



# Chatsworth Nature Preserve

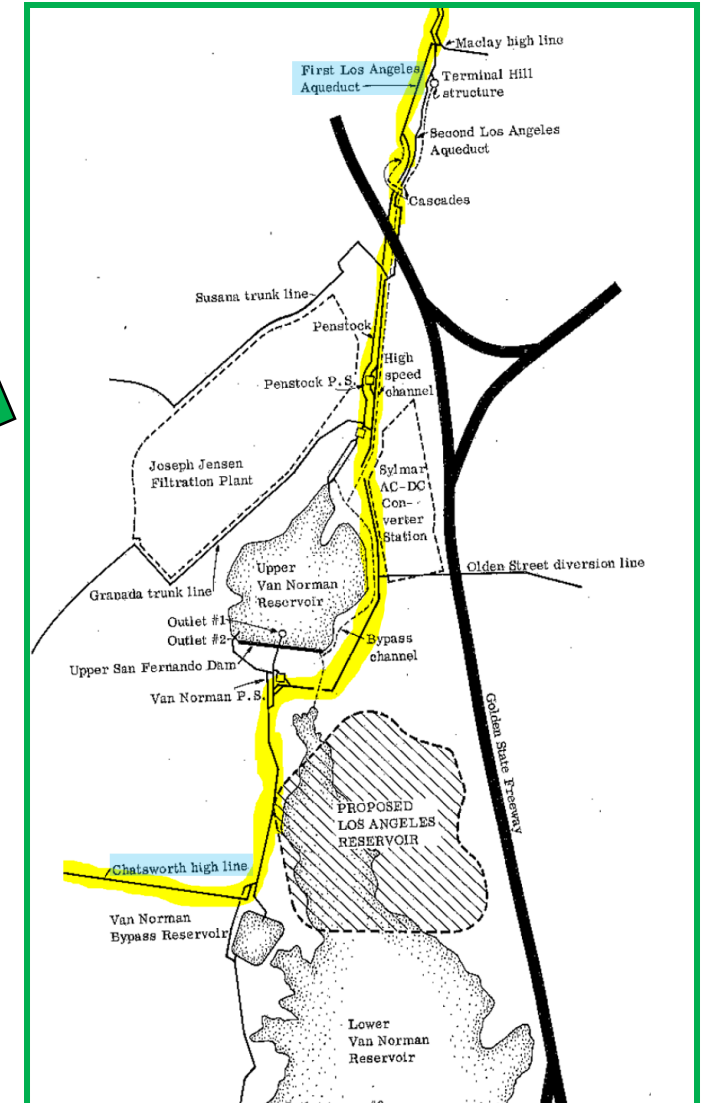
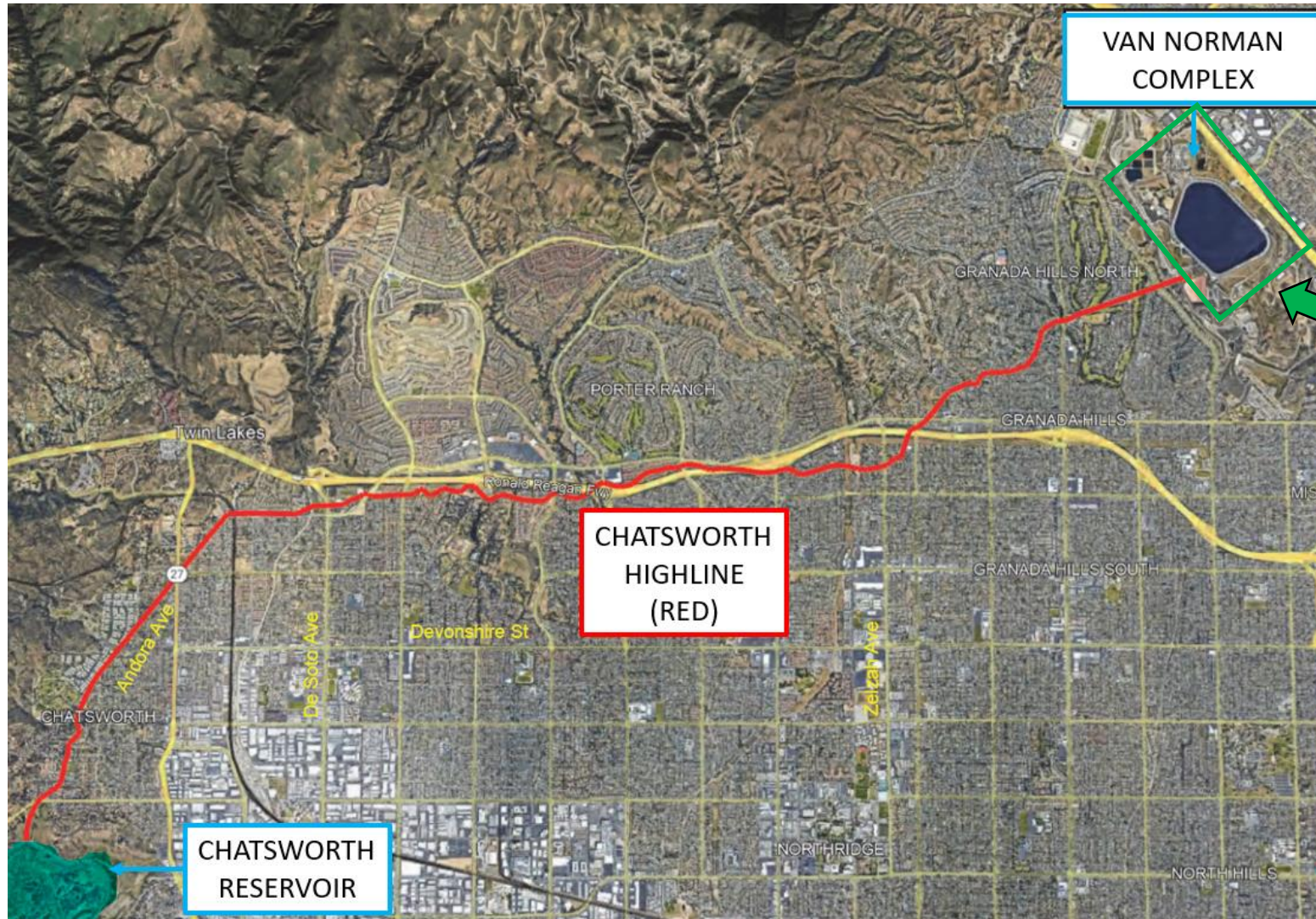
October 24, 2023

