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Attachment  
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# Pacoima Wash Mountain Bikeway

## Proposal for Engineering / Construction Plans

Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

December 2, 2013



### PROJECT TEAM:

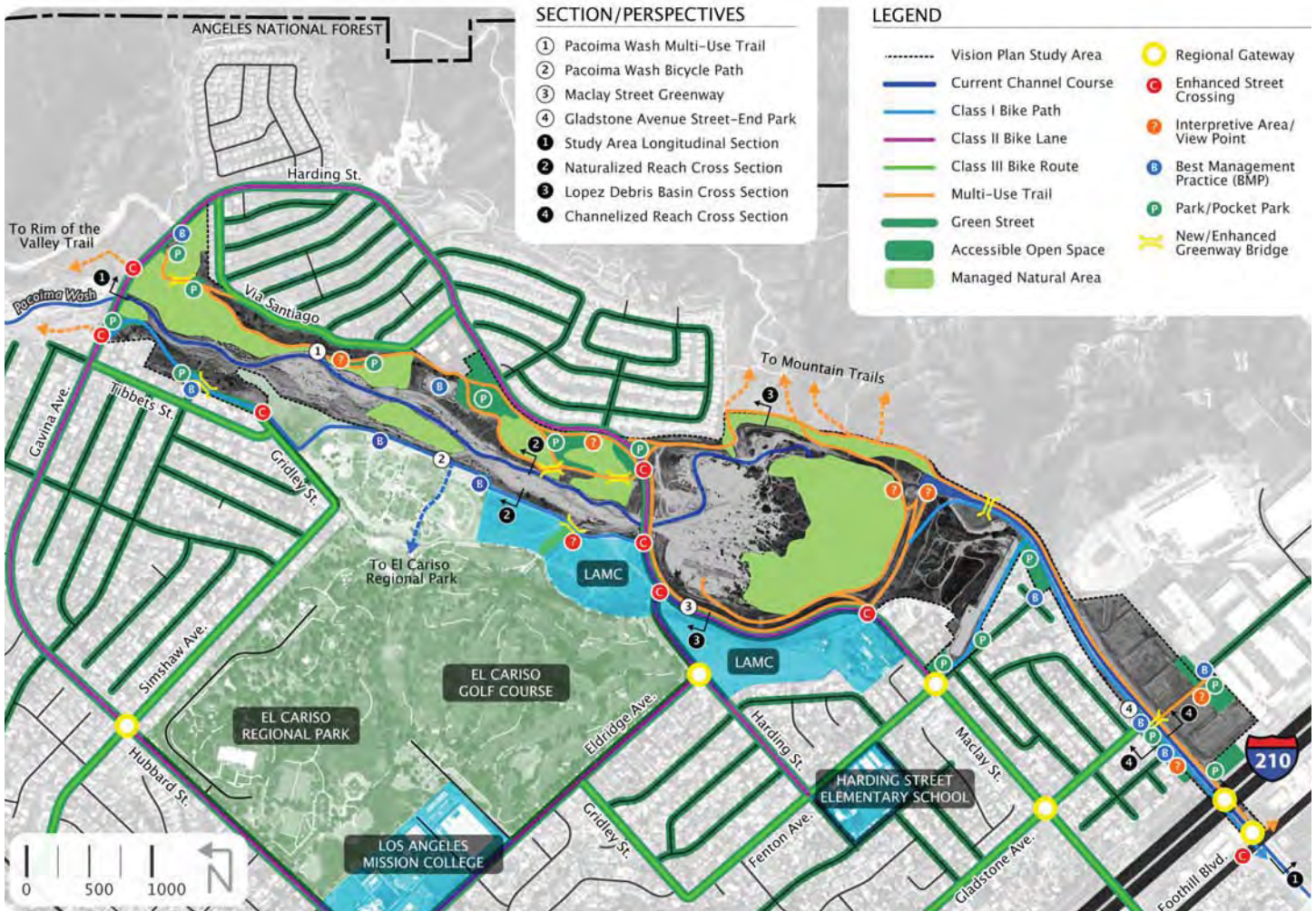
Landscape Architecture / Outreach: **Mia Lehrer + Associates**

Engineering: **Tetra Tech**

Environmental: **Chambers Group**

**MIA LEHRER + ASSOCIATES**  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

[www.mlagreen.com](http://www.mlagreen.com)



Pacoima Wash Vision Plan - Greenway Map



Ms. Liz Jennings  
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority  
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, CA. 90065

**Re: Pacoima Wash Mountain Bikeway  
Proposal for Engineering / Construction Plans**

Dear Ms. Jennings:

It is with great enthusiasm that Mia Lehrer+Associates (ML+A), on behalf of our Consultant Team, submits to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority our proposal for engineering / construction plans for the Pacoima Wash Mountain Bikeway. This effort by the MRCA is an *essential investment in the revitalization of the Pacoima Wash as a vital community asset* that will improve wildlife habitat, provide access to new recreational amenities and create a healthier, more sustainable community in the vicinity of the Pacoima Wash and beyond.

