

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



Wednesday, August 17, 2022

1:00pm - 3:00pm

WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)

E.J. Caldwell, West Basin (Agency)

*Aimee Zhao, Water Replenishment District (Agency)

*Christopher Lapaz, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (Agency)

*Darryl Ford, Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (Agency)

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation (Community), Chair

Marissa Caringella, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Community)

Hany Fangary, Fangary Law Group (Community)

Wendy Butts, Los Angeles Conservation Corps (Community)

Caryn Mandelbaum, Resident (Community)

Susie Santilena, Los Angeles (Municipal)

Thuan Nguyen, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

John Dettle, Torrance (Municipal)

Geraldine Trivedi, EWMP: Manhattan Beach (Municipal), Vice Chair

Lauren Amimoto, EWMP: Dominguez (Municipal)

Ken Rukavina, EWMP: Rancho Palos Verdes (Municipal)

Nancy Shrodes, Heal the Bay (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

Committee Members Not Present

Eliza Jane Whitman, Carson (Municipal)

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

Craig Cadwallader, Chair of the South Santa Monica Bay (SSMB) WASC, welcomed Committee Members, conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx, 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 20, 2022

District Staff presented the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Member John Dettle motioned to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Susie Santilena. The Committee voted to approve the April 20, 2022 meeting minutes, with 13 members in favor, 3 abstaining, and zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Member Dettle reported that on August 9, the Torrance City Council approved plans for the Stormwater Basin Expansion Project, which was approved last year by the SSMB WASC. The City is currently moving forward to complete the project.

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District Staff provided an update, noting:

- On August 9, 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 County's Executive Office issued a memo on April 8 in preparation for returning to in-person committee meetings. The Committee may start meeting again in-person as soon as September or October, with the West Basin Municipal Water District in El Segundo as the potential meeting location.
- The call for projects for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY23-24) closed on July 31.
- Quarterly reports for Infrastructure Program and Scientific Studies were due August 15.
- All nine Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) were approved by the Regional Oversight Committee for advancement to the Board for approval. The Board of Supervisors meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 4.
- SSMB WASC received 4 Infrastructure Projects, 0 Scientific Study, and 1 Technical Resource Projects (TRP).

The Committee asked about the possibility of conducting WASC meetings in a “hybrid” in-person and virtual format. District Staff replied that the meeting format remains to be decided.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Nancy Shrodes provided an update on recent activities:

- Reached over 200 people through 12 presentations between June and August through recent education and outreach efforts,
- Sent out first and second quarterly newsletter,
- Hosted first watershed-wide educational workshop, School and Stormwater Multi-benefit Symposium event,
- Submitted annual report and Draft Strategic Outreach and Education Plan, and
- Plans to host door-to-door engagement in Lennox on August 20.

5. Public Comment Period

District Staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting, loaded them to the SCWP website, and displayed them on-screen. Speaker cards or other correspondence received after 5:00pm will be added to the minutes.

No public comments were received prior to the meeting nor made during this time.

6. Discussion Items:

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Member Dettle disclosed that the Beach Cities Watershed group met and discussed Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) projects.

b) Review of WASC Roles and Responsibilities

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Tori Klug (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.

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

Chair Cadwallader and Vice Chair Trivedi shared gratitude for serving as Chair and Vice Chair this past year and expressed interest in continuing to serve in their respective roles for the next year.

Members of the WASC voiced supported for Chair Cadwallader and Vice Chair Trivedi continuing to serve as Chair and Vice Chair for the next year.

d) FY22-23 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) Presentation

Watershed Coordinator Shrodes gave an overview on Watershed Coordinator Tasks and presented the SSMB's Draft SOEP, highlighting strategies in the five general areas of the Plan:

- Community Engagement (stakeholder, municipalities, community groups),
- Solicit Input and Connect to TRP/Program Elements,
- Ensure Diverse Perspectives are Included in Districts and WASCs,
- Identify and Ensure Involvement of Members of Disadvantaged and Underrepresented Communities,
- Ensure Educational Programming About Watershed Management, Ecological, and Community Issues,

Steering Committee members provided the following suggestions on the SOEP draft:

