WILDLIFE PILOT STUDY

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Department of City Planning

WELCOME!

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Saturday, November 16, 2019

10:00AM - 12:00PM

https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/initiatives-policies/sustainability

Los Angeles is Full of Nature

When Miguel Ordeñana was little, he loved going to the University of Southern California football games with his mom Adilia. He'd cheer for the Trojans and dream about becoming a football star. That dream changed eventually into becoming a wildlife biologist—but he still likes watching games. In the 2015 season opener, he sat with his mom and two little brothers, the whole family rooting for the Trojans to beat the Arkansas State Red Wolves.

During the game, Miguel's thirteen-year-old brother Aaron spotted a creature flitting above their heads in the night sky.

"Miguel, bat!" he yelled.

Shifting his attention from the field to the sky, Miguel looked up and spotted the bat. Then another and another. They were swooping and arcing in front of the stadium's massive lights—hunting. Bats love to eat moths, and because these tasty bugs are attracted to light, all a hungry bat needs to do is hang out near a bright spotlight and wait for dinner.

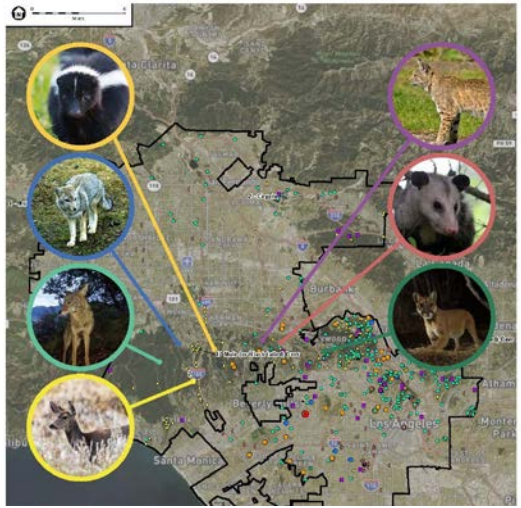
▲ The Mexican free-tailed bat can eat hundreds of mosquitos per hour.

Los Angeles County is home to at least twenty different bat species. Most prefer more undisturbed areas, like Griffith Park or the Santa Monica Mountains, but the Mexican free-tailed bat is really good at adapting to the

The Mexican free-tailed bat is the most

GOALS...

- Conserve and protect existing natural resources and wildlife habitats in the City
- Support other related City, County, State and Federal government ecological efforts



STUDY GOALS...

