

SEPULVEDA BASIN

VISION PLAN

The ambitions are clear. Rethink the Basin with natural systems thinking and traditional ecological knowledge. Naturalize the River and tributaries to improve ecosystem function, biodiversity and floodplain connectivity. Capture, infiltrate and store precious stormwater. Connect the Basin to the surrounding communities. Create clear internal non-vehicular circulation. Enhance recreational and cultural programming. Reimagine the 2,000 acres as a rich, nature-based 'central park' for the San Fernando Valley.

We acknowledge that the Sepulveda Basin and surrounding neighborhoods are the traditional lands of the Fernandeano Tataviam, Gabrieleño Tongva/Kizh, and Ventureño Chumash. We recognize that Indigenous Peoples have stewarded this land for thousands of years, many of whom still call it home today. We recognize our responsibility to include these Tribal Nations in what we do for Sepulveda Basin.

Image Source: Palmer, Dave. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area, Los Angeles District USACE, flickr.com/losangelesdistrict, 2013. Accessed 08 December 2022. CC BY-ND 2.0.

SEPULVEDA BASIN VISION PLAN

CONTRACT AND PROJECT OVERSIGHT

Contract and Council Motion:

- Council Motion (CF 20-1205) was adopted on **November 10, 2020**.
- TOS No. 054 was initiated on **January 20, 2022**.
- In-person interview of all four firms who submitted proposal responses were conducted between **April 25-28, 2022**.
- The Board Report (BPW-2022-0757) to award the TOS No. 054 to Geosyntec was adopted on **November 18, 2022** with notice to proceed issued on **November 21, 2022**.

Selection Panel:

- City of LA Bureau of Engineering
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
- City of LA Department of Recreation and Parks

Observers:

- LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN)
- Council District 6



Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve
Source: OLIN, 2023

SEPULVEDA BASIN VISION PLAN

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

○

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

●

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETINGS

#

WORKSHOPS FOR STAKEHOLDER ORGANIZATIONS

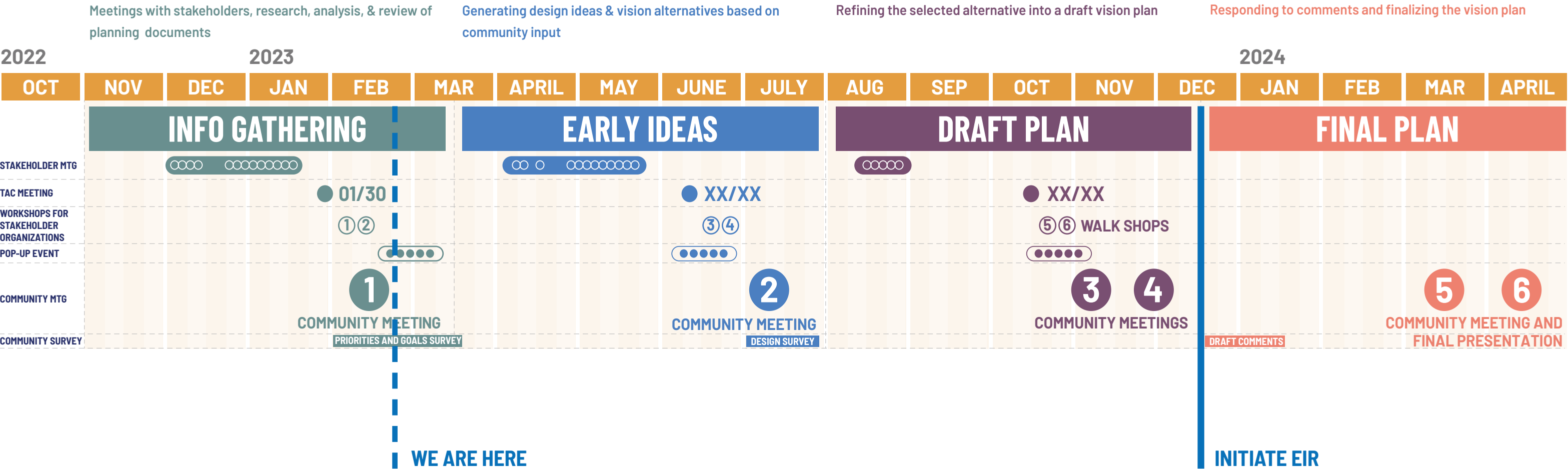
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POP-UP EVENTS

#

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

01.27.2023
10:00 AM

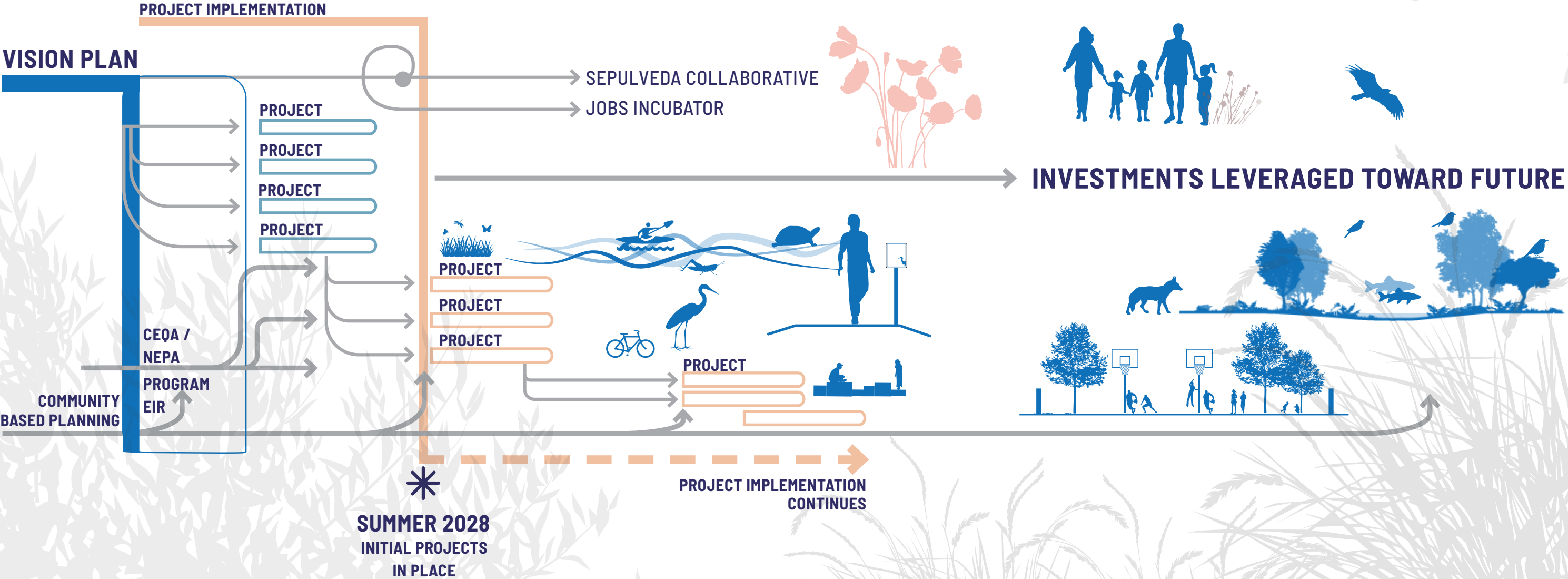


VISION TIMELINE

2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028

2038

2050



SBVP ENGAGEMENT LAUNCH

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2023

WEBSITE: LAUNCHED
JANUARY 13TH

PRESS RELEASE: JANUARY
18TH

ENGAGEMENT SURVEY:
ONGOING

**[HTTPS://ENG.LACITY.
ORG/SEPULVEDA-BASIN-
VISION-PLAN](https://eng.lacity.org/sepulveda-basin-vision-plan)**



WORKSHOPS FOR STAKEHOLDER ORGANIZATIONS

FEBRUARY 1 AND 2

SEPULVEDA
BASIN
VISION PLAN



DESIGN
WORKSHOPS 1 + 2

*FEBRUARY 1 AND 2
2023*



COMMUNITY MEETING

FEBRUARY 8

SEPULVEDA
BASIN
VISION PLAN



COMMUNITY MEETING 1

FEBRUARY 8
2023

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Location: Encino Community Center
4935 Balboa Blvd, Encino, CA 91316



This was the first of a series of community meetings, workshops, and events in 2023 to gather ideas and feedback from the communities surrounding the Sepulveda Basin and greater Valley-wide region.



TODAY'S TOPICS

SITE + CONTEXT

OBJECTIVES

**DATA
ANALYSIS**

NEXT STEPS

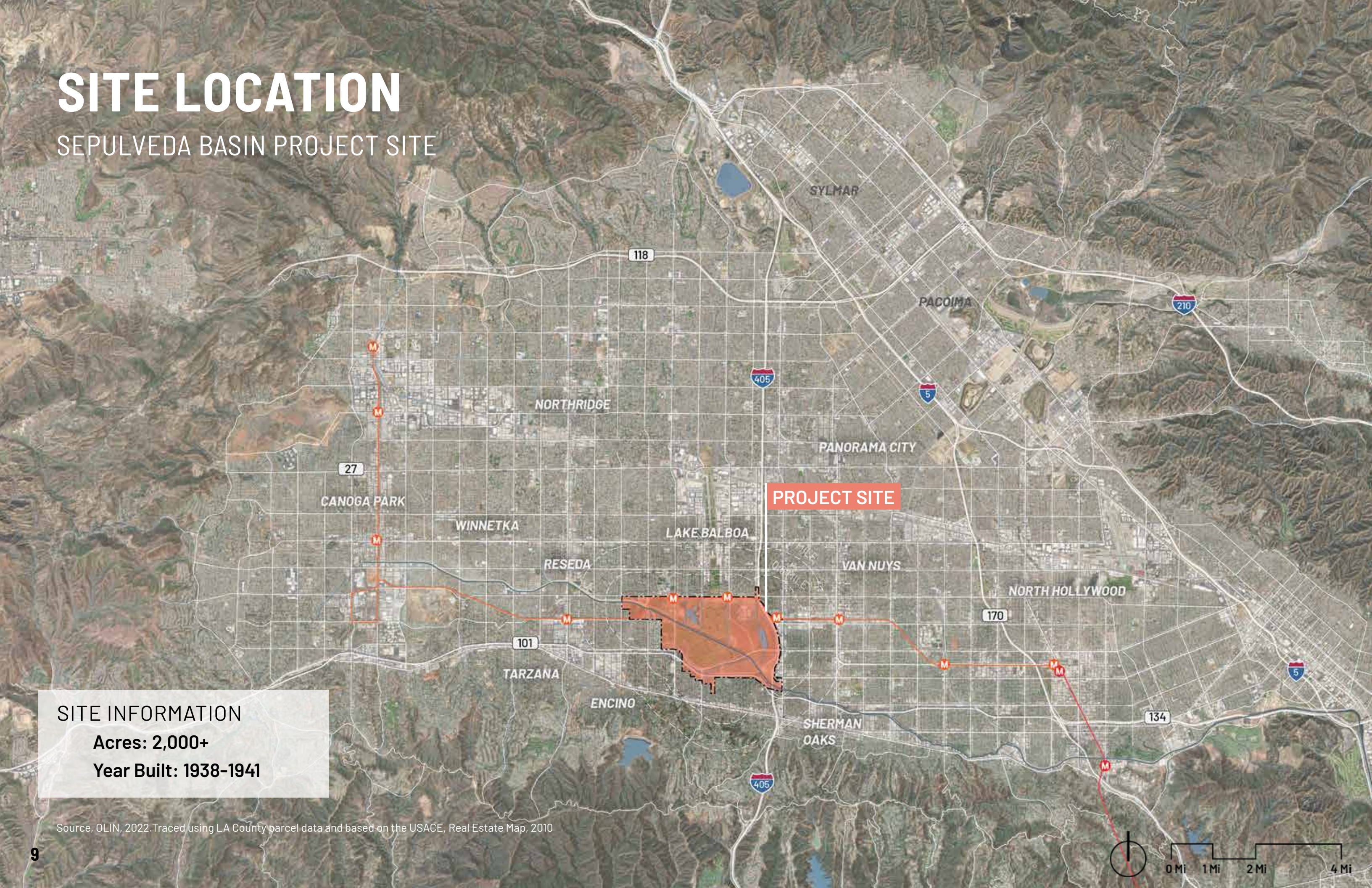
DISCUSSION

SITE LOCATION

SEPULVEDA BASIN PROJECT SITE

SITE INFORMATION
Acres: 2,000+
Year Built: 1938-1941

Source, OLIN, 2022. Traced using LA County parcel data and based on the USACE, Real Estate Map, 2010