ML+A brings to this effort a *proven track record working with non-profit organizations, public agencies, project stakeholders and community members to develop a collective vision and to build consensus* for the revitalization of rivers and creeks throughout the Los Angeles River watershed, with a focus on increasing mobility and implementing recreation amenities for the benefit of communities. Our master planning work focusing on these objectives includes the Pacoima Wash Vision Plan, the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, and the Compton Creek Regional Garden Park Master Plan. Additionally, we are currently working on two site-specific multi-modal bikeway projects: the Atwater Multi-Modal Bridge in Atwater Village and the Los Angeles Riverfront Greenway in Studio City. In each of these projects, the master plan and site-specific implementation efforts will result in a successful balance of recreational use with habitat preservation, and the increase of mobility in these neighborhoods.

ML+A has assembled an *expert and streamlined sub-consultant team to achieve the objectives of this project*. The Consultant Team will work collaboratively with the MRCA to deliver a focused and effective outreach program, engineering drawings and environmental documentation that will allow for efficient implementation of the project. ML+A will lead the effort by working with the MRCA to prepare an illustrative analysis diagrams and schematic design plan for presentation in stakeholder and community outreach meetings, as well as produce hardscape, planting and irrigation system drawings. We will work closely with Tetra Tech, which will provide the bulk of the engineering services outlined in the scope of work including: Civil Engineering, Structural Engineering, Geomorphology, Geotechnical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Cost Estimating. Consolidating these services with one firm will allow for an economical turn-key approach to producing the engineering deliverables for the project. The team also includes Chambers Group, which will provide environmental services in support of the development of the engineering deliverables.

The ML+A team will be led by Jeff Hutchins, RLA, ASLA, CLIA, Principal, who brings to this effort extensive documentation and QA/QC experience for projects including multi-modal bike paths. Jeff will be joined by Jan Dyer, RLA, ASLA, Principal, who is an expert facilitator of stakeholder and community outreach meetings of all types, and who will lead the stakeholder and community outreach process.

ML+A has been working in the Pacoima / Sylmar area for years, through our efforts leading the team for the Pacoima Wash Vision Plan that is the precursor to this project. We have also been involved many projects on the Mission College campus in Sylmar. As a result of our involvement in this geographic area, we have a deep understanding of the community, of the area's resources and the need for recreational amenities such as the Class I Bikeway. Our work on the Vision Plan document paves the way for implementation of this project.

We look forward to the possibility of working with the MRCA on this project of great benefit to community members in the north San Fernando Valley. We have put forth our best professional effort to develop the approach to the project, scope of work and fee proposal. Additionally, we welcome the opportunity to refine our approach and fee to ensure that it is consistent with your organization's goals and expectations and captures exactly the level of effort warranted. We look forward to speaking with you further upon your review of our qualifications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mia Lehrer', with a long, sweeping underline.

Mia Lehrer, FASLA  
President, Mia Lehrer+Associates

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*Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan*



*Atwater Multi Modal Bridge*



*Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan*

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# 01

## PROJECT UNDERSTANDING AND DESIGN APPROACH

## Project Understanding

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) wishes to implement the Pacoima Wash Mountain Bikeway Project, entailing the design and construction of a 3.25-mile Class I Bikeway, including multi-phase planning, design coordination, administrative approval process and preparation of engineering and construction plans. The project location is along the banks of Pacoima Wash beginning at Haddon Avenue, traveling through the City of San Fernando, and terminating near Lopez Dam in the City of Los Angeles. The bikeway will connect to existing trails within the Angeles National Forest. Federal funding for the construction of the bikeway portion within the City of San Fernando is secured in the amount of \$1,513,000. Funding for the construction of the bikeway portions within the City of Los Angeles is to be determined.

The bikeway will weave along the banks of the Pacoima Wash as one component of a regional recreational greenway plan. The intention of the new bikeway is to connect densely-populated neighborhoods of the San Fernando Valley to each other, to existing and future parks and amenities, and to the Angeles National Forest. The bikeway will provide opportunities for experiencing these natural forests and trails of the foothills. The design will consist of the Class I bike path, protective decorative fencing along the wash, signage and striping of existing service roads, introduction of paved areas in approximately 1.5 miles, striping of street crossings, protected crossing of a rail bridge, inclusion of three or more potential bridge crossings over Pacoima Wash, and native landscape planting and irrigation. The bikeway will be planned as multi-use (bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian) and where space allows, a separate and protected path for pedestrians shall be incorporated into the design for maximum safety of users. The project plans will be permitted through the City of Los Angeles, the City of San Fernando, County of Los Angeles Flood Control District, and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

## Project Approach

The Mia Lehrer+Associates (ML+A) team is streamlined with three consulting firms providing the scope of services. ML+A will lead the overall planning and schematic design of the Class I bike path, lead the stakeholder and community outreach process and produce planting and irrigation system installation documentation. Tetra Tech will lead the engineering of the project, produce the engineering documents and specifications, provide cost estimating services and submit documents for public agency approval. The Chambers Group will provide the necessary environmental documentation for the project. We will work together in collaboration with the MRCA to produce the deliverables for the project.

