

DATE: June 26, 2025

TO: WCA Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 12: Consideration of a resolution for a contract amendment with Ersoylu Consulting for an extension of the River Ranger Pilot Program evaluation services (WCA22515)

RECOMMENDATION

That the WCA Governing Board approve a contract amendment with Ersoylu Consulting for an extension of the River Ranger Pilot Program evaluation services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 increasing contract value to \$360,000 (WCA22515).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Ersoylu Consulting is conducting analysis from data gathered on the implementation of the River Ranger Pilot Program (Exhibit A). The analysis has been conducted through the two years of implementation of the pilot program.

The objective of the River Ranger Program is to demonstrate the feasibility of funding a Ranger Program and to report pilot program findings to local leaders and the State of California legislative body who commissioned the study. To substantiate this case, we are utilizing the data from Reach Zone pilot programs to highlight its value or lack of need. This evidence will be used to underscore the program's worthiness of funding and expansion across the 51 miles of the Los Angeles River.

Ersoylu's expertise, in areas such as designing, tracking and reporting metric, has proven to be beneficial in the evaluation component of the pilot as well as the Vision Planning. Thus, the ongoing work of Ersoylu Consulting is instrumental for the third-year program analysis, implementation evaluations and the designing of systems and procedures. The Ersoylu Consulting proposed amendment (Exhibit B) includes a timeline extension, an amendment to the scope of work and a budget augmentation to support continuation of River Ranger program evaluation services.

The need to maintain continuity in the evaluation process is believed to be critical to the success of understanding the best program approach and its challenges.

BACKGROUND

On May 31, 2019, the Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan was delivered to the State Legislature. The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) established an agreement to implement Assembly Bill 1558 (AB 1558), also known as the River Ranger Bill, introduced by Assembly member Cristina Garcia (AD 58). The bill required both Conservancies to collaborate with multiple state and local agencies to develop a river ranger program to provide a network of river rangers along the entire 51-mile Los Angeles River and its tributaries. The Conservancies agreed to implement AB 1558 with support from their JPAs – WCA and MRCA.

The mission of the Los Angeles River Ranger Program, implemented under Assembly Bill 1558 (C Garcia), is to foster connections between communities, agencies, and resources to promote safe, equitable usage and stewardship of the LA River and its tributaries as an activated and connected greenway that supports ecological, social, and recreational opportunities. The full Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan (Plan) completed in 2019 can be viewed on the WCA website: https://www.wca.ca.gov/our_work. The Los Angeles River Ranger Program (Program) will provide five key services: 1) Resource Management and Maintenance; 2) Recreation and Interpretation/Educational Programs; 3) Outreach and Engagement; 4) Public Safety; and 5) Administration and Coordination.

On November 21, 2021, the RMC Governing Board approved a grant to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) for the LA River Ranger Pilot Program Implementation Project. WCA identified the first REACH Zone in the Lower LA River at the Rio Hondo Confluence. It is approximately five miles.

On November 17, 2022, the WCA Governing Board approved Item 16: Consideration of a resolution to award contract to Ersoylu Consulting for River Ranger Pilot Program Evaluation Services.

FISCAL INFORMATION

This action will grant an additional \$150,000 to Ersoylu Consulting for an amount not to exceed \$360,000 funded from RMC21015.

