



JOHNNY CARSON PARK

A PARK FOR THE FUTURE

a FEW folks Studio • LD4 • Winter 2022 • Gabel-Luddy

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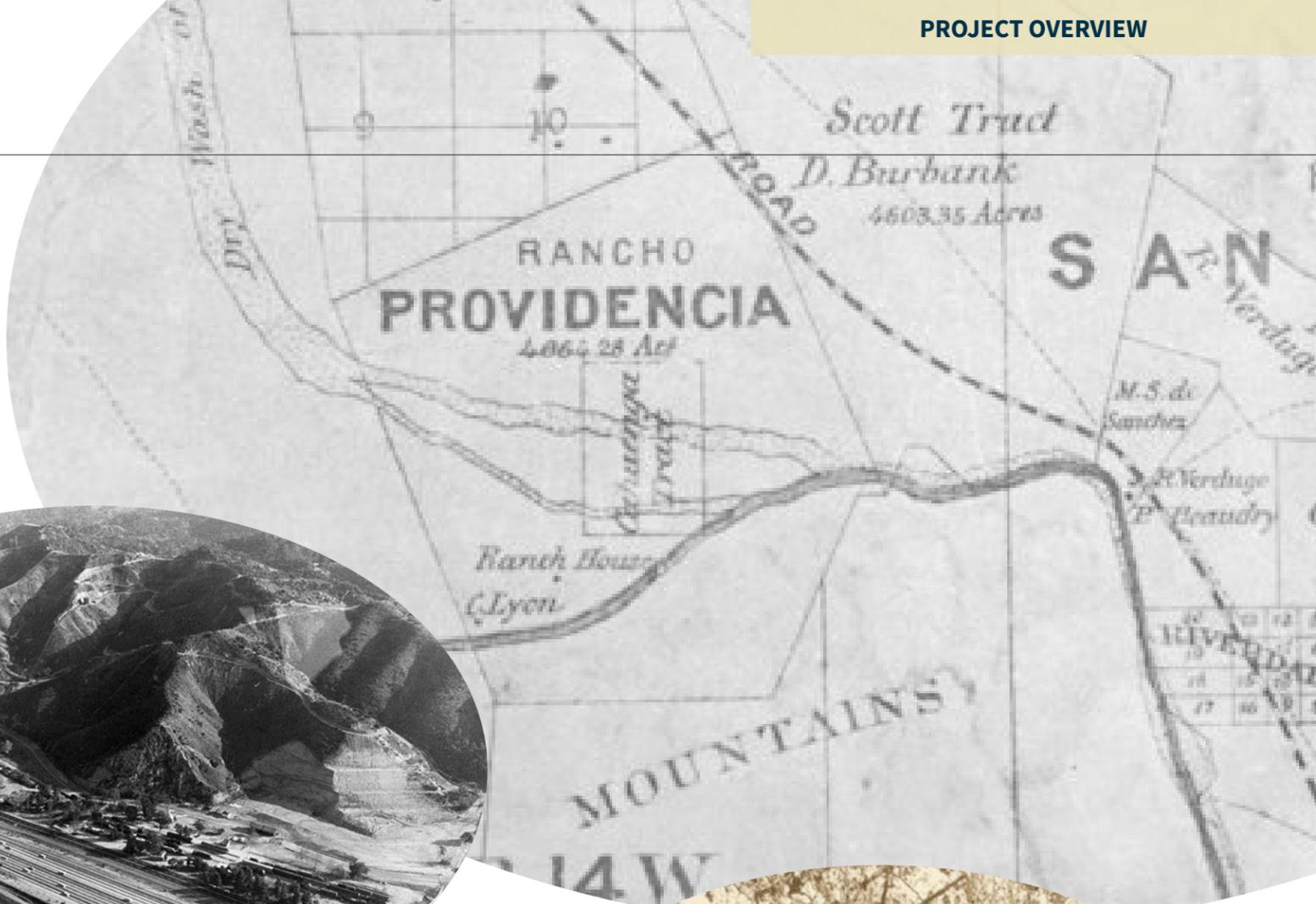
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History



The city of Burbank was incorporated in 1911. The City grew in size by means of several annexations during the 1920s and its population flourished. Later, in 1926 Burbank adopted its official charter and the original City seal featured a melon, referencing its agricultural landscape. During the late twenties, Lockheed moved to Burbank and the area's population steadily increased. Eventually, the city adopted a second seal which featured an airplane flying over an urban grid.



During the post-war era, Burbank saw a major population boom. It was selected as a location to provide temporary housing to Japanese-Americans returning from relocation camps and through the 1950s and 60s, it was part of the construction boom affecting the Los Angeles region, which necessitated the construction of the Ventura Freeway. The freeway, which lies on the City's southern border, was completed in April 1960 and a portion of the original park site was dedicated toward this effort.



In 1942, the City of Los Angeles Department of Water & Power purchased roughly 51 acres to dedicate toward a future park that would beautify the LA River, which had begun to be channelized in 1938. The following year, the site was named Buena Vista Park.



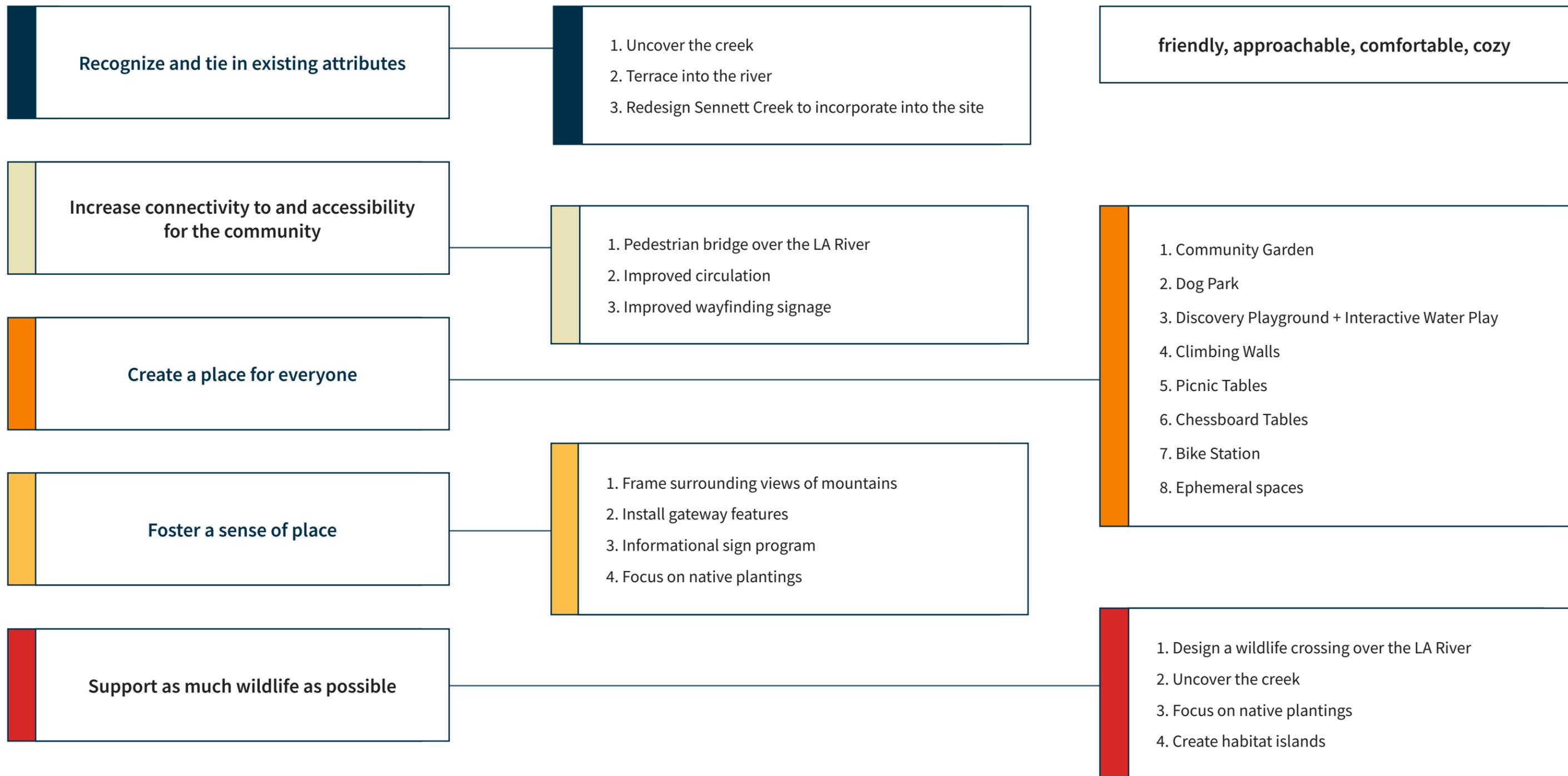
As the City grew and welcomed new industries, other portions of the original park site were sold to St. Joseph's hospital and the NBC studio property. In 1968, the City of Los Angeles leased the area bounded by Riverside Drive to the River and Catalina and Buena Vista Streets to establish a park, which largely remains the same site that exists today.