- Clarify discussion of existing projects and outreach, particularly those which have been funded.
- The visual representation of disadvantaged communities shown in Figure 2 of page 8 should overlay city boundaries. A legend explaining the different colors would also be helpful.
- Expand on the "Vision and Success for Evaluation Criteria" (page 10) to include information such as how many disadvantaged communities are submitting projects and if they are receiving funding.
- Clarify the "Engage Stakeholders, Municipalities, Community Groups" section (page 12) to also include municipalities that are disadvantaged communities.
- Add a Table of Contents and Tribal acknowledgement to the beginning of the plan.
- Members suggested hosting the SOEP document on the SCWP website, rather than on the Heal The Bay website. District Staff noted that they are developing a Watershed Coordinator portal, which could potentially hold information and documents such as SOEPs.
- Member T. Nguyen shared concern about the language suggesting the County "identify hours outside the workday for WASC members to meet with community representatives" (page 16) and suggested it be removed. There are potential capacity conflicts, as some Committee Members serve in volunteer roles.

7. Public Comment Period

Kathleen McGowan made a public comment regarding interim guidance that would affect project scoring. McGowan specifically highlighted that the updated guidance states projects cannot receive water supply benefit points for water diverted to a downstream project that has yet to be constructed. McGowan suggested that the interim guidance better reflect the need for augmented water supply in project scoring.

8. Voting Items

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

Member C. Nguyen made a motion for Chair Cadwallader and Vice Chair Trivedi to continue to serve in their roles. The motion was seconded by Member Santilena. The motion was approved with 15 votes in favor and zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

b) Approve the FY22-23 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Chair Cadwallader motioned to approve the FY22-23 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan with edits incorporated as suggested during discussion. Member C. Nguyen seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the plan with comments discussed with 14 votes in favor and 1 against (approved, see voting tracking sheet).

9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 21, from 1:00 - 3:00pm. See the SCWP website for details. Items proposed for the next meeting agenda include:

- a) Summary of feasibility studies, project concepts, and scientific studies submitted to SSMB WASC
- b) Vote to send Infrastructure Program projects to Scoring Committee

10. Adjournment

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

SOUTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - August 17, 2022

| | | Quorum Present | | | | Voting Items | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Member Type | Organization | Member | Voting? | Alternate | Voting? | Approve 4/20/22 Draft Meeting Minutes | Approve Craig Cadwallader and Geraldine Trivedi as a Chair and Vice-Chair for FY23-24 | Approval of FY22-23 SOEP with including the comments suggested during the meeting |
| Agency | LACFCD | Cung Nguyen | x | Ramy Gindi | | y | y | y |
| Agency | West Basin MWD | E.J. Caldwell | x | | | y | | |
| Agency | Water Replenishment District | Robert Beste | | Aimee Zhao | x | y | y | y |
| Agency | LAC Sanitation District | Kristen Ruffell | | Christopher Lapaz | x | y | y | y |
| Agency | LA Recreation & Parks | Cathie Santo Domingo | | Darryl Ford | x | y | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Resident | Caryn Mandelbaum | x | | | a | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter | Craig Cadwallader | x | Mary Simun | | y | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission | Marissa Caringella | x | | | y | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Fangary Law Group | Hany Fangary | x | | | y | y | y |
| Community Stakeholder | Los Angeles Conservation Corps | Wendy Butts | x | Bo Savage | | y | y | y |
| Municipal Members | Carson | Eliza Jane Whitman | | <i>Roland Jen</i> | | | | |
| Municipal Members | Los Angeles | Susie Santilena | x | Ryan Jackson | | y | y | y |
| Municipal Members | LAC Public Works | Thuan Nguyen | x | Jalaine Verdiner | | a | y | y |
| Municipal Members | Torrance | John Dettle | x | | | y | y | n |
| Municipal Members | EWMP: Beach Cities | Geraldine Trivedi | x | Doug Krauss | | y | y | y |
| Municipal Members | EWMP: Dominguez | Lauren Amimoto | x | Heecheol Kwon | | a | y | y |
| Municipal Members | EWMP: Peninsula | Ken Rukavina | x | David Wahba | | y | y | y |
| Watershed Coordinator | Heal the Bay | Nancy Shrodes | x | | | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total Non-Vacant Seats | | 17 | | | Yay (Y) | 13 | 15 | 14 |
| Total Voting Members Present | | 16 | | | Nay (N) | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Agency | | 5 | | | Abstain (A) | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Community Stakeholder | | 5 | | | Total | 16 | 15 | 15 |
| Municipal Members | | 6 | | | | Approved | Approved | Approved |

