

Include unique public art design elements

b.1 Greenway Wall Standards

- Greenway walls shall incorporate natural colors and earth tones such as tans and browns
- All walls shall not impede vision at any trail or road intersection
- Walls shall work with the land and step on sloped property
- A column shall be provided where a fence intersects a wall, and at the start and end of a Greenway Wall
- Walls shall integrate natural elements such as rocks and boulders whenever feasible
- Greenway walls shall include decorative façade elements such as stone and mortar, stamped stone patterns, or stone veneer
- Greenway walls shall be constructed of graffiti resistant and durable materials that require minimal maintenance, and all surfaces of finished decorative walls shall receive two (2) coats of approved low-sheen anti-graffiti coating



- Walls shall be constructed of masonry material that is a unified and consistent stone pattern throughout the Greenway, and have caps consisting of natural cut stone or precast concrete with an integral color that matches the wall color and rounded edges that allow for seating (refer to *Masonry Standards, Section 2.12d.6*)
- Due to cost constraints for multiple long wall spans, manufactured or artificial stone is permitted on Greenway walls as long as it reflects the Greenway design aesthetic



Incorporate skate board deterrents that fit the Greenway character

- Greenway walls shall incorporate skate board deterrents that fit the theme and character of the Greenway
- Greenway walls may include unique public art design elements such as murals, tiles and/or mosaics that reflect the Arroyo Simi Greenway (refer to *Focal Points/ Public Art, Section 2.15 for additional information*)
- If one side of a wall has a more finished appearance than the other, the side of the wall with the more finished appearance shall face the Greenway trail or amenity
- Walls shall be designed to accommodate landscaping in the foreground whenever feasible
- Trash enclosures walls shall be a minimum of 2 feet higher than the receptacle, have decorative solid gates that close completely, provide a roof completely covering the structure, and be architecturally consistent with the standards in this section

Trash enclosures should be consistent with the standards in this section



b.2 Entry and Park Walls

Entry and Park Walls should be located to visually highlight the Greenway entries, provide seating and protect trail users from potential hazards.

See Parks, Section 2.8, Project Entries, Section 2.11, and Fencing and Walls, Section 2.13a.2, for additional information



Park and Entry Walls should consist of a low rock wall with a unified and consistent stone type and pattern to develop a sense of place along the Greenway

Entry and Park Walls shall incorporate Greenway Wall Standards from Section 2.13b.1, and also include the following:

- Entry and Park Walls shall consist of a rock wall not exceed 24 inches in height and cap with rounded edges to facilitate seating which consists of a natural stone or precast concrete with an integral color that matches the wall color *(refer to Masonry Standards in Section 2.12d for additional information)*
- Wall columns and caps shall be in proportion to the wall
- Entry and Park Walls shall be used in conjunction with Entry and Park Fencing to direct and control access to the Greenway *(refer to Section 2.13a.2)*
- Walls shall be used as a predominant design element for all gateway entries and parks and tie into gateway signage *(refer to 2.12d and 2.12e)*



Entry and Park Walls shall be used as a predominant design element and allow for comfortable seating such as this example at Madera Road

b.3 Retaining Walls

Retaining Walls shall incorporate Greenway Wall Standards from Section 2.13b.1, and also include the following:

- Retaining walls shall be constructed of a similar stone pattern and type as Entry and Park Walls but may include decorative CMU block walls if costs prohibit stone masonry
- Walls may be combined with fences on top but they shall not exceed a combined height of 8-feet measured from ground level adjacent to the trail
- Retaining walls shall not exceed 6 feet above grade unless necessary such as at trail under crossings
- Retaining walls over 3 feet high shall incorporate stepped walls with terraced planters that are a minimum of three feet in depth wherever feasible
- Employ hillside re-contouring and slope planting with erosion control vegetation to avoid or minimize retaining walls along the Greenway where feasible (*refer to Landscaping, Section 2.10 for additional information*)



Retaining walls should be constructed of a similar stone pattern and type as Entry and Park Walls

b. GREENWAY WALLS

Retaining walls shall only be used as necessary along the Greenway and will typically be used at proposed under crossings and bridges along the Arroyo Simi Greenway.

This retaining wall at the Community Center Park increases park space and becomes a signature element



c. Rhino Gates

Rhino gates and removable decorative bollards shall be used at all trail and road intersections to bar unauthorized vehicle entry, and will be closed when necessary to prohibit trail use. (Refer to Section 2.14c)

c.1 Rhino Gate Standards

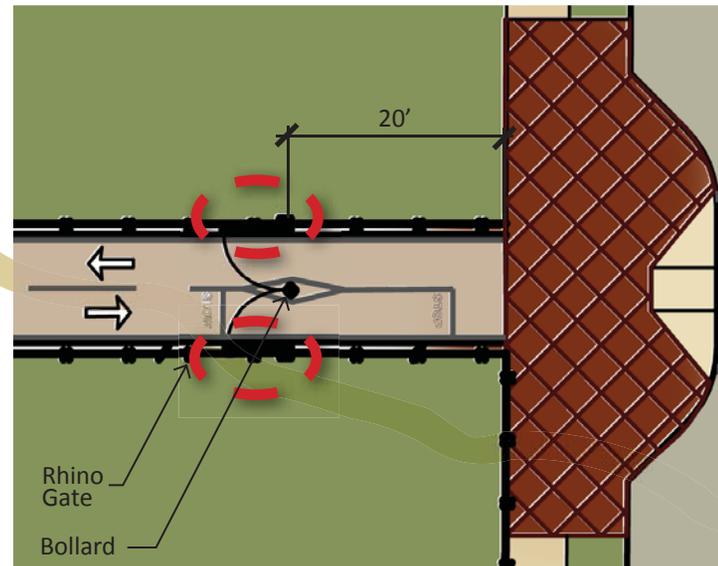
- Rhino gates must meet the design aesthetic of the Greenway
- Rhino gates shall remain open unless it is determined by maintenance staff that it is advisable to close gates due to high water conditions or extreme inclement weather



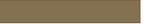
Rhino Gates should be used with Entry and Park Fencing and bollards to control trail access



- The rhino gates and bollards shall be set back at least 20 feet from the back of sidewalk at entrances and trail intersection for under crossings, and must swing open away from this offset to allow maintenance or emergency vehicles to park when the gates are locked
- Rhino gates should be used as a pair on both sides of the trail and must attach to themselves and/or the bollards when closed
- Rhino gates should be attached to a post when open
- Rhino gates shall be constructed of durable painted metal and/or galvanized metal, and be low maintenance and graffiti resistant

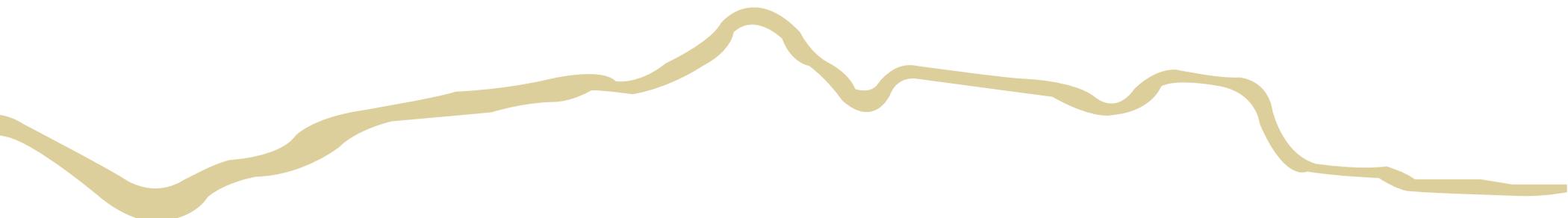


Rhino gates and bollards shall be set back at least 20 feet from the back of sidewalk



2.14

Site Furnishings Program



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2.14 Site Furnishings Program

The design character of the Greenway's trail amenities is critical to establishing a sense of place with a continuity of materials to enrich the trail experience. The site furnishing designs and materials should be attractive, low maintenance, durable, comfortable, and affordable. Accessible designs for amenities along the Greenway are critical to provide access for all users, and should be a key consideration when choosing site furnishings.

This project is anticipated to be phased and occur over many years. Over those years, the availability of particular site furnishings is bound to change, especially in the realm of sustainable manufacturing and materials. Therefore each site furnishing specifies sustainable elements to strive for as technology evolves. However, it should be noted that the materials used throughout the life of the Greenway shall meet the design intent established by this Specific Plan.

Many of the sustainable elements and materials listed in this section are explained in more detail in Section 3.0, Sustainability Program

Site Furnishings Intent

- Establish a design theme or character for site furnishings that is continuous along the Greenway
- Specify site furnishings that will be long-lived with classic designs
- Incorporate site furnishings that will be durable, low maintenance and vandal-resistant
- Ensure site furnishings are accessible for all users whenever feasible
- Provide site furnishings that incorporate sustainable elements and materials whenever possible

a. Benches, Tables and Receptacles

Benches, tables and litter receptacles will primarily be limited to pocket parks, trailheads and overlook/ rest areas. There will be two series of benches, tables and receptacles along the Greenway:

- Metal Amenities
- Wood & Concrete Amenities

a.1 Standards

- Benches and tables shall be ADA accessible
- Benches and tables shall be attached to the ground
- Benches should contain armrests, and may be backed or backless depending on the location
- Benches over 4 feet in length shall contain a central armrest to deter sleeping
- Tables shall be wheelchair accessible and when grouped, at least one shall contain an accessible path and surrounding pad
- Litter and recycling receptacles shall be visually interesting and located at entries and/or along primary use routes where they are easy to see from the trail and located for convenient trash pickup by staff
- Recycling logos shall be used to provide a quick differentiation of recycling and trash receptacles
- If side opening doors are used, they shall be locking

Benches and tables shall be ADA accessible



Gretchen Picnic Table by Landscape Forms in PolySite Recycled Timber
(See Recycled Timber & Concrete Amenities)



Benches over 4' in length shall contain a central armrest

Scarborough Bench by Landscape Forms
(See Metal Amenities)

a.2 Sustainable Elements

- Where wood products are used, specify Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified wood
- Incorporate recycled plastic timbers and recycled materials
- Utilize recycled steel and aluminum
- Use powder coat finishes that contain no heavy metals, and are low in volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and free of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs)
- Specify furnishings that have the ability to have damaged parts replaced without replacing entire bench or table
- Use furnishings that are recyclable after use

a.3 Metal Amenities

Metal Amenities contain a choice of two litter and recycling receptacles, Decorative Metal and Classic Metal, and they may be used interchangeably along the Greenway. The Decorative Metal receptacles shall be used sparingly, and reserved for areas where the receptacles will be highly visible and used as focal point areas. In larger areas that contain more than one set of trash receptacles, both types of receptacles can be used with the Classic Metal primarily used and the Decorative Metal receptacles placed in locations that will provide the greatest visual impact. All trash receptacles shall have lids that prevent animals from accessing the litter inside the receptacles.

Metal Amenities should be located along the trail in overlook/rest areas where there is a higher risk of vandalism. These furnishings should be constructed of durable and paintable materials such as metal.



Manufacturer:
Landscape Forms
Scarborough Bench

Backed or Backless
Looped Armrests
48", 72" or 96" Lengths

Recycled Tubular Steel
Horizontal Straps
Low VOC Powdercoat
Available

DECORATIVE METAL RECEPTACLES

Manufacturer:
Landscape Forms
Lakeside

Recycled Tubular Steel
Low VOC Powdercoat
Available

Top or Side Opening

Lids Available



ADDITIONAL OPTIONS
Custom Logo or
Cut-out Designs
for the Top or
Side Opening
Receptacles



CLASSIC METAL RECEPTACLES

Manufacturer:
Landscape Forms
Chase Park

Cast Aluminum Sides and Door
Spun aluminum top
Cast iron base
Stainless steel hinge & latch

Low VOC Powdercoat Available
Top or
Side Opening

Lids Available

ADDITIONAL OPTION
Custom Logo Bands
for Top or Side Opening
Receptacles



a. BENCHES, TABLES & RECEPTACLES

a.4 Recycled Timber & Concrete Amenities

Recycled Timber and Concrete Amenities shall be located in pocket parks, park expansion areas, and trailheads. These amenities should be used in high use areas with good visibility and a lower chance of being vandalized. The benches and tables shall be constructed of durable materials that fit the look and feel of the existing parks in the area, and could be concrete or recycled plastic timbers.



Manufacturer: Quick Crete
 Picnic Table Model: QLBT72PT
 72" Length
 Wheelchair Accessible on Either End
 Steel reinforced concrete (21% recycled materials)



Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
 Gretchen Bench
 Backed or Backless
 Ornamental Armrests
 72" or 96" Lengths
 PolySite Recycled Timbers



Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
 Gretchen Picnic Table
 54" Length
 Wheelchair Accessible Either End
 PolySite Recycled Timbers



Recycled Timber and Concrete Amenities contain a choice of two litter and recycling receptacles, Decorative Concrete and Classic Concrete, and they may be interchangeably used along the Greenway. The Decorative Concrete models shall be used sparingly, and reserved for areas where the receptacles will be highly visible and used as focal point areas. In larger areas that contain more than one set of trash receptacles, both types of receptacles can be used with the Classic Concrete primarily used and the Decorative Concrete receptacles placed in locations that will provide the greatest visual impact. All trash receptacles shall have lids that prevent animals from accessing the litter inside the receptacles.

The Decorative Concrete receptacles should use the Classic Concrete receptacle, but add creative sandblast patterns depicting natural elements occurring along the Greenway and/or the incorporation of public art.

Refer to Section 2.15, Focal Points/Public Art Opportunities for additional information

DECORATIVE CONCRETE RECEPTACLE OPTIONS



Incorporates Public Art



Integrates Sandblast Designs

CLASSIC CONCRETE RECEPTACLE
POTENTIAL OPTIONS



Manufacturer:
Quick Crete
Square Series

Steel reinforced
concrete
(21% recycled
materials)

Lid Available

Manufacturer:
Quick Crete
Mesa Series

Steel reinforced concrete
(21% recycled materials)

Lid Available



b. Bike Racks

Bike racks will primarily be located in pocket parks, park expansion areas, overlooks/rest areas, and trailheads. Well-placed, attractive and functional bicycle parking racks will encourage bicycle riding and facilitate stops along the Greenway.



Vertical stagger



Custom designs



Manufacturer:
Peak Racks

Available in various sizes from
1 to 8 bike slots
Many colors and
customization

b.1 Standards

- Bike racks shall allow a 6' x 2' space for each bike, and maintain an overhead clearance over bike racks of 7'
- Provide a 5' aisle behind bike parking for bike maneuvering
- 4-8 bike spaces shall be provided at each location depending on anticipated use, and allow for the possibility of future expansion
- Bike racks shall be placed perpendicular to the trail where feasible
- Bike racks shall have an individual locking bar for every bicycle, and each bike parking space shall be accessible without moving another bicycle
- Bike racks should incorporate a vertical stagger to eliminate handlebar tangles
- Bike racks shall be painted natural colors (such as green and brown) and colors may vary based on individual site design and location along the trail, but bike rack design and materials should be consistent throughout the Greenway
- Bike racks shall be adaptable and flexible in sizes and configurations to achieve a consistent bike rack for the entire Greenway

b.2 Sustainable Elements

- Bike racks should incorporate recycled materials
- Bike racks should be recyclable
- Powder coat finishes that contain no heavy metals, and are low in volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and free of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs)

c. Bollards

Bollards are located at trail entries and used to restrict unauthorized automobile entry. There are three types of bollards that may be used along the Greenway:

- Removable Bollards
- Fold-Down Bollards
- Telescoping Bollards

c.2 Removable Bollards

Bollards are lifted out of the flush fitting ground socket, a hinged lid covers the hole and bollard is placed to the side, and then replaced and locked.

- Benefits: Typically least expensive, and greatest variety of styles
- Cons: Most difficult to use due to, size and weight, greater chance of abrasion from removal and replacement



Manufacturer:
Furnitubes
Trafalgar
Medium Cast
Aluminium
Removable Bollard

c.3 Fold-Down Bollards



The hinged post folds down and is housed in a storage box with a durable lid that fits flush to the ground and covers the hole.

- Benefits: easy to use for vehicle entry, and bollards are completely hidden when down with no obstructions when not in use
- Cons: Price, lid and storage box are always visible, and bollards are generally not made to withstand excessive abuse

Manufacturer:
Townscape
Derby Bollard
Steel Fold Down
Box with hinged lid

c.4 Telescoping Bollards

Bollards can be lowered into the ground and completely concealed by a lid, and then raised and locked into place.

