



INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits - An Investment in Community, Green Space & Water Quality Enhancement

CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WATERSHED AREA

APPLICATION TYPE:
DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION/O&M

PRESENTATION DATE:
DECEMBER 2, 2025

PROJECT LEAD:

Natural History Museum of
Los Angeles County
Dana Earl, Senior Director of
Institutional Giving



Project Overview

A multi-benefit community-driven initiative to enhance stormwater quality and improve green space at La Brea Tar Pits in Hancock Park



PROJECT LEAD

Natural History
Museum of Los
Angeles County

SCORING COMMITTEE SCORE

60

PROJECT STATUS

Design

TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED

\$1,980,000

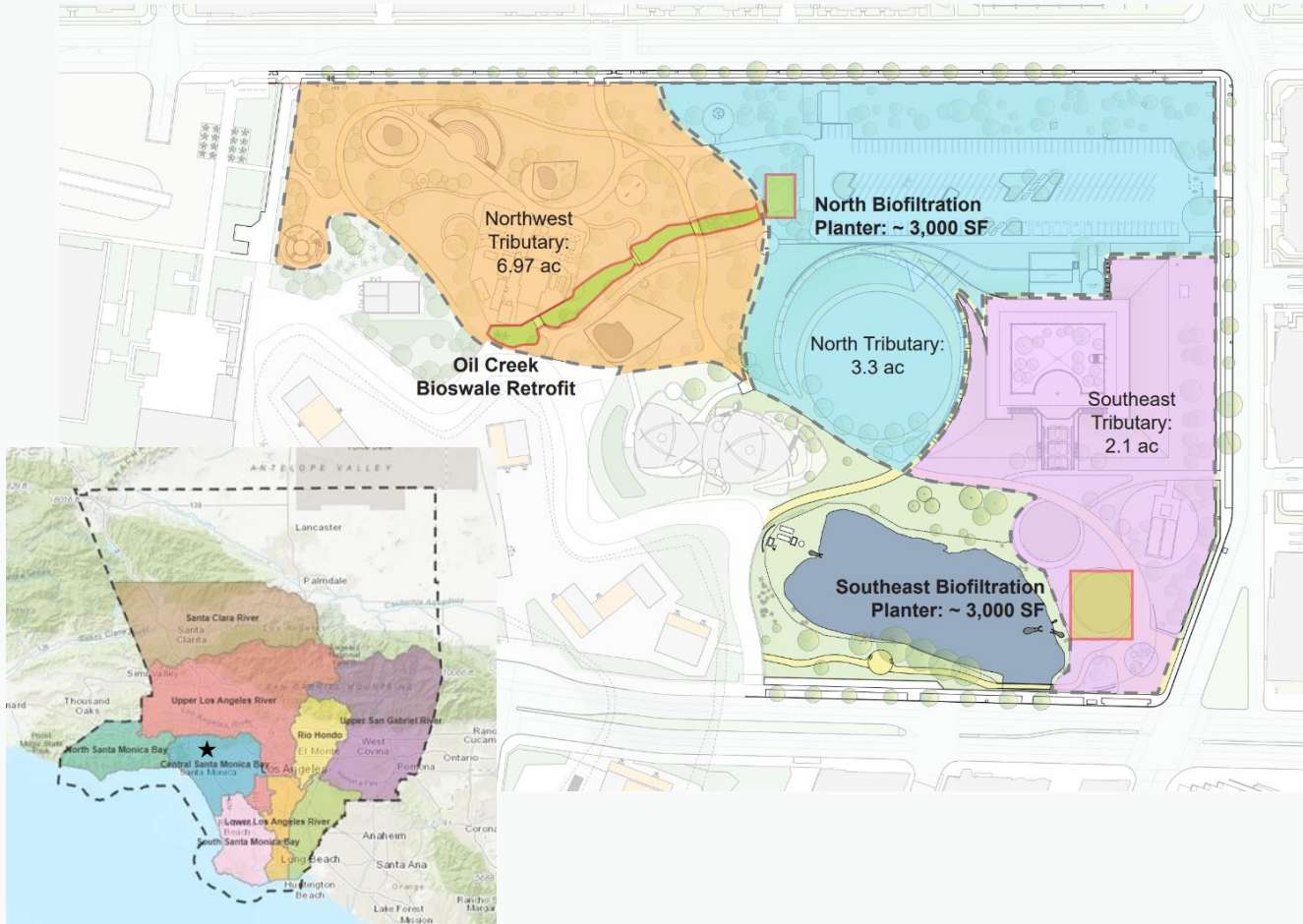
Funding Request Phase(s): Design, Construction, O&M