Helen Olivares

# Agenda

- History of Chatsworth Reservoir
- Chatsworth Reservoir Becomes Chatsworth Nature Preserve
- Chatsworth Nature Preserve Habitat
- Current Community Engagement
- Biodiversity Goals
- Next Steps

# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



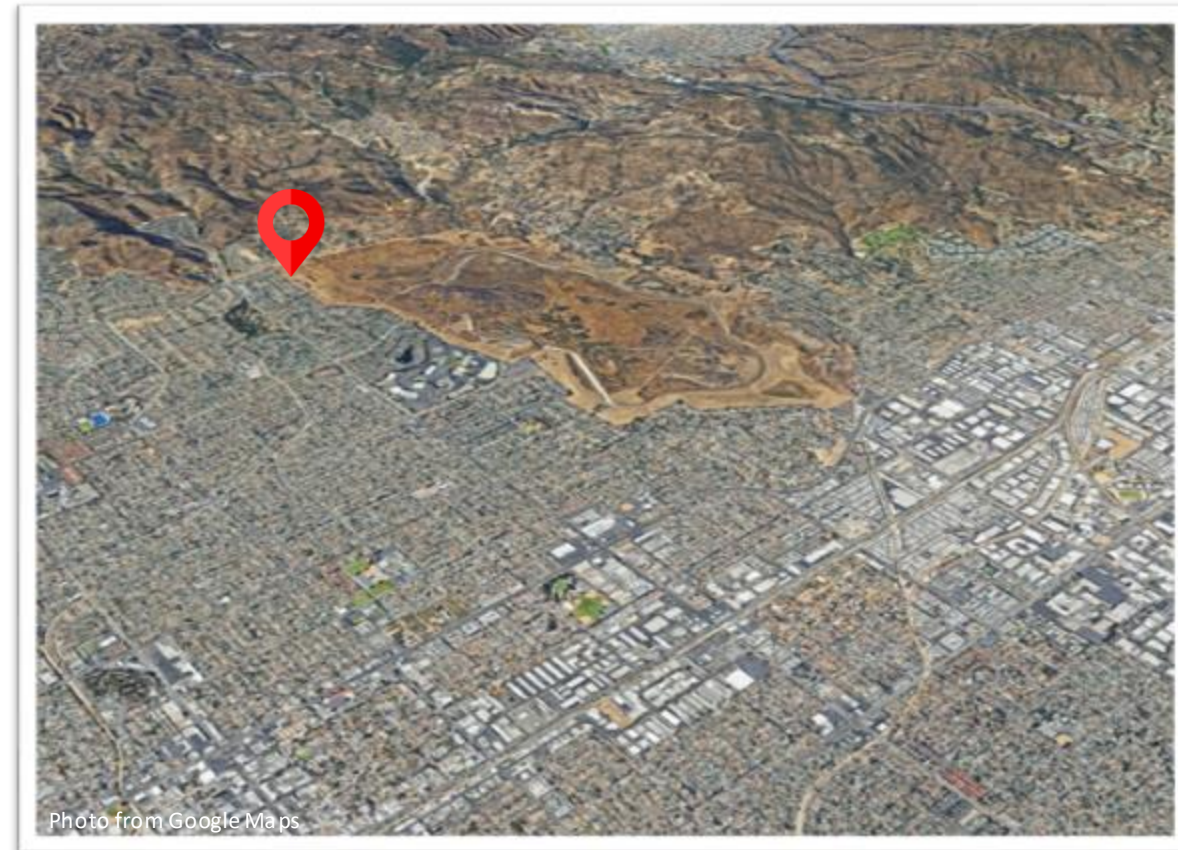
Schematic of the Old Chatsworth Highline as it traverses from the Van Norman Complex to the Chatsworth Reservoir



# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



Chatsworth circa 1930's.

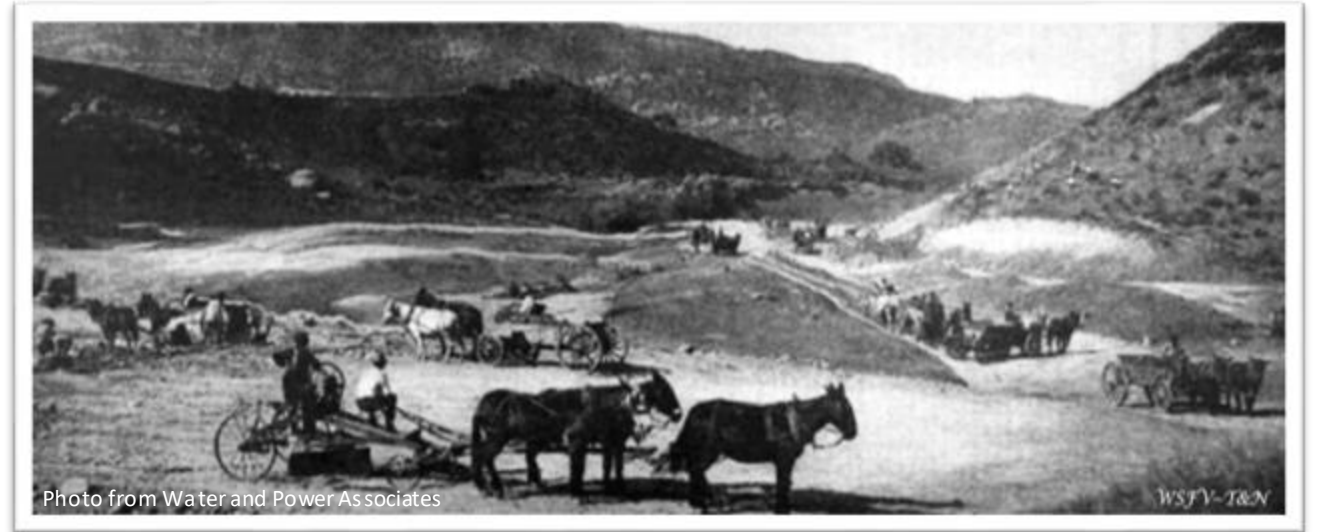


Chatsworth 2023.

