THE GREAT WALL OF LOS ANGELES PARK MASTER PLAN

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UCLAx Landscape Design 6: Concept Development
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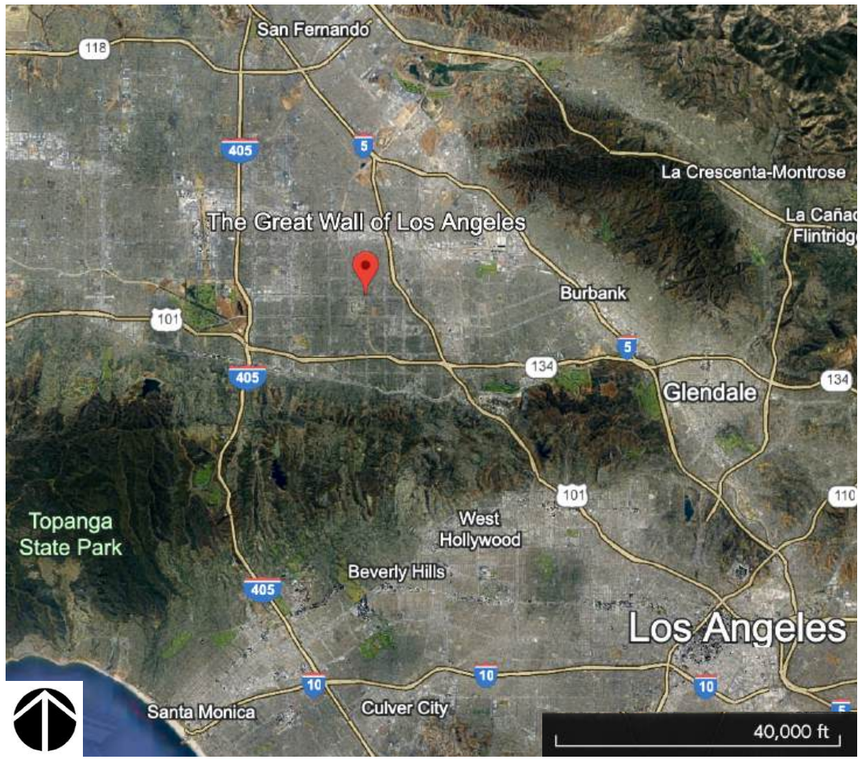
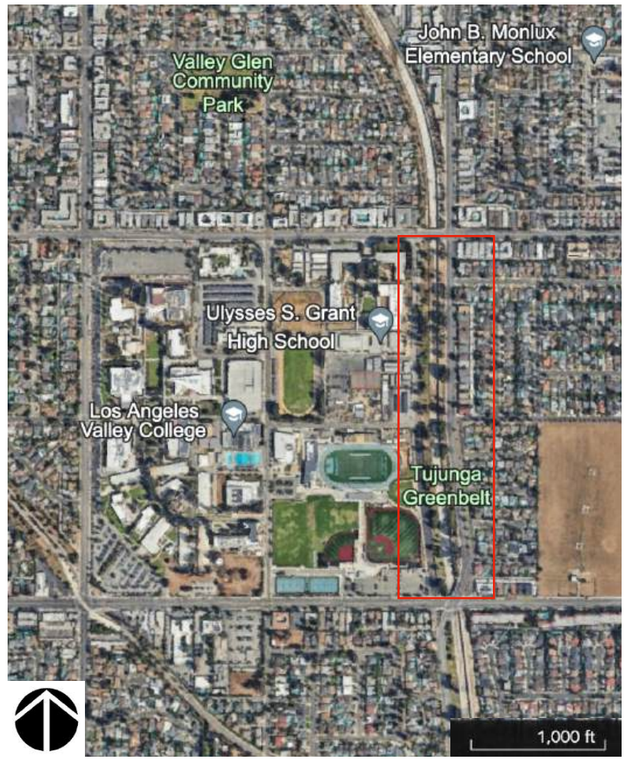
CONTENTS

OVERVIEW

Site Area: 18.5 acres
Address: 12900 Oxnard St, Valley Glen, CA 91606

The Great Wall of Los Angeles Park is located on the current site of the Tujunga Greenbelt which surrounds the Great Wall of Los Angeles and the Tujunga Wash, a tributary of the Los Angeles River. The site borders Los Angeles Valley College and Ulysses S. Grant High School and is located in a residential area of the Valley Glen Neighborhood of the San Fernando Valley.





