The Dominguez Watershed is 93% DEVELOPED + 60% IMPERVIOUS...how can we dedicate remaining undeveloped land for community and wildlife benefit?

The accompanying map shows vacant undeveloped land in the Dominguez Watershed: 133 square miles of land and water, populated by 1 million, and generally “park poor.”

Much of the vacant land is found along the city’s infrastructure corridors. The Dominguez Crossing Trail Network transforms select corridors (Train, Electrical Transmission and Storm Water Channel right of ways) into a shared urban trail system...connecting walkers + riders from the sea, through the urban fabric...

This map shows the paths of the Train, Electrical Transmission and Storm Water Channel right of ways in the Dominguez Watershed.
The Dominguez Crossing Trail Network links with the LA County Master Bike plan (shown here, overlaid on the right of way paths), to create a true green transportation network in south Los Angeles.

In the words of Diana Balmori, “...green corridors can reconnect parts of a city, weaving themselves through it, spreading themselves democratically to reach all areas.”
The Trail Network is comprised of Train, Electrical Transmission and Storm Channel trails.

The Train Trail typology follows safety best practices and environmental standards from RAILS WITH TRAILS. At-grade routes with minimum right of ways and low volumes, as well as retired lines, would be recommended for trails. Adjoining streets would be transformed into “trail streets”.

“... a well-designed pathway provides a safe travel alternative and reduces the incentive to trespass or use the tracks as a shortcut.” – from Railstotrails.org
Electrical Transmission Trails follow Southern California Edison guidelines.

Use and height restrictions create a perfect opportunity to reintroduce coastal prairie and sage scrub plant communities, designed accessible paths and land sharing with nursery growing grounds. These paths are open to pedestrian, bicyclists and equestrians.
The Storm Channel Trails border the Dominguez Channel and its tributaries, a vestige of the vast inland lake, the Dominguez Slough.

Fully channelized in 20th century for flood safety, the Channel captures runoff from over 43,000 acres and drains into the Port of Los Angeles.

This project adds 20+ miles of trail to the existing 3.2 miles of functional bike paths.
Along the Trail Network, interstitial sites expand recreation opportunities.

Sites includes Trail Network Spurs, where the three trail types converge.

An example is Water’s Edge Park, a 19 acre former oil waste dump. Highlights include enhanced safety along the right of ways, a “story of water” playground and a fingertip wetland, undulating above the channel path.
Another interstitial site is the Habitat Node.

An example of this is The Hub, a trail node at a restored remnant wetland of the Dominguez Slough.

8 acres of fragmented vacant land becomes a “riverwalk” nature interpretive center. The nature center functions as a trail hub for paths that connect The Trail Network to the Harbor Metro Transit Center.
A third interstitial type is the Community Node.

An example is Crossroads Center, on the Train Trail.

An 8 acre concrete-covered vacant lot is developed into a multi-generational fitness park. A senior center, fitness circuits and safe connections across the railroad tracks to the adjacent youth center and fields create a community-enhancing trail stop.
The Dominguez Crossing Trail Network provides Los Angeles with much needed usable open space in the form of an urban trail network. Interstitial sites along the trails provide opportunities to engage with the region’s natural and cultural histories and natural systems.