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Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation

Scientific Study Final Report

Prepared for Safe, Clean Water Program

November 2024

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL

25 YEARS OF CULTIVATING COMMUNITY GARDENS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables

List of Figures

OVERVIEW

There are numerous community gardens throughout Los Angeles County, ranging in size from a few thousand square feet to several dozen acres. Many of these sites are located on publicly owned land or land designated specifically for community gardening, often with written agreements that the land will not be developed. This combination of factors makes these sites particularly attractive opportunities for stormwater capture.

The Community Garden Stormwater Capture Project (The Study) is a scientific study funded by Measure W under the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP). The study is led by the Los Angeles Community Garden Council and supported by WSP's technical team. Its purpose is to identify community gardens within the SCWP's Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR), Upper San Gabriel River (USGR), and Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) areas (**Figure 1)** that have characteristics suitable for stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs), based on publicly available data and information gathered through engagement with garden leadership.

The study resulted in the selection of 6 community gardens, out of approximately 400 sites, that met criteria developed for stormwater capture potential. This selection process and continuous engagement are intended to support future efforts in identifying additional sites suitable for future implementation.

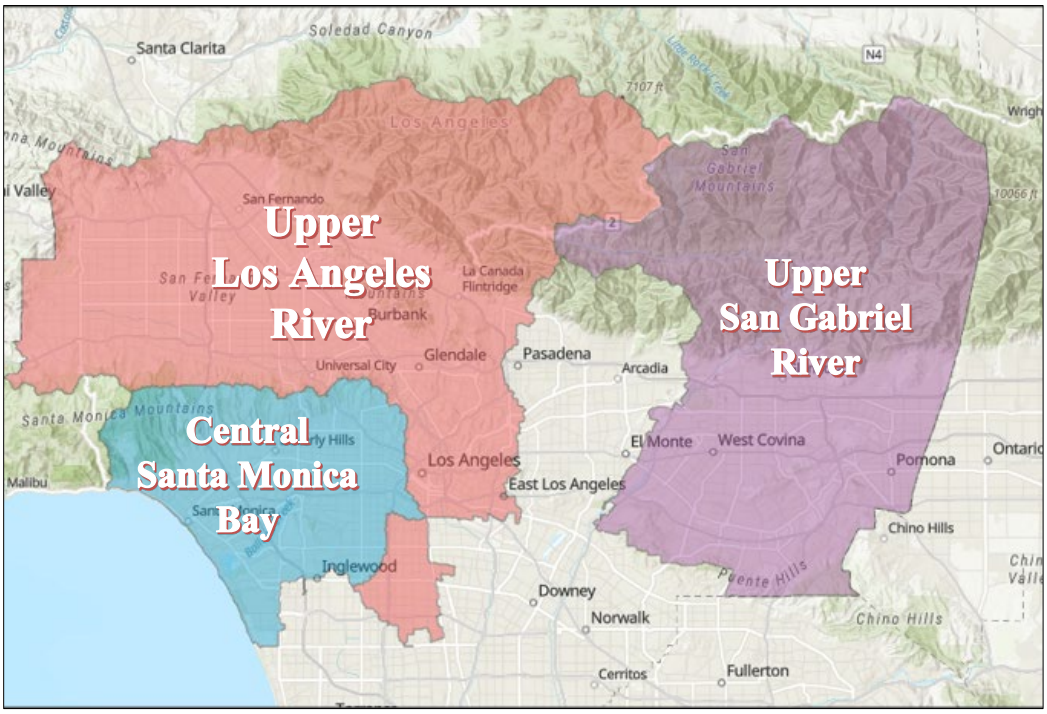

Figure 1: Safe, Clean Water Program Study Participating Watersheds

The Study provided the following recommendations:

- Garden sites run by local residents or local organizations need to establish more collaborative relationships with property owners to identify larger project opportunities.
- Garden sites should engage with workforce development entities such as a conservation corps to reduce costs.
- Local municipalities should include language in their planning documents to include community gardens and urban farms.
- It is encouraged that garden sites seek training programs with garden leadership when planning for stormwater infrastructure projects.
- The SCWP should extend outreach efforts to community gardens and school districts to identify additional opportunities for BMP implementation.

Project Goals

The overarching objective was to develop screening criteria, using publicly available data, to identify community gardens within the watersheds , that have the potential to serve as sites for future stormwater capture projects. The Project Goals aligned with the Safe, Clean Water Program's goals:

- Prioritize nature-based solutions. The studies are focused on Community Gardens and the goals will be to look at solutions that are compatible with the natural environment.
- Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices.
- Invest in independent scientific research.

Scope of Work

The scope of work for this project included the following tasks:

1. Create a database of existing gardens and related publicly available data.
2. Develop Screening Criteria.
3. Conduct engagement with garden leadership and gather additional information related to the sites.
4. Develop Conceptual Reports for final selected sites.
5. Provide information to support the process of submitting an application for the SCWP Technical Resources Program.

Acknowledgement

Funding for this study was provided by the Safe Clear Water Program – Measure W, as authorized by the ULAR, USGR, and CSMB watersheds. Access to public land and logistical support for the onsite visits were provided by the garden leadership for each garden.

ENGAGEMENT

This study combines outreach, site evaluation, and concept design to assist in identifying suitable sites for stormwater capture system implementation. A Community Outreach Plan was developed to outline the outreach efforts intended throughout the life of the project, **Appendix A**. The project team understands that no two community gardens are the same; therefore, while this plan provided outreach and engagement strategies with examples, the team refined and employed other techniques to gather diverse feedback from community gardens.

Community outreach and engagement were critical to the project—not only to assess site suitability, but also to ensure that a stormwater capture system aligns with the garden's history and user needs. Although a site may appear suitable on paper, the community may prefer not to alter the land or take on responsibility for the system's operations and maintenance. Consequently, the project team used the plan as a guide to gather as much anecdotal and quantitative feedback as possible on the viability, suitability, and cultural appropriateness of a potential stormwater capture system.

Early Engagement

In July 2023, the LACGC hosted three virtual information sessions via Zoom to introduce garden representatives to the project and gauge interest in future collaboration. Both LACGC staff and WSP (the consultant) presented the information. The sessions were held virtually at different times to accommodate varied schedules and encourage attendance by garden leadership.

The project team created bilingual (English/Spanish) electronic flyers, which were posted on the LACGC website and social media pages and emailed to preliminary garden contacts. The flyer outlined the two original meeting dates, Zoom links, and a brief project description. A third session was added due to low initial attendance. 60 people registered for the information sessions and 15 people attended.

Follow-Up Surveys:

Following the information sessions, a brief interest survey was provided to community gardens to gather background information on those potentially interested in collaboration. The survey was sent to all information session registrants, including attendees and those who were unable to attend. It was designed to gauge interest in future collaboration and to help the project team understand property ownership as well as common constraints or issues faced by community gardens, such as potential pollutants, the need for soil testing, and water usage. Seven attendees responded to the survey.

Table 1: Survey Responses

Garden	Address	Attended Info Session?	Does The Garden Have An Agreement Or Part Of A Land Trust?	Interested In Implementing A Stormwater Capture System At Your Garden?
Puente Learning Center, Community School Garden	501 S. Boyle Avenue, Los Angeles 90033	Yes	No	Yes
Watson	1400 N Gaffey St, San Pedro 90731	Yes	Yes, MOU.	Yes
Good Earth	5546 Boden Street, Los Angeles 90016	Yes	No	Yes
Elysian Valley Community Garden	1816 Blake Ave, Los Angeles 90039	No	No, privately owned.	Yes
Burbank Community Garden (Under Construction	3705 W Clark Ave, Hollywood Way, Burbank 91505	Yes	Yes, Land Use Agreement.	Yes
Stanford-Avalon Community Garden	651 E. 111th St, Los Angeles 90059	Yes	No	Yes
-	-	Yes	N/A	Yes

The survey was structured to ask general questions regarding the attendee's garden. The team wanted to learn about any common opportunities or constraints for future discussion. The team received comments with gardens expressing how they are in need of soil testing or are aware of existing contamination due to prior soil testing or observations. Additionally, some gardens noted issues with erosion or ponding at their sites. All garden representatives expressed interest in implementing stormwater capture infrastructure and other stormwater harvesting systems.

Due to the low attendance at the information session and limited survey responses, the project team shifted its outreach and engagement strategy to a more direct, one-on-one approach. LACGC compiled a list of community gardens with updated contact information and collaborated with WSP to develop screening criteria to identify potential garden sites, as described in the *Selection Criteria* section. This resulted in a manageable list of gardens for follow-up communications.

Further engagement and outreach efforts will be detailed in the following sections.

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

A database of existing community gardens was developed for each of the watersheds using GIS and publicly available data. A list of existing gardens was provided by the LACGC and expanded by the addition of site characteristics such as location, address, ownership, acreage, and additional information that helped inform the screening process. The three main categories of data collected include water related data, soil characteristics, and land use data.

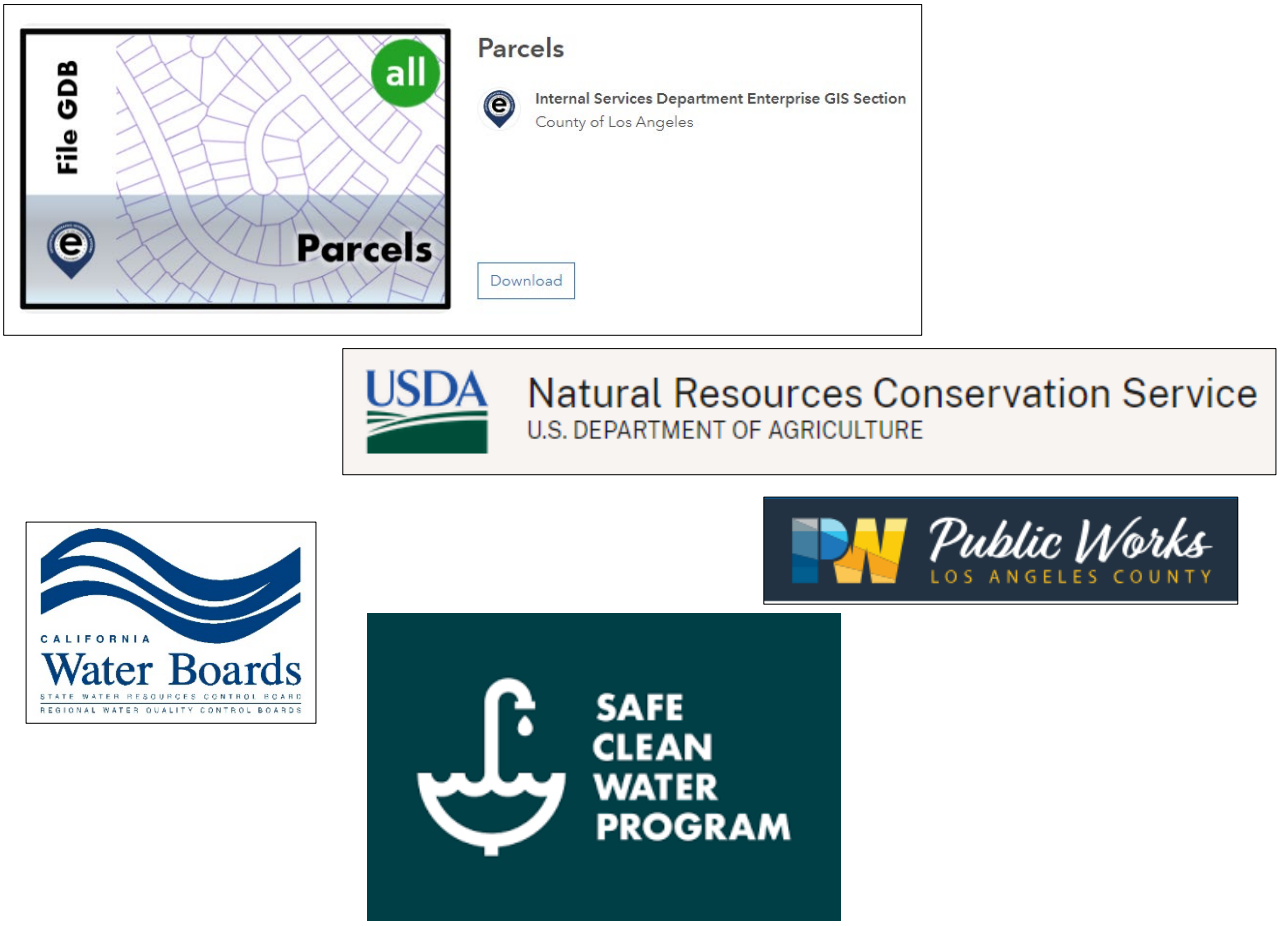

Figure 2: Database Public Data Sources

Water Data

The water-related data collected through this process was used to highlight information about the site or the surrounding area. This data provides insights into existing conditions, which may reveal potential opportunities or limitations. Examples of the data collected include the following:

- **Proximity to existing Los Angeles County Storm Drain Systems**
- **Proximity open channels**
- **Well data**
- **If the site or area has Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs)**
- **Impaired water body or watershed**
- **Management Program or Enhanced Watershed Program the site may lie within**

Soil Characteristics

Similarly, the soil data collected is intended to show whether the site or surrounding area has characteristics conducive to capturing rain or stormwater. The data primarily consists of Los Angeles County soil information and data from the Natural Resources Conservation Services. Examples of the data collected include:

- **Soil Class**
- **Hydrologic Group**
- **Drainage Class**
- **Runoff Class**
- **Capacity Rates**

Land Use Data

The land use data was collected from Los Angeles County parcel data, which includes acreage, parcel numbers, land use types, land use descriptions, and the agency associated with each parcel. Notably, the agency name indicates the property owner, identifying whether the parcel is privately or publicly owned.

For a full list of data and sources used for the database see **Appendix B**.

SCREENING CRITERIA

Using the data collected during the database's development, a detailed screening criteria was created to select the sites found to be the most conducive for future stormwater capture infrastructure. This included items such as garden type, proximity to existing stormdrain systems, depth to groundwater, and soil conditions.

Screening Criteria

A draft list was sent to all three watersheds for feedback that included the full list of data categories. After initial feedback from the WASC, the list was reduced from approximately 25 data categories to the listed criteria shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Screening Criteria

Criterion	Definition	Filter
Type	Type of Garden	Community Garden, Farm, School Garden
LACSDS Proximity (ft)	Proximity to existing drainage infrastructure (ft)	Is in proximity of 100 ft or less
Estimated Average Depth to Groundwater	Estimated Average Depth to Groundwater depending on wells within 3 miles form site.	Site averages to 10 ft or more
WMP/EWMP	Falls within an EWMP/WMP	Falls within an EWMP/WMP
Hydrologic Group – Dominant Condition	Natural resources conservation service (NRCS) hydrologic group - dominant condition.	Garden site is either: null, a, b (null = site is primarily categorized as urban land, and actual soil characteristics may vary)
NRCS drainage Class	NRCS Drainage Class is well drained (to help with the null of the Hydrologic group).	Filtered to only show sites considered "well drained"
Agency Type	Agency type was created to help sort the various agency name (owners) into categories for filtering.	Filtered to only show type is either municipality, Null, County, or School district. Most community gardens fall withing one of these categories.
Impaired Water Body Or Watershed	Is in an impaired water body or watershed	Is in an impaired water body or watershed

DAC status was not considered for the screening criteria as the team did not want to exclude sites that did not fall adjacent to or in proximity to a DAC area as they may still have an opportunity to show DAC benefits in future funding applications.

The initial results of the screening criteria, when applied to each watershed, are shown in **Table 3**. In the ULAR watershed, 19% of the sites were screened, reducing the total from 198 to 38 sites. In the CSMB watershed, 27% of the sites were screened, narrowing the total from 150 to 41 sites. Lastly, 25% of the sites in the USGR watershed were screened, leaving 14 sites for further evaluation. Following these initial screening results, it was recommended that a weighted scoring approach be applied to the CSMB and ULAR watersheds, as the initial screening process still resulted in a lengthy list of potential sites.

Table 3 Screening Criteria Results

Watershed	Total Gardens In Watershed	Total Gardens the Passed Initial Criterion	Percent Screened
ULAR	198	38	19%
USGR	55	14	25%
CSMB	150	41	27%

Weighted Scoring Model

To further reduce the screening results to a manageable list of sites, a weighted scoring model was developed. The weighted scoring model was developed as a decision-making technique to further prioritize the options presented by the screening results. Each option was evaluated based on how well it meets each criterion, and the scores were multiplied by the assigned weights. The total score for each option was then calculated by summing the weighted scores, making it easier to identify sites to pursue. The model is described in the following steps and detailed in **Table 4 -** Table 5:

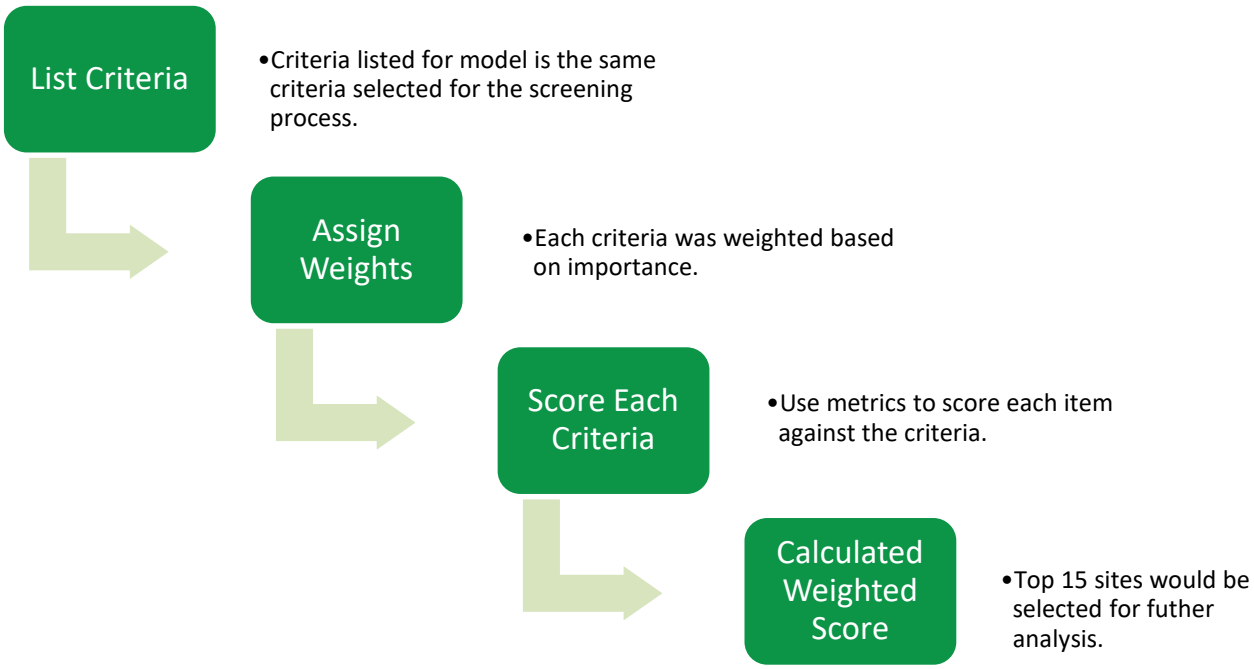

Table 4: Screening Criteria and Assigned Weights

Criterion	Relative Weight	% Weight
Type	2	17%
LACSDS Proximity (ft)	2	17%
Estimated Average Well Depth	1	8%
WMP/EWMP	1	8%
Hydrologic Group – Dominant Condition	2	17%
NRCS drainage Class	1	8%
Agency Type	2	17%
Impaired Water Body Or Watershed	1	8%

Table 5: Screening Criteria Metrics and Scores

Criterion	Scale	Score
Type	Community Garden	3
	School Garden	2
	Farm	1
LACSDS Proximity (ft)	Intersect	3
	50 or less	2
	50 - 100	1
Estimated Average Depth to Groundwater	>10	1
WMP/EWMP	Any Listed WMP/EWMP	1
Hydrologic Group – Dominant Condition	A	3
	B	2
	<Null>	1
NRCS drainage Class	Well drained	1
Agency Type	County	3
	Municipality	2
	School District	1
	<Null>	1
Impaired Water Body Or Watershed	Any listed Water Body or Watershed	1

Initial screening involved filtering the data in Excel to show the results. The top 15 sites for ULAR and CSMB were identified. The initial screening for USGR resulted in 14 sites, and the weighted score did not need to be applied. See **Appendix C** for the screening results for all three watersheds. This methodology is straightforward and can be adapted to meet additional or alternative screening criteria.

Selected Garden Outreach

Gardens that were vetted through the Screening Criteria were selected to proceed to the next phase of the engagement process. In September 2023, the project team used updated contact information to reach out directly to individual gardens, inviting them to participate in brief one-on-one virtual meetings. A protocol and process document was drafted to guide staff on how to engage garden leadership. The details of this outreach effort are described in **Appendix A**. Interested gardens were asked to propose dates and times that worked best for them, along with their preferred platform (Zoom, Teams, Google Meet, etc.).

The purpose of the virtual meetings was to provide a quick overview of the project and its current status, gather information related to the sites (such as usage, ownership verification, concerns, and constraints), and determine whether the gardens would be interested in collaborating in the next phases of the project.

Since many of the projects are located on private/public parcels and are not accessible to the public at all hours, the project team determined it was important to continue vetting gardens based on the leadership's interest. This interest would help the team coordinate site reconnaissance and continue data collection through site visits and ongoing engagement with those most familiar with the sites.

Table 6: CSMB Screening Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No
La Conte Middle School And Citizens Of The World Charter School	School Garden	Los Angeles	No
Cheremoya Ave Elementary School	School Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
East Hollywood Garden Achievement Center	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Culver City Community Garden	Community Garden	Culver City	No
Mansfield Fountain Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Mar Vista Community Garden	Community Garden	Culver City	Yes
The Learning Garden At Venice High School	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No
Wattles Farm	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No
Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	No
Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No
Gardner Street Elementary School	School Garden	Los Angeles	No
New Village Girls Academy	School Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Enrique Noguera Educational Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Samoshel Homeless Shelter Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	Yes

Table 7: ULAR Screening Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Pueblo De Los Angeles Continuation	School Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Verdugo Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Glendale	No
Parkman Gardens	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	No
Carpenter Community Charter	School Garden	Studio City	No
William Mulholland Middle School	School Garden	Lake Balboa	No
Eagle Rockdale Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No
Geneva Gardens	Community Garden	Glendale	No
Glassell Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	Community Garden	Granada Hills	No
Palmer Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Glendale	No
Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center Rancho Sombra Del Roble	Community Garden	West Hills	No
Sepulveda Garden Center	Community Garden	Encino	No
El Cariso Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Sylmar	No
Jefferson Elementary-Glendale	School Garden	Glendale	No
Network For A Healthy California	School Garden	Van Nuys	No

Table 8: USGR Screening Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Los Altos Elementary	School Garden	Hacienda Heights	No
Royal Oaks Elementary	School Garden	Duarte	No
Rowland Avenue Elementary School	School Garden	West Covina	No
Diamond Bar Community Garden	Community Garden	Diamond Bar	No
Memorial Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Azusa	No
Options Headstart - Puente	School Garden	La Puente	No
Walnut Grove	School Garden	West Covina	No
Monte Vista School	School Garden	West Covina	No
Powell Elementary School	School Garden	Azusa	Yes
Nelson Elementary	School Garden	La Puente	No
Del Valle Elementary School	School Garden	La Puente	Yes
Las Palmas Elementary	School Garden	Covina	No
The Farm At Fairplex	Farm	Pomona	No
-	Farm	Hacienda Heights	No

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

For each community garden that passed the screening criteria, a desktop analysis was conducted to further assess site characteristics for feasibility and potential placement of a stormwater capture BMP. The study originally aimed to include up to ten (10) community gardens by the end of this analysis, but garden participation was crucial for the remainder of the study. Therefore, LACGC shifted its focus to contacting all sites selected during the screening process to gauge further interest in participating, in preparation for future site visits. Sites that expressed interest in participating underwent a BMP evaluation to assess feasibility and inform future discussions regarding BMP placement opportunities and constraints.

