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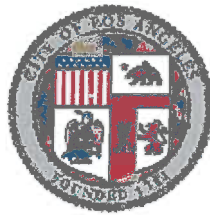
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# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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**DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS**

**BUREAU OF  
ENGINEERING**

**GARY LEE MOORE, PE, ENV SP**  
CITY ENGINEER

1149 S. BROADWAY, SUITE 700  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015-2213

<http://eng.lacity.org>

November 30, 2018

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065

## **Proposition 1 Competitive Grant Application Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project Pre-Improvement Planning**

Dear Conservancy Members:

I am pleased to present the enclosed application for a grant for the Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project Pre-Improvement Planning. The City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering requests a grant in the sum of \$1,500,000 from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), under the Conservancy's Urban Creeks Program. Council District 1 of the City of Los Angeles introduced a Motion to City Council on November 28, 2018 for the application of this grant.

The proposed grant would fund project planning and development of an Early Activation phase of the project as well as a portion of the environmental review and documentation for Early Activation and the long-term goals for the site. Objectives of this grant are to protect the Los Angeles River watershed through the planned restoration of native habitat, and promote public access to the watershed's land, water, and wildlife resources. This application also supports the goals of the previous Proposition 1 grant awarded to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for planning and construction of permanent and interim improvements for public access and habitat restoration on the site.



Please refer to the enclosed materials that describe the proposed grant and how it fits the Conservancy's Evaluation Criteria.

If you have any question regarding this matter, please contact Katie Doherty, Project Manager in Prop O Division at (213) 847-0395.

Sincerely,



Gary Lee Moore, P.E., ENV SP  
City Engineer

GLM/DW:pm

C:\Users\381654\Desktop\ GLM- Prop1 Taylor Yard G2 to Santa Monica Conservancy

Attachments

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Grant Application  
Proposition 1 Competitive Grant Application Narrative  
Budget for Grant Application

cc: Gilbert Cedillo, Council District 1  
Barbara Romero, Office of the Mayor  
Arturo Chavez, Council District 1  
Carol Armstrong, Bureau of Engineering  
Michael Affeldt, Bureau of Engineering  
Deborah Weintraub, Bureau of Engineering  
Christopher Johnson, Bureau of Engineering  
Katherine Doherty, Bureau of Engineering

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
GRANT APPLICATION**

<b>Project Name:</b> Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project – Early Activation Planning and Design	<b>Amount of Request:</b> \$1,500,000						
<b>Applicant Name:</b> City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering	<b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$3,166,667						
	<b>Matching Funds:</b> \$1,666,667						
	<b>Lat/Long:</b> 34.097831, -118.239409						
<b>Applicant Address:</b> 1149 S. Broadway, 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, CA 90015	<b>Project Address:</b> 2850 Kerr St, Los Angeles						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>County</b></td> <td><b>Senate District</b></td> <td><b>Assembly District</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles</td> <td>24</td> <td>51</td> </tr> </table>	<b>County</b>	<b>Senate District</b>	<b>Assembly District</b>	Los Angeles	24	51
<b>County</b>	<b>Senate District</b>	<b>Assembly District</b>					
Los Angeles	24	51					
<b>Phone:</b> 213-847-0395	<b>Tax ID:</b> 95-6000735						
<b>Email:</b> Katherine.doherty@lacity.org							

**Grantee's Authorized Representative:**

Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer	213-485-4935
<i>Name and Title</i>	<i>Phone</i>

**Overhead Allocation Notice:**

☒ Any overhead costs will be identified as a separate line item in the budget and invoices.

☒ The Conservancy encourages grantees to reduce overhead costs including vehicle and phone expenses.

☒ The overhead allocation policy has been submitted prior to, or with, the grant application.

**Outreach and Advertising Requirement:**

☒ Applicant has read the staff report and board resolution regarding contract policies.

☒ Applicant has adopted contract policies for the purpose of increasing outreach and advertising to disadvantaged businesses and individuals.

*All check boxes must be checked*

**Brief Project Description:**  
Project planning and design, and improvements for more immediate public access and habitat restoration for the Early Activation of the Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project on the Los Angeles River.


