

# Storm Drain Daylighting Feasibility Study

## Project Description

The Glen Avenue Drainage System is a tributary of the Compton Creek; it drains 4.6 square miles (approximately 10%) of the Compton Creek Watershed, which is a 42 square mile subwatershed of the Lower Los Angeles River.

The Glen Avenue drains were originally constructed in the 1930s. As a result of continued urbanization, polluted runoff has increased, as has the risk of local flooding during major storm events.

Storm drain daylighting is a holistic watershed management concept which addresses flood management, infiltration, water supply, open space and habitat needs in the region. The Storm Drain Daylighting Feasibility Study will focus on four sites along the Glen Avenue Drainage System (or tributary stream). The Watershed Council and a team of engineering and design consultants will model the hydraulics of daylighting designs and will design small open spaces that help clean up water pollution and improve our water supply. The purpose of the Feasibility Study is to propose funding-ready daylighting projects along the Glen Avenue Drainage System. The Study will result in a publicly available document proposing four funding-ready daylighting projects in communities like Florence/Firestone, Watts, Willowbrook, and Compton. The Study will be complete in early 2010.

## Planning Context

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council completed the Compton Creek Watershed Management Plan in the summer of 2005 with funding from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Subsequent grants from the State Coastal Conservancy, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Annenberg Foundation have expanded implementation and project development assistance activities into the Lower Los Angeles River Watershed.

The Compton Creek Watershed Management Plan lists “Stream Naturalization” as a “Recommended Priority Action.” The Plan describes specific recommendations to conduct hydrologic and hydraulic studies to daylight underground storm drains. The Plan calls for stream restoration primarily as a means of treating water quality, but it also recommends using multiple-benefit/multiple-use projects to address water quality problems; the Feasibility Study will recommend buildable, fundable projects that improve flood management, infiltration, storm water retention, open space, and habitat along the Glen Avenue Drainage System.