TIMELINE

2500 BCE
Tongva people settle in the LA river watershed

1542
Beginning of Spanish Colonization of Alta California

1848
California becomes a territory of the USA with the end of the Mexican-American War

1931
Big Tujunga Dam built by LA county for flood control

1938
Los Angeles Valley College is established

1950s
Flood control channel is built along the Tujunga Wash

1959
Ulysses S. Grant High School is established, along with wide scale suburbanization

1974
The Great Wall of Los Angeles mural painting begins

2004
Community of Valley Glen is officially recognized

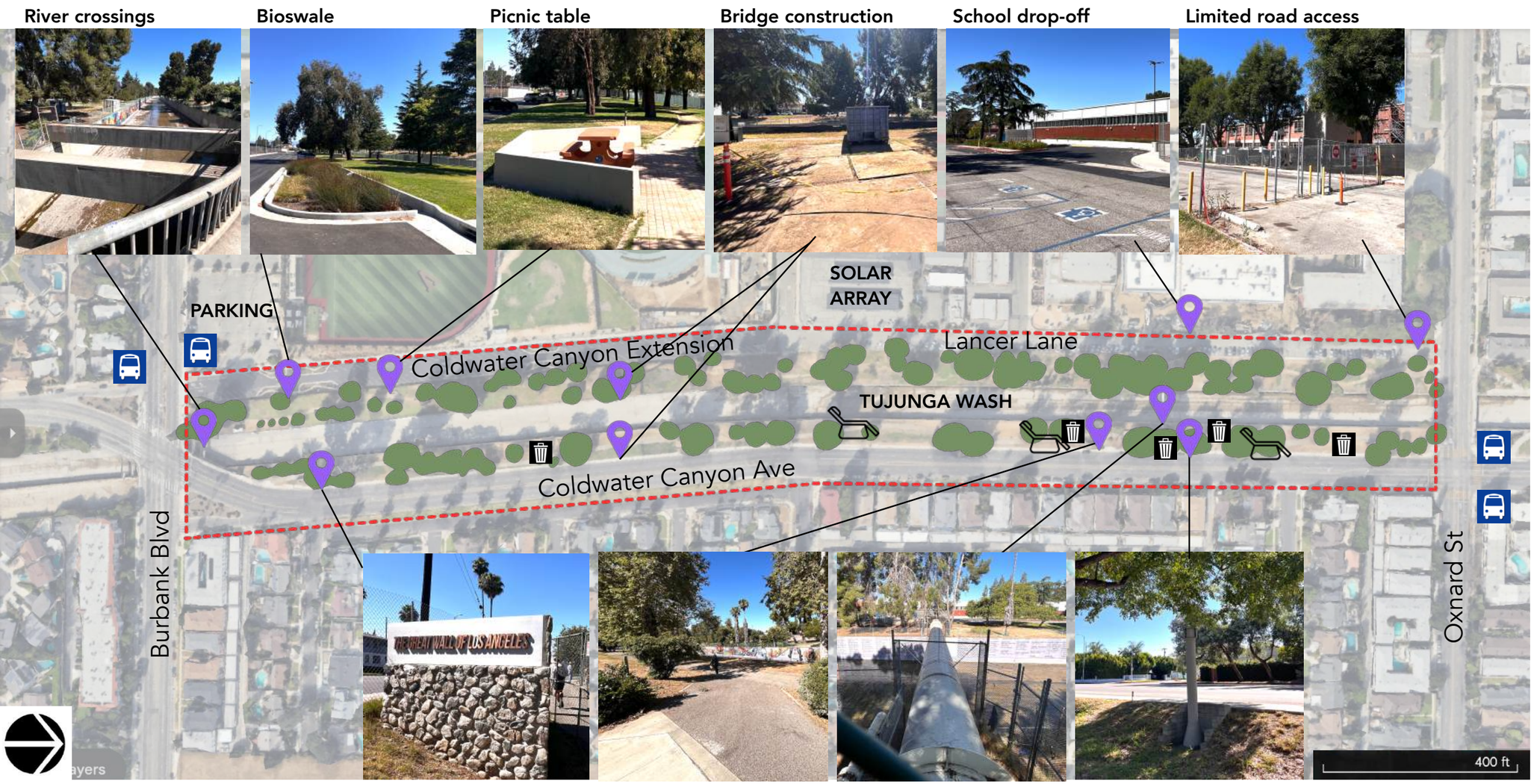
2011
The Great Wall mural is restored

2024
Green Bridge at the Great Wall to be installed

UCLAx class LD6 uses the site for their project for the first time

2028
The Great Wall mural to extend to the other side of the channel

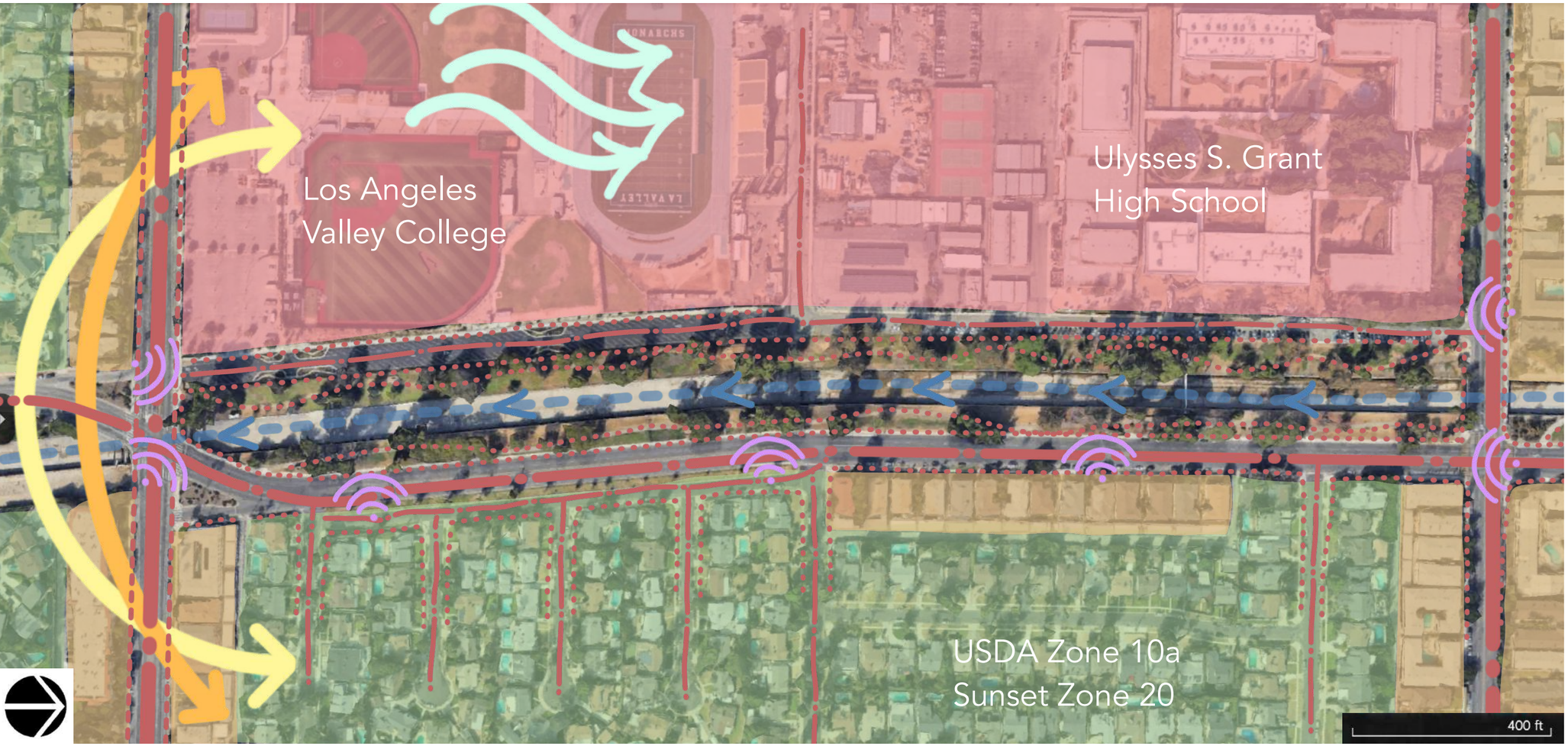
SITE INVENTORY



LEGEND

- Site boundary
- Tree canopy
- Bus stop
- Trash can
- Concrete bench
- Photos

SITE ANALYSIS



LEGEND

- Public facility
- Medium density
- Low density
- Vehicular circulation
- Bicycle circulation
- Pedestrian circulation
- Summer sun path
- Winter sun path
- Wind direction
- Tujunga channel
- Vehicular noise