- Benefits: Fast and easy to use
- Cons: Most expensive



Manufacturer:
Furnitubes
TPB 725 Bollard
Galvanized Finish
Steel telescopic socket

c.1 Standards

- Bollards shall easily allow for maintenance, security, and emergency vehicles to enter the Greenway
- Removable Bollards should be lightweight, and easy to remove and replace and incorporate locks
- Removable Bollards shall incorporate a lid that covers the hole when the bollard is not inserted
- Bollards may vary in type per location but shall be consistent in style and material throughout the Greenway
- Bollards shall incorporate reflective tape to aid in visibility and shall have pavement markings around them (refer to Trails, Section 2.5.5)
- One bollard should be typically used in the center of the trail; however if more than one bollard is deemed necessary, there should be five feet between them
- Design and materials of bollards shall fit with rhino-gates and other entry elements and allow the rhino-gates to lock behind them (refer to Project Entries, Section 2.11 and Fencing and Walls, Section 2.13c)
- Bollard locks, lids and/or covers shall be located on the back side of the bollard when entering the trail
- Bollards shall incorporate recycled materials such as cast iron, steel, or plastic and be recyclable
- Optional Standard: Incorporate logos, graphics, intersecting street names, or attached signage

Bollards are part of the Greenway entry scene; refer to Project Entries, Section 2.11 for additional information

d. Enhanced Paving

Enhanced paving is suggested at pocket parks, overlooks/rest areas, and trailheads. Enhanced paving should be used to add visual interest and color, as well as to reinforce design themes. Enhanced paving should provide focal points, and reinforcement of the educational components in the Interpretive Exhibits Signage Program, such as animal footprints in paving when an interpretive exhibit is discussing wildlife.

Refer to Interpretive Exhibits, Section 2.12h for additional information

d.1 Standards

- Enhanced paving shall be ADA accessible, durable and low maintenance
- Enhanced paving should incorporate natural materials such as boulders, river rock, and water or animal depictions
- Enhanced paving should incorporate natural colors such as blue, green, brown and tan
- Enhanced paving should be limited to focal point applications to create the greatest impact
- Paving should vary along the Greenway to create unique and individual stops, but shall be consistent in color, style and materials

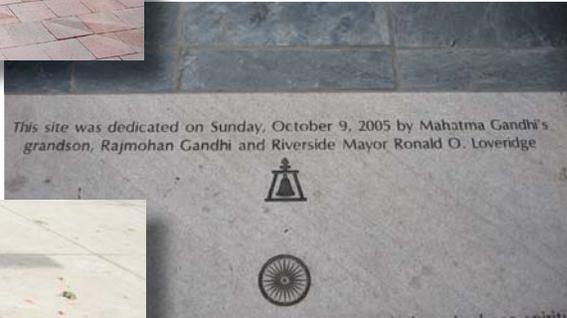


Incorporate natural colors, textures and materials

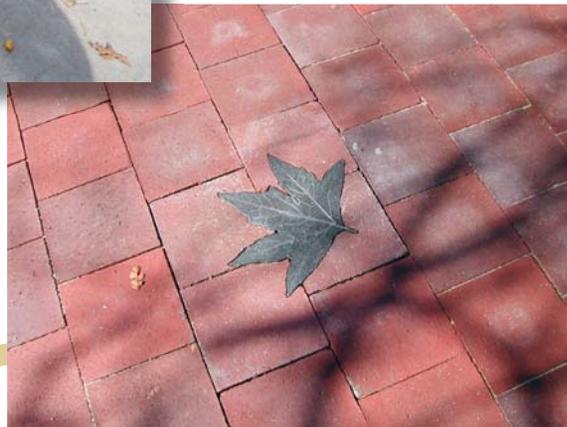


Enhanced paving should be used to provide focal points and add visual interest and color



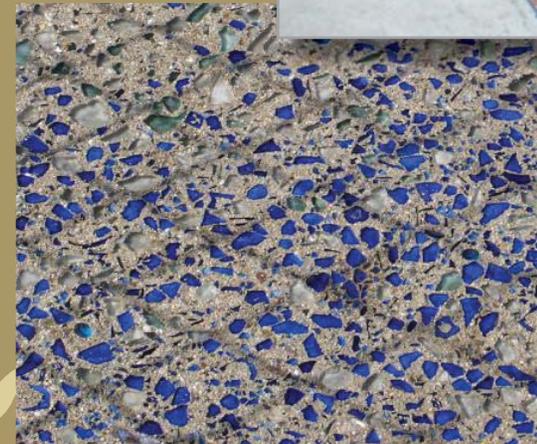


Enhanced paving should reinforce design themes and educational components from Interpretive Exhibits Signage



d.2 Sustainable Elements

- Incorporate pervious materials such as flagstone on sand, pervious concrete, or decomposed granite
- Use reclaimed materials such as boulders, river rock, bricks, pavers, and granite cobblestones
- Use recycled materials such as concrete, tiles, and blue glass



Use recycled materials such as broken tiles and blue glass

e. Structures

Structures will be limited to pocket parks, and there will be two types along the Arroyo Simi Greenway:

- Restrooms
 - Proposed at Easy Street Park, Darrah Volunteer Park Trailhead, and S-Curve Park
- Shade Structures
 - Proposed at the S-Curve Park and suggested at Darrah Volunteer Park

Refer to Parks, Section 2.8 for additional information

If other locations along the Greenway can accommodate a restroom or shade structure, and there is not any existing or proposed in the vicinity, they may be incorporated into park expansion areas and pocket parks. Restroom and shade structure renovations at parks adjacent to the Greenway are encouraged to incorporate the standards and design elements from this section.

e.1 Restroom Standards

- Restrooms shall meet ADA standards and accessibility requirements
- Restroom shall incorporate a Craftsman style throughout the Greenway, shall include additional design elements such as rock facades and entry elements
- Restrooms shall incorporate natural colors such as tan, brown, grey and green
- Restrooms shall use natural materials such as wood and stone
- Restrooms shall be durable and vandal resistant
- Restrooms shall be able to withstand weather and temperature variations
- Restrooms shall incorporate a smooth interior finish that is easy to clean
- Restrooms shall retain finishes that require little maintenance
- Restrooms shall be safely lit per City standards and have entries oriented towards the trail or main path of travel

Note: The structures described within this section may be pre-manufactured structures



Manufacturer:
Public Restroom Company

Many Options and Models
Available

Non-absorbent "No smell"
interiors

Built-in vandal resistance
Flexible architectural styles



Model# MB-464-CE-DF

e.2 Sustainable Elements

- Pre-manufactured structures should contain recycled elements
- Strive to include pre-manufactured structures that can be recycled
- Restrooms should incorporate ample natural light and ventilation
- Restrooms should use solar features if feasible
- Restrooms should use low flush and high efficiency toilets
- Consider waterless fixtures if feasible

Suggested Masonry Patterns for Pre-Manufactured Structures



Manufacturer:
Eldorado Stone

Mountain Ledge



Manufacturer:
Eldorado Stone

River Rock

e.3 Shade Structure Standards

- Shade structures shall be accessible to all users and meet ADA standards
- Shade structures shall be durable, vandal resistant and low maintenance
- Shade structures shall incorporate a Craftsman style throughout the Greenway, and include additional design elements such as rock columns
- Shade structures shall have aesthetically pleasing and cohesive column materials, eave heights, and roof pitches
- Shade structures shall incorporate natural colors such as tan, brown, grey and green
- Shade structures shall use natural materials such as wood and stone
- Structures shall be engineered for the Simi Valley wind and weather conditions
- Shade structures shall not exceed 20' in overall height, and sizes may vary along the Greenway

Clerestory roof design and variable roof pitches provides ventilation

Available in many sizes and in either square or rectangle



Manufacturer:
Classic Recreation

Northwest Model

Allows for custom ornamentation, and can be constructed with or without stone work

Many sizes, layouts, and roofs such as Square, Rectangle, "T" and Cross-shaped



Manufacturer:
Classic Recreation

Campion Model

Designers may specify columns and roof materials to match existing architectural amenities

Available in square, rectangle, "U" or "L" shapes



Manufacturer:
Classic Recreation

Denver Model

P

f. PLAYGROUNDS

f. Playgrounds

Playground renovations at parks adjacent to the Greenway are encouraged to incorporate the standards and design elements from this section. Playgrounds should be integrated into the Greenway to stimulate children's imaginations and provide additional education about the Arroyo Simi. Playground equipment should be fun, vibrant, safe and functional. Playgrounds should offer children a range of play opportunities with sensory integration to develop their physical coordination and encourage social interaction.



Playgrounds shall be fun and safe for everyone and include an assortment of landforms and grades

f.1 Playground Standards

- Playgrounds shall be located away from residential areas if feasible
- Playgrounds shall strive to incorporate existing trees for shade if available or propose fast-growing shade trees (*see Landscaping, Section 2.10*)
- Playgrounds shall be set well back from the Arroyo Simi and roadways, and incorporate fencing and/or landscape barriers to establish boundaries and enclose the playground area whenever feasible (*refer to Section 2.13, Fencing and Walls*)
- Playgrounds shall provide interesting shapes and textures for tactile stimulation
- Playground themes shall be appropriate to the location and interpretive exhibits for the area, and reinforced with enhanced paving and playground surfacing
- Playgrounds should include a variety of different surfaces, such as pavement for ball games or hopscotch and natural materials like sand and gravel
- If sand areas are provided, they shall be well drained and have a border that prevents sand from being blown or tracked out
- Playgrounds shall provide benches for supervising adults, litter receptacles, and nearby bike racks
- Playgrounds should have wheelchair-accessible picnic tables and restrooms in the immediate vicinity if feasible
- Playgrounds shall include an assortment of landforms and grades such as mounds, ditches, tunnels, ramps, decks and bridges if feasible
- Playgrounds shall provide places to explore and opportunities to have contact with natural materials



Playgrounds shall provide natural themes that make a connection with the Arroyo Simi Greenway

- Playgrounds shall provide natural themes that make a connection with the Arroyo Simi Greenway and introduce elements such as water, boulders, grassy slopes and sand play areas
- Playground equipment shall fit the aesthetic and theme of the Greenway and be limited to natural tones such as tan, blue and green
- Play structures shall be durable and low maintenance
- Playgrounds shall have safety surfacing around play equipment
- Playgrounds shall provide a variety of spaces and play equipment for a range of age groups and include interactive panels that engage children of all abilities in a variety of fun learning activities
- Playgrounds shall be fun and safe for children of all abilities and mobility
 - If swings are provided they should include a variety for different age groups and abilities
 - If slides are provided, they shall have high sides
 - If tunnels are incorporated, they shall be wide and high enough to accommodate a wheelchair
 - If rings and bars are used, they shall be placed at wheelchair-attainable heights
 - If seesaws are provided, they should have back support and footplates



Manufacturer:
Earthscapes

Model
POL-81407

Made with
Recycled Plastic
Timbers



P

f. PLAYGROUNDS

f.2 Sustainable Elements

- Incorporate recycled plastic timbers
- Use recycled plastic/waste wood composite lumber decking
- Specify that posts and beams that are extruded from recycled high density polyethylene (HDPE)
- Use powder coating that is lead-free and contains no Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Make sure playground components are recyclable
- Specify recycled materials for playground surfacing



Manufacturer:
PlaySite Plus
Custom Graphics
Made from Recycled Tires



Manufacturer:
Surface America
UltraTile
Made from Recycled Tires

Currently there are many companies producing high quality playground surfacing made of recycled tire materials that can integrate custom designs. A variety of companies are shown within this Specific Plan to allow for flexibility of choice.

f.3 Playground Surfacing Standards

- All play surfacing shall allow for ADA accessibility and for wheelchairs and crutches to negotiate the playground without difficulty
- Playground surfaces shall meet requirements of ASTM and CSPC guidelines
- Play surfacing may be wood chips, poured in place or interlocking tiles, or a combination of these types
- Play surfacing shall be low-maintenance and resistant to vandalism
- Poured in place or interlocking tile play surfacing shall provide durable protection that is resistant to aging and has good color stability and is seamless, slip-resistant, low-abrasion surface that is resistant to indentation and ignition
- Poured in place or interlocking tile play surfaces shall have the ability to match sloped ramps or transition pieces
- Poured in place or interlocking tile play surfacing shall fit the theme of the Greenway and be available in a variety of colors that mimic colors naturally found along the Arroyo Simi such as gray, green, tan, blue, white, and brown
- Poured in place or interlocking tile play surfacing shall be able to be contoured to incorporate fun and educational elements about the Arroyo Simi whenever possible



Manufacturer:
Surface America

Poured in Place
Made from Recycled Tires

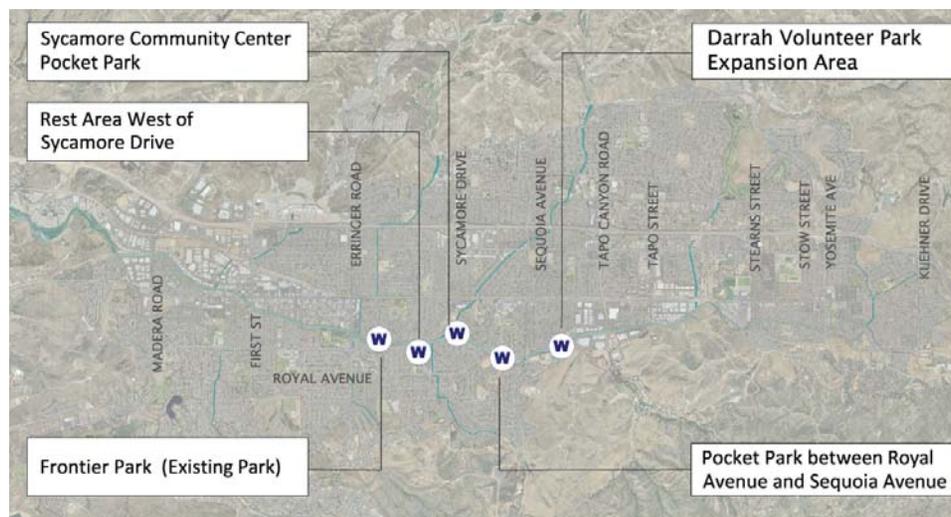
g. Workout Areas

Par Course Fitness Workout Areas will be located in select park expansion areas, pocket parks, and overlook/ rest areas to provide additional destinations along the Greenway and for variation of exercise routines.

g.1 Workout Area Locations

Workout areas are proposed along the Greenway between Erringer Road and Darrah Volunteer Park, with 15 events at 5 stations, approximately 1/2 mile apart.

- Frontier Park (Existing Park)
- Rest Area West of Sycamore Drive
- Sycamore Community Center Pocket Park
- Pocket Park East of Royal Avenue
- Darrah Volunteer Park Expansion Area



Workout Area Locations

g.2 Sustainable Elements

- Workout equipment shall incorporate recycled materials
- Workout equipment shall be recyclable and/or biodegradable
- Workout equipment shall be located on permeable surfacing such as decomposed granite, bark or recycled tire mulch

W

8. WORKOUT AREAS

Manufacturer:
Pipeline
Fitness Clusters



g.3 Workout Area Standards

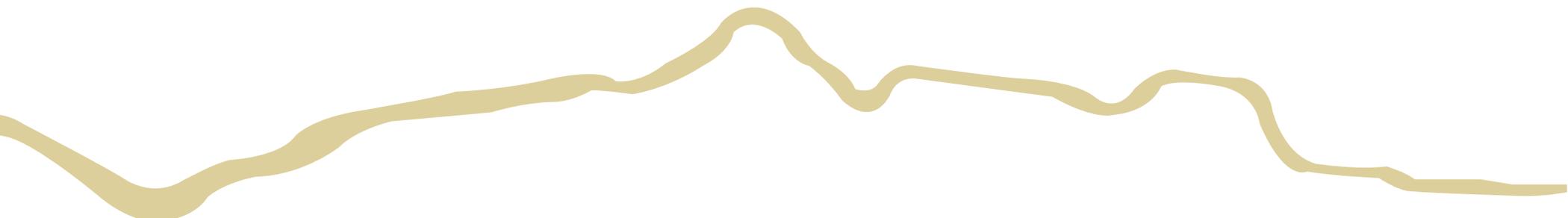
- Workout areas shall provide benches, litter receptacles, and bike racks in the immediate vicinity if feasible
- Workout areas shall be visible from the trail to increase use
- Workout areas shall provide a variety of exercise opportunities for people of all ability levels
- Workout areas shall have places to rest in the sun or shade, and access to a drinking fountain and restrooms nearby
- Workout area signage shall be consistent with the Greenway Signage Program with regards to colors, fonts and materials if available (*see Greenway Signage Program Section 2.12*)
- Workout equipment shall be accessible and ADA compliant
- Workout equipment shall be constructed of durable and paintable materials such as metal
- Workout equipment shall fit the aesthetic of this Site Furnishing Program and be limited to natural tones such as tan, brown and green
- Workout equipment surfaces should be porous to allow for a free flow of water, and enable the equipment to be used following rains
- Workout equipment shall be installed with related instruction signs
- A map of the workout equipment network along the Greenway shall be provided at all stations to highlight additional exercise opportunities
- A range of workout equipment shall be provided for the novice to conditioned athlete

Workout areas shall be visible from the trail to increase use



2.15

Focal Points/Public Art



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2.15 FOCAL POINTS/PUBLIC ART

Focal points such as public art contribute to providing a sense of place along the Greenway. The integration of focal points such as trellises or public art will enhance trail users sense of connection and appreciation of the Greenway by building upon the unique cultural and environmental context of the Arroyo Simi.

The Greenway should accommodate focal points/public art in key locations along the trail to enhance the Greenway's open space corridors and provide visual interest to trail users. Focal points/public art will encourage people to look more closely at the landscape and facilitate a deeper sense of understanding about this feature of Simi Valley.

Focal point/public art presents an opportunity not only to create desirable public spaces and aesthetically improve the Greenway corridor, but also to celebrate the City's historic character and the Arroyo's natural environment.

Focal Points/Public Art Intent

- Encourage creativity and an appreciation of the arts and the City's cultural heritage
- Discuss possible themes for focal points/public art along the Greenway
- Integrate focal points/public art in many forms and locations and describe proper placement of focal points/public art within the Greenway
- Develop vibrant focal points/public art along the Greenway that fits within the aesthetic of the Arroyo Simi's natural landscape
- Use focal points/public art as a means for documenting and sharing the stories that reflect the community's values
- Insert the City's historical identity and cultural heritage into the everyday life and recognize key historic individuals and events
- Use focal points/public art to provide education about the environment and cultural and historic resources
- Specify low maintenance and materials for focal points/public art





For the purposes of this Specific Plan, focal points refer to an element intended to visually attract trail users' attention. Focal points might be a fountain or water feature, or a natural element such as accent vegetation or boulders. Focal points and public art have been used interchangeably in this Specific Plan to allow for flexibility in implementing the elements as needed. Focal points could potentially be developed first and then follow with public art as funding comes available.

The focal points/public art along the Greenway should be a mix of permanent pieces that are well integrated into the Greenway design and temporary rotating pieces that allow for a dynamic and changing Greenway and creates a renewed interest for trail users. The integration of focal points/public art should have some pieces prominently placed along the Greenway and others subtly integrated as an element of the landscape that is to be discovered.



Focal points might be a trellis, fountain, water feature, or a natural element such as accent vegetation or boulders



Focal points/public art relating to the Greenway should be developed by:

- Working with local artists, schools, and community organizations
- Sponsoring community art shows within the Greenway

Developing partners in these endeavors will assist in improving connections with the local art community, foster an appreciation the arts, make the art more relevant to the community at large, and potentially reduce the chance of vandalism. However, artists should be notified about the potential for vandalism before they develop public art for the Greenway, and use durable materials and locate art in well lit and highly traveled areas.



Work with local artists, schools, and community organizations to improve connections with the local art community, foster an appreciation the arts, and make the art more relevant to the community



Art can be incorporated into Greenway furniture, walks and paving and shall be located in well lit and heavily traveled areas



a. Focal Point/Public Art Locations

Focal point/public art pieces have been suggested along the Arroyo Simi Greenway in key select locations that are highly visible and well traveled. Focal point/public art will be placed along principal collector streets particularly at Greenway entries. Focal points/public art will also be located in trail roundabouts, overlooks/rest areas, and parks.



Focal point/public art pieces should be located in highly visible and well traveled locations

Specific locations along the Greenway for focal points/public art include:

- West side of Madera Road/
North side of Arroyo Simi (Key Study Area 2)
- West side of Erringer Road/
South side of Arroyo Simi (Key Study Area 7)
- East side of Sycamore Drive/
Sycamore Drive Community Center Trailhead (Key Study Area 9)
- South Side of Royal Avenue/
Darrah Volunteer Park (Key Study Area 11)
- South side of Los Angeles Avenue/
Proposed S-Curve Park (Key Study Area 12)
- East side of Kuehner Drive/
North side of Arroyo Simi

Focal point/public art locations along the Arroyo Simi Greenway



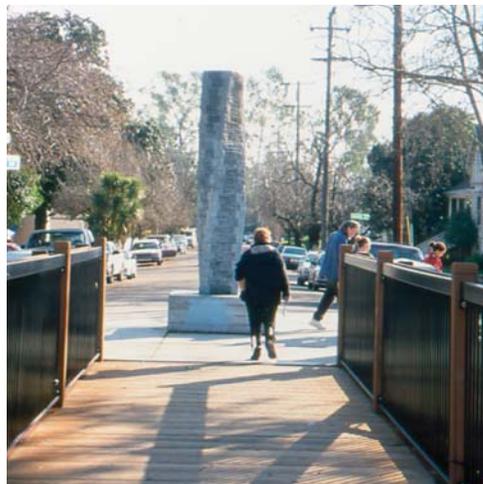


Possible additional locations for focal point/public art include:

- Bridge under crossings (*refer to Section 2.16*)
- Bridge enhancements (*refer to Section 2.6*)
- Benches, trash and recycling receptacles (*refer to Section 2.14a*)
- Incorporated into chain link fencing (*refer to Section 2.13a.4*)
- Walls with art work tiles made by the community (*refer to Section 2.13b*)
- Sculptures scattered throughout playgrounds for kids to play on



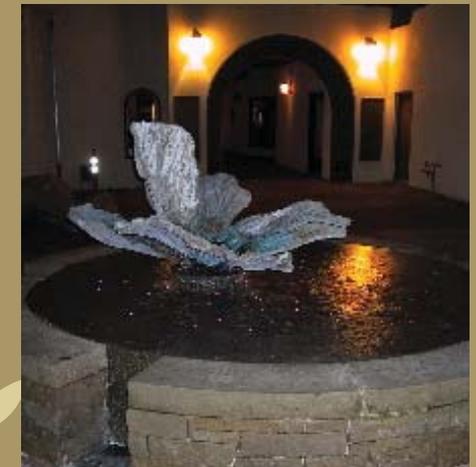
Use focal points/public art to guide and welcome trail users



Placement of focal point/public art shall consider the following:

- Public art shall be placed in locations that are highly visible and in locations that are less likely to be vandalized
- Light key focal point/public art pieces at night to create a dynamic feature along the Greenway and reduce chances of vandalism
- The focal points/public art shall be located so as not to impede with circulation patterns and sight lines
- Use focal points/public art at key locations to guide and welcome trail users such as trail intersections and gathering spots
- Sculptural elements should be in scale with the location where they will be placed
- Consider providing a plaque with art title, artist name and city of residence
- Integrate focal points/public art into the Greenway landscape design and interpretive program
- Incorporate focal points/public art into the Greenway designs to blend appropriate landscaping and lighting with the artistic expressions

Key focal points/public art pieces should be well lit at night





b. Themes and Materials

There are ample opportunities along the Greenway for idea generation to develop unique and interesting focal points/public art. The trail corridor features many design elements that could foster special pieces of focal points/public art along the Greenway.

Some potential themes for focal points/public art include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Local wildlife, scenery, plants and water shapes related to the Arroyo Simi
- Cultural representations of the area which focus on the historic, cultural, and indigenous people and events of Simi Valley
- Raising environmental awareness
- Sustainability and ecology
- Tangible art pieces for each of our senses



Highlight the cultural and historical character of Simi Valley



Integrate distinctive pieces of focal point/public art into the Greenway through:

- Mosaics on walls and within paving
- Murals on blank walls
- Custom designed pedestals/ mounting systems for interpretive exhibits
- Integrated into benches and trash receptacles
- Sculpture



Get inspiration from the local wildlife, scenery, plants and water shapes



Consider mosaics on walls and within paving to call attention to features along the Greenway



An example of a custom designed pedestals/mounting system for an interpretive exhibit





Any focal point/public artwork placed within the Greenway shall be low maintenance and require very little additional responsibilities for the City or Park District.



Materials should allow people to interact with public art by touching it or climbing on it

Focal points/public art located along the Greenway shall be:

- Made of materials that will not burn, and cannot be carved on or easily vandalized
- Designed and made of durable materials that require minimal maintenance and can easily be cleaned and not damaged by industrial cleaning products
- When feasible, use a low-sheen anti-graffiti coating to protect art work against vandalism
- Made of materials that allow people to safely interact or climb on it
- Secured or heavy enough that it cannot be moved or stolen
- Placed where they will not become an obstruction on the trail and must be safe for the public to view or experience

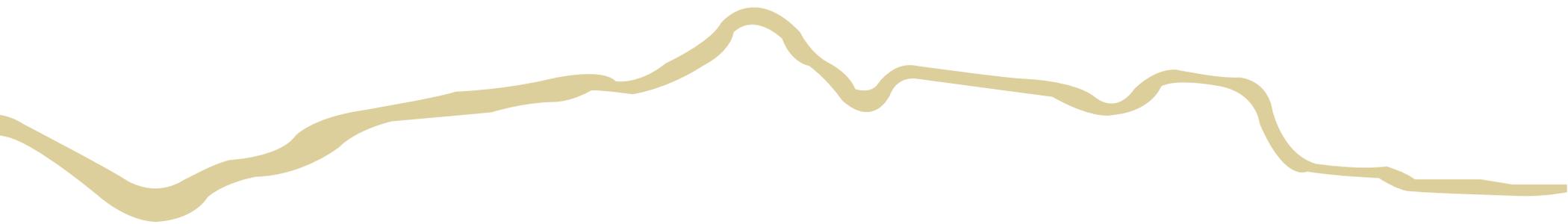


Focal points/public art should be made of durable materials that can easily be cleaned



2.16

Arroyo Simi Channel Improvements



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2.16 ARROYO SIMI CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS

This section pertains to improvements that could occur within the Arroyo Simi channel. Improvements that could occur in the channel include: landscaping/habitat enhancement; two locations where access to the water could occur; and the installation of new, and improvements to existing, under crossings. However, it is important to note that all such improvements are subject to review and approval by the Ventura County Water Protection District (VCWPD), who is the property owner of the channel and its tributaries, and the party responsible for maintaining the Arroyo Simi channel and its tributaries to ensure that adequate flood water capacity in the channel and its tributaries is provided. Therefore, any proposed improvements in the channel and its tributaries must demonstrate that the 100-year flood capacity will be maintained and that the VCWPD's current maintenance and operations procedures will not be adversely affected prior to approval by the VCWPD.

a. Habitat Enhancement

Habitat enhancement areas may be located within the banks of the Arroyo Simi only where existing capacity can accommodate the 100-year flood and where levees are not present, and improvements within this zone should include native plant restoration to enhance visual quality and reflect the native riparian character. In addition, habitat enhancement can also occur in the form of the removal of invasive plants, such as *Arundo*.

In developing the Greenway, habitat enhancement within the embankment areas is envisioned to soften the look of riprap areas, filter water run-off, and provide shade and habitat for wildlife. The restoration and management of the Arroyo Simi's habitat enhancement areas is critical in the implementation and success of the Greenway. *(Refer to Section 2.10.b for the Preliminary Greenway Plant List)*

Habitat enhancement planting areas will be concentrated in multiple strategically selected sites throughout the Greenway corridor, rather than planting individual sites, to result in a greater improvement to overall watershed health. Habitat enhancement along the Greenway is important because it provides improved riparian functions, and every habitat enhancement area planted will incrementally contribute towards improvements to the regional watershed.

Create a more natural environment with habitat areas and better water quality while preserving VCWPD flood control capacity and maintenance operations



The goal of habitat enhancement is to create a more natural environment with habitat areas for wildlife and better water quality while preserving Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) flood control capacity and maintenance operations. These goals may seem contradictory to each other, but they can be successfully achieved with sensitive planning and a mutual understanding of the ultimate result.

As stated in this section's introduction, the current primary purpose of the Arroyo Simi is flood control. In developing this flood control protection, the Arroyo Simi's natural corridor has been channelized to increase efficiency and riprap used to control erosion in many locations. Many of the banks along the Arroyo Simi are routinely sprayed to eliminate weeds to ensure the channel has sufficient capacity to convey the 100-year flood, and so maintenance personnel can survey the banks for problems, leaving the banks virtually void of any vegetation.

The basic concept of habitat enhancement planting in this section assumes that the existing riprap will remain to protect and stabilize the banks, but VCWPD may approve appropriate locations to remove pockets of rip-rap and plant with native plants and protect with new erosion control methods as needed. Habitat enhancement areas should allow for space between vegetation areas to protect the banks, and where trees are permitted they should be planted in straight rows to minimize obstructions to flood capacity. Invasive plant species, trash and debris, and weedy trees in the Arroyo will be removed to improve habitat.

Habitat Enhancement Intent

- Ensure that habitat enhancement and restoration improvements will not impact the VCWPD’s ability to provide for a 100-year flood event or adversely affect existing VCWPD operations and maintenance procedures within the Arroyo Simi channel
- Maintain existing native vegetation within the Arroyo Simi channel and protect existing topsoil from erosion whenever feasible
- Remove existing invasive plants
- Design for local environmental conditions and incorporate non-invasive/drought-tolerant plants that can adapt to the natural rainfall of the area
- Provide habitat for local native non-burrowing fauna such as butterflies, birds, fish and lizards
- Provide a general understanding of the requirements and impacts of tree and woody vegetation growth along the Arroyo Simi flood control channel
- Ensure that vegetation within levee areas meet all Federal, State and local requirements
- Establish a pilot restoration strategy for tree and woody vegetation planting and burrowing animal control along the Arroyo Simi channel



BEFORE

Remove pockets of rip-rap, plant trees in rows, and install native vegetation



AFTER

Locations

Habitat enhancement planting areas are identified at key areas that are highly visible, are not levees, and have adequate flood capacity, such as:

- Areas viewed from roadways
- Areas viewed from Parks
- Areas viewed from Overlooks/Rest Areas
- Areas adjacent to existing quality habitat sites



Habitat Enhancement Areas

b. HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Example of habitat enhancement planting along RRM-designed Prince Memorial Greenway in Santa Rosa California (top photo is typical before restoration and lower is typical after)



Habitat Enhancement shall include the following:

- VCWPD shall review and approve plans for habitat enhancement, and flood capacity shall be carefully maintained
- All planting along the Arroyo Simi Greenway shall minimize operations and maintenance impacts and preserve unobstructed access to VCWPD facilities
- Retain existing native vegetation whenever feasible
- Avoid aggressive, invasive, high water use, and exotic plants
- Eradicate invasive plants and weedy trees (*refer to Stewardship Program, Section 4.3*)
- Habitat enhancement vegetation shall tolerate poor soil conditions
- Habitat enhancement areas shall be considered to be non-irrigated (permanent), and shall flourish under long durations of flooding with drought recovery
- Habitat enhancement trees and woody vegetation on riprap embankments shall have non-aggressive root systems
- Incorporate desirable native species to improve erosion control and habitat along the Arroyo Simi
- Specify tough and durable plant materials that are easily maintained, and disease and pest resistant species
- Selectively remove pockets of rip-rap and plant slope bank with native riparian vegetation



Incorporate desirable native species to improve habitat areas along the Arroyo Simi Greenway

a.1 Wildlife Habitat

Riparian habitats have been identified as the most important habitat to land birds in California. Dozens of bird species depend on riparian habitat not only for nesting, but also for stopover sites during migration and places to live during the winter. Trees within the riparian zone provide shade and nesting habitat for birds. Riparian plants provide an indirect source of food for fish and waterfowl by creating habitat for insects that fall into the water. Habitat enhancement along the Greenway should support a healthy bird population and significantly increase other desired wildlife.

Wildlife habitat areas should incorporate Landscaping Standards from Section 2.16a, and also include the following methods of preserving and enhancing wildlife habitats along the Arroyo Simi Greenway:

- Ensure connectivity between habitat areas that are rich in food sources and/or cover and physically link important routes between restored habitats
- Make the habitat enhancement areas as large as possible to increase ecological benefits
- Restore small habitat pockets at side channels where the water has a chance to slow down and pool so that vegetation can form to provide space, cover, and nutrition to fish
- When large spaces are available adjacent habitat enhancement areas, provide a gentle transition of the habitat enhancement vegetation into landscape enhancement areas when feasible
- Plant a variety of native plants to promote the use of different parts of the habitat enhancement area by different species of birds and wildlife
- Circumvent existing habitat areas and avoid or minimize habitat alteration when constructing the Greenway
- Minimize direct or indirect damage to sensitive wildlife resource areas and minimize creek bank erosion and siltation during construction activities along the Greenway
- Minimize pet disturbance to wildlife by mandating dogs on leashes
- Facilitate public education about wildlife and native plants through signage and carefully sighted overlooks

Although much of the wildlife is welcomed, there can be significant problems with burrowing animals such as ground squirrels and other rodents. Burrowing animals dig for shelter and safety, and as the burrows grow deeper and expand laterally they can weaken levees and Arroyo Simi banks. Native vegetation should be used on banks that act as burrowing animal repellent. Burrowing animals can cause serious structural or hydraulic problems to flood protection along the Arroyo Simi, and management problems associated with burrowing animals tend to be recurring. *(Refer to Stewardship Section 4.3b for potential methods for controlling burrowing animals)*



Dozens of birds depend on riparian habitats for nesting and stop-over sites and habitat enhancement will significantly increase the amount of wildlife areas along the Greenway

a.2 Trees and Woody Plants

There can be potentially detrimental effects to the safety of flood control facilities by trees and woody vegetation growth. When trees, dense woody plants, briars, and vines are allowed to grow along the Greenway they can potentially hinder safety inspections and interfere with safe operations or eventually cause impacts to embankments. Tree root development loosens the soil and uprooted trees can produce large voids in the rip rap, decaying roots can create seepage paths and internal erosion problems, and falling trees can cause significant damage. Trees and woody vegetation also attracts and provides cover for burrowing animals, which can in turn cause serious structural problems.



