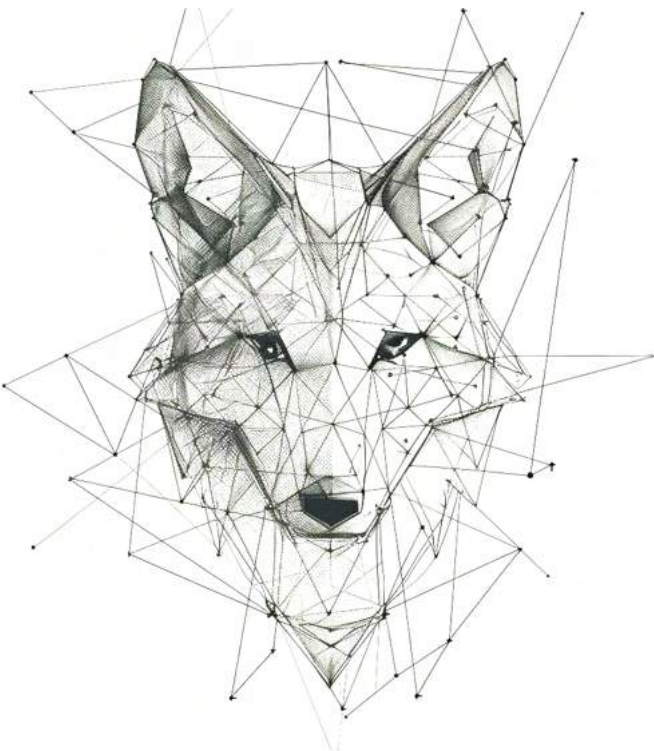
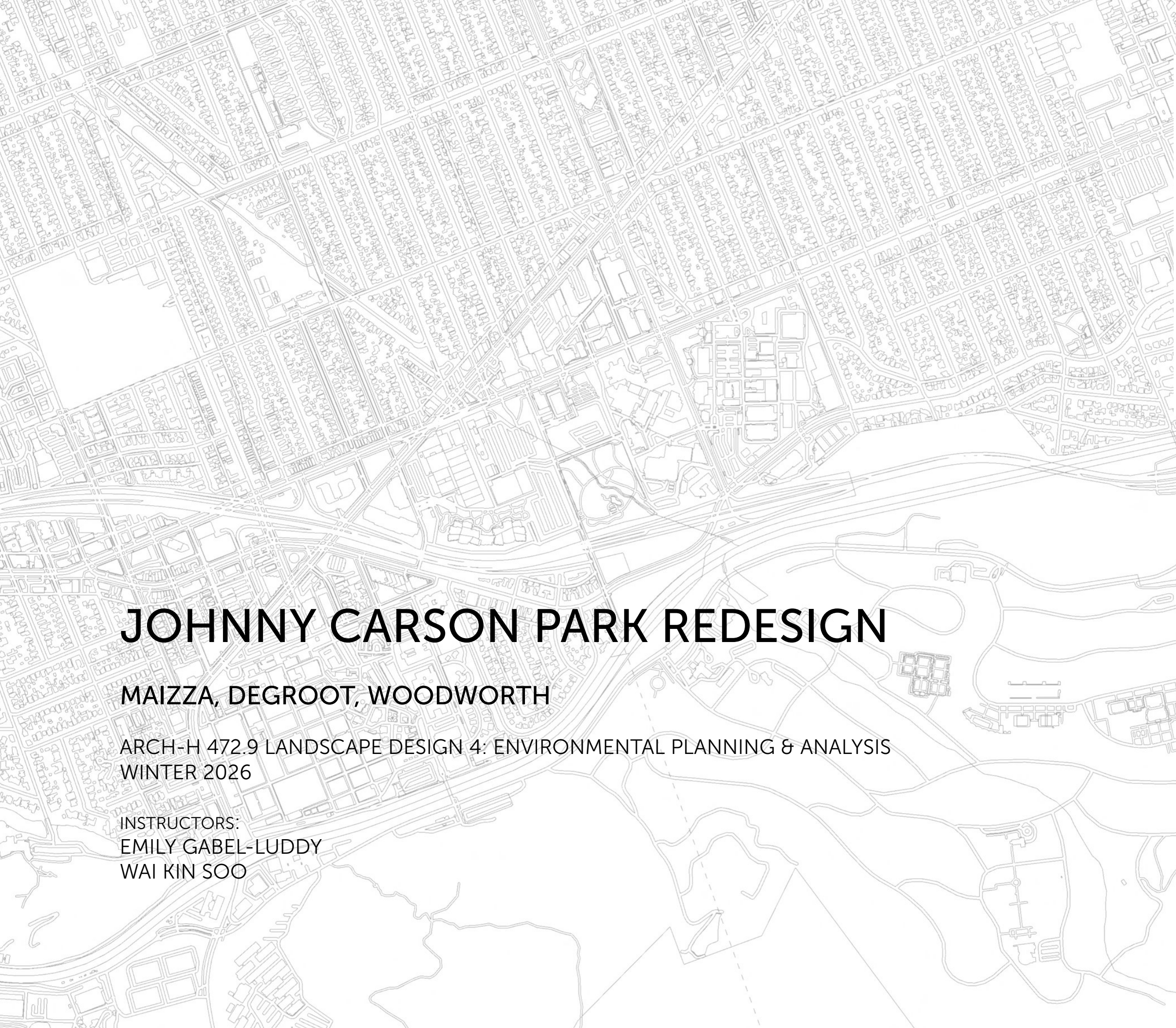




COYOTE COLLECTIVE

JOHNNY CARSON PARK REDESIGN

MAIZZA, DEGROOT, WOODWORTH

ARCH-H 472.9 LANDSCAPE DESIGN 4: ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ANALYSIS
WINTER 2026

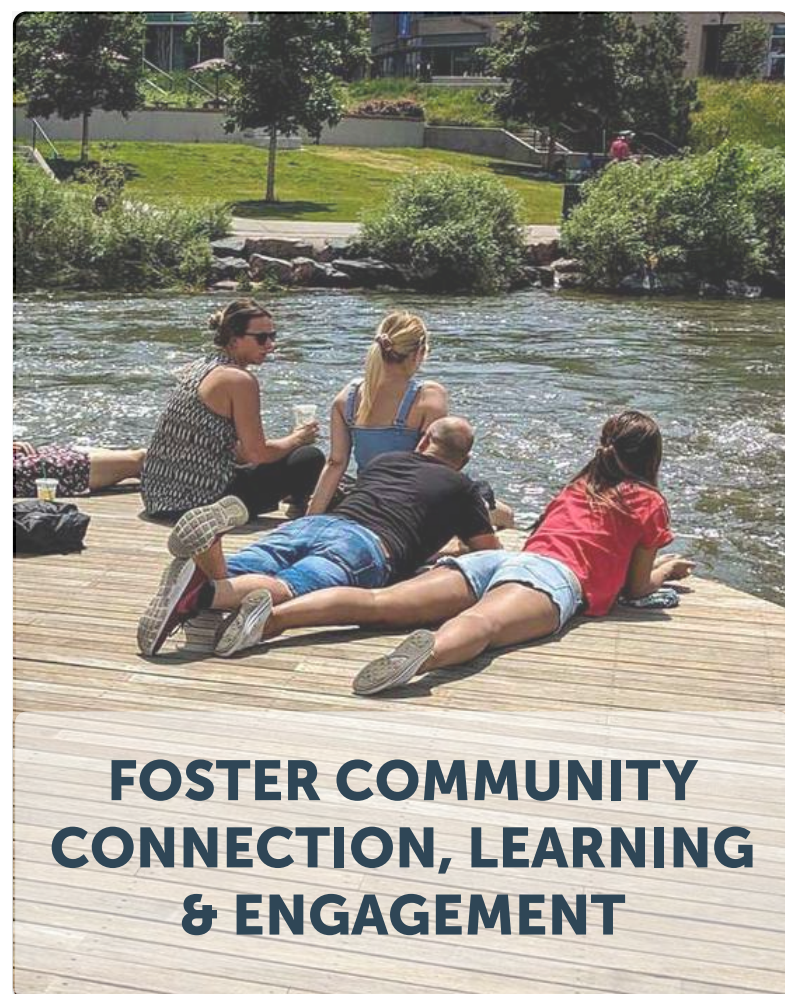
INSTRUCTORS:
EMILY GABEL-LUDDY
WAI KIN SOO

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HOW CAN JOHNNY CARSON PARK SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY IN 2040?

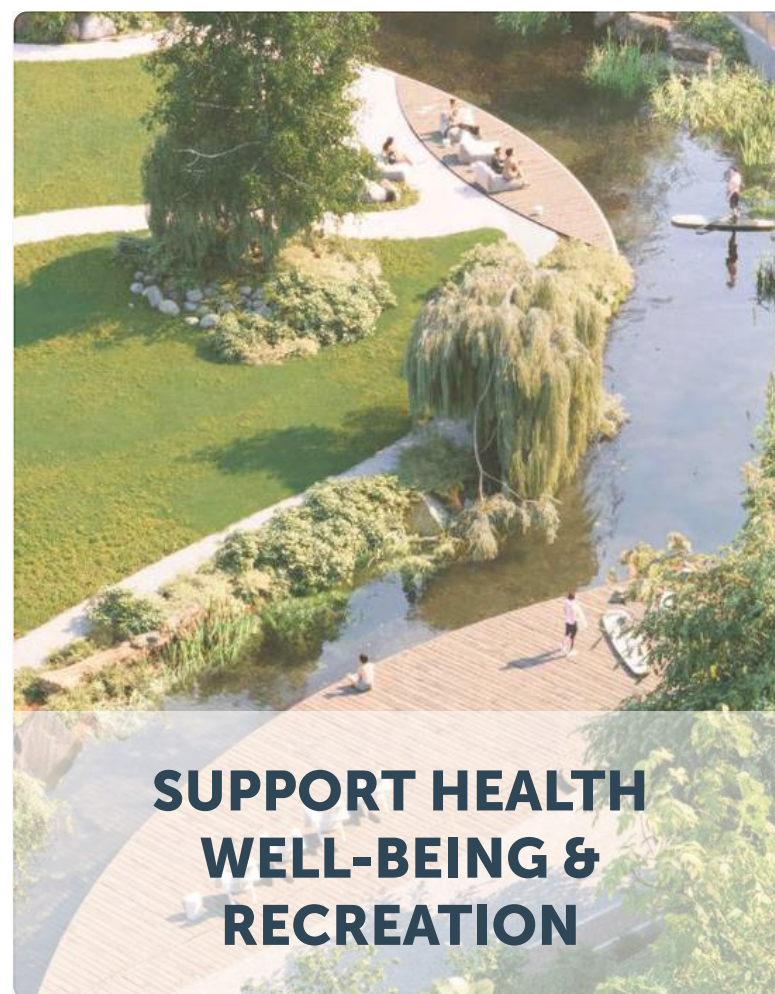
As demographics shift, climate pressures increase, and the needs of the surrounding community change in response, the park must function as more than open space. The challenge is to transform the site into a resilient, connected landscape that supports community gathering, everyday services, climate adaptation, and access to nature along the LA River corridor.



Create a community hub with café, flexible meeting spaces, and areas for remote work and socialization

Design inclusive spaces that support social gatherings, civic events, and cultural programming

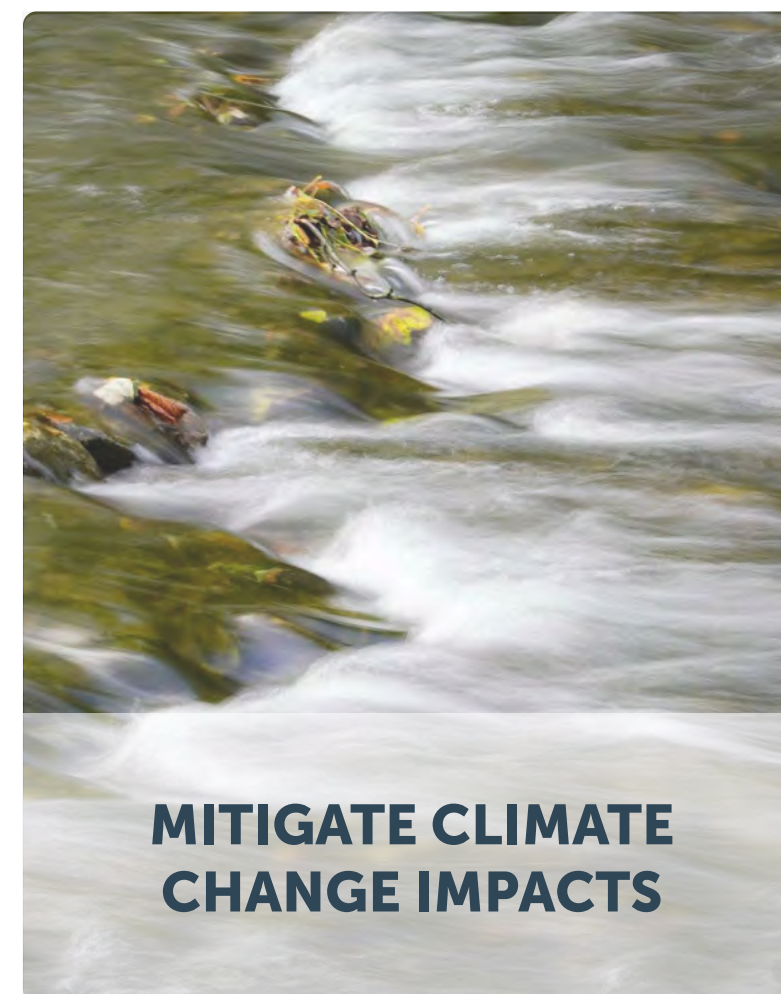
Ensure connectivity through bike paths, pedestrian circulation, and equestrian access, linking the park to the surrounding context as well as different park zones to each other seamlessly



Provide diverse active and passive recreational spaces: walking paths, equestrian trails, tot lots, sport courts, lawns, and amphitheater areas

Incorporate healing/sensory gardens and shaded outdoor areas for mental restoration, reflection, and relaxation

Design flexible, multi-use spaces that can adapt to a variety of future programming needs



Introduce terraces and ecological islands within the river to support habitat, biodiversity, and floodwater infiltration

Implement water-sensitive design strategies that retain stormwater on site and reduce flooding impacts

Reduce urban heat through shade, tree canopy, and climate-responsive plantings

10,000 BCE - 1769 CE

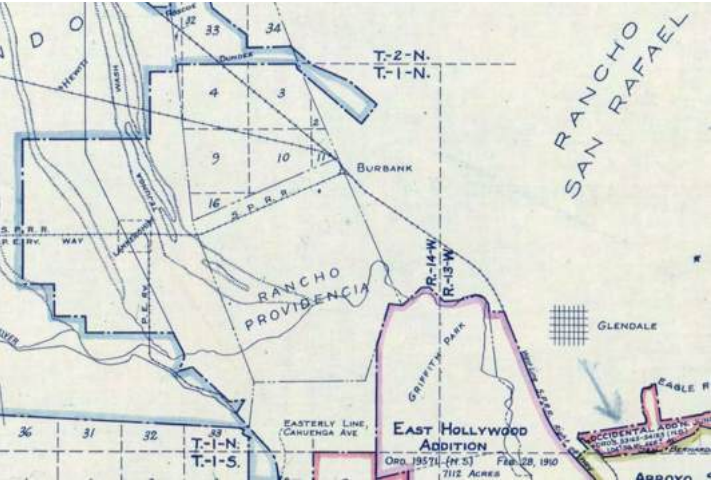
- Seasonal villages along the Los Angeles River and in the now San Fernando Valley
- Hunting, gathering, controlled burning, and wetland management
- Spiritual connection to the land