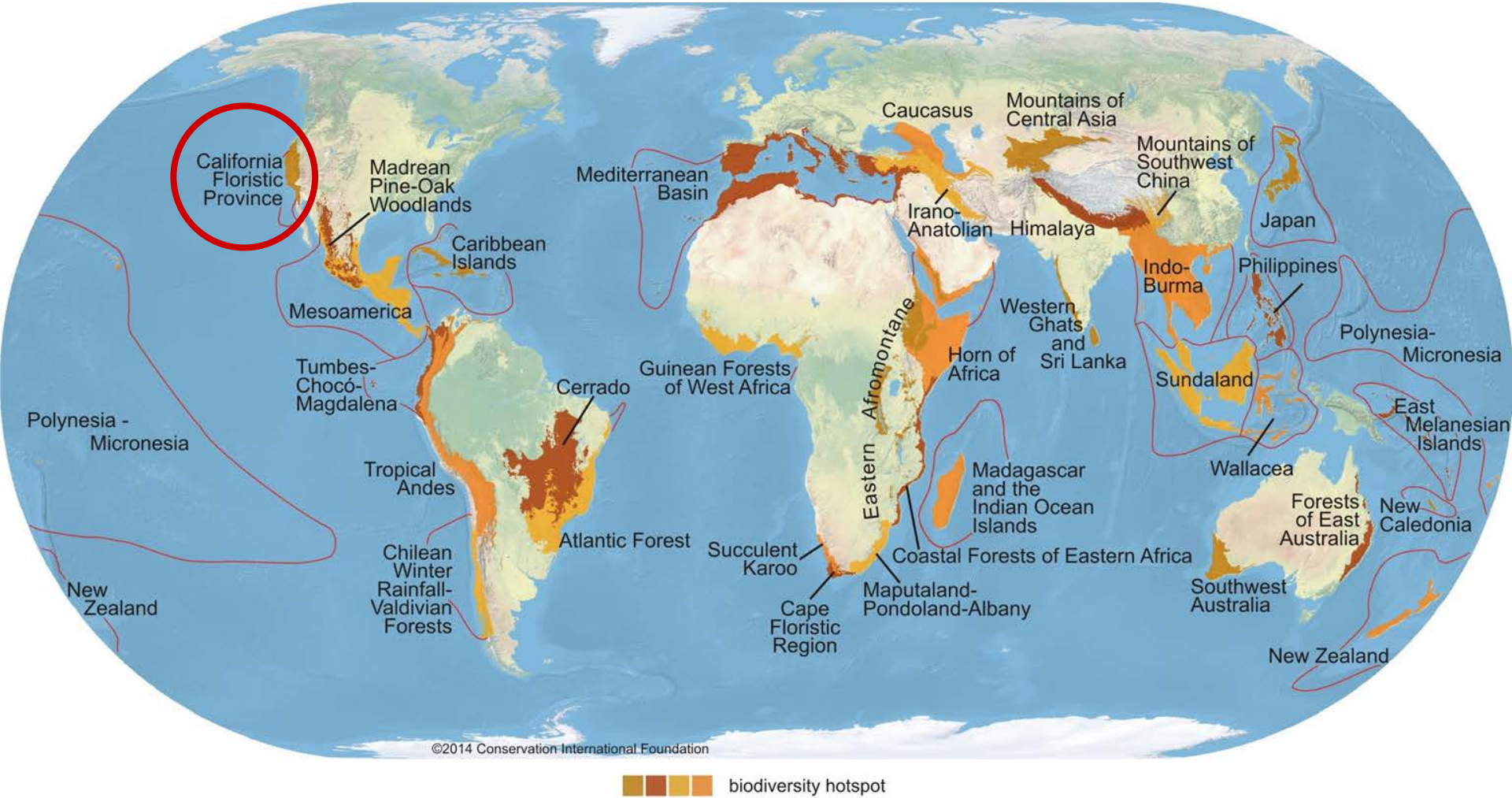
- Evaluate the existing biological conditions within the City
- Identify areas important for supporting habitat and movement for wildlife
- Provide development standards for managing and conserving biological resources by potentially regulating development and wildlife habitats within these areas

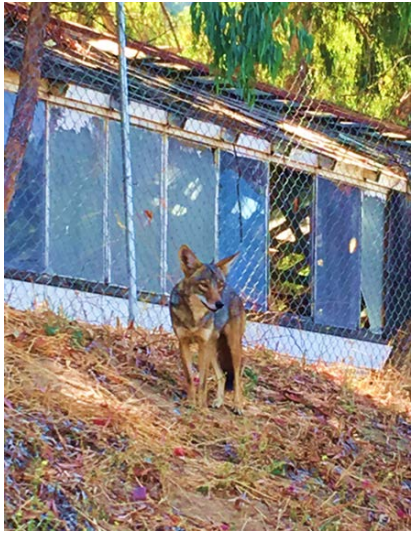
Habitat Preservation → **Wildlife Connectivity** → **Biodiversity** → **Climate Resiliency** → **Fire Safety**

Interrelated Goals:

