

ARROYO SECO ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Arroyo Seco is a tributary of the Los Angeles River draining an area of 47 square miles including the Angeles National Forest and portions of Pasadena, La Cañada Flintridge, South Pasadena, Los Angeles, and the unincorporated community of Altadena. The modified reaches of the Arroyo Seco are lined with cobblestone and concrete, surrounded by native habitat, open space, and dense urban development. The Arroyo Seco offers excellent opportunities to implement multi-benefit projects along the channel due to the large areas of adjacent publicly owned land.

In 2005, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District), entered into a cost-sharing agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to jointly fund the Arroyo Seco Watershed Feasibility Study (Study) at a cost to the District of \$1,424,500. In 2008, the District entered into an agreement with the Cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and South Pasadena, and the Raymond Basin Management Board, in which these entities agreed to contribute funds toward the completion of the Study. In 2014, the Study's scope was revised to focus on ecosystem restoration for Flint Wash and the 10-mile reach of the Arroyo Seco downstream of Devil's Gate Dam. Unfortunately, due to lack of Federal funding, the Corps halted work on the study in 2017. In response, this Board approved up to \$2,500,000 of additional funding to cover the Federal share of the costs and complete the Study. However, the Study remains inactive, and the Corps has indicated that the resumption of the study is not an option. As a result, the District and its partners seek to move forward without Corps involvement and have prepared a draft scope of work outline, referred to as the Arroyo Seco Naturalization Feasibility Study and Multiuse Project Implementation Plan.

In recognition of the importance of the Arroyo Seco to flood risk management and the benefits that can be provided through multi-use projects for the region, further efforts for the completion of a comprehensive Arroyo Seco study is critical.

-MORE-

MOTION

SOLIS _____

MITCHELL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

HORVATH _____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct and authorize the Chief Engineer of the District or his designee to take the following actions:

1. Take all actions necessary to terminate the agreement with the Corps regarding the Study.
2. Collaborate with, and advance the efforts started in the Study and take all the necessary steps to amend the existing Local Cost-Sharing Agreement pertaining to the Study among the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; the Cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and South Pasadena; and the Raymond Basin Management Board and apply the local cost-sharing contributions toward efforts in the Arroyo Seco Watershed as agreed upon by the parties to the amended Agreement.
3. Apply the \$2.5 million of funding initially approved by this Board in 2017 to cover the completion costs of the Corps' Study, to the new Arroyo Seco planning efforts.

#

KB:aso