TONGVA INDIGENOUS PERIOD

1821 - 1848 CE

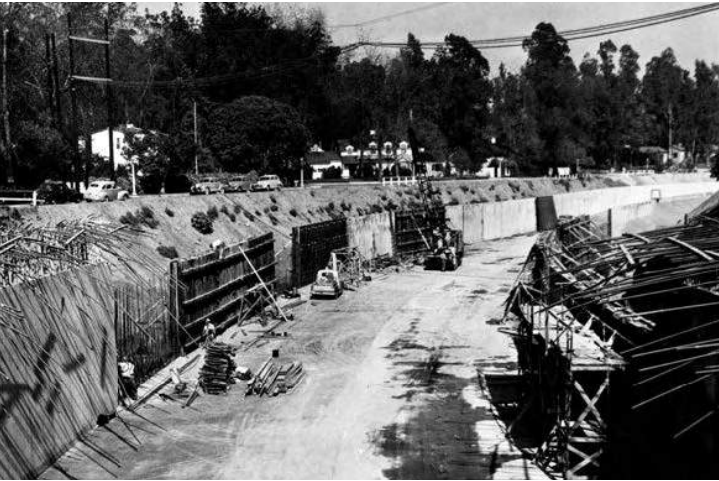
- Landscape is productive, but extractive. Large cattle ranches (Rancho San Rafael --> Rancho La Providencia), open grasslands and river floodplains led to soil compaction, riverbank destabilization and further decline of native vegetation



MEXICAN RANCHO PERIOD

1930s - 1980s CE

- Channelization of LA River due to flooding removed natural wetlands
- 1942: City of Burbank purchased ~51 acres next to the LA River to create Buena Vista Park
- ~1971: 134 Freeway adjacent to park was completed

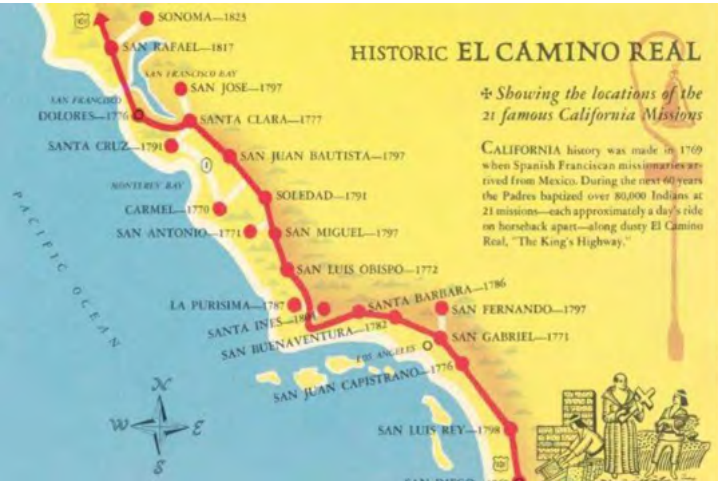


INDUSTRIAL/MEDIA CITY PERIOD

SPANISH COLONIAL PERIOD

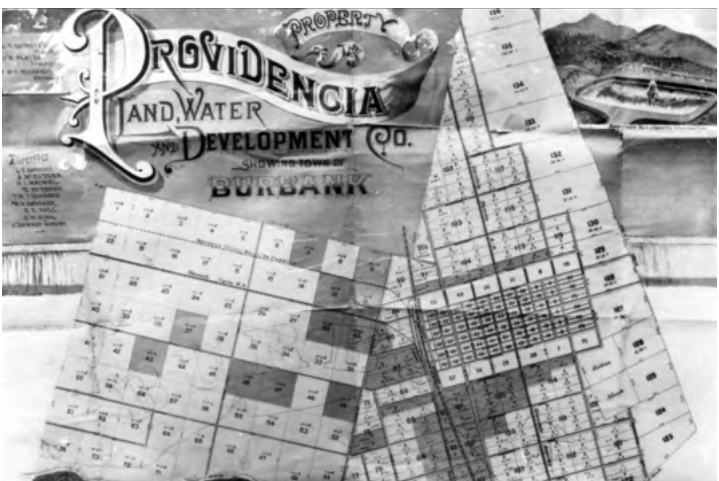
AMERICAN/EARLY URBAN PERIOD

CONTEMPORARY ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION



1769 - 1821 CE

- Introduction of mission system and European agriculture leading to livestock over-grazing, invasive grasses, collapse of native wetlands
- Added infrastructure including missions, irrigation channels (zanjas), and roadways like the El Camino Real



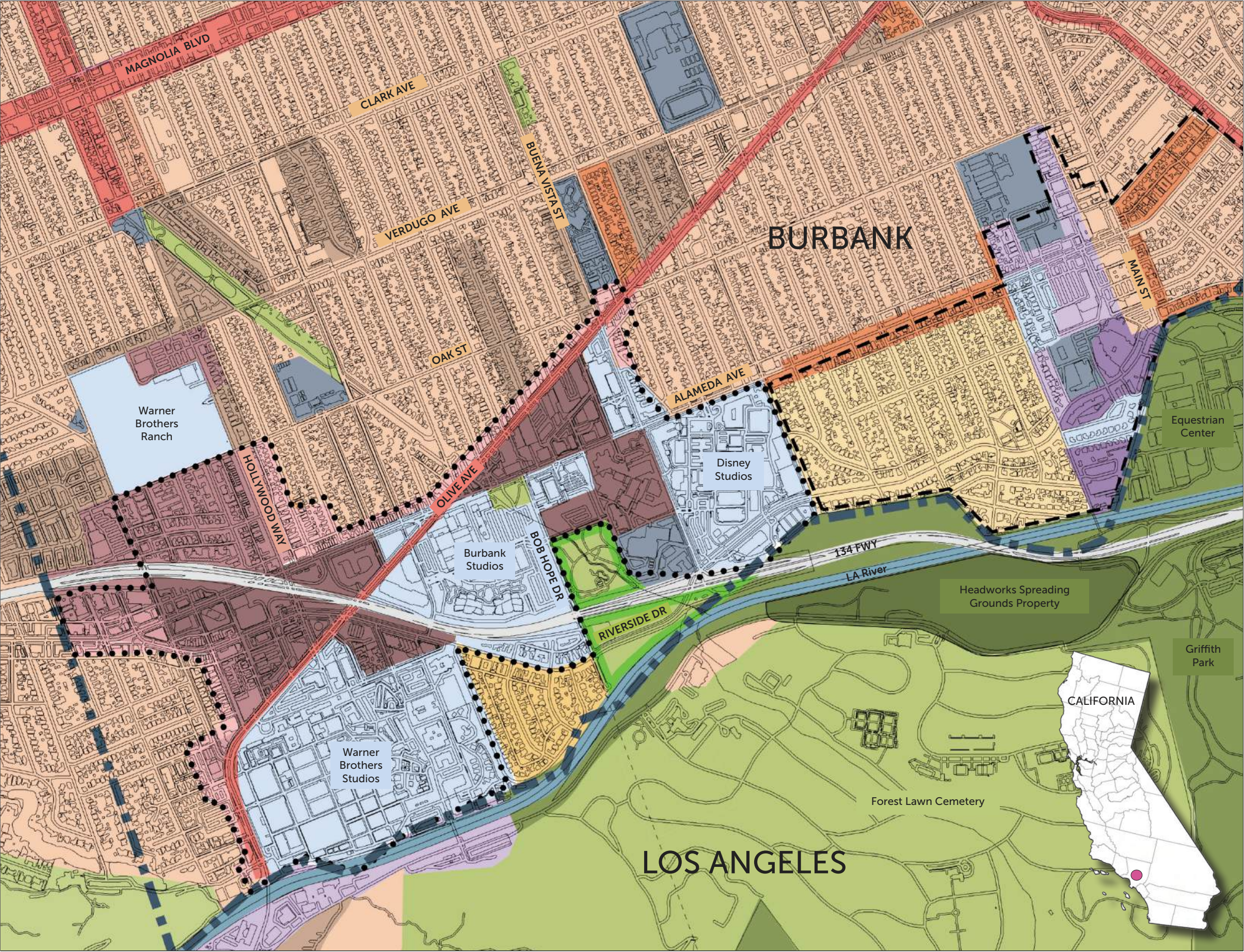
1848 - ~1930 CE

- Dr. Burbank bought R. La Providencia for ranching then sold some to Providencia Land Water & Development. Settlement was named Burbank after him
- 1911: City of Burbank was officially incorporated
- Introduction of monoculture farms and gridded streets



1990s - PRESENT

- 1992: Buena Vista Park renamed Johnny Carson Park after the Tonight Show host
- 2010s: renovation of JCP aimed at restoring the stream channel (little Tujunga wash) and improving ecological function, sustainability, and public amenity quality



LOCATION CONTEXT

LEGEND

Boundaries

- Burbank City Boundary
- Media District Boundary
- Rancho District Boundary
- Project Site

Residential

- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Equestrian Residential

Commercial

- Corridor Commercial
- Local Commercial
- Media District FAR 1.1
- Media District FAR 1.5
- Media District FAR 2
- Media District FAR 2.5

Other

- Open Space
- Open Space Historical Preservation
- Institutional
- Industrial
- Planned Development PD 96-1

0' 1000' 2000'



ACCESSIBILITY

In an effort to improve programming, revenue, and accessibility, we wanted to examine public transit and food and beverage options within 5, 10, and 15-minute walking radii of the park. We also know that two new Burbank Rapid Transit (BRT) stations will soon be added near Warner Brothers Studios and Providence Hospital, further improving the nearby public transit.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

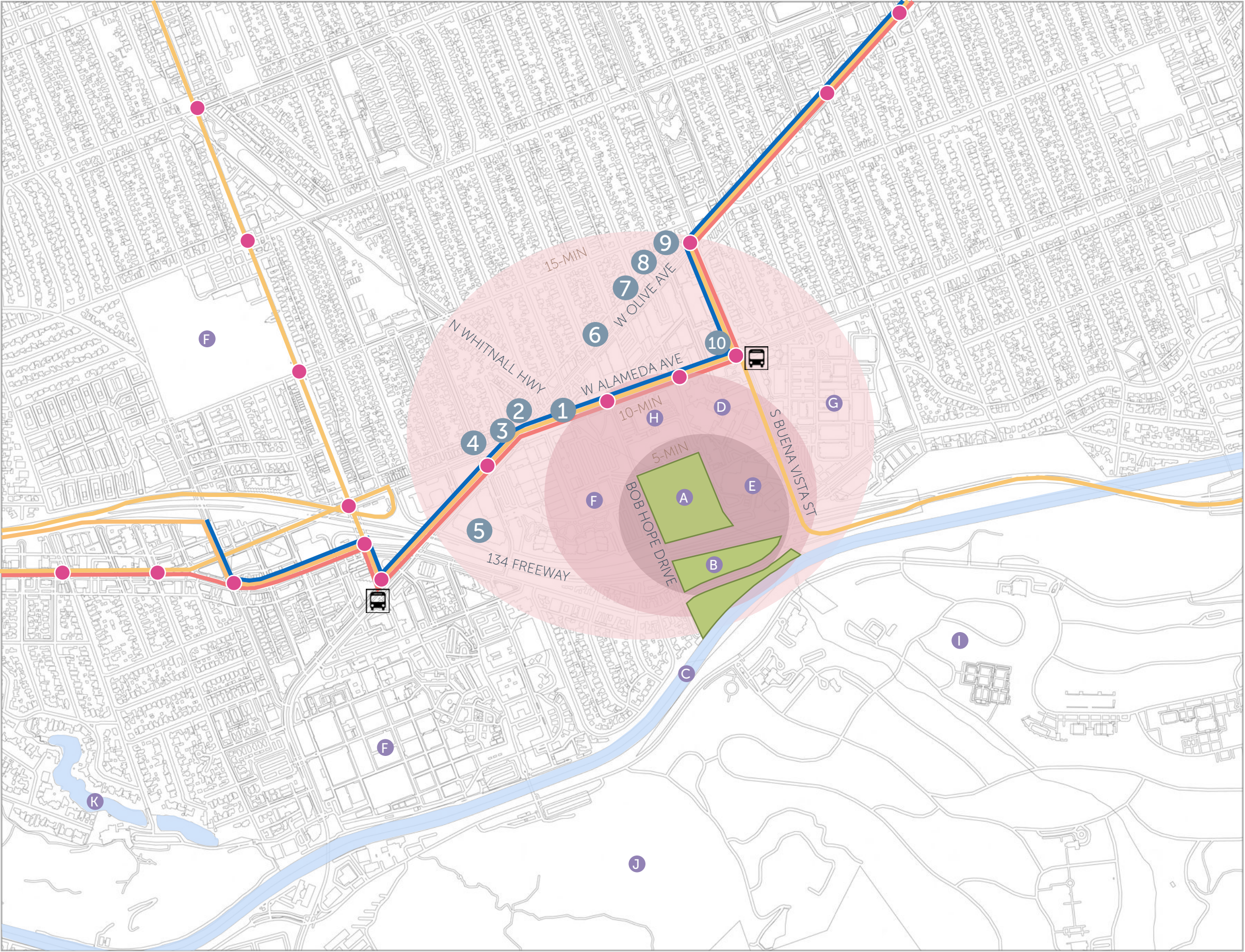
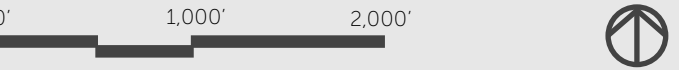
- 1. Brew's Brothers Brew Pub
- 2. Coffee Commissary
- 3. Chick-fil-a
- 4. Wienerschnitzel
- 5. Morton's Steakhouse
- 6. Los Amigos Bar & Grill
- 7. Ribs USA
- 8. Poquito Mas
- 9. Tony's Deli & Cafe
- 10. Belli Fratelli Roasters

PUBLIC TRANSIT

- Proposed BRT Line
- Metro Bus Routes
- Burbank Bus Routes
- Proposed BRT Stop
- Bus Stop

SITE LEGEND

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Johnny Carson Park | G. Disney Studios |
| B. Buena Vista Park | H. Legacy Studios |
| C. LA River | I. Forest Lawn Cemetery |
| D. Providence Hospital | J. Griffith Park |
| E. Providence High School | K. Toluca Lake |
| F. WB Studios | |



URBAN HEAT ISLAND

In Burbank’s 2035 Plan, Urban Heat Island Effect (UHI) and air quality are top concerns. Burbank lies in the north central portion of the South Coast Air Basin (Basin), in a geographically challenged location east of the San Fernando Valley and the Santa Monica Mountains, south of the San Gabriel Mountains, and directly west of the Verdugo Mountains). Because Burbank lies upwind of cities and freeways to the southwest, air pollution is trapped against the Verdugo Mountains. Burbank suffers from regional pollution problems and has several large emission sources within its boundaries: two major freeways, heavily traveled roads, two major rail corridors, an airport with Amtrak and Metrolink train connections, and a power plant.

According to calepa.ca.gov, “for really large urban areas such as in Southern California, the urban heat islands blur together to form an urban heat archipelago, with average temperature increases up to 19° F at the eastern end of the basin.”

In Burbank specifically, the frequency of very hot days (more than 96 degrees) is expected to be 29 days per year.

As we plan for the future, green and pervious space and an expanded tree canopy is critical to absorb heat, clean polluted air, and filter stormwater runoff.

