REACH LOCATION MAP - 6

LEGEND

L.A. River/
Tujunga Wash

Reach
Boundary

PACIFIC OCEAN

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
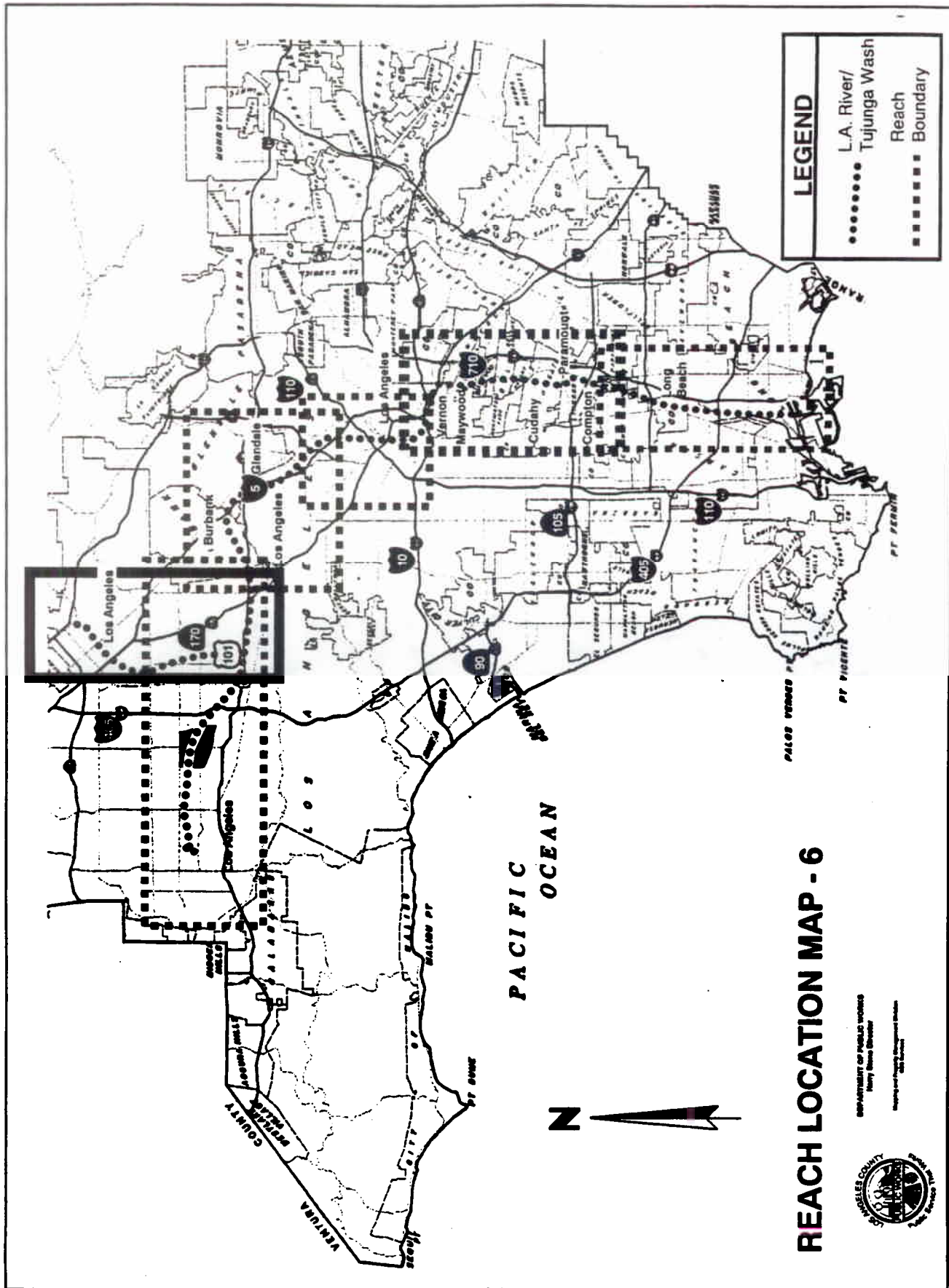
REACH 6: TUJUNGA WASH

This reach includes the City of Los Angeles communities of Lakeview Terrace, Sun Valley, Panorama City, Van Nuys and North Hollywood. The northern boundary of this reach is at Hansen Dam while the southern boundary is the confluence of Tujunga Wash with the Los Angeles River. This stretch of the Tujunga Wash spans approximately nine miles.