Some methods of minimizing problems from trees and woody vegetation include:

- Provide a buffer zone of 30 ft between deep rooted vegetation and the top of bank whenever feasible
- Plant trees in rows in the direction of flow to minimize obstructions
- Specify trees and woody vegetation that tolerates poor soils, seasonal flooding and drought conditions



Some areas along the Greenway may be limited to small trees, grasses and shrubs



a.3 Arroyo Simi Levee Areas

There are levee areas along both sides of the Arroyo Simi from First Street to Erringer Road. It appears that this area is not all in a levee condition, and some locations may be able to accommodate typical landscaping described in Sections 2.10a.1 and 2.16a. Verification of levee planting areas shall occur prior to landscape plans for this segment of the Greenway.



Levee area along the Arroyo Simi Greenway

The levees are very important for flood control protection, and trees and woody plants shall not be located in the levee area unless otherwise approved by the VCWPD. This Specific Plan requires that all landscape plans be reviewed by the VCWPD for appropriate vegetation in this area.

According to VCWPD and FEMA, planting within the levee areas shall include:

- Avoid planting trees, shrubs and other types of plants with large root systems and trunks greater than 2 inches in diameter within 15 feet of the toe of either side of a levee
- Establish effective ground cover of low-growing grasses and shallow-rooted native vegetation that will not affect the structural integrity of the embankment but will reduce and prevent embankment slope erosion

a.4 Pilot Restoration Strategy

Understanding the goals of VCWPD and this Specific Plan, a pilot program to test landscape installation and maintenance should be considered. VCWPD will need to participate in the test program site selection to assess the long-term effectiveness and cost analysis of alternative methods for tree and woody vegetation planting and burrowing animal control along the Arroyo Simi where feasible.

VCWPD inspectors and engineers should collaborate with the City and Park District in the development of an inspection and evaluation methodology to rank alternatives and prioritize products for possible future installation along the Greenway.



Example of an existing pilot restoration study located south of Hidden Ranch Drive

Pilot restoration methods for tree and woody vegetation planting include:

- Barriers for tree roots such as bio-barriers or herbicides and/or chemical treatments
 - 2D-type screens and barriers such as commercial root traps (root engaging and constricting), root deflectors (walls), and inhibitors (chemical constraints)
 - “Bio-Barrier” is a biocide product marketed and promoted to prevent tree and plant roots from penetrating dams and is indicated to be effective against all types of roots around pipes, hardscapes, and levees, and is environmentally acceptable to the EPA
 - Commercially available barrier systems are effective in controlling root elongation and growth; however, many of these barrier systems are relatively expensive and therefore should be installed in select locations
- Incorporate root exclusion zones to prevent roots from colonizing the embankment areas due to applied physical or chemical changes to the soil
 - Utilize soil structure changes, soil compaction, water/aeration stress, anaerobic conditions, soil injections and slurries, soil additives, and chemicals
- Select species of trees and woody vegetation that require lower soil oxygen environments and have appropriate root morphology
 - Choose tree species that can survive under rather limited or harsh environmental conditions
 - Incorporate tree species that are smaller in size, have less aggressive rooting, and are slower growing
 - Inspect and evaluate growth habits to determine possible future allowable species along the Greenway

b. Access to the Water

Access to the water provides an additional amenity for the Arroyo Simi Greenway. This amenity not only provides an additional interesting place for Greenway users to experience and enjoy, but can also be used to provide valuable outdoor classroom experiences to teach students about the local habitat, water quality, etc. Access to the water could potentially occur in two locations along the Arroyo Simi, subject to VCWPD approval. The access locations will be sensitive to their respective immediate environments with regard to materials used in construction and orientation to the water flow and will not adversely affect flood control operations.

Locations

Access to the water could occur in two locations along the Greenway because of sheltered peninsulas and/or natural grades down to the water.

- Cascade Overlook (Key Study Area 6)
- Community Center Pocket Park (Key Study Area 10)



Steps to the water at the Cascade Overlook/Rest Area (refer to page 2.9-20 for additional information)

Access to the Water Intent

- Provide access to the Arroyo Simi in two areas, which can be used for valuable outdoor classroom experiences
- Incorporate consistent site furnishings, stone facades and concrete steps into the design of the access to the water locations.
- Access to the water locations should have a defined edge to limit pedestrian access only to a lower pad area and to protect the surrounding landscape



Access to the water should have well defined edges



Steps, ramps, walls and columns should incorporate rock facades and boulders

Access to the Water shall include the following:

- Access to the water shall not adversely affect flood control operations and shall be subject to VCWPD review and approval
- No trees are permitted to be planted in access to the water areas
- Access to the water shall conform to existing topography, trees, rock outcrops, and other site features to the extent feasible
- Access to the water shall have defined edges and limit pedestrian access to a lower pad to prevent damage to the surrounding landscape
- Access to the water shall incorporate concrete and stone steps paving on the lower pad, steps and ramps to reduce maintenance
- Access to the water shall incorporate habitat enhancement along the Arroyo Simi whenever feasible and shall be approved by the VCWPD
- Access to the water shall provide seating for resting at the top and bottom of all ramps and stairs
- Steps, ramps, walls and columns shall incorporate rock facades when feasible (*refer to Section 2.13b, Fencing and Walls*)
- Access to the water shall incorporate boulders and rocks in naturalistic groupings when possible, and use a variety of sizes for informal seating opportunities
- Access to the water shall be situated in the direction of flowing water

c. Under Crossings

As with the bridges discussed in Section 2.6, under crossings also offer an excellent opportunity to unify the north and south sides of the Greenway while minimizing on-street sidewalk use and potential trail user conflicts. There are several existing under crossings along the Greenway that provide for grade-separated crossings under existing vehicle bridges. With the enhancement of these under crossings and the inclusion of several new under crossings, there will be increased safety and minimal delays when traveling along the Arroyo Simi Greenway. Environmental permits or review will be required by various agencies to permit construction of under crossings along the Arroyo Simi Greenway. Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) will be active in reviewing and approving plans for under crossings along the Arroyo Simi, and flood capacity shall be carefully managed along the Greenway.

Under Crossings Intent

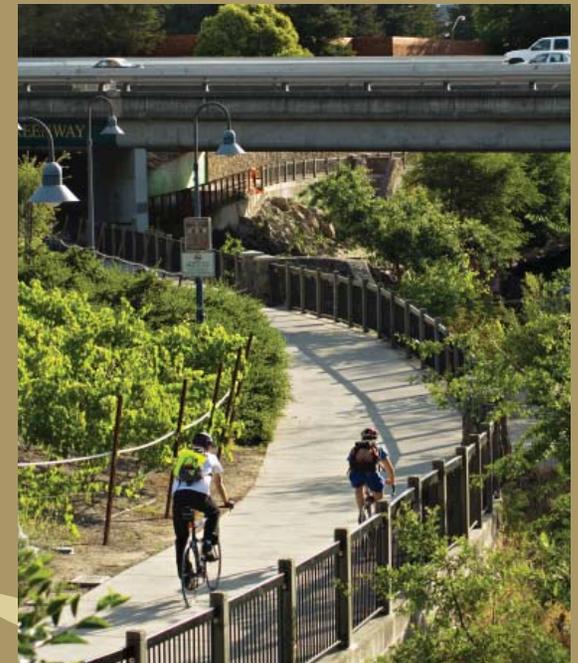
- Increased safety is the primary goal, including physical separation of trail users from vehicles
- Minimize barriers and delays along the Greenway to the extent feasible
- Beautification with a consistent and unified under crossing enhancement treatment along the Greenway

c.1 Sustainable Elements

To the extent feasible, the following sustainable elements shall be used for under crossing design and construction:

- Use high strength or high performance materials to reduce the amount of overall structure required
- Provide erosion and sedimentation control during undercrossing installation
- Use recycled materials and recycle construction waste
- Formwork, temporary bracing, pedestrian barriers and scaffolding should be reused when undercrossing construction is complete

Under crossings will increase the ease of use and safety and minimize delays along the Greenway





c.2 Existing Under Crossings

Existing under crossings are a convenient amenity for trail users along the Arroyo Simi Greenway. They provide for safe road under crossings without delays, and have been used successfully for many years along the trail system.

Existing under crossings are located at:

- First Street
- Los Angeles Avenue
- Tapo Street

Typical Existing Condition



Rock façade and an Arroyo Simi Greenway logo shall be installed on the bridge to announce the trail



Typical Proposed Enhancement



Location of Existing Under Crossings along the Greenway



Existing under crossings will have the following enhancements:

- Existing chain link fence removal and replacement with trail fencing (refer to *Fencing and Walls Section 2.13a* for more information)
- Minor directional signage shall be added to guide trail users (refer to *Greenway Signage Program, Section 2.12j*)
- Provide vandal-resistant illumination within the tunnel (refer to *Trail Lighting Program, Section 2.7*)
- Consider installing gloss-finished tile ceilings to enhance light levels within the tunnel whenever feasible
- Public art or stone veneer that is consistent with other Greenway stone amenities installed on abutments or walls under bridges (refer to *Focal Points/ Public Art Opportunities, Section 2.15* for additional information)
- An Arroyo Simi Greenway logo shall be installed on the adjacent bridges (refer to *Greenway Signage Program, Section 2.12a*)
- Trail fencing and rhino gates shall be located along the trail to the under crossing to allow closing when determined by maintenance staff that it is advisable due to high water conditions or extreme inclement weather; however, the at-grade crossings and other portions of the trail can remain open (refer to *Fencing and Walls, Section 2.13*)



Public art should be considered on abutments and walls under bridges

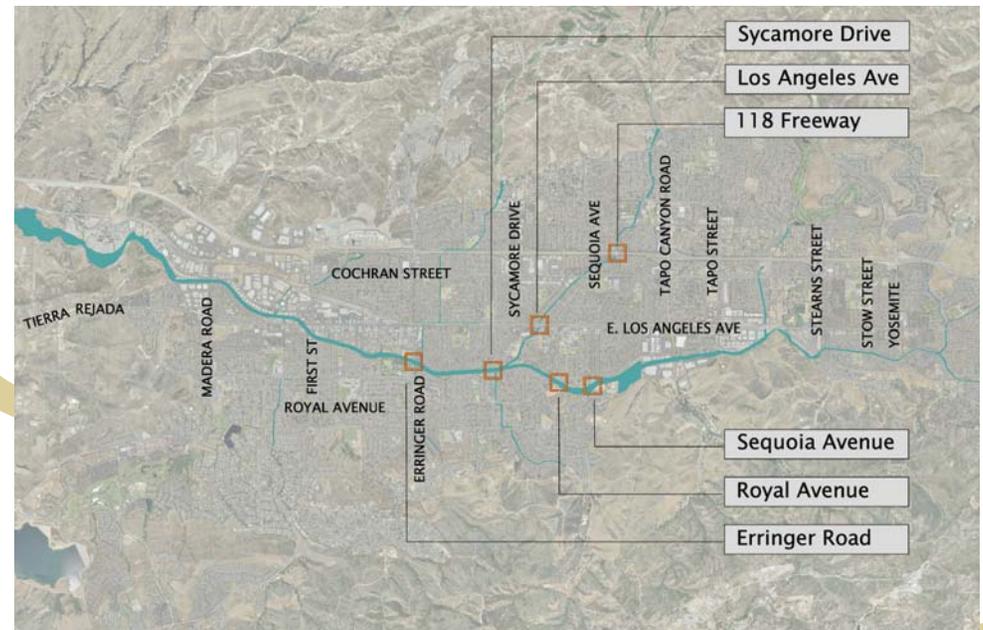


c.3 Proposed Under Crossings

Proposed under crossings have been specified to minimize conflicts with the cross-flow of motorists. Proposed under crossings should use the existing under crossings as a prototype for design development, refer to Section 2.16c.1.

New under crossings are proposed in the following locations:

- Erringer Road south side of the Arroyo Simi (Key Study Area 7)
- Sycamore Drive south side of the Arroyo Simi (Key Study Area 8 and 8a)
- Royal Avenue south side of the Arroyo Simi
- Sequoia Avenue south side of the Arroyo Simi
- Los Angeles Avenue at the Tapo Canyon Drainage (East of Sycamore Drive)
- 118 Freeway at the Tapo Canyon Drainage (East of Sequoia Avenue)



Location of Proposed Under Crossings along the Greenway

Proposed under crossings will apply the standards listed in Existing Under Crossing Enhancements, Section 2.16c.1, and also have the following:

- Under crossing trails leading down to the tunnel shall allow for required ADA access
- Concrete paving shall be used for under crossing trails wherever seasonal high water is expected
- Under crossings trails shall be designed to drain properly, and the sag point should not be lower than surrounding terrain
- All proposed under crossings shall not interfere with channel's flood flow capacity, and shall consider potential future channel improvement where possible
- The minimum width of the trail (typically 12 feet) leading down to the tunnel shall be maintained through the under crossing where possible
- The clear distance of 2 feet on either side of the trail surface shall be maintained through the under crossing if feasible and Best Management Practices to prevent unfiltered water from entering the Arroyo Simi channel shall be incorporated
- Proposed under crossings shall be located above a 10-year storm capacity
- 12-to 14-foot clearance is preferred to allow for maintenance and emergency vehicles, but 8-foot minimum is acceptable with visible signs warning about height and restricting maintenance and emergency vehicles
- If an under crossing is proposed adjacent a project entry, it shall be visually tied into the gateway with unifying materials and design elements (*refer to Project Entries, Section 2.11*)
- If trail fencing and walls are required they shall be at least 42 inches high (*refer to Fencing and Walls, Section 2.13*)
- Retaining walls shall be used only where required, and meet the Greenway aesthetic (*refer to Fencing and Walls, Section 2.13b*)



Concrete paving shall be used for under crossing trails

- Under crossings shall be visually open for safety and personal security of bicyclists and pedestrians and design the under crossing with a nearly level profile to provide complete vision through the tunnel whenever possible
- Specify sediment and erosion control practices during construction of under crossings
- Under crossings shall provide sufficient lighting (*refer to Section 2.7 for additional information*)





c.3.a Erringer Road Under Crossing

Erringer Road under crossing is proposed on the south side of the Arroyo Simi, and is part of Key Study Area 7. The proposed under crossing at Erringer Road was previously graded for an equestrian under crossing, and a large wall was placed along the west side of the bridge.



View of existing wall and trail on the west side of Erringer Road looking west

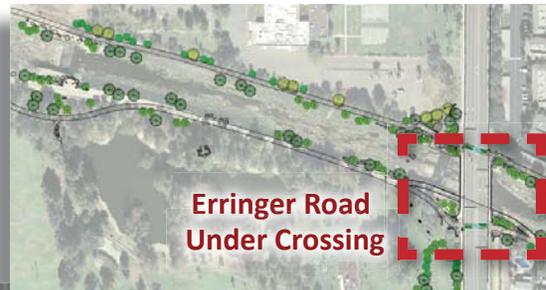


View of existing conditions at Erringer under crossing - looking west



Erringer Road under crossing shall apply the standards listed in Section 2.16.c.1, and also have the following:

- Remove existing wall on the west side of the Erringer Road bridge
- Drainage on east side of Erringer Road will require a culvert under the proposed trail
- Construct walls on the north side of the trail as necessary to maintain flood capacity



Erringer Road Under Crossing
plan view

c.3.b Sycamore Drive Under Crossing

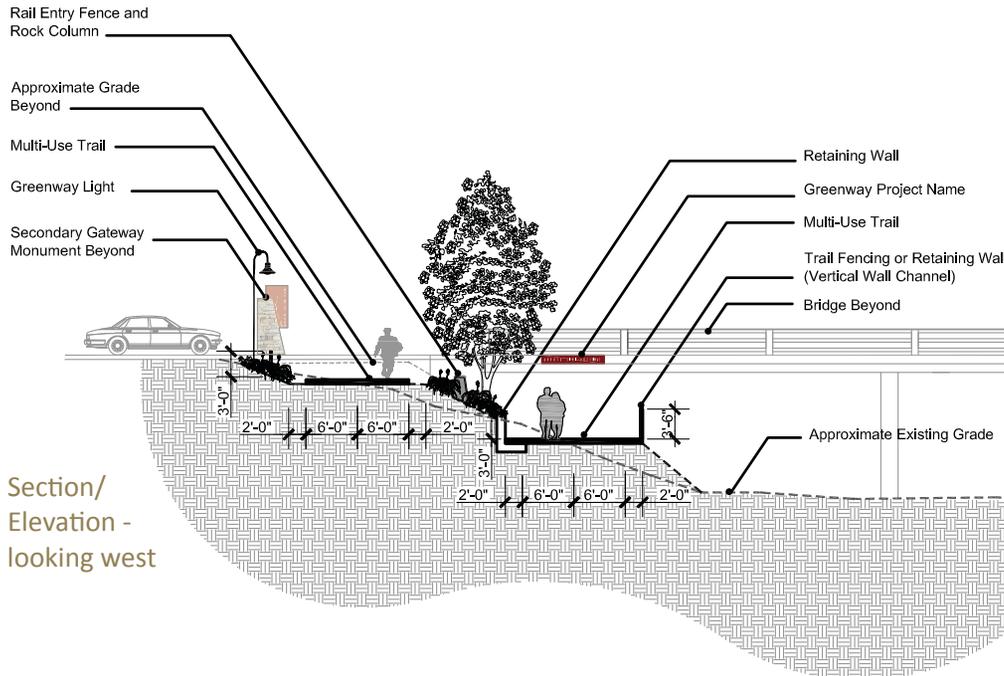
Sycamore Drive under crossing is proposed on the south side of the Arroyo Simi, and is part of Key Study Area 8 and 8a. The proposed under crossing at Sycamore Drive has an existing dirt trail crossing under the bridge that has been used for many years. The proposed under crossing has ample existing clearance.



