UCLAx LD6: Concept Development / Instructor: Steven Chavez, PLA

FUILE DE



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## OVERVIEW AND SITE HISTORY

The Great Wall of Los Angeles is located in the neighborhood of Valley Glen, once divided into portions of Van Nuys and North Hollywood, the neighborhood established the need to separate their community in order to beautify and preserve the quality of their neighborhood in the 1990s, the neighborhood officially changed their name to Valley Glen in June 1999 and was formal recognized by the USPS in 2008 as their own neighborhood. The neighborhood spans 4.8 square miles in the heart of the San Fernando Valley and is home to Los Angeles Valley College and the famous Great Wall of Los Angeles, a location registered with the National Register of Historic Places. The climate of Valley Glen is Mediterranean/hot summer, mild winters with light rain.

The Great Wall of Los Angeles is an art mural that depicts the history of California through images of dinosaurs, indigenous people, to significant historic events from diverse and traditionally marginalized communities. The murals are 13.5' tall and stretches 2,754 feet, a little over half a mile long, along the concrete walls of the Tujunga Flood Control Channel of San Fernando Valley. It is located in the city of Valley Glen, beginning at W. Oxnard St. and ending at Burbank Blvd, running along Coldwater Canyon Ave and Lancer Lane. It is flanked by LA Valley College, Ulysses S. Grant High School, on the West and residential neighborhoods East. The mural is surrounded by a tree lined bike path and walking path, creating a 1 mile loop. The area of the park is around 8.4 acres

The mural project was lead by a Chicana muralist Judith F. Baca and the Social Public Art Resource Center (SPARC). The project started in 1974 when the Arny Corps of Engineers contacted Judith F. Baca about the possibility of creating a mural in the flood channel as part of a beautification project that included a mini- park and bicycle path. The paint of the mural began in 1976 and completed in 1984, together with a group of 400 community youths and artist.







# TIMELINE OF SITE









enous pe built and along the Angeles	C.E 1700's indig- eople, the Tongva lived in villages e "Wenot" (Los river) and other ross what is now eles	become the Unit of Amer	California es part of ed States ica and Los incorporated y	Glen ar predom agricult	ural land, ields and	kills 45 and de homes Congre authori channe 1935 - Corps	ose flood people estroys 100 , causes ess to ize concrete els Army	1949 - L Angeles Valley C was fou	ollege	1974 - Arm Engineers of with Judith Social and Resource (i create a m flood contro as a beautin project	collaborate F Baca an Public Art SPARC) to ural in the ol channel	d 1998 d Glen its ow neigh separ	borhood, rating Van Nuys Iorth
	1769 -The Spanish in California and in they conquer and e the Tongva to build missions and gave the name of Gabrie	1771, enslaved the them	Mid - 1800's Developmen results in hor businesses to built in the flo	mes and being	1914 - Majo causes \$10 damages 1915 - Los Flood Contr District (LA established	om in Angeles rol CFCD) is	1938 - L Angeles is Chan	River	1950 - Tujung Wash Chann	ja is		h and ng with nted a Iral along rete walls junga	2007 - Ti of Los Ar adopted the Los Angeles Revitaliz Master P





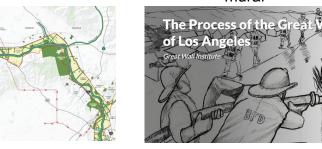




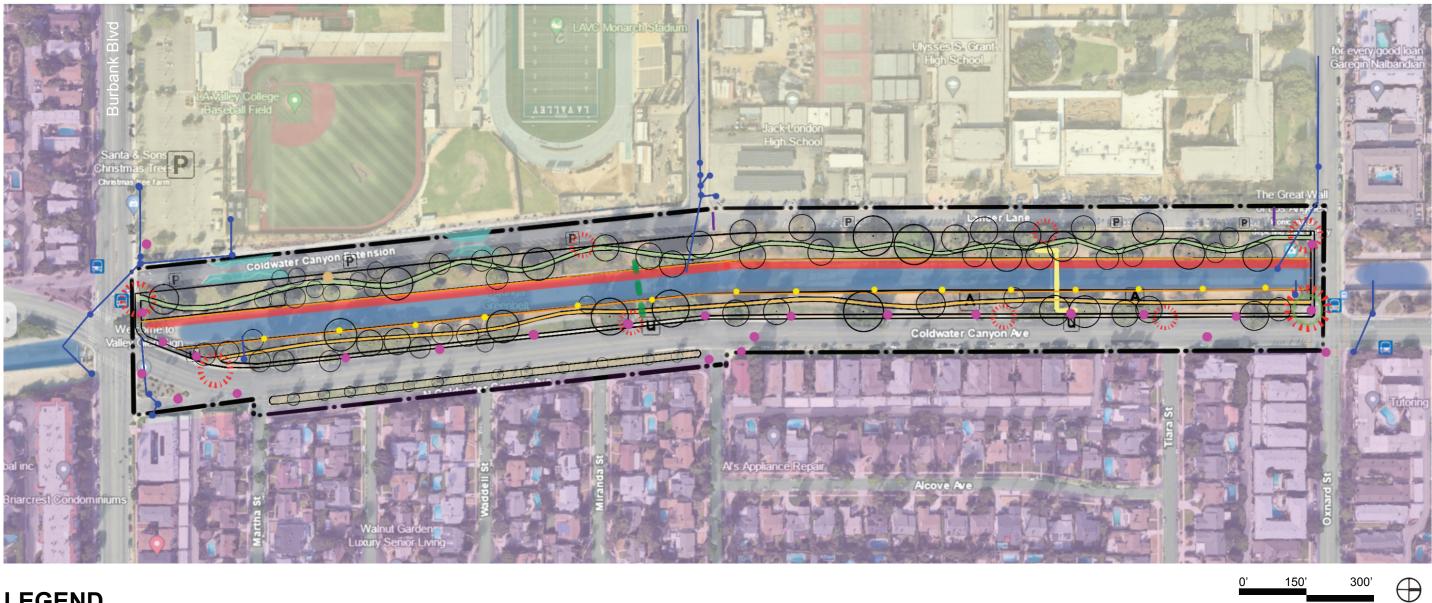
- 2011 Mural has been restored from flood and sun damage
- 2023 Foot bridge has begun construction

- The City Angeles be S es River lization Plan
- 2014 New foot bridge to cross the channel to view the mural has been planned

2024 Current -Mural expansion by Baca and (SPARC) is in research stage to be painted on other side of channel to complete 1 mile of mural



# SITE INVENTORY



#### LEGEND

- Site Boundary
  - Tujunga Wash
- Great Wall of Los Angeles Mural
- Fresh Water Main Line
- Gate
- Chain Link Fence
- Bike Path
- Walking Path
- - -Proposed Bridge

- A Concrete Art
  - Utilities
- P Parking

U

.

Transportation

#### Trees

(Platanus racemosa, Pinus halepensis, Cedrus deodara, Eucalyptus sideroxylon ,Koelreuteria bipinnata, Quercus agrifolia, Fraxinus uhdei, Schinus terebinthifolia)