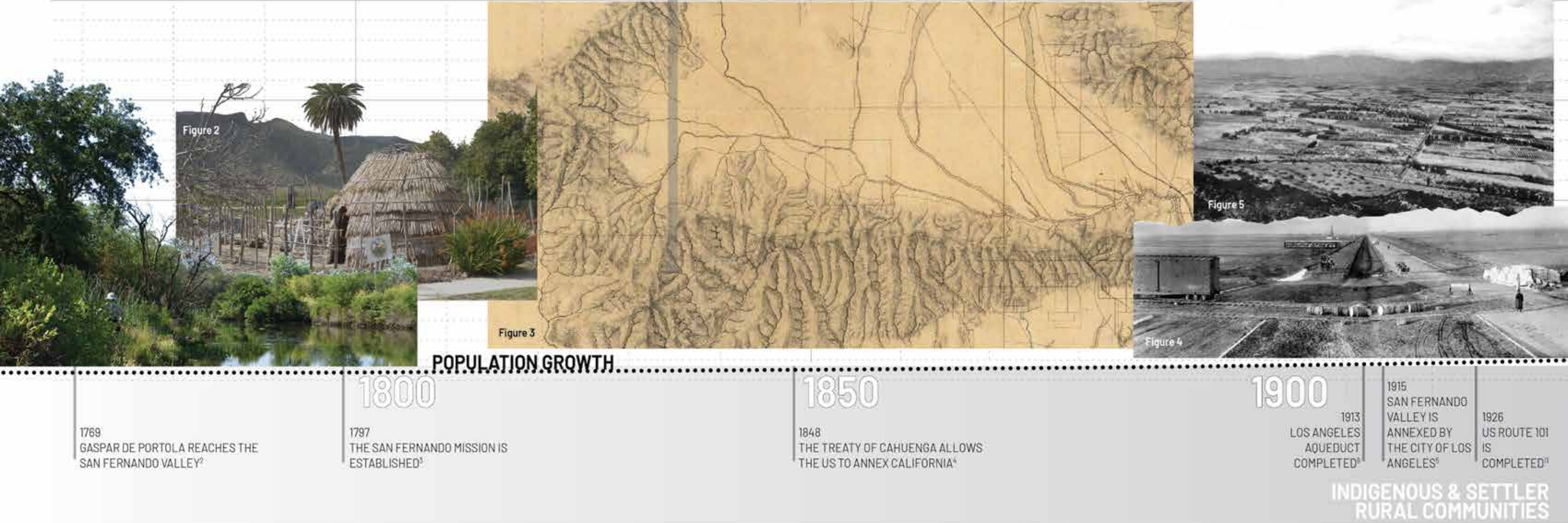


HISTORY OF SEPULVEDA BASIN

PRE-SUBURBANIZATION

Indigenous peoples inhabited the Siutcanga Village located just southeast of the current site of the Sepulveda Basin.¹

1834
The Mexican government dissolves the Spanish missions and gives 3 members of the Fernandeno Tatviam Band of Mission Indians 4,4600 acres, also known as Rancho Los Encinos



1. "History." Fernandeno Tatviam Band of Mission Indians, July 20, 2022. <https://www.tatviam-nsn.us/history/>.

2. "Los Encinos State Historic Park History." n.d. Los-Encinos.org. Accessed November 18, 2022. <https://los-encinos.org/history.html>.

3. "Fernandeno Tatviam Band of Mission Indians - NAHC Digital Atlas." n.d. Nahc.ca.gov. Accessed November 18, 2022. <https://nahc.ca.gov/cp/tribal-atlas-pages/fernandeno-tatviam-band-of-mission-indians/>.

4. "Treaty of Cahuenga Is Signed." World History Project. Accessed November 17, 2022. <https://worldhistoryproject.org/1847/11/13/treaty-of-cahuenga-is-signed>.

5. "More than a Big, Flat Suburb: Why the San Fernando Valley Is so Important to California History." Los Angeles Times. Los Angeles Times, February 2, 2021. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-02-02/san-fernando-valley-important-place-in-california-patt-morrison>.

6. "Water and Power Associates Informing the Public about Critical Water and Energy Issues Facing Los Angeles and California." Water and Power Associates. Accessed November 17, 2022.

1. Figure 1. Untitled. Photograph. California Native Plant Society. <https://www.sacvalleycnps.org/riparian-forest/>.

2. Figure 2. Untitled. Photograph. The San Fernando Valley Sun. 2020 <https://sanfernandosun.com/2020/10/21/were-still-here-land-acknowledgement-strengthens-bond-between-csun-and-fernandeno-tatviam-band/>.

3. Figure 3. Los Angeles & San Bernardino topography. Map. David Rumsey Map Collection, 1880. <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY-8-1-3468-350005?id=1-1-3468-350005&name=Los+Angeles+San+Bernardino+topography>.

4. Figure 4. 1911: Site of the Future Van Nuys in 1911 looking north. Photograph. Water and Power Associates. 1911. https://waterandpower.org/museum/Early_Views_of_the_San_Fernando_Valley_2_of_10.html.

5. Figure 5. 1909: View across the San Fernando Valley. Photograph. Curbed. 1873. <https://la.curbed.com/2017/8/7/16104806/san-fernando-valley-old-photos-before-los-angeles>.

HISTORY OF SEPULVEDA BASIN

1930'S - PRESENT

1939

The Federal Loan Home Bank redlines portions of Van Nuys and North Hollywood as undesirable to invest in⁷

1938 - 1940's

In the late 1930's, the US Army Corps of Engineers bought 2.5 square miles to create the Sepulveda Flood Control Basin⁸

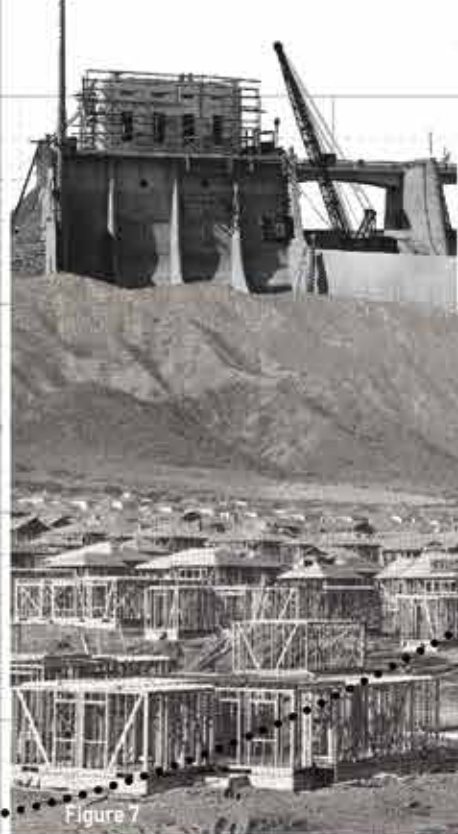


Figure 7

1971

In 1971, the Sylmar Earthquake damaged the Lower Van Norman Dam. Clay soil from the Sepulveda Basin was used to repair the cracks leaving borrow pits. The borrow pits filled with water and began attracting migrating birds and other species⁹

1971

The US Army Corps of Engineers establishes a 48-acre riparian edge in the Sepulveda Basin.¹⁰

1988

The 60 acre habitat, north of Burbank Blvd is established¹⁰

1981

The Sepulveda Basin Master Plan is adopted outlining future recreational and wildlife areas¹⁰

1992

Tillman Water Reclamation Plant begins sending reclaimed water to the basin¹⁰

1998

60 acres were added west of Haskell Creek¹⁰

2007

The Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan is adopted

2011

The Sepulveda Basin Master Plan changes the designation of the original 48 acre riparian edge to "Project Operations"

2022

LA River Master Plan is adopted

Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Begins

POPULATION GROWTH

2 M

1.5 M

1 M

.5 M



Figure 6

Figure 9

Figure 8

Figure 10

INDIGENOUS & SETTLER RURAL COMMUNITIES

1944
THE
SERVICEMEN'S
READJUSTMENT
ACT¹¹

1950

GM MOTORS ASSEMBLY PLANT OPENS¹¹

1956
THE
INTERSTATE
HIGHWAY ACT¹¹

1962
INTERSTATE 405
OPENS¹¹

POST-WAR
SUBURBANIZATION

2000

TEXT

https://waterandpower.org/museum/Construction_of_the_LA_Aqueduct.html#.

7. "Mapping Inequality." Digital Scholarship Lab. Accessed November 22, 2022. <https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=13/34.319/-118.367&city=los-angeles-ca>.

8. Preston, Richard E. "The Changing Landscape of the San Fernando Valley Between 1930 and 1964." ScholarWorks. San Fernando Valley State College. Accessed November 17, 2022. <https://scholarworks.calstate.edu/>.

9. "Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve." CSUN University Library. 15 Feb. 2021. library.csun.edu/SCA/Peek-in-the-Stacks/sepulveda-basin. Accessed 17 Nov. 2022.

10. "History of SBWA." n.d. San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. Accessed November 17, 2022. <https://www.sfvaudubon.org/13914-2/>.

11. "A Timeline of the San Fernando Valley." n.d. www.lahistoryarchive.org. Accessed November 23, 2022. https://www.lahistoryarchive.org/resources/San_Fernando_Valley/timeline.html.

IMAGES

6. Figure 6. Residential Security Map. Map. Division of Research and Statistics. 1939. <https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=13/34.319/-118.367&city=los-angeles-ca>

7. Figure 7. Untitled. Photograph. The Museum of the San Fernando Valley. 1949. <http://museumsanfernandovalley.blogspot.com/2014/05/burbank-typifies-valley-building.html>

8. Figure 8. Vegetation surrounding the pond at the Sepulveda Wildlife Reserve. Photograph. CSUN University Library. April, 1981. <https://library.csun.edu/SCA/Peek-in-the-Stacks/sepulveda-basin>.

9. Figure 9. Exiting Sepulveda Basin Master Plan. Map. Sepulveda Basin Master Plan. 1981. <https://www.sepulvedabasinwildlife.org/pdf/Basin%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

10. Figure 10.

HISTORY OF SEPULVEDA BASIN

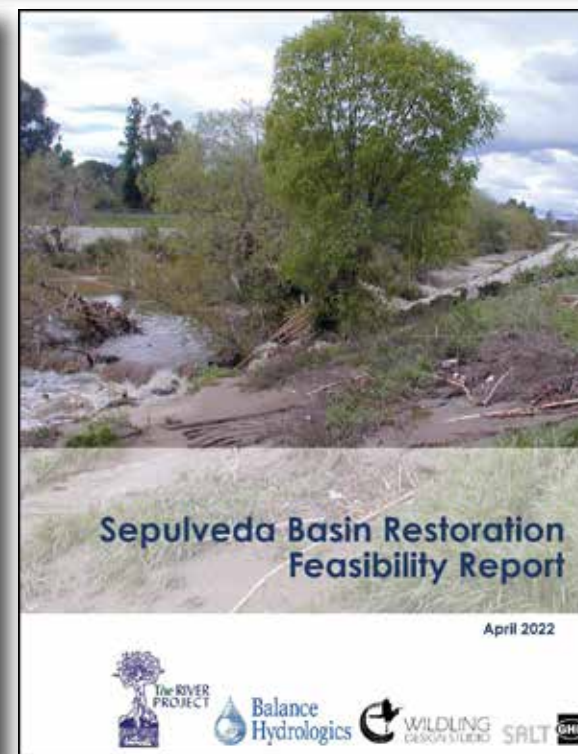
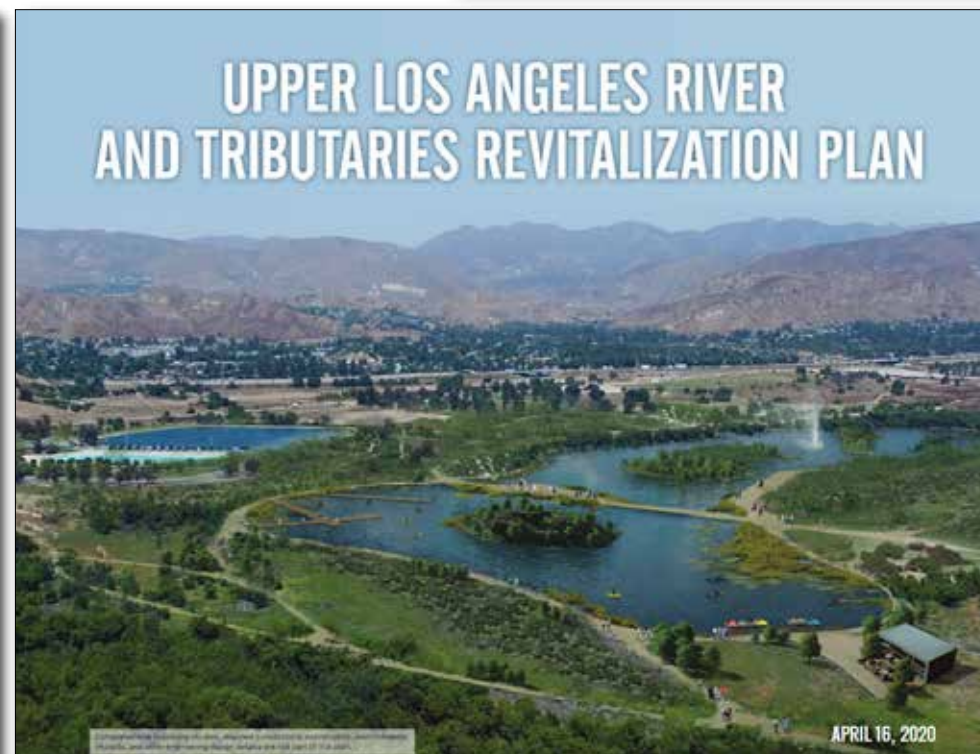
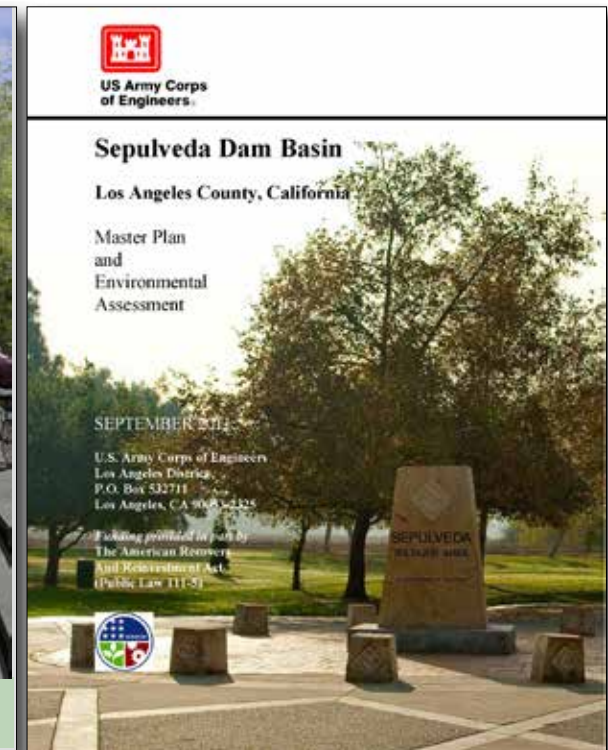
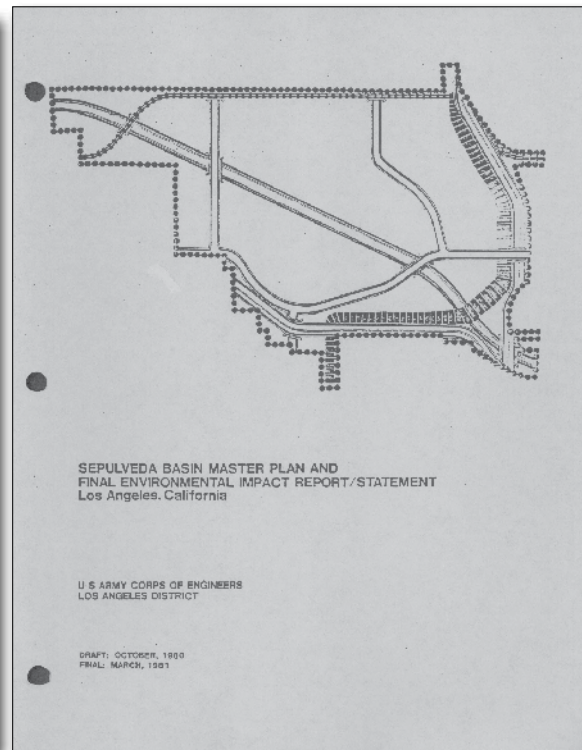
AERIAL SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON



Source: 1928 - UC Santa Barbara Library FrameFinder, Fairchild Aerial Surveys Flight C-300.1952 & 2021 - Images courtesy of the US Geological Service, Earth Explorer

PAST PLANNING EFFORTS

Master Recreation Plan Flood Control Reservoir



A SATURDAY AT SEPULVEDA

Entry Sign at Sepulveda Dam
Source: Agency Artifacts 2022



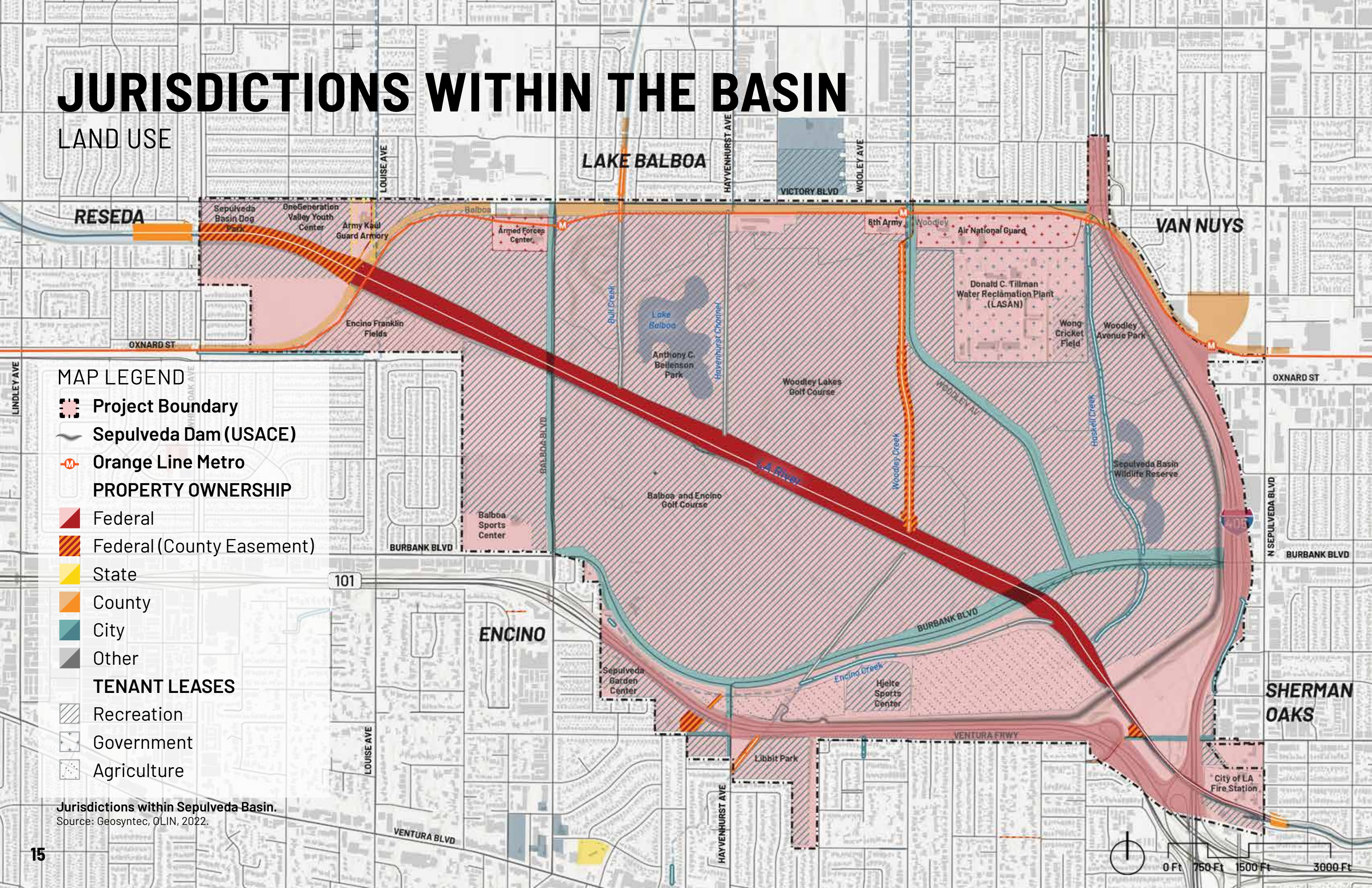
JURISDICTIONS WITHIN THE BASIN

LAND USE

MAP LEGEND

- Project Boundary
- Sepulveda Dam (USACE)
- Orange Line Metro
- PROPERTY OWNERSHIP**
- Federal
- Federal (County Easement)
- State
- County
- City
- Other
- TENANT LEASES**
- Recreation
- Government
- Agriculture

Jurisdictions within Sepulveda Basin.
Source: Geosyntec, OLIN, 2022.



