

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



Tuesday August 23, 2022
10:00am - 12:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)
*Art Castro, LA City Water and Power (Agency)
*Hubertus Cox, LA City Sanitation and Environment (Agency)
*Darryl Ford, LA City Recreation & Parks (Agency)
Rita Kampalath, LA County Chief Sustainability Office (Community), Vice Chair
Alysen Weiland, PSOMAS (Community)
*Gloria Medina, The Solutions Project/SCOPE (Community)
*Maggie Gardner, LA Waterkeeper (Community)
Josette Descalzo, Beverly Hills (Municipal)
Sean Singletary, Culver City (Municipal)
Rafael Prieto, Los Angeles (Municipal)
Susie Santilena, Los Angeles (Municipal), Chair
Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Curtis Castle, Santa Monica (Municipal)
Michelle Struthers, S. Groner Associates (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)
Mikaela Randolph, Heal the Bay (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

Committee Members Not Present:

E.J. Caldwell, West Basin Metropolitan Water District (Agency)
Edgar Campos, T.R.U.S.T. South LA (Community)
Roberto Perez, Los Angeles (Municipal)

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

District Staff conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx. Susie Santilena, Chair of the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) 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 July 26, 2022

District Staff presented the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Member Darryl Ford made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Cung Nguyen. The Committee voted to approve the July 26, 2022 minutes, with 8 in favor and 5 votes in abstention (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

District Staff provided an update, noting:

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



- On August 9, the Board of Supervisors (Board) 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 Round 4 Call for Projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY23-24) closed on July 31, 2022. District Staff is currently conducting completeness checks. The preliminary count of applications is as follows: 32 Infrastructure Program (IP), 4 Scientific Study (SS), and 3 Technical Resource Program (TRP) applicants. In the CSMB WASC, 3 IP, 1 SS, and 1 TRP were submitted.
- Quarterly reports for Infrastructure Program and Scientific Studies were due on August 15, 2022.
- All nine Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) were approved by the Regional Oversight Committee for advancement to the Board for approval. The Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 4, 2022.
- As a reminder to project developers that have received or will be receiving Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) funds, part of the transfer agreement includes abiding by the County's Local and Targeted Worker Hire Policy or a similar policy. Depending on the cost of the project, a Project Labor Agreement may be required from one of the project's financial partners.
- Attending meetings regularly is a requirement for WASC members under Article 5 of the WASC Operating Guidelines. An absence of two consecutive meetings or more than three meetings in one year will be considered failure to attend meetings and may result in the absentee member's removal from the WASC. If attendance by the Primary member is not possible for a particular meeting, it is requested that the Alternate Member be present at the meeting.
- Every Committee Member is required to fill out Form 700. A Form 700 is required when a member is assuming office for the first time (part of the onboarding process), continuing to serve on a committee (annual requirement), leaving a committee (part of the offboarding process), or changing roles within the committee. District Staff will contact individuals who need to fill out these forms.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Michelle Struthers shared that the Watershed Coordinators hosted their first community event in West Hollywood. If any Committee Members are interested in having the Watershed Coordinators at an event, please email them. The finalized FY22-23 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan has been uploaded to the SCWP website. The Watershed Coordinators will share presentations at next month's WASC meeting to report on their quarterly activities and share an overview of the Round 4 project applications.

5. Public Comment Period

District Staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting. No comment cards were received before the meeting.

Dr. Shahriar Eftekhazadeh asked if there is a process in place to check the progress of a project under development, to compare and check for any changes from the project's original claimed benefits and proposed project elements. Dr. Eftekhazadeh asserted that the previously approved MacArthur Park Lake Rehabilitation Project's name has changed, and some of the project elements have changed from what was originally intended. District Staff replied that quarterly reports exist to capture the progress of approved projects. Also, quarterly reports are evaluated periodically by the WASC to review any updates or changes in project design elements.

6. Discussion

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

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



There were no ex parte communication disclosures.

b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities Presentation

Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) shared a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the WASC, projects received in the FY22-23 call for projects, Interim Guidance and the Metrics and Monitoring Study, and an update on funding. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

Member Curtis Castle asked if there is a requirement for WASCs to reserve a minimum of the available yearly budget to fund projects in future years and recommended best practices be developed for reserving funds. Antos replied that there is no requirement for WASCs to reserve a minimum amount of funding each year, but that each WASC must consider how to balance funding for current and future projects and added that a discussion on the guidelines related to funding could be a good agenda topic for the next WASC Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting.