Previously Awarded Technical Resources Project Concept: No

Previously Awarded Instructure Program Project: No

Project Location

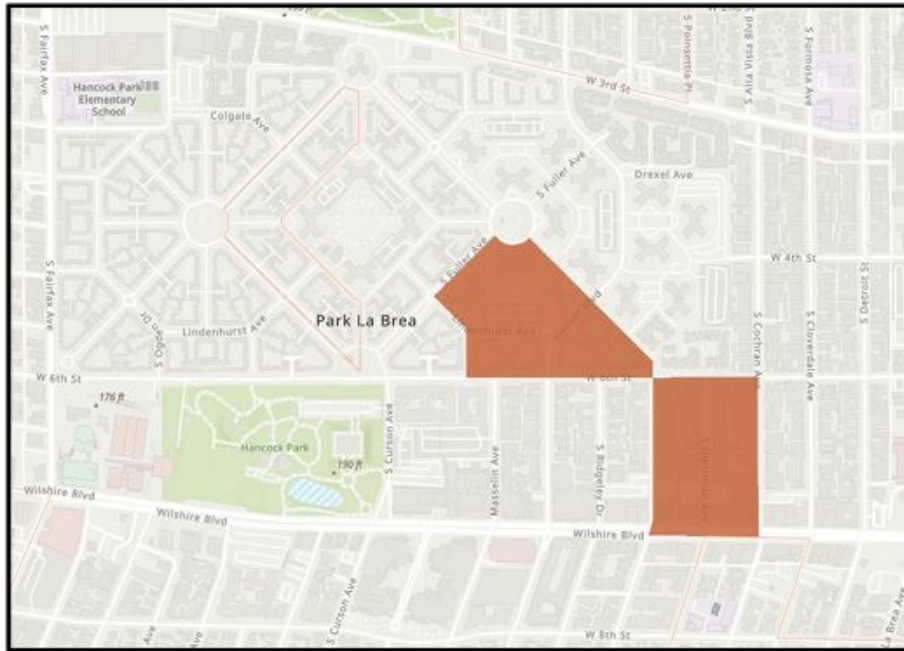
- **Project Location:** 5801 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036
- **Watershed Area:** Central Santa Monica Bay
- **Capture Area:** 12.5 acres
- **Municipality:** City of Los Angeles



Project Location - DAC Benefits

Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

The Project site is adjacent to two severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) Census Block Groups per the Safe Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library. The summative population of these Census Block Groups is over 2,300 people. The Project will provide these same benefits to many others in DACs in the surrounding area who live, work, or visit the site. (See Map #1)



Map 1: The Project site is adjacent to two severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) Census Block Groups per the Safe Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library.

Using the California State Parks Outdoor Equity Community Factfinder tool shows that within a half-mile radius of the Project site that there are more than 17,500 residents who will benefit from the project.

Report for half-mile circle centered on 5801 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Latitude, Longitude: 34.06258100, -118.35507400

Address at these coordinates: Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90036

[Download XLSX Report](#)

Income and Poverty

\$101,893 Median Household Income
106.7% of California Statewide Average Median Household Income

\$75,622 Per Capita Income
126.7% of California Statewide Average Per Capita Income

2,622 People in Poverty
17,505 Total People

Parks and Car Access

23.11 Parks Total Area (acres)

1.32 Park Acres per 1,000 People

928 Households without access to a car

Population

17,505 Total Population

2,476 (14.1%) Under 18 years

13,235 (75.6%) 19 to 64 years

1,794 (10.2%) 65 years and over

Population by age category



Report # 114758 generated on 2025-07-20 @ 11:17

Report Map

To update your report location and automatically run a new report, click on the map, drag and drop the map marker, or use the arrow buttons. Each click of an arrow button will move the project location approximately 158.3 meters (519.4 feet) in the direction indicated on the button. You may also use the plus/minus zoom buttons to zoom in two zoom levels or out one zoom level from your project location.