SITE CONSTRAINTS

7 River crossings

4 Mural is separated

5 Insufficient stormwater capture

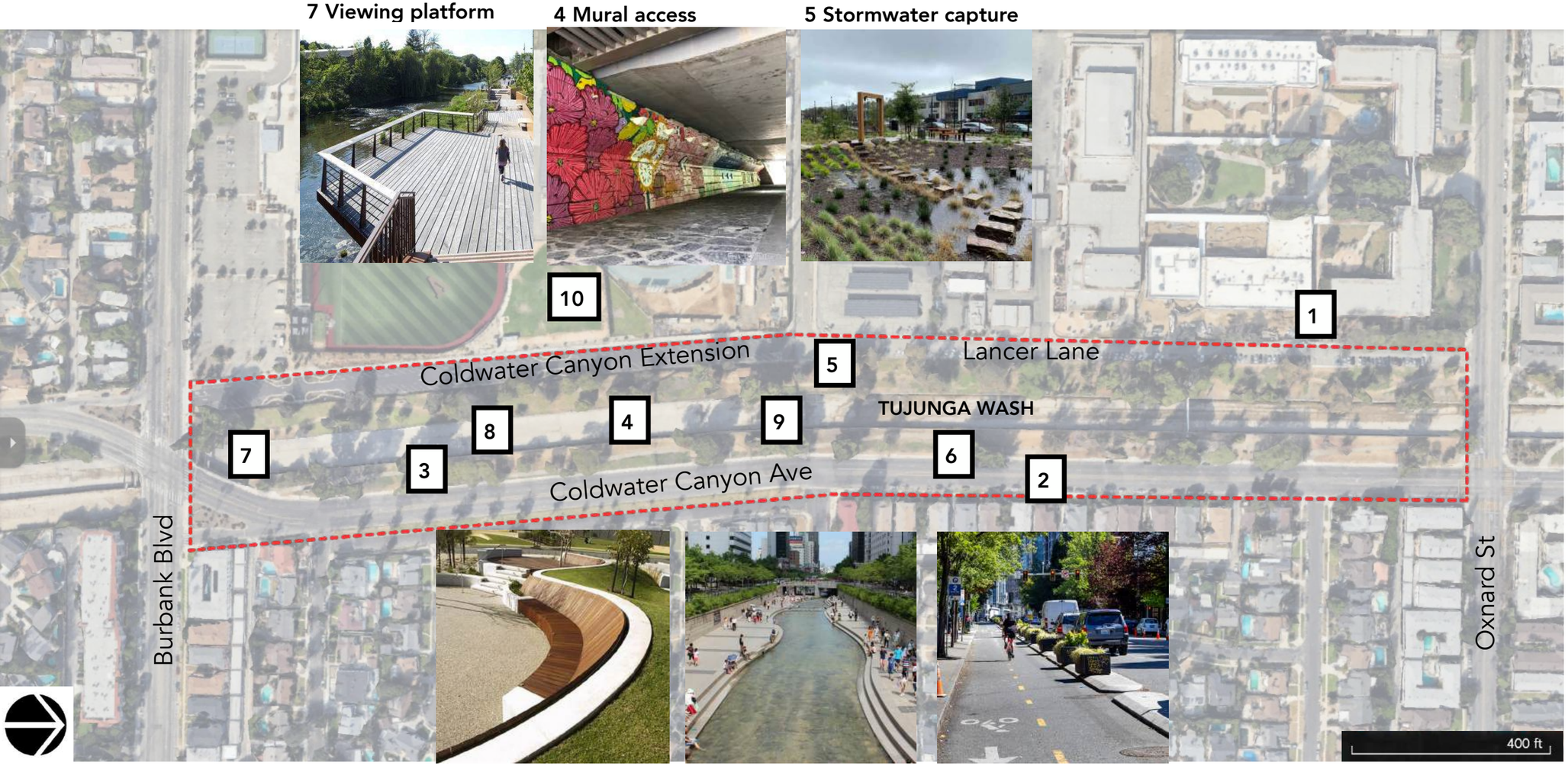
3 Concrete bench

9 Concrete channel

2 Wide roads without bike lanes

1. Increased **traffic** during school hours
2. Busy **roadways** on three sides of the site
3. Strange and insufficient **furnishings**
4. **Mural** doesn't feel fully integrated into the site
5. Large areas of **impervious** surfaces
6. The noise and views of the road are **loud and distracting**
7. Unattractive **concrete** river crossings
8. Little **water** in the dry season
9. Steep **walls** of the concrete channel prevent access
10. **Programs** from LAVC and Grant High School are not integrated with the site

SITE OPPORTUNITIES



1. Reduced school **traffic** during the weekend
2. Implement a **road diet** especially along Coldwater Canyon
3. More **places to sit** would invite visitors to stay
4. Improved **views** and access to the mural
5. Increased **stormwater infiltration**
6. Can create more of a feeling of **enclosure** with more planting
7. Ideal location for a viewing **platform**
8. Creating a **check dam** could hold more water at the site
9. Allowing **access** with stairs or bridges
10. **Educational** engagement opportunities for LAVC and Grant High School

CASE STUDY 1: Cheonggyecheon 청계천 Seoul, South Korea

Size: ~100 acres, 3.6 miles long
Designer: SeoAhn Total Landscape
Completion: 2005
Before: Cheonggye Expressway

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Half a million visitors each week
- 15 more expressways demolished in Seoul since
- Vehicular traffic reduced while public transportation increased
- Temperature reduced by 3.6 °C in nearby areas
- Increased biodiversity of fish, bird, and insect species
- Protection from 200-year flood events

CONTROVERSIES

- Initial opposition from previous mayoral administration fearing gentrification of nearby small businesses
- Maintenance costs are increasing
- 28 M gallons of water pumped daily from Han river
- Environmental officials criticized high costs and lack of ecological and historical authenticity