**Residential Zone** School Zone Storm water Retent Picnic Table Storm Drain Inlets -Street Lights Spot Lights ( for Mu 

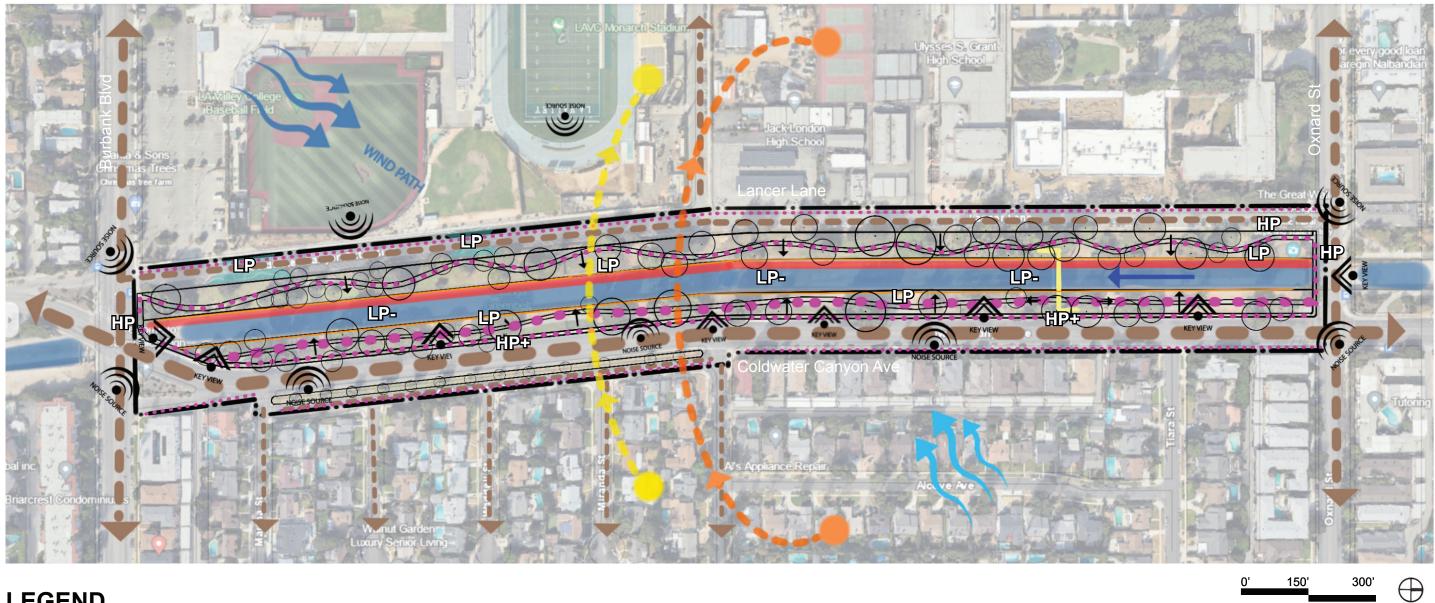
Main Entrance and

Access

ition Basin	
and flow	
ural)	
l Sign	

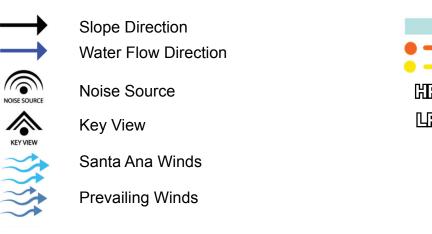
Animals that may reside in the area:

Raccoons, Opossums, Rats, Skunks, Bats, Snakes, Squirrels, Coyotes, Pigeons, Red Tail Hawk, Mourning Dove, Sparrow



#### LEGEND

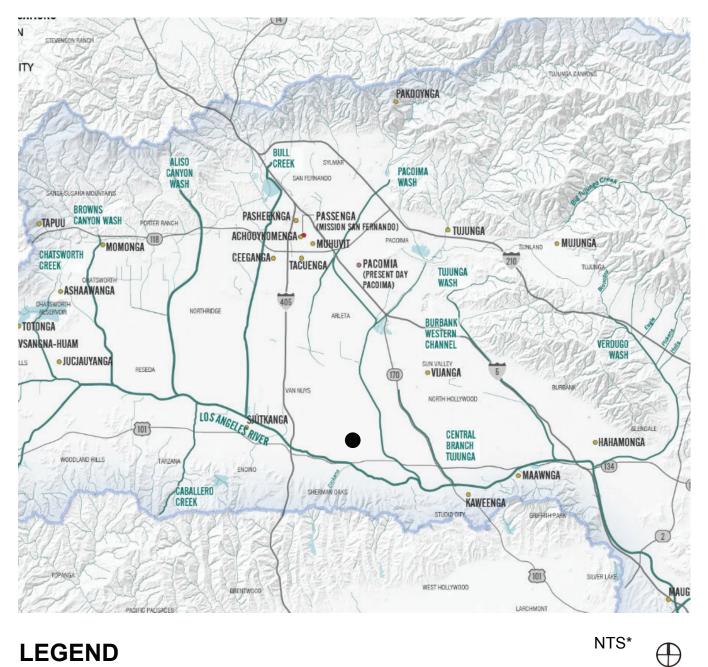




	Stormwater Retentio
	Summer Sun Path
-	Winter Sun Path
P	High Point
P	Low Point

on Basin

#### **INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY MAP**

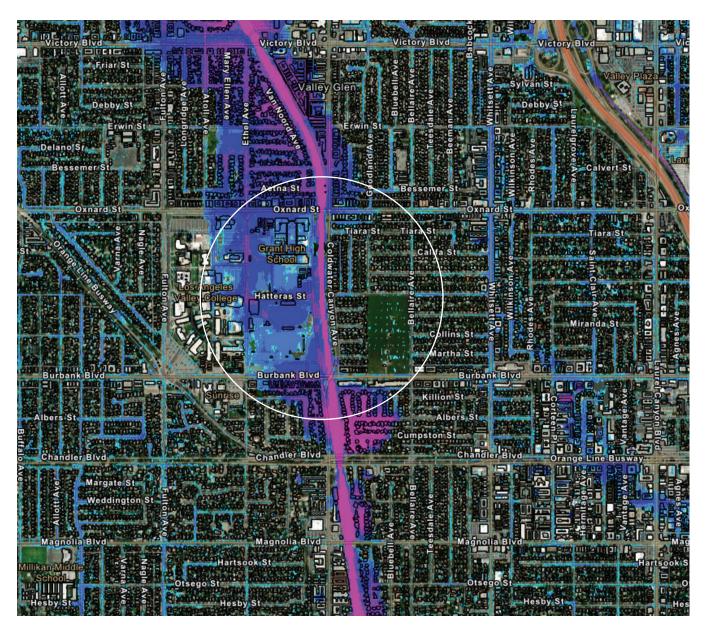


#### LEGEND

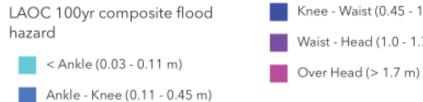
Great Wall of Los Angeles

- HISTORIC INDIGENOUS LOCATION
- Mission Village/ Community Historic Location

#### **100 YR COMPOSITE FLOOD HAZARD MAP**



#### LEGEND

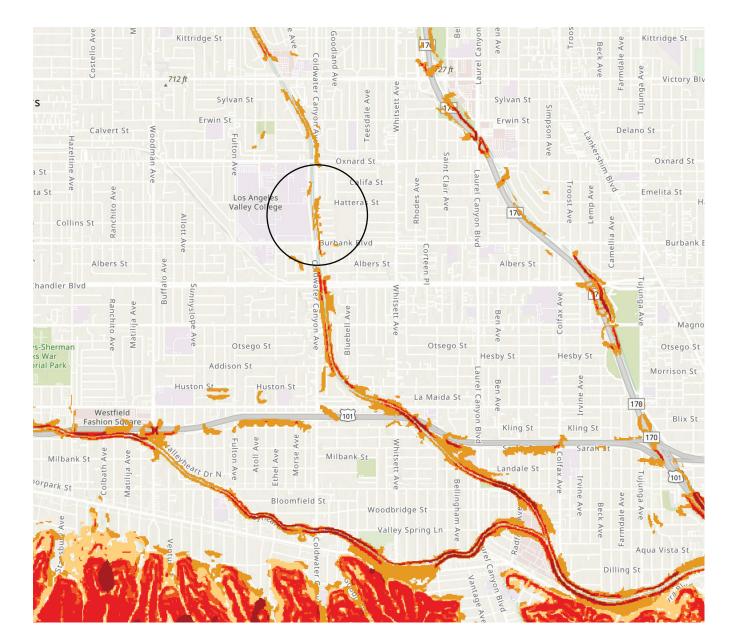


NTS\*  $\oplus$ 

Knee - Waist (0.45 - 1.0 m)

Waist - Head (1.0 - 1.7 m)

#### SEISMIC HAZARDS: LANDSLIDE SUSCEPTIBILITY



#### LEGEND



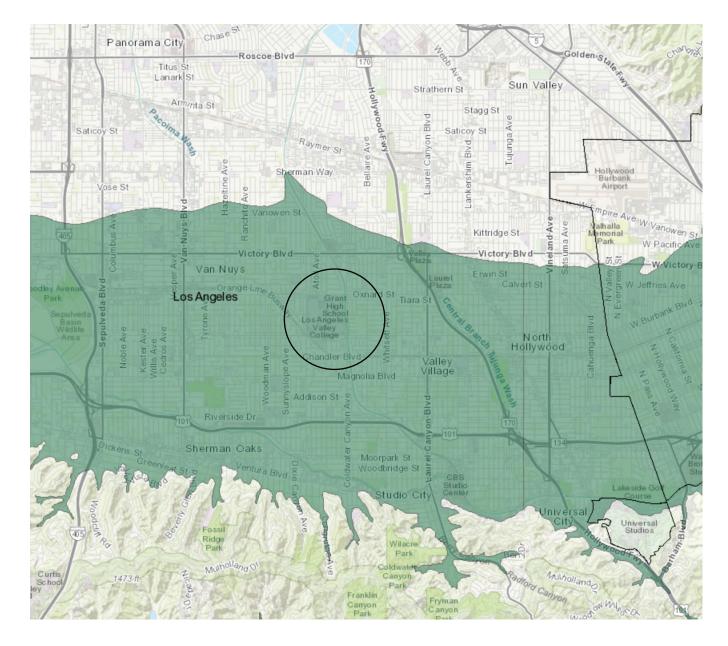
<sup>NTS⁺</sup> ⊕

#### **Deep-Seated Landslide Susceptibility**

Rock strength and slope are combined to create classes of landslide susceptibility. These classes express the generalization that on very low slopes, landslide susceptibility is low even in weak materials, and that landslide susceptibility increases with slope and in weaker rocks. Very high landslide susceptibility, classes VIII, IX, and X, includes very steep slopes in hard rocks, and moderate to very steep slopes in weak rocks.