River Ranger 2.0 Pilot Evaluation Report

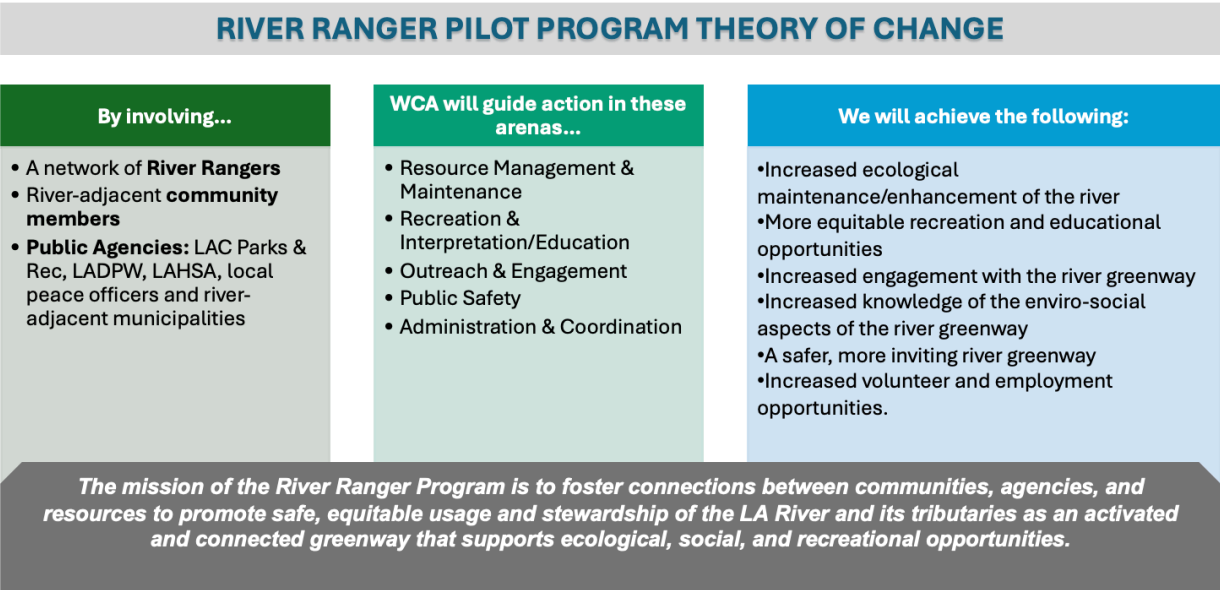
Findings from the River Ranger Cohort Active June.8680_January.8681

Background

The goal of the RR Pilot 2.0 is to provide a proof of concept for the state of CA to consider funding a Ranger Program of some sort across the entire 51-mile region. As such, we are using the **data from this pilot to prove the case that this program had achieved some success** on several fronts and therefore, is worth funding and expanding. Per the Theory of Change (below), there are 5 outcome areas from the River Ranger Pilot where change was demonstrated over time.

