

## Commander testifies at Senate hearing on Arizona projects



Photos by Orville "Dan" Collins, LA District

(TOP PHOTO) Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, left, and Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona, right, tour the Rio de Flag Flood-Control project Feb. 15 in Flagstaff, Arizona. (BOTTOM PHOTO) Baker, right, and Kelly, left, shake hands during the tour. The group also included LA District Rio de Flag Flood-Control Project Manager Brandon Colvin, Flagstaff Mayor Becky Daggett and other local, tribal, state and federal leaders.

Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, above, testifies Feb. 15 in front of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure at the Flagstaff City Hall in Flagstaff, Arizona. Baker answered questions about the perspectives of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' projects in small, rural and underserved communities in Arizona.

Baker and other witnesses testified on projects, like the Rio de Flag Flood-Risk Management, Little Colorado at Winslow Flood-Control and the Corps' Section 595 projects in Arizona, including the first one signed in 2021 with the Pascua Yaqui tribe. To view the hearing, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSz5wGvqm6s&t=11s>.

## Corps signs partnership agreement for Flagstaff 595 project

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DENA O'DELL  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. – Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, and Becky Daggett, mayor of Flagstaff, signed an Environmental Infrastructure Project Partnership Agreement Jan. 23 for the Flagstaff Downtown Lateral project at the Flagstaff City Hall.

The project is being funded under the Section 595 Program in Arizona. It will provide new construction of a storm drain system within West Santa Fe Avenue to improve storm water



runoff and quality by removing urban surface water sheet flow.

Arizona and rural Nevada were not previously covered under the 595 Program Water Resources Development Act of 1999, under the

[PARTNERSHIP, continued on Page 4](#)

(LEFT PHOTO) Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, right, and Becky Daggett, mayor of Flagstaff, left, sign a Project Partnership Agreement Jan. 23 for the Flagstaff Downtown Lateral project at the Flagstaff City Hall in Arizona.

# Future engineers!



Photo by Marta Livingston, Fort Irwin Resident Office

1st Lt. Kyle Kinter, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers LA District project engineer with the Fort Irwin Resident Office, right, hosts JoAnn LeDoux, Den leader, left, and Cub Scouts with the Arrow of Light Den for a site visit to the Simulations Center construction site Jan. 31 at Fort Irwin, California. To earn their "Build it Badge," Cub Scouts were required to visit a construction site and interview a person with a career in the construction field.

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# It's hard to believe half of FY24 is over; proud of SPL!

Team,

*As I wrapped up the townhall Feb. 29, I thought to myself that it been a great ... and also a very fast second quarter of fiscal year 2024 so far. Can you believe FY24 is nearly halfway over? I spoke about just a few second quarter highlights from my perspective at the townhall, and there are many others:*

*- Our Tres Rios and San Clemente Shoreline project delivery teams that continue to deliver despite exceedingly tight timelines and complex requirements.*

*- Huge progress with our Arizona Section 595 Program, which is helping those in Arizona who need it most.*

*- Our phenomenal LA District Emergency Management, Reservoir Operations, Regulatory Division, Public Affairs personnel and all of those who supported a textbook response to early February's string of atmospheric rivers.*

*- Driving toward completion of a big por-*



**COL. ANDREW BAKER**  
LA DISTRICT COMMANDER

*tion of our VA San Diego and VA Long Beach portfolio.*

*- Our amazing Project Delivery Team of the Year nominee – the Sentinel Program at Vandenberg Space Force Base.*

*These are just a few. There are many more, and I'm proud to serve with the team that makes these amazing things happen!*

*We didn't publish a newsletter until the very end of February, but as Black History Month ends, I encourage you to think about the black service members and civilians, who have served in countless capacities in every American conflict since the Revolutionary War, with their legacy of courage and selfless service inspiring generations to come.*

*Although both the force and our society have progressed over the course of our nation's history, we have a long way to go, as well as a commitment as Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians to do everything we can to ensure all levels of our organization remain inclusive, diverse and*

*equal, where all can "be all they can be!"*

*Finally, I wish you a belated "Happy Engineer Week" – Feb. 18-24 this year! If you missed it, there is still time to celebrate: March 4 is World Engineering Day, an official international holiday proclaimed in 2019 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, or UNESCO, to celebrate engineering and the contribution of the world's engineers for a better, sustainable world. For more information, along with a list of virtual events, visit <https://worldengineeringday.net/>.*

*Even if you're not an engineer by training, as a member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you are part of a legacy of professionals, who proudly serve the nation as problem solvers and technical experts, making a difference every day. I am proud to serve with you, as we as deliver vital engineering solutions to secure the nation, energize our economy and reduce disaster risk.*

*Proud to be SPL!*

*~ Col. Andrew Baker*

2023-2024  
**AMERICA'S ENGINEERS**  
The People, Programs, and Projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Innovation, Partnerships Key to Fargo-Moorhead Project Success**

Interview  
**LT. GEN. SCOTT A. SPELLMON**  
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

acem

**Engineers Week**  
Feb 18-24, 2024

DISCOVER ENGINEERING  
**WELCOME TO THE FUTURE**

**Mike Tuttle**  
Project Manager

**HOW I WELCOME THE FUTURE!**

*"An early interest in math, geometry and eventually physics launched an engineering journey with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I am deeply honored to be able to support our nation when called upon, our military downrange and our allies abroad."*

# SPL meets with AZ partners to discuss Section 595 projects



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, second from right, and Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer, left, listen to members of the Yavapai Tribe discuss a proposed 595 project site for a new water reclamation facility at the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Verde, Arizona.

## BY LA DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PHOENIX – Senior leaders traveled to several sites in Arizona Jan. 23-24 to view proposed projects for the district's Section 595 Program.

On Jan. 23, Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, and Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer, along with Darrell Buxton, LA District Civil Works chief; Leanne Van Tuyl, LA District Section 595 Program manager; and Rick Arvey, LA District project manager, met with representatives from the Yavapai Tribe to see a proposed 595 project site for a new water reclamation facility at the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Verde, Arizona.

The team then traveled to Fort Tuthill County Park near Flagstaff. The site has evolved into a critical regional recreational asset, yet operates out of the original military buildings and uses the original water and sewer infrastructure.

