

## SECTION 1:

# INTRODUCTION

## **1.1 PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK MASTER PLAN**

The Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan was adopted on September 29, 2003 by the Pasadena City Council. At that time the master plan area encompassed a 300 acre area. In November 2005, the City purchased an additional 30 acres of property contiguous with Hahamongna Watershed Park (HWP), commonly and herein after referred to as the HWP Annex.

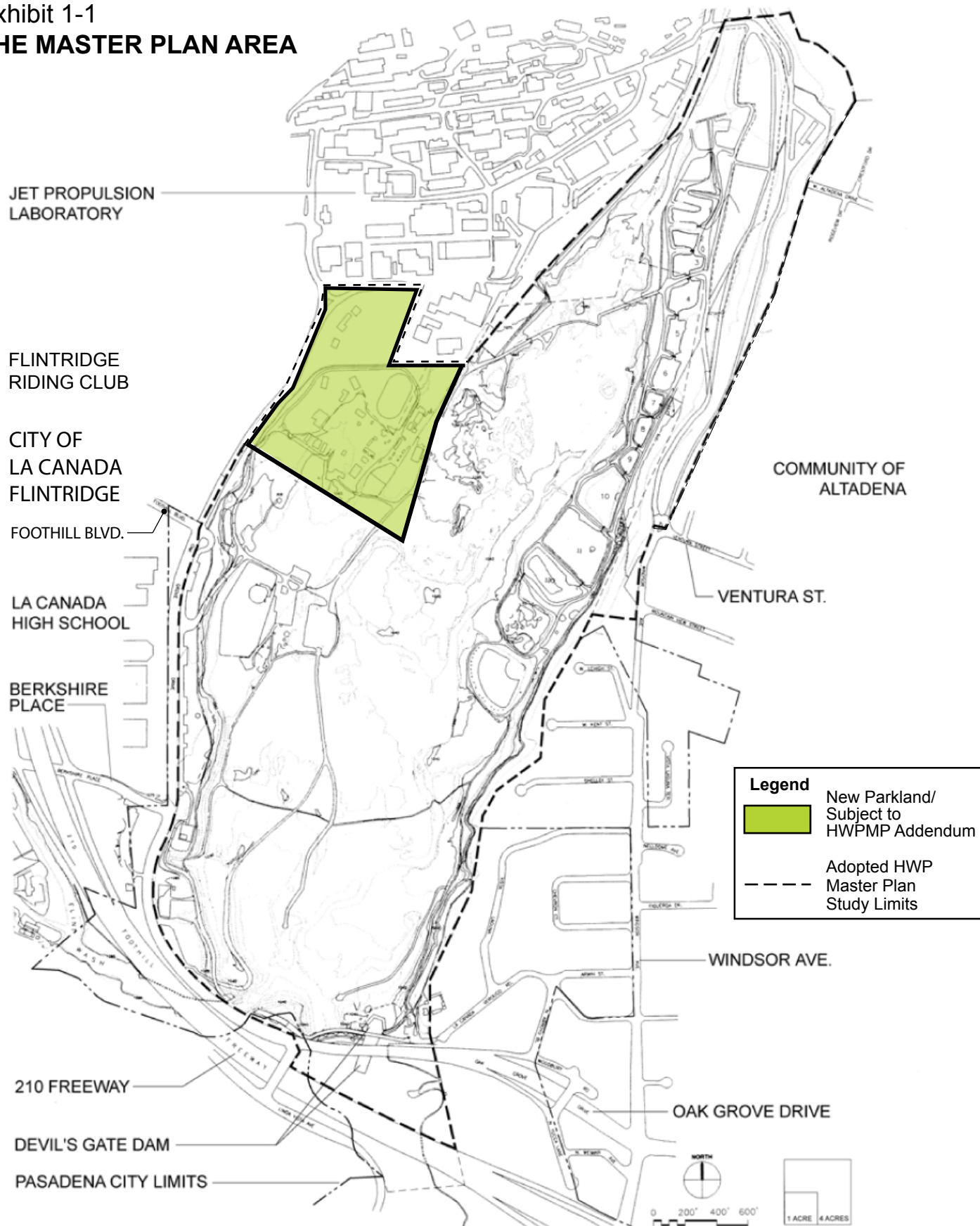
The purpose of this amendment is to add the 30 acre Annex site with the already adopted 300 acre Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan area. With that in mind, the adopted HWP Master Plan must be amended to incorporate the community's vision for this additional park area and thereby update the entire park master plan.

This master plan amendment addresses the 30 acre Annex site that was not covered by the plan adopted in September 2003 and also makes recommendations for its future use.