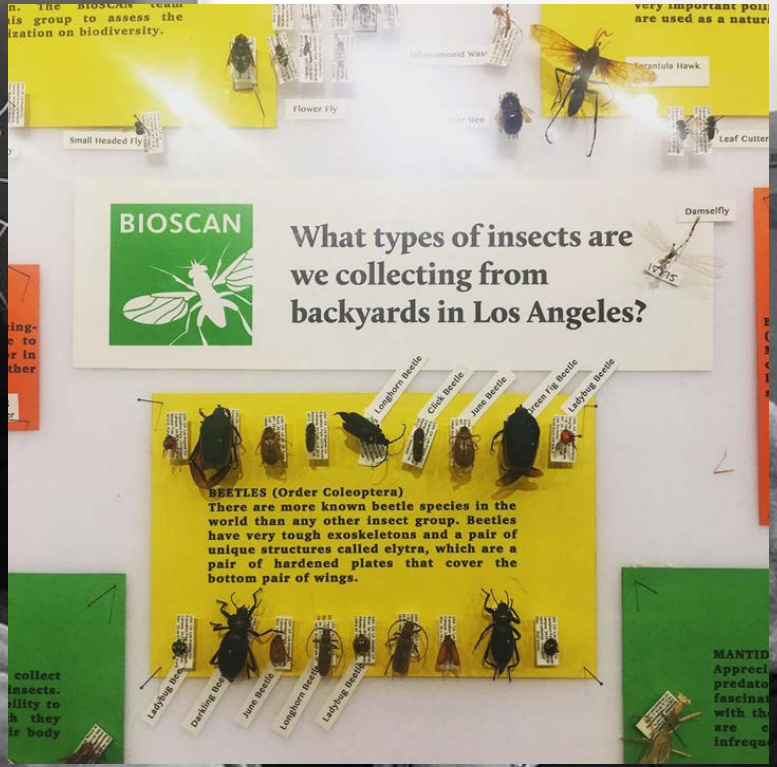
- Providing critical connectivity for wildlife
- Providing space between structures for habitat retention and fire safety
- Preserving ridgelines, riparian, wetlands, and water resources
- Limiting impervious surfaces and preserving ecological value on sites
- Limiting removal of trees and habitats
- Addressing fire safety through promoting native, drought-tolerant, non-invasive, climate-adaptive, and fire-resistant landscaping
- Reducing excess grading and protecting slope stability
- Improving watershed health and water quality