The county recently invested about \$2 million in the installation and connection of new sewer lines between the park and the City of Flagstaff. Unfortunately, it lacks

[SECTION 595, continued on Page 5](#)



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, right, and Becky Daggett, mayor of Flagstaff, left, sign an Environmental Infrastructure Project Partnership Agreement Jan. 23 for the Flagstaff Downtown Lateral project at the Flagstaff City Hall in Flagstaff, Arizona.

## [PARTNERSHIP, continued from Page 1](#)

Environmental Infrastructure Resource Protection and Development Program.

In 2020, congress authorized \$150 million to establish an Arizona and rural Nevada Environmental Infrastructure program through Section 595 of the Water Resources Develop-

ment Act of 2020, which became public law in December of that same year. This law helps bring critically needed infrastructure to Arizona and Nevada's water systems across the two states.

The LA District is currently working on 17 Section 595 projects in Arizona.



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, right, and Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer, center, listen as a representative of the Yavapai Tribe discusses a proposed 595 project site for a new water reclamation facility at the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Verde, Arizona.



Photo by Orville "Dan" Collins, LA District

**Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, center right, and Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer, center left, listen to a Section 595 Program project proposal for the Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility from representatives with the City of Tempe Jan. 24 in Tempe, Arizona.**

[SECTION 595 continued from Page 4](#)

the funds necessary to replace old water and sewer lines and to further tie-in to the new system. The county is requesting \$3 million to replace the 1929 water and sewer lines that service the historic quad and park visitors, tie-in the park to the City of Flagstaff’s wastewater system and address water quality concerns regarding lead joints and septic overflow.

**Maricopa Aquifer Recharge Facility**

On Jan. 24, the team, accompanied by Mike Tuttle, LA District Section 595 project manager, met with representatives from the Maricopa Aquifer Recharge Facility project, where they were briefed about plans to construct a new aquifer recharge facility for the City of Maricopa.

The initial phase will consist of earthwork construction to create percolation basins and includes associated piping, valves, controls and appurtenances to construct the facility. The design and construction work will be done by the City of Maricopa.



Photo by Orville "Dan" Collins, LA District

**Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, front left, discusses the Maricopa Aquifer Recharge Facility project with representatives of Global Water Resources Jan. 24 in Maricopa, Arizona.**

[SECTION 595, continued on Page 19](#)

# Dredging on track at Solana Beach



Photo by Stephen Baack, LA District

**Contractors operating bulldozers move freshly dredged sand into place Jan. 31 at Solana Beach, California.**

**BY STEPHEN BAACK  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

SOLANA BEACH, Calif. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District’s dredging operations and sand replenishment project at Solana Beach is about half-way complete.

The project, which reduces coastal storm damage and erosion along a 7,200-foot-long stretch of shoreline, includes construction of a 150-foot-wide beach fill using 700,000 cubic yards of compatible sediment.

Operations started Jan. 17 and are on schedule to wrap up in mid-March, according to Caleb Lodge, coastal engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District.

“They’re doing about seven or eight loads a day, and they only had a few days of downtime due to weather so far, but that hasn’t impacted them too much,” Lodge said of the contractor, Manson Construction.

Lodge said the contractor is employing a split-hull trailing suction hopper dredge, called the Bayport. The vessel collects between 15,000 and 20,000 cubic yards of sand per day from the offshore borrow site, from

which the vessel pumps it ashore through a connected pipe. Once deposited on the beach, the sand is spread throughout the designated stretch of shoreline with bulldozers.

The work follows the joint signing of the project partnership agreement for shoreline protection for Encinitas and Solana Beach that occurred in May, celebrating the collabo-

ration between local, state and federal partners to get the project started.

The Corps received more than \$30 million for federal funding for the initial construction of both projects in fiscal year 2022 from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The initial con-

[SOLANA, continued on Page 19](#)



Photo by Stephen Baack, LA District

**Contractors operating bulldozers move freshly dredged sand into place Jan. 31 at Solana Beach, California.**

# Leaders with Corps, city meet to discuss next steps on San Clemente Beach Nourishment project

BY DENA O'DELL  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SAN CLEMENTE, California – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District commander met with the mayor of San Clemente Feb. 9 to discuss the San Clemente Beach Nourishment project.

The two leaders – Col. Andrew Baker and Mayor Victor Cabral – walked along the project site near the San Clemente Pier, while discussing the way forward and addressing some of the city's concerns. They were accompanied by LA District Project Manager Doland Cheung and San Clemente Coastal Administrator Leslea Meyerhoff.

During the visit, the colonel and mayor talked about several of the Corps' alternative plans for the project, including possibly using other borrow sites to provide sand for San Clemente, and leveraging authorities and relationships with other local, state and federal partners to potentially accelerate the permitting process necessary to use an alternate borrow site. Because of the planning time involved on developing and

[NEXT STEPS, continued on Page 21](#)



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District, left, and Victor Cabral, mayor of San Clemente, right, meet during a rainy Feb. 9 day near the San Clemente Pier in San Clemente, California. The two leaders met to discuss the next steps for the San Clemente Beach Nourishment project and address some of the city's concerns.

# Update, site tours give division commander better picture of Prado, Whittier Narrows Dam projects



Photo by Stephen Baack, LA District

Col. James Handura, South Pacific Division commander, center right, receives an update Jan. 18 about the Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Modification project from George Sunny, LA District project manager, left.

BY STEPHEN BAACK  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MONTEBELLO, Calif. — The commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Pacific Division received an up-close look Jan. 18 at Whittier Narrows Dam and an in-depth update on the safety modification project designed to increase its capacity to handle extreme storms.

Col. James Handura, who assumed command of the division in November, was accompanied on the tour by Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander; Col. Timothy Hudson, Tulsa District commander; David Hibner, SPD regional program director, and a range of subject-matter experts from both districts.

“We have a great team here on a project to reduce risk for community members,” Handura said.

The three-mile-long earthen embankment dam was constructed in 1957 and serves as a

flood-risk management project that impounds stormwater from the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel rivers. Sitting about 11 miles from downtown Los Angeles in central LA County, the dam straddles the cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera. More than 1.25 million people in 25 municipalities live and work between the dam and the Pacific Ocean.

