

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Thursday, June 9, 2022

1:00pm – 3:00pm

WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)

David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency), Chair

*Dave Roberts, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency)

Madelyn Glickfeld, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability UCLA (Community), Co-Vice Chair

Tevin Schmitt, Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County (Community)

Jessica Forte, Agoura Hills (Municipal)

Alex Farassati, Calabasas (Municipal)

*Joe Bellomo, Hidden Hills (Municipal)

Sophie Freeman, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

Roxanne Hughes, Westlake Village (Municipal)

Melina Sempill Watts, Melina Sempill Watts Inc. (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

Committee Members Not Present:

Russ Bryden, LA County Waterworks Districts (Agency), Co-Vice Chair

Chad Christensen, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Agency)

Doug Marian, California Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association (Community)

Kirsten James, Resident (Community)

Harry Semerdjian, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (Community)

Mark Johnson, Malibu (Municipal)

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

1. Welcome and Introductions

District Staff welcomed Committee members and facilitated a brief WebEx tutorial.

David Pedersen, Chair of the North Santa Monica Bay (NSMB) WASC, welcomed Committee members and called the meeting to order. District Staff facilitated the roll call of Committee members. All Committee members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2022

District staff presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion to approve the meeting minutes by Member Cung Nguyen, seconded by Member Tevin Schmitt. The Committee voted to approve the April 14, 2022 meeting minutes (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

District Staff provided an update, noting:

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



- On May 15, the Board of Supervisors voted to continue meeting virtually, acting under the authority of Assembly Bill 361 which authorizes public committees to meet without complying with all the teleconferencing requirements of the Brown Act when the situation warrants it. The Board is reviewing its position every 30 days and will act to cover all the commissions and committees under their authority.
- The call for projects for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 will close on July 31. The District will be hosting two informational sessions, one on Wednesday June 22, 1:00pm – 3:00pm and another on Wednesday June 29, 10:00am – 12:00pm. Details are posted on the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) website. Project applicants are expected to attend one of the informational sessions or listen to the recording, as there are changes to the project module and application.
- The Regional Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet on June 16, 1:00pm – 4:00pm to discuss the FY22-23 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) and approve to advance for Board of Supervisor's consideration.
- The Interim Guidance has been finalized after public review and includes guidance on water supply, community engagement and support, programming nature-based solutions, and implementing disadvantaged community policies in the Regional program. The Interim Guidance is available on the SCWP website. Modifications to the Feasibility Study Guidelines may be addressed at a future date as part of the ongoing Metrics and Monitoring Study. The Interim Guidance is available on the SCWP website.
- The three-year term for municipalities currently holding seats ends after this cycle. The District intends to hold self-selection meetings in the next month. District Staff explained that even though all the municipalities in the NSMB Watershed Area are already represented in the WASC, the District will reach out to determine if a self-selection meeting is necessary based on the number of seats each municipality is allocated.
- The District is hosting stakeholder workshops for the for the Tax Credit Trading program on June 13 and June 22 via WebEx. Information for these workshops can be found on the SCWP website.

Chair Pedersen provided an update on the Interim Guidance comments that the NSMB WASC had previously submitted. Chair Pedersen mentioned that the updated Interim Guidance acknowledged some of the WASCs comments and that there will be future discussions with the County to discuss the best approach and timeline to incorporate the NSMB WASC comments.

Member Roxanne Hughes provided details regarding Westlake Village's MS4 project and announced that their Technical Resources Program (TRP) application will be submitted by the Call for Projects deadline (July 31st).

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Melina Watts presented an update that relayed various conversations and collaborations in the past two months (refer to Watershed Coordinator Presentation). Nature-Based Solutions Success Stories events are planned for November 10, 17, and 18 and Senator Henry Stern has agreed to be the Honorary Chair.

Co-Vice Chair Madelyn Glickfeld asked if any other cities are submitting project applications in round 4 call for projects. Watershed Coordinator Watts mentioned that the City of Malibu has previously expressed interest in submitting a TRP application but will not submit a project this year. The City of Calabasas intends to apply for funding for the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Phase III project. Los Angeles County Public Works has been considering a project (Cornell-Mulholland Green Improvement Project) at Careful Ave and Mulholland Way. Member Bruce Hamamoto later clarified that Los Angeles County Public Works' Cornell-Mulholland Green Improvement Project is applying for design funds only.

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



District staff also confirmed that the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Phase III TRP project from the FY21-22 SIP has started.

Watershed Coordinator Watts summarized the most common questions which surfaced in conversations with other Watershed Coordinators and community members, including simplifying the SCWP application process and the Watershed Coordinator reporting process. Watts voiced uncertainty about whether Measure W can fund small-scale community-based projects and/or demonstration projects.

The Committee discussed how SCWP can fund small-scale projects. The City of Santa Monica's previously funded individual homeowner gardens are an example of a programmatic, distributed project. Co-Vice Chair Glickfield asked if the Regional Program can be used to fund a mini-grant program to implement a similar type of program (i.e small-scale cistern projects in private parcels). District staff replied that a mini-grant program to fund small-scale BMPs in individual properties a unique idea and would require more discussion. District staff mentioned that the Regional Program is intended to fund multi-benefit projects that benefits the region and that the ordinance does not currently provide a way to fund a programmatic project or allow smaller-scale projects. Tori Klug (Stantec, Regional Coordination) mentioned that there are other grants available for smaller projects, and that SCWP Watershed Coordinators have already connected project proponents to alternative funding sources (for example, the Integrated Regional Water Management grant). Watershed Coordinator Watts gave an example of a programmatic project in Lake Tahoe.

5. Public Comment Period

Sally Bartell, part of the Liberty Canyon Homeowner's Association, submitted a public comment requesting that the Liberty Canyon Storm Drain project include efforts to support naturalized creek and channel landscaping and a walking path along the Grand Canyon Road. This public comment will be added to the meeting minutes once it is finalized.

6. Discussion

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Watershed Coordinator Watts has been helping Member Hughes with the Westlake Village TRP application.

Chair Pedersen and Co-Vice Chair Glickfeld had a conversation with Los Angeles County Public Works regarding the Interim Guidance.

b) NGO WaterNow Alliance Innovative Funding Financing Models Presentation

Presenter: Caroline Koch, Water Policy Director of WaterNow Alliance

The WaterNow Alliance Tap into Resilience program invests in infrastructure such as bioswales, permeable pavements, cisterns, native landscaping, leak detection devices, high efficiency appliances, and private lead service line replacements. Koch discussed debt financing as an option to invest in distributed infrastructure across multiple years, since annual rate revenue is often not sufficient to cover large scale projects. Depending on the accounting rule applied, debt financed infrastructure would or would not require ownership of tangible assets. Koch provided clarifying information about the proponents involved in and benefiting from agency revenue bonds. A link to the WaterNow Alliance's website will be shared that includes more detailed information and ongoing resources regarding innovative financing. A copy of this presentation can be found on the SCWP website.