\*attach additional pages with project detail

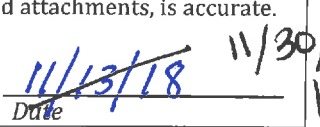
Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Completion Date
1 Early Activation – Design	\$1,266,667	June 30, 2020
2 Early Activation – Environmental Review and Documentation	\$100,000	September 30, 2020
3 Long Term Project Environmental Review and Documentation	\$1,800,000	June 30, 2021

**For Acquisition Projects:**      **APN(s):** N/A

**Acreage:** N/A

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.





Signature of Authorized Representative
Date

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ♦ THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

Proposition 1 Competitive Grant Application  
**Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project – Early Activation Pre-Improvement Planning**  
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The Taylor Yard G2 River Park is Project No. 165 of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan adopted by the City Council and described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (ARBOR Study), for which the City of Los Angeles (City) is serving as local sponsor. The Taylor Yard G2 parcel, acquired by the City in March 2017, is a 42-acre, former rail yard and is adjacent to a soft-bottomed portion of the Los Angeles River. Taylor Yard is critical to fulfilling the ARBOR Study goals to restore ecosystem values in and along an 11-mile corridor of the river from the edge of Griffith Park into downtown Los Angeles, which overall calls for more than 700 acres of riparian restoration in the coming decades. The Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project (Project) will be an essential part of that effort. Due to its size, context and potential, the Project will be the first implemented project along the LA River of this scale and significance. Its proximity to existing open space, and recreational and interpretive resources, including Rio de Los Angeles State Park, Elysian Park, riparian habitat in the River itself, numerous parks along the opposite bank of the River, and the Sonia Sotomayor Center for Arts and Sciences, means that G2 is a singularly unique opportunity to create a regional multiple-benefit park, enhance habitat connectivity, develop wildlife habitat, provide recreation and interpretation, improve the water quality of the watershed, and promote access to the Los Angeles River.

The G2 site was used for maintenance and fueling of trains from the 1930s to 2006. Conversion of the site to public parkland and watershed restoration will be done in multiple phases to ensure that the public is allowed safe access to portions of the site, while safely remediating other areas of the site. As the first phase of the Project, the City is developing design concepts to open portions of the site to the public sooner, for “Early Activation”, including a multi-use event space, activation of the River’s edge, and facilities for educational and nature programming. The proposed grant will help fund the planning and design of the first phase of the Project and will also assist in funding a portion of the environmental review and documentation of Early Activation and the final, long-term ecosystem restoration project.

The Project is consistent with the goals set forth in the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy’s (SMMC) Climate Change Policy, State Planning Priorities, and AB 32. The Project seeks to improve a locally and regionally significant public resource for public enjoyment and environmental benefit. When fully developed, the project seeks to ultimately mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and address the impacts of climate change on the State’s natural resources. Further objectives of this pre-improvement planning grant are to protect the Los Angeles River watershed through the planned restoration of native habitat, and promote public access to the watershed’s land, water, and wildlife resources.

This application will also support the goals of the previous Proposition 1 grant awarded to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for planning and construction of permanent and interim improvements for public access and habitat restoration at the G2 site. This grant will assist in completion of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and close remaining gaps in funding.

The supplemental information below describes how the Project would reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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**BUDGET**

See attached budget.

**TIMELINE**

The proposed Project's design of Early Activation will be completed within approximately 24 months after grant approval, followed by the environmental review and remedial cleanup efforts necessary to implement the Early Activation and long-term Project components. A more specific timetable of these Project tasks can be provided if and when the grant funding is secured.

**RESPONSE TO EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**Project achieves the purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).**

The Project will involve the protection and restoration of California rivers, lakes, streams and watersheds. The proposed grant achieves the following eight (8) Proposition 1 purposes:

1) Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds, fishery resources, and instream flow.

The Project is anticipated to improve accessibility and increase usage of the currently vacant LA River-adjacent property, attracting more visitors to the area and boosting local businesses. Once the construction phase begins, the Project would also provide economic benefits by creating new jobs and profit for businesses that provide supplies, materials, consultant services, and labor.

2) Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California's communities and ecosystems.