SITE LEGEND

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Johnny Carson Park | G. Disney Studios |
| B. Buena Vista Park | H. Legacy Studios |
| C. LA River | I. Forest Lawn Cemetery |
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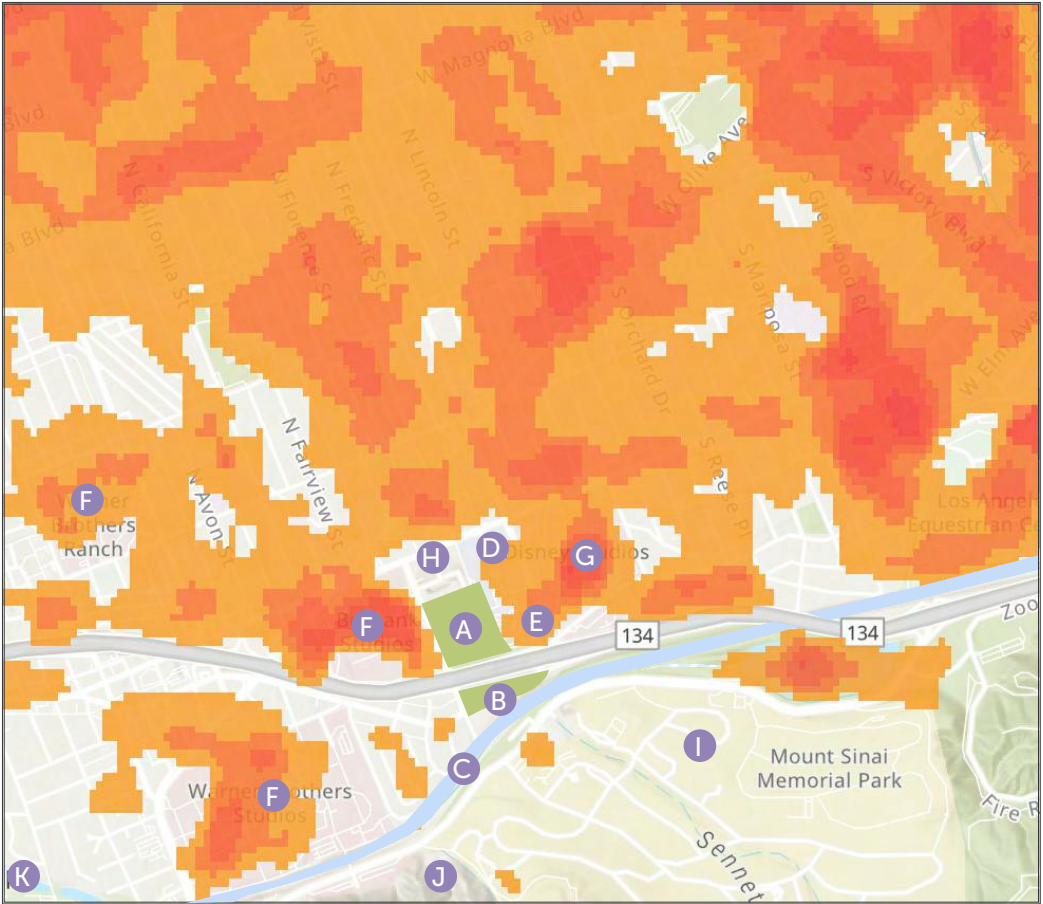
TREE CANOPY

0' 400' 800'



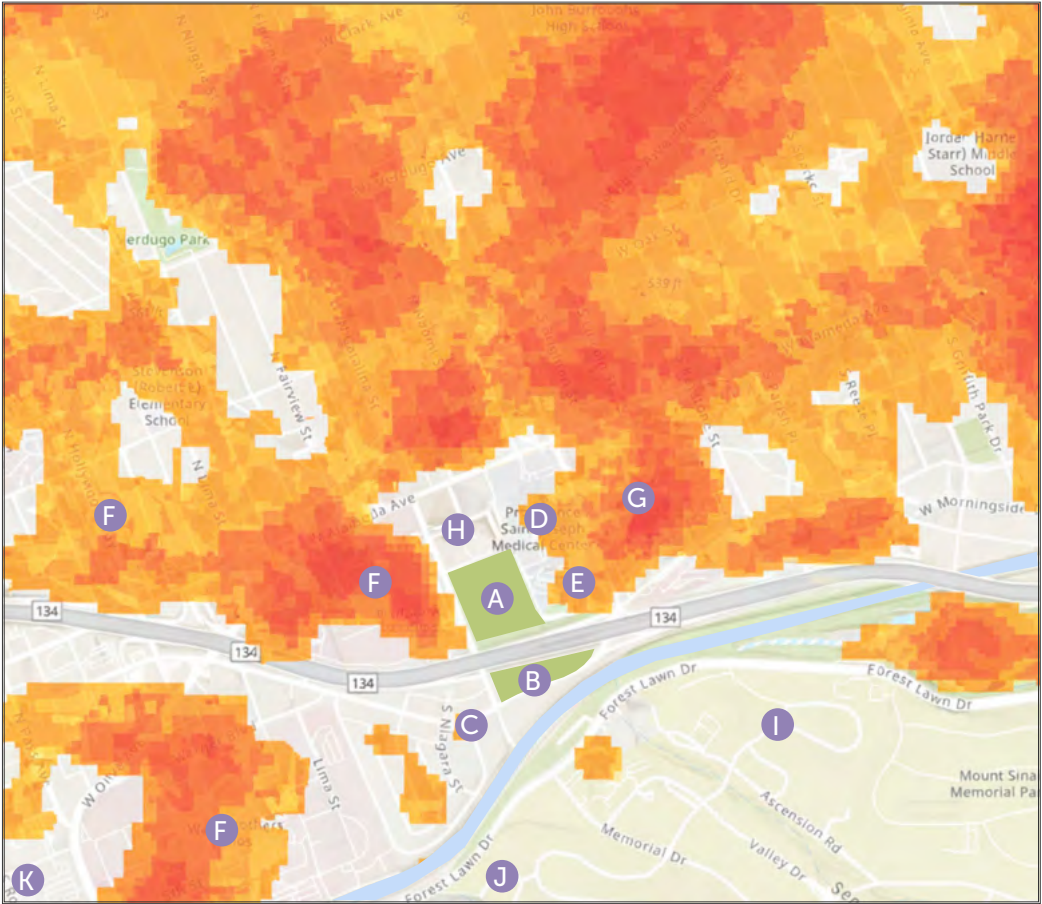
IMPERVIOUS SPACE

0' 400' 800'



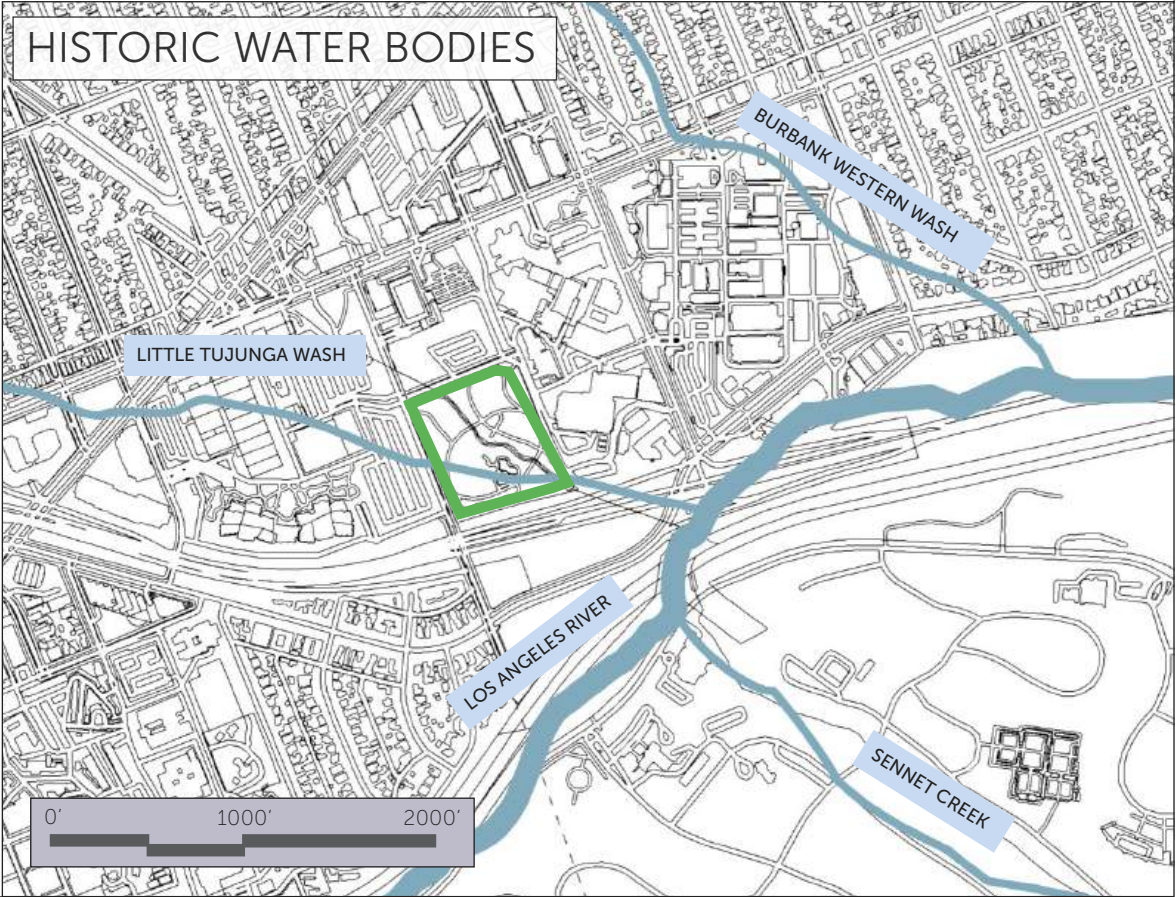
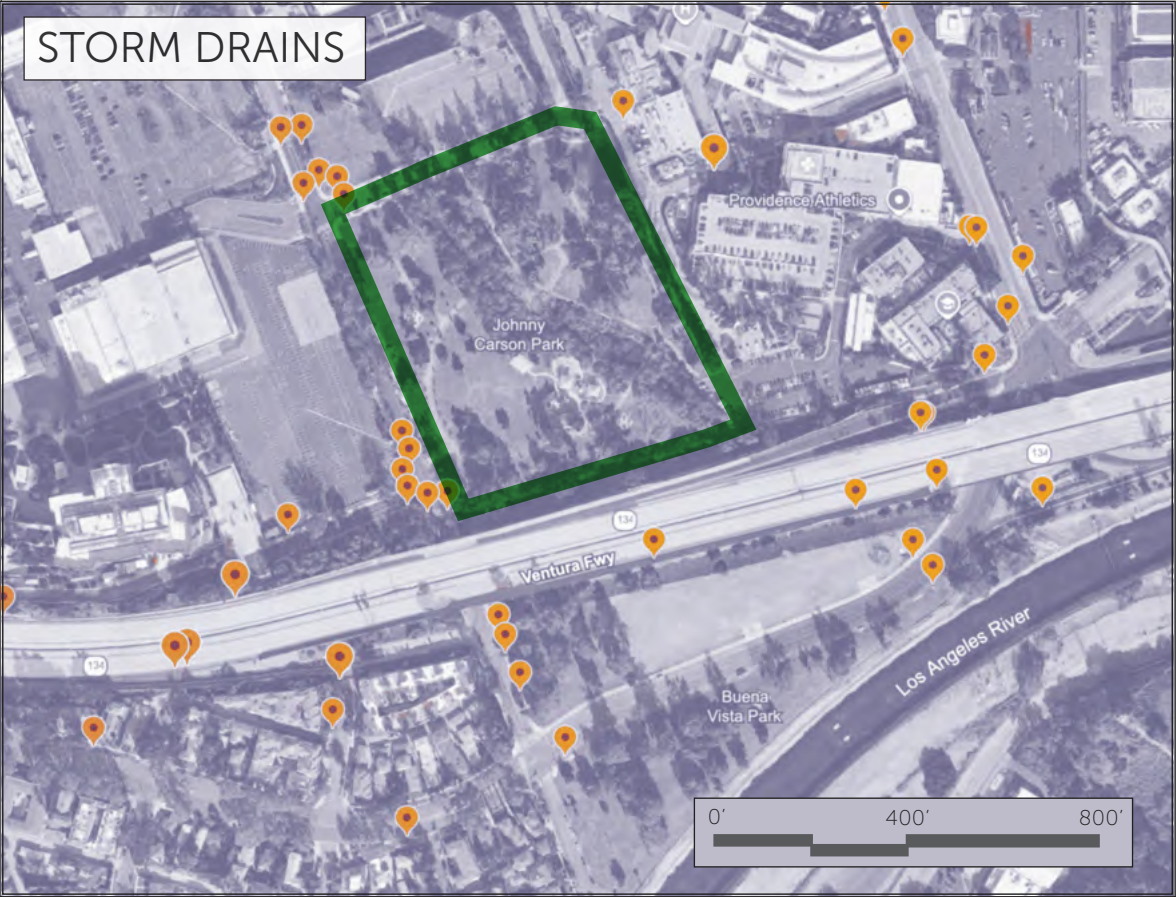
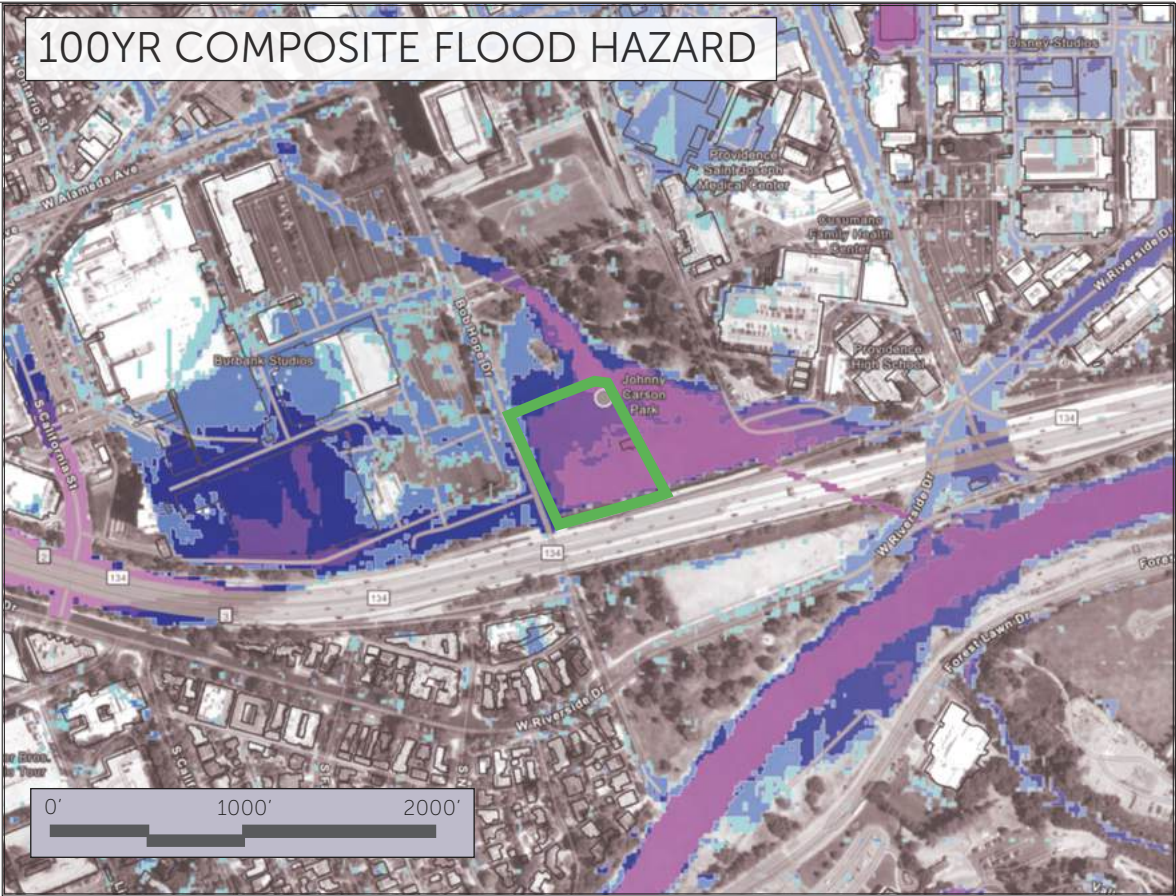
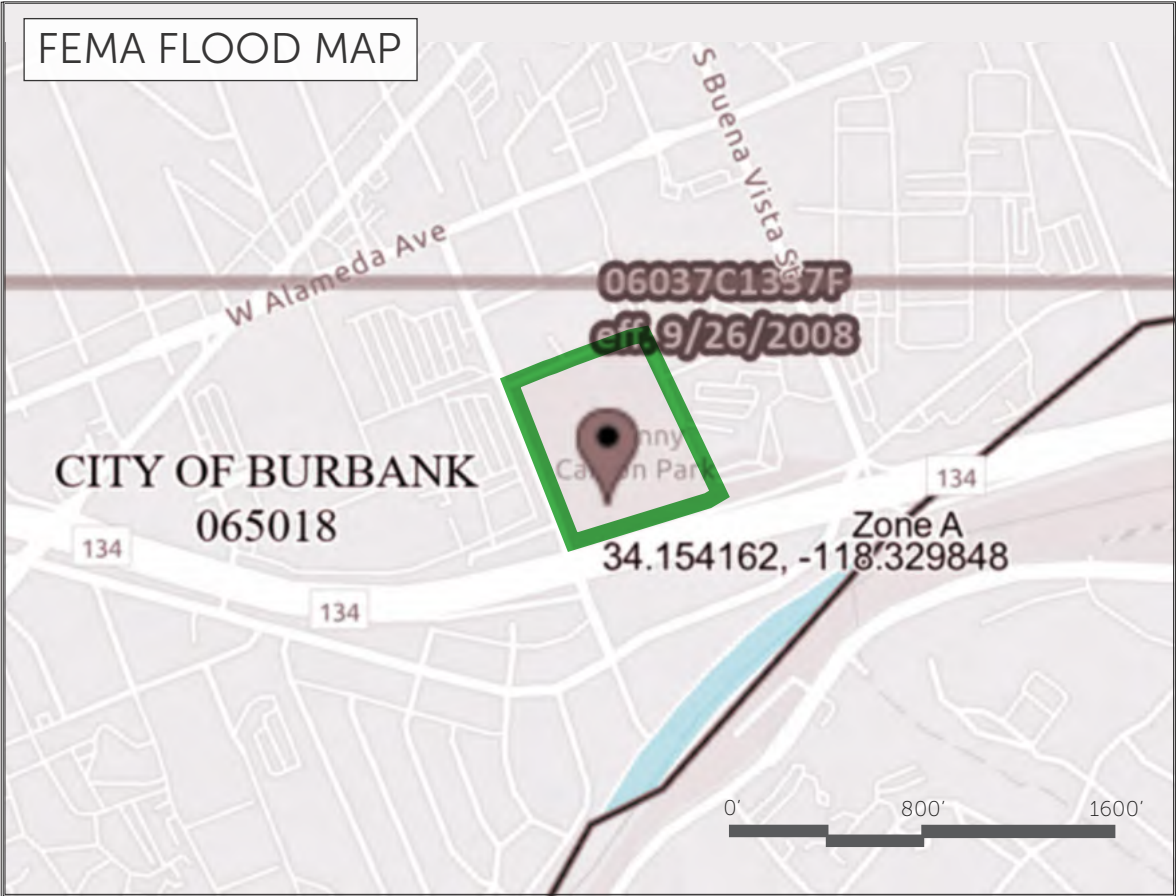
UHI (Source: storymaps.archis.com, UHI in Los Angeles County)

