### Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:00pm - 3:00pm WebEx Meeting

#### Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen, LA County Flood Control District (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)

\*Roland Jen, Carson (Municipal)

Susie Santilena, Los Angeles (Municipal)

Thuan Nguyen, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

John Dettle, Torrance (Municipal)

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

\*Heecheol Kwon, EWMP: Dominguez (Municipal)

Ken Rukavina, EWMP: Rancho Palos Verdes (Municipal)

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

#### Committee Members Not Present

E.J. Caldwell, West Basin (Agency)

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 September 21, 2022

District Staff presented the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Member Cung Nguyen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Daryl Ford. The Committee voted to approve the September 21, 2022 meeting minutes, with 15 members in favor and zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

Chair Cadwallader asked if there are any updates to report, regarding a question voiced during the September 21 meeting on Assembly Bill 2449 which deals with the Brown Act.

<sup>\*</sup>Committee Member Alternate

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#### 3. Committee Member and District Updates

Member Ken Rukavina shared gratitude and announced their retirement. This will be Member Rukavina's last WASC meeting. The Peninsula Cities have approved Principal Engineer Ron Dragoo (City of Palos Verdes) to act as the primary member for WASC meetings.

District Staff provided an update on Chair Cadwallader's question regarding Assembly 2449. Assembly Bill 2449 will not be effective until January 2023. Currently, the Board of Supervisors is still voting to move forward with Assembly Bill 361. Once they no longer approve Assembly Bill 361, District Staff will further examine next steps.

District Staff provided an update, noting:

- On October 18, 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. This will also act as an indicator for when in-person meetings may resume. District Staff noted that if the Board decides to no longer approve findings to continue teleconference meetings under Assembly Bill 361 and the region is still in a state of emergency, the WASC has the authority to make their own Assembly Bill 361 findings. District Staff can provide additional guidance if this occurs.
- On October 4, 2022, the Board of Supervisors voted to advance all nine Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs). The approved Board letter is available on the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) website under the resources drop down menu and this includes funding for the continuing projects. Project Managers of continuing projects from previous years should submit transfer agreement executions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY22-23).
- Scoring Committee reviews began on October 6. The SSMB Infrastructure Program (IP) projects are scheduled to be reviewed on November 9. The Scoring Committee schedule can be found on the SCWP website here.
- FY21-22 Q3 and Q4 Quarterly Reports for IP and SS developers were due on August 15, 2022. A summary of these reports will be discussed at a future meeting.
- FY22-23 Q1 quarterly report from the period of July through September is due November 14, 2022. Quarterly reports must still be completed even if there was no activity done on the project.
- The Q2 Watershed Coordinator Report is available on the SCWP website here.
- 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 Nancy Shrodes provided an update on recent and upcoming activities including:

- Reached 203 people through four presentations throughout Los Angeles County since the last SSMB WASC meeting.
- Conducted door-to-door outreach in Lawndale which included 193 doors knocked and over 300 flyers distributed,
- Distributed the Quarterly Newsletter to 77 individuals,
- Visited the Palos Verdes Peninsula Diversion Project with the Technical Resources team,
- Upcoming presentation with Central Santa Monica Bay and North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Coordinators to Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission,

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- Upcoming tour of Gardena Wetlands, and
- Planning a stormwater tour in the SSMB watershed area. If there are exemplary stormwater capture projects to highlight, please reach out to Watershed Coordinator Shrodes for recommendations.

#### 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. There were no public comments.

#### 6. Discussion Items:

#### a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Member Dettle disclosed that Beach Cities Watershed Committee met and discussed SCWP projects.

#### b) Regional Park Quarterly Report Summary for FY21-22, Q1 and Q2.

District Staff displayed a summary table of the quarterly reports. The summary table may be found on the SCWP website. Modifications, concerns, or delays are flagged in red on the Quarterly Report Summary Table. Full project-reports are found on the <u>Projects Map tab</u> of the SCWP website.

## i) Alondra Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project Los Angeles County Public Works / Representative: Kara Plourde

Kara Plourde (Los Angeles County Public Works) shared an update on the Alondra Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project. The modification noted on the quarterly report summary reflects a modification in schedule. Everything is currently on track and on-schedule. The project is scheduled to be proposed for Board approval in December. The draft partnership agreement is in place and will be sent to various partner cities following the Board's approval. Construction is still on-target to begin in the middle of 2023. Outreach events will take place in the early part of next year.