It is likely that Los Angeles will be impacted by climate change in the form of severe droughts, intense heat spells, and loss of California's native biodiversity. The Project design anticipates these changes and attempts to mitigate them. The density of trees and vegetation which are part of the Project design will one day sequester carbon and help cool the atmosphere. Native plant landscaping will serve as new and enhanced habitat and open space for wildlife, minimizing the threats of Global Warming on California's biodiversity. The Early Activation phase will begin that effort by strategically placing native trees and shrubs at the currently barren site. Once constructed, the long-term Project will incorporate water treatment and conservation measures to improve water quality and reduce trash and other pollutants within Los Angeles River. Early Activation will take the first steps toward the necessary remediation and activation of the site working toward the long-term goal. Because the Project site is located adjacent to the soft-bottom portion of the River, survival rate for wildlife is more prevalent than in other areas. Improving the water quality within the River is essential to the survival of the area's wildlife species. Griffith Park is also located relatively nearby the site, providing habitat

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to sensitive species. The educational and nature programming facilities completed by the Early Activation phase will provide visitors with a connection and appreciation of the vital ecosystem surrounding the site, promoting local stewardship.

3) Restore river parkways throughout the state.

A main objective of Early Activation is to publicly activate the River's edge with walking paths, native vegetation, look-outs, and other possible recreational uses. The site is directly adjacent to the Río de Los Angeles and "Bowtie" State Parks, and the Los Angeles River itself in the highly urbanized Los Angeles River watershed. The Los Angeles River is both a River Parkway and an Urban Stream. Southern California contains a network of open space and trails throughout local mountains and coastline however, it is not readily accessible to urban residents. Improved connectivity is needed for existing public parks. Both the Early Activation and Long-Term projects will provide new access to the River, tying nature into the urban community.

4) Protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems, including fish and wildlife corridors and the acquisition of water rights for instream flow.

This Project will provide a significant habitat link and node within this important ecological and wildlife corridor. Because the River is an open waterway, it functions as a habitat corridor for migratory birds and small animals, and provides an appropriate location for greening and restoration efforts. The Long-Term Project will significantly reduce the amount of pollutants currently being expelled into the River untreated via proposed stormwater daylighting and capture at the site. This will help improve the habitat potential and water quality within the River and Pacific Ocean. Since the Project is adjacent to the soft-bottom portion of the Los Angeles River, more species survive, fly and swim to, as well as the Arroyo Seco Confluence. It is also adjacent to Elysian Park and downstream from Griffith Park, which are home to many sensitive plant and animal species. By capturing and treating runoff on the site, the Project will improve water quality in the River and help protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems. The addition of native planting the Early Activation Project will begin to provide provide new habitat for area bird and other species.

9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, stormwater resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction.

Because the site is known to be contaminated from previous use as a rail yard, Early Activation will begin what will be a lengthy remediation process. By capping or removing existing contaminates adjacent to the River, the River and the surrounding community will be healthier.

Another element of Early Activation is to plant native trees and shrubs throughout portions of the Project site. The trees will provide a habitat for local wildlife, shade for pedestrians, reduce the Urban Heat Island effect, generate oxygen, and remove pollutants from the air, ultimately decreasing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and helping with the adverse impacts of global warming. These benefits will be maximized through location and density of vegetation.

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The Long-Term Project will decrease the amount of untreated pollutants currently making their way into the River. This will protect and restore the health of the watershed, and improve storage within the local groundwater aquifer. Watershed capacity will increase and water quality will improve by stormwater daylighting. This method will manage stormwater by capturing, treating and infiltrating.

10). Protect and restore coastal watersheds, including, but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and nearshore ecosystems.

The Project aims to plan and design a park that will benefit the natural resources and water quality of the LA River (a coastal watershed).

11). Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.

The Long-Term Project design will reduce sediment, trash, and organic matter from loading and contaminating the Los Angeles River draining the watershed thereby limiting sedimentation. The G2 site is currently contaminated with many different metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, and chlorinated solvents from its historic use as a railroad facility. Early Activation is the first phase of site cleanup and multiple-benefit improvements that will help reduce the opportunity for contaminants to migrate from the site during storm events, thereby protecting the watershed. The Long-Term Project will be designed to capture and treat wet and dry weather runoff in order to remove various pollutants including trash, metals, bacteria, and oil from the water before they can reach the River. Also, the Long-Term Project plans to restore a hydrologic connection from the River to the G2 site, which will help contribute to increasing local water supply, improving water quality, and enhanced flood management. The overall cumulative impact of this Project is potentially substantial for the given urban area and will treat water that would otherwise enter the river untreated.

12). Assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health, instream flows, fish passage, coastal or inland wetland restoration, or other means, such as natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan implementation.

