

# Southern California Water Committee Stormwater Workshop

## Our New Water Paradigm

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TreePeople's Water Research Sponsored by:



# Partners

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  - LA DWP
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- Climate Resolve
  - Green LA
  - LARC
  - Council for Watershed Health
  - North East Trees
  - The River Project
  - Green Garden Group
  - Permaculture Alliance
  - Transition Towns

Colleges and Universities

TreePeople's Mission is to:

*Inspire, engage and support the people of Los Angeles to take personal responsibility for the urban environment, making it healthy, fun, safe, sustainable and resilient--and share the process as a model for the world.*

*Nearly all of our infrastructure systems (water supply, stormwater, waste water, flood protection, power supply and transportation), were designed for a different climate than we now have today...*

--John Laird, California Secretary of Natural Resources

# CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Infrastructure is under-sized for increased weather extremes
  - Water Shortages: Long Term and Droughts
  - Flooding
  - Pollution
  - Extreme **Heat** Mortality
- Fire
- Health: Physical and Emotional (chronic, cumulative, dislocation)
- Economic Impacts

# Time for a new integrated paradigm

## Dis-Integration = Vulnerability

- Miss the whole picture
- Partial and Ineffective solutions
- Insufficient and competing funding
- Public apathy or antipathy

## Integrated Management

- System and Ecosystem Management
- We have the tools
  - Emergency Best Practices
  - Mutual Aid Agreement models
  - JPA's and EIFD's
- Public engagement and support