VISION PLAN OBJECTIVES

1

RESILIENCE

2

ECOSYSTEMS

3

**RIVER
FUNCTION**

4

RECREATION

5

**WATER
QUALITY**

6

ACCESS

7

PROGRAM

VISION PLAN OBJECTIVES

1. Increase resilience of the basin and surrounding neighborhoods.

2. Increase ecosystem function within the basin using nature-based strategies.

3. Create natural functioning of the LA River and Tributaries.

4. Improve interface between recreation and ecological areas.

5. Improve water quality of streams and outlets entering the basin.

6. Improve multi-modal transportation access to the basin and within the basin.

7. Enhance recreational, educational, and cultural programming.

DATA ANALYSIS

DEMOGRAPHICS

PARKS

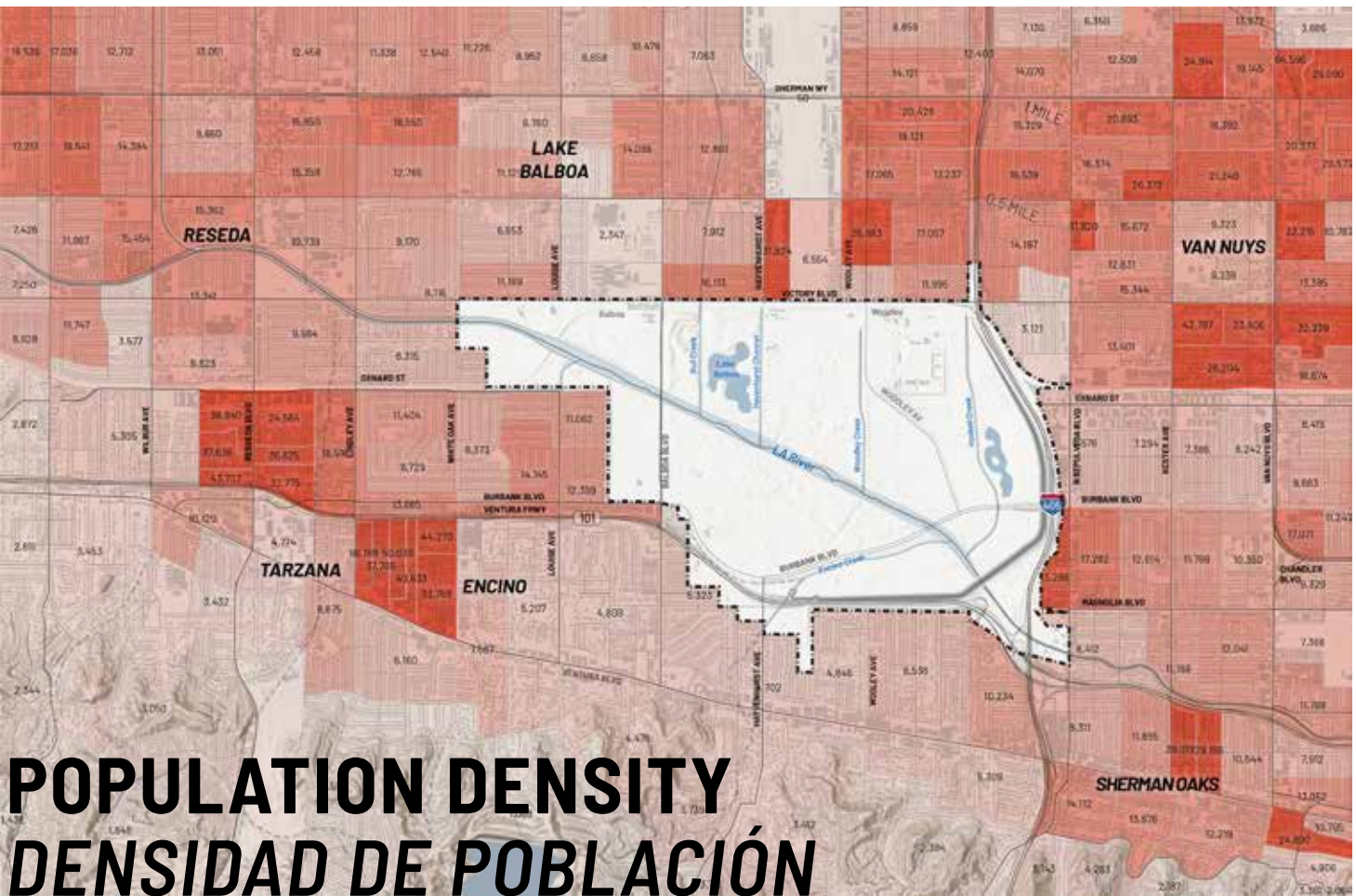
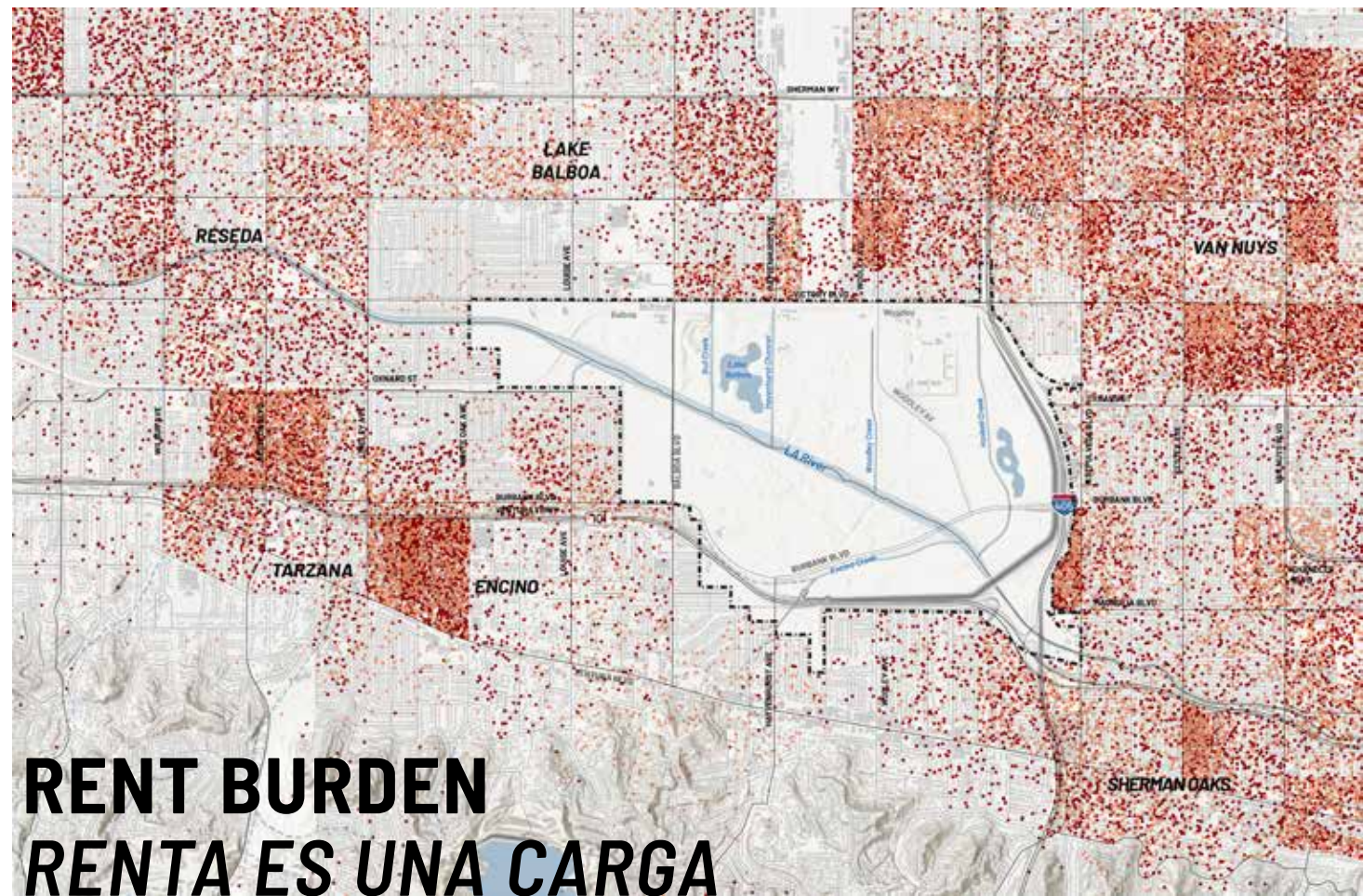
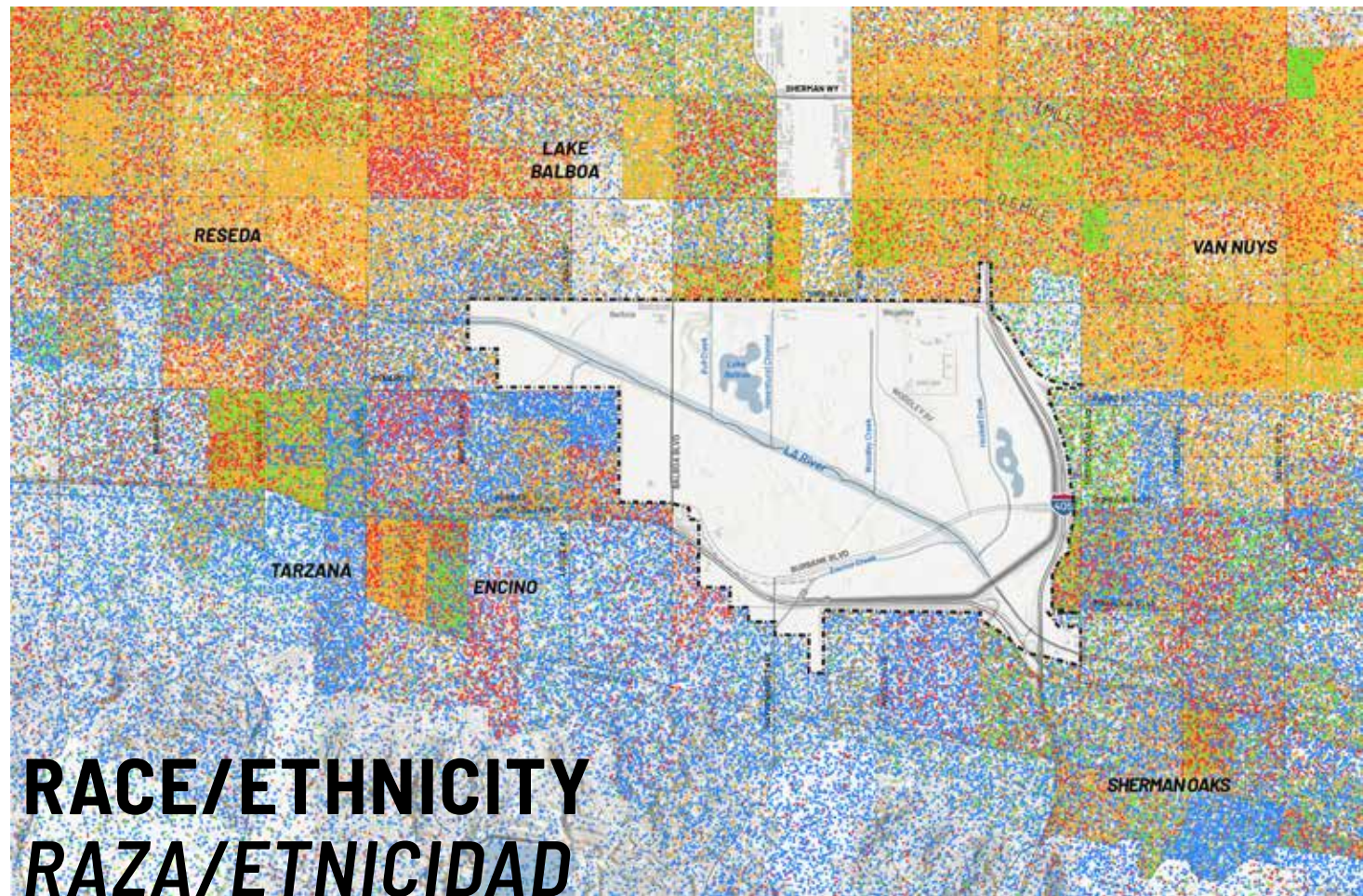
WATER QUALITY

FLOOD RISK

ECOSYSTEMS

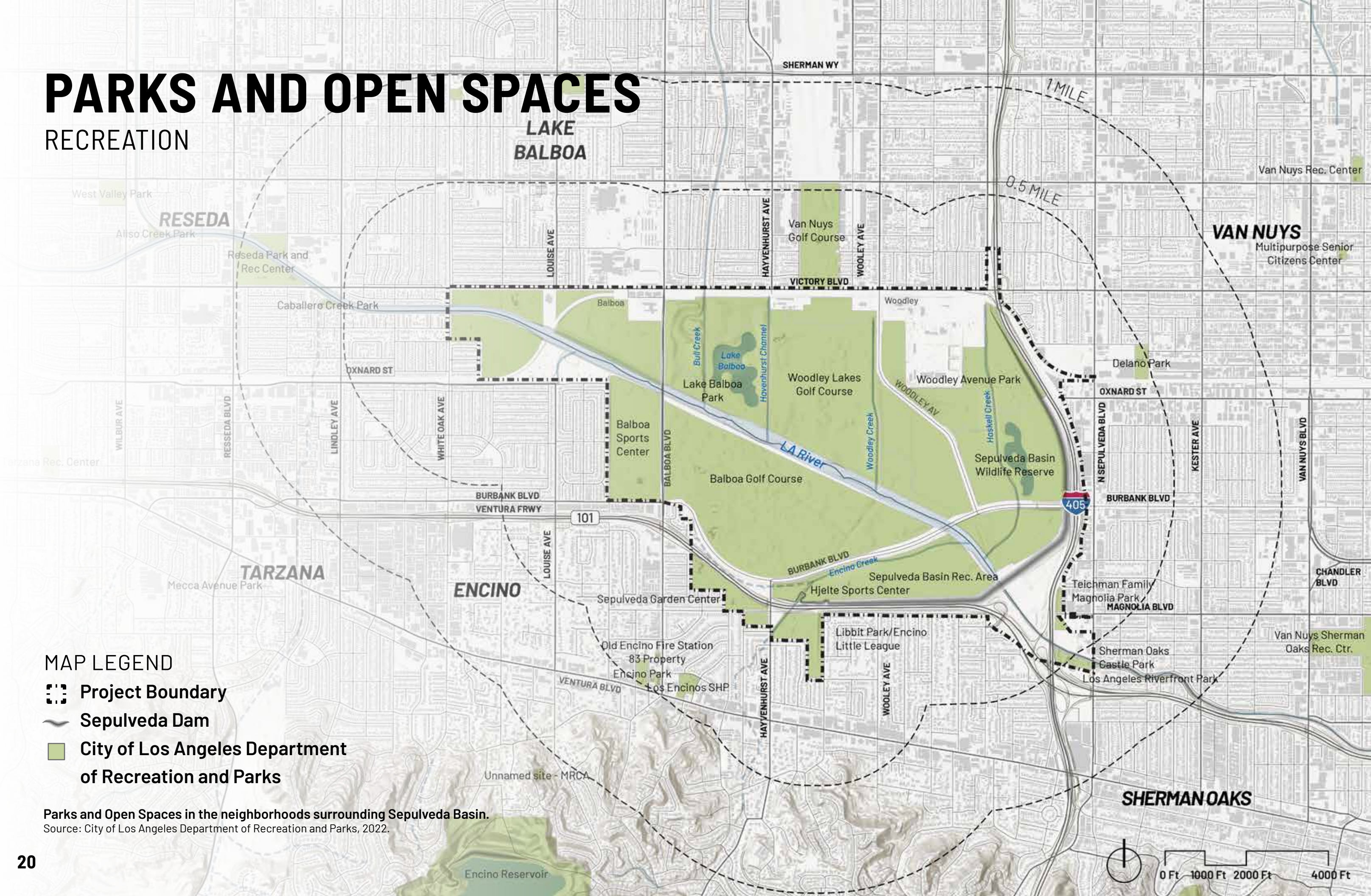
PROGRAMMING

**TRANSIT
+
ACCESS**



PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

RECREATION



MAP LEGEND


- Project Boundary
- Sepulveda Dam
- City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Parks and Open Spaces in the neighborhoods surrounding Sepulveda Basin.
Source: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, 2022.






PARKS NEED ASSESSMENT

RECREATION

MAP LEGEND

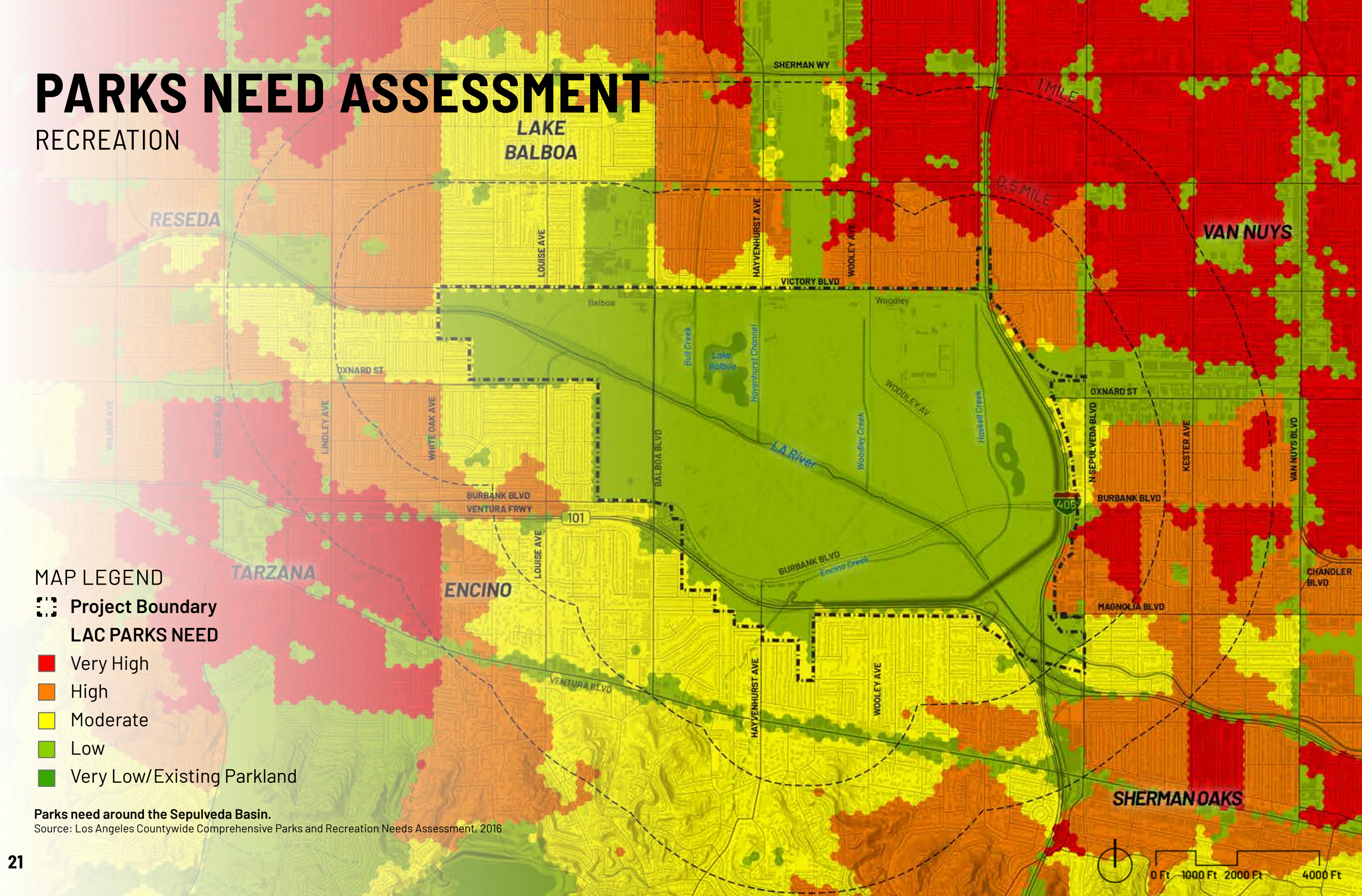
 Project Boundary

LAC PARKS NEED

-  Very High
-  High
-  Moderate
-  Low
-  Very Low/Existing Parkland

Parks need around the Sepulveda Basin.

