

Creating a Vision

Module 10 - Garden Ecology
Lesson 3: Creating a Vision for the Garden



Why is it important to create a Vision?

1. Since you are transforming an area at our school site that may have other elements on it currently, you will see the area as it could be, using the Vision as your road map.
2. You the students have a key role in the decision-making process, by helping to decide which types of gardens will go in our space. Our collective Vision will tie everything together!
3. After this project is completed, you will see that each part of a garden comes together to become the whole. You will see examples of this in the following pages showcasing the Vision for the Ballona Discovery Park gardens.
4. The Vision we create together is the ultimate statement of intention. It will be the blueprint for all the work we do to create the garden at our school site.

GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Ballona Discovery Park



GARDEN VISIONS (Concept)

Discovery Park is a 1.7-acre open-air science and cultural center, designed to engage and educate visitors about the Ballona Watershed. This museum without walls was conceived by the Friends of Ballona Wetlands and its principal partners Loyola Marymount University (LMU) and Playa Vista.

Discovery Park also benefitted from the guidance of Gabrielino/Tongva partners and other local stakeholders. It celebrates and honors the natural and cultural history of the Ballona Wetlands and its native peoples, bringing knowledge of an important ecosystem into people's daily lives. Sited at the base of the Westchester Bluffs near the restored riparian watercourse that flows to the Freshwater Marsh, the new Ballona Discovery Park is positioned to summon a connection between people and nature as it did with the Tongva people who flourished here centuries ago.

A primary element of Discovery Park is the Watershed Walk, which shows visitors the path water travels through Los Angeles' urban watersheds from the mountains to the sea. Visitors "walk the walk" and take away a new appreciation of the watershed and an understanding of their own vital role in its health and wellbeing.

The Tongva culture is represented through a number of interpretive elements, notably by a rope and wood representation of a Ki (house) that also serves as a resting and educational gathering spot for students and visitors. Educational programs have been developed by the Friends of Ballona Wetlands and LMU CUREs to explore the times, tides and transformations of the Ballona Wetlands.

This new park is destined to become a key trailhead for exploring the Ballona Wetlands.

GARDEN VISIONS (Elements)

- 1) Watershed Walk
 - A. Source/ Urbanscape (Mountains)
 - B. Freshwater Marsh
 - C. Saltwater Marsh
 - D. Mud Flats
 - E. Lagoon
 - F. Dunes and Ocean
- 2) Amphitheater (will hold 40 adults or 100 children)
- 3) Ki (House)
- 4) Ti'at (Plank Boat)
- 5) Native Gardens
- 6) Nooks
 - 4 Nooks along Watershed Walk facing Bluff Creek
- 7) Trellis Entry
- 8) Willow Tunnel
- 9) Retaining Wall and Bench
- 10) Picnic Benches
 - 4 Picnic Tables (with 8 Benches)
- 11) Entrances



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Ballona Discovery Park

BALLONA DISCOVERY CENTER



LEGEND
KEY TO IDENTIFY COMPONENTS

A	ENTRY TRELLIS
B	SOURCE / URBANSCAPE
C	FRESHWATER / ESTUARY
D	SALTWATER MARSH
E	MUDFLAT / TIDAL ZONES
F	OCEAN / SAND DUNE
G	RI
H	GATHERING PLACE
J	BALLONA OVER TIME

SITE PLAN - PHASE 1
Levin & Associates, Architects

GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Ballona Discovery Park

Before:



After:



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Ballona Discovery Park



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Ballona Discovery Park



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Pollinator Garden



Preparing the site



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Pollinator Garden



Staging the Plants



GARDEN VISIONS

Example: Pollinator Garden



Results 5 months later