Social Economic Environmental

CASE STUDY 2: Houtan Park 上海世博后滩公园 Shanghai, China

Size: 34.5 acres, 1 mile long
Designer: Turenscape
Completion: 2010
Before: Steel factory/Shipyard, Brownfield site

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Provides invaluable open space in the world's largest city
- Finished in 2010 for the Shanghai World Expo

- 37 tons of steel and 34,000 bricks reused on site
- 264,000 gallons of filtered water from the Huangpu river used in adjacent World Expo Cultural Park

- Utilizes wetland plants to clean 634,000 gallons of water daily
- Increased biodiversity of plant and animal species
- Sequesters 242 tons of carbon annually with various plantings

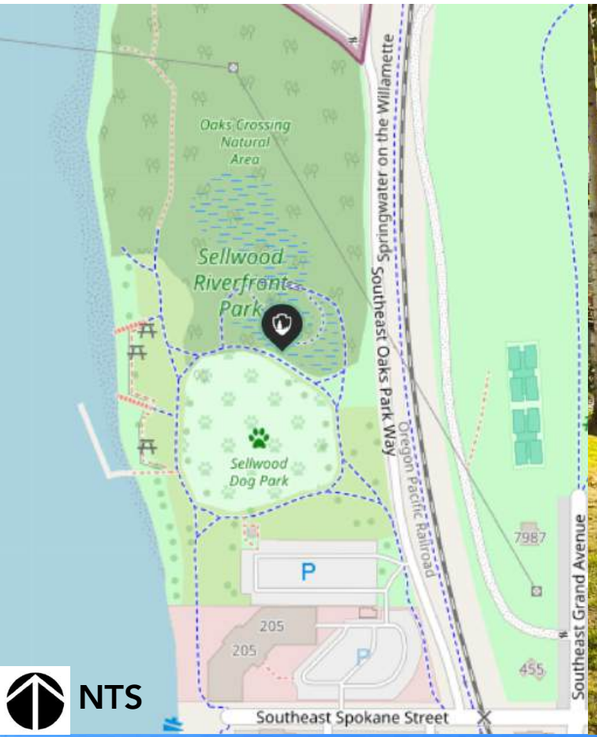
CONTROVERSIES

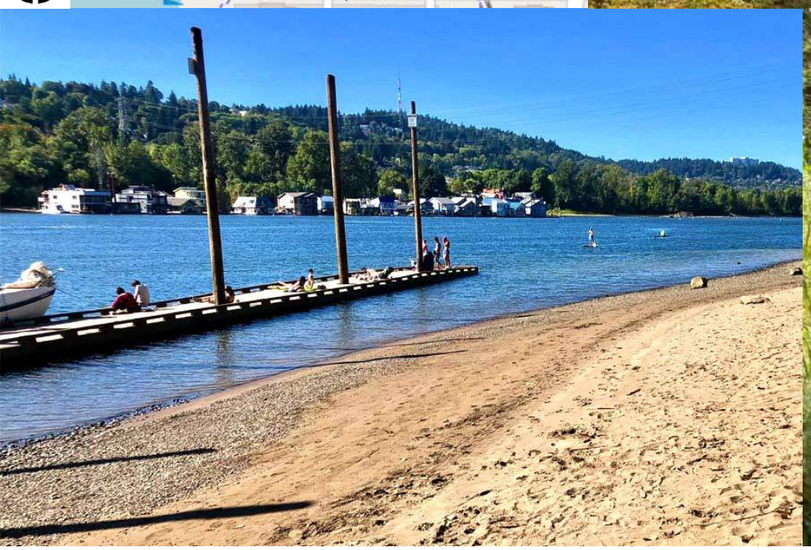
- Lack of universal ADA access, size of park and facilities built for the Expo may be too large a scale for the local community
- Maintenance of large site is costly, especially for all the annual plantings of crops

- Not all of the filtered water is returned to the river
- Increased access to polluted water may be hazardous

Social **Economic** **Environmental**

CASE STUDY 3: Sellwood Riverfront Park Portland, Oregon





Size: 7.6 acres
Designer: Mayer/Reed, Inc.
Completion: 1969
Before: Abandoned Mill