## ii) Torrance Airport Stormwater Basin, Phase 2 City of Torrance / Representative: John Dettle

Member Dettle shared an update on the Torrance Airport Stormwater Basin, Phase 2 project. Highlights include:

- The Consulting services agreement has been awarded to Tetra Tech.
- The Topographic survey utility mapping for the project has been completed.
- The draft outreach plan was received from Tetra Tech in May. Comments from the project team and Peninsula Cities have been sent back.
- First community outreach factsheet was issued July 14.
- Tetra Tech issued a \$50,000 deposit to Los Angeles County Sanitation District to perform the sewer capacity analysis. The analysis was completed and the proposed diversion is sufficient.
- The preliminary design report is currently being reviewed. The project team hopes to increase the score of the project by incorporating nature-based solutions, such as trees.
- The meeting was held between Tetra Tech and LASAN on April 26th to process required data.

Chair Cadwallader asked a question about nature-based solutions in the design plan. Member Dettle responded that when the preliminary design report is completed, it can be shared with the SSMB WASC.

#### c) Technical Resources Program Presentation

i) Holly Park Multi-Benefit Drought Resiliency and Stormwater Infiltration Project

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#### City of Hawthorne / Presenters: Dweejal (DJ) Torado, Heecheol Kwon

This project is to develop a feasibility study for the regional stormwater infiltration facility located at Holly Park beneath the open surface of the existing park surface.

Presenters DJ Torado (City of Hawthorne) and Member Heecheol Kwon gave a presentation on the Holly Park Multi-Benefit Drought Resiliency and Stormwater Infiltration project. Presenters provided an overview of the project, including project location, primary objective, and project benefits. The presentation can be found at the SCWP website here.

Member Thuan Nguyen asked a question about the infiltration rate and how much of the 85 percent higher volume the project will be capturing. Member Kwon clarified the project is containing a volume of about 2.7-acre feet for 24-hour rainfall duration.

Member Susie Santilena asked if this is the City of Hawthorne's first project for the SCWP. Member Kwon replied that it is the first time the City is applying for Measure W funding.

Member Santilena asked District Staff if it was possible to receive updates for Technical Resource Program projects, as they are not included in the quarterly reports. District Staff will be looking into placing this topic on the agenda for a future meeting.

Chair Cadwallader asked about turf restoration for the project's ball fields. Member Kwon stated the project currently plans to implement natural turf to reduce heat effect. The project will also incorporate natural, drought-tolerant plants and trees. Chair Cadwallader expressed support for natural turf.

#### d) Presentation on InfrastructureLA

Watershed Coordinator Shrodes presented on InfrastructureLA. The presentation may be found on the SCWP website here.

Watershed Coordinator Shrodes shared that InfrastructureLA is looking for multi-jurisdictional projects to fund. Applications could include projects bundled from a WASC, council of government, Water Management Plan, joint powers authority, city, or industry. The project must provide a funding match and be shovel-ready. More information can be found at <a href="https://infrastructurela.org/">https://infrastructurela.org/</a>

#### e) Summary of Community Survey Responses

Watershed Coordinator Shrodes provided a summary of preliminary responses received from the community survey collected between March 15, 2021 and 2022. Within the first contract, 41 surveys were collected from individuals in the SSMB watershed area. The presentation can be found on the SCWP website <a href="here">here</a>. Currently, there are a total of 419 survey responses, 71 of which are from SSMB watershed area. The survey is posted on the Heal the Bay website and QR codes were posted. The survey was also shared through door-to-door canvassing and tabling events. The survey is available in English and Spanish. Survey questions included topics such as water-related issues of greatest concern, community needs, and outdoor areas that are in need of beautification or improvement.

#### 7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

#### 8. Voting Items

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There were no voting items.

#### 9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 16, at 1:00p.m. See the SCWP website for details. Chair Cadwallader suggested condensing the meeting and discussing budgets and funding.

The December meeting will be cancelled and there will be either one longer meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> or two meetings in January, on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. District Staff will send a poll to determine times for the January meeting(s).