Source: Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, 2016




CALENVIROSCREEN 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN

DEMOGRAPHICS

Van Nuys ranks in the top 90th percentile of the state for environmental burden


Followed by Reseda and Lake Balboa ranking in the 80th and 84th percentile, respectively


MAP LEGEND

 Project Boundary

 Sepulveda Dam

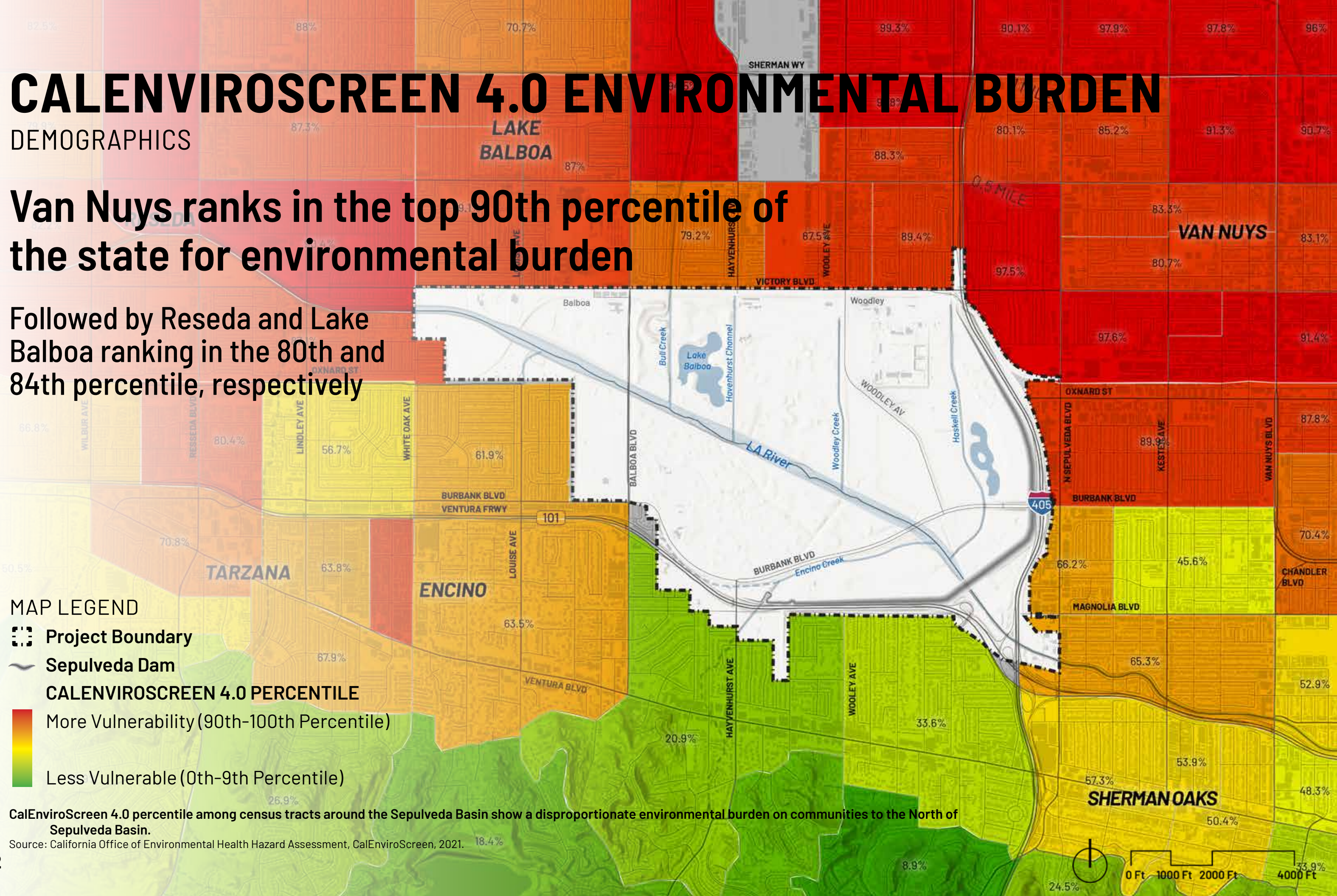
CALENVIROSCREEN 4.0 PERCENTILE

 More Vulnerability (90th-100th Percentile)

 Less Vulnerable (0th-9th Percentile)

CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile among census tracts around the Sepulveda Basin show a disproportionate environmental burden on communities to the North of Sepulveda Basin.

Source: California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, CalEnviroScreen, 2021.



CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE SCREENING TOOL


DEMOGRAPHICS


MAP LEGEND


 Project Boundary

 Sepulveda Basin

CEJST BURDENED AND UNDER-SERVED THRESHOLDS AND CATEGORIES EXCEEDED

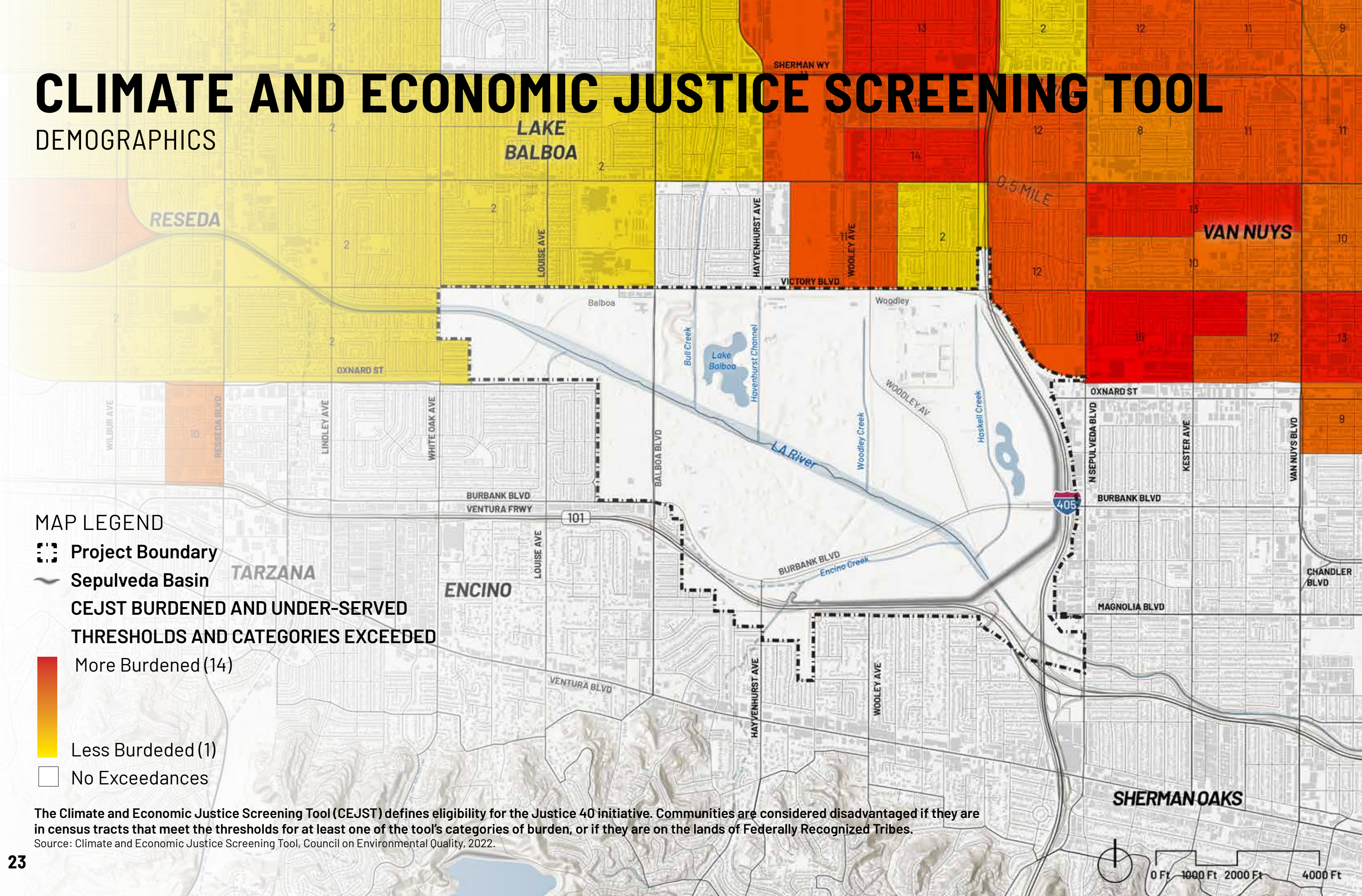
 More Burdened (14)

 Less Burdened (1)

 No Exceedances

The Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) defines eligibility for the Justice 40 initiative. Communities are considered disadvantaged if they are in census tracts that meet the thresholds for at least one of the tool's categories of burden, or if they are on the lands of Federally Recognized Tribes.

Source: Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, Council on Environmental Quality, 2022.