NTS



UHI PREDICTED 2040 (Source: Map generated by ChatGPT)

NTS



FLOOD ASSESSMENT

LEGEND

100 yr Composite Flood Hazard

- <Ankle (0.1 - 0.36')
- Ankle - Knee (0.11 - 0.45 m)
- Knee - Waist (0.45 - 1.0 m)
- Waist - Head (1.0 - 1.7 m)
- Over Head (> 1.7 m)

FEMA Flood Map

- 1% Annual Chance Flood

Storm Drains Map

- Storm Drain

General

- Johnny Carson Park

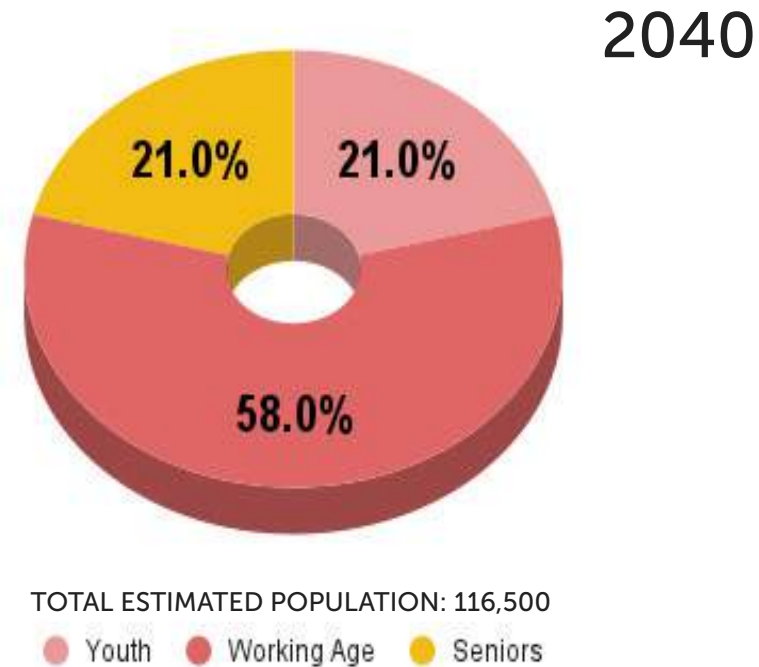
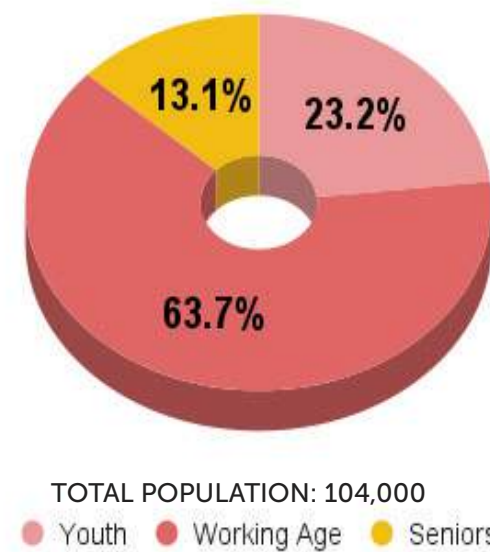
SOURCES:

- PRIMo: Parallel raster inundation model
- ArcGIS.com
- FEMA
- Google Earth

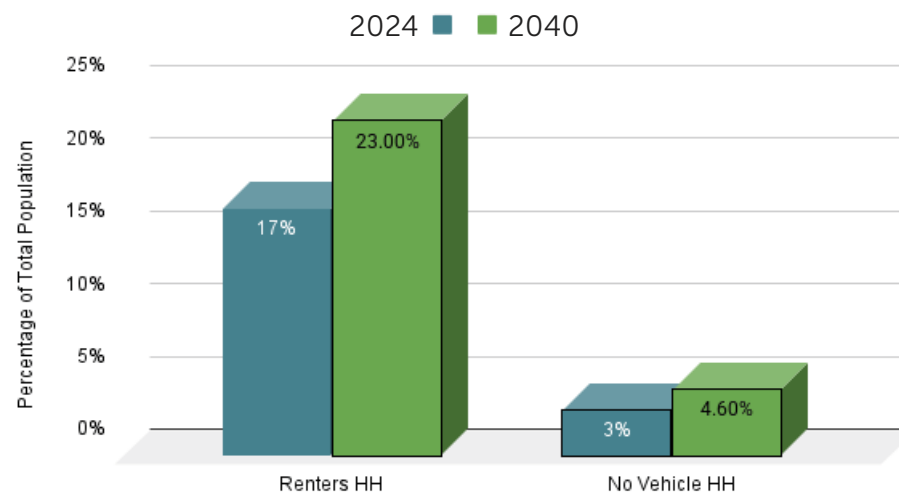
MULTIPLE SCALES



BURBANK POPULATION DISTRIBUTION



BURBANK RENTERS AND NO VEHICLE HOUSEHOLDS



A substantial share of renter households suggests many residents lack private yards and depend on public parks as their primary outdoor space. **Households without vehicles highlight the importance of walkable, bikeable access to nearby green space.**

What this means for the park

By 2040, Johnny Carson Park will need to function as:

- 1 - A daily-use neighborhood park, not just a destination space
- 2 - A climate refuge during hotter summers
- 3 - A safe and accessible landscape for youth and seniors
- 4 - A walkable recreation hub for park-reliant residents

Overall, population growth and park-reliant households indicate increasing pressure on local green space, supporting the need for expanded access, resilient landscapes, and multi-use recreation.

DEMOGRAPHIC + PARK DEMAND

Population growth in Los Angeles County and Burbank is projected to increase steadily through 2040, bringing a larger number of residents who will rely on local open space for daily recreation and climate relief.

The age structure remains stable but significant: Roughly 23% youth and 13% seniors represent populations with high reliance on safe, accessible outdoor spaces.

The working-age majority (≈63%) indicates continued demand for fitness, commuting, and everyday recreation amenities.

SOURCES:

U.S. Census Bureau
City of Burbank demographic and economic data
American Community Survey tract-level data (LA County)
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
Regional Growth Forecasts

EMPLOYMENT CHANGE

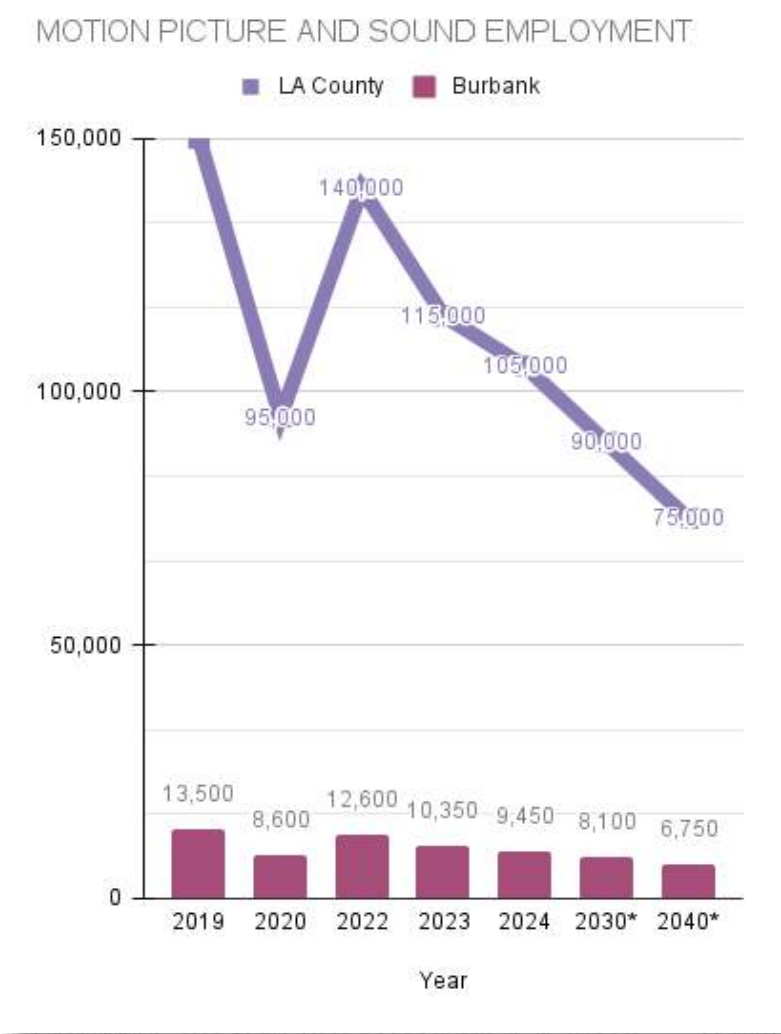
Burbank’s economy is closely tied to the entertainment industry, which is undergoing rapid disruption. Los Angeles County has lost tens of thousands of film and television jobs in recent years as production declines, industry consolidation increases, and artificial intelligence reshapes media workflows.

Studies estimate that tens of thousands of additional California entertainment jobs may be affected by AI in the near future.

These shifts suggest a transition toward more remote, freelance, and unstable employment patterns. As a result, local parks are expected to play an increasing role as spaces for daily recreation, social connection, and mental health.

SOURCES:

U.S. Census Bureau
Bureau of Labor Statistics / FilmLA production reports
LA Times / Deadline / industry reports on Hollywood layoffs
Brookings / academic research on AI & creative work
Reuters

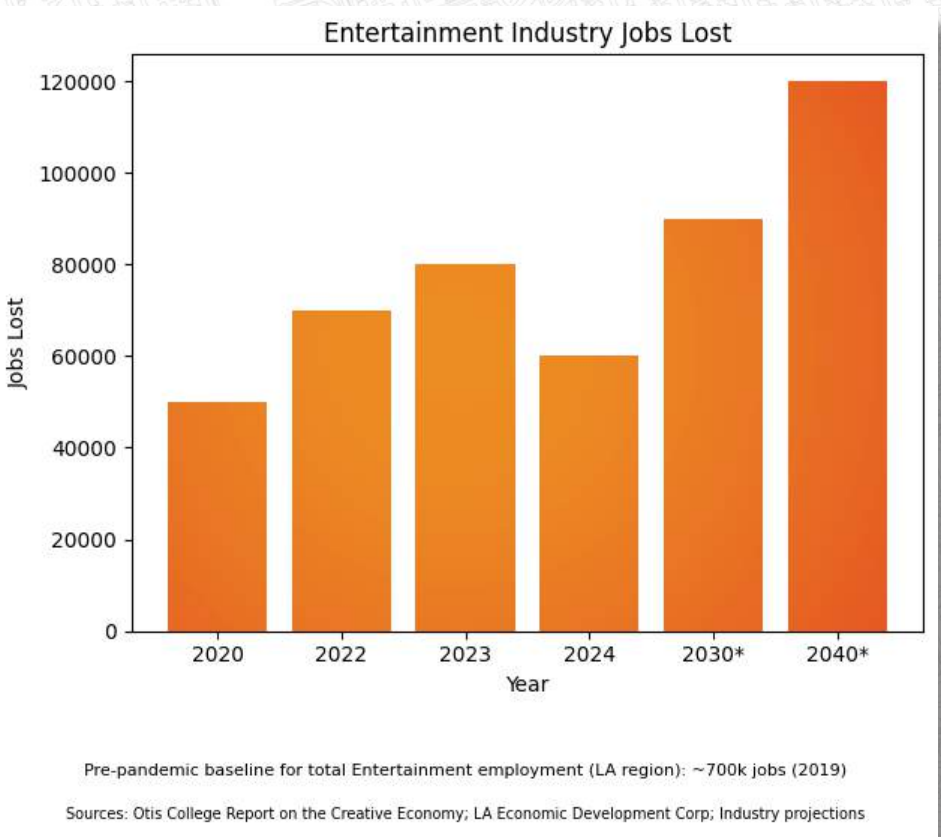


Job losses

- 30% Less Film & TV employment in LA (2022–2024) - from 142,000 to 100,000 jobs
- 41,000 Hollywood jobs lost in 3 years
- 17,000+ media layoffs in 2025

Production decline

Fall of 14% on Film/TV production in LA (2024). Continued decline into 2025.



AI disruption projections

- 62,000 CA entertainment jobs at risk (near term).
- Up to 120,000 jobs reshaped by AI.