## **1.2 LOCATION**

Exhibit 1-1, the Master Plan Area, depicts the boundaries of the HWP Annex and its location within the larger HWP in the western corner of the master plan area. The Annex is located immediately north of the existing HWP, east of Oak Grove Drive, approximately 600 feet north of Foothill Boulevard. The site is surrounded by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) to the north, the Oak Grove area of HWP to the south, Flintridge Riding Club to the west, La Cañada High School across Oak Grove Drive to the southwest, and the Devil's Gate reservoir basin to the east.

Exhibit 1-1  
**THE MASTER PLAN AREA**



### 1.3 PROJECT HISTORY & CONTEXT

In 1970, the park known to us today as HWP, was owned by the City of Pasadena, but was then named Oak Grove Park. The City agreed to sell 30 acres of the land to the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) for the price of \$430,000 for the intended purpose of a water treatment plant installation.

In November 2005 the property was re-acquired by the City from the MWD for a purchase price of \$1.2 million under the California Surplus Lands Act.

Until recently, the Hahamongna Annex property contained three tenants: The Oak Grove Ranger Station of the U.S. Forest Service (7 acres), Los Angeles County Fire Camp 2 (6 acres) and Rose Bowl Riders (12 acres). In 2002 the U.S. Forest Service began the process of vacating their facilities after 50 years in the Arroyo Seco. Just prior to the City's purchase of the annex property, the U.S. Forest Service terminated their lease and vacated the site by 2004.

#### ABOUT THE CURRENT TENTANTS AT THE ANNEX

Los Angeles County Fire Camp 2 has a 50 year lease for the area they occupy. Their lease was renewed in 2004 by MWD and is honored by the City as a condition of the sale of the property. This facility is part of Los Angeles County Fire Department's fire suppression training program. CAMP 2 fulfills a significant role in the California Wildland Fire Fighting arsenal and is utilized statewide for wildland fire fighting training. CAMP 2 has been at this location since early 1954.

Tom Sawyer Camps (TSC) currently has a sub-lease for the 2.6 acres they occupy within the 12 acre RBR master lease area. They have operated a summer camp in the park since 1944. The space currently utilized within the annex is for the staging and operational activities associated with the summer camp (outside of the annex area). Additionally, a year round horseback riding program is also offered at the Annex, but not widely advertised. The Annex site is used to stable the horses used for the year round horse riding program and the ten week summer camp. TSC has a separate operating agreement with the City for the camp activities within HWP. A historical timeline of TSC can be found in Appendix A-1.

Rose Bowl Riders (RBR) is a non-profit equestrian organization whereby members operate the horse boarding facility that currently accommodates 37 horse-boarding corral-stables. The members also operate a large arena used for horse shows & riding as well as an adjacent clubhouse. The area utilized by RBR totals 6.1 acres within the 12 acre master area they currently lease. They were founded in 1946 and have been at this location since 1950. A historical timeline of RBR can be found in Appendix A-2.

MOVE A CHILD HIGHER (MACH1) is a non-profit organization providing therapeutic horsemanship programs for children with disabilities. MACH1 operates 0.4 acres within the larger area currently leased by RBR. MACH1 has partnered with the City to offer their program since 1996 and have been at the Annex since 2000. A historical timeline of MACH1 can be found in Appendix A-3.

## **1.4 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS & DOCUMENTS**

This addendum has been completed according to the policies and principles set forth in the adopted HWP Master Plan and the City of Pasadena's Comprehensive General Plan.

The *Guiding Principles for the Arroyo Seco* were developed to serve as the umbrella under which fall the specific goals and objectives for each of the Arroyo Seco Master Plans. The six principles are:

- To encourage and promote the stewardship and enjoyment of the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena
- To balance and integrate the interrelated issues of water resources, recreation, natural resource preservation and restoration, and flood management in the Arroyo Seco
- To provide a safe, secure and accessible Arroyo Seco for public enjoyment
- To recognize the importance to Pasadena of the history, cultural resources and unique character of the Arroyo Seco, and to conserve and enhance these assets
- To preserve and acquire open space in or adjacent to the Arroyo Seco
- To recognize that the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena is comprised of distinct geographical areas that are interconnected by a number of resources and features including, but not limited to, water, habitat, geology, recreation, and culture; and that it is part of a larger watershed

These Guiding Principles were intended to serve as a bridge between the Arroyo Seco Master Plans and the City's General Plan Update. Since the adoption of the HWP Master Plan in 2003, the following related City General Plan updates have occurred: 1) The Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element of the Pasadena

General Plan, and 2) the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan, both adopted by the City Council on November 5, 2007.