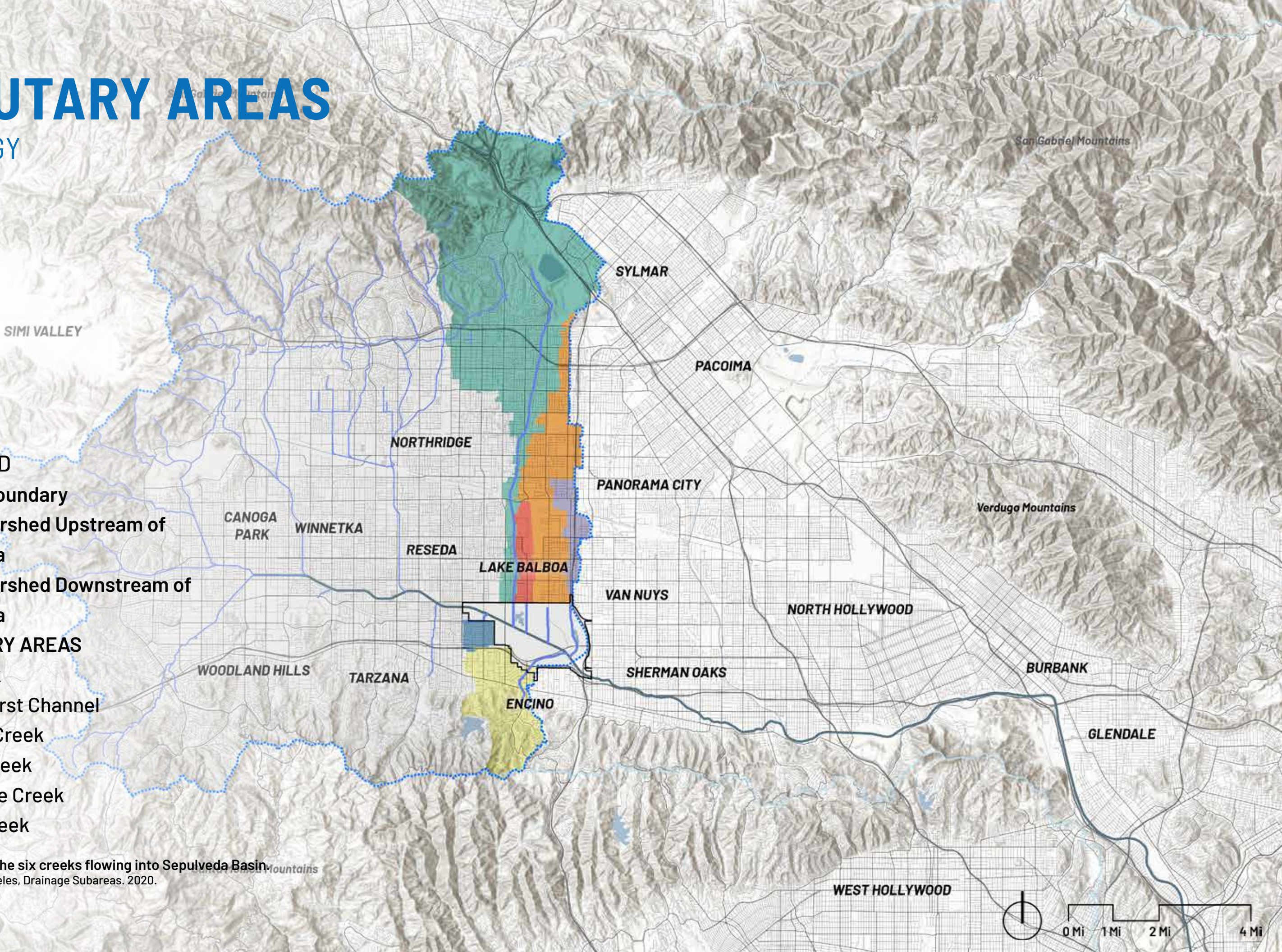


TRIBUTARY AREAS

HYDROLOGY

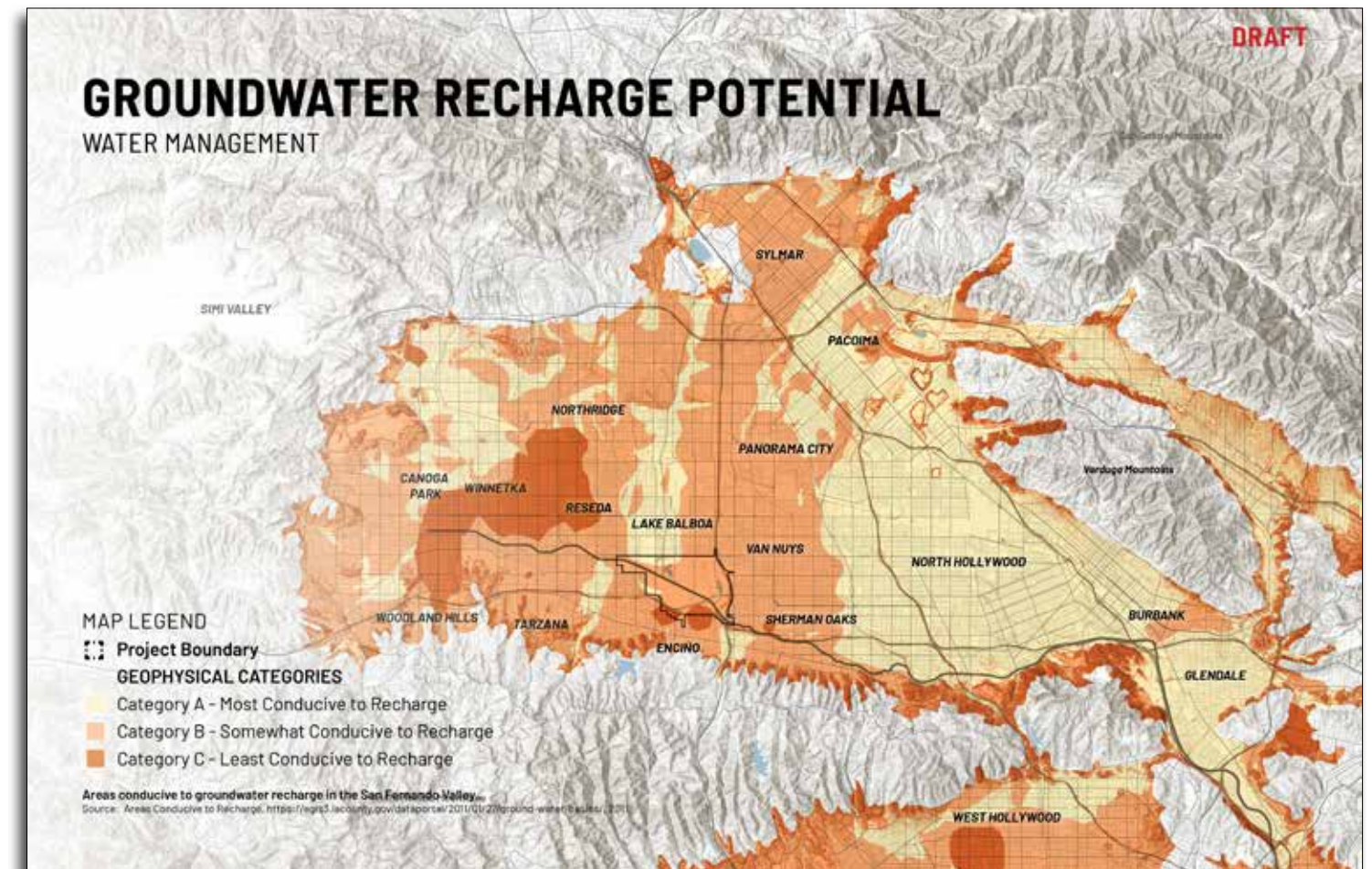
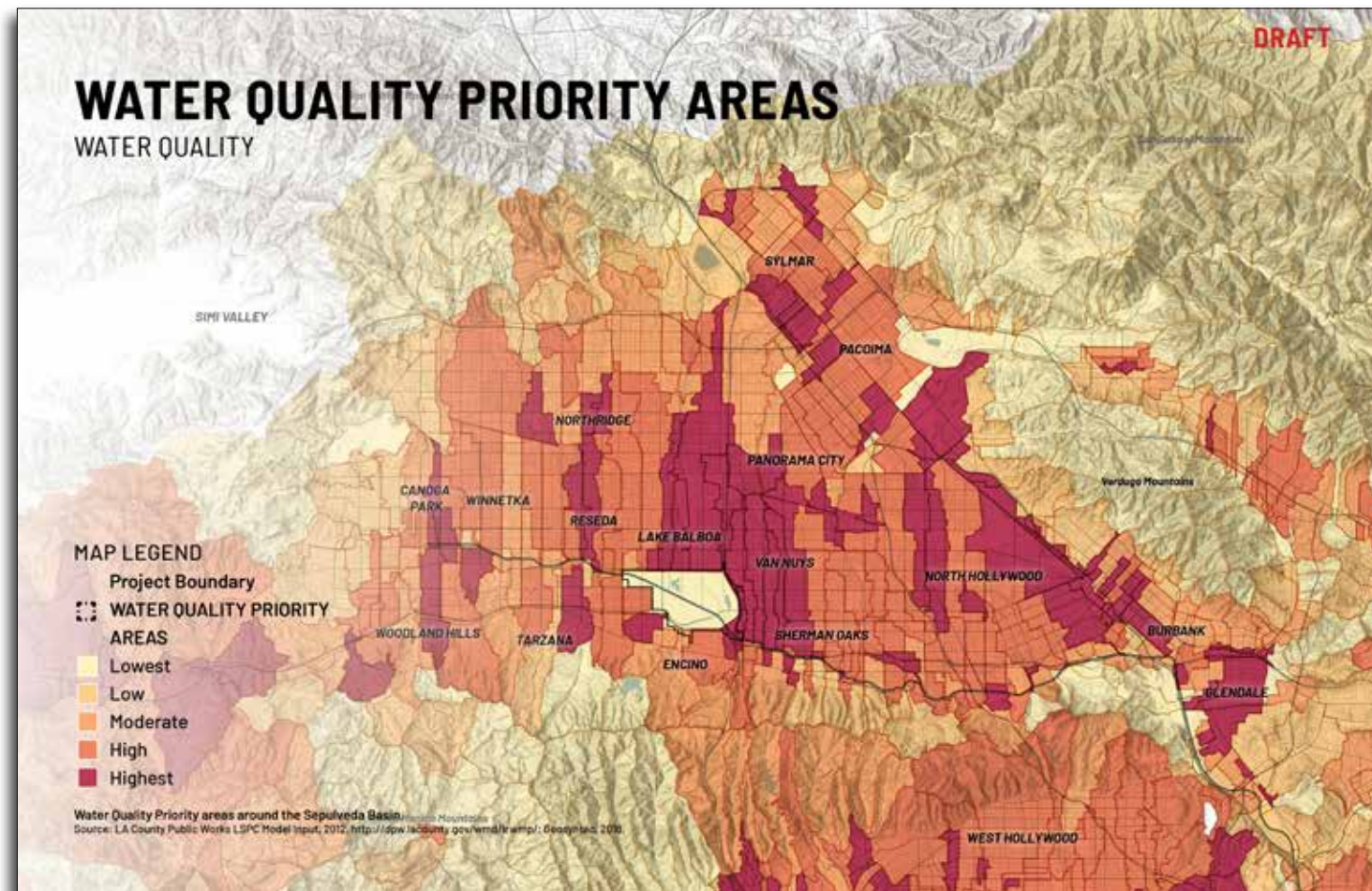
- MAP LEGEND
- Project Boundary
 - LAR Watershed Upstream of Sepulveda
 - LAR Watershed Downstream of Sepulveda
- TRIBUTARY AREAS
- Bull Creek
 - Hayvenhurst Channel
 - Woodley Creek
 - Haskell Creek
 - Velodrome Creek
 - Encino Creek

Tributary areas for the six creeks flowing into Sepulveda Basin.
Source: City of Los Angeles, Drainage Subareas. 2020.



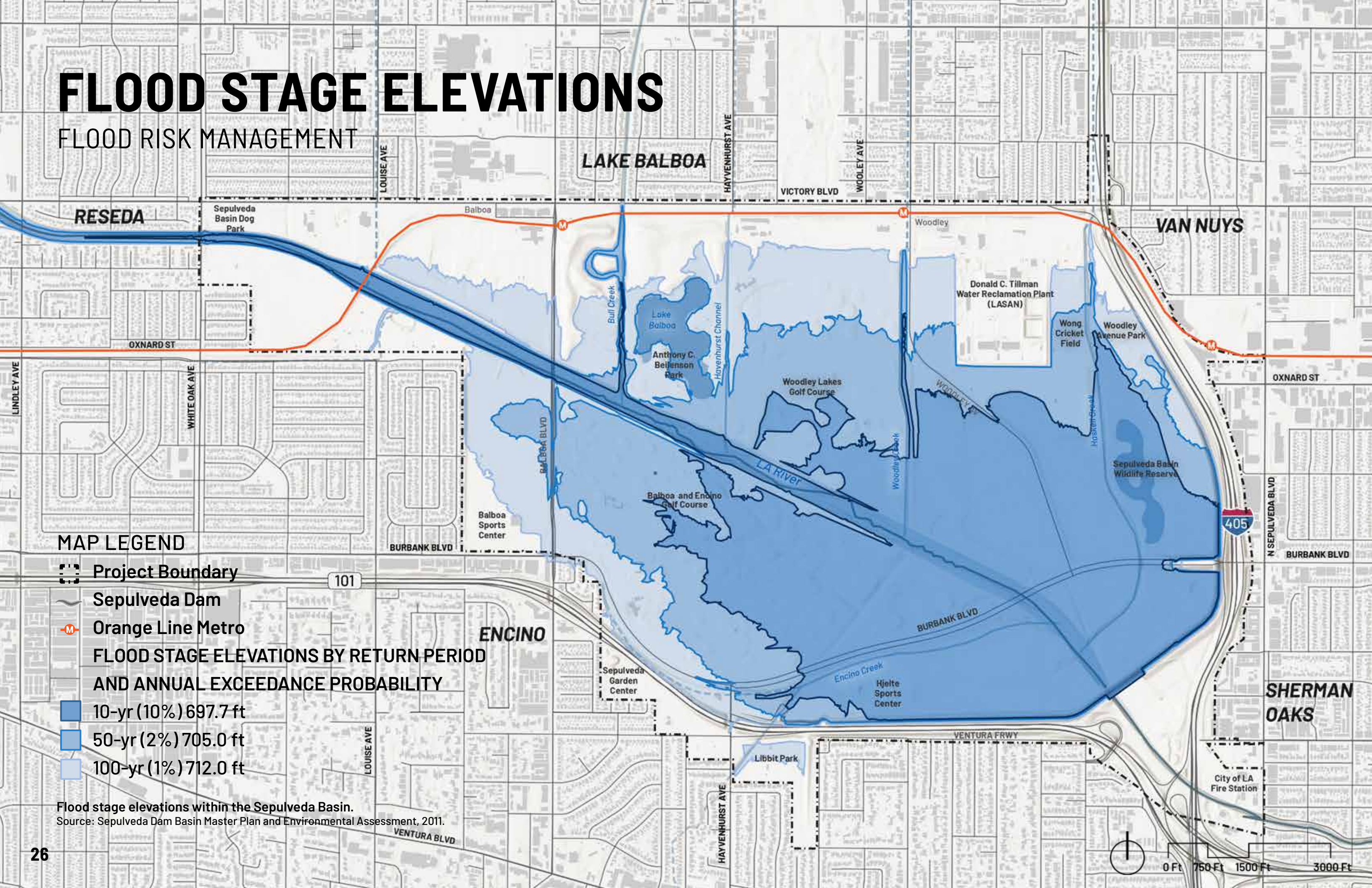
WATER QUALITY AND MANAGEMENT

WATER



FLOOD STAGE ELEVATIONS

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT






GROUNDCOVER AND TREE CANOPY

LAND COVER

MAP LEGEND

-  Project Boundary
-  Sepulveda Dam

GROUNDCOVER AND TREE CANOPY

-  Tree Canopy
-  Herbaceous Groundcover
-  Barren

Groundcover and tree canopy within and adjacent to Sepulveda Basin.
Source: Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC)