BMP Evaluation

During the preliminary investigation phase of the study, an individual BMP desktop evaluation was conducted to identify potential regional and distributed BMP types (**Table 9**) based on their applicability at each site (based on site characteristics). The evaluation included previously collected data and a manual review using Google Maps and other publicly available resources to identify opportunities and constraints, such as available open space, rooftop areas, and parking lot space. Where feasible, existing BMPs were identified and incorporated into this step.

The screenings identified fatal flaws, site-specific opportunities, and other relevant information to guide on-site discussions with participating garden leadership and inform the final BMP placement concepts, both for regional and distributed BMPs.

Table 9: Regional & Distributed BMPs Considered For Evaluation

Regional BMPs	Distributed BMPs
Infiltration Basins	Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns
Detention Basins	Bioretention Cells
Constructed SF Wetlands	Vegetated Swale
Detention W/ SSF Wetlands	Green Roofs
Underground Storage /Tanks	Porous/ Permeable Pavements
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	Gross-Solids Removal Devices (Gsrds)
Channel Naturalization	Media Filters
-	Catch Basin Inserts

Continued Engagement

Due to the need for garden participation for site visits, the project team individually contacted the selected sites to schedule one-on-one meetings. These meetings were intended to continue introducing the project, relay its objectives, and motivate garden leaders to participate in site visits and discuss BMP placement. While many community gardens are not directly owned by garden leadership (with a few exceptions), the project team wanted to ensure that these gardens were willing and able to continue collaborating. This interest would help the project team coordinate site visits and maintain meaningful engagement.

The site visits served to identify opportunities and concerns that may not be easily recognized through technical data or the desktop study, and they were the primary means of selecting sites for further evaluation.

Follow-up virtual meetings provided an accessible opportunity for the project team to connect with community garden leadership, outline the project and its current status, gather information related to the sites (such as usage, ownership verification, concerns, and constraints), and ask the gardens whether they would be interested in collaborating during the site visit phase of the project.

CSMB

Only 6 sites responded to the session invitation for sites within CSMB. All sites are publicly owned community gardens. Of the 6 sites, 3 are owned, managed, and operated by the City. The others were operated by local residents or organizations. East Hollywood Community Garden is managed by LACGC and the only site that fell within a DAC. See **Table 10** for list of sites selected during this phase.

Table 10: CSMB Desktop and Engagement Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No
East Hollywood Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Mar Vista Community Garden	Community Garden	Culver City	Yes
Wattles Farm	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No
Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	No
Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No

ULAR

Of the 15 ULAR sites selected through the screening process, 6 sites responded to initial contact. This included 5 community gardens and 1 school garden. Only one garden fell within a DAC. See **Table 11** for list of sites selected during this phase.

Table 11: ULAR Desktop and Engagement Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Parkman Gardens	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	No
Glassell Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	Community Garden	Granada Hills	No
El Cariso Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Sylmar	No
Jefferson Elementary-Glendale	School Garden	Glendale	No
Eagle Rockdale Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No

USGR

While the project team continued outreach and engagement efforts with other potential garden sites, only the City of Azusa agreed to continue participating in the study.

During its outreach to other garden sites, the project team met with various school districts to assess the potential for studying school gardens. It should be noted that when meeting with West Covina Unified School District, staff asked if the team could consider Giano Intermediate Middle School within their jurisdiction. Due to the lack of response from other sites, the team agreed to conduct a high-level analysis using the same criteria that were applied to screen the initial sites. The site was found to be suitable for future projects; however, the staff were unable to continue their participation at that time due to other priorities.

Hacienda/LA Puente Unified School District also expressed interest in stormwater capture projects but were unable to participate in this study due to a lack of resources or the absence of an active garden at the time of the study **Table 12**.

Table 12: USGR Desktop and Engagement Results

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Memorial Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Azusa	No
Walnut Grove	School Garden	West Covina	No
Monte Vista School	School Garden	West Covina	No
Nelson Elementary	School Garden	La Puente	No
Giano Intermediate Middle School*	-	West Covina	No

***Added, and not originally part of the larger site list.**

For a summarized list of engagement efforts conducted see **Appendix D**.

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ENGAGEMENT AND SITE RECONNAISSANCE

Following the site reconnaissance, Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden, East Hollywood Garden, and Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden were selected to proceed to the conceptual design phase, as shown in **Table 13 - Table** 15**.**

For sites that continued to show potential, garden leadership was contacted to discuss the feasibility of using the garden for stormwater capture and the benefits it could provide. The types of feasible stormwater capture BMPs and the temporary, short-term impacts of BMP construction were also discussed.

Site Visits

Site visits to interested gardens were conducted from October to December of 2023 to allow the project team to identify additional issues and opportunities. During these visits, the team took photos, noted relevant areas, and discussed potential locations for BMPs. Although implementation was not part of the study, it was important to discuss with garden leadership how they would handle potential construction and the implementation of any enhancements.

A summary of each site visit was uploaded to the Safe, Clean Water Program Project Portal and will be available as part of the **Quarterly report FY23-24: Q2 (October - December)** and **FY23-24: Q3 (January - March)** submissions.

CSMB

Following the site reconnaissance, the Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden, East Hollywood Garden, and Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden were selected to proceed to the conceptual design phase, as shown in **Table 13**. Since the City of Santa Monica had two potential sites, the Park Drive location was chosen because it had a larger drainage area than the Main Street site and offered additional enhancement opportunities with the pocket park that divides the garden.

East Hollywood Garden was open to any and all BMPs on their site and shares a parcel with a public park. Garden leadership for East Hollywood noted that an existing drainage system may have been designed for the garden but was not maintained. There were also water-harvesting opportunities identified on site thanks to the existing shade structure and building on site. Both Greystone Mansion and Wattles Farm gardens are located on historic sites, although Wattles Farm is significantly larger, Greystone Mansion has a larger drainage area and greater potential for enhancements. Greystone was also selected to show a variety of gardens and their intended uses. Unfortunately, Mar Vista Garden was deemed too small to support any significant infrastructure or improvements.

Table 13: CSMB Site Visits Conducted

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No
East Hollywood Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes

Mar Vista Community Garden	Community Garden	Culver City	Yes
Wattles Farm	Community Garden	Los Angeles	No
Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	No
Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	No

Greyed out text represents gardens not selected for the final phase of the study.

ULAR

For the ULAR watershed, Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club and El Cariso Park Community Garden were selected for conceptual design, see **Table 14**. Granada Hills is a large garden with little to no drainage system, offering significant potential for improvements, and garden leadership was open to considering any BMP concepts. Similarly, El Cariso Park Community Garden, located within a county regional park, is a large garden with a need for enhanced water-harvesting systems and was receptive to conceptual designs.

Glassell Park Community Garden, however, has a small drainage area, and BMP placement was limited because garden leadership recently renovated much of the space and preferred not to relocate beds. During discussions, it was recommended that they explore drainage enhancements along the property line, as the site experiences ponding issues near an adjacent property. Parkman Garden was not selected because it faces other challenges such as maintenance and gardener retention.

Table 14: ULAR Site Visits Conducted

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Parkman Gardens	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	No
Glassell Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	Yes
Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	Community Garden	Granada Hills	No
El Cariso Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Sylmar	No

Greyed out text represents gardens not selected for the final phase of the study.

USGR

As previously mentioned, the team was unable to find other viable gardens to participate in the study, leaving Azusa Park's Memorial Community Garden as the only option for conceptual design. This garden proved to be a feasible choice, as the City of Azusa expressed excitement about participating and reimagining the space, see **Table 15**.

Table 15: USGR Site Visits Conducted

Site Name	Type	City	DAC Status
Memorial Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Azusa	No

For a report on Garden selection and recommendations see **Appendix E**.

Engagement

Although most community gardens are not directly owned by their leadership, the project team aimed to confirm the gardens' willingness and ability to collaborate on the project. Garden interest would help facilitate site visits and foster meaningful engagement. Based on initial discussions with publicly owned gardens managed by local organizations or volunteers, a common sentiment emerged: while relationships between garden leadership and public landowners (such as public agencies) were generally cordial, they were also somewhat distant. Gardens tended to operate independently, with minimal communication or engagement with the public agency, and vice versa.

To avoid disrupting these existing relationships, and because the study results would remain conceptual, it was determined that for gardens managed in this way, engagement would primarily occur with garden leadership. The conceptual report also included recommendations for both garden leadership and public agencies to encourage stronger collaboration.

At the end of the visit the team expressed to the sites that the team would continue engagement with leadership as the project progressed. All sites would be notified whether or not they were selected for the next phase of the study. Sites selected to receive a conceptual report were told that that future sessions would be scheduled with them to discuss final BMP placement and provide updates on the final reports. The team reiterated to all sites that the study would not include implementation but that all reports and future deliverables as part of this study would be provided to garden leadership to use for future implementation.

STORMWATER CAPTURE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN REPORTS

For the final sites (**Table 16**: Final Selected Sites) based on the outreach and selection process identified in the previous phases each site received the following:

- **One-page conceptual layout**
- **One fact sheet summarizing site characteristics in both English and in Spanish**
- **A rendering of the concept**
- **A concept report containing a summary of the proposed concept along with preliminary drainage information**
- **High level CEQA analysis and**
- **A summary of publicly available data regarding the site**

The report was structured to align with the sections found in the feasibility study, allowing the gardens to use it as a foundation for their applications to the technical assistance program or when applying for feasibility study funds. Similarly, they can use the concept report to support applications for other funding sources.

Additional information provided in the concept report, not listed as a formal deliverable, included a high-level cost estimate and a list of potential funding sources. It should be noted that most sites, especially those not managed by a government entity, will need to collaborate with property owners to pursue larger infrastructure projects. They may also consider piecemeal project enhancements based on available staff and resources.

Each site also received detailed guidance on how to apply for technical assistance through the program, as well as a general overview of the program's funding and implementation process. Full reports with appendices will be available on the SCWP's Project Portal once reviewed.

Table 16: Final Selected Sites

Site Name	Type	City	Watershed
Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CSMB
East Hollywood Garden	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CSMB
Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	CSMB
Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	Community Garden	Granada Hills	ULAR
El Cariso Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Sylmar	ULAR

Memorial Park Community Garden	Community Garden	Azusa	USGR

Below lists some of the enhancements recommended for the sites:

- **Pervious Pavers with French Drains**
- **Underground Storage Tank**
- **Vegetated Stormwater Planter/Swale**
- **Rain Harvesting Cistern**
- **Smart Irrigation System**
- **Educational Signs**
- **Shade Structure**
- **New Fencing**
- **Added Trees**
- **New Light Fixtures**
- **Expanding Community Space**

The team focused on including nature-based solutions where possible, such as removing impervious pavement and replacing it with pervious pavers or vegetated stormwater planters. All sites aimed to incorporate additional vegetation or add trees to their spaces. Many sites expressed a desire for the trees or vegetation to serve as a food source for the public.

Smart irrigation systems were proposed for all sites, as many gardens reported challenges with water conservation and education on water preservation at their locations.

Engagement

The team met virtually with garden leadership to discuss any fatal flaws in both the conceptual layout and rendering. Comments and recommendations made by garden leadership were considered and addressed. An additional virtual meeting was held to provide an overview of the concept report and to offer updates on the study and its final deliverables.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are a result of the continued engagement with garden leadership conducted by the team, including the site visit as tasked by the study.

Collaboration and Competitiveness

The proposed enhancements for these gardens are conceptual and demonstrate how the community garden sites can contribute to advancing stormwater goals and positively impacting the local community. Many of the sites are located on larger government-owned parcels with potentially larger drainage areas. Due to the limitations of this study, there is potential for many of the projects to host larger BMPs, which could have more significant local and regional impacts if the entire parcel or collective parcels are considered. Some gardens, however, are limited to distributed BMPs. Additional studies and analyses are needed to properly evaluate the spaces adjacent to the community gardens, especially those within the property lines.

Educational Opportunities

Generally, most of the gardens contacted by the project team had limited knowledge of the SCWP and expressed interest in learning more. Many garden leaders are interested in implementing stormwater

capture infrastructure at their sites but require additional resources to do so. There are opportunities for the Watershed Steering Committee to conduct further engagement with other community gardens across the watershed. Some public agencies oversee multiple community gardens within their jurisdiction, which provides opportunities for regular engagement and connection with the public. Access to numerous community gardens could benefit the SCWP by offering opportunities to share general information about the program or provide educational resources related to stormwater and stormwater capture BMPs, both for gardeners and the general public.

Project Expansion & Workforce Development

Gardens owned and operated by public agencies should coordinate initial meetings with other relevant public agencies to identify opportunities for collaboration. Partnerships allow multiple entities to combine resources, resulting in more impactful projects. These resources may include leveraged funding, staff and personnel capacity, and information sharing. There are also opportunities to educate organizations and volunteers on how to maintain BMPs and identify when issues require larger interventions, which could potentially reduce maintenance costs over time.

In addition to partnerships, the project team recommends that gardens engage with workforce development entities, such as a conservation corps. The California Conservation Corps, a state agency, offers assistance with climate adaptation and resiliency projects. Five certified local conservation corps, which are nonprofit or local government entities, provide job skills training and educational opportunities while preserving and protecting the environment. Not only can conservation corps provide resources to a garden (such as grant funding and labor), but they also contribute the multi-benefit element of training the next generation of environmental stewards. Opportunities also exist to educate organizations and volunteers on how to maintain BMPs and identify and report when issues require larger intervention, which could reduce maintenance costs over time.

Through partnerships and collaborations, the garden can engage in early community outreach, engagement, and education, which are important to ensure that the community's needs are being advanced, there is support for the future project, and funders understand the stakeholder process. Concept reports highlighted the importance of engagement strategies when pursuing funding.

Public Agency Partners

General plans and/or sustainability plans should include language that is inclusive and receptive to gardens and urban farms, as well as encourage and outline potential engagement strategies. The City of Santa Monica was the only public agency selected that included community gardens as part of its Sustainability Plan.

Appendix A – Outreach Plan

Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation Project
Community Outreach Plan

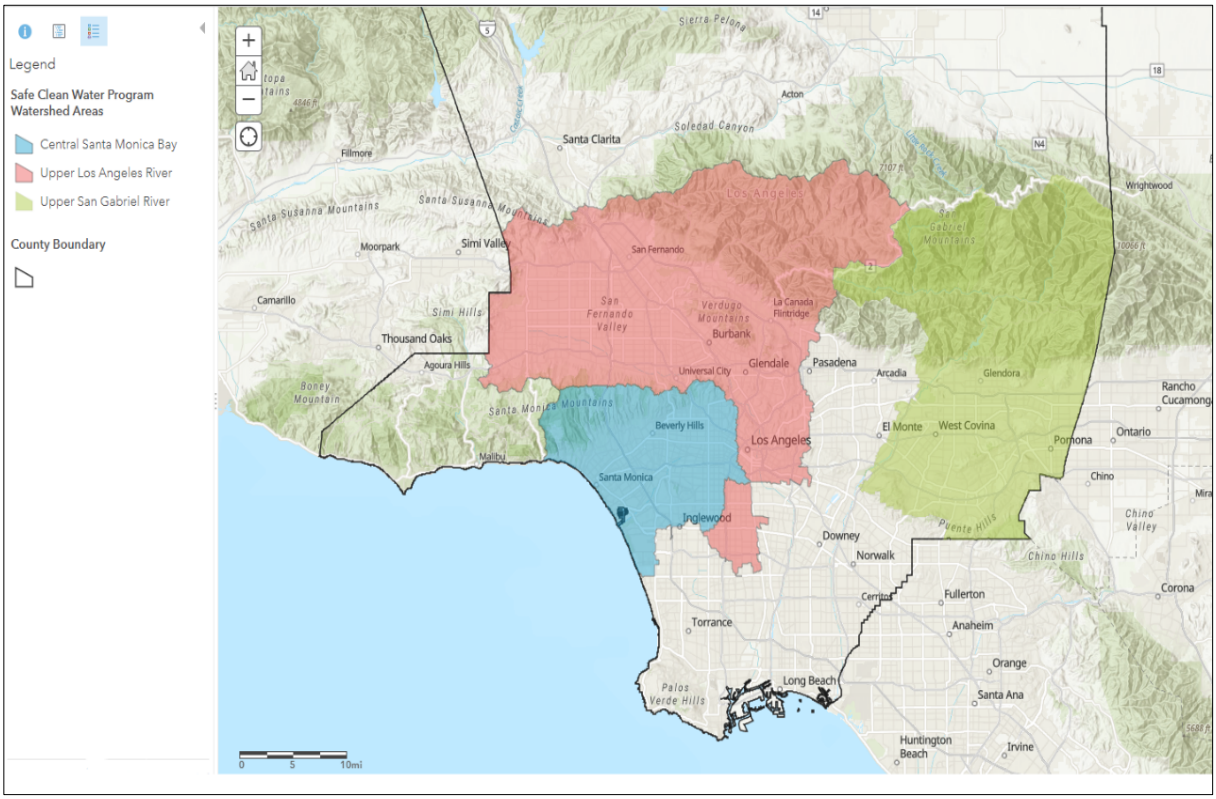
I. Introduction

A. Project Overview

The Los Angeles Community Garden Council was awarded funding through the Los Angeles County Measure W – Safe Clean Water Program to conduct three watershed investigations, known collectively as the Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation Project (the Project). The purpose of each investigation is to identify and assess the potential for community gardens to implement stormwater best management practices. The Project will build out a database of community gardens, engage directly with gardeners, evaluate community gardens based upon specified criteria, and propose concepts for potential sites. This Project combines outreach, site evaluation, and concept design to assist interested community gardens in applying for their own Measure W (or other grant) funding.

B. Project Geography

The Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation Project looks at community gardens found within the Upper Los Angeles River, Upper San Gabriel River, and Central Santa Monica Bay Watersheds. See map below for project geography.



C. Purpose of This Document

The Community Outreach Plan (the Plan) outlines engagement efforts intended to take place throughout the life of the Project. The Project team understands that no two community gardens are the same; thus, while this Plan provides outreach and engagement strategies and examples, the Project team may need to refine and employ other techniques to receive diverse feedback from the community gardens.

Community outreach and engagement are critical to the Project and its potential implications. Not only is community input needed to ascertain site suitability, but furthermore, community input is necessary to ensure that a stormwater capture system is appropriate for the garden's history and its users. While a site may be suitable on paper, the community may not wish to disturb the land and/or take responsibility for the operations and maintenance of the stormwater capture system.

Therefore, the Project team will utilize this Plan as a guide to capture as much anecdotal and quantitative feedback on the viability, suitability, and cultural appropriateness of a potential future stormwater capture system.

D. Native Land Acknowledgement

The Project team acknowledges that as it moves throughout the three watersheds, it will be conducting research on the native lands of the Chumash and Tongva peoples. The Project team honors the ancestral stewards of the land and will work respectfully to ensure cultural and historical sites remain protected.

E. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice

Because the Project is an "investigation" with no implementation, community outreach and engagement will not be following the statutory requirements of public notice and comment, as defined under CEQA.

F. Terminology

The terms below are commonly used throughout this document and each definition is informed by the nature and scope of the Project.

1. Community Engagement

Community engagement is a strategic process for identifying and working with various groups of people, entities, and/or interests to further the development of a vision, project, or policy. In the case of this Project, community engagement specifically refers to having meaningful conversations with community gardens and community gardeners.

2. Community Garden

A community garden is a collective space gardened and/or cultivated by a group of people for the purpose of sharing a gardening interest, propagating vegetation, and/or growing food for individual or community consumption. A community garden can be located in an urban, suburban, or rural space and should have some public use element.

3. Community Outreach

Similar to community engagement, community outreach looks to identify various groups of people, entities, and/or interests. However, unlike community engagement, outreach focuses on making connections to individuals and organizations to promote awareness and potential participation in an engagement setting. Outreach may also include educational campaigns or activation activities.

4. Systemically Excluded Community/Population

Systemically excluded communities/populations are those that have been subject to past and present acts of discrimination, redlining, cultural appropriation, or other negative actions, activities, and policies that have resulted in inequitable distribution of resources. Often times these communities and populations are referred to as at-risk, disadvantaged, marginalized, or vulnerable. Systemically excluded acknowledges that these communities and populations are byproducts of a repressive system.

II. Project Outreach and Engagement

Project Outreach and Engagement identifies and describes planned outreach and engagement strategies and tools for this particular investigatory project. Understanding that the Project team may need to adapt and shift strategies and tools to accommodate various audiences, it should be noted that all the following forms of communication are to be used specifically for outreach to and engagement with community gardens. This Project will not be conducting outreach and engagement with the general public.

A. Information Flyer

An information flyer should be developed to provide an overview of the project, its objectives, and points of contact. The flyer should be no more than two (2) pages, include color and infographics where appropriate, and be translated into as many applicable languages as possible, given the budget. The information flyer should be available online and in print when visiting community gardens.

B. Information Sessions

General outreach to the community gardens across the three (3) project watersheds will include distribution of the information flyer and an invitation to participate in information sessions. At least two (2) one-hour information sessions will be held on different days of the week and at different times of the day to accommodate community gardeners' schedules. The information sessions will be hosted virtually via Zoom and will provide more detail than the information flyer. Sessions should be an opportunity for community gardens to better understand the Project and to ask questions about the benefits of participating.

Each information session should follow the general format below, as moderated by a facilitator:

- Welcome and Introductions – A brief round of Project team introductions and an ask for each community garden in attendance to identify itself. This should be followed by a walkthrough of the agenda.
- Overview of the Project – The Project team will provide a bird's eye view of the Project, how it is being funded, and the overarching objective.
- Purpose of the Meeting – The Project team should answer the question "why is this meeting being held?"

- Understanding the Role of a Community Garden – The Project team should then explain the role and potential role of community gardens, including how the Project team will ultimately select watershed gardens to represent.
- Next Steps – The Project team will then outline next steps, including completing the interest form, community garden conversations, and site visits. Next Steps should also include a timeline for each step.
- Questions and Answers – The Project team will open up the discussion to attendees. The facilitator should play an active role in managing question intake and time management.

C. Interest Form

Prior to the Information Sessions, the Project team should already have created an online Interest Form (Google Forms or Microsoft Forms) that collects community garden contact information and gauges how interested a community garden is in the Project. The Interest Form should go live during the first Information Session and should remain live for at least one week following the second Information Session. The Interest Form will be critical to narrowing down potential sites for more in-depth research.

D. Community Garden Conversations

Each community garden that completes an Interest Form should be contacted to schedule a one-on-one meeting between the community garden and the Project team. If there are fewer than three (3) community gardens per watershed that have completed the Interest Form, the Project team will need to reach out to additional community gardens individually to ensure each watershed has a decent representation to avoid selection by default. If there are more than ten (10) community gardens per watershed, the Project team will need to assess each community garden and eliminate those that are not feasible sites based on screening criteria.