Stormwater treatment and improvement projects help protect wildlife and their habitat as found in fragmented urban landscape. Both the Early Activation and Long-Term Project will improve watershed health and benefit sensitive and endangered species, such as the California Gnatcatcher and the San Diego Horned Lizard. Water conservation methods will be utilized to improve the water quality and reduce refuse within the Los Angeles River. Improving the water quality within the River is essential to the survival of the area's wildlife species. Cleaner water in the River means cleaner water within San Pedro Bay, restoring and enhancing local wildlife habitat. Increasing tree density and vegetation will aid in carbon sequestering. The atmosphere will also be cooled, further bolstering California's native biodiversity by reducing intense heat spells that climate change may cause.

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**The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply and/or watershed protection and restoration.**

The Project features many benefits which include the following: stormwater capture and treatment resulting in improved watershed health and water quality in the Los Angeles River; increased vegetation will reduce concentration of GHG and reduce the heat-island effect; reduced impervious surfaces and promotion of infiltration projects following contaminant remediation; nature education and habitat for the area's animal species; and aesthetic enhancement to the public and River area.

**The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.**

The Project will include the use of recycled water, which will reduce the amount of potable water needed. This will reduce the amount of imported water needed for Southern California.

**The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.**

The Project design and goals aim to benefit Los Angeles River and the larger watershed, which provides a migratory route and habitat to both sensitive and endangered species.

**The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.**

Water entering the River infrastructure will be reduced and cleaner through the implementation design elements that filter stormwater.

**The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation.**

An innovative approach will be taken for the Project's operations and maintenance through a partnership between many City of Los Angeles agencies and likely the County Flood Control District---this Project is truly a partnership between jurisdictions. By the time the Project design is complete, the plans will have been vetted by the Bureau of Sanitation Watershed Protection Division, the MRCA, the County, and the USACE. Since the Project will provide a connection to adjacent State-owned (and currently undeveloped) land by way of an MRCA easement, the City plans on working with State Parks and the MRCA to create the most appropriate interface for users.

**Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.**

The BOE has decades of experience planning, designing, permitting and implementing projects more complex than this. The Project is supported by many local, state, and federal elected officials and the community.

**Applicant has the financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.**

The City has the financial capacity to perform this project on a reimbursable basis with at least \$1,035,000 on hand that can be used as a front-funding source for this scope of work.



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**Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.**

The City, as well as our active partner, the MRCA, have successfully designed and implemented many multi-benefit recreational projects throughout Los Angeles. The City's Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation Project, was recently restored and now serves as a Los Angeles icon. The Lake was previously deemed by the State of California as an impaired water body but now functions primarily as a detention basin in the City's storm drain system, while providing recreational benefits and wildlife habitat. The South Los Angeles Wetlands Park was also an innovative project completed by BOE that treats storm water runoff while also providing space for recreational activities. The park replaced an existing blighted site with greenery, a storm drain that collects urban runoff, removes trash and pollutants, and sends it through the constructed wetlands for treatment at the site. The park also serves as an outdoor classroom by providing educational signage along the walkways and a haven for open green space for the community. Lastly, the Wilmington Drain Multi-Use and Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation project was accomplished through integrated ecological and engineering strategies and solutions involving watershed-based management approaches, in-lake rehabilitation and streambed assessment techniques, riparian system enhancements, and storm water BMPs at strategic areas in the park. BOE worked in collaboration with other City departments to design, plan, and implement all of the above three projects.

**The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.**

The proposed Project is a joint partnership with the MRCA, who share similar goals for the project. The City and MRCA seek to collaboratively work together to use the individual talents within each organization to expediently develop a successful public park.

**Completion of the project would assist a government agency in fulfilling a water resources protection, watershed ecosystem restoration, or multi-benefit river parkway plan.**

The Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study, the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, and the County of Los Angeles Master Plan all include the restoration of G2 parcel as a high priority.

**The project provides a plan or feasibility study that enhances cooperative watershed health protection and restoration important to two or more organizations.**

The Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project is critical to fulfillment of the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study's goals to restore ecosystem values in and along an 11-mile corridor of the river from the northern edge of Griffith Park into Downtown Los Angeles. Many organizations commented publicly on the development of the feasibility study. These organizations include: the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Council for Watershed Health, Heal the Bay, Friends of the Los Angeles River, California State Assembly, State Senator de Leon, and others.

**Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.**

The City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Project partner,

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the MRCA, will be maintaining and operating the Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project. RAP has many years' experience maintaining and operating very complex projects within the City of Los Angeles of similar size and scope. Some recently implemented projects that have been maintained by RAP include the Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park (Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project) and the Echo Park Lake (Rehabilitation Project). These multi-beneficial projects provide recreational benefit, water quality improvements, water conservation, and enhancement of wildlife habitat. Since the 1980's, the MRCA has successfully implemented and currently maintains and operates many multiple benefit recreational projects throughout Los Angeles. Several MRCA projects that are currently maintained by the MRCA, include the Lewis MacAdams Riverfront Park (formerly Marsh Park), Vista Hermosa Park, and the Tujunga Wash Stream Restoration.

**The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational public use facility or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.**

The Project implements the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study's goals in Reach 6 of the Los Angeles River. Restoration of the G2 parcel is a major component of this watershed ecosystem restoration plan.

**The project provides a high quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or water-based recreation.**

Currently, on the north bank of the River in Glassell Park, only the Bowtie State Park parcel offers any open space (with limited amenities) along the River. To date no successful connecting linkage has been developed along the north bank. This project will add to the network of parks and open space along the Los Angeles River, providing a significant new connection and gateway. The proposed Project, in conjunction with the adjacent State Parks and the Taylor Yard Pedestrian Bridge (currently underway), will create a major regional multi-modal Greenway along the River and provide regional links for access to the Project. Upon Project completion, the Bowtie, the MRCA easement area, and the existing Río de Los Angeles State Park will be connected and create over 100 acres of contiguous parkland. Also, there are no boat launches within the River Recreational Zone (RRZ) on the River's north bank, and the addition of access points from the G2 site will serve to create new regional access, as well as create its own smaller Taylor Yard RRZ that might be more conducive to new or inexperienced boaters, or visitors with less time than a trip down the entire RRZ.

**Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities**

The public outreach effort for the Taylor Yard Project has been a success both from a measurable standpoint and anecdotal perspective. This is not only based on performance measures, such as engaged participants at public "touch points," but also from public testimonials and client comments. More than 500 people attended two public events for the Project within five days of one another in January 2018, while another 1,321-people completed a paper and online survey between January and March 2018. Input received to date from the public and through the survey presents a clear desire for a more natural and passive type of a park that provides opportunities for walking and engaging with nature and play. As part of the park design effort, flexible spaces will likely be considered to accommodate multiple uses, such as a meadow or plaza spaces that might be used for picnicking, play or events, as well as habitats and connection to the river. Overall, the robust amount of input provided by the community gave the Project team clear insight into community expectations and desires for

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features, activities and uses for the site. The responses will be actively referenced to guide the design team and the City throughout the Project planning and design process.

The Project has been promoted through a combination of traditional grassroots outreach and innovative approaches. Project partners included two non-profit organizations, Mujeres de la Tierra and Friends of LA River. Through these entities, the City was able to promote and engage the public at a neighborhood level through local meetings and walking door to door, as well as reach out to a broader group of river and watershed advocates.

**The project includes interpretive programming or personal interpretation, and a plan to reach community audiences with meaningful information about a watershed resource.**

The Project will include interpretive panels related to the Los Angeles River, highlighting water conservation and water quality improvement measures. Additionally, the Project will support the environmental science-based curriculum at the Sotomayor Center for Arts and Sciences.

**The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.**

The Project will provide new amenities that include signage, accessibility, picnic areas, trails and walking paths, and areas to learn about the native habitat and ecology of the river. These desirable features will help attract people to the park and aid in improving public safety.

**The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.**

The Los Angeles River and its natural resources will be highlighted via interpretive signage throughout the park. These signs will give visitors an opportunity to learn about the Project, environmental challenges and potential solutions, and how visitors can play a role in improving the environment and supporting a healthy watershed. Interpretive signage within the proposed Project will provide information about the Project site as well as the natural resources of the Los Angeles River.

**The site has the potential to create a new venue for education and/or interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship.**

Educational information about the Project and its environmental benefits will be available to the public. This will allow users to be informed about local natural resources and environmental challenges. Panels throughout the Project site will describe and draw awareness to GHG emissions, reduction measures that the public can take in their personal lives to improve air quality, water conservation, water quality improvement measures, and carbon sequestration methods and their benefits. The Sotomayor Center for Arts and Sciences curriculum will also be supported through use as a water conservation, plant and wildlife learning tool.

