

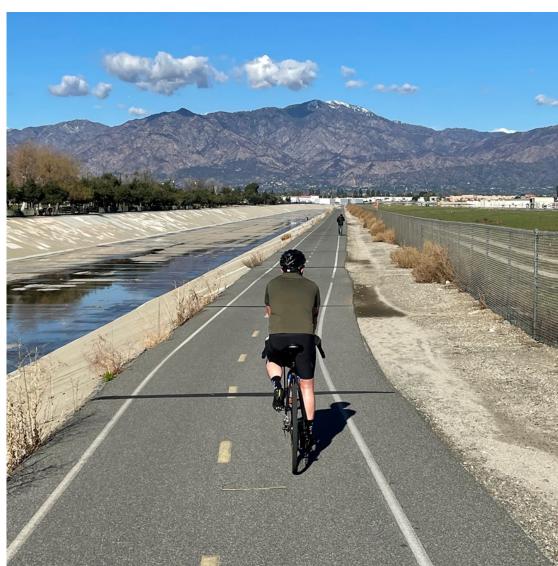
# The San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Strategic Implementation Plan



## Welcome



- Agenda
  - Introduction
  - Schedule Update
  - SGVGN Plan Update
    - Tributary Narratives Overview
    - Opportunities and Constraints Diagrams
  - Community Engagement Update
  - Asks of the Steering Committee
  - Next Steps



## **Schedule Update**





### Plan Development – Efforts & Studies

Aug 2019 - Jul 2020

• Existing Studies & Plan Compilation

### Plan Development - Existing Conditions

Jan 2020 - Jun 2022

- Database of Projects, As-Builts, and Potential Gaps
- Channel Geometric Characteristics and Design Flows
- County Channels GIS mapping

#### Database & GIS Maps

Apr 2020 - Nov 2021

- GIS Database
- Regulatory Roadmap
- GIS Mapping

#### Develop Greenway Network Plan

Apr 2020 - Summer 2022

- Tributary Maps
- Project Priority Matrix
- Bike Path Alternatives
- Potential Project List
- Conceptual Designs for Each Watershed
- Guidelines & Standards
- Greenway Network Plan

#### Plan Development – Environmental Documents

Nov 2021 - Fall 2022

- Environmental Strategy
- EIR/EIS



#### **Public Engagement & Community Meetings**

Nov 2019 - Summer 2022

- Graphic Standards
- Community Engagement Plan
- Community Workshops
- Pop-Up Events
- Audience Messaging
- Website
- Web-Based Survey







#### **Steering Committee Meeting**

Today - Project Completion

## **SGVGN Plan Update**





## **Tributary Narratives Overview**



## TRIBUTARY NARRATIVE

#### **OVERVIEW**

- Alhambra Wash is a 4.7 miles tributary which weaves through a complex urban and suburban fabric and diverse communities.
- Alhambra Wash runs through San Gabriel, Alhambra, Rosemead, as well as unincorporated Los Angeles County.
- Alhambra Wash is rich with potential activity generators, connecting to many potential destinations including commercial/retail areas along Las Tunas Dr and Valley Blvd.
- Garvey Park, Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, and Vincent Lugo Park also serve as potential opportunities in the form of connections and activity generators.
- Schools adjacent to the tributary include: San Gabriel Mission Elementary, Richard Garvey Intermediate, Eldridge Rice Elementary, and Saint Therese Catholic.
- Few existing bikeway connections exist in the area aside from the Rio Hondo bike path to the south.
- A multi-use path along the utility easement between Graves Avenue and the Union Pacific Right-of-way was proposed by the Southern California Association of Governments' Regional Transportation Plan in 2012.
- Alhambra Wash was identified as a top project by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments' Greenway Study in 2018. Short sections of Alhambra Wash between Ramona Street and Hovey Avenue as well as between Del Mar Blvd and the I-10 were also identified for greenway development in multiple previous plans.
- Alhambra Wash presents complex physical challenges to implementation with constrained right-of-way, complex intersections, and jurisdictional challenges to implementation.
- Environmentally, the area surrounding Alhambra Wash is lacking tree canopy, has high concentrations of impervious surfaces, and a highly vulnerable heat index.



