



## Seeds for Change: Creative Urban Gardens and Edible Parks

Presentation by Rebecca Draper



## Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative

LANI Background

- Established in 1994 to stimulate communitydriven neighborhood revitalization
- Designed to utilize a public participation planning process
- Constructed over \$25 million in neighborhood improvements
- Leveraged over \$30 million in additional public, private and in-kind improvements



## LANI Neighborhoods





#### LANI's Core Services

- Community Consensus Building
- Transportation and Pedestrian
   Corridor Improvements
- Business District Revitalization
- Urban Greening
- Development and Support of Community Organizations



## Community Consensus Building





Bandini Canyon Walkthrough West Adams Steering Committee



# Transportation and Pedestrian Corridor Improvements

North Hollywood Transit Arts Park







After



#### Business District Revitalization

#### Historic West Adams District



Before

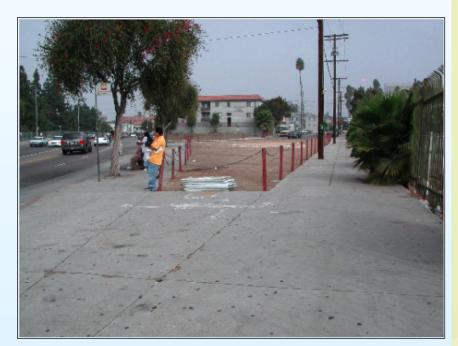


After



## Urban Greening

Koreatown Gateway



Before



After



## Development and Support of Community Organizations

Annual Community Forum













## Planting the Seeds for Change Case Study: Bandini Canyon

Project Location

- Bandini Canyon is a 4.8 acre natural canyon in San Pedro.
- San Pedro is a community located in the Harbor district of Los Angeles.





# Planting the Seeds for Change Case Study: Bandini Canyon Project Basics

- Project Time span: Seven years (2003-2010).
- Size: 4.8 acres.
- Funding: Public funds (Community
   Development Block Grant, Proposition 40,
   Quimby funds)
- Goal: to revitalize a neighborhood through the transformation of a misused & blighted open space into a natural oasis.



#### The LANI Process

Meaningful community engagement-

Project Steering Committee (PSC)

 Strong public/private partnerships-Technical Advisory Committee







### Project Process and Flow

- Comprehensive outreach to key project area stakeholders
- Establishment of PSC
- Selection of Design Team by PSC
- Series of PSC, Public Meetings and community events
- Plan/Design Development
- Ongoing community updates and coordination during construction phase



### Project Elements

- Walking path
- Tot-lot/playground
- Native Landscaping
- Educational signage



Bandini Canyon Walkthrough

#### Bandini Canyon Elementary School



## Project Challenges

### Dumping









## Project Challenges Encroachments











## Project Challenges Graffiti









### Growing Success

 Community involvement throughout the entire process

Public/Private Partnerships

Long-term plan for

maintenance

Catalytic Effect





## The Transformation Begins

Before







**During Construction** 

















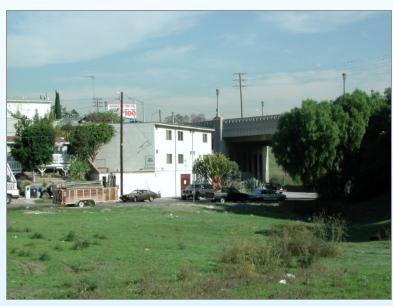


Before



After





Before



After





Before



After







Before After



## Success!!









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Rebuilding Neighborhoods One Block at a Time