Views of existing Sequoia Drive under crossing - looking west



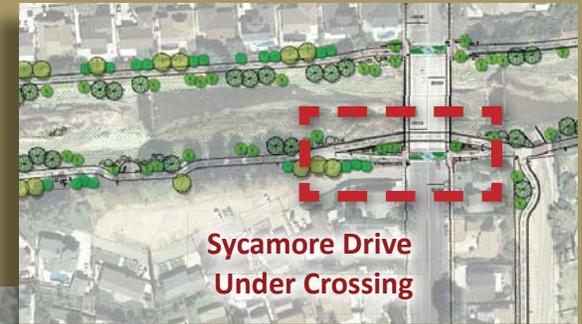
Depending on phasing and funding, the under crossing might take considerable time to be constructed. The proposed signalized at grade crossing might be used for many years to come, and should remain open when the under crossing is closed due to flooding potential. *(Refer to At Grade Crossings, Section 2.3)*



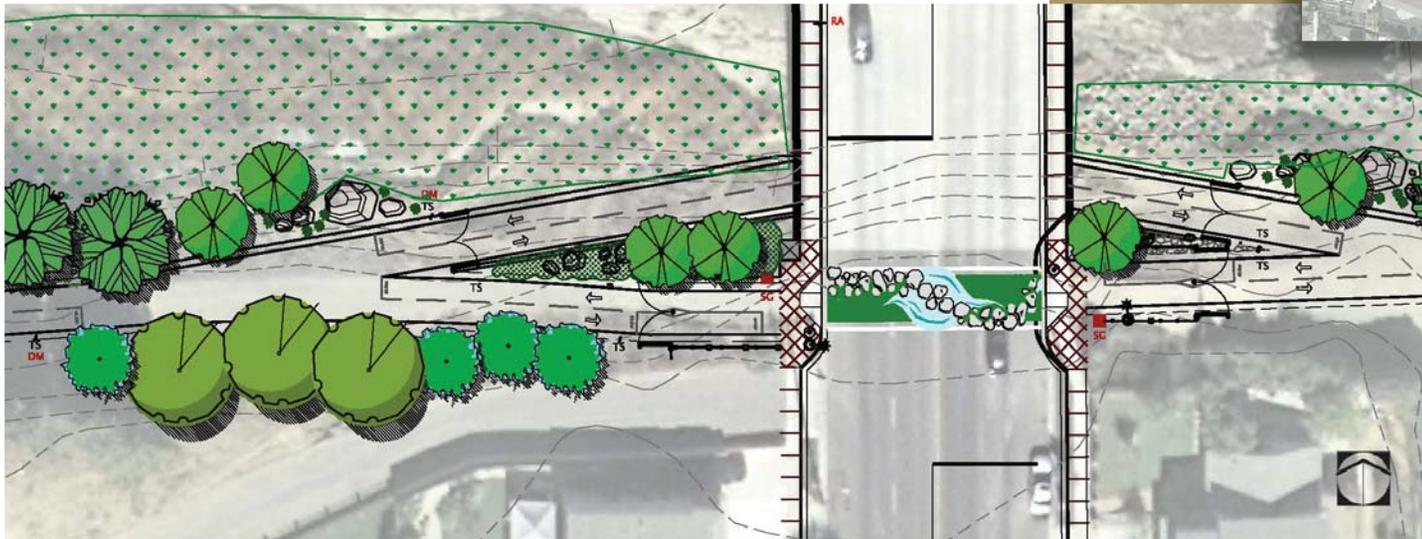
Section/
Elevation -
looking west

Sycamore Drive under crossing shall apply the standards listed in Section 2.16c.1, and also have the following:

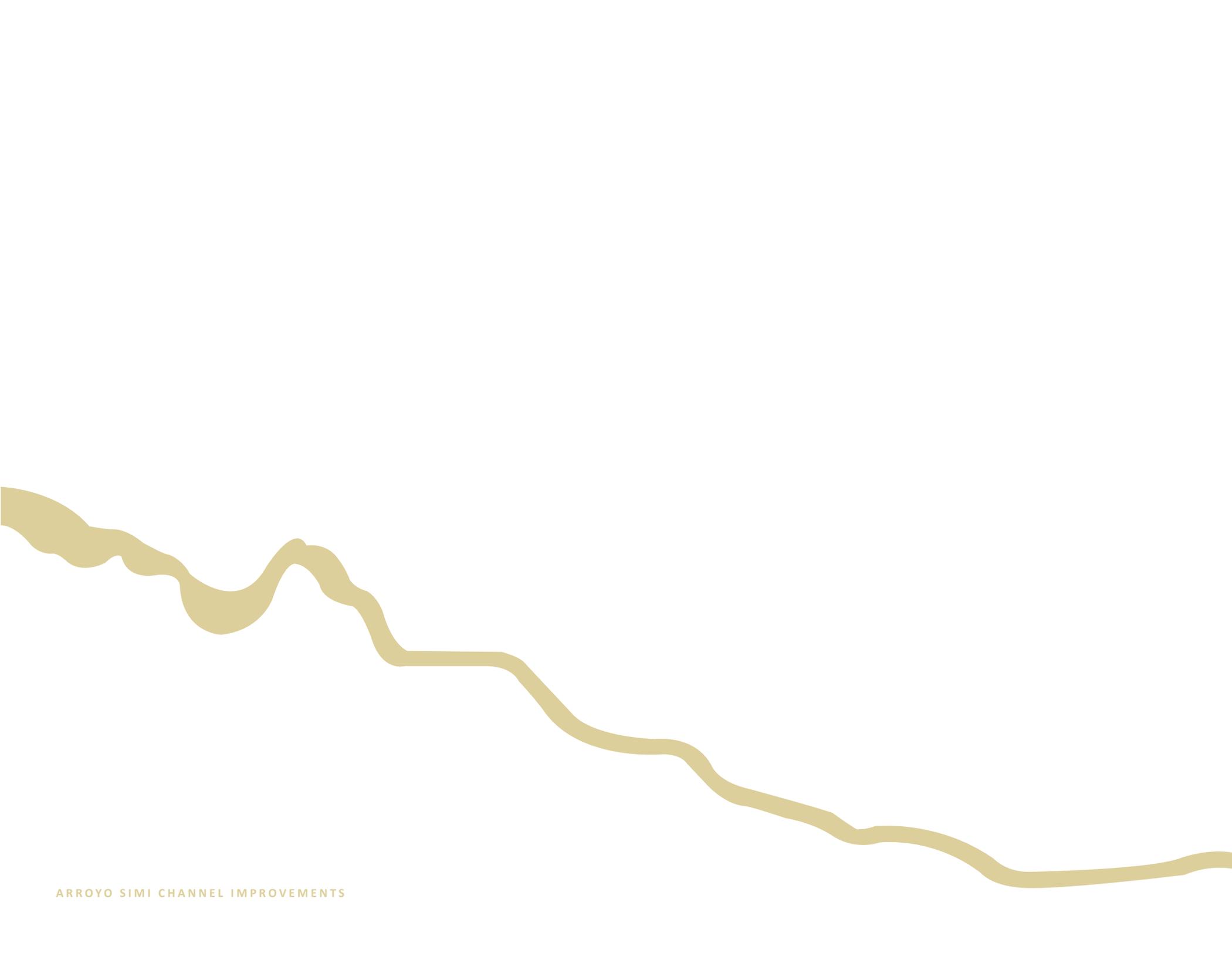
- Construct walls on the north side of the trail as necessary to maintain flood capacity
- This under crossing is envisioned to be cut into the existing slope with a retaining wall and filled for the trail



Sycamore Drive
Under Crossing



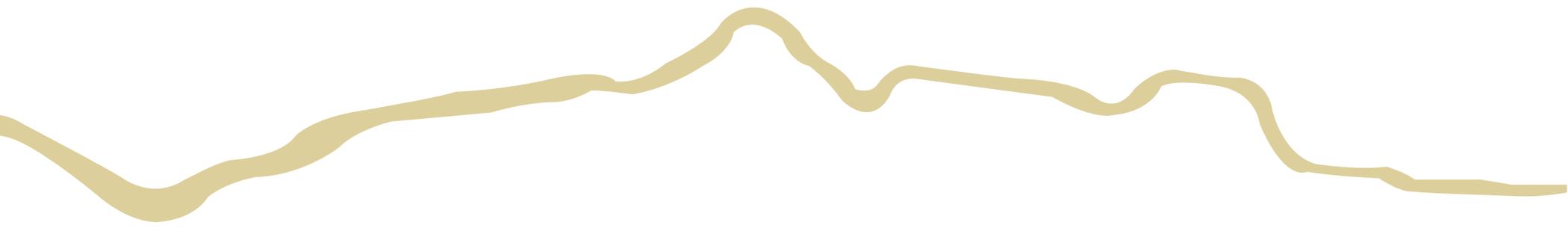
Sycamore Drive Under Crossing
plan view



ARROYO SIMI CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS

3.1

Sustainability Program



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3.1 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

Sustainability has many facets, including environmental protection by choosing appropriate materials, minimizing waste and pollution, and restoring and preserving the natural environment. The development of the Arroyo Simi Greenway should provide trail users with a built environment that is sustainable and enjoyable for many years to come.

Sustainability Program Intent

- Incorporate sustainable materials and programs so that the construction and maintenance of the Greenway does not have negative impacts on residents or surrounding wildlife
- Integrate salvaged or recycled materials that would otherwise end up in landfills
- Use reclaimed asphalt and permeable paving when feasible to reduce the Greenway's impact on the environment
- Specify low VOC products and sustainable sealants to reduce air and water pollution
- Specify sustainably grown and salvaged wood materials to reduce the demand for wood from forests
- Reduce energy use, promote resource efficiency and use alternative energy
- Endorse and foster healthy lifestyles, families and individuals
- Turn the Greenway into a community gathering spot and an inviting destination
- Support methods of alternative transportation associated with the Greenway, and make bicycle use a part of daily life
- Provide a variety of areas along the Greenway which provide environmental education
- Promote sustainability to trail users and explain how it is incorporated in the Greenway
- Enable maintenance practices to continue initial sustainable design concepts, while having minimal impacts on surrounding natural systems



Incorporate water conservation and reuse programs and install drought-tolerant California native plants along the Greenway

3.1.1 Sustainability Program Goals

The overall goals for the Sustainability Program are:

- Inform future designers, administrators and maintenance staff about sustainable principles for the Arroyo Simi Greenway
- Provide a list of materials, programs and maintenance concepts for sustainable features that can be used as reference as the Greenway is developed
- Limit water use and incorporate California native plantings that are drought-tolerant
- Where feasible, use natural storm water bioswales and basins to cleanse rain water runoff and increase water quality improvements
- Integrate alternative energy sources such as solar and wind power for lighting and structures along the Greenway where feasible
- Ensure continued biological integrity by incorporating existing natural areas into the Greenway, and minimize native plant removal or damage
- Preserve and highlight cultural resources
- Reduce erosion and improve water quality
- Preserve or enhance soil permeability and reduce impervious surfaces

a. Sustainable Materials

Many of the sustainable materials listed in this section are matched with individual site furnishings and incorporated into sustainable elements to strive for as green technology evolves. Refer to Section 2.14 for additional information.

The Greenway shall use products that are manufactured using environmentally sustainable processes, are reclaimed or salvaged, and/or have recyclable content to the greatest extent possible

- Use products that are easy and non-polluting to maintain
- The sustainable materials should be durable enough to accommodate all of the natural and human physical forces acting upon it
- Use reclaimed materials when feasible because they reduce waste and the need for virgin resources, and use no manufacturing energy
- Identify items that can be recycled or shipped back after use

Turning yesterday's wasted products into today's beautiful and functional site amenities...



Recycled Rubber Tire
Playground Surfacing



a.1 Choosing Sustainable Materials

If there are multiple sustainable products available that meet the standards in this Specific Plan, a method of rating sustainable features and materials should be developed to choose a product that meets the design standards and aesthetic requirements for the Greenway. If several products are deemed equal, a demonstration area is suggested if feasible to test the products to see which performs best over time, and it should be located in a prominent area along the Greenway and highlighted by signage to promote the use of sustainable materials.

Specify local materials and manufacturers:

- Whenever possible, local materials or products that have been extracted, harvested or manufactured within 500 miles of the project site or within the State of California should be used because the less energy needed to ship a material, the smaller the environmental footprint
- Using local products and manufacturers promotes the City's economy and supports neighborhood businesses



**Recycled plastic timbers
made from plastic products**

a.2 Incorporate Salvaged and/or Recycled Materials

The construction and maintenance of the Arroyo Simi Greenway shall use sustainable products whenever feasible.

- Recycle and/or salvage non-hazardous construction and demolition debris such as metal, concrete, and clean wood throughout the Greenway construction process
- Recycled content aggregate, sand, or stone
- Recycled wood chips
- Recycled steel, aluminum, cast iron, or plastic
- Recycled plastic timbers – they come in a variety of colors and styles, require no preservatives and little maintenance, and are made from reclaimed post-consumer plastic products like plastic containers and bags
- Recycled high density polyethylene (HDPE) for playground equipment
- Recycled tire rubber - Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR) - for playground surfacing and mulch for landscaping
- Recycled old sports shoes made into a rubber granulate, such as Nike Grind, for playground surfacing
- Reclaimed and recycled-content metal
- Reclaimed and salvaged lumber, stones, pavers, cobbles, bricks, and aggregate
- Salvaged demolished concrete or asphalt



Recycle and/or salvage construction & demolition debris



Large variety and availability of permeable paving



a.3 Integrate Permeable Paving

- Permeable Pavers - Interlocking blocks contain open areas or channels that allows water to drain through the surface to infiltrate into the soils beneath to help maximize groundwater recharge, they can be installed rapidly and support heavy loads, they have a life span of more than 20 years, and they are LEED-compliant
- Recycled or Reclaimed Paving Materials – Broken concrete, flagstone, bricks, stones and cobbles
- Pervious Paving – Decomposed granite and pebbles
- Pervious Concrete - Similar in appearance to conventional concrete but manufactured without “fine” materials, it incorporates void spaces to allow infiltration, it has a non-slip surface that tends to wear better than traditional pavements, and it is LEED-compliant

a.4 Use Reclaimed Asphalt Paving (RAP) and Sustainable Sealants

Reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) should be used to rejuvenate existing asphalt paving along the Greenway wherever financially feasible. RAP is the term given to remove and/or reprocess pavement materials containing asphalt and aggregates. RAP is now routinely accepted in asphalt paving mixtures as an aggregate substitute and as a portion of the binder. There is abundant technical data available indicating that properly specified and produced recycled hot mix asphalt is equivalent in quality and structural performance to conventional asphalt, and it generally ages more slowly and is more resistant to the action of water than conventional asphalt.