Goals and Objectives

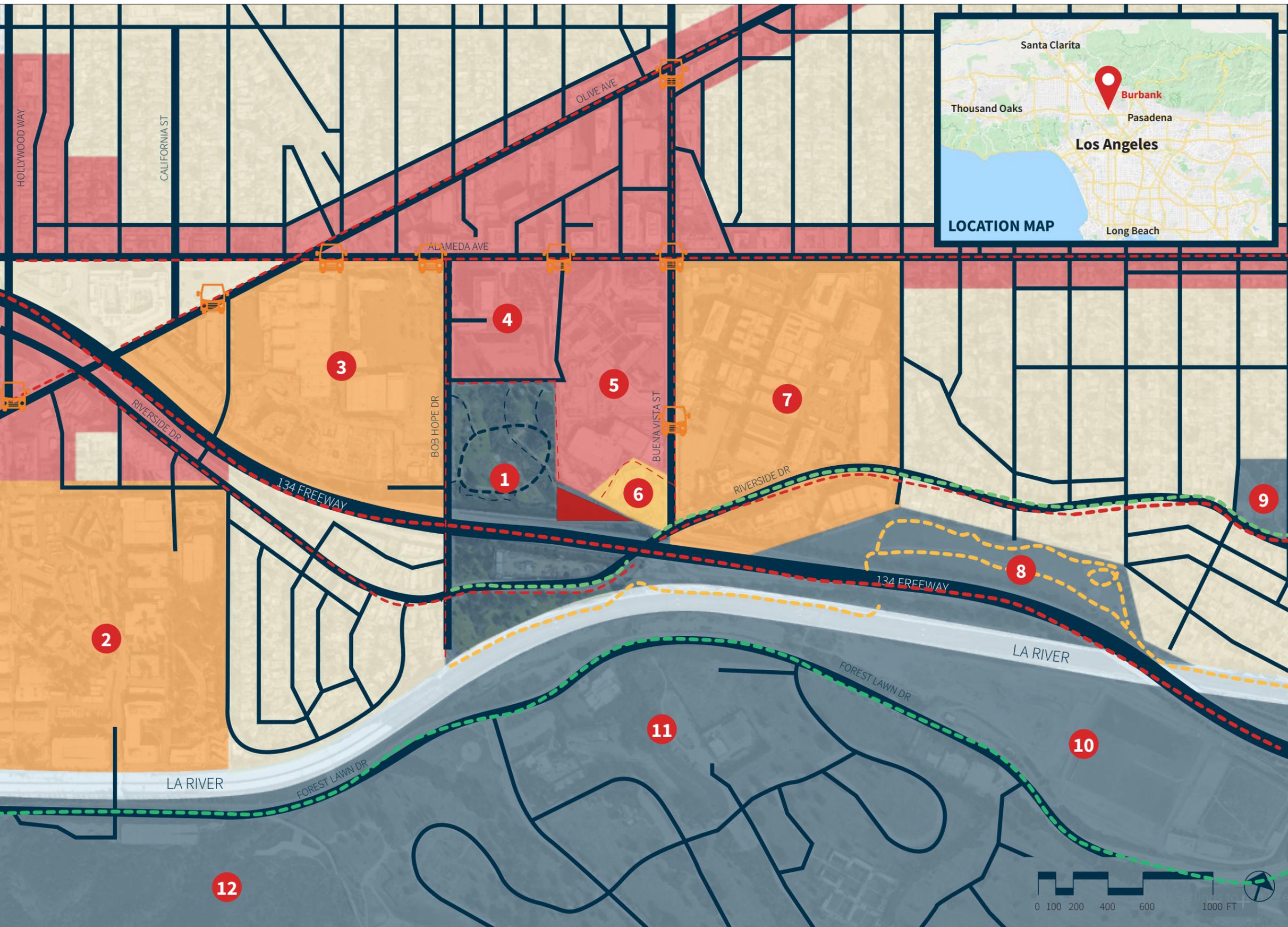
GOALS

OBJECTIVES

KEY WORDS



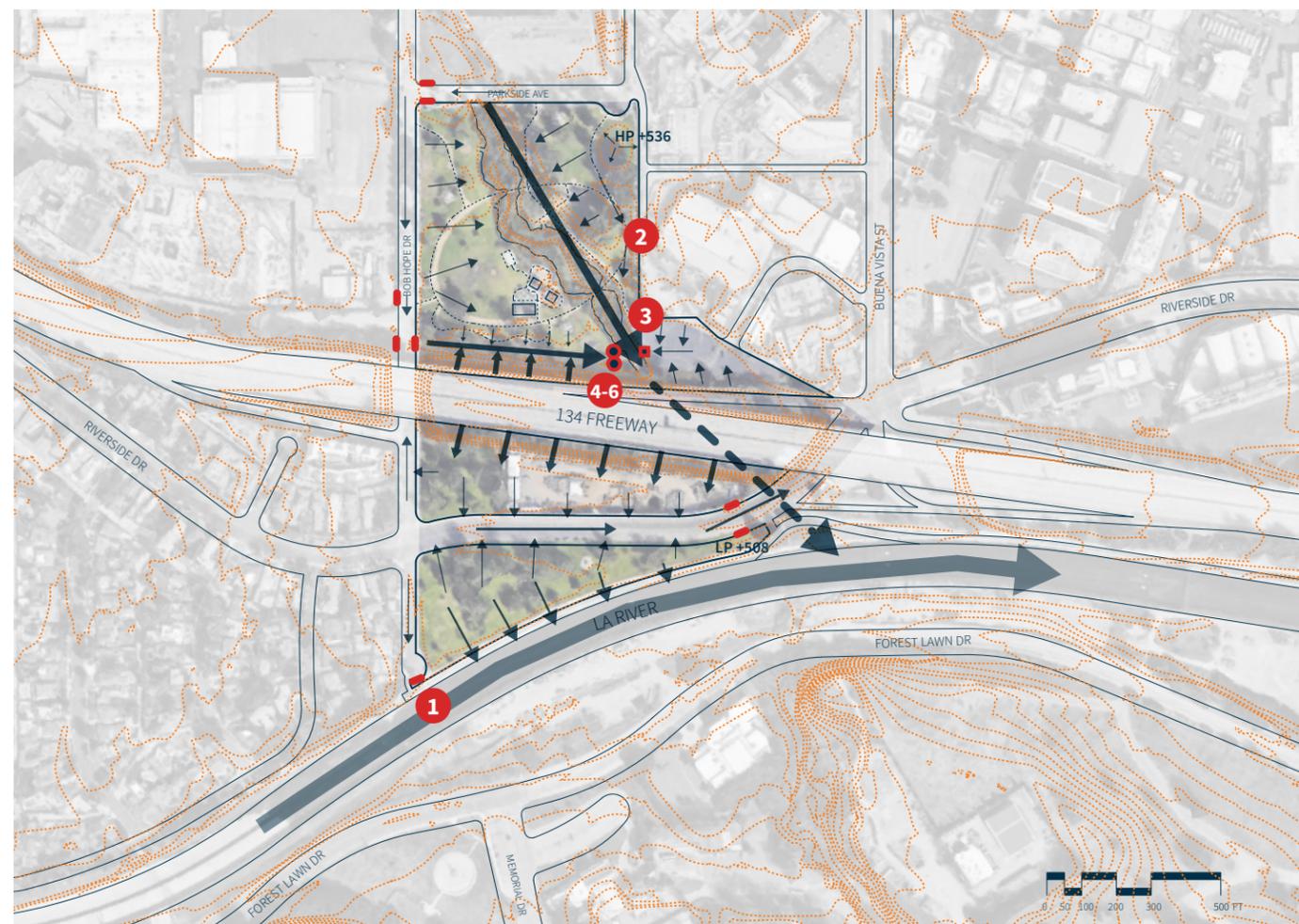
Context and Circulation



- AREAS**
- Residential Zoning
 - Commercial Zoning
 - Media Centers
 - Schools
 - Open Space
- CIRCULATION**
- Pedestrian Circulation
 - Vehicular Circulation
 - Bicycle Circulation
 - Equestrian Circulation
 - Bus Stop
 - Parking Lot
- NOTABLE SITES**
- 1 Johnny Carson Park
 - 2 Warner Bros Studios
 - 3 The Burbank Studios
 - 4 The Pointe
 - 5 Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center
 - 6 Providence High School
 - 7 Disney Studios
 - 8 Polliwog
 - 9 Mountain View Park
 - 10 Future Headworks Reservoir Project
 - 11 Forest Lawn Memorial Park
 - 12 Griffith Park