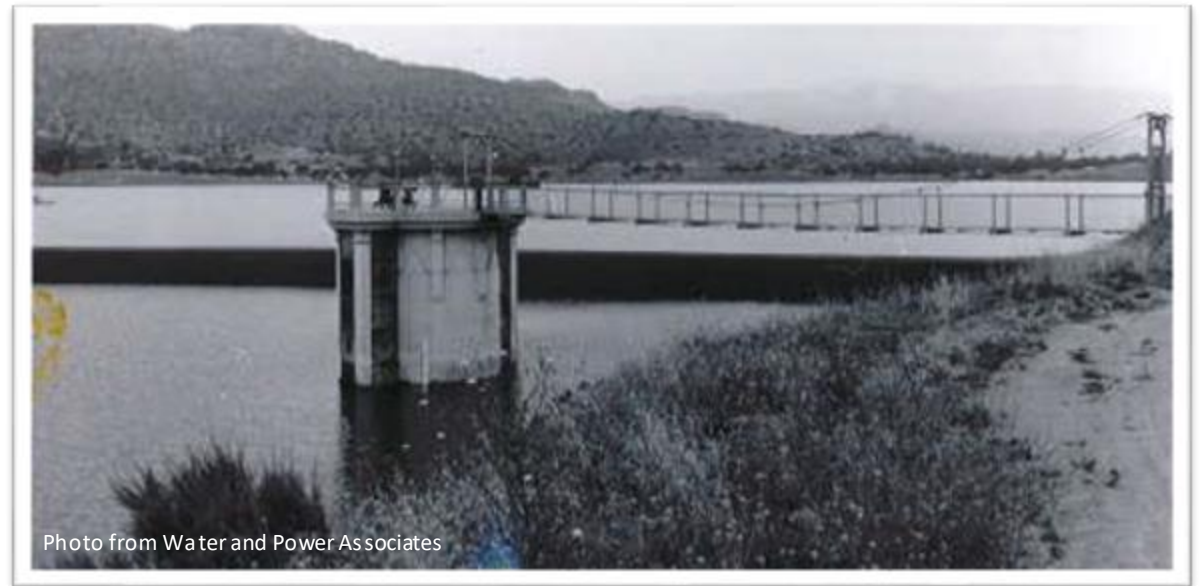
# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



**Circa 1918 – Construction workers pose in front of steam shovel at the Chatsworth Reservoir dam site.**



**Circa 1918 – Early stages of construction of the Chatsworth Reservoir using horses and carts.**



**Circa 1920s – Chatsworth Reservoir outlet tower.**



# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



Photo from Water and Power Associates

**Circa 1919 – View looking down toward the recently filled Chatsworth Reservoir.**



Photo from Water and Power Associates

**Circa 1930s – View showing the Chatsworth Reservoir and Outlet Tower with the Santa Susana Mountains in the background.**