Mapped active landslides are assigned to susceptibility class

### **SEISMIC HAZARDS : LIQUEFACTION ZONES**

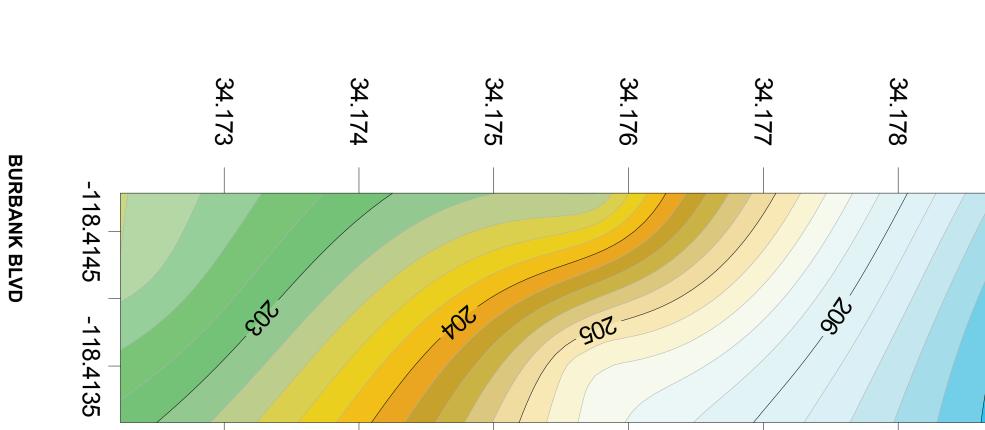


#### LEGEND

#### Liquefaction zone

Liquefaction zones identify where the stability of foundation soils must be investigated, and countermeasures undertaken in the design and construction of buildings for human occupancy. Liquefaction is a process by which water-saturated sediment temporarily loses strength and acts like a fluid, can happen in the event of a large earthquake. NTS<sup>∗</sup> ⊕

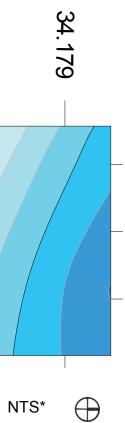
CONTOURS



LANCER LANE

Contours in Meters

**COLDWATER CANYON AVE** 



OXNARD ST

# SITE CONSTRAINTS

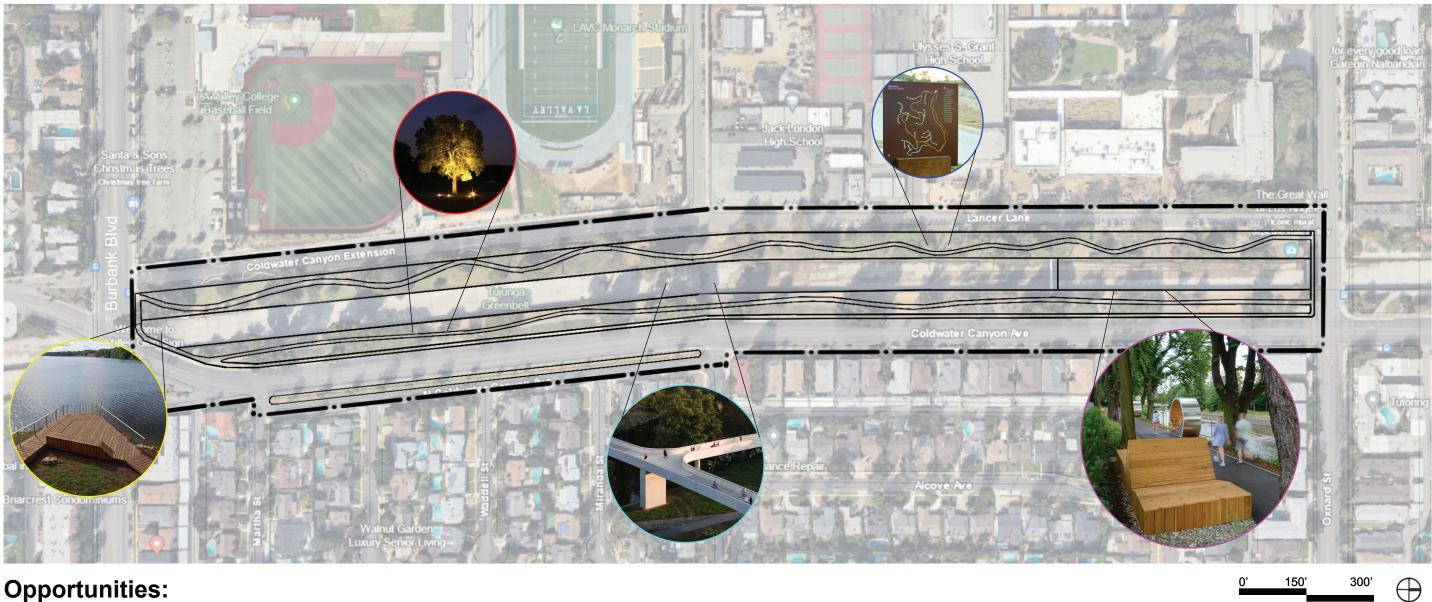


#### **Constraints:**

- Site is hot in summer despite large trees ٠
- Site is narrow on both sides of the channel and the green space along Coldwater Canyon Ave has a variating slope throughout
- Fast traffic on Coldwater Canyon Ave ٠
- Narrow pedestrian walkway on Burbank Blvd and Oxnard Ave
- Loud car sounds from Coldwater Canyon Ave, Burbank Blvd, and Oxnard St ٠
- Discrete signage and information on the site and the mural ٠
- Mural feels disconnected from green space due to chain link fence  $oldsymbol{eta}$
- Lack of close mural viewing areas
- Lacks visibility from the street ٠
- Lacks amenities and draw to the space (No restaurants, no visitor center, no restrooms) ٠
- Water main above ground ٠

- Located in suburbs and residential area, away from city attractions
- Engineers design the Tujunga Channel not for people's visual or physical needs
- Mature trees are showing signs of structural risk
- Bike path showing signs of root damage •
- ADA accessibility to mural questionable
- Located in suburbs and residential area, away from city attractions
- Lack of public knowledge of the space •
- Lack of programmable spaces •
- Lack of safe connections to residential area across the street from Coldwater Canyon ave
- Lack of seating and rest spots ٠
- Lack of shade for bus stops