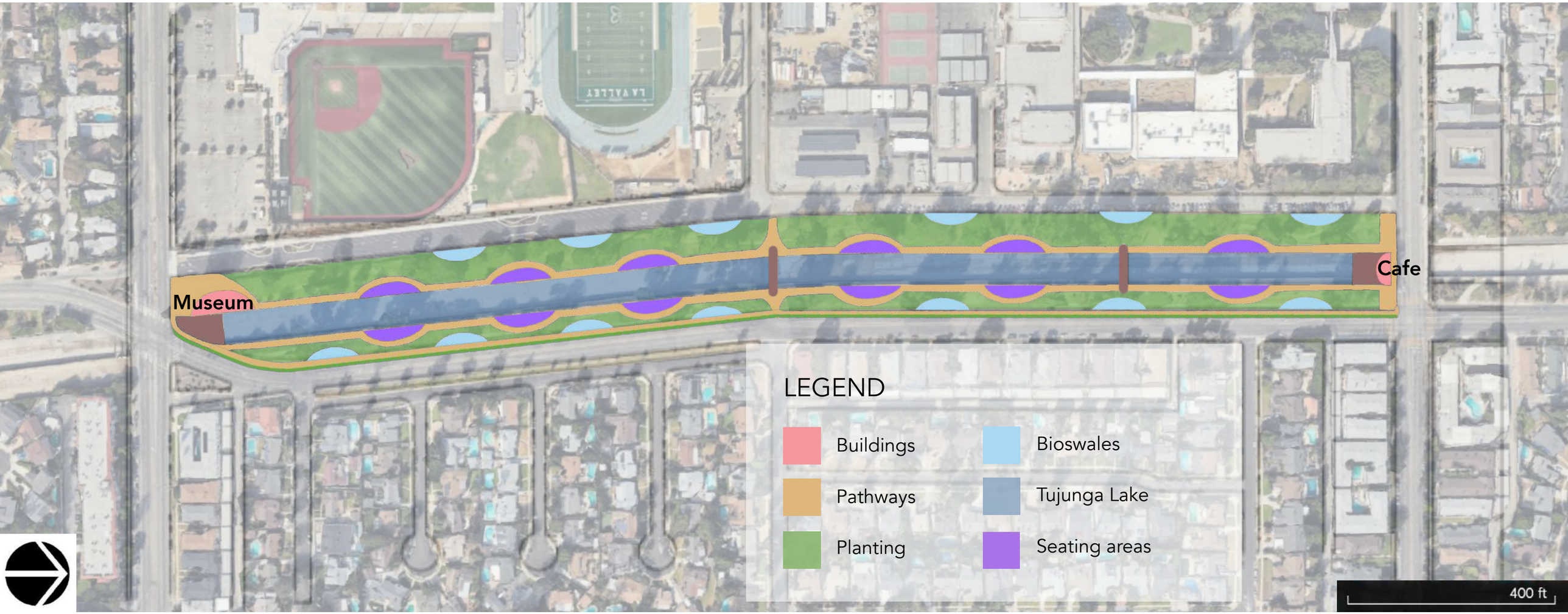
ACHIEVEMENTS

- Provides Willamette river access for swimming at the beach and from the boat dock
- Portland Parks & Recreation provides free concerts in the park
- Popular park attracts visitors to the Sellwood neighborhood
- $1.4-billion public works project reduced most combined sewer overflow events
- Connects to the nearby Springwater bike path, Oaks Bottom, and Sellwood parks
- Natural area in northern portion of the site features restored native riparian vegetation and boardwalks

CONTROVERSIES

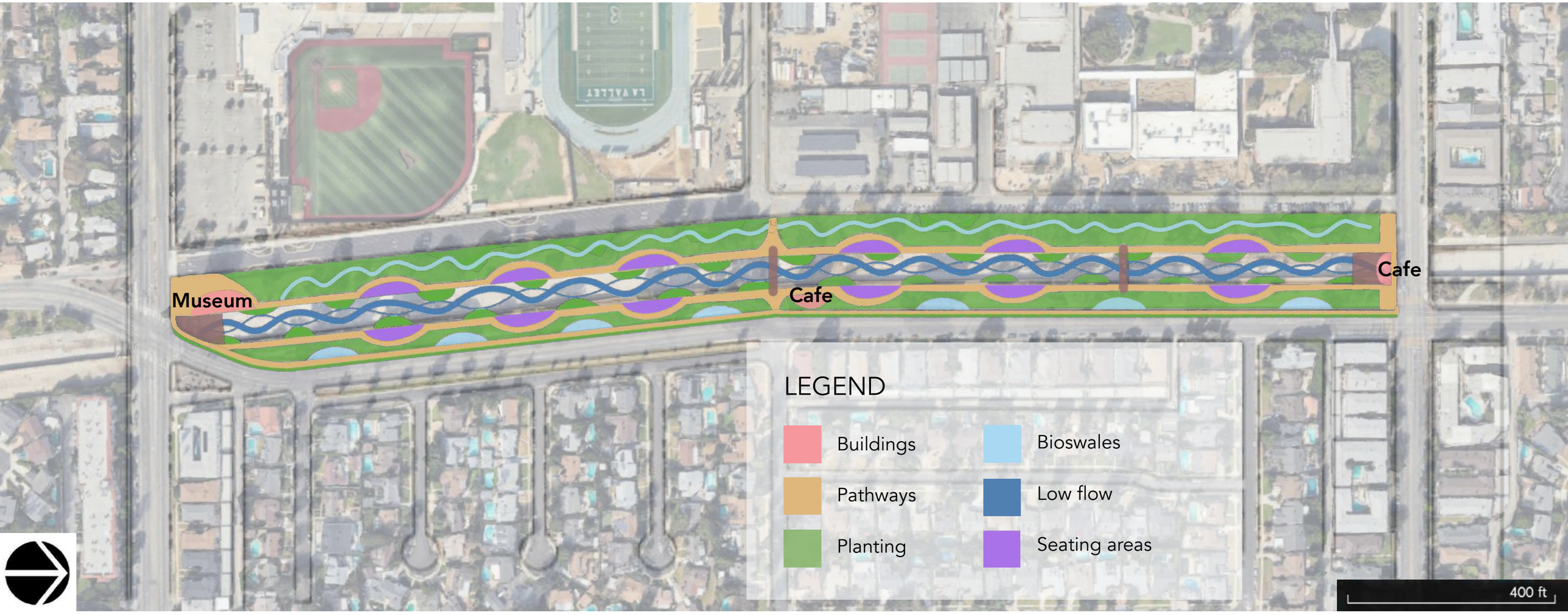
- Swimming in open water without a lifeguard may be dangerous
- Natural area may not feel safe due to reduced visibility
- Large lawn areas not only pollute air and water but also require frequent maintenance
- Toxic algae blooms, continued combined sewer overflows, and city pollution contribute to poor water quality in the Willamette

DESIGN ALTERNATIVE 1: Lake Low Budget



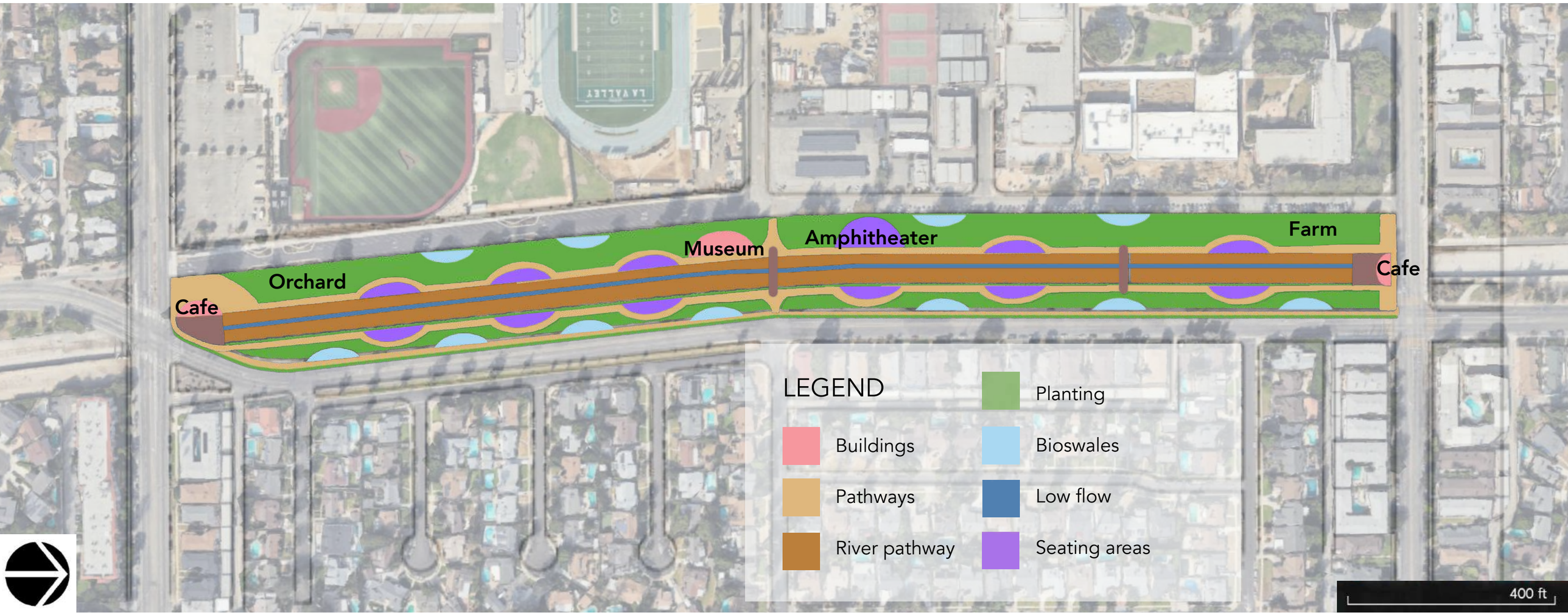
This design utilizes low **check dams** under the bridges and platforms to create a series of shallow **pools** around a foot in depth that help to cool the area, provide habitat for fish, and **reflect** the murals and surrounding vegetation on the water surface. The museum and cafe both have solar panels, water, restrooms, and some food service. A protected bike lane along the southern edge helps provide alternative modes of transportation and bioswales filter stormwater before it enters Tujunga Wash.

