

US BACK IN TO CHECK IN ON THE

0:29

STATUS OF HIS CLEANUP. AND

0:31

THERE'S STILL SO MUCH TO BE

0:32

DONE. LAST 5 CARS, 5 CARS DUE

0:34

TO HIS FOOT.

0:38

>> I CAN GO OUT THERE AND WORK

0:39

NO MORE. BUILD UP ON THIS.

0:44

HERNANDEZ GETS EMOTIONAL AS HE

0:45

WALKS US THROUGH THE DAMAGE.

0:46

THE FLOOD WATERS HAVE RECEDED.

0:49

>> BUT NOT EVERYTHING IS DRY.

0:53

MIXTURE OF EVERYTHING.

0:54

EVERYTHING ON STILLWATER,

0:55

HERNANDEZ AND MANY OTHERS TOOK

0:57

THEIR FRUSTRATIONS STRAIGHT TO

0:57

CITY HALL MONDAY, LOST

0:58

EVERYTHING. AND REPEAT. WE

1:04

NEED.

1:05

>> SHELTER NIGHT WHILE FOR

1:06

HOTELS. I WAS STUCK IN

1:07

NATIONAL CITY AND I COULDN'T

1:08

GET TO MY BABIES. I COULDN'T

1:12

GET COME UP. BABIES, RAW

1:14

EMOTIONS, TEARS, ANGER,

1:15

SADNESS, ALL POURING OUT AS

1:17

THOSE AFFECTED BY THE FLOODS

1:18

BEGGED FOR HELP FROM THE CITY.

1:20

>> REMINDING THEM OF THE

1:21

STORMS COMING IN JUST DAYS. WE

1:25

NEED MORE STAND. WE NEED WE

1:26

NEED HELP AFTER HEARING PUBLIC

1:28

COMMENT, THE CITY COUNCIL

1:29

UNANIMOUSLY RATIFIED THE LOCAL

1:31

EMERGENCY. MAYOR TODD GLORIA

1:32

DECLARED AFTER THE STORM. IN A

1:34

STATEMENT, MAYOR GLORIA'S

1:36

OFFICE SAYING HE SPOKE WITH

1:37

FEMA SHARING THE NEEDS OF THE

1:40

COMMUNITY, HIS OFFICE SAYING

1:41

HE WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN

1:43

ADVOCATE FOR RESOURCES TO BE

1:46

APPROVED AS SWIFTLY AS

1:47

POSSIBLE. ONLY WAS ABLE TO SIT

1:47

THROUGH RUBBLE.

1:50

>> ALL THE OTHER I HAD TO

1:53

SOME.

1:53

>> AND HERNANDEZ HOPES THAT

1:56

HELP ARRIVES QUICKLY. I CAN

1:58

TAKE THIS ON.

San Diego rain has Southcrest residents thinking about flooding

Transcript:

0:00

rain swelled the amount of water rushing

0:03

down choas Creek but the flow was hardly

0:05

the Raging torrent that flooded Greg

0:08

montoya's home on Beta Street he credits

0:11

city workers and they've cleaned a whole

0:13

lot they've cleaned uh the the

0:17

settlement out in front of the Outlets

0:20

of the street drains I feel pretty good

0:23

I I think we're not we're not going to

0:24

get flooded

0:26

because this is what should have been

0:28

done if it would have been done it it

0:30

wouldn't we wouldn't have had what

0:31

happened on the 22nd and what happened

0:33

on the 22nd was devastating Chris sher's

0:36

came to the flooded neighborhood to help

0:38

family we lost our house everybody in

0:40

this neighborhood lost everything

0:42

landlord were kicking out people that

0:44

are renting my mom owns my grandma owns

0:46

So they lost everything um our cars that

0:49

were in the drive they all got lost

0:51

there was like three or four cars in

0:53

there all of them were lost Fernando

0:55

Pastor shows where the flood waters

0:57

peaked there is a Telltale line on all

1:00

the buildings on his property this white

1:02

car was completely underwater because if

1:05

they did not listen to us this can

1:07

happen again again and when we can uh uh

1:10

uh stop or do something better so that

1:14

we need to focus in that everything

1:16

inside the home was ruined he says the

1:19

city didn't listen to neighbors asking

1:21

for the creek and storm drains to be

1:23

cleaned up he wanted more done before

1:26

the floods and a faster response after

1:29

the community helpers coming right here

1:31

and clean well you see my video uh they

1:34

come to here and then that's why looks

1:37

like that most the houses most clean but

1:40

on the street the city come to do but

1:42

come to do like a little bit late until

1:45

they see the the community started uh uh

1:48

working first city Crews did clean out

1:50

much of the choas creek Channel removing

1:53

cars debris and lots of bamboo like weed

1:56

known as a rundo a week ago water pushed

1:59

that debris Downstream until it blocked

2:01

the channel and flooded homes and that

2:04

has residents keeping a nervous eye on

2:07

the rain might get bad if it's going to

2:09

not it's like a 5 day nonstop it might

2:11

get bad so who knows you know the

2:14

challenge for City officials was to keep

2:16

this water in the channel that did not

2:19

happen a week ago Eric Anderson KPBS

2:28

news

San Diego flood victims consider suing city after Jan. 22 storm

Transcript:

0:00

LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ENGLISH,

0:01

SPANISH KOREAN IN MANDARIN.

0:05

MEANWHILE, NEIGHBORS IN

0:05

SOUTHEASTERN SAN DIEGO SAY

0:07

ATTORNEYS ARE GOING DOOR TO

0:08

DOOR TRYING TO TALK TO FLOOD

0:10

VICTIMS ABOUT LAWSUITS AGAINST

0:11

THE CITY RELATED TO THE

0:13

JANUARY 22ND STORE, ABC, 10

0:16

NEWS REPORTER PERLA SHAHEEN

0:17

SPOKE WITH NEIGHBORS ABOUT IT

0:18

IN SOUTHCREST TODAY.

0:21

>> THOSE I SPOKE TO SAY THEY

0:22

WANT TO HOLD THE CITY

0:24

ACCOUNTABLE. I'M STANDING IN

0:26

THE CANAL NEAR BETA STREET

0:27

THAT OVERFLOWED DURING THE

0:28

STORM ON JANUARY. 22ND AND

0:31

NEIGHBORS SAY THEY WANT TO

0:32

TAKE LEGAL ACTION. SO THE CITY

0:34

CONTINUES TO CLEAR OUT THIS

0:35

AREA.

0:40

>> ALMOST 2 WEEKS AFTER A

0:42

STORM FLOODED THESE HOMES ON

0:44

BETA STREET. NEIGHBORS ARE

0:45

COMING TOGETHER TO TALK ABOUT

0:47

POTENTIALLY SUING THE CITY OF

0:49

SAN THERE ARE FIRMS AND

0:51

ATTORNEYS GOING DOOR TO DOOR

0:52

TRYING TO SIGN PEOPLE LOT.

0:54

ANGELA HAMPTON SAYS SHE HAD TO

0:55

SWIM OUT OF THE FLOOD WATERS

0:56

WITH HER 2 DOGS. SHE WANTS

0:58

JUSTICE AND AS A CIVIL DEFENSE

1:00

ATTORNEY, SHE'S EDUCATING HER

1:03

NEIGHBORS ABOUT THEIR LEGAL

1:04

RIGHTS. YOU KNOW, WHAT IS IT

1:05

THAT WE REALLY NEED THE SITE'S

1:07

MONEY FOR DAMAGES? WHAT I CAN

1:09

OFFER MY NEIGHBORS IS JUST

1:10

SOME GUIDANCE OF WHAT CERTAIN

1:11

LEGAL TERMS MEAN AND

1:14

>> AND WHAT MAYBE IS THE BEST

1:15

OPTION TO TAKE.

1:17

>> LAW FIRMS ARE ALSO TAKING

1:18

PART IN THE CONVERSATION DOWN

1:21

THE STREET. A GROUP OF

1:22

ATTORNEYS SET UP CAMP ON GREG

1:22

MONTOYA'S FRONT LAWN. THEY

1:26

ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO FILE

1:27

CLAIMS THROUGH THEIR LAW FIRM

1:28

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. MONTOYA

1:30

HIRED ONE OF THEM IN 2019 TO

1:33

SUE THE CITY AFTER A DIFFERENT

1:35

STORM FLOODED HIS HOME AND

1:37

HOPEFULLY OUT OF THIS. THE

1:37

CITY WILL NOW START TAKING.

1:40

>> AREA. SERIOUSLY.

1:45

>> I WALKED WITH MONTOYA

1:47

THROUGH HIS BACKYARD, WHICH

1:49

LEADS RIGHT TO A CANAL MONTOYA

1:52

SAYS THIS IS THE SOURCE OF

1:54

CONSTANT FLOODING IN SOUTHWEST

1:55

HAVE A LOT OF DOCUMENTATION OF

1:56

TELLING THEM UNIQUE TO CLEAN

1:57

THE STORM. DRAIN.

2:00

>> MONTOYA SAYS HE PLANS TO

2:01

HIRE THE SAME ATTORNEY TO FILE

2:03

ANOTHER LAWSUIT AGAINST THE

2:05

CITY. HAMPTON IS ORGANIZING

2:07

COMMUNITY MEETINGS WITH OTHER

2:09

FIRMS TO TALK TO RESIDENTS

2:10

ABOUT THEIR OPTIONS BECAUSE

2:12

WE'RE ALL STILL LIVING HERE.

2:14

WE'RE GOING TO REBUILD AND WE

2:15

NEED TO

San Diegans survey damage after sever flooding in Southcrest – NBC 7 San Diego

Transcript:

0:01

beginning. All right. Thank you

0:02

for the look, Joey. And it's not

0:04

just there today starts recovery

0:06

for thousands of San Diegans

0:06

with flooded homes. Southcrest

0:08

was one of the areas hit

0:10

hardest, which is where you'll

0:11

find NBC 7's Shandel Menezes

0:12

Shondell. You've been there with

0:14

families all day. We're trying

0:16

to piece things back together. I

0:21

have Monica on BTS Street in

0:23

Southcrest right now, and after

0:25

yesterday, this entire

0:27

neighborhood looks

0:27

post-apocalypse.

0:29

>> I'm going to start with the

0:30

damage on the street with some

0:32

cars here that are definitely

0:34

not where their owners park

0:35

them. You can see the dents from

0:36

the storm. You could see all of

0:38

the brea and the grass. These

0:39

cars will have to be towed, but

0:41

if you swing around with me down

0:43

the sidewalk, I wouldn't be able

0:45

to walk down this way because of

0:47

all all of the furniture, the

0:48

mattresses, people's entire

0:49

livelihood is sitting out on the

0:50

curbs here as they continue to

0:52

bring more things out, more

0:53

things out. SDG and E has been

0:55

here. Other people. One woman

0:56

crossed, drove down her car and

0:59

was asking if we needed plastic

1:01

bags. She doesn't even live in

1:02

this neighborhood. She said she

1:03

was just here to help some other

1:05

neighbors I spoke to said that

1:07

they don't have insurance, and

1:08

those who do don't have flood

1:10

insurance, so they don't know

1:11

what to do. They just know to

1:12

keep cleaning and hope that more

1:14

hope, more help is on the way.

1:19

Raging waters uprooted their

1:21

lives.

1:23

>> One minute it's raining.

1:24

There's a little bit of water.

1:26

>> By 1059, there's flooding in

1:27

my house, and I was on the roof

1:29

by 1:00.

1:30

>> Duncan McLuhan and his

1:32

neighbor, Neil Wong Yao waited

1:34

it out. Up here together, as did

1:36

the rest of the neighborhood.

1:38

>> Every other house pretty much

1:39

has you know, their families,

1:40

kids up there. We got dogs and

1:42

cats. They somehow made it up

1:43

there as well.

1:44

>> Seven now, eight.

1:45

>> Yesterday was Santiago's

1:47

eighth birthday. Today he came

1:49

back to a home he didn't

1:50

recognize as a bunch of stuff.

1:52

>> A bunch of stuff is floating

1:55

and broken. Fences are broken.

1:57

Cars are on fences. Uh, people

1:59

are on roofs. Roofs And most of

2:03

my whole house is just torn

2:06

apart.

2:06

>> He holds on to his dad and

2:07

the few toys he has left because

2:09

recently my dad bought me some

2:11

mini Godzilla toys.

2:13

>> I have them somewhere.

2:15

>> While he looks for that home.

2:19

Owner Julietta Del Rio looks for

2:21

answers. How could this happen?

2:23

>> This problem? For this, for

2:24

the city. The city not clean.

2:27

The canyon. For 40 years that I

2:32

live in. And this property? No

2:34

What it does.

2:34

>> She's been pushing for a

2:36

clean canyon. So when unexpected

2:38

floods happen, they're prepared.

2:39

No one saw this coming.

2:41

>> Oh, no no no no, the water

2:43

was, you know, this high. Yeah.

2:45

Welcome to my lovely crib.

2:47

>> As neighbor after neighbor

2:49

walks us through what's left of

2:50

their homes. Uh it's so gross.

2:53

>> I mean, you can see how high

2:56

the water was. They tell me

2:57

Southcrest is for survivors.

3:00

>> We are going to be figuring

3:02

that out. We don't have a place

3:04

to stay just yet, but we'll

3:05

figure all that out. But we're

3:08

grateful you know, life goes on.

3:09

The most important thing is that

3:11

we have our lives and we can

3:13

rebuild everything else.

3:15

>> Another good thing to hold on

3:16

to here, besides the fact that

3:18

there aren't any reported

3:18

deaths, is that this street at

3:20

least still has power. SGA can't

3:22

say the same for at least 400

3:25

other homes in the area. I

3:27

flipped around here just to show

3:28

you that the damage is 360 all

3:30

around us. SGA is working to

3:33

restore power to those other 400

3:34

homes so they can at least see

3:36

while they work to clean up.

3:37

Live in

San Diego residents rally at Chicano Park over City's flood response

Transcript:

0:00

Yeah, that's correct. And the March is just taking place right now.

0:03

I want to get out of the picture here to kind of show you what's going on right now.

0:06

They're all huddled here

0:07

in an area here in Chicano Park.

0:09

These are over a dozen residents all from the mountain view and South Crest area.

0:14

They've been here since 10 a.m.

0:16

and they're calling out the city for what they say

0:18

is a complete failure to the community and negligence.

0:22

You can hear

0:23

one of them just chanted liars. That's what they're calling the city.

0:26

These are people again from the mountain view and South Crest neighborhoods.

0:30

They say so far, the requests haven't been heard and that's been the issue all along.

0:34

They're doing this

0:35

to voice the concerns and the frustration of many flood victims for years.

0:40

They asked the city to clean up the flood channels to check the storm drains.

0:44

They asked them to inspect their

0:46

neighborhood to avoid catastrophic events like this

0:49

one speaker says he left work after his family called him on January 22nd

0:54

to notify him that their street was flooding.

0:57

He knew in that moment that the storm drains hadn't been cleaned out.

1:00

He also says he himself, at one point with other neighbors attended,

1:03

attempted to unclog the storm drains once they started seeing water levels rising,

1:09

others say they had to climb onto the roofs for safety.

1:12

I mean, you can just imagine how many of them are feeling right now.

1:14

These are families who have lost valuables and boring documents.

1:17

Personal items have been passed down from generation to generation,

1:21

Not to mention their property just completely destroyed by these floods.

1:25

Now, we talked to one resident and asked her what the city has done so far.

1:29

Here's what she responded.

1:31

But

1:31

I lost hope

1:34

in the city in any.

1:36

But I gained strength with the community that

1:39

came and helped us because organizations like the

1:42

Y MC A provided us at least with a hotel voucher even though days late.

1:46

But they came through

1:47

people from other cities came and assisted us with food.

1:54

And that is a Monica Garza who you just heard.

1:57

Her daughter and her mom are the ones who were

2:00

in their house that day. They have been living in that area for 35 years.

2:07

Never seen something like this.

2:09

But they did say that they have asked the city several times

2:12

to clean out

2:14

the flood

2:14

channels,

2:15

clean the storm drains and they wanted to avoid a catastrophic event like this.

2:20

And this is just the result knowing the history that southeastern

2:23

San

2:24

Diego has with the city they just say they're not surprised that this

2:28

community was the one that was hit the most when those floods happened.

2:32

That latest here in the

2:34

Chicano Park area.

2:35

Back

2:36

to you guys.

San Diego flood victims speak out at city council meeting

Transcript:

0:00

Guys,

0:00

some strong emotions from these neighbors that they

0:02

spoke in front of San Diego City Council.

0:04

Today,

0:04

one woman spoke for a group of her neighbors

0:06

saying they lost everything and are now worried.

0:08

They'll soon have to sleep in their cars or on the street.

0:11

I'm here to ask you to prioritize victims of the flood

0:17

due

0:17

to the,

0:18

that's Mary L of.

0:19

Also there,

0:20

today's city council meeting agenda included a hearing on the council's budget

0:23

priorities for 2025 fiscal year that

0:26

standard procedure council debates what they'd like

0:28

to see money earmarked for in the budget and those recommendations go to

0:32

the mayor who considers them as part of the budget creation process.

0:35

At a meeting last week, council members in a 4 to 0

0:38

vote agreed on funding for an enhanced storm water maintenance program near

0:43

underserved neighborhoods like those in southeast San Diego hit hard last month.

0:47

They also voted on prioritizing flood disaster response and recovery,

0:50

things like potentially waiving fees.

0:53

The people who spoke in front of the council today like Mary

0:56

today pushed for that and more

0:58

people need to have somewhere to sleep,

1:01

permanent residence until we can go back home,

1:07

there's people that are missing work.

1:09

You miss work, you miss money.

1:11

What's gonna happen? Who's feeding us

1:15

the nonprofits

1:16

Y MC A is feeding us. What are you guys doing? What has the city done for us?

1:22

Nothing

1:26

in a press release today.

1:27

The city did say it's now turned the local assistance center.

1:30

It opened into an online resource hub where

1:32

people can access services to help in recovery,

1:35

plus find places to go to get help and things like household supplies.

1:38

The city says staff is also going door to

1:41

door in areas like South Crest Mountain view,

1:43

Shellow

1:43

Mount Hope and others to find out what people need and then to ask

1:47

for those resources to get them to them.

1:49

The city also says in person support is still available

1:52

at Mountain View Beckworth Library that's on San Pascual Street,

1:55

Tuesdays,

1:56

Thursdays and Saturdays City Council isn't making any decisions on the budget.

2:00

Today was a hearing on it.

2:01

CBS eight.

2:02

Jasmine Ramirez is on the story working for you to find out more and we'll have that

2:06

tonight at 11 Marcela.

Alliance San Diego helps flood victims connect with lawyers

Transcript:

0:00

Today, people affected by last month's floods made their way to the Lion.

0:04

San Diego office where they were met with lawyers and attorneys to plenty

0:07

strategy to make sure something like this doesn't happen again in their community.

0:11

People still working to recover from January's devastating

0:14

floods were treated with warm breakfast this morning.

0:17

It came as they got together to learn

0:19

more about resources and legal options available to them

0:22

to

0:22

see

0:23

if

0:23

I can get

0:23

any

0:23

because I'm already tired of promises and promises and promises

0:28

in San Diego brought in the law firm Singleton and Schreiber to talk to

0:32

flood victims who have questions and concerns just for them to help us,

0:35

you know, like

0:38

they

0:38

can

0:39

help

0:39

Pineda

0:40

lives in the permanent complex affected by the floods right now.

0:43

His family is staying at a hotel.

0:45

He said he's already pursuing legal action but wanted to hear more. I

0:49

don't know who

0:49

needs to

0:50

step it

0:50

up, but

0:50

they got to

0:51

step

0:51

up and give us

0:52

our

0:52

Brett Schreiber of Singleton and Schreiber is

0:55

letting flood victims know that they only have

0:57

six months from the date of the disaster to file a claim with the government.

1:01

So we intend to use

1:03

litigation as well as political

1:06

co ordination with our community partners to not

1:10

only ensure that this community gets rebuilt,

1:13

but to ensure that this doesn't happen again in the future.

1:15

A big worry some victims have is immigration status.

1:23

This resident is one of many who have concerns because of their immigration status.

1:27

But Schreiber says that's not a problem. Absolutely not

1:30

want to be very clear about something. We have very good laws in California

1:34

that protect people

1:36

of any type of immigration status

1:39

from bringing a claim in our civil justice system

1:42

for people looking to pursue legal action.

1:45

Schreiber says some important things flood victims can do now is document,

1:48

this includes mud lines and flood lines in their homes to essentially

1:52

create a record of what everything looked like in their home.

1:54

He also went on to say there is no

1:57

action lawsuit in the works. Currently,

1:59

it is not,

2:00

it's what we call is a mass action which

2:02

means each and every claim is worked up individually.

2:06

He says every single claim rises and falls on its

2:09

own merits because each claim is an individual person,

2:12

family or owner along with legal help.

2:14

The breakfast served as a time to discuss a strategy to

2:17

push City Hall to invest in and maintain critical stormwater infrastructure.

2:23

CBS eight

Ongoing concerns over flooding

Transcript:

0:00

LIVE AUSTIN RADISH, ABC, 10

0:02

NEWS, SO MANY PEOPLE RUNNING

0:02

OUT OF TIME. THANK YOU,

0:03

AUSTIN. WHILE VICTIMS ARE

0:06

CONCERNED ABOUT HOUSING.

0:08

THERE'S ALSO THE ONGOING WORRY

0:09

MORE FLOODING EVERY TIME IT

0:11

RAINS.

0:13

>> TODAY MY CO ANCHOR ALI ALI,

0:13

YOU SPOKE TO GREG MONTOYA ON

0:16

BETA STREET WHO SAYS HE LEFT

0:17

HIS HOTEL THIS WEEKEND TO HELP

0:20

THE CITY CLEAN OUT THE STORM

0:21

DRAIN ON A STREET.

0:23

>> HAVE RAIN COMING DOWN.

0:27

WE'RE AT LEAST 2 A HALF HOURS

0:28

COMING OUT. WATER STARTED TO

0:29

RISE UP. I COME OVER TO WAR

0:31

AND RAIN THAT WE HAVE. THE

0:32

ONLY DRAIN WE HAVE IN THE AREA

0:36

AND IT'S FULL OF TRASH. AND SO

0:37

I'M STARTING TO PICK REMOVE

0:37

ALL TRASH WITH A RAKE, TRYING

0:39

TO GET THE WATER TO PULL CALL

0:42

9-1-1, FOR THE WATER BREAK

0:44

LYING. IT TOOK OVER A HALF

0:46

HOUR FOR THEM TO RESPOND

0:48

FINALLY SEND SOMEBODY WANT

0:48

THAT. CITY EMPLOYEE FROM THE

0:52

PRIME DEPARTMENT SHOWED UP

0:53

BITE. SHOW THEM WHERE THE

0:54

BREAK WAS. I SHOWED HIM HOW TO

0:57

SHUT IT OFF AND SHUT THE WATER

0:58

OFF VICTORY. PAIR. I CAME BACK

1:02

HERE THAT KEEP THE TRASH FROM

1:02

COMING INTO THIS DRAIN LINE.

1:06

>> ALL THE TRASH THAT WAS HERE

1:07

WITH ALL COMING FROM.

1:09

>> FROM ALL OVER THE STREET,

1:10

YOU IF YOU LOOK, YOU GOT

1:11

ALTHOUGH. TRASH IN THE BOTH

1:16

SECTIONS OF THE STREET ON

1:17

BIRCH HERE IN BETA, ALL FLOW

1:21

TO THIS ONE DOESN'T RIGHT

1:21

HERE. THAT'S ALL THE STUFF

1:22

THAT WAS. LOG ON THIS. THAT'S

1:25

ALL THIS TRASH THAT IS

1:27

THROUGHOUT THE STREETS HERE

1:31

THAT THE CITY DOESN'T ADDRESS.

1:32

AND THE CONCERN IS IF YOU

1:33

DON'T CLEAN UP THE TRASH AND

1:35

THE WATER RISES, IT'S GETTING

1:37

INTO HOMES AGAIN, RIGHT?

1:38

BECAUSE SOME OF THE HOMES

1:38

THERE ARE ON SLAP

1:40

CONSTRUCTION.

1:41

>> AND THAT MEANS THEY SIT

1:41

REALLY LOW TO THE GROUND AND

1:44

IT WON'T TAKE MUCH WATER FOR

1:46

GET THE WATER TO GO INTO THE

1:48

PROPERTY. SOME OF THE DEFENSE

1:49

BEFORE AND AFTER YOU ARE

1:51

CLEANING OUT THEIR SIZE. AND

1:52

HERE NOW THE WATER WAS FLOWING

1:53

INTO THE IT DROPPED. A LOT OF

1:54

WATER IS UP TO THE SIDEWALK.

1:55

ALL. AFTER I CLEANED IT ALL

2:00

OUT AND DROP DOWN TO THE CURB.

