

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, August 18, 2021
1:00pm - 3:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen (LACFCD)
E.J. Caldwell (West Basin)
Diane Gatza (Water Replenishment District)
Kristen Ruffell (LAC Sanitation District)
Darryl Ford* (LA Recreation & Parks)
Craig Cadwallader (Surfrider Foundation)
Guang Yu Wang (SMB Restoration Commission)
Hany Fangary (Fangary Law Group)

Wendy Butts (LA Conservation Corps)
Eliza Jane Whitman* (Carson)
Susie Santilena (Los Angeles)
TJ Moon (LA County Public Works)
John Dettle (Torrance)
Doug Krauss* (EWMP: Beach Cities)
Ken Rukavina (EWMP: Peninsula)
Nancy Shrodes (Heal the Bay)

Committee Members Not Present:

Heecheol Kwon (EWMP: Dominguez)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristen Ruffell, Chair of the South Santa Monica Bay WASC, welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order.

All Committee Members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2021

Kristen Ruffell asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes and asked the committee members for comments or revisions.

Craig Cadwallader made a motion to approve the July 21, 2021, meeting minutes. Wendy Butts seconded the motion.

The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Luis Perez (District) provided the District update, noting:

- Round 2 Projects will be going before the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2021.
- Round 3 Call for Projects deadline was July 31, 2021. District staff is conducting a completeness review for 40 Infrastructure Program projects. Specific to SSMB WASC, there were 7 projects received.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



- The Regional Board issued a new MS4 Permit. The major components of that permit are that reporting will be required twice a year. As for the Enhanced Watershed Management Program Plans, they dropped the word “Enhanced” and now it is “Watershed Management Program Plans”; The new permit also consolidates the permits and now includes Ventura County.
- Changes to The Brown Act requirements to comply with hybrid meetings will be forthcoming as the Executive Order relaxed some of the requirements sunsetting on September 30th. The District will need to test hybrid meeting venues to ensure that everything is working properly.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Nancy Shrodes (Heal the Bay) provided the Watershed Coordinator updates, noting:

- Met with their partners since the last WASC meeting.
- Attended the watershed coordinating monthly meetings in which they provided a presentation and shared feedback.
- Scheduled to share effective practices on outreach at the next meeting.
- WC also shared meetings with bordering WCs, which included Central Santa Monica Bay and the Upper and Lower LA River.
- Interviewed 16 SSMB WASC members to provide insight and help with the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan.
- Worked with Kiss the Ground on submitting their application for the TRP for this round of funding.
- Attending two programmed TRP meetings, the most recent the East View Park meeting in which a detailed summary for outreach was provided.
- Attended and tabled at Seal Day in San Pedro on July 31, 2021 and through their Speakers Bureau Program, they held seven presentations (which reached two hundred people) about watersheds, storm drains, and ocean pollution throughout the county - three of which had audiences in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed area.
- In August, they trained new speakers and added Safe, Clean Water Program slides to existing presentations to help continue spreading the word.
- Upcoming- focus on building their communication materials next month and will incorporate Safe, Clean Water Program into their Coastal Cleanup month programming as Heal the Bay is LA County's Coastal Cleanup date coordinator.

5. Public Comment Period

Kathleen McGowan asked if the District had an update on the timing of when the reporting tool will be available for the Municipal Reporting program's annual reporting of expenditures. Luis Perez indicated that they would report back with that information.

6. Discussion Items:

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

John Dettle noted to have had a meeting with the Peninsula Cities Watershed Group regarding the Torrance Airport Basin Project. He also noted to have had a meeting with the Beach Cities Group regarding the Green Street's project.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Doug Krauss noted to have had a discussion with John Dettle and the Beach Cities Group regarding the Green Street Project.

b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Tori Klug (Regional Watershed Coordinator) displayed slide presentation on WASC Roles and Responsibilities.

Craig Cadwallader asked where he could find the Rules of Conduct factsheet. Tori Klug sent a link to all panelists to the Rules of Conduct factsheet via the WebEx chat function.

c) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

John Dettle asked if the Watershed Coordinator could be nominated for a Chair or Vice-Chair position. Tori Klug indicated that to her understanding, the answer was no.

d) Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Kristen Ruffell asked if the plan addressed the comments from the Beach Cities. Nancy Shrodes responded that the SOEP included the Beach Cities' comments in the strategies and tactics.