## **CIRCULATION STORY**

**ALHAMBRA WASH** 

Knowing existing circulation can inform where we prioritize connections, partnerships, and modality.

#### VEHICLE/TRANSIT ACCESS

Focused to the west of Alhambra Wash. the communities of Monterey Park, Rosemead, and Alhambra show the highest concentrations of households without vehicle access. However, these communities also show greater access to transit than their neighbors to the north and south.

#### **ACTIVITY GENERATORS**

Potential activity generators along the Wash include pockets of retail and commercial areas throughout the corridor, along with a few schools.

#### **EXISTING BIKEWAYS**

Few existing bikeways exist in the area, aside from the Rio Hondo bike path and a short segment along Junipero Serra.

#### NO VEHICLE ACCESS

American Community Survey asks about vehicles available to each household to develop transportation plans and services, understand how people are traveling in the course of a normal day, and evaluate pollution and access to transportation in emergencies.



#### NO TRANSIT ACCESS

VERY LOW [

AVERAGE

**VERY HIGH** 

LOW

HIGH

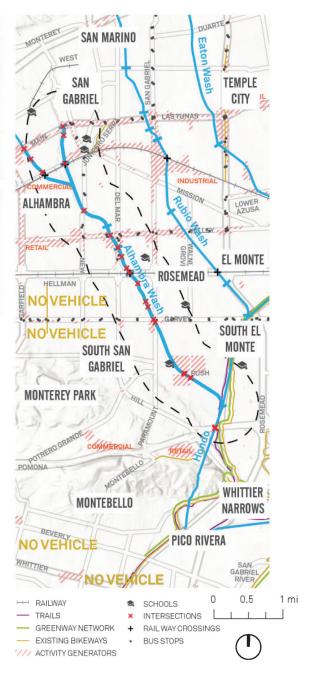
LOW

**AVERAGE** 

**VERY HIGH** 

From the California Healthy Places Index, this indicator measures the percentage of people living close to convenient, reliable transit, as defined by a half-mile or tenminute walk, that comes every fifteen minutes or less during peak commute times.





## EQUITY STORY

Unfair burden of air, water, and soil pollution can inform the value of nature-based solutions in our design concepts. While socioeconomic factors (e.g., poverty levels, linguistic isolation, etc) can help inform programming.

#### **OVERVIEW**

The most environmentally burdened communities are towards the middle of this tributary through Monterey Park and El Monte. The most impacted tract in this area has a CalEnviroScreen percentile score of 86%.

## SENSITIVITY AND SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS

CalEnviroScreen rates each census tract's sensitivity to environmental pollution from Very Low to Very High based on socioeconomic and health factors.



#### ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN

VERY LOW LOW

AVERAGE

VERY HIGH

HIGH

VERY LOW

LOW

HIGH

AVERAGE

VERY HIGH

According to CalEnviroScreen, exposure to different types of pollution (e.g., air quality, lead risk, diesel, pesticides, etc) is very high throughout most of this area.





burden throughout the area.

## **COMMUNITY STORY**

#### PART 1 - GATHERING SPACES

Understanding existing community gathering spaces can inform how our project could add to open space access in the area by revealing where to route trails and optimize connectivity.

#### **GATHERING SPACES**

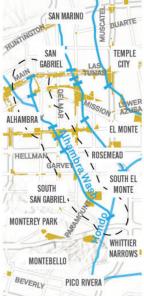
Activity Generators are concentrated along Las Tunas Blvd., and Valley Blvd.

#### **PARK NEED**

The southern end of the tributary is near existing parks along the Rio Hondo and Whittier Narrows. The northern segment has fewer parks and is showing "High" to "Very High" park need.

#### LOCATIONS OF ACTIVITY

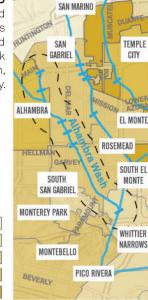
Retail, office, and industrial land uses are highlighted in gold as potential activity drivers.