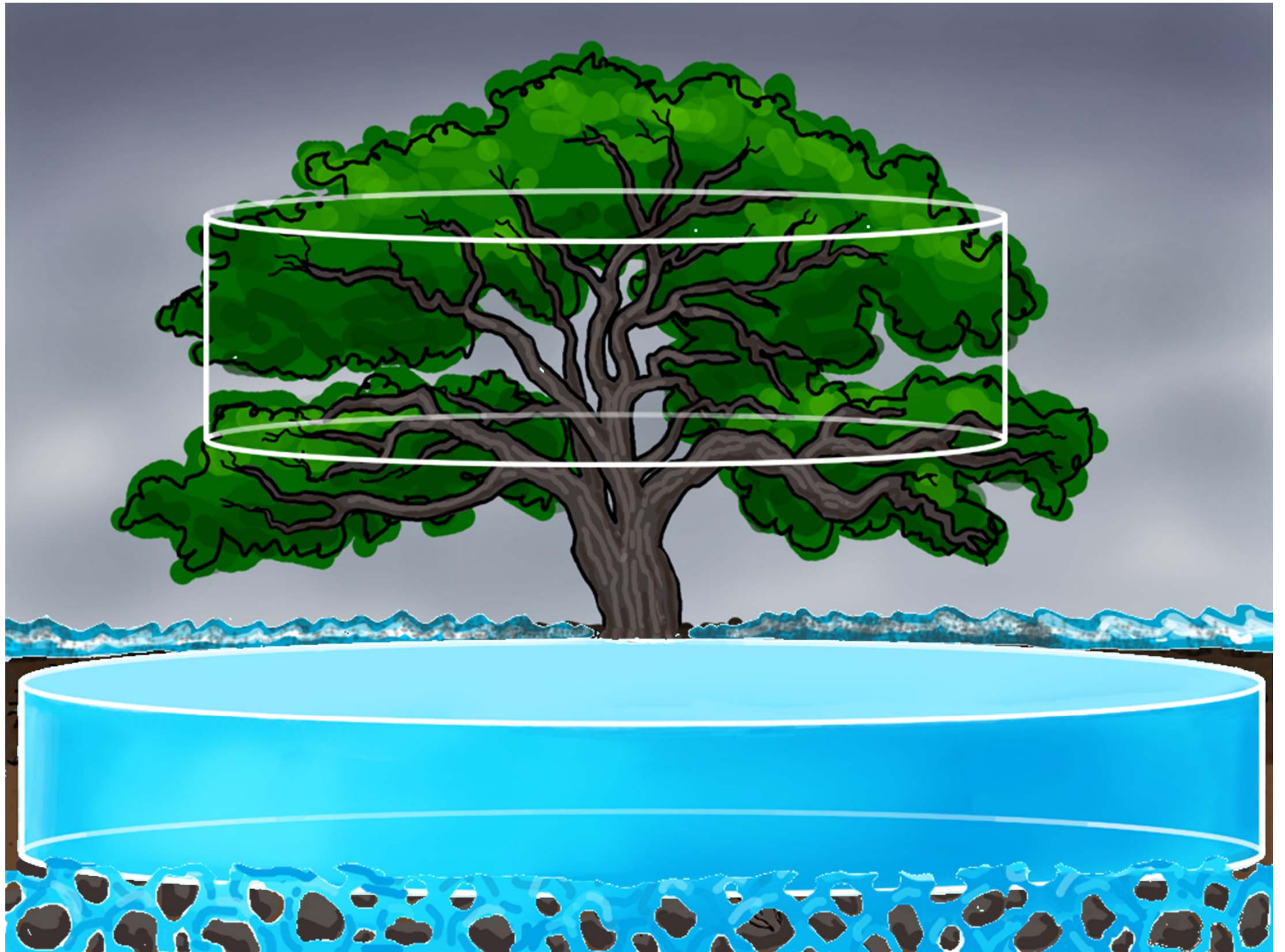


**100 Feet**







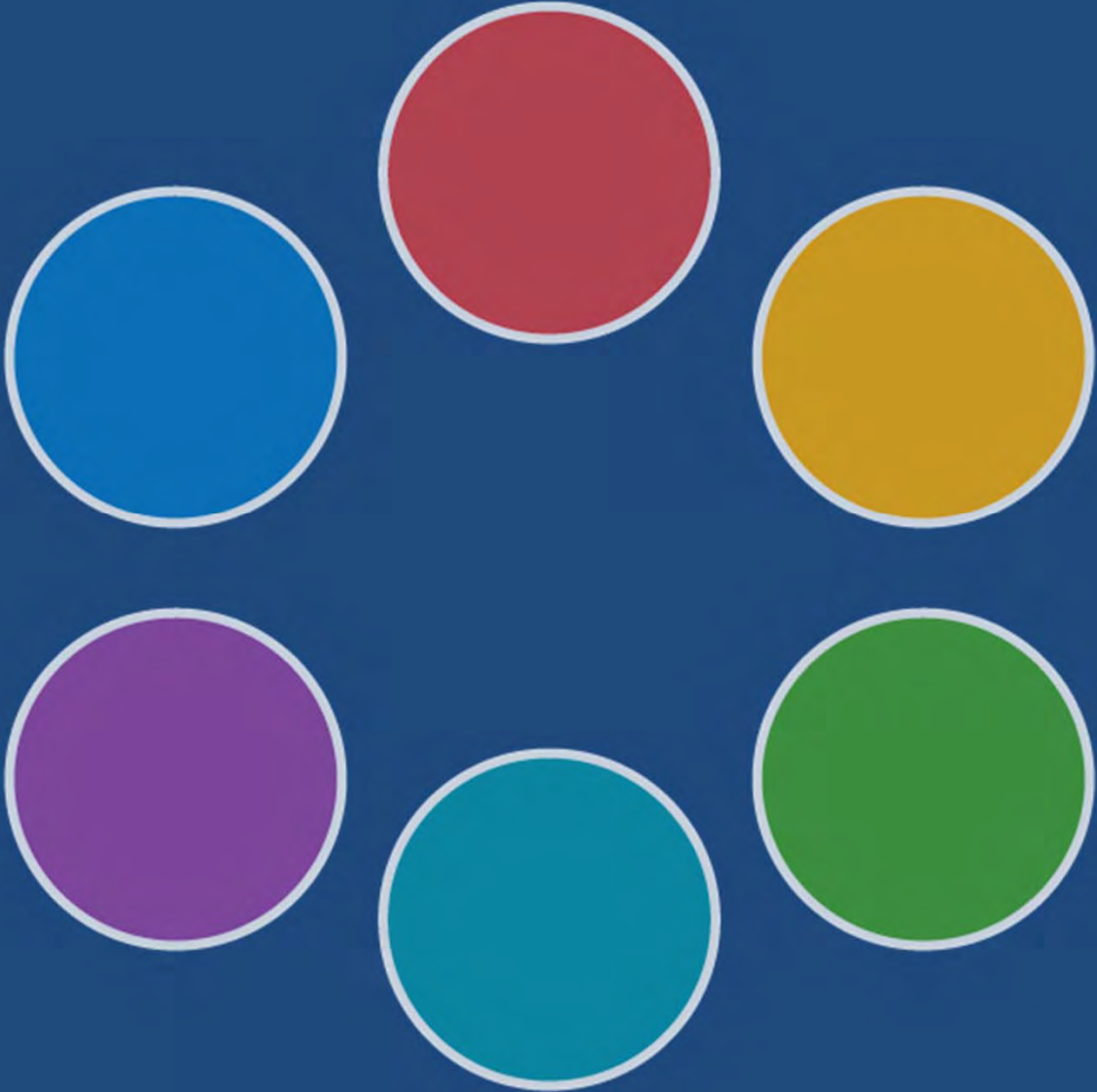


# Shifting to Integrated Management

Current approach causes multiple problems.