- Solar Reflective Coating - High-performance coating that is fuel resistant and non-fading, contains very low VOCs, and is LEED-compliant
- Recyclable Paving Mat - An option for use with asphalt resurfacing that can extend the performance of pavement by up to 500%, it guards against moisture and reflective cracking, and installation is quick
- Cementitious Surface Treatment - An EPA-approved, high-performance polymer for asphalt surfaces that is odor-free, has all the benefits of a sealcoat and once applied it protects the surface for 20 years or more, and saves energy by reducing the need for seal coating and resurfacing
- Tire Rubber Modified Surface Seal (TRMSS) combines recycled tire rubber and asphalt to create an innovative new high performance sealcoat that significantly extends pavement life by preserving the vital oils of the asphalt mix while preventing damage caused by sun, oxidation, and water



Existing asphalt paving is rejuvenated using RAP, a single stage process that does not involve lifting or removing asphalt from the heated surface

a.5 Use Alternative Energy

- Incorporate solar and/or LED lighting when possible
- Use wind generated energy when feasible
- Use LED traffic signals
- Provide natural ventilation and skylights for restrooms
- Use trees and shrubs to slow wind and mitigate temperatures around restrooms



The lights chosen for this Specific Plan incorporate LED lamps

a.6 Specify Low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Products

- Low-Odor and Low- or Zero-VOC products such as paints, stains and preservatives
- Low VOC Striping Paints - Fast drying, highly durable and dirt resistant, these striping paints are VOC-compliant, and they cure consistently regardless of ambient temperature
- Solvents used to thin paints and stains should be vegetable-based rather than mineral-based
- Paint and stain pigments should be made from inorganic earth and mineral pigments, and preservatives should be water borne and include zinc, copper, or fluoride compound salts

a.7 Specify Sustainable Wood Materials

- Wood materials should be certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and supplied from ecologically sound sustained yield practices and/or managed forests
- A rapidly renewable/recycled-content wood (such as bamboo) may be used if it comes from a local source
- If preservatives must be used for wood products, they must be non-arsenic based
- Use wood that is a naturally durable hardwood grown from a source as close to the Greenway as possible

b. Sustainable Programs

The development and promotion of the Greenway will help to foster healthier families and individuals in Simi Valley. Sustainable programs should be implemented to support the use of alternative transportation and promote the Greenway as a convenient trail system with multiple linkages throughout the City. Implement sustainable programs which provide a variety of learning environments, highlight environmental protection along the Greenway, and clearly demonstrate the benefits of a cleaner environment.

b.1 Provide a Variety of Learning Environments and Endorse Alternative Transportation

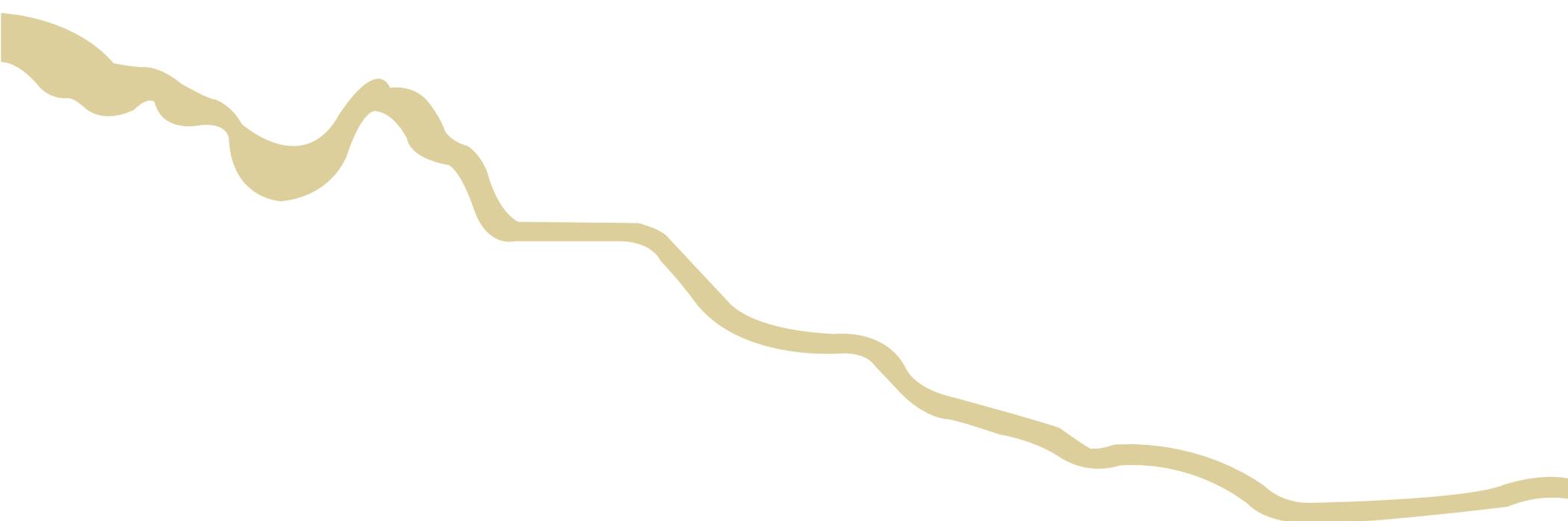
Implement programs which provide a variety of learning opportunities and teach about sustainability and how it is incorporated in the Greenway. These programs should highlight the public's role in resource protection and environmental restoration along the Greenway, and clearly demonstrate the benefits of a cleaner environment and watershed. Displaying information about the sustainable materials and maintenance practices taking place in the Greenway will inform trail users about sustainability, and hopefully encourage exploring them in their own homes and businesses.

Promote the Arroyo Simi Greenway for alternative modes of transportation for both recreational and commuting uses.

Endorse alternative methods of transportation and highlight connectivity to the Greenway



- Inform the public about sustainable materials and maintenance practices along the Greenway
- Highlight energy, water and natural resource efficiency along the Greenway
- Incorporate educational programs which discuss storm water management and water quality improvements
- Teach trail users about water conservation methods such as rain gardens and rainwater cisterns that store rain runoff for future irrigation
- Provide areas that showcase native vegetation and riparian enhancement and the habitat it provides, and use signs to explain which concepts can be implemented in residential backyards
- Develop demonstration projects to showcase sustainable materials
- Display interpretive or identification signage indicating sustainable materials and native landscape elements along the Greenway
- Develop interpretive exhibits which describe the cultural resources and local history along the Greenway (*refer to Section 2.12h for additional information*)
- Create public art programs that focus on sustainability and ecology (*refer to Section 2.15 for additional information*)
- Provide safe and convenient bike storage along and adjacent to the Greenway
- Implement a “Share the Road” campaign with road signs and advertising which informs the public about developing safe cycling skills, and teaches motorists to effectively share the road with cyclists

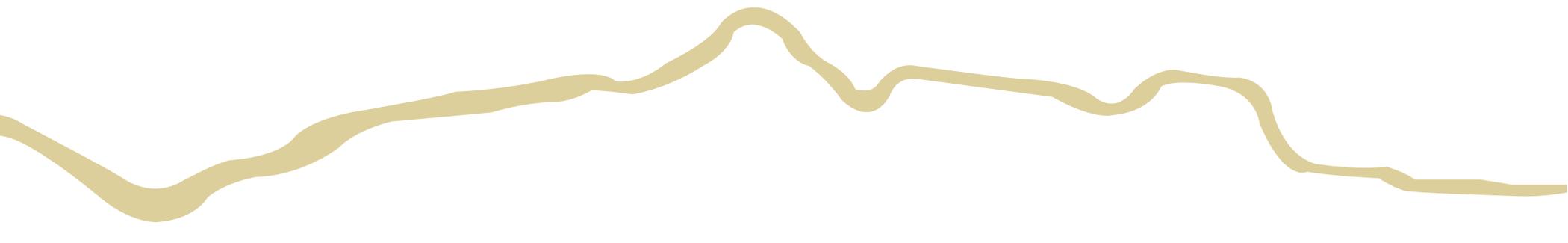


SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM



4.1

Greenway Phasing



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4.1 b	Development of the Greenway	4.1-4

4.1 GREENWAY PHASING

The Arroyo Simi Greenway has been designed to be constructed in multiple phases over a number of years, with the implementation of the Specific Plan occurring as funding is secured throughout the next 15 -20 years. The phasing plan for the Arroyo Simi Greenway has been divided into Areas and Segments for development, and it is representational of how it is most likely to be developed.

Refer to the Overall Conceptual Phasing Plan in Section 4.1a for Area, Segment and Key Study Area Locations

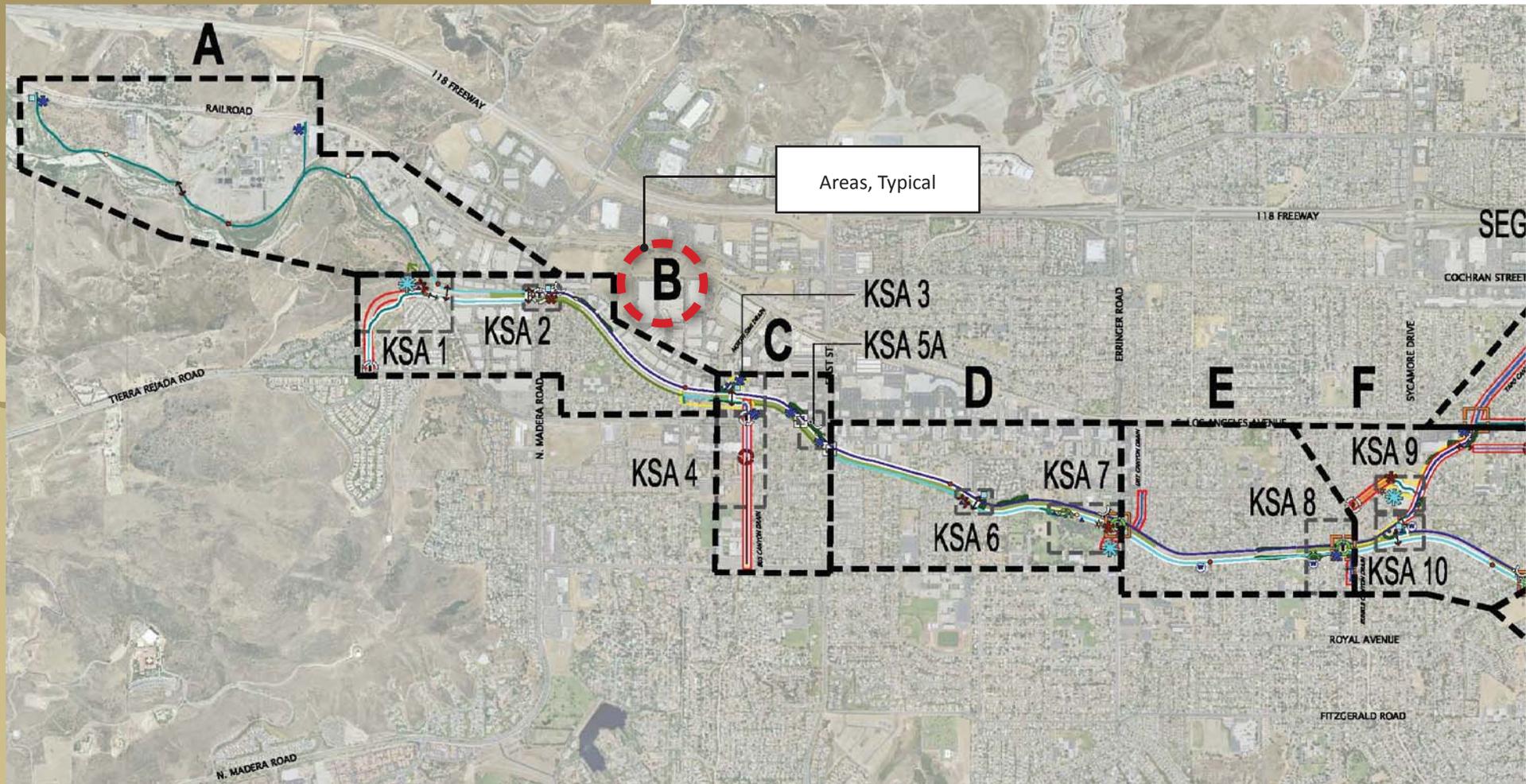
The phasing plan for the Greenway remains fluid, without a specific identified sequence of development because environmental, political, and financial conditions may change, which may lead to a shift in priorities. Concurrent development throughout the Greenway is both expected and encouraged, and construction on one portion of the Greenway will not be contingent upon completion of projects in another area. There will need to be some logical phasing in regards to what improvements are existing and what makes the most sense to link new construction with existing trails, parks or overlooks.

Refer to Section 4.1 b for additional information

a. Overall Conceptual Phasing Plan

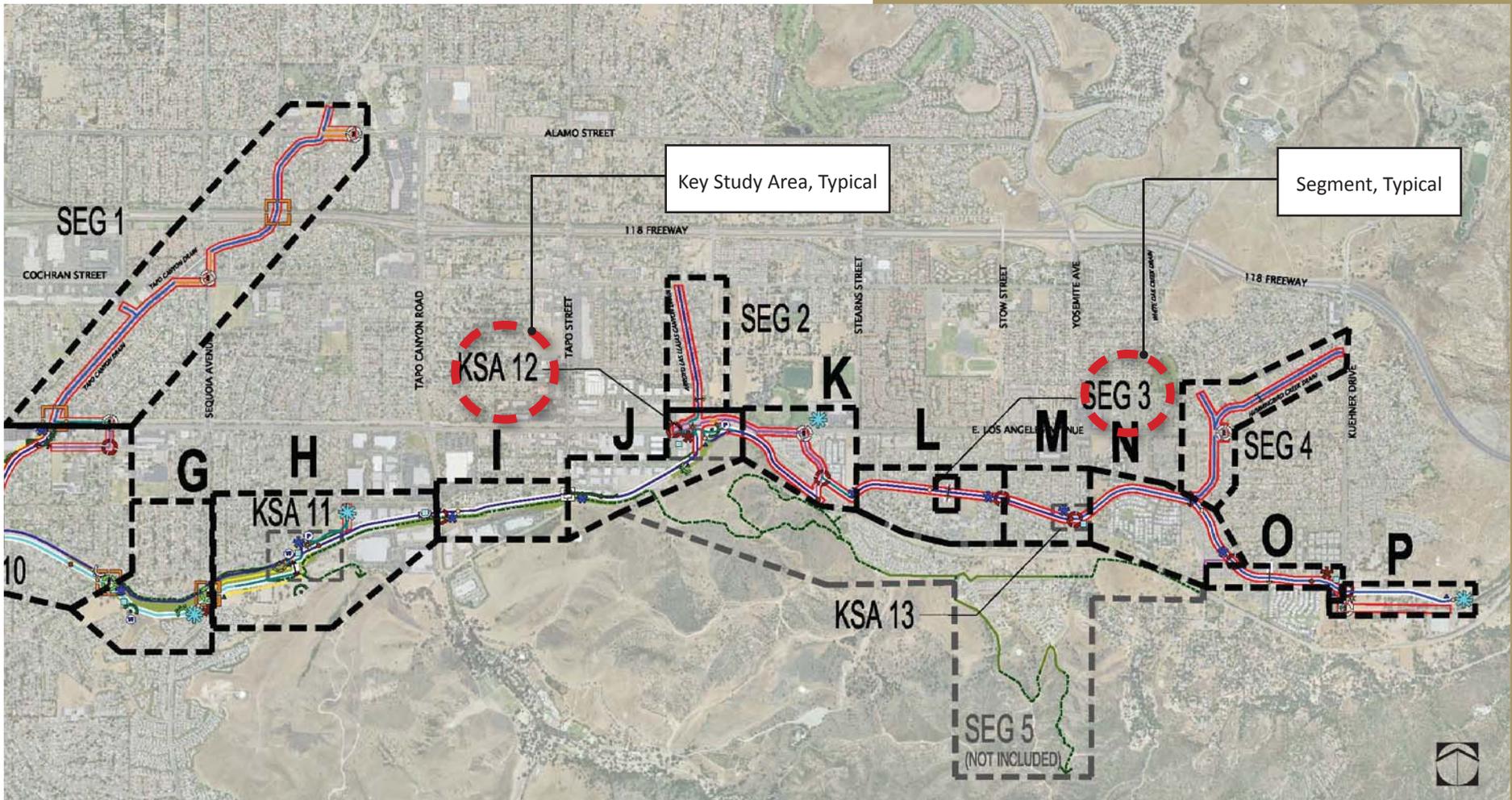
The Overall Conceptual Phasing Plan has been divided into Areas and Segments, and shows the underlying Site Development Plan for the Arroyo Simi Greenway.

- **Areas** are listed alphabetically, are located directly along the Arroyo Simi, and include vital links for establishing the Greenway connectivity. They generally have been designated as the zone between existing major streets, and include Key Study Area to facilitate future implementation.



- **Segments** are designated numerically, and are connector trails that are not vital to establishing Greenway. They are considered a lower priority than the Areas and Key Study Areas; however, they are important to the effort to connect the Greenway to surrounding neighborhoods and schools.

The Overall Conceptual Phasing Plan for the Arroyo Simi Greenway



b. Development of the Greenway

With the completion and approval of the Arroyo Simi Greenway Specific Plan, construction of the identified highly visible components of the Greenway will greatly help maintain the momentum of the project.

The Key Study Area plans and the perspective sketches provide the concept for the long-term build-out of the site, and the final design plans will refine and build upon the foundation set by this Specific Plan. The Arroyo Simi Greenway final design plans will be the drawing document that outlines, programs, and will guide the detailed design and implementation of the amenities within Arroyo Simi Greenway.

It is anticipated that the Arroyo Simi Greenway will gradually mature over the next 15 to 20 years as funding becomes available. The entry gateways, trails, signage, bridges, under crossings, overlooks, lighting and landscaping are the back bone of the Greenway and they should be developed as part of the initial phases. Trails designated as primary on the Site Development Plan (Section 2.1) should be developed first; with secondary alignments occurring later as funding is available.

Pedestrian/bicycle bridges and under crossings should be installed as related trails are constructed. At grade crossing improvements should be installed before or during construction of trail under crossings.