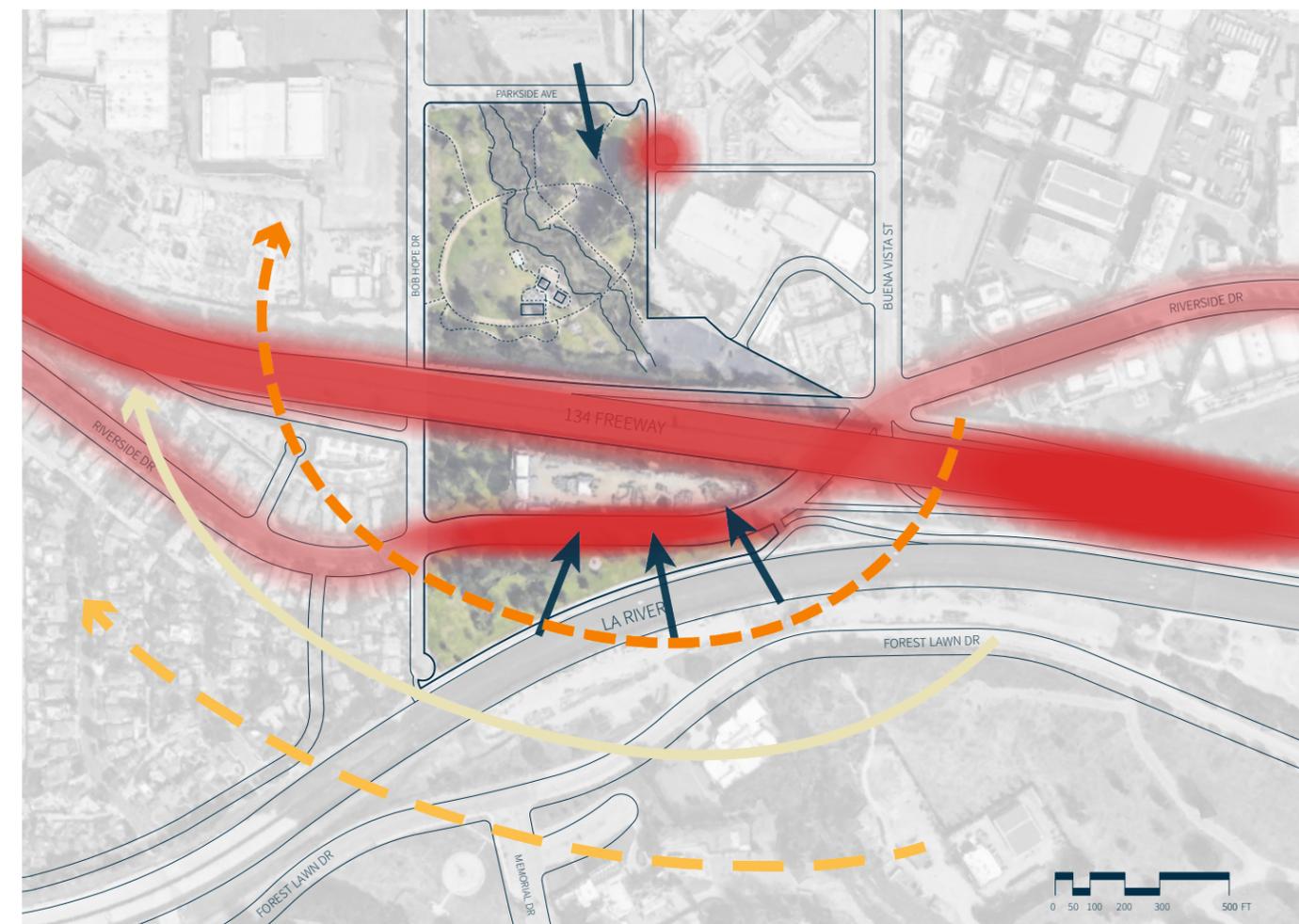
Site Inventory and Analysis

TOPOGRAPY AND DRAINAGE



- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| TOPOGRAPY | DRAINAGE | Culvert |
| Contour Interval = 4' | Above-ground Drainage Direction | Storm Drain |
| | Underground Drainage Direction | Storm Drain, Parking Lot |

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS



- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| SUN | WIND |
| Sun Path, Summer | Prevailing Wind Direction |
| Sun Path, Equinox | NOISE |
| Sun Path, Winter | Noise Intensity |