“The project has operated for 60-plus years as intended and has allowed those communities to develop in a way they would not have been able to otherwise,” said Aaron Smith, senior dam safety adviser with the Corps' Huntington District, during a recent video interview. “In other words, they would have experienced flooding on an annual basis without that project.

“The project today is in good condition;

[SITE TOURS, continued on Page 21](#)

# Leaders celebrate Rosemead bike path opening

BY BROOKS O. HUBBARD IV  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. Andrew Baker, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District, joined other local, state and federal partners Jan. 27 to celebrate the grand opening of the Rosemead Boulevard bike path at the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area in South El Monte, California.

Leaders kicked off the event with a press conference and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Rosemead Boulevard Complete Streets Project, followed by a bike ride, led by Supervisor Hilda Solis, who represents the LA County 1st District.

The project includes a nearly one-mile stretch of protected bikeway adjacent to Whittier Narrows recreation area. The \$5.1 million in improvements are part of a larger Complete Streets' project that will span between South El Monte and Pico Rivera to increase safety and mobility for unincorporated communities of LA County.

"The Los Angeles District is proud of the partnership we have formed with the LA County Public Works; our non-federal sponsor, LA County Flood Control District; and LA County Parks and Recreation to combine effective flood-risk reduction, habitat restoration and recreation in an urban area, such as the Whittier Narrows Dam," Baker said. "We recognize the



Photo by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, center left, joins LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, center right, and other local, state and federal leaders Jan. 27 to cut the ribbon celebrating the grand opening of the Rosemead Boulevard Bike Path at the Whittier Narrows recreation area in South El Monte, California.

critical role we have in balancing our responsibilities among increasing and often competing interests."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is one of the nation's leading federal providers of outdoor recreation, with more than 400 lake and river projects in 43 states. Visitors of all ages can

enjoy traditional activities, like hiking, boating, fishing, camping and hunting, and for those slightly more adventurous, there is snorkeling, windsurfing, whitewater rafting, mountain biking and geo-caching.

LA County Parks and Rec is one of the agencies that lease Corps-operated lakes and dams.



Photos by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

(ABOVE) Col. Andrew Baker, LA District commander, right, and LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, left, take a spin on the new Rosemead Boulevard Bike Path, following a Jan. 27 ribbon-cutting ceremony of its opening near the Whittier Narrows recreation area in South El Monte, California.

(LEFT PHOTO) Baker takes a spin on the new Rosemead Boulevard Bike Path Jan. 27 at the Whittier Narrows recreation area in South El Monte, California.

# Corps meets with Riverside reps to discuss Murietta Creek

BY BROOKS O. HUBBARD IV  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

RIVERSIDE, California – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District officials met with representatives from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Feb. 2 to discuss the Murrieta Creek Flood Control, Environmental Restoration and Recreation project in Riverside.

Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, and Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer – along with other project managers – met with Jason Uhley, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District general manager and chief engineer, who provided a brief overview and commended the Corps for its continued support of Phase 2B of the project.

The leaders then traveled to Temecula, where they toured the project site, followed by a visit to the Riverside Levees Rehabilitation project, located in the Riverside and Jurupa Valley areas. While there, the representatives discussed how they will restore and enhance the levees to ensure they continue protecting infrastructure and community residents.



Photo by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

**Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, left, and Jason Uhley, general manager and chief engineer of the Riverside County Flood Control District, discuss the Murrieta Creek Flood Protection and Environmental Restoration project during a Feb. 2 site visit in Temecula, California.**



Photos by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

**(ABOVE)** Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, left, and Jason Uhley, general manager of the Riverside County Flood Control District general manager and chief engineer, discuss the Murrieta Creek Flood Protection and Environmental Restoration project Feb. 2 in Murietta, California. The leaders then traveled to Temecula, where they toured the project site, followed by a visit to the Riverside Levees Rehabilitation project, located in the Riverside and Jurupa Valley areas. While there, the representatives discussed how they will restore and enhance the levees to ensure they continue protecting infrastructure and community residents.

**(TOP RIGHT)** Pictured is the Murrieta Creek Flood Risk Reduction Project Phase 2B Feb. 2 in Temecula, California. The project consists of channel improvements extending from downstream of the First Street Bridge to downstream of Rancho California Road.

**(BOTTOM RIGHT)** Pictured is the Riverside Levees Rehabilitation Project Feb. 2 in Riverside County, California.

# FUDS hosts public meeting about Camp Elliott



(ABOVE) Pictured is the Camp Elliott/East Elliott Remedial Action Munition Response Sites in San Diego. (Courtesy photo)



BY DENA O'DELL  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SANTEE, California – The LA District Formerly Used Defense Site team hosted a public meeting Feb. 8 in Santee, California, to update its partners and the community about the team’s technical approach and project schedule for the Camp Elliott/East Elliott Remedial Action Munition Response Sites in San Diego. The site is part of the Military Munitions Response Program.

During World War II, the site was used for artillery training exercises. It has undergone the identification and investigation phases of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act process. A remedial investigation was recently conducted to characterize the nature and extent of munitions and other environmental hazards. The investigation was the basis for the remedial action to be performed at the three sites.

Field work at the site, including data collection, is scheduled to start in April and go through September. Intrusive investigation work will begin in April 2025 and through June of the same year.



(TOP LEFT) The audience listens as the Corps and its contractors discuss the team’s technical approach for the Camp Elliott/East Elliott Remedial Action Munition Response Sites in San Diego during a public meeting Feb. 8 in Santee, California.

(BOTTOM LEFT) Harry Hendler, Chief of the LA District Formerly Used Defense Sites Program, right, answers questions from Matt Sandberg with the county parks, left, about the Camp Elliott/East Elliott Remedial Action Munition Response Sites FUDS project in San Diego during a public meeting Feb. 8 in Santee, California.

Photos by Dena O'Dell, LA District

# FUDS team makes progress on Camp San Luis Obispo project



Photos by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

Corps of Engineers FUDS team members walk through the Camp San Luis Obispo Remedial Action Munitons Response Site 05 during a Jan. 17 visit to the project area in San Luis Obispo County, California.

BY BROOKS O. HUBBARD IV  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SAN LUIS OBISPO, California – Representatives with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers met with partners and community members to provide an update about a Formerly Used Defense Sites, or FUDS, Jan. 16-17 at the Central Coast Firearms Education Foundation Shooting Range in San Luis Obispo County.