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Chair Pedersen mentioned that Metropolitan Water District uses debt financing for its turf replacement program. LADWP also uses debt financing in a variety of its water programs.

The WASC noted that this presentation seems to help answer some of the earlier questions related to funding programmatic and/or distributed programs. Committee members suggested that SCW admin should receive the same presentation to help open a discussion on alternate ways to administer Measure W funds. The presentation will be shared with relevant partners.

Tori Klug (Stantec, Regional Coordination) mentioned that when discussing funding mechanisms, it is important to note that municipalities have more flexibility in how they spend their municipal return as compared to the Regional Program. Klug also noted that combining multiple project sites (as in the Westlake Village MS4 Project) may help applications meet the Infrastructure Program scoring threshold and address the unique characteristics of the NSMB Watershed Area.

c) Updated North Santa Monica Bay Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Changes to the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) include the removal and addition of projects, changing dates and correcting entity names, simplifying and broadening tasks, and adding new strategies and concepts as requested. Strategy 22-25 are the new strategies added to the SOEP. Strategy 25 describes the shared interest for more TRP funding opportunities for the NSMB Watershed Area. Refer to the NSMB SOEP Change Analysis presentation on the SCWP website.

Klug suggested restructuring some of the newly added strategies to support engagement around those topics, as opposed to supporting topics directly. Klug also noted that leveraging additional funding opportunities or exploring potential options to increase available resources to develop feasibility studies may be more appropriate than seeking to change the WASC's TRP funding allocation. Co-Vice Chair Glickfeld suggested expediting the implementation of the strategy related to the nexus of water, fire, and stormwater in the City of Malibu.

Watershed Coordinator Watts will host a community meeting on Wednesday June 29, 2:30pm - 5:00pm, hosted virtually via Zoom. The Committee discussed how the timing of the meeting impacts the suite of community members that may be available to participate. The Committee also discussed whether future community meetings will be in person or remain virtual.

7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

8. Voting Items

a) Approve the Updated North Santa Monica Bay Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

Member Alex Farassati made a motion to approve the Updated SOEP with revisions from Tori Klug (Stantec, Regional Coordination). The motion was seconded by Co-Vice Chair Glickfeld. The motion to approve the Updated North Santa Monica Bay SOEP passed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday July 14, 1:00pm – 3:00pm. See the SCWP website for meeting details. The District noted that if the Regional Oversight Committee sends the NSMB SIP back with comments, that it would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



10. Adjournment

Chair Pedersen thanked the WASC members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - June 9, 2022

| Member Type | Organization | Quorum Present | | | | Voting Items | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| | | Member | Voting? | Alternate | Voting? | Approval of April 14, 2022 WASC Meeting Minutes | Approve the Updated NSMB SOEP With Revisions |
| Agency | LACFCD | Cung Nguyen | x | Ramy Gindi | | y | y |
| Agency | LAC Waterworks District | Russ Bryden | | | | | |
| Agency | MRCA | Chad Christensen | | | | | |
| Agency | LVMWD | David Pedersen | x | Dave Roberts | | y | y |
| Agency | LVMWD | David Pedersen | | Dave Roberts | x | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | UCLA | Madelyn Glickfeld | x | Richard Ambrose | | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | CPMCA | Doug Marian | | | | | |
| Community Stakeholder | LA Area Chamber of Commerce | Harry Semerdjian | | | | | |
| Community Stakeholder | Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County | Tevin Schmitt | x | | | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Community Stakeholder | Kirsten James | | | | | |
| Municipal Members | Agoura Hills | Jessica Forte | x | Kelly Fisher | | y | y |
| Municipal Members | Calabasas | Alex Farassati | x | Alba Lemus | | y | y |
| Municipal Members | Hidden Hills | Kerry Kallman | | Joe Bellomo | x | y | y |
| Municipal Members | LAC Supervisor District 3 | Sophie Freeman | x | | | y | y |
| Municipal Members | LAC Public Works | Bruce Hamamoto | x | Allen Ma | | y | y |
| Municipal Members | Malibu | Mark Johnson | | Christine Shen | | | |
| Municipal Members | Westlake Village | Roxanne Hughes | x | Phillipe Eskandar | | y | y |
| Watershed Coordinator | Melina S. Watts Consulting, LLC | Melina Watts | x | | | | |
| Total Non-Vacant Seats | | 17 | | | Yay (Y) | 11 | 11 |
| Total Voting Members Present | | 11 | | | Nay (N) | 0 | 0 |
| Agency | | 3 | | | Abstain (A) | 0 | 0 |
| Community Stakeholder | | 2 | | | Total | 11 | 11 |
| Municipal Members | | 6 | | | | Approved | Approved |

Other Attendees

- Caroline Koch
- Allen Ma
- Caitlin Gray
- Craig Doberstein
- Debra G
- Emily Ng
- Josafat Flores
- Kelly Fisher
- Kelsey Reed
- Marissa Caringella
- Mayra Martinez
- Parsina Hanna
- Serena Zhu
- Stacy Luell

Financing Options for Stormwater Infrastructure: Making the Most of Measure W

June 9, 2022
North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area
Committee Meeting

Caroline Koch, Water Policy Director
WaterNow Alliance



ENGAGE

our growing network and connect them to opportunities, ideas, data, resources and one another

ADVOCATE

for a sustainable water future by eliminating barriers and advancing solutions through our policy work

DEMONSTRATE

success by showcasing strategies that communities can replicate and scale

OUR MISSION

WaterNow is a nonprofit network of local water leaders championing sustainable, equitable, affordable, and innovative water solutions in their communities



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SUSTAINABLE?

Providing safe, healthy, and affordable water services for people while preserving the integrity of water resources and the environment for future generations





WHAT DO WE MEAN BY EQUITABLE?

Water equity means universal access to secure, affordable, safe, and healthy drinking water, and wastewater and stormwater management services.

Equitable water infrastructure investment should support the long-term sustainability of our waterways, water systems, and utilities





tapin.waternow.org

- ✓ Creates pathways and opportunities to invest capital at large scale in localized infrastructure
- ✓ Expanding the definition of water infrastructure to include distributed solutions
- ✓ Putting distributed installations on non-utility owned properties in multi-year capital plans along with conventional counterparts



WHAT IS ONSITE, LOCALIZED, DISTRIBUTED WATER INFRASTRUCTURE?