## Los Angeles Today

Dis-integrated approach wastes resources, duplicates efforts and imposes unsustainable practices.



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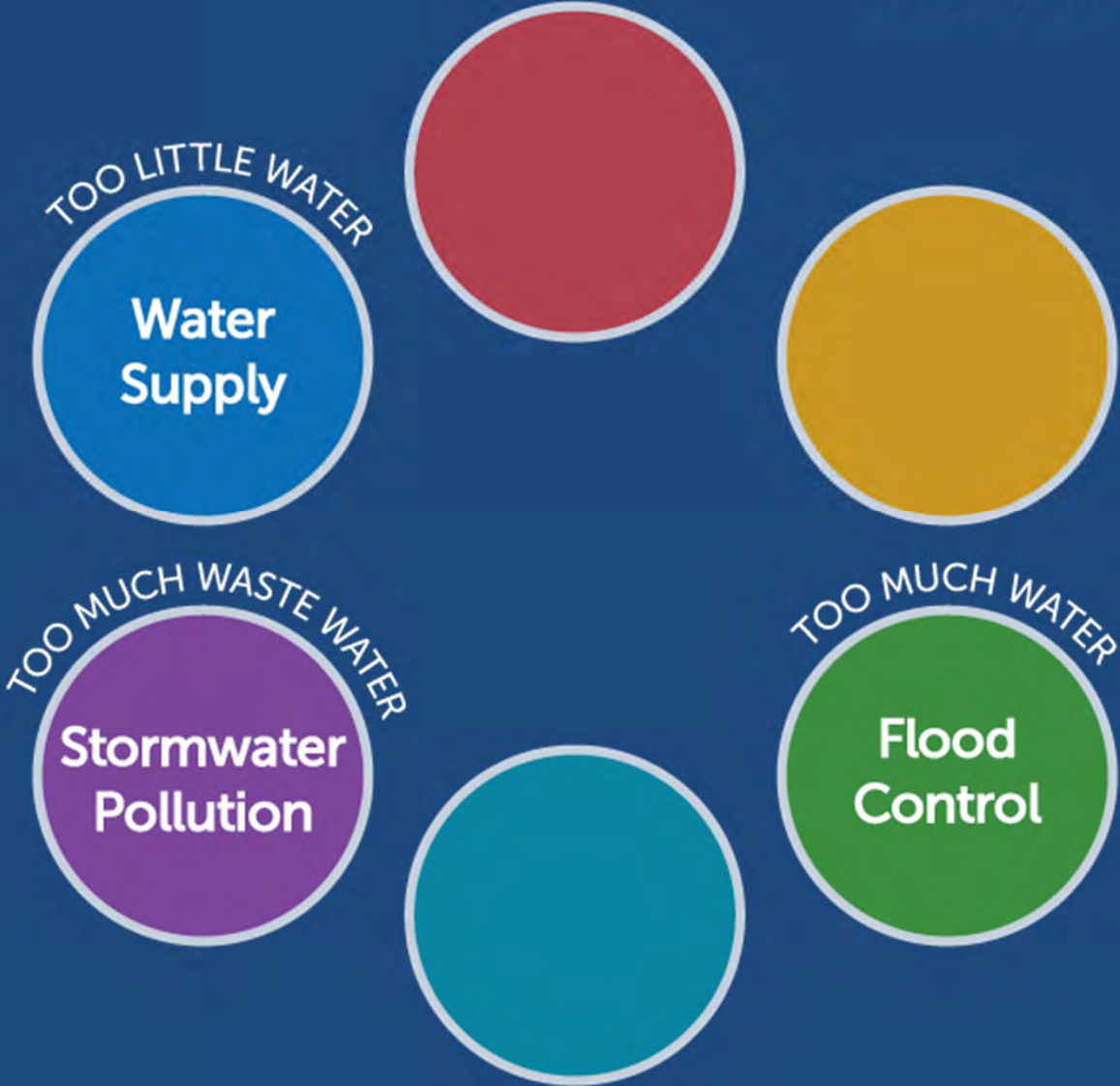


