



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **COUNCIL BLESSES L.A. RIVER PLAN –** *\$2 billion makeover of concrete channel sails to* *Senate Committee this Friday*

The \$2 billion Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, which proposes transforming the concrete-lined L.A. River into a green ribbon of parks and paths linking communities, was unanimously approved by City Council today.

“This historic vote means that Los Angeles is going to be recognized for its significance in bringing the City to life,” said Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, Los Angeles River Ad Hoc Committee Chair, who spearheaded the Plan. “With this Master Plan, we’re giving the City a full face-lift with improved natural habitat, water quality, recreation and economic development. All those communities that historically have been neglected will have an opportunity to be rejuvenated.”

The Master Plan is a 25-50 year blueprint to restore the L.A. River, the City’s birthplace, into a renewed waterway. The Master Plan focuses on the 32 miles of the Los Angeles River within the City’s boundaries that run from Canoga Park to Boyle Heights.

“Today we are reclaiming Los Angeles’ most vital natural resource and the center of our great City,” said Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. “Today we chart a new course that will make Los Angeles the cleanest and greenest big city in America.”

The Plan approved unanimously by Council today will be presented at a public hearing this **Friday, May 11**, sponsored by the **Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water**. The hearing is at **1 p.m. at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, 111 N. Hope St. in downtown L.A.** The purpose of the hearing is for the committee to understand the scope of the L.A. River revitalization and community concerns so that it can explore opportunities for the State to help implement the Master Plan.

“Los Angeles turned its back on its river for too long,” said Council President Eric Garcetti, vice-chair of the Los Angeles River Ad Hoc Committee. “Today we turn to face the river that was the setting for the founding of our City 250 years ago; soon we will see it at the center of the next Los Angeles.”

# NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER  
**ED P. REYES**



The Master Plan consists of 239 greening projects, big and small, including parks and open space, pedestrian and bicycle trails, bridges, enhanced connector streets, channel modifications, and revitalized riverfront communities.

The Plan also includes recommendations for a River Improvement Overlay (RIO) district, and a collaborative River management system designed to address cross-jurisdictional issues, such as River access, maintenance, and public safety.

The \$3 million Master Plan was funded by the City's Department of Water and Power and prepared by Tetra Tech, a Pasadena-based environmental and engineering firm. The Master Plan can be viewed at [www.lariver.org](http://www.lariver.org).

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