Other Attendees

- Anthony Vidal
- Brad Milner
- Brenda Ponton
- brett perry
- Caitlin Calfo
- Curtis Fang
- Danielle Chupa
- Doug Krauss
- Dweejaal (DJ) Torado
- Emily Ng
- Gustavo Orozco
- Heecheol Kwon
- Jacqueline Mak
- JALAINÉ VERDINER
- Kathleen McGowan
- Larry Tran - LACFCD
- Lauren Amimoto
- Lorena Matos
- Melanie Morita-Hu
- Michelle Staffield
- Mikaela Randolph
- phuoc le
- Richard Watson
- Ryan Jackson
- Ryan Kearns - CWE
- Ryanna Fossum
- sheila brice
- Thomas Lee
- Tori Klug (Regional Coord.)

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 | |
| 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

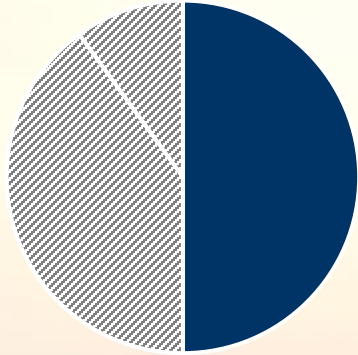
Each committee member should assign an **Alternate** to attend on behalf of the **Primary** in case of an absence.



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> | <i>\$ 984,200,000</i> | <i>\$ 669,433,471</i> | <i>41%</i> |



Stormwater Investments in SCWP

South Santa Monica Bay

Stormwater Investment Plan Preview ▼

| | Budget | | Projections | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | FY22-23 | FY23-24 | FY24-25 | FY25-26 | FY26-27 | Future Funding | TOTAL |
| A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected | \$17.7M | \$17.7M | \$17.7M | \$17.7M | \$17.7M | | \$88.3M |
| B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D) ⓘ | \$18M | \$18.3M | \$25.3M | \$31.6M | \$41.9M | | |
| C. Total Recommendation in Current SIP | \$2.1M | \$2.5M | \$1.8M | \$50.5k | \$46.5k | \$346k | \$6.5M |
| Total Allocated in Previous SIP(s) | \$15.3M | \$8.1M | \$9.6M | \$7.3M | \$200k | \$0 | \$40.6M |
| D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C) ⓘ | \$374k | \$661k | \$7.7M | \$14M | \$24.2M | \$41.7M | |
| E. Percent Allocated (C/B) ⓘ | 96% | 58% | 45% | 23% | 1% | | 53% |