This map shows a half-mile radius around your report location. The map includes layers showing parks and open space and disadvantaged communities. There are currently 12 parks on the map. The current zoom level is 14. The website content below gives a more detailed map description.

Map #2: The Project site will benefit more than 17,500 residents who live within a half-mile radius of the project. (Source: California State Parks Outdoor Equity Community Factfinder)

Project Background

Location Selection, Development, and Benefits

- La Brea Tar Pits is a National Natural Landmark and recognized as an IUGS International Geological Heritage site
- Plans to update began in 2019 and community engagement will continue throughout the project and beyond
- SCWP project designed to address stormwater challenges
- Multibenefit project:
 - Biofiltration, native plants, and local flood mitigation
 - Ongoing engagement with CBOs, schools, and Native American Advisory Committee
 - Public education about SCWP
 - High-visibility



Partners

NHMLAC has conducted a public outreach process, and the project is supported by community and school partners including Heart of Los Angeles, Korean American Family Services, Inc., Los Courage Camps, Los Fotos Project, Gabriella Charter Schools #2 and Open Magnet Charter School. NHMLAC also created a Native American Advisory Committee as thought-partners and co-creators. The City of Los Angeles provided a letter of non-objection on July 2, 2025. Further outreach and collaboration is anticipated as project progresses.

NHMLAC will be responsible for Project O&M.



Project Details

Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits Campaign

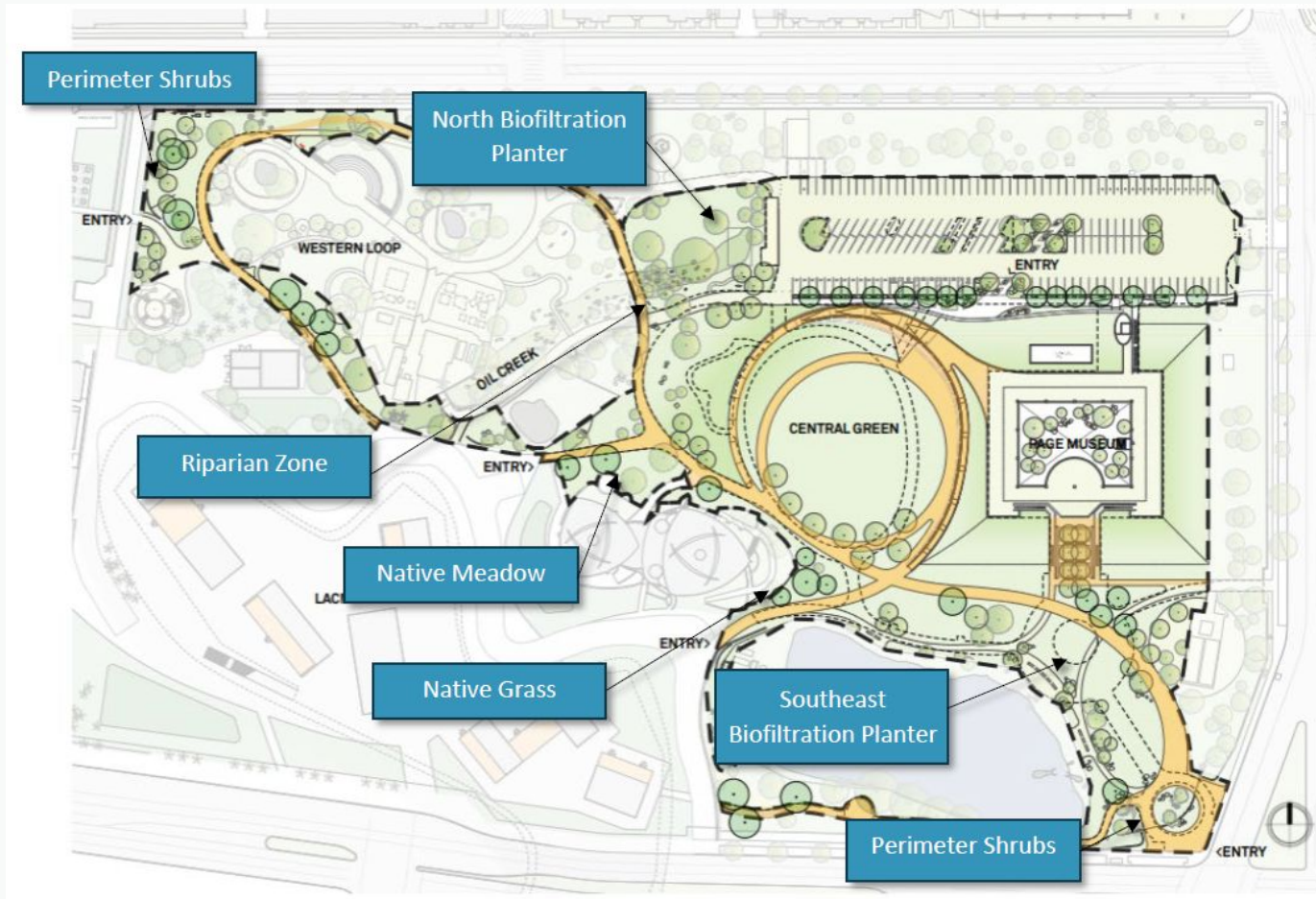
- ✓ EIR was approved in February 2025
- ✓ More than 50% of total campaign goal raised
- ✓ 65% design completed in July 2025
- ✓ Construction Documents completed
- ✓ On schedule to break ground in Fall 2026
- ✓ Community-informed design
- ✓ Native American Advisory Committee