#### 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 - October 19, 2022						
		Quorum Present				Voting Items
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Vote to approve September 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Agency	LACFCD	Cung Nguyen	x	Ramy Gindi		У
Agency	West Basin MWD	E.J. Caldwell				
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Robert Beste		Aimee Zhao	Х	У
Agency	LAC Sanitation District	Kristen Ruffell		Christopher Lapaz	х	У
Agency	LA Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	х	У
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Caryn Mandelbaum	х			У
Community Stakeholder	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	Craig Cadwallader	х	Mary Simun		У
Community Stakeholder	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission	Marissa Caringella	Х			У
Community Stakeholder	Fangary Law Group	Hany Fangary	х			У
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	Wendy Butts	х	Bo Savage		У
Municipal Members	Carson	Eliza Jane Whitman		Roland Jen	х	У
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	х	Ryan Jackson		У
Municipal Members	LAC Public Works	Thuan Nguyen	х	Jalaine Verdiner		У
Municipal Members	Torrance	John Dettle	х			У
Municipal Members	EWMP: Beach Cities	Geraldine Trivedi	х	Doug Krauss		У
Municipal Members	EWMP: Dominguez	Lauren Amimoto		Heecheol Kwon	х	У
Municipal Members	EWMP: Peninsula	Ken Rukavina	х	David Wahba		У
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Nancy Shrodes	х			N/A
	Total Non-Vacant Seats	17			Yay (Y)	16
	16			Nay (N)	0	
	4			Abstain (A)	0	
	Community Stakeholder				Total	16
	Municipal Members					Approved

#### Other Attendees

Andrea Amend

Annelisa Moe

**Austine Racelis** 

Ava Farriday

benny kona

Brenda Ponton

brett perry

Call-in User\_3

Call-in User\_4

Caryn Mandelbaum

Chris Lapaz

Christine McLeod

DJ Torado Doug Krauss

Emily Ng

Eric Bonilla

gabriela gonzalez

Jacqueline Mak

John Dettle

Joyce Amaro

Kara Plourde

Katie Harrel

Mark Hall GLAmosquito

Mark Nguyen

Melanie Morita-Hu

Michael Scaduto

Michelle Staffield

Mike

Paige Bistromowitz

Ryanna Fossum (Regional Coordination)

Safe Clean Water LA

Susan Robinson

Tammy Takigawa

Thomas Lee

Tori Klug (Regional Coordination)

#### South Santa Monica Bay Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary

Watershed Area	(Multiple Items)
Call for Projects FY	FY20-21
Report Year	FY21-22

Full reports are available at:

https://portal.safecleanwaterla.org/scw-reporting/map

						Exhibit	Activity	Activity		Funds Awarded	Expenditures to
Row Labels	Project Developer	Report Period	Report Status	Active Phase List	Scope Modification	Modification	Concern	Delay	<b>Funding Projected</b>	to Date	Date
Infrastructure Project											
						A-10 Work					
						Schedule and					
Alondra Park Multi Benefit						Completion Date					
Stormwater Capture Project	Los Angeles County	Q1 (July - September)	Complete	Design	No	Modifications	N/A	No	\$30,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	\$0.00
		Q2 (October -									
		December)	Complete	Design	No	No	N/A	No	\$30,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	\$0.00
Torrance Airport Storm Water Basin											
Project, Phase 2	City of Torrance	Q1 (July - September)	Complete	Planning, Bid/Award	No	No	Yes	No	\$906,000.00	\$906,000.00	\$0.00
		Q2 (October -									
		December)	Complete	Bid/Award	No	No	N/A	No	\$906,000.00	\$906,000.00	\$0.00
Wilmington Q Street Local Urban	City of Los Angeles,										
Area Flow Management Project	Bureau of Sanitation	Q1 (July - September)	Complete	N/A	No	No	N/A	No	\$4,923,700.00	\$4,923,700.00	\$0.00
		Q2 (October -									
		December)	Complete	N/A	No	No	N/A	No	\$4,923,700.00	\$4,923,700.00	\$0.00
Scientific Study											
				Pre-Study and Work							
Recalculation of Wet Weather Zinc	City of Los Angeles			Planning, Study							
Criterion	Sanitation	Q1 (July - September)	Complete	Implementation	No	No	N/A	No	\$410,717.00	\$266,965.00	\$0.00
				Pre-Study and Work							
		Q2 (October -		Planning, Study							
		December)	Complete	Implementation	No	No	N/A	No	\$410,717.00	\$266,965.00	\$0.00



Safe Clean Water Program

Funding Program: Technical Resource Program

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Watershed Area: South Santa Monica Bay

Project Lead: City of Hawthorne

- Presenters:
  - Dweejal (DJ) Torado, Assistant Engineer, City of Hawthorne
  - Heecheol Kwon, Senior Engineer, City of Hawthorne

# **Project Overview**

Regional stormwater infiltration facility located at Holly Park beneath the open surface of the existing park surface.