Broader economic context

California unemployment ≈ 5.5–5.6%
--- Highest in the United States ---

FUTURE PARK USE

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR JOHNNY CARSON PARK

WEEKDAY USE WILL INCREASE

- More residents staying local during daytime
- Park becomes a daily "third place"

INCREASED NEED FOR RESTORATIVE OUTDOOR SPACE

- Job instability
- Mental health & stress recovery demand rises

INCREASED NEED FOR INFORMAL MEETING, WORKING, AND EVENT SPACES

- Rise of freelance / creative workforce

GREATER RELIANCE ON FREE PUBLIC RECREATION

- Lower disposable income

PARK NEEDS TO BECOME NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Stronger local identity

SOURCES:

U.S. Census Bureau
Bureau of Labor Statistics / FilmLA production reports
LA Times / Deadline / industry reports on Hollywood layoffs
Brookings / academic research on AI & creative work
Reuters

KEY TRENDS

Major **JOB LOSSES** in the LA entertainment industry

Expected long-term **EMPLOYMENT VOLATILITY** driven by AI & automation

Growth of remote work, freelance, and **GIG ECONOMY**

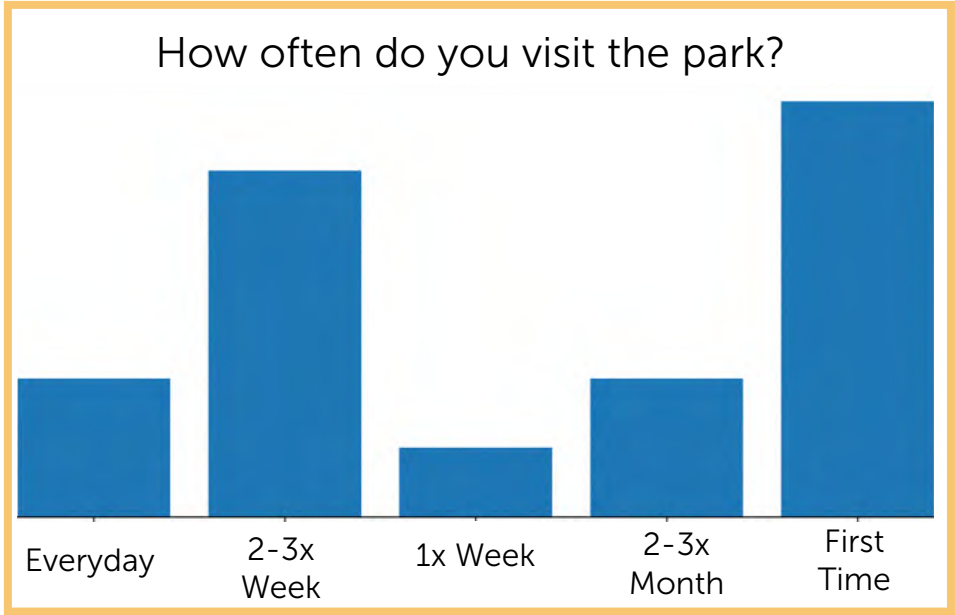
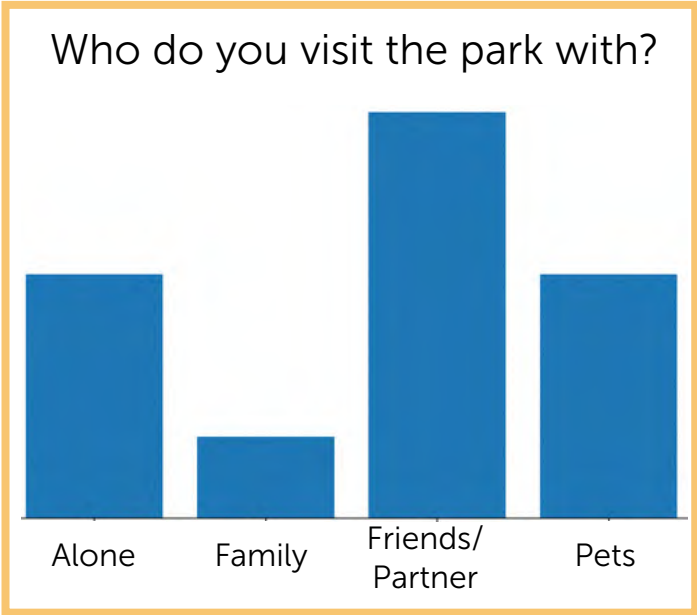
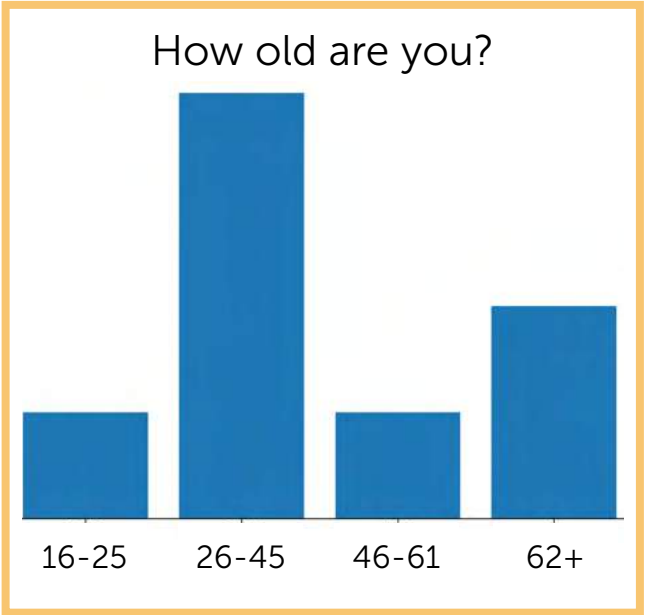
Rising share of **RENTERS, YOUTH, SENIORS, AND NO-VEHICLE HOUSEHOLDS**

DESIGN TAKEAWAY

Johnny Carson Park **MUST EVOLVE**

Recreation Park ---> Daily Life Support Park

FIELD RESEARCH



On Saturday, February 14, 2026 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., we spoke to 15 people in the park. Dog walking and taking kids to the playground appear to be the top two activities in the park. The playground was full on a Saturday afternoon with birthday parties, a few people were picnicking, and others simply enjoying a walk. We allowed multiple answers per question, if it was appropriate.

In this demographic data, children are left out because we did not interview them. However, there were approximately 20 children and 12 adults at the playground, whom I did not speak to.

Once we understood who visits the park and when, we wanted to know why. Why Johnny Carson Park over other city parks, what activities do you do, and what parts of the park do you use? We allowed multiple answers per question, if it was appropriate.

Visitors like the peace, quiet, shade, and safety that Johnny Carson Park offers. While many visitors live in the area, some also traveled from Mid City and West Hollywood because they prefer a park that's less crowded, compared to other parks in Los Angeles. Two women were having a picnic for the first time in the park simply because it was near Chick-fil-a.

When asked about the LA River path, most park visitors didn't even know that it existed.

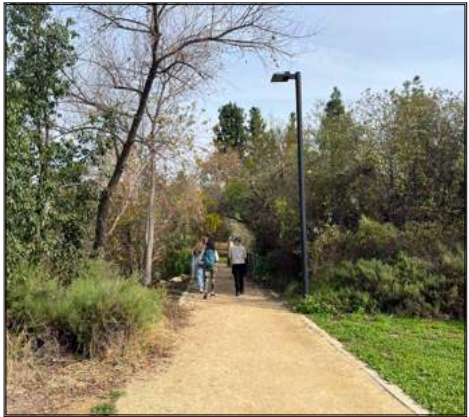
Where do you spend time in the park? What do you like about the park? What brings you to the park?



Open Lawn



Walking Paths



Playground



Socializing



What do you wish was different about the park?



FIELD RESEARCH

Everyone we spoke to loves the park and comes on a frequent basis, even if they have critiques.

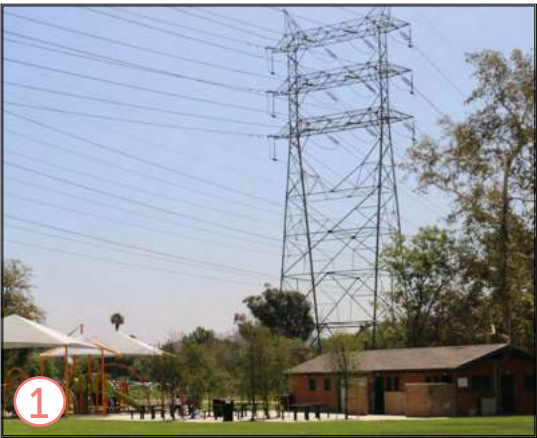
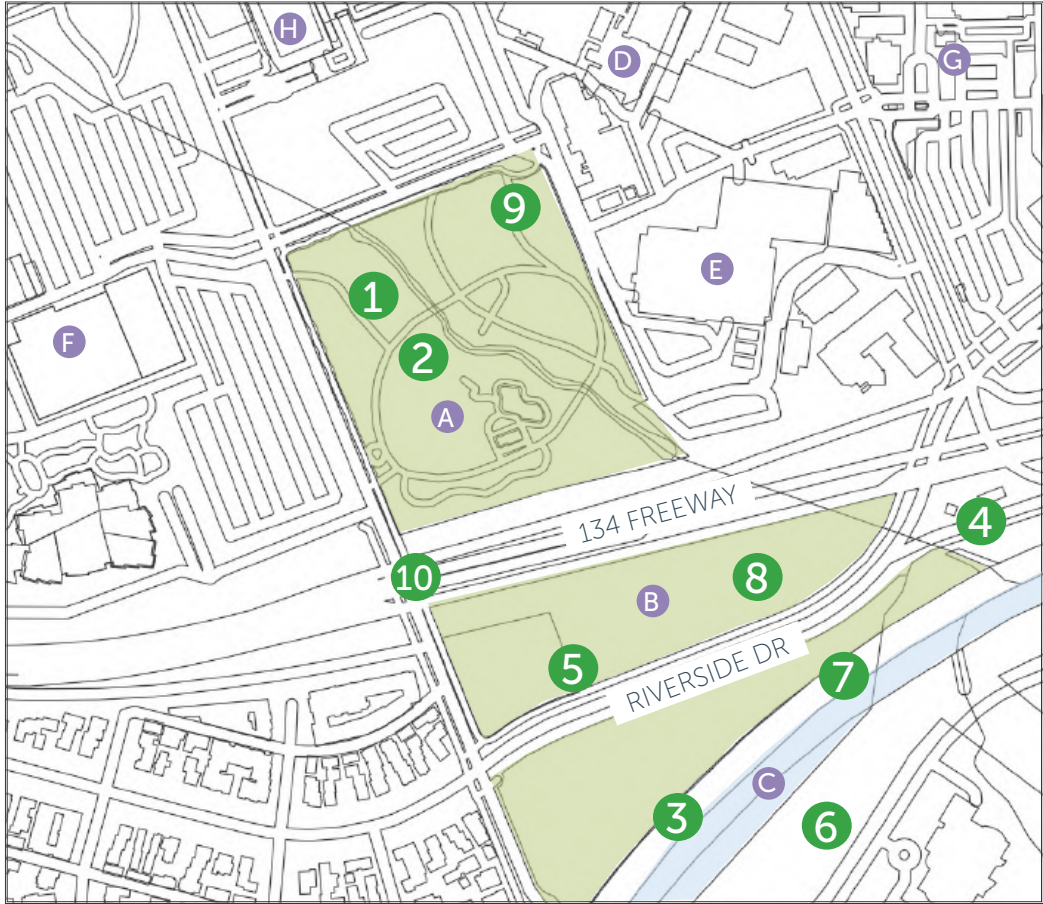
No one was utilizing Buena Vista Park or the immediate adjacent river path, so everyone interviewed was exclusively in Johnny Carson Park. Only two people mentioned spending time in Buena Vista Park.

Where the park is underutilized:



SITE LEGEND

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Johnny Carson Park | E. Providence High School |
| B. Buena Vista Park | F. WB Studios |
| C. LA River | G. Disney Studios |
| D. Providence Hospital | H. Legacy Studios |



OPPORTUNITIES

1. Add a cafe / coffee shop
2. Provide more seating / moveable dining
3. Add riparian habitat along riverbanks
4. Extend and connect bike path
5. Increase tree canopy and cooling
6. Connect to Griffith Park
7. Re-establish connection to the river
8. Improve stomwater filtration / retention
9. Increase restorative/healing green space
10. Redefine park as essential neighborhood social infrastructure

CONSTRAINTS

1. Overhead high-voltage powerlines
2. Concrete, channelized LA River
3. Dual juristidiction in park boundaries
4. Stagnant water in Little Tujunga Wash
5. Increasing Urban Heat Island Effect
6. Limited transit and parking access
7. Noise from traffic / industrial setting
8. Flood risk with extreme weather
9. Riverside Drive cuts through the site
10. Coyote habitat near playground

CONSIDERATIONS

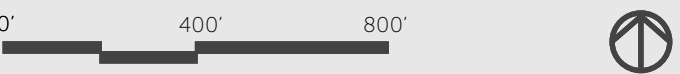
Designing a site for 2040 needs to consider a many factors, but this project will focus on: habitat and river restoration, flood and stormwater management, urban heat island effect, and people. The human users of the park need a cool and refreshing outdoor space that serves as a critical third space. For many Burbank residents, this park is their backyard. For hospital employees and visitors it's a restorative respite on breaks or between appointments. For studio employees it's an ideal place for a lunch break. However, distance from coffee shops or decent takeout food is limited, and therefore, so is its picknicking at lunch. A cafe would welcome more users looking to dine, work, or meet with friends al fresco.

Challenges will be around the river and its channel creation by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The park also straddles both Los Angeles and Burbank jurisdiction. High-voltage power lines must remain on site and above ground, which are not aesthetically pleasing and create noise.

Park users are concerned about standing water in Tujunga Wash that attracts mosquitoes in the summer and coyotes near the playground in the morning.

SITE LEGEND

A. Johnny Carson Park	E. Providence High School
B. Buena Vista Park	F. WB Studios
C. LA River	G. Disney Studios
D. Providence Hospital	H. Legacy Studios



CASE STUDIES



Confluence Park | Denver, Colorado

Confluence Park in Denver, Colorado provided a strong precedent for our design by demonstrating how a city riverfront can support a diverse range of activity zones while fostering ecological restoration and social engagement. The park is organized into distinct areas—the River, Loop, Outdoor Living Room, River Lawn, and Oasis—each tailored to specific experiences, from terraced waterfront access, biofiltration, and a whitewater course, to active play areas, plazas, amphitheaters, and flexible lawns.

We drew key takeaways from Confluence Park to inform our project: the importance of clearly defined yet interconnected zones, providing spaces for both active and meditative experiences, and creating a “third place” that serves as both a community hub and a regional destination. The precedent reinforces how careful organization of activity zones, connectivity, and environmental stewardship can shape a vibrant, multi-functional landscape that supports both people and nature.



Chulalongkorn University Park | Bangkok, Thailand

The design of Chulalongkorn University Centenary Park strongly influenced our proposal for Johnny Carson Park by demonstrating how flood management, ecological restoration, and community programming can operate within a single landscape system. The park’s ability to capture, store, and reuse stormwater—designed to withstand major storm events—while simultaneously reducing heat island effects through extensive canopy and reconnecting with surrounding urban contexts informed our approach to climate resilience.

It also illustrates how restoring lost environmental systems and linking park infrastructure to a nearby river can both improve ecological performance and create meaningful public spaces that enhance quality of life for surrounding communities.



Kamo River | Kyoto, Japan

The Kamo River in Kyoto, Japan is both a precedent and source of inspiration for our redesign of Johnny Carson Park and Buena Vista Park because it serves three key functions: flood mitigation, wildlife corridor and habitat, and connective artery for the city. These three functions are also the focus of our redesign project as we look to restore the LA River’s natural habitat and make the river a destination and connective thread through river-adjacent communities.

For centuries, the Kamo River has been a transit corridor for people moving through the city, a destination for festivals and community gatherings, and essential habitat for flora and fauna in a dense city nestled between mountains. Visitors are drawn down to and along the river itself with very little development to its natural state. The concrete block edges provide a semi-channelized method to control flooding while still providing natural habitat and small islands for birds. These takeaways informed how we approached our redesign to create a more natural and intentional connection to, and along, the LA River for centuries to come.

PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS

Concept Exploration

Our first design question was whether to treat Johnny Carson Park and Buena Vista Park as two separate sites or as a unified landscape divided by the 134 Freeway. Because the assignment allowed removal of the freeway, we explored both possibilities while also testing different programming distributions across the site.

