

LIFE IN L.A. CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT ONE • SUMMER 2019

Building Bridges, Not Barriers

The Taylor Yard G2 River Park takes shape, with a no-car bridge to Elysian Village and three proposals for developing NELA's "beach."

ity crews broke ground in June on a steel span over the L.A. River for cyclists and pedestrians. The Taylor Yard-Elysian Village link will extend the river bike-path and make the walk to Sotomayor Learning Center safer for students who live on the south bank.

"Communities that are connected survive and thrive," Mayor Eric Garcetti said during the groundbreaking.

The bridge will be 400 feet long, 27 feet wide, 30 feet tall, and appear to float about 30 feet above the riverbed. That graceful illusion is backed up by 400 tons of steel and 60-foot anchors. It is scheduled to open in two years.

Although emergency vehicles will have access, the Taylor Yard span is one of several no-car bridges currently under construction along the river.

The City has been cleaning up the 42-acre parcel since it bought Taylor Yard, a railroad maintenance vard since the 1930s, in 2017. Metrolink agreed to pay for the \$21-million bridge.

In July, City planners laid out three possible designs for the park. "Island," "Soft Edge" and "The Yards" would feature different park amenities and activities, but all are aimed at restoring natural habitat, developing flood-control strategies, and allowing visitors to get as near as possible to the river.

The mix of proposed kayak-rentals and cafes. research labs and viewing decks, ranger stations and camporounds, amphitheaters and meadows reflects public feedback last year in an online survey and in two CD1 community meetings.

www.tayloryardg2.com





Studio Pali Fekete Architects designed a graceful 400-ton, 400-foot-long bridge. Renderings by SPF:a.



Thousands Join 30th Annual L.A. **River Cleanup**

he Friends of the L.A. River celebrated its 30th anniversary by raising the bar for urban waterways - again. During three weekends in April, about 6,000 FOLAR volunteers scoured 11 riverfront sites from San Fernando Valley headwaters to the Long Beach shore, including a large turnout for CD1's Bowtie Parcel. All told, they filled 15 dumpsters, bagged 100 tons of trash and raised about \$30,000 for ongoing river restoration. It is the largest river cleanup in the U.S.

In June, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced \$1.1 million in funds to help clean up several local "brownfields," including \$500,000 for Taylor Yard, a former railroad maintenance yard contaminated with metals, arsenic and various volatile organic compounds.

ENVIRONMENT 9



Something to Chew On

1Voice is available at dozens of restaurants, coffee houses and markets across CD1, from Everytable in University Park to Kitchen Mouse in Highland Park. That's food for thought!

Antigua Coffee 3400 N. Figueroa St., 90065 Lemon Poppy Kitchen

3324 Verdugo Road, 90065 La Esquina Market 3301 Division St., 90065

Café de Leche 5000 York Bl., 90042

Coco's 6040 York Bl., 90042 Kitchen Mouse 5904 N. Figueroa St., 90042 Antigua Bread 5703 N. Figueroa St., 90042 La Monarca 5833 N. Figueroa St., 90042 Civil Coffee 5639 N. Figueroa St., 90042 La Tropicana

5200 Monte Vista St., 90042

Highland Café 5010 York Bl., 90042

Barbara's at the Brewery 620 Moulton Ave., 90031

B Twentyfour Coffee 2223 N. Broadway, 90031

Heights Deli & Bottle 2927 N. Broadway, 90031

Homegirl Café 130 Bruno St., 90012

Chimney Coffee 1100 N. Main St., 90012

Everytable 1101 W. 23rd St., 90007

With Love 1969 S. Vermont Ave., 90007 2813 W. Pico Bl., 90006

1830 W. Pico Bl., 90006



Father Greg Boyle picks up his copy at Homegirl Cafe.