Safe Clean Water Program Funding Request

- Detail design, construction and O&M for the following elements:
 - Biofiltration
 - Native Plants & Trees
- Community Engagement & Outreach



Project Schematic



- 4,500 sq-ft of biofiltration area treating 1.5x 85th percentile, 24-hour storm runoff.
- Landscape improvements: including 27,000 sq-ft perimeter shrubs, 30,200 sq-ft native meadow, 9,700 sq-ft native grass, 31,100 sq-ft riparian, and 132 new trees.

Note: 132 new trees is an increase from 103 new trees in July 2025 proposal

Project Impacts

- Public Education and Outreach to more than 400,000 annual visitors
- Field Trips serve more than 40,000 students and teachers each year
- Active paleontological site that offers internships to 40 students annually



Project Renderings



Renderings depict an aerial view of the reimagined La Brea Tar Pits (above); western side of the George C. Page Museum will be opened up and visible to the public with an added ADA ramp to the rooftop terrace (upper right); and the new outdoor classroom will be located at the current entrance to the museum (lower right).



Cost and Schedule

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	COST	COMPLETION DATE
Planning	Includes the master plan and EIR preparation	\$832,000	6/30/2025
Design	Includes CD preparation, client review, and plan check	\$800,000	9/23/2026
Bid & Award	CMAR Selection GMP Development	\$50,000	9/23/2026
Bid & Award	Public Outreach	\$150,000	9/23/2026
Construction	Construction costs includes the cost of labor, equipment, material, plus overhead, escalation, and contingencies.	\$1,081,000	6/30/2028
Monitoring	Post construction stormwater BMP monitoring	\$21,000	12/31/2030
O&M	4 years project maintenance, including labor and material	\$1,027,000	6/30/2031
TOTAL COST		\$3,961,000	

Cost and Schedule (Continued)

ANNUAL COSTS	
Annual Maintenance Cost	\$285,000
Annual Operation Cost	\$0
Monitoring Costs	\$0

LIFE-CYCLE COSTS	
Project Life Span	30 Years
Total Life-Cycle Cost	\$9,285,797.79
Annualized Life-Cycle Cost	\$497,005.23

Cost Share

TYPE OF COST SHARE	FUNDING AMOUNT	PHASE	COST SHARE STATUS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Other Funding	\$832,000	Planning	Commitment received and PAID By NHMLAC	Master planning, EIR, Surveys & Reports, Community Engagement, Consultant Fees. Calculated as a percentage of total sitework costs.
Other Funding	\$550,000	Design	Commitment received and PAID By NHMLAC	Design includes CD preparation, client review & Plan Check
Other Funding	\$75,000	Bid & Award	Commitment received and to be paid by NHMLAC Jan 2026 - Sept 2028.	CMAR Selection GMP Development, Public Outreach during bid & award and construction phases.
Other Funding	\$10,500	Monitoring	To be paid Jan 2028 - Dec 2030 by NHMLAC	Post-construction stormwater BMP monitoring.
Other Fundings	\$513,500	4-year O&M	To be paid Jan 2028 - Dec 2031 by NHMLAC	4 years of project maintenance including labor and materials.