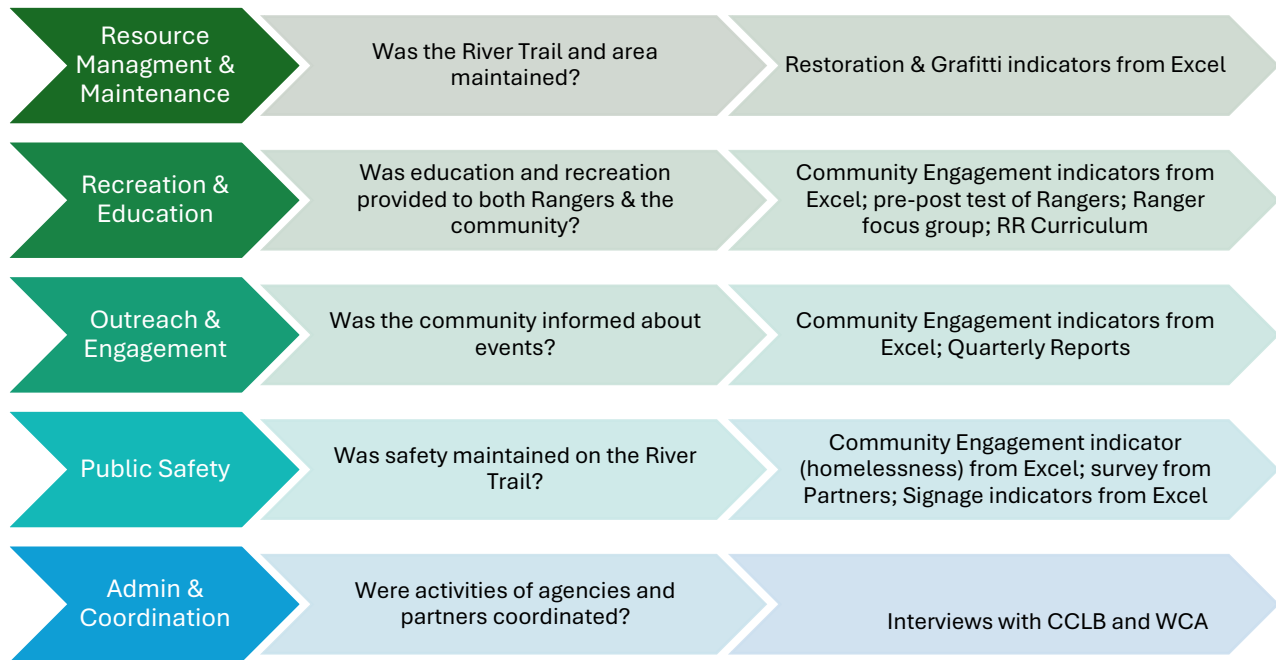
River Ranger Theory of Change

The River Ranger 2.0 Pilot is based on the following Theory of Change. The River Ranger 2.0 Pilot program design was altered by the WCA leadership in mid-2024 to shift away from the 1.0 Pilot model of having multiple grantee partners implementing the work to now relying solely on only one primary contracted agency, LB.Conservation.Corps, to house the River Rangers workforce development program and implement all relevant program components. In this new model, LBCC invites several public agencies to provide training and education to the River Rangers during their course time.



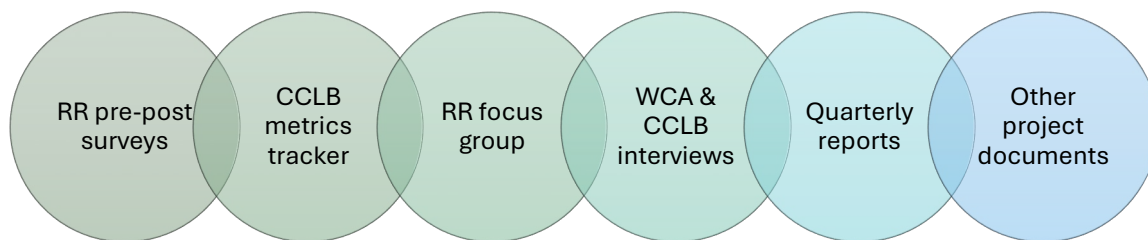
Evaluation & Learning Questions

The following five elements of the River Ranger 2.0 Pilot are listed below with key questions and data that can be used to identify whether the desired outcomes were met.



Evaluation Methods

The River Ranger 2.0 Pilot was designed to achieve the five outcomes (identified in blue, above). This evaluation uses a multi-modal evaluation process, relying on the following data-collection tools.



Staff of WCA and CCLB were probed during regularly scheduled calls where they provided insights about program progress, while the quarterly reporting provided supplemental information and photos on activities conducted during the pilot. The River Rangers were given pre and post-tests before and after their 6-month training periods and also participated in a guided focus group where they shared specifics about their experiences with the workforce development program.

The CCLB team was responsible for compiling data across a series of program metrics into one Excel file tracking sheet that monitored impact in the following areas: Restoration, Graffiti Removal, Community Engagement and Signage.

Restoration	Graffiti	Community Engagement	Signage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plants & trees installed • plants & trees maintained • sq.ft. vegetation managed • linear ft. of trail maintained • lbs. of natural/unnatural debris removed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sq.ft. graffiti removed • # signs & structures cleaned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • daily users • # promotional and educational materials • # fliers and event fliers • # unhoused individuals reported in LAHOP portal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # stencils installed • # wayfinding signs installed

Together, these various data points are used to help us identify where the Pilot Project was successful and where there may be room to consider growth and change for future years.

Results

The River Ranger 2.0 Pilot data demonstrates that there has been an impact in several of the key areas. We list each of these below, with their findings: 1) Resource Management & Maintenance, 2) Recreation & Education, 3) Outreach & Engagement, 4) Public Safety and 5) Administration & Coordination.



The data from the CCLB metric-tracker indicates that substantial amounts of the trail were restored and maintained during this time period. As we see from the tables below, over 100,000 lbs. of debris was removed during this time, as well as nearly 2,000 lbs. of recyclables being removed. Furthermore, graffiti was also removed regularly from the trails.

