

# WaterTalks For Agencies and Electeds



## Workshop 2: Community-Engaged Planning

Lower San Gabriel River & Lower Los Angeles River

Wednesday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> | 10AM – 12PM | On Zoom!

### Expert Speaker Bios:

#### **Robin Mark**

Los Angeles Program Director, Trust for Public Land

Robin Mark is Trust for Public Land's Los Angeles Program Director. Robin oversees a team of landscape architecture professionals and community organizers to deliver quality park projects, green schoolyards, and green alleys throughout LA County. In recent years, Robin's work has focused on school greening to create healthier, more climate resilient school environments. She has also worked along the Los Angeles River, implementing park projects as well as larger planning and policy work around large-scale infrastructure projects and their relationship to displacement. She is one of the founding members of the LA ROSAH (Los Angeles Regional Open Space & Affordable Housing) Collaborative and the Los Angeles Living Schoolyards Coalition. Robin holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona and is a LEED Accredited Professional.

#### **Dayana Molina**

Community Organizer, Trust for Public Land

Dayana Molina is a Community Organizer with the Trust for Public Land's Los Angeles office. She is a community advocate who has been working on access to parks and open spaces since she was 13. Her involvement in advocacy efforts for two state parks, Rio de Los Angeles State Park and Los Angeles Historic State Park, and the Los Angeles River Revitalization in her teens inspired her to pursue a community-organizing career focused on community empowerment and park and open space equity. She continues to bring commitment and passion to every project through her 20-plus years of community organizing experience, working with various nonprofits in the environmental and social justice sector. In her current role, she works directly with community leaders, schools, and partners on Green Alley projects, urban parks, open space projects, and Green Schoolyards.

#### **Tara Dales**

Watershed Coordinator, SGA

Tara Dales is a project manager at SGA Marketing and oversees water and recycling focused community outreach and public education campaigns. She is currently the Lower LA River watershed coordinator for the Safe Clean Water program. Prior to this role, she managed the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Stormwater Program's public education. Other past clients include the LA County Public Works 'Water for LA' Program, County of San Diego's Watershed Protection Program, Contra Costa Water District, City of Menifee, Napa County, Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority, City of LA's Emergency Management Department and the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Biographies continued...

## **Kekoa Anderson**

Watershed Coordinator, Ohana Vets

The Lower San Gabriel River "LSGR" Watershed Coordinator roll consists of four team members led by Kekoa Anderson, who has a long history with developing the Gateway Cities Urban Greening and Complete Streets Master Plan programs. The San Gabriel watershed that makes up this urban footprint has been a focus area for him over the past 10 years.

Mr. Anderson has over 35 years of experience managing infrastructure and urban design projects, which include development of master plans, feasibility studies, environmental evaluations, permitting and clearance for water quality, capture and infiltration of stormwater runoff programs.

The success of programs is based on the strength of community engagement, education and collaboration. Mr. Anderson relies on that input to help him identify and build sustainability in all types of watershed planning efforts emphasizing nature-based solutions. The LSGR Watershed Coordinator team brings these principles to their work for the LSGR Watershed Area to enhance and improve the urban environment by the management, reuse and infiltration of stormwater within arterial streets, parks, schools, and underutilized open space opportunities.