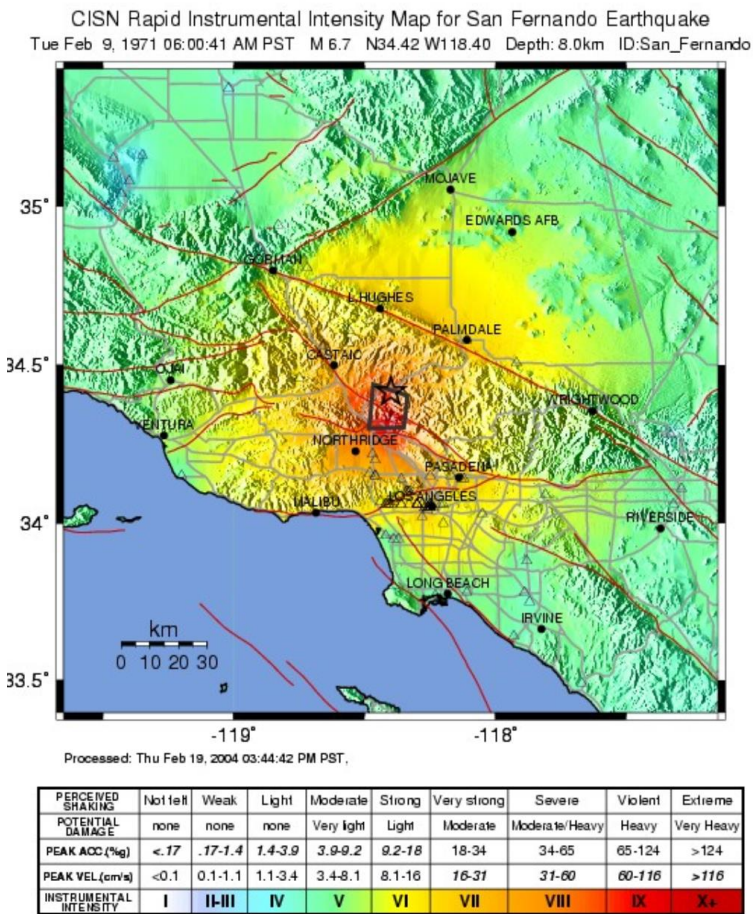
# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



Damaged Lower San Fernando Dam after the San Fernando Earthquake.



Workers clear rubble from collapsed buildings at the Veterans Hospital in Sylmar after the San Fernando Earthquake.



1971 San Fernando Earthquake  
Magnitude 6.6



Collapsed Roads after the San Fernando Earthquake.



Collapsed structure after the San Fernando Earthquake.