VEGETATION TYPES


ECOSYSTEMS


MAP LEGEND


 Project Boundary


 Sepulveda Dam

VEGETATION TYPES

 Annual Grassland


 Coastal Scrub

 Cropland

 Desert Wash

 Urban

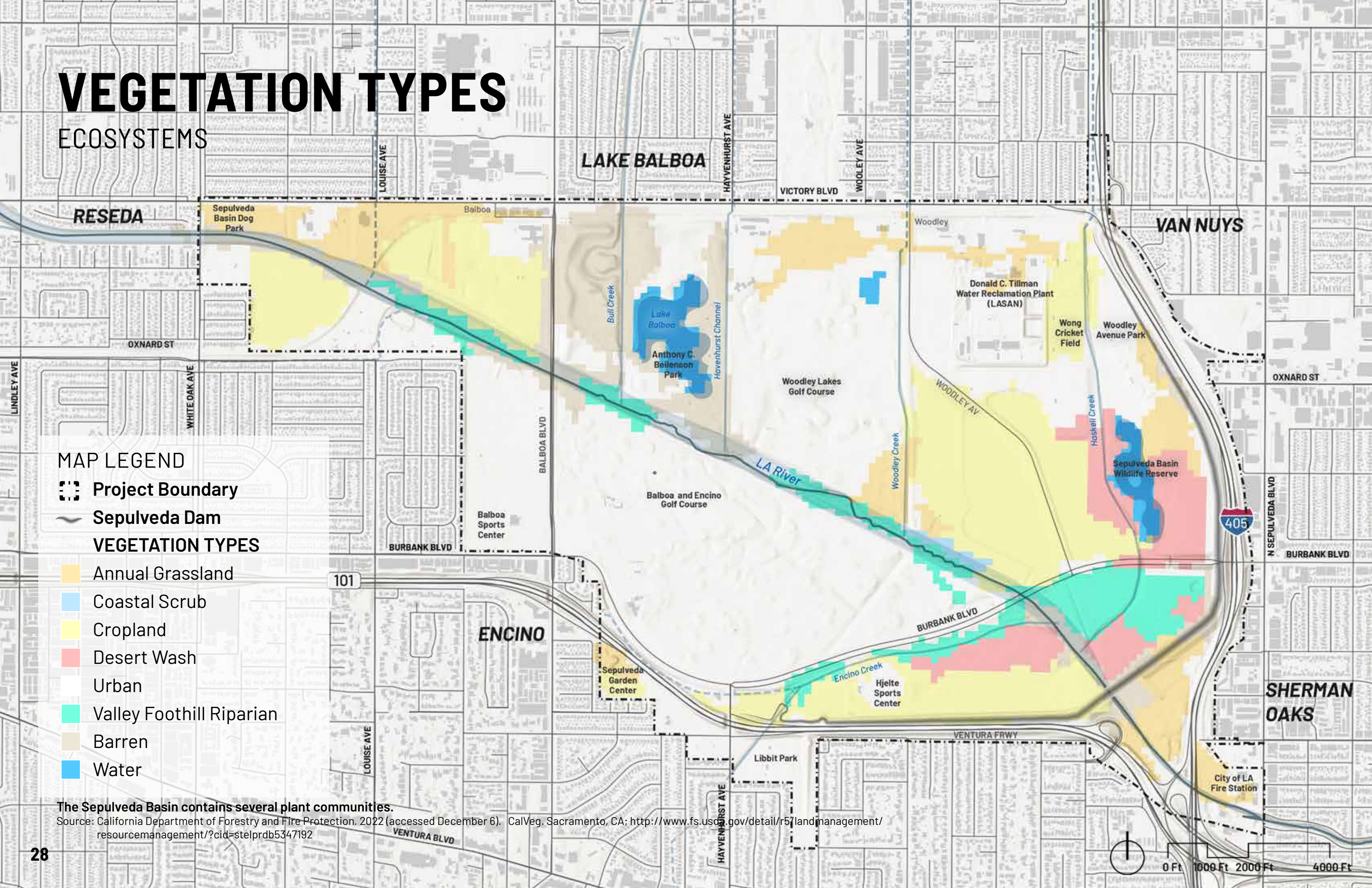
 Valley Foothill Riparian

 Barren

 Water

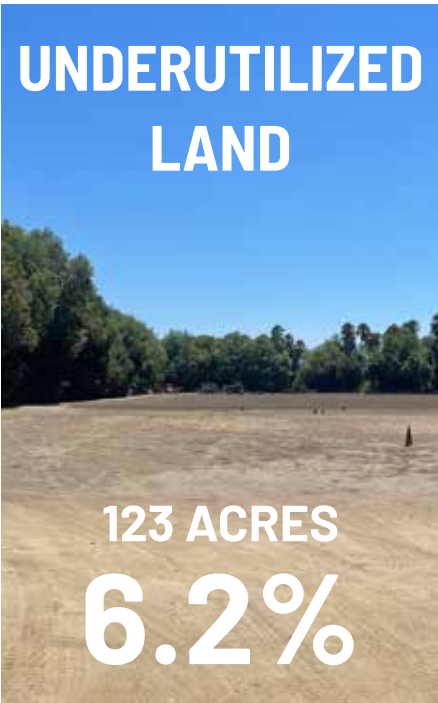
The Sepulveda Basin contains several plant communities.

Source: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 2022 (accessed December 6). CalVeg. Sacramento, CA; <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/landmanagement/resourcemanagement/?cid=stelprdb5347192>



EXISTING PROGRAMMING

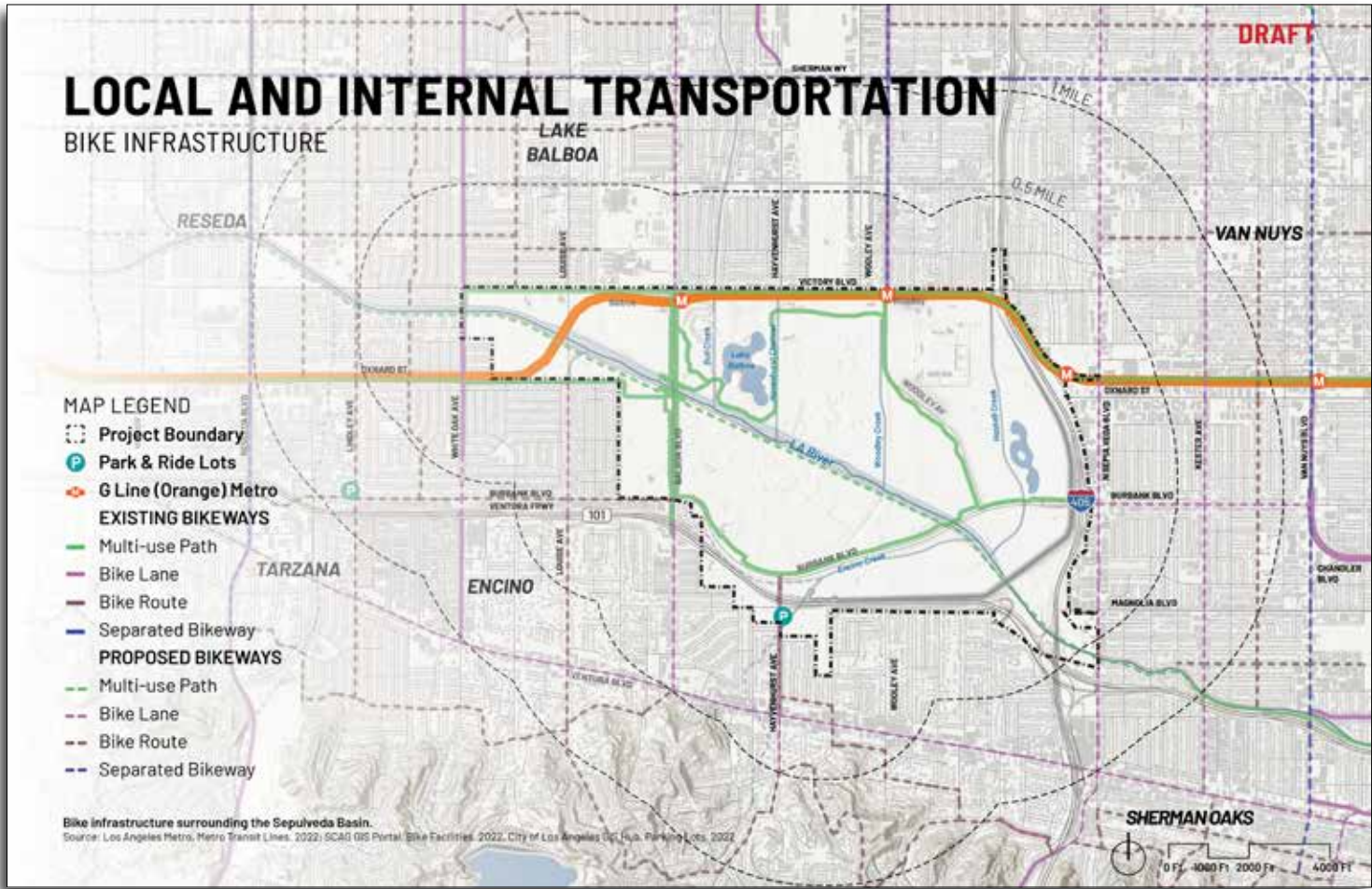
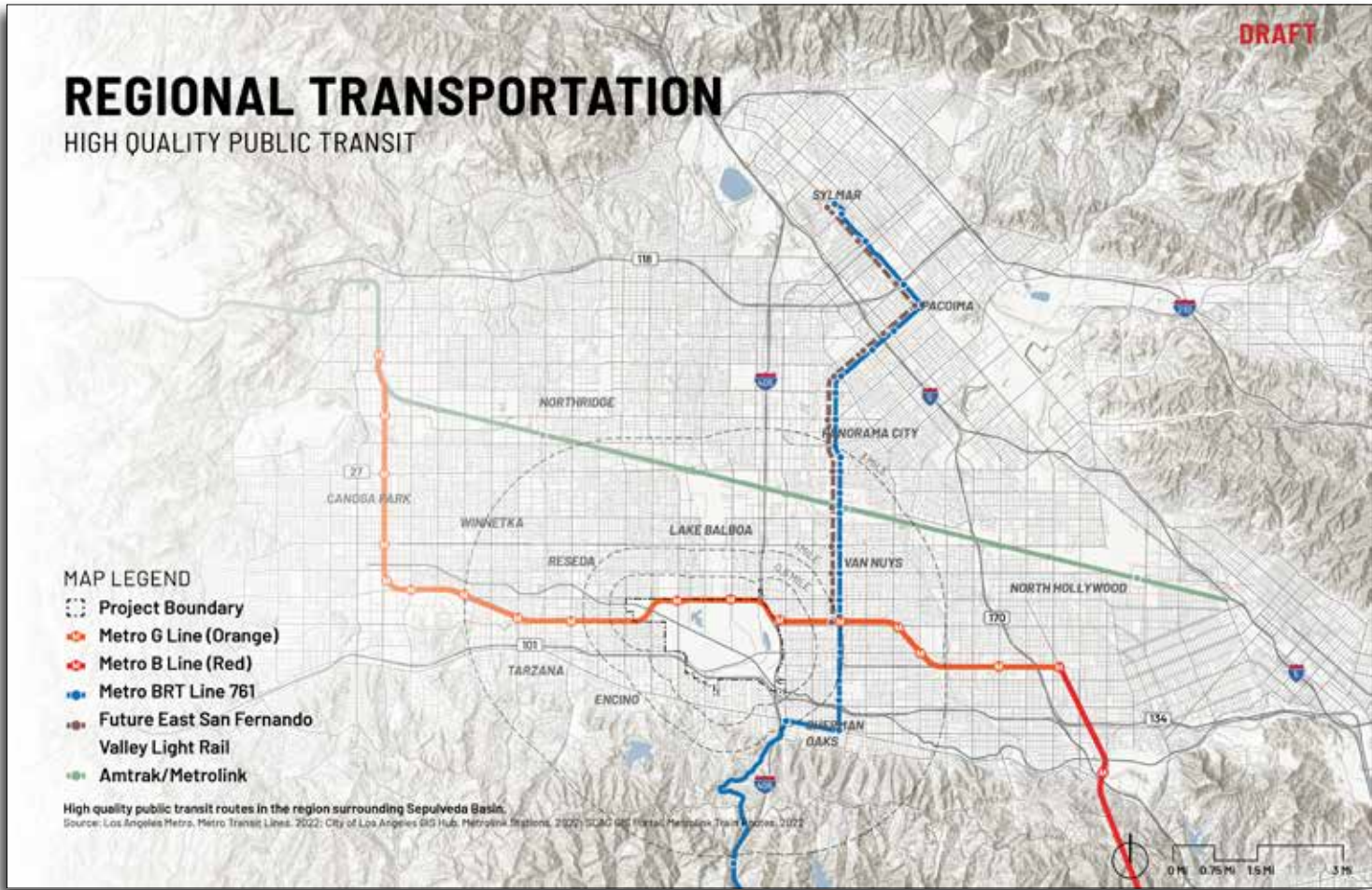
SITE USES

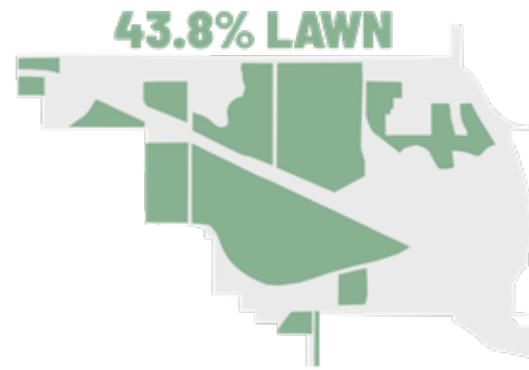


Existing site uses.
Source: OLIN, 2022.