RESTORATION METRICS	
# of Plants & Trees Installed	4
# of Sq. Ft. Vegetation Managed	389,936
# of Linear Ft. Trail Managed	49,399
# of Lbs. of Natural Debris	47,880
# of Lbs. of Unnatural Debris	126,246
# of Lbs. of Recyclables Collected	1,809

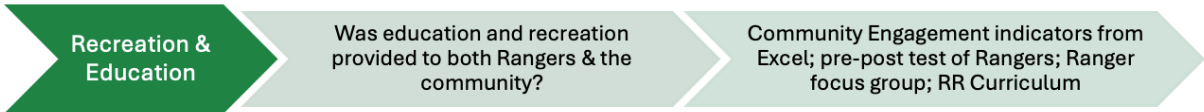
GRAFFITI METRICS	
Total sq. ft. of graffiti removed	784
# of signs cleaned of graffiti	63
# of structures cleaned of graffiti	69

Project Highlight: Spotlight on River Ranger Impact



Before (left) and after (right) photos of invasive plant removal at Parque Dos Rios;

During the Summer of 2024, the River Rangers carried out extensive fieldwork at Parque Dos Rios, near the Rio Hondo confluence. Their efforts focused on removing invasive plants and clearing dry brushes to mitigate fire risk. This work provided an essential understanding of land restoration practices and helped to increase safety of the area.



We can see from the data below that both education and recreation opportunities were provided to the River Rangers, as well as the broader community. The River Rangers received six months of training from a curriculum designed by Friends of the LA River, in collaboration with CCLB, training the Rangers on various topics related to conservation, nature, safety and civic engagement.

Overall, the eight (8) River Rangers (cohort 1) increased their knowledge and skills during the Pilot Program, from June through December 2024. The self-report responses of “excellent and above-average understanding” from their December post-test are below, demonstrating that the program taught them not only information on nature and conservation-related careers and skills, but also skills in community engagement such as community outreach, public speaking and leadership.

I.understand.Watershed.Conservation	44 ↘
I.understand.what.a.Naturalist.does	42 ↘
I.understand.the.importance.of.Flora.and.Fauna.of.California	31 ↘
I.know.History.of.the.LA.River	37 ↘
I.have.skills.in.communicating.and.interpreting.natural.resource.information.to.others	29 ↘
I.have.community.outreach.skills	29 ↘
I.can.identify.native.and.invasive.plants	29 ↘
I.know.how.to.support.a.visitor.to.the.river.who.has.questions.or.concerns	29 ↘
I.understand.Environmental.Stewardship	29 ↘
I.know.Ecological.and.Cultural.facts.about.the.LA.River	29 ↘
I.have.public.speaking.skills	16 ↘
I have skills in recording data in the field	50%
I have leadership skills	38%
I can identify the Fauna of California	25%
I know when to do a 'nesting bird' survey	25%
I have skills in using GIS to record data in the field	13%

\The.items.in.italics.had.an.increase.of.76% .or.more.from.baseline.to.post_test;Other.items.remained.the.same.or.knowledge.decreased;.

From baseline to post-test, River Rangers reported their confidence in “knowing.how.to.get.a.career.in.nature.conservation” increased from 75% to 100%. As a result of the program, River Rangers are considering the following career paths:

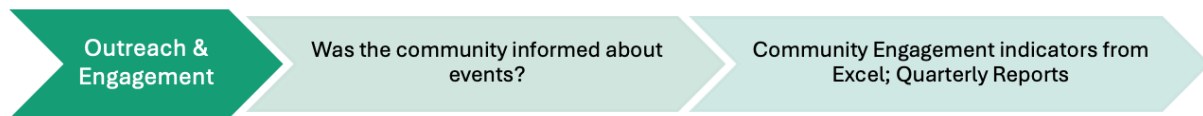
Environmental conservation and restoration	75%
Wildlife biology or ecology	50%
Education and outreach	38%
Urban planning and development	38%
Cultural preservation	25%

River Rangers shared several highlights that they learned during their time in the program:

- Importance of preserving our natural plants
- Importance of listening to the people in the community
- Watershed
- Learning first-hand what restoration work entails
- Learning the history and ecological importance of the LA river
- Learning different career pathways
- Knowledge of Native and Non-Native plant species
- How to plan and manage community outreach and events
- Time management
- Teamwork
- Problem solving
- Trust
- Leadership