TOPOGRAPY AND DRAINAGE GALLERY



1 Bob Hope Storm Drain



2 Erosion



3 Parking Drain



4 Culvert in



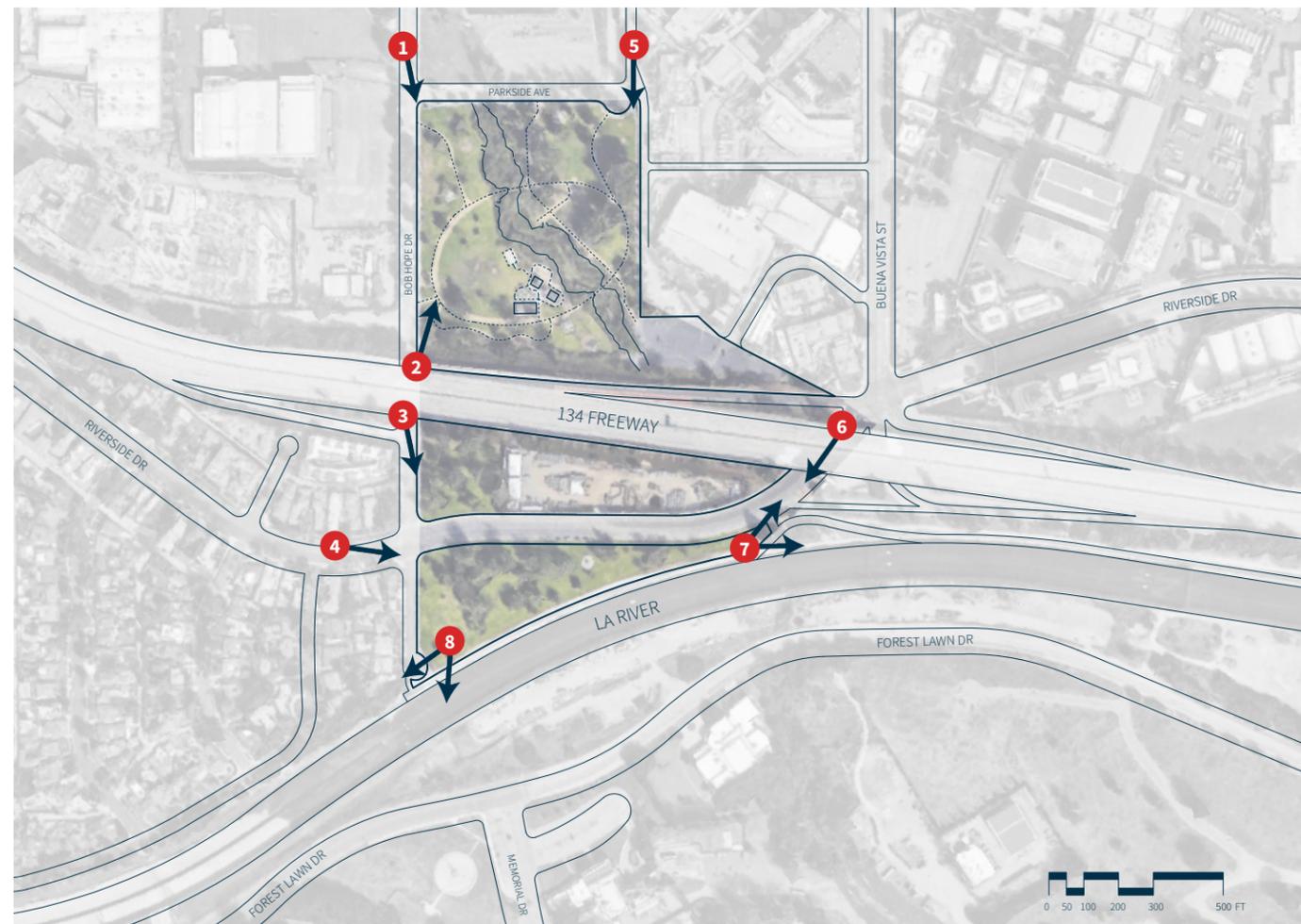
5 Culvert out



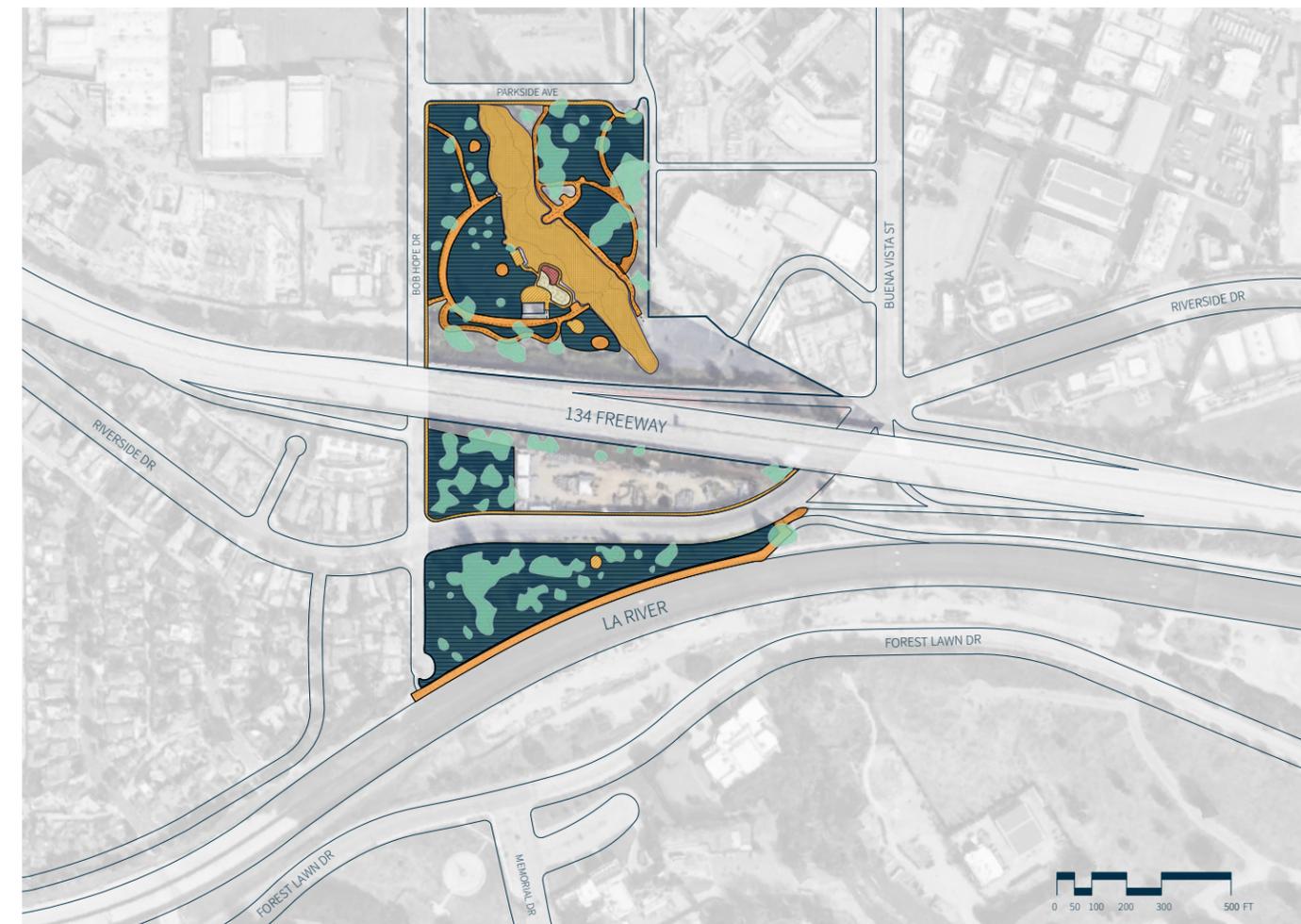
6 Culvert under 134

Site Inventory and Analysis

VIEWS AND VISTAS



PLANTINGS AND SURFACE MATERIALS



View of park approaching from north



View of park looking north on Bob Hope Dr.



View looking south along Bob Hope Dr



View approaching from west on Riverside Dr.



View of park entrance from the Pointe



View approaching from east on Riverside Dr.



Views of San Gabriel Mountains



Views of Griffith Park/Santa Monica Mountains

PLANTINGS

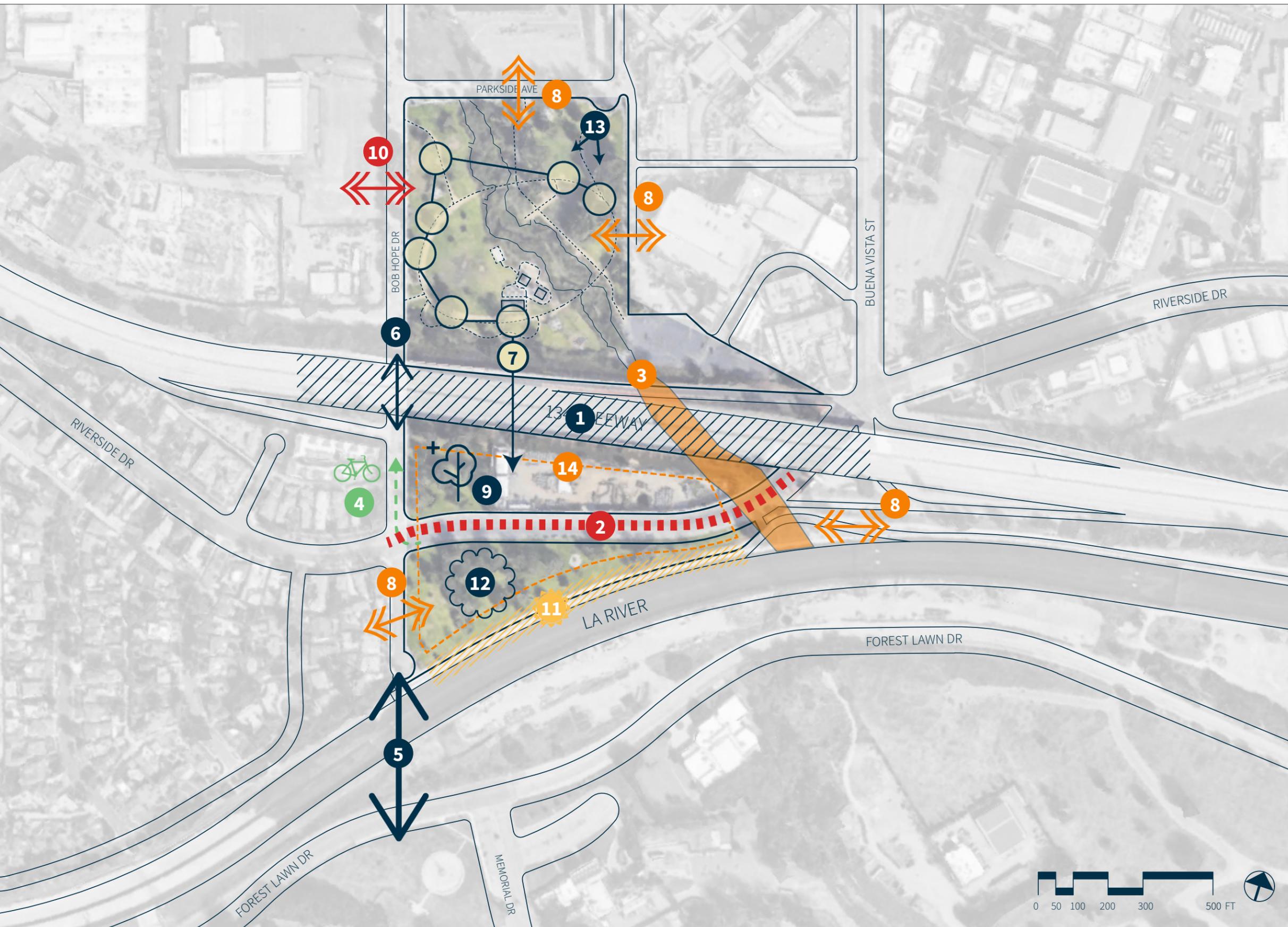
-  Tree Canopy
-  Native Shrubs

SURFACE MATERIALS

-  Concrete
-  Sand

-  DG
-  Rubberized Surface
-  Grass

Opportunities



- 1 Vacant freeway may be capped to connect north and south sides of park
- 2 Riverside Dr. may be removed or altered to create continuity throughout park and remove noise
- 3 Uncover wash to create additional riparian habitat
- 4 Existing bike paths may be expanded
- 5 Proximity to Griffith Park may be additional resource to connect to additional recreational opportunities and inform users on location (Burbank vs. LA)
- 6 Clearer circulation between North and South side of park
- 7 Extend exercise equipment
- 8 Create connections with adjacent features: commercial buildings, residential areas, trails
- 9 More native trees
- 10 Create something inviting for studio employees
- 11 Horse trail is very sunny, lending itself to solar lighting or solar energy capture.
- 12 Mature trees are opportunity to create a visual amenity and ameliorate microclimate.
- 13 Existing high points are a visual amenity
- 14 Existing gentle slopes are easily accessible and lend themselves to flexible programming.