Member Josette Descalzo asked if a WASC could hypothetically elect to not fund any projects in a given SIP year due to budget constraints, acknowledging that there have been many projects that have met the minimum points scoring threshold. Antos responded that the WASC has responsibility to achieve the SCWP goals and that it could be difficult to not fund qualified projects if there is available funding, but that it is within the WASCs decision making purview to not fund any projects if they so desired.

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

Chair Santilena and Vice-Chair Kampalath both expressed interest in continuing their respective roles in the WASC and shared a willingness to step away for any other members interested in the roles. Committee Members shared appreciation for the current leadership and supported them continuing as Chair and Vice-Chair.

7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

8. Voting Items

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

Member Nguyen motioned to select Susie Santilena as Chair and Rita Kampalath as Vice-Chair, seconded by Member Maggie Gardner. The motion was approved, with 14 votes in favor and none opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. See the SCWP website for meeting details. Topics on the Agenda include:

- a) Round 4 Projects Summary
- b) Vote to send Round 4 Projects to Scoring Committee

10. Adjournment

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

CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - August 23, 2022

		Quorum Present				Voting Items	
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approval of 7/26/22 Meeting Minutes	Approval of Chair (Susie Santilena) / Vice Chair (Rita Kampalath) for CSMB WASC
Agency	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Cung Nguyen	X	Mark Beltran		Y	Y
Agency	West Basin Metropolitan Water District	E.J. Caldwell					
Agency	Los Angeles City Water & Power	Delon Kwan		Art Castro	X	A	Y
Agency	Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment	Sheila Brice		Hubertus Cox	X	A	Y
Agency	Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	X	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	Rita Kampalath	X			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	PSOMAS / Business Sector	Alysen Weiland	X			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	The Solutions Project / SCOPE	Gloria Walton		Gloria Medina	X	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	Bruce Reznik		Maggie Gardner	X	A	Y
Community Stakeholder	T.R.U.S.T. South LA	Edgar Campos					
Municipal Members	Beverly Hills / West Hollywood	Josette Descalzo	X	Matthew Magener		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Culver City	Sean Singletary	X	Yanni Demitri		A	Y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Roberto Perez					
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Rafael Prieto	X				Y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	X	Rebecca Rasmussen		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles County	Bruce Hamamoto	X	Geremew Amenu		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Santa Monica	Curtis Castle	X	Selim Eren		A	Y
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Mikaela Randolph	X			N/A	N/A
Watershed Coordinator	S. Groner Associates	Michelle Struthers	X			N/A	N/A
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yay (Y)	8	14
Total Voting Members Present		14			Nay (N)	0	0
Agency		4			Abstain (A)	5	0
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	13	14
Municipal Members		6				Approved	Approved

Welcome Back!



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Regional issues...

1

Improve Water Quality

2

Increase Local Water Supply

3

Enhance Communities

Capture
Clean
Conserve

...Regional solutions



Themes of Safe, Clean Water Program

Collaboration

- ❖ Developed & implemented with diverse stakeholders
- ❖ Unique dedicated funding for multi-benefit stormwater projects
- ❖ Comprehensive and diverse governance committees

Asset Management

- ❖ Funding for operation and maintenance
- ❖ Investments for long-term sustainability and resiliency
- ❖ Emphasis on Nature-Based Solutions

Equity

- ❖ Dedicated investments into Disadvantaged Communities
- ❖ Watershed Coordinators build inclusion and connect communities with resources
- ❖ Technical Assistance

Good Stewardship of Public Funds

- ❖ Accountability
- ❖ Transparency
- ❖ Reporting & Auditing
- ❖ Comprehensive tax relief options

Education & Community Engagement

- ❖ Public & School Education
- ❖ Workforce Training
- ❖ Collaboration with other programs
- ❖ Community engagement throughout project stages





WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Bring **together** each members' personal **experiences, expertise, and perspectives** in a collaborative setting to put forth the **best multi-benefit projects** for the region that addresses the **Watershed Area's priorities and needs**, meets the **SCW Program Goals**, and demonstrates a **fiscally responsible and balanced use of SCW funds**.

- Meet, confer, coordinate, collaborate, and cooperate with one another, in good faith
- Share expertise and provide guidance, and information
- Develop annual SIP so to benefit stakeholder perspectives.