When.asked.about.their.future.plans?they.responded.to.the.question?«Now.that.you.have.completed.your.River.Ranger.training?what.career.and-or.education.path.would.you.like.to.pursue.next.to.continue.to.build.on.what.you.have.done.here?«.with.the.following¿

- »I.would.like.to.become.an.interpreter.for.national.parks.so.I.want.to.take.steps.in.pursuing.an.education.and.gaining.experience.that.can.help.put.me.on.the.path;
- »I'm.still.trying.to.see.what.calls.to.me?but.if.there.is.an.organization.I.have.to.choose.to.pursue?the.local.city.Parks.™.Recreation.Department.would.be.the.number.7.option;
- »I'm.really.interested.in.the.urban.planning.development.to.continue.preserving.and.increasing.green.and.community_oriented.spaces;
- »I.want.to.be.a.wildland.fire.fighter.helping.conserve.the.mountains.and.forest.around.Los.Angeles.and.any.national.forest;
- »I.would.like.to.get.my.water.operator.license.and.train.for.work.experience;
- »Maybe.move.up.in.the.CCLB.organization.or.go.to.school.for.nursing.or.mechanics;



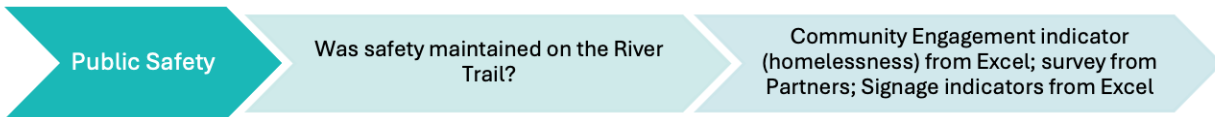
The metrics for outreach and engagement below demonstrate that the River Rangers had an impact on the broader community with their various outreach events and handing out of promotional and educational materials along the trail. The following metrics were reported by CCLB staff as a result of the River Rangers program for the duration of the period from July 1, 2024- January 30, 2025.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT METRICS	
# of river path bikers and pedestrians	5,344
# of educational fliers and promotional materials	506

There were **17 community events reaching over 1,700 individuals** hosted by the River Rangers during the 2.0 Pilot period from June 2024 through January 2025.

COMMUNITY EVENT METRICS				
Date	Community Event Name	Location	Description	# of participants
09/14/2024	Downey Litter picking event	Downey	Downey Beautiful Event	n/a
09/21/2024	Paramount Cleanup	Paramount	Paramount Cleanup	n/a
09/28/2024	South Gate Car Show	South Gate Park	South Gate Car Show	n/a
10/02/2024	Mary Braggs Elementary	Mary Braggs Elementary School	Parque Dos Rios/ Mary Braggs Elementary School Environmental Summit	90
10/05/2024	Friends of the LA River	Compton Creek	LA River Cleanup/ Folar	75
10/16/2024	LLARRA Meeting	Paramount	LLARRA Meeting	30
10/18/2024	Blue Shield Deforest Cleanup	Deforest	Blue Shield Deforest Event	n/a

10/31/2024	City of South Gate	South Gate Park	Education day	n/a
11/01/2024	Deforest Teen Summit	Michelle Obama Library	Crawford Park/ Parque clean up	45
11/09/2024	City of South Gate	South Gate Park	Family Day at the Park	70
11/16/2024	Keep Downey Beautiful	Golden Park	Keep Downey Beautiful/ South Gate Cleanup/ Southern Ave	17
11/16/2024	Kwanis Kleanup	South Gate Park	Keep Downey Beautiful/ South Gate Cleanup/ Southern Ave	34
11/23/2024	City of Bell Gardens	Ford Park	Ford Park Fishing Derby/ Parque Bump out Maintenance	126
12/06/2024	Associated Mothers	Cabrillo High School	Environmental Awareness Fair	40
12/08/2024	City of South Gate and Chamber of Commerce	South Gate Park	South Gate Children's Christmas Lane Parade and Festival	1,000+
12/14/2024	LLARRA	Horchatería Rio Luna	Parque Bump Out/LLARRA communities	35
01/18/2025	Clutter-Free Paramount	Paramount Swap Meet	Clutter-Free Paramount	200



The data regarding public safety was indicative that, yes, the River Rangers have a clear role in the outreach and reporting of homeless individuals and encampments to the local public agencies. Regarding signage, however, there was less progress made during this time period.