iNaturalist Observations
Greater Los Angeles Region

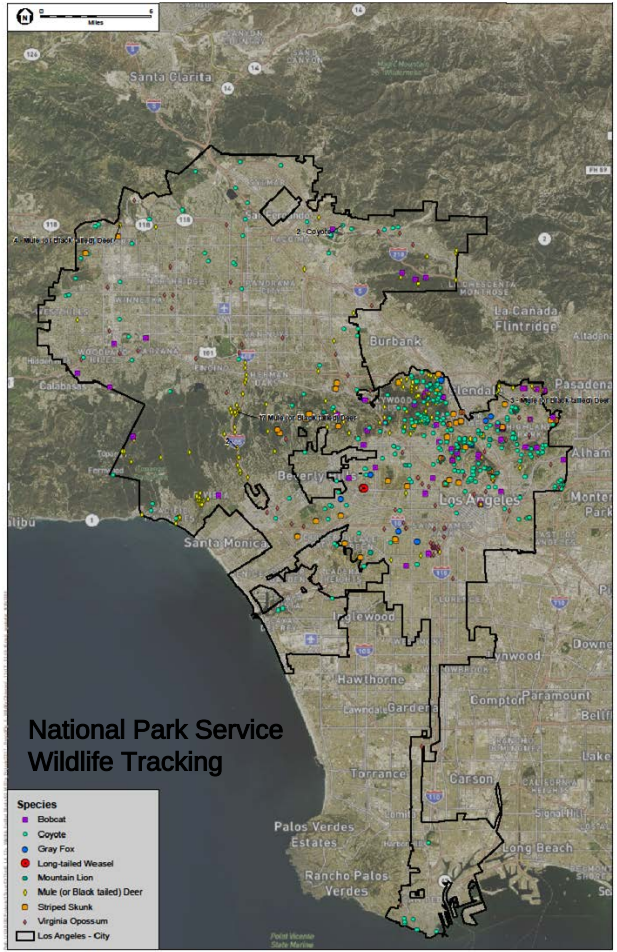

California Floristic Province
Madrean Pine-Oak Woodlands
Caribbean Islands
Mesoamerica
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena
Tropical Andes
Chilean Winter Rainfall-Valdivian Forests
Cerrado
Atlantic Forest
Polynesia - Micronesia
New Zealand
Mediterranean Basin
Caucasus
Irano-Anatolian
Mountains of Central Asia
Himalaya
Mountains of Southwest China
Japan
Indo-Burma
Philippines
Western Ghats and Sri Lanka
Horn of Africa
Guinean Forests of West Africa
Afromontane
Eastern
Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands
Succulent Karoo
Cape Floristic Region
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany
Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
Sundaland
Wallacea
Polynesia-Micronesia
East Melanesian Islands
Forests of East Australia
New Caledonia
Southwest Australia
New Zealand
©2014 Conservation International Foundation
biodiversity hotspot



ES
ES
ES


BIOSCAN
What types of insects are we collecting from backyards in Los Angeles?
Damselfly
Flower Fly
Small Headed Fly
Tarantula Hawk
Leaf Cutter
Longhorn Beetle
Click Beetle
June Beetle
Green Fig Beetle
Ladybug Beetle
BEETLES (Order Coleoptera)
There are more known beetle species in the world than any other insect group. Beetles have very tough exoskeletons and a pair of unique structures called elytra, which are a pair of hardened plates that cover the bottom pair of wings.
Ladybug Beetle
Darkling Beetle
June Beetle
Longhorn Beetle
Ladybug Beetle

WE'RE EXPLORING L.A.'S FRONTIER OF SCIENCE
LOOK WHAT WE'VE FOUND!
THIS IS A MALAISE TRAP
OSPREY



SOURCE: NAIP, 2016 (Aerial); County of Los Angeles, UC Davis Road Ecology Center, iNaturalist.org. Los Angeles City Habitat Blocks