# SITE OPPORTUNITIES

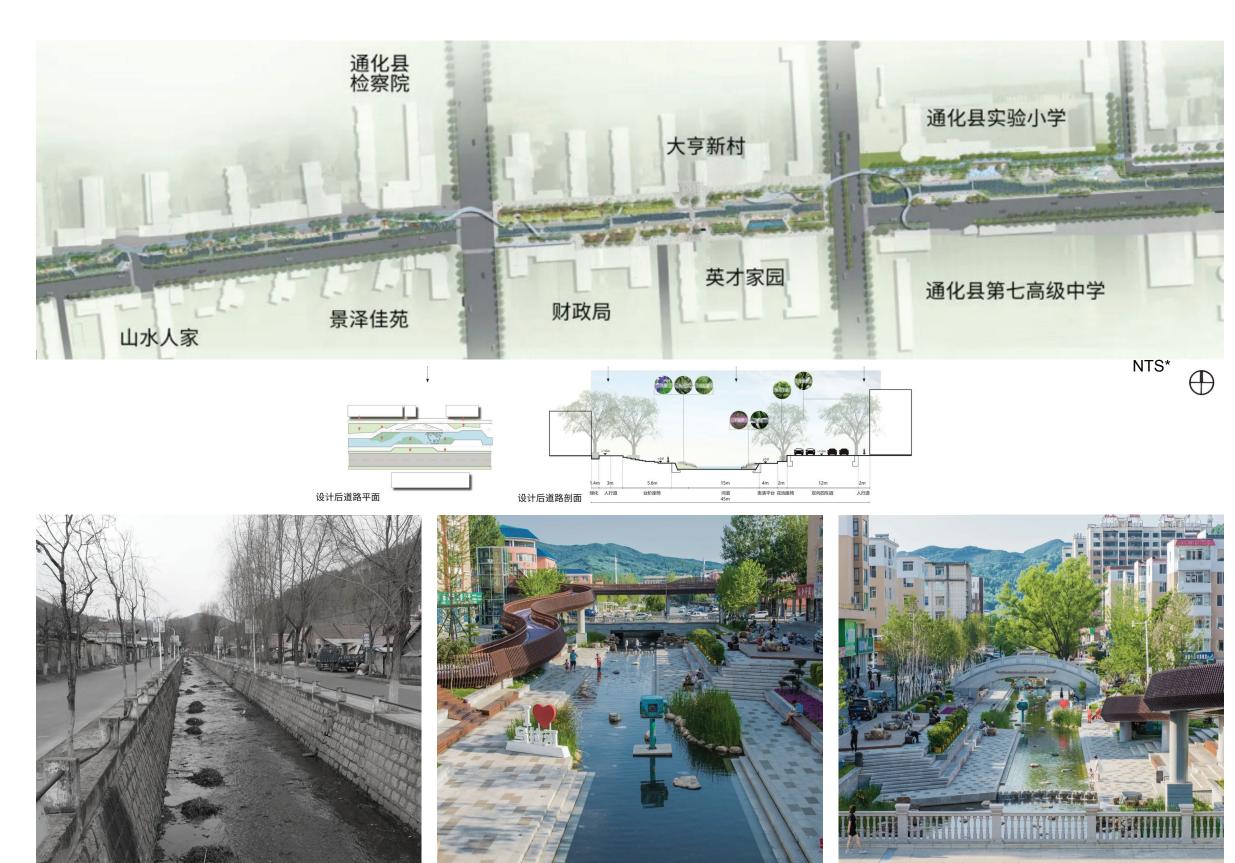


#### **Opportunities:**

- Viewing platforms for mural
- Expansions of walking path on Burbank Blvd ٠
- Elevated paths inside Tujunga Channel to observe mural  $oldsymbol{O}$
- Channel accessibility ٠
- Attractive fencing to connect mural to green spaces ٠
- Signage about the mural and Tujunga wash  $\odot$
- Outdoor museum ٠
- Visitor center and activity space
- Space above tributary can be used as viewing decks and foot bridges  $\odot$
- Cafes ٠
- Programmable spaces high school and college next door ٠
- Accessibility to neighborhoods ٠

- Better signage and outreach ٠
- Bringing seating and walking paths closer to the mural  $oldsymbol{O}$
- ADA access tributary edge to view mural •
- Better public transportation seating •
- Stormwater retention on site Bioswales and rain gardens
- Redirecting water from tributary for retention on site •
- Rubber Sidewalk for tree root damage •
- Native plants and pollinator gardens
- Orchard and community gardens ٠
- Uplighting trees and walkways for night time use

# PRECEDENT CASE STUDY 1: WULACAOGOU RIVER, CHINA



Project Name: Comprehensive renovation of Wulacaogou River in Tonghua County Project location: Kuaidamao Town, Tonghua County, Tonghua City, Jilin Province Project scale: 52180 SQM (12.89 acres) Design Time: March 2021 Completion time: January 2022 Client: Tonghua County Housing and Urban Rural Development Bureau Design unit: SHUISHI Design team: SHUISHI Landscape Design Department II , Landscape Department Photographer: Li Kuan

#### Environmental:

- Slowing down the river and make full use of the water from the snow and ice melt that feeds the river, changing it from a spillway channel to connect the mountains, water, back with the city and the people.
- Slowing the river by breaking the original straight pattern, by widening from 6 meters to 6 -18 meters in certain areas, turning vertical revetments into stepped revetments and adding stepping stones and swell dams to reduce daily water flow speeds, but also allowing multi level access.
- The hard river jacket has been replaced with lava rocks and pebbles which help purify water.
- Wula grass and other aquatic plants have been installed to further purify the water.

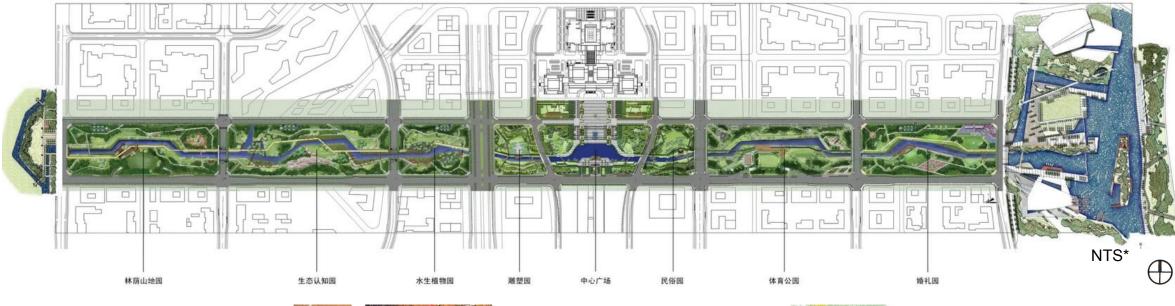
#### Social:

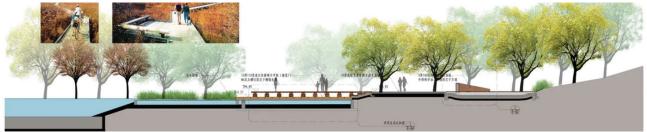
- The objective of the design is to bring the river back to life, let people enjoy a slow river, slow traffic, slow time.
- Changing the pattern of vehicular traffic, allowing it on only one side of the river, returns the road space to citizens.
- New connections to businesses and surroundings through the pedestrian walkways and river crossings allow for better landscape integration.
- Slowed traffic around the green space allows for better pedestrian safety.
- Two tier walkway allowed for better public enjoyment, which can be inundated during flood season.

#### Economic:

Businesses boom in surrounding areas due to high amounts of pedestrians and better connection between both sides of river.

# PRECEDENT CASE STUDY 2: ZHONGJIANG PARK, CHINA







Project: Zhongjiang Park, Wuhu (originally Wuhu Central Park)

Location: Wuhu City, Anhui Province Category: public landscape, park design Land Area: 48 hectares (118.61 Acres) Client: Wuhu Business and Culture Center Construction Office Landscape Design: L&A Group Year of Design: 2008

Environmental:

- Urban green belt designed as a landscaping axis connecting Shenshan Mountain and Biandan River.
- Silty soil and complicated hydrological conditions lead to many rainwater management and urban flood control functions and specific landscape features such as seasonal wetlands and a river.
- The "river" in the park is actually a artificial watercourse system, which has been installed to collect, purify, and store water for seasonal droughts and prevent runoff.
- Low-cost eco-friendly facilities such as gabion walls and bioswales have been installed throughout the site as features and for water infiltration.
- Gabions are built as ecological revetments to cope with silty soil which is impracticable to construct drainage trenches or slopes. Gabion walls also help with erosion.
- Several pumping stations were built to control out of ordinary high water levels.
- The aquatic habitats are fully supplied by local precipitation and the landscape watercourse help the landscape to not require additional daily water.

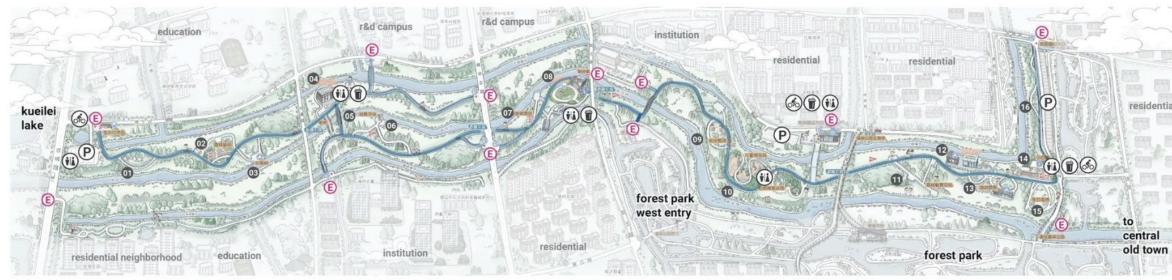
#### Social:

- The green belt connects many urban facilities and neighborhoods.
- The park is a green ribbon park, connecting 8 themed parks, providing park go-ers many experiences, but also giving the space a united feel.
- Abundant wildlife can be found and interacted with by park go-ers.
- Concerts and group exercise bring together community.