Park sites, trailheads, overlooks/ rest areas and public art within the Specific Plan boundary should be constructed as needed over the next 15 to 20 years to accommodate the areas of highest use and visibility.

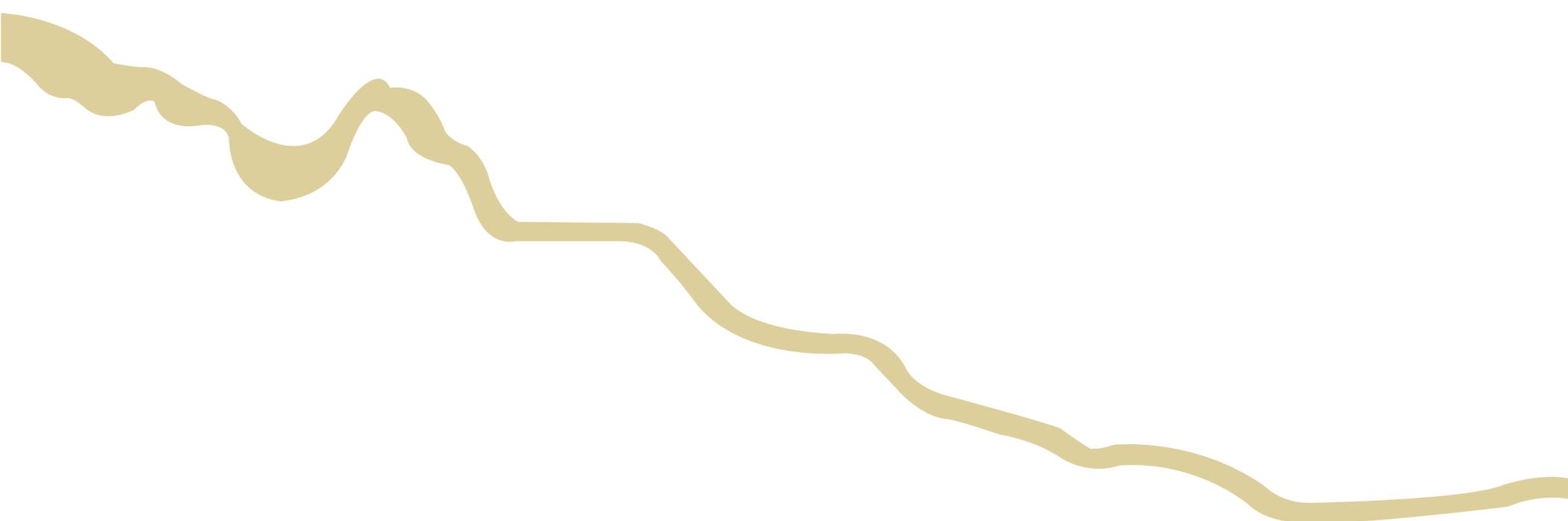
A list of priority projects which best meet the following criteria should be developed:

- Highly visible components that will significantly increase the perception and public profile of the Arroyo Simi Greenway
- Areas that link into existing trail amenities and do not require adjacent projects for the area to be well used
- Provide for a mix of high, moderate and low cost improvements
- Projects that could qualify for grants or other funding sources

Since the Key Study Areas have already been designed, the development of these specific projects along with adjacent Greenway elements should be considered for priority projects. In some cases the priority projects may need to be divided into multiple sub-phases to allow for implementing the Greenway with realistic budget constraints, and they could occur as needed and as funding becomes available.



Sycamore Community Center Pocket Park
view looking west

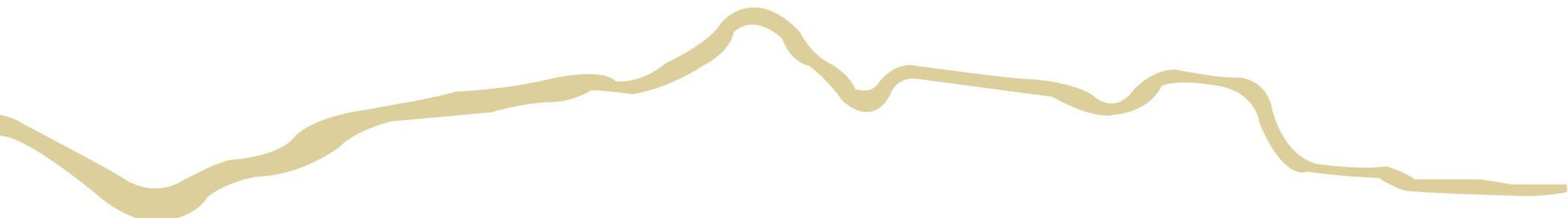


GREENWAY PHASING



4.2

Implementation



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4.2 IMPLEMENTATION

The Specific Plan envisions the implementation and full build-out of the Arroyo Simi Greenway within 15-20 years, based on the overall size of the project area and the availability of funding sources. This section discusses the potential phasing schedule and timeline of implementation items and establishes a framework for the sequencing of construction of various amenities along the Arroyo Simi Greenway. The actual completion of each phase will be based on the City of Simi Valley's and RSRPD's ability to secure and coordinate funding and construction of the Greenway improvements.

Implementation Intent

- Address the actions necessary to implement the Specific Plan
- Describe necessary Implementation items
- Note responsible parties for each implementation item
- Develop anticipated timing for each implementation item
- Present a summary of potential alternative sources of revenue that can be used to implement the Specific Plan

a. Necessary Implementation Actions

The items within this section will be planned for completion after the adoption of the Arroyo Simi Specific Plan. The order of completion may vary from the timeline within each item, but is provided for general phasing and order of tasks. A responsibility has been suggested for each item, and the anticipated prime responsibility is indicated by an * (asterisk).

There are three privately owned areas identified within the Specific Plan as potential park sites and two areas needing trail easements (refer to map). These sites will require acquisition and/or negotiation with property owners. The City of Simi Valley will act as a responsible party along with the Park District.

- 1** Proposed easement off Aristotle Street and Sinaloa Road
- 2** Proposed Easy Street Pocket Park
- 3** Proposed Pocket Park east of Royal Avenue
- 4** Proposed S-Curve Pocket Park
- 5** Trail Easements East of Yosemite



Potential Acquisition and Easement Areas

a.1 Adopt Specific Plan, Zone Change and Conditional Use Permit

Upon concurrent adoption of this Specific Plan, Zone Change and Conditional Use Permit by the City Council, this Specific Plan becomes the official regulating document of the Specific Plan Area. All requirements of the Specific Plan must be met prior to development of the site.

- Timeline: Year 1
- Responsibility: City of Simi Valley

a.2 Obtain Encroachment Permits

City of Simi Valley Encroachment Permit and Ventura County Watershed Protection District Construction Improvement Plan Check and Encroachment Permit obtained.

- Timeline: Ongoing
- Responsibility: Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District* or City of Simi Valley*; Ventura County Watershed Protection District

b. Potential Revenue Sources

The Arroyo Simi Greenway can expect to generate revenue from a variety of potential funding sources from local organization contributions, private foundations and donations, sponsorships, and grants. Additional resources should be considered even if they were not discussed in this section if they respond to changing needs and priorities over time, such as market and community forces.



Strategies that can be implemented early, such as creating safer crossings with fresh paint, can make a big difference and help to build momentum for long-term activities

Several potential funding sources are available to finance recommended improvement projects. The Park District and City should enhance opportunities to benefit from multiple funding strategies including public and private partnerships and creating innovative projects that are attractive to available funding sources.

The City and Park District, in cooperation with the School District, will continue to solicit funds from other available sources. An open collaborative process is encouraged for developing funding sources such as sponsors, grants, and donations.

Strategies that can be implemented early, such as new signs or fresh paint on crosswalks, can make a big difference and help to build momentum for long-term activities. Easy to implement, small projects done concurrently with larger, more expensive projects will keep products on the street and build continuous interest and support from the community.

Some engineering improvements will require substantial time and financial commitment and should be identified early and advanced through the various stages required to complete them. As these longer-term improvements are developed, smaller projects should be implemented to maintain community interest in creating safe routes to school.

b.1 Contributions/Donor Program

The Park District has a policy for the acceptance of donations towards recreation programs, acquisition of parkland and public open space, development of parkland, and upgrades to existing parks and recreational facilities (RSRPD Policy Manual, Chapter 9, Public Relations Policy 9-400-A, Donation Program). Donations and memorial donations of trees and plants shall not be accepted. Memorial plaques, donor bricks, donor walls, etc. shall not be provided unless the donation meets the District's policies and benefits the entire community.

Tax-deductible contributions from private individuals, clubs and user groups, or businesses can be an attractive source of financing. Although fundraising through donations is unpredictable, it would help supplement other more reliable sources. Development contributions can be made to public improvements through conditions of approval, development agreements, or other exactions and agreements.

- Look for sponsor relationships
- Post on a website a ledger showing how much was donated for each category and what the money was used for
- Contributions can also be used to secure matching grant monies
- Support public acquisition of significant trail sites from willing sellers
- Consider the use of a mitigation tree bank for development projects adjacent to the Arroyo Simi and/or allowing an applicant to pay into a fund to support necessary long-term maintenance of enhancement projects

b.2 Volunteerism

Certain improvements and maintenance activities can be accomplished with the help of volunteer labor. Civic associations or other non-profits foundation could be helpful in organizing these efforts. The California Conservation Corps and inmate work furlough programs are also available. Such activities would generally be focused out of the Arroyo Simi channel, unless otherwise approved by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District.



Volunteers can assist with Greenway improvements and maintenance activities
(Photos courtesy of Iris Smoot, Simi Valley Acorn)

b.3 General Obligation Bonds

General obligation bonds for Citywide purposes, a portion of which may be eligible for necessary upgrades of the Specific Plan Area, to be used as financing mechanisms by local government to pay for various public improvements.

Some examples include:

- Prop 40
- Prop 84

b.4 Grants

A variety of funding options are available though federal, state and local grant programs. Many of the grant programs target urban revitalization efforts, smart growth enhancements, and transportation planning and are provided on a competitive basis.

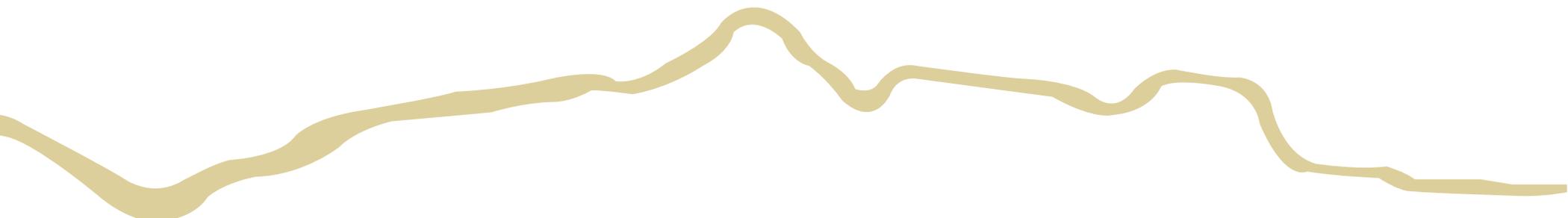
Some examples include:

- Federal stimulus money (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009)
- Grant opportunities for connections to low-income residential neighborhoods
- California River Parkways Funding
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Pass-Through from the City to the RSRPD
- SR2S Funding
 - Generally a single local agency does not receive funding for more than one project in a single cycle, so SR2S applicants should prioritize projects and focus on schools which have a relatively uninterrupted path of travel and have the potential to safely link a large population of students to schools
 - Federal transportation legislation programs: SAFETEA-LU (including funds allocated to SRTS) provides funding for SRTS activities within approximately a two-mile radius of a school
 - State SRTS programs
 - Costs for programs or activities related to education, enforcement or encouragement activities are eligible for reimbursement but must be incidental to the overall cost of the project
 - The amount available in each cycle will be posted on the Safe Routes to School website with the call for projects under Announcements



4.3

Stewardship Program



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4.3 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Applying stewardship principals to the Greenway will result in a visitor population that has less impact on the natural resources, values the Greenway even more than currently, and is better able to help the City of Simi Valley (City) and Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (Park District) achieve the goals stated in this Specific Plan. The diverse coalition of public and private entities working together to help preserve and protect the Greenway will significantly lighten the work load of the City and Park District, and ensure the future success and enjoyment of the Arroyo Simi Greenway.

Quickly and efficiently addressing issues concerning the Greenway such as trail stability, sustainability, maintenance, education, and community outreach will change the opinion and perception of the Arroyo Simi and develop an increased sense of community identity and pride. Creating a Greenway that the community is proud to be involved with, and making involvement easy and fun, will spur additional participation and allow the community of Simi Valley to make the Greenway their own.

Stewardship Intent

- Support efforts of the City and Park District and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) to properly manage the Greenway by assisting in maintenance, revitalization, and educational efforts
- Promote the understanding and cooperation between agencies and trail user groups to protect the natural, historic and cultural resources along the Arroyo Simi
- Assist City and Park District staff with the coordination of volunteers and increased public outreach to engage and inform the community about Greenway projects
- Utilize community stewards in a continuing partnership to improve and sustain the quality of the Greenway in perpetuity
- Promote stewardship and enhance volunteer efforts by endorsing the community members and friends working together to sustain the Greenway
- Make Greenway stewardship easy to understand and volunteer for and make it fun, interesting, and rewarding
- Provide educational benefits through stewardship to teach environmental awareness and provide outdoor classrooms to school groups
- Protect, conserve and manage the diversity of birds and wildlife and their habitats
- Protect the Greenway environment by reducing dumping and trash, and developing water quality and vegetation monitoring
- Increase trail use and safety by providing educational programs offered to children and adults to promote safe driving and informed riding
- Create a well-established trail system with increased trail use and safety improvements that is enjoyed and cared for by local residents

a. Greenway Maintenance

The Park District has maintained the trails along the Arroyo Simi since 1966, and they will continue to operate, manage, and maintain the Greenway in the future. Current Park District staff includes four maintenance supervisors, forty-four full time crewmembers, and nine part time employees in the summer to maintain the parks within the community. A two person Utility Crew (with additional part-time help in the summer months) provides routine maintenance of the Arroyo Simi. The Park District also has a painter, three building maintenance specialists, and an electrician to help maintain the Arroyo Simi facilities as required.

The Ventura County Watershed Protection District is another agency that must be able to perform maintenance functions along the Arroyo Simi related to flood control purposes. Proposed stewardship programs shall not negatively impact the Watershed Protection District's on-going maintenance programs, including but not limited to, the ability to use approved herbicides to control weeds and burrowing rodents that affect flood protection facilities.

Refer to Habitat Enhancement, Section 2.16a, for additional information

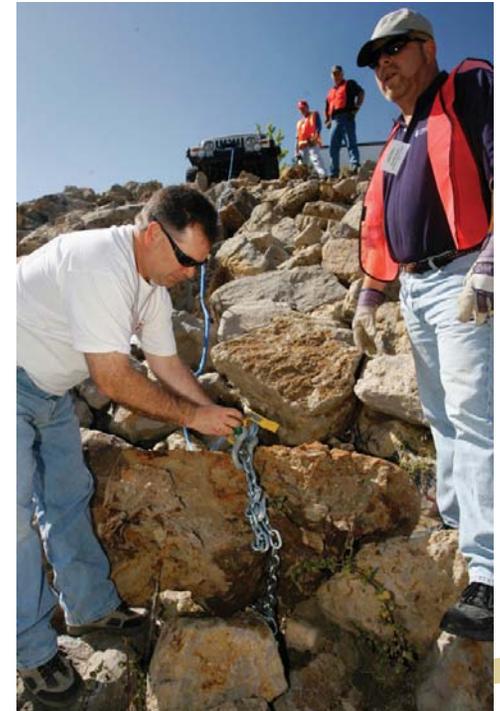
Both the Park District and City of Simi Valley have a “no tolerance” policy on graffiti. Through the City’s Graffiti Hotline, all graffiti along the Arroyo Simi is removed within 24 hours. Vandalism of signage, park furnishings/amenities, and trees is typically repaired within five days.

The City of Simi Valley currently participates in the annual California Coastal/ Inland Waterways Cleanup Day, and the City’s four Neighborhood Councils sponsor an annual Arroyo Simi Cleanup Day. The stewardship program should build upon and enhance these activities and increase maintenance of the Greenway.

The Park District’s Utility Crew maintains the Arroyo Simi on a regular basis. Included is regular emptying of trash receptacles; regular general clean-up of the trail and landscape areas including pickup of trash, debris, and broken glass; regular weed whipping and brush removal of fallow areas; and on-going trimming of all trees and shrubs.