The team of geophysicists, munitions experts, chemists and program managers with the Corps’ South Pacific Division, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Albuquerque districts briefed those in attendance about the Corps’ plan for the Camp San Luis Obispo Remedial Action Muni-

tions Response Site 05 FUDS project.

“We are still at the document approval stage of the game,” said John Stomp, project manager with the LA District’s FUDS program, adding that the Corps is waiting for responses from the contractor on the biological and cultural work plans.

Additionally, the team provided training to park rangers and staff with the San Luis Obispo Botanical Gardens on the 3R’s – recognize, report and retreat – of explosives safety. The botanical gardens are located within the FUDS’ area. The group, including the Corps’ team and its stakeholders, also toured the project area, where they discussed the planned remedial action and next steps.



(ABOVE) Vijay Chennouju, a project manager with PIKA INSIGHT JV team, provides an update to stakeholders and community representatives about the Camp San Luis Obispo Remedial Action Munitons Response Site 05 FUDS project Jan. 16 at the Central Coast Firearms Education Foundation shooting range in San Luis Obispo County, California.



(BOTTOM LEFT) Evelyn Chandler, an archaeologist with PIKA INSIGHT JV team, makes a note during a site tour of the Camp San Luis Obispo Remedial Action Munitons Response FUDS Site 05 Jan. 17 in San Luis Obispo County, California.

# Fence installation underway at Mojave River Dam



## LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HESPERIA, California – Crews with the Southern California Mountains Foundation began installing fence posts along the border of the Mojave River Dam Reservoir to keep illegal offroad vehicles from trespassing into protected critical habitat.

The team began installing the fence along the Highway 173 side of the reservoir in early January and had already installed 640 feet of poles, according to Linda Stamer, OHV and Restoration Program director with the Southern California Mountains Foundation. The next step is installing cable between the fence poles.

## PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District began a Cooperative Partnership Agreement between the two agencies – the first of its kind in the region – in October 2023.

The agreement represents an opportunity to provide training, educational opportunities and environmental stewardship services at Mojave River Dam and Reservoir for participants in the Urban Conservation Corps – a youth service agency, established by the Southern California

Mountains Foundation, that provides job training and skill development for young adults in local communities.

The partnership allows participants in the program the ability to gain experience with project planning, development and implementation on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project lands.

During the five-year term of the agreement between the two agencies, services will be requested by a task order as funds, work and educational project opportunities become available.

Proposed future projects include restoration, such as the current installation of barriers to protect critical habitat; GPS monitoring; and public outreach and interpretation.

Each specific project proposed under the agreement is evaluated by both the Corps and the foundation to make certain it meets the goals of education and stewardship.

## BALANCING FLOOD RISK

Built in 1971 by the Corps as a flood-risk reduction system, Mojave River Dam protects



Photos by Brooks O. Hubbard IV, LA District

(TOP AND ABOVE PHOTOS) Southern California Mountains Foundation crews work on installing fence posts along the Mojave River Dam's outer perimeter near Highway 173 Jan. 30 in San Bernardino County, California. The crews have completed nearly a half mile of fence pole settings and will soon be installing cable between the fence poles in February.

[FENCE, continued on Page 20](#)



Photos by Orville "Dan" Collins, LA District

Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, back center left, discusses the Little Colorado River at Winslow Flood-Control project with representatives of Navajo County and the City of Winslow during a tour of the project Jan. 22 in Winslow, Arizona.

## Corps meets with partners to discuss Winslow project

BY ORVILLE "DAN" COLLINS  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PHOENIX — Col. Andrew Baker, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District, met with representatives of Navajo County and the City of Winslow to discuss the Little Colorado at Winslow Flood-Control project Jan. 22 during his tour of several Arizona projects Jan. 22-25 in Arizona.

About 5,000 people, along with critical infrastructure, are located within a flood plain in Winslow and are at the potential risk of flooding.

The project includes about 4.3 miles of flood-risk reduction levee and improvements, located along the Little Colorado River near Winslow.

"What a difference this Corps' project is going to make for this overlooked community that has so much potential," Baker said. "It's a privilege to get to work on such a righteous endeavor and knowing it's going to be life changing for the people here in Winslow."

The project received more than \$65 million in federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to fund it to completion.



Photo by Orville "Dan" Collins, LA District

Roberta "Birdie" Cano, mayor for the City of Winslow, foreground left, discusses the Little Colorado at Winslow Flood-Control project with Col. Andrew Baker, Los Angeles District commander, foreground right, during a tour of the project site Jan. 22 in Winslow, Arizona.

# LA District preps for winter storms, captures water

BY STEPHEN BAACK  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

LOS ANGELES – Winter in California is still here, which means cooler temperatures, increased precipitation and higher chances of flooding – something the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers prepares for on an annual basis.

The LA River is the backbone of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area system that has held floodwaters at bay for nearly a century.

## LEADERS ADVOCATE FOR SAFETY

Seventeen historic floods occurred between 1815 to 1938, devastating local communities and resulting in loss of life and damage to critical infrastructure. Decisions were made by local leaders at the time to channelize the river to allow the growing population to live safely within its flood plain.

Federal funds were allocated through the Flood Control Act of 1936 to assist Los Angeles County in developing and expanding flood-control infrastructure, which included channelizing 52 miles of the Los Angeles River between 1936 and 1959.

The new channel protected thousands of people and their property; however, the newly strengthened river needed frequent maintenance to ensure an optimal level of protection. In various segments, the river was designed to carry flows up to a 50-year event.

## FLOOD-RISK MANAGEMENT

The Los Angeles County Drainage Area, including the Los Angeles River, is operated, main-



Photo by Trevor Snyder, Operations Division, LA District

**The Los Angeles River is pictured during a recent atmospheric river Feb. 6 in Los Angeles. During the rainstorm event, all of the Corps' systems, including its channels, levees and dams, worked as they were designed.**

tained and managed in various areas by multiple entities, including the Corps, Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles.

The channel takes on a different look in various areas of the river, depending on the engineering design and geographical constraints. In most places, there are two different channel styles — rectangular or trapezoidal concrete/grouted stone with a low-flow channel and a

trapezoidal soft-bottom channel with grouted stone/concrete levees.