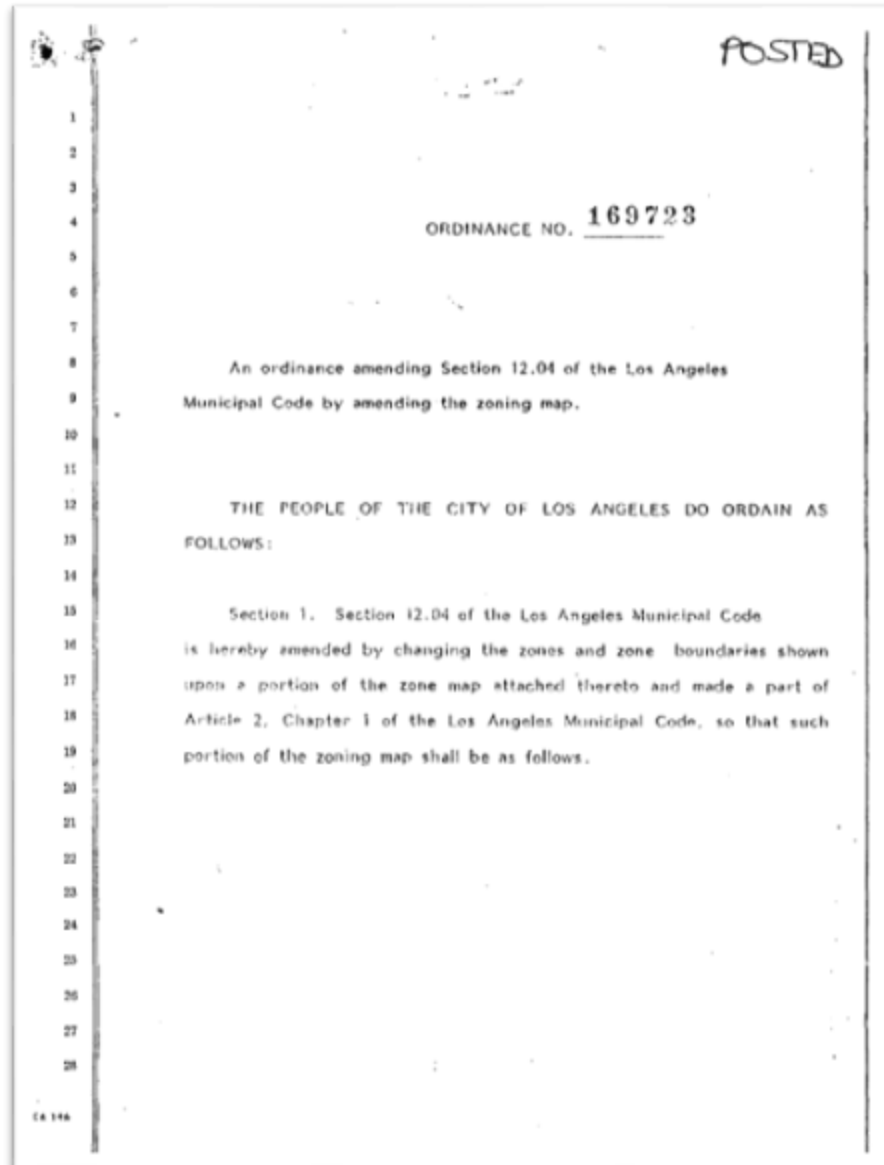
# History of Chatsworth Reservoir