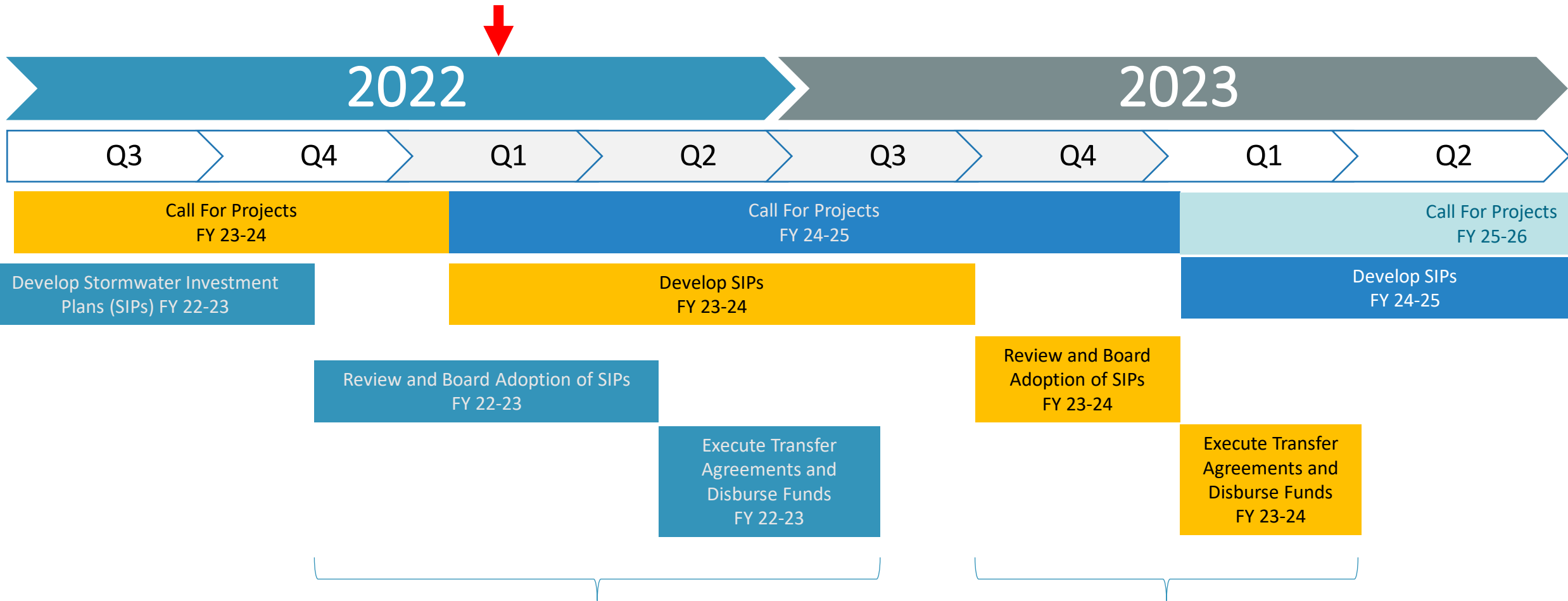
Recommendation
for FY22-23 SIP

Funds previously
allocated

Funds available for
FY23-24 SIP: \$7.7M



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%) | ~\$234M | 33* |
| Technical Resources Program (≤10%) | \$1.2M | 4 |
| Scientific Studies Program (≤5%) | ~\$ 8M | 4 |
| TOTAL | ~\$ 243M | 41 |

| 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 | 4 |
| Upper Los Angeles River | 13 |
| Upper San Gabriel River | 0 |
| Grand Total | 33 |

*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

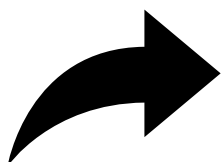


With stakeholder input, the District developed the 2022 Interim Guidance. Each component includes a brief vision for future guidance



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)



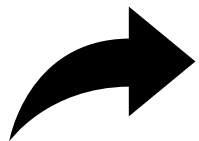
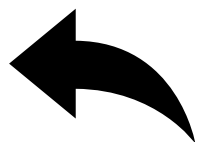
Other program aspects continue to be clarified or addressed through the Metrics and Monitoring Study and/or advancement of various regional studies



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 A + B | ENHANCED A + B + C | SUPERIOR A + B + C + D | CONSERVING A + B + C + D + E | RESTORATIVE 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:

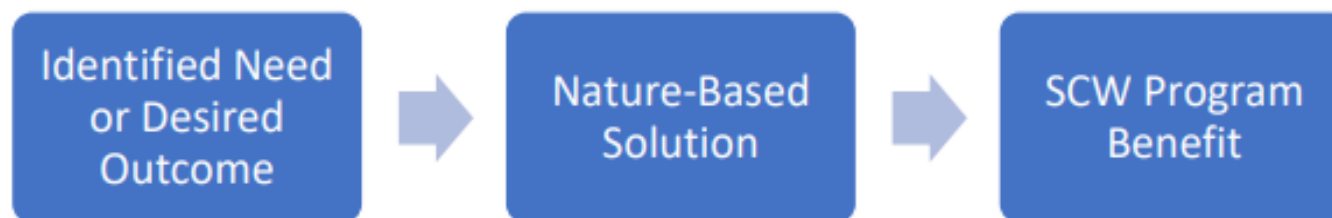
- Ask Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, public agencies, and other stakeholders would describe the preferred Water Supply Benefits in the Watershed Area (i.e., desired outcomes and watershed-specific goals).
- Invite informational presentations from agencies,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