Opportunities and Constraints Gallery



Opportunity 3: Uncover Wash



Opportunity 7: Exercise Equipment



Opportunity 12: Mature Trees
Constraint 3: Mature Trees



Opportunity 13: High Points



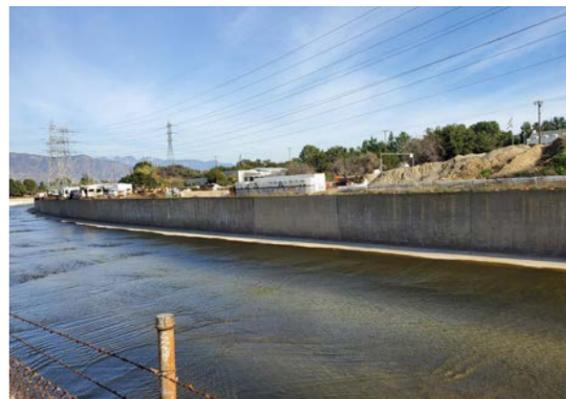
Constraint 1: Streets Rights-of-way



Constraint 2: High Tension Lines/Easement



Constraint 2: High Tension Lines/Easement



Constraints 5-6: Concrete Channel



Constraint 7: Overgrown Creekbed and Trash



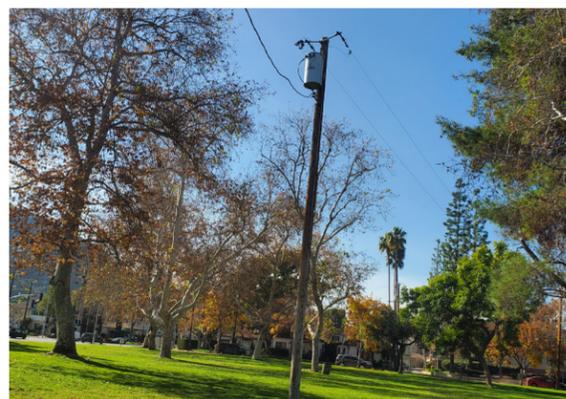
Constraint 9: Limited Circulation



Constraint 9: Limited Circulation
(No direct crosswalk from southernmost area)



Constraint 10: Hospital Noise



Constraint 11: Power Pole

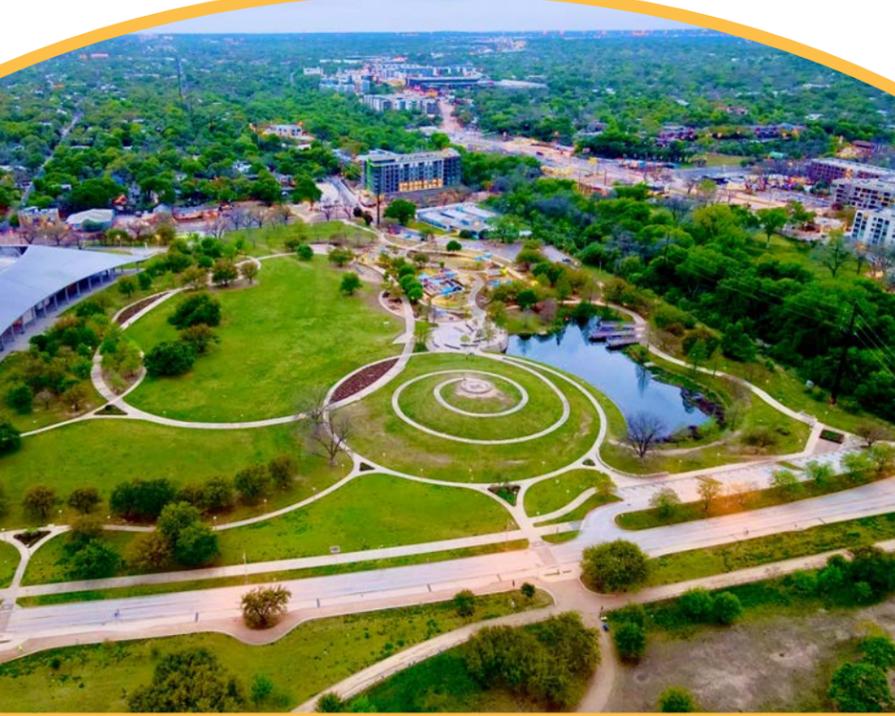


Constraint 12: Pipe View



Constraint 13: Ambiguous Parking Lot Access

Precedents



BUTLER METRO PARK
Austin, TX

Located in Austin, Texas, Butler Metro Park sits against the Colorado River and is bound to the west by First Street, a major arterial. This site was examined due to the similarities in its programming and to offer real examples of how a road can be utilized as a bridge with gradual bike paths and stairs. In this example, the bridge is similar in width to the vacated 134 Freeway.

The children's garden allows children to explore their environment at an approachable scale and takes advantage of the natural topography and local materials.

Its adjacency to the Colorado River also allows a variety of community activities. While the LA River is not as robust, the presence of water does naturally attract folks to gather and so it is a welcomed opportunity.



OAK CANYON PARK
Oak Park, CA

Oak Canyon Park is located in the suburb of Oak Park. It is situated on 23 acres and is managed by the Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District. About 10 acres of the park are developed with pavilions, playgrounds, walking paths, turf, dog park, and other amenities. The remaining acreage is left largely unaltered with the exception of dirt trails along the creek and an occasional bench.

As a park bordering a natural environment, this site provides an example of a successful transition between a more urban and a more naturalistic environment, and it can help guide the development between Johnny Carson Park and nearby Griffith Park.

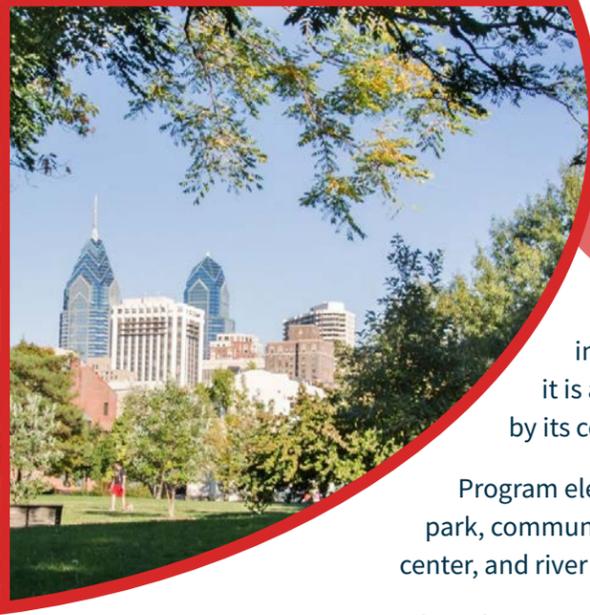


SCHUYLKILL RIVER PARK
Philadelphia, PA

Schuylkill River Park sits along the Schuylkill River, right in the heart of Philadelphia. This site was chosen because it is a successful, densely-programmed park that is beloved by its community.

Program elements include an open lawn space, playground, dog park, community garden, athletic and multi-use courts, recreation center, and river trail connection.

Like Johnny Carson Park, this park has a long history and has developed in stages over time to serve the ever-changing needs of its local community. Its adjacency to a major river makes it a useful study in how to connect a neighborhood park to a larger network of river parks.