Figure X
Wildlife Observed

ESA

California Buckwheat

Lorquin's Butterfly

Bobcat

Great Horned Owl

California Quail

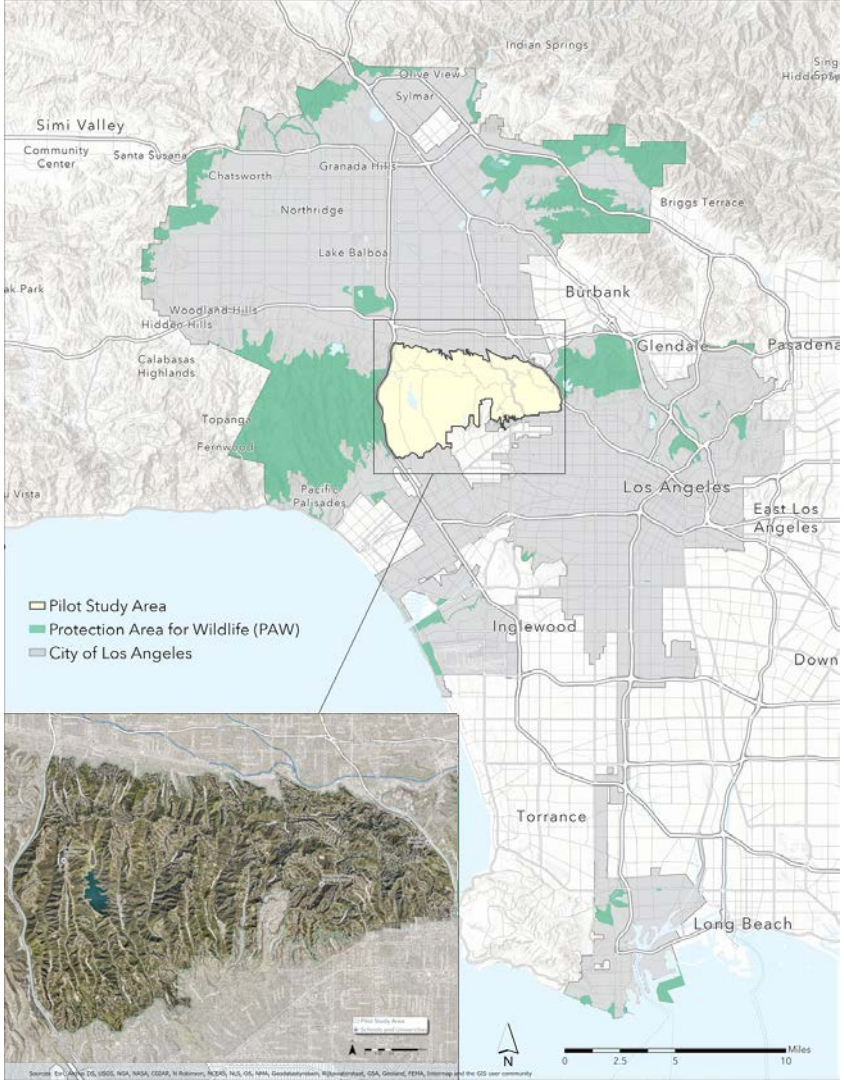
Coast Live Oak

Lancaster
Palmdale
Victorville
Apple Valley
Hesperia
Angeles
National Forest
Ventura
Oxnard
Santa Monica Mountains
Los Angeles
San Bernardino
Riverside
Anaheim
Long Beach
Irvine
5
210
210
10
605
110
710
5
405
15
405
10
Los Angeles is the only major city in the U.S. with a major mountain range running through it...

How can we make Los Angeles more livable for us and “others”?

Olive View
Sylmar
imi Valley
Santa Susana
Chatsworth
Granada Hills
Northridge
Briggs Terrace
Lake Balboa
Burbank
Woodland Hills
Hidden Hills
Calabasas Highlands
Glendale
Topanga
Fernwood
Pacific Palisades
Topanga Beach
Los Angeles
East Los Angeles
Inglewood
Torrance
Long Beach
Ecological Significance
Pilot Study Area
Significant Ecological Area (SEA)
Rim of the Valley (RIVA)
City of Los Angeles
N
0
2.5
5
10
Miles

Olive View
Sylmar
imi Valley
Santa Susana
Chatsworth
Granada Hills
Northridge
Briggs Terrace
Lake Balboa
Burbank
Woodland Hills
Hidden Hills
Calabasas Highlands
Glendale
Topanga
Fernwood
Pacific Palisades
Topanga Beach
Los Angeles
East Los Angeles
Inglewood
Torrance
Long Beach
Fire Hazard Zones
High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
City of Los Angeles
N
0
2.5
5
10
Miles



Potential Protection Areas for Wildlife (PAWs)

Water remains a significant resource for wildlife and vegetation. The National Hydrology Dataset is the most comprehensive survey of water sources, maintained and managed by the US Geological Survey to provide high quality, nationwide dataset for GIS mapping and analysis of water features and conveyance.

Wetlands are important features of the landscape that are beneficial for habitats and humans. In general terms, wetlands are identified by the presence of water saturating soil which determines the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and its surface. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) established by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) provides information on location of wetlands as well as the type of wetlands to aid in conservation efforts.

Riparian areas are plant communities contiguous to and affected by surface and subsurface hydrologic features of perennial or intermittent water bodies (rivers, streams, lakes, or drainage ways). They serve as important areas for wildlife habitats.