Once the Project team has its initial list of between 3 and 10 community gardens per watershed, the Project team will reach out to schedule individual meetings with the community gardens. The conversation should focus on learning more about the community garden, its location, history, cultural significance, environmental hazards, and any potential issues that may arise from a stormwater project. The Project team should use these conversations as anecdotal evidence to support the need for site visits.

E. Site Visits

The last step in the Project Outreach and Engagement is for the Project team to conduct Site Visits. Each watershed should have at least three (3) site visits to avoid selection by default. The Site Visits should be led by the community garden and add to both the qualitative and quantitative assessments of the Project team. Pictures should be taken at each Site Visit to catalog potential benefits, risks, and/or site design elements. After each Site Visit, the Project team should send a thank-you note to the community garden and outline next steps – selection, design, pursuing grant funding, etc.

If a community garden is selected following the Site Visit and the community garden declines to participate, the Project team will select the next most feasible community garden that has already had a Site Visit. If all community gardens with Site Visits decline to participate, additional Site Visits should be scheduled.

F. Continuous Communication

After community gardens have been selected for design, the Project team should remain in communication with each community garden. At the very least, monthly check-in meetings should be held to ensure that the design has critical input from each garden and meets the needs of each garden. The Project team may need to answer questions from the community garden, conduct additional site visits, and/or hold more in-depth information sessions with each community garden.

III. Overcoming Barriers

The Project team acknowledges that many users of community gardens belong to communities of color, low-middle income populations, and systemically excluded populations. Traditionally, these communities and populations experience barriers to participating in engagement and outreach opportunities, as well as receiving the benefits of grant funded programs. As such, the Project team will work to ensure that outreach and engagement strategies as outlined above in Section II reduce participation barriers however feasibly possible. Barrier reduction includes translating flyers into multiple languages (Spanish, Korean, Mandarin, and Bengali), hosting information sessions at various times throughout the week, and conducting boots-on-the-ground site visits to meet community gardeners where they are at. The Project team will continue to assess outreach and engagement needs over the course of the Project.

Appendix B – Data Sources

Column	Column Name	Column Name Description	Source
A	ObjectID	Internal identification number	-
B	Name	Name of Garden Site	-
C	Address	Garden Address	-
D	Type	Type of Garden	-
E	Contact name	Garden contact name	-
F	Contact Phone	Garden Contact Phone Number	-
G	Contact Email	Garden Contact Email	-
H	Websited	Garden Contact website	-
I	Comment	General comments	-
J	City	City	-
K	State	State	-
L	Zip	Zip Code	-
M	Unincorporated	Whether site is within an unincorporated area	-
N	Jurisdiction	Municipality	-
O	DAC	Garden Points that fall within a Census Block Group with a MHI of $54016.8 or less (excludes 0 or no data parcels), 80% of the states (2020) MHI.	https://gis.water.ca.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Society/i16_Census_BlockGroup_DisadvantagedCommunities_2020/FeatureServer
P	Watershed	Watershed	Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed
Q	B118 Groundwater Basin	California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118)	California Department of Water Resources - Geoscientific/i08_B118_CA_GroundwaterBasins
R	Dwp Water Basin	LA County Ground Water Basins Feature Layer	Los Angeles County - Ground Water Basins Feature Layer
S	LACSDS Proximity (ft)	Los Angeles County Storm Drain System (ft)	https://pw.lacounty.gov/fcd/StormDrain/index.cfm
T	Open Channel	Open Channel	https://pw.lacounty.gov/fcd/StormDrain/index.cfm
U	Open Channel Proximity (ft)	Proximity to Open Channel	https://pw.lacounty.gov/fcd/StormDrain/index.cfm

V	Estimated Average Well Depth	Average estimated depth of well within a 3 miles of site	Los Angeles County Public Works Well Data
W	TMDL	TMDL	Industrial Stormwater General Permit Map Tool
X	Region	TMDL Region	Industrial Stormwater General Permit Map Tool
Y	Impaired Water Body Or Watershed	Impaired Water Body Or Watershed	Industrial Stormwater General Permit Map Tool
Z	Wmp Ewmp	Management Programs or Enhanced Watershed Programs	https://www.waterboards.ca.gov
AA	Wmp Ewmp Name	Management Programs or Enhanced Watershed Program Group Name	https://www.waterboards.ca.gov
AB	DWP Soil Class Number	Los Angeles County Soil Class Number	Los Angeles County Public Works Open Data
AC	DWP Soil Class Name	Los Angeles County Soil Class Name	Los Angeles County Public Works Open Data
AD	DWP Soil Class	Los Angeles County Soil Class	Los Angeles County Public Works Open Data
AE	NRCS Class	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Class	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AF	NRCS Name	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Class Name	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AG	Hydrologic Group - Dominant Condition	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Hydrologic Group - Dominant Condition	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AH	NRCS Drainage Class	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Drainage Class	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AI	NRCS Runoff Class	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Runoff Class	https://landscape11.arcgis.com/arcgis/rest/services/USA_Soils_Map_Units/featureserver

AJ	NRCS Capacity Rate	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat)	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AK	NRCS Capacity Rate 2 In/Hr	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat)	https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx
AL	Total Property (Acres)	Estimate of total acreage of all parcels related to garden site and may consist of multiple parcels	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63
AM	AIN	Assessor Identification Number	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63
AN	APN	Assessor Parcel Number	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63
AO	Agency Name	Agency Name associated with parcel	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63
AP	Use Type	Land Use Type	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63
AQ	Use Description	Land Use Description	https://hub.arcgis.com/datasets/lahub::la-county-parcels/explore?location=33.803753%2C-118.298821%2C8.63

Appendix C – Screening Results

Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Screened Results

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
44	Pueblo De Los Angeles Continuation	2506 Alta st	School Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90031
64	Verdugo Park Community Garden	1621 Canada Boulevard	Community Garden	Glendale	CA	91208
103	Parkman Gardens	20800 Burbank Boulevard	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	CA	91367
111	Carpenter Community Charter	3909 Carpenter Avenue	School Garden	Studio City	CA	91604
115	William Mulholland Middle School	17120 Vanowen St	School Garden	Lake Balboa	CA	91406
156	Eagle Rockdale Community Garden	1003 Rockdale Avenue	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90041
184	Geneva Gardens	626 Geneva Street	Community Garden	Glendale	CA	91206
185	Glassell Park Community Garden	3304 Drew Street	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90065
187	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	16003 Rinaldi Street	Community Garden	Granada Hills	CA	91344
263	Palmer Park Community Garden	610 E. Palmer Avenue	Community Garden	Glendale	CA	91205
265	Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center Rancho Sombra Del Roble	23600 Roscoe Boulevard	Community Garden	West Hills	CA	91304
299	Sepulveda Garden Center	16633 Magnolia Boulevard	Community Garden	Encino	CA	91316
408	El Cariso Park Community Garden	13100 Hubbard St	Community Garden	Sylmar	CA	91342
567	Jefferson Elementary-Glendale	1540 Fifth Street	School Garden	Glendale	CA	91201
880	Network For A Healthy California	6651-C Balboa Blvd	School Garden	Van Nuys	CA	91406

Sites who responded to initial contact

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
103	Parkman Gardens	20800 Burbank Boulevard	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	CA	91367
156	Eagle Rockdale Community Garden	1003 Rockdale Avenue	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90041
185	Glassell Park Community Garden	3304 Drew Street	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90065
187	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	16003 Rinaldi Street	Community Garden	Granada Hills	CA	91344
408	El Cariso Park Community Garden	13100 Hubbard St	Community Garden	Sylmar	CA	91342
567	Jefferson Elementary-Glendale	1540 Fifth Street	School Garden	Glendale	CA	91201

Sites Recommended for next phase

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
103	Parkman Gardens	20800 Burbank Boulevard	Community Garden	Woodland Hills	CA	91367
185	Glassell Park Community Garden	3304 Drew Street	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90065
187	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	16003 Rinaldi Street	Community Garden	Granada Hills	CA	91344
408	El Cariso Park Community Garden	13100 Hubbard St	Community Garden	Sylmar	CA	91342

Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Screened Results

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
13	Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	1400 Park Dr	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90404
53	La Conte Middle School And Citizens Of The World Charter School	1316 N Bronson Ave	School Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90028
78	Cheremoya Ave Elementary School	6017 Franklin Ave	School Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90028
158	East Hollywood Garden Achievement Center	1177 N Madison Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90029
169	Culver City Community Garden	10860 Culver Blvd	Community Garden	Culver City	CA	90230
227	Mansfield Fountain Community Garden	1259 N Mansfield Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90038
230	Mar Vista Community Garden	5075 S Slauson Ave	Community Garden	Culver City	CA	90230
312	The Learning Garden at Venice High School	13000 Venice Blvd	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90006
329	Wattles Farm	1714 N Curson Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90046
356	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	905 Loma Vista Dr	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	CA	90210
369	Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	2300 Main St	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90405
687	Gardner Street Elementary School	7450 Hawthorn Ave	School Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90046
828	New Village Girls Academy	147 N Occidental Blvd	School Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90026
914	Enrique Noguera Educational Garden	6614 Fountain Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90038
7928	Samoshel Homeless Shelter Garden	503 Olympic Blvd	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90401

Sites who responded to initial contact

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
13	Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	1400 Park Dr	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90404
158	East Hollywood Garden Achievement Center	1177 N Madison Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90029
230	Mar Vista Community Garden	5075 S Slauson Ave	Community Garden	Culver City	CA	90230
312	The Learning Garden at Venice High School	13000 Venice Blvd	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90006
329	Wattles Farm	1714 N Curson Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90046
356	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	905 Loma Vista Dr	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	CA	90210
369	Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	2300 Main St	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90405

Sites Recommended for next phase

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
13	Santa Monica- Park Drive Community Garden	1400 Park Dr	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90404
158	East Hollywood Garden Achievement Center	1177 N Madison Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90029
230	Mar Vista Community Garden	5075 S Slauson Ave	Community Garden	Culver City	CA	90230
329	Wattles Farm	1714 N Curson Ave	Community Garden	Los Angeles	CA	90046
356	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	905 Loma Vista Dr	Community Garden	Beverly Hills	CA	90210
369	Santa Monica- Main Street Community Garden	2300 Main St	Community Garden	Santa Monica	CA	90405

Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Screened Results

Object ID	Name	Address	Type	City	State	Zip
85	Los Altos Elementary	15565 Los Altos Drive	School Garden	Hacienda Heights	CA	91745
108	Royal Oaks Elementary	2499 Royal Oaks Dr	School Garden	Duarte	CA	92010
109	Rowland Avenue Elementary School	1355 East Rowland Avenue	School Garden	West Covina	CA	91790
165	Diamond Bar Community Garden	2335 S Diamond Bar Blvd	Community Garden	Diamond Bar	CA	91765
235	Memorial Park Community Garden	320 N Orange Ave	Community Garden	Azusa	CA	91702
537	Options Headstart - Puente	423 S Shipman Ave	School Garden	La Puente	CA	91744
552	Walnut Grove	614 E Vine Ave	School Garden	West Covina	CA	91790
560	Monte Vista School	1615 West Eldred Ave	School Garden	West Covina	CA	91790
719	Powell Elementary School	1035 E Mauna Loa Avenue	School Garden	AZUSA	CA	91702
826	Nelson Elementary	330 North California Avenue	School Garden	La Puente	CA	91744
831	Del Valle Elementary School	801 N Del Valle Ave	School Garden	La Puente	CA	91744
837	Las Palmas Middle School	641 N Lark Ellen Ave	School Garden	Covina	CA	91722
974	The Farm at Fairplex	1102 W McKinley Ave	Farm	Pomona	CA	91768
984	-	1544 Turnbull Canyon Rd	Farm	Hacienda Heights	CA	91745

Sites who responded to initial contact

Appendix D – 2024 Outreach Efforts

Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation Project

2024 Outreach Efforts

January 2024 – March 2024

I. 2024 Outreach Overview

Throughout early 2024, the Los Angeles Community Garden Council (LACGC) and its technical consultants continued engagement with community gardens across the three project watersheds – Upper Los Angeles River (UPLAR), Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB), and Upper San Gabriel River (USGR). The purpose of the outreach was to 1) continue efforts to engage with USGR community gardens and 2) begin Task 4 outreach and engagement with selected community garden leadership.

II. Upper San Gabriel River Watershed

While the technical team completed community garden site selection for UPLAR and CSMB at the end of 2023, the project team was having difficulty reaching community gardens in the USGR watershed. LACGC leadership contacted multiple community gardens, as well as City officials, schools, and school districts in an attempt to find potential community garden sites for study. However, after an extended outreach campaign, only the City of Azusa and its Memorial Park Community Garden have been successfully engaged and will continue to be part of the study. Other outreach efforts to Hacienda La Puente School District and Rowland Unified School District did not result in additional garden sites for the project. Hacienda La Puente School District did not have gardens located on their school facilities, and Rowland Unified School District had to fast track another construction project that would consume the time and resources of staff.[1]

III. Task 4 Outreach and Engagement

As outreach efforts continued within the USGR, LACGC and the technical team began its next phase of engagement with selected community gardens. In February, an email was sent to selected garden sites[2] to inform Garden Leadership about next steps and expectations. Beginning in March, the technical team scheduled preliminary site plan design concept review meetings. By the end of March, four out of the six selected gardens had their first site review meeting via Zoom. By the beginning of April, all six gardens had completed their initial review.

IV. Next Steps

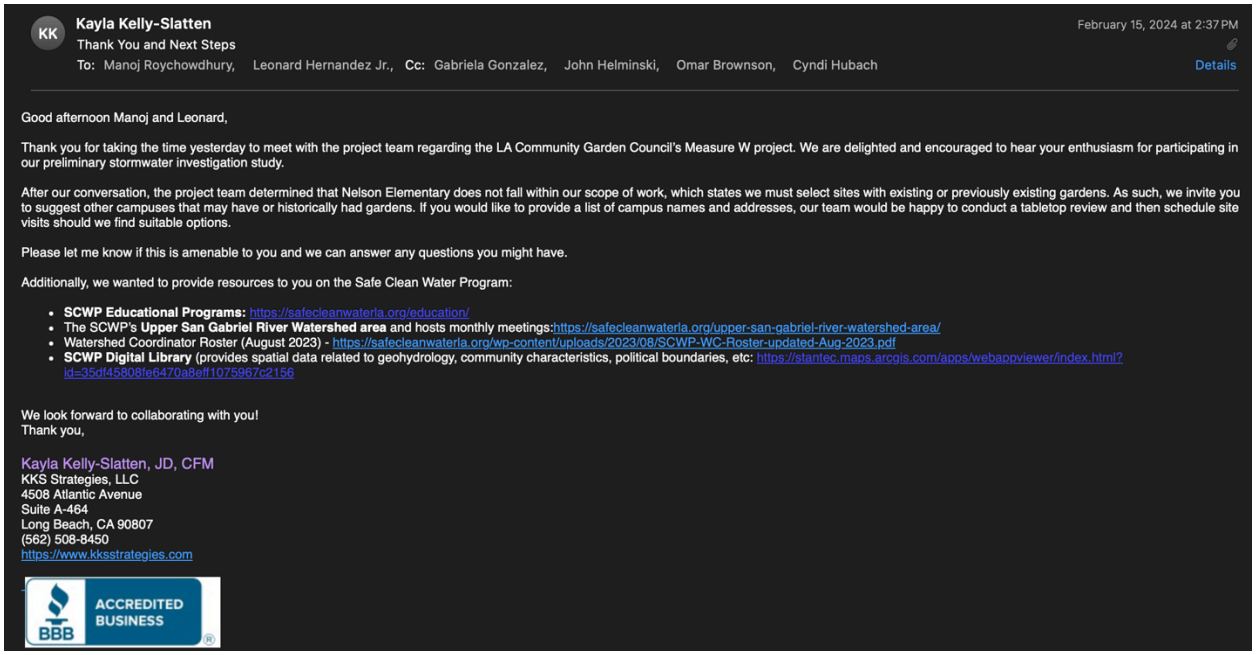
Over the remaining few months, the project team will continue to engage with the six selected community garden sites. The team will facilitate two additional meetings with each garden, one to review the updated site plan design and another to review a draft of the report. The report will include the site plan, renderings, best management practices proposed, stormwater quality benefits, and cost estimates, as well as a fact sheet. Each garden will be asked to provide feedback on the draft report to ensure the final deliverable is useful to Garden Leadership. Once completed, final reports will be submitted to each garden, posted online for the general public's use, and submitted as deliverables to Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water Program.

[1] See Appendix A for email communications to the school districts.

[2] See Appendix B for a list of selected gardens and meeting dates.

Appendix A – Email Communications

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District



Kayla Kelly-Slatten — February 15, 2024 at 2:37 PM
Thank You and Next Steps
To: Manoj Roychowdhury, Leonard Hernandez Jr., Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Omar Brownson, Cyndi Hubach — Details

Good afternoon Manoj and Leonard,

Thank you for taking the time yesterday to meet with the project team regarding the LA Community Garden Council's Measure W project. We are delighted and encouraged to hear your enthusiasm for participating in our preliminary stormwater investigation study.

After our conversation, the project team determined that Nelson Elementary does not fall within our scope of work, which states we must select sites with existing or previously existing gardens. As such, we invite you to suggest other campuses that may have or historically had gardens. If you would like to provide a list of campus names and addresses, our team would be happy to conduct a tabletop review and then schedule site visits should we find suitable options.

Please let me know if this is amenable to you and we can answer any questions you might have.

Additionally, we wanted to provide resources to you on the Safe Clean Water Program:

- **SCWP Educational Programs:** https://safecleanwaterla.org/education/
- The SCWP's **Upper San Gabriel River Watershed area** and hosts monthly meetings:https://safecleanwaterla.org/upper-san-gabriel-river-watershed-area/
- Watershed Coordinator Roster (August 2023) - https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/SCWP-WC-Roster-updated-Aug-2023.pdf
- **SCWP Digital Library** (provides spatial data related to geohydrology, community characteristics, political boundaries, etc: https://stantec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=35df45808fe6470a8eff1075967c2156

We look forward to collaborating with you!
Thank you,

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
KKS Strategies, LLC
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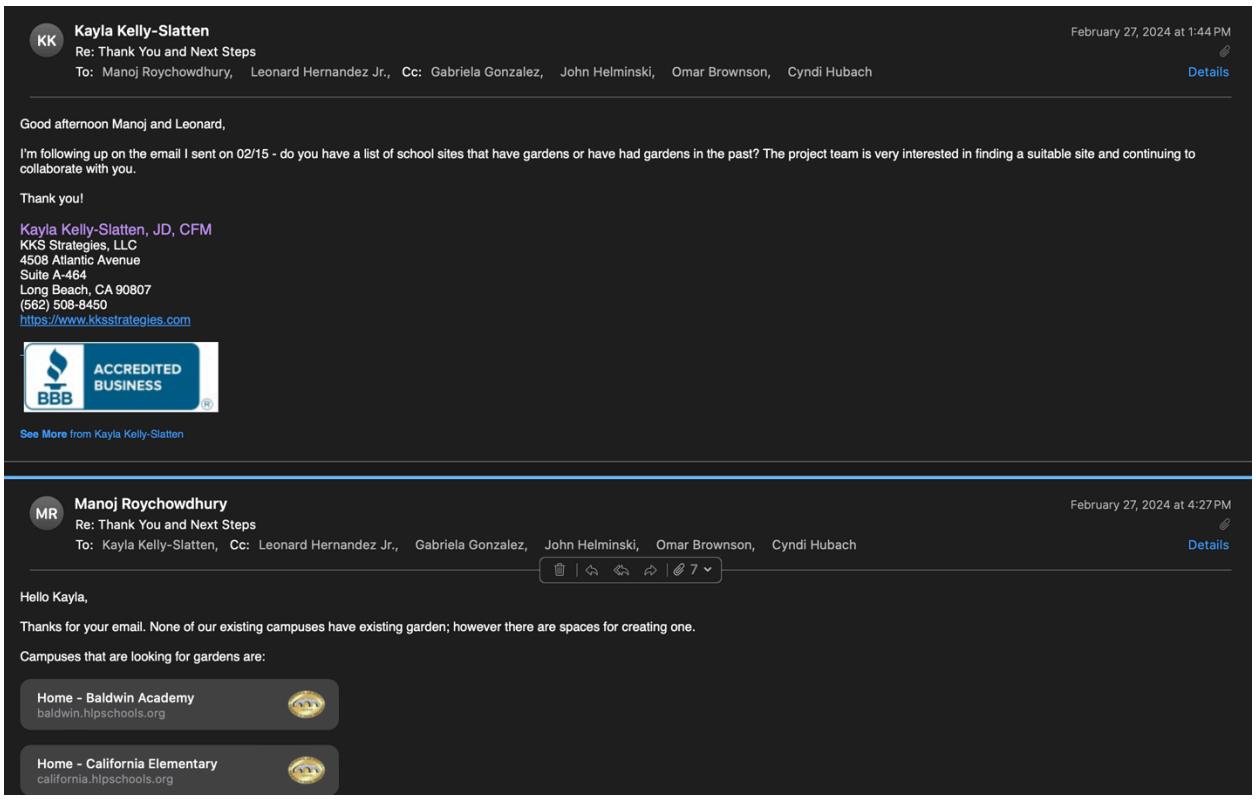
(562) 508-8450
https://www.kksstrategies.com

ACCREDITED BUSINESS BBB



Kayla Kelly-Slatten — February 27, 2024 at 1:44 PM
Re: Thank You and Next Steps
To: Manoj Roychowdhury, Leonard Hernandez Jr., Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Omar Brownson, Cyndi Hubach — Details

Good afternoon Manoj and Leonard,

I'm following up on the email I sent on 02/15 - do you have a list of school sites that have gardens or have had gardens in the past? The project team is very interested in finding a suitable site and continuing to collaborate with you.

Thank you!

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
KKS Strategies, LLC
4508 Atlantic Avenue
Suite A-464
Long Beach, CA 90807
(562) 508-8450
https://www.kksstrategies.com

ACCREDITED BUSINESS BBB

See More from Kayla Kelly-Slatten

Manoj Roychowdhury — February 27, 2024 at 4:27 PM
Re: Thank You and Next Steps
To: Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Cc: Leonard Hernandez Jr., Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Omar Brownson, Cyndi Hubach — Details

Hello Kayla,

Thanks for your email. None of our existing campuses have existing garden; however there are spaces for creating one.

Campuses that are looking for gardens are:

Home - Baldwin Academy
baldwin.hlpschools.org

Home - California Elementary
california.hlpschools.org

Found in Sent - kayla@kksstrategies.com Mailbox

Kayla Kelly-Slatten March 4, 2024 at 3:29 PM

Re: Thank You and Next Steps

To: Manoj Roychowdhury, Cc: Leonard Hernandez Jr., Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski & 2 more Details

Good afternoon Manoj,

Thank you for providing the list of potential sites. Due to our confined scope of work, we are only assessing sites with defined garden spaces, so unfortunately we will not be able to study any of those provided.

However, given the facilities listed and the potential impact on stormwater, I would highly recommend you speak with the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Coordinator to learn more about the Measure W opportunities. His name is James Cortes Rivera and he can be reached at james@godayone.org. Feel free to reference this team when connecting with him, if that is helpful.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
All the best,

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
KKS Strategies, LLC
4508 Atlantic Avenue
Suite A-464
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https://www.kksstrategies.com

Rowland Unified School District

Cyndi Hubach
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Myra Lopez, Cc: Josefina Sandoval, Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski
February 13, 2024 at 4:26 PM
Details

Siri Found a Phone Number
Cyndi Hubach
(213) 760-5696
Update

Dear Myra --

Thank you so much for getting back to us!
I just left you a voicemail message. Please feel free to call me any time at (213) 760-5696.