Inspiration



Chunky bridge



Creek with stepping stones



Gateway arches



Sitting along river bank



Painted streets



Bird watching



Community garden



Outdoor exercise



Habitat islands



Tunnel with cutout overhead



California native plants



Farmers' Market

Concepts and Sketches



CONCEPT 1

- Open up the rest of the wash
- Large opening in 134 for wash
- Spacious pedestrian tunnel w/ skylights
- Convert 134 to bikeway
- Pond water feature



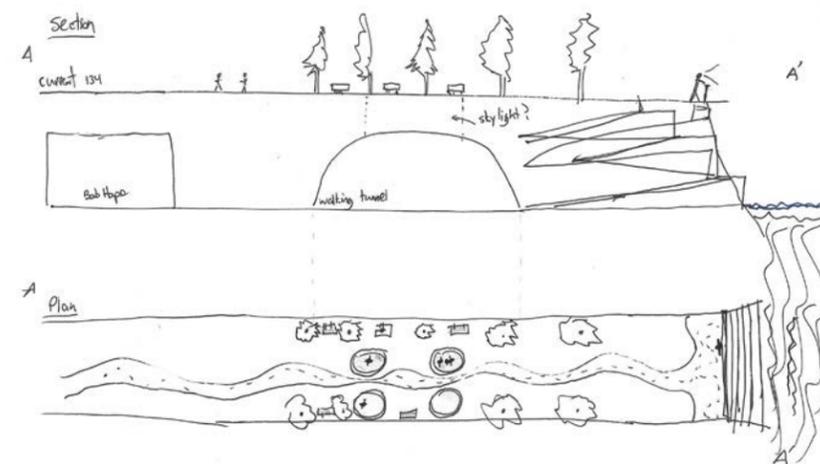
CONCEPT 2

- Repeat loop from north JCP
- Ellipse-shaped connections and program areas
- Open up the rest of the wash
- Lower parts of 134 to ground level
- Community garden close to high-density residential



CONCEPT 3

- Tuck Riverside Drive under 134 to create continuous park space
- Elevated walkway among tree canopy
- Terraced seating along LA river
- Habitat islands on the LA river
- Flexible open space on top of 134

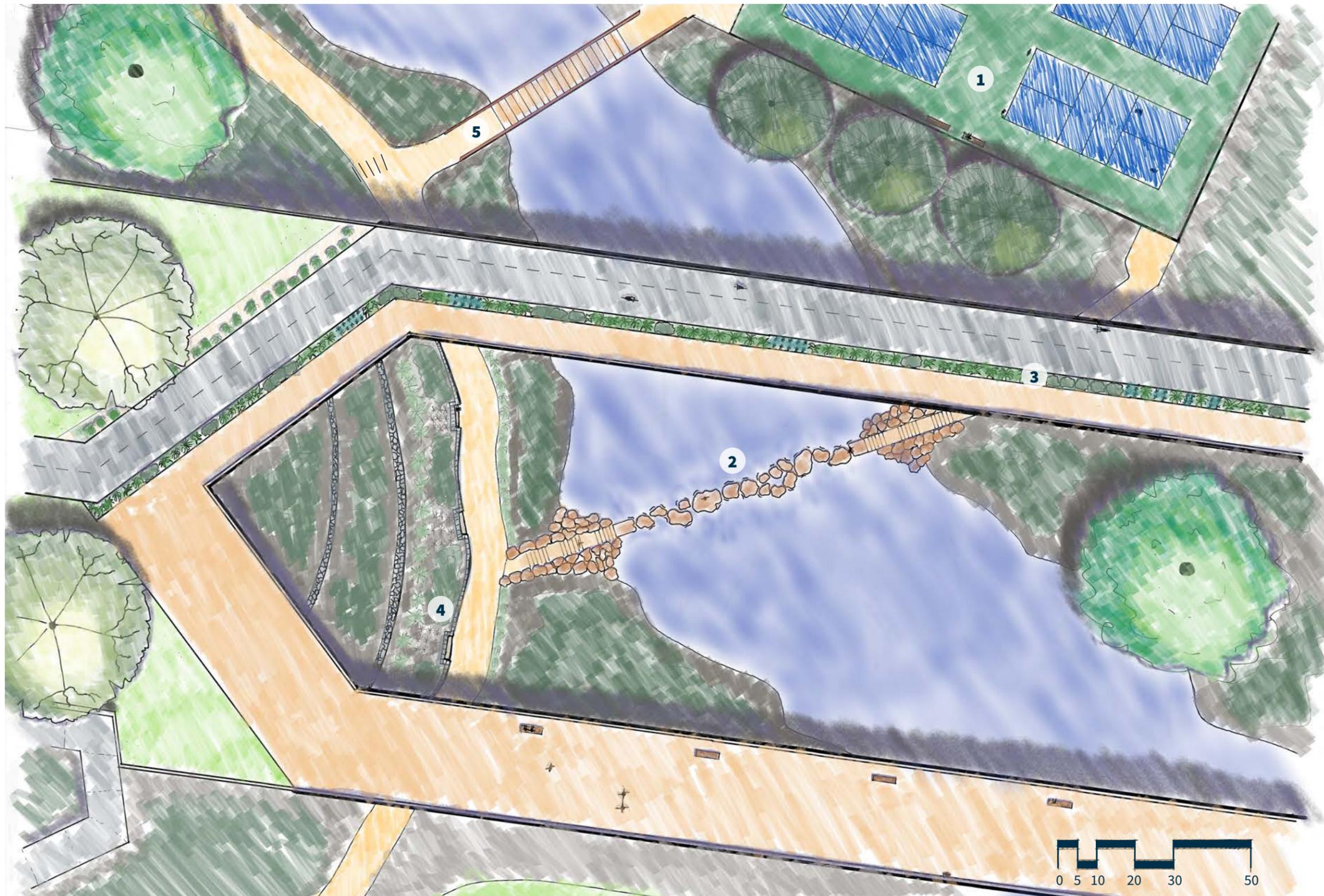


Site Plan

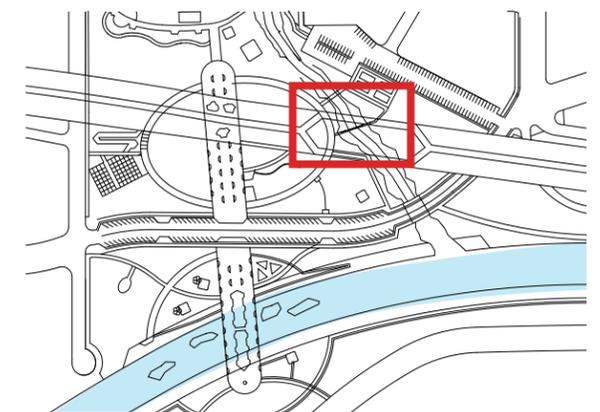


- 1 Picnic Area
- 2 Transmission Tower
- 3 Tujunga Wash
- 4 Pickleball Courts
- 5 Parking Lot
- 6 Bikeway
- 7 Pedestrian Tunnel
- 8 Orchard
- 9 Community Garden
- 10 Outdoor Fitness Area
- 11 Climbing Wall
- 12 Little Dog Park
- 13 Big Dog Park
- 14 Playground
- 15 Woodland Area
- 16 Lookout Dock
- 17 Bridge
- 18 Sennett Creek Park

Enlargement - Bridge



- 1 Pickleball Courts
- 2 Boulder Crossing
- 3 Bike and Pedestrian Bridge
- 4 Rock Wall Benches
- 5 Corten Steel Bridge

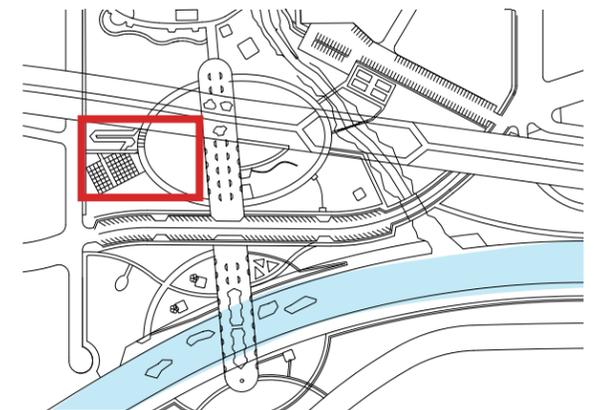


KEY MAP

Enlargement - Orchard



- 1 Ramp
- 2 Elevated Bike & Walkway
- 3 Peach Trees
- 4 Hachiya Persimmons
- 5 Fuji Apple
- 6 Loquat
- 7 Pomegranate
- 8 Picnic Area/Ephemera
- 9 Tool Shed
- 10 Restrooms
- 11 Work Benches
- 12 Compost Bins
- 13 Amphitheater
- 14 Outdoor Kitchen
- 15 Pollinating Perennials
- 16 Meadow