This addendum and the recommendations contained therein, are in direct response to the needs and recommendations called for in all five of the key issue areas of the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element and the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan:

1. Natural Open Space
2. Developed Parkland
3. Recreation Facility Use and Distribution
4. Recreation Program Types and Distribution
5. Organizational Structure and Ongoing Community Participation

Moreover, this addendum addresses environmental stewardship policies adopted by the City Council in September 2006 as follows:

1. United Nations Urban Environmental Accords
  - a. Action 10 – Ensure that there is an accessible public park or recreational open space within a half-a-kilometer of every city resident by 2015.
  - b. Action 12 – Pass legislation that protects critical habitat corridors and other key habitat characteristics (e.g., water features, food-bearing plants, shelter for wildlife, use of native species) from unsustainable development.
  - c. Action 20 – Protect the ecological integrity of the city's primary water sources (i.e., aquifers, rivers, lakes, wetlands and associated ecosystems).
  - d. Action 21 – Adopt municipal wastewater management guidelines and reduce the volume of untreated wastewater discharges by ten per cent in seven years through the expanded use of recycled water and the implementation of sustainable urban watershed planning process that includes participants of all affected communities and is based on sound economic, social and environmental principles.
2. The Environmental Charter
3. The U.S. Conference of Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement

## 1.5 PLANNING & COMMUNITY INPUT

### THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Department of Public Works, Parks & Natural Resources Division, began a planning process for the Hahamongna Annex in January 2006 with the assistance of the National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program.

The following timeline outlines the various milestones of the Annex planning process. A variety of planning products were produced during this process. These are described and provided for reference in the appendices indicated.

- 1/28/2006
  - ❖ HWP Annex Celebration & Open House
    - Community feedback forms distributed (see Appendix B-1 for summary)
    - Planning Process Kick-off
- 3/30/2006
  - ❖ Tenants asked to complete questionnaire (see Appendix A-4 for tenant responses)
- 4/6/2006
  - ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Community Workshop (conducted at the City's Jackie Robinson Center) (see Appendix B-2 for Agenda & summary notes)
    - Tenants make brief presentation about their organization
- 5/4/2006
  - ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Community Workshop (conducted at the Salvation Army) (see Appendix B-3 for Agenda & summary notes)
    - Develop Vision Statement
    - Hear Issues & Concerns
    - Develop Goals & Objectives
  - ❖ Reach agreement regarding the draft planning framework
- 5/18/2006
  - ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Workshop (conducted at Maranantha High School) (see Appendix A-4 for Agenda & summary notes)
    - Continue to develop Vision Statement
    - Hear Issues & Concerns
    - Continue to develop Goals & Objectives
    - Continue to reach agreement on the draft planning framework
- 5/19/2006
  - ❖ Draft Planning Framework finalized
- 5/20/2006
  - ❖ Design Charrette (see Appendix B-5)
    - Participants developed ideas for site planning and design based on community input
- 6/20/2006
  - ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> Community Meeting (conducted at Eaton Canyon Nature Center)
    - Share results of 5/20 design charrette
    - Generate feedback about the charrette results to guide the development of a preferred alternative

- 5/20/2006 thru 7/11/06 ❖ Public comments received (see Appendix B-6)
- 3/2007 ❖ City begins discussions with tenants regarding future leases
- 4/30/2007 ❖ City Council conceptually approved the staff recommended Proposed Uses Plan and the Concept Plan for the Hahamongna Annex
- 3/2008 ❖ Capacity Analysis completed to assist in the effort to find the optimum carrying capacity of specific use areas within the Annex property (see Appendix B-7)
- 4/2008 ❖ HWPAC/Community Meeting (Salvation Army)
  - Staff presented three scenarios and recommended a preferred alternative (see Appendix B-8 for summary of scenarios and motion by HWPAC)
- 5/2008 ❖ Completion of preliminary code evaluation for existing structures in HWP Annex
- 9/2008 ❖ Tom Sawyer Camp off-season parking of van fleet within the annex is terminated at request of City
- 11/2008 thru 2/2009 ❖ Traffic analysis for HWP annex was completed
- 6/2008 to Present
  - ❖ Various meetings with tenants to consider various land use options
  - ❖ Analysis and studies by staff on specific aspects of the site
  - ❖ HWPAC/various commission meetings and site tours with commissions to review staff recommendations, concepts and studies for the Annex Addendum

## 1.6 GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF THE HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK MASTER PLAN

The goals and objectives from the adopted Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan act as the starting point for goals and objectives for the Annex. The goals from the Master Plan are consistent with the input received from the public regarding the Annex, and additional objectives are recommended. Those objectives from the adopted Master Plan that are consistent with the input received regarding the Annex appear in *italics* and proposed additional objectives that result from the Annex now being added to HWP are added in **bold**.