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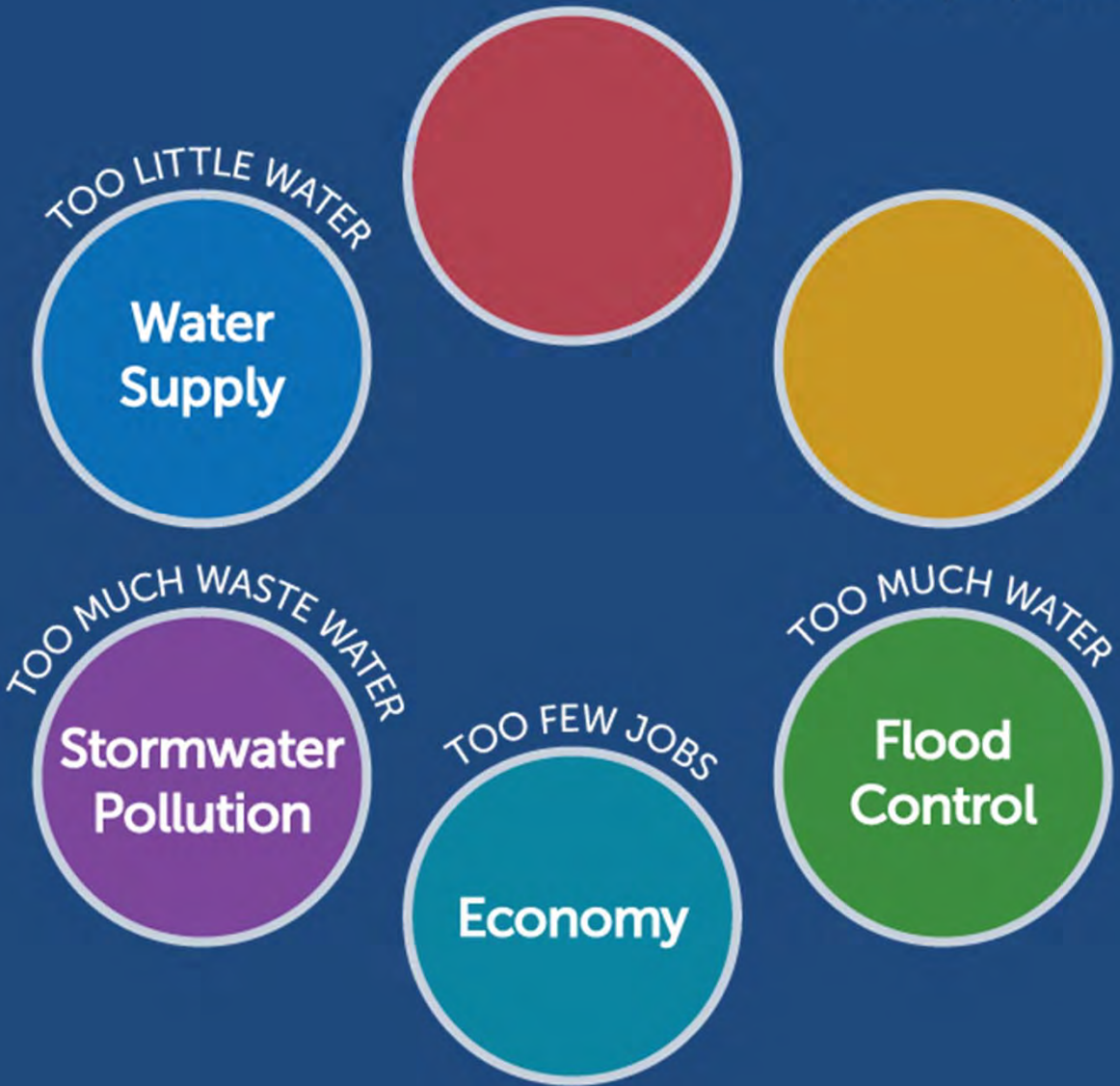