RETAIL / OFFICE / INDUSTRIAL

#### PARK NEED

LA County's Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment documented existing facilities, park pressure, park condition, and walkability.





The community story for Alhambra Wash is characterized by High to Very High park need especially to the east and west.

VERY LOW LOW **AVERAGE** HIGH VERY HIGH



## **COMMUNITY STORY**

**ALHAMBRA WASH** 

#### PART 2 - DEMOGRAPHICS

Understanding key demographic factors can inform the style and programming of the area.

#### INCOME

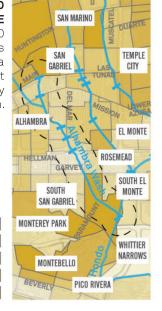
Median incomes in this area are mixed, however we see the highest incomes north near Pasadena and south near the unincorporated area. The lowest average household incomes are in South San Gabriel, Pico Rivera, and South El Monte.

#### **POPULATION**

There is a large Asian presence throughout the area. Hispanic communities are concentrated most in the southern communities of Montebello, Pico Rivera, and El Monte.

#### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

According to the 2010 census, income levels are mixed in this area with some of the highest income areas to the very north.



#### HISPANIC POPULATION

VERY LOW

AVERAGE

VERY HIGH

LOW

HIGH

According to the 2010 census, the majority of the community near the southern segment of Alhambra Wash is in the highest quantile for Hispanic Population for LA County.

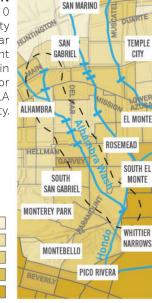
VERY LOW

**AVERAGE** 

VERY HIGH

LOW

HIGH





Asian community and lower incomes

toward the south.

### SYNERGY STORY

ALHAMBRA WASH

#### PART 1 - OPPORTUNITIES

Synergy story – early implementation projects, nongreenway projects, vacant parcels, and public land can help us understand where there are potential opportunities to build on the greenway.

#### ALHAMBRA WASH SYNERGY OPPORTUNITIES:

- Few existing bikeway connections exist in the area aside from the Rio Hondo bike path to the south.
- A multi-use path along the utility easement between Graves Avenue and the Union Pacific Right-of-way was proposed by the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan in 2012.
- Alhambra Wash was identified as a top project by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments' (SGVCOG) Greenway Study in 2018. Short sections of Alhambra Wash between Ramona Street and Hovey Avenue as well as between Del Mar Blvd and the I-10 were also identified for greenway development in multiple previous plans.
- Alhambra Wash presents complex physical challenges to implementation with constrained right-of-way, complex intersections, and jurisdictional challenges to implementation, given that the Wash is partially controlled by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.



EMERALD NECKLACE 2017

REGIONAL TRANSIT 2012

EARLY IMPLEMENTATION VACANT GOV PARCELS

PARK NEEDS 2016

## **SYNERGY STORY**

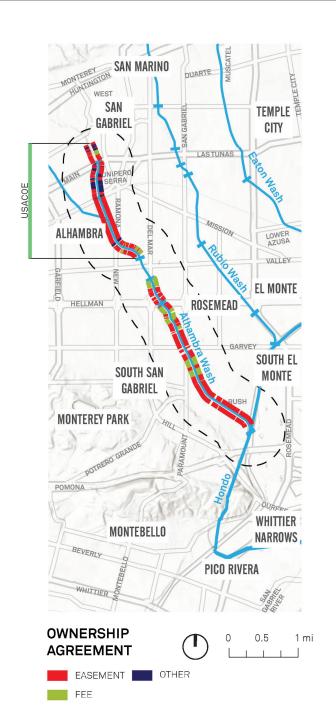
ALHAMBRA WASH

#### PART 2 - LEGAL COMPLEXITY

Understanding the legal constraints along each wash can help identify issues that should be accounted for in design.

#### ALHAMBRA WASH LEGAL COMPLEXITY

The parcels along Alhambra Wash are mostly owned through Easement and Fee agreements. However, north of Valley Blvd., a large segment of the wash is owned by the US Army Corp of Engineers; this may add significant legal complexity/time to implementing a greenway or other amenities in this area.