In addition, 75% of River Rangers now know how to fit bike helmets correctly and 38% understand bike components, making them able to support cyclists who may need help on the trail.

HOMELESS ENGAGEMENT METRICS		
June-September 2024	Unhoused Individuals	184
October 2024-January 2025	# of LAHOP Individual Portal Entries	110
	Total # of Individuals	294
November 2024-January 2025	# of LAHOP Encampment Entries	51
	Total # of Encampments	51

During the focus group with the River Rangers, they shared what would have improved their experience regarding the safety element of the work. Several Rangers shared that they would have liked more training on how to relate to individuals living along the river and in encampments; in particular, they wanted to learn best practices in how to interact with the unhoused and also how to keep themselves safe while doing so.

The Rangers overall shared that they had only received a brief rundown on the portal technology and entering data into it, but did not feel like they had received sufficient training in how to interact and situational awareness around this population. Two Rangers also mentioned wanting to know about whether they can carry and learn to use pepper spray, as one Ranger had a knife pulled on her and her peers wanted to know how they could be better prepared for these possible situations. As a result of this feedback, the program training included a new OSHA 40 Training where the Rangers now learn the following elements¹ to support their work with the unhoused populations along the river:

- Types of Hazards
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Levels of Protection
- Decontamination
- Toxicology
- Fire Prevention
- Hazardous Materials
- Medical Surveillance
- Site Emergencies
- Drums and Containers
- Fall Hazards
- Electrocution
- Struck by Hazards
- Caught-in or -Between Hazards
- Hazardous Communication

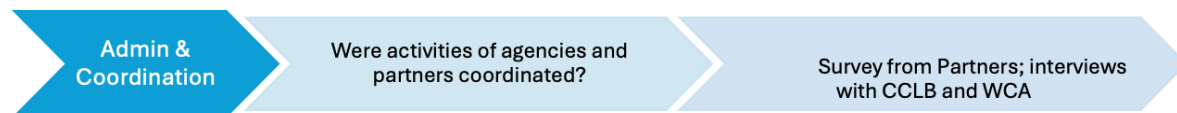
Another safety issue that the Rangers shared was their concern about the bike unit. In particular, they wanted to have some flexibility in the steel-toe shoe mandate for Rangers while biking. They shared that they were concerned the steel-toe boots were hindering their ability to bike safely and they wanted bike-friendly shoes to be permitted. As a result of their feedback, program management shifted their rules and now allow bike patrol crew members to wear non-steel-toe boots during patrol shifts.

SIGNAGE METRICS

During the time period, there were no signage stencils or wayfinding signs implemented. However, there has been progress toward the planning of signage implementation. During this time, staff identified seven (7) possible locations for signage along the river's bike path and the Advisory Board members visited two of the locations to finalize elements for signage placement, such as easements and other factors. Staff then supported the Advisory Board in prioritizing five (5) sign locations. The staff is now in the process of submitting permit applications for the signage.

¹ Per [OSHAeducationcenter.com](https://www.osha-slc.gov/educationcenter)

Here are two of the ‘samples’ of what future signage will look like along the river trail.



At the end of the pilot program, River Rangers surveyed reported an increased familiarity with several public agencies, per the table below.

Public Agency	“very familiar/ familiar” at post-test
LACDPR (LA County Parks & Recreation)	88%
WCA (Watershed Conservation Authority)	75%
LAHSA (Los Angeles Housing Services Agency)	63%
Local SELA Cities	63%
DHS (Department of Health Services)	50%
LACFCD (LA County Flood Control District)	50%
PATH	50%

Of note, from the table above, River Rangers increased their familiarity with the LACFCD from 0 to 50% during the program. Other significant increases occurred in the Rangers’ understanding of SELA cities, LACDPR, WCA and PATH. Rangers were familiar with LAHSA at the beginning of the program and did not change in their understanding of that agency, while fewer reported being familiar with the work of DHS at the end of the program than at the beginning.

In addition, during the program, River Rangers learned about how they can support the work of each public agency they met. Overall, at the end of the program, the Rangers reported high familiarity with how their work can impact the various public agencies.

