

Memorandum

To : The Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group

Date: June 13, 2018

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 10: Consideration of resolution adding the Arroyo Seco tributary waterway to the revitalization plan.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Working Group reject the attached resolution.

Legislative Authority: Section 33220 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The legislation establishing the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group, Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466), Chapter 347 of the Statutes of 2017, requires the revitalization plan to include “...the Upper Los Angeles River, the tributaries of the Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, and Verdugo Wash, and any additional tributary waterway that the working group determines to be necessary.” Legislation has been introduced that adds the Arroyo Seco to the revitalization plan (SB 1126).

The Arroyo Seco drains an area of 47 square miles, beginning at Red Box in the San Gabriel Mountains of the Angeles National Forest and proceeding through Pasadena, South Pasadena and Northeast Los Angeles to join the Los Angeles River near Elysian Park. The upper Arroyo Seco and front range of the San Gabriel Mountains provide a portion of the domestic water supply for the cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Alhambra and Arcadia.

The Working Group could add the Arroyo Seco at this time so that the project does not need to be modified later for its inclusion, should SB 1126 be enacted. Staff recommends that any consideration of adding tributaries to the revitalization plan also include an analysis of the effects of such action on the project’s budget and schedule. Furthermore, such analysis should consider whether there is representation within the Working Group for the municipalities that would be affected by such an addition. At this time the implications of adding the Arroyo Seco to this process (without budget augmentation or schedule extension) lead staff to recommend against doing so at this time.