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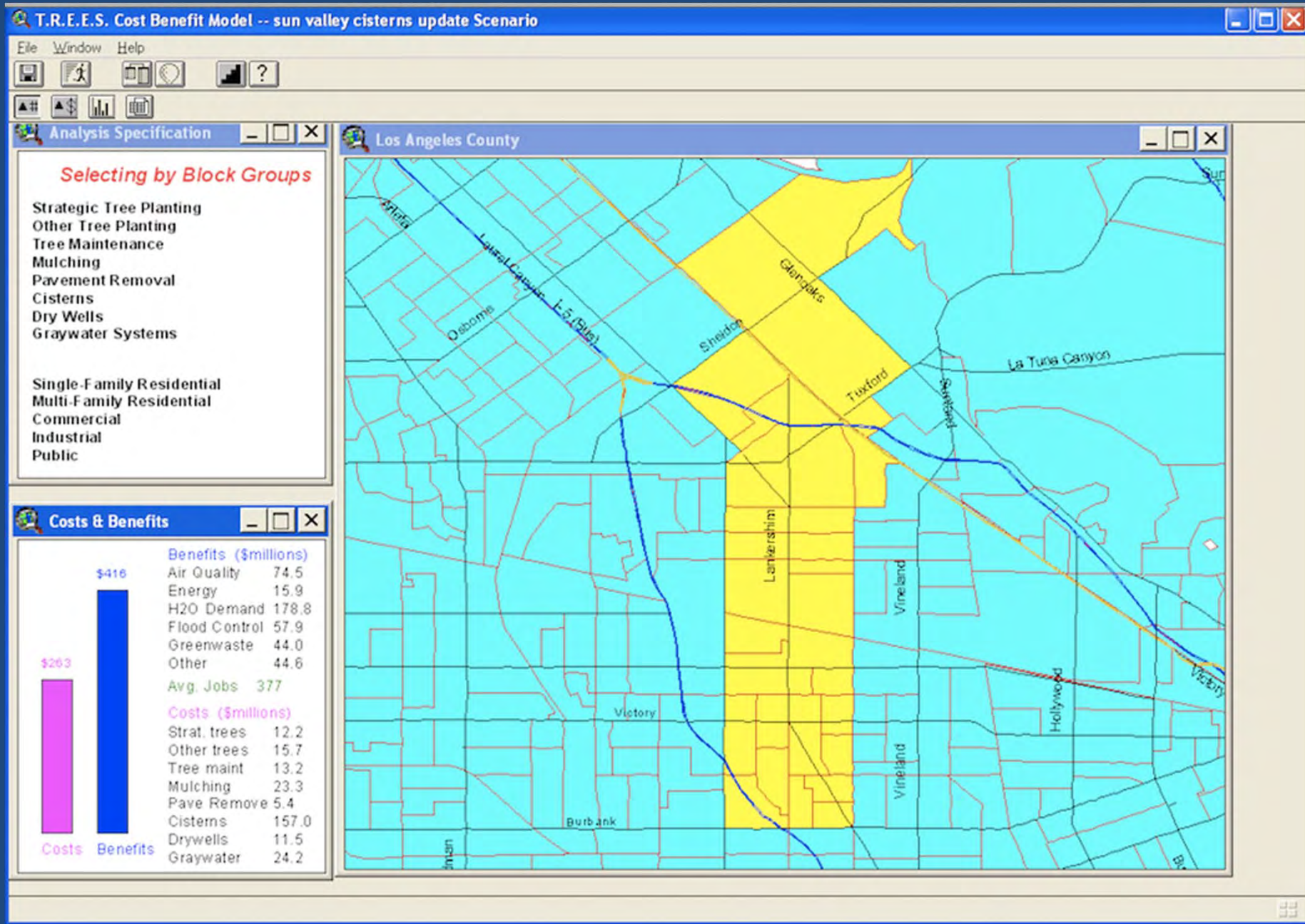
## Los Angeles Potential