Kristen Ruffell asked the Committee members if they had any comments they would like to make or questions for Nancy Shrodes.

Craig Cadwallader commented that the document is well thought out and hoped it can be approved. He also pointed out a small typo that needed correction.

Susie Santilena asked if there were any associated schedules or timelines for the implementation of the SOEP. Nancy Shrodes responded that from the County's perspective, it would be from the contractual start date, which is March. However, as the plan was being developed, they had in mind to follow the actual fiscal year as far as approval of projects. Nevertheless, she noted that technically it would be through the end of March. Tori Klug corroborated this timing.

Guang Yu Wang asked for examples of nontraditional partners. Nancy Shrodes provided a couple of examples, such as Home Ownership Associations and public private partnerships such as big retailers like Costco.

Kristen Ruffell asked the Committee members if they would like to offer a motion move the SOEP forward before the Public Comment Period.

Craig Cadwallader motioned to approve the SOEP. Susie Santilena seconded the motion. Kristen Ruffell advised that the vote would be held after agenda item 7. Public Comment Period.

7. Public Comment Period

Luis Perez responded to Kathleen McGowan's earlier public comment, noting that Municipal reporting should be available in late September or early October.

8. Voting Items

a) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Guang Yu Wang motioned to select Craig Cadwallader as Chair. Susie Santilena seconded the motion.

The Committee voted to select Craig Cadwallader as Chair. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

Kristen Ruffell nominated Geraldine Trivedi for Vice-Chair. Craig Cadwallader seconded the nomination. Geraldine Trivedi accepted the nomination.

The Committee voted to select Geraldine Trivedi as Vice-Chair. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

b) Approve the South Santa Monica Bay Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

The Committee voted to approve the SSMB SOEP as motioned under agenda item 6 (d). (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

9. Items for Next Agenda

Dee Corhiran (District) commented that the District will request the Committee to discuss and vote for sending all the IP projects to the Scoring Committee and coordinate with FY22-23 Applicants for Project presentations.

10. Adjournment

Kristen Ruffell thanked the committee members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

SOUTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - August 18, 2021

		Quorum Present				Voting Items			
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	7/21/21 Meeting Minutes	Chair - Craig Cadwallader	Vice Chair - Geraldine Trivedi	Approval of SOEP
Agency	LACFCD	Cung Nguyen	x	Ramy Gindi		A	Y	Y	Y
Agency	West Basin MWD	E.J. Caldwell	x	Alex Heide		Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza	x	Lyndsey Bloxom		Not Present	Y	Y	Y
Agency	LAC Sanitation District	Kristen Ruffell	x	Mike Sullivan		Y	Y	Y	Y
Agency	LA Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	x	A	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	VACANT								
Community Stakeholder	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	Craig Cadwallader	x	Mary Simun		Y	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission	Guang Yu Wang	x	Marissa Caringella		Y	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Fangary Law Group	Hany Fangary	x	Justin Massey		Y	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	Wendy Butts	x	Bo Savage		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Carson	Julio Gonzalez	x	Eliza Jane Whitman		A	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	x	Ilene Ramirez		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	LAC Public Works	TJ Moon	x	Thuan Nguyen		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Torrance	John Dettle	x	Wilson Mendoza		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	EWMP: Beach Cities	Geraldine Trivedi	x	Doug Krauss		A	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	EWMP: Dominguez	Heecheol Kwon		Selena Acuna					
Municipal Members	EWMP: Peninsula	Ken Rukavina	x	David Wahba		Y	Y	Y	Y
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Nancy Shrodes	x			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	9	14	14	14
Total Voting Members Present		15			Nay (N)	0	0	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	4	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	13	14	14	14
Municipal Members		6				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

Other Attendees
Amanda Zeidner
Anothony Chica
Ilene Ramirez
Jacqueline Cervantes
Kathleen McGowan
Lauren Amimoto
Marissa Caringella
Marita DRA Inc
Melanie Rivera
Michael Sullivan
Sarai Bhaga
Tammy Takigawa
Taraneh
Thuan Nguyen
Uriel Cobian
Wilson Mendoza
Michael Scaduto