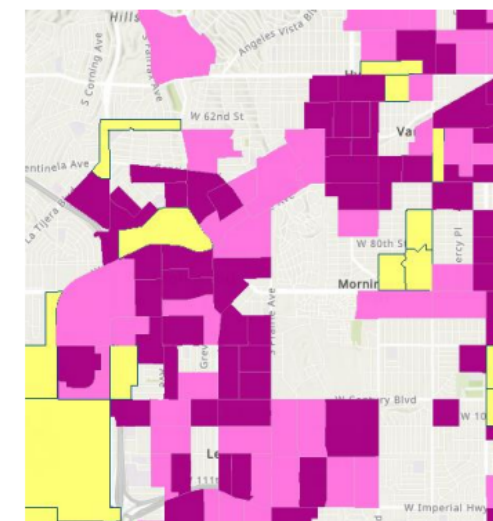
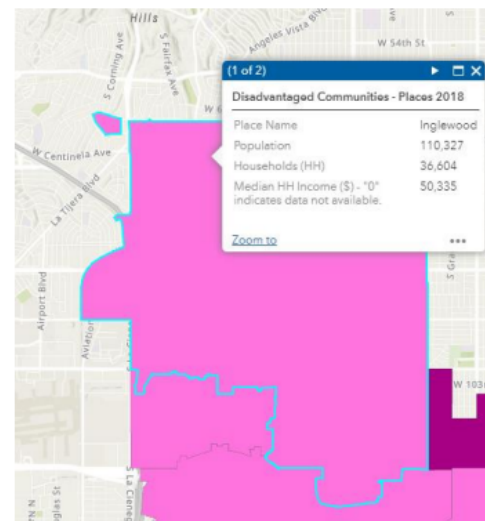
Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program



- 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:

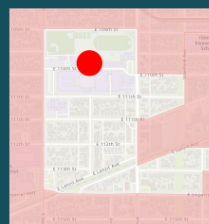
- Program project in SIP and add or affirm disadvantaged community benefit claim
- Program project in SIP and remove disadvantaged community benefit claim
- Not include project in SIP

How Can you as a WASC Validate Direct Benefits?

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

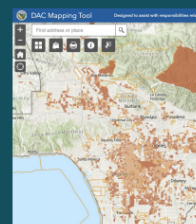
Other Possible Considerations:

Adjacency:

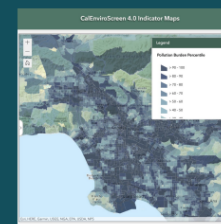


Some projects are near disadvantaged block groups.

External Datasets:



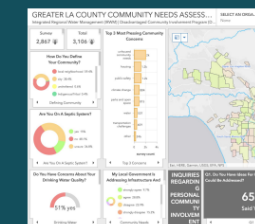
Other Census data (DWR DAC Mapping Tool)



[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

Details | Basemap | Share | Print | Measure | Bookmarks | Find address or place

Legend

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

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SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM HOME DASHBOARD REPORTING APPLY

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

A person is shown in profile on the left side of the frame, looking towards a whiteboard. The whiteboard is covered with numerous sticky notes of various colors (yellow, white, blue) and some diagrams. The person's hands are visible at the bottom, holding a small object. The background shows a window with blinds and a dark wall.

Discussion

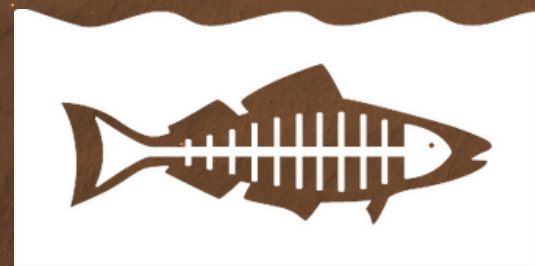
Contact the program team at:

www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov

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

SSMB Watershed Coordinator Update



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Draft SOEP '22-'23



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August 17, 2022

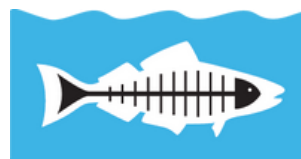
Today's Agenda

1 Introduction to the Team

2 Our Role

3 Draft SOEP 22-23

4 Group Discussion



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Meet the Team



Nicole Steele
Social Justice
Learning Institute



Jesse De La Cruz
Community Partner



Nancy Shrodes
Senior Watershed Specialist,
South Santa Monica Bay



Mikaela Randolph
Senior Watershed Specialist,
Central Santa Monica Bay



Ava Farriday
Watershed Program
Coordinator



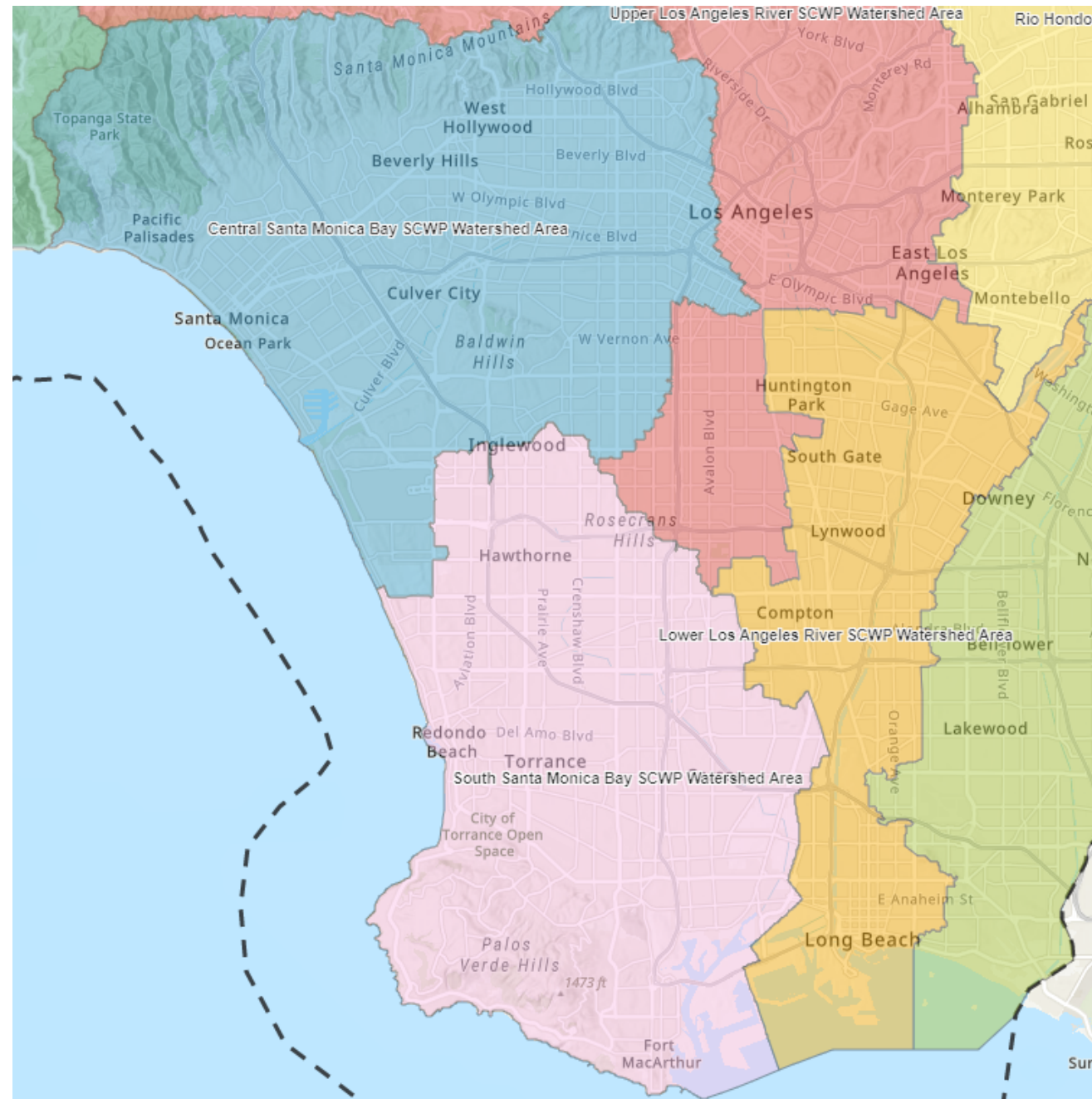
Annelisa Moe
Water Quality
Scientist



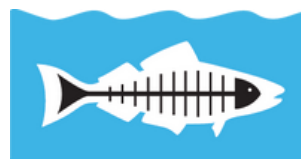
Katherine Pease
Science & Policy
Director



Watershed Coordination



Luckily, we are bordered by Central SMB and Lower LA River, both of which have WC's from SGA (one of whom splits Central with Mikaela), so there is a lot of collaborative work.