Or if you're open to it, we can set up a Zoom meeting with our engineering and project team in the next few days.

Looking forward to connecting with you!

Best wishes,
Cyndi

See More from Myra Lopez

Found in Inbox - kayla@kksstrategies.com Mailbox

Cyndi Hubach
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Cc: Omar Brownson
February 16, 2024 at 1:46 PM
Details

Hi team --

I connected with Myra today in the Rowland School District and she's going to be tied up all next week with the coming storm (how apropos). She and her colleague will have two availabilities the following week:

Wednesday 2/28 - 9-noon
Thursday 2/29 - 9-noon

Let me know what works for you. Either is fine for me.

Thank you!
Cyndi

See More from Cyndi Hubach

Cyndi Hubach
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Myra Lopez, Cc: Josefina Sandoval, Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski
February 19, 2024 at 11:21 AM
Details

Dear Myra --

Thank you for the nice phone call last week. We hope you are getting through these storms okay!

We are available to meet next Wednesday, 2/28 from 9-10am or 11am-12 noon.
Please let us know which is best for you and we will be happy to provide the Zoom link.

Many thanks and best wishes,
Cyndi
(213) 760-5696

See More from Cyndi Hubach

Myra Lopez
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Cyndi Hubach, Cc: Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Eric Jones, Gerardo Zuniga
February 22, 2024 at 5:00 PM
Details

11 AM on the 28th works for me. I am also looping in my Manager and the Grounds Supervisor to include them on this zoom.

Thanks,

Myra

Myra Lopez
Executive Director
Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Construction
Rowland Unified School District
phone: (626) 912-0665 Ext. 3006
email: myra.lopez@rowlandschools.org
Address: 1018 S. Otterbein Ave., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

See More from Cyndi Hubach

Kayla Kelly-Slatten — March 21, 2024 at 4:47 PM
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Myra Lopez, Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Eric Jones, Gerardo Zuniga, Omar Brownson — Details

Good afternoon all,

Apologies for the delay in following up regarding the LA Community Garden Council's Stormwater Capture project. I just met with some of our technical folks to review preliminary data. Ideally, we would like to move forward with using Giano Intermediate School as a case study, if the school district is still willing to collaborate for this study.

If you would like to continue, can you please provide 3-5 site photos of the healing/meditation outdoor space that is present at Giano? Our scope of work is very specific to garden spaces, so while our team would like to utilize a healing/meditation garden as a case study, photos would help support our decision.

Once we have reviewed the photos, if our team needs to schedule a site visit, would folks from the school and school district be available during the first couple weeks of April to host a site visit?

Thank you so much for your patience and I look forward to your response. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.
All the best,

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
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4508 Atlantic Avenue
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ACCREDITED BUSINESS BBB

See More from Kayla Kelly-Slatten

Found in Sent - kayla@kksstrategies.com Mailbox

Kayla Kelly-Slatten — March 26, 2024 at 2:37 PM
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Myra Lopez, Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Eric Jones, Gerardo Zuniga, Omar Brownson — Details

Good afternoon all,

I'm following up on the email I sent last week. The team would like to move forward with assessing Giano Intermediate School as a potential case study for our stormwater investigation. Please let me know if you are still interested in participating in our study.

Thank you so much!

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
KKS Strategies, LLC

Myra Lopez — March 26, 2024 at 3:14 PM
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Eric Jones, Gerardo Zuniga, Omar Brownson — Details

Hi Kayla,

Sorry for the late reply. Unfortunately, we had to fast forward another construction project at Giano that will start next month. At this time we cannot participate in this program.

Myra

ROWLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Myra Lopez
Executive Director
Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Construction
Rowland Unified School District
phone: (626) 912-0665 Ext. 3006
email: myra.lopez@rowlandschools.org
Address: 1018 S. Otterbein Ave., Rowland Heights, CA 91748

See More from Kayla Kelly-Slatten

Found in Sent - kayla@kksstrategies.com Mailbox

Kayla Kelly-Slatten — March 27, 2024 at 12:11 PM
Re: Request for Meeting Regarding LA County Stormwater Capture Project
To: Myra Lopez, Cc: Gabriela Gonzalez, John Helminski, Eric Jones, Gerardo Zuniga, Omar Brownson — Details

Good afternoon Myra,

Thank you for letting us know. We understand and wish you the best with your construction project.

Please keep in mind the Measure W funding as you all consider and pursue facilities updates. The funding is available for stormwater projects and ancillary updates related to stormwater capture, infiltration, nature-based solutions, etc. More information is available online at https://safecleanwaterla.org/about-us/.

Feel free to reach out with questions.

Take care,

Kayla Kelly-Slatten, JD, CFM
KKS Strategies, LLC
4508 Atlantic Avenue
Suite A-464
Long Beach, CA 90807
(562) 508-8450

Appendix B – Garden Outreach

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	**Watershed**	**Garden**	**Virtual Meeting (Fall 2023)**	**Table Top Review (Fall 2023)**	**Site Visit (Fall 2023)**	**Moving into Design? (Winter/Spring 2024)**	**Progress Meeting #1**	**Progress Meeting #2**	**Progress Meeting #3**	**CAD**	**Renderings**
2	CSMB	East Hollywood Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3/28 at 2pm	4/16 at 1pm; site plan sent			
3	CSMB	Mar Vista Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	--	--		--	--
4	CSMB	Santa Monica Park Drive and Main Street	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4/2 at 1:30pm	4/18 at 1pm; site plan sent			
5	CSMB	Venice Learning Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					
6	CSMB	Wattles Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					
7	CSMB	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3/28 at 3pm	4/15 at 11am; site plan sent			
8	UPLAR	Eagle Rockdale Community Garden	No show	--	--	--	--	--		--	--
9	UPLAR	El Cariso	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3/25 at 2pm	none needed; site plan sent			
10	UPLAR	Glassell Park Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					
11	UPLAR	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3/27 at 10am	4/18 at 10:30am; site plan sent			
12	UPLAR	Jefferson Elementary	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					
13	UPLAR	Parkman Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	No					
14	UPSGR	Memorial Park Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4/4 at 10am	4/16 at 11:30am; site plan sent			
15	UPSGR	Sierra Vista Middle School	Yes - Hacienda La Puente School District	No	No	--	--	--		--	--
16	UPSGR	Northam Elementary	Yes - Rowland School District	Yes	No	--	--				
17	UPSGR	Giano Intermediate	Yes - Rowland School District	Yes	No	--	--				

Appendix E – Garden Site Review and Recommendations

Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation

Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area

Garden Site Review and Recommendation Report

December 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables

List of Figures

OVERVIEW

This document provides a summary of the community garden sites assessed for design in the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed (UPLAR). Through tabletop review, community garden meetings, and site visits, community gardens were assessed for the next phase of the Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation.

As outlined in a previous memo, potential community gardens were vetted through a Screening Criteria process. The project team then outreached to screened gardens to determine whether their leadership were interested in participating in the study. During September 2023, invited community garden leadership to a one-on-one virtual meeting. The meetings allowed the project team to provide an overview of the project, answer any questions from the garden, and learn about each garden in more detail. Garden leadership was then asked if they would like to participate moving forward or if they had any reservations. If gardens agreed to continue, the project team scheduled an in-person site visit to better understand their gardens.

While many community gardens are not actually owned by garden leadership (with a few exceptions), the project team wanted to ensure that community gardens were willing and able to continue collaborating. Interest would help the project team coordinate site visits and continue to have meaningful engagement.

Site visits to interested gardens were conducted from October to December so that the project team could identify additional issues and opportunities. The project team took pictures, noted relevant areas, and discussed potential Best Management Practices (BMPs) placement. Although implementation is not part of this study, it was important to hold discussions regarding how garden leadership would handle potential construction and implementation of any enhancements.

Each garden assessed and visited is documented below. The project team has compiled pertinent information for each garden with a list of gardens recommended for the next phase (design) at the end of the report.

Figure 1: Parkman Community Garden

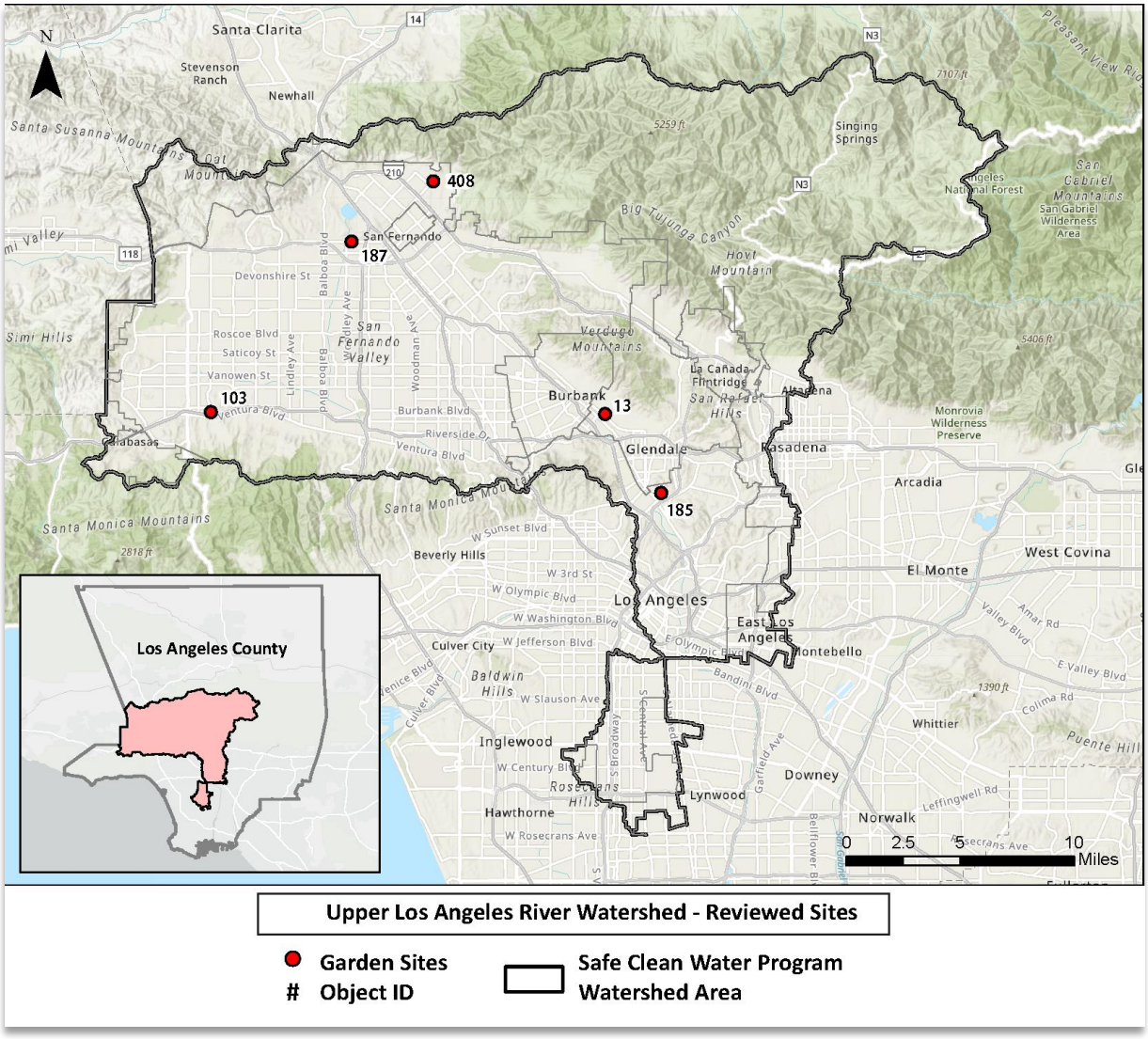

Figure 2: Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area And Sites for Review

Table 1: Community Garden Sites for Review

Object ID	Site Name	Address	City	Zip
103	Parkman Gardens	20800 Burbank Boulevard	Woodland Hills	91367
185	Glassell Park Community Garden	3304 Drew Street	Los Angeles	90065
187	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	16003 Rinaldi Street	Granada Hills	91344
408	El Cariso Park Community Garden	13100 Hubbard St.	Sylmar	91342

OBJECT ID #103: PARKMAN GARDENS

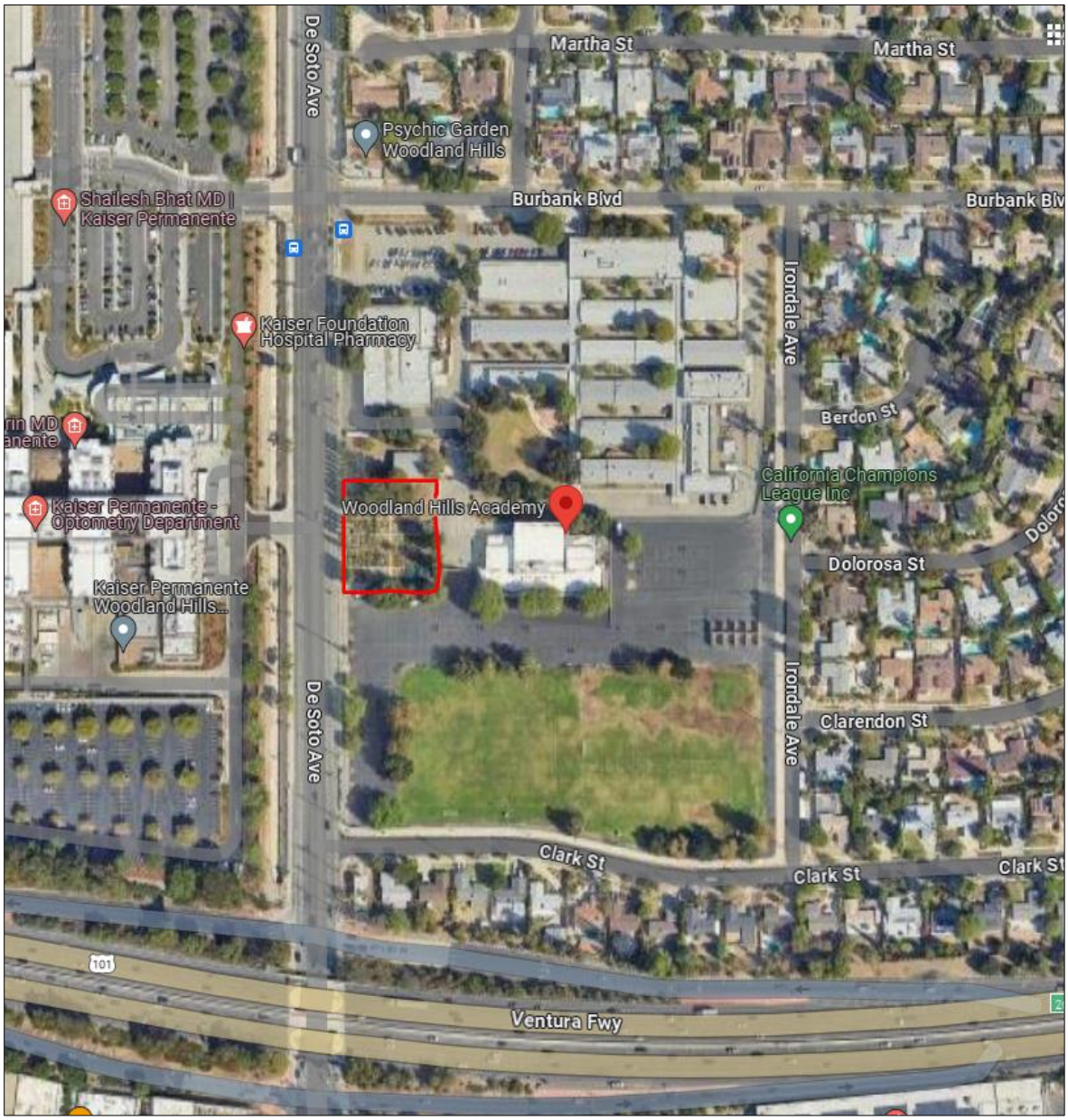

Figure 3: Parkman Gardens *(Google Earth, 2023)*

Location and Vicinity

Parkman Gardens is located at 20800 Burbank Blvd, in the neighborhood of Woodland Hills within the City of Los Angeles. The school garden belongs to Woodland Hills Academy, a 19-acre middle school within the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The garden is located at the west end of the school adjacented to De Soto Ave, **Figure 3**.

Garden Characteristics

The school parcel is owned by LAUSD, but the garden is run by volunteers. The garden is fairly small with about 25 plots. The garden has been around since about the 1970s/80s. The garden uses irrigation taps with one hose as an access point. The gardens are mostly used by local residents and there are no current plans to expand.

Figure 4 **- 5**.

During the site visit garden leadership expressed that their biggest priority is gardener turnover. There are not enough gardeners to tend to the space, and it is in serious need of maintenance and upgrades. There are opportunities to better advertise the garden as it is not highly visible and is located along a busy corridor that is not conducive to pedestrian activity and safety.

According to the SCWP's spatial data library the garden does not fall within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC).

Figure 4: Garden Entrance Off Of De Soto Ave

Figure 5: Parkman Garden Plots

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is identified as a government parcel, and the site is surrounded primarily by residential uses east of De Soto Ave. To the west of De Soto Ave there is a mix of industrial and institutional uses such as the Kaiser Hospital. South of the 101 Highway is mostly commercial uses.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows north/northeast, as shown in **Figure 6**.

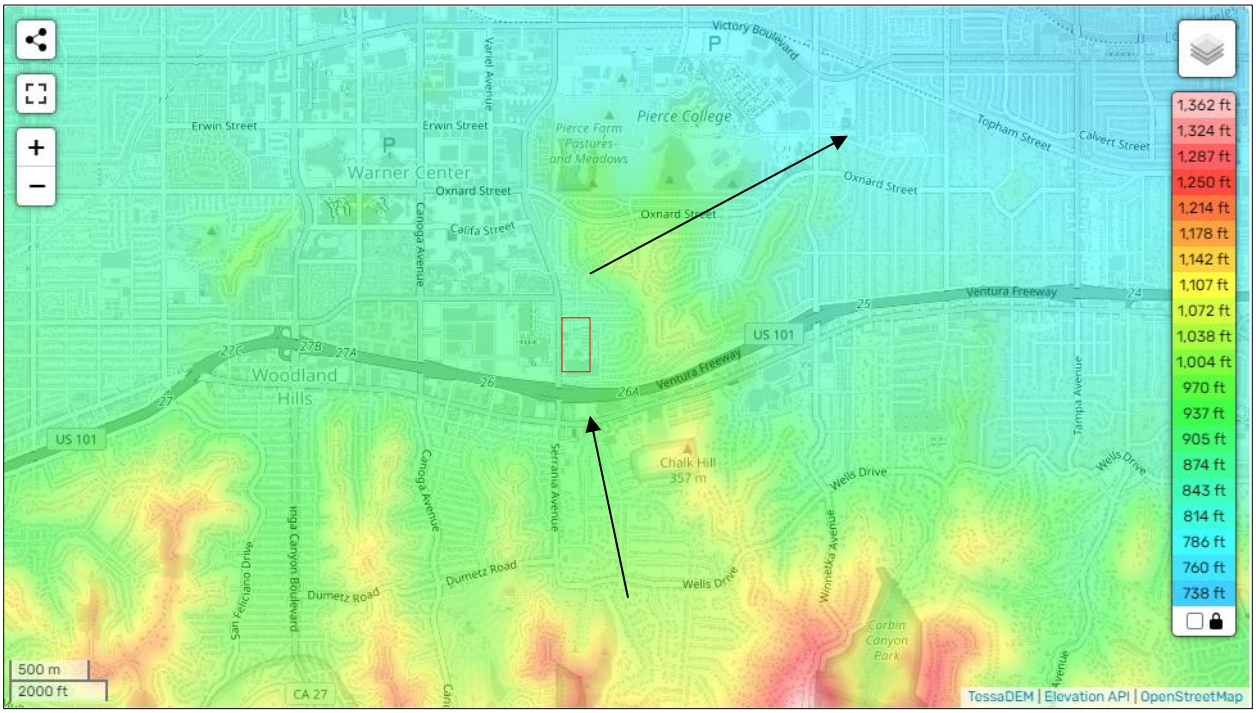

Figure 6 Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the Natural resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey GIS database, 73.1% of the soil on the project site is classified as “Cropley-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes.” The typical profile of Palmview soil is defined by clay with a general depth ranging from 0 to 65 inches. This soil type is also classified previously as “null” but may have a hydrologic soil group classification of C, with the capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately low to Moderately High (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr.).”

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies two LA City drains that intersect with the school - one drain lies on the Northwest corner and one on the Southwest corner along De Soto Ave. Both are connected to a set of catch basins and also connect to a Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) Channel located on the west of De Soto Ave, **Figure 7**.