However, in what's known as the Glendale Narrows area, concrete trapezoidal walls hover over a "soft bottom" channel. This area is about 7.4 miles long and covers about 122.5 acres, expanding through four local communities — Glendale, Atwater Village, Elysian Park and Los Angeles.

## GLENDALE NARROWS

Maintenance in the Glendale Narrows is more challenging than in other areas, and the Corps has been engaged in a multi-year effort to return the area to maximum capacity. The soft-bottom channel was preserved in this location due to the high-water table. Water in this area feeds lush growth, providing habitat to native and invasive species.

Plant growth can provide good ecological habitat, but it also chokes channel capacity. And, some invasive vegetation is very challenging to clear. For example, Giant Reed, or *Arundo Donax*, can grow to more than 30 feet tall with a deeply set rhizome root that must be dug up.

Additionally, the dense vegetated areas trap sediment, trash and debris that must be removed.



Photo by Maj. Sean Hutchison, Prado Resident Office, LA District

**The Prado Dam Basin and Reservoir is pictured during a Feb. 5 atmospheric river event in Corona, California. From summer 2023 through Feb. 15, Prado Dam has been able to capture 17,940-acre-feet of stormwater for water conservation in collaboration with the Orange County Water District.**

[STORM PREP, continued on Page 20](#)

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## LA District teams support debris mission in Guam

BY LOUIS MUNOZ  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BRANCH

From July to December 2023, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District sent 19 volunteers to support the Corps' debris-clearing mission in Guam. Eight of those from LA were first-time volunteers.

The teams served as quality assurance representatives, monitoring the work of the contractors clearing debris from villages in Guam, following Super Typhoon Mawar in May 2023, which devastated the island.

Across the Corps, the mission is to assist the people and government of Guam, and has included temporary emergency power, critical infrastructure, temporary roofing and debris removal with technical assistance.

I was excited to send a good mix of first-time volunteers and some seasoned deployees, as it helps the district to have more experienced personnel available to support when a call is made for volunteers.

I have to manage the team to ensure the LA District has enough experienced personnel to perform well, not only in the quality assurance field positions, but also to groom others for management cell positions.

Additionally, seven of the 19 LA District volunteers agreed to extend for greater than the required 30-day deployment, which assisted the mission.

Two of the volunteers – Ewelina Zielinska-Thomas and Tricia Macon – both with the LA District's Phoenix Office, deployed for 90 and 86 days each, respectively.



(ABOVE) Team members with the LA and Sacramento districts pose for a picture during a recent deployment to Guam. The teams served as quality assurance representatives in support of the Corps' and FEMA's debris-clearing mission from July to December 2023. The island was devastated by Super Typhoon Mawar in May 2023. (Courtesy photo)

*"I was excited to send a good mix of first-time volunteers and some seasoned deployees, as it helps the district to have more experienced personnel available to support when a call is made for volunteers."*

~ Louis Munoz  
EM Branch specialist



BELOW) LA District team members Paul Miller, Mark Daniels, Louis Munoz and Ewelina Zielinska-Thomas pose for a picture during a recent deployment to Guam.



(LEFT) A picture of the debris along the streets in October 2023 in a village in Guam. (Courtesy photos)

# Workforce Management administrators train in Phoenix, visit Rio Salado



Photos by Dena O'Dell, LA District

(ABOVE) Administrators with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workforce Management pose for a picture with park rangers from the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration area Jan. 24 near Phoenix. The administrators were in Arizona for a training event Jan. 22-26 in Phoenix. (BELOW) Administrators enjoy a few laughs with park rangers during their visit to the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration area in Phoenix.

BY DENA O'DELL  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Los Angeles District, on behalf of the Corps' South Pacific and Pacific Ocean divisions, hosted a Workforce Management team training event Jan. 22-26 in Phoenix.

The focus of the weeklong training was to continue to develop dynamic teams across two regions within the Corps and included discussions on strategic initiatives, program changes and updates on new fiscal year 2024 requirements.



Courtesy photo

Workforce Management administrators tackle program objectives during a training event Jan. 22-26 in Phoenix.

In addition to the training, administrators took a tour of one of the LA District's projects in collaboration with the City of Phoenix – the Rio Salado Oeste Ecosystem Restoration project.

The project includes restoration of nearly 1,500 acres of riparian and flood-plain habitat with the plan of creating a continuous link between flood-risk management, recreation, wetland areas and riparian habitats along the Salt

River through Phoenix.

The Corps' Workforce Management offices serve as liaisons between management, the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and their respective Human Resource offices, coordinating all aspects of personnel actions, including selection board management, succession planning, and the intern and student programs.



# Safety team participates in 1st in-person training event in LA

BY CECILIA ORDONEZ  
CHIEF, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH  
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

The Collateral Duty Safety Officer team participated in SPL's first-ever in-person conference on Feb. 14-15. The conference focused on essential safety concepts and practices, emphasizing the core principle of "doing safety."

Through engaging and interactive sessions, the team gained valuable knowledge in various areas:

- Risk management and Action Hazard Analysis: Understanding risk assessment and developing a thorough and effective analysis.
- Hazard identification and reporting: Identifying workplace hazards and effectively logging them into the new hazard tracking system.
- Accident reporting and root cause analysis: Learning proper procedures for reporting accidents and identifying underlying causes to prevent future occurrences.
- Industrial hygiene and occupational health: Gaining understanding of IH surveys, first aid kits and the AED program.
- Understanding CESHMS: Participating in an interactive jeopardy game to solidify their understanding of concepts they learned.
- Emergency evacuation plans and drills: Learning about effective evacuation procedures and practicing fire extinguisher use.

The conference concluded with an awards ceremony and the presentation of safety coins. Conference evaluations were overwhelmingly positive, with one participant stating: "This training was excellent in preparing the CDSO team for their roles. The interactive group activities facilitated effective learning."

## UPCOMING SAFETY TRAINING

- March 13 – Safety for New Employees, 8 to 11 a.m., virtual <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/Safety.Office>. This training is mandatory for all new employees.
- March 5, 15, 19 and 28 – Personal Liability When Operating a GOV, Register at <https://www.gsa.gov/gsa-fleet-training>. This training is for employees, who would like to know the personal liability when operating a government vehicle.