## **Goals & Objectives**

### Goal 1: Preserve, restore, and enhance the native habitats

#### Objectives:

- *Develop a habitat restoration plan for Hahamongna Watershed Park.*
- *Protect and enhance the Hahamongna Watershed Park wildlife corridor linkages to the upper watershed and the downstream reaches of the Arroyo Seco.*
- *Restore, enhance, and reestablish the historical native plant communities of the Arroyo Seco.*
- **Protect and enhance the oak woodland within the southern portion of the HWP Annex site.**
- *Locate new facilities in developed or disturbed areas so as to minimize impact to established habitats.*
- *Limit exterior lighting for security, safety, and operational purposes to lessen the impact on nocturnal wildlife.*
- **Preserve and protect the nighttime environment and dark skies through minimal, quality outdoor lighting**
- *Relocate existing overhead power and communications lines to restore the natural environment and provide adequate, safe maintenance access.*
- **Develop on-site native plant nursery facilities at the Annex to facilitate restoration and enhancement of the HWP and greater Arroyo Seco.**

### Goal 2: The Devil's Gate flood control basin will be managed to provide protection to the developed and natural downstream areas.

#### Objectives:

- *Develop a grading plan that allows habitat restoration and recreational activities to co-exist with flood management and water conservation.*
- **Protect the streams and wetlands in the HWP area as part of improved watershed management.**
- **Integrate storm water best management practices (BMPs) into the HWP Annex site.**
- **Maximize ground water recharge within the HWP Annex site that is compatible with the site's uses.**

### Goal 3: Conserve and protect the water resources of the Arroyo Seco.

#### Objectives:

- *Maximize groundwater recharge to minimize the amount of water purchased from outside sources.*

### Goal 4: Provide diverse recreation opportunities for the Pasadena community.

#### Objectives:

- **Provide passive recreation and both indoor and outdoor educational activities at the Annex as part of a balanced range of recreation activities in HWP.**



- **Evaluate, and to the extent feasible and appropriate, adapt and enhance the former USDA Forest Service facilities.**
- **Provide an interpretive center at the Annex.**
- **Maintain and enhance current recreation uses within the Annex area, including equestrian uses, youth programs consistent with a natural park, and trail uses.**
- **Deliver education and passive recreation programs in the Annex through partnerships with public and private entities.**

Goal 5: Enrich and promote the unique history and culture of Hahamongna Watershed Park.

Objectives:

- *Develop HWP as a “living laboratory” for local schools and environmental education programs.*
- **Integrate sustainable design and management practices to the Annex site that are compatible with a natural park setting and that will facilitate learning and connections to the natural environment for the public.**
- *Preserve and encourage Native American use of HWP as a cultural resource.*
- *Explore the possibilities of a joint partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and Native Americans in developing an interpretive center and native-plant nursery at HWP.*
- *Develop design guidelines to ensure aesthetic compatibility and quality construction for any improvements made in HWP.*
- *Develop passive viewing areas with unique vantage points.*
- *Create programs that inform and educate the public about the natural processes, the history and the culture of the site.*
- *Underground or relocate the existing above-ground electrical transmission lines.*

Goal 6: Provide a safe and secure park.

Objectives:

- *Develop guidelines and delegate agency responsibilities for recreation, flood management, and water conservation liabilities.*
- *Retain and enhance, as needed, the recently reestablished Park Ranger Program to ensure compliance with municipal laws, codes, and regulations. Secure entrances and perimeter of HWP.*
- **Utilize fencing for security purposes at the Annex with consideration for trail access and wildlife movement.**
- **Any security measures and operations at the Annex site should strive for minimal impact.**

Goal 7: Provide adequate circulation, access and parking.

Objectives:

- *Provide public transportation and non-motorized access to HWP.*
- *Provide adequate parking throughout the park for all proposed recreation activities and facilities.*

- **Minimize environmental impacts from parking in the HWP Annex site.**
- *Maintain and restore the trail links to the Central Arroyo, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the Angeles National Forest.*
- **Provide for safe multi-use trails**
- **Ensure connectivity through the HWP Annex and to local and regional trail networks.**
- *Comply with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards for a "natural park."*
- *Develop a signage system that provides clear directional information and informs park visitors without being intrusive.*
- *Improve and enhance regional trail connections.*