- **Total Cost Share: \$1,981,000**
- **Leveraged Funding Percentage: 50%**

Funding Request

YEAR (FISCAL YEAR)	SCW FUNDING REQUEST	PHASE	EFFORTS DURING PHASE AND YEAR
1 (FY26-27)	\$825,000	Design \$250K Bid & Award \$50K Construction \$500K Bid & Award \$25K	Final design, owner review, plan check CMAR selection GMP development Construction Year 1 Outreach - Groundbreaking & quarterly community events
2 (FY27-28)	\$695,500	Construction \$581K Monitoring \$3.5K O&M \$86K Bid & Award \$25K	Construction Year 2 Post-construction monitoring Landscape Inspection & Maintenance Outreach - Advisory Council Meetings & quarterly events
3 (FY28-29)	\$171,000	Monitoring \$3.5K O&M \$142.5K Bid & Award \$25K	Post-construction monitoring Landscape Inspection & Maintenance Outreach - grand reopening, advisory council & quarterly events
4 (FY29-30)	\$146,000	Monitoring \$3.5K O&M \$142.5K	Post-construction monitoring Landscape Inspection & Maintenance
5 (FY30-31)	\$142,500	O&M \$142.5K	Landscape Inspection & Maintenance
TOTAL	\$1,980,000		

- **Potential Future SCW Funding Request:** No

Metrics & Measures

	PROJECT BENEFIT METRICS	METRIC
Improve Water Quality	Zinc load reduction (lbs/year)	3 lbs / year
	Total Phosphorus load reduction (lbs/year)	3 lbs / year
Increase Drought Preparedness	Increase Local Water Supply through Stormwater Capture (ac-ft/year)	n/a
	Increase local supply through groundwater recharge and storage (ac-ft/yr)	n/a
Improve Public Health	Net area of park and green space created (acres)	0.25 acres
	Net area of green space at schools created (acres)	n/a
	Net area of park enhanced or restored (acres)	5.3 acres
	Net area of canopy, cooling, and shading surfaces (acres)	0.984 acres
	Net new trees planted	132
Deliver Multi-Benefit Projects	Net area of habitat created, enhanced, restored, protected (acres)	3.36 acres
Promote Green Jobs & Career	Annual Full Time Equivalent Jobs Created	27.21

