



# Michelle Barton

## Biodiversity Program Manager, City of Los Angeles, California

Michelle Barton manages the City of LA's Biodiversity Program. She recently completed the baseline measurement of the brand new LA Biodiversity Index and facilitated the creation of the first Healthy Soils Strategy for the City of Los Angeles. In 2022, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists recognized her accomplishments and named Michelle as a 40 Under 40 Rising Star. Michelle earned her B.S. in Biology from UCLA in and her M.S. in Biology from CSULB.

### Quote

*"We must work collectively to ensure that ecosystems are protected, enhanced, and restored and that cities around the globe are resilient and biophilic for generations to come."*

## Biodiversity Credentials

As the City of Los Angeles's first-ever Biodiversity Program Manager, Michelle Barton provides valuable leadership on biodiversity efforts in the City of Los Angeles. Michelle leads efforts to accomplish a variety of biodiversity goals outlined in LA's Green New Deal that aim to protect and enhance biodiversity, increase equitable access to biodiversity, and to increase awareness of biodiversity issues. Michelle oversees and supervises efforts of a Biodiversity Expert Council, composed of 50+ experts, academics, and leaders in the field of biodiversity, to ensure that the City meets biodiversity goals. With the guidance of this group, she supervised the effort to complete the first ever benchmark assessment of the customized LA City Biodiversity Index. She also coordinates efforts of the City's Biodiversity Interdepartmental Team, composed of leaders from 14 City departments and offices, to ensure that the City meets biodiversity goals. She worked with these departments and offices to facilitate the creation of department-specific biodiversity plans and goals that will ensure broad biodiversity considerations across City projects and initiatives. Her work has helped make Los Angeles a global leader on biodiversity conservation.

### Social Media



@lacitysan;  
@mayorofla

## Biodiversity Affiliations

- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA