

**U.S. Crime
Database
Corrections**

are scheduled to be completed later this year.

"The people I represent need parks and they also need clean water," said City Council President Eric Garcetti.

The basin is designed to handle the runoff of a standard storm - one that brings 3/4 of an inch of rain. Under those conditions, it will take 48 hours for all the water to seep through the ground, said Martin Kammerer, the fluvial geomorphologist who designed the park.

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Grass and organisms living in the top soil will break down the pollutants left behind, said Kammerer, a physical geographer and hydrologist who specializes in streams.

In the event of a larger than normal storm, any excess water would overflow into the river, which sits between 10 and 15 feet below the basin.

The length of time it takes the water to seep into the ground will also help reduce the risk of flooding during major storms.

"This is going to be the new standard," Kammerer said. "You can clean up the water, and at the same time you have a park amenity."

The Los Angeles River flows for 51 miles from the western edge of the San Fernando Valley to the Pacific Ocean in Long Beach. It drains an area of about 825 square miles.

Most of the Los Angeles River was lined with concrete for flood control between 1935 and 1959. An estimated \$110 million has been spent so far on revitalizing the river.

On the Net:

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, <http://www.smmc.ca.gov>

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