- Primary Objective: Remove pollutants (metals & bacteria) through natural filtration and improve water quality of stormwater runoff to Dominguez Channel
- Secondary Objectives: Community recreation enhancement, including restoration of turf for affected ball fields and improvements to surface water quality
- Project Status: TRP
- Total Funding Requested: \$300,000.00





# Project Location

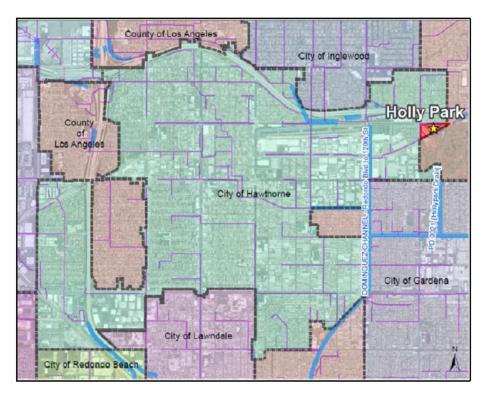


 South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area





# Project Location

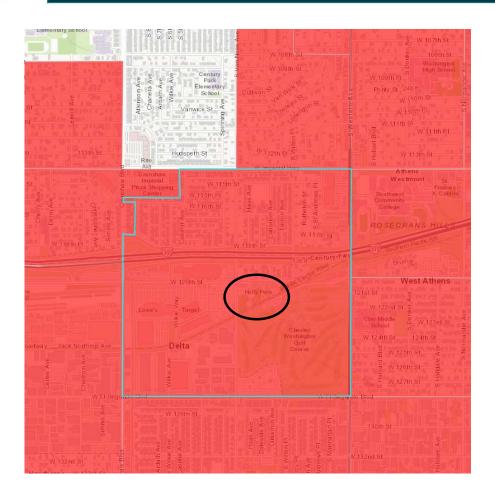


- Project Location: Holly Park, City of Hawthorne
- Capture Area: 53 acres





# Project Location



- Disadvantaged Communities that will benefit:
  - Holly Park is located within and is entirely surrounded by disadvantaged communities per the 2018 California Department of Water Resources (DWR) California Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool



- Why was the Project Location selected?
  - The 2016 EWMP, as well as the 2021 update, identifies cityowned parks, such as Holly Park, as optimal locations for stormwater improvement projects that are intended to address stormwater pollution in local waterways.
  - Proximity to the point of diversion from the LACFCD storm drain



- How was the Project developed?
  - The Project is a part of a greater regional watershed quality plan that, when implemented, intends to benefit multiple sectors including municipal, environmental, and recreational users.
  - The City of Hawthorne is a member of the Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Group (DC WMG) that has collaboratively created and actively manages the Dominguez Channel Watershed Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (DC EWMP).



- Which regional water management plan includes the proposed project?
  - Dominguez Channel Watershed Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (DC EWMP)
- Description of benefits to municipality:
  - Enhances flood retention to reduce peak urban runoff to protect the City's infrastructure
  - Reduces the overall surface water pollution and contamination of rivers, streams and oceans
  - Contributes to enhanced stormwater management practices in the region



- Description of benefits to Disadvantaged Communities
  - Improve the accessibility to recreational activities and green, open space in a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) where these resources are limited.
  - Access to a well-maintained park will be beneficial to residents' physical and mental wellbeing.
  - The Park benefits DAC as this part of the City has limited access to green, open space.
  - Bring nature-based enhancements to the park, providing both aesthetic and recreational enjoyment in an area that is highly urbanized and industrial.
  - Improve water quality and reduce flood risks for the local community.



## **Partners**

- Who are the implementation partners already identified?
  - City of Hawthorne
- What communities or groups have expressed support for the project?
  - Holly Park Neighborhood Association
  - Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Foundation
  - City will continue outreach through meetings, mailers, City website, etc.
  - Conduct public meetings to actively engage additional community members

Internal SCW Program Discussion



# Project Details

- Current Site conditions:
  - Over 11 acres, adequate space for the 0.5-acre stormwater retention facility.
  - Groundwater was not encountered in the borings of 51.5 feet below grade.





