

UPPER AMARGOSA CREEK RECHARGE PROJECT

Water, often plentiful in the winter months, quickly vanishes with the onset of warmer days. Without capture or infiltration into the aquifer this precious resource becomes inaccessible to the local community. The **Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge Project** will help to reduce this mismatch of water supply and water demand in the rapidly growing region by enabling storage of allocated water from the California Aqueduct and by diverting stormwater from Amargosa Creek during winter and spring. The proposed **Recharge Basins** will increase groundwater infiltration to the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin, making the water available to satisfy peak summertime demand and improve overall water supply reliability during dry years. This project also includes the development of a **Community Nature Park** and the preservation of adjacent natural hillside. The Nature Park will restore and enhance the Native Mojave Desert scrub, riparian vegetation and wildlife habitats along the Creek, protecting water quality. Two and a half miles of multi-use trails will be developed throughout the park to allow visitors to experience the natural habitat and learn about the recharge facilities and basins.

PUBLIC AMENITIES

1 COMMUNITY NATURE PARK
The 38-acre community nature park features opportunities for recreation and education while enhancing and restoring the natural landscape



2 MULTI-USE TRAILS
Multi-use trails will allow hikers and bikers to traverse the landscape and experience the native habitat, wildlife and creek basin.

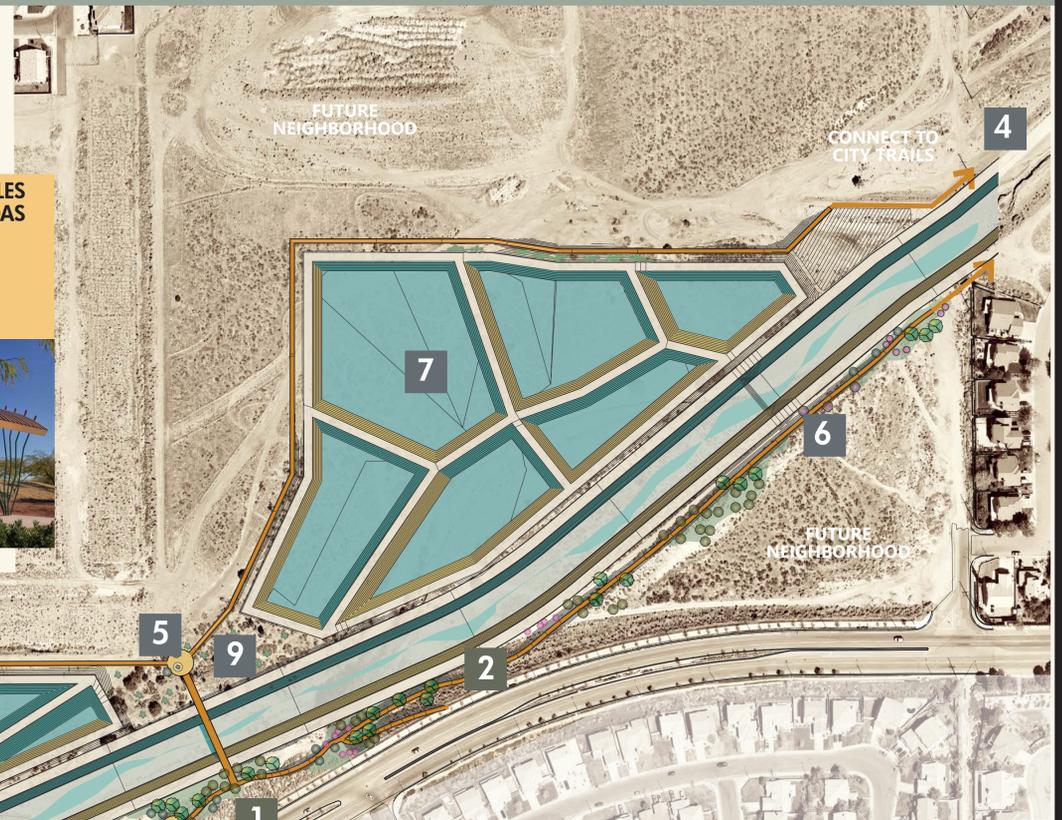


Credit: Laura Cerrano

3 PICNIC TABLES & RAMADAS
Picnic tables and ramadas allow for hikers and bikers to rest along the trails. Interpretive signs will be located at these rest areas.



Classic Recreation Systems, Inc., Ocotillo Shade Structure



TRAIL FEATURES

4 CITY TRAIL CONNECTIONS
2.5 miles of new trails will link to existing trails and bike pathways within the City allowing more residents access to the Nature Park



5 INTERPRETIVE PLAQUES
Interpretive plaques within the Nature Park will illustrate the watershed and recharge processes and identify native wildlife and plants.



6 SOLAR LIGHTING
Solar Lighting along trails will have minimal impact on the environment and create inviting pedestrian trails throughout the project.



Solar Lighting by Carmanah

EDUCATIONAL FOCUS

7 RECHARGE BASINS
Recharge basins retain water and allow it to infiltrate into the ground. This water would provide increased groundwater recharge to the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin.



8 NATIVE HABITAT CONSERVATION
Native habitat will be protected. Preserving sensitive species such as Joshua Trees and California Juniper will be an objective of the Recharge Project.



9 HERITAGE HABITAT
Existing Johua Trees impacted by the construction of the recharge basins will be transplanted into a designated mitigation area to preserve this natural resource.



Credit: Dawn Endico

10 PLANTS AND WILDLIFE
Habitats for Silvery Legless Lizards, Coast Horned Lizards, Mohave Ground Squirrels and Burrowing Owls will be preserved and enhanced throughout the Nature Park.



Credit: Steve Berardi