## **SYNERGY STORY**

**ALHAMBRA WASH** 

#### PART 3 - PHYSICAL COMPLEXITY

Understanding the physical constraints along each wash can help identify issues that should be accounted for in design.

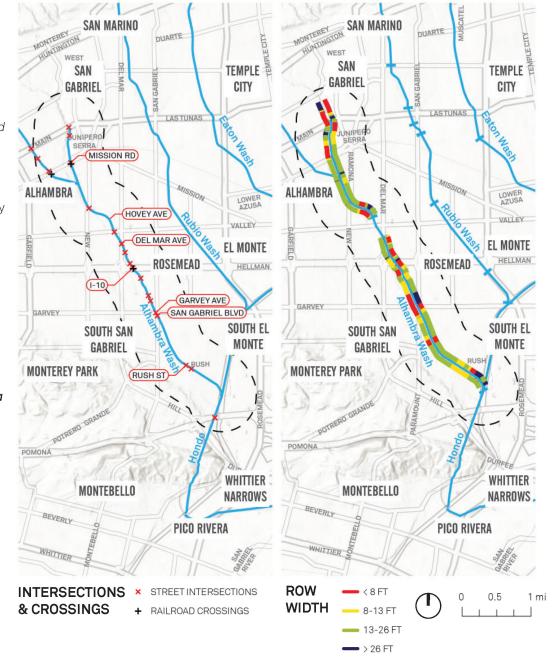
#### ALHAMBRA WASH PHYSICAL COMPLEXITY

Alhambra Wash has a highly constrained Right-of-way on either side of the channel. Most of the tributary does not have an adjacent access road, with less than 8 feet of available space. There is a short segment of available space along the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, a short section near the I-10, and another to the south, near the Rio Hondo.

Exploring a greenway along Alhambra Wash would likely include more complex solutions such as cantilever decks, or an incised channel.

### Potentially challenging crossings along Alhambra Wash may include:

- Mission Rd: a 5-lane arterial adjacent to a freight rail line.
- Between Hovey Ave and Del Mar Ave: the Wash is underground.
- I-10 Freeway: an undercrossing may be possible or at nearby Del Mar Ave.
- Garvey Ave/San Gabriel Blvd: the Wash crosses these major arterials at an angle.
- Rush St: a 5-lane arterial.



### **ENVIRONMENT STORY**

#### **ALHAMBRA WASH**

Shade study, impervious surfaces, and heat vulnerability can help us see where trees can be the most beneficial.

Tree canopy along Alhambra Wash is mostly average.

Impervious surfaces are most concentrated in South San Gabriel, El Monte, and Montebello, with more opportunities for water infiltration to the north and south. The heat vulnerability index mimics this pattern with the most vulnerable areas near the center of the tributary.

#### PERCENT WITHOUT TREE CANOPY

Developed by the California Healthy Place Index, this indicator measures the percentage of land without tree canopy.

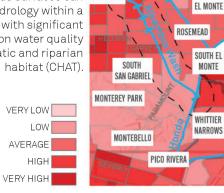






#### PERCENT IMPERVIOUS **SURFACES**

Impervious surfaces are areas of the land hardened by such structures as houses, patios, driveways, and transportation infrastructure. An increase in impervious surfaces can alter the hydrology within a watershed with significant impact on water quality and aquatic and riparian habitat (CHAT).



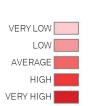
GABRIEL

#### **HEAT VULNERABILITY**

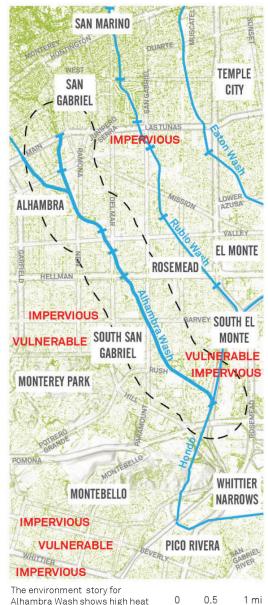
TEMPLE

CITY

The California Heat Assessment Tool (CHAT) was developed by Four Twenty Seven, Inc. in partnership with Argos Analytics, Habitat Seven, and the Public Health Institute. This layer represents the vulnerability of communities to heatrelated health impacts.







vulnerability across the community,

particularly at the southern end

where there is less tree canopy.