Refer to WASC Operating Guidelines for additional details



The communities you represent



- Most of the 10 million people in Los Angeles County
 - About half of whom live in low-income and pollution burdened census areas
- If a state, LA County would be 10th largest.
- 1 in 35 Americans
- >\$700 Billion in economic activity annually



The communities you represent



- Have decided to invest in improving environmental water quality (as required by MS4 permits)
- The decision included, however, ensuring the investments were:
 - community enhancing,
 - job creating,
 - overcoming of injustices,
 - improving water supply, and
 - relying on natural solutions to our problems whenever possible.



Watershed Management in the SCWP

- Watershed Management encompasses
 - How challenges and opportunities resolve at water scales, not political scales
 - Upstream impacts downstream
 - Understanding and mimicking the system-of-systems that engages water, land, biology, policy, infrastructure, etc.
- Watershed Coordination
 - Relationships between people, and good communication are necessary
 - Listening to community expertise, developing investments that align with what the community requests



WASC Structure

Member Type	Position
Agency	Flood Control District
Agency	Water Agency
Agency	Groundwater / Water Agency 2
Agency	Sanitation
Agency	Open Space
Community Stakeholder	At Large
Community Stakeholder	At Large
Community Stakeholder	Environmental
Community Stakeholder	Business
Community Stakeholder	Environmental Justice
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Watershed Coordinator(s)	

Chair/Co-Chairs: Represent the Committee and facilitate Committee and Meetings

Vice-Chair: Support the Chair with their responsibilities and act on behalf in case of an absence of the Chair

District Staff: Assist with meetings and administer the SCW Program

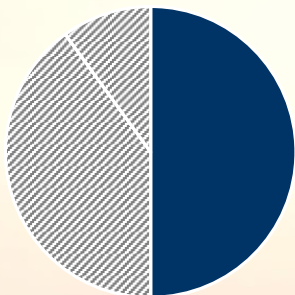
Each committee member should assign an **Alternate** to attend on behalf of the **Primary** in case of an absence.



WASC Operating Guidelines – Additional Responsibilities

- **Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports**
 - WASCs are responsible for reviewing quarterly progress and expenditure reports submitted by project developers for funded projects.
 - These reports will be summarized, collected, and shared with the committee as agenda attachments, and through a presentation by staff.
- **Watershed Area Regional Program Progress Reports**
 - Staff will prepare a draft WARPP report on behalf of each WASC. Each WASC will be responsible for review and approval of the WARPP before submittal of the report of the ROC.
 - WARRP report is due 6/30/23
- **Meetings**
 - Each WASC shall hold regular public meetings, no less than quarterly.
 - An absence of **two** consecutive meetings or more than **three** meetings in one year will make the member eligible for removal from the WASC.
 - WASC meetings are subject to the **Brown Act**.

Regional Program



50% Program revenue

Provides funding for multi-benefit watershed-based projects

WATERSHED AREA	2021-22 Regional Tax Return Estimates
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$ 17.24 Million
Lower Los Angeles River	\$ 12.42 Million
Lower San Gabriel River	\$ 16.70 Million
North Santa Monica Bay	\$ 1.80 Million
Rio Hondo	\$ 11.61 Million
Santa Clara River	\$ 5.85 Million
South Santa Monica Bay	\$ 17.66 Million
Upper Los Angeles River	\$ 38.68 Million
Upper San Gabriel River	\$ 18.70 Million





Stormwater Investments in SCWP

Board of Supervisors will consider 22-23 SIPs on 10/04/22

One Hundred and One new & continuing Infrastructure Program Projects:

- Leverage over \$540M in other funding
- Capture stormwater from over 207,000 acres increasing annual capture by over 54,000 AF
- Invest over \$340M in projects benefiting members of disadvantaged communities
- Will benefit the nine watershed areas through construction in 38 municipalities



Stormwater Investments in SCWP

Board of Supervisors will consider 22-23 SIPs on October 4th, 2022

Watershed Area	2020 - 2027 expected revenue	2020-2027 programmed	Remaining in 20-27 revenue for new projects
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$ 120,400,000	\$ 81,040,630	33%
Lower Los Angeles River	\$ 86,800,000	\$ 53,604,669	38%
Lower San Gabriel River	\$ 116,900,000	\$ 73,901,859	37%
North Santa Monica Bay	\$ 12,600,000	\$ 2,008,292	84%
Rio Hondo	\$ 81,200,000	\$ 38,392,473	53%
Santa Clara River	\$ 40,600,000	\$ 23,749,333	42%
South Santa Monica Bay	\$ 123,900,000	\$ 81,409,680	34%
Upper Los Angeles River	\$ 270,900,000	\$ 220,612,700	19%
Upper San Gabriel River	\$ 130,900,000	\$ 94,713,836	28%
<i>Totals:</i>	\$ 984,200,000	\$ 669,433,471	41%



Stormwater Investments in SCWP

Central Santa Monica Bay

Stormwater Investment Plan Preview ▼

	Budget		Projections				TOTAL
	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	Future Funding	
A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected	\$17.2M	\$17.2M	\$17.2M	\$17.2M	\$17.2M		\$86.2M
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D) ⓘ	\$23.2M	\$20.6M	\$24.3M	\$29.9M	\$40M		
C. Total Recommendation in Current SIP	\$2.7M	\$3.4M	\$4.3M	\$3.6M	\$100k	\$0	\$14.1M
Total Allocated in Previous SIP(s)	\$17.2M	\$10.1M	\$7.3M	\$3.6M	\$400k	\$0	\$38.6M
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C) ⓘ	\$6M	\$3.3M	\$7.1M	\$22.7M	\$39.5M		
E. Percent Allocated (C/B) ⓘ	86%	66%	48%	24%	1%		61%

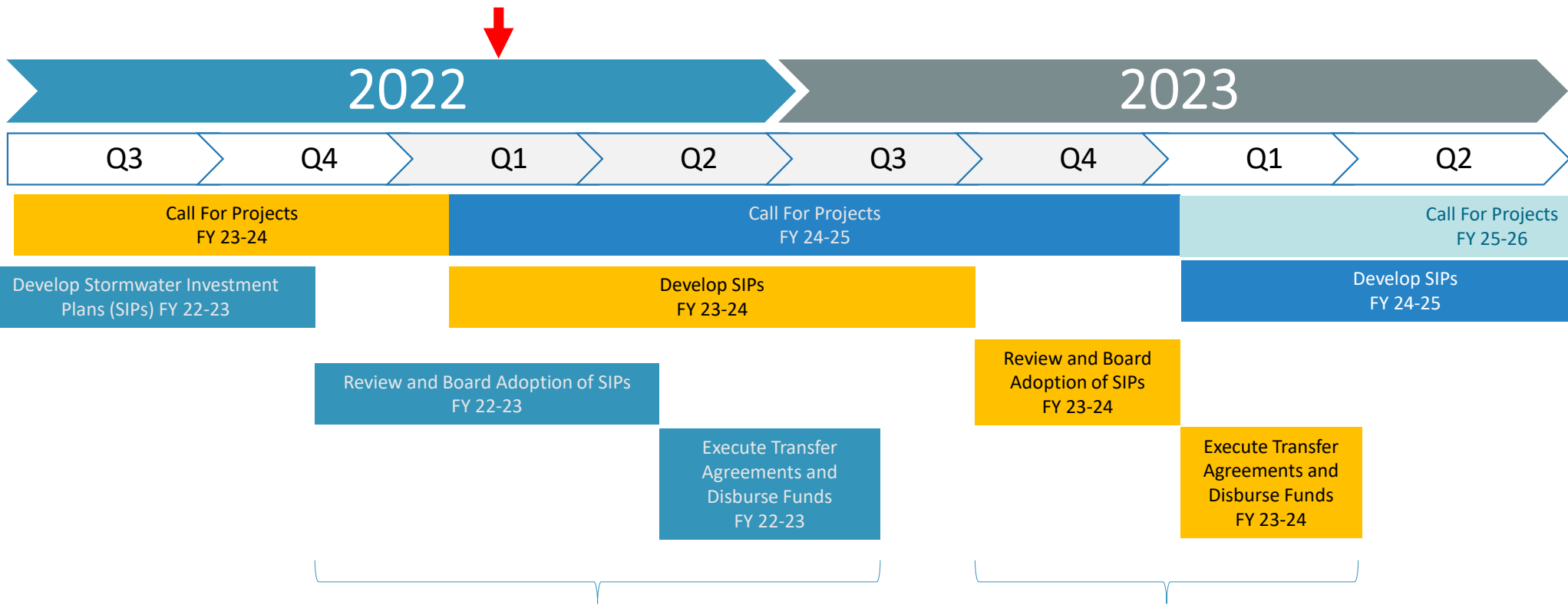
Recommendation
for FY22-23 SIP

Funds previously
allocated

Funds available for
FY23-24 SIP: \$7.1M



Call for Projects and Timeline



SIP to FTA period still being refined to its original goal of about six months



Call for Projects FY 2023-2024

Call for Projects closed on July 31st

Program	Preliminary Total SCW Funding Requested	Preliminary Projects Submitted
Infrastructure Program (>85%)	~\$195M	32*
Technical Resources Program (≤10%)	\$ 900k	3
Scientific Studies Program (≤5%)	~\$ 8M	4
TOTAL	~\$ 204M	37

Watershed Area	Approximate Number of IP Projects
Central Santa Monica Bay	3
Lower Los Angeles River	2
Lower San Gabriel River	5
North Santa Monica Bay	1
Rio Hondo	4
Santa Clara River	1
South Santa Monica Bay	3
Upper Los Angeles River	13
Upper San Gabriel River	0
Grand Total	32

*values subject to change pending completeness check by the District



FY 23-24 SIP Programming Guidelines

- The 85%/10%/5% ratios, disadvantaged community benefits, municipality benefits, and spectrum of project types and sizes will be **evaluated over a rolling 5-yr period**.
- WASCs have set the precedent of **reserving budget** to allow SIPs to handle unexpected decreases in revenue in the program, and so future project proponents have available resources.

Technical Resource Program

Infrastructure Program

Scientific Studies Program



2022 Interim Guidance

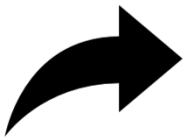


With stakeholder input, the District developed the 2022 Interim Guidance. Each component includes a brief vision for future guidance



2022 Interim Guidance

- Strengthening Community Engagement and Support (**New**)
- Water Supply Guidance (**New**)
- Programming of Nature-Based Solutions (no substantive changes from 2021 guidance)
- Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies (no substantive changes from 2021 guidance)



Other program aspects continue to be clarified or addressed through the Metrics and Monitoring Study and/or advancement of various regional studies



Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

This guidance includes:

1. Engagement Prior to Application
2. Engagement Plan for Project Implementation

	Good	Better	Best