The stewardship program should build upon existing maintenance and cleanup activities

(Photo courtesy of Iris Smoot, Simi Valley Acorn)



The Park District currently has a 740-person volunteer base available, and is well versed in coordination with citizens. The Park District already employs multiple methods of promoting Arroyo Simi trail use, and could easily incorporate stewardship information. The Park District currently:

- Promotes use of the Arroyo Simi for commuting and recreation through their recreation program magazine and newsletter that is mailed to every Simi Valley residence three times a year
- Includes the Arroyo Simi on publications of trail brochures and trail maps
- Runs ads on the local public access TV bulletin board

a.1 Sustainable Maintenance Practices

The Greenway will be constantly evolving and changing, and maintenance practices must continue to support the evolution of the initial sustainable design concepts while having minimal impacts on natural systems. The maintenance of the Greenway will be very visible to the public, and success of the maintaining it as it was initially intended will increase public support and perception of sustainability and the Greenway. A sustainable Greenway should engage all sectors of the community and allow them to make the trail system their own.

- Develop trail monitoring and maintenance volunteer programs
- Implement an “Adopt-a-Bikeway” program to allow residents to provide funds for maintaining the Greenway
- Perform periodic monitoring of the lights and develop a light maintenance program which tracks energy use
- Keep areas along the Greenway free of debris and trash
- Remove noxious weeds with limited use of herbicides, and substitute conventional practices of herbicide use with mulching and planting of fast-growing native plants
- Implement a green waste composting and recycling program
- Maintain trail amenities without the use of toxic cleaning products or chemicals
- Use artificial habitats such as bat boxes and bird houses to encourage natural insect and rodent control

b. Stewardship Program Development

The Park District will likely coordinate volunteer projects and programs for the Greenway, with the exception of the Arroyo Simi Clean-Up Day that is coordinated by the City. The Park District has one of the best volunteer programs in California, coordinated by the Park District’s Marketing and Community Outreach Specialist. The Arroyo Simi Greenway Stewardship Program will also be coordinated through the Marketing and Community Outreach Specialists and become incorporated into the Park District’s Volunteer Program.

It should be noted that the majority of the Greenway volunteer activities will pertain to maintenance of the trails and parks adjacent to the Greenway, all of which would occur out of the Arroyo Simi channel. However, volunteer activities could also benefit the channel itself with maintenance, water quality and habitat monitoring, etc. Should such activities be proposed, they would first require VCWPD approval to ensure that VCWPD’s maintenance and flood conveyance operations will not be impacted and that all necessary requirements, such as insurance, hold harmless agreements, etc. have been provided.

Stewardship opportunities for the Arroyo Simi Greenway should include any business, community or service organization, youth group, school, class, family, group of individuals or individual. There should be volunteer positions provided for all age groups and abilities. Adjacent property owners, key stakeholders, bicycle clubs and advocacy groups should be encouraged to participate.

Providing information about the work necessary to maintain the Greenway helps trail users realize what it takes to maintain a trail system, and gets them thinking about what they can do to enhance these efforts. Stewardship should positively promote the Greenway and highlight how the community can make a big difference and make the Greenway their own. All stewardship programs should be fun and interesting, and volunteer efforts should be rewarded and recognized to further promote the stewardship’s role in maintaining the Greenway and to increase public interest.



Provide workshops to learn the technical aspects of a task and receive instruction and technique



Bicycle clubs and advocacy groups should be encouraged to participate

Provide volunteers with easily recognizable t-shirts or caps

Stewardship programs should promote the establishment and improvement of the Greenway on a local level. The following ideas are ways of increasing knowledge of the Greenway stewardship program, and making it easy for potential volunteers to get information.

- Provide stewardship information on an Arroyo Simi Greenway website and solicit volunteers for wide range of specific projects that target a diverse audience
 - Institute simple surveys and informational mail outs to encourage registration of volunteers
 - Promote and organize Greenway work days to foster stewardship
 - Highlight and reward volunteerism
- Inform the public about important Greenway developments and key volunteer activities
 - Provide volunteers with an easily recognizable t-shirts or cap that has the Arroyo Simi Greenway logo and a stewardship program contribution reference
 - Consider developing an Adopt-a-Trail program where business owners or individual volunteers adopt a section of trail or feature area to perform select duties for a period of time



IMPLEMENTATION AND STEWARDSHIP

The stewardship program should include local training workshops for a specific type of project or task, such as trail maintenance. In the workshops, the groups should establish a working relationship, learn technical aspects of the project or task, and receive instruction and maintenance techniques with a focus on identifying problems and achieving goals.

- Develop a stewardship plan and handbook for specific types of projects or tasks to assist staff and volunteers with a quick overview of the Greenway stewardship program goals and objectives, and provide training guidelines for volunteers
- Provide leadership workshops offering special training for those interested in crew leadership



Volunteers should attend a training workshop to receive instruction and maintenance techniques
(Photo courtesy of Iris Smoot, Simi Valley Acorn)



Hold events that support healthy lifestyles and advertise the Greenway



The Greenway stewardship program should train volunteers to help promote events along the Greenway and bike encouragements programs. The following is a list of possible stewardship bike programs or events:

- Host bicycle commute days, bike weeks, and/or annual Bike Fests which encourage residents to replace car trips with bicycle trips
- Implement ride-to-school encouragement programs and annual commuter challenges for local area businesses, and highlight Greenway connections along transit routes
- Implement after school riding clubs and annual youth and family fun rides
- Create events such as bike to the grocery store or the movies, and provide rewards such as coupons or discounts
- Hold special events that support healthy lifestyles and are geared towards use of the Greenway such as races, fun runs and walks
- Promote functions that encourage social interaction such as Art in the Park and summer concert series
- Develop and implement a public education campaign to encourage bicycling along the Greenway
- Educate and entice new trail users by creating public service announcements that promote health benefits of bicycling, running and walking
- Develop a web site for the Greenway which allows blogs and public discussions about trail rides and upcoming events
- Sponsor a bicycle parking request program

There are many projects that could be included in the stewardship program

(Photo courtesy of Iris Smoot, Simi Valley Acorn)



The Greenway stewardship program should train volunteers in best practices for maintenance and management of the Greenway, and education is the key to a good understanding of the multiple relationships between recreation, flood control and habitat restoration. The following is a list of possible stewardship program projects or tasks:

- Maintenance of Greenway Trails
 - Repair trail pavement and painting
 - Repair fencing, lights and signs
 - Maintain trail edge and/or shoulder conditions
 - Perform seasonal maintenance on crushed aggregate or equestrian trails
- Planting, Pruning and Clearing
 - Remove obstacles in the trail such as overhanging tree limbs, downed trees, roots, and rocks
 - Landscape planting
 - Weeding and mulching
- General Greenway Maintenance
 - Litter removal
 - Graffiti removal
 - Doggie bags/Mit-mutt replacements
- Citizen Patrol *(see page 4.3-8 for additional information)*
 - Patrol the Greenway during peak use periods and report any problems
 - Report hazards along the trails
 - Report any unusual or suspicious events on the trail
 - Promote and advocate safe and proper use of trails by all visitors
 - Reporting of vandalism and any dumping activity
- Walking Tours
 - Volunteer to be a docent for tours which describe the enhancements to water quality and wildlife habitats
 - Coordinate guided school field trips
 - Develop self-guided maps to key locations along the Greenway

IMPLEMENTATION AND STEWARDSHIP

- Outreach Activities
 - Perform annual counts and surveys to evaluate the impact of the Greenway improvements
 - Encourage bicycle clubs to provide feedback on Greenway trails and facilities
 - Develop surveys and mail outs to register volunteers
 - Organize Greenway work days and events
 - Coordinate press and media releases regarding Greenway developments and key volunteer activities
- Protect and Maintain Habitat Enhancement Areas *(Note: all activities proposed within the Arroyo Simi channel must first be authorized by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District)*
 - Develop a public education outreach campaign to facilitate a greater environmental protection awareness to the citizens of Simi Valley
 - Support interpretive exhibit signage efforts and facilitate public education about wildlife along the Greenway
 - Perform water quality and vegetation monitoring
 - Perform habitat assessments and survey of wildlife resources
 - Encourage local conservation groups, such as the Audubon Society, to monitor bird species diversity before and after project construction to document ecological services and changes that may occur
 - Develop an accurate method of mapping burrowing animals and frequently inspect for leakage from animal penetrations
 - Develop a program for trapping and relocating burrowing animals, and maintain habitat areas for natural predators of burrowing animals such as hawks and owls
 - Trash cleanup
 - Removal of exotic species and weeds
 - Thinning and pruning
 - Planting and mulching

b.1 Safety and Security

Park District Rangers and Simi Valley Police Department patrol the Arroyo Simi routinely. The Park District employs three full-time and four part-time rangers who patrol Park District properties, including the Arroyo Simi, and respond to emergency calls. The City and Park District should continue Park Ranger and Police presence as necessary to contribute to the safety and success of the Greenway over time, and clearly designate Police parking areas at all trailhead facilities



A citizen safety patrol could be formed to increase the sense of security and aid trail users

The stewardship program should recruit concerned citizens to assist in safety patrols. The purpose of the citizen patrol should not be enforcement, but rather educating trail users before they break any rules and reporting problems to the District Rangers and Police Department. The citizen patrol will also increase the sense of security along the trail, and aid trail users when rangers or police are not patrolling the Greenway. The citizen patrol should:

- Wear readily recognizable t-shirts and/or caps that have the Arroyo Simi Greenway logo and a citizen patrol reference
- Carry maps, brochures, tools, first aid kits, and cellular phone for emergencies

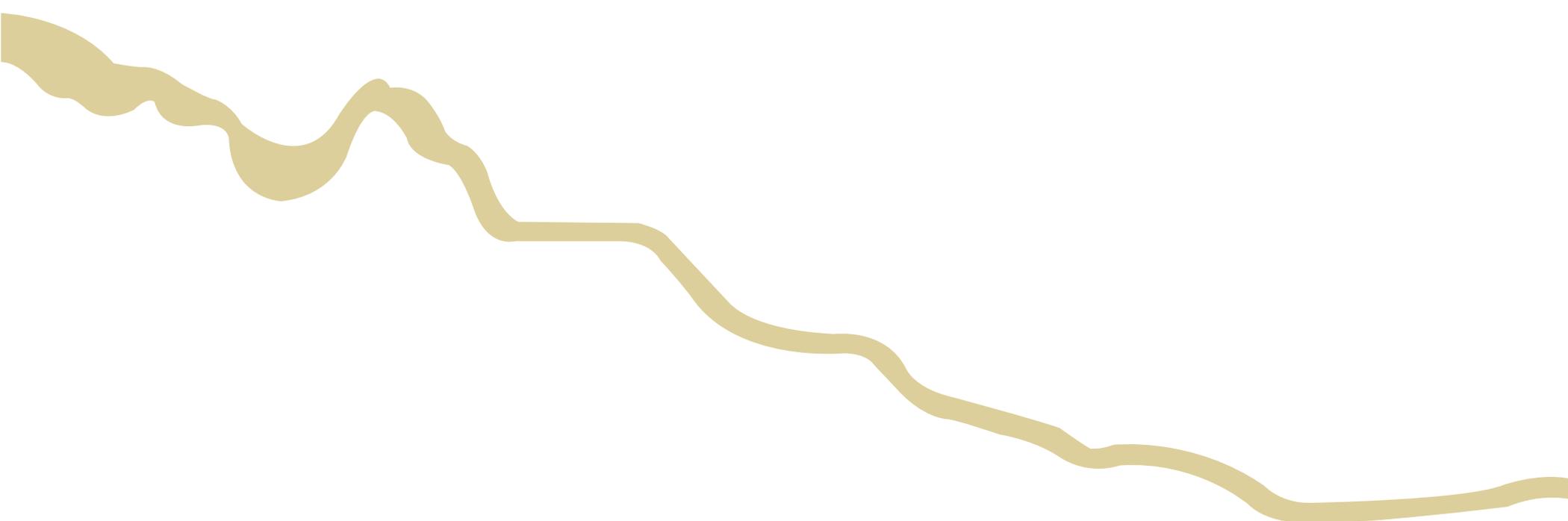
b.2 Opportunities for Education

The Greenway stewardship program should provide opportunities for environmental education about natural, historical and cultural community resources, and promote learning by volunteering for school projects and outdoor classrooms. The stewardship program can instill the values of respect and appreciation for nature and the unique trail system, the impact of volunteering, and can foster the next generation of stewards and trail users.

- Consider the stewardship program as a “hands on experience” that can be incorporated into local school curriculums
 - Encourage local schools and school clubs to include stewardship initiatives
 - Develop environmental education programs based on the Arroyo Simi
 - Education about watershed health protection and water quality, habitat, vegetation monitoring and assessments
- Incorporate stewardship into the Safe Routes to School program (*refer to Section 1.3a*)



Promote environmental education through volunteering, school projects and outdoor classrooms

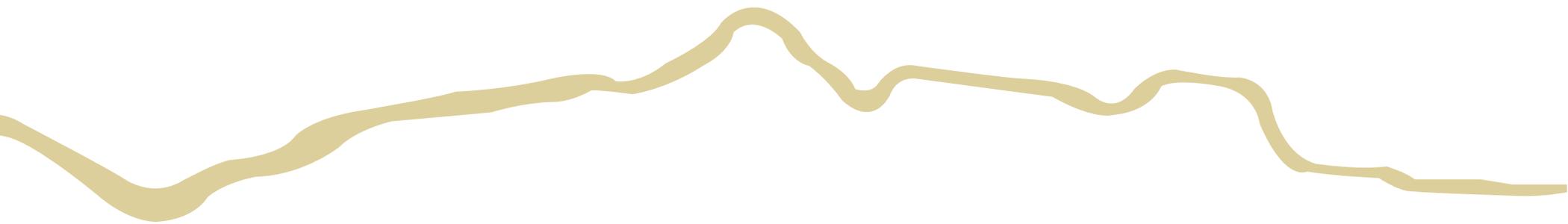


STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



4.4

City & Park District Greenway Partnership



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4.4 CITY & PARK DISTRICT GREENWAY PARTNERSHIP

The Arroyo Simi Greenway is being planned, designed, permitted, constructed, and maintained through a partnership between the City of Simi Valley (City) and the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (District).

This Specific Plan section outlines the general areas of responsibility between the City and Park District.

a. District Responsibilities

1. To maintain the entire 12-mile long Arroyo Simi Greenway so that it presents an attractive, clean, and safe environment for users of the facility. The District's maintenance program shall be consistent and comparable to other parkland in Simi Valley.

Specific maintenance tasks shall include:

- Regular emptying of trash receptacles
- Regular general cleanup of the trails and landscape areas, including pickup of trash, animal waste, and debris
- Regular cleanup of all pathway storm drains
- Maintenance and replacement of all signage, including interpretive signs and all greenway logo and banner signs
- Removal of graffiti and repair of all vandalism
- Regular weed whipping and brush removal of all fallow areas
- On-going trimming of all trees and shrubs
- Regular inspections along the Arroyo Simi channel banks to locate and remove burrowing rodents
- Replacement of vegetation where necessary at all newly planted landscape areas and prominent locations
- Regular applications of pre-emergent and herbicide on landscaped and non-landscaped areas outside of the Arroyo Simi channel
- Fertilization of formal landscape areas (as needed)
- Regular testing, maintenance and repair of all irrigation systems
- Responding to daily suggestions and complaints from adjacent residents and users of the facility

2. Coordinate with the City joint application(s) for any permits required from the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and other applicable federal, state, or local agencies for the continued development of the Arroyo Simi Greenway. District and City shall designate a lead responsible agency to coordinate construction management responsibilities for each individual improvement project.

3. Coordinate with the City the submittals of grant requests for available federal, state, and local grant funding. Provide any matching funds with the City on a 50% split.

4. Coordinate all public cleanup efforts for the Greenway (excepting the City's annual Arroyo Simi Cleanup Day), including requests from civic organizations, local churches, and local scouting groups, and any requests to work within the Arroyo Simi channel, which require VCWPD approval.

5. Coordinate District Ranger program with City Police Department to enforce all established Arroyo Simi Greenway Rules and Regulations.



The Park District will coordinate public cleanup efforts for the Greenway



b. City Responsibilities

1. Coordinate with the District joint application(s) for any permits required from the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and other applicable federal, state, or local agencies for the continued development of the Arroyo Simi Greenway. City and District shall coordinate construction management responsibilities of all projects, including designation of a lead responsible agency for each individual improvement project.
2. Coordinate with the District the submittal of grant requests for available federal, state, and local grant funding. Provide any matching funds with the District on a 50% split.
3. Waive all planning, public safety, public works, and other City fees associated with the continued development of the Arroyo Simi Greenway.
4. Consider funding selected Arroyo Simi Greenway improvements through the annual SB821 funds through the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), including splitting with the District required matching funds. Continue to pass through to the District annual maintenance fees provided by the VCTC.
5. Consider funding selected Arroyo Simi Greenway improvements through the City's Community Development Block Grant Program in residential neighborhoods which meet federal income eligibility requirements. Said grants shall be matched by the District on a dollar for dollar basis, assuming funding is available by both the City (CDBG grants) and the District (matching funds).
6. Maintain all Arroyo Simi Greenway improvements located within the public rights-of-way, including directional signage, decorative crosswalks, street furniture, speed bumps, pedestrian activated flashers, and replacement of Greenway logo and banner poles and flags as needed.
7. Coordinate Police Department Patrol with District Rangers to enforce all established Arroyo Simi Greenway Rules and Regulations.