Beginning at Hansen Dam, Tujunga Wash runs southwest through Sun Valley. The wash is a rectangular reinforced-concrete channel that is between 60 to 70 feet at its base. The channel lies within a 200-foot wide right-of-way. Through the community of Van Nuys, the wash runs generally south. As the wash approaches the Los Angeles River, it curves to run southeast in North Hollywood. A corridor of land flanks each side of the channel. These corridors have 15-foot wide maintenance roads and are secured from surrounding lands with chain link fencing.
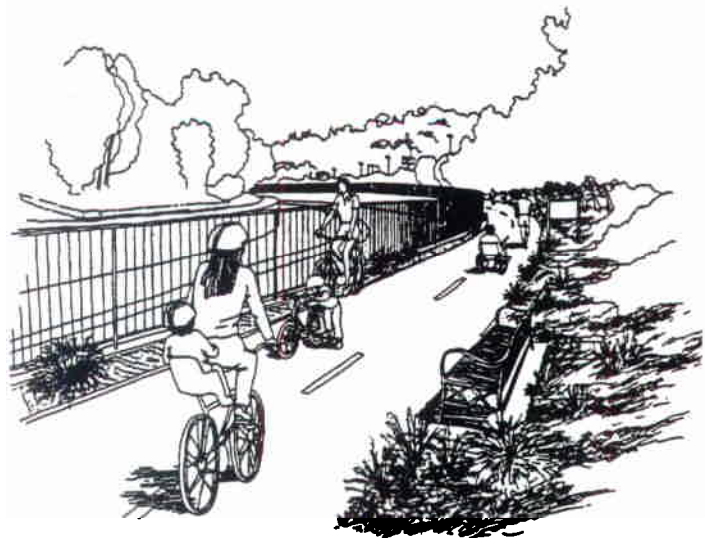
The Army Corps of Engineers' Hansen Dam represents a significant regional recreational facility with parks, a golf course and equestrian and bicycle trails. These facilities are maintained by the City of Los Angeles. Immediately south of the dam, Tujunga Wash traverses several county and City owned spreading basins and the industrial areas of Sun Valley. Further south, single-family residential neighborhoods abut the channel.

Los Angeles Valley College and Ulysses Grant High School sit on the west side of the wash between Oxnard and Burbank Boulevards. Single-family residences flank the wash throughout North Hollywood. Prior to merging with the Los Angeles River at CBS Studio Center, the wash traverses Moorpark Park.

The Community Plans of Arleta-Pacoima, Sun Valley and Van-Nuys-Sherman Oaks designate the Tujunga Wash as open space and recommend a

continuous bike trail on the west side of the concrete channel. The Hansen Dam Recreation Area is also designated as open space with equestrian and bikeway trails.

Little vegetation grows in the concrete river channel in this reach. And, with the exception of the Hansen Dam facility, little wildlife uses the channel here.

Other than Hansen Dam, there are no public recreational facilities along the wash, and little evidence of informal use of the river or its right-of-way. One exception is the walking trail and aesthetic enhancements (trees and vegetation) which have been developed along Los Angeles Valley College. Also in this area, the now famous "Great Wall" mural adorns the west wall of the channel.

ISSUES

- There is no wash access.
- Security issues need to be considered.
- Underpasses are needed at major streets to provide regional trail access.
- No direct trail connection to Hansen Dam is possible.

ADOPTED GENERAL OR RECREATIONAL PLANS

- The Community Plans for Arleta-Pacoima, Sun Valley and Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks cover the areas along the Tujunga Wash. These adopted plans designate the wash as open space and recommend a continuous bike trail on the west side of the concrete channel.
- City of Los Angeles reclaimed water line from Saticoy Street to Roscoe Boulevard.

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON MASTER PLAN GOALS

- Develop a continuous trail along the west side of the wash.
- In some areas, develop neighborhood "loop" greenways.
- Develop a water-quality interpretation site at the settling basin.
- Connect schools to the trail.
- Create a watershed interpretation site at Hansen Dam.
- Encourage recreation-related economic development at local shopping centers near the wash.
- Support outdoor swap meets and similar activities on large parking lots in the area.

OTHER PROJECTS

1. MTA-Greenway Project: Tree planting project on the MTA right-of-way along Chandler Boulevard.

2. Chandler Boulevard Bikeway Project: Proposed bikeway within the railroad right-of-way along Chandler Boulevard.

3. City of Los Angeles Reclaimed Water Line Project: Department of Water and Power project between Saticoy Street and Roscoe Boulevard. Landscaping proposed in conjunction with the reclaimed water line project.