

# STORMWATER SYSTEM

## Fact Sheet

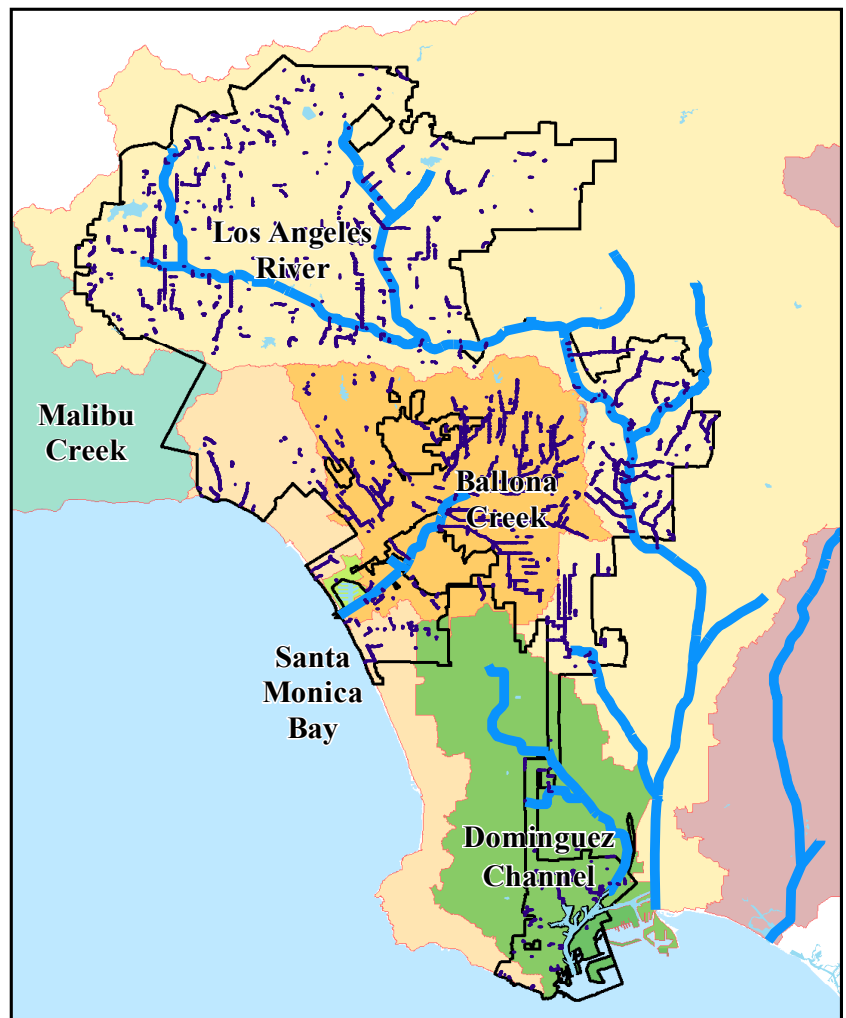
### OVERVIEW

- o 4 watersheds - over 1,300 square miles
- o Managed by City, County and USACE
- o Stormwater flows are tens of million gallons on dry days and over 10 billion gallons on rainy days

### SUPPLEMENTARY FACT SHEETS

LADWP is currently developing the Stormwater Capture Master Plan, which will serve as a guide for policy makers and will outline strategies for the next 20 years to implement stormwater and watershed management programs, projects, and policies in the City of Los Angeles that will contribute to a more sustainable local water supply. *(Please Refer to Water Supply Fact Sheet)*

LA Sanitation's (LA SAN) Watershed Protection Program focus is to protect the beneficial uses of receiving waters while complying with all flood control and pollution abatement regulations. There are many efforts underway to ensure compliance with water quality regulations. One of these efforts is the development of the Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP). *(Please Refer to Watershed Protection Program Fact Sheet)*