2:02

AND YOU SAID YOU CALL THE

2:03

SITTING COME CLEAN UP SOME OF

2:05

THE TRACK THAT PEOPLE HAVE

2:06

DUMPED ON YOUR STREET. YES, I

2:07

I GET IT DONE FOR THIS

2:07

ADDRESS. THERE WAS A BLUE

2:12

CONTAINER YEAR AND TRASH PILED

2:13

ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE

2:14

CONTAINER. I MAKE THE REQUEST.

2:18

THEY CAME AND REMOVED THE

2:19

CONTAINER.

2:23

>> AND PICKED UP THE BULK

2:24

ITEMS. BUT THEY LEFT ALL THE

2:27

SMALL STUFF AND THE SMALLEST

2:28

OF THIS. WHAT CLOGGED THE

2:28

DRAIN LINES.

2:28

>> THEN I SHOWED YOU THE CITY

2:32

KNOW THERE'S ONLY ONE SINGLE

2:33

GRAIN LINE FOR THIS WHOLE

2:35

AREA. THIS MOST IS IT'S

2:38

CRITICAL THAT AGAINST PEAKED

2:39

UP BECAUSE IT NOT ONLY CLUBS

2:42

THE STORM DRAIN. IT ALSO GOES

2:43

INTO THE OCEAN. WE KEEP

2:45

POLLUTING THE OCEANS OR NONE

2:46

OF US ARE GOING TO HAVE A

2:46

PLANET TO LIVE ON.

2:49

>> STAY ON TOP OF THE

2:51

AFTERMATH OF THE FLOODING AND

2:52

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP ON 10

2:53

NEWS

Hundreds of South San Diego flood victims sue the city of San Diego

Transcript:

0:00

Of flood victims

0:01

are now taking the city of San Diego to court over the damages to their homes.

0:04

From the January 22nd storm CBS. Kelly, he

0:07

joins us, live from South Crest with what's new in this lawsuit,

0:11

which was found on behalf of nearly 300 plaintiffs.

0:14

And what one of those plaintiffs is saying this afternoon, Kelly.

0:17

That's right. And plaintiff Greg Montoya lives here in South Crest.

0:20

Now, this is actually the second time he sued the city over flood damage to his home.

0:25

But this time he's joined by nearly 300 of his neighbors.

0:29

Now, he says, instead of spending all this money on bike lanes,

0:32

the city should have spent the money on maintaining the storm drains.

0:37

It's like saying, uh

0:38

I got a hole in my room, but I'm gonna put a new kitchen in,

0:41

shouldn't you fix the roof first?

0:44

So I don't understand the logic of Todd glory in the city council.

0:47

There is no logic to it. How could you

0:50

put in millions and millions of dollars

0:53

in bike path

0:54

knowing that the storm drain system is inadequate,

1:00

West Beta

1:01

Street.

1:06

And here is some cell phone video of Montoya in

1:08

March 2 months after the devastating January 22nd flooding here,

1:12

he is working to clear the storm drain on Beta Street during another storm.

1:16

So this video was taken after the city cleared

1:18

the channels from all the trees and debris.

1:21

Montoya says the problems have not been fixed now,

1:24

the lawsuit states that it is the city's responsibility

1:27

to maintain the flood channels that flow into Choya

1:30

and the city failed to do this.

1:31

Some residents have told me they've been complaining about this for decades.

1:35

The plaintiffs in this case allege that city

1:37

engineers told the city as far back as 2016

1:40

that the South Choya

1:41

Creek channel needed maintenance.

1:43

They claim the city was negligent that they knew the flood channels

1:46

posed a serious risk but failed to do anything about it.

1:50

So they are suing for \$100 million.

1:54

We have clients that were,

1:56

uh they lost everything.

1:58

We have some clients that were hospitalized because

2:00

they were trapped in the flood water.

2:02

We have clients that are still in hotels, we have businesses that were shut down.

2:08

And so that was Attorney Evan Walker,

2:10

one of the attorneys on what's called a mass tort lawsuit.

2:13

And he tells me this is just the beginning.

2:15

There are more people who are coming forward.

2:17

He says several other lawsuits are going to be filed

2:19

against other defendants including the County of San Diego,

2:23

the city of Coronado

2:25

where he says there are other flood victims.

2:27

He says even though Southeast San Diego was ground zero,

2:30

many people throughout the county were affected.

2:33

So back out here live, the city has not been formally served with this lawsuit yet.

2:37

So,

2:37

a spokesperson for the city attorney's office had told

2:40

me that they do not comment on pending litigation.

2:43

But I can say that in the past, the city has said, you know,

2:46

no storm drain system in the entire world could have been

2:49

able to handle the amount of rain we received that day

2:52

over Montoya says that's the same argument the city used

2:54

back in 2019 and that case ended in a settlement,

2:58

Heather and Carlo

2:59

Kelly. So where do we go from here with this? Do you know what happens next in the case?

3:05

Yeah. So this one is going to take quite a while, probably several years.

3:09

So first what happens is they get what's called

3:11

a case management conference and then after that,

3:14

they'll be getting a court date,

3:15

but that court date is likely not even going to be for a year from now.

3:19

So

3:20

Walker says it's possible that this could all be combined

3:23

into what's called complex litigation because there are going to be

3:26

so many lawsuits all surrounding the same kind of thing.

3:29

But bottom line,

3:30

this case is going to be weaving its way

3:32

through the court system likely for several years.

3:34

That's not anything that any of those flood victims need to hear. Kelly. Has

3:38

it all reporting live for us. Thanks.

Neighborhoods still rebuilding after January 2024 flooding swept San Diego

Transcript:

0:06

>> MARKING 4 MONTHS TODAY

0:07

SINCE AN UNUSUAL STORM SWEPT

0:08

THROUGH SAN DIEGO, PUTTING

0:09

ENTIRE NEIGHBORHOODS UNDER

0:11

WATER. IT'S ALSO BEEN A 4

0:13

MONTH SINCE AMONG RESIDENTS,

0:14

THE CITY, FEMA ON LANDLORDS TO

0:18

GET PEOPLE THE HELP THAT THEY

0:18

NEED. FOX FIVE'S LINE WITH

0:19

TANK CHECKED IN WITH THE

0:20

PEOPLE AFFECTED IN SOUTHCREST

0:25

>> YOU KNOW, THIS IS ROUND

0:26

YEAR. SO AIR.

0:29

>> I'M GOING TO SEE LIGHT AT

0:30

THE END OF THE TUNNEL. NOW

0:31

THAT GREG MONTOYA HAS LIVED IN

0:33

THIS SOUTH PRESS HOME ON BETA

0:36

STREET FOR 30 YEARS. BUT HE'S

0:37

NOW REBUILDING WITH THE HELP

0:39

OF FLOOD INSURANCE. AFTER THE

0:41

JANUARY 22ND STORMS LEFT HIS

0:44

HOME GUTTED OUT. BEEN VERY

0:45

STRESSFUL FOR ME BECAUSE OF

0:48

THE FACT I'VE USED A LOT OF MY

0:49

SICK VACATION TIME AT WORK.

0:50

YOU KNOW, AFTER WORK FRESH

0:52

HERE TO GET MATERIAL AND KEEP

0:54

KEEP MOVING. THE JANUARY 22ND

0:56

STORMS FLOODED THE CHOICE

0:58

CREEK BEHIND HIS HOME. QUICKLY

1:00

AFTER ALL, THE HOMES ON BETA

1:02

STREET WERE UNDER 5, EVEN 6

1:03

FEET OF WATER. IT WAS

1:06

TRAUMATIZING TO ALL THE

1:07

RESIDENTS AND IT'S GOING TO

1:10

TRAUMA THAT'S GOING TO LAST

1:10

FOR YEARS.

1:17

>> OPEN THE FLOOR THE

1:17

PRESIDENT, THIS PERSON OR

1:18

SHOCKING, YOU KNOW, MORE INTO

1:21

THIS WHOLE THING. RICHARD

1:22

CORPUS LIVES, A FEW HOUSES

1:24

DOWN FROM GREG. HIS HOME IS

1:25

DOWN TO THE STUDS WITH

1:29

APPROXIMATELY \$150,000 IN

1:31

DAMAGES. BUT RICHARD SAYS

1:33

WITHOUT FLOOD INSURANCE, THE

1:35

FUTURE OF HIS HOME IS

1:37

UNCERTAIN. THANK GOD THAT WE

1:38

HAD. WE HAD WE HAVE SOME

1:38

VOLUNTEERS GOING THERE.

1:42

>> AROUND AND SOME OF THE

1:44

WALLS STUFF, WHICH WAS WHICH

1:44

IS GOOD BECAUSE DON'T HAVE

1:45

MONEY RELATED TO THE HOUSE AND

1:46

YOU JUST. I MEAN, JUST TRYING

1:47

TO SURVIVE. YOU KNOW, WITH THE

1:51

ROOM HAVE JUST TRYING TO SERVE

1:52

OUR.

1:59

>> IN THE REASON THE FRONT

2:00

HAVEN'T WAS BECAUSE THEY

2:02

IGNORE THIS AREA. THEY DON'T

2:02

GET THE RESOURCES THAT ARE

2:03

NEEDED EVEN THOUGH RECEIVED

2:05

NUMEROUS REPORTS ABOUT STORM

2:09

SYSTEM BEING INADEQUATE. GREG

2:11

AND RICHARD HAVE BEEN LIVING

2:12

IN HOTELS FOR THE PAST 4

2:16

MONTHS. THEY AND MORE THAN 300

2:18

PEOPLE ARE PART OF A

2:20

100 MILLION DOLLAR LAWSUIT

2:21

AGAINST THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO.

2:23

THE SUIT ALLEGES THE CITY

2:25

FAILED TO MAINTAIN AND

2:28

INCREASE FUNDING FOR STORM

2:28

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE. BUT

2:30

NEIGHBORS WANT THE CITY TO ACT

2:31

NOW AHEAD OF THE NEXT RAIN.

2:34

>> MY MAIN CONCERNS IS THAT

2:34

THE CITY, YOU KNOW? KIND OF

2:37

FORGET ABOUT US AND NOT

2:38

CONTINUE TO. DO DO

New lawsuits filed against City of San Diego over Jan. flooding

Transcript:

0:01

11 O'CLOCK. 4 MONTHS AFTER THE

0:07

JANUARY FLOODS, A NEW LAWSUIT

0:08

IS ACCUSING SAN DIEGO

0:09

OFFICIALS OF MISLEADING THE

0:11

PUBLIC THAT THEY HAD COMPLETED

0:13

THEIR FLOOD CONTROL WORK AND

0:15

CHOICE CREEK. THAT

0:16

NEIGHBORHOOD WAS BADLY DAMAGED

0:17

DURING THE STORM. ABC, 10 NEWS

0:20

REPORTER PERLA SHAHEEN IS

0:21

JOINING US NOW LIVE PERLA,

0:23

DOZENS OF FLOOD VICTIMS ARE

0:24

NOW SUING. YEAH. WE SPOKE TO

0:29

ONE OF THEM. HIS NAME IS

0:31

ROBERT VIA. HE LIVES RIGHT

0:32

HERE BEHIND ME AND BEAT A

0:33

STREET IN GREW UP.

0:33

>> IN THIS HOME, HE SAYS HE

0:36

LOST IRREPLACEABLE MEMORIES IN

0:37

JANUARY STORM.

0:43

>> THIS SNIPPET, A FILM FROM

0:44

THE 1950'S IS A CHILDHOOD

0:45

MEMORY FOR ROBERT FIA. HIS DAD

0:48

STANDING PROUDLY WITH HIS

0:49

SISTER IN FRONT OF THEIR NEW

0:50

HOME ON BETA STREET.

0:53

>> BROTHERS INSIST THERE'S 8

0:53

OF US DO THIS AND OF US IN

0:55

THAT SMALL HOUSE. BUT IT WAS

0:58

JOYFUL LOVE. I HAVE JUST

1:02

BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES OF IT VIA

1:02

SAYS THIS HOME REPRESENTS HIS

1:03

PARENTS. AMERICAN DREAM.

1:06

>> THEY WERE CHILDREN OF

1:07

IMMIGRANTS WHO WORKED HARD TO

1:08

LEAVE IN THE UNITED STATES. ON

1:13

JANUARY. 22ND WATCHED ALL THAT

1:15

GET DESTROYED IN A MATTER OF

1:16

MINUTES. HE SAYS THE CITY IS

1:18

TO BLAME TO SEE THE

1:19

DEVASTATION THAT HAPPENED.

1:20

>> TO THE HOUSE WAS SUCH A WAS

1:25

UNNECESSARY AND DIDN'T NEED TO

1:27

HAPPEN. AND FEEL IN MY HEART

1:29

IT WITH JUST GOT THIS ON AND

1:30

DISGRACED. UM, I'M TO MY

1:33

FAMILY. MY MOM AND DAD'S

1:35

LEGACY. AND SEVERAL OTHER

1:36

FLOOD VICTIMS STOOD SIDE BY

1:37

SIDE ANNOUNCING THE NEWEST

1:39

LAWSUIT AGAINST THE CITY OF

1:41

SAN DIEGO. A PROPOSED CLASS

1:42

ACTION. THE CITY.

1:44

>> HAS PRETENDED.

1:47

>> TO DO REPAIRS, MICAH GEARY

1:48

IS ONE OF THE ATTORNEYS FOR

1:50

THE FLOOD VICTIMS. HE SAYS THE

1:53

LAWSUIT CLAIMS THE CITY

1:54

NEGLECTED CHOICE CREEK FLOOD

1:54

CONTROL WORK FOR YEARS AND

1:57

EVEN MISLED THE PUBLIC IN

1:58

COMPLETION OF DRAIN

2:00

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. THE

2:00

LAWSUIT ALSO CLAIMS THAT IN

2:02

2021 THE CITY TOOK MILLIONS OF

2:05

DOLLARS OUT OF FUNDING FOR

2:06

FLOOD PREVENTION,

2:07

INFRASTRUCTURE TO PURCHASE A

2:08

BUILDING ON ASH STREET INSTEAD

2:09

OF USING THE MONEY.

2:13

>> MAINTAIN AND REPAIR. THE

2:15

FLOOD INFRASTRUCTURE. THEY USE

2:20

IT.

2:20

>> TO BUY A BUILDING, THEY'RE

2:21

ASKING FOR MONEY TO REPAIR

2:24

DAMAGES AND THAT THE COURT

2:24

STEP IN AND MAKE SURE THE CITY

2:26

MAINTAINS CHOICE CREEK

2:28

INFRASTRUCTURE. YOU NEED TO

2:28

COME THROUGH FOR THEM IN SOME

2:31

WAY. SOMEHOW.

2:31

>> MISTAKE IS A MISTAKE, BUT

2:32

PLEASE FIX IT.

2:34

>> ASKED THE CITY FOR THEIR

2:35

RESPONSE TO THESE CLAIMS. THEY

2:36

SAID THEY COULD NOT COMMENT ON

2:38

PENDING LITIGATION, BUT WE DO

2:39

KNOW AFTER JANUARY 22ND THE

2:42

CITY CLEANED MORE THAN 16,000

2:43

TONS OF DEBRIS FROM CHOICE

2:45

CREEK AND THEY PLAN TO UPGRADE

2:47

THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM HERE ON

2:48

BETA STREET LIVE IN SOUTHCREST

2:50

PERLA SHAHEEN, ABC

San Diego residents still dealing with storm water problems months later – NBC 7 San Diego

Transcript:

