

## OPPORTUNITY #27- ALMA PARK HISTORIC RESTORATION

Alma Park presents a unique water conservation and stormwater management opportunity for San Pedro. Located in the southern reaches of the community the park cascades down a hillside with a spectacular view of the Port of Los Angeles. The upper part starts at W. 22nd St. and flows down towards W. 21st St. which bisects the park. The lower half of the park is a deep grotto that was once a pond. Like many similar stretches of the hills of San Pedro on the east side of the Palos Verde Peninsula, this was once a natural creek with a series of cascading ponds on its way to the Pacific Ocean at

what is now the Port of Los Angeles.

The concept embodied by this opportunity is to restore a portion of the natural “watershed functionality” that once existed at Alma Park while also restoring such historically constructed design elements as the cut stone retaining walls and seat walls in both the upper and lower

“grotto” areas of the Park.

Restoration of the natural “watershed functionality” would involve re-designing and reconstructing how stormwater and dry-weather runoff from 22nd St., 21st St., and Alma St., and from within the Park itself, is managed. Currently, stormwater and any irrigation runoff is directed to storm drains and flushed out to the Pacific Ocean. This opportunity would “restore nature’s services” by intercepting this water and infiltrating it into the local groundwater. The infiltration/percolation of this water through the soil and underlying rocks will clean the water and replenishment the local water supply.



*Photo looking south towards 22nd St. at the upper “grotto” or pond*



*Photo looking west at the north side of the park at 21st St.*



*Photo looking west - view takes in the edge of the park at 21st St. and the lower “grotto”, which was once filled with water during rainfall events.*



*Photo looking west along the south edge of Alma Park at 22nd St.*



*Photo looking into the upper “grotto” just north of 22nd St.*