Final Score by Scoring Committee



Water Quality



Water Supply



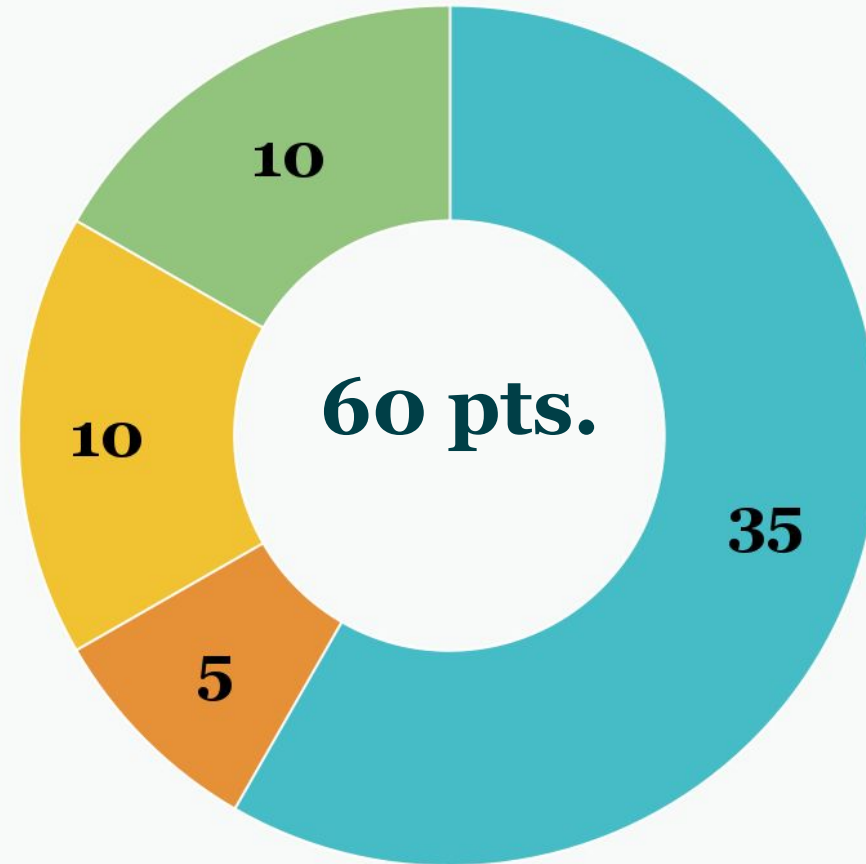
Community Investment
Benefits



Nature Based Solutions



Leveraged Funds and
Community Support



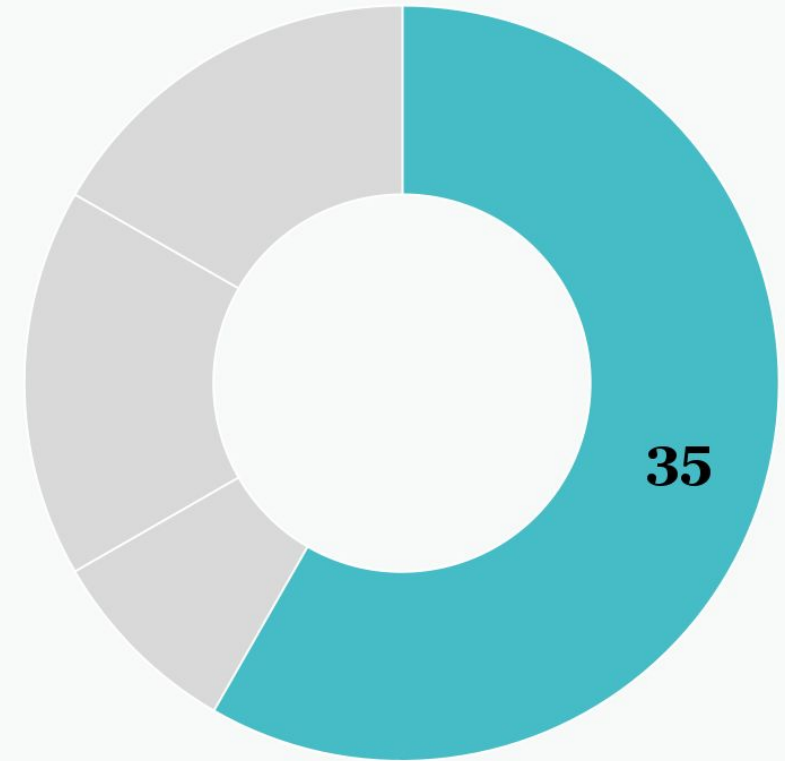
* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Score Breakdown



Water Quality

- Biofiltration BMPs
- Wet Weather Project
- Tributary Area = 12.5 acres
- 24-hr Capacity = 0.34 feet/year
- Pollutant Reduction: 81.8% Zinc and 85.9% Copper reduction
- Water Quality Cost Effectiveness: 0/312 ac-ft/\$M Construction Costs
- Selected pilot for Water Quality scoring



