

A yellow-tinted photograph of a dirt path in a wooded area. Two people are walking away from the camera on the path. The scene is filled with trees and dense foliage. The overall color scheme is a uniform yellow, giving it a monochromatic appearance.

APPENDIX C – TECHNICAL RESOURCES

APPENDIX C – TECHNICAL RESOURCES

This provides an overview of the mapping criteria and data sources used in the Need and Opportunity Maps presented in the PNA+ Implementation Plan.

MAP TYPE	METHODOLOGY
<p>High Park Need + Disadvantaged Communities</p>	<p>This map shows the intersection of Disadvantaged Communities (SB535) and areas of high park need. High park need includes areas identified as ‘High’ and ‘Very High’ in the 2016 Park Needs Assessment, along with 2022 PNA+ priority areas for environmental restoration, environmental conservation, and improved access to regional and rural recreation. These layers were merged and intersected to highlight communities facing both environmental and park access disparities.</p>
<p>Coalition Priority Projects</p>	<p>This map shows priority park and open space development projects identified by PNA+ coalition partners in 2024. Project footprints were digitized as polygons based on submissions from partner organizations and spatialized by MIG for mapping; however, the submitted locations have not yet been verified by the originating agencies. These projects were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to highlight efforts advancing equity and access in communities with the greatest needs.</p>
<p>Repairs to Poor Condition Parks</p>	<p>This map shows parks rated in poor overall condition, based on assessments compiled by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District. Condition ratings are updated regularly by the managing agencies, with the most recent update completed in July 2024. These parks were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to highlight areas where reinvestment in park infrastructure would most benefit underserved communities.</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>This map highlights areas where species biodiversity intersects with high park need and disadvantaged communities. Biodiversity values are drawn from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s 2023 Areas of Conservation Emphasis, which classifies ecoregions on a 1–5 scale based on relative biodiversity—ranging from Very Low (1) to Very High (5). These were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to identify places where ecological and community priorities align.</p>
<p>Public K-12 Schools</p>	<p>This map shows public K–12 schools that intersect with high park need and disadvantaged communities and are located outside of a 10-minute walk to any park. School locations are based on the California School Campus Database (GreenInfo Network, 2021). These were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to identify schools in equity-priority areas that may benefit from shared use agreements or new park development nearby.</p>
<p>Planned Trails and Bikeways</p>	<p>This map shows planned trails and bikeways that intersect with high park need and disadvantaged communities. Trail data is sourced from the Los Angeles County LA County Parks Proposed Trails (County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, 2022), and bikeway data from the SCAG Regional Bikeway Shapefile (Southern California Association of Governments, 2024). These planned routes were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to highlight future infrastructure that may expand access to active transportation and recreation in underserved areas.</p>

MAP TYPE	METHODOLOGY
LUST Cleanup Sites	This map shows Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanup sites that intersect with high park need and disadvantaged communities. Site locations were spatialized from a table sourced from the State Water Board's GeoTracker system (2024). These were intersected with the combined 2016 and 2022 High Park Need and SB535 Disadvantaged Communities layer to identify opportunities for environmental remediation and potential reuse of formerly contaminated land in underserved areas.
Tax-Defaulted (Filtered by Use + Slope Category)	This map shows tax-defaulted properties that intersect with high park need and disadvantaged communities. Parcels with land uses unsuitable for park development—such as wholesale, water, and heavy industrial—were excluded. The remaining parcels were filtered to include only those at least 0.25 acres in size, and categorized based on slope suitability. Parcels with 0–15% of their area over 10° slope were considered good for park development; those with 15–40% were considered possible, but with constraints; and those with over 40% were considered best suited for open space or trails. This analysis identifies potential opportunities for recreation or conservation in equity-priority areas.
Vacant Lands (Slope Category)	This map shows parcels designated as vacant land that intersect with high park need and disadvantaged communities. The vacant land use designation was sourced from UrbanFootprint, which licenses national parcel-level land use data from CoreLogic. These parcels were filtered to include only those at least 0.25 acres in size and were categorized by slope suitability. Parcels with 0–15% of their area over 10° slope were considered good for park development; those with 15–40% were considered possible but with constraints; and those with over 40% were considered best suited for open space or trails. This map highlights undeveloped land with potential for expanding park access in equity-priority areas.
Wildfire Perimeters	This map shows all recorded wildfire perimeters across Los Angeles County, sourced from the Wildland Fire Interagency Geospatial Services (WFIGS) group, 2025. These perimeters are displayed alongside high park need and disadvantaged communities to illustrate where past wildfire activity overlaps—or approaches—areas with limited access to parks and vulnerable populations. The map supports conversations around ecological restoration, climate resilience, and equitable recovery in the region.