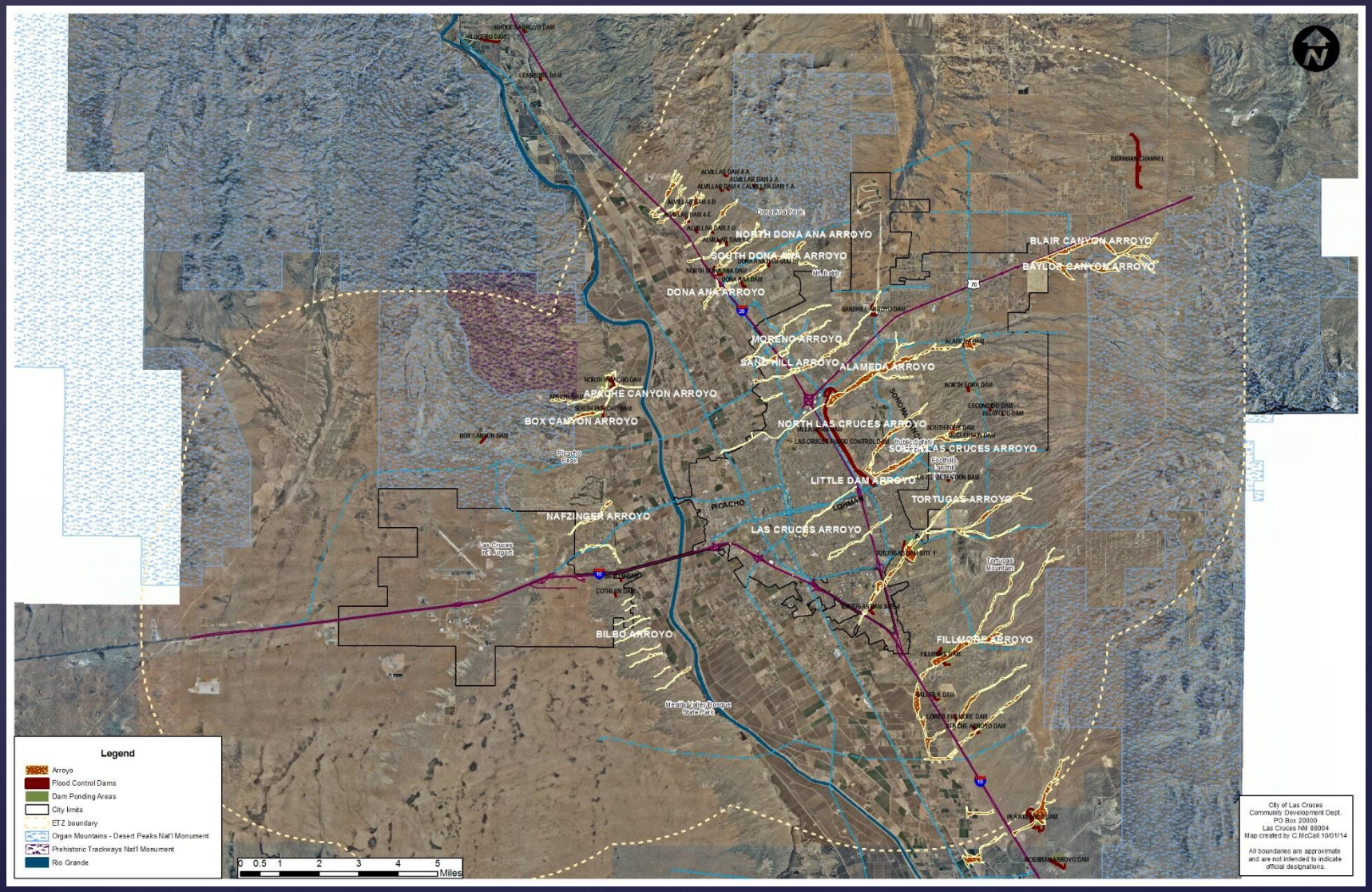
ARROYO MANAGEMENT PLAN

RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM
October 23, 2014

City of Las Cruces®
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

STUDY AREA


NORTH DONA ANA ARROYO
SOUTH DONA ANA ARROYO
DONA ANA ARROYO
BLAIR CANYON ARROYO
BAYLOR CANYON ARROYO
MORENO ARROYO
SAND HILL ARROYO
ALAMEDA ARROYO
APACHE CANYON ARROYO
BOX CANYON ARROYO
NORTH LAS CRUCES ARROYO
SOUTH LAS CRUCES ARROYO
LITTLE DAM ARROYO
TORTUGAS ARROYO
NAFZINGER ARROYO
LAS CRUCES ARROYO
BILBO ARROYO
FILLMORE ARROYO
Legend
Arroyo
Flood Control Dams
Dam Ponding Areas
City limits
ETZ boundary
Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks Nat'l Monument
Prehistoric Trackways Nat'l Monument
Rio Grande
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles
City of Las Cruces
Community Development Dept.
PO Box 20000
Las Cruces NM 88004
Map created by C McCall 10/01/14
All boundaries are approximate and are not intended to indicate official designations.

1956 SUBDIVISION REGs

The developer shall provide adequate measures for the protection of open drainage channels by establishing drainage easements sufficiently wide (generally 20 ft.)

The developer should keep in mind that natural watercourses can be an attractive asset to his subdivision as well as to the community and, where possible, should improve and beautify the watercourses to this end.

ENABLING LEGISLATION

Las Cruces Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority(1963) to administer stormwater management

The Authority was never formed

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT POLICY PLAN (1992)

Develop an overall City water system that promotes aesthetics and multiple-use activities through the use of "natural" arroyos or linear park systems, preservation of open space, and visual enhancement.

The City will encourage the preservation of open space corridors along major arroyos within the East Mesa.

The City will encourage the preservation and utilization of major tributaries that feed designated major arroyo corridors.

Encourage the facilitation of a consistent, regional storm water management program for the Las Cruces urban area.

BMPs

PLAN PURPOSE

Provides policy guidance:

- Regional approach to SW management
- Improve flood control & drainage functions;