### EXISTING MAJOR FACILITIES/PROGRAMS

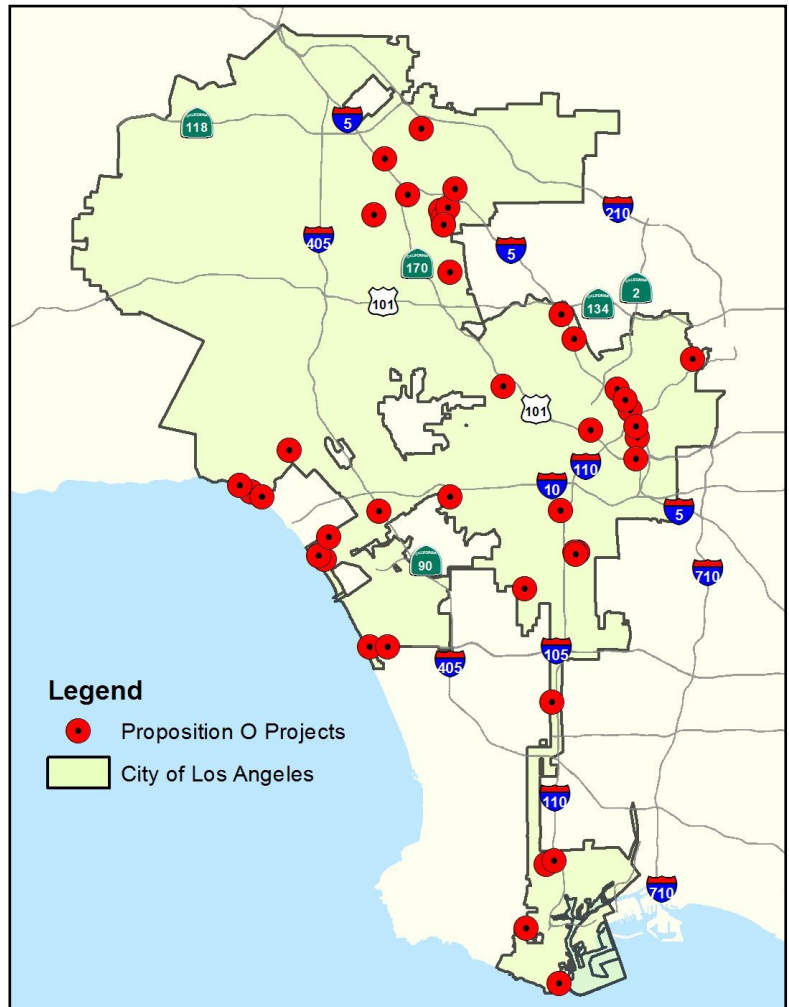
The City's stormwater management system consists of a combination of both "gray" and "green" infrastructure. Gray infrastructure refers to storm drains, catch basins, and low-flow diversion structures. Green infrastructure refers to infrastructure resulting from Low Impact Development (LID), Proposition O projects, Green Streets and Green Alleys, etc. Existing and planned green infrastructure helps the City efficiently manage stormwater and prevent stormwater pollution, offset potable water use, improve flood avoidance, and augment green spaces within the City.

#### Gray infrastructure includes the following items:

- o 1500 miles of pipes
- o 100 miles of open channels
- o 38,000 catch basins
- o 13 low-flow diversion structures

## Green infrastructure includes the following items:

- **LID Ordinance** - Effective in 2012, it requires all runoff generated from a 3/4 inch storm to be managed on site. It applies to all development and redevelopment projects that require a building permit to create, add, or replace an impervious area of 500 square feet or more. Over 200 projects are reviewed and approved each month.
- **Proposition O Projects** - Passed in November 2004, it authorized the City to issue a series of general obligation bonds for up to \$500 million for projects to protect public health by reducing pollution in the City's watercourses, beaches and the ocean, to meet Clean Water Act requirements. Numerous storm water projects with multiple benefits are funded by Proposition O and are either planned, under construction, or have been completed.
- **Green Streets/Green Alleys** - This program is led by the Green Streets Committee, an inter-departmental committee that identifies storm water capture and infiltration opportunities within City streets and alleys and develops guidelines and standard plans to implement green elements. Numerous projects and seven standard plans and design guidelines that developers can follow when building green streets and green alleys have resulted from this program.



## PLANNED MAJOR FACILITIES/PROGRAMS

- **LA River Revitalization** - Completed in 2007, the LA River Revitalization Master Plan identifies issues affecting the Los Angeles River revitalization and recommends a series of management actions and proposed projects to improve the Los Angeles River environment. For more information, please visit [www.lariverrmp.org](http://www.lariverrmp.org).
- **Enhanced Watershed Management Plans (EWMPs)** - The City, along with other agencies, organizations and stakeholders, is working to develop EWMPs for each of LA's watersheds. Each EWMP will identify current and future multi-benefit projects that will improve water quality, promote water conservation, enhance recreational opportunities, manage flood risk, improve local aesthetics, and support public education opportunities. EWMP plans must be developed and submitted to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board by June 2015. *(Please refer to Stormwater Program Fact Sheet)*
- The Green Streets Committee will develop additional standard plans and design guidelines.

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Continuing to plan for flood avoidance
- Continuing to comply with water quality regulations
- Balancing flow reductions downstream resulting from upstream capture/infiltration
- Providing sufficient water to maintain habitat in LA River