Four initial diagrams were developed, each exploring different relationships between the parks, the freeway, and future community needs:

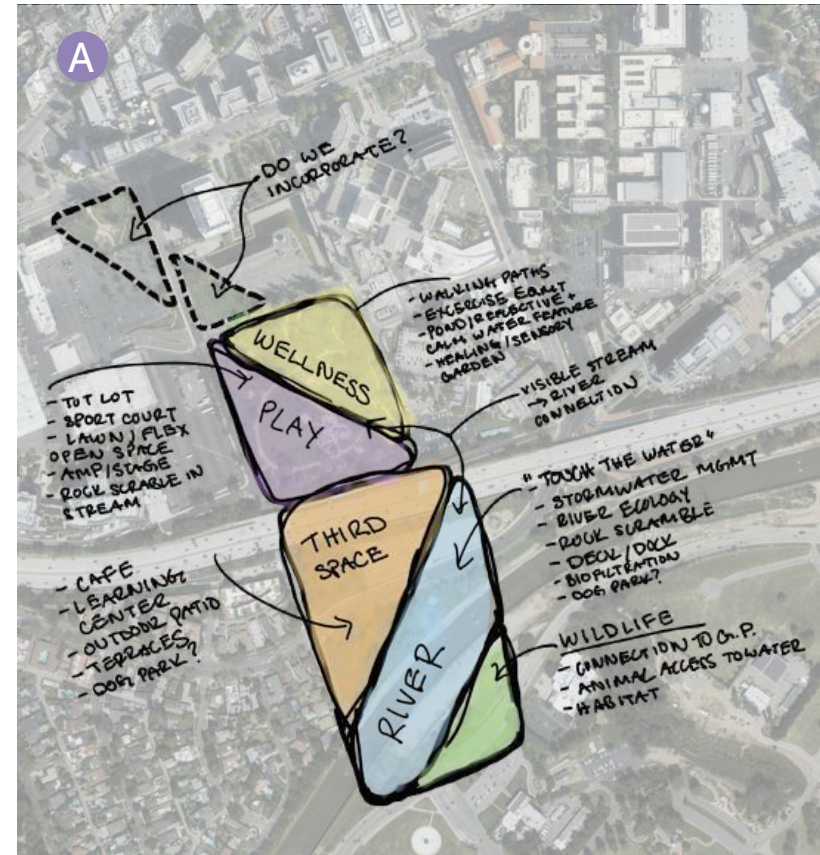
Concept A — Preserve the Freeway / Dual Parks: Maintain the freeway and program each park independently, focusing on localized improvements and river access.

Concept B — Preserve the Freeway / Program Bridge: Maintain the freeway but connect the parks through pedestrian crossings and shared programming.

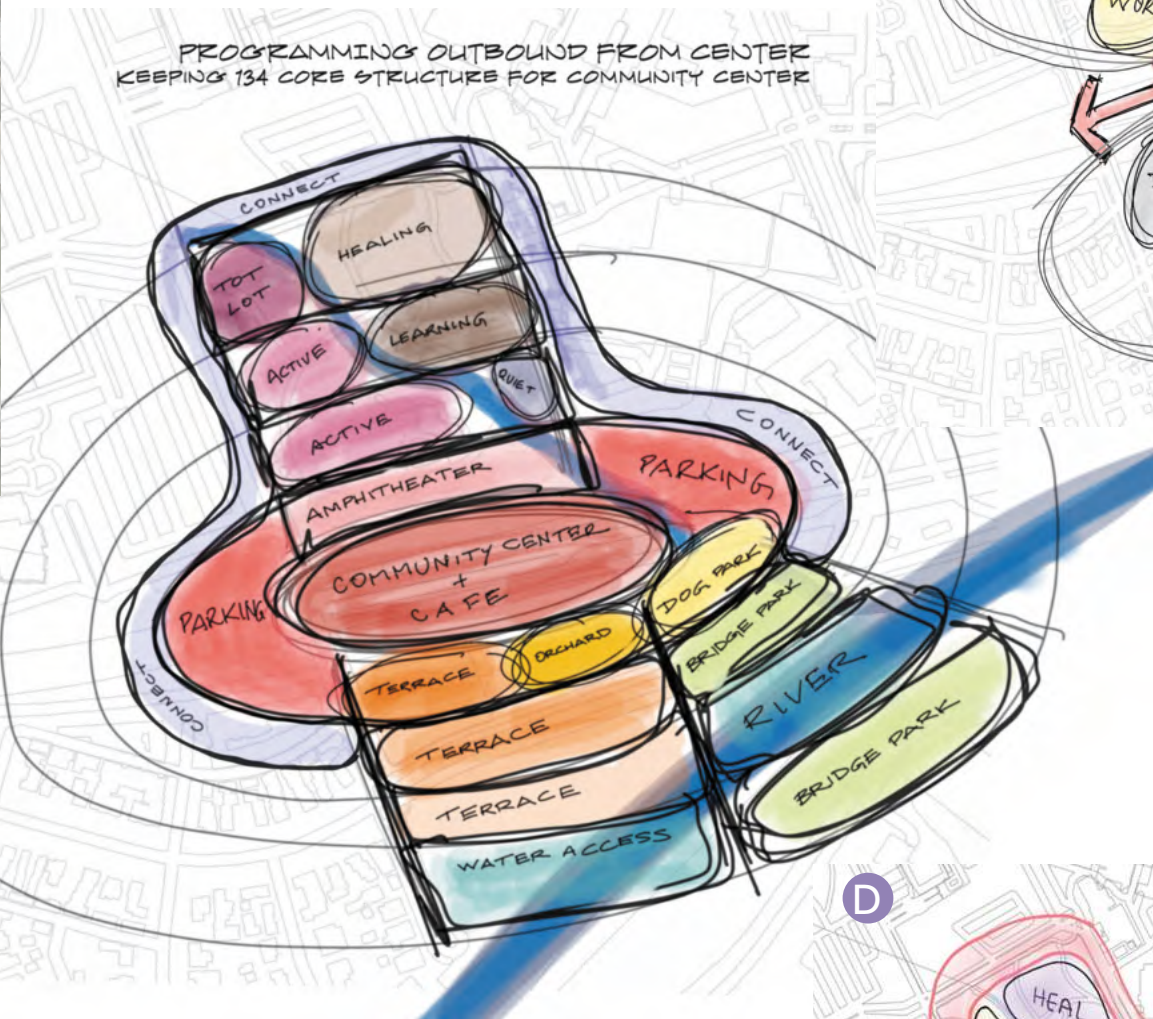
Concept C — Remove the Freeway / Buena Vista Focus: Remove the freeway and concentrate most programming on the Buena Vista side, opening space for ecological restoration and stormwater management.

Concept D — Remove the Freeway / Unified Landscape: Remove the freeway and treat both parks as a continuous landscape connected by ecological infrastructure and community programming.

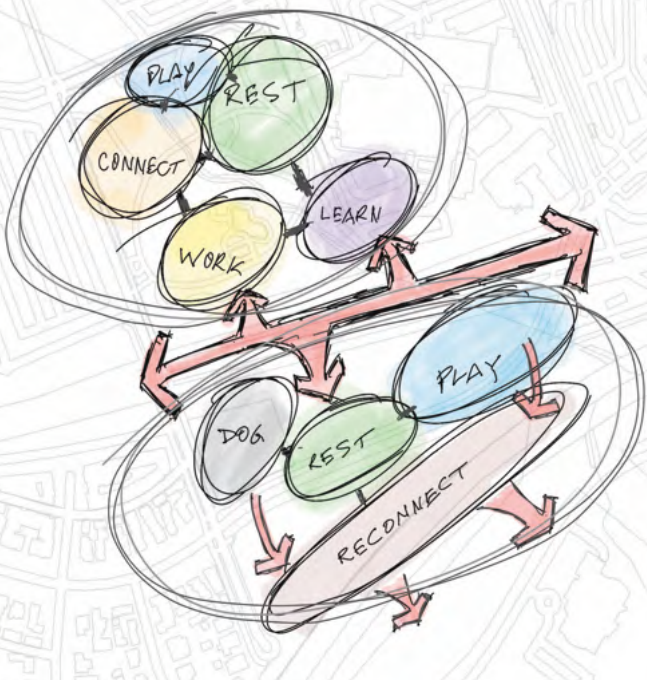
These early diagrams allowed us to test how circulation, public space, and climate strategies could reshape the relationship between the parks and the Los Angeles River.



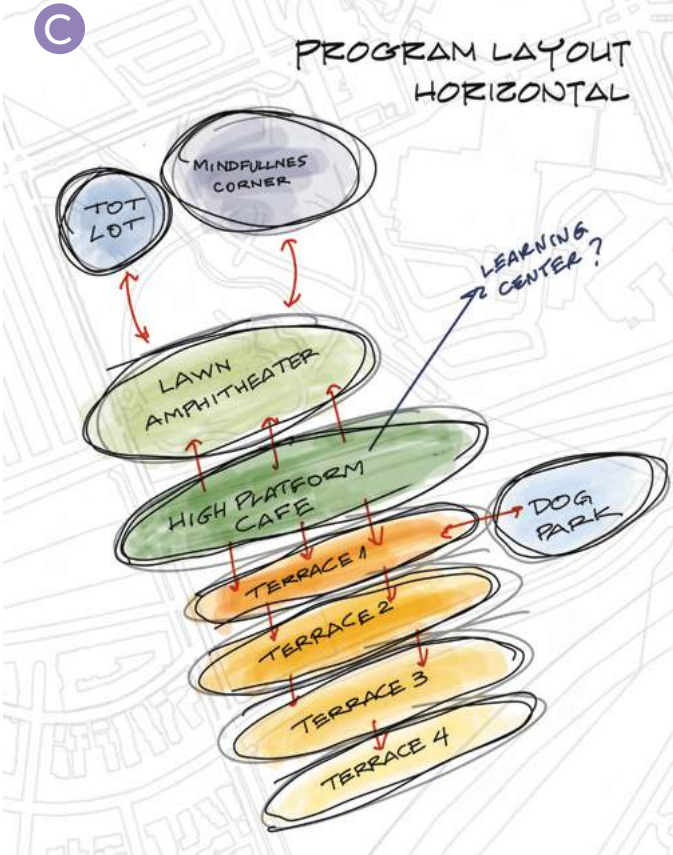
COMBINATION



HAVING OLD FWY USED AS CONNECTOR



PROGRAM LAYOUT HORIZONTAL



CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES

Refining the Design Strategy

After evaluating the four initial diagrams, two concepts emerged as the most promising.

Alternative 1 — Ecological River Park

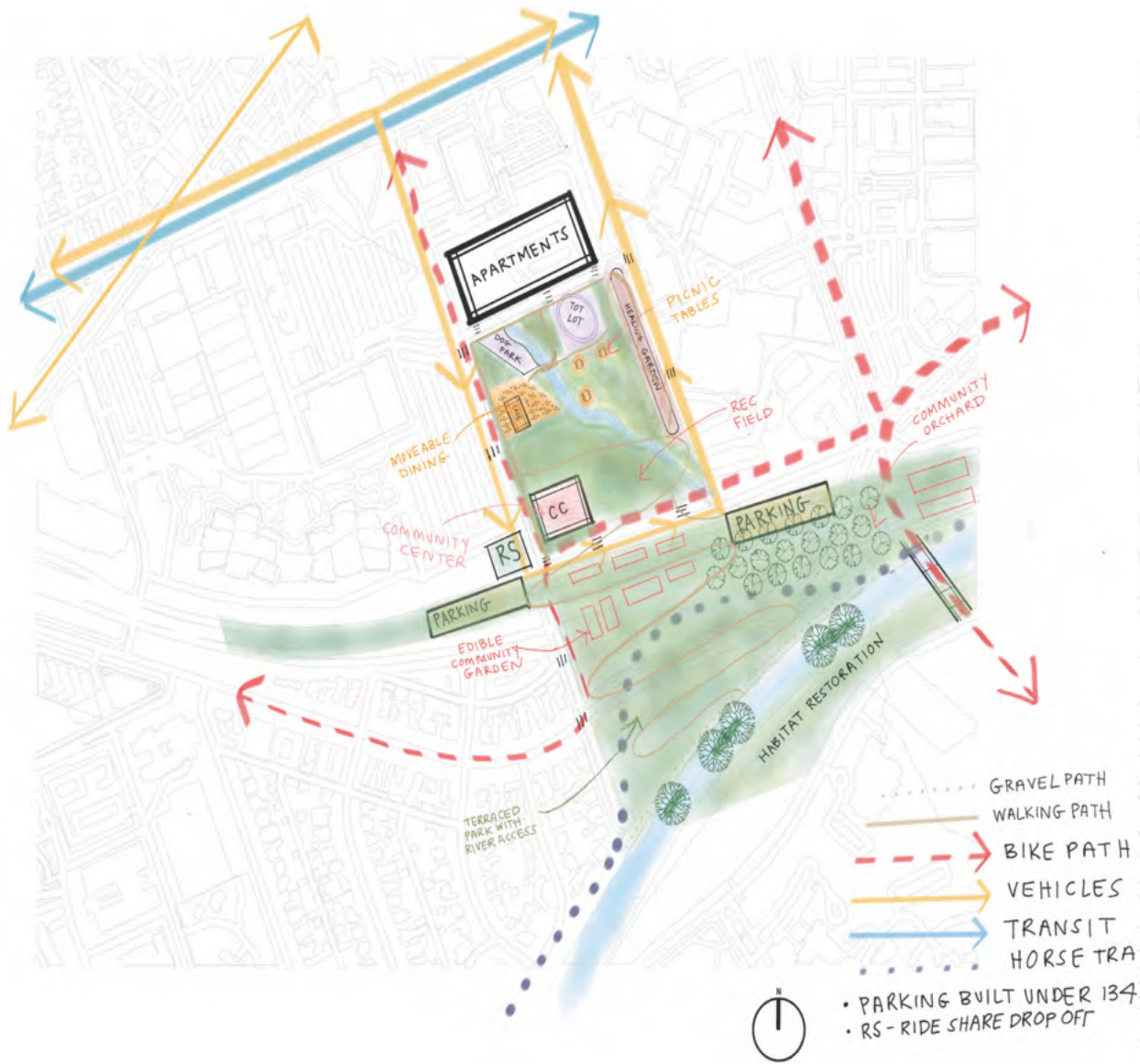
A landscape primarily focused on river restoration, flood management, and open recreation spaces, with smaller community facilities distributed across the site but with strong circulation connection.

Alternative 2 — Community Anchor Park

A park organized around a central community hub, with programming expanding from the middle outward into recreation, ecological infrastructure, and social gathering spaces.

While both concepts addressed climate resilience and river access, the second approach provided a stronger response to the projected social and economic needs of the community.

ALTERNATIVE 1



ALTERNATIVE 2



SITE PLAN



Final Concept: Community Infrastructure Park

The final design builds on the Community Anchor Park concept by introducing a large community center at the heart of the site. The structure is partially constructed using elements of the former freeway infrastructure—such as columns and foundations—transforming obsolete transportation infrastructure into civic space.

From this central hub, park programming expands outward in both directions across Johnny Carson Park and Buena Vista Park.

The community center supports future community needs by providing:

- Workforce **training** and education spaces
- Alternative workspaces for **remote workers**
- Community **gathering** areas and event spaces
- Youth, senior, and cultural programming

The surrounding landscape integrates climate resilience and flexible recreation, including:

Extensive tree canopy and **green roofs** to reduce heat island effects

Bioretention basins and terraced landscapes to **capture and reuse stormwater**

Multi-use recreational spaces, such as sports courts that convert into farmers markets

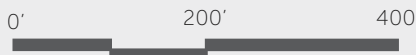
An amphitheater integrated with a lawn **retention basin** for events and stormwater reutilization

Together, these strategies transform the park into a **resilient social and ecological infrastructure** for Burbank’s future community.