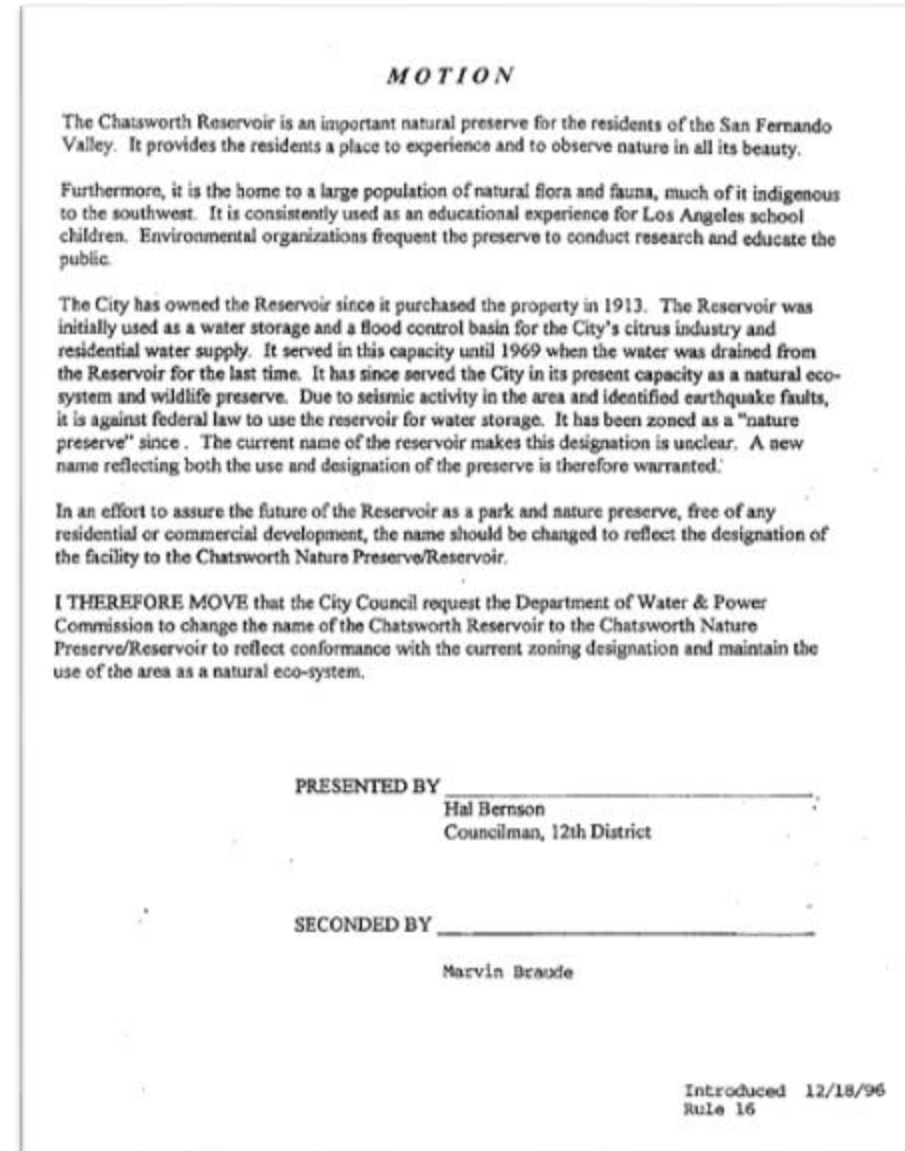
Site map of key features.