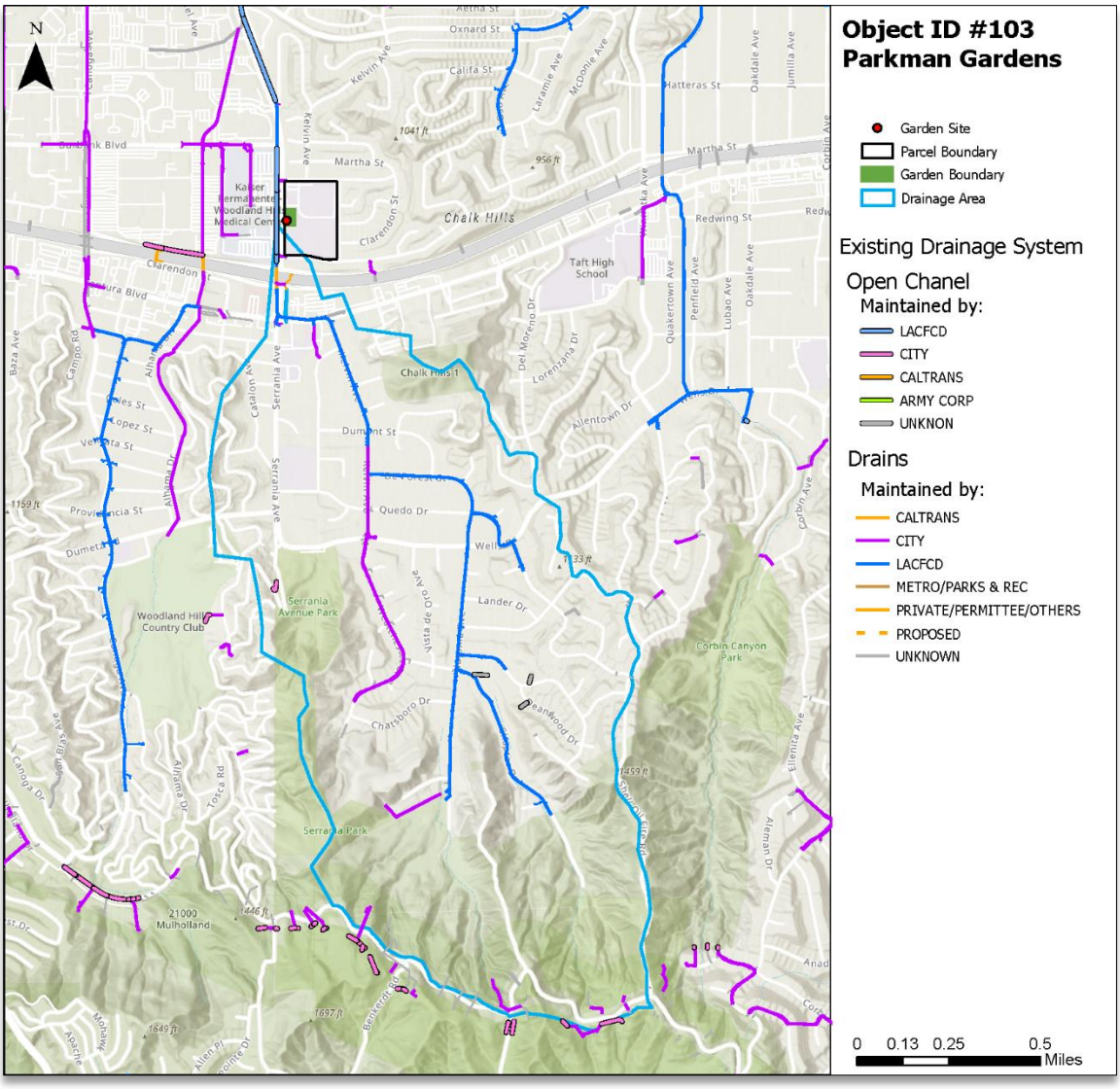

Figure 7: Object ID #103: Parkman Gardens Drainage And Boundary Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 21 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Basin: San Fernando Valley

Los Angeles County Watershed: LA RIVER

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Los Angeles River Nitrogen TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Los Angeles River Tributaries

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 2: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	Not at garden, but perhaps within the school.
Detention Basins	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Underground storage /tanks	An underground storage tank (e.g. R-Tank) system may help to collect the excess runoff and use it as an irrigation resource (with a small pump system)	Underground
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Channel Naturalization	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-

Table 3: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	There's a shed at the corner of the site that can be used for rainwater harvesting from its roof	By the building / underground
Bioretention Cells	This can be used in place of a garden bed to capture excess runoff from the site. This site does not seem to have ponding issues during storm events	On site
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	An infiltration trench can be used around the perimeter of the garden. This site does not seem to have ponding issues during storm events	-
Green Roofs	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens	Between garden beds/paths
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	No catch basin exists on site	Catch basins
Media Filters	No catch basin exists on site for a filter	Upstream of catch basins
Catch Basin Inserts	No catch basin exists on site	Catch basins

OBJECT ID # 185: GLASSELL PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Location and Vicinity

The Glassell Park Community Garden is located at 3304 Drew St, Los Angeles, i The garden is a community garden on a 0.01-acre residential parcel owned by the City of Los Angeles. The garden is bounded by Drew St to the north, **Figure 8**.

Figure 8: Object ID #185 - Glassell Park Community Garden Boundary *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Garden Characteristics

The garden is managed by the Los Angeles Community Garden Council, who has a contractual agreement with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. The site contains 34 beds and 40 members with a full waitlist. Six garden plots are sponsored and reserved for low-income gardeners.

The garden looks to host a food distribution program in collaboration with other local organizations. The site hosts workshops once a month, as well as monthly garden meetings. The garden gets a lot of foot traffic with gardeners ranging from 25-70 years of age. According to garden leadership, about 20% of the gardeners speak Spanish.

In August of 2024, the garden had a complete rebuild. Garden leadership did note that they would like to not disturb the existing garden plots but the areas along the property line could be enhanced.

There is a slight slope on the southwest end of the garden that causes runoff and some flooding that impacts the neighboring structure. A tree consultant recently evaluated the trees on property and determined that many have shallow root systems causing damage to the main trees.

As the garden rests on a residential parcel the soil is compacted and old foundation can still be found during excavations.

According to the SCWP's spatial data library the garden does fall within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC).

Figure 9: Glassel Community Garden Plots

Figure 10: Garden Southwest Corner Where Puddling Occurs

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated as a government parcel and is surrounded primarily by residential uses.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows southwest, as shown in **Figure 11**.

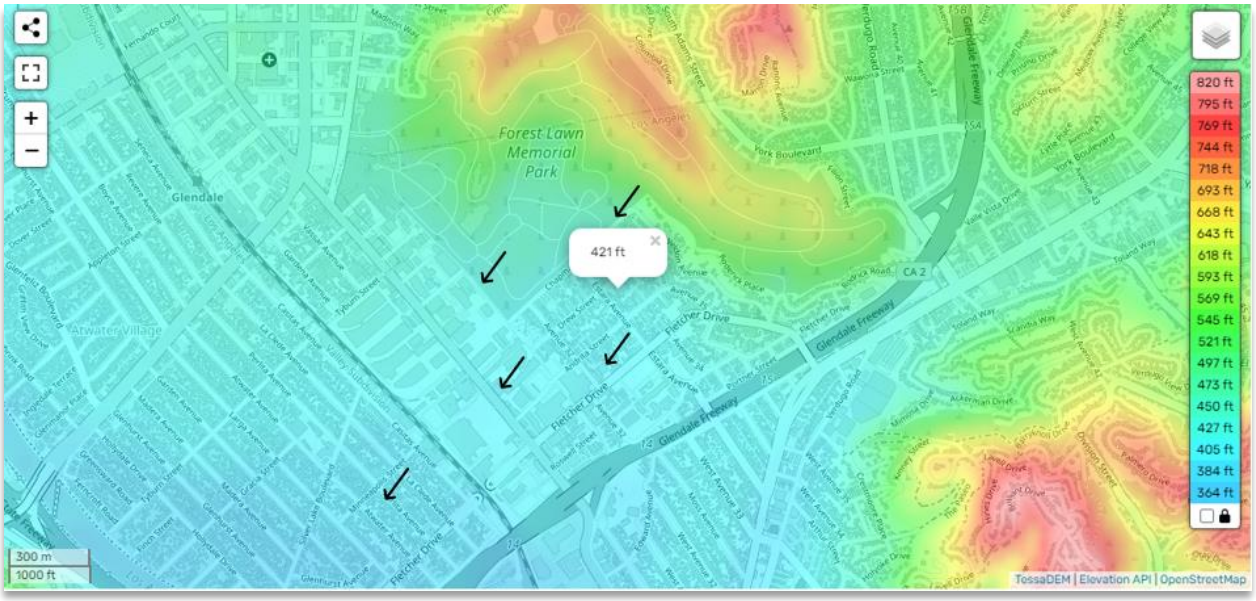

Figure 11: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 100% of the soil on the project site is classified as "Urban land-Palmview-Tujunga complex." The typical profile of Palmview soil is defined as loamy fan with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified previously as hydrologic soil group classification of A, with the capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as "Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)."

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies an LA City lateral line along the center line of Drew St with a catch basin on the north end of the property along the curb. The lateral line connects to the main LA City drain along Estara Ave, see **Figure 12**.

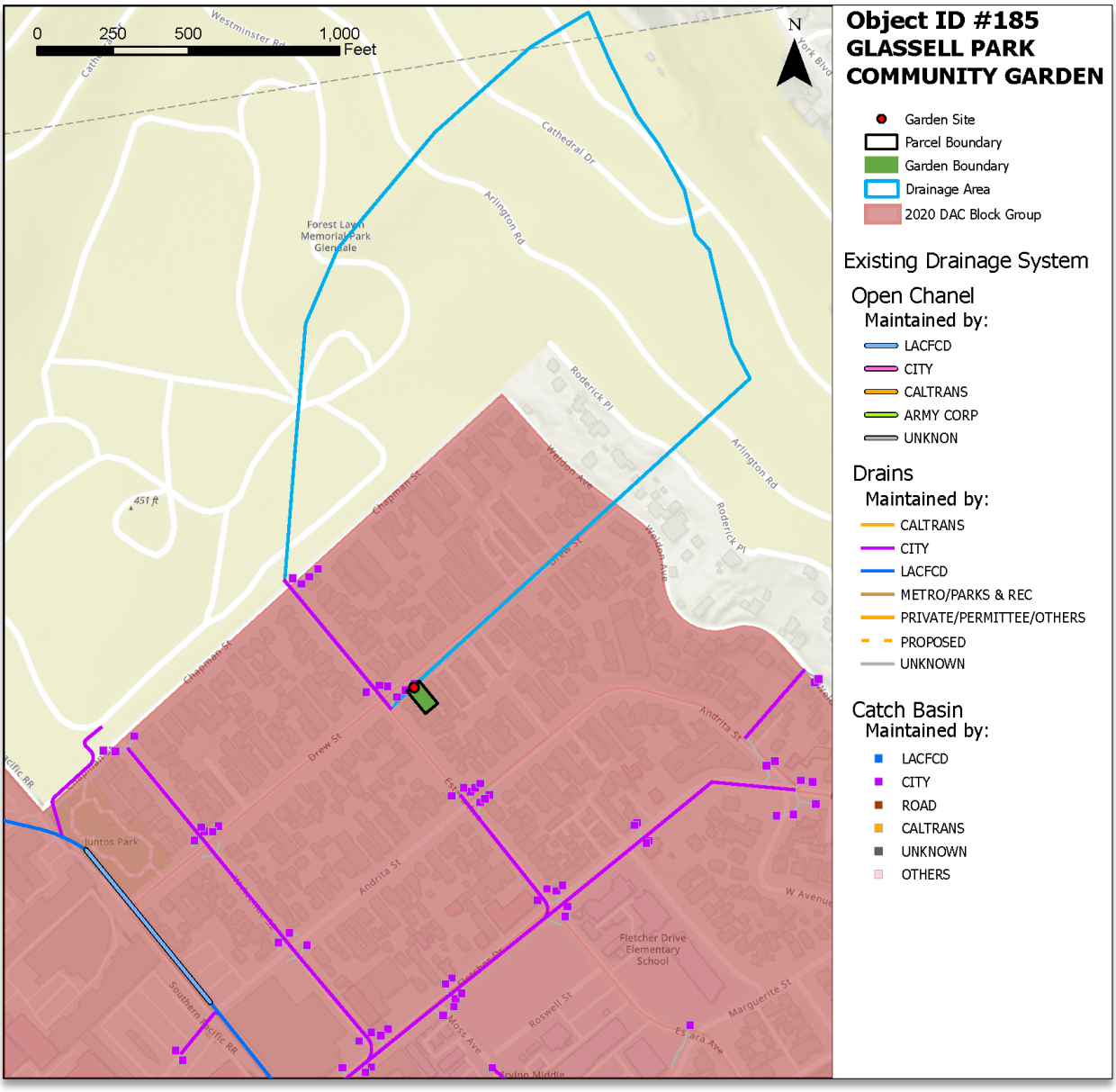

Figure 12: Object ID #185 Glassell Park Community Garden And Boundary Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 38 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Basin: San Fernando Valley

Los Angeles County Watershed: LA RIVER

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Los Angeles River Nitrogen TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Los Angeles River (below LA-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (WRP))

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 4: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	-	-
Detention Basins	-	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	-	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	-	-
Underground storage /tanks	Garden has ponding issues during storm events. also stomrwater discharges to adjacent residential properties which could be problematic both in terms of quality and quantity. an underground storage tank (e.g. R-Tank) system may help to collect the excess runoff and use it as an irrigation resource (with a small pump system).	Underground
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	-	-
Channel Naturalization	-	-

Table 5: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	There's a shed at the corner of the site that can be used for rainwater harvesting from its roof	By the building / underground
Bioretention Cells	This can be used in place of garden bed to capture excess runoff from the site. Also a swale can be placed around the perimeter of the site to capture and bring water toward this bioretention cell	On site
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	An infiltration trench around the perimeter of the garden can help prevent runoff discharging onto adjacent properties. Also, the water in the trench can be routed back toward the garden beds (through a perforated pipe system) provide extra irrigation water.	-
Green Roofs	-	On roofs
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	-	Between garden beds/paths
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	No catch basin exists on site	Catch basins
Media Filters	No catch basin exists on site for a filter	Upstream of catch basins
Catch Basin Inserts	No catch basin exists on site	Catch basins

OBJECT ID #187: GRANADA HILLS SALAD BOWL GARDEN CLUB

Figure 13: Object ID #187 - Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Location and Vicinity

The Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club is located at 16003 Rinaldi St within the City of Los Angeles. The garden sits on the south end of the parcel owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP), along Rinaldi St. The garden also neighbors LADWP's Rinaldi Receiving Station to the right, **Figure 13**.

Garden Characteristics

The garden has a lease with LADWP and is managed by community volunteers. There are around 140 plots ranging in size. Currently, the garden has about 50 gardeners with each managing 2-4 plots. Many of the gardeners are Spanish speakers and older retirees Families tend multiple plots, so ages range from children to grandparents. There is a waitlist with at least 15 people. Many of the gardeners grow food for themselves. The garden is responsible for paying for water and garbage service.

Garden leadership looks to organize future educational opportunities related to water conservation and gardening. Meetings with gardeners are held bi-annually.

Some of the biggest issues related to the site include vandalism, theft, pests, walkway access, and general maintenance of vegetation.

According to the SCWP's spatial data library the garden does not fall within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC).

Figure 14: Garden Plots

Figure 15: Garden Walkway

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated as miscellaneous. The parcel is large and adjacent to a variety of land uses. Directly west of the parcel is a government designated parcel and residential uses. To the south there are mostly residential parcels with some miscellaneous and government owned parcels. To the east there is a commercial parcel and residential parcels.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south, as shown in **Figure 16**.

Figure 16: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 100% of the soil is classified as "Urban land-Palmview-Tujunga complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes". The typical profile of Urban land-Palmview-Tujunga soil is defined by fine Sandy Loam with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of B, with a well-drained drainage classification, and a capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as "Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)."

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies an unknown drain that runs along Rinaldi St parallel to the garden. An LA City channel intersects the parcel and flows into the LACFCD Bull Creek channel on the southwest end of the parcel. There are a couple catch basins in that same corner at the intersect of Woodley Ave and Rinaldi St, **Figure 17**.

Additionally, on the northern end of the parcel sits the Van Norman Reservoir.

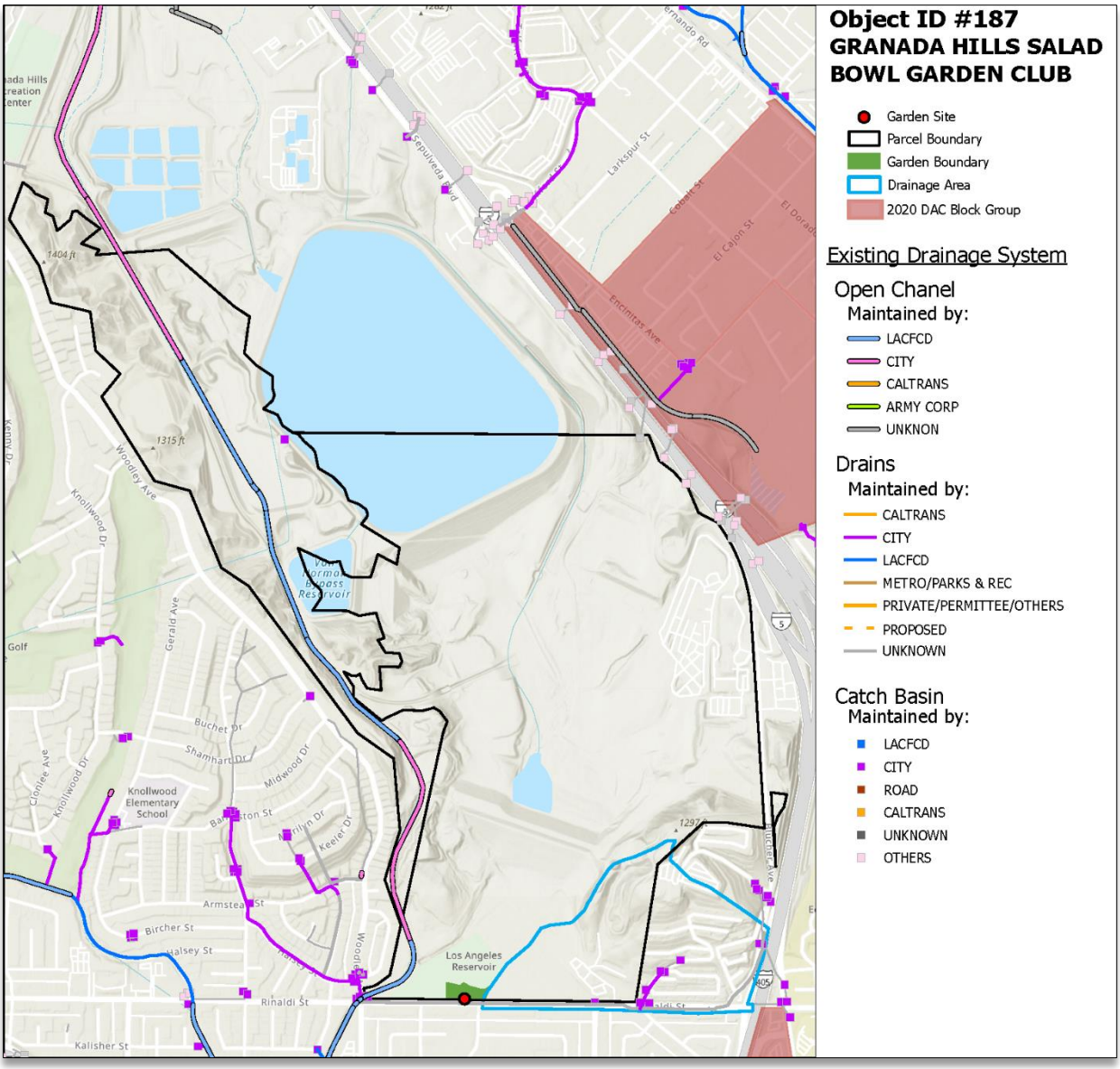

Figure 17: Object ID #187: Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club And Boundary Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 168 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Basin: San Fernando Valley

Los Angeles County Watershed: LA RIVER

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Los Angeles River Nitrogen TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Los Angeles River Tributaries

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 6: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	No room	-
Detention Basins	No room	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	-
Underground storage /tanks	-	On site under the paths between garden beds
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	-
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	-

Table 7: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	No roof exists	-
Bioretention Cells	-	Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	-	Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs	No roof exists	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens.	Parking and pavement area within the parcel.
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	-	-
Media Filters	-	-
Catch Basin Inserts	-	-

OBJECT ID #408: EL CARISO PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Location and Vicinity

El Cariso Park Community Garden is located at 13100 Hubbard St, in the neighborhood of Sylmar within the City of Los Angeles. The garden sits within the El Cariso Regional Park, owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles. The garden is about 39 acres located on northeast corner of the park (**Figure 18)**.

El Cariso Regional Park is an 80-acre focal point for the surrounding communities, providing amenities from picnic areas, play areas, fitness zone, tennis courts, a swimming pool and other amenities. The County also owns the golf course on the south end of the park and the baseball fields at Veterans Memorial Park, east of the park.

Garden Characteristics

The garden is run by local volunteers and garden members consist of primarily local residents. There are 32 plots and about 15-20 active members. There is no waitlist for future members as of now. Gardeners' age range varies from 9-60 years old. Members typically grow what is in season. Gardeners are charged a small monthly fee to keep their plot. The County pays for their water usage.

Garden leadership expressed that their biggest need is replacing the dilapidated beds and increasing gardener motivation to ensure general maintenance and cleanup

According to the SCWP's spatial data library the garden does not fall within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC), but lies within a short distance of a few DACs, as shown in **Figure 20**.

Figure 18: Community Garden Within El Cariso Regional Park. *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is classified as a recreational parcel. There are a couple government owned parcels adjacent to the park, one on the west corner (LA Mission College) and a few government parcels on the east end of the park. Most of the land uses along Hubbard St are residential, as well as Eldridge Ave and Simshaw Ave.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-east, as shown in **Figure 19.**

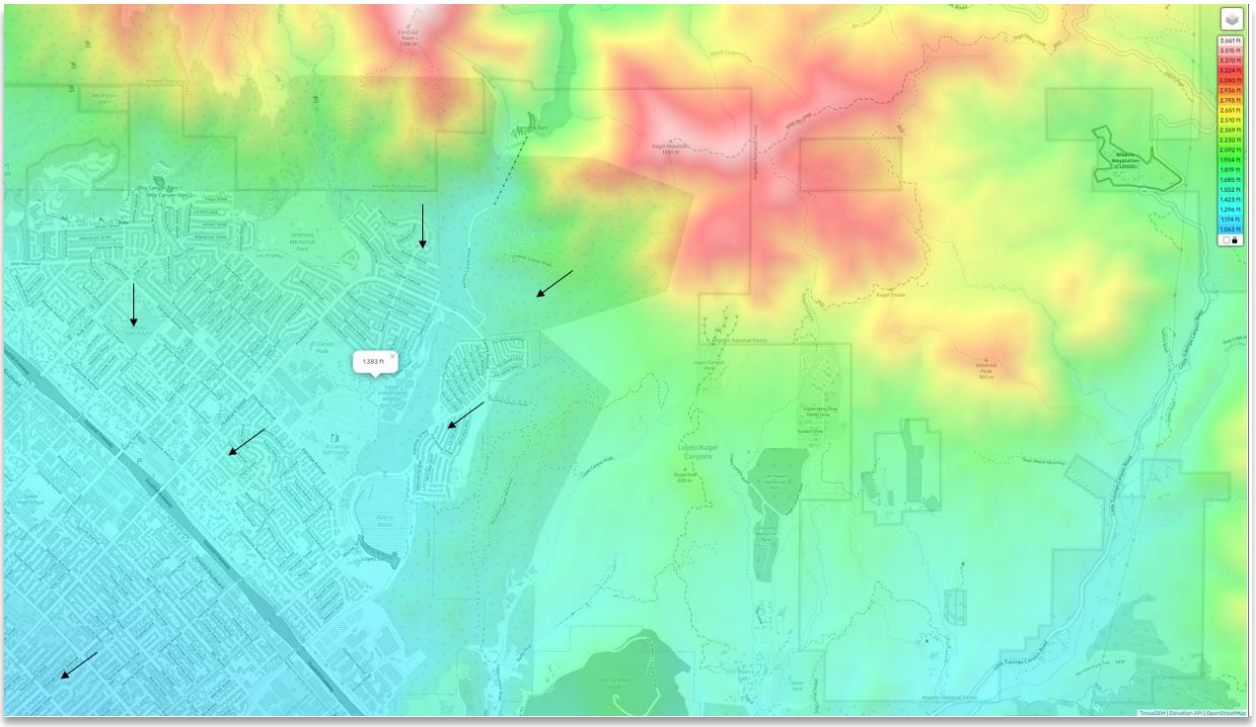

Figure 19: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 69.4% of the park soil is classified as “Capistrano-Urban land complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes.” The typical profile of Capistrano soil is defined by fine sandy loam with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of B, with the capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)”.