Public Agency	“very familiar/ familiar” at post-test
WCA (Watershed Conservation Authority)	100%
DHS (Department of Health Services)	100%
LAHSA (Los Angeles Housing Services Agency)	88%
LACDPR (LA County Parks & Recreation)	88%
Local SELA Cities	75%
LACFCD (LA County Flood Control District)	63%
PATH	38%

River Ranger’s shared which of the following public agencies they were “likely interested” in pursuing a career with after their training. The majority are considering LACDPR, local parks departments and local public works departments. Also, of note, although none reported being likely interested in careers at LAHSA or DHS, 75% of Rangers shared that they are somewhat interested in pursuing future careers at LAHSA and 38% at DHS.

Public Agency	“very likely or likely” at post-test
LACDPR (LA County Parks & Recreation)	75%
Local City Parks & Recreation Department	75%
Local City Public Works Department	71%
WCA (Watershed Conservation Authority)	50%
Local Cities in SELA	38%
LACFCD (LA County Flood Control District)	38%
PATH	13%

In addition to the data from the survey, River Rangers also participated in a focus group discussion in December 2024 where they shared their insights into how the program has supported their career readiness. They shared the following about how their participation provided them with several types of certifications if they were interested. Of the 10 participants present, they shared the following certificates were obtained during the grant period:

- Waders in Water (River landscape)
- Leave no Trace (environmental stewardship)
- GRID Solar Training
- Edison Pole Maintenance
- Wildland Fire Fighter Certificate
- Chainsaw S212
- Fire Behavior Certification
- FEMA Certificate
- OSHA 40 Certificate
- Forklift Training Certificate
- Cal Naturalist Certification
- Security Guard Clearance
- Drivers License

Through job fairs, resume support and interview training, they were given the opportunity to learn of these jobs and gain valuable skills that they can build upon. As a result, there were several careers that they learned about during their time that they are “likely interested in pursuing”:

- Water Operator License (via LA Trade Tech)
- Water Efficiency Auditor
- Wildland Fire Fighter
- Sawmill Operator
- Park Rangers

- Nature Interpreter
- National Forest Services Foundation
- Public Works
- Fuel Management Certificate
- Public Works at Cities (irrigation, parks, field engineers, etc.)
- Edison Electric Power Line Technicians
- SoCal Gas (gas and water meters)

Lessons Learned

Successes

The FOLAR/ CCLB River Ranger Curriculum was created with in-depth learning on several different areas. CCLB has worked during this pilot period with Friends of the LA River (FOLAR) to develop a more comprehensive curriculum to train the River Rangers and create learning and educational experiences for the community. This is a comprehensive, online tool that can be available to communities to use along the entire river.

Also, there is a logo, website, branded materials that have all been created for the River Ranger Program.

CCLB data on resource conservation and stewardship is now tracked on a regular basis. The River Ranger Program is a complex intervention with data collected on the resource stewardship as well as the community engagement that must be collected regularly in order to tell that full story of the benefits of Rangers. This data collection tracker can be used for other areas if the Pilot is to expand to other regions of the river in the future.

River Rangers now provide support to the homeless outreach teams of (LAHSA, DHS and PATH) by entering data into the Portal. The Rangers have been given training and education on how best to support the unhoused individuals and encampments that they encounter. They are now more familiar with the key processes of entering information in the portal and calling the hotline number when they have questions.

A Workforce Development program has been created with meaningful increases in youth knowledge about conservation careers and opportunities. These TAY (Transition Age Youth) have access to training and job development that has made them likely to pursue careers in conservation and resource management. These young people are diverse, primarily Latino/a and from historically disinvested communities and the conservation-related fields will benefit from their lived experiences and understanding of these community assets.

Opportunities

Increased signage along the trail so that community members can better understand where the trail goes and how to navigate along the trail is still needed. Wayfinding signs help individuals know where they are in relation to the area, while directional signs serve as the 'in between' directionals to let people know where they need to go to get to a path, an entrance, a park, etc. In the next iteration of River Ranger Program, a focus on this will be welcome.