# Opportunities and Constraints Diagrams Overview

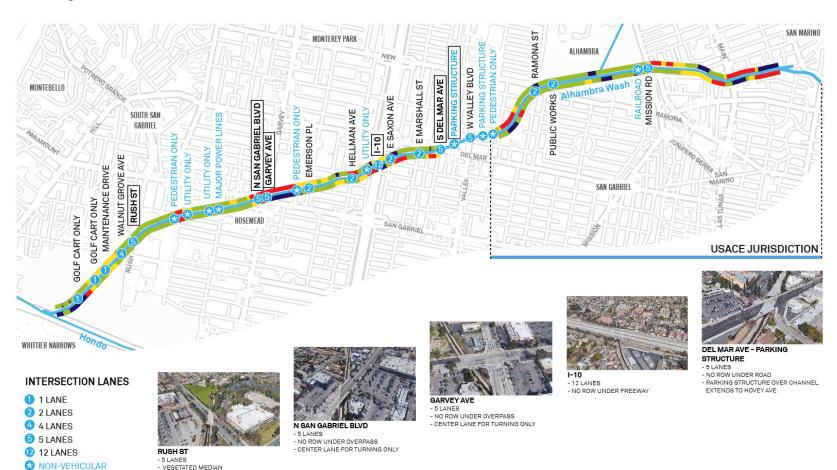


## **CONSTRAINTS**

#### **ALHAMBRA WASH**

Understanding the physical constraints along each wash can help identify issues that should be accounted for in design.

#### 

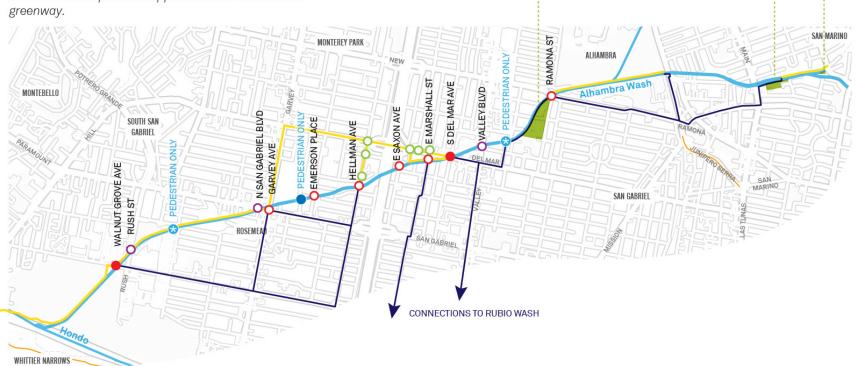




### **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **ALHAMBRA WASH**

Early implementation projects, non-greenway projects, vacant parcels, and public land can help us understand where there are potential opportunities to build on the greenway.



VICTOR LUGO PARK CITY OF ALHAMBRA

#### RECOMMENDED ALIGNMENT

#### NORTH SIDE OF WASH SOUTH SIDE OF WASH

TRIBUTARY CROSSINGS





NON VEHICULAR

EXISTING NETWORK



#### PROPOSED CROSSINGS

- CROSSWALK
- HVC 0
- HVC, LPI
- HAWK
- UPGRADED CROSSWALKS



VACANT PARCEL CITY OF SAN MERINO

VACANT PARCEL MWD \_\_\_

## Community Engagement Update





## **Community Engagement Activities**

O1 Community Workshops: Round 1 – Visioning and Opportunities

02 Map-Based Survey

O3 Pop-Up Events

04 WCA Engagement

O5 Community Workshops: Rounds 2 & 3

## **Community Workshops: Round 1**

#### **Schedule and Attendance**

Workshop 1	November 3, 2021, 6:00 PM	31 Participants
Workshop 2	November 6, 2021, 10:00 AM	11 Participants
Workshop 3	November 17, 2021, 3:30 PM	36 Participants *
Workshop 4	November 18, 2021, 6:00 PM	9 Participants
Total	<del></del>	87 participants