CITY OF HAWTHORNE - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - ENGINEERING DIVISION HOLLY PARK MULTI-BENEFIT DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND STORMWATER INFILTRATION PROJECT

SCALE: NTS CONCEPTUAL SUBSURFACE LAYOUT

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# **Project Details**

### Completed Studies/Analysis:

- A preliminary geotechnical investigation has been conducted at the site for evaluation of the percolation characteristics of the site soils.
- Study focused on exploratory drilling, soil sampling, test well installation, and field percolation testing.
- The study found that infiltration is technically feasible with 0.67 in/hr infiltration rate and that a dry well facility is recommended for the site at a depth of 26 feet which will maintain a clearance above groundwater greater than the minimum required clearance of 10 feet.
- Description of any alternatives considered:
  - Currently, the Project is proposed at Holly Park, but an alternative location is within the adjacent street (Van Ness Avenue from 120th Street to El Segundo Boulevard) for drywell green street alternative location.
  - Both Project locations will be considered in the feasibility study.



# Cost & Schedule

Phase	Description	Cost	Completion Date	
TRP	Feasibility study, geotechnical investigation, community engagement	\$300,000.00	2024	
Planning and Design	Early concept design, pre-project monitoring, site investigations, formal project design, intermediate and project completion audits, CEQA and other environmental impact studies and permitting	\$900,000.00	2027	
Construction & CM	TBD	\$7,000,000.00	2029	
	Project Lifespan		50 years	
TOTAL		\$8,200,000.00		

ТЗ



# Funding Request

Year	SCW Funding Requested	Phase	Efforts during Phase and Year
1	\$300,000.00	TRP	FY23-24
2			
3			
4			
5			
TOTAL	\$300,000.00		





# Leveraged Funds-A Collaborative Opportunity

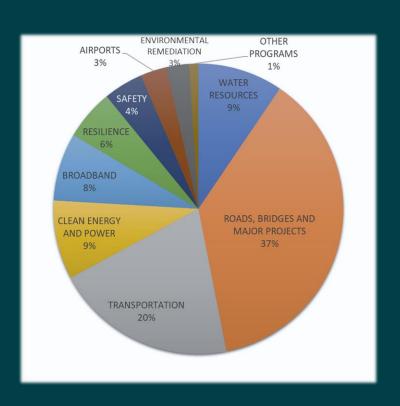
Nancy Shrodes, Watershed Coordinator







### **Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law**



- Opportunity of a lifetime for federal infrastructure funding and collaboration
- Plan to invest \$1 trillion over 5 years (through FY 2026)



#### **Longstanding Priorities**



Local Share of Funding



Economic Development



State of Good Repair



Cost-Effectiveness



Regional / National Significance



Project Readiness



Partnerships

#### **New Biden Administration Priorities**



Resiliency / Climate Change



Racial Equity



Rural Communities



Planning & Public Involvement



Multimodal Transportation





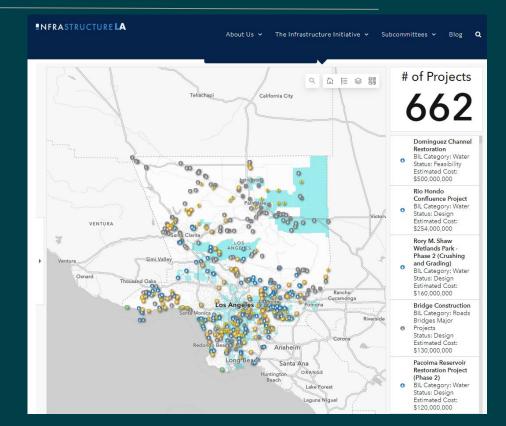
## Opporuntities (and some requirements)

### They are looking for multi-jurisdictional projects

- Application could come from
  - o Bundle in the WASC
  - Council of Governments (COG)
  - Watershed Management Plan (WMP)
  - Joint Power Authority (JPA)
  - o Cities
  - o Industries
- There must be a match
- Looking for shovel readiness



# INFRASTRUCTURELA – a collaborative platform



Infrastructurela.org



## Thank you!



How can we put our projects together to be more impactful?