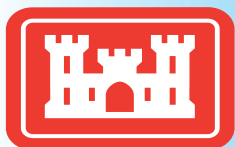


Photos by Richard Rivera, CIO/G6, LA District

(TOP PHOTO) Aaron Burke, Safety and Occupational Health Specialist and Collateral Duty Safety Officer co-lead instructs a class during the Collateral Duty Safety Officer training Feb. 14-15 at the LA District's Baseyard.

(ABOVE) LA District employees Mayra Bosque, Kathy Anaya and Bryn Butler practice hazard identification and reporting: Identifying workplace hazards and effectively logging them into the new hazard tracking system during Collateral Duty Safety Officer training Feb. 14-15 at the LA District's Baseyard.

To learn more about the LA District, right click on the icons:



# AROUND THE DISTRICT

## District employee reflects on fond memories of faith, community as Ramadan approaches

BY DINA AMAN  
IIS BRANCH, LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

Like many practicing Muslims around the world, my family and I anticipate the arrival of the holy month of Ramadan March 10. The Islamic calendar, also known as the Hijri calendar, is based on a lunar phase cycle, and Ramadan is the name of the ninth month.

Traditionally, the start of the month was marked by witnessing the faint crescent of the new moon. Although there are countries that maintain this practice, the start of Ramadan also is determined through scientific calculations of the lunar phase.

As a result, you might find the start of Ramadan varies slightly, depending on where you are in the world. Regardless, Muslims prepare for a period of spiritual reflection, communal gatherings and acts of charity.

**What makes Ramadan so important?**

In the Islamic tradition, the holy scripture, known as the Quran, was divinely revealed to the Prophet Mohammed during Ramadan. Fasting during Ramadan stands as one of the Five Pillars of Islam, obligating adult Muslims, except those that are excused, to abstain from food, drink and other indulgences from dawn until sunset. Ramadan transcends mere physical abstinence; it is a period of heightened spiritual reflection and self-discipline, where Muslims seek to increase in virtues, such as kindness, patience, gratitude, generosity and love, while consciously avoiding vices, like gossip and lying.

Reflecting on my own journey through Ramadan, I recall the innocence of childhood, where the anticipation of breaking the fast consumed my thoughts. I have memories of gathering snacks I had craved throughout the day and stacking them at the table. As we approached sunset, time seemed to slow down,

as every minute felt like an eternity. I would break my fast with a date, hurry through my sunset or Maghreb prayer and then rush back to the table to consume everything in sight.

Although hunger was on my mind, I recall fond memories of gatherings at the mosque with other Muslims, sharing aromatic dishes and amazing desserts. There is a sense of connection that is difficult to describe. This was the only time of the year I really felt I had a community, which was especially comforting when I was the only Muslim at school or in the neighborhood.

Muslims gathered at mosques and homes to fill a common desire for spiritual connection and love. As I transitioned into adulthood, my understanding of Ramadan deepened, and with it, my appreciation for the sense of unity and connection it fosters with

[RAMADAN, continued on Page 19](#)

## 'Dapper Dans'



(ABOVE LEFT) From left to right, Col. Chad Caldwell, commander of the Sacramento District; Lt. Col. Jerre Hansbrough, commander of the Albuquerque District; Col. Andrew Baker, commander of the Los Angeles District; Col. James Handura, commander of the South Pacific Division; Lt. Col. Stephen Brooks, deputy commander of the Los Angeles District; Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer; and Maj. Shantel Glass, deputy commander of the San Francisco District, pose for a picture during the Beavers dinner Jan. 19 in downtown Los Angeles.

ABOVE RIGHT) From left to right, Lt. Col. Stephen Brooks, deputy commander of the Los Angeles District; Col. Andrew Baker, commander of the Los Angeles District; AND Justin Gay, LA District deputy engineer, pose for a picture during the Beavers dinner Jan. 19 in downtown Los Angeles. (Courtesy Photos)

# AROUND THE DISTRICT Continued



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

Senior leaders with the Los Angeles District pose for a picture Jan. 23 with members of the Yavapai Tribe prior to a proposed 595 project site for a new water reclamation facility at the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Verde, Arizona.

## [SECTION 595, continued from Page 5](#)

### Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility

Next the team headed to Tempe to meet with representatives from the Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility.

The facility was removed from service in 2010. Currently, all the city's wastewater is conveyed and treated at the 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment Plant in Phoenix, under partnership with the cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa and Glendale.

Due to extended and on-going drought, the City of Tempe would like to recommission the Kyrene Water Reclamation Facility to use a portion of the city's wastewater locally to create long-term storage credits through aquifer recharge of effluent, exchange effluent with the Salt River project.

The plan is to provide cooling water for the Kyrene Power Generating Station and to create a source of non-potable irrigation water for Tempe's Ken McDonald Golf Course.

Long-term storage credits and exchange credits from the Salt River project could be local supply sources that can be used to meet future potable demands and increase Tempe's resiliency to drought and shortage on the Colorado River. Design and Construction work would be performed by the City of Tempe.

### SECTION 595 PROGRAM

The LA District's mission of the 595 Program is to provide design and construction assistance to non-federal sponsors developing water-related environmental infrastructure, resource protection and development projects in Arizona and rural Nevada.

## [RAMADAN, continued from Page 18](#)

the Muslim and broader communities, as well as spiritually.

After eating Iftar, the evening is spent in prayer and reciting the Quran. Of course, there is the occasional snack break in between. During Ramadan, Muslims strive to complete reading the Quran and maximizing acts of charity. During the day, the hunger experienced is a reminder of the blessings in life and empathy toward those who regularly experience hunger. Charity, known as Zakat al-Fitr or Sadaqah, plays a significant role during Ramadan.

As the lunar cycle completes its course, the new moon signals the end of Ramadan and the start of Eid al-Fitr, a day of celebration. Family and friends gather to share traditional foods, exchange gifts and enjoy a sense of accomplishment for another Ramadan completed. Muslims strive to maintain the spirit of Ramadan throughout the year, praying they are gifted to experience another Ramadan.

Happy Ramadan to all and may your home and heart be filled with love, compassion and gratitude toward family, friends, community and humanity.

