

# Development of the Nature Co-Lab: Sustainable design for mixed use purposes

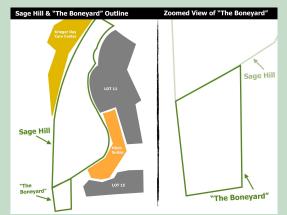
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Stakeholder: Cully Nordby



# Sage Hill & The Boneyard







# Sage Hill:

- → 4 acre plot in the northwest corner of the UCLA campus hosting the only California native habitat in West LA south of Sunset Blvd
- → students & faculty have been using this space for **research & conservation**

# The "Boneyard"

- → vacant lot in the southwest corner of Sage Hill
- → previously used as a **storage space** for past construction projects

## **Our Goal**

Formalize the 'Boneyard' into a multi-purpose space: "Nature Co Lab" for research, restoration, and recreation to complement the native California habitat of Sage Hill.

How to create an informed plan for the redevelopment of 'the Boneyard' into a mixed use space?

# **Objectives:**

Research best practices for the development and management of a native reserve.

Collaborate with the UCLA community and administration to construct a shared vision for redevelopment.

# **Methods**

### **On-Campus Surveying:**

- Future programs at the CoLab
- Features needed to support these programs
- Design an informed rendering for the Nature CoLab using responses

### **Best Practices Assessment:**

- Interview other universities that maintained similar mixed-use and outdoor spaces
- Interview focused on: History, management, rules, challenges, and accomplishments
- Combined results into a mini-report

### **Create a Final Report**

- Develop comprehensive report for Sage Hill Task Force
- Incorporate suggestions from outreach interviews

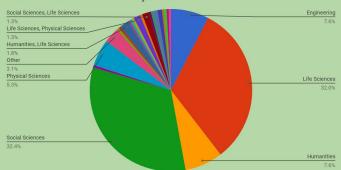




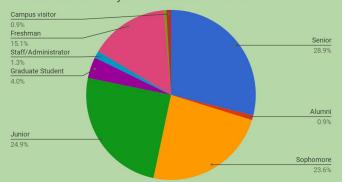
# **On-Campus Survey Results**

### **UCLA Demographics**

#### What school or division are you affiliated with?

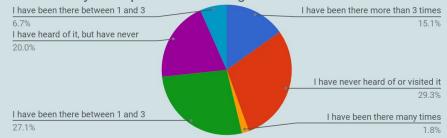


#### What best describes your affiliation with UCLA?



### **Perspective on Sage Hill**

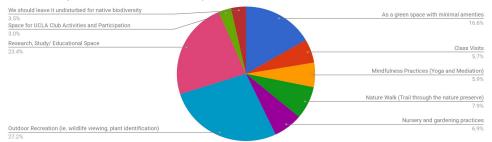
#### Count of What is your experience with Sage Hill:



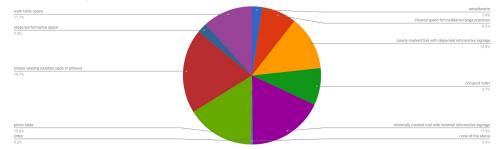
On a scale between 1 - 5 how important is it that UCLA has a natural area on campus that supports native California ecosystems? (1 being not important, 5 being very important)



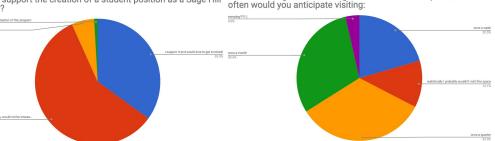
#### How would you like to see the CoLab space be used?



