

MUJERES DE LA TIERRA

Principios y Comunidad: Principles that Redefine Strategies & Approaches for Impactful Community Engagement

Engagement Project
August 2019 - March 2020

Report written by
Mujeres de la Tierra
MAY 2020 ©

Mujeres de la Tierra Mission Statement

Mujeres de la Tierra is an environmental **equity** nonprofit founded with the **guiding principles** of respect, advocacy, self-determination, bravery, and creativity.

Mujeres inspires the healing of La Madre Tierra by working to build grassroots community leadership and capacity among historically unrecognized communities, especially among those that are low-income, immigrant and/or communities of color.

We firmly believe in the power of one and that community action and social change starts with an individual's commitment to move, inspire, mobilize and lead. Our engagement efforts provide tools of empowerment by using facts, data, and science with culturally relevant tools and platforms. We are connected to community through local residents' input, *pláticas*, listening sessions and other means of interactive conversations and communication.

Our Vision and Moral Compass guides us to:

- Engage to Empower
- Nurture and Amplify Voices to Speak Up and Speak Out
- Be Respectful
- Educate and Inform not Indoctrinate
- Be Honest –“Replace Fear in our Hearts with Facts in our Head”
- Be Transparent: Communications are based on Facts, Science and Data
- Cultivate Leadership and Ownership
- Listen with Ears, Eyes, Head and Corazón, and
- Strengthen the Work through Collaboration and Partnerships

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Our Process

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This is a pivotal time in the history of water conservation in the County and City of Los Angeles. In 2016, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure A, the Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks & Beaches Measure, to repair neighborhood parks, provide after school programming for children, conserve water, and protect and preserve undeveloped open spaces. Measure A replaced expiring dedicated funding from Propositions A of 1992 and 1996. The measure generates approximately \$94 million per year and has no sunset date. Prior to its passage, there was a report finding and understanding that the quality of parks and open spaces was vastly different across all eighty-eight cities and unincorporated communities in Los Angeles County. While certain communities had an abundance of beautiful parks and open spaces, other communities had limited and deteriorating parks. The latter were more often low-income communities of color. In other words, there was clear park inequity and Measure A was designed to address that inequity.

Additionally, in 2018, voters approved Measure W, the Safe, Clean, Water Program, to improve water quality, increase local water supply, and enhance community open spaces across Los Angeles County. Measure W has an estimated annual revenue of up to \$285 million and as of early 2020 money has become available. The funding will continue until ended by county voters. Measure W is unique in that every city across the county will receive direct funding (proportional to the funding generated within its boundaries) to create multi-benefit projects that address local stormwater and urban runoff challenges. Measure W prioritizes nature-based solutions and multiple benefit projects. Fundamentally, the measure will conserve our precious water resource and create healthier communities across every city in Los Angeles County.

There is tremendous opportunity for Measure A and Measure W to significantly impact the structural environmental and health inequities in the County and the City of Los Angeles. As a result, this project understood the importance of taking the community's individual and collective pulse for green infrastructure investments and developing an educational and culturally relevant engagement model that bridged public health, water resiliency, and advocacy.

Working collaboratively with the Nature Conservancy, The Prevention Institute, and Friends of the Los Angeles River, Mujeres' goal was to build capacity for community members in Cypress Park, Glassell Park, Elysian Valley, Atwater Village, and the greater Northeast Los Angeles community to influence the direction of future nature-based investments. We defined nature-based investments as practices that heal La Madre Tierra by utilizing vegetation, soils, and other natural elements to restore natural processes required to manage rainwater and create healthier urban environments.

Central to our definition of tools of capacity was the opportunity and inspiration for community members to remain informed and connected to share their own opinions. These tools also included the understanding of water conservation, the multi-benefits of nature-based investments, the funding opportunities available for park and open space enhancement and water improvement and conservation efforts, and the local decision making processes. Mujeres sought to equip community members with these tools through tours of local stormwater capture projects, *platicas*, presentations at stakeholder groups, individual conversations with non-traditional community leaders, and targeted community gatherings and family-focused activities. Ultimately, we planned to gather and document the values community members believed should guide future nature-based investments. These goals were measured through the following deliverables:

- Project Team Training
- Landscape Research and Planning
- Support Development of Messaging Points and Project Outreach Materials
- Door-to-door Canvassing (Approximately 500-900 residences)
- *Platicas* and Listening Sessions (7-10 *platicas*)
- Community Events (At least 10 community events)
- Bilingual Workshops (1-2 workshops)
- Bilingual Tours (2-4 tours)
- Cultivate Engagement of Stakeholders
- Support Awareness of Project Outreach Events through Internet Platforms
- Monthly Reports
- Monthly Conference Calls
- Attend Advisory Committee Meetings



Platica with Parents from Alliance
Leichtman-Levine Environmental
Science High School



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Our engagement efforts focused on four neighborhoods in Northeast Los Angeles: Cypress Park, Elysian Valley, Glassell Park, and Atwater Village. These neighborhoods are intricately connected to the Los Angeles River as well as the water, flora, and fauna that flow within the River.

Taylor Yard can be seen as a historical point of connection for these four neighborhoods. In the 1890s, the Union Pacific Railroad Company built a 244-acre rail-yard known as Taylor Yard along the Los Angeles River, near Glassell Park and Cypress Park. The rail-yard provided job opportunities to local families and residents, some of which lived at the site. Given its operational uses, Taylor Yard was known to contain hazardous contaminants. After over a century, the railyard ceased all operations and the property was sold into separate parcels. Many residents who worked at Taylor Yard continued their lives in adjacent Northeast Los Angeles neighborhoods.

In the past few years, the four neighborhoods have experienced changes resulting from the development of former Taylor Yard property. These changes have led to significant gentrification, evictions, and displacement, themes that are further discussed in Section VIII. Taylor Yard was divided into parcels and sold separately. One hundred and seventy-five acres have been cleaned up from past contamination and developed into schools, parks, residential buildings, and businesses. Sixty-nine acres remain vacant and undeveloped. Currently, public agencies with property ownership and responsibility at Taylor Yard are launching a partnership to jointly plan and develop 100-acres of open space along the LA River. The 100-acre partnership at Taylor Yard will collaborate to create the single largest open space along the LA River in over 100 years using remnants of the former rail yard. The first joint project will bring a full mile of river access—major progress toward revitalizing the LA River into a treasure that is accessible to all Angelenos. The input, opinions, and concerns from residents in the surrounding communities and neighborhoods will continue to remain essential.

The following statistics are the current demographics in each neighborhood:

- Cypress Park: Population 9,530, 89% poverty rate, 87.3% Hispanic, 5.7% White, 9.4% Asian, \$43.5K median household income
- Elysian Valley: Population 6,768, 81% poverty rate, 68.9% Hispanic, 10% White, 18.8% Asian, \$47.8K median household income
- Glassell Park: Population 22,976, 50% poverty rate, 57.9% Hispanic, 17.4% White, 19.9% Asian, \$55.3K median household income
- Atwater Village: Population 14,097, 19% poverty rate, 45% Hispanic, 28.9% White, 22.5% Asian, \$64.9K median household income

All neighborhood statistics were gathered from CalEnvironmental Screen 3.0 and Statistical Atlas. Images are courtesy of The River Project.

Summary of Outcomes

Our engagement efforts from August 2019 to March 2020 highlight the voices of community members that have historically been unrecognized and disenfranchised from most matters and issues regarding their neighborhoods and community. This includes Latina/o children, elders, and families as well as low-income, unhoused, undocumented, and indigenous community members and residents. These community members have lived with generations of built environmental inequities and this project aimed to change that by uplifting the power and use of their voices. We found this aspect of the project to be the most challenging and yet, transformative. Many residents live with ever-present fears related to their intersecting identities that discourage them from being involved in community matters. These identities include their status as low-paying workers, tenants, and undocumented community members.

Once we were able to dive into the project content, we found outpouring support for nature-based investments in the community. These results were generated from listening to 166 community members through *platicas*, engaging over 500 people through our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* efforts (which in English translates to, “Walking through Community Spaces”), speaking to more than 2,000 people through community tabling events, and coordinating 2 bilingual tours of stormwater capture projects with the participation of 25 residents. Residents, particularly mothers, understood that when we attempt to heal La Madre Tierra and address the climate crisis, we create outdoor spaces that conserve rainwater, promote physical activity, reduce stress, offer local jobs, and produce cleaner and healthier air.

Coupled with this support, however, were fears about gentrification and displacement. We found that community members are deeply concerned that new parks and open spaces are not planned with their input and in fact, they encourage and exacerbate gentrification. In the end, residents fear that they will not reap any of the benefits that come from nature-based investments.



Platicas

Facilitated 8 informal conversations with 166 community residents.



Caminando por Espacios

Connected with over 500 residents through our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios*.



Community Tabling Events

Participated in 7 community tabling events and engaged over 2,000 residents.



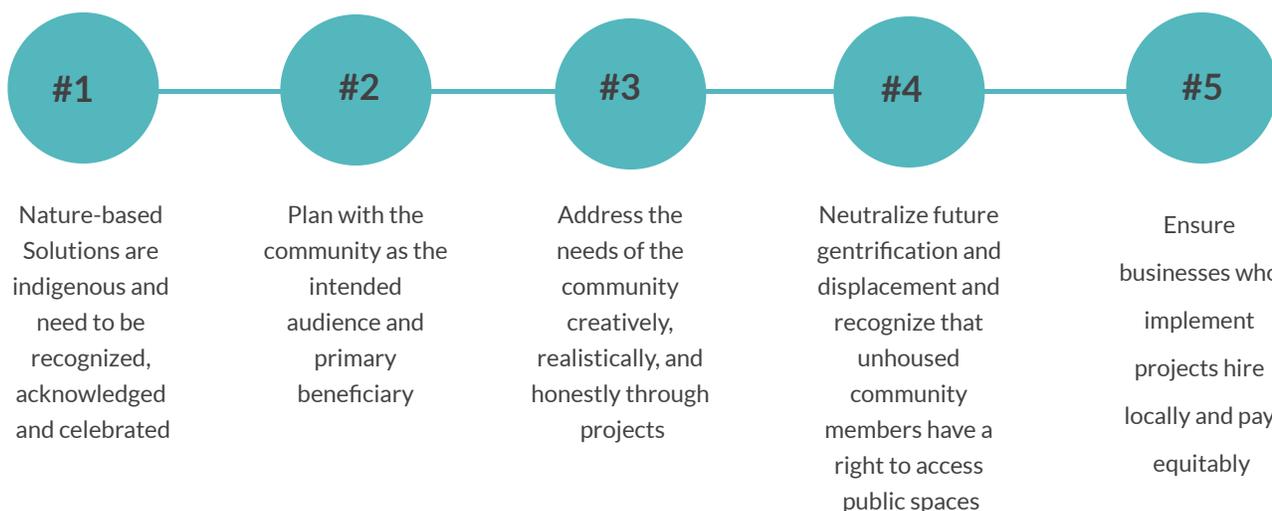
Bilingual Tours

Facilitated 2 bilingual tours in English and Spanish of local stormwater capture projects with the participation of 25 residents.

These fears are real. In Northeast Los Angeles, gentrified neighborhoods come at a cost to the social and economic health of families and residents. When they lose their apartments or homes and/or see friends and families lose their own, their supportive social networks and informal neighborhood leadership systems are disrupted. Fears of gentrified neighborhoods also have to do with the closing of local *tienditas* or markets. As housing costs rise and new businesses open, it becomes more difficult for residents to purchase basic food essentials, such as rice, beans, eggs, and milk. Residents want future projects to embrace the generations of families who have lived in these neighborhoods and actively work to maintain all the elements that make up their rich and vibrant neighborhoods.

In conclusion, the following are the five key themes we found community members believe should guide future nature-based investments in the area: (1) Nature-based investments are indigenous and thus, should be acknowledged and celebrated; (2) Plan with the community as the intended audience and primary beneficiary; (3) Address the needs of the community creatively, realistically, and honestly through projects; (4) Neutralize future gentrification and displacement and recognize that all residents, including unhoused community members, have a right to access public spaces; and, (5) Ensure businesses who implement projects hire locally and pay equitably. Additionally, community members would like future engagement to: (1) Promote genuine relationship building; (2) Conduct engagement through a neighborhood by neighborhood approach; (3) Ensure project transparency; and, (4) Host meetings that follow a set of practices (explained further in Section VIII). We hope these principles inform partner agencies and local leadership about what is important for community residents in Northeast Los Angeles. We also hope they demonstrate how entities must change their sets of principles, techniques, and approaches when interfacing with community in future projects.

Principles for Future Nature-based Investments in Northeast Los Angeles



Our Methodology

Our methods of engagement began with gentle gestures of acknowledgment and appreciation. We greeted folks to meetings as though we were welcoming them into our homes. Prior to discussing the project, we spoke of Mujeres' moral compass, history, and accomplishments. One of our first lessons was that listening is important but cultural listening is impactful. When community members spoke, we listened by attentively looking at their body language and leaning into the conversation. We took everything they said seriously and with a respectful understanding of their cultural background. When we were out in the community, we were transparent about who we were and what we were doing.

When people feel welcomed and respected, they feel valued and comfortable. When working with community, this approach generates honest questions and conversations. It sets the foundation for the building of authentic relationships.

In addition to this understanding, Mujeres de la Tierra's community engagement strategies were guided by the following:



Butterfly Making Platica with Cypress Park and Glassell Park Residents

A Family-First Approach

Mujeres de la Tierra recognizes that in Northeast Los Angeles, a family-first approach incentivizes community members to attend meetings. This meant we framed the benefits of nature-based investments through the perspective of mothers, children, and families. We ensured our meetings provided age-appropriate educational and entertaining programming for children and youth. We also collaborated with local schools to inform and engage parents, such as Dorris Place Elementary School, Florence Nightingale Middle School, Alliance Leichtman-Levine Family Foundation Environmental Science High School, and Sotomayor Arts and Sciences Magnet.

Relevant Cultural Messaging and Communication

Mujeres revised the project’s vocabulary to ensure a connection between the project’s goals and community members. Our goal was to draft language that was plain, clear, and relatable. We know that when people form a connection to a place or concept, they break down barriers impeding learning. In addition to translating all English content into Spanish, we had to revise most English vocabulary. We learned early on that for many English speakers, the word “green infrastructure” seemed foreign. When they tried to guess what it meant, most thought it had to do with cement and potentially trees. As a result, we transitioned from using “green infrastructure” to “nature-based investments.”

Through our process of creating this vocabulary, staff developed the first draft and convened a small meeting with community members to provide feedback and finalize meaningful word choices and definitions. For instance, our team spent about two hours defining and redefining the word “nature-based solutions” in English and Spanish with non-traditional neighborhood leaders and stakeholders. This revision process was essential to the success of this project. (Please refer to the Glossary section for examples of these terms.)

Platicas

Our *platicas* are brief casual conversations with community members. The goal of our *platicas* is to meet community members in spaces they are familiar and comfortable with and to provide them with educational tools prior to inviting them to a workshop. In this way, community members are familiar with the underlying workshop content and are equipped to ask informed questions. In this project, *platicas* ranged from 30-minute conversations to an hour and a half. They also varied in number depending on the culture, request, and availability of each community group.

Re-envisioning Canvassing: *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios*

When this project first began, Mujeres planned to coordinate traditional door-to-door canvassing. However, because of the concerns we heard from community leaders regarding deportations and unsafe streets, our engagement team re-envisioned canvassing. We developed *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* as a means of listening to community members’ stories, opinions, and concerns in public spaces. After extensive field research and visits, we spoke to community members at their children’s schools, community centers, laundromats, taco stands, and bus stops, amongst other spaces. Our goal was to meet community members in spaces they visit regularly and are comfortable with.

We documented these 10-15 minute individual conversations in two distinct ways: a questionnaire and personal notes written by our engagement team members. The questionnaire was devised for the purposes of statistical analysis about how community members would like to be engaged in future projects. We soon realized, however, that meaningful conversations were taking place prior, during, and after community members took the questionnaire. These conversations were not being recorded. As a result, we provided our engagement team members with personal journals to write down these oral stories. Thereafter, we would meet with our team to discuss their thoughts and lessons learned.



ORIENTATION & TRAINING OF FIELD TEAM

Mujeres prides itself on hiring residents from the local community to lead our on-the-ground engagement. In addition to strengthening the environmental consciousness and leadership of local community members, this approach allows us to provide jobs to community members for engaging their own neighbors. Mujeres' belief is that community members know their neighborhoods best and we have much to learn from their expertise, such as a given street block's culture and word-of-mouth networks.

Mujeres was able to contract three mothers from Cypress Park and Elysian Valley to carry-out our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* efforts. All three of the women are native Spanish speakers and also understand and speak English. They have lived in their respective neighborhoods from 5 to 19 years. Prior to walking around the neighborhood, we held a three-part training series to discuss the project goals, the climate crisis, and water and the urbanization of Los Angeles County. For instance, we discussed the indigenous people of the area, the 1930s floods, the channelization of the Los Angeles River as well as the history of Taylor Yard and the current sewage system. The entire engagement team had previously taken tours of local stormwater capture projects. Lastly, we provided the women with extensive bilingual engagement materials and an opportunity to practice the talking points prior to going into the community. During their first outing, members of the Mujeres team accompanied them to provide support.



Mujeres de la Tierra,
Engagement Field Team

ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES



As a means of equipping community members with capacity tools, Mujeres outlined and executed a series of engagement activities. We met with 166 community members through *platicas*, engaged over 500 residents through our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* fieldwork, spoke to more than 2,000 people at community tabling events, and coordinated 2 bilingual tours of stormwater capture projects with the participation of 25 residents. In Northeast Los Angeles, there are strong word-of-mouth networks and we believe an additional 500-1000 people were touched through this project.

Although we do not have exact figures, we recognize and value the informal communication systems that flourish in the area. These can be seen while parents wait for their children to come out of school or after school park and recreational activities. They also include conversations at church gatherings, dinner tables, and community organization meetings. The following pages list our tangible deliverables and key lessons learned.

Platicas and Listening Sessions

Audience Reached: 166 community members

List of *Platicas*:

- #1- Parents from Cypress Park
- #2- Butterfly Making with Cypress Park and Glassell Park Residents
- #3- Parents from Alliance Leichtman-Levine Environmental Science High School
- #4- Acción Comunitaria
- #5- Anahuak Youth Soccer Association Coaches
- #6- Northeast Los Angeles Tenants Union
- #7- Students from Alliance Leichtman Levine Environmental Science High School
- #8- Unidas por NELA



Platica with Parents from Alliance Leichtman-Levine Environmental Science High School



Platica with Anahuak Youth Soccer Association Coaches

Platicas and Listening Sessions

Key Lessons Learned:

- Community members are experiencing meeting fatigue
- Meetings should be conducted in Spanish with English translation. If not available, interpretation in Spanish should be provided by a professional interpretation service, literal translation preferred
- All meeting materials should be provided both in English and in Spanish, including agenda, powerpoint presentations, brochures, etc.
- Meetings should provide childcare that includes refreshments and relevant activities. If possible, children activities should be located in a separate location from general meeting
- Meeting agendas should be publicized prior to the meeting
- Meeting length should not exceed 90 minutes and should start and end on time
- Parents will be involved in projects when it involves the safety, health, and future of their children and families
- The development of long-term trust and a sense of actively belonging in the community is critical to successfully delivering a message to community members
- The public want to know the history of the site to fully understand the complexities and challenges of what will it take to build a project on the site. This is critical if the site is contaminated because the public made it clear to us that they never get informed when soil testing is going to take place or the results of the soil testing including all aspects of brownfield remediation.
- Consider everyone's opinion, including that of unhoused community members
- Future projects should hire locally and ensure equitable pay
- Residents want to know where our water comes from, if their drinking water is safe and the cycle of water locally
- Collaborate with Neighborhood Councils to inform and invite residents regarding community projects

Platicas and Listening Sessions

Key Lessons Learned:

Youth groups:

- Students are interested in participating in future projects but would like to be engaged at the beginning of a project and not after everything has been defined
- Elementary school students in Elysian Valley want to work on projects that bring back the frogs
- Students are curious to know how their natural surroundings and contaminated lands impact their health, such as air quality and water quality
- Collaborate with schools to communicate information to students and families, such as meeting information
- Reach out to students by hosting presentations at their schools
- Collaborate with teens to use social media platforms and other technological forms of engagement to engage their peers. These could include, Instagram, Snapchat, and live stream watch parties

Elder groups:

- Engagement should include entertaining activities
- Consider reaching out to established networks of senior groups through LA City Department of Parks & Recreation, and senior centers
- Meet with them during the day and provide refreshments
- Attend their special celebrations and gatherings
- Take the time to really listen to their feedback



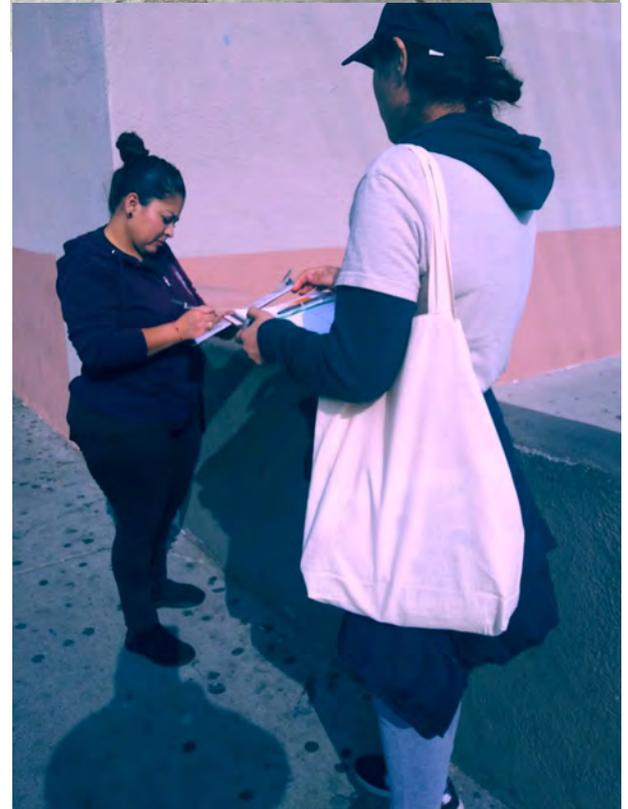
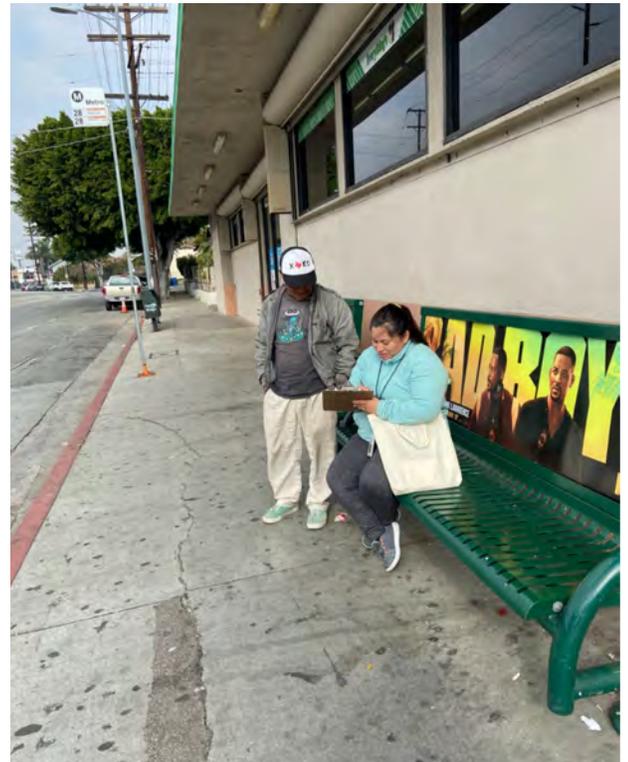
Danza blessing by Xipe Totec

Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios Fieldwork

Audience Reached: 500+ community members

Key Lessons Learned:

- Safety and security are a key concern for community residents
- Many community members feel that their opinions are not important because they are “only” tenants/renters
- Some of the people that answered the questionnaires were pleasantly surprised that an organization wanted to know their thoughts and opinions
- Community members want to see projects where their feedback is considered. They want to see real results from their feedback
- Projects should take mobility and transportation issues into consideration
- All planned projects should be compliant to ADA standards including playground equipment, parking, bathrooms
- Some people did not want to fill out the questionnaire because they feared it would trigger their deportation and others believed it was redundant as they had just shared their opinions in the conversations leading up to the questionnaire



Mujeres de la Tierra, *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios*, Fieldwork

Community Tabling Events

Audience Reached: 2,000+ community members



Mujeres de la Tierra, Tabling at Fall Festival, Dorris Place Elementary School

List of Events:

- #1- Tenants' Resource Fair at Cypress Park Branch Library
- #2- Pachanga en las Americas at Audubon Center- Debs Park
- #3- Fall Festival at Dorris Place Elementary School
- #4- 25th Anniversary of Proposition 87 at Rio de Los Angeles State Park
- #5- Cuatro Encuentro Cultural Binacional at Los Angeles Historic State Park
- #6- Community Health Fair at Alliance Leichtman-Levine Environmental Science High School
- #7- Community Connect Day at the Cypress Park Recreational Center

Key Lessons Learned:

- Community members are aware of nature-based solutions as they grew up using these practices in their hometowns/*ranchos*
- Community members want to be a part of the project creation from the beginning. For example, they would like to help plant trees and other activities that promote engagement, participation, and a sense of belonging
- Community members want information based on facts, science and data
- Project transparency means keeping the public informed of all updates, project delays, successes and challenges
- The public needs to know the roles and responsibilities of all agencies and entities that are involved in the project
- Parents would like to see projects that include learning opportunities for children and youth
- Projects must not isolate everyday realities and challenges of families, such as community safety, citizenship status, gentrification, economic security, and cultural history

Bilingual Tours of Local Stormwater Capture Projects

Audience Reached: 25 community members



Community Tour of Ed P. Reyes River Greenway

Key Lessons Learned:

- It is important to physically visit the proposed project locations in order for community members to understand where the land is in relation to their homes, children's schools, and workspaces. This helps them understand how the project can impact their daily lives
- Community members would like to participate in beautification events of their local parks
- They want better functioning parks, ones with sufficient trash cans and proper maintenance
- Explaining the project funding sources is crucial. Community members want to understand why projects are being done and where the funding is coming from



MDLT Community Tour at Bowtie

Observations & Lessons Learned by Field Team

As mentioned previously, Mujeres contracted three women from the local community to lead all fieldwork for this project. Their observations and lessons learned provide a grounded and honest perspective about what it means to be a community leader and engage your own neighbors, friends, and family members.

We first heard that their personal values regarding community engagement were reaffirmed through this project. They found that it is necessary for Latina/o families, youth, and elders to be informed and have a say in what happens in their neighborhoods. Most of the Latina/o residents they spoke to had not previously been involved in community meetings or actions. Additionally, they were glad to see that it does make a difference when you approach and listen to your own community members. They heard direct feedback that they actually “got it” or understood what residents were saying because they too lived in the neighborhood. Lastly, they were reassured that a family-first tailored approach is most effective when engaging residents in their area. By understanding the roles and responsibilities of mothers and families, they were able to gain a distinct understanding of how and when to effectively capture their questions, opinions, and concerns.

The women also informed us that through this project, they realized they shared similar community concerns to their neighbors. Safety, for instance, was the women’s primary concern. They were worried about car robberies, their children getting involved with local gangs, and unlit streets. As they listened to residents in public spaces and conducted the community questionnaire, they found that other residents held similar worries. They heard stories about local gangs robbing street vendors and endless gang tagging on *tienditas* or markets.



Mujeres de la Tierra, Engagement Field Team

Finally, the women said they had a sense of deeper purpose in the community as a result of their involvement in this project. They listened to the daily survival challenges of residents, such as residents being unable to find jobs, struggling to feed their children, and facing landlord harassment. They also heard of community concerns regarding early childhood education, flooding, dog poop, and illegal dumpings. To them, this project helped them feel, see, and strengthen their definition of community building and community resilience. As said directly by one of our field team members, “*Tenemos esperanza de poder regresar y hacer algo*” (“We have hopes of returning and doing something”). In other words, they are eager to go back and speak to their neighbors and collectively act upon the various concerns they heard.



"Tenemos
esperanza de
poder regresar
y hacer algo"

*"We have hopes
of returning and
doing
something"*

Mujeres de la Tierra,
Engagement Field Team

Questionnaire Results & Analysis

INTRODUCTION

Mujeres de la Tierra values the opinion of the community; we assess needs based on feedback and input received. We understand that many times the community's opinions regarding issues affecting them are not solicited, listened to, or given importance. Thus, we developed a questionnaire to serve the community as listeners and bridge-builders. We planned to communicate the questionnaire results with those in positions of power, authority and influence, ensuring the community's opinions and concerns were truly listened to and considered.

This section summarizes data collected from the community questionnaires conducted from January-February 2020 by the Mujeres de la Tierra engagement team. This community questionnaire was part of our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* effort. The purpose of this effort was to walk through neighborhood community spaces and meet residents in places they frequently gather. We solicited their opinions and thoughts about the issues that are most important to them, the future of their neighborhoods, and how they would like to remain engaged for future projects. Although this questionnaire was not part of our deliverables, Mujeres felt that it was important to document the feedback we received from community members when it dealt with their neighborhood issues and availability for community meetings.

The 5-10-minute, voluntary community questionnaire was developed by Mujeres staff with guidance from community members who live in Northeast LA neighborhoods. The questionnaires were conducted primarily at public spaces such as laundromats, bus stops, outside of schools, parks, community centers, store parking lots, among other shared community spaces. The questionnaire was available in both English and Spanish. It consisted of 11 questions that were a combination of multiple-choice and open-ended questions (sample of the survey in English and Spanish is included in the Appendices). A total of 348 completed questionnaires were collected. A total of 180 person-hours were spent in the collection of these surveys.

**348 COMPLETED
QUESTIONNAIRES**

METHODOLOGY

The questionnaire was developed to capture the most important community/neighborhood issues, neighborhood of residence, a preferred form of communications, and dates and times community members are available for community meetings. The purpose was to obtain data about how community members would like to be engaged in future projects. Results were double entered and analyzed in Microsoft Excel, the open-ended questions were categorized by topic areas using codes. A code was assigned when at least 10% of responses fit the code. This allowed us to capture responses that were not anticipated.



Community Participation Questionnaire

1. What neighborhood do you live in? (circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> Cypress Park <input type="checkbox"/> Glassell Park <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Elysian Valley <input type="checkbox"/> Atwater Village														
2. How long have you lived there? _____														
3. Have you visited the LA River? <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, what did you think?: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> If no, why not?: _____														
4. Which community/neighborhood issues are most important to you? _____														
5. What are your thoughts about the land adjacent to the LA River? _____														
6. How and where would you like to receive community updates? (circle all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Text message <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Community center <input type="checkbox"/> Phone call <input type="checkbox"/> Postal mail <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook <input type="checkbox"/> Children's school <input type="checkbox"/> Laundromat <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____														
7. How long in advance would you like to receive community updates? (circle one) <input type="checkbox"/> 48 hours prior <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks prior <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 1 week prior <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month prior														
8. Where would you like community meetings to take place? _____														
9. With regards to community meetings, what days and times of the week work best for you? (circle all that apply) <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Monday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Tuesday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Wednesday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Thursday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Friday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Saturday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Sunday</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Morning (8-11am)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Midday (11am-2pm)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Afternoon (2-6pm)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Evening (6-8pm)</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> </table>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Morning (8-11am)	Midday (11am-2pm)	Afternoon (2-6pm)	Evening (6-8pm)			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday								
Morning (8-11am)	Midday (11am-2pm)	Afternoon (2-6pm)	Evening (6-8pm)											
10. What do you think a community meeting should include? <input type="checkbox"/> Childcare <input type="checkbox"/> Should be in Spanish/have Spanish translation (pick one) <input type="checkbox"/> Parking <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments/food (pick one)														
11. Do you have any additional comment or question? _____														

MTLD_BT_PD_v005

Mujeres de la Tierra, Community Participation Questionnaire

SURVEY RESULTS

Survey Results:

A total of 348 questionnaires were collected. 76% (263) of the questionnaires were responded in Spanish and 24% (85) in English. See Table 1 below.

Table 1:

Neighborhood	English	Spanish	Grand Total
Cypress Park	27	106	133
Glassell Park	27	87	114
Highland Park	6	12	18
Atwater Village	6	10	16
Glendale		10	10
N/A		7	7
Los Angeles	1	5	6
Elysian Valley		6	6
South Gate	1	3	4
Lincoln Heights	1	3	4
South Central	2	1	3
San Fernando Valley	1	2	3
Other:	2		2
El Sereno	2		2
Mt. Washington	2		2
East LA	1	1	2
Eagle Rock	1	1	2
Homeless		1	1
Echo Park		1	1
San Pascual		1	1
Montecito Heights	1		1
Altadena		1	1
Huntington Park		1	1
Los Feliz	1		1
Granada Hills		1	1
Boyle Heights		1	1
City Terrace	1		1
Lincoln Heights		1	1
Downtown LA	1		1
Van Nays	1		1
Fletcher		1	1
Grand Total	85	263	348

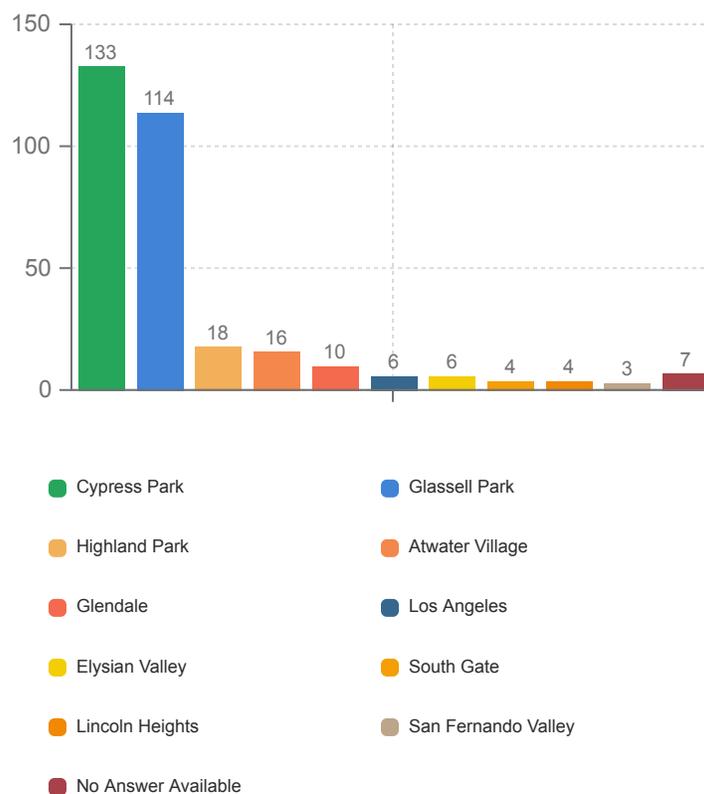
Question 1: What neighborhood do you live in?

When asked, what neighborhood residents lived in, we found that 41.6% (132) (Chart 1) of the questionnaires were filled out by residents from Cypress Park, followed by residents from Glassell Park with 36% (114). Once we assessed these response, our goal was to continue with our *Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios* efforts and focus on Atwater Village and Elysian Valley. This would allow us to have a more inclusive understanding from all four targeted neighborhoods. Unfortunately, we were not able to complete this activity due to the gloabl outrbeak of COVID-19.

Table 2

Neighborhood	English	Spanish	Grand Total	Percentage
Cypress Park	27	106	133	38%
Glassell Park	27	87	114	33%
Highland Park	6	12	18	5%
Atwater Village	6	10	16	5%
Glendale		10	10	3%
N/A		7	7	2%
Los Angeles	1	5	6	2%
Elysian Valley		6	6	2%
South Gate	1	3	4	1%
Lincoln Heights	1	3	4	1%
South Central	2	1	3	1%
San Fernando Valley	1	2	3	1%
Other:	2		2	1%
El Sereno	2		2	1%
Mt. Washington	2		2	1%
East LA	1	1	2	1%
Eagle Rock	1	1	2	1%
Homeless		1	1	0%
Echo Park		1	1	0%
San Pascual		1	1	0%
Montecito Heights	1		1	0%
Altadena		1	1	0%
Huntington Park		1	1	0%
Los Feliz	1		1	0%
Granada Hills		1	1	0%
Boyle Heights		1	1	0%
City Terrance	1		1	0%
Lincoln Hieghts		1	1	0%
Downtown LA	1		1	0%
Van Nays	1		1	0%
Fletcher		1	1	0%
Grand Total	85	263	348	

Chart 1

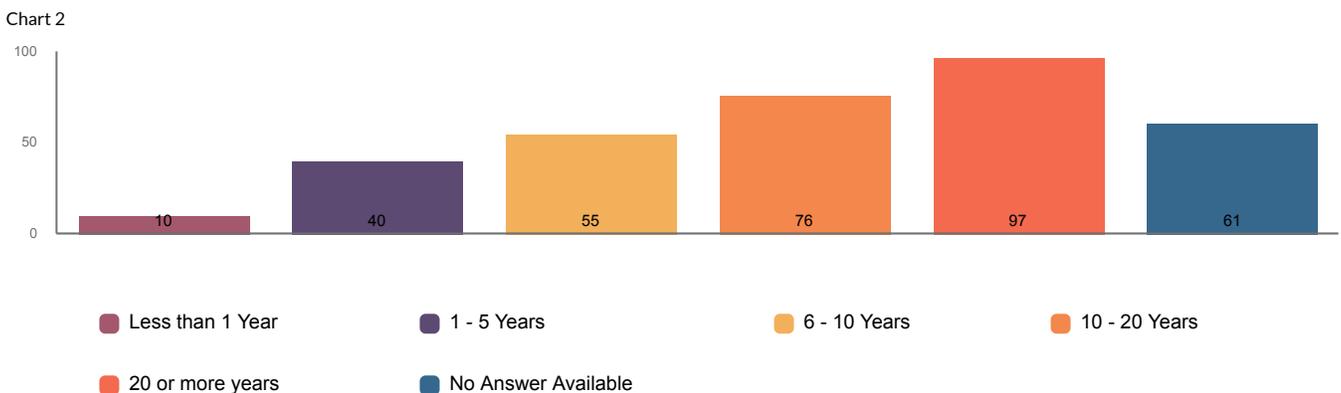


Question 2: How long have you lived there?

29% (97)(Chart 2) of the residents have lived in their respective neighborhood for more than 20 years, while 22% (76)(Chart 2) have lived in their neighborhood for more than 10 years. Ten participants responded, “All my life.” These answers were included in the ‘No answer available’ column because we did not have a numeric value to tabulate the answer. Survey responses indicate that at least 50% of the residents who completed the questionnaire have lived in their neighborhood for at least 10 years.

Table 3

What neighborhood do you live in?	Less than 1 Year	1 - 5 Years	6 - 10 Years	10 - 20 Years	20 or more years	NA	Total
Cypress Park	1	11	21	36	44	19	132
Glassell Park	3	12	18	24	35	22	114
Highland Park		3	2	3	5	5	18
Atwater Village		3	2	2	4	3	14
Glendale	1		1	5	3		10
N/A	1	1	2	1	1	1	7
Los Angeles	2		1		2	1	6
Elysian Valley		2	1	1	1	1	6
Lincoln Heights		1	1			2	4
San Fernando Valley		1		1		1	3
South Central	1			1		1	3
South Gate		1		1		1	3
Other:		1				1	2
Mt. Washington	1			1			2
Eagle Rock		1			1		2
East LA		1				1	2
Fletcher			1				1
Bolye Heights						1	1
Van Nays			1				1
Granada Hills			1				1
Echo Park			1				1
Los Feliz					1		1
Montecito Heights						1	1
Altadena			1				1
Downtown LA		1					1
San Pascual			1				1
Homeless		1					1
Total	10	40	55	76	97	61	339



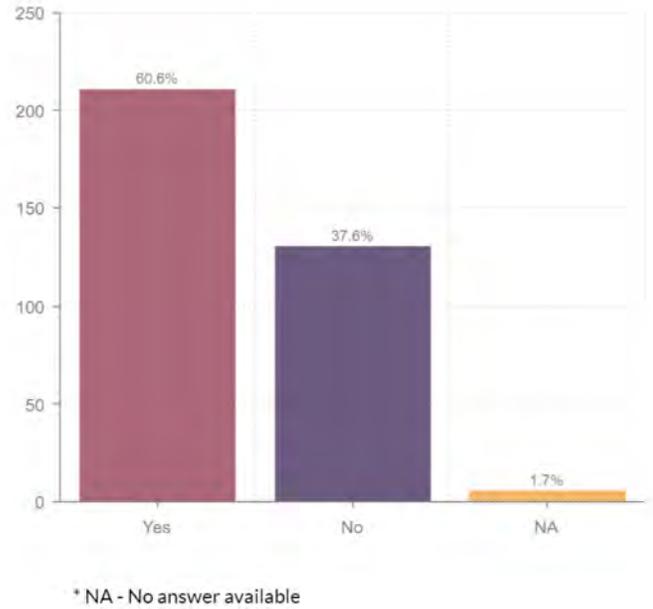
Question 3: Have you visited the Los Angeles River?

When asked if participants had visited the Los Angeles River, 60% (211) (Chart 3) answered Yes. When asked what they thought about the LA River, 27% (57) (Chart 3) responded it was contaminated/dirty and 19% (41) (Chart 3) thought of it as beautiful.

37.6% (131) (Chart 3) answered No, meaning they had not visited the Los Angeles River. When asked why not, 40% (53) (Chart 3) did not answer (left it blank), 25% (33) (Chart 3) answered because of lack of time, and 16% (22) (Chart 3) answered because of lack of awareness.

5 entries were considered as NA as the question was confused with Rio de Los Angeles State Park due to its translation in Spanish, "Rio de los Angeles."

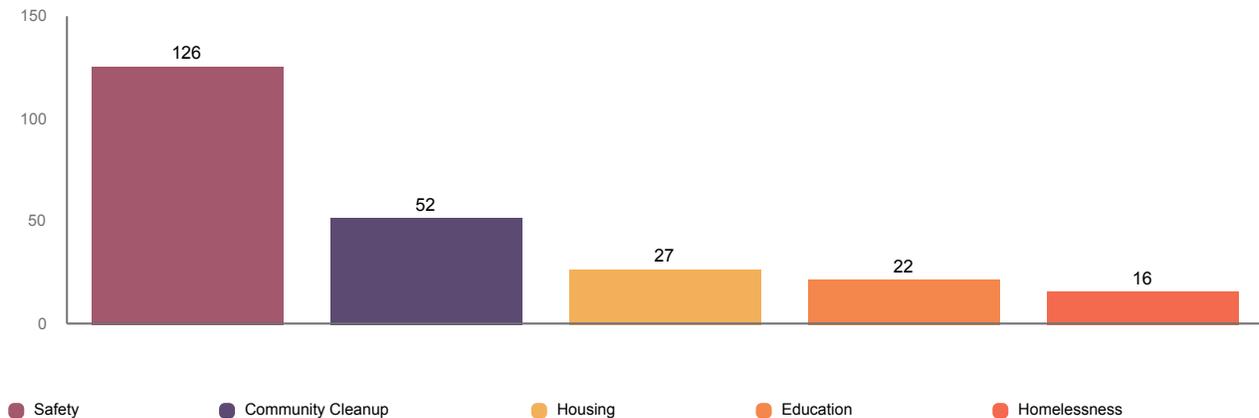
Chart 3



Question 4: What community/neighborhood issues are most important to you?

When asked what community issues were most important to residents, 52% (126)(Chart4) of the answers were related to safety, such as lack of street lighting and gang violence. 21% (52)(Chart 4) answered community cleanup and litter, and 11% (27)(Chart 4) answered housing issues such as gentrification, the need for rent control, and policies regarding displacement.

Chart 4



Question 5: What are your thoughts about the land adjacent to the LA River?

When asked what they thought about the lands adjacent to the LA River, 36% (128) (Table 4) did not answer (left it blank), 20% (70)(Table 4) said they were not aware or had not heard of these land, 10.92% (38)(Tabel4) suggested using it as an open space, and 10.34%(38)(Table4) were concerned about contamination on these sites.

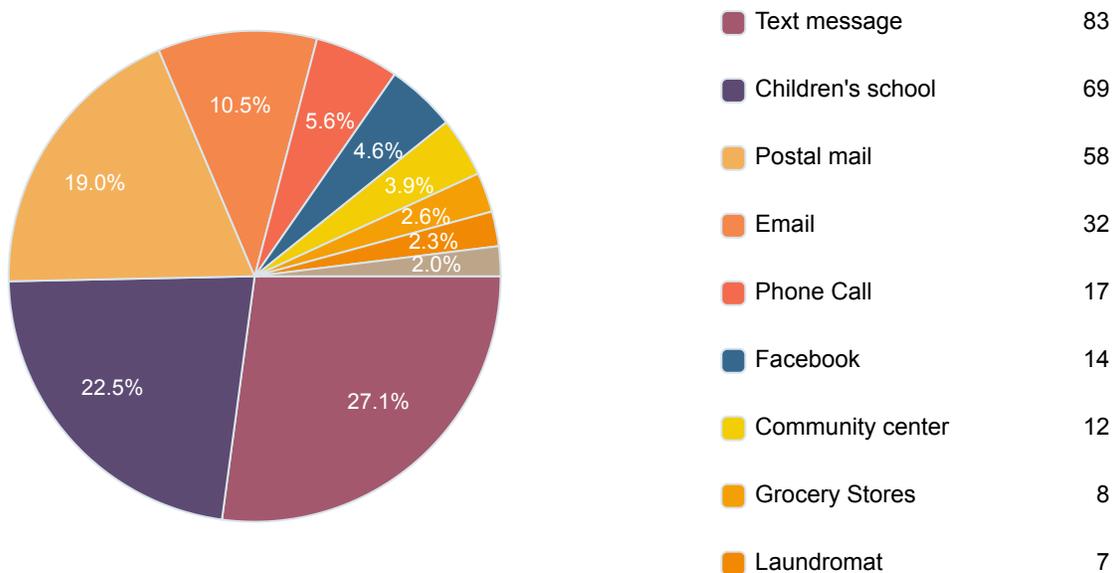
Table 4

What are your thoughts about the land adjacent to the LA River?		
NA	128	36.78%
Not aware of the space	70	20.11%
Use as open space	38	10.92%
Contaminated / Dirty	36	10.34%
For community use	33	9.48%
Housing / Affordable housing	33	9.48%
Safety concerns	5	1.44%
It's OK	3	0.86%
Homelessness	1	0.29%
A place for homeless	1	0.29%
Total	348	

Question 6: How or where would you like to receive community updates?

24% (83)(Chart 5) of the participants answered that they would like to receive updates via text messages, 20% (69) (Chart 5) answered through their children’s school, and 17% (58)(Chart 5) via postal mail, and 3% of the participants suggested other means, such as using local libraries, exercise places, and local newspapers.

Chart 5

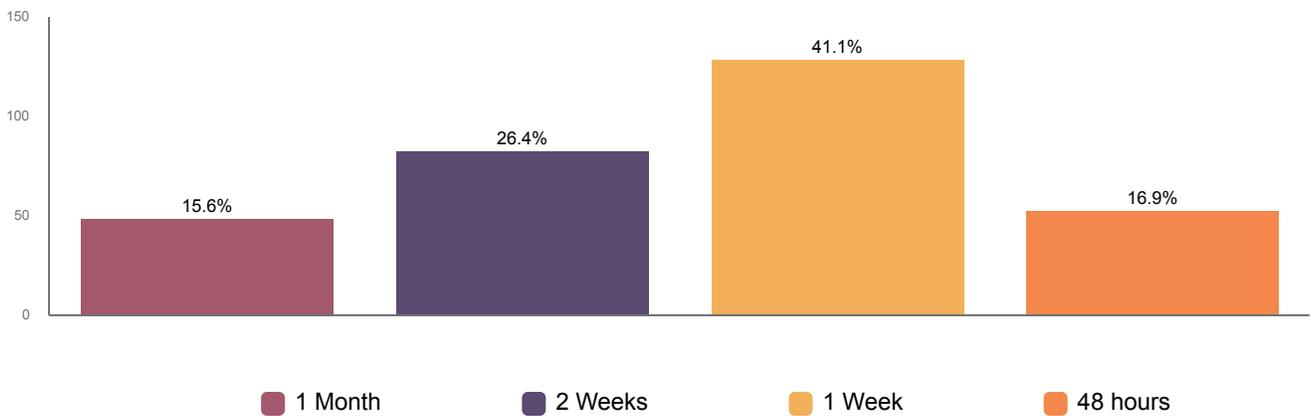


Question 7: How long in advance would you like to receive community updates?

When asked how long in advance they would you like to receive community updates, 41% (129)(Chart 6) selected 1 week in advance. Please note that from this 41%, 30% (38)(Chart 6) selected more than one option which included 1 Month and 2 Weeks. 26% (83)(Chart 6) selected 2 weeks in advance and 16% (53)(Chart 6) selected 48 hours. From the percentage of participants that selected 48 hours, 68% (36)(Chart 6) also selected 1 week and 2 weeks.

These answers suggest that community members want to be informed more than one time when it comes to community meetings. To be effective, we are proposing to notify at least one month prior to the meeting dates and send reminders and continue communications throughout the days until the meeting date.

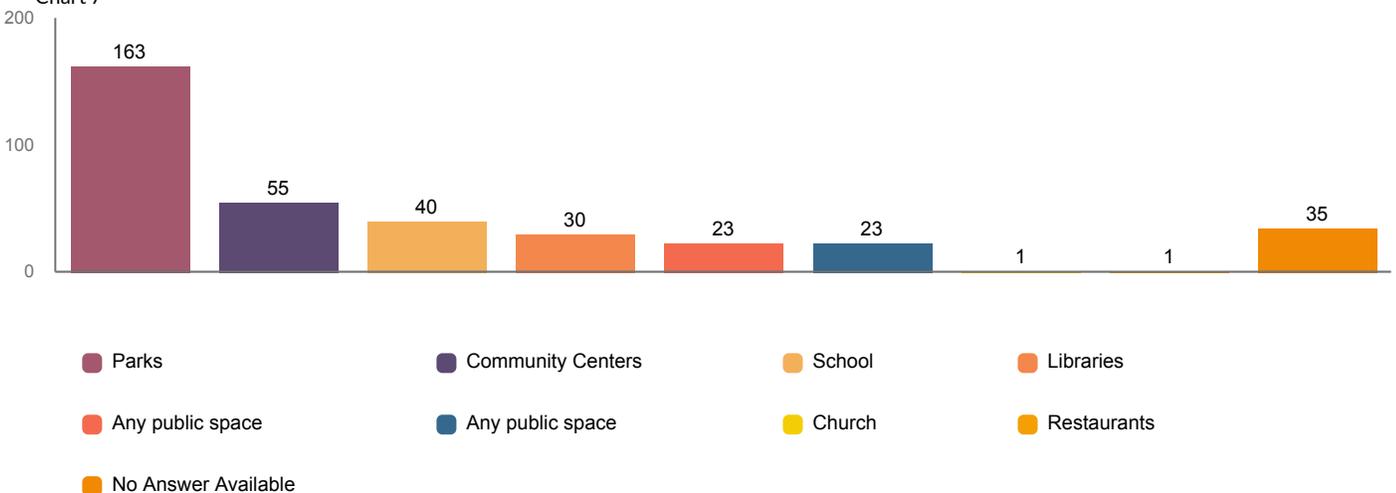
Chart 6



Question 8: Where would you like community meetings to take place?

48% (163)(Chart 7) of the answers suggested at a public park in the neighborhood such as Rio de Los Angeles State Park, The River Center and Gardens, and Juntos Park. 15% (55) Chart 7) answered at a Community Center, such as Centro del Pueblo. 11% (40)(Chart 7) answered at schools.

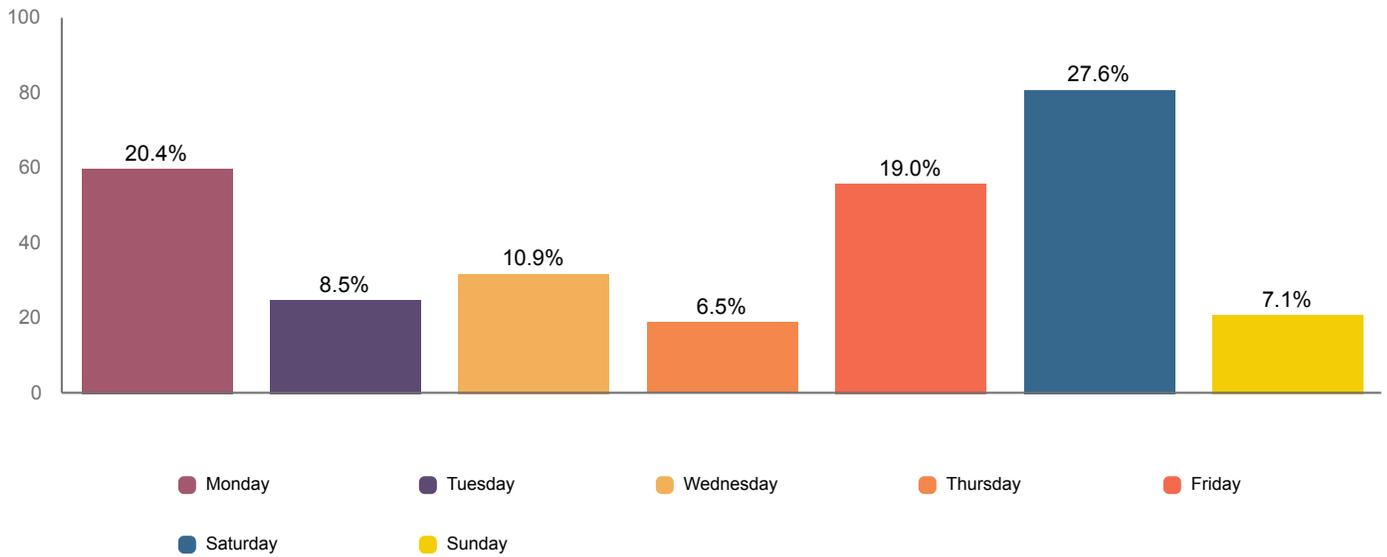
Chart 7



Question 9: With regards to community meetings, what days and times of the week work best for you?

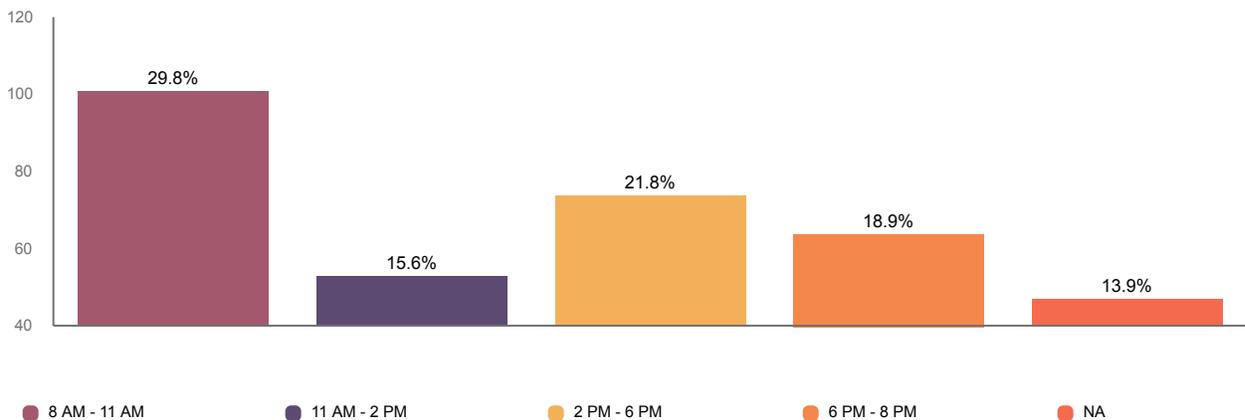
When asked what day of the week works best to attend public meetings, 27% (93)(Chart 8) answered Saturday and 20% (70)(Chart 8) responded Monday. Please note that 45% (158) (Chart 8) of the respondents selected more than 2 options when filling out the survey. We suggest to have a deeper understanding of the preferred date; answers should be ranked by preference.

Chart 8



When asked what time of the week works best to attend public meetings, 29% (101)(Chart 9) answered in a timeframe between 8 AM – 11 AM, 21% (74)(Chart 9) answered between 2 PM – 6 PM, and 18% (64)(Chart 9) answered between 6 PM – 8 PM.

Chart 9

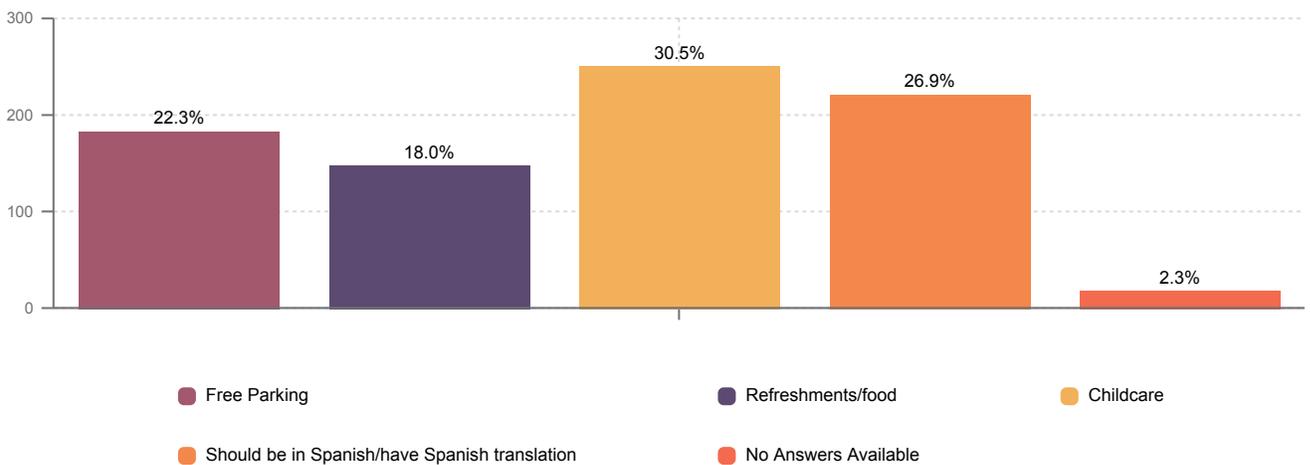


Question 10: What do you think a community meeting should include?

When asked what should a community meeting include, 30% (253) (Chart 10) selected it should include childcare, 26% (222)(Chart 10) selected that should be in Spanish or have Spanish translation, and 22% (184)(Chart 10) selected that it should be held at a location with parking.

Please note that 68% (238) (Chart 10) of the respondents selected two or more options, and numbers may not add up to the total amount of surveys.

Chart 10



Question 11: Do you have any additional comments or questions?

When asked for any additional questions or comments, 83% (291) had no comment. 11% (40) emphasized that community cleanup and litter should be a priority.



Principios

Throughout the past eight months, Mujeres has gathered significant input from Northeast Los Angeles residents regarding the underlying principles that should inform future nature-based investments. With the guidance of community residents and key opinion-makers, we defined principles as the following: a moral compass that helps community members measure if a project and its development process reflect their thoughts, feedback, concerns, and opinions.

We found that weaved intricately into these principles were recommendations from community members on how they would like to remain engaged. Thus, we have divided our findings into two main sections. The first section provides an overview of the overarching principles community members believe should directly guide future nature-based investments and other projects in the community. The second section focuses on the principles that should guide future community engagement.

“Es las reglas por las que se rige la comunidad, cuando llegan nuevos proyectos”

"It's the rules by which the community is governed, when new projects arrive"

Cypress Park Community Resident,
Platica with Acción Comunitaria

Principios of Future Nature-Based Investments

(1) These are Indigenous Practices and thus, should be Acknowledged and Celebrated

Once we revised and explained the meaning and benefits behind nature-based investments in urban neighborhoods, community members naturally connected these projects to their daily sustainable practices. Particularly, we found that for many Latina/o residents the needs and benefits seemed obvious. They had an abundance of stories to share about how they and their families used and continue using indigenous practices to care for their lands in Latin America. Many grew up collecting rainwater and reusing it to shower, cook, water their gardens, and feed their farm animals. This was the common practice in their villages. Others would use rainwater for medicinal purposes. They believed it carried a healing power as it came from the earth's sky. Many community members continue these water conservation practices in their Los Angeles homes by capturing rainwater through informal cisterns to water their plants and outdoor green spaces. In addition to helping them save money, water conservation practices allow Latina/o residents to instill these indigenous practices in the children and future generations.

This was the first principle we heard community members share: when we speak of water conservation practices, we must remember that they are not new but rather indigenous ones. The relationship many community members have to water is a sacred one. They believe it must be reused as many times as possible. This principle was further supported through our collaboration with Julia Bogany, Tongva Tribe Cultural Officer. It is essential for future projects to honor the original people of Los Angeles, their relationship to water, and historic care for the land.

(2) Community as the Intended Audience and Beneficiary

Additionally, we found that community members want future projects to plan with them as the intended audience and primary beneficiary. In other words, they would like future projects to be culturally designed for their use and benefit. *“Como en su pueblo”* (which in English translates to “Like in their hometown”), is what we heard one of our engagement field team members report back after speaking to several informal groups of Spanish-speaking elders. These elders would like future open spaces and parks to include kiosks and benches like those from their native towns in Latin America. They said that this will allow them to generate a sense of connection and belonging. Once familiar, they can invite their families and friends to also rejoice in these spaces. Additionally, this can reassure historically unrecognized residents that they are an integral part of the fabric of their neighborhoods. Public spaces can and should be designed for their use and benefit. This principle has the potential of ensuring community members benefit equitably from open spaces and parks that integrate nature-based investments.

“Como en su pueblo”

“Like in their hometown”

Mujeres Engagement Field Team Member,
Engagement Debrief Meeting

(3) Understand & Integrate Community Needs

We also found that prior to developing a new community open space, community members want politicians and project managers to know the needs of their neighborhoods and work with residents to develop creative solutions through these projects. Some people suggested working with the local Neighborhood Councils to understand and address the needs of each neighborhood. Others suggested conducting neighborhood needs assessments. When we asked people what were some of the needs and issues they believed could be addressed through nature-based investments, we heard five key themes. They are described on the next page.



Example of a kiosk

Maintenance: Residents would like future projects to secure long-term funding, overview of maintenance and operations, and community involvement in the creation and beautification of parks. This was first made clear during the tours we led of local stormwater capture projects in September of 2019. Families expressed great dissatisfaction with the high amounts of plastic litter and trash in their parks, particularly small neighborhood ones. In addition to securing long-term funding for maintenance, community members would like future projects to ensure there are sufficient trash receptacles in parks. They would also like future projects to involve the community in the physical creation of the park and routine clean-ups and beautification efforts.

“Que involucren a la comunidad en el desarrollo del proyecto. Ejemplo, sembrar árboles, ayudar con la limpieza.”

"That they involve the community in the project development. For example, planting trees, helping with cleaning."

NELA Community Resident,
Platica with Acción Comunitaria

Mobility access: Residents want future projects to plan with an understanding of the neighborhood’s mobility issues. Community members in Cypress Park mentioned the years of advocacy they have invested in securing a DASH bus route in their neighborhood--to this day, their advocacy continues. We heard others mention recent bus cuts that have impeded their participation in community meetings. Many asked, how will community members who do not own vehicles get to these public spaces? And, how will community members who live on one side of the Los Angeles River get to a park or open space on the other side of the River?

Local jobs: Residents recognized and valued the potential job opportunities that nature-based investments can create. They would like teens, elders, and residents with disabilities to directly benefit from these opportunities. While they have tremendous creativity and knowledge to offer, community members believe these groups are frequently left out of new job opportunities. They would also like future projects to be transparent about their local hiring process.

Programming for Children and Teens: Residents would like for future projects to consider the unmet programming needs for children and teens in the area. While families expressed appreciation for the current afterschool and summer activities, they feel that more programming related to technology, social media, and the environment should be available.

Street vendors: Residents would like future projects to provide street vendors with safe spaces to sell their goods. We spoke directly to several señoras and señores who sell fruit, corn, pupusas, tacos, and other cultural foods in or near parks and open spaces. They told us stories about how they have been harassed by police officers and robbed by local gang members. They would also like parks to serve as spaces where they receive training and education on the laws they need to comply with to sell their goods, including permit requirements and food safety policies and practices. Additionally, we heard support for having street vendors in park spaces from community members. They want agencies heading future projects to know that street vending adds to the cultural vibrancy of Northeast Los Angeles neighborhoods.

While these issues ranged from neighborhood to neighborhood, they provide context for the current relationship community members have to parks and open spaces and the direction they would like to go in.

(4) Gentrification, Displacement and the Right to Access Public Spaces

Furthermore, it became clear to us early on that community members want future nature-based investments to neutralize further gentrification and displacements. They also want future parks and open spaces to recognize that unhoused residents and families also have a right to access public spaces and reap the multi-benefits of nature-based investments. Over and over, we heard community members share their concerns for the social and economic impacts of living in increasingly gentrified neighborhoods. Some of the people we spoke to have fought against their own evictions while others have provided emotional and financial support to their displaced friends and family members. They are worried that this displacement will do away with their supportive social networks, ones that took them many years to build and maintain. This includes the neighbor who helps bring their children home from school when they are unable to or the informal neighborhood leader who informs them of community events and meetings. They are also afraid they will continue to see more of their local *tienditas* or neighborhood markets, car repair shops, hair salons, and laundromats close. The youth we engaged and listened to expressed similar thoughts. They said they have witnessed a rise in the number of families they see living in cars, with family and friends, and other nontraditional housing. They are afraid their families may soon be in a similar situation.

In addition, we heard from several community members who are unhoused in Northeast Los Angeles. Those who we listened to live in tents on sidewalks, streets, and parks and open spaces. They told us that they feel harassed by police officers and park rangers. During encampment cleaning sweeps, their belongings are treated as trash and there seems to be no hesitancy to destroy them. Moreover, these community members told us that they feel people hold various stereotypes about them and assume they are violent, lawbreakers, and/or have drug addictions. They also feel that people believe homelessness is a choice, rather than an economic factor. With regards to future parks and open spaces in their neighborhoods, unhoused community members would like to be seen as community members who can also enjoy green spaces. They would also like amenities such as public restrooms and trash cans to be available for them to access and use. There should be a space for everyone to feel safe and secure to enjoy.

Overall, we learned that community members fear that the character of their neighborhoods will be further altered through focused development of improved parks and open spaces. This does not mean that they do not want to receive the multi-benefits behind these projects or do not want them in their neighborhood. Rather, community members in Northeast Los Angeles want future projects to call out and address this issue. They also suggest future projects to collaborate with other agencies to focus on and fund the needs of communities of color already living in these neighborhoods. As mentioned in the second principle of this section, community members additionally want future projects to plan and build with the community as the intended audience and ultimate user. Lastly, community members want projects to invite, respectfully receive, and realistically take into account their input and opinions. They do not want future projects to be designed and built without meaningful community engagement.

(5) Equitable Businesses

Finally, we found that community members want future projects to invest in businesses that equitably pay their workers. This principle primarily came from people in Northeast Los Angeles who work for construction and landscaping companies that implement cisterns, bioswales, rain gardens, and other nature-based investments across the county. Given the millions that will be generated as a result of Measures A and W, community members believe there is a tremendous impetus to promote the well-being and financial stability of families in the region by reviewing, rating, and selecting the businesses who compete for these projects.



Principios of Future Engagement

In order to achieve the goals of this project, Mujeres strengthened established community relationships and initiated new ones. When we met with community groups, we focused on listening and understanding their daily joys, concerns, and struggles. We fostered conversations that reminded them of their past self-advocacy victories, personal and community ones. This relationship-building and cultural listening allowed us to hear honest opinions, thoughts, and feedback, often for how community members would like to remain engaged in future projects.

(1) Building Relationships

As we launched our engagement *platicas* and fieldwork, we heard community members express real fears that prevented them from seeing themselves as righteous community members and taking ownership of their neighborhood. Some could not even think about developing their personal opinions or thoughts because as tenants, they believed they had no standing. Others would not share their opinions because they felt they were mere tenants and their opinions were irrelevant; those of the property owners were the ones that matter. Yet others told us that they would share their thoughts but would not write them down out of fear that their writing would be traced back to them and they would face deportation.

Given that Mujeres de la Tierra recognizes the complexities of life, we treated these responses with utmost respect and empathy. We dedicated time to unpacking these stories and, when appropriate, provided additional resources. This practice carries the first principle of future engagement: prior to discussing the project content, it is important to understand the complicated layers of people’s lives. One cannot simply attend a meeting and automatically speak of nature-based investments. A relationship must be cultivated. A relationship that includes the honest exchange of information, facts, and resources.

(2) Neighborhood by Neighborhood Approach

Community members would like future projects to recognize the history, culture, and unique make-up of their neighborhoods. It matters to them that project managers know the difference between Cypress Park, Glassell Park, Elysian Valley, and Atwater Village. This amounts to a level of respect. It also ensures the engagement is appropriately tailored to their neighborhood. For future engagement work, this means getting to know the common places where people gather and have access to neighborhood leaders. This also means working with the local Neighborhood Councils to promote project transparency and disseminate information to residents.

(3) Project Transparency

Community members want future engagement to produce and share transparent information about what the project is, what it seeks to accomplish, and how and who is financing the project. When it comes to the parcels of land adjacent to the Los Angeles River, community members want to know the history of the land, past uses, and the numerous transitions of ownership and business dealings. If it is a brownfield, they would like to know the elements that made it a brownfield, the potential hazards to their public health, and the future clean-up process and timeline.

(4) Essential Practices for Meetings

Our engagement efforts offer insight for future essential meeting practices in Northeast Los Angeles neighborhoods. This list represents the countless stories we heard from community members regarding what they believed were successful and unsuccessful community meetings. In other words, they spoke of the meetings that made the best use of their time and those that didn't. The following list is designed to be a starting point:

- Coordinate with partner educational, non-profit, and governmental entities to prevent community meeting fatigue and frustration about redundant meetings
- Inform the community of any given event at least one week prior and send a reminder a day or two before the event
- Meet community members at the door and provide a warm welcome and introduction
- Provide programming for children
- Provide a full meal and advertise this on the event flyer
- Consider transportation options for community members who do not own vehicles
- If the meeting is in Spanish, ensure all signs, printed materials, and Powerpoint Presentations are also in Spanish



Continued Advocacy

For many of the people we spoke to, this project ignited a sense of community ownership and inspiration for future involvement. Community members shared many ideas with us about how they would like to continue their advocacy for healing La Madre Tierra and addressing the climate crisis through nature-based investments. Prior to being involved in the design and planning of any of these projects, however, the community is requesting additional education and training to better prepare themselves for community meetings, including:

- Key Government Entities- Residents want a clear understanding of the role, responsibility, and jurisdiction of key government entities that will have an impact on the target project, including CA Environmental Protection Agency (CA EPA), US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, Air Quality Management District (AQMD), Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Los Angeles Bureau of Engineers, and the Los Angeles County Department of Health.
- Contaminated Lands and Brownfields- Residents want to understand how the land got contaminated, what it's contaminated with, the health implications for the community, and the clean-up process. Regarding soil testing, community members want to know how the soil is being sampled, when and for how long, and any possible health impacts on the local neighborhoods. Of utmost importance, they want to be notified of all soil testing before it takes place as well as the soil testing results when they are available.
- Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs)- Residents want to understand the process and purpose of EIRs and how the public is able to provide impactful testimony.
- Nature-based Solutions- Residents want to understand the chemical and biological science behind how soil filters water in nature-based solutions. They want factual information based on science that is easily understood. They also want to visit and see for themselves local examples of how these projects capture and filter water.
- Water- Where does Los Angeles County's water come from? How does it get to residents' homes? Why Is Los Angeles County not self-reliant when it comes to water?

Other community members would like to move forward and receive support for developing policies and creating community groups that directly guide future nature-based investments in Northeast Los Angeles. For instance, they would like to develop an anti-displacement policy with and for park and open space agencies and create a neighborhood oversight group that advocates for the equitable distribution of Measure A and W funds.



Learning Opportunities and Challenges

This project presented both learning opportunities and challenges for Mujeres de la Tierra. Initially, Mujeres had a difficult time following the overall project focus. It seemed to change from developing an engagement model in Northeast Los Angeles to building capacity for residents to influence the direction of future nature-based investments. This confusion was further bolstered through the project name. While the project was referred to as “The Bowtie Engagement Project” or “The Bowtie Project,” the engagement did not center around the Bowtie Parcel. Our engagement efforts referenced the Bowtie Parcel as a local example of a future nature-based investment. During the same period of time that Mujeres was soliciting community opinions and thoughts regarding nature-based investments, the Nature Conservancy was preparing plans to develop a stormwater capture project on the north end of the Bowtie Parcel. This included conversations with the US EPA, DTSC, and other collaborators regarding soil testing. Our concerns were addressed through a series of conversations with the Prevention Institute, the Nature Conservancy, and our partners. We are thankful for those honest and open conversations. We are particularly thankful for the Northstar Project Objectives document that was written by the Prevention Institute. These conversations and document allowed us to continue our work engaging the community.

Additionally, many community members found it was difficult to understand why the project sought to provide them with capacity building but did not allow them to directly influence future stormwater capture projects. Throughout the nine months of engagement, they asked us, “What will be the end goal? What actions can we take? What will you do with the information collected?” Community members wanted to understand how their input would impact the reality of future projects. As a result of these questions, Mujeres spent a significant amount of time explaining the project outcomes. We adjusted our *platicas* and rather than holding a single *platica* with community groups, we frequently held two. We also scheduled individual meetings with informal and formal community leaders to listen to their questions, concerns, and feedback. This report, we told them, would be shared with partner agencies and local leaders regarding the principles the community believes should guide future nature-based investments. In the end, we found that community members have hope that this project will truly consider and integrate their input.

Agua, Principios y Comunidad Workshop

Unfortunately, the coronavirus global pandemic had a major impact on Mujeres' ability to complete all project deliverables. It was during the month of March that we had scheduled to host three remaining community tabling events and a workshop. Given the virus outbreak, the community events were all cancelled, schools were closed, and "shelter-in-place" orders were instituted across the city, county, and state.

We had planned to host our "Agua, Principios, y Comunidad" ("Water, Principles, and Community") workshop at Dorris Place Elementary School in Elysian Valley on March 30th, 2020. The goal was to invite community members to join us in a visioning conversation about the principles they believed should guide future nature-based investments in the region. The workshop was a continuation of our *platica* conversations and a means of bringing together communities on both sides of the Los Angeles River. While the event was principally hosted by Dorris Place Elementary School, Mujeres arranged all logistical and programming matters.

The event was to be held in Spanish, with programming for both adults and children. We would begin with a land acknowledgment led by Julia Bogony, Tongva elder and Cultural Officer. Thereafter, the children participants would be taken to their respective programming area. With the support of Dorris Elementary's trained and certified after school instructors, Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR) and Julia Bogony would co-lead the child programming. FoLAR would guide the children through a tour of the Los Angeles River Rover and gather their input for future parks and open spaces through a drawing activity. Julia Bogony would then facilitate a necklace making session and coloring activity of native Los Angeles River animals. The names of the animals would be in Tongva.

With regards to the adult programming, our goal was to host an engaging, educational, and entertaining workshop. After the land acknowledgment, we planned to provide an overview of the project goals and updates on lessons learned. Then, we would have a brief presentation about Measure A and Measure W. Thereafter, we would play La Loteria, a traditional board game played in Mexico and Latin America. Fifty-four La Loteria cards were solely made for this workshop. They included the names of the organizations involved in this project, funding measures, and examples of nature-based solutions. The Sample La Loteria cards can be found in the Appendices. Lastly, we would finish the workshop with a guided activity of the principles community members believed should guide nature-based investments in Northeast Los Angeles. The draft workshop agenda can be found on the next page.



Draft *Agua, Principios, y Comunidad* Workshop Agenda in Spanish

Agua, Principios y Comunidad Workshop



(DRAFT) Agenda
Agua, Principios, y Comunidad
 (date), (time)
 Dorris Place Elementary School
 2225 Dorris Place, Los Angeles, CA 90031

Time	Item	Speaker(s)
	Welcome, Guiding Principles	Ismael Berver, <i>Principal- Dorris Place Elementary School</i> , and Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Land Acknowledgement	Julia Bogany, <i>Tongva Cultural Officer</i>
	Meet Your Neighbor, Project Overview and Lessons Learned	Paola Dela Cruz-Perez, <i>Community Outreach Coordinator- Mujeres de la Tierra</i> , and Teresa Roman, <i>(title)</i>
	Measures A and W Presentation	Jill Sourial, <i>Urban Conservation Director- The Nature Conservancy</i> , and Elva Yanot, <i>Director of Health Equity- Prevention Institute</i>
	¡Lotería!	Emmanuel Loarca, <i>(title)</i>
	Principios Activity	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Gracias	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>

Draft Agua, Principios, y Comunidad Workshop
 Agenda in English



(DRAFT) Agenda
Agua, Principios, y Comunidad
 (día), (horario)
 Dorris Place Elementary School
 2225 Dorris Place, Los Angeles, CA 90031

Horario	Agenda	Presentador(a)
	Bienvenida, Guía de Principios	Ismael Berver, <i>Director- Dorris Place Elementary School</i> , y Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Reconocimiento a la Tierra	Julia Bogany, <i>Oficial Cultural de Tongva</i>
	Conoce a sus Vecinos, Descripción del Proyecto, y Lecciones Aprendidas	Paola Dela Cruz-Perez, <i>Coordinadora del Involucramiento Comunitario- Mujeres de la Tierra</i> , y Teresa Roman, <i>(título)</i>
	Presentaciones de las Medidas A y W	Jill Sourial, <i>Directora de Conservación Urbana</i> , y Elva Yanot, <i>Directora de Equidad en Salud- Prevention Institute</i>
	¡Lotería!	Emmanuel Loarca, <i>(título)</i>
	Actividad de Principios	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Gracias	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>

Draft Agua, Principios, y
 Comunidad Workshop Agenda in Spanish

In our efforts to change the workshop date, we anticipated an April/May workshop. Unfortunately, as of mid-April 2020, Los Angeles Unified School District schools remain closed, including Dorris Place Elementary School. Additionally, “stay-at-home” orders have been extended and there are still many questions about when life will come back to normal.

Mujeres recognizes that there continues to be much fear, confusion, and uncertainty in the community regarding the spread of the coronavirus. After much consideration and conversations, we felt that it was inappropriate and unsafe to continue any and all engagement efforts.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Mujeres de la Tierra would like to humbly suggest recommendations for this project and future ones in the region. These recommendations are guided by the suggestions and thoughts we heard from community members during the past nine months:

- Involve indigenous tribes, such as the Tongva Tribe and the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, from the inception of a project. Conversations about water, land, and nature-based investments are inevitably tied to indigenous people's historic care of the land. For instance, this project had an Advisory Committee that fostered collaboration and guidance. Indigenous tribe members must have a seat at these tables.
- Notify the community of any soil sampling prior to it happening. Community members want to ensure the health and safety of their families. They want to be able to inform themselves of any possible health hazards and ask questions about how it can impact them, their children, and their families.
- Promote consistency for the community in terms of the entities that are leading the project oversight and engagement. Relationship and trust-building take time to cultivate and nurture.
- Consider continuing this project to go back to the community and inform them of the outcomes and lessons learned. If the project does continue, consider creating a website that houses the project goals, agencies involved, funding overview, and a project timeline. This transparency is critical to maintaining the community's trust.
- Coordinate with partner educational, non-profit, and governmental entities to prevent community meeting fatigue and frustration about redundant meetings.
- Coordinate a series of trainings and workshops regarding the process and purpose of EIRs and how the public is able to provide impactful testimony.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

From the beginning, all of the entities involved understood the critical importance of this project. There was an understanding that community engagement and community outreach has evolved past translated brochures and flyers, community meetings that indoctrinate, and a lack of care and respect for the fact that community members are the real experts when it comes to addressing the numerous challenges in their neighborhoods. This common understanding allowed us to work together to engage and inspire community members to become active participants and decision-makers in their neighborhoods through an assets-based, culturally relevant, and listening model.

Mujeres would like to thank our funders, partners, and advisors. We thank the Nature Conservancy, Prevention Institute, and Friends of the Los Angeles River for leading this project with us. Specifically, we thank Rob Baird and Kelsey Jessup for fostering an atmosphere of honest conversations within our group and working with us to address all unique project challenges. We thank Elva Yanez and Jill Sourial for taking the extra time to provide us with their knowledge and wisdom. We also thank our Advisory Committee. Thank you for your support and insight.

To our community members: *gracias*.

Thank you for allowing us to capture your questions, stories, thoughts, and concerns.

We thank all the youth who were willing to have honest conversations about the future of their neighborhoods and offer us their honest opinions.

We thank all the mothers who graciously participated in the *platicas* and encouraged other women around them to also attend.

We thank all the elders who shared their migration stories, life lessons, and long-life relationship to water.

GLOSSARY

*Terms translated in Spanish

Bioswale: Help restore natural elements to our urban ecosystem by utilizing river rocks and native vegetation to create a multi-levelled filtering system for water en route to the LA River and our water

***Drenaje Natural:** Ayudan a restaurar los elementos naturales de nuestro ecosistema urbano mediante el uso de rocas de ríos y vegetación nativa para crear un sistema de filtrado de múltiples niveles para el agua en el camino hacia el río LA y nuestro océano.

Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios (“Walking through Community Spaces”): Mujeres’ fieldwork for listening to and documenting community members’ stories, opinions, and concerns in public spaces. Our goal is to meet community members in their preferred spaces, not ours. This includes children’s schools, community centers, laundromats, beauty salons, tienditas or markets, taco stands, and bus stops.

Cultural Listening: listening to community members by looking at them when they speak, leaning into the conversation, and taking their body language into account. Additionally, taking everything community members say seriously and with a respectful understanding of their cultural background.

Daylighted Storm Drain: The waterway has been freed from its underground concrete channel. The reconstructed and widened waterway uses vegetation and soil to naturally remove pollutants from stormwater before it flows into the LA River.

***Drenaje Pluvial Iluminado:** La vía fluvial se ha liberado de su canalización de concreto subterráneo. El canal reconstruido utiliza la vegetación y el suelo para eliminar naturalmente los contaminantes de las aguas pluviales antes de que desemboquen en el río Los Ángeles.

Nature-based Investments: practices that heal La Madre Tierra by utilizing vegetation, soils, and other natural elements to restore natural processes required to manage rainwater and create healthier urban environments.

Soluciones Basadas en la Naturaleza: prácticas que sanan la Madre Tierra utilizando vegetación, suelos, y otros elementos naturales para restaurar los procesos naturales necesarios para el manejo de agua y creación de un entorno urbano más saludable.

Platicas: brief casual conversations with community members. The goal is to meet community members in spaces they are familiar and comfortable with and to provide them with educational tools prior to inviting them to a workshop.

Principios (“Principles”): a moral compass that helps community members measure if a project and its development process reflects their thoughts, feedback, concerns, and opinions.

Relevant Cultural Messaging: language and messaging that is deliberately drafted to be plain, clear, and relatable.

Stormwater Basin: Collects and filters water to recharge the underground water storage system known as aquifer.

***Cuenca de Aguas Pluviales:** Recolecta y filtra el agua para recargar el sistema de almacenamiento de agua subterránea conocido como acuífero.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: *Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios*, Conversation Outline (English and Spanish)

Appendix B: *Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios*, Questionnaires (English and Spanish)

Appendix C: *Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios*, Reminders

Appendix D: Workshop, Draft Flyer (English and Spanish)

Appendix E: Workshop, Draft Agenda (English and Spanish)

Appendix F: Workshop, Loteria Cards

Appendix A:
Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios,
Conversation Outline (English and Spanish)

Community Spaces Conversation Outline

- **INTRODUCTION**

Hello, my name is _____ and I am with Mujeres de la Tierra. Mujeres is a community organization that supports women and families in becoming active participants and decision-makers in issues that happen in their neighborhoods, particularly in health, economic, social, and environmental issues. We are here to listen to you. When we talk about our neighborhoods and community, we want to hear your thoughts, questions, and concerns. Can I talk to you for a few minutes?

There are many conversations taking place about future nature-based-projects in the area, meaning projects that use vegetation, soils, and other natural elements to manage rainwater and heal Mother Earth. These conversations are happening because of new funding that is available in our communities.

Mujeres wants to make sure that community residents remain informed and connected to share their own thoughts and opinions. Specifically, we want to help you voice the values that you believe should guide future projects in the area. Can I ask you a few questions about how we can best involve you in this process? It will take less than 5 minutes.

- **QUESTIONNAIRE**
(see list of questions)

- **THANK YOU**
Many thanks for taking the time to speak with me. We truly appreciate it!

Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios

Guía de Conversación

- **INTRODUCCIÓN**

Hola, mi nombre es _____ y estoy con Mujeres de la Tierra. Mujeres es una organización comunitaria que apoya a las mujeres y las familias para que se conviertan en participantes activas y tomen decisiones sobre los asuntos que suceden en sus vecindarios, sobre todo en los temas de salud, económicos, sociales y ambientales. Estamos aquí para escuchar. Cuando hablamos de nuestros vecindarios y comunidad, queremos escuchar sus pensamientos, preguntar, o preocupaciones. ¿Puedo hablar con usted unos minutos?

Hay muchas conversaciones que se están llevando a cabo acerca de futuros proyectos basados en la naturaleza, es decir, proyectos que utilizan vegetación, suelos, y otros elementos naturales para tratar el agua y sanar La Madre Tierra. Estas conversaciones ahora están sucediendo debido a nuevos fondos disponibles para nuestra comunidad.

Mujeres quiere asegurarse de que los residentes de la comunidad permanezcan informados y conectados para compartir sus propios pensamientos y opiniones. Específicamente, queremos ayudarlo a expresar los valores que cree que deberían guiar proyectos futuros en el área. ¿Puedo hacerle algunas preguntas sobre cómo podemos involucrarla(o) mejor en este proceso? Tomará menos de 5 minutos.

- **CUESTIONARIO**

(ver lista de preguntas)

- **GRACIAS**

Muchas gracias por tomarse el tiempo de hablar conmigo.
¡Realmente lo apreciamos!

Appendix B:
Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios,
Questionnaires (English and Spanish)



Community Participation Questionnaire

<p>1. What neighborhood do you live in? (circle one)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Cypress Park</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Glassell Park</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Other: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Elysian Valley</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Atwater Village</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ Cypress Park	▪ Glassell Park	▪ Other: _____	▪ Elysian Valley	▪ Atwater Village									
▪ Cypress Park	▪ Glassell Park	▪ Other: _____												
▪ Elysian Valley	▪ Atwater Village													
<p>2. How long have you lived there?</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>3. Have you visited the LA River?</p> <p>▪ Yes. What did you think?: _____</p> <p>▪ No. Why not?: _____</p>														
<p>4. What community/neighborhood issues are most important to you?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>5. What are your thoughts about the land adjacent to the LA River?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>6. How or where would you like to receive community updates? (circle all that apply)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Text message</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Email</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Community center</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Phone call</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Postal mail</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Grocery store</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Facebook</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Children's school</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Laundromat</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Instagram</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Church</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Other: _____</td> </tr> </table>	▪ Text message	▪ Email	▪ Community center	▪ Phone call	▪ Postal mail	▪ Grocery store	▪ Facebook	▪ Children's school	▪ Laundromat	▪ Instagram	▪ Church	▪ Other: _____		
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▪ Phone call	▪ Postal mail	▪ Grocery store												
▪ Facebook	▪ Children's school	▪ Laundromat												
▪ Instagram	▪ Church	▪ Other: _____												
<p>7. How long in advance would you like to receive community updates? (circle one)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ 48 hours prior</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ 2 weeks prior</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Other: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ 1 week prior</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ 1 month prior</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ 48 hours prior	▪ 2 weeks prior	▪ Other: _____	▪ 1 week prior	▪ 1 month prior									
▪ 48 hours prior	▪ 2 weeks prior	▪ Other: _____												
▪ 1 week prior	▪ 1 month prior													
<p>8. Where would you like community meetings to take place?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>9. With regards to community meetings, what days and times of the week work best for you? (circle all that apply)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr style="background-color: #c8e6c9;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">Monday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Tuesday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Wednesday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Thursday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Friday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Saturday</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Sunday</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #c8e6c9;"> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">Morning (8-11am)</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">Midday (11am-2pm)</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">Afternoon (2-6pm)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Evening (6-8pm)</td> </tr> </table>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Morning (8-11am)		Midday (11am-2pm)		Afternoon (2-6pm)		Evening (6-8pm)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday								
Morning (8-11am)		Midday (11am-2pm)		Afternoon (2-6pm)		Evening (6-8pm)								
<p>10. What do you think a community meeting should include?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">▪ Childcare</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">▪ Should be in Spanish/have Spanish translation (pick one)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Parking</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Other: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Refreshments/food (pick one)</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ Childcare	▪ Should be in Spanish/have Spanish translation (pick one)	▪ Parking	▪ Other: _____	▪ Refreshments/food (pick one)									
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▪ Parking	▪ Other: _____													
▪ Refreshments/food (pick one)														
<p>11. Do you have any additional comment or question?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														



Cuestionario de Participación Comunitaria

<p>1. ¿En qué vecindario vive? (circule uno)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Cypress Park</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Glassell Park</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Otro: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Elysian Valley</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Atwater Village</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ Cypress Park	▪ Glassell Park	▪ Otro: _____	▪ Elysian Valley	▪ Atwater Village									
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▪ Elysian Valley	▪ Atwater Village													
<p>2. ¿Cuánto tiempo tiene viviendo en su vecindario?</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>3. ¿Ha visitado el Río de los Ángeles?</p> <p>▪ Si, ¿qué le pareció?: _____</p> <p>▪ No, ¿por qué no?: _____</p>														
<p>4. ¿Qué asuntos de la comunidad/vecindario son más importantes para usted?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>5. ¿Cuál es su opinión acerca de los terrenos que están junto al Río de los Ángeles?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>6. ¿Cómo o dónde le gustaría recibir actualizaciones o información comunitaria? (circule todo lo que aplique)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Mensaje de texto</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Correo electrónico</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Centro comunitario</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Llamada telefónica</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Correo postal</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Supermercado</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Facebook</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Escuela de mis hijos</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Lavandería</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Instagram</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Iglesia</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Otro: _____</td> </tr> </table>	▪ Mensaje de texto	▪ Correo electrónico	▪ Centro comunitario	▪ Llamada telefónica	▪ Correo postal	▪ Supermercado	▪ Facebook	▪ Escuela de mis hijos	▪ Lavandería	▪ Instagram	▪ Iglesia	▪ Otro: _____		
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▪ Instagram	▪ Iglesia	▪ Otro: _____												
<p>7. ¿Con cuánto tiempo de anticipación le gustaría recibir actualizaciones o información comunitaria? (circule uno)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ 48 horas antes</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Dos semanas antes</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">▪ Otro: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Una semana antes</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Un mes antes</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ 48 horas antes	▪ Dos semanas antes	▪ Otro: _____	▪ Una semana antes	▪ Un mes antes									
▪ 48 horas antes	▪ Dos semanas antes	▪ Otro: _____												
▪ Una semana antes	▪ Un mes antes													
<p>8. ¿Dónde le gustaría que se llevaran a cabo las reuniones comunitarias?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														
<p>9. De acuerdo a las reuniones comunitarias, ¿qué días y horarios de la semana funcionan mejor para usted? (circule todo lo que aplique)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr style="background-color: #c0ffc0;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">Lunes</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Martes</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Miércoles</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Jueves</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Viernes</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Sábado</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Domingo</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #c0ffc0;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">Mañana (8-11am)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Medio día (11am-2pm)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Tarde (2-6pm)</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Noche (6-8pm)</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> </table>	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado	Domingo	Mañana (8-11am)	Medio día (11am-2pm)	Tarde (2-6pm)	Noche (6-8pm)			
Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado	Domingo								
Mañana (8-11am)	Medio día (11am-2pm)	Tarde (2-6pm)	Noche (6-8pm)											
<p>10. ¿Qué cree que debe incluir una reunión comunitaria? (circule todo lo que aplique)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">▪ Cuidado de niños</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">▪ Debería ser en español/tener traducción en español (elija uno)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Parqueadero gratuito</td> <td style="border: none;">▪ Otro: _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">▪ Refrigerios/comida (elija uno)</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	▪ Cuidado de niños	▪ Debería ser en español/tener traducción en español (elija uno)	▪ Parqueadero gratuito	▪ Otro: _____	▪ Refrigerios/comida (elija uno)									
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▪ Parqueadero gratuito	▪ Otro: _____													
▪ Refrigerios/comida (elija uno)														
<p>11. ¿Le gustaría agregar algún otro comentario o pregunta?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>														

Appendix C:
Caminando Por Espacios Comunitarios,
Reminders

Mujeres de la Tierra
Walking through Community Spaces
Reminders

- The goal of this initiative is to listen and connect with members of our community and document that conversation. They can fill out the questionnaire or you can fill it out for them.
- Please bring your cell phones charged and comfortable clothing/shoes.
- Smiling and being kind makes all the difference.
- It is important that we feel safe. Remember to follow your instinct and distance yourself from any situation that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Recognize that some people will not be interested in what we have to say. When this happens, remember to thank them for their time and offer them an informational flyer.
- Rehearse your talking points.
- Ultimately, the purpose of this initiative is for community members to find and share their own voice.

Mujeres de la Tierra
Caminando por Espacios Comunitarios
Recordatorios

- La meta de esta iniciativa es escuchar y conectar con miembros de la comunidad y documentar esa conversación. Ellos pueden completar la encuesta o usted puede completarlo por ellos.
- Por favor traigan sus teléfonos celulares cargado y ropa/zapatos cómodos.
- El sonreír y ser amable hace toda la diferencia.
- Siéntanse confiadas de si mismas y de la información que están compartiendo.
- Es importante que nos sintamos seguras. Recuerden confiar en su instinto y retirarse de cualquier situación que las haga sentirse incómodas.
- Reconozcan que algunas personas no van a estar interesadas en lo que tengamos que decir. Cuando esto suceda, recuerden agradecerle su tiempo y entréguele un folleto de información.
- Practiquen sus puntos de conversación.
- Finalmente, el propósito de esta iniciativa es que los miembros de la comunidad encuentren y compartan su propia voz.

Appendix D:
Workshop,
Draft Flyer (English and Spanish)

AGUA, PRINCIPIOS, Y COMUNIDAD

Acompáñanos en una conversación sobre los principios que usted cree que deben guiar las futuras inversiones de proyectos basados en la naturaleza en su comunidad.

.....
(FECHA)
(HORA)
.....

Dorris Place Elementary

2225 Dorris Place,
Los Angeles, California 90031

Evento para toda la familia.

Impartido en español con traducción
en inglés.

Alimentos y bebidas serán proveídos.

Actividades para niños
presentados por:

The LA River Rover by FoLAR
Actividades por Julia Bogany
(información de la tribu)



EL DRENA

LA C

LA ESTRELLA

LAS PIEDRAS

EL JARDÍN DE
LIUVIA

Appendix E:
Workshop,
Draft Agenda (English and Spanish)



(DARFT) Agenda
Agua, Principios, y Comunidad
(date), (time)
Dorris Place Elementary School
2225 Dorris Place, Los Angeles, CA 90031

Time	Item	Speaker(s)
	Welcome, Guiding Principles	Ismael Berver, <i>Principal- Dorris Place Elementary School</i> , and Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Land Acknowledgement	Julia Bogany, <i>Tongva Cultural Officer</i>
	Meet Your Neighbor, Project Overview and Lessons Learned	Paola Dela Cruz-Perez, <i>Community Outreach Coordinator- Mujeres de la Tierra</i> , and Teresa Roman, <i>(title)</i>
	Measures A and W Presentation	Jill Sourial, <i>Urban Conservation Director- The Nature Conservancy</i> , and Elva Yanez, <i>Director of Health Equity- Prevention Institute</i>
	¡Lotería!	Emanuel Loarca, <i>(title)</i>
	Principios Activity	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Gracias	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>

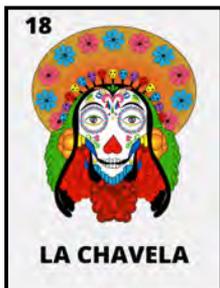
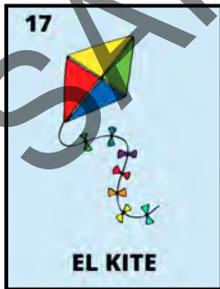
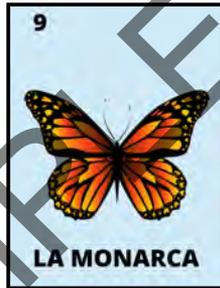


(DRAFT) Agenda
Agua, Principios, y Comunidad
(dia), (horario)
Dorris Place Elementary School
2225 Dorris Place, Los Ángeles, CA 90031

Horario	Agenda	Presentador(a)
	Bienvenida, Guía de Principios	Ismael Berver, <i>Director- Dorris Place Elementary School</i> , y Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Reconocimiento a la Tierra	Julia Bogany, <i>Oficial Cultural de Tongva</i>
	Conozca a sus Vecinos, Descripción del Proyecto, y Lecciones Aprendidas	Paola Dela Cruz-Pérez, <i>Coordinadora del Involucramiento Comunitario- Mujeres de la Tierra</i> , y Teresa Roman, <i>(titulo)</i>
	Presentaciones de las Medidas A y W	Jill Sourial, <i>Directora de Conservación Urbana</i> , y Elva Yanez, <i>Directora de Equidad en Salud- Prevention Institute</i>
	¡Lotería!	Emanuel Loarca, <i>(titulo)</i>
	Actividad de Principios	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>
	Gracias	Irma Muñoz, <i>CEO- Mujeres de la Tierra</i>

Appendix F:
Workshop,
Loteria Cards

**AGUA, PRINCIPIOS,
Y COMUNIDAD**



✨ Loteria is a well-known board game played in Mexico since 1769. **Mujeres de la Tierra** is using this generational popular game to both entertain and educate community.

**AGUA, PRINCIPIOS,
Y COMUNIDAD**

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LA ESTRELLA

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LA ABEJA

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LAS PIEDRAS

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EL DRENAJE

46



LA LAGARTIJA

47



LA MATILIJA
AMAPOLA

14



EL BIRD
WATCHER

50



LA LONCHERA

2



LA MEDIDA A

36



LA LUNA

35



EL ÁRBOL

45



EL LIBELULA

32



EL JARDÍN DE
LIUVIA

41



EL SUELO

27



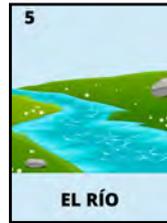
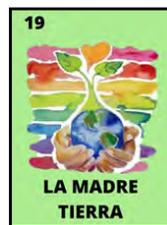
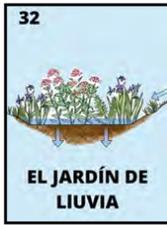
THE
NATURE
CONSERVANCY

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LA SALVIA

✨ Loteria is a well-known board game played in Mexico since 1769. **Mujeres de la Tierra** is using this generational popular game to both entertain and educate community.



Mujeres de la Tierra
www.mujeresdelatierra.org



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