Potrero Canyon Park

The Potrero Canyon Nature Preserve consists of approximately 46 acres of City-owned property, located in the Pacific Palisades area of Council District 11. Potrero Canyon was purchased by the City in the 1960s and has a long history of landslides and instability. Construction of the Preserve will substantially stabilize the canyon walls while creating approximately eight-acres of riparian habitat, with walking paths and scenic overlooks. The riparian habitat will be irrigated by diverting and cleaning urban runoff and storm water flowing in the existing storm drain. Site specific native California plant species will be planted throughout the canyon to restore natural habitat. Walking paths will extend from the Palisades Recreation Center to the beach. An ADA compliant restroom will be installed in the northerly portion of the canyon with additional parking for Preserve visitors provided at the Palisades Recreation Center.

Plant Communities

- **Wet Riparian Zone**
  - *Populus fremontii spp. fremontii*: Fremont's Cottonwood
  - *Salix laevigata*: Red Willow
  - *Baccharis salicifolia spp. salicifolia*: Mule Fat
  - *Juncus patens*: California Gray Rush
  - *Mimulus guttatus*: Seep Monkey Flower
  - *Rosa californica*: California Wild Rose

- **Dry Riparian Zone**
  - *Juglans californica*: Southern California Black Walnut
  - *Quercus agrifolia*: Coast Live Oak
  - *Heteromeles arbutifolia*: Toyon
  - *Malacothamnus fasciculatus*: Bush Mallow
  - *Optunia littoralis*: Coastal Prickly Pear

- **Fuel Modification Zone**
  - *Elymus condensatus*: Giant Wild Rye
  - *Eriogonum fasciculatum*: California Buckwheat

- **Riparian Adjacent Woodlands/Coastal Scrub Transition Zone**
  - *Acmispon glaber*: Deerweed
  - *Encelia californica*: Bush Sunflower
  - *Eriogonum fasciculatum*: California Buckwheat
  - *Optunia littoralis*: Coastal Prickly Pear

- **Coastal Bluff Scrub Zone**
Potrero Canyon Park

Plant Communities

Creek Centerline Section A

Typical Creek Cross Section D

Check Dam Cross Section C

Canyon Cross Section B

Coastal Bluff Scrub Zone

Riparian Adjacent Woodlands/Coastal Scrub Transition

Wet Riparian Zone

Dry Riparian Zone

Fuel Modification Zone

A

B

10 20 40
0 25 50 100
0 2.5 5 10

Riparian Habitat Growth Zones

Impermeable Creek Liner

Overflow goes to City of Los Angeles Low Flow System

Urban Runoff in Buried Pipe Intercepted, Cleaned, and Pumped to Beginning of Riparian Systems

Typical Riparian Creek Plan on Plan Board

Representative Species

Giant Wild Rye

Southern California Black Walnut

Juglans californica

Quercus agrifolia

California Sycamore

Coast Live Oak

Populus fremontii spp. fremontii

Fremont's Cottonwood

Salix laevigata

Red Willow

Baccharis salicifolia spp. salicifolia

Mule Fat

Juncus patens

California Gray Rush

Mimulus guttatus

Seep Monkey Flower

Rosa californica

California Wild Rose

Platanus racemosa

California Sycamore

Quercus agrifolia

Coast Live Oak

Toyon

Heteromeles arbutifolia

Toyon

Malacothamnus fasciculatus

Bush Mallow

Optunia littoralis

Coastal Prickly Pear

Muhlenbergia rigens

Deer Grass

Elymus condensatus

Giant Wild Rye

Southern California Black Walnut

Juglans californica

Quercus agrifolia

Coast Live Oak

Baccharis pilularis spp. consanguinea

Coyote Brush

Ceanothus spinosus

Greenbark Ceanothus

"The Fuel Modification Zone is composed mostly of coastal scrub plant material. Planting will be "islands" of small plant/tree groupings widely spaced with mulched ground. Open areas will be hydroseeded for erosion control and maintenance. These fuel modification zone planting considerations will help prevent the creation of fire fuel ladders in areas adjacent to homes along the canyon."