DESIGN ALTERNATIVE 2: Restoration Moderate Budget



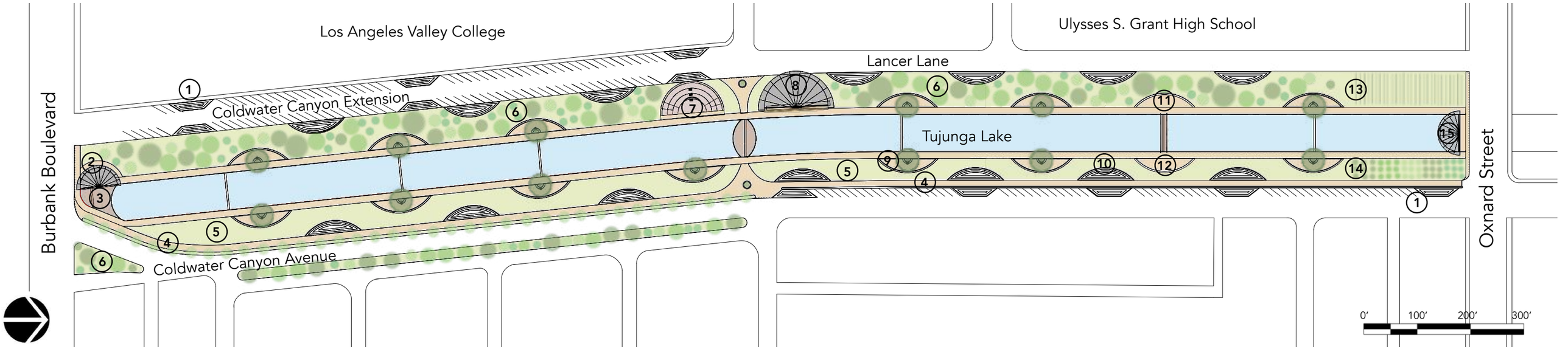
This design continues the Tujunga Wash Greenway with water pumped from Tujunga wash up into a restored meandering **stream bed**. Native trees and riparian plants help to infiltrate groundwater and clean pollutants. A braided stream **low-flow channel** is carved into the bottom of the concrete channel and **modular planters** harbor native wetland grasses. The museum and cafe both have solar panels, water, restrooms, and some food service. A protected bike lane along the southern edge helps provide alternative modes of transportation and bioswales filter stormwater before it enters Tujunga Wash.

DESIGN ALTERNATIVE 3: Terraces High Budget



This design provides access to the river with ramps and stairs going down to the **river pathway** and two levels of of **low flow** along the center of the Tujunga Wash. An orchard and farm on the western side provide **educational** opportunities for students and an amphitheater provides opportunities for performances and gathering. The museum and cafe both have solar panels, water, restrooms, and some food service. A protected bike lane along the southern edge helps provide alternative modes of transportation and bioswales filter stormwater before it enters Tujunga Wash.

MASTER PLAN

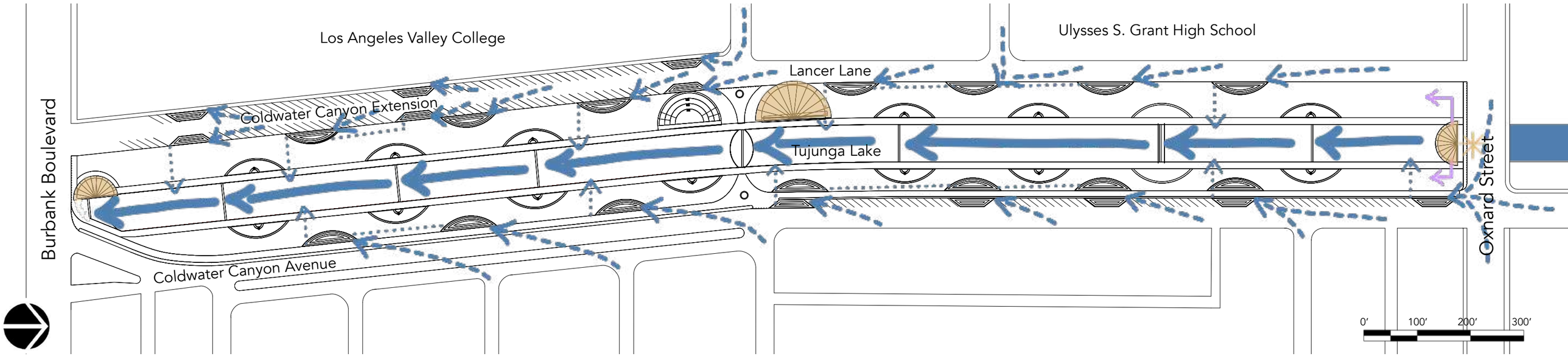


The final design utilizes low **check dams** at regular intervals to create a series of shallow **pools** around a foot in depth that help to cool the area, provide habitat for fish, and **reflect** the murals and surrounding vegetation on the surface of the water. Each **seating** area has two low seat walls, a drinking fountain, and a majestic California sycamore for shade. The southern **café** is also a bike shop and is next to the entrance plaza above the channel. The **visitor center** and **amphitheater** are located near the central bridge. Beneath the northern **café** is a taller dam that has a micro-**hydropower** turbine in the spillway and holds water used for irrigation. The museum and cafés all have solar panels, water, restrooms, and food services. A protected **bike lane** along the southern edge of the site shields bicyclists from traffic and **bioswales** filter stormwater from surrounding streets before it enters Tujunga Wash.