Parks and Open Space can serve as natural areas for wildlife habitats while providing recreational opportunities to people. This map shows all public parks and open spaces -City, County, State- as well as privately-owned properties belonging to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

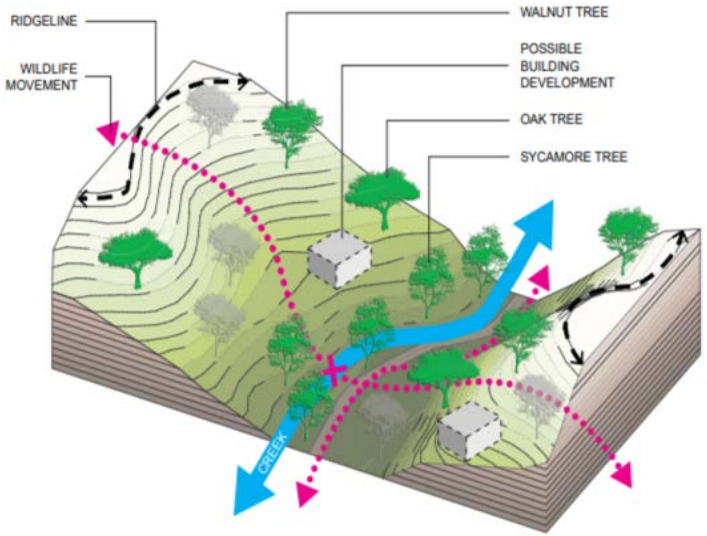
Ridgelines represents the topmost geologic feature of a chain of mountains or hills that form a continuous elevation. They are largely undeveloped and serve as natural pathways for wildlife. The City's proposed Ridgeline Ordinance identifies ridgelines 600ft+ elevation.

Flood Advisory Zones (2015) developed by FEMA : This map displays zones A & D as areas of highest risk of flooding or considered as hazard areas associated with precipitation, which includes high risk for mudflow and debris flow. These events can occur in post-wildfire areas as well as non-fire impacted watersheds.

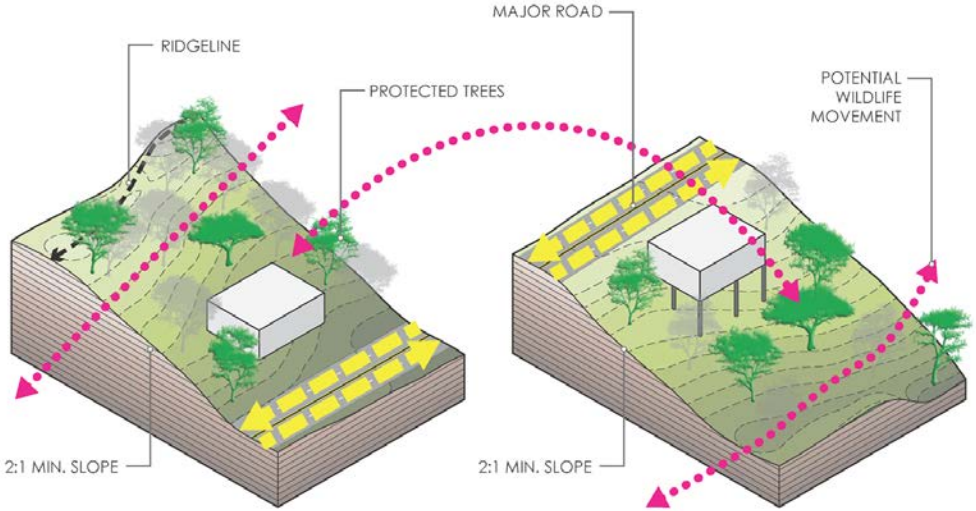
*These maps display preliminary information based on limited available data and will be updated.