## [SOLANA, continued from Page 6](#)

struction cost is about \$50 million with a 65/35 cost share between both cities.

In addition to the initial construction, the project will include 13 beach renourishments over a 50-year period at about \$417 million, with a 50/50 federal-sponsor cost share.

Although the work is still in progress, Lodge said the beach's transformation so far is unmistakable.

"There was almost no dry beach initially," Lodge said. "Before they started the beach nourishment, at high tide you could go down there and wouldn't really be able to walk in either direction from Fletcher Cove because it was fully inundated."

That's now all changed.

"We're making great progress," Lodge said.

To learn more about the Project Partnership Agreement for the San Diego County (Encinitas and Solana Beach) Shoreline Protection Project, visit [www.spl.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Article/3387139](http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Article/3387139)

## AROUND THE DISTRICT

We are proud to announce Scott Oglesby is nearly complete with the last milestone for his Lean Six Sigma-Black Belt Certification. Scott focused on improving contract closeouts, which aligns with Campaign Plan Goal 4: Revolutionize Program and Project Delivery. Lean Six Sigma is a process-improvement approach to improve performance by systematically removing operational waste and reducing process variation. Scott has been with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District since February 2006, minus a two-year overseas assignment from 2011 to 2013.



**SCOTT C. OGLESBY**  
Management Analyst, Los Angeles District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers





Photo by Maj. Sean Hutchison, Prado Resident Office, LA District

**Water rushes down the channels of the Prado Dam during a Feb. 5 atmospheric river event in Corona, California. From summer 2023 through Feb. 15, Prado Dam has been able to capture 17,940-acre-feet of stormwater for water conservation in collaboration with the Orange County Water District.**

### [STORM PREP, continued from Page 14](#)

The Corps removes select non-native vegetation and performs other work, but only after undertaking required environmental consultations with other state and federal agencies. This can be a time-intensive effort and requires designing project work around certain environmentally friendly windows of time.

### **PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH**

The Corps provides ongoing maintenance in its area of responsibility. With our most recent contract, the Corps awarded a federal maintenance service contract to a local women and veteran-owned small business in Southern California, with the goal of not only promoting small business growth in Los Angeles, but also hiring a company that understands the challenges along the river.

The company employs 18 maintenance personnel and supervisors and provides monthly services, including trash and debris removal, non-native vegetation management, concrete and sediment debris removal and pipe video inspections.

Additionally, at the end of fiscal year 2023, the Corps awarded a \$13.5-million invasive species and sediment management contract for the Glendale Narrows. Work will consist of excavating 100,400 cubic yards of sediment and non-native vegetation as part of a multi-year plan to restore the as-built capacity of the soft-bottom section of the Los Angeles River.

### **WORK AHEAD IN 2024**

The work of the Corps and its contractors continues as we prioritize the following:

- Removal of concrete damaged from recent rain events downstream of Los Feliz Boulevard.
- Debris removal and cleanup from more than 100 homeless encampments.
- Monitoring 35 additional encampments for flood-risk (notifying agencies to help move people out of harm's way in the event of a storm).
- Removal of sediment on concrete surfaces of the channel.
- Disposal of non-native vegetation on a weekly basis.
- Inspection and assessment of 38 storm and subdrain pipes, and, removal of graffiti along 250,000 square feet of the channel on an annual basis.

In collaboration with its local, county and state partners, the LA District's priority is to ensure the LA River operates as designed during storm events, to protect the lives and property of those who live, work and recreate along its banks.

This ongoing effort is part of the LA District's mission of providing engineering solutions that respond to the needs of the nation, the environment and the communities it serves.

### [FENCE, continued from Page 12](#)

the lives and property of millions of people in the area.

The dam and reservoir have become staples in the community.

Families visit the area to recreate and enjoy the historic Pacific Crest Trail, a National Scenic Trail that runs from Mexico to Canada, which passes alongside the dam. The area also is one of the few places in the nation that visitors can view Joshua Trees, desert flora and fauna, and wildlife that can be found in the area, including endangered species, like the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the Arroyo Toad.

In recent years, the dam and reservoir have been the subject of vandalism; illegal activities, including off-road vehicle driving; and, in some cases, fatalities.

Stacy Gorin, executive director of the Southern California Mountains Foundation, said she was looking forward to introducing the next generation of conservation leaders to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"I think traditionally, our groups in San Bernardino and Coachella Valley have not always been introduced to what the Army Corps does and also what job opportunities there are, and how it is part of the climate impact and climate resiliency work that needs to happen within our communities, and the importance of connecting these communities to these resources," she said during the Oct. 17 signing event.

Along with the Corps and the foundation, participants in the project include representatives with the San Bernardino National Forest, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Urban Conservation Corps of the Inland Empire and the Hesperia Recreation and Park District.

"Working with our partners, our goal is to ensure public safety at our dams, to protect critical infrastructure and habitat for threatened and endangered species in the area and ensure this area can continue to be enjoyed by future generations," said Col. Andrew Baker, the Corps' LA District commander, during the October event.



**US Army Corps  
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Los Angeles District

## [SITE TOURS, continued from Page 7](#)

however, the Corps of Engineers, through modern science and forecasting, has discovered a couple of deficiencies that are going to take significant modifications to make sure that it provides the same benefit it has for the past 60 years, for the next generation,” Smith said.

The Whittier Narrows Dam Safety Modification Study was completed in June 2019, and work has begun to address those deficiencies. Issues with the San Gabriel River spillway gates have already been addressed, which was one of the biggest factors driving the dam’s risk to the public, Smith said.

Remaining work includes placing soil cement on the crest and downstream slope of the embankment to protect against erosion and failure if overtopped and installing graded filter/drainage blankets and trench drains to control seepage. Minor construction started in 2021, with larger construction contracts to be awarded in 2025 after completion of design work. Major work is expected to take between four and five years to complete.

Unlike many dams in the Corps’ inventory, Whittier Narrows Dam is in a densely populated area, with thousands of people living, working and recreating nearby. According to Smith, the construction will not need to take up more space than they have right now, which he calls “a small miracle.”

The briefing and tour for Handura were led by Smith and his colleagues George Sunny, project manager, and Douglas Chitwood, lead project engineer for the SPD Dam Safety Production Center.