0:01

You're watching nbc San Diego news

0:04

devastation damage and uncertainty Lost

0:08

Everything so anything helps really the

0:10

historic January flooding in San Diego

0:12

turned some neighborhoods upside down

0:15

leaving thousands of people without a

0:17

Place to Stay right now you know I'm

0:20

looking for you know other Place you

0:22

know and this could help you know months

0:24

later families are Still picking up the

0:27

pieces and trying to figure out What

0:29

comes

0:30

se imaginan todavía todo lo que se está

0:34

conllevando con la situación y

0:36

monitorear porque tienes esa ansiedad

0:39

esa angustia de que no sabes qué es lo

0:41

que va a pasar

1:00

damaged or destroyed Thanks for joining

1:02

Us I'm Monica Dean alongside nbc San

1:04

Diego and Telemundo 20 Tano some of the

1:07

severely flooded areas have large

1:10

hispanic populations and Tanya has been

1:12

covering their struggle to Piece their

1:14

lives Back Together in both English and

1:16

spanish from the beginning That's right

1:18

Monica When the most impacted areas

1:20

shown National City in Southwest Of

1:23

course just to name a few in response

1:25

the Community local agencies and

1:28

neighbors and the City of

1:40

han pasado meses desde que una poderosa

1:43

tormenta golpeó el condado de San Diego

1:45

dejando a más de 2000 personas sin hogar

1:48

y docenas de viviendas dañadas o

1:50

destruidas las áreas más afectadas

1:52

shelltown National City South crest solo

1:55

por nombrar algunas en respuesta la

1:57

ciudad de San Diego emitió vales de

1:59

vivienda las zonas afectadas por las

2:01

graves inundaciones en este especial

2:03

bilingüe de media hora veremos Cómo se

2:05

están reconstruyendo las comunidades

2:07

después de esas catastróficas

2:09

inundaciones

2:30

Us others have to sooner than expected

2:34

the sent out Those notices earlier this

2:37

to hundreds of flood victims including

2:38

the ones staying here at this rada in in

2:40

National City I Met two men today Who

2:43

only have three days

2:45

left Willie Allen is from Encanto he

2:48

didn't Meet his neighbor gabe in the

2:50

neighborhood they were both living in

2:51

When the floods damaged their homes he

2:54

Met gab here at a flood relief

2:57

hotel tragedy isn't something they want

2:59

Wanted to have in common Uh know what

3:01

we're Going To Do next you know Just Let

3:03

know When it rains it

3:05

pour you know so be prepared Allan knew

3:08

he Had limited Time at the rada in but

3:11

Found out Last week Just How Close his

3:13

deadline was no like from a week we

3:16

bases you know but It's kind of rough

3:18

Now Cuz I don't know where I'm Go he

3:20

Still has a calm demeanor and tells me

3:22

That's Because He's Used To setbacks

3:24

losing his home is Nothing compared to

3:27

the time he Almost Lost his Life I've

3:30

been Shot 10 Times you know so I'm a

3:33

Survivor true Survivor 10 Times Where

3:36

All Over My

3:38

Body Still got Bull l in my Back you got

3:43

p my But I'm

3:45

Survivor got to for he says God has a

3:48

plan for him Now too even though he

3:50

doesn't know what that is yet or well

3:52

he'll be come april 15th in National

3:55

City deles nbc 7

3:59

other flood relief across County is

4:02

winding down as well the small business

4:04

administration flood recovery Center

4:06

closes its Doors april 19 That's also

4:09

the deadline for flood victims toly for

4:11

FEMA assistance and If finding a to Stay

4:14

was

4:20

challenging como si fuera poco per todas

4:23

sus pertenencias algunas Víctimas de las

4:25

inundaciones han también sido Víctimas

4:27

de violencia y vandalismo en sus hogares

4:29

a los que aún no pueden regresar

4:30

residentes de calles como asbron en San

4:33

Diego Ares como southcrest aseguran

4:36

apenas entra la noche se vuelven calles

4:39

fantasma en donde Ya quedan pocos

4:41

vecinos y Los ladrones aprovechan para

4:43

robarles lo poco que les quedó marana

4:46

Zavala investigó y nos tiene la historia

4:48

Esta es nuestra herramienta de seguridad

4:50

por si alguien quiere abrir las la

4:52

puerta este pues va a hacer ruido bebo

4:55

utiliza sillas para frenar su puerta de

4:57

enfrente el ladrido de sus mascotas de

4:59

alarma y un grupo de vecinos para

5:01

proteger su vivienda de los ladrones

5:03

Esta es nuestra nuestro sistema de

5:06

alarma más moderno que tenemos relató a

5:08

Telemundo 20 desde que vio a personas

5:10

extrañas saliendo de su casa se tuvo que

5:13

regresar del hotel donde se resguardaba

5:15

tú mismo yo se resiste a creer que te

5:18

vas a regresar cuando tú sabes que no

5:20

está listo pero también sabes de que se

5:23

están metiendo a las casas y y pues no

5:27

sabes qué vas a encontrar ellos no son

5:29

los únicos en la calle beta en

5:30

southcrest aseguran las cosas están peor

5:33

movimiento delincuencial durante dos

5:37

semanas mis ventanas fueron quebradas

5:40

incluso temen por la llegada de personas

5:42

armadas e los vecinos que han sido

5:44

Víctimas de que se han metido armados a

5:48

robar por lo que dicen los vecinos van y

5:50

hacen rondines ellos mismos y han creado

5:52

grupos de WhatsApp donde se avisan ante

5:55

cualquier movimiento extraño nos

5:57

avisamos está pasando un carro con

6:00

placas así así asá lo conoces es de tu

6:03

familia es amigo No pues que no Entonces

6:05

ellos vienen a a estar en su casa un

6:07

rato los vecinos agregaron que han

6:09

notado Que los ladrones No pertenecen en

6:11

su mayoría a los grupos de indigentes

6:13

que se encuentran en la zona y téen sean

6:15

ladrones de otras zonas que se

6:17

aprovechan de su situación Por lo que

6:19

los rondines entre vecinos aseguran no

6:21

paran así como el estrés y el señor

6:24

regresa a la mitad de la noche a las 12

6:28

a dar una vuelta para ver cómo está el

6:31

vecindario Entonces se regresa al hotel

6:34

no puede dormir y vuelve otra vez a

6:36

regresar a ver cómo está el vecindario

6:39

Entonces se imaginan todavía todo lo que

6:42

se está conllevando con la situación más

6:45

aparte el estrés de que tienes que ver

6:48

cómo está aquí tu casa y y monitorear

6:52

porque tienes esa ansiedad esa angustia

6:55

de que no sabes qué es lo que va a pasar

6:57

bueno mientras estos vecinos se protege

7:00

como pueden ellos piden a la policía que

7:02

por favor vigile más estas zonas Pues

7:04

aseguran apenas están recuperando tras

7:06

perderlo todo y ahora enfrentan los

7:07

retos de la delincuencia en lo que queda

7:10

de sus viviendas Esos son los detalles

7:12

desde stre

7:28

sou Nightmare of rebuilding their homes

7:31

some are dealing with burg Breaking

7:34

their

7:36

homes The Sound Of Rain brings Back

7:39

tough Memories for Eddie manhar he Was

7:42

among the More Than 1200 San dieg

7:45

displays from their homes during the

7:47

January 22 floods we we have a trauma to

7:51

make matters worse Last weekend his home

7:53

and car were vandalized I was the First

7:56

victim over here about the vandal they

7:59

broke my house Windows and One my

8:03

vehicles over here they bust out the

8:05

Windows too and Uh many neighbors they

8:10

have the same Problem they went Uh with

8:12

weapons inside of the houses skill

8:15

something He's not the only victim

8:17

dealing with this issue an Ramirez home

8:20

was targeted by burglars earlier this

8:22

month Had

8:25

burglaries we've Had people break into

8:28

Our home and

8:29

these Big machines and you know what If

8:32

We go back there and they something goes

8:35

wrong you know they break in and

8:36

somebody gets

8:41

hur says this neighborhood turns into a

8:44

Ghost to after construction workers

8:46

Leave he thinks burglars Take advantage

8:48

of the Night hours To Break into the

8:50

vacant homes after the vandalism

8:53

incident he experienced men decided to

8:56

Stay that night in his home and says he

9:14

ofan

9:19

people bueno hecho algunos residentes de

9:21

San Diego se vieron afectados por las

9:23

inundaciones y bueno Ellos están

9:25

intranquilos ya que temen que sus

9:26

hogares se vuelvan a inundar ha con

9:29

ellos Escucha lo que me dijeron Mira la

9:32

bola que estamos sacando ahí y todavía

9:34

no no hemos encontrado la tubería está

9:37

sumergido de basura Este es apolinario

9:40

el 31 de enero un día antes de la última

9:43

tormenta y al no tener respuesta de la

9:45

ciudad de San Diego tomó palas de amigos

9:47

para destapar el desagüe cerca de la

9:49

calle 30 y la interstat 94 en el área de

9:52

stock el cual durante las tormentas se

9:55

llena de agua y ha inundado su vivienda

9:58

en tres ocasiones en media hora llegó el

10:01

agua y nos nos inundó hasta cinco pies

10:06

de altura dentro de su hogar dentro de

10:08

nuestro hogar debido a que el arroyo

10:10

cholas se desbordó y para evitar una

10:12

situación similar residentes del área se

10:14

unieron para limpiar el área antes de la

10:16

más reciente tormenta susto tro cuando

10:20

llueve porque ahora no más siento que

10:22

llueve y siento que va a pasar lo mismo

10:25

aunque ya haya limpiado pero es un

10:27

trauma que se queda se refiere a que su

10:30

vivienda se vuelva a inundar y pierdan

10:32

lo poco que salvaron ese trágico día de

10:37

enero lo que residentes en áreas

10:39

propensas como Encanto se preparan para

10:42

otra

10:45

tormenta esta residente de Encanto

10:47

asegura que ha visto a trabajadores de

10:49

la ciudad limpiar las calles de acuerdo

10:52

a las autoridades durante la tormenta

10:53

sus equipos de patrulla de tormentas

10:56

monitoreará las estaciones de bombeo y

10:58

más de

11:00

desagues plurales en toda la ciudad para

11:02

cualquier problema y responder a

11:04

incidentes reportados de inundaciones y

11:06

árboles o ramas caídas más para Joana el

11:09

trabajo de la ciudad no debe ser solo

11:11

durante la tormenta ya que cientos

11:13

siguen desplazados y como ella viven en

11:15

un hogar destrozado por las lluvias

11:18

ningún representante de la ciudad ha

11:19

venido Cómo están Están bien más por

11:22

salud Porque es una peste los

11:24

departamentos apestaban Yo tengo un

11:26

ventilador Industrial día y noche

11:27

prendido con el frío and t you have been

11:30

so diligent covering All of this since

11:32

this tragedy happened and you've really

11:35

gotten To Know these neighbors you've

11:37

been up Close with them you've walked

11:38

with them through that What has it been

11:40

like you know It's been like I got To

11:43

Know them even though I wasn't a victim

11:45

of the flooding I feel like I was and

11:48

now I see them as my Friends some of my

11:51

family members actually the day the

11:53

weekend after the the floodings my

11:56

boyfriend And I went out and we

11:59

Just You know we picked up future and

12:02

different houses close and we brought

12:04

them to the victims of some of the

12:06

victims of flight they cried And I got to

12:09

see how They are lying and How they're

12:11

trying to get their lives Back um and I

12:15

I posted on social media saying if you

12:17

have anything that you would like to

12:19

donate please Let Me Know and we did

12:21

probably like weeks in a row weekends in a

12:24

row and It's just so relieving to see The

12:27

People How they see Us on TV and they

12:29

see Us as Friends in the Community Which

12:32

I think is so important well you've been

12:33

there in the Community and you've kept

12:35

in Touch with them Yes I keep I keep in

12:36

Touch with with most of the victims That

12:39

I interview the day of the fling

12:41

Yesterday interview another one who's in

12:43

a hotel and He's struggling to get her

12:46

Life Back and This is what She said I

12:48

don't even know where I'm Going To Start

12:51

have no Money We have no Job I have

12:53

three Kids I'm living in hotel so It's

12:56

very very very Sad so for me to see it

13:00

talk to them go to them and and keeping

13:02

in Touch with them I really can feel

13:04

what they are feeling the Pain of losing

13:07

Everything Monica Every single Thing

13:10

That you have and have no idea How going

13:13

to get your life Back that is something

13:15

that I mean I Cry I do Cry And I just

13:17

want to Keep Helping All the time I know

13:19

you have invested your heart in this

13:20

reporting has become deeply personal and

13:22

that comes across in your reporting

13:24

Thank you t Still ahead with More Than

13:26

2,000 people affected by the January

13:38

y un hombre durmió en su coche Durante

13:40

un mes después de la histórica

13:42

inundación pero solo una cosa le impide

13:44

obtener la ayuda que necesita le decimos

13:47

cuá es regresamos

13:59

Our bilingual special on the historic

14:01

San Diego flooding from January and the

14:03

Journey to rebuild More Than 2,000 San

14:05

dieg were displaced many of them are

14:08

Still rebuilding after losing Everything

14:10

inside their homes and National City was

14:13

One of the areas hit by the January

14:15

flats dozens of families in the Area

14:18

free Furniture mbc San Diego albright

14:22

has this Story we Lost Everything so

14:25

anything helps really this donation

14:27

Drive is people like Rodriguez She lined

14:31

up outside the Store with her family

14:32

Bright and early they were One of the

14:34

First people in Line Amy says her family

14:38

bought Brand New Furniture Just days

14:40

before the flood some sofas would be

14:43

nice or some chairs um Uh Lights you

14:47

know lamps Cuz we don't have lamps to

14:49

put at least in the house While we work

14:51

This is amy's neighborhood along a cas

14:53

Street in National City you'll see

14:54

containers like the one behind me filled

14:56

to the brim with people's belongings She

14:59

tells me that When the flood hit Back In

15:00

January people in her neighborhood Lost

15:03

Everything and that the people who own

15:06

these homes aren't even living in them

15:07

Anymore Because of how bad the damage

15:09

was no no Furniture at all All of it we

15:12

Had to throw it away there's a lot of

15:14

cheers I'm I'm you know we're going to

15:15

give all this away I'm happy to do so

15:17

hen p Is The man behind saturday's event

15:20

He's a developer Who bought this

15:22

Furniture Store from the previous Owner

15:24

but he didn't anticipate How much

15:26

Furniture he'd actually end up with it

15:29

Just came too Because I knew that

15:30

there's a huge amount of Furniture It's

15:32

It's Almost just a win-win Cuz it helps

15:34

me Clear out the this building and then

15:36

it also helps them Because hopefully

15:37

they can have Furniture That's usable

15:39

for them Now about a month and a Half

15:41

since the flooding pul has Found people

15:43

who need the Furniture More Than he does

15:46

I I mean I lost Everything Five Cars

15:49

Everything Furniture might seem like a

15:51

Drop in the Bucket compared to what they

15:53

need but they Tell me It's One Step

15:55

Forward on the long Road to recovery

15:58

right Now you know I'm looking for you

16:00

know the Place you know and this could

16:02

help you know tables chairs Whatever I

16:04

can get You Know It save Us you know

16:07

Money you know paying out of

16:10

park One Thing That got Amy and her

16:12

family through this difficult time is

16:15

her optimism and willingness to Ask for

16:18

help for Our Community to Keep working

16:19

hard we'll get there One Step at a

16:22

Time this Will

16:25

pass nbc

16:29

of southeast was also hit hard by flood

16:31

damage so hard and One of the families

16:33

from southeast to their home for the

16:36

First Time I went there and Met the

16:39

Ramos family and they Tell Us What the

16:41

day of the flood was so B

16:45

Sweet for Vanessa and her family This is

16:48

a day of mixed emotions on one side They

16:51

are Back other home but on the other One

16:54

with Every Step they Take through this

16:56

door is a reminder This is just the

16:59

beginning of a long to recovery and they

17:03

say It won't Be

17:05

Easy to see like this I would say Happy

17:08

unfin floors and Walls and at some

17:11

places not even Walls cables hanging

17:13

everywhere but most of all Bad Memories

17:17

something That's going to be with us

17:18

forever says G standing at the same

17:21

Place Where on January 22 he was trying

17:23

to save his two-year daughter seren from

17:26

drowning tragedy like Don't

17:37

anders

17:42

iners Night Last V Had no cho

17:49

backer was go

17:53

back Lau no no frid

18:00

and we don't have Hot this mother of two

18:02

says al not the warm latin home would

18:05

like to we here her biggest concern She

18:08

says her safety Because the fence That

18:10

he Used To protect her home from theves

18:12

is not there Anymore So You decided To

18:14

Come back to your house Because they

18:17

were stealing stu yeah the blower and

18:20

all his tools

18:23

for his brother work tool but What hurs

18:26

the most Vanessa in seen her home like

18:29

this Where She was filled with Memories

18:31

and sacrifices of her l mother known by

18:34

many by the tamale Lady of bar Logan Who

18:37

was killed by a hiden Run in 2019 l

18:40

don't think It's going to be

18:41

Easy How Start from Zero according to

18:44

Vanessa workers Will continue to Repair

18:46

her apartment like they were doing today

18:48

to the Rest of the Complex and She says

18:51

seeing This is a little bit depressing

18:53

we're Lucky we're Back hope a strength

18:56

and family is what Vanessa said

19:03

more

19:06

and en southcrest está alviano en bc7

19:11

varias de las víctimas de las

19:13

inundaciones no cuentan con un estatus

19:14

legal en Estados Unidos y al perderlo

19:17

todo los pocos documentos que tenían en

19:19

la tormenta bueno se les hace muy

19:21

difícil rehacer sus vidas Marina Zavala

19:23

de Telemundo habló con un hombre que

19:25

tiene más de un mes durmiendo en su auto

19:29

amos inundaciones que han dejado aparte

19:32

de la comunidad con camionetas como esta

19:35

como su único hogar y es que el día de

19:37

hoy Les vamos a mostrar la historia de

19:39

este hombre que todos los días tiene que

19:41

entrar a la parte trasera de su auto y

19:44

utilizarla como el sitio donde va a

19:47

dormir en las noches Ya tengo un suéter

19:50

lo uso como chamarra y la roja es mi

19:51

cobija y unas cuantas cobijas toallas y

19:54

botellas de agua son Elementos que

19:56

integran el Nuevo Hogar improvisado De

19:59

originario de Guerrero un sitio donde

20:01

jamás imaginó vivir todo fue de repente

20:04

un día para otro el domingo Todo bien el

20:06

lunes pues ya me fui a las 9 de la

20:10

mañana ya cuando regresé a las 6 de la

20:11

tarde todo un desastre dice aunque hoy

20:13

cuenta con dos empleos como cocinero en

20:15

San Diego la tormenta se llevó su

20:17

inversión más grande su trabajo rentando

20:19

un sistema de sonido que hoy se

20:21

encuentra mojado y en ruinas asegura

20:23

casi 120000 en pérdidas bocinas

20:27

amplificadores

20:28

todos se mejor las organizaciones como

20:30

herencia hispana en San Diego dicen

20:32

historias como la de Albert se repiten y

20:35

repiten y ellos han tratado de ayudar

20:37

como pueden todos los días le dejamos

20:39

una bolsa de comida aquí en este

20:42

arbolito entonces Albert ya ya viene y

20:46

agarra la bolsa que trae el alimento y

20:48

se va a cenar para que no duerma Pues

20:50

con hambre sin embargo cada día surgen

20:53

más damnificados y los apoyos y recursos

20:56

se agotan estamos por ejemplo cajas de

20:58

agua

20:59

cajas de sodas todo lo desechable nos

21:02

hace falta la verdad Alberto asegura su

21:04

falta de documentación en el país no le

21:06

ha permitido acceder a los apoyos que

21:08

incluso le da miedo pedir si es triste

21:11

no poder recibir ayuda lo que uno quiere

21:15

incluidos los de la agencia Federal fima

21:17

que cuentan con una cláusula de entregar

21:19

un número de seguro social que explicó

21:21

en la vivienda que rentaba nadie posee

21:24

yo hablé y con las preguntas que me lan

21:27

haciendo dicen que tien que ser

21:29

ciudadanos y piden seguro por lo que hoy

21:31

no le queda más que vivir en esta

21:33

camioneta aseguró Por lo pronto ha

21:35

encontrado un lugar donde le permiten

21:37

bañarse y mientras espera con sus dos

21:39

empleos que parecen no alcanza logre

21:42

cambiar su

21:46

situación has

21:49

sood

21:51

Us

21:52

and

21:56

mar all

22:13

mucha

22:14

fel

22:17

tengo

22:19

agradecer Mar no podía creer lo que

22:22

veía cargando un comedor a su casa una

22:26

mujer de la que ella nun oído O conocido

22:29

antes por qué decides ayudar a mar oí la

22:32

historia cuando perdió su esposo la

22:33

primera vez y luego ahora que le pasó

22:37

esto que se quedó sin nada y luego

22:40

cuando 4 meses después tuvo lación de

22:44

cáncer Pues el corazón algo me dijo el

22:48

Señor me mandó para ayudarla Juanita y

22:52

su hija Lidia vieron la historia de Mari

22:55

en nuestro noticiero anoche cuando Mari

22:57

y su hijo Miguel mostraron lo que quedó

22:59

de su casa en Logan Heights después de

23:01

las inundaciones la última de una serie

23:04

de tragedias para esta familia desde que

23:06

el covid se llevó a su esposo en el año

23:08

2020 me hace sentir muy mal por lo que

23:12

está pasando mi mamá le pido a Dios que

23:15

no me la quite muy muy

23:18

pronto tristeza que hoy fue reemplazada

23:21

por gratitud y felicidad Juanita y su

23:23

hija no son las únicas que después de

23:25

ver nuestra historia decidieron ayudar a

23:27

María Miguel Mariana y margerie las

23:30

donaciones continuaron llegando durante

23:32

la mañana tenemos una cajonera muy

23:35

bonita de madera con dos con dos de

23:39

burós que te queremos donar y también

23:42

tenemos otro comedor un granito de arena

23:45

que te demos a ti nos va a dar muchísimo

23:48

gusto y Gracias Tania por conectarnos

23:49

con ella ayer vimos el programa de que

23:52

la señora estaba un poquito necesitada

23:54

de todo lo que estaba pasando y como

23:56

tenemos una sala aquí que No necesitamos

23:59

se los agradezco muchisísimo y pues me

24:03

han demostrado que no estoy sola este yo

24:05

me sentía en tiempo atrás muy sola muy

24:09

muy triste Mari continúa bajo

24:11

tratamiento del cáncer de hecho detrás

24:13

de sus lentes oculta un derrame cerebral

24:16

después de sufrir un ataque al corazón

24:18

hace apenas cco días Pues a mí me hace

24:21

feliz porque mi mamá se merece estar

24:24

feliz yo me siento feliz porque mi mamá

24:27

es mi mejor amiga con la ayuda de sus

24:29

hijos Mari continuará intentando hacer

24:31

funcionar su negocio de servicios de

24:33

limpieza y aunque dice hay días en que

24:35

ni se puede levantar de la cama Son esas

24:38

sonrisas su inspiración toda esta ayuda

24:41

que recibió la comunidad te da fuerzas

24:43

para

24:44

segir aunque aún no lo cree agradece

24:47

esta ayuda especialmente a ti a toda la

24:50

gente que me está ayudando Muchísimas

24:53

gracias

24:58

people and in this Case the Community

25:00

really rallied and responded for this in

25:02

less than 24 hours we got so many

25:05

donations we were able to furnish Uh

25:09

mar's House living room dining room

25:12

Everything And I was Just amazed of the

25:15

love and All the help Uh the donations

25:19

Start to pour and they actually they

25:21

Keep People are reaching out to me that

25:24

they Still need anything so I thank you

25:27

to everyone

25:28

Because As you said we even though you

25:31

not a victim we feel like we and We want

25:34

to help that empathy and Just see people

25:37

pour out The Love and the generosity She

25:39

beautiful yeah Thank you t and we

25:41

Appreciate The Good reporting Of course

25:42

of you and the entire nbc San Diego and

25:44

telemo 20 teams We Will Of course

25:46

continue to follow this developing Story

25:48

as these families work toward restoring

25:50

their homes and their lives for Now I'm

25:52

Monica Dean alongside nbc's Tano Thanks

25:56

for watching

26:00

Thanks for watching I'm Monica Dean Stay

26:02

updated with the latest local and

26:04

breaking news Stories by subscribing to

26:06

Our Channel or by downloading the nbc 7

26:09

news app you can also find Us on your

26:11

favorite social media and streaming

26:13

including Roku and Samsung Just search

26:15

for nbc San Diego news

Six months since historic flooding

Transcript:

0:01

TOMORROW'S HOUSE HOMELAND

0:02

SECURITY COMMITTEE HEARING.

0:05

>> WELL, BACK HERE AT HOME, 6

0:07

MONTHS AFTER HISTORIC FLOODING

0:09

DEVASTATED A SOUTH CHRIS

0:10

NEIGHBORHOOD. MANY RESIDENTS

0:11

THERE SAY THEY'RE LEFT WITHOUT

0:13

ANSWERS AND STRUGGLING TO MAKE

0:15

ENDS MEET OUR SARAH LEG RE

0:18

JOINS US. THEY'RE LIVE WITH

0:19

THEIR STORIES HALF A YEAR

0:20

LATER. SARAH. YEAH, HI THERE,

0:26

KATHLEEN, MANY OF US REMEMBER

0:27

THAT DAY VERY WELL FOR ME. I

0:29

WAS STANDING ALONG THIS

0:32

ROADWAY KNEE-DEEP IN FLOODED

0:32

WATERS, SURROUNDED BY MUD.

0:35

>> AND HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS

0:36

HERE IN SOUTHCREST WHO WERE

0:38

SUDDENLY LEFT WITHOUT A HOME

0:40

IN SOME STILL TO THIS DAY LEFT

0:42

TO GRAPPLE WITH THAT EMOTIONAL

0:45

AND PHYSICAL DAMAGE FROM

0:48

JANUARY. 22ND.

0:48

>> THIS HAD ANY FOOD ARE YOU

0:50

WHAT TO DO AT THAT POINT. WE

0:52

FIRST MET EVELYN ACEVEDO IN

0:52

LATE JANUARY HERE'S VIDEO

0:56

WINNER. FAMILY OF 4 ESCAPED

0:57

FEET OF FLOODING BY CLIMBING

1:01

ON HER DAD'S TRUCK TO AVOID IN

1:02

DEEP WATERS, WHICH IS NOW

1:05

TOTALED. A HERE PRESENT

1:07

VILLAINS BACK IN A DIFFERENT

1:09

VERSION OF HER LIFELONG HOME

1:11

GOING SO CRAZY RIGHT NOW

1:13

BECAUSE YOU WALK IN JUST LIKE

1:15

I FEEL LIKE THIS MY HOUSE

1:16

ANYMORE. FOLLOWING THE STORM,

1:17

HER FAMILY STAYED AT A LOCAL

1:18

HOTEL, A FUNDED BY A COUNTY

1:21

VOUCHER PROGRAM. BUT SHE SAYS

1:22

IT WAS SHORT-LIVED. THE

1:24

PROGRAM ENDED IN JUNE. ONLY

1:25

THING WE HAD.

1:27

>> WAS MY PARENTS SO WE HAD NO

1:31

KITCHEN APPLIANCES OR NOTHING

1:32

LIKE THAT. YEAH, WELL, FACING

1:34

MAJOR BACKLASH. THE CITY OF

1:34

SAN DIEGO'S WEBSITE HAS A

1:36

DEDICATED PAGE.

1:36

>> TO HELP RESIDENTS FOLLOWING

1:38

THE FLOOD POINTING TO

1:40

ASSISTANCE FROM THE SMALL

1:41

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND

1:44

FEMA LIKE A FREIGHT TRAIN

1:45

COMING DOWN THE ROAD. RESIDENT

1:47

GREG MONTOYA SAYS THE ISSUE

1:48

LIES AT THE CLOUD CHOICE CREEK

1:50

BEHIND THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THE

1:51

TRASH IS STILL THERE. ALL THE

1:55

SHRUBS ARE THERE. AND NOW HE'S

1:57

ALSO IN THE PROCESS

1:58

RENOVATION. LOT OF WORK STILL

1:59

DOING THE FINISH. THE

2:02

ELECTRICAL SLEEPING HERE WHILE

2:02

HE MEN'S THE DAMAGE. I

2:04

CONSIDER MYSELF FORTUNATE THAT

2:05

AT LEAST I HAVE A HOME TO GO

2:07

TO. YOU GOT A NUMBER OF THE MY

2:08

JOY IN THESE PEOPLE WERE

2:09

RENTERS.

2:11

>> AND THEY HAD NOWHERE TO GO.

2:12

HE SINCE FILED A CLASS ACTION

2:14

LAWSUIT WITH HUNDREDS OF

2:16

VICTIMS CITING NEGLIGENCE FROM

2:16

THE CITY. LOCAL LEADERS SAY

2:20

THEY'RE DOING ALL THEY CAN TO

2:20

UNCLOG STORM DRAINS. CREWS

2:23

HAVE BEEN PICKING UP DEBRIS

2:25

AND SHRUBS ALONG THE ENCANTO

2:28

CHANNEL NEARBY. ALL TO PREVENT

2:30

HISTORY FROM REPEATING ITSELF

2:31

WHEN IT'S NICE THAT OUR HOUSE

2:32

IS GETTING REMODELED. BUT

2:34

>> WERE IT TO HAPPEN LIKE

2:35

THIS? IT'S JUST CRAZY TO ME.

2:40

>> WELL, AND AS WE REACH THIS

2:42

6 A MARK HERE TODAY, THIS

2:43

COMES SHORTLY AFTER CITY

2:44

LEADERS HERE IN THE SAN DIEGO

2:47

AREA. THEY HAD TO HALT A TAX

2:48

MEASURE THAT WOULD ULTIMATELY

2:49

WORK TO CLOSE A 1.6 BILLION

2:54

DOLLAR DEFICIT THAT WOULD HAVE

2:55

BEEN ALL DESIGNED TO UPGRADE

2:58

THE CITY'S AGING. THE STORM,

3:00

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

ABC 10 San Diego Interview Flooding Lawsuit Update (September 2024)

Transcript:

0:00

[Music]

0:02

ABC 10 News at 6 starts

0:06

now you got water coming over the creek

0:09

coming down the alley you got water

0:11

coming from the

0:12

slopes as we get closer to the

0:14

eight-month Mark since the January

0:16

flooding we follow through with our

0:17

commitment to check back in with people

0:19

most affected now one of them is Greg

0:21

Montoya who lives in the South Crest

0:23

neighborhood we met him shortly after

0:25

the floods like so many others he

0:27

suffered severe damage to his home

0:29

damage that hasn't been fully

0:32

fixed Greg montoya's house isn't a home

0:35

yet hasn't been since January how are

0:37

you doing with all of this just

0:39

constantly hanging over your head well

0:42

the the it's very frustrating especially

0:45

when your politicians and other people

0:50

you know sit there and say America's

0:51

Finest City yeah America's Finest City

0:53

for some but not for all ABC 10 News

0:56

first spoke to him in 2019 as he sued

0:58

the city over Flooding at his home back

1:00

then as you can see there's no

1:02

drainage he's repeated numerous concerns

1:05

over the years and what he calls lack of

1:07

action from City officials right after

1:09

the historic January flood they need to

1:12

address the problem with the storm drain

1:13

and in the month since do you think

1:15

they're tired of hearing from you oh yes

1:17

yes yes since January progress has been

1:19

made he does have a room to sleep in now

1:21

but I got the kitchen to do the bathroom

1:23

to finish some windows to do some doors

1:26

to hang last litigation it's been a lot

1:29

of paperwork and calls and money this

1:32

looked like this back in January the

1:34

insurance would only cover one structure

1:37

so they said take your pick which one

1:38

you want well I took this one because

1:41

this is the newer garage that's where

1:43

the water was in this the structure it

1:45

was a little higher outside it's been

1:46

redone on the outside Priceless family

1:49

memories though washed away everything

1:51

got ruined in here he was able to

1:52

salvage a few things it's a little piggy

1:55

Bag poey Piggy bag and was thankful he

1:57

had second copies of old family photos

2:00

Greg isn't alone in all of this you see

2:01

his neighbor's home the front of it

2:03

still boarded up his other neighbor

2:05

still has a large dumpster in the

2:07

driveway behind the homes more problems

2:10

we still got dirt alleys with no

2:13

drainage you can see that the slope of

2:16

the terrain the water is going to go

2:18

directly to the properties Greg is suing

2:20

the city again unlike a lot of his

2:22

neighbors he had flood insurance but

2:24

said it only covered about 84,000 he got

2:27

about 4,400 from FEMA and several

2:30

thousand through his church other

2:31

donations and the Housing Commission

2:33

attorney Evan Walker said the city has

2:35

denied the claims and the lawsuit

2:37

involving hundreds of plaintiffs is

2:39

moving forward we have our first court

2:41

date in November and then we're going to

2:44

have our first argument about this case

2:46

set in January of 2025 a year after the

2:49

floods absolutely is that typical I

2:52

think it is typical especially given the

2:54

size and scope of a lawsuit like this

2:57

the city attorney's office told me

2:58

they're letting the Corp process play

3:00

out we reached out to council member

3:02

Vivian Moreno in a statement she said

3:04

her office has worked closely with the

3:06

city's engineering and capital projects

3:08

Department to create and move forward

3:10

the Beta Street storm drain Improvement

3:12

project it's being designed utilizing

3:14

4.5 million dollar once the design is

3:18

complete she said work will begin to

3:20

build improvements including upgrades to

3:22

the dirt alley behind Beta Street a time

3:24

frame though wasn't given were neglected

3:27

you know I wish more news people would

3:29

do stories on how underserved this

3:31

community

3:32

is yeah that's why we are following

3:35

through we want to make sure people like

3:36

Greg are not forgotten some people have

3:38

been able to fix their homes but others

3:40

like Greg still need a lot of help as

3:42

the process plays out in court as well

3:44

we will follow that too

City efforts to clean storm channels in southeast San Diego

Transcript:

0:00

The city has made progress clearing out the flood channels.