Integrated approach also creates jobs and liberates funds for emerging green technologies.

An integrated approach creates multiple solutions.



# Multi-Purpose Budgets and Projects





## Costs & Benefits



### Benefits (\$millions)

Air Quality	74.5
Energy	15.9
H2O Demand	178.8
Flood Control	57.9
Greenwaste	44.0
Other	44.6

Avg. Jobs 377

### Costs (\$millions)

Strat. trees	12.2
Other trees	15.7
Tree maint	13.2
Mulching	23.3
Pave Remove	5.4
Cisterns	157.0
Drywells	11.5
Graywater	24.2

# Lessons from Australia



Responding to Extreme Climate Threats,  
City of Melbourne Made Landscape and Urban Forest  
the core organizing principle for  
Flood Protection, Water Supply, Heat Mitigation and  
Water Pollution Prevention  
And they Integrated their Infrastructure  
Planning and Funding

# Cooling: Melbourne 40% Canopy for 9 degrees cooling



# The Greater LA Water Collaborative

*Bio-mimicing* the Forest: Planning a Hybrid System



Facilitated by





# Getting it Started.... The Multi-Agency Collaborative





# Scaling a Hybrid System



# New Local Supply Paradigm

## DATA from UCLA

### *for City of LA 2040-2050*

- Demand Today: 470k af @ 104 gpcd.
- Tomorrow: 360k af @ 80 gpcd.
- Water recycling - 200K AF. The key is hyperion \$\$\$
- Storm water - SW Capture Master Plan - 150K AF.
- Groundwater - 50-100K AF  
careful to not double count with SW and Recycled water, But it is fair to say with maximized pumping from West and Central Basin plus Pump and Treat in the SF Valley.

**ONE EXAMPLE OF WHY WE NEED TO  
DO THIS**

LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
MILLER SCHOOL  
of MEDICINE



California State University  
**Northridge**

Center for Public Health and Disasters  
A Research Center of the Fielding School of Public Health



Yale School of Forestry  
& Environmental Studies

## Who is at risk?

- Most at risk
  - The elderly
  - Hispanic communities
  - Black communities
- Mortality increases about 5X from the first to the fifth consecutive day.
- After the fifth day, mortality risk increases 46% in Hispanic communities and 48% in elderly black communities.

Kalkstein, L. et al, *The Impact of Oppressive Weather on Mortality Across Demographic Groups in Los Angeles County and the Potential Impact of a Climate Change*. University of Miami, Nov. 2014.

# Los Angeles Urban Cooling Collaborative

- Phase 1: The Climate Science
  - *How many lives can be saved by increasing vegetation and reflectivity?*
- Phase 2: The Social Science
  - *How can communities be empowered to become more resilient to heat?*
- Phase 3: Implementing Change
  - *What policy/program strategies can create the necessary changes?*



# “Board of Chiefs” Integration 2.0





Let's take it to the Streets

## For More Information:



Videos on YouTube:

*The Miracle on Elmer Avenue*

*Capture the Rain and Rebuild the Economy*

*LAStormcatcher (Greater LA Water Collaborative)*



@TreePeopleL

@AndyLipkis

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