



The **Council for Watershed Health** is the region’s trusted hub for essential watershed research, analysis and education. The Council is uniquely able to influence policy and inform practice with fair and objective applied research. With a legacy of facilitation and collaboration, the Council effectively connects diverse perspectives to address timely watershed issues.

Founded in 1996 as the Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, the Council uses an inclusive process to improve the economic, social, and ecological health of our watersheds through applied research, education, and planning. The Council promotes Vision 2025—a model of sustainable, urban watershed management for Southern California. This collaborative Vision promotes clean water, reliable local water supplies, restored native habitats, ample parks and open spaces, integrated flood management, and revitalized rivers and urban centers.

The Elmer Avenue Neighborhood Retrofit in Sun Valley is the first complete “green street” in the City of Los Angeles. Elmer Avenue is a walkable street that conserves more water than residents use. The Council for Watershed Health and its partners retrofitted a one-block section of Elmer Avenue and an adjacent stormwater Paseo with state-of-the-art storm water best management practices to capture and infiltrate runoff, reduce flooding, improve water conservation, reduce pollution to the Los Angeles River, restore habitat, provide green space, and beautify the community.



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GLENOAKS GREENWAY

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT CONCEPTS

PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

SUN VALLEY | CITY OF LOS ANGELES



A right-of-way enhancement project that will demonstrate how to transform the rights-of-way along the river systems to linear greenway parks and landscape them appropriately to allow recreation and sustainability. These types of projects will provide important habitat, reduce the heat island effects of unplanted soils or paving, replace exotic plants, and when irrigated with stormwater they reduce water use and maintenance.

Rendering illustrated by Mary Oien



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Three Phases

PHASE 1 - COHASSET STREET TO HOLLYWOOD WAY

Hampton Inn Suites has landscaped ~100' along the channel behind the hotel. The 26' ROW continues from here to Hollywood Way. The underpass at Hollywood Way is a major access point for the Burbank Airport. CalTrans is currently redoing the ramps.

PHASE 2 - HOLLYWOOD WAY TO LANARK STREET

The underpass at Lanark is a black hole or an opportunity to create an attractive tiled gateway for the Latino community on the west side of the freeway. Currently the underpass is a dark tunnel with four non-working lights. In order to address the security issues we propose to paint the black overpass ceiling white and cover the walls with white tile. White tile disperses light while glossy tiles shed graffiti more easily than other wall treatments. Brightly colored braided tile "ribbons" can invite the community to recreate along the mile long park.

PHASE 3 - LANARK STREET TO ROSCOE BOULEVARD

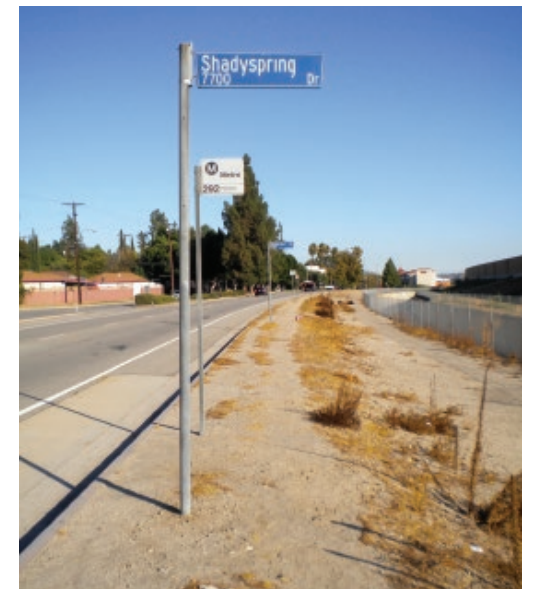
The 53' width of the ROW at Roscoe creates a natural gateway beginning for the mile-long park. The ROW narrows down after about 100' to the average 26' width to Lanark St.



Proposed project site along Glenoaks Boulevard in Sun Valley, CA.

Project Benefits

- Stormwater treatment and possibly infiltration for MS4 compliance.
- Four Metro bus stops on Glenoaks Blvd within Project Area, all but one have no amenities.
- Improvement for pedestrians over existing undeveloped dirt.
- Existing bikeway to be enhanced.
- A self sustaining park that will be able to flourish with minimal maintenance care and watering. With the correct plant selection, installed in the right season, and given the winter water that native plants need, this landscape should be nearly self-sufficient in three years (for establishment).
- Connecting to existing projects:
 - City of Los Angeles DeGarmo Park between Lanark St. and Arminta St.
 - Across Cohasset St. the city of Burbank has a well-lighted pathway on the channel's west side behind St. Leon's Armenian Cathedral.
 - Glenwood Elementary School several blocks west of project area.



No amenities exist currently along several Metro bus stop locations.

Overview

Future uncertainty in the global climate demands a more resilient approach to urban landscapes in Southern California. Native plant landscapes within the urban matrix are an important component of climate change adaptation and mitigation in greater Los Angeles. Native plants provide important habitat, reduce the heat island effects of unplanted soils or paving, replace exotic plants, and when irrigated with stormwater they reduce water use and maintenance.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Angeles River Master Plan in June 1996. The implementation of the Master Plan will maintain the river as a recreational resource that provides flood protection and opportunities for recreational and environmental enhancement, improves the aesthetics of the region, enriches the quality of life for residents, and helps sustain the economy of the region. Council for Watershed Health is building a partnership to construct a 26-foot wide, mile long linear park on the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's right of way for the Burbank Western Channel System along Glenoaks Boulevard from Roscoe Boulevard to Cohasset Street in Sun Valley, in the City of Los Angeles.

Project Concepts

Glenoaks Greenway represents an opportunity to create a demonstration project that is easily accessible from a major freeway or visitors using the Bob Hope Airport. Major design elements include:



Map of proposed demonstration (red line delineates proposed parkway).

- The project area width varies from a maximum of 53 ft at the proposed gateway near Roscoe Blvd. to less than 15 ft near Cohasset St.
- Street trees will add shade and structure to the otherwise hot, flat, dusty right-of-way.
- Very drought-tolerant subshrubs (under 3' tall) spaced widely apart (6' – 10').
- Ground treatments to discourage weeds.
- Very low maintenance experimental landscape through sparse planting density and greater focus on hardscape elements.
- The underpasses at Lanark St., Hollywood Way, and Cohasset St. become gateways for residents on the west side of the freeway.