#### What features would you like to see included in the Nature CoLab?



#### Do you support the creation of a student position as a Sage Hill Ranger?



Count of If Sage Hill is redesigned as a mixed use space, how

# **On Campus Surveying** Results

## **Programming & Activities**

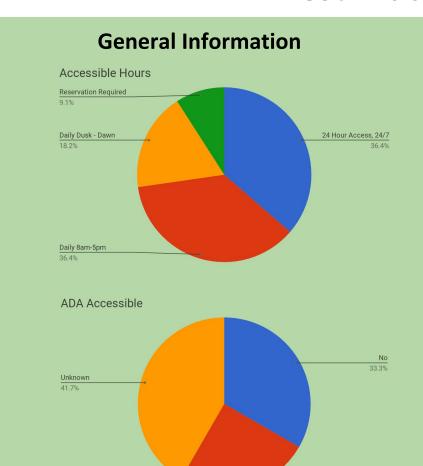
- Outdoor classroom and education space
- Study and meeting space for students and student groups
- Support recreation in Sage Hill area
- Enjoy as a natural space

### **Features**

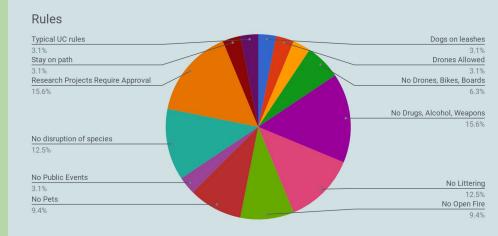
- Work + picnic tables
- Simple seating
- **Cleared Space**
- **Compost Toilet**

# **Best Practices Results**

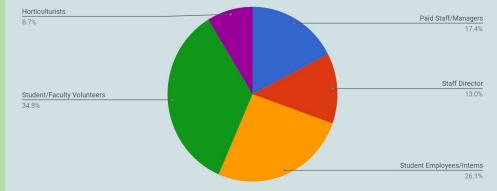
Yes



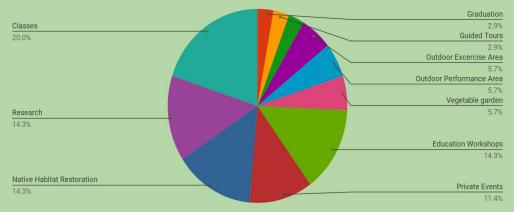
### **Rules & Maintenance**



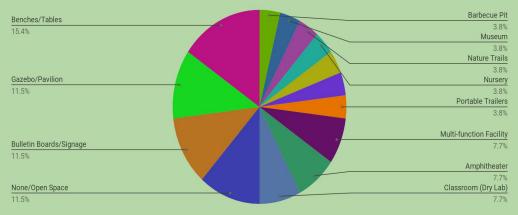




#### Programming



#### Facilities Provided at Different Sites



# **Best Practices Results**

# **Most Common Programing**

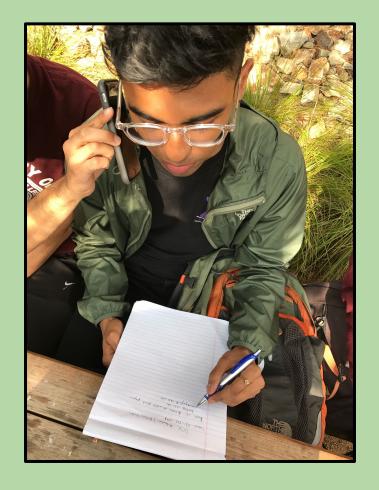
- Research
- Classes
- Native Habitat Restoration
- Vegetable Gardening
- Education Workshops
- Private Events

# Most Common Facilities Provided

- Signage
- Amphitheater
- Benches
- Gazebo

# **Barriers & Challenges**

- Establishing communication with Non-UCLA officials
- Boundary dispute with UCLA Capital Programs
- Time sensitivity due to changing administrative personnel
- Difficulty recruiting architecture student for rendering



# "The Boneyard"



# ...... Moving Forward

- Present Final Report to the UCLA Residential Life
- Deliver Final Report to the Sage Hill Task Force
- Finalize for Approval
- Future Maintenance:

### **Faculty Chair**

- → Head of programming and oversite
   Paid Student Position (work study and part time)
- → Oversee daily maintenance, fundraising, events, and programming
- **Sage Hill Ranger** in giving tours and classes on the area
- **Student Volunteers** restoration & maintenance



# **Acknowledgments**

**Sustainability Action Research** for making this project possible and for offering tremendous support over these past two quarters.

Cully Nordby, our stakeholder, for sharing her wisdom, guidance, and expertise with us

throughout the process.