Engagement Levels	<p>Inform - Provide the community with relevant information</p> <p>Consult - Gather input from the Community</p>	<p>Involve - Ensure community input, needs, and assets are integrated into processes, receive demonstrable consideration and appropriate responses, and inform planning</p> <p>Educate - Grow community understanding of the existing infrastructure systems, purposes, perceived outstanding needs, pertinent history and regulations, SCW Program opportunities (including Watershed Coordinators) to establish</p> <p>Learn - Grow own understanding of existing community, perceived needs, pertinent history, key concerns, and other potentially interested parties.</p>	<p>Collaborate - Leverage and grow community capacity to play a leadership role in both planning and implementation</p> <p>Incorporate - Foster democratic participation and equity by including the community in decision-making, bridge divide between community and governance</p> <p>Partner - Establish certain project concepts based on community-driven and identified needs, solidify formal partnerships, and build in sustained paths forward to joint implementation and management with well-defined roles per agreement</p>



Strengthening Community Engagement and Support



LEADERSHIP: COLLABORATION

LD1.3 Provide for Stakeholder Involvement

18

POINTS

INTENT

Early and sustained stakeholder engagement and involvement in project decision making.

METRIC

Establishment of sound and meaningful programs for stakeholder identification, early and sustained engagement, and involvement in project decision making.

LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
A + B	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D + E + F
(3) Active Engagement	(6) Direct Engagement	(9) Community Involvement	(14) Community Satisfaction	(18) Stakeholder Partnerships
<p>(A) Primary and secondary stakeholders are identified through a stakeholder mapping process. Stakeholder concerns and specific objectives for stakeholder engagement are defined.</p> <p>(B) A proactive stakeholder engagement process is established with clear objectives. This occurs at the earliest stages of planning and is sustained through project construction. Engagement moves beyond education into active dialogue. Stakeholder views are monitored, and a two-way line of communication is established to reply to inquiries. Sufficient opportunities are provided for stakeholders to be involved in decision making. The participation process is transparent with opportunities to provide meaningful input.</p>				
<p>(C) A lead person from the project team, in addition to any public involvement lead or manager, works with stakeholder groups to understand communication needs and the desire for and scope of involvement.</p>				
<p>(D) There are specific cases in which public input influenced or validated project outcomes. Potentially conflicting stakeholder views were evaluated and addressed equitably during decision making.</p>				
<p>(E) Feedback is sought from stakeholders as to their satisfaction with the engagement process, and the resulting decisions were made based on their input.</p>				
<p>(F) One or more stakeholders, having mutual interests or interdependencies, are identified and engaged as partners.</p>				