#### Economic:

The park serves as the center piece to the future urban administrative, cultural, and business center in the Chengdong new district. Bringing in businesses and residents to the area.

# PRECEDENT CASE STUDY 3: KUNSHAN MIAOJING RIVER, CHINA



#### Kunshan Miaojing River Central Water Corridor

wetland broadwalk	💿 family lawn
1 forest amphitheater	🔞 play areas
Iarge willow deck	wet prarie walk
team building lawn	12 community pavilion
05 twin bridge	activity lawn
06 viewing platform	1 visitor center
1 wetland education	s wetland garden
ecology cafe	Canal-front stroll

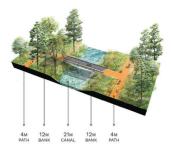
#### Legend

(E) entry (P) parking (iii) restroom () food / beverage So bike rental

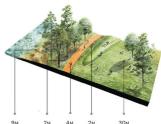
NTS\*

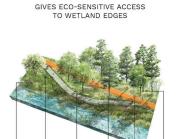
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PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CONNECTS PEDESTRIAN TRAILS OVER CANALS



LINKAGE TRAIL CONNECTS VISITORS TO ROGRAMMATIC AREAS OF THE





WETLAND BOARDWALK

FOREST BOARDWALK GIVES ECO-SENSITIVE ACCESS EGENERATED FORESTS







Project Name: Miaojing River: From a Hidden Treasure to Ecological Infrastructure Completion year: Phase 1 built in 2022 Project area: 600, 000 m2 (148.26 Acres) Project location: Kunshan, China Design company: PLAT STUDIO Collaborators: Great Ecology Lead Architects: Fred Liao, Shih-Lin Lan

Environmental:

- Two water channels and dense tree planting protect the river from runoffs, creating a unique green area, but was once inaccessible to the public, but installation of a new piping system and government approval allowed the space to become a public green space.
- Diverse ecological zones were created, mutil-layered vegetation was introduced along trails, wet prairies and re-graded waterways were established for wetland planting.
- Bioswales were implemented along trails to further capture runoff.
- All surfaces are designed to be permeable and elevated where possible, making the site a sponge city.

#### Social:

- Enhanced neighborhood connections and provide pedestrian links from adjacent commercial and residential neighborhoods through the many bridges and trails through the green space.
- Continuous trail system connects Kuilei Lake Area to the Forest Park, which are green spaces on opposite ends of the Kunshan Miaojing River Corridor.
- Community events, daily strolling, jogging, biking, picnicking, education research show successful integration.

#### Economic:

Created a space for concerts, large social gatherings, ecological education events bringing in revenue to the city.

# UNITY, RETENTION, AND CONNECTION

The master plan was designed with the intention to bring the City of Los Angeles and the world to come witness the extraordinary Great Wall of Los Angeles Mural. The redesign of the park focuses the attention to the murals located on both sides of the channel. Currently the space has limited seating and the park space feels divided from the mural. The big idea behind the design is unity, retention, and connection. Circular forms bring together a unified energy to the site and are the connecting spaces to the mural. Water retention happens all across the site.

There will be amenities for visitors of all ages and interest. Viewing areas are located along both sides of the Tujunga Wash Channel anticipating the completion of the second mural on the East side of the channel.

The space will provide a visitor center, two cafes, multiple open space areas for gather, exercise equipment, LID water features, such as bioswales and retention basins, meditation areas, food forest, forest walks, an amphitheater and much more. The half a mile long park will become a destination for exploration, art, food, and relaxation.







