

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, December 10, 2019
9:00am-11:00am
Burns Community Center, 2nd floor
5510 Clark Ave. Lakewood, CA

Attendees:

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)
Lyndsey Bloxom* (Water Replenishment District)
Stephen Scott (City of Long Beach)
Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)
Kevin Wattier (Central Basin)
Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)
Adam Galia (Resident)

Joseph Gonzalez (Rivers Mountains Conservancy)
Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)
Delfino Consunji (Downey)
Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)
Melissa You (Long Beach)
Noe Negrete (Santa Fe Springs)
Vicki Smith (Whittier)

Committee Members Not Present:

Michelle Yanez (San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership)

Marissa Christiansen (Friends of the LA River)
Julian Lee (Norwalk)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Rapp, the Chair of the Lower San Gabriel River WASC, called the meeting to order.

All committee members made self-introductions and quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2019

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Rapp asked the committee members for comments or revisions.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from October 22, 2019 (unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

The District provided a summary of the call for projects info sessions, Ex Parte communications guidelines, release of the final General Income-Based Tax Reduction Guidelines, and website information.

Ms. Rapp noted that all committee members should have received an email, requesting members to submit a statement of Economic Interests (Form 700). Ms. Morita (District) clarified that the Form 700 is due 30 days from the date of notice and not 30 days from the assuming office date.

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Ms. Rapp informed the committee of a request for Ex Parte communication from a Project applicant. It was noted that the District will provide Ex Parte communication guidelines once available.

4. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

5. Voting Items

None.

6. Information Items:

a. Regional Coordination Efforts and Preparation for Watershed Coordinators

Mr. Mike Antos (Stantec) presented about the recently initiated regional coordination effort, watershed management principles and roles of the watershed coordinators in the Safe, Clean Water Program. Mr. Antos discussed and shared with the committee the existing tools and resources available for future watershed coordinators.

b. Discussion of watershed area context, priorities, and needs

Mr. Antos initiated discussion to prepare the WASC for upcoming evaluation of submitted Project concepts, Projects, and studies. The committee discussed applicable plans, programs, and related efforts, as well as shared experiences and input.

The committee discussed the physical properties of the watershed, water quality concerns, and the community demographics and interests.

Mr. Antos displayed a map of the watershed area showing different data sets and priorities that the WASC should consider when developing the Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs).

Several committee members recommended additional data sets and will coordinate with Mr. Antos to incorporate them into the map.

c. Safe, Clean Water Program Project Module Overview

Mr. Kim (District) presented on the Project Module and its usefulness for WASC members and the status of submitted Projects.

The committee discussed the Call for Projects and the procedures for review and scoring. Mr. Kim clarified that the Call for Projects closes on December 15, 2019. Project applicants will not have the opportunity to make significant revisions or additions. Projects sent to the Scoring Committee will receive an official score which may differ from the preliminary score provided in the Project Module. The District does not have any community outreach events scheduled at this time, but all committee meetings are open to the public and the agenda is posted online and at the meeting venue at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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The committee discussed the Watershed Coordinator position. Mr. Kim stated that the District is currently developing the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for the Watershed Coordinator position. Mr. Kim and Mr. Antos stated that Watershed Coordinators will be available after the adoption of the Fiscal Year 20-21 Stormwater Investment Plan in June/July 2020.

7. Items for next agenda

The District recommends the following items for the next agenda:

- Review the complete list of Projects
- Select at least 3 Projects to be sent up for scoring
- Select Infrastructure Program Project Applicants and non-Project applicants for potential presentations

Ms. Rapp solicited additional recommendations from the committee for the next agenda.

Ms. Rapp requested a more detailed timeline for development of the SIP.

The committee also discussed the meeting schedule, options for teleconferencing, and venue accommodations. Mr. Kim clarified that due to Program, staff, and venue limitations, changes to the meeting schedule can be challenging. Meetings are currently scheduled until March. Mr. Kim recommends waiting until after March to re-evaluate meeting details and set a regular meeting schedule. Teleconferencing was discussed, but the committee decided to continue with in-person meetings at this time.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Rapp thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Joseph Gonzalez	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Jgonzalez@rmc.ca.gov	A	
Mike O'Grady	Cerritos	mogrady@cerritos.us	P	
Rebecca Scott	Cerritos	rscott@cerritos.us	A	
Delfino Consunji	Downey	dconsunji@downeyca.org	P	
Dan Mueller	Downey	dmueller@downeyca.org	A	
Lisa Ann Rapp	Lakewood	lrapp@lakewoodcity.org	P	
Konya Vivanti	Lakewood	kvivanti@lakewoodcity.org	A	
Melissa You	Long Beach	Melissa.You@longbeach.gov	P	
Alvin Papa	Long Beach	Alvin.Papa@longbeach.gov	A	
Julian Lee	Norwalk	jlee@norwalkca.gov	P	
Millie Khuu	Norwalk	mkhuu@norwalkca.gov	A	
Noe Negrete	Santa Fe Springs	noenegrete@santafesprings.org	P	
Marlin Munoz	La Mirada	mmunoz@cityoflamirada.org	A	
Vicki Smith	Whittier	vsmith@cityofwhittier.org	P	
Kyle Cason	Whittier	kcason@cityofwhittier.org	A	

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Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Julian Juarez	FCD	JJUAREZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	P	<i>Julian Juarez</i>
Carolina Hernandez	FCD	CHERNANDEZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	A	
Diane Gatza	Water Replenishment District	dgatza@ wrd.org	P	
Lyndsey Bloxom	Water Replenishment District	lbloxom@ wrd.org	A	<i>Lyndsey Bloxom</i>
Stephen Scott	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen.Scott@longbeach.gov	P	<i>SS</i>
Sharon Gates	City of Long Beach, Parks, Recreation and Marine	Sharon.Gates@longbeach.gov	A	
Kristen Ruffell	Sanitation Districts	kruffell@lacsd.org	P	<i>Kristen Ruffell</i>
Mike Sullivan	Sanitation Districts	msullivan@lacsd.org	A	
Kevin Wattier	Central Basin	kevinw@centralbasin.org	P	<i>Kevin Wattier</i>
Dan Knapp	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	dknapp@cclb-corps.org	P	<i>DK</i>
Kayla Slatten	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	kkellyslatten@cclb-corps.org	A	<i>Kayla Slatten</i>
Adam Galia	Resident	agaliam81@gmail.com	P	<i>Adam Galia</i>
Thalia Campos	Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment	thalis887@gmail.com	A	
Michelle Yanez	San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership	myanez@sgvpartnership.org	P	
Marissa Christiansen	Friends of the LA River	marissa@folar.org	P	
Mark Stanley	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	mstanley@rmc.ca.gov	P	