# Community Survey Preliminary Results

Nancy Shrodes, Watershed Coordinator

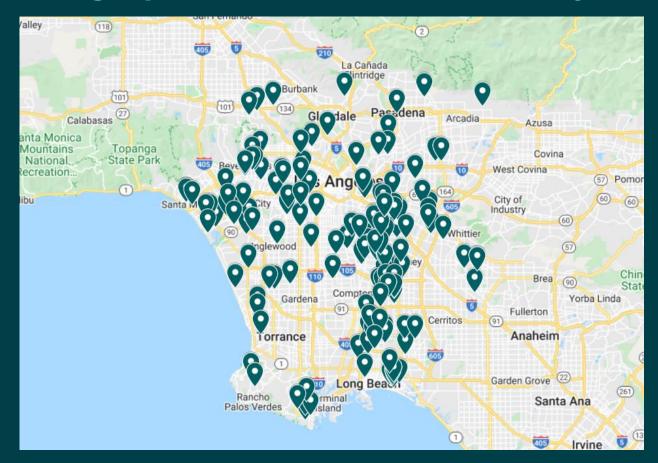




# WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE MORE OF IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

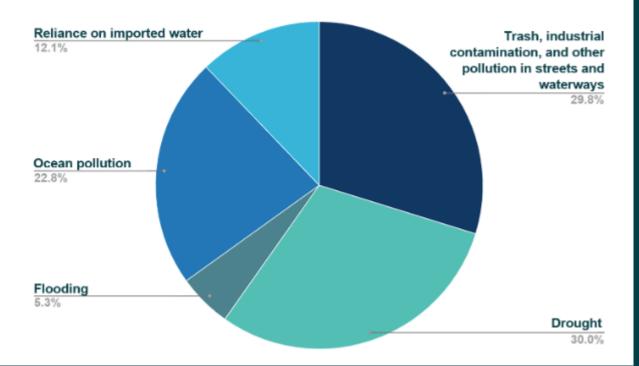


# **Geographic Distribution of Surveys**



# Question 1: What water-related issues are of greatest concern in your community? Choose up to 3.

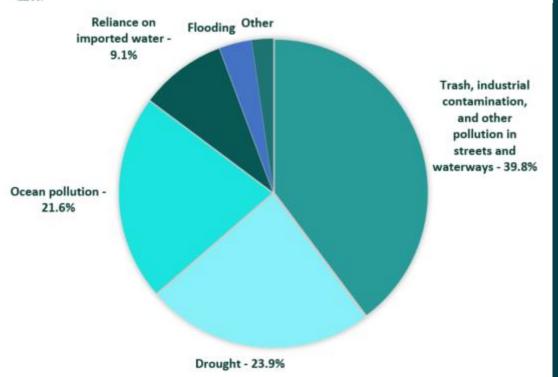
The pie chart below uses all survey responses collected to date.







Question 1: What water-related issues are of greatest concern in your community? Choose up to three.





Question 2: What do you want to see more of in your community? Choose up to three.

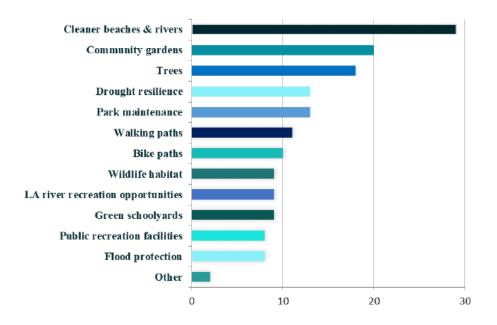


Figure 2: This bar chart represents what community members would like to see in their community. At the top of the list, we see clean beaches and rivers, at 29 answers (out of 159 responses from 41 surveys). The next highest include community gardens at 20 answers, trees at 18, drought resilience at 13 and park maintenance at 13. Note, some participants chose more than three answers.



Question 3: What is one **outdoor area** in your community that is in need of beautification or improvement? (Optional)

Need Identified	Number	Location
cleaner streets	12	Compton, Gardena, Wilmington
park maintenance	6	Compton, Hawthorne, Los Angeles
cleaner beaches	2	Torrance, San Pedro
cleaner parking lots	2	Wilmington, Hawthorne
cleaner train stations	1	Compton
cleaner railroad tracks	1	Gardena
Total responses:	24	

Figure 3: This table summarizes the 24 open-ended responses to this optional question. The top three categorical needs identified were cleaner streets, park maintenance, cleaner beaches, and cleaner parking lots.





Figure 4: The word cloud pictured above identifies the most common words used in the optional openended responses, with the top four most frequently used words of people, parks, cleanliness, and quietness. Community events called out by name are the wine festival, the jazz festival and air shows.