LEGEND

1 Stormwater Bumpouts
2 Entrance Plaza
3 Spoke Bicycle Café II
4 Protected Bike Lane
5 Native Meadow
6 Native Oaks
7 Amphitheater
8 Visitor Center
9 Seating Area
10 Bioswales
11 Exercise Area
12 Splash Pad
13 Educational Farm
14 Citrus Orchard
15 Tonga Hut II

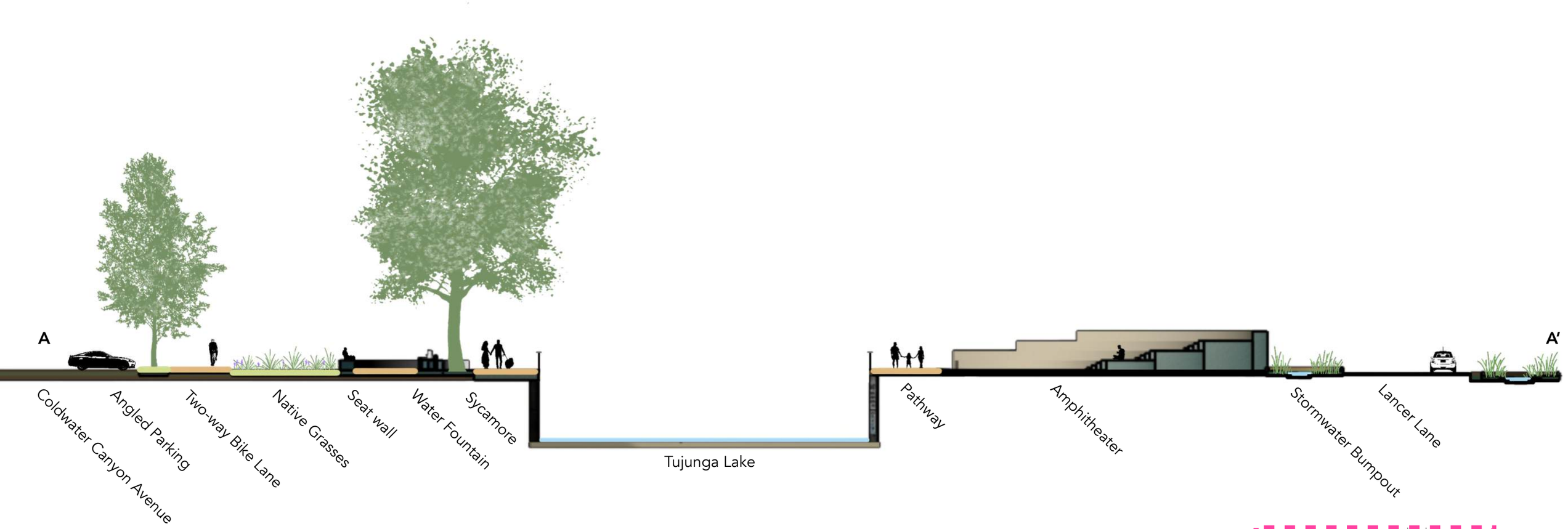
LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT



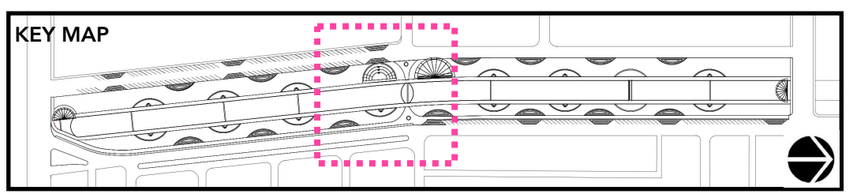
LEGEND

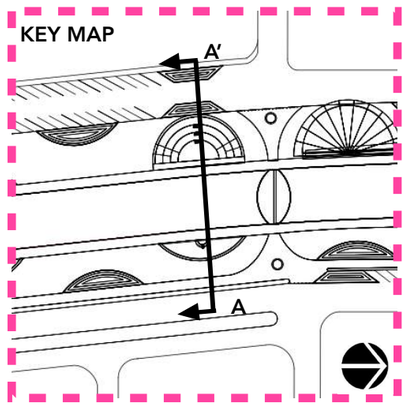
- Solar Roofs
- Micro-Hydro Turbine
- Irrigation Pump
- Tujunga Lake with 1′ high Check Dams
- Surface Stormwater Flow
- Overflows Underground into Channel

SITE SECTION A

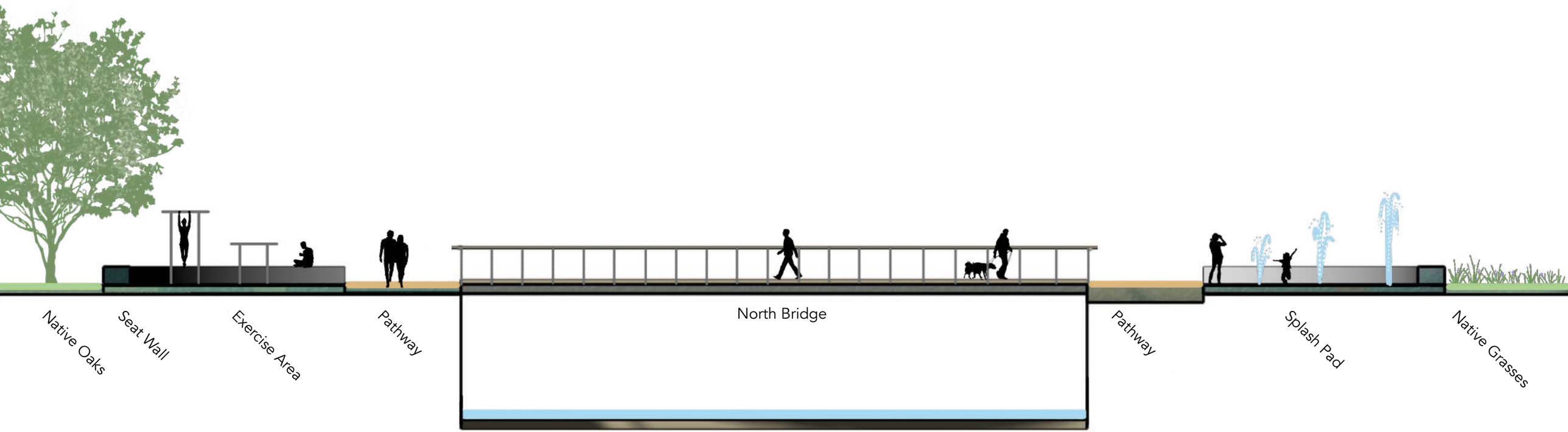


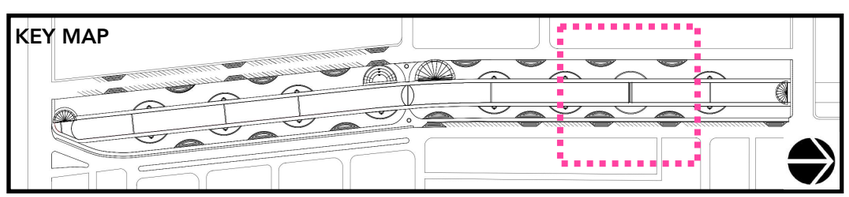
0′ 10′ 20′ 30′

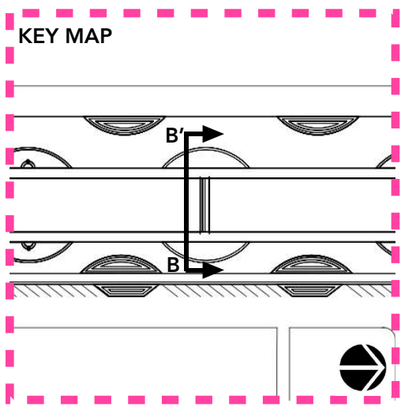




SITE SECTION B



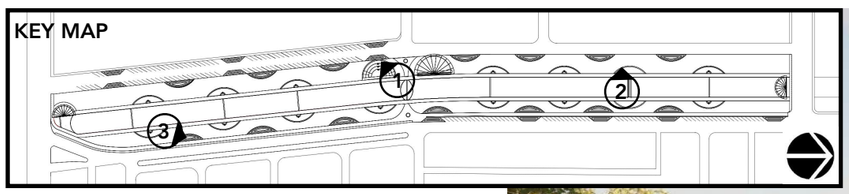




PERSPECTIVES 1

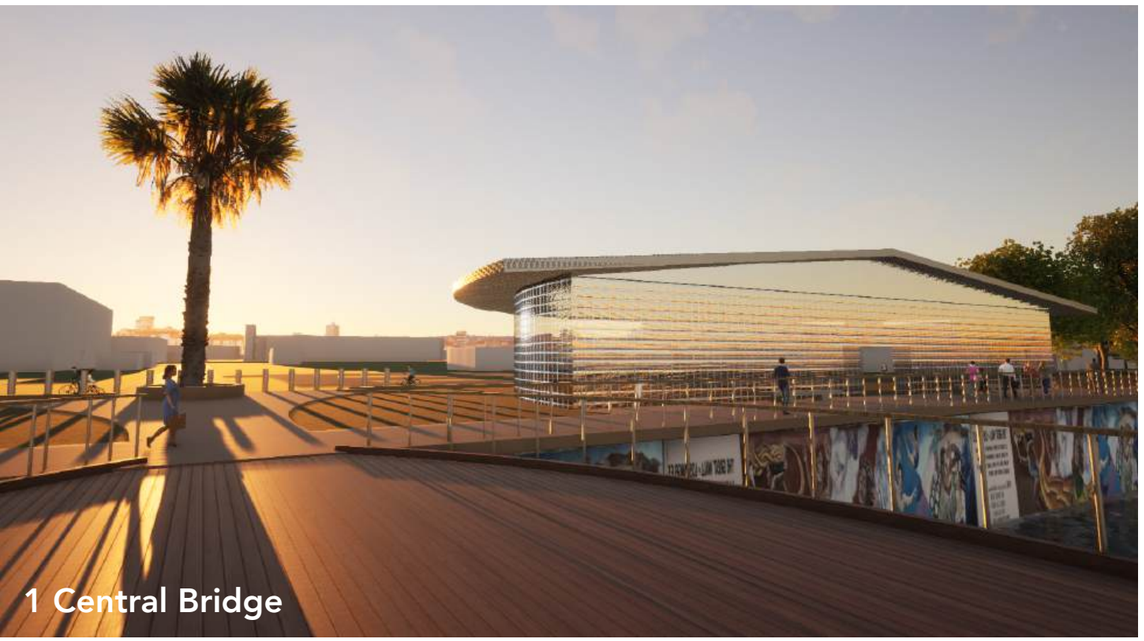
1 Central Bridge and Amphitheater

2 North Bridge and Exercise Area

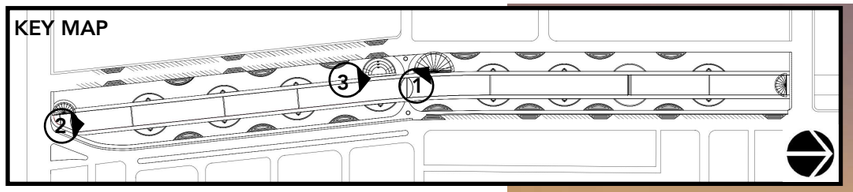


3 Pedestrian Walkway, Meadow, Bioswale

PERSPECTIVES 2


1 Central Bridge


2 View from South Platform




3 Amphitheater

WALKTHROUGH VIDEO

SOURCES

Slide 1
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Slide 4
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Slide 9
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Slide 11
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Model Mural Image: https://scalar.usc.edu/works/latino-metropolis-a-brief-urban-cultural-history-of-us-latinos---1/the-great-wall-of-los-angeles

Thank you!