- ✓ Distributed over many properties, public and private
- ✓ Not owned and operated by city/utility/water agency
- ✓ Operate in concert with built infrastructure
- ✓ Paid for by the utility

MEETING STORMWATER CHALLENGES WITH DISTRIBUTED GSI

Strategies and technologies that manage stormwater where it falls, makes beneficial use of rainwater & improve water quality



Bioswales

Engineered landscape elements designed to increase infiltration of stormwater to the groundwater basin and filter out pollutants.



Blue roofs

A non-vegetated roof intended to store stormwater in temporary ponds, then gradually release the water to mitigate runoff.



Constructed wetlands

Man-made wetlands that mimic the stormwater capture and nutrient load reduction benefits of natural wetlands and treat waste and stormwater with specific vegetation, soils, and bacteria instead of chemicals.



Green roofs

Vegetated roof with a layer of soil atop a drainage system to filter contaminants, absorb rainfall and delay runoff to reduce stress on stormwater systems, lower energy bills, reduce heat island effects and improve air quality.



Green streets

Integration of vegetated areas into street design to facilitate storage, infiltration, and evapotranspiration of stormwater.



Land conservation

The conservation of riparian areas, wetlands, steep hillsides and other open spaces to provide natural stormwater retention, source water quality protection, and groundwater recharge.



Permeable pavement

Permeable pavers and porous concrete surfaces that allow water to penetrate pavement and soak slowly into the ground rather than run off into city drains to reduce stress on stormwater systems.



Rainwater harvesting

Systems to capture precipitation for use in outdoor landscaping to use in place of drinking water.



Urban tree canopies

The planting of trees to absorb stormwater and reduce heat island effects.



BIOSWALES



PERMEABLE PAVEMENT



GREEN ROOFS & RAIN GARDENS



NATIVE LANDSCAPING & TURF REPLACEMENT



LEAK DETECTION DEVICES



HIGH EFFICIENCY APPLIANCES & FIXTURES



PRIVATE LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS



SCALING INVESTMENT IN DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

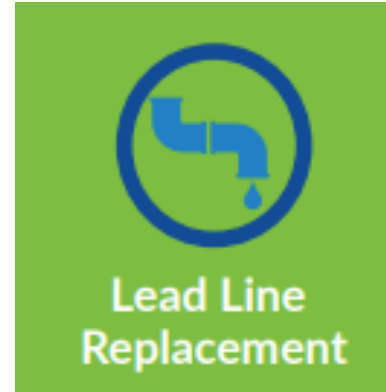
Conventional thinking is that you can only pay for distributed green infrastructure out of annual operating cash



But annual rate revenue is often not sufficient to cover large scale investments

WHAT CAN WE BORROW TO DO?

- Grey Infrastructure:
 - tunnels
 - pipes
- Distributed Infrastructure



WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT DEBT FINANCING DISTRIBUTED OPTIONS?

- ✓ Big things, e.g., pipes, plants, and distributed, onsite solutions, are in multi-year capital plans
- ✓ To scale up distributed infrastructure you need to add it to your multi-year capital plan
- ✓ Most large capital programs are debt financed



BENEFITS OF DEBT FINANCING DISTRIBUTED SOLUTIONS



- ✓ Practical
- ✓ Match costs with benefits
- ✓ Invest for implementation at scale
- ✓ Intergenerational equity
- ✓ Access to efficient and inexpensive financing

APPLYING CAPITALIZATION & DEBT-FINANCING CONCEPTS

Example: Your utility has a \$70 million budget. You'd like to invest in a major GSI grant program that will cost \$10 million

Using Annual Operating Cash

- Raise rates in Year 1 by ~14%
- Pay for program in Year 1
- Implement program in Year 1
- Benefits over 20 years

Using Debt

- Raise rates in Year 1 by ~1%
- Pay back over 20 years
- Implement program in Year 1
- Benefits over 20 years

BUT ISN'T DEBT EXPENSIVE?

- ✓ Rates so low—almost free money
- ✓ Current rates for “AAA” rated is 3.95%
- ✓ Inflation rates:
 - 2018 – 2.4%
 - 2019 – 1.8%
 - 2021 – 4.7%
 - 2022 – 8.3%



OTHER COMMON CONCERNS DEBT FINANCING DISTRIBUTED INFRASTRUCTURE - MYTH BUSTING

“I don’t like debt, it’s impractical and inappropriate”

“It may follow the rules, but it’s not the proper use of debt financing”

“Distributed infrastructure is not infrastructure with a useful life”

“This spending will not create an asset that will meet federal tax guidelines”

THREE GATES OF SPEECH

Before you speak, let your words
pass through three gates – Is it...

True?

Necessary?

Kind?

THREE GATES OF DEBT FINANCING

Before you can issue debt, you have to pass through three gates

Legal authority?

Tax law compliance?

Appropriate accounting treatment?

LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR DEBT FINANCING DISTRIBUTED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



- ✓ For governmental entities authority is required
- ✓ Exercise of authority is subject to
 - ✓ Substantive requirements
 - ✓ Procedural requirements



LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR DEBT FINANCING

SOURCES OF REQUIREMENTS

- State Constitution
- State Statutes
- Municipal Charter
- Existing Debt Contracts



DGI ANALYSIS APPLYING KEY TERMS

Is GSI, e.g., bioswale, rain garden, curb bump out, part of the “System”?

- ✓ Can the system be viewed expansively?
- ✓ Is benefit to the system sufficient?
- ✓ Does the municipality need some sort of control?
- ✓ Does the municipality need to own something?

CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY TO ISSUE MUNICIPAL BONDS

Financing scope & requirements depends on issuing entity and authority, e.g.,

- ✓ Revenue and GO bonds may finance regional- and parcel-scale GSI
- ✓ Ownership or control of financed projects depends on bond type and issuing entity
- ✓ Voter approval requirements vary by bonding authority used and issuing entity



POOLED BONDS

California municipalities may be eligible to issue pooled bonds if...



1. Sole service provider in the area
2. Serve > 1,000 connections or 5,000 in total population
3. Have independent rate setting authority
4. Have authority to issue revenue bonds
5. Bond amount between \$1M - \$30M

THREE GATES OF DEBT FINANCING

Before you can issue debt, you have to pass through three gates

Regulatory authority?

Tax law compliance?

Appropriate accounting treatment?