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies an LA City Channel at the bottom of the slope behind the garden on the southeast side at the end of Gridley St. The LA City channel connects to a catch basin and is also attached to an LA city drain along Gridley St leading to Simshaw Ave. The park has a 96-inch concrete drain that crosses through the park, May Canyon Lateral. The paved roads within the park also have catch basins. It is assumed that these basins are attached to drains that connect to the Mazy Canyon drain, **Figure 19.**

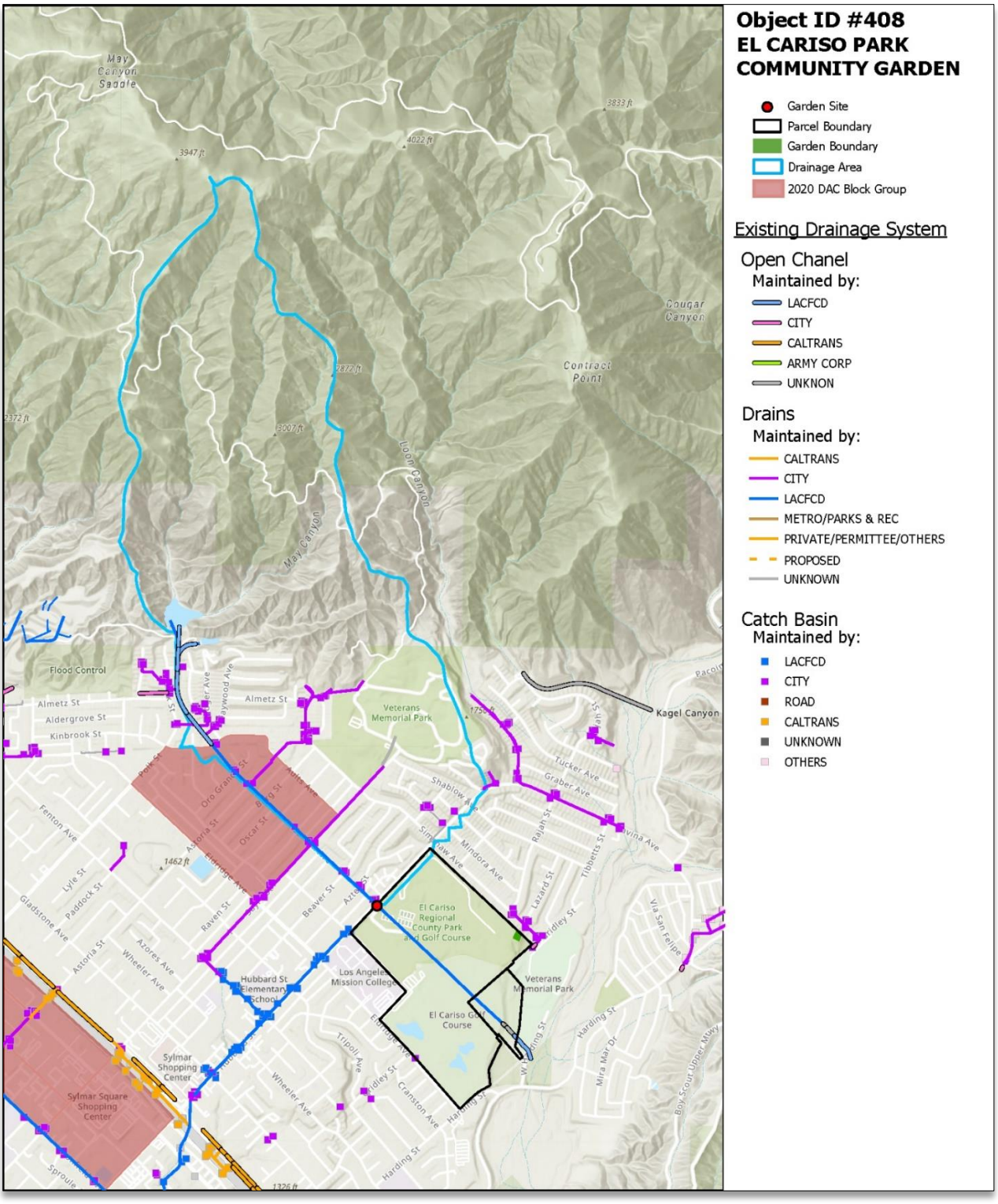

Figure 20: El Cariso Park Community Garden And Boundary Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 199 ft based on wells within a 3 mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Basin: San Fernando Valley

Los Angeles County Watershed: LA RIVER

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Los Angeles River Nitrogen TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Los Angeles River Watershed

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 8: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	Not appropriate for garden, but maybe within park.
Detention Basins	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	Site is not appropriate for this bmp	-
Underground storage /tanks	Garden has ponding issues during storm events. Also stormwater discharges to adjacent residential properties which could be problematic both in terms of quality and quantity. An underground storage tank (e.g. R-tank) system may help to collect the excess runoff and use it as an irrigation resource (with a small pump system)	On site
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	-	Inside inlets
Channel Naturalization	-	-

Table 9: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	No roof exists	
Bioretention Cells		Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	There are traces of runoff exiting the site during storm events. An infiltration trench or vegetated swale can keep the runoff on the site as well as providing irrigation to the gardens	Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs	No roof exists	
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens	Parking lot adjacent to the garden. In between garden beds on paths among units
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)		At catch basin exists on site if any
Media Filters	If swale is to be designed for the site	At proposed swale (if any) outfall
Catch Basin Inserts		At catch basin exists on site if any

RECOMMENDED SITES FOR NEXT PHASE

Object ID	Site Name	DAC Status	Recommended?	Remarks
103	Parkman Gardens	No	**No**	Large drainage area. Use of entire campus could lead to more BMP options. Site already falls within an existing project catchment area.
185	Glassell Park Community Garden	Yes	**No**	Limited space and limited use may not make it competitive for SCWP. Could become more competitive if partnered with Juntos Park or street greening initiatives. Site already falls within an existing project catchment area.
187	Granada Hills Salad Bowl Garden Club	No	**Yes**	Large garden within a large parcel owned by the Department of Water and Power. Drainage area may be bigger if whole parcel is taken into consideration.
408	El Cariso Park Community Garden	No	**Yes**	County owned. Variety of BMPs with growing opportunities if looking at the entire park.

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Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation

Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area

Garden Site Review and Recommendation Report

December 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables

List of Figures

OVERVIEW

This document provides a summary of the community garden sites assessed for design in the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed (CSMB). Through tabletop review, community garden meetings, and site visits, community gardens were assessed for the next phase of the Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation.

As outlined in a previous memo, potential community gardens were vetted through a Screening Criteria process. The project team then outreached to screened gardens to determine whether their leadership were interested in participating in the study. During September 2023, invited community garden leadership to a one-on-one virtual meeting. The meetings allowed the project team to provide an overview of the project, answer any questions from the garden, and learn about each garden in more detail. Garden leadership was then asked if they would like to participate moving forward or if they had any reservations. If gardens agreed to continue, the project team scheduled an in-person site visit to better understand their gardens.

While many community gardens are not actually owned by garden leadership (with a few exceptions), the project team wanted to ensure that community gardens were willing and able to continue collaborating. Interest would help the project team coordinate site visits and continue to have meaningful engagement.

Site visits to interested gardens were conducted from October to December so that the project team could identify additional issues and opportunities. The project team took pictures, noted relevant areas, and discussed potential Best Management Practices (BMPs) placement. Although implementation is not part of this study, it was important to hold discussions regarding how garden leadership would handle potential construction and implementation of any enhancements.

Each garden assessed and visited is documented below. The project team has compiled pertinent information for each garden with a list of gardens recommended for the next phase (design) at the end of the report.

Figure 1: Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden *(WSP, 2023)*

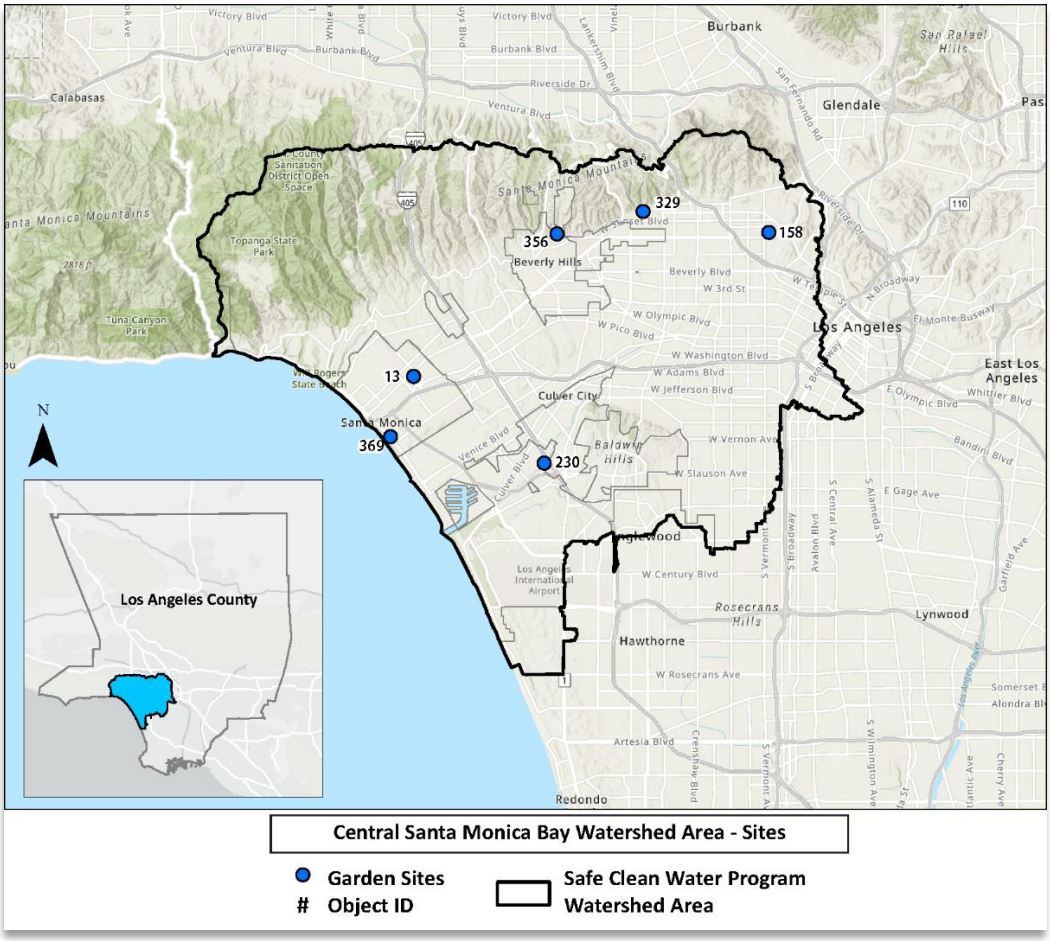


Figure 2: Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area And Sites for Review

Table 1: Community Garden Sites for Review

Object ID	Site Name	Address	City	Zip code
13	Santa Monica Park Drive	2415 Broadway	Santa Monica	90404
158	East Hollywood Community Garden	1177 N Madison Ave	Los Angeles	90029
230	Mar Vista Community Garden	5075 S Slauson Ave	Los Angeles	90230
329	Wattles Farm	1714 N Curson Ave	Los Angeles	90046
356	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	509 Doheny Rd	Beverly Hills	90210
369	Santa Monica Main Street	2300 Main St	Santa Monica	90405

OBJECT ID #13: SANTA MONICA PARK DRIVE

Location and Vicinity

Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden is located at 1400 Park Dr in the City of Santa Monica. The garden sits within a 0.3 acre parcel owned by the City of Santa Monica. The community garden is split into two sites with Park Drive Park, a pocket park, placed in the middle of the two garden spaces. One garden sits on the north end of the parcel along Park Dr. The other garden space sits on the south end of the parcel at the intersection of Park Dr and Broadway,

Figure 3-**5**.

According to the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) Digital Library, the garden does not fall within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) but is within distance of a DAC.

Figure 3: Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden *(Google Earth, 2023)*

Garden Characteristics

The garden consists of 39 total plots including one ADA accessible plot. The garden is operated by city staff with the support of volunteers. Generally, the city has a large waitlist for its garden plots. There are no plans to extend the gardens into the pocket park or extend the park into the gardens. The north garden has some shading issues due to neighboring buildings and trees from the pocket park. The garden has minor runoff and little to know drainage issues, but there is minor runoff in the north garden as it slopes slightly to the east. Staff expressed that there could be opportunities to increase the site if the city and stakeholders were to consider reconfiguring Park Dr by enlarging the sided walk as it is currently not ADA friendly and enhance the street for active transportation, but there are no plans to do so.

Figure 4: View Of The North Garden From The Pocket Park

Figure 5: View Of The South Garden From The Pocket Park

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data, the site is designated as miscellaneous. The parcel is adjacent to a mix of commercial and residential uses. To the west of the parcel are mostly residential uses and some commercial uses. To the east sits a vehicle dealership designated as a commercial space.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/south-west, as shown in **Figure 6.**

Figure 6: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey GIS database, 100% of the park soil is classified as “Urban land-Anthraltic Xerorthents, loamy substratum-Grommet complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes.” The typical profile of Urban land-Anthraltic Xerorthents soil is defined by loam and clay loam with a general depth ranging from more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of C, with a well-drained drainage classification, and a capacity of the

most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)”. It should be noted that during the preliminary data collection phase the hydrologic soil group classification was null.

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies the Kenter Canyon Drain, maintained by Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) along Broadway. There are two Santa Monica maintained catch basins and a lateral drain on the north-east corner of Park Dr and Broadway that connect to the Kenter Canyon Dr, **Figure 7**.

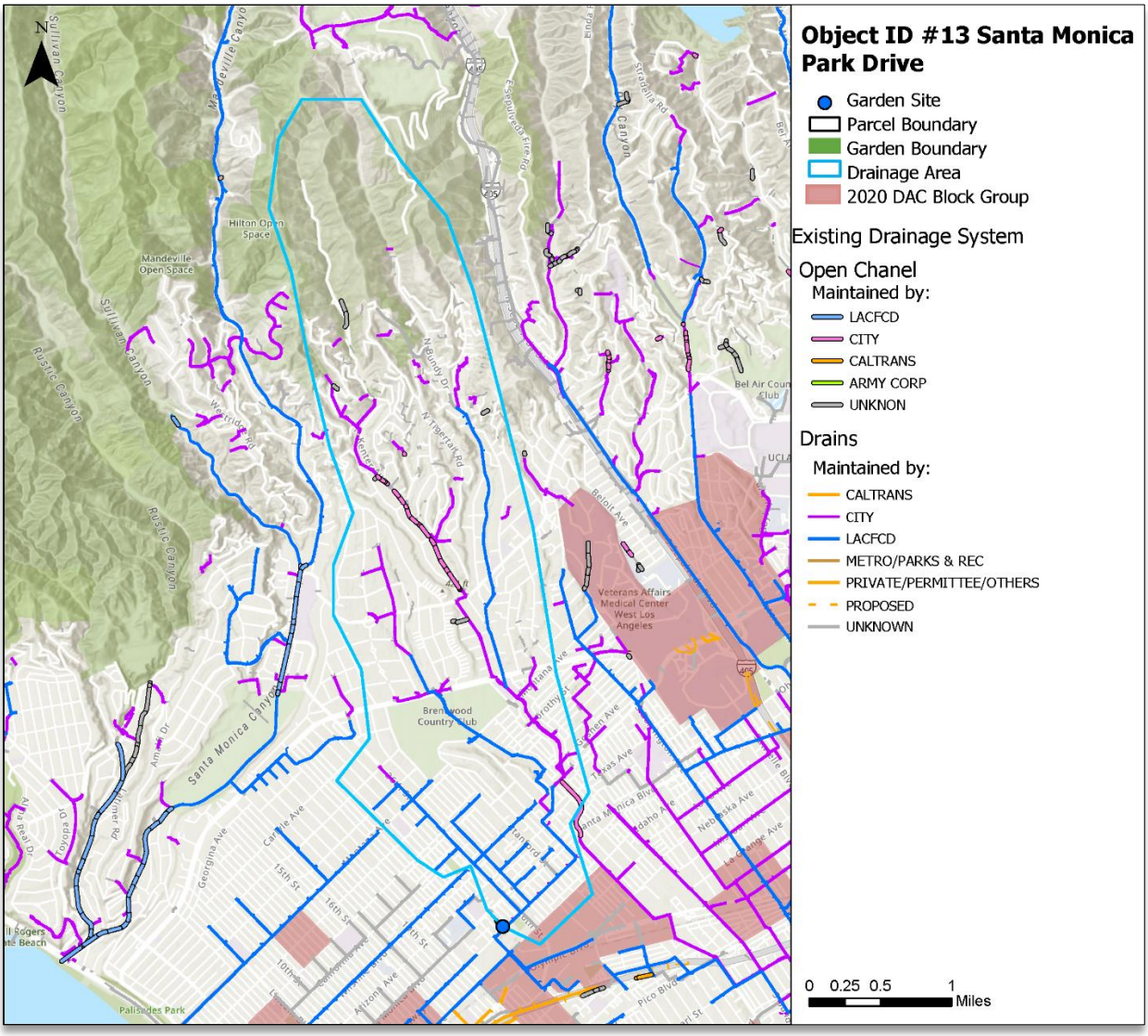


Figure 7: Object ID #13: Santa Monica Park Drive Community Garden And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 135 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (Ewmp): Santa Monica (Jurisdiction 2 & 3)

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (Tmdls): Santa Monica Bay Debris TMDL

Impaired Water Body Or Watershed: Santa Monica Bay

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 2: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	No room	Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Detention Basins	No room	Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	Site is not appropriate for this bmp Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Underground storage /tanks		On site under the paths between garden beds
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	Site is not appropriate for this bmp

Table 3: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	No roof exists	-
Bioretention Cells	-	Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	-	Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs	No roof exists	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens	In between garden beds on paths among units
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	No catch basin exists on site	Site is not appropriate for this bmp
Media Filters	If swale is to be designed for the site	At proposed swale's (if any) outfall
Catch Basin Inserts	No catch basin exists on site	Site is not appropriate for this bmp

OBJECT ID #158: EAST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY GARDEN

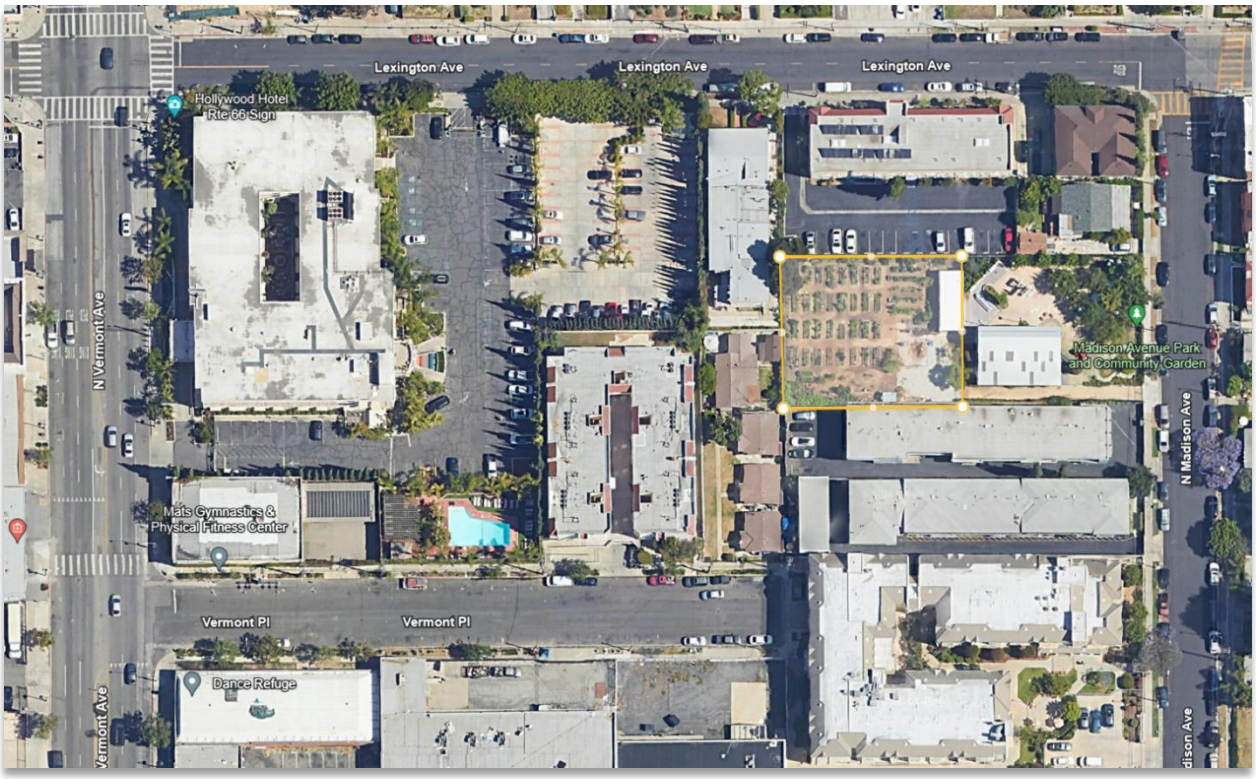


Figure 8: Community Garden Within Madison Ave Community Park *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Location and Vicinity

El Cariso Park Community Garden is located at 1177 N Madison Ave in the neighborhood of East Hollywood in the City of Los Angeles. The community garden sits within a lot made up of 3 parcels. The parcels are shared with the Madison Avenue Park. The garden lies on the west half and the park is in the front east half of the lot, see **Figure 8**.

According to the SCWP's Digital Library, the garden does fall within a disadvantaged community (DAC).

Garden Characteristics

The garden consists of 31 plots. The garden is managed by the Los Angeles Community Garden Council (LACGC) and volunteers. LACGC has a 20-year lease and partnership agreement (11-1150-S6) to manage and operate the community garden from Recreation and Parks. The garden also has a 100 x 100 sq ft structure that serves as the LACGC's headquarters, **Figure 9** . There is a dirt driveway with one ADA-accessible parking space. Members pay $15/month and agree to volunteer two hours a month in order to use their plot. LACGC offers financial assistance for the monthly fee for gardeners who need it. There is about a 35 person waitlist for the site. Some of the biggest concerns include vandalism on the site and excess water usage due to leaks, causing higher water bills. The park also has a large shade structure with a broken rain gutter that leads to the vegetation below it., **Figure 10**.

Figure 10: Park Share Structure With Broken Rain Gutter

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated for residential uses. The site is surrounded by primarily residential uses with some commercial and institutional uses in the immediate area.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-west, as shown in **Figure 11.**

Figure 11: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 100% of the park's soil is classified as "Urban land-Montebello complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes." The typical profile of Urban land-Montebello soil is defined by fine sandy loam with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of C, with a well-drained drainage classification, and a capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as "Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr.)". It should be noted that during the preliminary data collection phase the hydrologic soil group classification was null.

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies a catch basin right at the front of the property that connects to a LA City main line along Madison Ave, **Figure 12**.