**The project results in new public access to a watershed resource with high interpretive and/or educational value.**

The Project will provide new public access to a watershed resource that has both high interpretive and educational value. This will encourage long-term stewardship by teaching the public about natural resources and environmental issues. As mentioned earlier, the Project will

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also support the curriculum at Sotomayor Center for Arts and Sciences, through use as a water conservation, plant and wildlife learning tool, ultimately creating future environmental stewards.

**Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.**

The Project will improve watershed health and benefit sensitive and endangered species, such as the California Gnatcatcher and the San Diego Horned Lizard. Stormwater treatment and improvement projects help to protect plant and animal species and their habitat found in the scattered urban landscape.

**EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS**

**QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS**

**The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.**

The Project goals and elements support the protection of natural resources and add to the expansion of a livable, walkable, and healthy community. The City plans to design a network of trails within the park and also enhance and highlight the bridge that connects the remainder of the park on the opposite side of the River. This will enable visitors to more conveniently access and utilize the amenity and will encourage more outdoor activity. These proposed new improvements are expected to create better user experiences and watershed benefits. Because the Project is located adjacent to a residential community, it will encourage people to bicycle, walk, exercise, and enjoy the outdoors. This amenity will serve to reduce GHG emissions from transportation sources. The Project would result in very limited new vehicle trips and is expected to reduce vehicle miles traveled.

**The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.**

Local communities have been engaged and continue to be engaged as the Project progresses. Communities are encouraged to participate in public meetings, stakeholder committee meetings, and design workshops. Key Project partners are community-based organizations that represent a variety of disadvantaged populations and cover topics of stewardship and climate change awareness. During meetings, the importance of providing a multi-benefit space, protection for natural resources, healthy watersheds, and wildlife habitat are promoted and discussed. This has led to increased public awareness and will eventually provide an outdoor learning tool that local schools can utilize, ultimately contributing to environmental stewardship.

**ADDITIONAL CRITERIA**

**Completion of the project would assist in fulfilling a Federal water resources protection or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.**

The Project is a large piece of the Federally-adopted Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project to move forward in restoring a hydrologic connection of the River into the Taylor Yard area.

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**Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.**

The City's planning team includes non-profit entities. The Project will seek to partner with project partners to conduct programs specifically designed to increase employment opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

**Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.**

The City has already made significant investment in this Project, and is developing a funding strategy to assure future phases. The City Council unanimously approved the acquisition of the Taylor Yard G2 parcel in 2017 for \$60,000,000. Of those funds, \$14,715,000 are held in escrow and available to be used for the remediation of contaminated soils on the site. The California Coastal Conservancy has generously provided a \$2,000,000 grant for the initial planning and public outreach phases of the Long-Term Project. The MRCA has provided \$27,000,000 to the City for an easement to help fund improvements on a 12.5-acre portion of the site. In addition, the City has approved the use of an additional \$1,035,000 for planning, design, and construction of Early Activation at Taylor Yard G2.

**Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.**

The Project area is located approximately a 0.25 mile from Metro Bus 90/91 and 94 routes along San Fernando Road. The Metro Gold Line Avenue 26 Station is located 1.6 miles from the Project site.

**Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.**

As previously mentioned, the design will incorporate a wide range of new amenities that currently do not exist within the Project site.

In an effort to allow users early access to the site, the City has prioritized near-term activation of portions of the G2 Parcel with the goal of opening the site for regular public use by the end of 2019. The portions of the site to be used for Early Activation will be confined to areas deemed suitable for public use by the DTSC or areas that can be most easily mitigated. Currently under consideration, some features of Early Activation would include multi-use event space for the community or regional events, venue for cultural or artistic display, open space, and a focus on nature and future ecological improvements. These elements would kick-start Project goals to attract users of all ability levels to the site and provide a range of amenities in a natural setting that everyone can enjoy. Early Activation will also facilitate public participation in the long-term planning and evolution of the property.

Budget for Grant Application				
Taylor Yard G2 River Park Project				
		Grant Request:	\$1,500,000	
Task		Grant	Match	Total
1	Early Activation - Design	\$745,000	\$521,667	\$1,266,667
2	Early Activation - Environmental Review and Documentation	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
3	Long Term - Environmental Review and Documentation	\$730,000	\$1,070,000	\$1,800,000
	<i>Total</i>	<i>\$1,500,000</i>	<i>\$1,666,667</i>	<i>\$3,166,667</i>