ACCOUNTING RULES ALLOW US TO DEBT FINANCE A WIDE VARIETY OF ITEMS



- ✓ Own property in the traditional way-own and operate asset
- ✓ “Own” through contracts and easements
- ✓ Fund by using Regulated Operations accounting

CHOICES FOR DEBT FINANCING – STANDARD APPROACH



Acquire rights in programs/projects, e.g., contracts, easements

- ✓ Las Vegas Turf Buyback
- ✓ Milwaukee

SNWA: GOING BIG ON TURF REPLACEMENTS



Goal

- Turf change-outs on private property to conserve water

Implementation to Date

- 152 billion gallons / 467,000 AF saved
- 200 million square feet of turf converted

Total Rebate Investments

- \$260 million (as of 2021)

Funding Sources

- Combination of rate revenue and SNWA-issued revenue bonds



MMSD: GOING BIG ON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



Goal

- Capture 740 million gallons of stormwater per storm with GI

Implementation to Date

- Projects capturing 43 million gallons of stormwater per storm
- Helped reduce CSOs by 96%

GI Investments

- \$20 million (2020-2023)

Funding sources

- Combination of rate revenue and MMSD-issued climate bond



CHOICES FOR DEBT FINANCING – ALTERNATIVE APPROACH



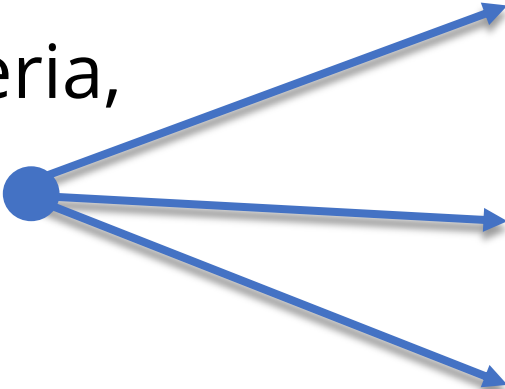
Treat investments as regulated assets

- ✓ LADWP – Turf rebates, etc.
- ✓ Seattle – GSI rebates
- ✓ Denver – Lead line replacement


WHAT ARE REGULATED OPERATIONS?

Regulated Operations accounting does not require governmental ownership or control over a tangible asset

If you meet these criteria,
costs incurred =
Regulatory Assets

- 
- Rates established by the entity's governing board with legal authority
 - Rates designed to recover the cost of specific regulated activities
 - Reasonable to assume that rates will recover those costs and can be collected from customers

WHERE DID REGULATED OPERATIONS COME FROM?

- 
- 1982 – FASB #71
 - 2010 – GASB #62 paragraphs 476-500
 - 2018 GASB Implementation Guide



WHY IS THIS REGULATED OPERATIONS APPROACH IMPORTANT?

- ✓ Create an asset without ownership
- ✓ Provide funding for grants or rebates for things like permeable pavement or turf replacement on private property
- ✓ Pay for things you don't own and operate



WILL MY FINANCE PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THIS RULE TO CREATE A REGULATORY ASSET?

- Exception to general accounting rules
- Not taught
- Traditional accounting rules require ownership and control
- Most often been used in the power industry—not water, wastewater, stormwater



LADWP: WATER CONSERVATION & CAPTURING RAINWATER

Goal

- Variety of water efficiency and stormwater capture rebate programs

Implementation to Date

- Saves 25,000 acre-feet/year

Total DI Investment

- \$160 million (as of 2020)

Funding sources

- Combination of operating revenues and bond financing



SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES & KING COUNTY: BEING 'RAINWISE'

Goal

- Manage 700 million gallons/year runoff by 2025

Implementation to Date

- 410 million gallons/year as of 2020

Total DI Investments

- ~\$122 million (as of 2019)

Funding sources

- Combination of operating revenues and bond financing



DENVER WATER: GETTING THE LEAD OUT

Goal

- Replace 64,000-84,000 lead service lines by 2035

Implementation to Date

- 4,500 lead service lines replaced in 2020

Estimated Cost

- \$304 - \$556 million over 15 years

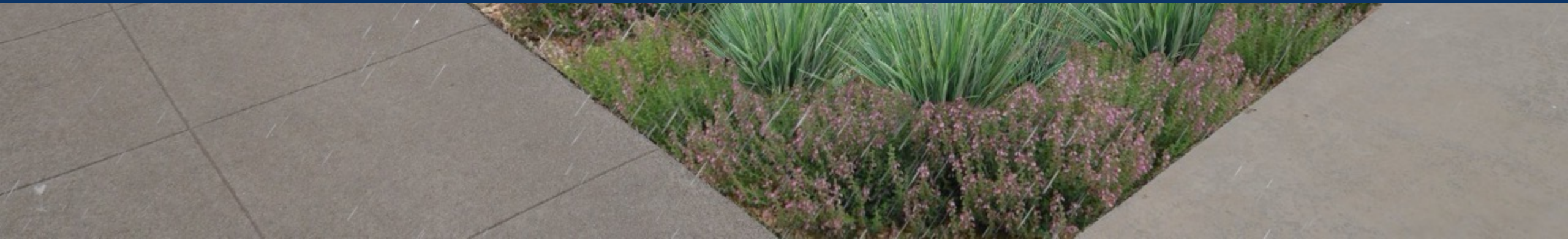
Funding sources

- Combination of rates, loans, and grants
- Future bond financing





QUESTIONS?





THANK YOU

Caroline Koch, WaterNow Alliance

cak@waternow.org





SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach + Engagement Plan June 2022: Change Analysis

By Melina Sempill Watts

June 9, 2022

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County

Change Analysis

NSMB SOEP Change Analysis June 2022

OVERVIEW

- **Removed / added projects as requested**
- **Changed out dates, corrected entity names**
- **Simplified / broadened tasks in many cases**
- **Added new strategies/concepts as requested**
- **Suggestion: note strategy # for discussion, if any**

First –

NSMB SOEP Change Analysis June 2022

In addition to acknowledging land rights of Chumash and Tongva peoples, included **Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians** in acknowledgments.

Adding in,

“Since the water we drink comes from many places across the State of California, we include in our consideration that there were over 400 First Nation peoples in pre-Columbian times and man times that now due to the fact that First Nations peoples from across America have moved to California.”

Suggesting an add in,

First Nations peoples are not *stakeholders* they are members of *sovereign nations*.

From Our Past Comes Our Future

**NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022**

Page 7

Cities, agencies, non-profits, universities and community members have been working on water quality improvement for two decades; the work suggested here is a continuation of the long-running effort on all these strategies.