- Protect arroyos in their natural state;
- Protect native vegetation and wildlife habitat;
- Help protect private property;
- Encourage responsible and profitable development;
- Accommodate and protect essential utility installation and maintenance;
- Provide additional recreational opportunities.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Public input meeting: Apr 2, Jul 23
- Conservation stakeholders: Jan 15, May 7
- Engineering stakeholders: Apr 4, May 5, July 31
- Development stakeholders: Apr 16, Apr 30, July 31, Oct 15,
- Paso del Norte Watershed Council: Apr 24
- EBID: Sept 10
- Misc. e-mail submissions
- P & Z: May 20, Jun 24

ISSUES, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNTIES

- Development
- Erosion & sedimentation
- West Mesa slopes
- Flood control dam effectiveness

ISSUES, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNTIES

- Vulnerable utilities & infrastructure
- Erratic weather events in the future

- Destruction of vegetation & habitat
- Reduction of wildlife corridors
- Limited trails & amenities

GOALS, POLICIES & ACTIONS

- Land Use
- Environment
- Community Facilities
- Utilities & Stormwater Management

LAND USE

- GOAL 1: Take a proactive approach to watershed management that takes into account existing drainage conditions as well as conditions affected by future development.
- GOAL 2. *Improve the safety of the flood control dams and restore native vegetation in the storage pool areas*.
- GOAL 3. *Improve road crossing infrastructure*.

ENVIRONMENT

- *<u>GOAL 4</u>: Protect and maintain natural vegetation within arroyo systems and mitigate damage that may result from development .*
- *<u>GOAL 5</u>: Manage arroyos to retain wildlife corridors.*

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- GOAL 6: *Minimize impacts created by development and human activities.*
- GOAL 7: *Create a plan for a continuous system of regional trails (MPO).*
- GOAL 8: *Create design guidelines for trails and trail crossings (MPO).*

UTILITIES & STORMWATER MANAGMENT

- GOAL 9: *Create safe and effective engineering standards for flood control and conveyance.*
- GOAL 10. *Minimize soil and slope instability, erosion, sedimentation and water run-off.*
- GOAL 11: *Improve the safety and efficiency of utilities installation.*