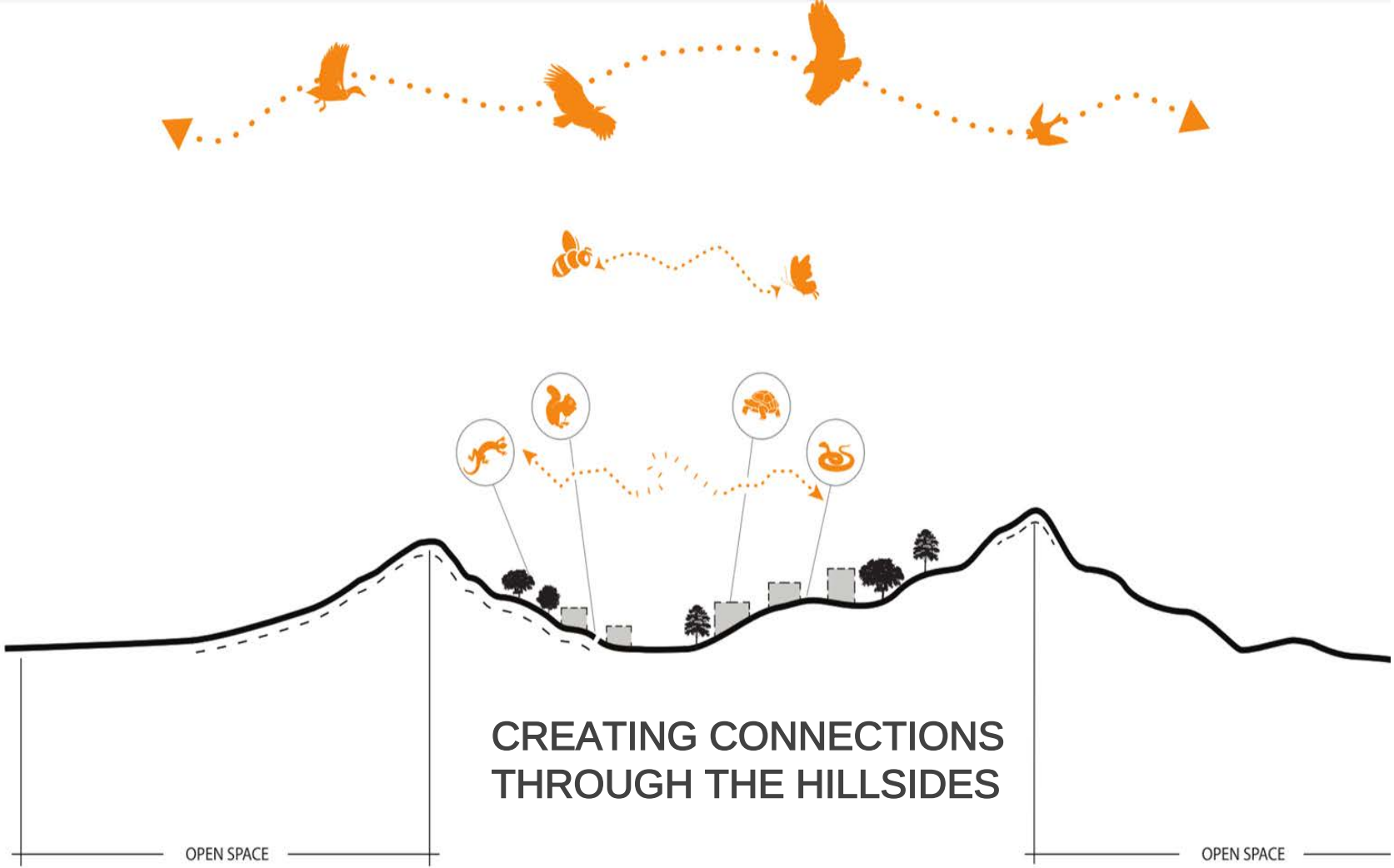
TYPICAL HILLSIDE CONDITIONS

STREAM ADJACENT PROPERTY

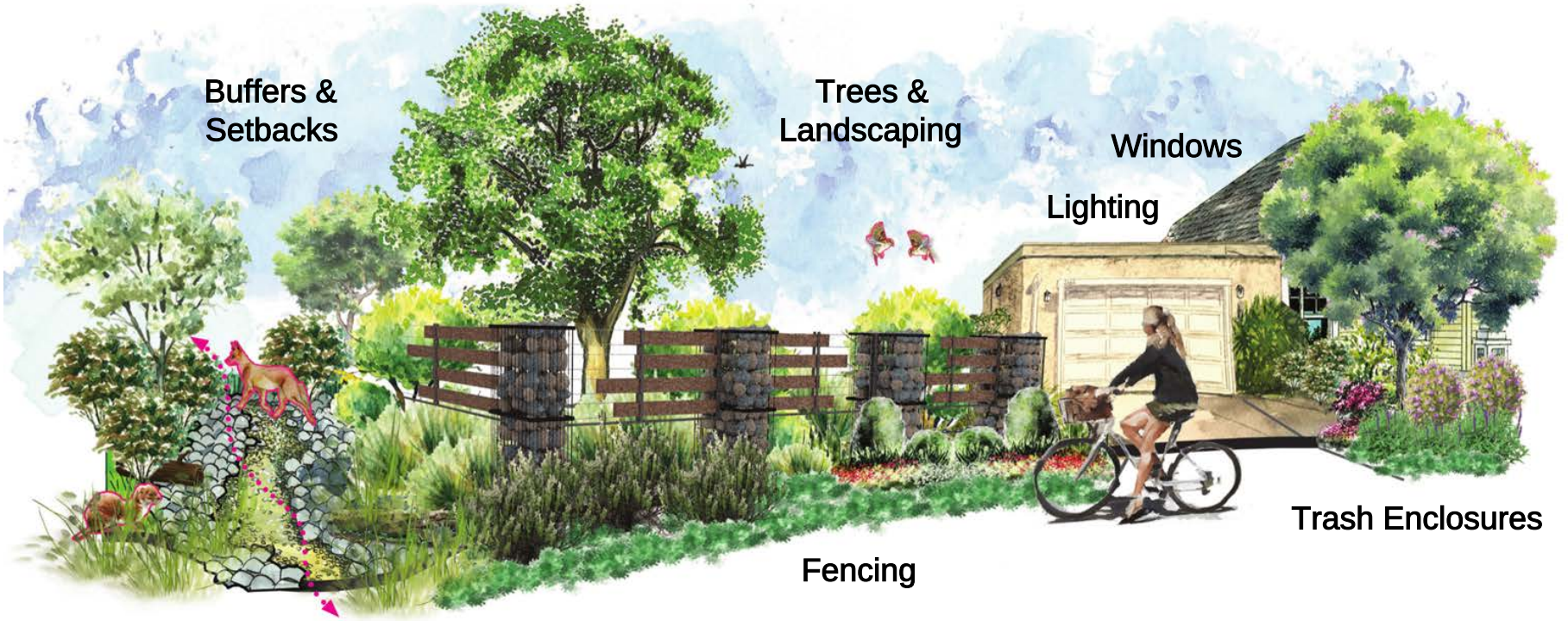


ROAD ADJACENT PROPERTY




CREATING CONNECTIONS
THROUGH THE HILLSIDES
OPEN SPACE
OPEN SPACE

How Can Planning Help Enhance Wildlife Habitat & Connectivity?



NEXT STEPS...

- Review feedback
- Continue to meet with partners
- Draft ordinance
- Public hearings
- Adoption

Thank you for participating!

Timeline

We look forward to CONNECTING with you!

Conni Pallini-Tipton, AICP
Senior City Planner, Policy Planning
Los Angeles City Planning
213.978.1179
conni.pallini-tipton@lacity.org

Lena Mik
Associate City Planner
Los Angeles City Planning
213.978.2717
lena.mik@lacity.org

Nina Phinouwong
Planning Assistant
Los Angeles City Planning
213.978.1302
nina.phinouwong@lacity.org

Kat Superfisky, ESA Certified Ecologist
Urban Ecologist
Los Angeles City Planning
213.978.1917
kat.superfisky@lacity.org

https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/initiatives-policies/sustainability