During the tour itself, Chitwood provided



Photo by Dena O'Dell, LA District

**Maj. Sean Hutchison, left, and Derek Walker, both project managers with the LA District’s Prado Resident Office, discuss the Prado Dam Modification Study with Col. James Handura, South Pacific commander, during a Jan. 18 site tour of the dam in Corona, California.**

the lion’s share of the overview to Handura, describing the process of hardening the dam, installing filters at the toe of the dam, and working with local partners on road and utility modifications.

“I was extremely impressed with Col. Handura,” Chitwood said. “I’ve never talked to a commander who picks things up so quickly.”

Handura’s site visit was part of a larger trip to the LA District area of operations, during which he toured Prado Dam near Corona, California, to get updates on the Santa Ana River

Mainstem project.

The \$2.83 billion Santa Ana River Mainstem project is designed to reduce flood risk for more than 1 million people along the Santa Ana River’s 96-mile journey, from Seven Oaks Dam near San Bernardino to Huntington Beach, where it flows into the Pacific Ocean. The teams are near final stages of construction on three features of the project – River Road Dike, Norco Bluffs and Alcoa Dike – leaving only two remaining features to complete – Santiago Creek and the Prado Dam spillway.

## [NEXT STEPS, continued from Page 7](#)

executing these plans, the submerged pipeline will be removed from San Clemente next week and reinstalled at a later date.

“We are listening to the city’s concerns and are continuing to collaborate with our partners to come up with a solution,” Baker said. “We all want the same thing – sand on the beach, project completion and to get it right.”

The Corps’ contractor, Manson Construction, began dredging operations Dec. 15 in the coastal city with the purpose of providing 50 feet of beach fill along a 3,412-foot-long stretch of shoreline. The added layer of sediment is meant to reduce storm damage along the coast.

The project incurred challenges early on due to inclement weather, sea swells and dredge maintenance, and at the borrow site, when the team was unable to reach beach-quality sand, but gravel and cobblestone instead.

The contractor moved its operations from San Clemente to Solana Beach in January to allow for continued productivity on both projects, while local, state and federal partners continue to work on the next steps for San Clemente.

The Corps’ LA District, the city and other agencies involved continue to collaborate on a way forward for the project with the shared goal of getting beach-quality sand placed along the San Clemente coast.

“This project remains vitally important to our community and our region,” Cabral said. “We continue to work with our partners to get our beach sand project back on track in the very near future and appreciate the continued actions of our state and federal partners to deliver a successful project to San Clemente.”

U.S. Representative Mike Levin, representing California’s 49th Congressional District, also is working with both the city and the Corps’

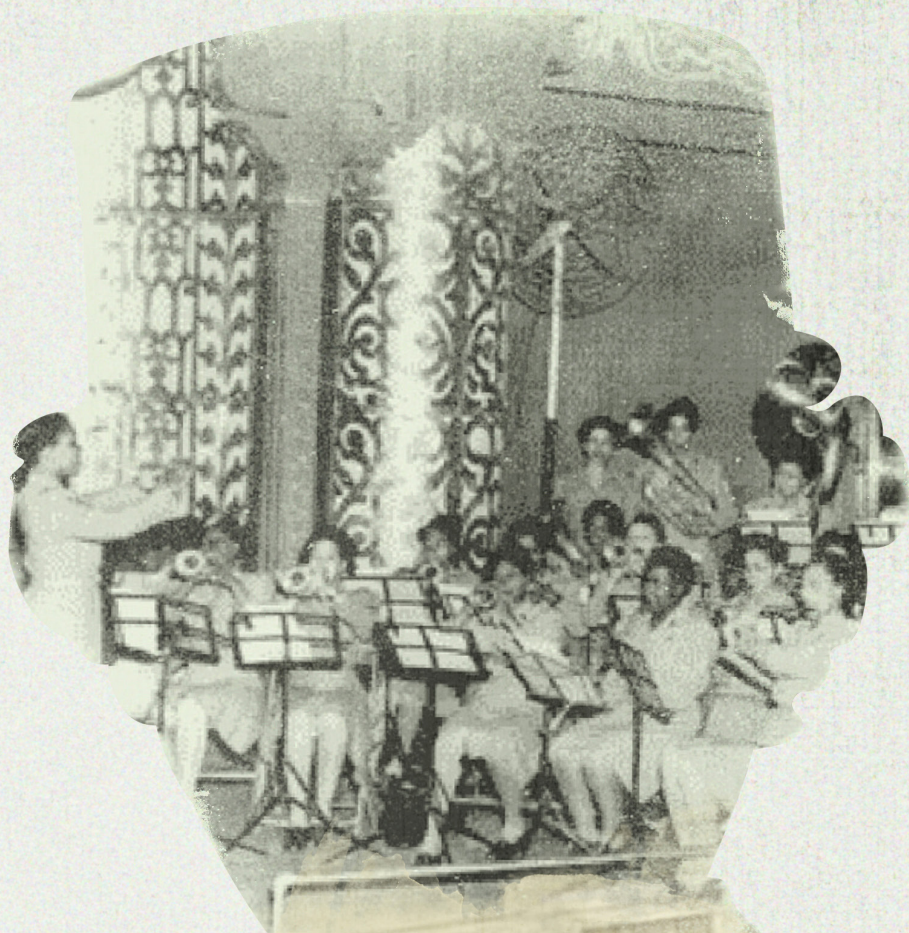
LA District on the progress of the project.

“I have been working closely with San Clemente city officials and the Army Corps to move the project forward, so I’m glad to see they are working together to replenish our beaches as quickly as possible,” Levin said. “This project is critical for the surrounding region. It will benefit San Clemente’s residents and economy, safeguard public safety and private property, and help protect the LOSSAN Rail Corridor, which serves as a critical artery for our transportation, infrastructure and national security needs. I’ll continue coordinating with federal agencies and others involved to prevent further, unacceptable delays.”

Baker added the Corps is working diligently with all of its partners to ensure the San Clemente Beach Nourishment project is a success.

For more information about the project, please go to: <https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Projects-Studies/San-Clemente-Shoreline/>.

# AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE ARTS



FEBRUARY IS  
— BLACK HISTORY MONTH —

*featuring band director Leonora Hull Brown*