- Jessica Forte



Painting by Jessica Hem

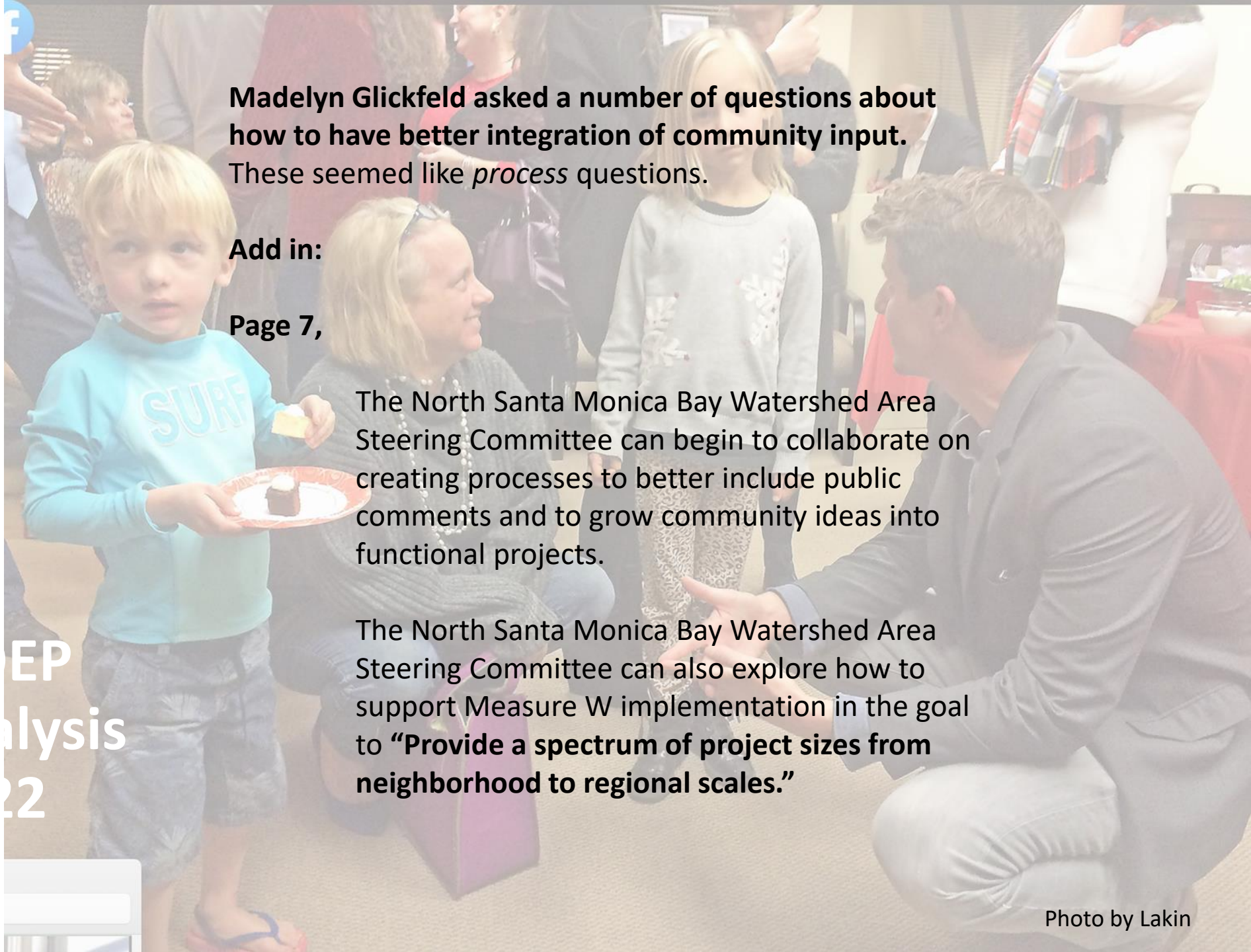
Community

NSMB SOEP

Change Analysis

June 2022

EP
Analysis
22



Madelyn Glickfeld asked a number of questions about how to have better integration of community input. These seemed like *process* questions.

Add in:

Page 7,

The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee can begin to collaborate on creating processes to better include public comments and to grow community ideas into functional projects.

The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee can also explore how to support Measure W implementation in the goal to **“Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.”**

Strategy 1: Meet MS4 Compliance Goals

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

NEW

**Suggested by Sophie
Freeman.**

**Strategy 1: Prioritize
Utilization of Measure
W Funds for Projects
that Meet MS4
Compliance Goals**

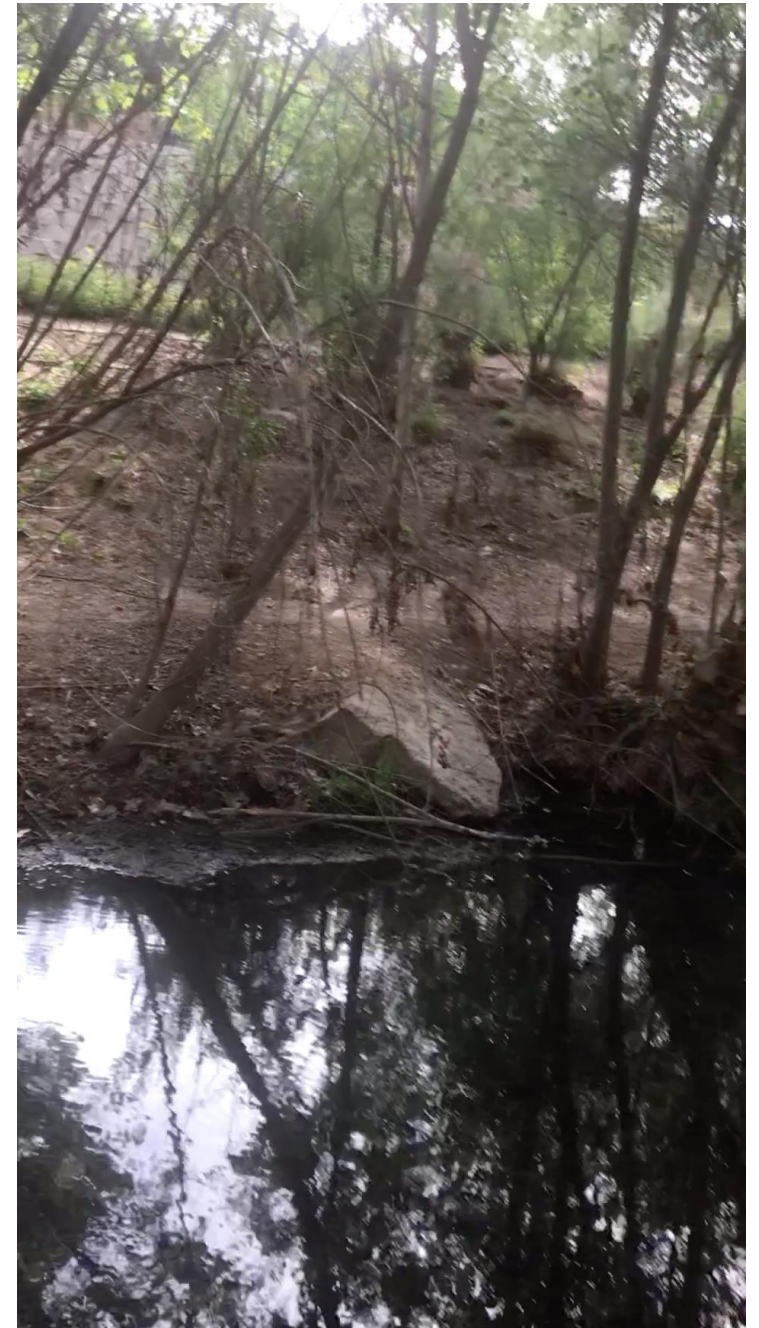


Photo by Watts

Strategy 2: Four Community Outreach Events

NSMB SOEP Change Analysis June 2022

NEW DATE

Suggested by Cung Nguyen.