0:02

We still filled ones like this one

0:04

along National Avenue that's overgrown with vegetation,

0:08

destructive floodwaters rushed through South Crest in January,

0:12

destroying homes and cars.

0:14

The one house on the corner behind these units

0:16

completely devastated. Uh They never returned.

0:18

Pamela Gonzalez founded a church in South Crest and manages properties here.

0:23

I asked her what response she's seen from the city.

0:25

I know the mayor came and walked a lot of the areas. Um And

0:31

within a day or two, there were a lot of trucks back there. A lot of it was

0:35

chopped down but definitely not removed.

0:37

It's bamboo so it's extremely invasive and it grows very fast,

0:41

very quick.

0:43

Um So they're filled back with bamboo again.

0:45

We talked to other neighbors like Joel Pierce whose apartment

0:47

backs up to a flood channel overgrown with bamboo.

0:50

Well, once it was over, they came out and cleaned the back.

0:54

But after a while it started growing right back,

0:58

but then more trash started coming up

1:01

back there again.

1:02

After the January flooding,

1:03

the city says it performed emergency maintenance on 18 miles

1:07

of channels and removed more than 9800 tons of debris.

1:10

The city says crews are continuing to improve the stormwater channels right now.

1:14

Work is being done in South Crest and recently

1:16

finished up work in Encanto in the skyline.

1:18

Paradise Hills area.

1:20

Residents say they're glad there's been progress but want to see

1:23

more done if it comes to a big rain again.

1:26

You know, I don't wanna wake up again and

1:29

my truck is underwater again, but we are concerned, you know,

1:32

the bamboos there, what happens if it, you know, we get a storm like that again.

1:35

The city says Mayor Todd Gloria included more than \$8 million in

1:39

funding this fiscal year to continue maintenance ahead of the rainy season.

1:43

Jasmer

1:44

Mera CBS eight.

700 more flood victims file lawsuit against San Diego

Transcript:

0:00

Another 700 people are now suing the city of

0:03

San Diego over the flooding that happened back in January

0:06

pushing the total to more than 1300.

0:09

They allege the city's storm drains were not properly maintained.

0:12

CBS eight's David Gottfredson has more on this latest lawsuit and the surprising

0:17

condition of the storm drains that were clear just a few months ago,

0:20

David,

0:21

the city of San Diego cleaned out storm drains in mountain view and south

0:26

crest days after the flooding washed out hundreds of homes on January 22nd.

0:33

This is what the storm drain at the National Avenue

0:36

Bridge near South 41st Street looked like in early February,

0:41

totally cleaned out

0:42

and this is what it looks like today.

0:44

Seven months later, the brush has totally grown back.

0:48

This is a common issue right here that you see

0:51

the bamboo grows back in about 60 days.

0:54

Larry

0:55

Zone told me he owns two nearby homes in the flood zone. My message to

0:59

the city would be,

1:01

don't spend the money that you get to clean

1:03

out the storm water control channels on bike lanes,

1:06

spend it on cleaning out the storm

1:08

water control channels and you won't have flooding

1:11

last week.

1:12

An additional 700 people filed this lawsuit against the city of San Diego.

1:17

That makes a total of about 1300 plaintiffs so

1:20

far who have filed suit against the city.

1:23

Well, I think it's clear that the city hasn't learned

1:25

lesson yet

1:26

that it needs to get out there and continue to maintain these channels.

1:30

Attorney Dominic Martini filed the lawsuit alleging the

1:34

city is spending money in the wrong places.

1:37

The city's got a pattern and practice of taking a

1:40

look at these areas of South San Diego that,

1:42

that tend to be poor, right

1:44

and diverting the funds and the resources away

1:47

from those areas to the tourist areas,

1:50

the beaches, la Jolla,

1:52

one of the plaintiffs in this latest suit is Alliance San Diego and Barrio Logan.

1:57

The nonprofit's director says floods caused more

2:00

than \$100,000 in damages to their offices.

2:04

The city did very little to invest in cleaning up the channels and the storm drains.

2:10

Instead,

2:11

they invested that money in wealthier, more affluent parts of the city

2:17

at our expense.

2:18

One of the goals of these lawsuits is to try and force the city

2:22

to maintain its storm drains which does not appear to be happening even today

2:28

in mountain view.

2:29

David Gottfredson

2:30

CBS eight.

2:32

Thanks David for showing us all that new growth.

2:35

Now, we did reach out to the city of San Diego,

2:37

a spokesperson for the city Attorney's office

2:39

says they cannot comment on pending litigation.

One year after historic flooding, Southcrest residents remain critical of city officials

Transcript:

0:02

10.

0:06

>> TOMORROW MARKS ONE YEAR

0:07

SINCE DEVASTATING FLOODS HIT

0:08

SAN DIEGO, DAMAGING THOUSANDS

0:10

OF HOMES. GOOD EVENING,

0:11

EVERYONE. AND THANK YOU FOR

0:13

JOINING MARIA ARCEGA-DUNN MAN.

0:15

I'M ANDREW LURIA. YEAR LATER,

0:16

MULTIPLE LAWSUITS FILED BY OF

0:18

HOME OWNERS AND BUSINESSES ARE

0:19

STILL PENDING AGAINST THE

0:20

CITY.

0:21

>> KASIA GREGORCZYK STARTS US

0:22

OFF TONIGHT IN SOUTH CROSSED.

0:24

WE CAN TALK TO PEOPLE WHO SAY

0:25

OFFICIALS DIDN'T DO ENOUGH BUT

0:28

PRETTY DECENT. NOW IT'S

0:29

LIVABLE. ONE YEAR AFTER

0:31

HISTORIC RAIN HIT THE SAN

0:32

DIEGO REGION. WE'RE BACK ON

0:33

BETA STREET IN SOUTHCREST. ONE

0:36

OF THE HARDEST HIT COMMUNITIES

0:38

SPREAD. MONTOYA HAD FLOOD

0:39

INSURANCE, BUT HE WOULDN'T

0:40

NECESSARILY CALL HIMSELF

0:41

LUCKY. HIS HOME FLOODED BACK

0:43

IN 2018. ALSO DUE TO A

0:46

BACKED-UP CHOICE CREEK, WHICH

0:48

RUNS BEHIND HIS PROPERTY. THIS

0:49

CITY WAS WELL AWARE OF THE

0:51

SITUATION. THERE IS NO WAY

0:52

THEY CAN SAY THEY'RE NOT AWARE

0:55

OF WE WE SETTLE OUT OF COURT.

0:56

THEY RECEIVED TONS OF E-MAILS

0:58

AND DOCUMENTATION FROM NEED

1:01

YOU NEED TO ADDRESS THE

1:02

PROBLEM. CITY HAS DONE

1:03

CLEANUPS HERE IN THE CHOICE

1:04

CREEK AREA. BUT THERE ARE

1:05

STILL A LOT OF LOCAL RESIDENTS

1:06

WHO BELIEVE.

1:06

>> IT'S NOT ENOUGH LOOKING

1:10

THROUGH TRASH THE STATE OF

1:11

EMERGENCY BROUGHT FEMA FUNDS

1:13

AND LODGING PROGRAM HELPS WITH

1:16

HOUSING WAIVE PERMIT FEES MADE

1:18

REBUILDING MORE ACCESSIBLE AND

1:20

THE CITY HELPED REMOVE

1:21

THOUSANDS OF TONS OF

1:22

STORM-RELATED DEBRIS. IT'S

1:25

COMMUNITY FEELS THE HELP THAT

1:26

WAS ONCE FLOWING HAS RUN DRY.

1:29

MOST OF US DID NOT HAVE PASSES

1:29

TO LET INSURANCE. IT WAS NOT

1:32

REQUIRED. AND SOME OF IN AS

1:36

WELL CANNOT AFFORD. MONICA

1:37

GARCIA'S MOTHER TOLD A LITTLE

1:38

FINANCIAL HELP THEY RECEIVED

1:40

DIDN'T MAKE MUCH OF A DENT IN

1:41

NEARLY \$200,000 OF DAMAGE.

1:44

IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THIS CITY

1:46

AND OUR ELECTED GOVERNMENT TO

1:48

REALIZE MAGNITUDE OF THE LOSS.

1:50

AND WE'RE TALKING HUNDREDS OF

1:52

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FLOOD

1:53

ATTORNEY EVAN WALKER

1:54

REPRESENTED SOUTHCREST

1:55

RESIDENTS WHO SUED THE CITY

1:56

OVER FLOODING IN 2018 IN 2020

1:59

FOR THE DESTRUCTION AND THE

2:02

LIST OF THOSE SEEKING DAMAGES

2:02

HAS GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY

2:04

ROUGHLY 550 HOMEOWNERS

2:07

BUSINESSES AND RENTERS. JOIN

2:09

THIS LAWSUIT VERSUS THE CITY

2:10

OF SAN DIEGO. BUT THERE ARE

2:12

DOZENS OF OTHERS. WE HOPE THAT

2:12

THE CITY STEPS UP.

2:15

>> AND COMPENSATE THESE PEOPLE

2:16

FROM THE FLOOD DAMAGE.

2:18

SECONDLY, WE HOPE THAT THE

2:19

CITY FINALLY RECOGNIZES THAT

2:21

NEED TO PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

2:23

OF THE CANALS THAT BEHIND

2:25

THESE HOMES. MONEY MAY FIX

2:27

THESE HOMES, BUT 365 DAYS

2:29

LATER, THE PEOPLE LIVING HERE

2:31

SAY SOME PARTS OF RECOVERY

2:35

WILL TAKE MUCH MORE. MONETARY

2:36

CANNOT COMPENSATE THE LOSS

2:37

THAT WE HAVE. JUST THE STRESS

2:38

AND THE TRAUMA THAT WILL

2:39

ALWAYS WITH US. AND THIS

2:42

LAWSUIT HAS A COURT DATE IN

2:44

FEBRUARY. AND THE HOPE IS A

2:44

TRIAL DATE WILL BE SCHEDULED

2:46

SOON AFTER.

2:47

>> THE CITY DID NOT COMMENT ON

2:49

THE LITIGATION, BUT THEY DID

2:51

SHARE THE STORMWATER

2:52

DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY

2:53

WORKING TO UPGRADE

2:55

INFRASTRUCTURE

It's been one year since floods devastated southeast San Diego. Families are still recovering

Transcript:

South Crest

0:00

Other top story here today.

0:01

Today marks one year since floods devastated neighborhoods like South Crest

0:05

and Mountain View.

0:06

Many homeowners are still picking up the pieces and trying to rebuild their lives.

0:10

We have team coverage marking one year since this disaster.

0:13

CBS 8's Kelly Hasted all live in Mountain View,

0:15

one of the hardest hit neighbors neighborhoods to be impacted by this.

0:18

First though,

0:19

let's get to Regina Llorita live in South Crest sharing a look at the recovery so far,

0:23

and there's also some work still ahead here,

0:25

right,

0:25

for folks.

0:28

Yeah,

0:28

that's correct,

0:29

and it's shocking to hear that it's been a year,

0:32

or at least it's hit that year mark since those floods,

0:36

because I can tell you just on Beta Street here in South

0:39

Crest we are still seeing homes that are still up for construction.

0:44

There is a construction just

0:46

looking from my right side on my left side.

0:49

There's another one that's still dealing with construction.

0:51

There's also people still dealing with debris

0:54

and they also have the markings.

0:55

Of the January 202 flood.

0:57

So when we talk about just that one year mark for them,

1:00

it's felt like an eternity because they're still dealing with the repairs.

1:04

I actually want to bring in some video because I talked to one of residents.

1:08

His name is Greg Montoya.

1:09

He helped me tour the flood channel that faces his backyard and really just

1:15

standing there in front of the flood channel that's located just behind his house.

1:19

We really wanted to see the progress.

1:21

Well,

1:21

the city,

1:22

we noticed that they Cut down most of the vegetation to clear up the channel.

1:26

We still noticed lots of trash in the area.

1:28

Last year on this day there were mattresses,

1:31

shopping,

1:31

shopping carts,

1:32

and other debris that clogged the channel.

1:35

Montaya says he's frustrated to still see the channel like this,

1:38

and he's outraged with the city right now.

1:40

He's one of the hundreds of residents leading the lawsuit filed against San Diego.

1:44

He also says he's had enough of seeing these issues go unanswered.

1:47

So here's what else he talked about when mentioning city leaders.

City Leaders

1:52

And Moreno got up a couple of years ago and says oh no more dirt

1:55

alleys in my district there's gonna be no more dirt alleys in my district.

2:00

She has done nothing

2:01

and now she's running for,

2:03

uh,

2:03

county supervisor.

2:05

She abandoned us.

2:06

She knew about this

2:08

situation.

2:08

I have tons of emails

2:11

and documentation that I've sent through the years saying you need to address

2:15

this because when it rains all this water just goes into the houses.

Mayor Todd Gloria

2:21

And Mayor Todd Gloria released a statement

2:24

this week saying quote with climate change,

2:26

creating even more intense weather events,

2:28

the city is working with the people of San Diego to

2:31

be ready as possible for anything Mother Nature sends our way.

2:34

He also mentioned part of the assistance he's helped

2:36

to bring the community like FEMA funding and resources.

2:39

Now back out here,

2:40

we also reached out to Vivian Moreno.

2:42

For comment because that was a name that was brought up in this community,

2:46

residents just feeling abandoned from city leaders,

2:49

but she has not responded to our request for an interview.

2:52

We are still

2:54

waiting to hear more about this lawsuit,

2:56

but we do know that there is a court hearing next month.

2:58

A trial date is still not yet in place.

Southcrest awaits stormwater upgrades as Jan. 22 flood victims struggle to recover

Transcript:

0:00

so this room is my room oh okay yes I

0:03

shared it with my

0:04

cousin so this would be like my side of

0:06

the bed and then he would get that that

0:09

side Ashley monzano walks me through her

0:11

grandmother's home on Beta Street in

0:14

South Crest where she was living the day

0:16

the floods came one year ago the house

0:18

has been stripped down to the studs the

0:20

home itself was just a safe haven for

0:22

you know me and my family so everyone

0:25

was welcomed here you know it is my

0:27

grandmother's house so if every anybody

0:29

need a place to stay we would you know

0:32

just come January 22nd last year is

0:35

seared into Manzano's memory the rains

0:38

came fast and heavy when the water

0:40

started coming up through the

0:41

floorboards she knew she had to leave

0:44

but the streets were impassible so she

0:46

fled to the neighbor's roof with her

0:48

grandma who's now 90 and has early stage

0:51

dementia you know I I as I'm speaking to

0:53

you I'm kind of blocking some out so my

0:54

PTSD doesn't really take control over it

0:57

my my mental state you know I do work

0:59

with a therapist over the flood as well

1:02

um so I can only um speak so much

1:05

details before you know it plays a more

1:07

of a role or it takes more of a toll in

1:09

my head the family's financial and

1:11

health struggles have made for a slow

1:13

recovery they're grateful for the

1:15

volunteers who have pitched in to get

1:17

the house this far but the family needs

1:20

another

1:22

\$189,000 to fully restore it they filed

1:25

a claim against the city of San Diego

1:27

for failing to maintain the storm drains

1:29

but it will likely be years before their

1:31

case gets resolved it flooded so quickly

1:34

for um a variety of reasons one is that

1:38

it has an outdated and

1:41

inadequate uh storm drain system lesie

1:44

Reynolds is executive director of

1:46

groundwork San Diego a nonprofit that

1:49

advocates for better storm water

1:51

infrastructure we meet a block away from

1:53

Manzano's house on the banks of choice

1:55

Creek and then it happened because the

1:57

channel was constricted by uh overgrowth

2:01

of vegetation and did not allow for the

2:04

water to flow through today this section

2:06

of the creek is mostly clear but there's

2:09

a lot more work the city has to do to

2:11

prevent another flooding catastrophe the

2:14

choas Creek Watershed is 25 square miles

2:17

stretching all the way to Lemon Grove

2:19

Reynold says the city of San Diego is

2:21

planning to upgrade the storm drains

2:23

here which she says is critical and long

2:26

overdue it's also planting a number of

2:29

BIOS swes depressions in the ground that

2:31

can fill up with rain water and relieve

2:33

some of the pressure on the larger storm

2:35

drain system so we're very excited about

2:38

turning this whole area into a sort of

2:41

pilot project for um nature-based um

2:45

water management and multiple benefits

2:47

if you're going to work on flooding in a

2:49

community you're going to have to work

2:51

on heat and air and green spaces and all

2:55

the things these residents are going to

2:57

need as the climate worsens planning

3:00

infrastructure improvements is one thing

3:02

but convincing voters to pay for them in

3:05

the form of higher taxes is far from

3:08

guaranteed the city is a a bill a

3:10

billion and a half dollar short of storm

3:13

water infrastructure funding and we're

3:16

very um hopeful that we'll get a ballot

3:18

initiative in

3:20

2026 our residents even supported a

3:23

sales tax increase very generously

3:27

unlike some other communities um in in

3:30

the city to try to build infrastructure

3:32

for for these kinds of assets so I'm

3:36

very hopeful we'll get a ballot

3:37

initiative to make up that Gap Ashley

3:40

Manzano's home on Beta Street was once a

3:42

source of stability throughout her

3:44

family struggles without it an uncle who

3:47

was living in the home is now on the

3:49

streets she and her grandmother are

3:51

still couch surfing and what stresses me

3:54

out is a little more it's just I kind of

3:56

feel like we've been

3:57

forgotten um I know we the LA fires

4:00

occurring and I'm grateful that a lot of

4:02

people have helped them but I hope they

4:04

don't forget about us you know cuz we we

4:07

kind of were a little bit forgotten even

4:09

when the flood occurred so I just hope

4:11

people like help us cuz we still need a

4:13

lot of help as well I mean as you can

4:15

see my home it's still needs a lot of

4:18

work Andrew Bowen KPBS news

San Diego residents hit by flood damage say they feel 'betrayed' and ignored #news

YouTube short created from full Youtube video:

Jamacha Road neighbors say they need help after severe flood damage

Transcript:

0:00

Here, you can see mattresses,

0:01

floorboards and other furniture that was ruined by the flooding.

0:05

And tonight residents say they feel helpless and are hoping

0:07

the local government will do more to help them.

0:10

Yeah, we kind of cleaned up a little bit, try to say whatever we can.

0:14

This is Adrian Sanchez.

0:15

Tonight, his family work to clean up what they've been able to salvage.

0:19

It's a lot to take in, you know, but

0:21

we're trying to take it a day at a time and like stay in good spirits

0:24

this evening, we could still see water lines from the flooding.

0:27

This line above the doorknob with water still pooled on the floor

0:34

and the water comes rushing down.

0:36

I just opened the door, the water just rushing down.

0:38

It looked like an ocean or something.

0:40

Many of the neighbors have quickly learned

0:42

their homeowners insurance won't cover flooding,

0:45

everything is damaged. This flood is damaged too.

0:49

Patricia walked us through her home.

0:51

She says she's contacted the city and the

0:53

county seeking help but hasn't had any luck.

0:56

I feel betrayed by my government.

0:58

I work, I pay taxes. I never asked for anything.

1:02

And when I asked right now, call FEMA. Call the country San Diego.

1:07

They say this is not a disaster.

1:09

You know, we just, um, asking for some help,

1:11

just a little bit of help to get back on our feet and,

1:15

yeah, just have the city come, help out a little bit. You know,

1:18

for now these neighbors are leaning on each other,

1:20

which is what 95 year old Ernestine says their community does best.

1:24

That's one thing you have around here. You got good neighbors,

1:27

they help each other and, and, and in a situation there it is.

1:31

They're always, you know, they're always there to help

1:34

Jasmine

1:35

Ramirez CBS eight.

Residents demand answers from government officials, mayor after sever damage caused by storm #news

YouTube short created from YouTube video:

Southeast San Diego residents clean up Mountain View neighborhood from winter storm devastation

Transcript

0:00

That's right in that news conference did get a little heated.

0:03

And here in mountain view, you can see why I take a look.

0:06

It has been a rough 24 hours for the people who live here.

0:09

They've been shoveling thick piles of mud.

0:11

They brought a bobcat as some are helping out.

0:14

A lot of people took off work today to clean

0:16

up and they want to know how to move forward.

0:19

So today when they came face to face with Mayor Time Gloria at Lincoln High School,

0:23

here's some of what happened

0:26

for the, for the residents who are here. We're ha.

0:28

Yes, ma'am,

0:29

man.

0:30

I'm right here, baby. And so here's, here's the thing.

0:33

We're gonna,

0:33

we're gonna answer these questions because we

0:35

want everyone to get this information.

0:37

These folks are going to stay and we're going to have a conversation.

0:40

Ok. Yeah,

0:42

I, I'm

0:45

so, but

0:46

we have the shelter here.

0:47

We have stuff and I've already said,

0:49

let me do my job of doing this part and then I want to do my more important job,

0:52

which is talking to you.

0:53

Is that ok?

0:54

Why do we have to be the ones to suffer because wildlife,

0:59

we, the residents, we, the people

1:04

lives flesh and blood,

1:06

we should be important, not wildlife.

1:10

And so that last woman you heard from Maryland

1:13

who lives here in mountain view, she had 4 ft of water inside her home yesterday.

1:17

And she and her husband say they have complained to the city for months.

1:20

You need to clear the flood channel behind our home

1:23

because they were afraid something like this would happen.

1:25

And as you heard land of about

1:27

the state of the mayor, as she was told at one point,

1:29

they couldn't clear the channel because of the wildlife that lives there.

1:32

So she and other residents that unleash their

1:35

anger at the city.

1:36

Now, the mayor declared a state of emergency last night, the county followed suit.

1:40

And today,

1:40

Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency for San Diego County,

1:44

which we're told should give our area and more access to resources.

1:48

But Mayor Gloria made it very clear.

1:50

This clean up and recovery is going to take some time.

1:52

When I asked,

1:53

what would you say to the people here in mountain view who are picking up the pieces?

1:57

This was his response,

2:00

the amount of water that we received yesterday.

2:03

There is not a drainage system that would have been able to accommodate all of that.

2:07

What happened yesterday was extraordinary.

2:09

What we have down there, I do believe needs to be improved.

2:13

There's no question about that.

2:14

As you heard from Todd a moment ago,

2:16

the investments to change that are extremely expensive and very time intensive.

2:22

And he points out in a city like San Diego where it doesn't rain very often.

2:26

A storm water drainage is not a top priority,

2:29

but he says going forward that certainly going to need to change and that people

2:33

who live here in San Diego should expect more storms like what we saw yesterday

2:37

in the future. Heather and Carlo.

Statement of the Relevance of Document L-1 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

L-1: Eros, T., Hermoso, V., & Langhans, S. D. (2023). Leading the path toward sustainable freshwater management: Reconciling challenges and opportunities in historical, hybrid, and novel ecosystem types. *WIREs Water*, 10(3), e1645. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wat2.1645>.

L-1 is a scientific article containing an analysis of management approaches to balance flood control and biodiversity in freshwater ecosystems. The article classifies waterbodies into three categories, with novel ecosystem types being defined as ecosystems that “are modified by human perturbation to such an extent that they exhibit new patterns and processes, which cannot be restored to historical conditions (page 2, Hobbs et al., 2009)”. The article discusses the need for different management objectives for novel ecosystems and includes citations to other studies that support statements in the article that restoring biodiversity in novel ecosystems may be too costly or technically infeasible. The article also discusses the need to maintain existing modifications to provide other services, such as flood control. Relevant parts of the article are highlighted in yellow on pages 2, 3, 4 and 5. The facts and evaluations discussed in the article are relevant to the State Water Board’s consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board’s Biological Objectives (SDRBO) in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region (modified channels) because the article supports the need for different objectives for modified channels and provides evidence that modified channels (novel ecosystems in the article) may not be able to be restored to natural conditions. The findings from this article suggest that it may not be possible to achieve natural/reference conditions in modified channels. If modified channels cannot achieve natural/reference conditions, they would be unlikely to attain the SDRBO because the SDRBOs were developed based on the CSCI scores observed in natural/reference systems. Although this article does not directly reference modified channels in the San Diego Region, its findings are generally relevant to modified channels and thus provide evidence relevant to the San Diego Water Board’s implementation of the SDRBO. Thus, L-1 should be included in the Administrative Record.