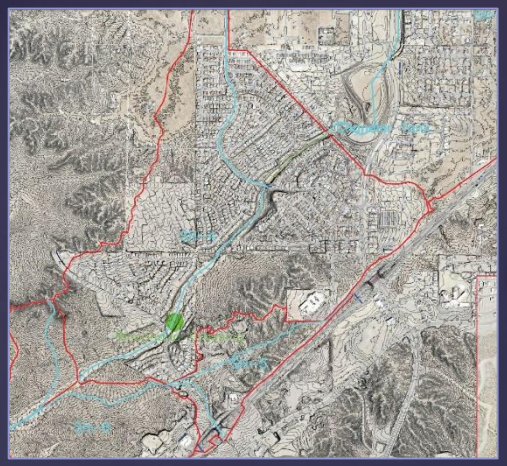
IMPLEMENTATION

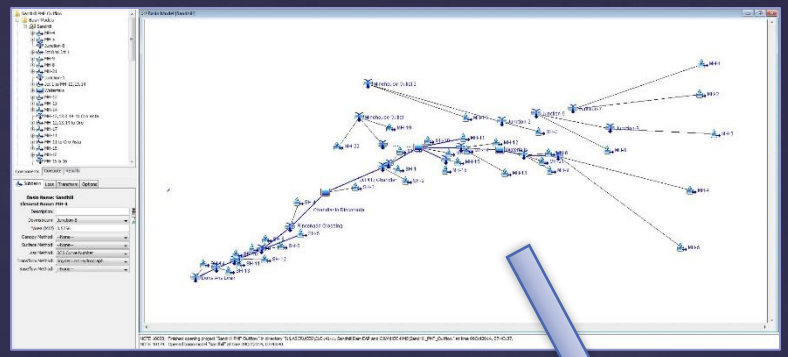
- Various actions will implement policy or goal.
- Examples:
  - Amend Chapter 32 Design Standards and other related codes/ordinances to implement plan policies
  - Consider a City development pilot project that adheres to the goals and policies of the AMP to demonstrate the plan's implementation.
  - Build a new trail

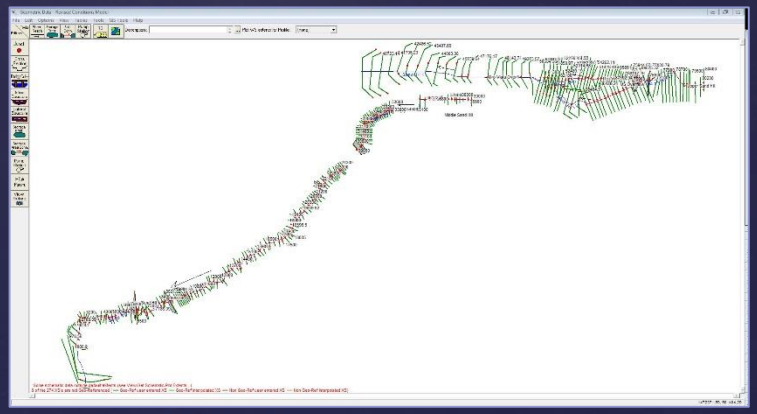
ARROYO MODELING

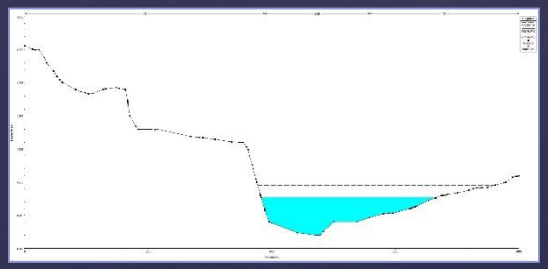
- HEC-HMS/RAS
- Main tributaries of major arroyos
- Determine areas appropriate for linear parks, scenic corridors, and areas more susceptible to erosion.
- Extends east beyond current modeling data

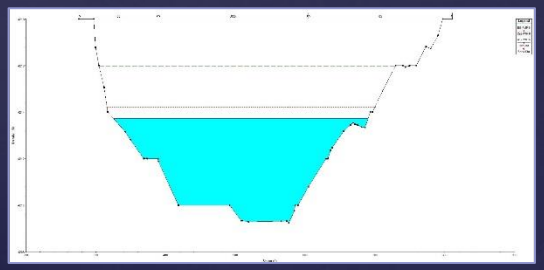
ARROYO MODELING











NEXT STEPS

- Planning and Zoning Commission, Oct 28
- City Council action, tentatively Nov 18

www.las-cruces.org/protectarroyos

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Thank you!