LEGEND



Access Point



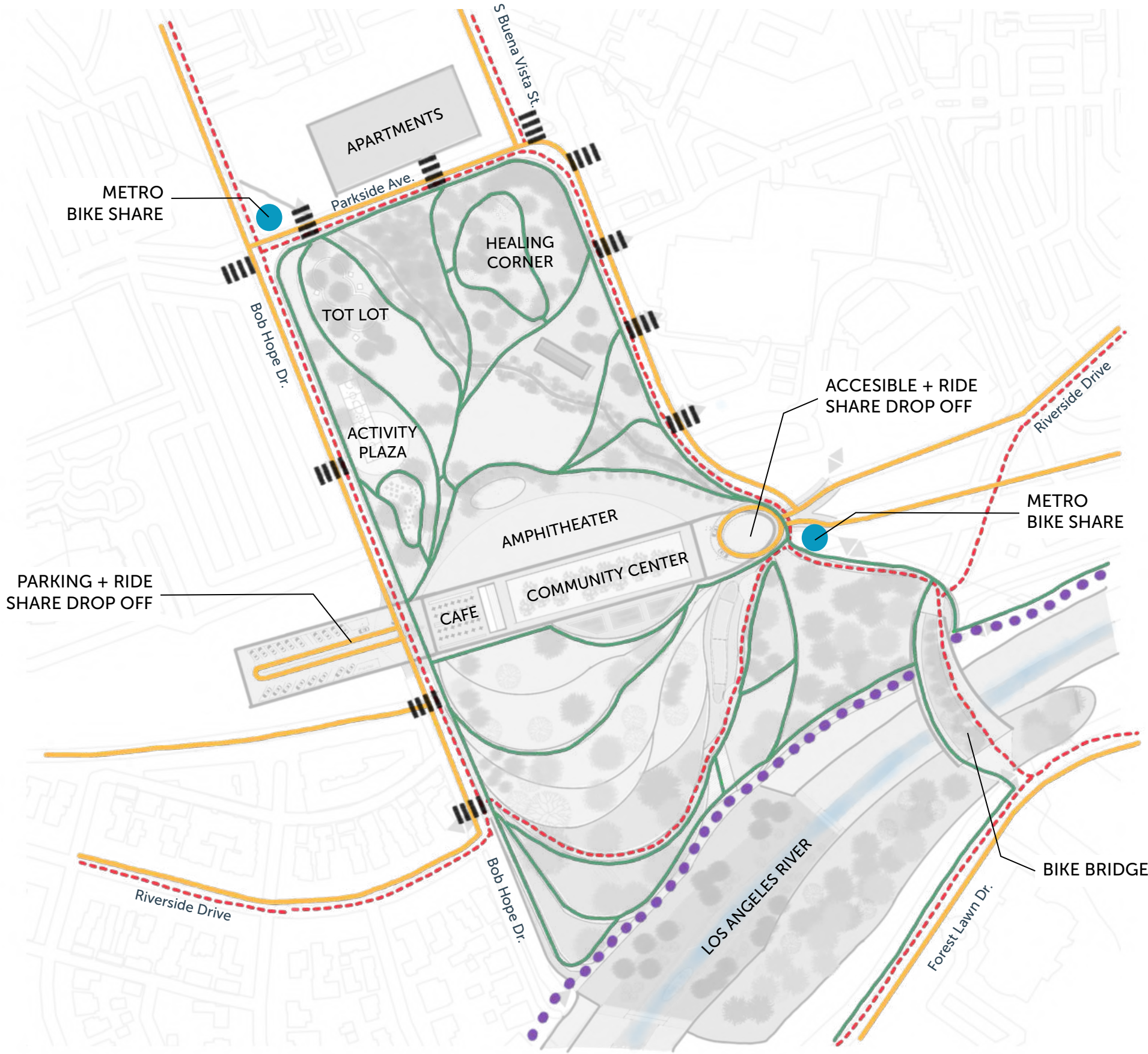
PROPOSED CIRCULATION

The redesign of Johnny Carson Park has three major updates to circulation and transit flows:

- 1. Riverside Drive has been closed off to create a more cohesive park along the river
- 2. Bike lanes have been extended from the south side of the river up to Alameda Avenue + two new Metro bike share stations added
- 3. Parking lot with rideshare drop-off areas has been added under the former 134 Freeway, dedicated to the park and Community Center

These changes accommodate demographic changes that we expect to see in Burbank in 2040: more rideshare users, more bikers, and more renters seeking “third” spaces (both outdoors and for working). There is also a proposed apartment building on the north side of the park, so more pedestrian crosswalks have been added.

This redesign maintains the original horse/ pedestrian trail that runs parallel to the river, continuing access to Griffith Park for the equestrian community.



LEGEND

- Bike Path
- Horse/Pedestrian Trail
- Vehicular Circulation
- Pedestrian Path
- Crosswalk

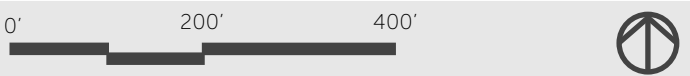
0' 200' 400'



FOCUS AREAS

In order for the design to address our main site analysis points, as we design for the 2040 Burbank community, we divided the park into three main zones that address our biggest focuses:

- > **Healing and Relaxation**
Support health, well-being, and recreation
- > **Community Gathering and Learning**
Foster community connection, learning, and engagement
- > **River Connection and Restoration**
Restore and strengthen ecological systems





COMMUNITY GATHERING

- > **Shaded picnic area** with picnic tables and moveable dining tables and chairs
- > **Amphitheater** and turf hill for open play
- > **Benches** for increased passive recreation
- > **Community Center**: sports programming, senior art and exercise classes, gardening events and volunteering, coworking space, meeting rooms
- > **Rooftop succulent garden** to sequester carbon onsite and reduce UV degradation of the Community Center building
- > **Rooftop cafe** with amphitheater and Griffith Park views to bring revenue to the park from park goers, nearby residents, and adjacent studio and hospital employees/visitors

LEGEND

- A** Bike Lane
- B** Picnic Area
- C** Covered Stage
- D** Rooftop Cafe
- E** Rooftop Succulent Garden
- F** Community Center

KEY MAP



0' 20' 40'



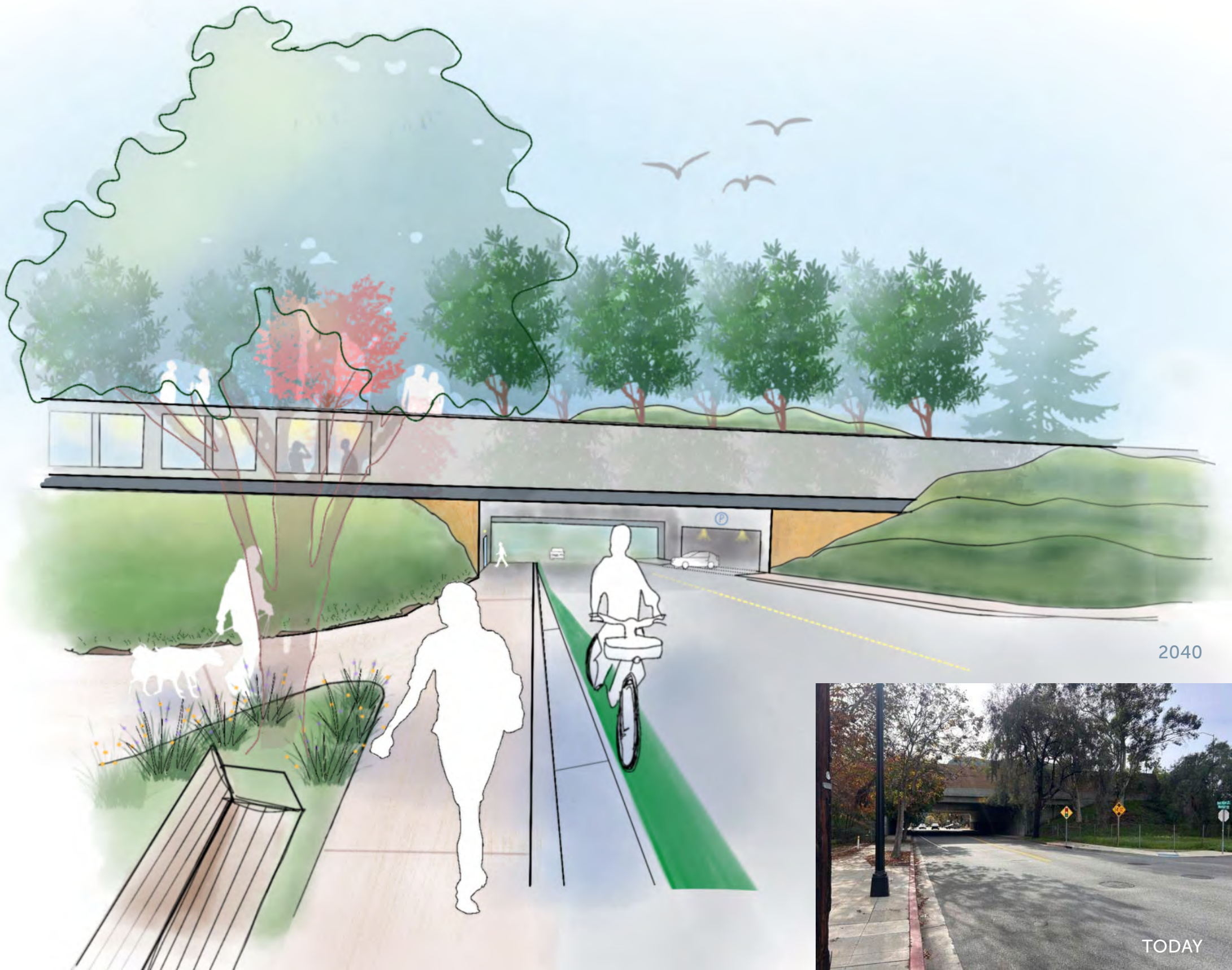
COMMUNITY CENTER

Located along Bob Hope Drive and the old 134 Freeway, the Community Gathering area is a destination point that welcomes visitors to the Community Center in the Bob Hope Drive tunnel, and into Johnny Carson Park via the walking path.

The former 134 Freeway has been repurposed into a community center with a green roof that's built into the site's existing slope and freeway structure. Beneath the former 134 Freeway, west of Bob Hope Drive, is a covered parking lot dedicated to the park. While households will have fewer cars in 2040, there will still be a need for dedicated parking for the existing programming (cultural festivals and summer car show) plus the new cafe and Community Center with additional programming (summer concerts, farmers markets, sports courts, etc.).

The bike lane is now expanded beyond Riverside Drive to wrap around the entire park and up to Alameda Avenue. It also connects to the bike lane on the south side of the river along Forest Lawn Drive via a bike/pedestrian bridge.

KEY MAP



NTS

MORE COMMUNITY

The elongated structure of the community center, approximately two to three stories tall, would also provide space for classrooms, gathering areas, and event venues. Programs include professional training for displaced workers, workspaces for independent professionals, production rooms for content creators, activities for seniors, and spaces for youth and children, as well as a library and screening room.

To the South, the center is framed by an edible garden producing food for the neighborhood and a large open area with vague programming. The surrounding terraces emphasize relaxation while providing gradual access to the river, in addition to reducing urban heat island effect and capturing stormwater through integrated landscape systems.



2040



RIVER CONNECTION

The design establishes a new relationship with the river by providing safe and direct community access while transforming the river margins into bioretention basins that capture and infiltrate stormwater back into the local groundwater system.

A pedestrian and equestrian pathway runs along the water's edge, with multidirectional seating that supports flexible use of the space—allowing visitors to gather, rest, and experience the river from multiple viewpoints.

During major storm events, this area is designed to temporarily flood. Concrete elements are resilient to periodic inundation, and the riparian planting palette is adapted to benefit from these conditions. Alternative pedestrian routes located on higher ground maintain circulation when the lower terrace is flooded.

LEGEND

- (A) LA River
- (B) Pedestrian/Equestrian Path
- (C) Terraced Steps
- (D) Bob Hope Dr.

KEY MAP



0' 20' 40'



RIVER BASIN TERRACES

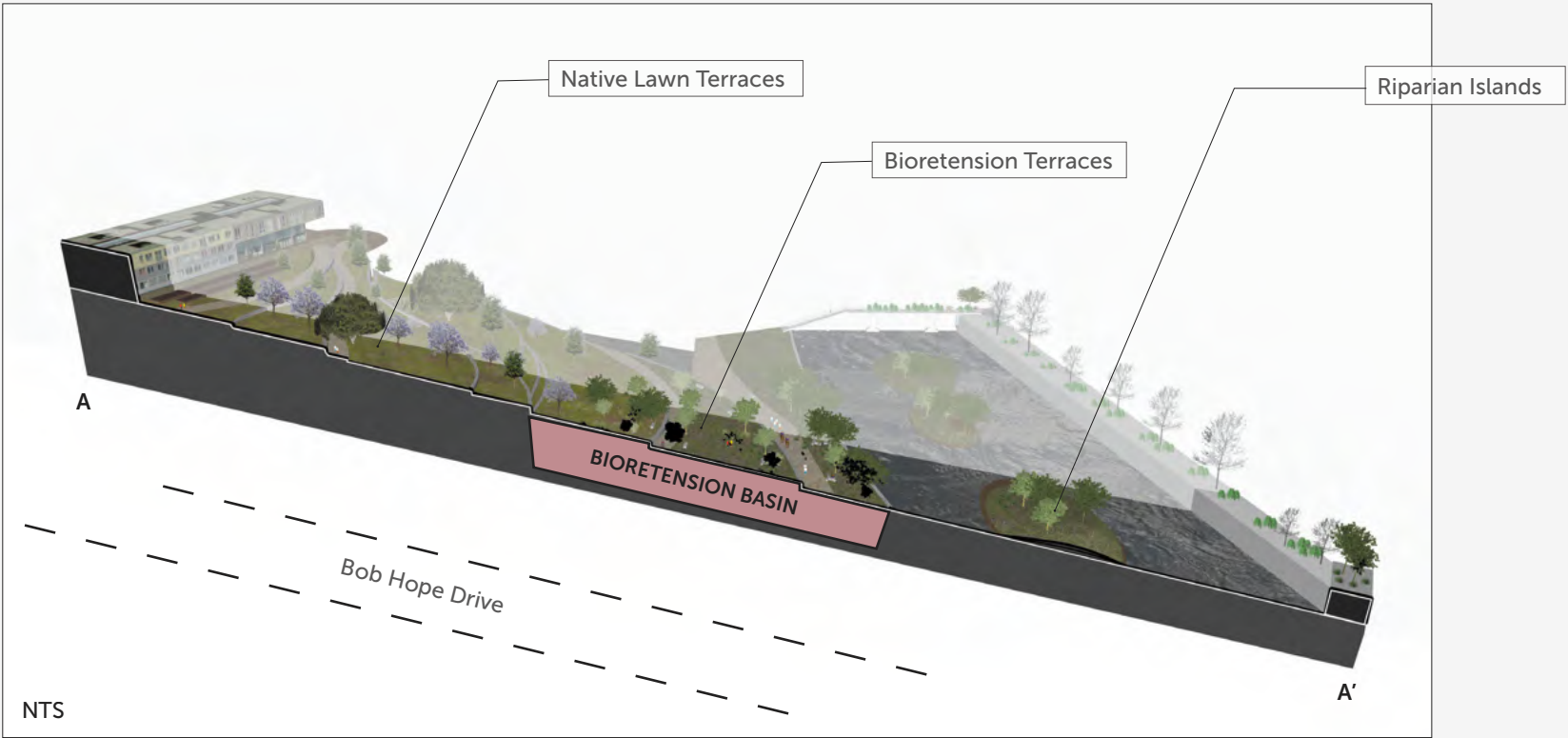
The project proposes removing a segment of the 134 Freeway and portions of the concrete river channel, reusing salvaged materials to construct a community center and a gentle (~4%) slope connecting the park to the river basin. The resulting landscape is terraced to support diverse community uses while providing direct river access.

A network of pathways crosses the park, each designed with different circulation priorities for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians.

Much of the lower landscape functions as a bioretention system connected to the river, designed to capture, slow, and infiltrate stormwater during major rain events. Terraces are organized into two primary landscape types: Native Lawn areas for recreation and Bioretention zones that manage most stormwater runoff.

Riparian plantings and habitat islands are introduced along the river edge to help restore native biodiversity and strengthen ecological connections along the corridor.