Leading the path toward sustainable freshwater management: Reconciling challenges and opportunities in historical, hybrid, and novel ecosystem types

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Abstract

Due to their importance for human development and well-being, freshwater ecosystems are among the most threatened and modified in the world; a situation that is expected to intensify in the future. Freshwaters convey a mix of novel, historical, and hybrid systems, each with different values and opportunities for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services provision. We argue that securing future access to freshwater services, while halting aquatic biodiversity loss, requires an evaluation of the opportunities offered and challenges imposed by each of these types of systems. Such an inventory can then build the basis to systematically plan restoration, conservation and management actions with the goal of harmonizing the multiplicity of co-occurring freshwater-related interests. Developing river basin management plans that integrate these multiple, often conflicting interests poses complex challenges, including (1) the current ecosystem condition that defines to a large extent what type of objectives can realistically be aimed at, (2) socioeconomic needs that limit our capacity to modify current conditions, for example, drinking water and energy provided by large dams, and (3) governance constraints related to managing large, often transboundary, river basins. Multi-objective management planning rooted in systematic conservation planning can help overcome these challenges. Consequently, we argue that adequate planning must play a key role when designing river basin management plans to make the most of the opportunities associated with local freshwater ecosystem types. We call for governments to embrace and promote a systematic approach to river basin management planning to create the urgently needed pan-global shift toward a sustainable biodiverse freshwater future.

This article is categorized under:

Water and Life > Conservation, Management, and Awareness

Water and Life > Methods

Engineering Water > Planning Water

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KEYWORDS

biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, landscape planning, multi-objective spatial optimization, sustainability design

1 | INTRODUCTION

Freshwater ecosystems represent less than 1% of the Earth's surface, yet are among the most species-rich ecosystems, containing almost 10% of all described species (Strayer & Dudgeon, 2010). Fresh waters also provide essential societal and economic services, including drinking water, food, transportation, recreation, irrigation for agriculture and electricity for industrial, and domestic purposes among others (Hanna et al., 2018). Not surprisingly, increasing demands to maintain human welfare threaten biodiversity and the integrity of these unique ecosystems (Wild et al., 2020). Consequently, freshwater ecosystems are among the most intensively modified in the world (Heino et al., 2020; Reid et al., 2019; Tickner, Opperman, et al., 2020; Zarfl et al., 2019); a situation that is expected to continue in the future due to the combined effect of an increasing global water demand and a climate-change driven decline in the quality and quantity of freshwater-related ecosystem services (IPCC, 2014).

Despite the increasing attention devoted to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration over the last decades, biodiversity continues to decline even more severely in freshwater systems than in terrestrial and marine systems (Wild et al., 2020). Recognizing the urgent need for action, conservationists emphasize the need of protecting on average half of the Earth's terrestrial biogeographic regions to halt this decline (Dinerstein et al., 2017; Noss et al., 2012). The Half Earth, or Nature Needs Half proposal, which aims for 30% protection of the planet by 2030 and 50% by 2050 has been advocated as a Global Deal for Nature by a broad range of organizations (Convention on Biological Diversity, 2019). However, it is yet unclear how these ambitious goals can be translated into effective policy mechanisms and mitigation approaches (Maron et al., 2020; Schleicher et al., 2020), especially in the context of an increasing demand for freshwater resources and services (Tickner, Opperman, et al., 2020).

To provide a fuller set of management options, to use limited resources efficiently, and to increase the chance of achieving management objectives Hobbs et al. (2009) introduced a management approach, broadly applicable to any realm, based on status types across the spectrum of degrees of alteration: historical, hybrid, and novel ecosystems. Historical ecosystems are those that maintain their natural character and variability. Small-scale human perturbations, if present, do not significantly alter the system and/or the system can be restored to its historical range of variability. At the other end of the spectrum, novel ecosystems are modified by human perturbation to such an extent that they exhibit new patterns and processes, which cannot be restored to historical conditions (Hobbs et al., 2009). Hybrid ecosystems are situated between these two contrasting types. They are no longer in their historical state but can develop toward historic conditions after human impacts recede through intensive restoration efforts (Heger et al., 2019; Hobbs et al., 2009).

Given the strategic value and the poor conservation status of freshwater ecosystems, adequate management of these systems to ensure the maintenance of freshwater biodiversity and ecosystem services while minimizing trade-offs between conflicting objectives, has become a critical policy, socioeconomic, and governance priority (Arthington, 2021; Erős et al., 2018; Hermoso et al., 2018; Langhans et al., 2019). We argue that we need an inclusive management perspective, that is, one that concurrently considers objectives serving conservation, restoration and the sustainable use of biodiversity and resources, and that utilizes systematic management planning to ensure that these multiple objectives are achieved. To operationalize such a management perspective, we suggest a three-tier approach based on Hobbs and colleagues' idea of distinguishing three main ecosystem types and manage them accordingly, and explain how the approach can help harvest the opportunities associated with freshwater systems' current status, while minimizing challenges arising from conflicting objectives.

2 | THE THREE TIERS OF FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

The first step toward operationalizing the three-tier approach is to assess the status types of the ecosystem that needs to be managed (Hobbs et al., 2014; Kopf et al., 2015; Figure 1). This allows forming a clear picture of how historical, hybrid, and novel ecosystems can contribute to achieve management objective and what management might be more appropriate/needed in each case. Here, the use of adequate indicators can help derive information on how well

biodiversity and ecosystem services are maintained and on the extent of pressures that degrade ecosystem structure and function (Erős et al., 2018; Grizzetti et al., 2016; Maes et al., 2016). For example, physical and chemical water quality, land use types, invasive species, the presence of instream barriers or hydropower dams, and fish ponds or flood mitigation structures can all be linked to useful indicators to assess the degree of human use in catchments and, consequently, to determine the status of water bodies along the historical-novel continuum (Terrado et al., 2016; Vidal-Abarca et al., 2016).

Indices—such as the biotic integrity index pioneered by Karr (1981)—have been used by water management authorities and policy-makers since the 1980s. By definition, biological or ecological integrity is the capability of supporting and maintaining a balanced, integrated, adaptive community of organisms, and a species composition and functional organization comparable to that of natural habitats of the region (Karr, 1981). Consequently, the different indices of biological or ecological integrity—which serve as key tools for assessing ecosystem health and are commonly used across the globe—measure the degree of the alteration of the ecosystem from natural conditions (Karr et al., 2022). Such indices can help assess not only the status of a freshwater ecosystem but also its potential contribution to achieve catchment-wide objectives or inform decisions on the type of management that is needed. For example, historical freshwater ecosystems are characterized by excellent or good ecological integrity (Hobbs et al., 2014; Kopf et al., 2015). As a consequence, they are fully functional and maintain the potential of ecosystem services to a degree where natural patterns and processes do not suffer from overexploitation (Figures 1 and 2). **Novel freshwater ecosystems, on the other hand, are characterized by low ecological integrity with native flora and fauna and ecosystem functions altered to a degree that renders restoring them to a pristine or excellent ecological condition unfeasible. Novel ecosystems (Box 1) are designed to, or have developed into, systems that primarily serve human use and welfare, although they may also hold some biodiversity value.** For example, reservoirs, artificial channels or rice field paddies are among the types of novel ecosystems that need a defined flow regime and continuing water governance together with dams and sluices in



FIGURE 1 Historical, hybrid and novel freshwater ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological conditions and freshwater-related ecosystem services. From left to right, top row—historical ecosystem types: Tagliamento River, Italy (Simone D. Langhans), lake in the Tajik National Park, peat bog; middle row—hybrid ecosystem types: Elbe, Germany, Lake Geneva, Switzerland, River Manzanares, Madrid, Spain (Simone D. Langhans); bottom row—novel ecosystem types: Hydroelectric power dam, Huanza, Peru, channelized stream, Hungary (Tibor Erős), rice paddy, Thailand. Photos from [pixabay.com](https://www.pixabay.com), if not indicated otherwise.

order to provide the targeted ecosystem services for the society (Acreman et al., 2014; Figures 1 and 2). Hybrid ecosystems are generally characterized by a moderate level of biotic integrity, although their integrity status may vary broadly. These ecosystems can still hold important biodiversity-conservation value, but can also be utilized by societies for a variety of purposes such as recreation, fishery, or irrigation among others.

3 | THE THREE-TIER APPROACH FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

Given the different opportunities and constraints to achieve the desired objectives associated with each ecosystem type, the three-tier approach aims to make the most of biodiversity options for each ecosystem type and plan

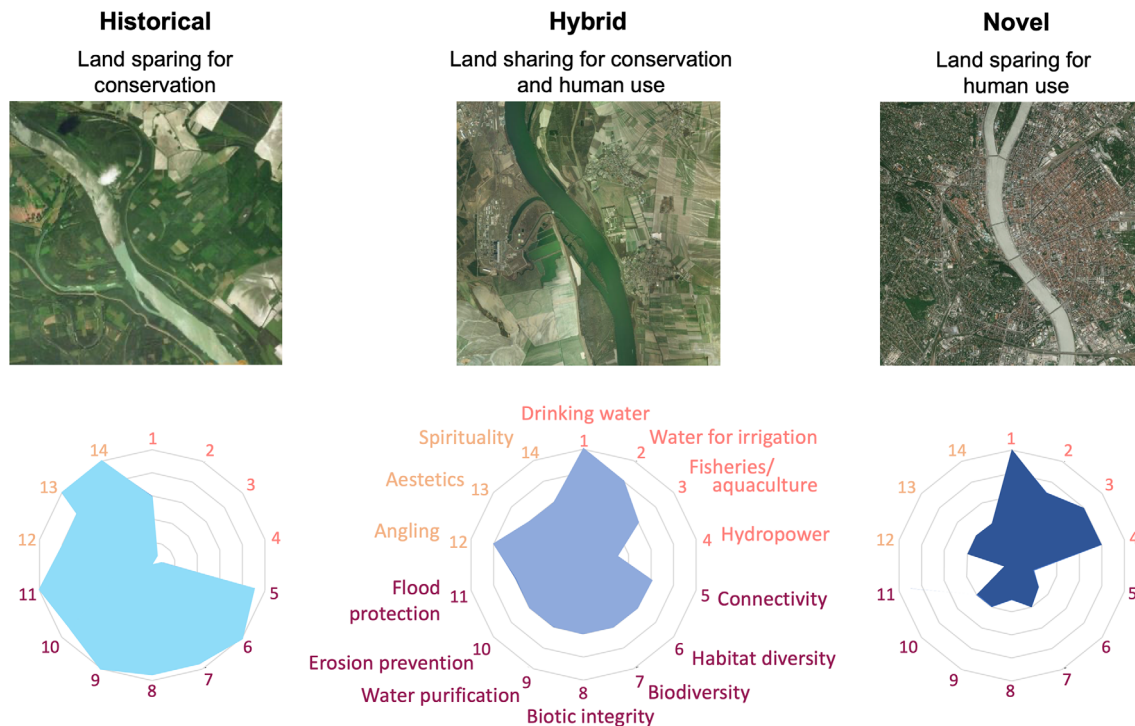


FIGURE 2 The three tiers: historical, hybrid and novel ecosystem types. The spider figures show hypothetical examples of the provision of freshwater-related ecosystem services and functions (see Kremen & Merenlender, 2018 for a similar approach). Provisioning services: 1–4; regulating services; 5–11; cultural or recreational services: 12–14.

BOX 1 Novel freshwater ecosystems in the anthropocene

The concept of novel ecosystems is increasingly used in restoration ecology, due to the recognition that most environments cannot be restored to historical conditions despite the greatest efforts (Higgs, 2017; Hobbs et al., 2009). For example, the European Union (EU) Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) recognizes that some water bodies have been deeply transformed, for example, reservoirs or channelized rivers, and that in some cases the benefits of such uses need to be retained. These water bodies are classified as “artificial” or “heavily modified” and are not subject to the same recovery objectives as the remaining freshwater ecosystems in the EU. Consequently, understanding the opportunities that novel ecosystems pose, together with recognizing the need to incorporate biodiversity conservation into human modified landscapes, especially in densely populated areas where natural habitats are largely missing (e.g., most parts of Europe and North America (Kremen & Merenlender, 2018), will be crucial for the sustainable management of freshwater ecosystems in the Anthropocene (Heger et al., 2019; Hobbs et al., 2014).

management accordingly. In this way, management recommendations can be adapted to the types of ecosystem present and objectives pursued, avoiding costly decisions or potential conflicts between the objectives (Figure 3). For example, rather than restoring a novel ecosystem to achieve biodiversity conservation, it might be better to continue devoting it to provide resources and/or food, while investing restoration efforts in other areas where it is more needed or (cost)-efficient.

Generally, historical ecosystems, for example, pristine rivers, are key for freshwater biodiversity conservation while concurrently providing important services such as clean drinking water (Kopf et al., 2015; Peipoch et al., 2015). Hybrid and novel freshwater ecosystems (e.g., rice paddies or reservoirs) play a crucial societal role in providing ecosystem services such as food or energy, respectively (Higgs, 2017; Figure 3). Therefore, regions where historical river systems still exist, such as the Amazon River Basin, along the Alaskan and Canadian Pacific coast, or in the area of the Tibetan Plateau (Abell et al., 2017) biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services objectives can (still) be achieved following a conservation-focused strategy (Figure 3). In contrast, in North America and Europe, we find a contrasting situation to the Amazon River Basin. Here, hybrid and novel systems dominate and only a small fraction of freshwater systems remain in a historical status, mainly in upstream areas, rendering management more challenging especially for biodiversity conservation and some regulating or cultural ecosystem services. Consequently, in these areas restoration of hybrid systems must play a pivotal role to achieve biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation objectives, given that restoring novel systems might be too costly or technically unfeasible (Figure 3). In addition, management efforts need to consider maintaining the current status in novel systems that provide a major service, for example, drinking or irrigation water by reservoirs (Figures 2 and 3).

4 | MULTI-OBJECTIVE MANAGEMENT PLANNING BASED ON THE THREE TIERS

Given the complexity of managing freshwater ecosystems, facing multiple objectives and opportunities and constrains associated with their tier, systematic planning is essential. However, strategic spatial planning has yet to become an

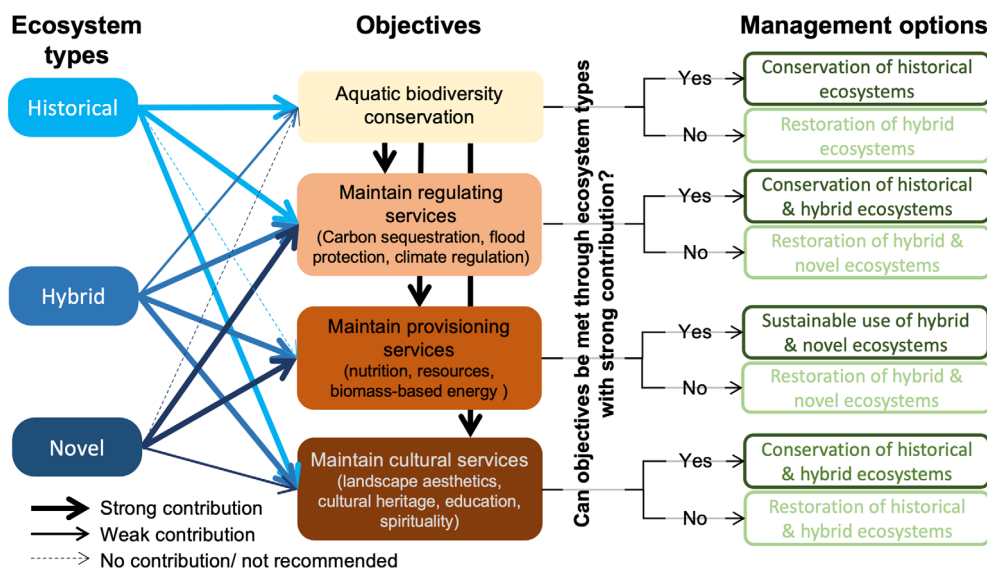


FIGURE 3 Schematic representation of how the three tiers contribute to achieving multiple objectives at the (sub-)catchment scale and corresponding management options available to realize those objectives. Depending on the status of each catchment, each tier can make a stronger (thick line) or weaker (thin line) contribution to achieve each objective. For example, historical ecosystems with a high ecological integrity are suitable for biodiversity conservation or maintenance of regulating ecosystem services. Novel ecosystems that have been deeply transformed can contribute to provisioning services. The designation of novel systems to biodiversity conservation needs investment in restoration to ensure they can contribute to this objective and, therefore, is not preferable (dotted line). In cases in which objectives cannot be achieved through the tier with the strongest designation, active management is needed. For example, achieving biodiversity conservation objectives in a catchment without any historical areas needs a significant restoration effort to improve its status. To achieve objectives related to cultural ecosystem services, historical systems play an important role, while recreational use might need to be limited to avoid quality impacts.

integral part of freshwater policy and management decision-making. For example, the EU Water Framework Directive mandates Member States to reach good ecological status for all natural water bodies by 2027. Despite achieving this goal under limited budgets and potential socioeconomic conflicts is highly complex and ambitious, especially in the catchment of large transboundary rivers, the EU does not promote any framework that helps decide where and how to best implement management actions (Voulvoulis et al., 2017). In fact, achievement of good water quality status for all natural water bodies has been criticized as an unrealistic target, even when the best management practices are implemented (Doody et al., 2016).

Systematic, spatial optimization of management provides a framework to guide decision-making in a transparent and informed way, and has gained momentum over the last decades to inform the identification of management priorities in complex decision-making scenarios (Langhans et al., 2019; Linke et al., 2019; Villarreal-Rosas et al., 2020). However, traditional approaches derived from terrestrial or marine methods for identifying protected areas (PAs) commonly resulted in conservation recommendations that are highly demanding in terms of area needed to ensure adequate protection (Klein et al., 2009). In order to reduce the demand for strict conservation areas as well as to account for the complexity of management planning in freshwater ecosystems with their longitudinal, horizontal and vertical connectivities along the river network, floodplains, and groundwater systems, respectively, alternative multinomial approaches emerged (Hermoso et al., 2018; Hermoso, Cattarino, et al., 2015). Abell et al. (2007), for example, proposed a multizone hierarchical approach to operationalize conservation planning: from (i) freshwater focal areas (core conservation zones) such as selected subcatchments, river segments, wetlands or lakes and ponds, which serve as key areas for the protection of freshwater biodiversity and that would need strict protection with restriction to most of human uses; (ii) “critical management zones,” that is, river segments that ensure connectivity among freshwater focal zones which, with their riparian zone, also provide some buffering capacity to maintain ecological functioning; (iii) to catchment management zones that cover the entire catchment upstream of the most downstream freshwater focal area or critical management zone, in which no strict protection is needed. These latter zones are all contributing terrestrial areas draining into freshwater focal areas, where human uses are not restricted but management needs to ensure that they do not compromise the effectiveness of conservation efforts in freshwater focal areas.

More recently, this multi-objective spatial optimization approach has also been used to address multi-objective spatial prioritization problems considering trade-offs and co-benefits of freshwater-related biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services provision and demand (Domisch et al., 2019; Erős et al., 2018). For example, Hermoso et al. (2018) designed a catchment management plan by prioritizing the spatial allocation of multiple management zones, each of them designated to achieve a given set of objectives. These management zones were also allocated along the catchment to maximize potential co-benefits (e.g., biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration) and minimize trade-offs (e.g., biodiversity conservation and ground water abstraction for agriculture). Nevertheless, catchment-based delineation of conservation areas is still rare globally, and more importantly, the framework of multi-zone freshwater conservation management has not been adopted in environmental policy. Therefore, not surprisingly, at present only 16% of rivers (km) are covered by PAs with only 11.1% are under full upstream catchment protection, globally (Abell et al., 2017).

We argue that these multi-objective spatial optimization approaches, when based on accounting for management opportunities provided by historical, hybrid, and novel systems, can help guide the designation of management plans that address the multitude of objectives pursued at catchment scale, making the most of the relative suitability of each ecosystem type for each of the objectives (Figure 4). Catchment management plans developed under such considerations integrate multiple objectives and indicate where in the catchment actions are planned, making the most of the opportunities already in place, while minimizing potential conflicts (Domisch et al., 2019; Erős & Lowe, 2019; Lanzas et al., 2019). For example, if two conflicting objectives such as hydropower production and biodiversity conservation are pursued, spatial planning accounts for the current status type of the respective subcatchment and allocates new hydropower production to areas that are already impacted. In this way, cumulative impacts that damage additional areas important for biodiversity conservation are avoided (Erős et al., 2018; O’Hanley et al., 2020).

Practically, the implementation of environmental policies that target conservation and management goals at different scales from local to global, asks for flexibility to combine top-down and bottom-up planning strategies. In such a multiscale space, trade-offs may result from conflicts between local or regional objectives, for example, between farmers and representatives of the hydropower sector and conservationists. In other cases, trade-offs might originate at larger scales, such as at national or supra-national (e.g., continental or global) policy level. For example, the EU Biodiversity Strategy aims to restore freshwater ecosystems, especially those with a high potential for carbon sequestration, and reconnect at least 25,000 km of rivers by 2030. These top-down continental goals need to be translated into

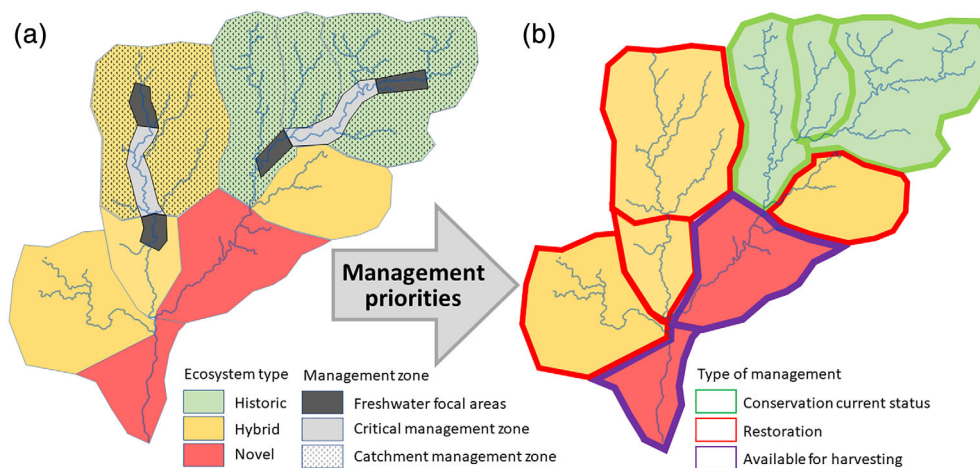


FIGURE 4 Conceptual diagram of spatial freshwater management planning based on the three-tier approach proposed here, adapted from Hermoso et al. (2018). (a) Distribution of different ecosystem types across a model catchment and allocation of the three types of management zones proposed by Abell et al. (2007) for the conservation of freshwater biodiversity; (b) Distribution of management recommendations according to the current status and objectives pursued in the catchment. To achieve sustainable use of ecosystem services and biodiversity protection objectives, a prioritization of the spatial allocation of different management zones is needed, including (i) the protection of biodiversity in freshwater focal areas, preferably in historical systems, (ii) restoration in catchment management zones, primarily in hybrid systems, and (iii) harvest of ecosystem services, which are not compatible with biodiversity conservation (involving trade-offs), primarily in novel ecosystems.

catchment decisions and management, which could conflict with local/regional bottom-up goals to fulfill human needs of water resources. The same would apply to other continental or global policy, such as the CBD's 50% conservation targets, or the EU WFD and the Floods Directive. Scientists thus urge the need for new, more effective policy solutions in the conservation of freshwater resources (Acreman et al., 2020; Arthington, 2021; Cid et al., 2022). We argue that a combined top-down/bottom-up approach based on spatial optimization paired with community and stakeholder participation, executed in a scientifically rigorous way (Langhans et al., 2019), would be a way forward. Overall, global, continental or bioregion level targets can be addressed by using spatial optimization models (top-down approach). However, these selections must be refined with intensive stakeholder participation at local and regional scales (bottom-up approach; Grizzetti et al., 2016; Terrado et al., 2016; Langhans & Schallenberg, 2021). Beside stakeholder participation, the incorporation of indigenous values and local knowledge systems should also be an important part of conservation and restoration strategies in the implementation of global or bioregion level targets (Langhans & Schallenberg, 2021; Ogar et al., 2020). We acknowledge that conflicts may arise, especially in those ecoregions where only hybrid and novel ecosystems form the majority of freshwater habitats. However, without careful spatial design of conservation, restoration, and/or land compensation actions the achievement of sustainability goals remains only an illusion (Arlidge et al., 2018).

5 | MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE THREE TIERS

Even if careful conservation planning provides (at least partial) solutions for biodiversity protection, active management is necessary to attain sustainable development goals including both the long-term maintenance of biodiversity targets and the provision of ecosystem services. A suit of recent review articles recognizes the urgent need to provide management recommendations to halt the decline of biodiversity in freshwaters (see Acreman et al., 2020; Tickner, Kaushal, et al., 2020; van Rees et al., 2021). Although some of these reviews emphasize the importance of spatial planning, actions are not distinguished according to historical, hybrid, and novel ecosystem types. We believe that assigning actions specifically to these three main land transformations types could yield a more transparent and target-specific conservation management approach.