<sup>\*</sup> Targeted invitations to community groups



## **Community Workshops: Round 1**

### Poll Findings

- 91% of respondents were interested in using the Greenway Network for recreational purposes.
- Most concerned about safety and the network's connectivity to existing bikeways.
- 49% of respondents were very likely to use the Greenway Network.



## **Community Workshops: Round 1**

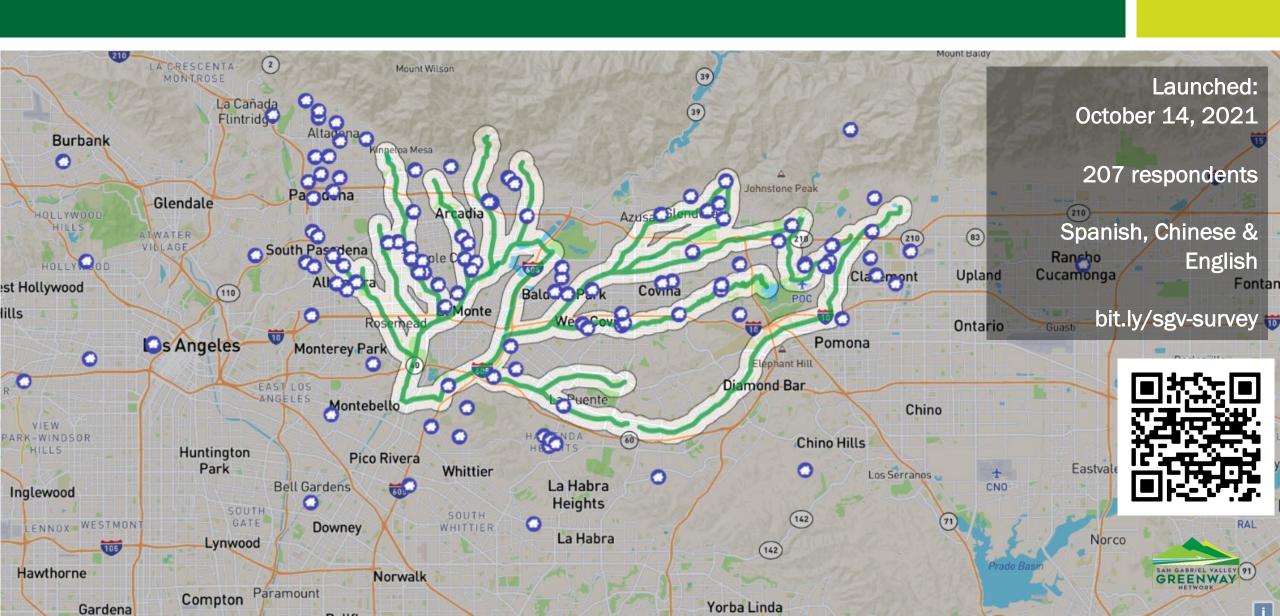
### **Key Discussion Themes**

- Lighting
- Accessible to all ages
- Privacy
- People experiencing homelessness
- Sustainability
- Environmental justice
- Amenities and Upkeep

- Multimodal use
- Connectivity
- Wayfinding and signage



## **Map-Based Survey**



- Purpose: To engage the community directly in the field through intercept discussions at key locations adjacent to the SGV Greenway Network.
- Proposed Schedule: December 2021 through July 2022
- Pop-Up Events: 25 events total,
  18 20 events prior to Plan completion
- Locations: Local and regional parks, farmers markets, informal gathering areas, etc.