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Our Role

CONNECT

EDUCATE

ENGAGE



Watershed Coordinator Tasks

1

Facilitate Community Engagement

2

Identify and Develop Project Concepts

3

Work with Technical Assistance Teams

4

Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities

5

Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks

6

ID Cost-Share Partners

7

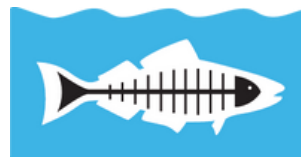
Leverage Funding

8

Local Stakeholder Education

9

Watershed Coordinator Collaboration

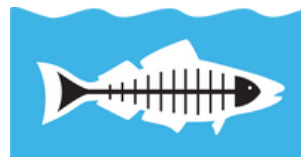


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Updating the Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan



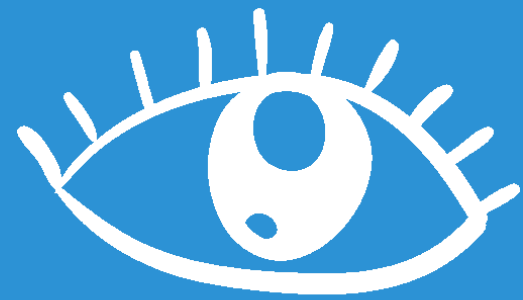
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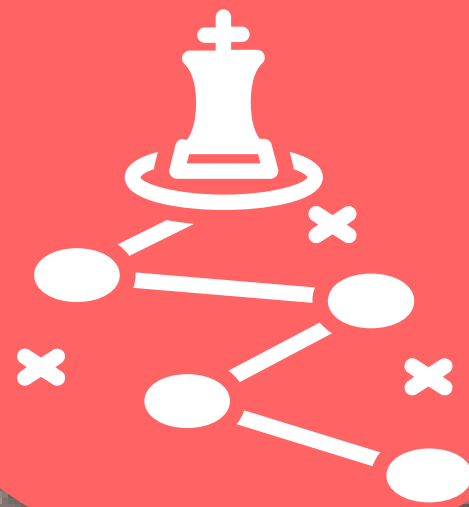
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Developing the Plan

Vision



Strategy



Evaluation
(Metrics)



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VISION

We want to ensure that all projects:

- are aligned with local priorities and needs
- have equitable access and opportunity, from a municipal and community perspective
- ultimately meet all four missions of the Safe Clean Water Program



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STRATEGY: 5 General Areas in the Draft SOEP

1

Community Engagement (stakeholders, municipalities, community groups)

2

Solicit Input and Connect to TRP/Program Elements

3

Ensure Diverse Perspectives are Included in Districts and WASCs

4

Identify and Ensure Involvement of Members of Disadvantaged and Underrepresented Communities

5

Ensure Educational Programming About Watershed Management, Ecological and Community Issues



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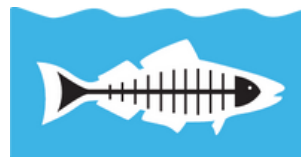


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Interested Party Stakeholder Power Mapping

1

- NGOs/CBOs & Coalitions
- Municipal & County SCW contacts
- LA Parks & Rec
- Indigenous Leaders
- City & Neighborhood Councils
- School Districts, Leaders, and PTAs
- Faith-Based Institutions
- Community Champions
- South Bay IRWM
- Watershed WMPs
- South Bay COG
- Businesses
- ID Non-Traditional Partners



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Communication 1

Tactics & Materials

- **Tactics**

- **Presence in the community**- attending existing community events and **leveraging existing programming** at Heal the Bay and Social Justice Learning Institute
- Utilizing our **social media platforms** to get the word out and engage with the public on a larger scale

- **Materials (Culturally Relevant and Accessible)**

- One pager, QR codes, surveys, partner sharing, event sign-up sheets, Activity Guides, HtB landing page
 - Multilingual



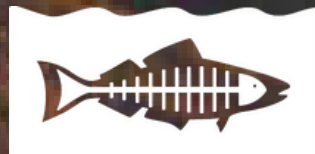
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NEW!