# CONCEPT - BIG IDEAS

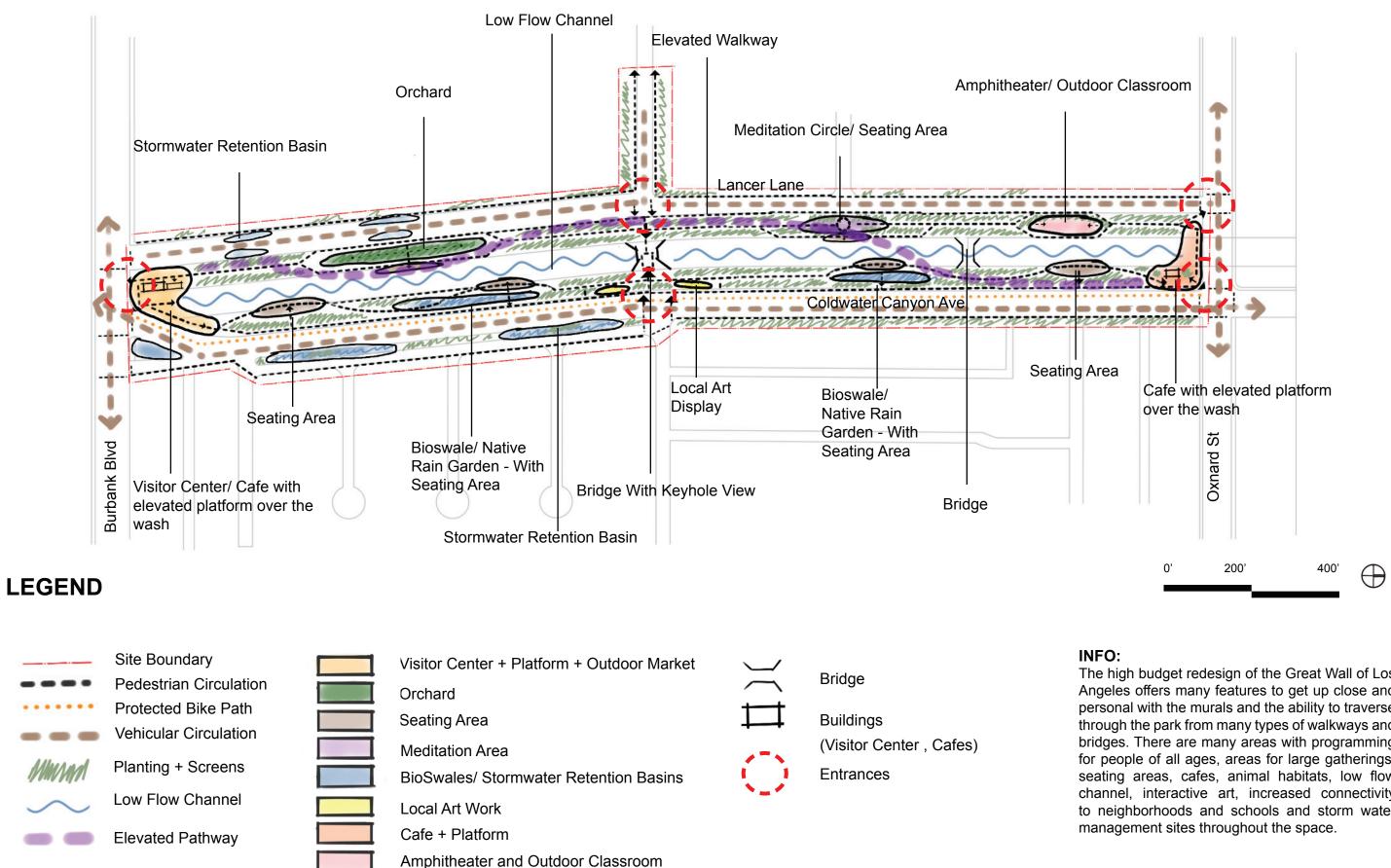






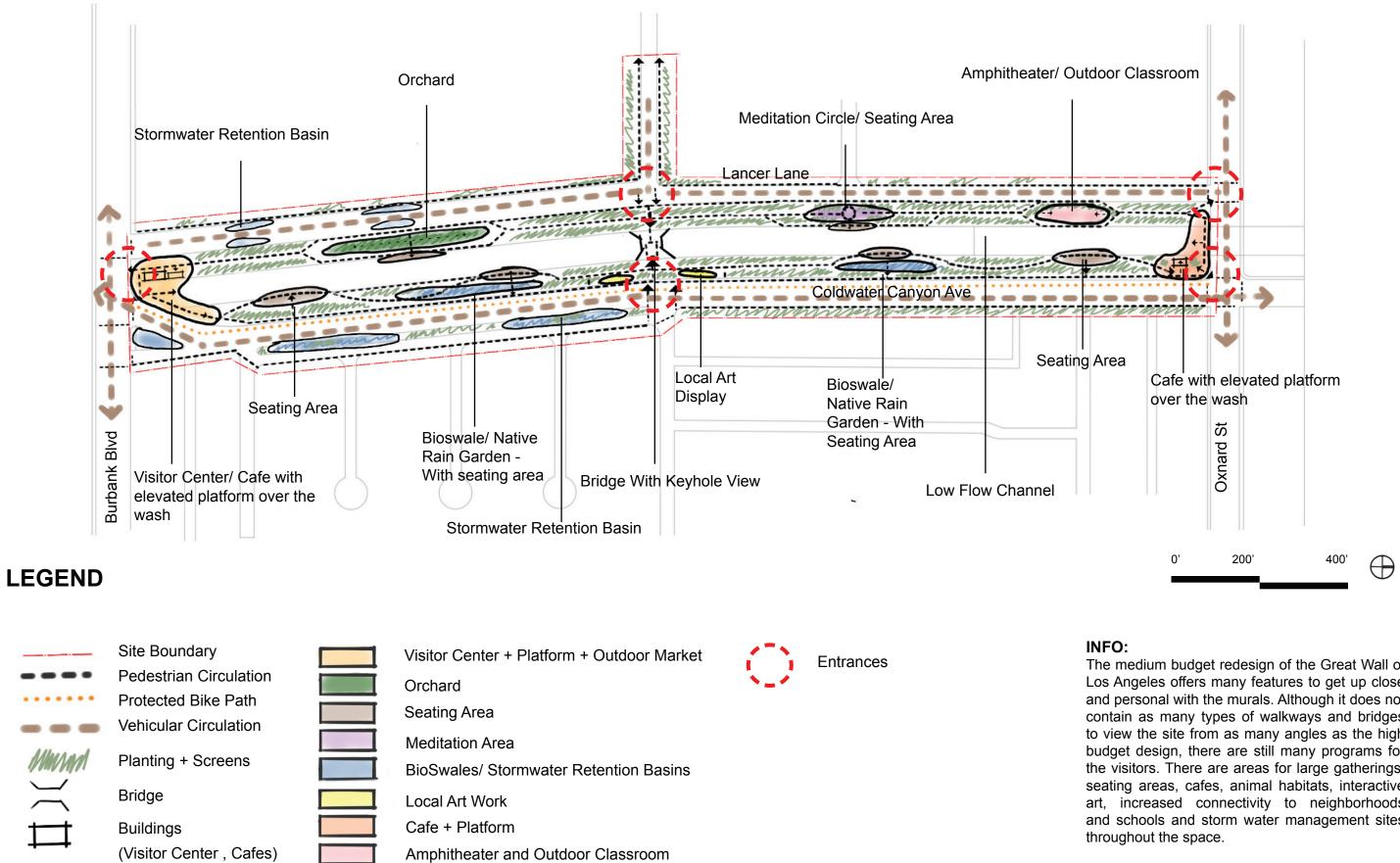
Big idea concept sketches on 5" by 8.5" index cards showing hardscape and amenties in black, water in blue, and planting in green.

# **DESIGN CONCEPT 1 - HIGH BUDGET**



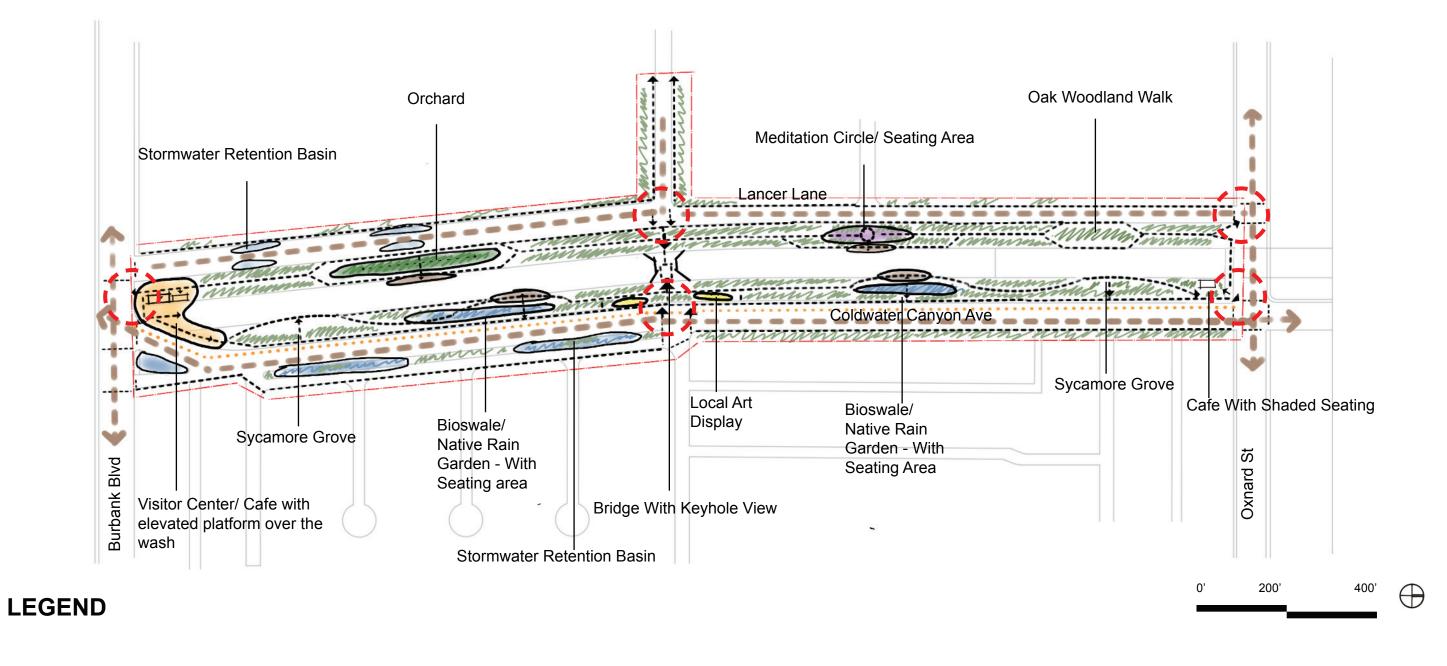
The high budget redesign of the Great Wall of Los Angeles offers many features to get up close and personal with the murals and the ability to traverse through the park from many types of walkways and bridges. There are many areas with programming for people of all ages, areas for large gatherings, seating areas, cafes, animal habitats, low flow channel, interactive art, increased connectivity to neighborhoods and schools and storm water

# **DESIGN CONCEPT 2 - MEDIUM BUDGET**



The medium budget redesign of the Great Wall of Los Angeles offers many features to get up close and personal with the murals. Although it does not contain as many types of walkways and bridges to view the site from as many angles as the high budget design, there are still many programs for the visitors. There are areas for large gatherings, seating areas, cafes, animal habitats, interactive art, increased connectivity to neighborhoods and schools and storm water management sites