Location	Date	Day	Time	Status
Whittier Narrows Recreation Area	12/18/2021	Saturday	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Completed
Peter Schabarum Regional Park	1/8/2022	Saturday	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Completed
Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area	1/15/2022	Saturday	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Pending
Bonelli Regional Park	1/29/2022	Saturday	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Pending



Location	Date	Day	Time	Status
South Hills Park	2/5/2022	Saturday	8:00 AM	Confirmed
Antonovich Trail	2/12/2022	Saturday	8:00 AM	Pending
Walnut Creek Park	2/19/2022	Saturday	8:00 AM	Pending
City of Industry Expo Center Trail	3/12/2022	Saturday	8:00 AM	Confirmed



Location	Date	Location	Date
Claremont Hills/ Thompson Trail	TBD	Monrovia Farmers Market	TBD
Rose Bowl Walking Loop	TBD	Pasadena Farmers Market	TBD
Arcadia County Park	TBD	Alhambra Farmers Market	TBD
Peck Road Water Conservation Park	TBD	San Dimas Farmers Market	TBD



## **WCA Engagement**

- Conduct 16 workshops
  - Between February July 2022
- Maximizing meaningful contacts with SGV entities to reach historically underserved communities
  - Partnering with:
    - Active SGV
    - Amigos de los Rios
    - Nature for All
    - Women's Clubs

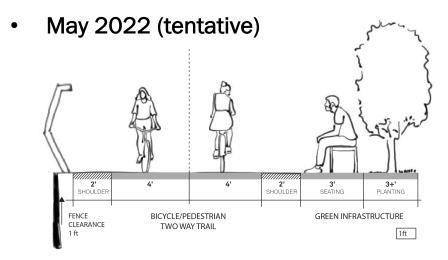


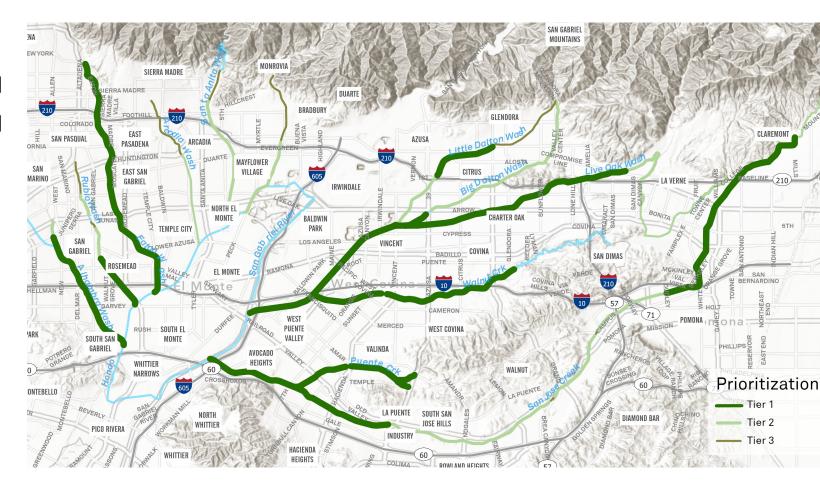
## Community Workshops: Rounds 2 & 3

#### Round 2

- February 16, 2022, 3:30 PM 5:00 PM
- February 22, 2022, 6:00 PM 7:30 PM
- Potential Topics:
  - Design Alternatives
  - Survey Findings
  - Outreach Findings

#### Round 3







## **Asks of the Steering Committee**



Provide feedback for the Community Workshops: Round 1.



Send of list of potential groups (names and emails) that would benefit and would have interest in joining the Community Workshops.



The Project Team's goal is to promote the workshops one month prior to the event.

## **Next Steps**



- Meeting minutes summary to be sent after the meeting.
- SGVGN Plan Update
  - Final Tributary Narratives Feb 2022
  - Final Bike Path Alternatives Feb 2022
  - Final List of Projects Feb 2022
- Community Engagement Update
  - Continue with planned Pop-Up Events
  - Continue efforts to plan future Pop-Up Events
  - Preparation for Phase 2 Community Workshops

#### **Next Meeting:**

- March 9, 2022, 2:00 PM 4:00 PM
  - Community Engagement Update
  - SGVGN Plan Update