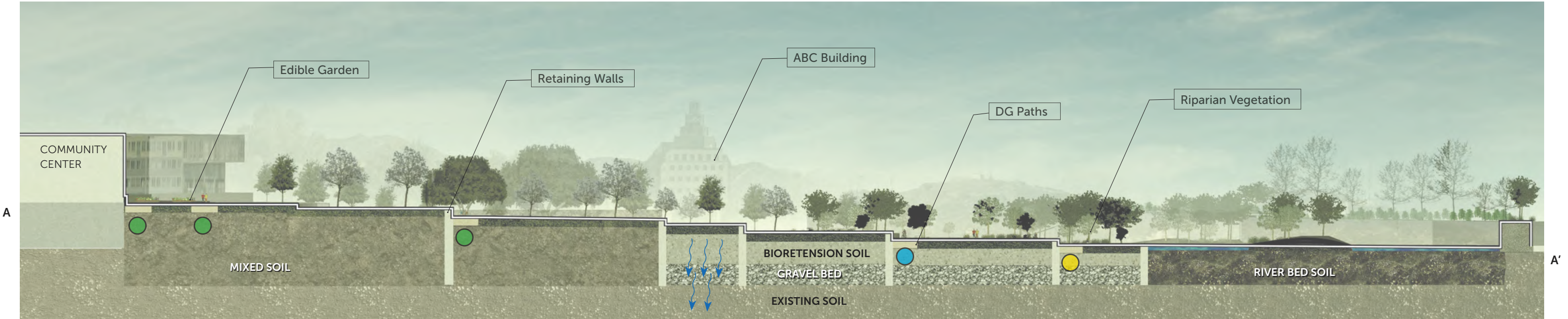
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DETAIL



KEY MAP



SECTION



Stormwater Pedestrian Path Bicycle Path Pedestrian/Equestrian Path

0' 60' 120'





HEALING CORNER

Located adjacent to the hospital, the Healing Corner provides a calm, restorative refuge for staff, patients, and the broader community. The garden offers easy access for employees nearby to take a quiet lunch break, for patients or loved ones to pause & reflect, and for community members to enjoy a grounding short walk under the trees.

A reflection pond with a waterfall masks surrounding noise and serves as the central visual focus. A single meditation loop allows visitors to walk repeatedly without making decisions, fostering mindfulness and contemplation. A bermed lawn provides sound buffering, elevated views, and areas to sit, lie down, or quietly observe the garden and view of Griffith Park.

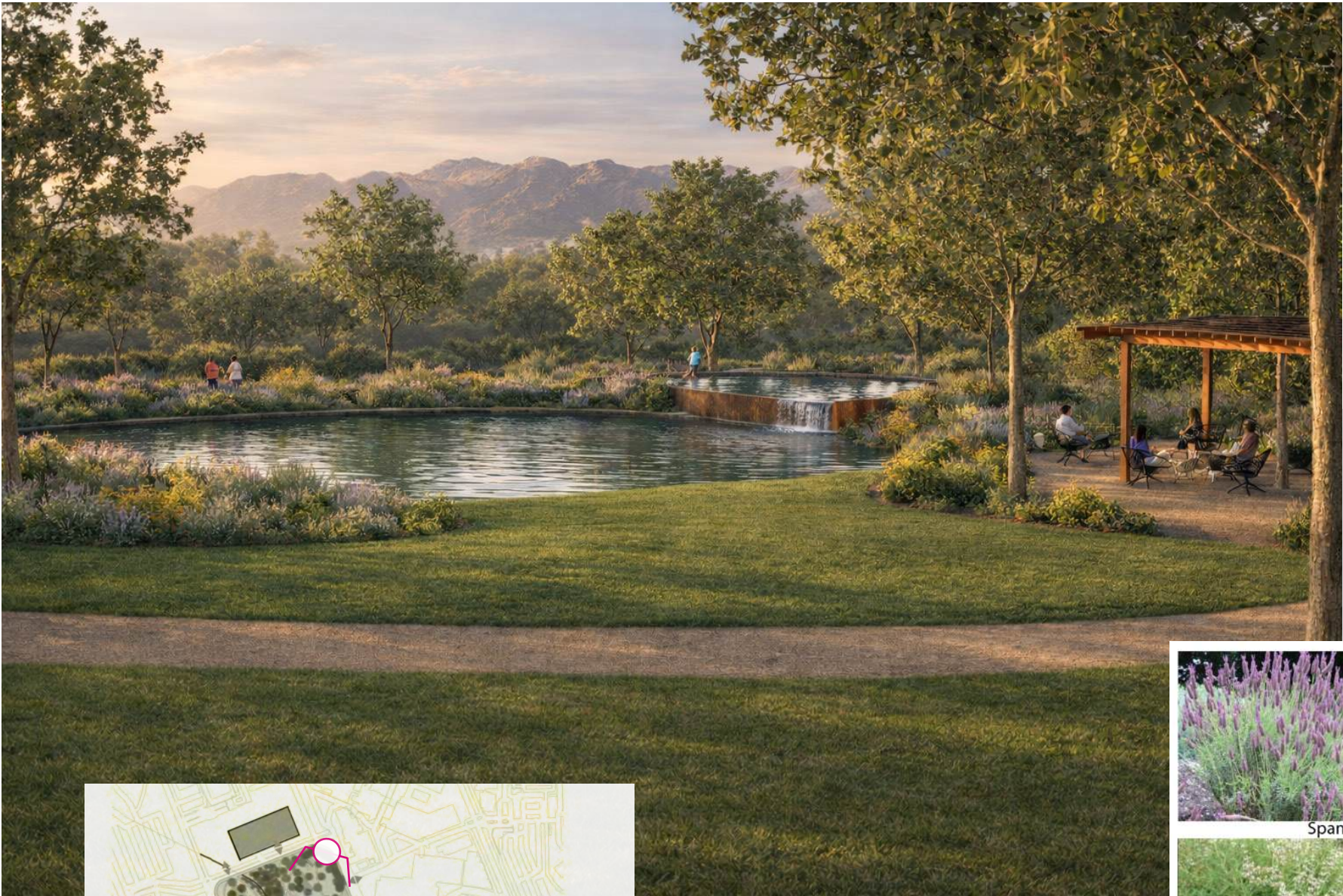
Healing and sensory plants engage sight, smell, and touch, while soft music plays throughout the space enhancing the sense of calm. Reflection areas encourage quiet personal activities like reading, sketching, or simply watching the water.

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------|-------------------|
| A | Reflection Areas | D | Bermed Lawn |
| B | Reflection Pond | E | Waterfall |
| C | Meditation Loop | F | Sensory Plantings |

KEY MAP



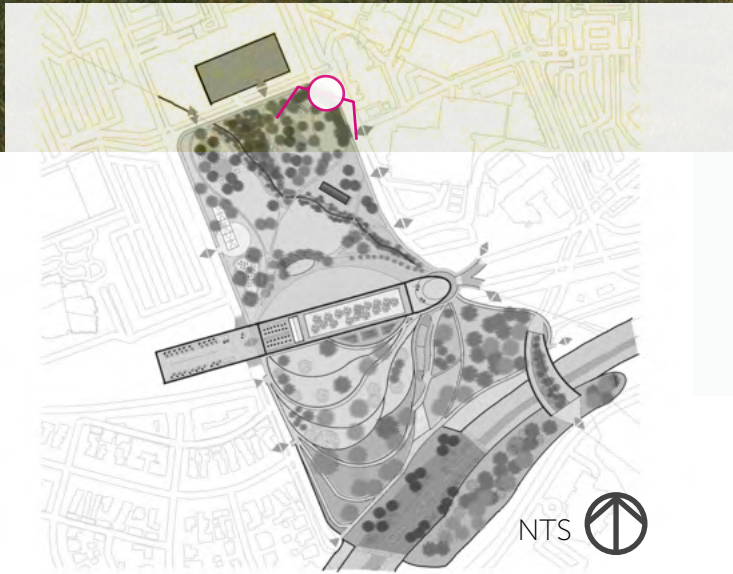


HEALING CORNER - SANCTUARY FOR THE SENSES

A space designed to calm the senses, soothe the soul, and support reflection. Every element from soft textures and calming colors to carefully chosen plantings, is intended to ease anxiety and uplift the spirit. Cool, tranquil hues are accented with touches of yellow to convey hope and warmth, while aromatic plants, including lavender and rosemary, invite visitors to engage in a sensory ritual of rubbing leaves between their hands, cupping their hands over their faces, and breathing deeply.

Many of the plants also carry herbal and medicinal properties, reinforcing the garden’s role as a place of restoration and care, and acknowledging its proximity to the hospital. Visitors experience quiet reflection along the meditation loop, seating areas, and bermed lawn, while the reflection pond and waterfall provide a soothing focal point that masks surrounding noise.

While the healing garden itself is focused on calm and contemplation, its adjacent outdoor classroom uses the same sensory and medicinal plantings to support learning activities, art projects, and environmental education. Gentle wildlife movements, rustling leaves, and flowing water compose a living symphony of serenity, creating a garden that nurtures both the mind and the body. The planting palette prioritizes drought-tolerant, climate-appropriate species, including a mix of California natives and Mediterranean plants suited to the region.



Spanish Lavender



Dark Star Ceanothus



Davis Gold Toyon



Toyon



Honey Sage



Catalina Cherry



Sand Dune Sedge



Blue Flame Giant Purple Sage



Kurapia



Golden Fleece



Rosemary



White Sage



California Buckeye



Cleveland Blue Sage



Silver Carpet



Silver Bush Lupine

PROGRAMMING

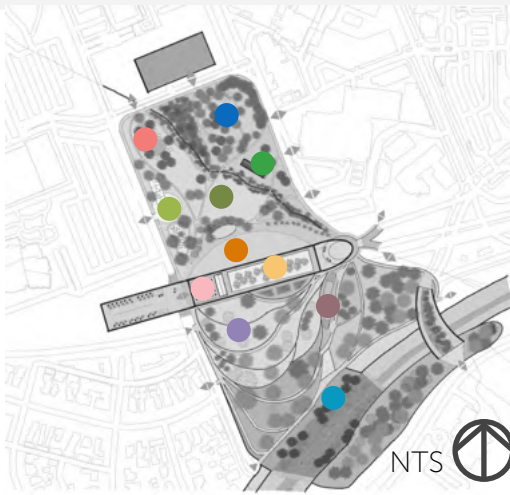


JUNE 2040						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				10:00 AM TAI CHI ● 1 7:00 PM OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT ●	8:00 AM BURBANK FARMERS MARKET ● 2 9:00 AM YOGA ● 1:00 PM KIDS NATURE ART WORKSHOP ●	10:00 AM DRUM CIRCLE ● 3 1:00 PM GUIDED RIVER ECOLOGY WALK ● 6:30 PM SUNSET MEDITATION & SOUND BATH ●
10:00 AM SENIOR WALKING GROUP & BIRDWATCHING ● 4 6:00 PM CAPTURE THE FLAG ●	9:30: DANCE & MUSIC PLAY ● 5 6:00 PM FIREWISE COMMUNITY MEETING ●	6:00 PM TRIVIA NIGHT ● 6 6:00 PM CONTENT CREATION WORKSHOP ●	5:00 PM GIRL SCOUT OUTDOOR SKILLS WORKSHOP ● 7 5:30 PM PHOTOGRAPHY WALK ●	7:00 PM DIGITAL DETOX ● 8 7:00 PM CONCERT IN THE PARK ●	9:00 AM LOCAL MAKERS POP UP ● 9 2:00 PM KIDS ADVENTURE PLAY DAY ● 3:00 PM COYOTE AWARENESS & COEXISTENCE TALK ●	11:00 AM CLASSIC CAR SHOW ● 10 11:00 AM FOOD TRUCK GATHERING ● 2:00 PM TREE CARE & PRUNING DEMO ●
6:00 PM STORY TELLING NIGHT ● 11 6:00 PM CANINE BODY LANGUAGE 101 ●	9:30 AM TODDLER YOGA & FAMILY STRETCH ● 12 6:00 PM INDUSTRY NETWORKING NIGHT ●	5:30 PM COMPOSTING 101 ● 13 7:00 PM PICKUP BASKETBALL ●	6:00 PM LOCAL ARTIST SPOTLIGHT ● 14 6:30 PM HOW TO TALK TO AI (PROMPTING 101) WORKSHOP ●	10:AM TEA TIME ● 7:00 PM YOUTH THEATER PERFORMANCE ●	11:00 PM ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL ● 16 1:00 PM HARVEST & TASTE IN THE ORCHARD ● 3:00 PM CORRIDOR ECOLOGY WALKING TOUR ●	9:00 AM DOG AGILITY WORKSHOP ● 17 10:00 AM NATURE JOURNALING & BOTANIC SKETCHING ●
11:00 AM SENSORY WALK ● 18 11:00 AM CHILDRENS' PUPPET SHOW ●	5:00 PM BREATHWORK BY THE RIVER ● 19 6:00 PM LA RIVER: PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE LECTURE ●	6:00 PM CONVERSATION WITH BURBANK FORMER MAYOR, EMILY GABEL-LUDDY ● 20	1:00 PM CO-WORKING MEETUP ● 21 6:00 PM FLAG FOOTBALL ●	10:00 AM KIDS SCIENCE LAB ● 22 7:00 PM SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK ●	9:00 AM PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT ● 23 12:00 PM PRESENTATION: THE INDIGENOUS LANDSCAPE ●	10:00 AM NATIVE PLANT & POLINATOR WALK ● 24 11:00 AM ALL AGES BIKE RIDE MEETUP ● 6:30 PM SUNSET YOGA ●
2:00 PM HOSPITAL SUPPORT GROUP ● 25 6:00 PM POTTERY CLASS ●	5:30 PM LAWN GAMES SOCIAL ● 26 6:00 PM DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING ●	1:00 PM BINGO ● 27 6:00 PM FIRST AID TRAINING ●	1:00 PM CHILDRENS' STORYTIME ● 28 6:00 PM FINANCIAL LITERACY/ BUDGETING WORKSHOP ●	5:30 PM DRAWING MEDITATION ● 29 8:00 PM LIGHT SHOW ●	9:00 AM FITNESS BOOTCAMP ● 30 9:00 AM COFFEE FEST ● 2:00 PM MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS MIXER ●	

LEGEND

- Amphitheater
 - Cafe
 - Community Center
 - Dog Park
 - Great Lawn
 - Healing Corner
- Terraces
 - Outdoor Classroom
 - River
 - Activity Plaza
 - Tot Lot

KEY MAP



2040 VISION REALIZED

 **EXPAND TREE CANOPY**
Extensive tree planting increases shade, reduces urban heat, and creates cooler, more comfortable outdoor environments for a warmer climate

 **INCREASE TIME IN PARK**
Diverse seating areas throughout the park provide comfortable places to rest, socialize, or work while supporting accessibility for visitors of all ages

 **ADD NETWORKING SPACES**
A cafe creates a welcoming third space for gathering, remote work, and daily social interaction helping the park become an asset for future job opportunities

 **BROADEN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**
Bioretention terraces and drainage systems capture and filter stormwater, reducing flooding and improving site resilience and water reutilization productively mitigating future larger storm events

 **RECREATE RIPARIAN HABITAT**
Native planting, riverbed naturalization and habitat islands restore riparian ecology, improving biodiversity and environmental resilience

 **REIMAGINE RESTORATIVE SPACE**
A dedicated healing garden provides restorative landscapes and wellness programming that support mental health and relaxation in a increasingly stressful future

 **FOSTER CIRCULATION ALTERNATIVES**
An expanded and separated bike path network strengthens regional connectivity in a world with less private car use

 **FUNCTION AS NEIGHBORHOOD HUB**
An extensive community center anchors the park as a social and civic hub for learning, gathering and community programming to address 2040's expected changes in demographics

 **IMPROVE REGIONAL CONNECTION**
A vegetated bridge improves safe multi-modal access between the park and Griffith Park, strengthening regional park connectivity and access

 **ALLOW FOR RIVER ENGAGEMENT**
Physical access and educational programming reconnect the community with the LA River and promote environmental stewardship