## Project Management / Stakeholder and Community Outreach

**Work Plan:** Based on our understanding of similar projects, ML+A is proposing an energetic, aggressive, knowledgeable, and dedicated approach to the project. This approach organizes our scope of services into an expedited and efficient approach to guide the project through analysis, design, documentation, the NEPA process and the public approval process. The work plan includes utilizing dedicated Project Management, an effective Quality Control Plan, and an effective Community Outreach Plan. This approach will allow us to deliver the products desired by MRCA, develop a high level of consensus throughout the course of the project, and resolve any design issues early in the process. The result will be a comprehensive, well thought-out project.

**Project Management:** ML+A will use a proven Project Management System, ensuring that a high quality, on-time, and on-budget project is delivered to the MRCA. This methodology is used on each ML+A project and is tailored to meet the MRCA's needs and the project's complexity. ML+A's Project Manager will monitor schedule and budget, provide a planned effort for project production, and oversee quality control. Project meetings will be scheduled on a regular basis. Decisions on items of discussion and critical path issues requiring resolution will be documented in meeting minutes, which become part of the project file. The early identification and resolution of critical issues is imperative to keep a project on track on schedule.

**Stakeholder and Community Outreach:** ML+A will work with the MRCA to develop a tailored stakeholder and community outreach approach that will involve both the local business owners as well as the residents in the community. The goal of the Outreach process is to understand not only the environmental and engineering issues in a project study area, but also the hot button issues that are driving the desire to make a change. Our project team will work engage stakeholders and communities at different levels to reach this goal.

A proven approach is to meet with project stakeholders in informal stakeholder meetings in order to solicit concerns, information and vision for the project prior to meeting community members in a workshop setting. This approach ensures that we are addressing stakeholders' concerns, applying important information to the design of the project, and developing consensus on project approaches prior to meeting with the community in a more public setting.

ML+A will collect information from project stakeholders and community members regarding ideas, thoughts and concerns about the project. The notes from the meetings will be summarized and incorporated into the project deliverables. In collaboration with the MRCA, ML+A will be responsible for preparing the workshop notices and coordinating with MRCA staff in developing a noticing area. In collaboration with the MRCA, ML+A will also be responsible for developing the format, preparing the materials and conducting the workshops. Following each workshop, we will provide MRCA staff with a summary of the results of the workshop.

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## Environmental Documentation

Chambers Group, Inc. (CGI) will provide the needed environmental documentation and permitting support for the project. CGI will build upon its experience and knowledge gained from preparing many previous NEPA environmental documents.

**Inventory and Analysis:** Following the kick-off meeting, CGI will perform a field review and a thorough analysis of the existing site conditions. This analysis will familiarize the ML+A Team with detailed, firsthand knowledge of environmentally sensitive features and site opportunities and constraints.

**Quality Control:** The CGI Team's Quality Control Program is a continuous process used not just at project milestones, but also on a daily basis as work flows from desk to desk, discipline to discipline, and consultant to client. Our plans will undergo two types of internal reviews:

- On-going Reviews: These occur throughout the project process by the Project Manager and focus on the day-to-day accuracy and coordination with other disciplines.
- Formal Reviews: These occur at each of the product submittal stages and shall be performed by the discipline department head.



Recognizing the environmental consultant's responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the environmental documents and other regulatory documents, CGI and is dedicated to established programs of strict quality assurance and control. These programs assign specific individuals to specific tasks and define the requirements for quality control activities.

**Environmental Documentation:** CGI will work with the team to identify opportunities and constraints to inform the schematic design of the project to ensure that the Class I bike path and proposed locations of bridges are located and designed in a manner that minimizes impacts to the project area.

# 02

## QUALIFICATIONS AND BACKGROUND

## ML+A Team Composition

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### Landscape Architecture / Outreach:

#### Mia Lehrer+ Associates

Contact: Jeff Hutchins, RLA, ASLA, CLIA.

#### Principal

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213.384.3833 *fax*  
jeff@mlagreen.com

### Civil / Structural / Geomorphology / Geotechnical/ Electrical / Cost Estimating:

#### Tetra Tech

Contact: Joe Dietz, P.E., S.E., LEED AP.

#### Project Manager

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Joe.Dietz@tetrattech.com

### Environmental Consulting:

#### Chambers Group.

Contact: John Gifford, MPA.

#### Program Manager

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