



MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
COUNCILWOMAN, 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

October 28, 2019

Chairperson Irma Muñoz  
c/o Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Director  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
570 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, California 90265

**RE: Upper Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan**

Dear Chairperson Muñoz and Conservancy Members:

I am writing you on behalf of the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Working Group which was established within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy pursuant to, Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466) and Senate Bill 1126 (SB 1126). The legislative directives require that the Working Group develop a revitalization plan for the Upper Los Angeles River, the tributaries of the Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, Verdugo Wash, Arroyo Seco and additional tributaries as necessary, with a prioritization of planning efforts that represent disadvantaged communities, while developing a Plan that addresses the unique and diverse needs of these waterways and the communities through which they pass.

In August 2018, I was elected to serve as the Chairperson for the ULART Working Group by my fellow members. Since the first convening of the Working Group, we have had robust discussions and public participation at our meetings, in addition to outstanding community engagement throughout this process. Such discussions and need to fulfill our legislative obligations have often led to further study, additional work products, and adjustments to the project timeline. At the most recent meetings during August 29<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup> of 2019, the Working Group unanimously supported a resolution recommending additional components to the Plan to make it more visionary, relevant, and comprehensive, while being even more complementary to the Los Angeles County Los Angeles River Masterplan Update, which can be further explained by project staff.

It has been my pleasure to be part of this planning process supported by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The Plan will be a product of unique stakeholder participation, robust community engagement and environmental equity given the prioritization on disadvantaged communities. The Plan has been and will continue to be aligned with the Conservancy's mission and values, while maintaining relevance for years to come. Thank you for your consideration of this grant request.

Sincerely,

  
Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
ULART Chairperson