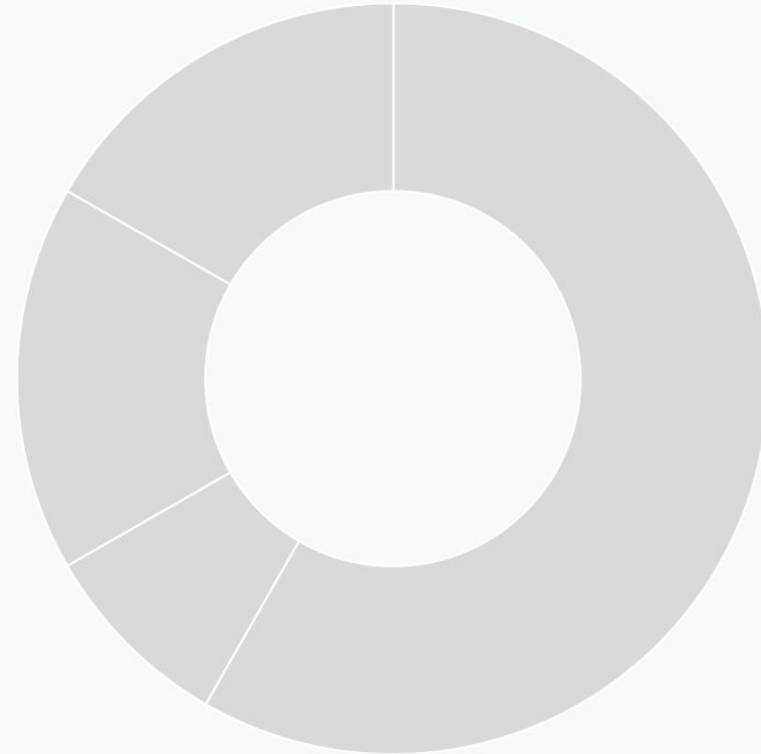
* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Score Breakdown



Water Supply

- Annual Water Supply Volume: 0 acre-feet/year
- Selected pilot for Water Supply scoring



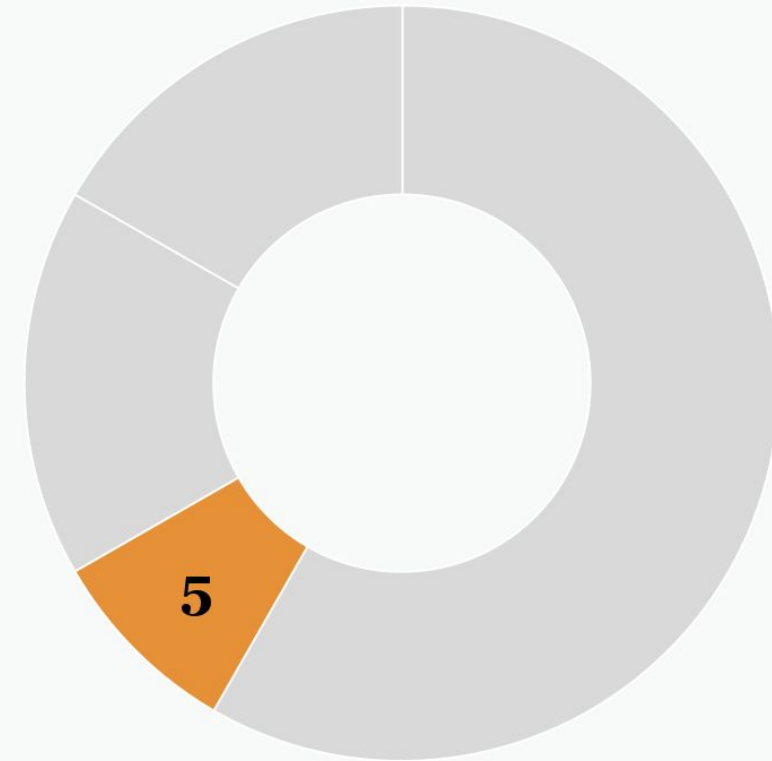
* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Score Breakdown



Community Investment Benefits

- Create, enhance, or restore park space, habitat, or wetland space
- Create or enhance new recreational opportunities
- Reduce heat local island effect and increase shade
- Increase shade or the number of trees or other vegetation at the site location