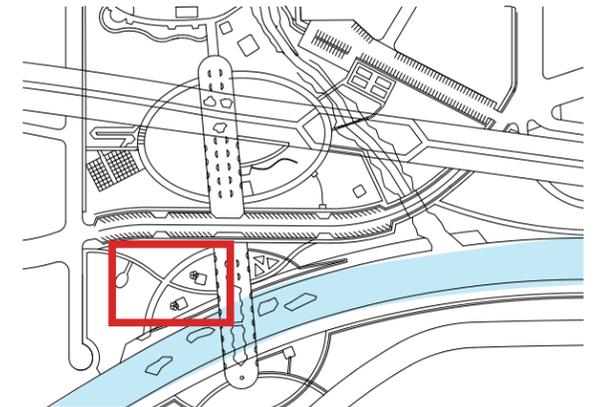


KEY MAP

Enlargement - River



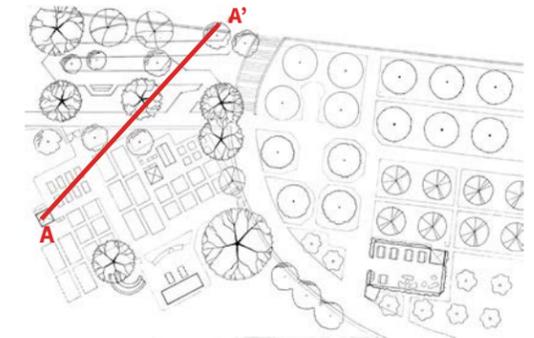
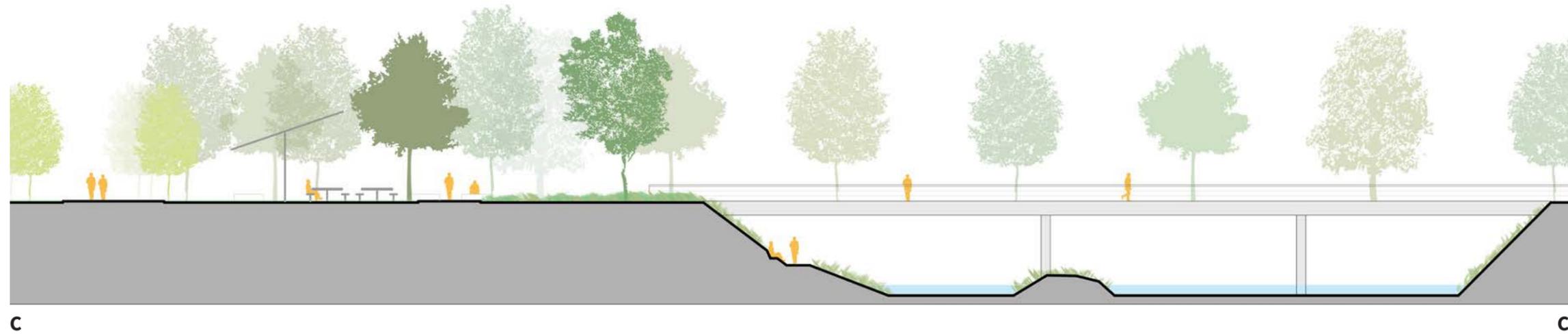
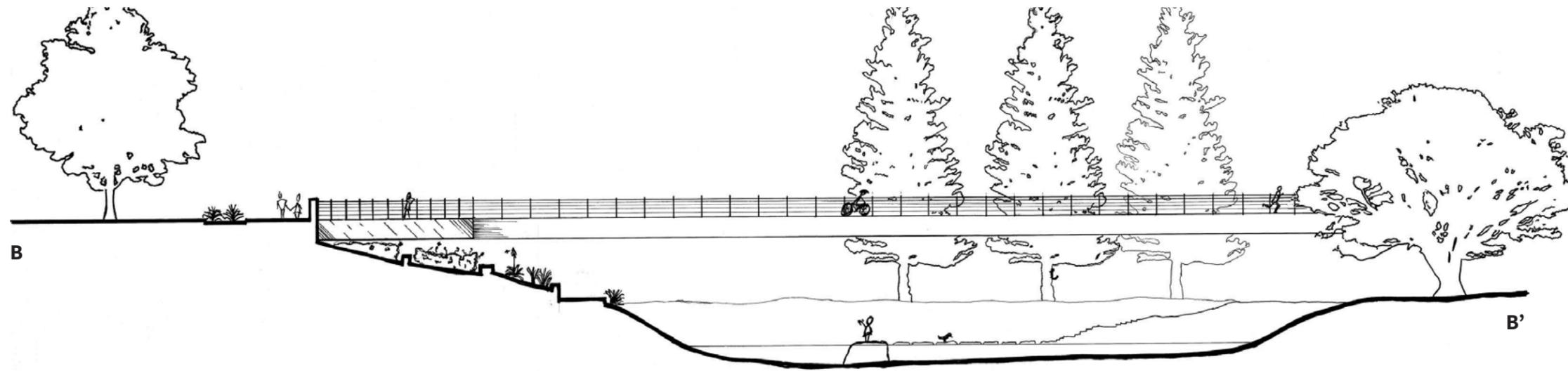
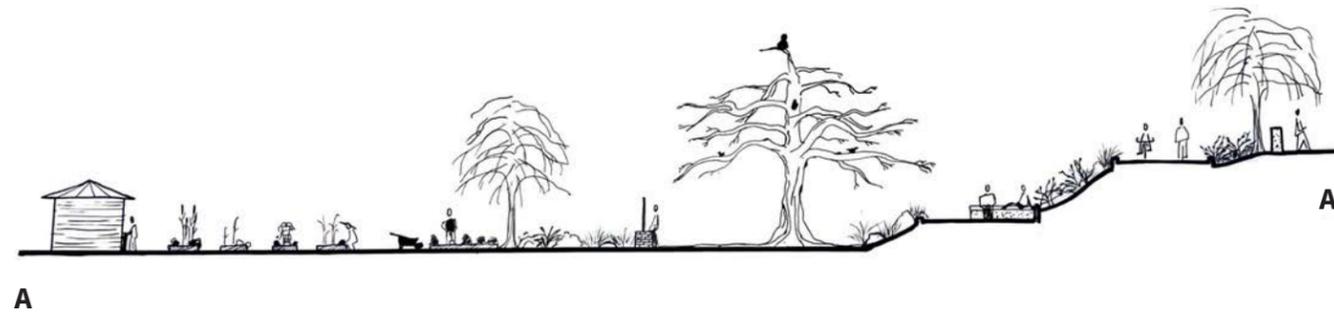
- 1 Chess Table Seating Area
- 2 Picnic Area
- 3 Riparian Planting Zone
- 4 Woodland Area
- 5 Lookout Deck
- 6 Ramp to Walkway along River Bank
- 7 Notched Seating
- 8 Bridge across LA River
- 9 Habitat Island



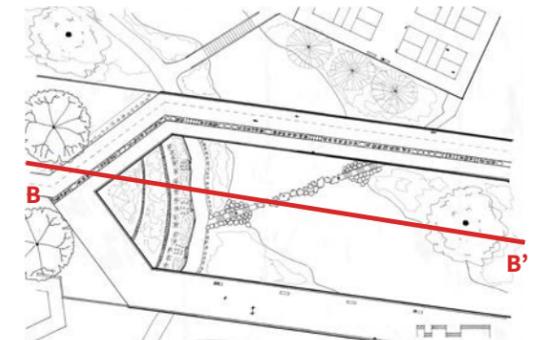
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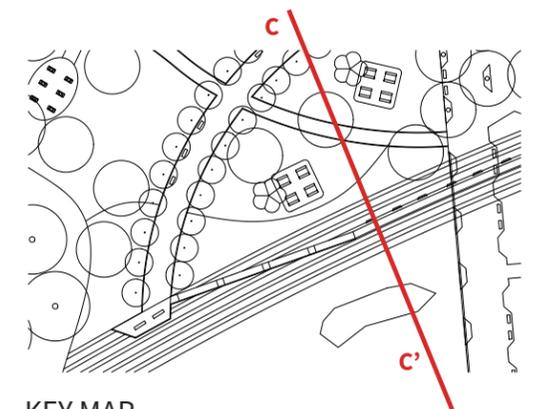
Section-Elevations