5.1 | Spare and/or share enough land for the protection of freshwater habitats

In catchments where freshwaters in historical status dominate, PAs may provide enough insurance to maintain a good status of freshwater biodiversity (Figure 2), if the dedicated PAs represent all freshwater habitat types (i.e., from small streams to large floodplain rivers) in an adequate extent (Erős, 2007; Hermoso, Filipe, et al., 2015). In fact recent studies, mostly from terrestrial conservation, emphasize the need of quality PAs rather than quantity in the effectiveness of conservation (Jones et al., 2018; Visconti et al., 2019) a fact that might be similarly applicable to freshwater systems. Consequently, protection of critical habitats such as biodiversity hotspots and nursery zones, and improved management and enforcement in PAs, should be a priority in historical freshwater ecosystems.

Effective catchment-level protection becomes more problematic in areas where hybrid or novel ecosystems dominate (Figure 2). Here, transformation of the terrestrial landscape by agriculture, forestry and urbanization can be intense to a level that only small subcatchments can be fully protected. These subcatchments can serve as focal conservation areas. Here, stricter legal protection and controls are necessary to halt urban sprawl and related needs (e.g., hydropower dams) into PAs (Concepción, 2021; Thieme et al., 2020). The strict protection and/or restoration of connectivity, together with a forested riparian buffer zone along the stream margin, is also essential for protecting the remaining freshwater biodiversity in hybrid and novel ecosystems (Castelle et al., 1994; Kiffney et al., 2003; Lee et al., 2004). These distinguished segments or subcatchments can serve as critical management zones or catchment management zones.

Nevertheless, sparing enough land for conservation in the form of strictly protected focal conservation areas may be an unrealistic goal in catchments where hybrid and novel ecosystems dominate (Figure 2). Consequently, a land sharing strategy might be also applied to minimize anthropogenic alterations in the most valuable habitats. For example, new reservoirs could be established in areas that are in poor condition with low potential for other objectives, such as biodiversity conservation (Erős et al., 2018; Thieme et al., 2020). In addition, subcatchments with high conservation potential could be restored or remediated, while damages caused by the expansion of novel ecosystems into less impacted areas is compensated, for example, by restoring hybrid ecosystems. Within hybrid ecosystems, trading off conservation with socioeconomic objectives is the most critical issue. Here, win-win solutions between biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services delivery must be harmonized using spatial land sharing designs (Erős & Bányai, 2020; Hermoso et al., 2018).

In novel ecosystems, even if fully dedicated to human use, nature-based solutions or biodiversity-friendly treatments can enhance conservation objectives. For example, restoration actions specifically designed for urbanized areas can maximize stream multifunctionality (Niezgoda & Johnson, 2005), enhance riparian plant diversity along irrigation canals and flood protection dykes (Goodwin et al., 1997) and the movement of organisms across dams and within irrigation areas through the construction or modification of water control structures or mitigate the effects of navigation on fish and macroinvertebrates by applying longitudinal training dams (Collas et al., 2018). Innovative nature-based solutions will be also important to combat against CO₂ emissions, the effects of changing climate and associated alteration of flow and thermal regimes in hybrid and novel ecosystems (Keesstra et al., 2018). For example, the creation and/or maintenance of wetlands provides a good example of win-win solutions by sequestering carbon and supporting biodiversity and a variety of ecosystem services in these land transformation types (Jamion et al., 2022).

5.2 | Avoid external and internal pressures and maintain water quality

While it seems evident that, ideally, PAs should be free of external and internal pressures, this criteria may be fulfilled only in historic ecosystems and even in those only for a limited number of catchments (Abell et al., 2017; Jones et al., 2018). For example, although global or continental scale assessments show that water quality is improving in many high- or middle-income countries or ecoregions, for example, due to policy regulations and nature-based solutions (Bartram et al., 2002; Steinebach, 2019; Wild et al., 2020), there are significant barriers to improving water quality in low-income countries (Metcalf et al., 2017; Vörösmarty et al., 2010). Even if internal pressures are minimized in PAs, a failure to address exogenous pressures can seriously limit the effectiveness of biodiversity protection efforts (Reis et al., 2017; Tickner, Kaushal, et al., 2020). Therefore, the establishment of critical management zones and catchment management zones and, in addition, strict regulations to avoid perturbation effects in these areas are crucial to reach biodiversity targets, especially in hybrid ecosystems where trade-offs between biodiversity protection and human water needs is most critical. Novel ecosystems provide services which primarily fulfill human needs. Yet, water quality should

be maintained by policy regulations even in these systems to ensure additional benefits to biodiversity in areas where sparing enough land for conservation are severely limited.

5.3 | Accelerate implementation of environmental flow

Hydrologic alterations and associated changes in geomorphology are a major driver of the transformation of fresh waters from historical into novel ecosystems (Bunn & Arthington, 2002; Poff et al., 1997). Recognizing the need for action to restore altered flow regimes, the concept of environmental flows has been implemented in many policy recommendations and directives (Acreman et al., 2014; Hayes et al., 2018; Poff et al., 2016). This management concept emphasizes no or very limiting alterations in the quantity, quality, and temporal patterns of water flows in historical ecosystems, and designing flow regimes to achieve specific ecological and ecosystem-service objectives in hybrid and novel ecosystems (Acreman et al., 2014). Despite the widespread recognition of the need to accelerate the implementation of environmental flows globally (see e.g., The Brisbane Declaration and its developments in Arthington et al., 2018, Tickner, Opperman, et al., 2020), in practice implementation faces numerous challenges, including (i) the lack of authority to implement environmental flows in water governance structures, (ii) fragmented water governance in transboundary water systems, (iii) declining water availability and increasing variability under climate change, and (iv) lack of consideration of nonbiophysical factors, such as the better integration of social, political, and economic factors (Wineland et al., 2022). Again, similarly to regulations in water chemistry, environmental flow regulations must ensure the protection of biodiversity in hybrid ecosystems in those ecoregions with a shortage of historical ecosystems for establishing conservation areas. Sustainable freshwater management needs to overcome the above challenges, in particular the modification of water governance frameworks, better collaboration across political jurisdictions and different governmental sectors (e.g., social, economic, environmental), and true adaptive management for climate change effects (Wineland et al., 2022).

5.4 | Prevent and control nonnative species invasions

The conservation of natural habitat conditions, including natural flow patterns, is critical to prevent and control nonnative species invasions into historical ecosystems (Howeth et al., 2016; Moyle & Light, 1996). In fact, habitat alterations such as new dams are suggested to boost invasive species, and this problem is especially acute in hybrid ecosystems (Hermoso et al., 2011; Johnson et al., 2008; Olden et al., 2006). Therefore, propagule pressure of invasive species should be avoided in catchment management zones to minimize their appearance and spread to focal conservation areas and critical management zones. If necessary, eradication and restoration measures should be conducted (Bosch et al., 2019; Lintermans, 2000). However, in novel ecosystems, nonnative species may provide important ecosystem services such as being harvested as food or being of recreational value to anglers. Overall, propagule pressure policies (see Reaser et al., 2008) could include a stricter legislation for the checking of the aquarium trade, introduction of nonnative fish and crayfish to fishery ponds, effective control measures to prevent their escapes from fish farms, and restrictions regarding the use of fish or other exotic species as life-bait (Erős et al., 2020). These regulations, which should be specific to historical, hybrid and novel ecosystems, could build refugia for native species against nonnatives at least in the most precious diversity hotspots.

6 | CONCLUSION

Freshwater ecosystems consist of a mosaic of status types with different degrees of modification and associated opportunities and challenges to contribute to achieving the multiplicity of conservation, restoration, and other management objectives. We argue that to halt the decline in freshwater biodiversity and in ecosystem services fresh waters provide for society, it is not enough to protect for example on average half of the area of each ecoregion (i.e., CBD's 50% conservation targets), especially in areas where land transformation has led to the dominance of hybrid and novel ecosystems. Rather, systematic planning of management based on land sparing and land sharing is necessary for which the three-tier approach of ecosystem status types provides a novel, promising baseline. We call for governments to embrace and

promote a systematic approach to river basin management planning to create the urgently needed pan-global shift toward a sustainable freshwater future.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Tibor Erős: Conceptualization (equal); methodology (equal); visualization (equal); writing – original draft (equal); writing – review and editing (equal). **Simone D. Langhans:** Conceptualization (equal); methodology (equal); visualization (equal); writing – original draft (equal); writing – review and editing (equal). **Virgilio Hermoso:** Conceptualization (equal); methodology (equal); visualization (equal); writing – original draft (equal); writing – review and editing (equal).

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The authors have declared no conflicts of interest for this article.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no new data were created or analyzed in this study.

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Statement of the Relevance of Document L-2 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

L-2: Zerega, A.; Simões, N.E.; Feio, M.J. How to Improve the Biological Quality of Urban Streams? Reviewing the Effect of Hydromorphological Alterations and Rehabilitation Measures on Benthic Invertebrates. *Water* 2021, 13, 2087. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w13152087>

L-2 is a scientific article containing an analysis of the effect of hydromorphological alternations of urban waterbodies, including channel modifications, on benthic macroinvertebrates. The article notes that “restoration of streams (i.e., the return to natural conditions) is most often not realistic due to the numerous unavoidable constraints brought by the urban environment (such as the existence of buildings and other constructions that cannot be removed)” (page 2) and explains the ways in which channel modifications impact biological integrity. Channelization impacts habitat quality, refugia for benthic macroinvertebrates, reduction of riffle habitat frequency, and linkage to riparian areas. This results in a decline in invertebrate communities with lower taxonomic variety and abundance. The article highlights the need to focus on “rehabilitation” to restore as many of the channels natural characteristics as possible while recognizing that returning the stream to natural conditions may not be possible. Relevant parts of the article are highlighted in yellow on pages 2, 4, 5 and 6. The facts and evaluations discussed in the article are relevant to the State Water Board’s consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board’s Biological Objectives (SDRBO) in anthropogenically and physically modified soft-bottom streams in the San Diego Region because the article identifies that modified channels may not be able to be restored to natural conditions. If modified channels cannot achieve natural/reference conditions, they would be unlikely to attain the SDRBO because the SDRBOs were developed based on the CSCI scores observed in natural/reference systems. Although this article does not directly reference modified channels in the San Diego Region, its findings are generally relevant to conditions in modified channels and thus provide evidence relevant to the San Diego Water Board’s implementation of the SDRBO. Thus, L-2 should be included in the Administrative Record.

Review

How to Improve the Biological Quality of Urban Streams? Reviewing the Effect of Hydromorphological Alterations and Rehabilitation Measures on Benthic Invertebrates

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Abstract: Urbanisation alters the natural hydromorphology of streams, affecting aquatic communities and ecological quality. Increasing efforts have been put into the rehabilitation of urban streams due to their importance for urban sustainability. Despite these efforts, many projects fail to achieve the improvement of aquatic communities. This study aims to provide specific recommendations to enhance the biological rehabilitation of urban streams by reviewing: (i) the impacts of urbanisation and climate change on urban stream hydrology, (ii) the responses of invertebrate assemblages to alterations in the hydrology and morphology of streams, and (iii) the hydromorphological rehabilitation measures applied to streams and their effect on invertebrate communities. This review found that commonly employed measures of habitat heterogeneity enhancement (such as the addition of meanders, boulders, and artificial riffles) are not enough to improve invertebrate communities. On the other hand, the most effective measures are those leading to the re-establishment of natural hydrological patterns and good water quality. Ultimately, an integrated ecohydrological approach that considers the entire watershed and its interactions between ecosystems and anthropological activities is the key to managing and rehabilitating urban streams.

Keywords: urban water management; ecological assessment; river restoration; ecohydrology; aquatic habitats; hydrology; climate change



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1. Introduction

Urban streams are one of the most degraded aquatic ecosystems in the world [1–3]. These streams are highly impacted by the accumulation of anthropogenic actions in their catchments, such as direct alterations to their channels, banks, and riparian zones by construction, loss of space, and runoff from impervious areas such as roads, buildings, and parking lots, which ultimately affect stream condition [4]. The “urban stream syndrome” is a term used to describe such ecologically degraded streams located in urban basins. The symptoms are diverse and include flashier hydrographs, high concentrations of nutrients and pollutants in the water, altered channel morphology, and reduced biotic richness (with increased dominance of tolerant species) [5]. Consequently, recovering the ecological condition of urban streams is imperative.

When successfully recovered, these ecosystems have the potential to offer numerous important services to urban populations [6–11]. The restoration of streams enhances biodiversity and ecosystem services that are essential for human wellbeing and supports the achievement of several goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations [12,13]. Indeed, the ecological integrity of freshwater ecosystems has become an important issue and is supported by many international, national, and regional plans and legislations [14]. Additionally, legislative measures, such as the Clean Water Act

in the USA, the Water Framework Directive, and the Habitats Directive in Europe, continue to be major drivers for the increasing implementation of stream restoration [15–18].

Stream restoration involves several strategies and measures that target the mitigation of prior disturbance [5,19]. Additionally, several criteria should guide successful projects [20,21], such as: (i) clear ecological objectives exist, guided by good ecological knowledge of the systems to be restored; (ii) the ecological condition of the stream must be measurably improved, and pre- and postassessment must be carried out; (iii) good technical knowledge of current and relevant methods is used; (iv) during the construction stage of the project, no lasting perturbations should remain in the ecosystem; and (v) the river system should become self-sustainable and resilient to the point that minimal follow-up maintenance will be necessary.

In urban areas, the restoration of streams (i.e., the return to natural conditions) is most often not realistic due to the numerous unavoidable constraints brought by the urban environment (such as the existence of buildings and other constructions that cannot be removed). In addition, alterations to the environment may have started a long time ago and already caused dramatic changes in the structure and function of the stream [22–24]. Thus, from here on, the term “rehabilitation” is used instead of “restoration”, which contemplates the reclamation of as many of the stream’s natural (predevelopment) components and functions as possible [14,25–27].

Despite the increasing number of rehabilitation projects in urban rivers and streams, many continue to fail in achieving desired biological outcomes [21,28–31]. There are a series of plausible causes of project failure, such as the misunderstanding of habitat response to geomorphological alteration, non-native invasions, and undetected water quality impairments. Additionally, many projects fail due to the attempt to manage individual species or habitat characteristics rather than the ecosystem as a whole [32].

Thus, it is essential to analyse the main factors influencing the integrity and ecological quality of an urban stream ecosystem and their main constraints. Among the factors that influence aquatic communities, poor water quality, high concentrations of pollutants and nutrients, fine sediment deposition, low rates of dissolved oxygen, and low pH levels have been shown to lead to the loss of sensitive taxa and increase in the abundance of tolerant species, altering their structure, composition, and functional diversity [23,33–39]. Organic pollution can occur, for example, due to nonpoint source pollution from agricultural fields within the urban watershed [40] or from the wastewater drainage system, such as drainage of sewage spills, sanitary sewer overflows during storm events, leaky septic systems, and sewer exfiltration [41]. The improvement of water quality has been shown to be a key aspect for the recovery of aquatic communities (e.g., [42–44]).

Another important aspect that influences the aquatic biota is the hydrology of a stream and its profound effects on the ecosystem [4]. Lotic systems present high variability in the quantity, timing, and temporal patterns of streamflow. However, the amount of water should always be enough to fulfil ecological needs in order to sustain the biological community [45]. Stream geomorphology is another key factor in the ecosystem functioning. It is based on the interplay between streamflow and landscape. Channel features such as sinuosity (or meandering), riffles, pools, runs, and the actual floodplain depend on cycles of erosion and deposition, which, in turn, are determined by supplies of both water and sediments. This dynamic mosaic of geomorphological traits provides a wide variety of habitats to biological communities, including benthic invertebrates, fish, and aquatic plants [45–48]. Among these, benthic invertebrates are considered a key indicator of the ecological quality of rivers. Their high diversity of species, their key role in ecosystem processes (such as organic matter breakdown and transference of energy and matter to other trophic levels), and their known sensitivity to different stressors are what make them useful bioindicators [23,33–39,49,50].

The composition and structure of benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages will therefore be affected by urbanisation, including hydrological and habitat alteration, as well as water quality degradation.

Considering the importance of urban streams for achieving urban sustainability, the relevance of benthic invertebrates in these ecosystems, and their key role as bioindicators of ecological quality, this paper reviewed recent literature to retrieve insights and recommendations for recovering aquatic invertebrate communities. Particularly, it focused on hydromorphological alterations and rehabilitation measures and their subsequent effects on the stream's benthic macroinvertebrate communities [51]. To achieve the intended aims, this study first analysed the impacts of urbanisation and climate change on urban stream hydrology; then, the responses of invertebrate assemblages to alterations in the hydrology and morphology of streams; and finally, the effect of hydromorphological rehabilitation measures that have been applied to streams in invertebrate communities.

2. Impacts of Urbanisation and Climate Change on Urban Stream Hydrology

Land cover change, particularly urbanisation, has several effects on the hydrology of natural streams. Small streams are particularly sensitive to land cover change due to their small catchment areas. Hydrological processes are altered as a result of the removal of vegetation from hillslopes, stream channelisation, surface levelling, and construction of impervious surfaces, such as roads and buildings. These actions reduce interception, infiltration, subsurface flow, aquifer recharge, evapotranspiration, stormwater storage on hillslopes, and overall time for stormwater to reach a stream. As impervious cover increases, the percentage of water that flows as surface runoff increases too. This translates into more frequent stormflow events with high peak discharge and rapid stormflow recession (flashiness). Urbanisation brings about the redistribution of water from periods of baseflow to periods of stormflow, as well as increased daily variation in streamflow [4,38,52–59]. Impervious surfaces in immediate riparian zones also increase the risk of stream impairment (due to the decrease in buffer capacity for filtering impaired surface and groundwater) [60].

The “urban stream syndrome” identifies streams that suffer from a set of symptoms that include altered hydrographs and channel morphology, water pollution, and reduced biotic richness with increased dominance of tolerant species [5]. Recurrent characteristics of the urban stream syndrome include [61,62]: (i) increase of frequency and magnitude of high flow events and flashiness; (ii) increase in channel cross section due to higher discharge and, therefore, increased bed and bank erosion, leading to the enlargement of streams; (iii) increase in conductivity and overall decrease in water quality due to pollution drainage into streams (such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which result in combustion and petroleum products, and insecticides used for pest control); and (iv) declines in aquatic species due to the degradation of ecosystems.

However, streams around the world respond differently to urbanisation. Feasible reasons for the divergence in response are [61]: (i) climate—frequency of high flow events and droughts (urbanisation radically affects the frequency–magnitude–duration balance in streamflow, which leads to major ecological modifications); (ii) sediment delivery—urbanisation usually decreasing the delivery of sediments due to streambank armouring and stabilisation of hillslopes (so in regions that would naturally yield high loadings of sediments, this shortage of sediment delivery can affect channel morphology as much as increased discharge); and (iii) urban infrastructure—age, timing of development, and history of land cover.

Such regional and local divergences reinforce the complexity of urbanisation and its influence on natural streams. Therefore, to set realistic and feasible management goals, it is crucial to understand how and why urban streams differ from one another and how they will respond differently to the same rehabilitation measures. This requires an understanding of the relationship between watershed and urban traits, the regional ecological composition, and the social and economic practicability of management approaches. For this reason, it is difficult to state a list of measures that will rehabilitate urban streams worldwide. However, some common recommendations to deal with urbanisation are [53,61]: (i) disconnecting impervious areas from streams by improving infiltration and retention/harvesting (these actions will show varying efficiencies according to regional

storm characteristics) and (ii) addressing the main water quality issues first, such as sewage disposal and other sources of pollution.

Conventional stormwater management approaches attempt to reduce pollutant loads and peak flow rates. The most common measure in this approach includes end-of-catchment stormwater wetlands. These prove to be efficient at reducing pollutant loads and peak flows, but their retention capacity and ability to reduce volumes through infiltration and evapotranspiration are limited, which often results in outflow rates that exceed channel erosion thresholds, degrading geomorphic and ecological conditions [63,64]. Additionally, constructed wetlands can reduce baseflow, altering hydrological patterns even further; they are unable to protect upstream waters from pollutants since they are located at the end of the catchment; and finally, they replace lengths of the stream with a dissimilar ecosystem, disrupting the stream's longitudinal connectivity [64–66]. Other load reduction approaches, such as dispersed biofiltration systems, have the ability to protect upstream water quality. However, these systems exhibit low hydrological retention capacities and are connected to the stormwater drainage system, minimising the potential for volume reduction through evapotranspiration and exfiltration to surrounding soils [64]. Finally, the successful rehabilitation of urban streams can only be achieved once hydrological processes and the spatial distribution of water storage are re-established throughout the urban basin [4].

Walsh et al. (2016) proposed five principles for urban stormwater management [67]:

1. Ecosystems to be protected must be identified, and objectives for their ecological state must be set.
2. The resulting interplay between evapotranspiration, infiltration, and streamflow should resemble predevelopment conditions. This usually entails keeping significant runoff volumes from reaching the stream.
3. Stormwater control measures (SCMs) should yield flow regimes that resemble the predevelopment regime in both quality and quantity.
4. SCMs should be able to store water from high flow events so that the frequency of disturbance to biota does not increase in comparison with predevelopment conditions.
5. SCMs should be implemented on all impervious surfaces in the catchment of the target stream.

Examples of SCMs are rainwater tanks, infiltration systems that receive overflow from tanks and impervious surfaces, and biofiltration systems. These tools can be applied at several scales, such as residential, public, and commercial buildings; streetscapes; and blocks. Such tools, however, are only effective when employed at a large-enough scale to re-establish hydrological patterns [7,64].

Urbanisation, apart from hydrology, also affects channel geomorphology, which in turn, can degrade the overall ecological integrity of a stream. Many urban streams are channelised [68,69], impacting channel geomorphology and streambed sedimentological characteristics through the reduction of riffle habitat frequency, increased streambed substrate embeddedness, frequency of fine substrate, and streambed siltation [70]. Projects should thus also aim to restore geomorphology to a new equilibrium that enhances the health and ecological integrity of the stream [14]. Some channel rehabilitation practices include the replacement of concrete or riprap streambed with a more natural substrate, such as gravel and sand [71,72], and, in cases where banks cannot be renaturalised, the incorporation of engineering-based methods, such as porous concrete that allows the development of riparian vegetation [73].

Climate change affects urban areas by altering air temperature and precipitation patterns, exacerbating both the magnitude and duration of climate extremes [7]. Warmer temperatures intensify the hydrological cycle because of the increased vapour in the atmosphere and consequential precipitation [74]. Projections point to the increase in flood frequency and intensity, being that half of the globe will experience increased flood hazards, particularly in central and eastern Siberia, parts of Southeast Asia, India, tropical Africa, and northern South America, but decreases are projected in parts of Northern and Eastern

Europe, Anatolia, Central and East Asia, central North America, and southern South America [75,76]. Whilst climate change will have a strong effect on runoff increase, land use change will exacerbate it. Urban areas are particularly vulnerable to floods because of higher flood peaks and increased runoff volumes due to impervious cover [75–77].

Simultaneously, warmer climate causes heat stress, which translates into deficit of runoff and soil moisture, exacerbating droughts by making them more intense and long-lasting, whether because of reduced rainfall, increased evaporation, or both [74,76]. The hydrological cycle is affected by reduced groundwater levels and streamflow [78]. Flow regime modification due to such events is expected to lead, for instance, to the transition of perennial rivers to intermittent rivers due to extreme drying periods [77]. Droughts are projected to intensify in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean region, Central Europe, central and southern North America, Central America, Northeast Brazil, and Southern Africa [76].

Increased water temperatures will finally result in altered species distribution, survival rates, and phenology. It is estimated that approximately 50% of global freshwater species are threatened by climate change [79].

3. Response of Aquatic Invertebrate Assemblages to Alterations in the Hydrology and Morphology of Streams

It is well known that macroinvertebrate assemblages are conditioned by streamflow characteristics [80,81]. Different taxonomic groups respond in opposite directions, depending on their biological traits, such as body form, fixation ability, capacity to escape into sediments, and type of locomotion (e.g., active or passive swimming), resulting in modifications in communities' structure due to flow alterations [69,80]. For example, in an urban stream, Serra et al. (2019) found that the months with poorer biological quality, poorer communities, and lower functional diversity corresponded to those with higher peaks of discharge and worst water quality [69]. On the other hand, Mor et al. (2019) found that streams with low discharge present reduced dilution capacity and point to a “threshold” of water level that should be maintained, particularly during dry periods, to mitigate the effects of inevitable point-source pollution [82]. Indeed, streamflow metrics seem to limit the maximum richness/abundance of sensitive taxa, whilst for tolerant taxa, they act as the minimum for their relative richness/abundance [80]. Benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages are directly affected by altered hydrology through the removal of organisms by high flows that drag them downstream or that even kill them [69]. High flows can also reduce habitat, by increasing the rate of bed scour and turbidity, disturbing streambed sediments, and change the distribution of aquatic plants (an important refuge and food resource for benthic invertebrates) [4,69,83]. Flow reduction, on the other hand, reduces available habitats, feeding resources, and dilution capacity, increasing the concentration of nutrients and other pollutants in the water and reducing oxygenation [84].