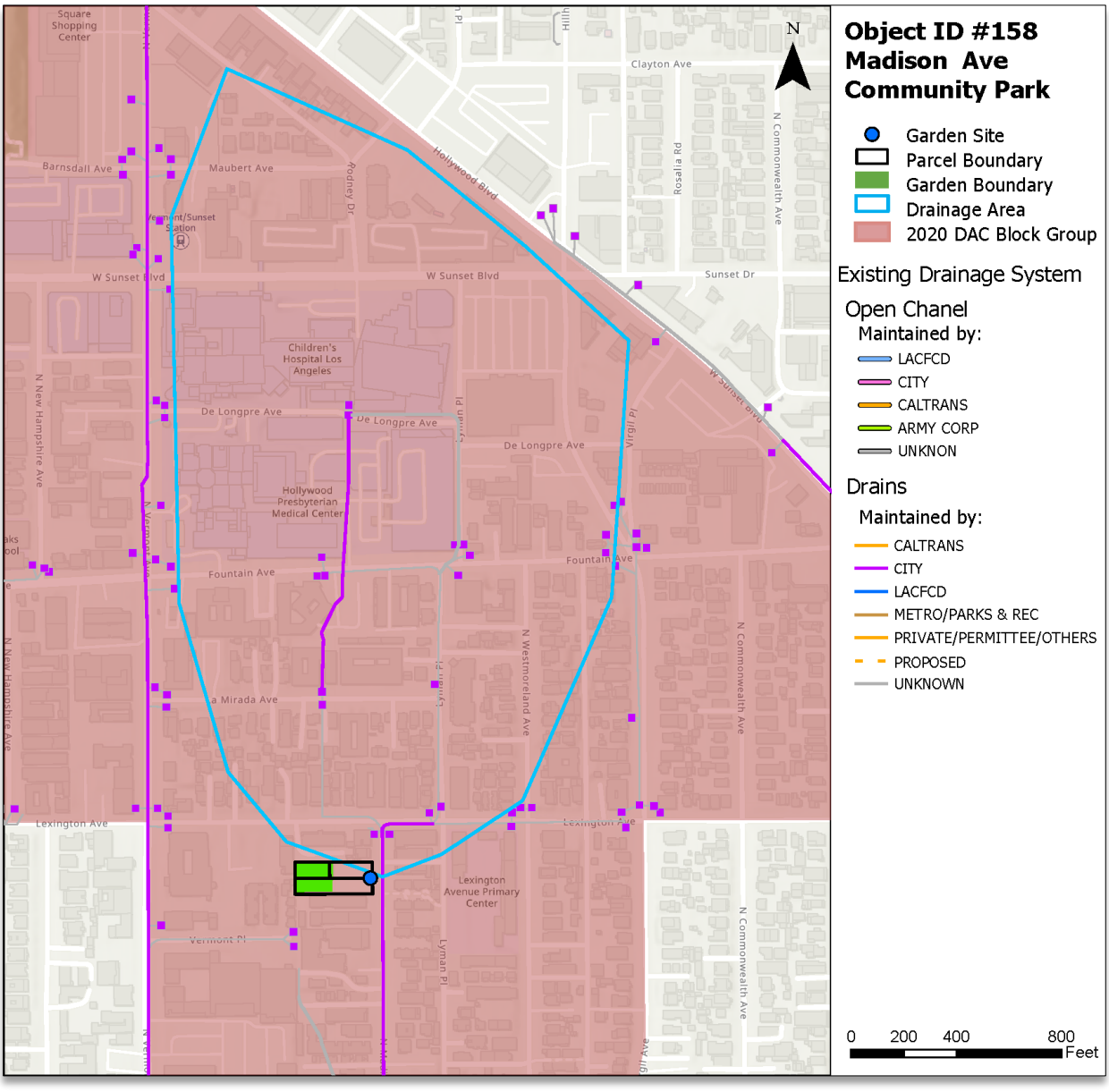


Figure 12: Object ID #158: East Hollywood Community Garden And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 37 ft based on wells within a 3 mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Ballona Creek

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles - Hollywood

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Ballona Creek, Ballona Estuary, and Sepulveda Channel Bacteria

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Ballona Creek Reach 1

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 4: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	No room	-
Detention Basins	No room	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	-
Underground storage /tanks	-	on site under the paths between garden beds
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	-
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	-

Table 5: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	There's a building at the corner of the site that can be used for rainwater harvesting from its roof.	By the building / underground
Bioretention Cells	This can be used in place of a garden bed to capture excess runoff from the site. This site does not seem to have ponding issues during storm events.	On site
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	An infiltration trench can be used around the perimeter of the garden, if this site has ponding issues during storm events	Perimeter of the garden
Green Roofs		- On the roof of existing building
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens.	Between garden beds/paths
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	-	-
Media Filters	-	-
Catch Basin Inserts	-	-

OBJECT ID #230: MAR VISTA COMMUNITY GARDEN

Location and Vicinity

The Mar Vista Community Garden is located at 5075 S Slauson Ave within the City of Los Angeles. The garden does not lie within a parcel but lies within the public right of way shared by the City of Los Angeles and the LACFCD. The site sits at a dead end along Slauson Ave between the Mar Vista Family Center and the Culver/Slauson Park, leading to the Ballona Creek and Ballona Creek Bike Path, see **Figure 13**.

According to the SCWP's Digital Library, the garden does fall within a DAC.

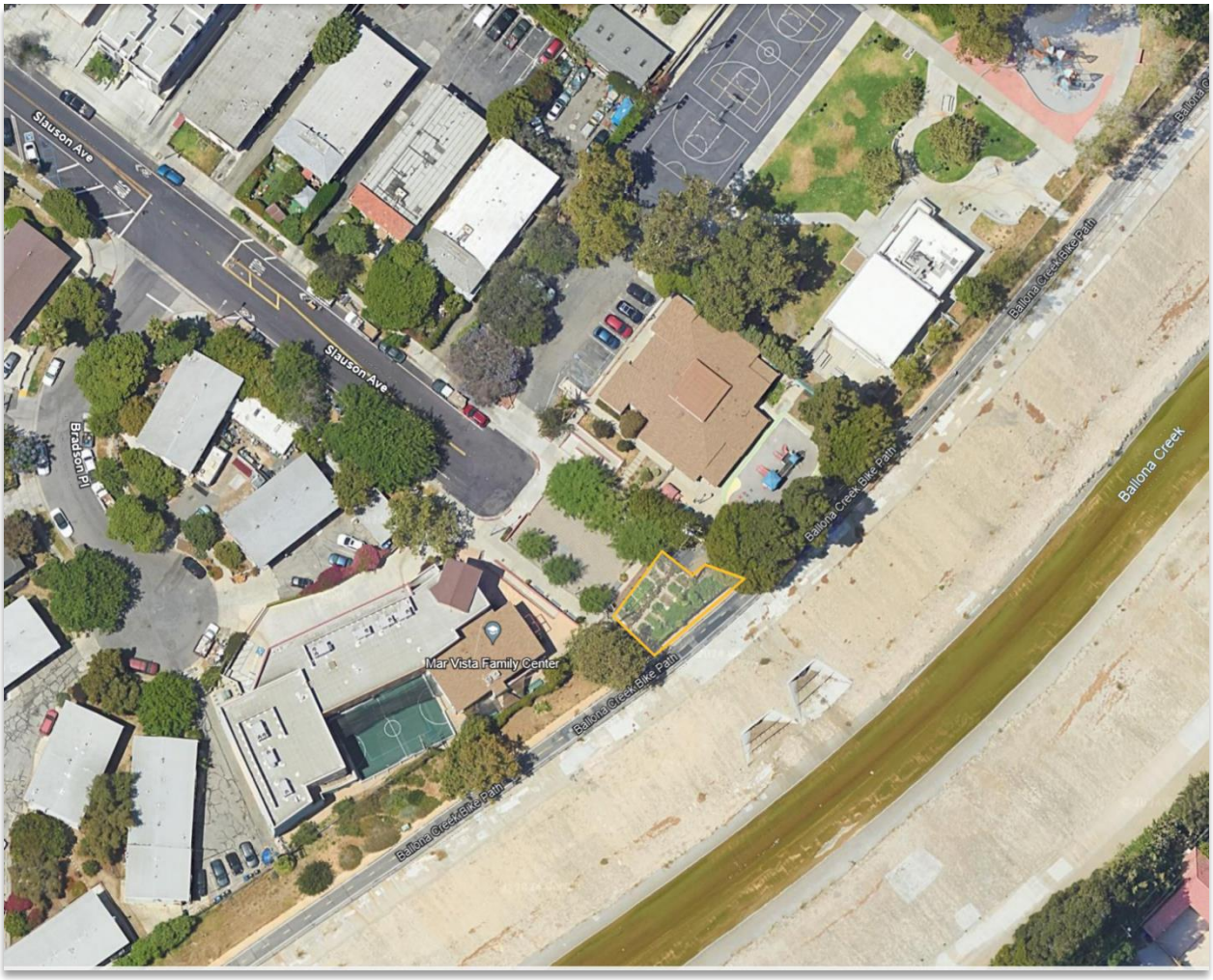
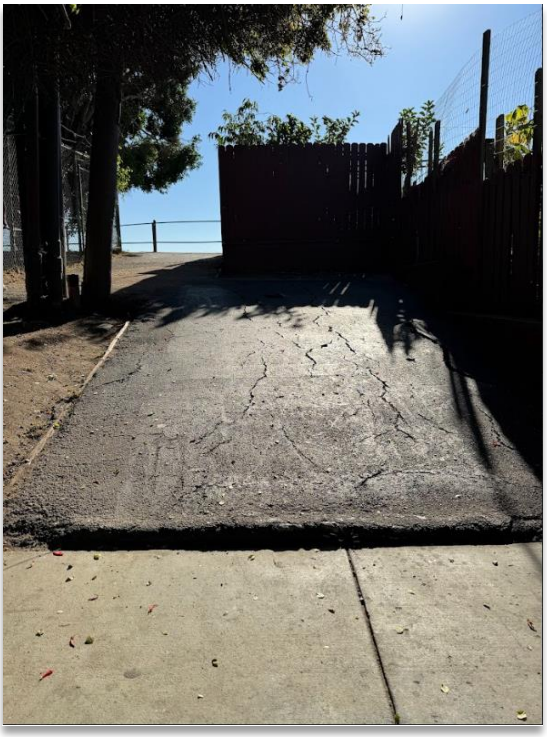


Figure 13: Mar Vista Community Garden *(Google Earth, 2024)*



Garden Characteristics

The garden is run by Vista Family Center staff, who have agreements for use of the space. The Family Center holds strong ties to the community through extensive engagement. The garden space also includes a strip along the bike path owned by LACFCD, known as the wellness garden. The community garden consists of 12-14 plots on a slope used by about ten families. The plots are tiered and bounded by the bike path. There is an access path to the left that allows the public to access the creek, **Figure 14**.

Garden leadership noted that they do have run off issues when it rains heavily. There are also issues related to vandalism, as well as trash and debris that come from the bike path. Additionally, the site experiences high water bills as they have three different meters and three different water bills.

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the community garden does not sit on a parcel but the two adjacent parcels are designated for government uses including the wellness garden along the bike path. All other surrounding parcels are primarily residential uses.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-west, as shown in **Figure 16.**

Figure 16: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 75.9% of the park soil is classified as “Urban land-Anthraltic Xerorthents, loamy substratum-Grommet complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes.” The typical profile of Urban land-Anthraltic Xerorthents soil is defined by loam and clay loam with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of C, with the capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr).” It should be noted that during the preliminary data collection phase the hydrologic soil group classification was null and is considered to be well-drained.

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies two drains with two catch basins under the garden that are maintained by the City of Los Angeles. These drains drain directly out to the Ballona Creek, **Figure 17**.

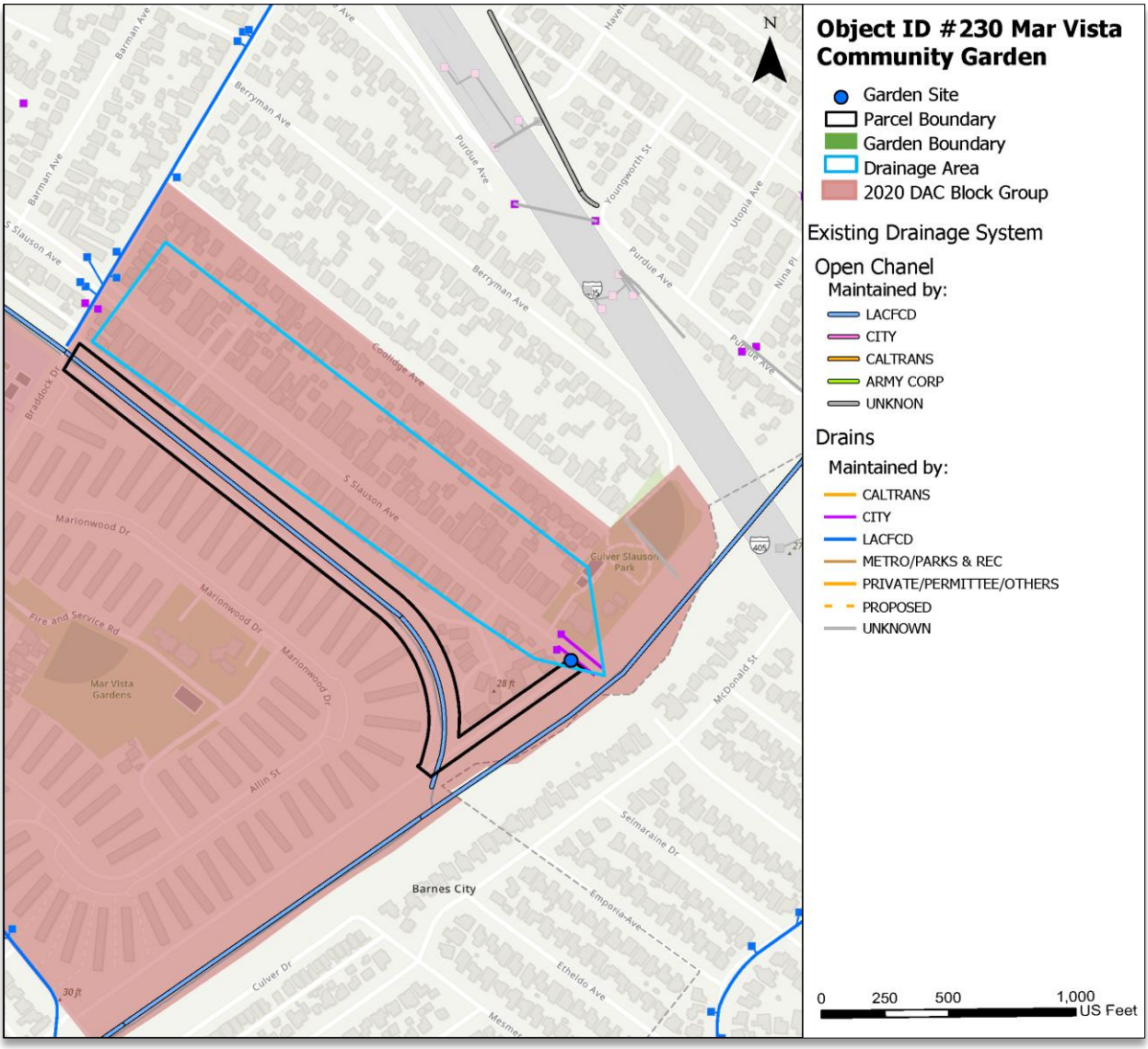


Figure 17: Object ID #230: Mar Vista Community Garden And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 22 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Ballona Creek

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles - Santa Monica Basin

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Ballona Creek, Ballona Estuary, and Sepulveda Channel Bacteria

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Ballona Creek Reach 2

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 6: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	No room	-
Detention Basins	No room	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	-
Underground storage /tanks	-	on site under the paths between garden beds. Or in the pavement adjacent (west) to the site.
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	-
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	-

Table 7: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs		Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns		No roof exists	
Bioretention Cells		This can be used in place of a garden bed to capture excess runoff from the site. This site does not seem to have ponding issues during storm events	Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench			Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs		No roof exists	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements			On site under the paths between garden beds. Or in the pavement adjacent (west) to the site
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)		No catch basin exists on site	-
Media Filters		If swale is to be designed for the site	At proposed swale (if any) outfall
Catch Basin Inserts		No catch basin exists on site	-

OBJECT ID #329: WATTLES FARM

Location and Vicinity

Wattles Farm is located at 1714 N Curson Ave within the City of Los Angeles. The garden sites within a 9-acre parcel. The parcel is considered a historical landmark as part of the Wattles Garden Park. The parcel is owned by the City of Los Angeles.

According to the SCWP's Digital Library, the garden does not fall within a DAC but is within distance of a DAC.

Garden Characteristics

Of the 9 acres the garden takes up 4.2 acres. The garden is operated by the Los Angeles Community Garden Council, who has a contractual agreement with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. The site contains 173 15 x 15 individuals plots with about 300 individuals on site, **Figure 18**. The plots are watered by an older system, which is currently being updated. Since the garden sites on a slope, there is runoff within the site and erosion along parts of the walkway. Garden related events are held often on site. Additional issues include vandalism, eucalyptus trees, and some vermin. There are a large group of elderly gardeners.

Figure 18: Wattles Farm Garden Plots

Figure 19: Wattles Farm *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated as a residential parcel. The site is bounded by primarily other residential uses. Just north of the parcel there is a large government parcel owned by the City of Los Angeles.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-west, as shown in **Figure 20.**

Figure 20: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 69.4% of the park soil is classified as “Capistrano-Urban land complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes.” The typical profile of Urban land-Palmview soil is defined by loam and gravelly sand with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of A, with the capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “High to very high (5.95 to 19.98 in/hr).”

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies multiple catch basins on N Curson Ave connecting to a LACFCD drain. This drain also connects to another LACFCD drain on the south end of the garden along Hollywood Blvd with Los Angeles City catch basins at the intersection of Hollywood Blvd and N Curson Ave, **Figure 21**.

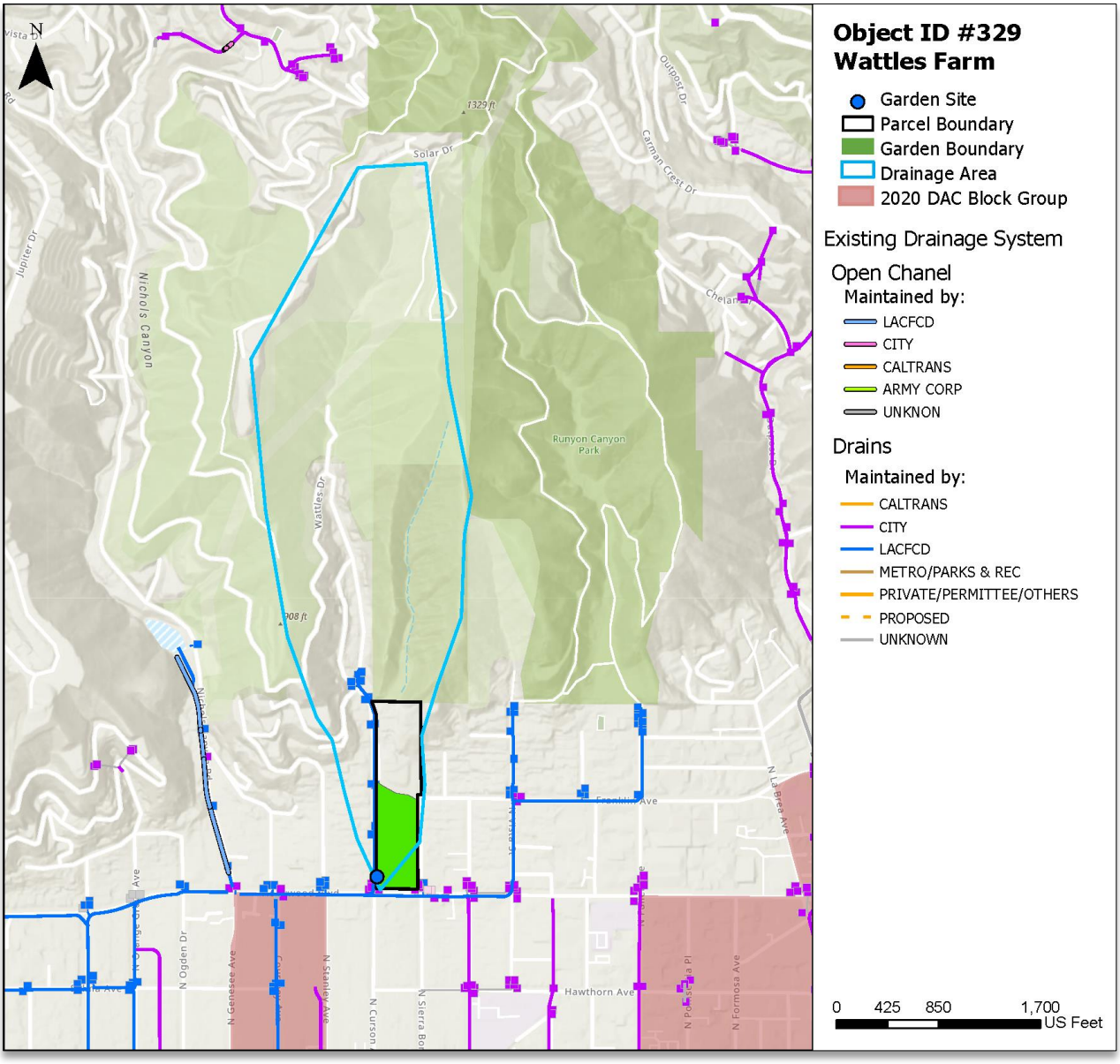


Figure 21: Object ID #329: Wattles Farm And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 12 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Ballona Creek

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles - Hollywood

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Ballona Creek, Ballona Estuary, and Sepulveda Channel Bacteria

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Ballona Creek Reach 1

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 8: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins		-
Detention Basins		-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	-
Underground storage /tanks	-	on site under the paths between garden beds. Green space north of the community garden.
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	-
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	-

Table 9: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	No permanent structures with roofs	-
Bioretention Cells		Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench		Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs	No permanent structures with roofs	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements		Road within the property
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	No catch basin exists on site	-
Media Filters	If swale is to be designed for the site	At proposed swale (if any) outfall
Catch Basin Inserts	No catch basin exists on site	-

OBJECT ID #356: GREYSTONE MANSION DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

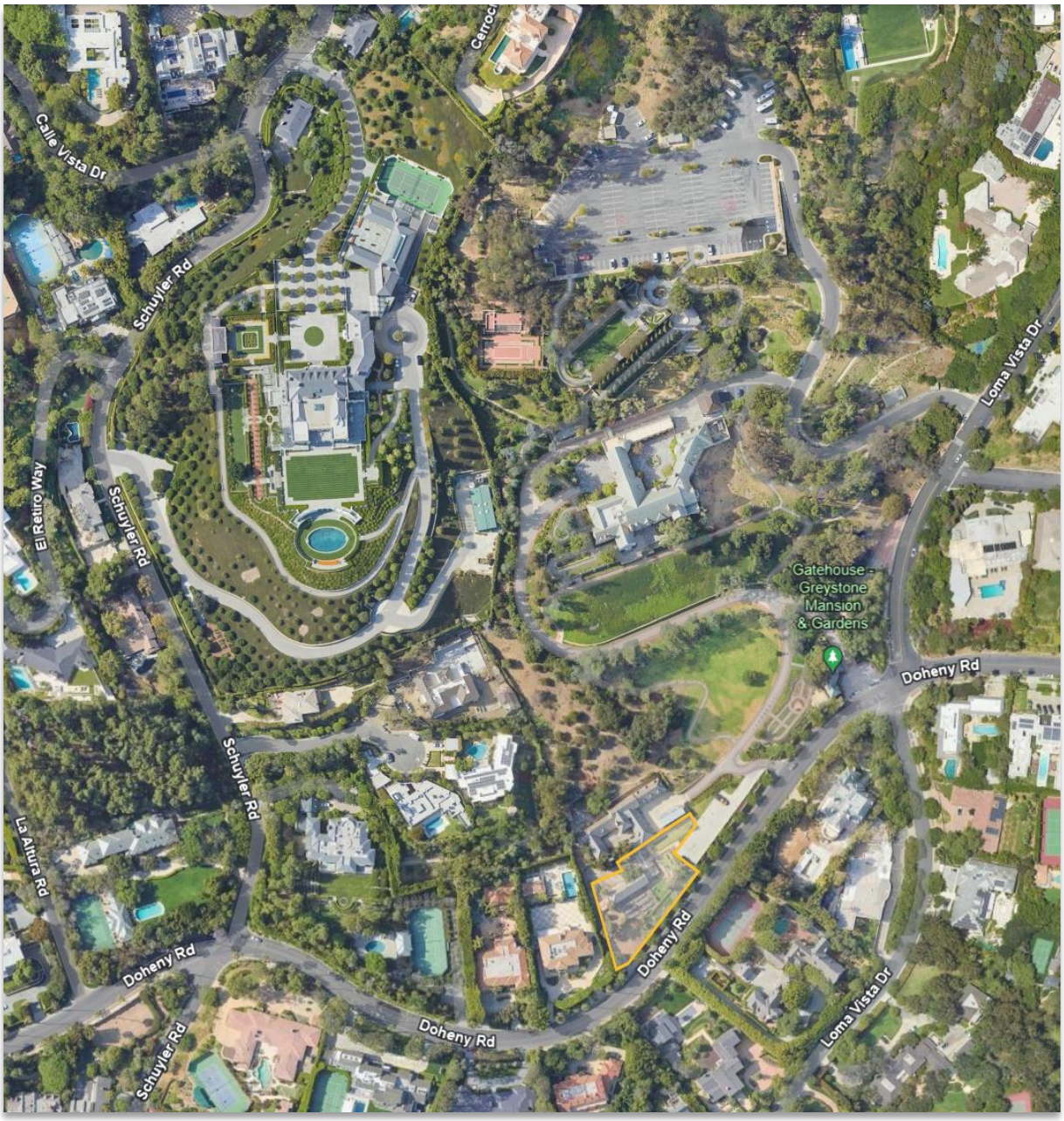


Figure 22: Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Location and Vicinity

Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden is located at 905 Loma Vista Dr in the City of Beverly Hills. The garden sits within a 19-acre property owned by the City of Beverly Hills. The garden is part of a larger historical site operated by the City.