# DESIGN CONCEPT 3 - LOW BUDGET

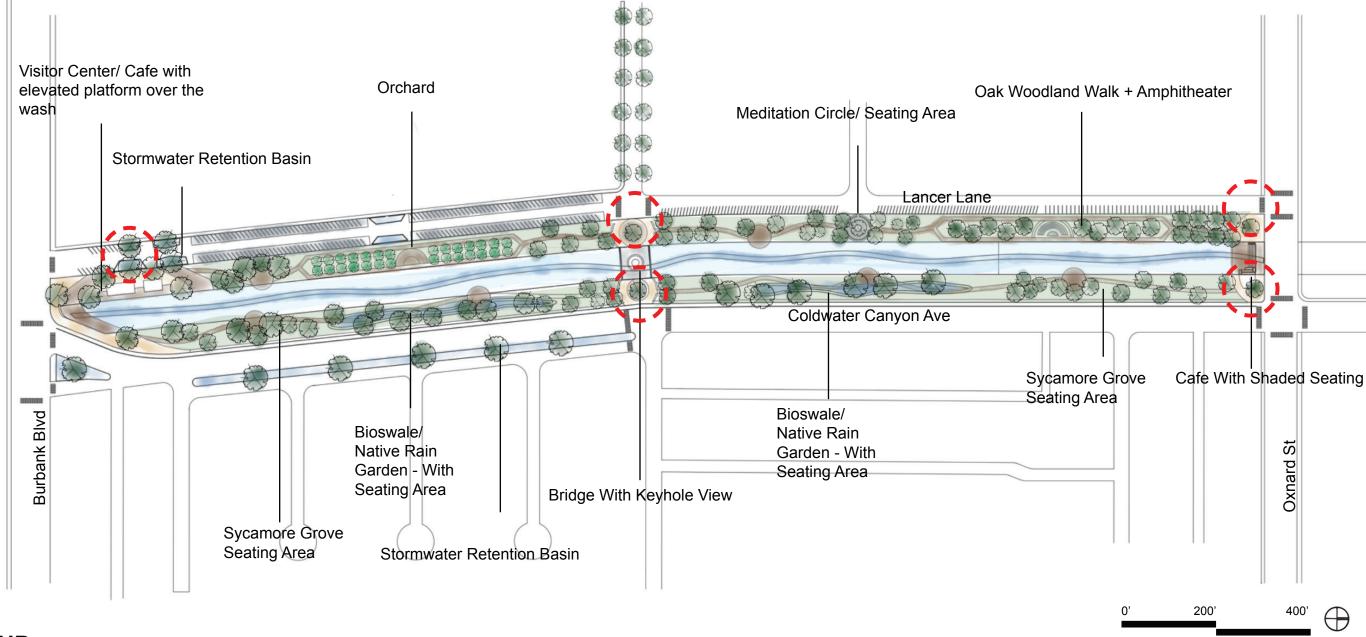




#### INFO:

The low budget redesign of the Great Wall of Los Angeles offers a gathering space without the bells and whistles and expensive hardscape areas. There are still many areas for gathering and exploration, seating areas, cafes, animal habitats, interactive art, increased connectivity to neighborhoods and schools and storm water management sites throughout the space.

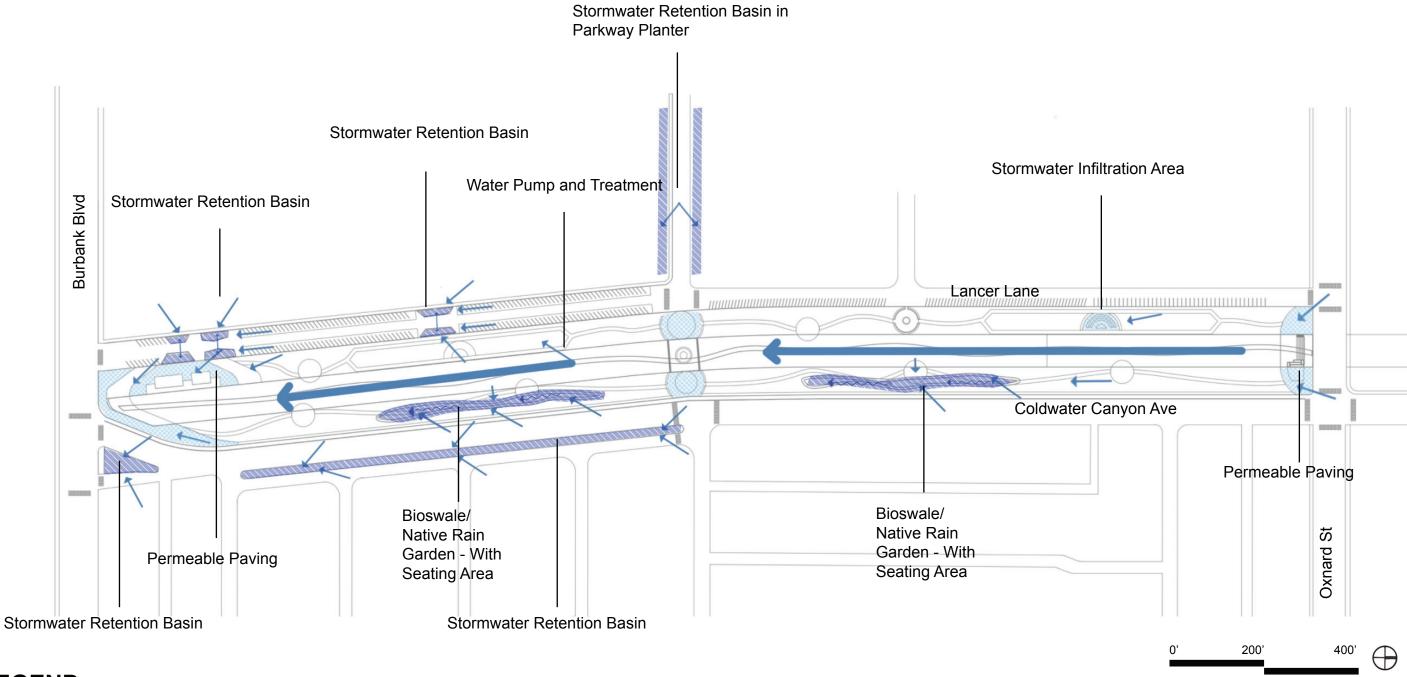
# MASTER PLAN CONCEPT



#### LEGEND



# MASTER PLAN WATERFLOW DIAGRAM



#### LEGEND



Water Flow Direction **Bioswale Flow Direction**  Water Retention and Filtration

Permeable Pavers - Infiltration



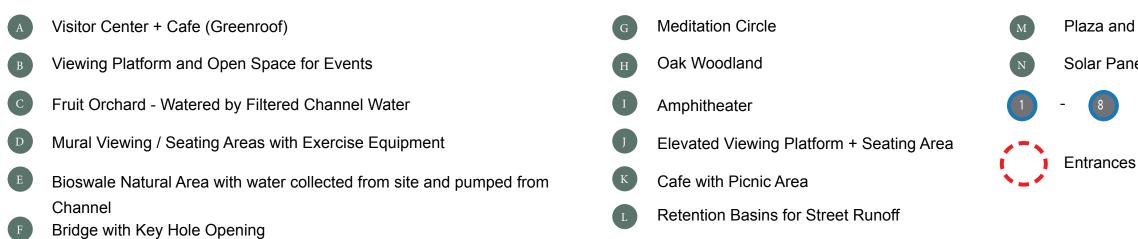
**Channel Waterflow Direction** 

TUJUNGA GREEN BELT - GREAT WALL OF LOS ANGELES REDESIGN / UCLA LD6 / SUMMER 2024 / HEATHER WU

# FINAL MASTER PLAN



#### LEGEND



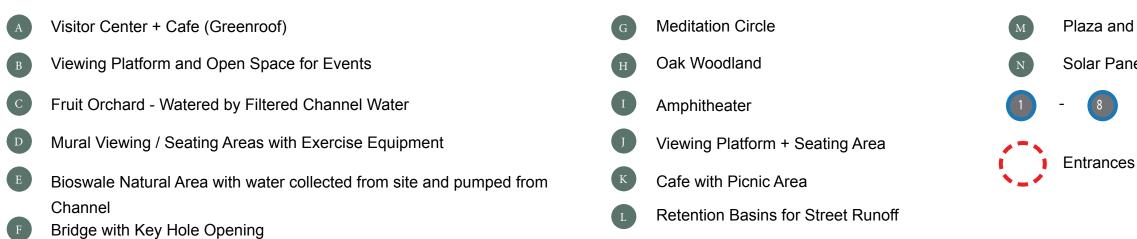
- Plaza and Art Display Area
- Solar Panel Covered Parking Area



