



August 28, 2012

Gail Farber, Director
Via Email: SedimentMgmtPlan@dpw.lacounty.gov
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
P.O. Box 1460
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

Re: **Developing Sustainable Sediment Removal Strategy**

Dear Ms. Farber,

The West Pasadena Residents' Association is responding to the Los Angeles County Public Works extension of the review period for stakeholders to comment on the 20-year Sediment Management Strategic Plan.

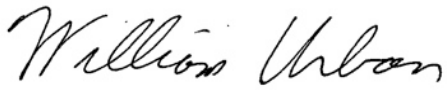
As downstream residents of the Arroyo Seco, we recognize the importance of managing flood risk, but we also urge the County to expand their plan to include larger goals for comprehensive watershed management, where sediment is not solely thought of as a waste product to be trucked off and dumped at a different site. This practice is not sustainable beyond 20 years with the large volume of sediment that is predicted. The ramifications of sediment removal now involve massive environmental consequences, with the destruction of large natural areas at both the removal and disposal sites. The County needs to re-investigate the use of flow –assisted sediment transport, with analysis and testing. River restoration is importantly linked with sediment management and could be tested in select areas.

Currently, large volumes of storm water flow through concrete channels to the ocean. This huge waste of clean water is unacceptable – water is an increasingly valuable resource in Southern California, and there should be systems developed to capture every possible drop to replenish our groundwater aquifers. One way is to restore river channels where possible, to develop more natural stream environments that will aid in replenishing ground water and create a riparian habitat that can be enjoyed by people and the many wild creatures living in our Arroyo Seco.

WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
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We urge the LACDPW to develop a sustainable sediment management strategy that also includes watershed management, ground water retention, and river restoration in co-operation with the Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco ecosystem and river restoration study.

Your work is important to all the citizens of Los Angeles. We encourage you to reconsider your plan and implement some new ideas and technologies, following Albert Einstein's wisdom "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them."

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Urban".

William Urban
WPRA President

and on behalf of **Joan Hearst** and **Linda Zinn**, WPRA Directors