Proposed Scope of Work June 2025- May 2026

TASK	ESTIMATED HOURS	FEE
PHASE 1		
Review of documents, including documents from North River RR Programs, RFP, SOW, participant rosters and other river pilot project documents as provided by WCA	40	\$8,000
Conduct interviews of key of Project Team members and conduct regular meetings with WCA and LBCC key staff (at least 2x/month or monthly) to identify lessons learned, track metrics from the Excel and make program improvements	120	\$24,000
Create, send (twice during the year) and analyze survey for Rangers regarding process elements and identify successes and challenges with a focus on identifying role of community engagement and communications; conduct annual focus group with each cohort.	50	\$10,000
Review Quarterly Reports from CCLB, ensure project progress is on track and troubleshoot any implementation issues with WCA.	40	\$8,000
Gather data from implementation partners' staff regarding implementation, communications and engagement tracking/participation numbers; analyze and write up findings (July 2025, December 2025 and June 2026)	50	\$10,000
Continue to engage with project staff and implementation partners via hosting quarterly team meetings where project progress and barriers are discussed and write up findings to ensure adjustments are made.	100	\$20,000
PHASE 2		
Identify other learnings from the north river pilot program; review any evaluation data or other information provided,	100	\$20,000

meet with relevant partners and ensure learnings are documented.		
Compile all data and information from surveys, interviews and literature reviews of key documents provided; cross-check and verify with project staff and get feedback on 2 iterations of the analysis.	150	\$30,000
Compile final evaluation report of both elements: planning and implementation to prepare final document in word.	50	\$20,000
TOTAL	750	\$150,000

We estimate that this work will take approximately 750 hours. Our hourly rate for all tasks is \$200/hour and this is a lump-sum proposal, not to exceed \$150,000. Our assumption is that the scope is going to be fine-tuned once a formal Evaluation Plan is created during the first month of the contract, if awarded.

Statement of Qualification and Experience:

Dr. Ersoylu has expertise in evaluation, systems and policy to help agencies service their clients with intentionality and strategy. Ersoylu Consulting aims to help funders create more effective initiatives, ultimately impacting those most in need. Since 2007, Ersoylu Consulting's planning, evaluation & research support have helped clients tackle complex problems and successfully navigate and advance change. Our extensive experience with both qualitative and quantitative methods include: focus group facilitation, direct observation, survey design, process and outcome evaluations, and data analysis.

We specialize in the interpretation of evaluation and research findings, as well as policy and systems change, in economically and culturally diverse communities. Regardless of the methodology or topic area of inquiry, we are deeply commitment to social justice. Each project we engage is chosen intentionally, because we feel that it helps to advance equity, community building or otherwise supports vulnerable communities.

June 26, 2025– Item 12

RESOLUTION 2025-20

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION FOR A CONTRACT
AMENDMENT WITH ERSOYLU CONSULTING FOR AN EXTENSION
OF THE RIVER RANGER PILOT PROGRAM EVALUATION SERVICES
(WCA22515)**

WHEREAS, The Watershed Conservation Authority has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District); and

WHEREAS, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Los Angeles River Ranger Program is to foster connections between communities, agencies, and resources to promote safe, equitable usage and stewardship of the LA River and its tributaries as an activated and connected greenway that supports ecological, social, and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the objective of the River Ranger Program is to demonstrate the feasibility of funding a Ranger Program and to report pilot program findings to local leaders and the State of California legislative body who commissioned the study.; and

WHEREAS, Ersoylu Consulting is conducting analysis from data gathered on the implementation of the River Ranger Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, Ersoylu's Consulting has designing, tracking and reporting metric expertise that has been use do to evaluate the River Ranger Pilot Program for its two years of implementation ; and

WHEREAS, Ersoylu Consulting proposed amendment (Exhibit B) includes a timeline extension, an amendment to the scope of work and a budget augmentation to support continuation of River Ranger program evaluation services for year three; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. **FINDS** that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. **FINDS** that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
3. **ADOPTS** the staff report dated June 26, 2025.

4. **APPROVES** a contract amendment with Ersoylu Consulting for an extension of the River Ranger Pilot Program evaluation services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 increasing contract value to \$360,000 (WCA22515).

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On June 26, 2025

Vincent Chang
Governing Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
John Natalizio
Deputy Attorney General