Materials: Quarterly Email Update Newsletters



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Communication 1 Tactics & Materials



Summer 2022 Newsletter

Dear Community Member,

Thank you for your interest in the latest regarding the [Safe, Clean Water Program](#).

I hope you are enjoying your summer! I appreciate you signing up for our quarterly newsletter. It includes updates about the most recent *Stormwater Investment Plans*, a recap and recording of the Schools & Stormwater symposium from May 19, information on how to transform school spaces for stormwater benefits, and how to participate in our [community needs survey](#) so we can better understand the needs and priorities in your community.

In other news, project applications for the next round of funding are due July 31. If you are considering applying and weren't able to get your project concept submitted, connect with us so you can get started for next year.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out!

Best,

[Nancy Shrodes](#), Watershed Coordinator for the South Santa Monica Bay

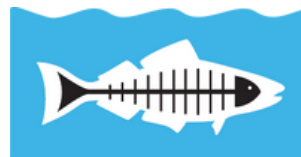


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Solicit Input & Connect

Community Engagement

- Tabling at Community Fairs and Festivals
- Door-to-Door Outreach
- Distribute Community Survey's
- Phone/Text Banking Outreach



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Funding Research

- Attend Webinars
- Sign up for Listservs
- Share with project proponents when applicable

Project Concept ID & Realization

- ◀ • Share Program elements like the Technical Resources Program and help entities that want to apply
- Participate in Technical Resources Program as needed and contribute expertise to help achieve a strong project application



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Project Concept ID & Realization

- ◀ • Engage with potential applicants!



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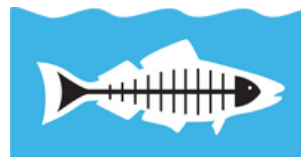


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Ensure Diverse Perspectives Shared

- **Public Awareness**
 - Social Media Campaign
 - Community Education
- **Community Participation**
 - Identify barriers for equitable access to public participation and ensure community voices are heard



Identify and Ensure Involvement of Underrepresented Communities

Public Awareness + Potential Project Solicitation

- On the Ground Grassroot Efforts
- Collaborations
- School Leadership Education & Outreach

Information Sharing

- Share Out Underrepresented Community Voices at WASC Meetings

Identify and Ensure Involvement of Underrepresented Communities

Public Awareness + Potential Project Solicitation

- Targeted outreach to cities not currently engaged in SCWP in underserved communities

NEW!



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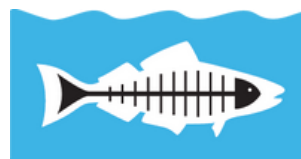


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Educational Programing about Watershed Management, Ecology and Community Issues

Education

- Educational Presentations
- Educational Presentations Trainings
- Host 2 Watershed Wide Events
- Instagram Live Interviews

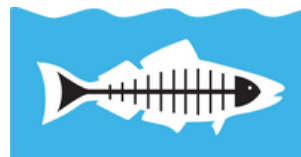


Educational Programing about Watershed Management, Ecology and Community Issues

Education

NEW!

- Community-Led Ecological Activity
- Bioblitz and Snapshot CalCoast
- Heal the Bay's Aquarium + potential partner aquaria in the watershed



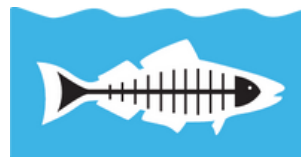
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Reporting Back

Via Quarterly Reports and WASC Meetings



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Discussion Prompts



- 1. Is there anything missing within our 5 strategies that you would like to see covered?**
- 2. Are there any concerns or reservations about any of the strategies and tactics we've reviewed?**
- 3. How else can the team help support the WASC as Watershed Coordinator?**



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Thank You!



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