Another recurrent hydrological characteristic that influences macroinvertebrates is flow permanence, which can overwhelm other environmental and hydrological factors, such as habitat size and typology (riffles or pools), seasonal precipitation, and connectivity to upstream reaches [85,86]. A higher flow permanence increases functional richness, evenness, and taxonomic richness [85,87]. Parker et al. (2019) found that calibrating hydrological models according to flashiness and flow permanence provides models better suited to describe biotic condition variability, even if they do not accurately represent flow regimes [88]. Additionally, streamflow variability influences aquatic communities, namely, through changes in their taxonomic and trait composition [89].

Alterations to the morphology of streams also have negative effects on the assemblages of aquatic invertebrates [90–92]. The inorganic substratum that makes up streambeds provides habitats and refugia for benthic macroinvertebrates [92,93]. Additionally, the riparian zone provides streams with structures that enhance and diversify habitats, such as woody debris, root formation, and overall organic matter [91,94]. Therefore, anthropological actions that impair the morphology of streams, such as bank and channel modifications, result in the decline of invertebrate communities, presenting lower taxonomic variety and

abundance [90,91,95]. Such actions include channel stabilisation through armouring, resectioning, culverts, fords, weirs, and sluices [90,91]. Riparian vegetation is often removed or confined to streambanks, and banks are resectioned or reinforced to avoid flooding [91]. These alterations often lead to the limitation of riparian function, loss of lateral connectivity, and decreased heterogeneity of riparian and benthic habitats, thus leading to smaller niches and refuge availability [91,96]. Erba et al. (2020) showed that invertebrate communities respond to morphology impairment even when alterations are not severe [90].

4. Effect of Hydromorphological Rehabilitation Measures on Benthic Invertebrate Communities

The physical structure of water bodies has been degraded for decades now, in favour of urban development, agriculture, and navigation. This has been done through channelisation, obstruction of streambeds, dredging of banks, construction of weirs, disconnection of streams from the floodplain, and so on [97]. As such, rehabilitation efforts often take the hydromorphological route, implementing actions that aim to restore the natural hydrology and geomorphological structure of an impaired stream. For example, of 178 stream rehabilitation projects in FL, USA, 73% involved hydromorphological measures, such as stream reclamation, flow modification, bank stabilisation, channel reconfiguration, floodplain reconnection, and in-stream habitat heterogeneity improvement [98].

However, such measures do not always have the intended effect on macroinvertebrate assemblages. Hydromorphological rehabilitation efforts in urban streams may be successful at stabilising streambanks, preventing bank sloughing and further incision, but in biological terms, these measures may not be sufficient [99]. For instance, Turunen et al. (2017) found that the addition of wooden structures enhances hydraulic retention and, in turn, re-establishes a more natural flood regime. The implementation of boulders proves to be effective in improving habitat heterogeneity. These measures combined were thought to have improved the benthic macroinvertebrate communities in forestry impaired streams, but instead, there was no response [100]. Accordingly, Ernst et al. (2012) found that natural channel design restoration has little change on the macroinvertebrate community, even though it can benefit the stream habitat and its fish assemblages [101]. Through the evaluation of failed hydromorphological rehabilitation projects, Verdonschot and Nijboer (2002) found that such occurred due to the employment of nonpriority measures and neglect of pressing issues, such as poor water quality [102].

Some studies have explored the possibility of enhancing benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages as a result of structural rehabilitation projects that targeted other species, such as salmonids, or that simply did not target invertebrate communities per se. However, these measures were also ineffective with benthic invertebrates [103,104], maybe because new habitats are not being created at scales that are relevant to the assemblages, or perhaps regional/watershed scale factors over-ride any structural restoration efforts [105].

These measures can be included in what is regarded as the habitat heterogeneity paradigm [28]. This paradigm considers that increasing the structural diversity of a habitat, by adding structures, such as boulders, and artificial riffles and meanders, will restore biodiversity by enhancing structural heterogeneity [28]. However, an extensive evaluation of 78 independent rehabilitation projects by Palmer et al. (2010) led to the finding that, although habitat heterogeneity was improved, only 2 projects resulted in a significant increase in biodiversity, therefore suggesting that projects should prioritise the mitigation of stressors, such as source pollution and hydrological alteration, and only then should move to measures such as increasing physical complexity [28]. Another issue that seems to be recurrent with rehabilitation projects is not addressing or prioritising watershed-scale issues, such as source pollution and land use management practices. Hydromorphological rehabilitation actions as stand-alone measures are insufficient to improve the ecological status of a stream as long as water and sediment quality remain impaired [28,97,102]. Reach-scale rehabilitation actions are not enough to promote improvement in the invertebrate community if watershed-scale problems such as land use and hydrological regime disturbance persist [101,106].

Despite all these drawbacks, there are also examples where the hydromorphological rehabilitation of streams resulted in improved invertebrate assemblages [97,107]. Szita et al. (2019) found that urban Hungarian streams had a good biological condition due to the preservation of near-natural hydromorphological and riparian conditions that significantly reduced urbanisation effects and preserved water status [108]. Li et al. (2018) proved the successful improvement of benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages of a rehabilitated agricultural headwater stream by implementing different hydromorphological measures (such as boulder placement and artificial drops) close to each other along a 1000 m long segment, allowing them to complement each other, and by analysing the results after a sensible time frame (in this study, 2 to 6 years after the implementation of the project). This is an example of rehabilitation prioritisation: they tackled the main issue related to agricultural streams, substratum degradation, by placing dense instream measures [109].

In conclusion, hydromorphological actions are effective at improving the quality of stream habitats, but these actions alone may not be sufficient to rehabilitate biological communities. An integrated ecological approach to stream restoration is required, in which ecological concepts, threats, and former experiences are combined [102]. As seen in the literature, macroinvertebrate communities and, therefore, stream ecosystems will not improve unless more important stressors are taken care of first. Sometimes, habitat heterogeneity may not even be a limiting factor to begin with [103]. In those cases, stressors such as point-source pollution, sediment deposition, and modified hydrological patterns need to be prioritised.

Scale and time are also challenges for rehabilitation projects. Reach-scale actions are often inefficient if the rest of the watershed is impaired [110,111]. Time is also an important variable in the evaluation of the effect of rehabilitation measures [107]. In fact, benthic biodiversity generally drops right after rehabilitation actions are employed [105]. This can be attributed to the fact that rehabilitation represents a disturbance to the invertebrate community, since it unnaturally modifies the stream habitat. Thus, it is necessary to let the stream recover naturally after the construction phase before expecting improvements in the biological condition. Resilience of the biota to such disturbances can be facilitated by the existence of refugia. Refugia are locations that are not as affected by disturbance as their surrounding areas. Organisms that manage to seek refuge have a higher probability of surviving the period of disturbance and later recolonising the restored habitat. Bryophytes can act as refugia for benthic invertebrates after the first impact of rehabilitation. Since rehabilitation actions leave the streambed unstable for a long period of time, invertebrates take refuge in stable stones that are covered in bryophytes. These increase the structural complexity of the substratum, decrease water velocities, and accumulate detritus and epiphytic algae, providing food and shelter for invertebrates. Rehabilitation projects should thus leave patches of stream bottom intact in order to facilitate recolonisation after conditions settle [112].

Another important refuge for benthic invertebrates, especially during early development phases, is the hyporheic zone [113]. This area constitutes a transition between the surface stream and groundwater [114,115]. Hydrologically, the hyporheic zone can also be defined as the interstitial spaces adjacent to the streambank and below the streambed, spaces that are saturated and contain some of the channel water [116]. Both the hyporheic zone and superficial sediments of the streambed show a capacity to act as a refuge for invertebrates whilst conditions are unstable right after rehabilitation [117]. Sediments with large-enough interstices may be a morphological trait to preserve/restore in streams that suffer from drying periods, considering that climate change will exacerbate these types of events.

The hyporheic zone also contributes to maintaining water quality through biological filtration, and porous sediments adjacent to the stream act as buffers to rising water levels, reducing, delaying, or even preventing flooding. A few management measures can rehabilitate the hyporheic zone, such as the removal of impervious surfaces in the streambed, periodic release of environmental flows to flush silt and reoxygenate sediments,

planting and maintenance of riparian buffers, effective land use practices, and suitable groundwater and surface water extraction policies, and in terms of sediments, the careful introduction of gravel, the loosening of existing gravel by mechanical methods, and the reintroduction of bends, large boulders, and logs to induce downwelling and sediment deposition [113].

Recolonisation of rehabilitated sites also depends on taxon pool occurrence rate and proximity to this pool. Barriers do not seem to impose a significant challenge, since only a few species appear to be susceptible to them. This being the case, an assessment of the pool's taxonomic composition and dispersal modes may be interesting to perform beforehand, assisting in the spatial prioritisation of rehabilitation [118]. Considering that restoration projects disturb communities at first, recolonisation happens from macroinvertebrates that take refuge whilst conditions are not stable, as well as from new species that migrate from other habitats. Thus, the ease with which this happens depends on the dispersal capacity of the community, distance, and connectivity from its source of colonisers [119].

To facilitate recolonisation, it seems imperative that refuge is available or provided for the existing macroinvertebrate assemblage so as to endure unstable conditions caused by restoration. This may be done by leaving a patch of streambed intact and close to a taxon pool with adequate dispersal capacity to recolonise the newly restored habitat.

5. Insights and Recommendations

The urban stream syndrome comprises a few commonalities, such as flashier hydrographs, high concentrations of nutrients and pollutants, altered channel morphology, and reduced biotic richness with increased dominance of tolerant species. Nevertheless, all urban streams are different and unique to their region; hence, it is impossible to prescribe a "universal recipe" for rehabilitating all kinds of urban streams. Nonetheless, a few common recommendations on the management of such streams could be extracted from the previous review.

First, an urban stream is a freshwater aquatic ecosystem and, therefore, must be regarded as so. Practitioners should familiarise themselves with the habitat components of natural streams in the region in question and aim to rehabilitate them, such as riparian vegetation, streambed composition, and natural discharge. A stream's flow rate must be enough to satisfy the ecological discharge of the ecosystem and, therefore, sustain its biological communities and functionality. Since invertebrate communities show development limits to hydrological characteristics (such as magnitude, duration, frequency, timing, and variation), the assessment of such limits could be performed beforehand, allowing practitioners to predictively model and procure optimal solutions to the implementation of measures that will regulate superficial runoff, such as disconnecting impervious areas from streams by improving infiltration and retention/harvesting.

No stream will ever be ecologically acceptable if its water remains polluted. Despite the lack of direct studies that assess biological communities after drainage infrastructure improvements, a universal approach to urban stream management is to prioritise water quality. It can be done by targeting the sources of pollution, including investing in the maintenance of urban wastewater treatment and drainage system infrastructures. In addition, rehabilitation projects need to consider the whole catchment and not be limited to reach scale. End-of-pipe treatments do not improve water quality upstream and, therefore, are not enough to improve the ecological condition of a watershed-scale stream system.

Another important aspect to consider is the disturbance caused by the physical rehabilitation actions. Refugia must be available or provided to facilitate recolonisation after conditions have settled. The hyporheic zone offers refugia and plays an important role in the regulation of water quality and in buffering floods. If needed, to rehabilitate and/or maintain the hyporheic zone, environmental flows can be periodically discharged to flush silt and reoxygenate sediments; riparian buffers must be planted and/or maintained; and effective policies for land use practices and groundwater and surface water extraction must be implemented. Superficial sediments also provide refuge for invertebrates that

are not adapted to the hyporheic zone. To rehabilitate this aspect of the streambed, gravel can be loosened and further added, meanders reintroduced, and boulders and logs can be used to induce downwelling and sediment deposition. Bryophytes also prove to be a critical source of refuge, and therefore, patches of the stream bottom must remain intact to facilitate recolonisation after rehabilitation. Additionally, recolonisation depends on the composition of and proximity to a taxon pool, as well as the dispersal traits. An analysis of such traits is important before planning a rehabilitation.

Finally, another important shortcoming of rehabilitation projects is related to the motivation to restore. In fact, oftentimes failure happens in media/politically driven rehabilitation projects as rehabilitation actions that enhance the aesthetics of the site do not necessarily address pressing ecological issues [21]. Moreover, lack of communication between experts and practitioners and the local population often prevents the success of rehabilitation in urban areas [120]. Thus, including sensibilisation and education actions is essential.

This review pointed out some aspects that need to be further investigated to support effective rehabilitation projects in urban streams, including the definition of reference values for the streamflow metrics as limits for the maximum richness/abundance of sensitive taxa. This requires a great deal of experimental work covering different situations and the construction of large databases.

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Statement of the Relevance of Document L-3 to the Implementation of the Proposed Biological Objectives

L-3 Murphy, B.M., K. Russell, C.C. Stillwell, R. Hawley, M. Scoggins, K.G. Hopkins, M.J. Burns, [K.T. Taniguchi-Quan](#), K.H. Macneal, R. Smith. 2022. [Closing the gap on wicked urban stream restoration problems: A framework to integrate science and community values](#). *Freshwater Science* 41:3.

L-3 is a scientific article providing a framework for balancing scientific information and waterbody constraints to establish incremental and realistic goals for restoring biological integrity in urban streams. The article explains the challenges of trying to solve “wicked problems” like restoring ecosystem functions in urban streams with rationale scientific analysis. “Approaching a wicked social problem by attempting to reduce it to a rational scientific problem fails to achieve a viable solution and often results in repetitive rounds of trying to reduce scientific uncertainty and improve public understanding of the problem (Rein and Schon 1996, Balint et al. 2011).” (page 2). The article explains that “Streams in urban environments are unable to provide the same functions and ecosystem services typical of streams in undeveloped landscapes (Walsh et al. 2005, Kondolf and Yang 2008).” (page 2). The framework emphasizes the need to set realistic expectations and consider the social context for managing streams in a constrained urban environment. Relevant parts of the article are highlighted in yellow on pages 1, 2 and 8. The facts and evaluations discussed in the article are relevant to the State Water Board’s consideration of the application of the San Diego Water Board’s Biological Objectives (SDRBO) to modified channels because the article identifies the need to set realistic expectations for urban streams, including modified channels to support viable improvements. Although this article does not directly reference modified channels in the San Diego Region, its findings regarding how to think about the restoration of modified channels generally provide evidence relevant to the San Diego Water Board’s implementation of the SDRBO. Thus, L-3 should be included in the Administrative Record.

Closing the gap on wicked urban stream restoration problems: A framework to integrate science and community values

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Abstract: Restoring the health of urban streams has many of the characteristics of a wicked problem. Addressing a wicked problem requires managers, academics, practitioners, and community members to make negotiated tradeoffs and compromises to satisfy the values and perspectives of diverse stakeholders involved in setting restoration project goals and objectives. We conducted a gap analysis on 11 urban stream restoration projects to identify disconnections, underperformance issues, and missing processes in the project structures used to develop restoration project goals and objectives. We examined the gap analysis results to investigate whether managers appropriately identified problem statements and met stated objectives. Projects that aimed to restore overall stream health commonly fell short for various reasons, including limited stakeholder and community input and buy-in, revealing potential limitations in the breadth of objectives, values, and stakeholder perspectives and knowledge types. Projects that emphasized integrating community values and diverse knowledge types tended to meet the expected outcomes of restoring stream processes through incremental solutions. Managers implementing more holistic solutions and values-driven approaches are more likely to consider diverse viewpoints from a variety of community local institutions. Based on these and other results, we propose a conceptual framework that integrates diverse perspectives and knowledge to enhance social and ecological outcomes of urban stream restoration. **The framework also emphasizes the importance of setting objectives that support incremental solutions to foster more realistic expectations amongst stakeholders.**

Key words: urban streams, wicked problems, community values, social ecology, stream restoration, gap analysis, solution space, integrated knowledge, multidisciplinary approaches, social institutions, community engagement

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Streams in urban environments are unable to provide the same functions and ecosystem services typical of streams in undeveloped landscapes (Walsh et al. 2005, Kondolf and Yang 2008). Human actions continually shape hydrologic, chemical, and geomorphic conditions of urban streams that degrade the biological conditions of aquatic and riparian ecosystems (Roy et al. 2016, Van Metre et al. 2019). Restoring urban streams is a common practice to improve water quality, enhance aquatic habitat, and protect infrastructure (Kenney et al. 2012). The ecological and social challenges of restoring urban streams are complex and confounded by regulatory hurdles, funding limitations, and property right conflicts (Bernhardt and Palmer 2011). Tractable problem statements to guide restoration rarely address the collective dynamic, interdisciplinary, and multifaceted challenges that plague urban streams (Wenger et al. 2009).

Rittel and Webber (1973) introduced the concept of an unsolvable, wicked problem in where formulating the problem statement is itself highly problematic. Wicked problems are defined as being unsolvable, untamed problems (Turnbull and Hoppe 2019) and are rooted in a deep disagreement of underlying values between stakeholders (Balint et al. 2011). Approaching a wicked social problem by attempting to reduce it to a rational scientific problem fails to achieve a viable solution and often results in repetitive rounds of trying to reduce scientific uncertainty and improve public understanding of the problem (Rein and Schon 1996, Balint et al. 2011).

Restoring urban streams aligns with certain premises of a wicked problem (Rittel and Webber 1973). In practice, urban stream problems lie on a spectrum of complexity where solutions are often conceivable but difficult to implement. The set of possible solutions, or solution space, is often poorly defined for projects with complex, compounding, and often interacting components (e.g., regional climate, infrastructure, geomorphological characteristics, local ordinances, community needs, etc.). Urban design, development policies, environmental regulations, social norms, and systemic racism and classism shape contemporary urban conditions (Schell et al. 2020). For these reasons, urban stream problems are generally more complex than stream issues found in more natural environments with comparably fewer human modifications and less intense interactions among residents and the stream channel and catchment (Roy et al. 2008, Dhakal and Chevalier 2017, Qiao et al. 2018).

Gaining community support is important for the success of stream restoration efforts (Bos and Brown 2015, Smith et al. 2016, Moran et al. 2019). To successfully achieve ecological and social outcomes within a complex solution space, managers must prioritize local community engagement (Kondolf and Yang 2008, Dhakal and Chevalier 2016, Smith et al. 2016). Also, managers need to use value judgements in the decision-making process to select an appropriate solution from many options. Solution spaces defined using in-

complete knowledge of community values likely prevent managers from defining reasonable restoration potential for urban streams. The inability to define restoration potential commonly leads to inconsistent success criteria between projects (Stoddard et al. 2006), piecemeal strategies (e.g., addressing individual stressors such as flooding, water quality, or erosion), or poorly defined approaches that can all contribute to ineffective interactions among stakeholders.

Including diverse community values and perspectives in the context of complex and possibly wicked urban stream restoration problems is challenging and requires that all stakeholders are willing to make compromises through negotiated tradeoffs (Scoggins et al. 2022). Social dimensions, however, can restrict how experiential and empirical knowledge moves between geographic locations and across institutions, changing how stakeholders perceive tradeoffs.

The co-authors for this Bridges article participated in the 5th Symposium on Urbanization and Stream Ecology (SUSE5), where symposium participants discussed multidisciplinary solutions to wicked problems in urban stream restoration (Scoggins et al. 2022). Following SUSE5, an international working group of scientists and engineers from academic, government, and private institutions selected a set of urban stream restoration case studies to study: 1) how managers, academics, practitioners, and community members perceive success in urban stream restoration; 2) to what extent managers and practitioners integrate community members into projects; and 3) how project planning and implementation structures contribute to success or failure.

METHODS

Urban restoration case studies

We examined diverse case studies that vary in environmental setting, scope, costs, spatial scale, and restoration goals (Table 1). When taken together, the case studies provide a modest cross section of potentially wicked problems in urban stream restoration characterized by scientific uncertainty, values disagreement, or undefined success criteria.

Using a narrative approach, case-study co-authors (i.e., a subset of this study's authors with direct knowledge of case studies) described how project goals were defined and if structured criteria and stopping rules potentially tamed the project's wickedness. Case-study co-authors also described project successes against their stated goals (i.e., not wicked) or if unintended consequences or unknowns impeded achieving stated goals that emerged in the "one-shot operation" (p. 163) of stream restoration practices typical of wicked problems (Rittel and Webber 1973). Case-study co-authors also identified shortcomings in project actions to define problems and stated whether problem definitions led to solutions that, in hindsight, missed important components or root causes of the actual problem.

Gap analysis

Survey co-authors (i.e., a subset of this study's co-authors that differed, in part, from the case-study co-authors) designed a gap analysis to describe the strengths and linkages of institutional and community involvement, and the connections of diverse types of knowledge and practices in the project. Gap analysis employs qualitative and quantitative methods to characterize why realized and intended or desired outcomes differ (Parasuraman et al. 1985). When combined with the case-study narrative, this analysis allows us to identify which project approaches were associated with success or shortcomings in the case-study projects. We also used the gap analysis to characterize gaps in project planning and implementation frameworks that restricted interdisciplinary approaches to restoration. Using this systematic approach provided opportunities to holistically examine all components and linkages (see Table 2) of project planning, design, and community involvement. The gap analysis also introduces a novel method to ask questions about how to improve restoration projects.

The survey co-authors created a perceived set of components and linkages (see Table 2 and Appendix S1 for expanded descriptions of components and linkages as presented in the survey to case-study co-authors) for interdisciplinary stream restoration projects that were translated into a survey for the case-study co-authors ($n = 11$ case studies, where the 2 phases of the Spring Run case study [Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District 2015] were considered as 2 replicates). Survey co-authors used survey responses to systematically identify potential gaps using a semi-quantitative rather than narrative approach. To guide case-study author through the gap analysis, we defined a desired outcome as a system that integrated diverse ecological and social components in urban stream restoration projects. The list of specific components and subcomponents (Table 2) and linkages among them created by the survey co-authors represented the desired system specifically to suit the needs of this study (i.e., our components and linkages are specific to the experiences conveyed through the case-study co-author narratives).

Case-study co-authors scored strengths of individual components and subcomponents (Table 2) and all pairwise linkages (i.e., a single linkage between 2 separate components or subcomponents) among all 4 main components (institutions, community, knowledge, and strategies and practices) and ≤ 8 institution subcomponents (Table 2) using the same scale to relativize responses. Survey respondents scored each component, subcomponent, and linkage on a scale of 1 (weak) through 5 (strong) for their case study based solely on their judgement and experiences with their specific case study. A value of 0 indicated no involvement. Case-study co-authors were instructed to interpret values of 1 and 5 as an idealistic level of potential strength that may be purely conceptual and rarely (if ever) realized in real-world projects. The component need not reach its pinnacle to be considered a 5. The

survey co-authors used the analogy of an "A" grade representing $\geq 93\%$ to help demonstrate the meaning for a 5 score (See for further explanation). We summarized numerical responses with Likert-scale plots of scores and network graphs of score averages (Fig. 1).

RESULTS

Among the 4 main components, case-study co-authors rated institutions the strongest and community the weakest. Institution subcomponent ratings varied in strength, but local government and consultants were generally the strongest and involved in every selected case study. Academia, nongovernmental organizations, and state government were the weakest. The number of institution types involved in each project varied from 4 (e.g., the Spring Run case study, a reach-scale backyard stream restoration project) to 8 (e.g., the Los Angeles River case study [Stein et al. 2021], a planning study in a large and highly altered watershed). Community subcomponents were ranked moderate to weak except for the Thornton Creek case study, which had strong involvement from all community subcomponents, and the South Platte River case study, which hosted various public meetings and community engagement strategies throughout the project (Fig. 1).

Respondents rated knowledge of physical and ecological science and engineering design (from the knowledge component) as moderate to strong for all case studies (Fig. 1). Respondents considered knowledge of social science and community planning to be weaker than other knowledge subcomponents. Almost half of respondents did not believe knowledge of indigenous culture was considered at all and 4 other respondents rated indigenous culture as weak (see Fig. 1).

Responses on strategies and practices followed similar patterns. Survey respondents ranked strengths of biophysical restoration strategies and practices and ecological monitoring as moderate to strong (Fig. 1), whereas respondents ranked strategies and practices referencing the community as weaker than most other subcomponents. Respondents considered all linkages between community and the other 3 main components to be weaker than all pairwise connections not including community (Fig. 2). Connections among consultants and local government were rated the strongest, and both were commonly well connected to utilities (e.g., stormwater and flood control providers). Numerous other connections were overall weak including academia to nongovernmental organizations (NGO), NGO to State Government, and Federal Government to Utility (Fig. 2).