KEY MAP



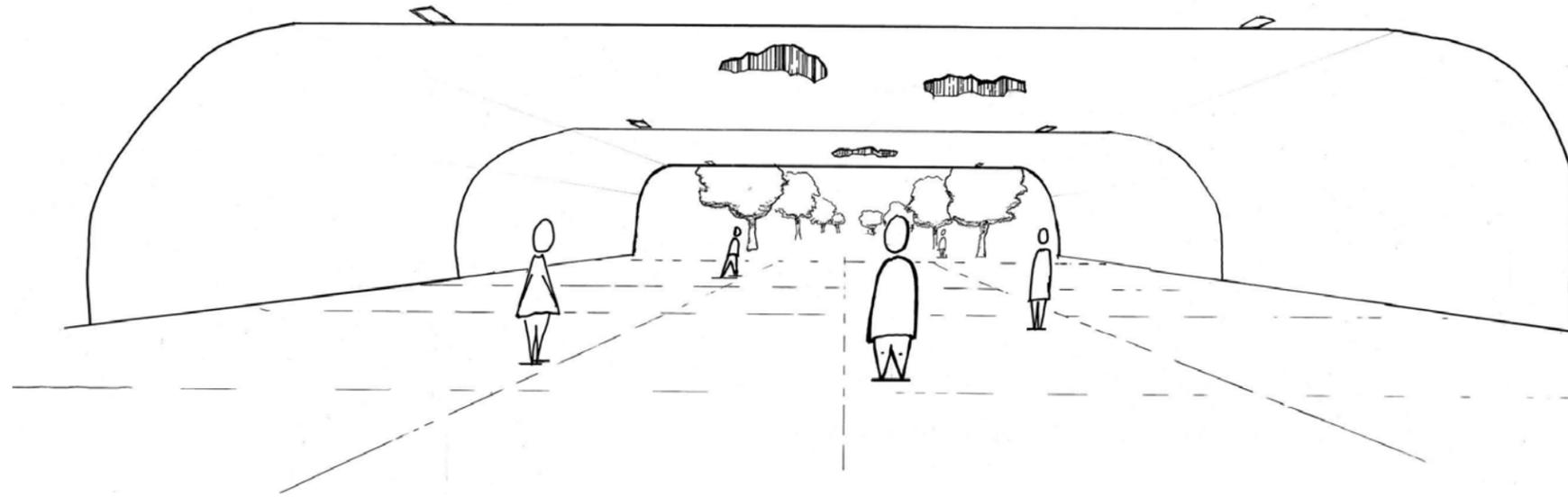
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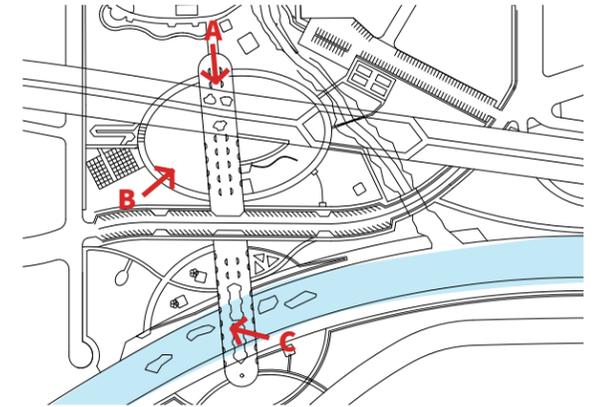
KEY MAP



Perspective Views



A. View through tunnel looking south



KEY MAP

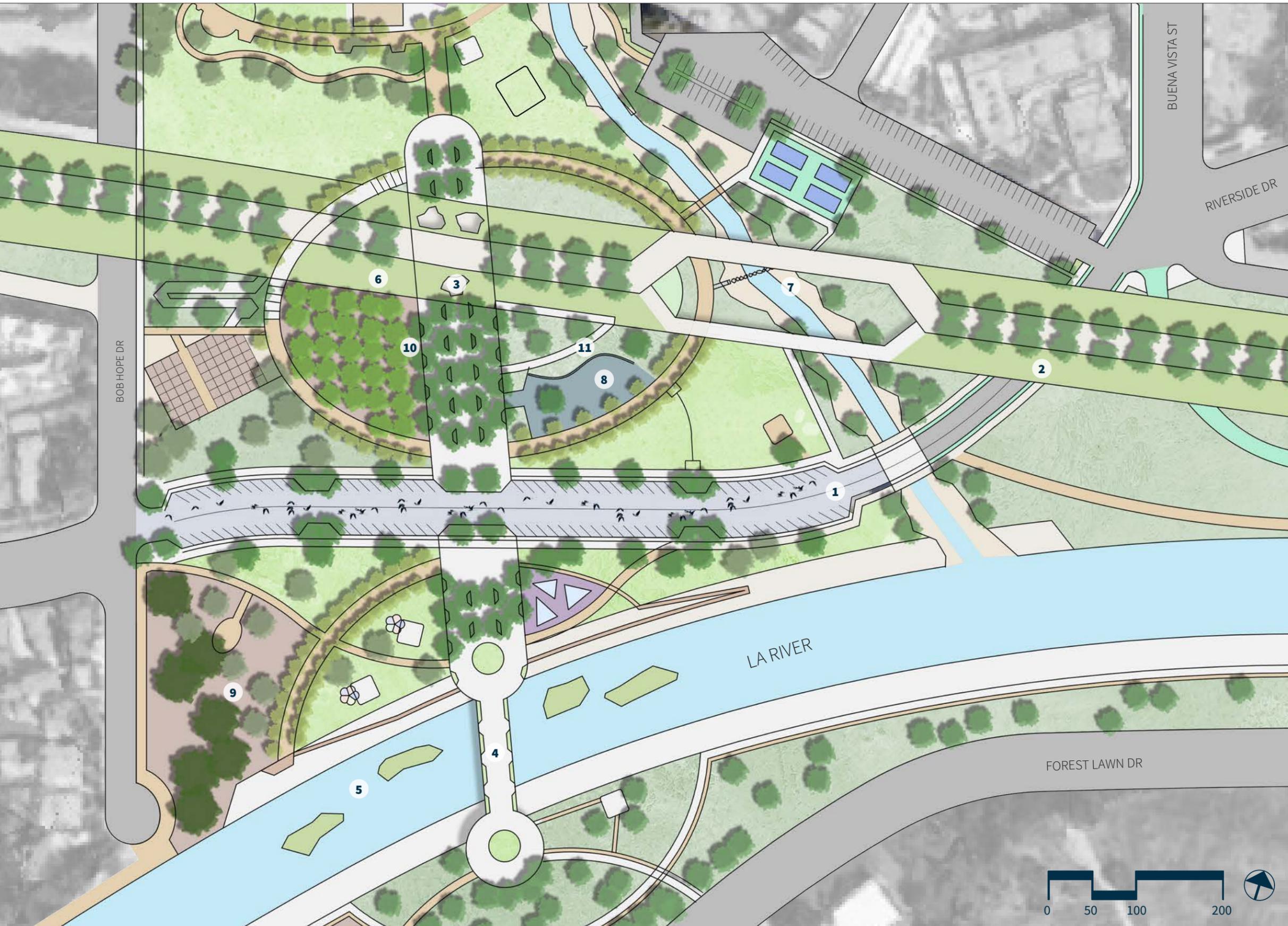


B. View of picnic and event space near orchard



C. View looking east from bridge over the LA River

New Plan Analysis



- 1** Narrowed Riverside Drive to slow down park, added parking, and painted surface to incorporate the street into the park
- 2** Vacated freeway greatly reduces noise
- 3** Large pedestrian tunnel connects north and south sides of park
- 4** Bridge over LA River connects park to Sennett Creek park and Griffith Park area
- 5** Beautified river channel with plantings, islands, sloped banks
- 6** Improved views over park and to distant mountains from elevated spots on the 134
- 7** Uncovered the wash for additional riparian habitat and interactive experience
- 8** Expanded exercise equipment area
- 9** Planted native trees
- 10** Additional trees provide more shade and mitigate urban heat island effect
- 11** Slopes and ramps allow wheelchair access to all areas of park

Plant Selection

TREE CANOPY



Coast Live Oak
Quercus agrifolia



Valley Oak
Quercus lobata



Western Sycamore
Platanus racemosa



Desert Willow
Chilopsis linearis



Hollyleaf Cherry
Prunus ilicifolia



Ginkgo
Ginkgo biloba



Fuji Apple
Malus pumila 'Fuji'



Japanese Persimmon Hachiya
Diospyros kaki 'Hachiya'



Pomegranate
Punica granatum



ORCHARD



Peach
Prunus persica



Loquat
Eriobotrya japonica



RIPARIAN



Clumped Field Sedge
Carex praegracilis



California Wildrose
Rosa californica



Cows Clover
Trifolium wormskioldii



Silver Lupine
Lupinus albifrons



Palmer's Indian Mallow
Abutilon palmeri



California Poppy
Eschscholzia californica



POLLINATORS



Stream Orchid
Epipactis gigantea



Deergrass
Muhlenbergia rigens



Common Rush
Juncus patens



San Diego Ceanothus
Ceanothus cyaneus



Coyote Bush
Baccharis pilularis