This guidance includes several resources for designing and implementing engagement



Water Supply Guidance

1. Establishes shared vocabulary
2. Clarifies characterization of Water Supply Benefits
3. Provides guidance to the Scoring Committee
4. Provides guidance to the nine Watershed Area Steering Committees

SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance Water Supply Guidance



Evaluating Water Supply Benefits at the WASC

As Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) develop Stormwater Investments Plans (SIPs), they can benefit from the following strategies in determining the appropriateness of each Project's claim of providing, or not providing, Water Supply Benefits:

Tools and strategies to evaluate Water Supply Benefits that WASC members should use during Project evaluation:

- Read the justification provided in the application, submitted Feasibility Study, and scoring rubric about Water Supply Benefits claimed for the Project, including how the project creates locally available water supply.
- Where applicable, review applications for assurance that infiltrated water reaches an aquifer managed for beneficial use through demonstration of high infiltration potential or proximity to a water reclamation facility.
- During presentations by Project proponents, ask follow-up questions about the Water Supply Benefits claimed for the Project, as appropriate.

Tools and strategies to evaluate Water Supply Benefits that WASC members can use at any time:

- Ask Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, public agencies, and other stakeholders would describe the preferred Water Supply Benefits in the Watershed Area (i.e., desired outcomes and watershed-specific goals).
- Invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to better understand potential Water Supply Benefits sought and challenges faced in the Watershed Area.



Programming of Nature-Based Solutions

The guidance clarifies how best to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions by:

1. Establishing a shared vocabulary
2. Providing guidance to the nine WASCs
3. Clarifying prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions; and
4. Highlighting how the Feasibility Study requirements and the Projects Module support Project proponents and WASCs in the prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions





Links between Needs, SCWP Goals, and NBS

Identified Need or Desired Outcome	Potential Natural Processes & Nature-Mimicking Strategies	SCW Program Benefits
Improved environmental water quality	Bioretention; biofiltration; removed impermeable area; increase of permeability; soil enhancement; green streets	Water Quality Benefit
Increased local water supply	Surface and subsurface infiltration to groundwater; treat and release clean stormwater flows for a justified beneficial use; stormwater capture to offset irrigation with potable water; soil enhancement to offset irrigation with potable water; new native and climate-appropriate planting to offset irrigation with potable water; remove impermeable area; increase permeability	Water Supply Benefit
Improved flood management	Bioretention; native and climate appropriate planting; removal of impermeable area; increase of permeability; microtopography changes; protection or restoration of riparian or wetland systems	Community Investment Benefit (CIB): Flood Management
Improved flood conveyance	Stream daylighting; bioretention; microtopography changes; removed impermeable surfaces; increase of permeability; localized infiltration to groundwater	CIB: Flood Conveyance



Programming of Nature-Based Solutions

Providing guidance to the nine WASCs

Strategies to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions that WASC members can use during Project evaluation and SIP recommendation development:

- Prior to sending submitted Projects to Scoring Committee, the WASC can choose to evaluate the extent to which natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies are included in each Project, and the extent to which Nature-Based Solutions appear across the suite of Projects. This evaluation can support the WASC decision-making about which Projects are “sent” to Scoring.
- Upon the completion of scoring and during review of individual Projects, the WASC should read materials provided by proponents about natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies included in Projects, and in the case where Nature-Based Solutions were judged infeasible, about the analysis and reasons given.
- During presentations by Project proponents, the WASC members can ask questions about the natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies included in the Project, or about the analysis completed which showed Nature-Based Solutions to be infeasible.
- When programming the SIP, the WASC can review SIP of previous years, and the suite of Projects proposed, to consider how Nature-Based Solutions are being prioritized in the Watershed Area.

Strategies to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions that WASC members can use at any time:

- WASCs can ask their Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, city and county agencies, and other stakeholders would prioritize Nature-Based Solutions in the Watershed Area.
- WASCs can invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to better understand how Nature-Based Solutions would bring benefits and meet the challenges faced in the Watershed Area.



Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies

This guidance includes the following:

1. Clarification of how to interpret and substantiate a Project's ability to deliver Disadvantaged Community Benefits
2. Procedures for consistently accounting for the 110% SIP provisions
3. Considerations to inform deliberation and discussion

SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

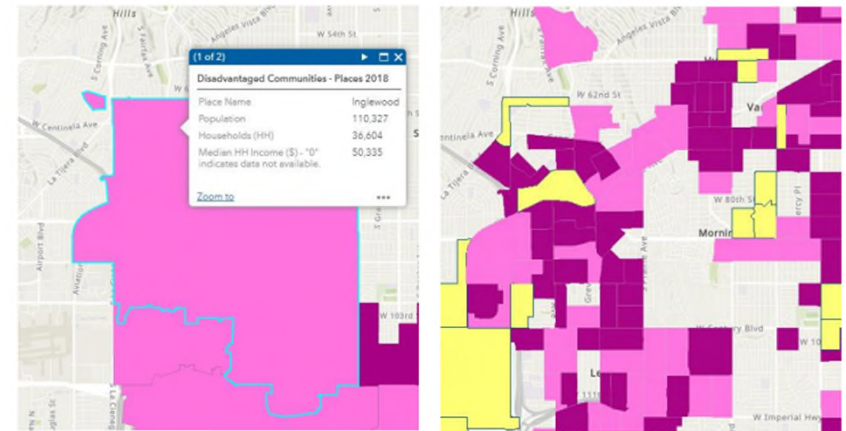
Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program



- Link to DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>
- Link to CalEPA CalEnviroscreen: <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen>

Inglewood Example

If you calculate the median household income for the city of Inglewood as a Census Place (Figure 1), you find that the city has a median household income below 80% of the statewide median household income, and therefore can be considered a disadvantaged community. However, when you review the many Census Block Groups within the city of Inglewood (Figure 2), you find that some are considered disadvantaged, some severely disadvantaged (defined in the State Water Code as having a median household income below 60% of the statewide median household income), and some are neither.





WASC Role in Disadvantaged Community Policies

Whether a Project provides a “direct benefit” as used in SCWP policy is a **decision made by WASCs on a project-by-project basis.**


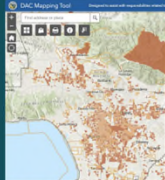


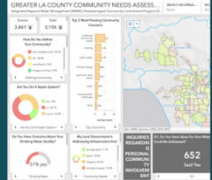
WASCs can:

- Program project in SIP and add or affirm disadvantaged community benefit claim
- Program project in SIP and remove disadvantaged community benefit claim
- Not include project in SIP

How Can you as a WASC Validate Direct Benefits?

Hearing from community members is the best way to validate a direct benefit.

Other Possible Considerations:

Adjacency:	External Datasets:			
				
Some projects are near disadvantaged block groups.	Other Census data (DWR DAC Mapping Tool)	CalEnviroScreen 4.0	LA County RPOSD Park Needs Assessment	IRWM DAC Involvement Program Greater LA County Needs Assessment

From ULAR Disadvantaged Community Programming [Presentation](#)



SCWP Tools

ArcGIS ▾ Safe Clean Water Program GIS Reference Map

Modify Map Sign In

Submitted Infrastructure Projects 2020-2021

- Upper Los Angeles River
- Central Santa Monica Bay
- Lower San Gabriel River
- Upper San Gabriel River
- Lower Los Angeles River
- Rio Hondo
- South Santa Monica Bay
- Santa Clara River
- North Santa Monica Bay

Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Areas

- Central Santa Monica Bay
- Lower Los Angeles River
- Lower San Gabriel River

Welcome to the Safe Clean Water Portal

Learn about Safe Clean Water Program projects, benefits and expenditures. We are protecting public health and our environment while maximizing a cleaner, locally-controlled water supply.

Find a project

HOME DASHBOARD REPORTING APPLY

A person with a beard is shown in profile on the left side of the image, looking towards a whiteboard. The whiteboard is covered with numerous sticky notes, some of which contain handwritten text and diagrams. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from a window with blinds in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of a collaborative workspace or meeting.

Discussion

Contact the program team at:

www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov

1-833-ASK-SCWP (1-833-275-7297)