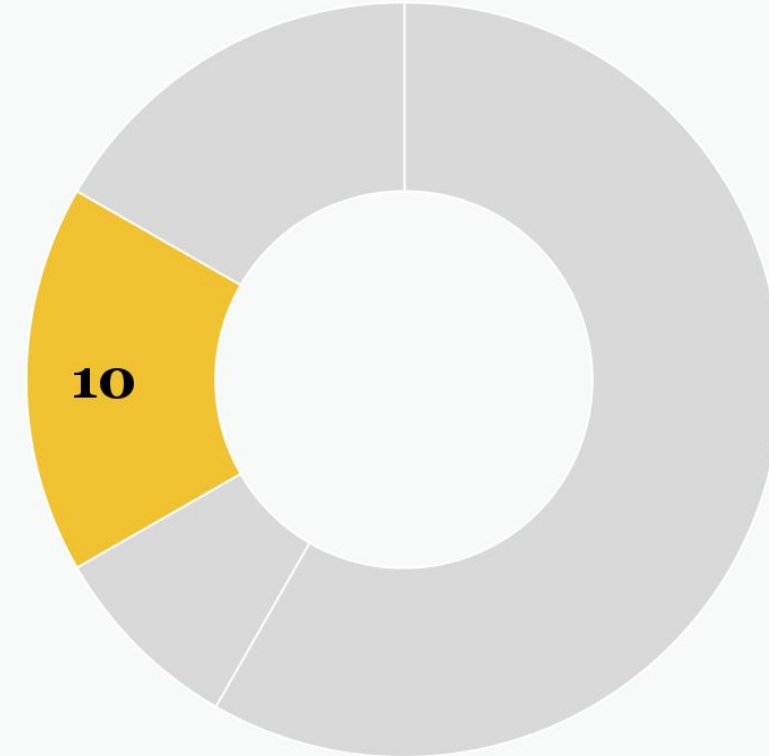
* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Score Breakdown



Nature-Based Solutions

- Integrate multiple nature-based solutions within La Brea Tar Pits to closely mimic natural hydrological processes
- Utilize natural materials with a strong emphasis on soil health and California native vegetation as foundational components of its nature-based design
- Net reduction of 740 square feet of impervious surface



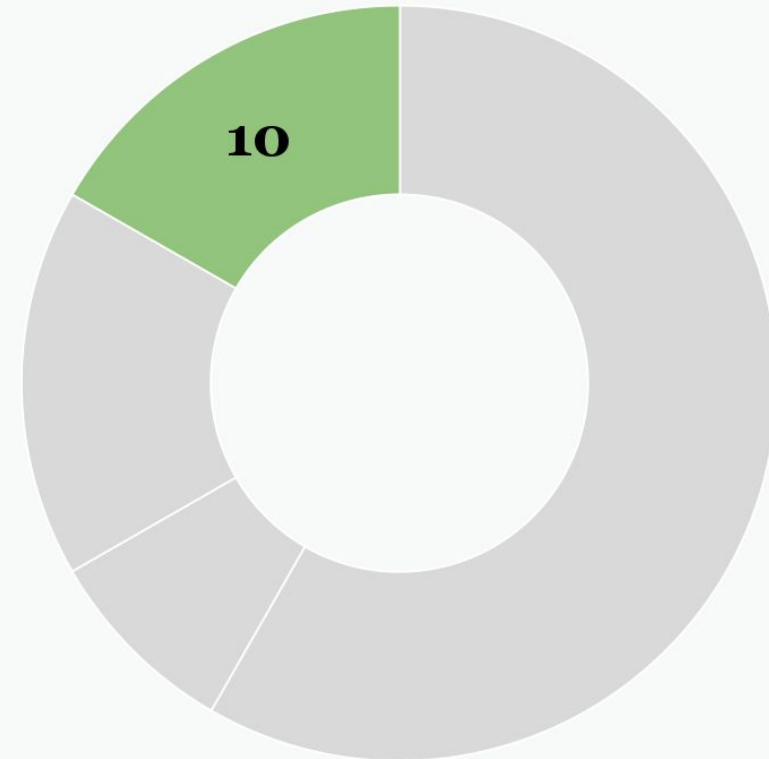
* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Score Breakdown



Leveraged Funds and Community Support

- Total leveraged funding amount = \$1,981,000
- 50% Funding matched
- As part of this work, the NHMLAC Community Engagement Team actively listens and co-creates with Community Partners with the primary goal of building relationships and moving into long-term, meaningful relationship-building practices.
- Six letters of support from community partners and school partners including Heart of Los Angeles, Korean American Family Services, Inc., Los Courage Camps, Los Fotos Project, Gabriella Charter Schools #2 and Open Magnet Charter School.



* The Scoring Committee confirmed this score on October 27, 2025.

Thank You

QUESTIONS?

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