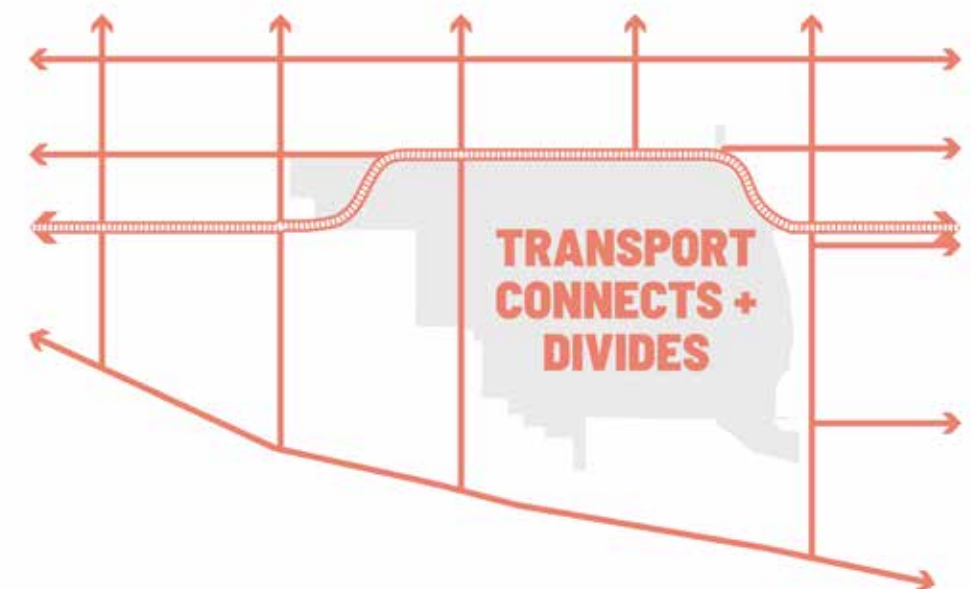
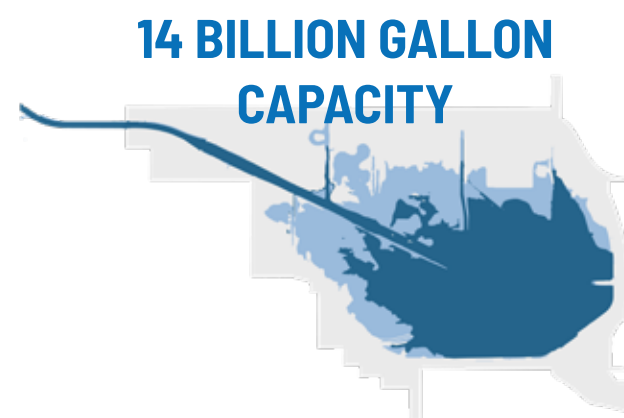
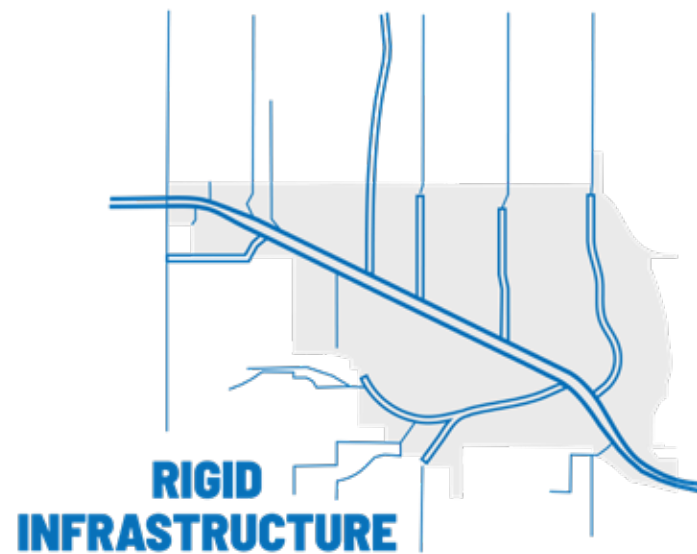
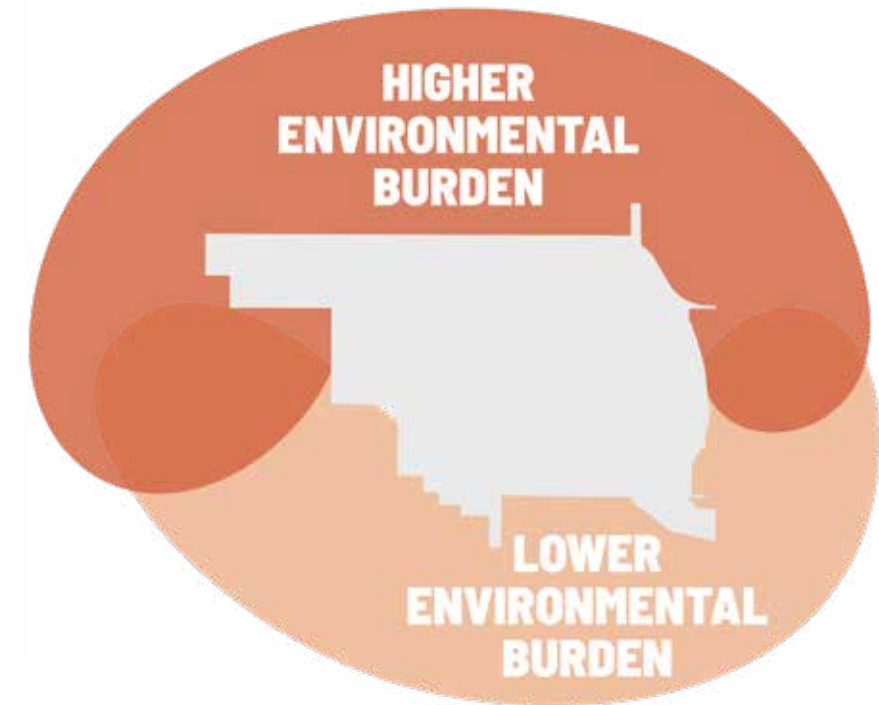
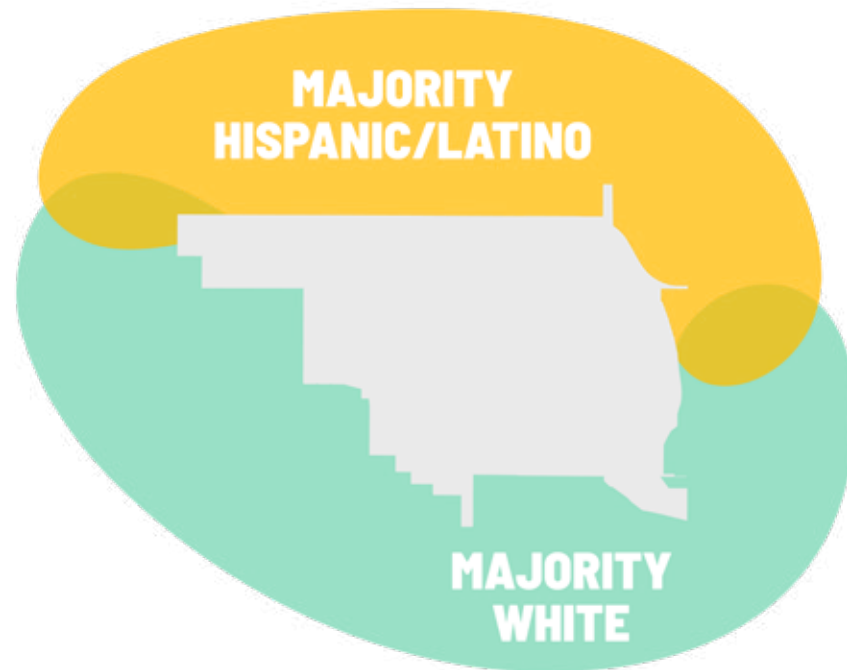
REGIONAL AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT

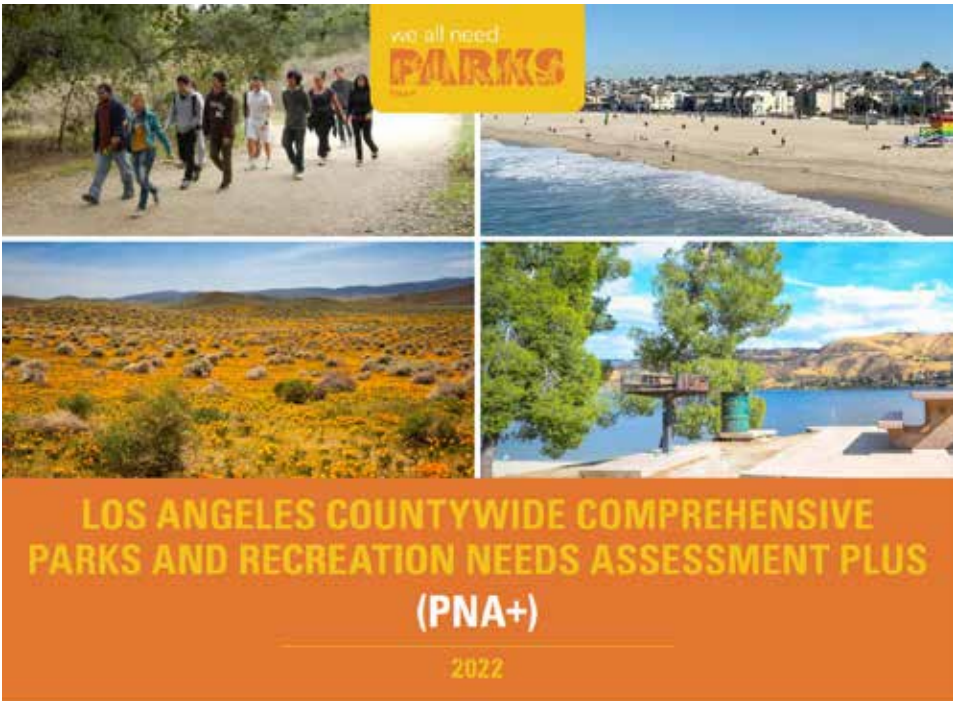
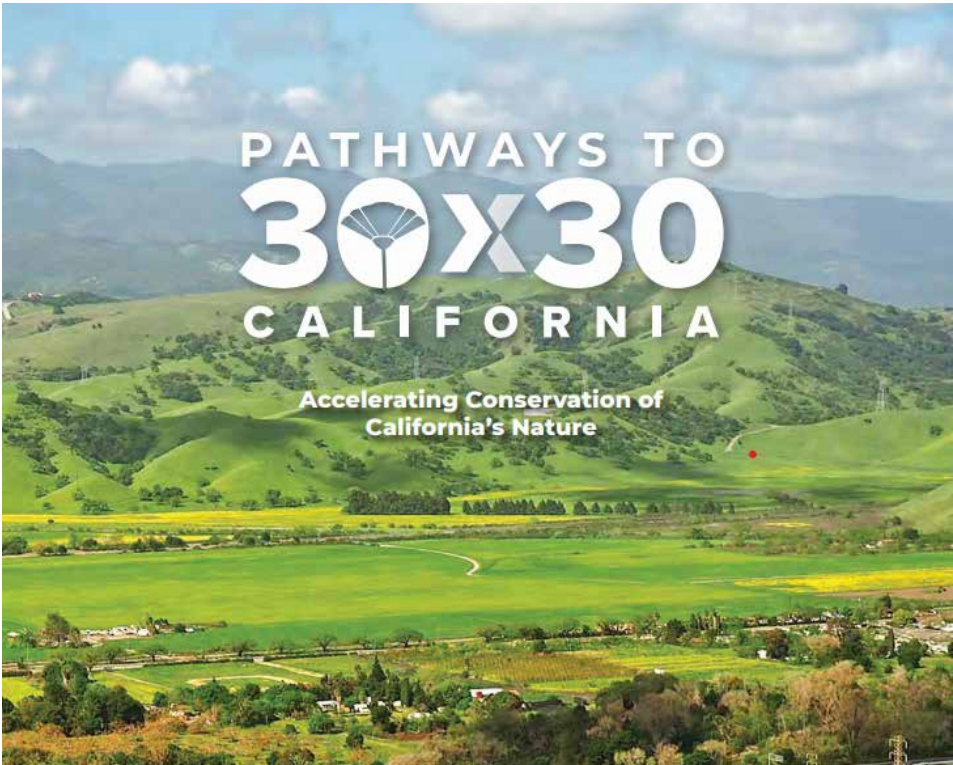




25% WILDLIFE RESERVE, RIVERS AND TRIBUTARIES



BUILDING ON CITY AND COUNTY PLANS AND DIRECTIVES



STATE/FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCE POTENTIAL

Title	Lead Agency	Availability Period	Total Funding	Eligible Entities	Eligible Uses
Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards	CalTrans	FY23-24	\$149 M	Non-profit CBO/FBO Local or Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing highway and/or street barriers to multi-modal access in disadvantaged communities.
Adaptation Planning Grant Program (APGP)	CA Governor's Office of Planning and Research	January 6, 2023 - March 31, 2023	\$25 M	Local Regional Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning grants for community engagement to identify climate resilient priorities.
Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program	CA Governor's Office of Planning and Research	Summer 2022 - Summer 2023	\$250 M	Local Regional Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning or implementation of climate resilient projects.
Community Resilience Centers	CA Strategic Growth Council	FY22-23	\$270 M	TBD by April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction and upgrades of neighborhood-level resilience centers Year-round services and ongoing programming
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration And Protection Projects	Department of the Interior: Bureau of Reclamation	FY22-26	\$250 M	State Local Metropolitan Planning Regional Transit Federal Land Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that improve the health of fisheries, wildlife or aquatic habitat, including through habitat restoration, and improved fish passage through the removal or bypass of barriers to fish passage.

DISCUSSION



INPUT, QUESTIONS, IDEAS?

Contact

eng.sbvp@lacity.org