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Community Meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Other changes,

- Set venues for four events in 2022-2023
- Request NSMB WASC participation
- Set quarterly meetings

Strategy 3: Educate stakeholders about water quality challenges in the watershed area.

**NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022**

- Consider funding opportunities to create filmed material about water quality.
- Explore and implement different ways to educate students, both K-12 and college, to explain about pollution at every single testing site in the Santa Monica Mountains.

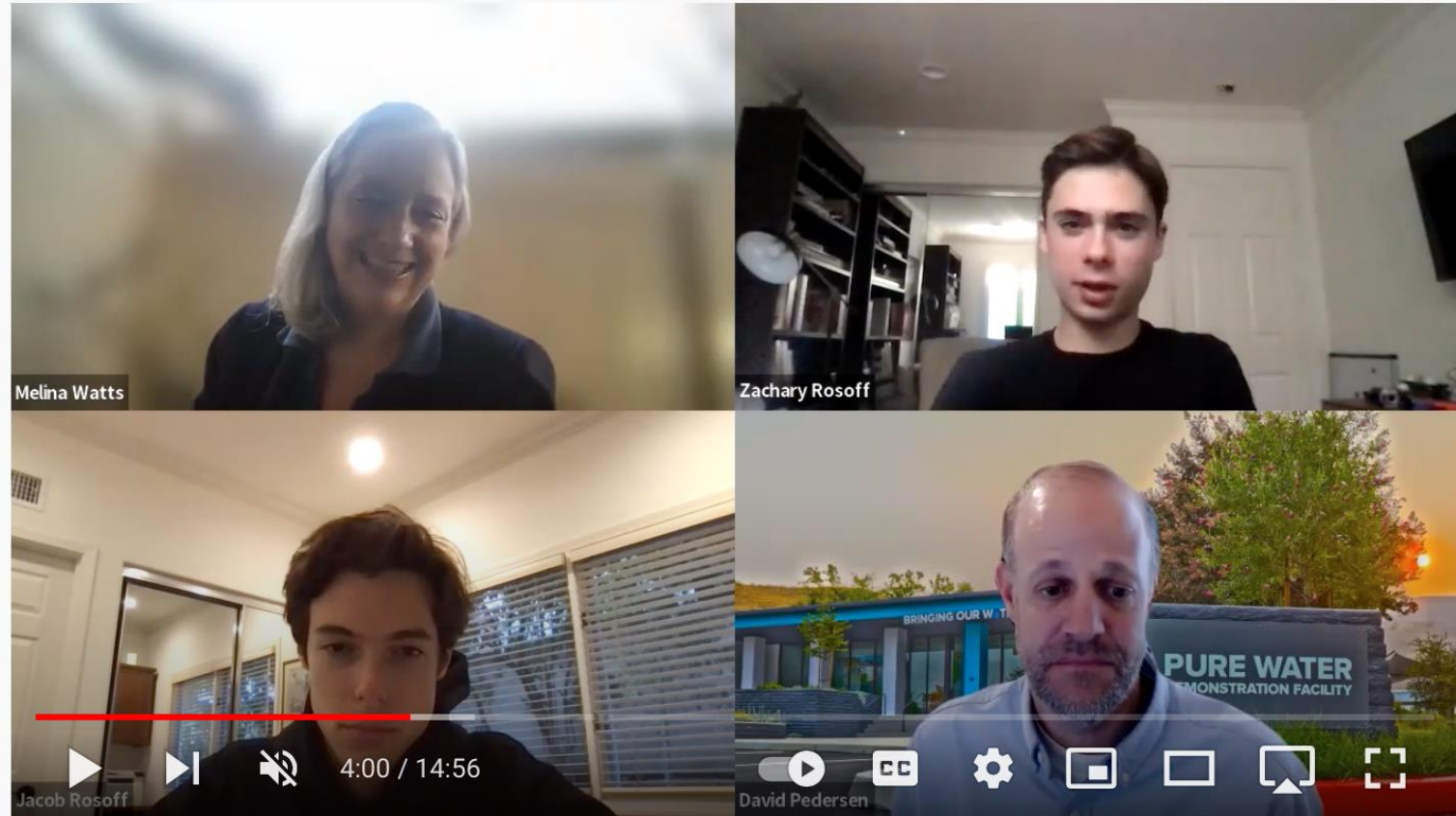


Photo by Watts

Strategy 4:

Facilitate dialogue about water supply sources for and in the watershed area.

- Provide information to the public about current and future water supply sources for North Santa Monica Bay Watershed community members.
- Provide public outreach at existing community events to maximize connectivity to the most people.
- **Per Sophie Freeman, explore other ways to fund building cisterns for water supply in watershed.**



NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Community GM Dave Pedersen Interview

Photo by Watts

Strategy 5: Collaborate with partners to encourage the use of native plants on public + private land.

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

- Per Tevin Schmitt, Wishtoyo, native plants are the ultimate Nature Based Solutions; partnering with Wishtoyo, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, Mountains Restorations Trust, TreePeople, Resource Conservation District Santa Monica Mountains and other venues to communicate the availability of and desirability of planting locally sourced native plants.
- Help obtain funding for LVMWD / TreePeople Native Plants Kit program and support public outreach for Native Plants Kit program.
- Bring Growing Works (Camarillo) and the NPS Native Plants Nursery (Satwiwa) in as possible sources of native plants for water quality projects and public outreach efforts.
- Approach TreePeople, LVMWD and other regional leaders about possible Native Plants home garden tours.
- Highlight successful gardens on our website or on other successful websites.

Strategy 7: Identify opportunities to reach youth at schools, Girl Scout Troops, YMCA, etc.

NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022

- Invite LAUSD to set up rainbarrel demonstration at Topanga Elementary School.
- Educate students at Malibu High School, Pepperdine University and other local venues about local water supply/water quality improvements.
- Focus on providing community outreach at existing events to maximize audience size.



Photo by Watts

Strategy 8: Focus on engaging with homeowners' associations.

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

Per Kelsey Reed, if we connect with HOAs, they can help address local issues.

Met with Jon Kelly, HOA leader in Agoura Hills. Continue to be open to more meetings at HOAs.



Photo by Watts

**Strategy 9:
Explore developing
a North Santa
Monica Bay
Watershed Area
website.**

**NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022**

Consider developing website for North Santa Monica Bay Watershed and/or partnering with other watershed coordinators on collaborative website.