# Chatsworth Reservoir Becomes Chatsworth Nature Preserve



LA City Council Ordinance 169723 (1994) amended the Chatsworth Reservoir Zoning to "Nature Preserve"



LA City Council File 96-2413 (1999) changed the name of Chatsworth Reservoir To "Chatsworth Nature Preserve / Reservoir"

# Chatsworth Nature Preserve Habitat



Photo by John Luker

**Red-tailed Hawk feeding its chick in its nest.**



Photo by John Luker

**Western Spadefoot Toad (Species of Special Concern)**



Photo by Nurit Katz

**Lewis' Woodpecker**



Photo by John Luker

**Coyote**



Photo by John Luker

**White Faced Ibis**



Photo by John Luker

**Red-tailed Hawk**



# Chatsworth Nature Preserve Habitat



Photo by John Luker

Valley Oak Trees



Photo by John Luker

Egret flies over the Ecology Pond.



Photo by John Luker

Valley Oak Trees



Photo by Nuri Katz

A full Chatsworth Ecology Pond after the rain in early 2023.

# Chatsworth Nature Preserve Habitat



Photo by John Luker



Photo by John Luker



Photo by Nurit Katz



Photo by John Luker



# Current Community Engagement: Annual Earth Day Open House



Photo by Nurit Katz

Tina Orduno Calderon, Culture Bearer and descendant of Komiikranga (shared territory for the Chumash and Tongva) leads storytelling at the Sacred Circle.



Photo by LADWP

Attendees participate in a nature hike around the Ecology Pond.



Photo by LADWP

A Local Boy Scouts of America Troop leads the flag ceremony.



Photo by LADWP

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians VP Mark Villasenor takes part in the Earth Day ceremony.



Photo by LADWP

Commissioner Nurit Katz speaks during the Open House program.



# Current Community Engagement: Annual Winter Solstice Open House



Photo by LADWP

Alan Salazar, a Tribal Elder of the Fernandeño Tataviam and Ventureño Chumash Tribes, smudges with sage.



Photo by Helen Olivares

LADWP General Manager and Chief Engineer, Marty Adams, gives his welcome speech.



Photo by Helen Olivares

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians President Rudy Ortega, Jr. leads the 2021 Winter Solstice Ceremony.



Photo by LADWP

Guests gathered around the Sacred Circle.



Photo from SkyValley Volunteers

Senator Henry Stern (Left) on a nature hike around the Ecology Pond.



# Current Community Engagement: Volunteers



Photo from Sky Valley Volunteers

**Volunteer, Sharon Shingai, relocates rattlesnakes before the Winter Solstice event.**



Photo from Sky Valley Volunteers

**Volunteer picks up trash along Woolsey Canyon.**



Photo from Sky Valley Volunteers

**LADWP employees and volunteer, Wendi Gladstone, release a rescued Coopers Hawk.**



Photo from Sky Valley Volunteers

**John Luker takes a selfie with the Sky Valley Volunteers.**



Photo from Herp Connection

**Herp Connection volunteers conduct their semi-annual wildlife survey.**



# Biodiversity Goals:

## LA City Biodiversity Index



 Habitat Quality



Photo: Nurit Katz

 Indicator Species



Photo: Google

 Threats to Native Biodiversity



DASH bus service to Griffith Park

Photo: la.curbed.com

 Access to Biodiversity



Photo: LAUSD OOE

 Education



 Community Action



 Governance



 Management



# Next Steps:

## EPRI Recommendations, Current Progress, and Potential

- **EPRI Recommendations**
  - Biological Assessment
  - Enabling Scientists and Cultural Leaders
  - Community Collaborations
- **Current Progress**
  - Biological Assessment
  - Native Oak Tree Re-Establishment
  - Educational Native Garden
- **Potential**
  - Support and Restore Native Habitat and Biodiversity
  - Access for Research, Education, and Tribal Activities
  - Expand Stakeholder Engagement
  - Identify Agency or Organization Partner to Develop Site Management Plan



# Questions?