According to the SCWP's Digital Library, the garden does not fall within a DAC.

Garden Characteristics

The garden is run by a volunteer curator and educator, while the site is maintained and operated by the City. The garden serves mostly as an educational garden providing classes to the public. What is harvested is provided to a local farmer's market. Volunteers sign up to maintain the garden weekly and the staff partners with local organizations for enhancements within the garden. The garden curator stated that there are bioswales on the property which are not properly maintained. The structures near the site are dilapidated but the City would like to renovate them. There is a lot of pavement surrounding the garden, and the area sees a lot of runoff from other parts of the parcel due to aging infrastructure and sloped landscape.

Figure 23: Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden

Figure 24: Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden Slope

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated as government. The site is surrounded by primarily residential uses.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-east, as shown in **Figure 25.**

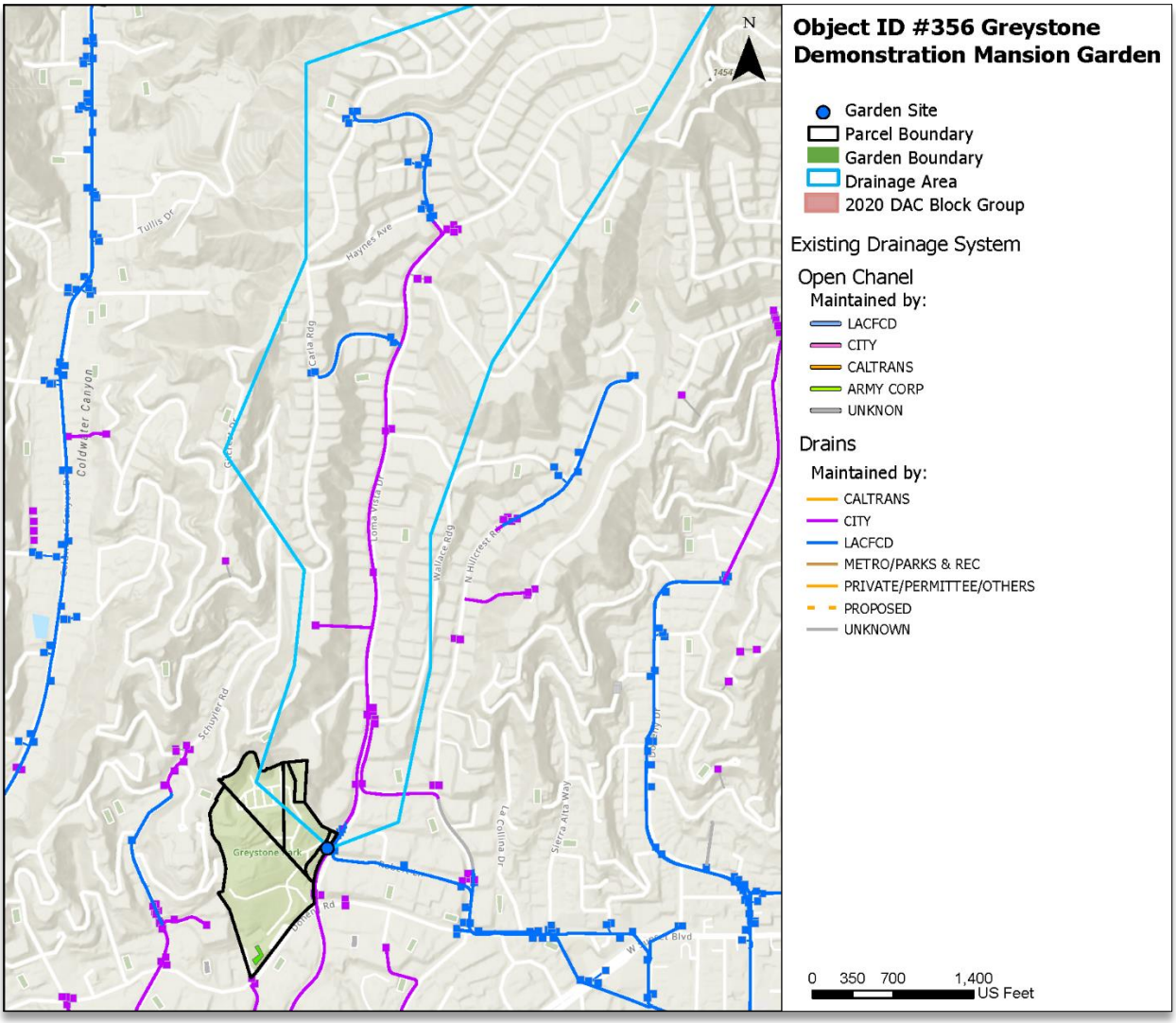
Figure 25: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 69.4% of the park soil is classified as “Urban land-Montebello-Xerorthents complex, 0 to 15 percent slopes”. The typical profile of Urban land-Montebello soil is defined by sandy loam with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of B, with a well-drained drainage classification, and a capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr).”

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies Beverly Hills maintained catch basins on the Southwest corner of the property along Doheny Rd there are Beverly Hills maintained catch basins connected to a Beverly Hills Drain. The parcel is also bounded by City maintained drains.



Object ID #356: Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 13 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Ballona Creek

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles - Hollywood Basin

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Ballona Creek Estuary Toxics TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Ballona Creek or Ballona Creek Estuary (Ballona Watershed)

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 10: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	On site	Site does not seem to have flooding issues, but a basin can be designed in the green spaces on site
Detention Basins	On site	Site does not seem to have flooding issues, but a basin can be designed in the green spaces on site
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands		Not appropriate for the site
Constructed SF Wetlands		Not appropriate for the site
Underground storage /tanks	On site	In the parking lot near the site or larger parking lot on property
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)		At the drainage inlets in the parking lot
Channel Naturalization	On a man-made channel)if exists)	No channel exists on site

Table 11: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns		By the building / underground
Bioretention Cells		On site
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench		At swale/ditch locations
Green Roofs	Not appropriate for the site	
Porous/ Permeable Pavements		Parking lot and roadway within the property
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)		-
Media Filters		-
Catch Basin Inserts	-	Where catch basins are present

OBJECT ID #369: SANTA MONICA MAIN STREET

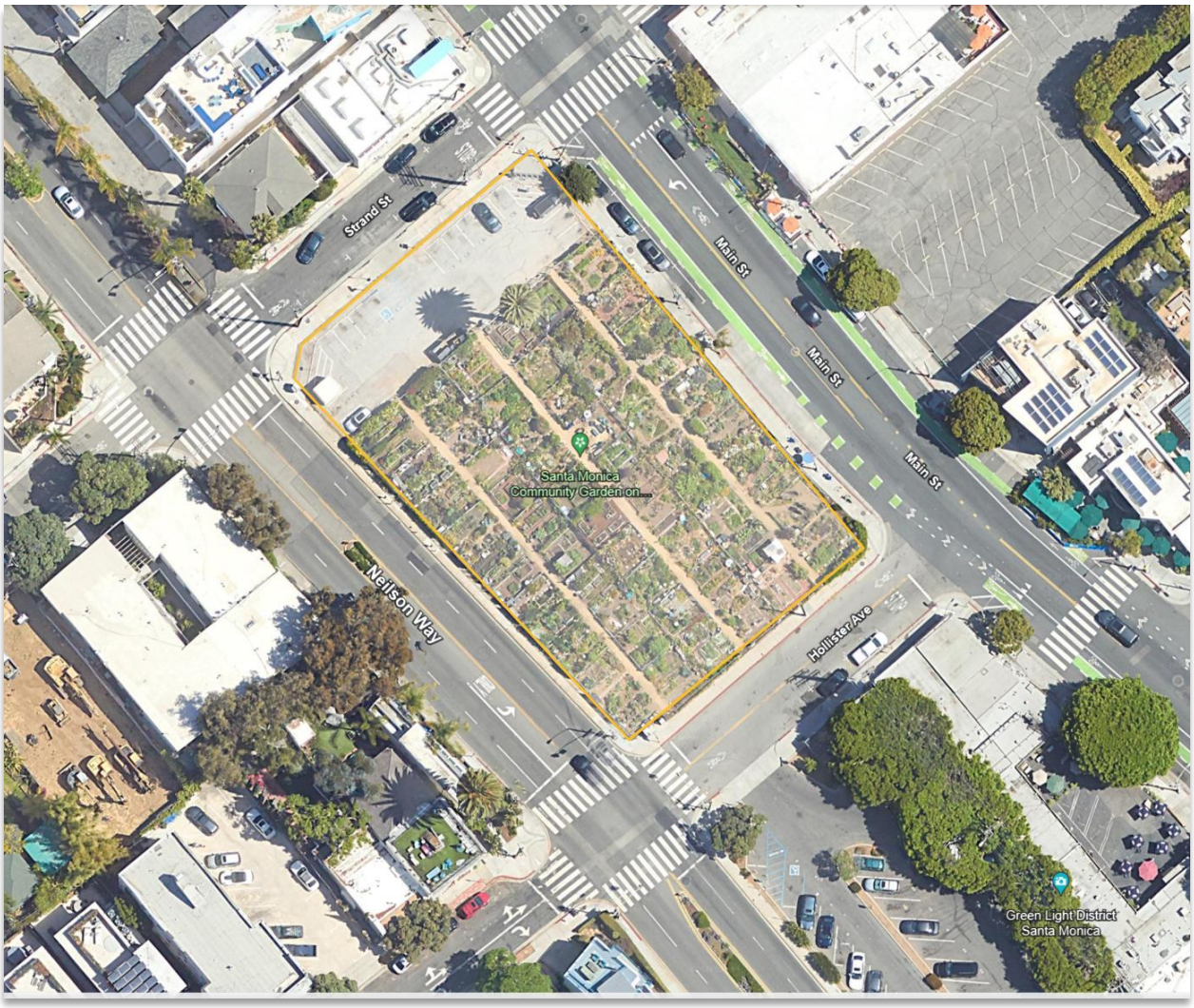


Figure 26: Santa Monica Main Street Community Garden *(Google Earth, 2024)*

Location and Vicinity

The City of Santa Monica's Main St Community Garden is located at 2300 Main St in the City of Santa Monica. The garden sits on a 0.7-acre plot. The garden takes up about 0.6 acres of space. The parcel and garden are owned and maintained by the City of Santa Monica. The garden is bounded by Main St on the Northeast side, Hollister Ave on the South, Neilson Ave on the West, and Strand St on the North.

According to the SCWP's Digital Library, the garden does not fall within a DAC, but is within distance of a DAC.

Garden Characteristics

The garden contains 76 plots used by local residents. The garden has a lengthy waitlist and is a block away from the beach. There is a lot of foot traffic due to its location and proximity to commercial areas and the beach. The garden does face a lot of vandalism because it is so accessible. The garden also contains a public parking lot with 12 parking spaces and one ADA parking space at the north end of the parcel. The parking lot also includes one storage unit used by the City's maintenance staff. There is no through access across the garden as the plots are sectioned off into 4 rows. To get to another section, one needs to leave the site and reenter through another entrance to get to other areas of the garden.

Land Use

According to the Los Angeles County parcel data the site is designated for government use. Surrounding parcels include residential, commercial, and some industrial uses.

Topography

Based on topography, regional groundwater likely flows south/ south-west, as shown in **Figure 20.**

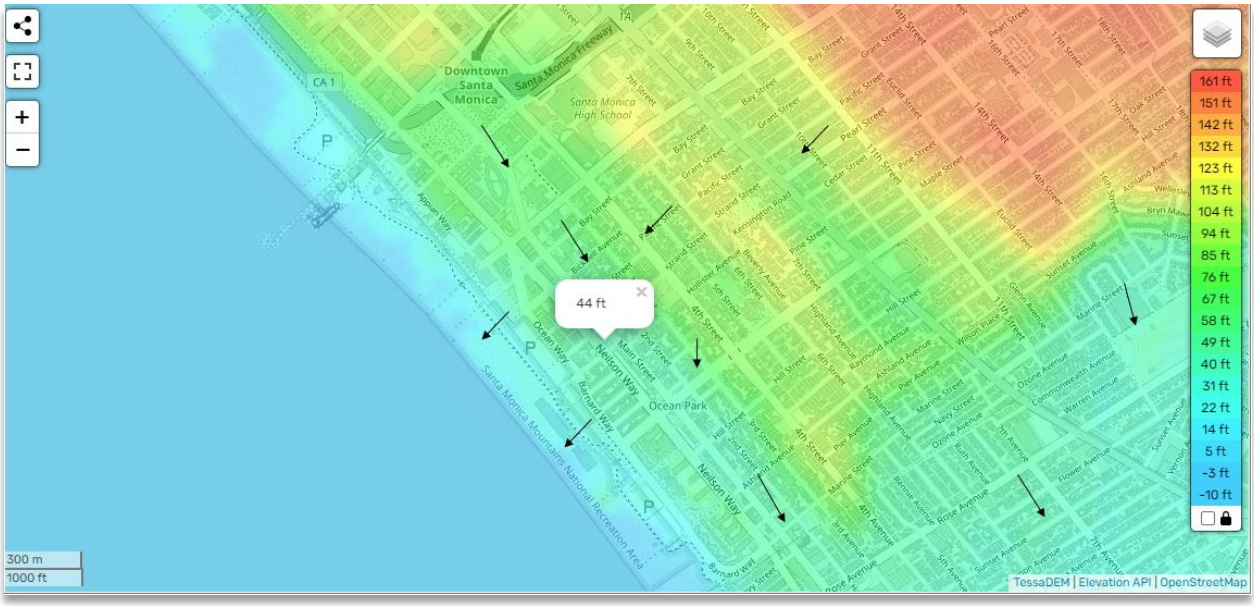


Figure 29: Garden Site Surrounding Topography and Groundwater Flow Direction *(Topographic-map.com, 2024)*

Soils

Pursuant to the NRCS Web Soil Survey GIS database, 83.1% of the park soils is classified as “Urban land-Pierview complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes”. The typical profile of Urban land-Montebello soil is defined as loamy with a general depth ranging more than 80 inches. This soil type is also classified as hydrologic soil group classification of C, with a well-drained drainage classification, and a capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water classified as “Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr).”

Existing Utilities

The Los Angeles County Storm Drain System identifies a LACFCD drain along Main St with LACFCD catch basins on the Southeast corner of the property. Additionally, there are catch basins on the Northwest corner of the property also maintained by the LACFCD that connect to a County drain along Strand St.

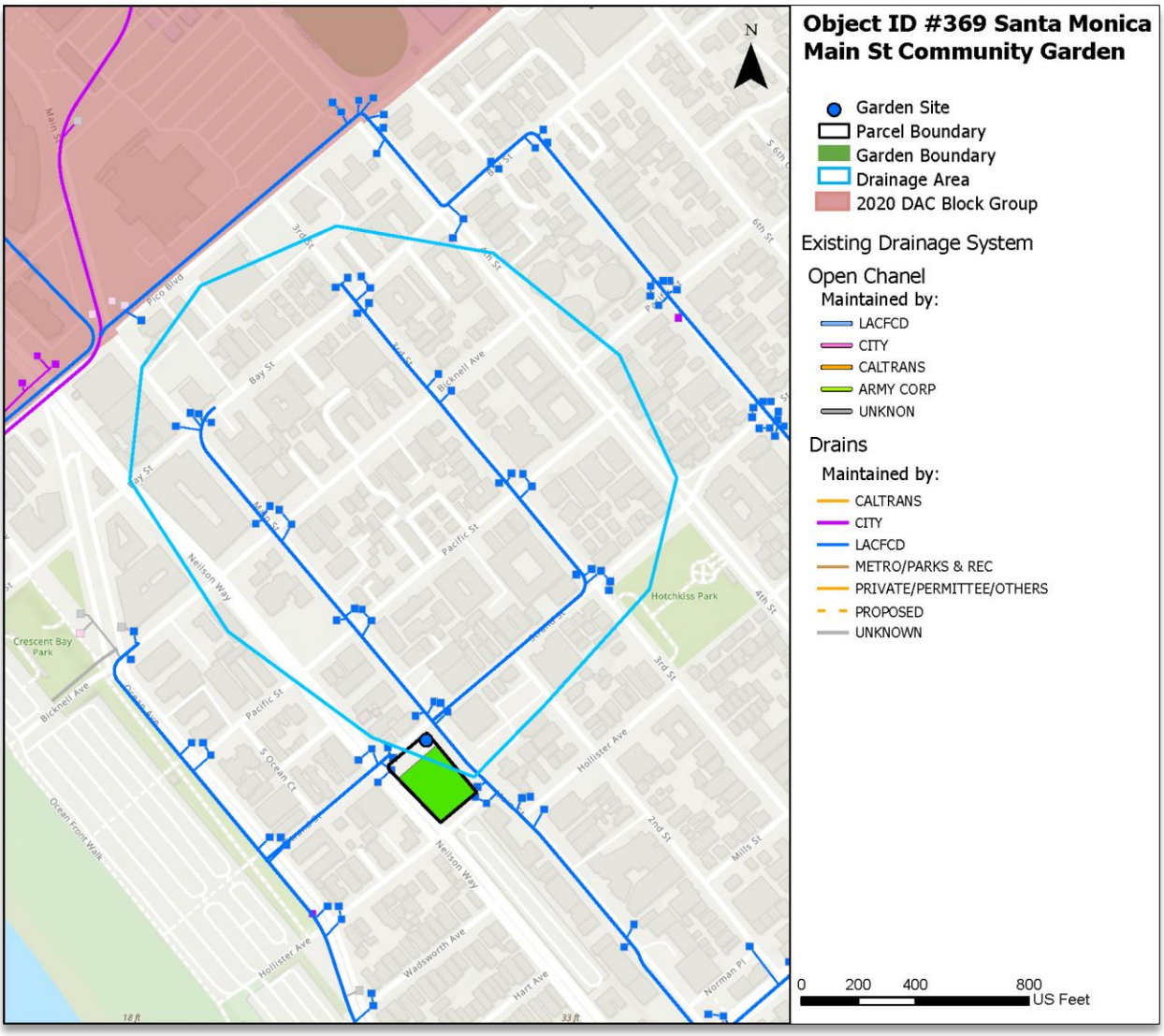


Figure 30: Object Id #369: Santa Monica Main Street Community Garden And Existing Utilities Map

Existing Groundwater Conditions

Estimated Average Well Depth: 140 ft based on wells within a 3-mile radius from the site according to the Los Angeles County Groundwater Wells map.

Water Quality

Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP): Santa Monica

Basin: Coastal Plain Of Los Angeles - Santa Monica

Los Angeles County Watershed: South Santa Monica Bay

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs): Santa Monica Bay Debris TMDL

Impaired Water Body or Watershed: Santa Monica Bay

Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Table 12: Regional BMP List and Review

Regional BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Infiltration Basins	No room	-
Detention Basins	No room	-
Detention w/ SSF Wetlands	No room	-
Constructed SF Wetlands	No room	-
Underground storage /tanks		On site under the paths between garden beds
Hydrodynamic Separators (HDS)	No drainage inlets exist on site	-
Channel Naturalization	No channels exist on site	-

Table 13: Distributed BMP list and Review

Distributed BMPs	Remarks	Potential Locations
Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	No roof exists	-
Bioretention Cells	-	Can be designed in place of a gardening space
Vegetated Swale/Infiltration Trench	There are traces of runoff exiting the site during storm events. An infiltration trench or vegetated swale can keep the runoff on the site as well as providing irrigation to the gardens	Around the perimeter of the site
Green Roofs	No roof exists	-
Porous/ Permeable Pavements	In between garden beds on paths among units to have more stable walkways during heavy storms and to not lose ADA accessibility after storms. Also, we can have perforated pipes to collect water from porous pavers and have it branch out under the gardens to use the collected runoff as irrigation water for gardens	Parking lot adjacent to the garden. In between garden beds on paths among units
Gross-Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs)	-	At catch basin exists on site if any
Media Filters	If swale is to be designed for the site	At proposed swale (if any) outfall
Catch Basin Inserts	-	At catch basin exists on site if any

RECOMMENDED SITES FOR NEXT PHASE

Table 14: Recommended Sites For Next Phase

Object ID	Site Name	DAC Status	Recommended?	Remarks
13	Santa Monica Park Drive	No	**Yes**	City owned, large drainage area, potential for variety of BMPs.
158	East Hollywood Community Garden	Yes	**Yes**	Los Angeles owned parcel. Site may serve one large BMP and variety of smaller BMPs. Falls with a DAC and be considered competitive. Limited green spaces in the area.
230	Mar Vista Community Garden	Yes	**No**	Drainage area too small and garden site is limited. Opportunities can be made if the garden gets lumped with other planned projects either along the bike path , Culver/Slauson Park, or along Slauson.
329	Wattles Farm	No	**No**	Large city owned parcel. Historical designation may cause permitting/CEQA issues. Drainage area may not be large enough to support larger BMPs.
356	Greystone Mansion Demonstration Garden	No	**Yes**	Beverly Hills owned parcel provide opportunities for variety of BMPs. Possible issues related to permitting due to “historical” site.
369	Santa Monica Main Street	No	**No**	Drainage Area too small. For future projects, the city should consider linking the garden with enhancements to nearby parks or bounded corridors.

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