



<p><b>WVRC Details</b></p>	<p>Through the collaboration of eight West Valley cities, the WVRC project has the potential to become <i>the</i> landmark amenity for residents and tourists. The WVRC is a vision conceived in 1998 by John F. Long and other West Valley leaders when they met to explore the potential of creating a recreation corridor along the Agua Fria River. Corridor details include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 42-miles of linear parks along Agua Fria and New River</li> <li>• A shared opportunity for West Valley cities and towns including Avondale, El Mirage, Glendale, Peoria, Phoenix, Surprise and Youngtown</li> <li>• North and south boundaries for the corridor are Waddell Dam, which forms Lake Pleasant, and Gila River</li> <li>• Vision supported in two feasibility studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agua Fria Watercourse Master Plan, developed by the Maricopa County Flood Control District (MCFCD)</li> <li>- West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Study Master Plan, completed by Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Corridor Vision</b></p>	<p>The future “Indian Bend Wash of the West Valley,” West Valley Recreation Corridor will be a contiguous system of trails, parks, open space, and recreation facilities. The corridor will offer access to employment, retail, entertainment and transportation centers as well as provide economic benefit to involved communities.</p>
<p><b>The Coalition</b></p>	<p>The vision of the West Valley Recreation Corridor is being supported by a coalition of groups including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor</li> <li>• Flood Control District of Maricopa County</li> <li>• Maricopa Association of Governments</li> <li>• City governments</li> <li>• Sand and gravel operations/ Arizona Rock Products Association (ARPA)</li> </ul>
<p><b>WVRC Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Economic development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protects property and infrastructure from flooding</li> <li>• A draw for high-quality residential, resort, office and commercial development</li> <li>• Public-private alternative to massive restoration project reducing future public cost</li> <li>• Enhances property values</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Recreation and Open Space</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of park facilities</li> <li>• Miles of multi-modal, non-motorized trails for pedestrians, equestrians and bikers</li> <li>• Promotes health and fitness</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion of existing trail system linking regional trails with parks and the surrounding community</li> <li>• Opportunities for groundwater recharge</li> <li>• Water features encourage wildlife, vegetation and riparian river habitat</li> <li>• Promotes livable communities</li> <li>• Opportunities for environmental education and historical interpretation</li> </ul>
<b>History</b>	<p><b>1998</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John F. Long introduces idea of a recreation corridor along Agua Fria River</li> </ul> <p><b>2001</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agua Fria Watercourse Master Plan completed by FCD</li> <li>• New River corridor plan developed by Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)</li> <li>• Formation of Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor</li> </ul> <p><b>2004</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreational Corridor District legislation passed</li> </ul> <p><b>2005</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watercourse Master Plan and Channelization Alternative adopted by FCD board</li> <li>• Spring design workshop identified three specific areas of focus for the corridor</li> </ul> <p><b>2006</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First “Walk the Vision” event held in Avondale</li> </ul> <p><b>2007</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second annual “Walk the Vision” event held in Glendale</li> <li>• WVRC included as one of the “gaps” in Valley Forward’s Pedestrian Freeway</li> </ul> <p><b>2008</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FWVRC appoints first executive director, Norris Nordvold</li> </ul>
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