DISCUSSION

The case-study narratives and gap analysis highlighted potential areas for improvement in developing problem statements and solution spaces. The shortcomings in problem definition, for example, seemingly prevented achieving stated goals or produced unintended consequences that

Table 1. Urban stream studies included in the gap analysis. AUS = Australia.

Study	Stream	Location	Project motivation	Stream restoration goals	Community engagement efforts	Perceived successes and shortcomings
Big Thompson Watershed Coalition 2015	Big Thompson River	Colorado, USA	Plan, design, and implement restoration measures and strategies that address adverse changes to river dynamics, aquatic habitat, and recreation following a major flood in 2013	Improve riverine functions (habitat, fish passage, floodplain connection, etc.), address water user needs, and provide recreational opportunities	Users provided input and feedback via public outreach surveys, correspondence with a coalition of citizen stakeholders, and facilitator-led community meetings	Restored river processes (e.g., floodplain connectivity and sediment continuity) and aquatic habitat. Catchment drivers not addressed, limited community engagement
Hopkins et al. 2022	Clarksburg, Little Seneca Creek	Maryland, USA	Inform impervious cover limits and stormwater management guidelines for new development within the Clarksburg special protection area	Protect water quality and biology using impervious limits, stormwater controls, and riparian buffers	Planned development, community meetings during planning, minimal engagement efforts throughout the project's lifetime	Mitigated catchment drivers related to flow regime (e.g., peak flows and runoff volumes), but water quality degraded (e.g., increase in specific conductance) and sensitive taxa were lost. Limited community engagement post-development
Sammonds and Vietz 2015	Gum Scrub Creek	Melbourne, AUS	A 100-m wide riparian corridor was required under federal legislation to support a vulnerable frog species, creating an opportunity to revitalize the waterway corridor and support other social and ecological values	Protect natural stream via buffer preservation and stream and wetland enhancements	Planned development: Developers anticipated the future residents' social values	Stream corridor protected, but catchment drivers were not addressed
City of Austin 2016a	J. J. Seabrook Reach	Texas, USA	Erosion and water-quality problems associated with upstream development spurred a collaborative approach with multiple community benefits	Restore aquatic and riparian functions by improving bank habitat and floodplain connectivity	Community engagement efforts during planning decreased over the course of the project	Structurally and ecologically successful, limited community buy-in
Walsh et al. 2015	Little Stringybark Creek	Melbourne, AUS	Research-driven project to test the real-world feasibility and effectiveness of distributed stormwater control measures for stream restoration	Restore natural flow and water-quality regimes to improve instream ecological condition in all the watershed's headwater streams	Hundreds of stormwater controls installed on private residential land required community and landowner buy-in, achieved with support from many stakeholders	Community uptake improved as engagement processes were adjusted and incentives simplified. Outcomes fell short of targets due, in part, to lack of space for structures and lack of demand for harvested stormwater

Stein et al. 2021	Los Angeles River	California, USA	Evaluate the effect of potential flow reductions on beneficial uses of the Los Angeles River and inform decisions regarding proposed wastewater change petitions	Develop tools to establish flow recommendations that balance goals for wastewater reuse, aquatic health, and recreational purposes	Facilitated public meetings (quarterly) were hosted by project leaders to gather stakeholder and community feedback on project scope and outcomes	Overall community and stakeholder buy-in on decision support tools to understand the effects of wastewater reuse on instream flows, water quality, and stream temperature. Unable to integrate the combined effects of multiple stressors on aquatic health
City of Austin 2016b	Lower Waller Creek	Texas, USA	Historic downtown flooding and the potential for economic reinvestment created an incentive to rethink the creek and corridor	Remove developed areas from floodplain, restore channel form and ecological function, and improve the look and feel in corridor	Little community engagement during floodplain restoration efforts but heavy involvement during aesthetic improvements	Massive public works effort and flood mitigation success, hydrologic and ecological components were stalled
USACE 2018	South Platte River	Colorado, USA	Create an active river corridor that restores and improves the natural habitat and function of the South Platte River and enhance the connection between the river and the community	Restore channel flows, features, and functions to enhance foraging, spawning, and protective cover habitat for indigenous fish species. Improve public recreation opportunities, connectivity, and accessibility along river	Consistent formal and informal outreach to community during the design process. Local stakeholders and nonprofit representatives provided input at public meetings during planning. Local government stakeholders participated in meetings throughout the project	Increase in recreational access and community stewardship of the river, fishery rebounded. Catchment drivers not addressed, vegetation not established limiting riparian function and habitat, secondary channels silted in
Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District 2015	Spring Run ^a	Ohio, USA	Chronic bank erosion and property loss in a residential stream threatened patios and other structures, impaired habitat, and impacted water quality	Improve stream habitat, bank stability, and water quality in a residential headwater stream	Project started with little effort to engage the community. A grassroots approach to integrate community values revived the project	Inadequate engagement led to property owner rejection of the original design and loss of grant funding. Grassroots approach revived the project, which is awaiting funding
Bakke et al. 2021	Thornton Creek	Washington, USA	Frequent flooding of residential properties and desire to improve habitat and water quality for endangered salmon	Provide flood storage in floodplain, mitigate peak flows, improve water quality, and enhance hyporheic exchange	Heavy community involvement in all project stages, highlighted by an independent film that documented project successes	Collaborative project that resulted in some water-quality improvements within restored reach

^a This case study is presented as 2 separate rounds in the gap analysis.

Table 2. Components and subcomponents of urban stream restoration case studies assessed in the gap analysis (further explanation is provided in Appendix S1).

Component	Component description	Subcomponents
Institutions	Governmental or nongovernmental organizations that contribute to the project planning, design, or implementation through a formal or informal process	Local government State government Federal government Consultant Academia Nongovernmental organization Utility Private company
Community	Individuals, groups, or collectives that benefit from (or are affected by) the restoration work	Action groups Place-based groups Individual community leader Individual based on interest Individual based on place
Knowledge	Conceptual, historical, empirical, and theoretical representations of contextualized information and place-based wisdom (Hillman 2009) associated with the project context, design, goals, and outcomes	Physical/ecological science Community wants and needs Engineering design Restoration process Social science Policy and regulations Land-use planning Community planning Landscape architecture or structural architecture Funding procurement and management Indigenous culture relevant to project scope
Strategies and practices	Actions that occur as part of the project through all phases (design, implementation, monitoring, etc.)	Restoration: Biophysical Restoration: Social/cultural/economic/political Ecological monitoring Community survey Outreach and education Participant natural or social science training Citizen science Community planning Community empowerment and capacity building

culminated in solutions that failed to reach the full potential of community or ecological benefit. These shortcomings may have also led to inconsistent interpretations of success, which may not align with community needs and values. The gap analysis and supporting narratives demonstrated how qualitatively designated successes can fall short of the actual potential restoration outcomes possible (see Appendix S1 for further information).

In addition, the gap analysis suggested that community groups and representatives had weak roles in case-study projects and were not well connected to institutions, knowledge, and the strategies and practices employed by managers. This result aligned with themes developed during

SUSE5 that focus on how communities may not be well integrated into project designs, goal setting, or evaluation (Cross and Chappell 2022, Scoggins et al. 2022). Moreover, the results contradicted qualitative outcome statements regarding community involvement (Table 1) that generally included community engagement efforts for all projects (also see Appendix S1 for information about gap analysis results unrelated to the community components).

Difficulties defining problems and identifying potential solution spaces may make problems seem intractable. Conversely, supporting knowledge transfer and interactions among stakeholders and communities may lead to better defined solution spaces. For instance, the gap analysis

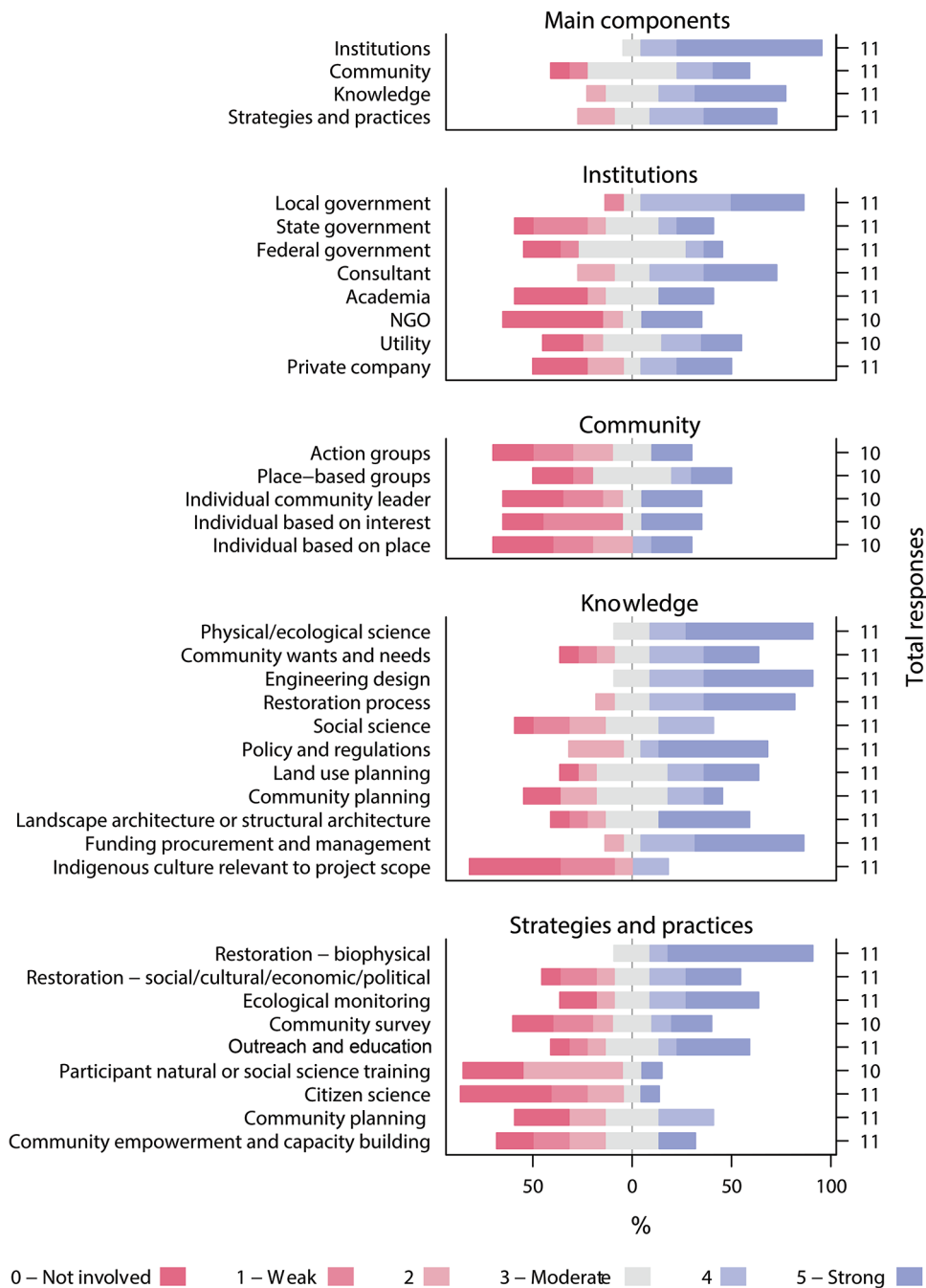


Figure 1. Case-study survey results plotted with a Likert scale showing relative strength of main components and subcomponents from 0 to 5. The % of responses with each rating is shown by bar color and horizontal position, centered on moderate (gray bars). The darkest blue bars that extend furthest to the right represent components and subcomponents with the strongest ranking. Row count totals on the right side of each diagram indicate the number of responses to each question. See Table S1 for full survey results. NGO = nongovernmental organization.

suggested that the Gum Scrub Creek (Sammonds and Vietz 2015), Little Stringybark (Walsh et al. 2015), and Big Thompson River (Big Thompson Watershed Coalition 2015) case studies each lacked inclusion of community stakeholders. A lack of broad community engagement likely limited the potential of projects to achieve community benefits in these ex-

amples where they were noted as a project goal or contributed to the omission of community-oriented goals where they were absent from these case studies. Furthermore, only 2 case studies (Thornton Creek [Bakke et al. 2021] and South Platte River [USACE 2018]) included indigenous culture when scoping and implementing the projects, emphasizing

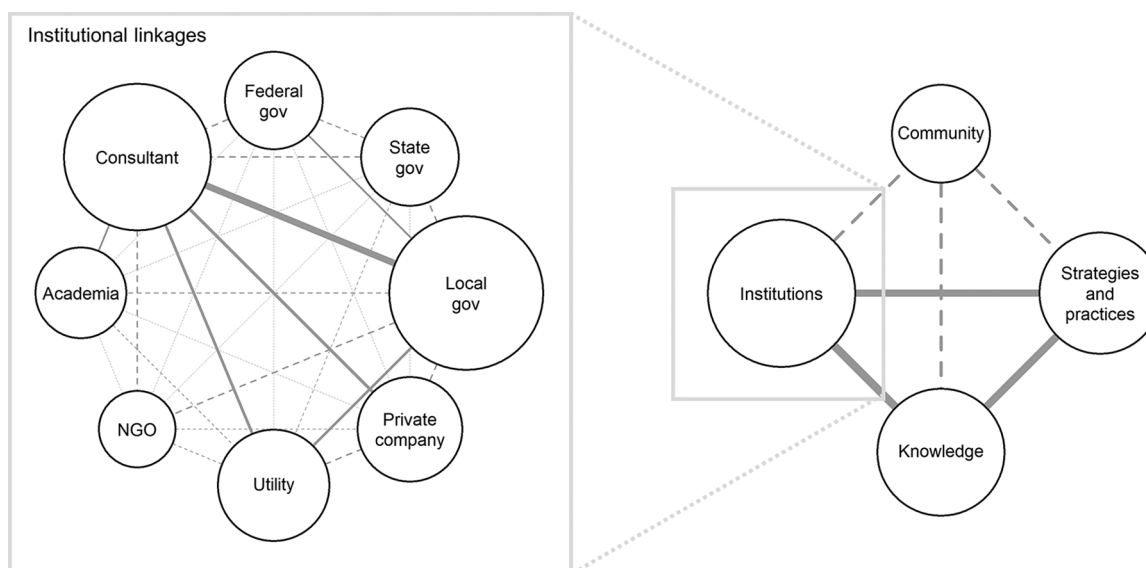


Figure 2. Network graph showing how the case-study co-authors rated strength of representation of institutions, community, knowledge, and strategies and practices and the connections between them. Strengths and connections within institution sub-components were also analyzed. Relative strength of each component or subcomponent is shown by circle diameter, and strength of connections is shown by line weight (solid and thicker lines represent stronger connections, dashed and thinner lines represent weaker connections). Full results of the survey are presented in Table S1 and S2. Institutions, knowledge, and strategies and practices were strongly represented and interconnected while community was weakly represented and relatively unconnected to the other components. Case-study co-authors rated consultants and local government the strongest and most-linked institutions. Gov = government, NGO = nongovernmental organization.

the substantial omissions of incorporated scientific and indigenous ecological knowledge (Kimmerer 2011). Inadequate community engagement efforts for the Spring Run project suspended work to the degree of returning grant funding. A subsequent grassroots effort to integrate community values led to increased recognition of the value of community knowledge, which allowed re-implementation of the project. The narrative and gap analysis approaches suggested that ineffectively characterizing potential components of restoration actions in this case study likely contributed to a lack of engagement, which in turn may have obstructed the development of an inclusive and collaborative solution space.

We propose a conceptual framework to guide urban stream management towards problem definitions and solution spaces that encourage adaptive, collaborative, and transdisciplinary approaches to tackle complex problems and enhance societal and ecological outcomes (Fig. 3). Our framework identifies gaps in status-quo project arrangements (Fig. 3 Before) that prevent integration of diverse knowledge across fields (or clouds). Integrating all stakeholders as equal participants with strong linkages across knowledge bases and personal experiences creates a single knowledge cloud space that can employ holistic strategies and practices to address complex or wicked problems (Fig. 3 After).

The framework focuses on how project structures relate to interdisciplinary knowledge transfer necessary to address a complex problem. Specifically, communities are recognized

as central holders of place-based experiential knowledge critical to developing appropriate problem statements and equitable solution spaces. Examples of centrally held place-based knowledge in our study included the Thornton Creek case study (Bakke et al. 2021), which emphasized the importance of community and institutional arrangements, and the South Platte River case study (USACE 2018), which focused on social outcomes in addition to ecological objectives. These projects demonstrate that attempting to solve a complex urban stream restoration problem requires an approach that builds capacity and collaboration within transdisciplinary stakeholder groups. **The framework aligns with outcomes of other SUSE5 papers (Cross and Chappell 2022, Díaz-Pascacio et al. 2022, Scoggins et al. 2022) that demonstrated the need for approaches to set realistic expectations and consider the social context for managing urban streams in constrained urban environments.**

Our analysis also highlights how a systematic approach (e.g., the gap analysis) has the potential to explicitly identify components and linkages in complex systems, although the gap analysis was most informative when performed in conjunction with the narrative-based approach. The study's findings are limited due to a small sample size of case studies and survey responses. Additionally, the selected case studies were familiar to case-study co-authors but were not a comprehensive representative sample of urban stream restoration projects. Further, case-study co-authors were highly knowledgeable but viewed their case study through a certain

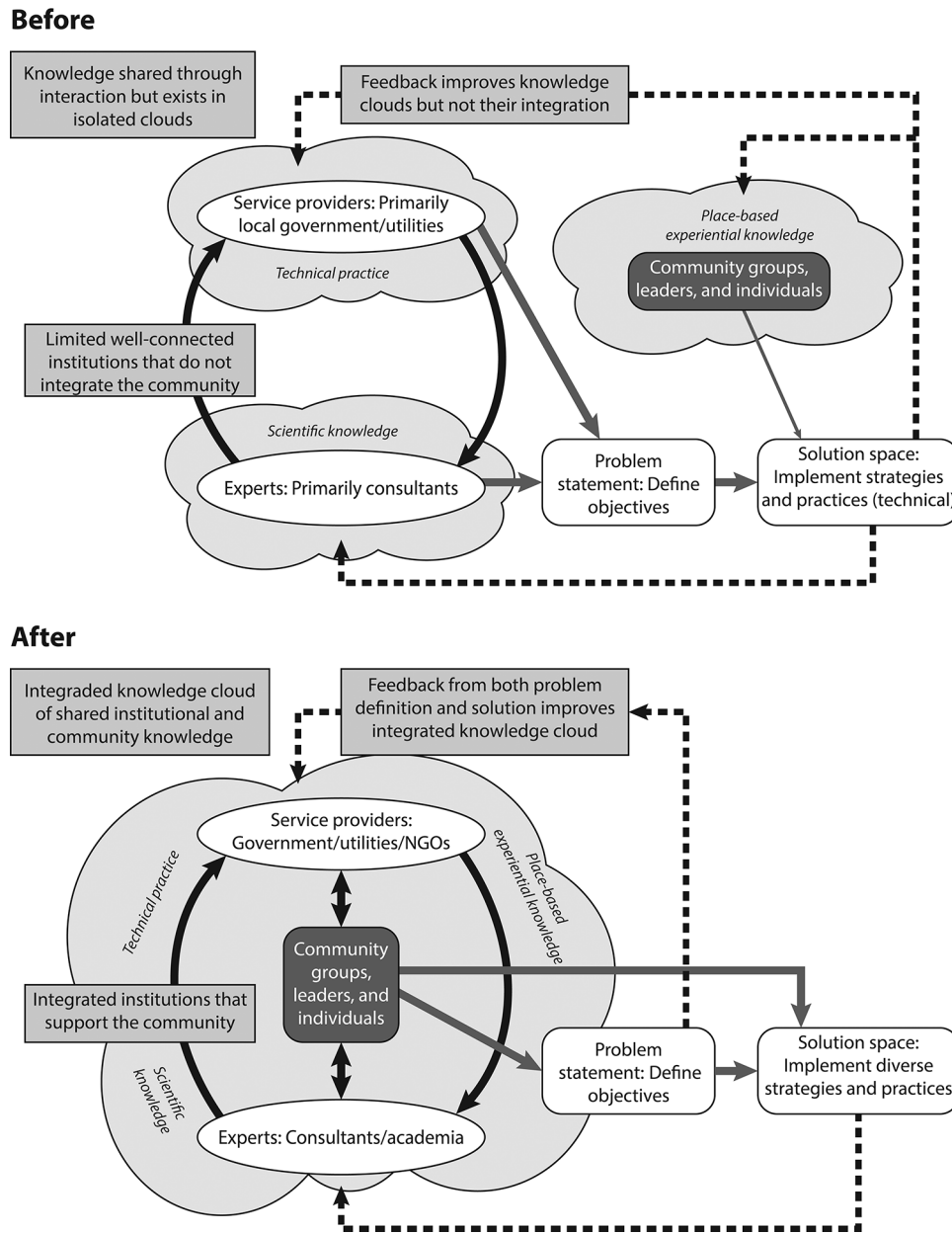


Figure 3. Before—Historical interdisciplinary knowledge is shared among groups but is not integrated to support holistic multidisciplinary approaches to restoration. Community groups are narrowly linked to the solution space. The problem statement generally excludes community input and knowledge, and the solution space is driven by how the problem is defined. After—We propose a new framework that integrates interdisciplinary knowledge, including input from community stakeholders. The problem statement integrates diverse perspectives and types of knowledge, and the solution space is driven by an appropriate problem statement and integrated community and institutional perspectives, values, and knowledge.

lens depending on their involvement. Also, the gap analysis approach to ranking linkage strength failed to capture linkage types that may vary in strength over time.

The qualitative narrative and the gap analysis need to be interpreted together to identify which project approaches may limit restoration outcomes and community involvement. For example, in Little Stringybark Creek (Walsh et al. 2015) community actions (e.g., ongoing construction of impervious surfaces, excavation of creek channels) appeared to

threaten the success of the design. However, we were able to identify this component more easily with the narrative analysis. Additionally, in Gum Scrub Creek (Sammonds and Vietz 2015), identities of strong and weak institutional components were revealed by the gap analysis even though community components were not involved. Yet, the narrative described how institutional arrangements produced a solution that protected the corridor but did not address causes of stream degradation in the catchment. The gap

analysis also revealed overall patterns that were not apparent in the case study narratives such as how local government and consultants commonly played a central role in defining and delivering projects.

BROADER IMPLICATIONS

Urban streams are socioecological systems and restoration work can affect the local community. Advances in urban stream restoration that achieve equitable and effective outcomes may come from project-based experimentation of new approaches in management, knowledge sharing (e.g., SUSE5), outreach, and other activities. These approaches improve integration of stakeholders and knowledge clouds to tackle complex and wicked urban stream restoration problems. By broadening the scope of stakeholder perspectives and knowledge types considered, we can uncover complexities inherent to the socioecological systems of urban streams and better develop incremental solutions to complex problems (Parsons et al. 2016). The combined narrative from SUSE5 and our gap analysis provide a foundation to tackle wicked urban stream restoration problems. Our analysis shows how systematically characterizing project attributes (e.g., prominence of local government and technical knowledge and weakness of academia and knowledge of indigenous culture) can reveal potential limitations in the solution space. Such limitations can create the appearance that solutions are impractical if not impossible. Our methods could support future urban stream restoration research with greater depth, funding, and scope than our study.

Understanding gaps in restoration systems represents a major opportunity to improve problem definitions and achieve tractable solutions. The conceptual framework we propose provides a structure to integrate diverse perspectives and knowledge and enhance social and ecological outcomes. Future work to incorporate communities likely needs leadership from local government agencies and consultants given their apparent dominant roles in projects; however, accomplishing this goal will require further defining the role community groups play in restoration projects. Integrating communities and under-represented knowledge into urban stream restoration could lead to transformative approaches to complex or wicked problems that generate equitable and effective solutions with tangible benefits to the community and ecosystems. We encourage expansion of the framework beyond a conceptual vision into a structured approach that managers can use to integrate community into restoration projects.

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Author contributions: BMM initiated this study and conceived the original idea to evaluate restoration case studies and invited colleagues from SUSE5 to collaborate on the study. RFS, KLR, BMM, and CCS designed the gap analysis to expand on the qualitative assessments and to describe the strengths of institutional and community involvement and linkages. RFS evaluated the gap analysis data and the linkages of diverse types of knowledge and practices in each

project. KLR prepared the Likert plots and network graph. BMM and CCS lead the literature review. BMM, RFS, KLR, and CCS developed the conceptual framework and knowledge cloud figures.

For this study, most of our co-authors were professionally familiar with 1 or more case studies and filled out the gap analysis survey for their case study. We refer to the co-authors who submitted information on case studies as case-study co-authors to differentiate their additional contribution of the case-study information from the collaborative development of the overall outcomes of the manuscript.

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