# FINAL MASTER PLAN



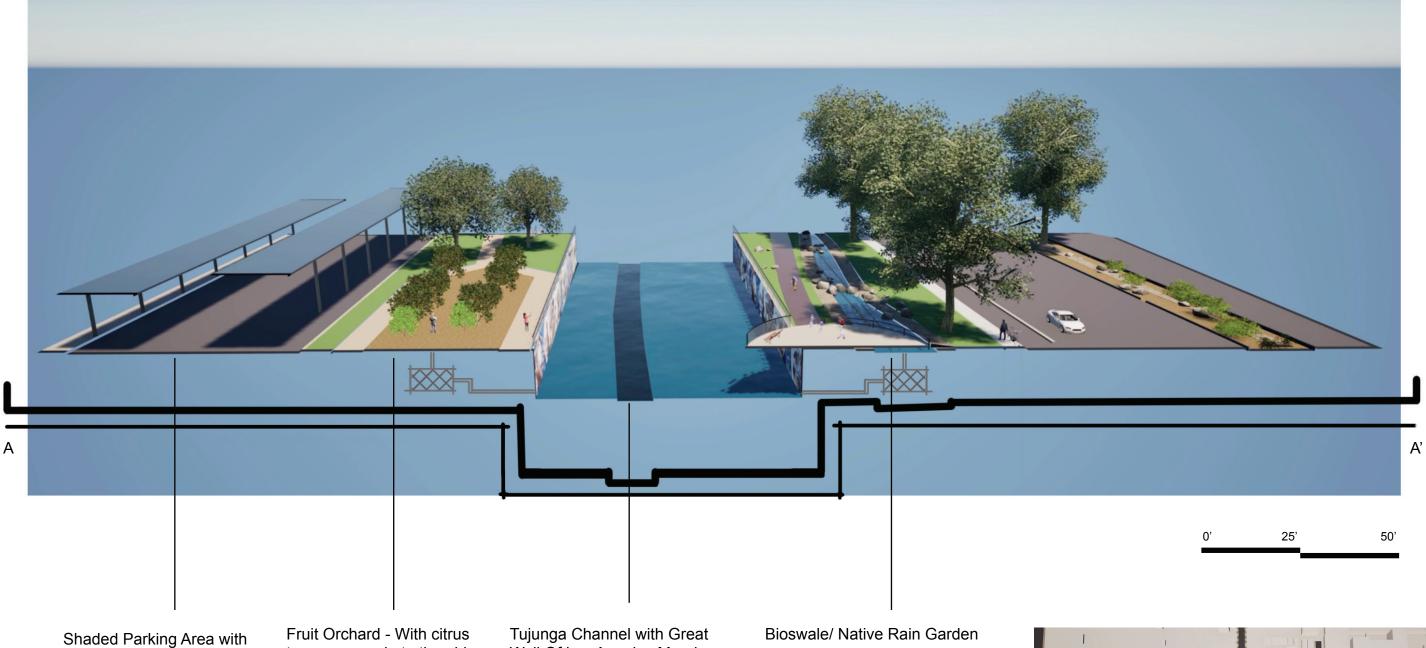
#### LEGEND



- Plaza and Art Display Area
- Solar Panel Covered Parking Area



# SITE SECTION 1 - MURAL VIEWING AREA + ORCHARD



Solar Panels which power the lights in the Park

trees as an ode to the old orchards and farm land that once blanketed the area

Water is pumped up from the channel and filtered and used to water the trees

Wall Of Los Angeles Murals

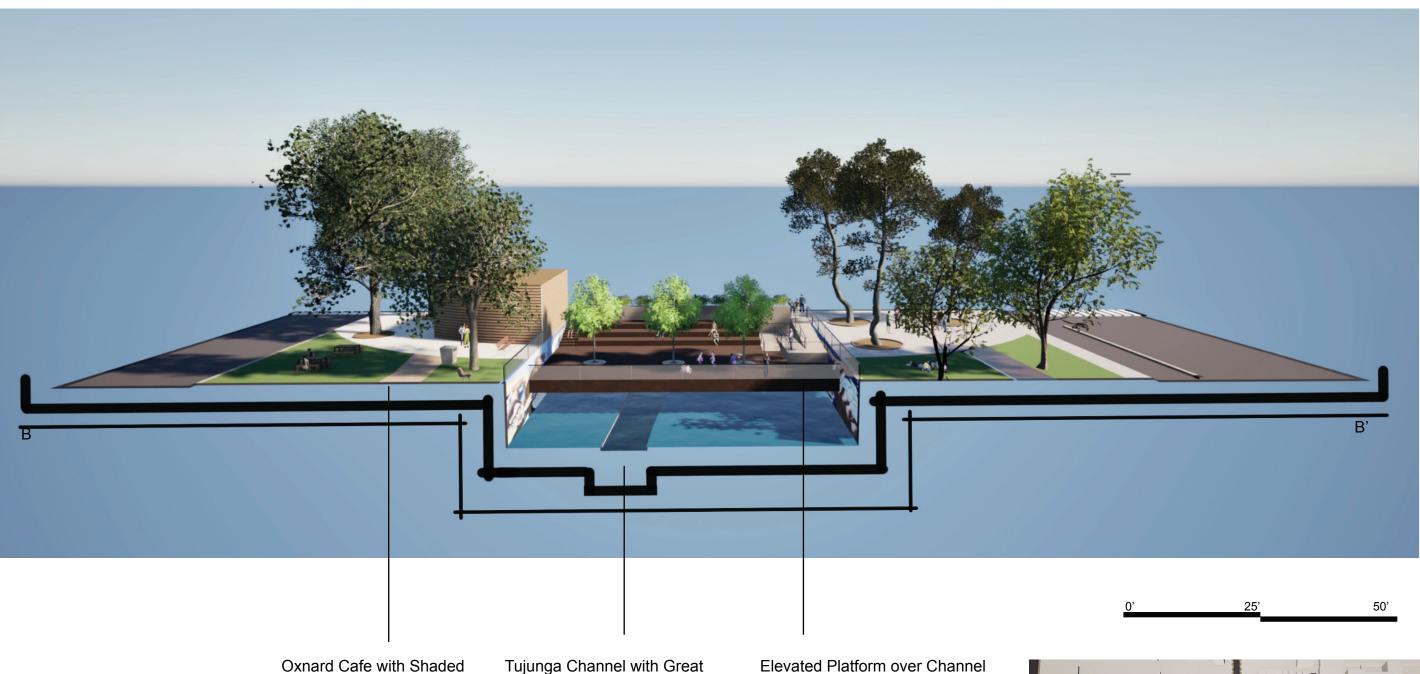
Low Flow Channel in the center

Water is collected on site from runoff and it is also pumped up from the channel - filtered and to be used to water plants and keep swale with water for longer periods of time

Mural Viewing and Seating Area



# SITE SECTION 1 - MURAL VIEWING AREA + ORCHARD



Seating Area

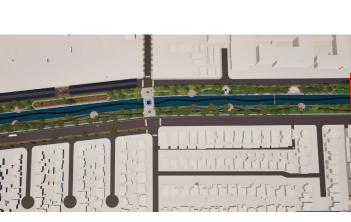
Tujunga Channel with Great Wall Of Los Angeles Murals

Low Flow Channel in the center

Elevated Platform over Channel with Amphitheater Style Seating

Perfect location to get close and personal with the Mural





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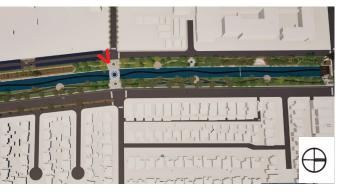
The Plaza and Bridge at the center of the site, the plaza uses permeable paving to infiltrate water

This area is a great place to view the mural and get a closer look into the channel through the keyhole in the bridge

College students from the local community college come out to perform music

There are two areas which local artist can apply to display their art pieces in the middle of the plazas





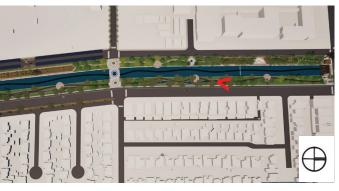


Bioswale Rock Garden with native planting - Sycamores - Juncus - Deergrass - Goldenrods can be found here

This area is a habitat garden providing a space for humans and animals to coexist

The water is collected from runoff and also pumped up from the channel to be infiltrated on site





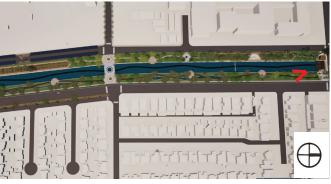


Elevated platform over the channel with amphitheater seating

The platform allows individuals to get close and personal with the mural

Cafe with shaded seating area to the left of the platform

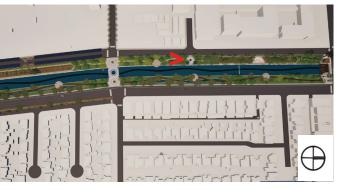






Meditation Circle with reflection pond and surrounded by Gingko and Sweet Gum trees to bring a pop of color during the autumn months





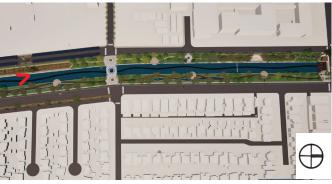


Orchard is located in the South West portion of the park - situating it in an area where it gets the most unobstructed sunlight throughout the day

A picnic area is located in the middle of the orchard for visitors to sit down and enjoy harvest

Cover crop meadow is found under the fruit trees to aid in nutrient cycling through nitrogen fixation and creating a symbiotic relationship between fruit trees and cover crop plants





# WALK THROUGH VIDEO

Youtube Link: https://youtu.be/ULmcpX7MdvI?si=kaSoQYiUB3IKWWJq