Strategy 12: Identify and facilitate project concepts from North Santa Monica Bay Area and Community Members

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

- Develop and continually maintain a list of project concepts shared by stakeholders. Ensure list is publicly viewable online.
- Connect community to potential projects for design and implementation with agencies to develop and explore.”
- Continually scan outside funding opportunities to support project proponents with outside funding opportunities.
- Address nutrient TMDL by collaborating with cities and county on potential horse manure management opportunities (per Joe Bellomo.)
- Develop strategies to coordinate community input on projects with the project sponsors, and to seek out project sponsors or grantees for projects that communities suggest.
- Share access to Measure W, <https://safecleanwaterla.org/call-for-projects/>.
- **Consider projects that would combine water quality improvement and nature based solutions via creek restoration (per Jeremy Wolf).**
- **Added ”plan for date to submit for funding” (per Kevin Kim.)**

Strategy 12: Identify + facilitate project concepts from North Santa Monica Bay Area and Community Members

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

Project changes,

- **Agoura Hills – Citywide Low Flow Diversion**
Update, Rejected after application, currently using IRWM and city funds to complete project.
- **Agoura Hills – Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrients Special Study**
Funded by City of Agoura Hills
- **Calabasas - Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project Phase III**
Funded, Larry Walker and Associates requested as TAT; TAT has not commenced.
- **Hidden Hills – Exploring using Horse Manure as Compost Opportunities**
- **Las Virgenes Municipal Water District – Malibu Creek Southern Steelhead Trout Survey**
Need to confirm RCDSMM Availability / Price
- **Los Angeles County Public Works - Liberty Canyon Improvement Project**
- **Los Angeles County Public Works – Marie Canyon Low Flow Diversion Project Design Concept**
- **Westlake Village – MS4 Compliance Project for Westlake Village**
- **Topanga Elementary School**
Possibly LAUSD/TreePeople/Other
- **RCDSMM - Roof / cistern Project for 100 Homeowners**

Strategy 13 : Support a convening of experts about impacts of creek restoration on water quality

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

- **Work to develop partnerships with ARLA and The Nature Conservancy, work with stakeholder cities and agencies to create a convening that explores work of multiple Resource Conservation Districts, other water districts and academic venues about the impacts of creek restoration on water quality.**
- **Develop next step or summary document.**
- **Event set for November 10, 17 and 18.**
- **Senator Henry Stern is Honorary Chair.**

Strategy 16: Integrate priorities through partnerships and extensive networks

Additional stakeholders added,

- Santa Barbara Creeks Division
- USDA-NRCS
- UCLA-IOES
- ARLA
- Growing Works
- *Peruaños Sin Agua*
- The Nature Conservancy
- California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- Santa Monica Mountains Fund

NSMB SOEP

Change
Analysis

June 2022



Photo by Watts

Strategy 18: Support public education about trash reduction

NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022

Support North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee Vice Chair Madelyn Glickfeld recommendation to focus on addressing how to meet the trash TMDL. Continue to work to obtain funding in support of public education to reduce trash.



Trash Collection by Jeremy Wolf + Friends

Photo by Watts

Strategy 19: Support dialogue and development of innovative projects and technology raised by stakeholders

NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022



- Provide information to the public about current and future water supply sources for North Santa Monica Bay Watershed community members.
- Provide public outreach at existing community events to maximize connectivity to the most people.
- **Per Sophie Freeman, explore other ways to fund building cisterns for water supply in watershed.**

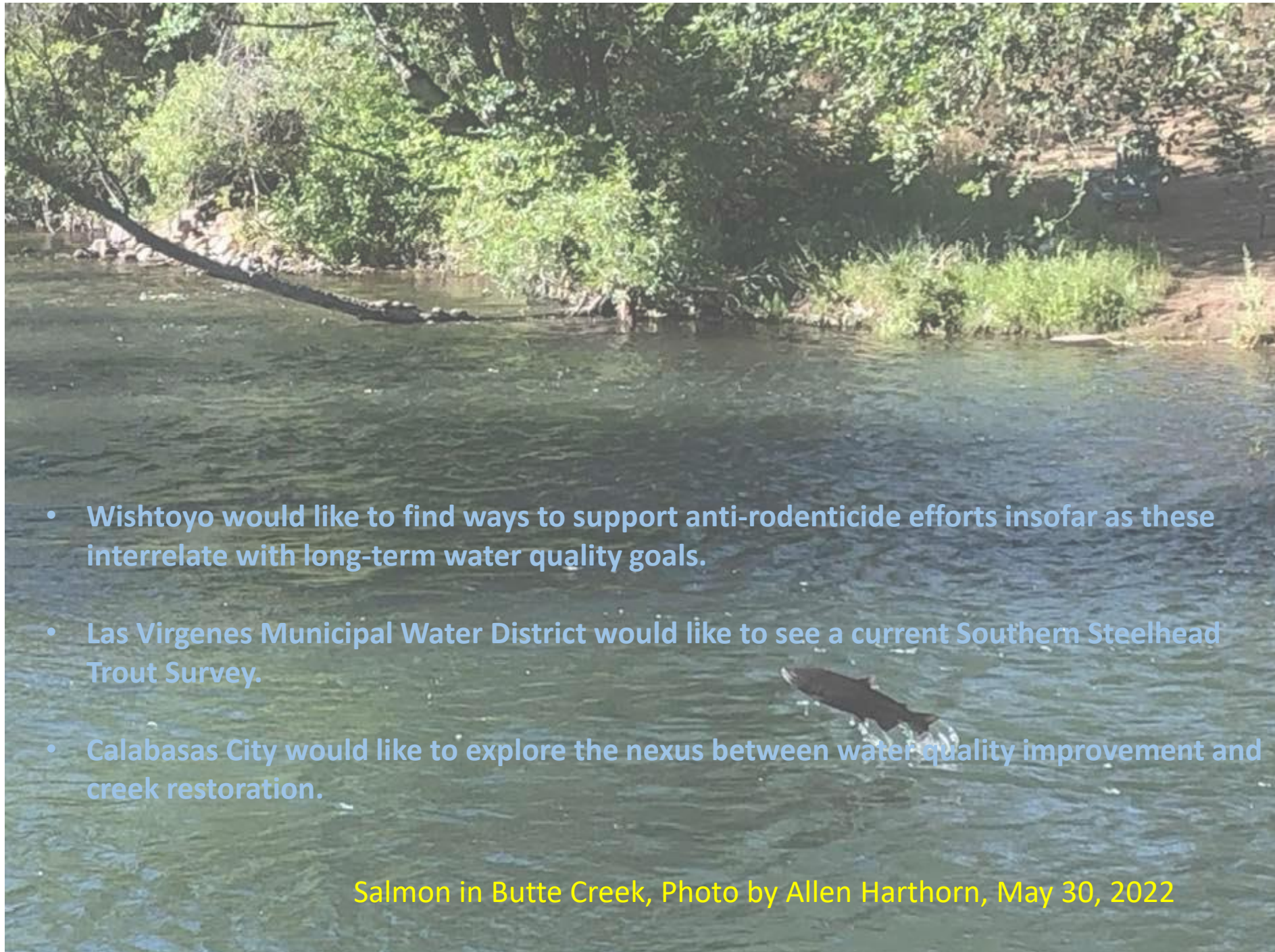
Photo by www.tankandbarrel.com

Strategy 21: Support nexus between water quality and sustaining biodiversity.

**NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022**

- Wishtoyo would like to find ways to support anti-rodenticide efforts insofar as these interrelate with long-term water quality goals.
- Las Virgenes Municipal Water District would like to see a current Southern Steelhead Trout Survey.
- Calabasas City would like to explore the nexus between water quality improvement and creek restoration.

Salmon in Butte Creek, Photo by Allen Harthorn, May 30, 2022



Strategy 22: Support Nexus Between Fire Recovery, Pre-emptive Fire Protection, Water Quality and Water Supply

**NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022**

Photo by [Cyclonebiskit](#)

Suggested by Mark Johnson, City of Malibu and multiple community members.



Photo by Watts

Strategy 23: Support locally relevant scientific research

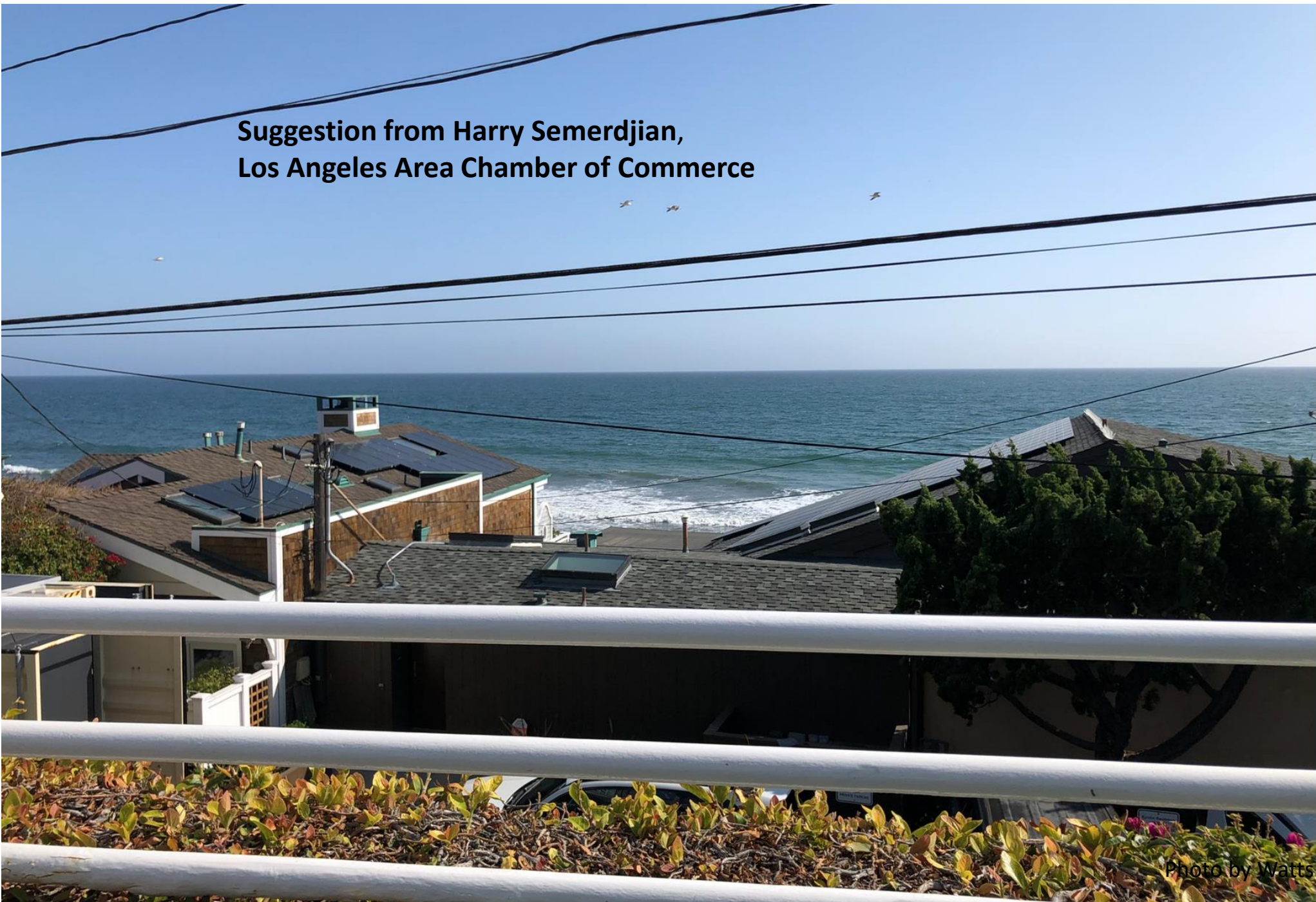
NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022



- Work with Dr. Michael Stenstrom, Dr. Richard Ambrose on locally relevant research; explore applicability of Jessica Forte's experience that sunlight may help reduce bacteria in stream.
- Find opportunity to fund Southern steelhead trout survey in Malibu Creek, per Dave Pedersen.

Strategy 24:
Look for
nexus
between
water
supply and
energy via
climate
change
harms
reduction

NSMB SOEP
Change
Analysis
June 2022



**Suggestion from Harry Semerdjian,
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**

Photo by Watts

**Strategy 25:
Consider Potential
Options to Increase
TRP Funding
Opportunities for
NSMB Watershed
Area**

**NSMB SOEP
Change Analysis
June 2022**

Suggested by multiple NSMB WASC members.



Photo Public Domain from Wikipedia



?



Public Comment Form

Name:* Sally Bartel Organization*: Liberty Canyon Homeowners Associatio

Email*: libertycanyonagourahoa@gmail.com Phone*: 8182744783

Meeting: Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steer Date: June 9, 2022

LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments
 *Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

Comments

The Liberty Canyon Homeowners Association supports the creation of a naturalized creek/channel, landscaping and walking path along Liberty Canyon Road to replace the current cement flood control channel. This large cement channel was originally constructed when there were plans for major development north of the 101 at Liberty Canyon. A large cement channel is no longer necessary since this development never occurred and all of this land is now preserved as open space. A naturalized creek environment would help with pollution control.
