

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



Thursday, December 8, 2022
1:00pm – 3:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)
David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency), Chair
Craig Jones, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency)
Chad Christensen, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Agency)
Madelyn Glickfeld, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability UCLA (Community), Vice-Chair
Kirsten James, Resident (Community)
Tevin Schmitt, Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County (Community)
Jessica Forte, Agoura Hills (Municipal)
Alex Farassati, Calabasas (Municipal)
Joe Bellomo, Hidden Hills (Municipal)
Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Mark Johnson, Malibu (Municipal)
Roxanne Hughes, Westlake Village (Municipal)
Melina Sempill Watts, Melina Sempill Watts Inc. (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

Committee Members Not Present:

Russ Bryden, LA County Waterworks Districts (Agency)
Doug Marian, California Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association (Community)
Elias Garcia, LA Area Chamber of Commerce (Community)
Sophie Freeman, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

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

1. Welcome and Introduction

LA County Flood Control District (District) staff provided a brief WebEx tutorial. David Pedersen, Chair of the North Santa Monica Bay (NSMB) WASC, welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. All Committee Members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2022

Chair Pedersen presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Member Cung Nguyen motioned to approve, seconded by Member Chad Christensen. The WASC voted to approve the November 10, 2022 meeting minutes with 10 votes in favor and 4 members absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

District staff provided an update, noting:

- On November 15, 2022, 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. The Board is reviewing its position every 30 days. If the Board decides to no longer approve findings to continue teleconferencing meetings under AB 361, the WASC has the authority to make their own AB 361 findings as long as a state of emergency exists. District staff will provide additional guidance if and when that occurs.

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- The Metrics and Monitoring Study Workshops (MMS) were conducted on November 16 and November 17. Details are available on the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) Website under the Resources dropdown menu.
- An email was sent out to the project developers for fund Transfer Agreements and fund Transfer Agreement addendums for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY22-23) fund disbursements.
- FY22-23 Q1 Quarterly Reports from the period of July to October were due November 14, 2022. Quarterly reports must still be completed even if there was no activity done on the project.
- The WASC will discuss FY21-22 Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 reports in early 2023.
- Annual report functionality is now available on the SCWP Reporting Module. District staff sent an email to project developers as a notification of the new annual report functionality. Projects and studies funded in Round 1 and Round 2 of Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) are required to submit their first FY21-22 annual progress report by December 31, 2022.
- 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 five 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.

Member Bruce Hamamoto invited and introduced Allen Ma to provide an update on the Cornell Mulholland Highway Green Improvement Project, who shared that there was an opportunity to correct the project's application to meet the eligible scoring level. After submitting modifications, the Scoring Committee gave the project a score of 63 points, meeting the 60-point Threshold Score. Ma commented that it has been challenging to comply with the stakeholder support component of the scoring criteria.

District staff announced that Lindsey P. Horvath is the new supervisor representing District 3 on the LA County Board of Supervisors. The current District Supervisor representative will be stepping down from the WASC and it is likely that the new office will find a replacement. District staff will be in communication as the transition occurs.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Melina Watts provided an update about recent efforts in facilitating community engagement, identifying and developing project concepts, working with technical assistants, facilitating identification and representation of community priorities, integrating priorities through partnerships and extensive networks, leveraging funding and cost-share partners, and continuing educational efforts. Watershed Coordinator Watts requested input from Committee Members about outreach and engagement efforts planned for 2023. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

Watershed Coordinator announced that Member Alex Farassati was selected as the first NSMB Watershed Prize winner for the City of Calabasas. Member Farassati shared their upcoming retirement from City of Calabasas and thanked the WASC for the opportunity to participate. Member Farassati's position will be filled by Alba Lemus.

Vice-Chair Madelyn Glickfeld inquired about the process of being reappointed as a member of the WASC. District staff reminded that WASC participation includes a three-year term. If other parties are interested, they may submit an interest form through the Commission Services Division online portal.

Vice-Chair Glickfeld shared that at the Metrics and Monitoring Study workshop, an upcoming study was presented that will evaluate Watershed Areas that are struggling to get the necessary qualifications for smaller projects. District staff noted that will be discussed under Agenda Item 6C.

Member Farassati announced that Watershed Coordinator Watts will be the recipient of the City of Calabasas Environmental Commission's Environmental Excellency Award.

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5. Public Comment Period

No comment cards were received before the meeting. There were no public comments.

6. Discussion

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no Ex Parte communication disclosures.

b) Regional Pathogen Reduction Study Update

Richard Watson, Gateway Water Management Authority

Richard Watson (Gateway Water Management Authority) shared that the Regional Water Board staff have expressed support for the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study. There is agreement that the current fecal indicator bacteria standards are hard to meet. This will be reviewed further by the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) and the State Water Board into the Spring of 2023.

There are now five Watershed Areas that have supported the study. The Central Santa Monica Bay, Lower San Gabriel River, Rio Hondo, and Upper Los Angeles River WASCs have not yet included the study in their SIPs. About 68% of the budget is allocated to task 2, which is the monitoring and laboratory work. Because of the high cost of this task, there will be no lab work done in areas that are not helping fund the study.

Early in the development of the study, the applicant identified the need for involving a Stakeholder Committee inclusive of people from the watershed areas that contributed funding, the Regional Water Board, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). After SIPs are approved in early 2023, the Gateway Water Management Authority plan to initiate the stakeholder process and set the final scope of work. Currently, the proposed scope of work shows sample areas and lists the pathogens to be tested. The project proposal is available online to the public for review.

Upon inquiry, Watson specified that the Regional Water Board staff endorsed the study during a public hearing in March 2022. Additionally, Watson clarified that if by end of June 2023, approval from the remaining Watershed Areas has not been received, the project will move forward without those areas in its scope. Consequently, the Watershed Areas that do not participate will not receive any of the project benefits.

c) Report on Metrics and Monitoring Study Public Workshop

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/metrics-and-monitoring-study/>

A fact sheet on the Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) and presentation slides and a recording from the November workshop are available at the link above. The fact sheet includes a rundown of the MMS process and key tasks, an initial program review and analysis, and white paper on equity in stormwater investments. Additional workshops are tentatively scheduled for January and April of 2023. All Watershed Areas should be engaged in the MMS processes. District staff invited Committee Members who attended the workshop to share their key takeaways.

Vice-Chair Glickfeld noted the difficulties this WASC has encountered with the existing scoring criteria. The MMS includes a component focused on WASCs that are in similar conditions as NSMB. Vice-Chair Glickfeld urged Committee Members to listen to available recording on SCW website and participate in future discussions.

District staff are still reviewing the questions that they received during the first workshops, and responses will be posted online when available. The workshops planned for 2023 represent the next opportunities for future participation. Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination), a member of the MMS Consultant Team, also encouraged Committee Members to participate in the upcoming workshops.

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d) Presentation on potential low-cost nature-based solution projects

Melina Watts, North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Coordinator

Watershed Coordinator Watts gave a presentation on potential low-cost nature-based solution projects, noting that there are many opportunities for developing of these types of projects. A few specific nature-based solution project opportunities relevant to the North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area were described briefly. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

Member Mark Johnson inquired about ways for this WASC to move along with some of the project concepts Watershed Coordinator Watts presented. Watershed Coordinator Watts noted that there are a lot of opportunities in the area, along with appropriate funding. Consequently, the next step is defining specific interests to begin developing corresponding project concepts.

The WASC discussed how not all nature-based solutions result in water quality improvements. Antos emphasized that there are some issues which cannot be directly overcome with SCWP Infrastructure Program funding, however, there are ways to leverage other resources with the relationships and capacities that this WASC has been developing over the years. Antos noted that imperviousness is relatively less prevalent in this Watershed Area, which is why the funding for the Regional Program here is limited.

Member Craig Jones expressed interest in developing a partnership for seed banking to replenish the demonstration garden and recommended partnering with grassroot organizations.

7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

8. Voting Items

There were no voting items.

9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 1:00pm – 3:00pm. See SCWP website for meeting details. Items on the agenda include:

- a) Findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings under Assembly Bill 361 (if needed)
- b) Summary of Round 2 submitted Quarterly Reports

10. Adjournment

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

NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - December 08, 2022

		Quorum Present				Items
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Vote to Approve November 10, 2022 WASC Meeting Minutes
Agency	LACFCD	Cung Nguyen	x	Ramy Gindi		y
Agency	LAC Waterworks District	Russ Bryden				
Agency	MRCA	Chad Christensen	x			y
Agency	LVMWD	David Pedersen	x	Craig Jones		y
Agency	LVMWD	David Pedersen		Craig Jones	x	y
Community Stakeholder	UCLA	Madelyn Glickfeld	x	Richard Ambrose		
Community Stakeholder	CPMCA	Doug Marian				
Community Stakeholder	LA Area Chamber of Commerce	Elias Garcia				
Community Stakeholder	Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County	Tevin Schmitt	x			y
Community Stakeholder	Community Stakeholder	Kirsten James	x			y
Municipal Members	Agoura Hills	Jessica Forte	x	Kelly Fisher		y
Municipal Members	Calabasas	Alex Farassati	x	Alba Lemus		
Municipal Members	Hidden Hills	Joe Bellomo	x	Kerry Kallman		y
Municipal Members	LAC Supervisor District 3	Sophie Freeman				
Municipal Members	LAC Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Allen Ma		y
Municipal Members	Malibu	Mark Johnson	x	Christine Shen		y
Municipal Members	Westlake Village	Roxanne Hughes	x	Phillipe Eskandar		
Watershed Coordinator	Melina S. Watts Consulting, LLC	Melina Watts	x			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yay (Y)	10
Total Voting Members Present		13			Nay (N)	0
Agency		4			Abstain (A)	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	10
Municipal Members		6				Approved

Other Attendees

Allen Ma
 Andrea Prado Iriarte
 Andy Coradeschi
 Annelisa Moe
 Jenny Chau
 John Mendoza
 Justin Yee
 Kayla Urbina
 Kelly Fisher
 Mayra Martinez
 Richard Ambrose
 Richard Watson
 Stacy Luell



Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee North Santa Monica Bay

Date Thursday, December 8, 2022
Time 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Location WebEx Meeting – See below or [SCW website](#) for WebEx Meeting details

WebEx Meeting Details

Committee members and members of the public may participate by joining the WebEx Meeting below. Please refer to the [Video Conferencing Guidelines](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water Program website for additional information.

Join via WebEx Events (recommended)

Event number: 2489 484 0189

Password: scwp

<https://lacountydpw.webex.com/lacountydpw/onstage/g.php?MTID=e09f7d1611edfce5734ed696e1e479171>

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll or

+1-213-306-3065 United States Toll (Los Angeles)

Access Code: 2489 484 0189

Public Comment

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

Please complete the [Comment Card Form](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water website and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting.

Para solicitudes de comentarios públicos en español, envíe un correo electrónico a SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov o lláme al (833) 275-7297 dos días antes de la reunión para asegurarse de que haya un traductor presente para transmitir el comentario para consideración del comité.

Requests for accommodations may be made to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov or by telephone to 833-ASK-SCWP at least three working days in advance of the meeting.

Supporting documentation will be available on the Safe, Clean Water website at www.safecleanwaterla.org.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2022
- 3) Committee Member and District Updates
- 4) Watershed Coordinator Updates
- 5) Public Comment Period
- 6) Discussion
 - a) Ex Parte Communications Disclosure
 - b) Regional Pathogen Reduction Study Update
 - Richard Watson, Gateway Water Management Authority
 - c) Report on Metrics and Monitoring Study Public Workshop
 - <https://safecleanwaterla.org/metrics-and-monitoring-study/>
 - d) Presentation on potential low-cost nature-based solution projects
 - Melina Watts, North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Coordinator
- 7) Public Comment Period
- 8) Voting Items
 - a) None.
- 9) Items for Next Agenda
 - a) Findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings under Assembly Bill 361 (if needed)
 - b) Summary of Round 2 submitted Quarterly Reports
- 10) Adjournment



Next Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2023 (TBD)
1:00pm – 3:00pm
WebEx Meeting – See [SCW website](#) for meeting details

Requests for accommodations may be made to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov or by telephone to 833-ASK-SCWP at least three working days in advance of the meeting.

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SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee Update

By Melina Sempill Watts

Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

December 8, 2022

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County

An aerial photograph showing a vast expanse of water with a complex network of canals or ditches. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the canals create a grid-like pattern across the landscape. The perspective is from a high angle, looking down at the water.

Measure W: The Safe Clean Water Program provides local, dedicated funding to increase our local water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health.



1. Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP

Coordinated

- Nature Based Solutions Success Stories Conference, 105 people registered
- Coordinated Nature Based Solutions Success Stories Calabasas and Agoura Hills Creek Restoration Tour and Santa Barbara Creeks Division Sites Tour
 - Wrote articles on keynote speaker Erica Gies for *Daily Valley News*, *Happenings*, *Eco News*, and on Jessica Hall and on Nadine Salas
 - Published about events in local city calendars, in *One Topanga*, David Nahai, Meena Westford, Elizabeth Crosson, Hope Sexton, Elected Officials + Staff etc. Sent invites out to newsletter readers
 - First ever North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Prize, wrote about prize winner Alex Farassati for *Daily Valley News*

2. Identify and Develop Project Concepts

Attempted to develop multi-agency multi-city Measure W application; cannot find project proponent for shared application

Inspired by Miguel Luna, Board of Directors, Metropolitan Water District, working on open space acquisition project ideas

1.

As requested by Austine Racelis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, working to assemble Nature Based Solutions project list

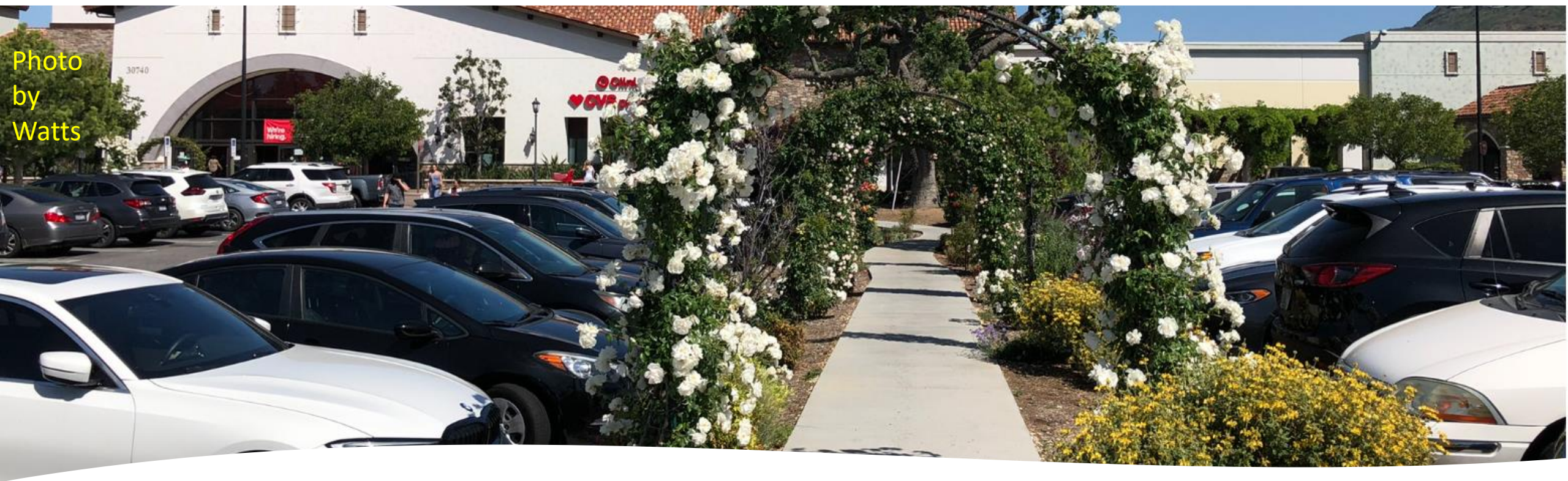
Aiming to connect Deborah Bloome and Devon Provo, ARLA with Kirk Allen to talk ARLA study

Talked with Chad Christensen at MRCA about a potential Measure W application, but...



Photo by MRCA

Photo
by
Watts



3. Work with Technical Assistance Teams

Helped Westlake Village with presentation template for talk about TRP application.

If the NSMB WASC could allocate a greater % of our funding to TRPs, this would solve our application gap in a few years.

4. Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities

- ARLA cistern study; could become Measure W application
- Working on open space acquisition ideas
- Working on Nature Based Solutions project list
- Writing Metropolitan Water District Conservation Innovation application with LAUSD Team for Topanga Elementary School for small to cisterns; possible IRWM
- Attended OWLA Broader Coalition Meeting
- Attended Safe Clean Water Program Metrics & Monitoring Study - Public Workshop – evening
- Talked creek restoration with Tessa Charnofsky
- Per idea of Craig Jones, tried to connect ARLA to Marilee Kuhlman at **Urban Water Group, Inc.** to potentially create budget / project template for cisterns' install costs
- 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Funding Grant?
- Tried to set up measure W application with ARLA as lead



5. Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks

- Writing MWD CI application with LAUSD Team for TES for small to cisterns
- Sharing information broadly, as this article via social media, LAT 11/7 article on Desal
- Guests at Nature Based Solutions Success Stories indicates how extensive networks are...
 - Writer Erica Gies, in Canada /San Francisco
 - Nadine Salas, Poet/Conservationist, Santa Cruz, California
 - Ben Cameron and Dr. Jill Murray, Santa Barbara Creeks Visision
 - Jessica Hall, Landscape Architect, Humboldt County
 - Ann Riley, Creek Restoration project manager, Bay area

Support from,

- California Watershed Network, Center for Watershed Health, Santa Barbara Creeks Division and Heal the Bay



Photo by Watts



Photo by Watts

6. Cost-Share Partners

- Working to connect Megan Cooper, Deputy Regional Manager, Coastal Commission with Alex Farassati, City of Calabasas
- Exploring Wildlife Conservation Board funding for City of Calabasas
- Exploring meeting with State Parks, possibly NPS, possibly MRCA to support funding work
- CA Watershed Network paid for 1 of 2 honorariums for two 2 writers at conference
- Attended Nov 14 Bipartisan Infrastructure event

7. Leverage Funding

- See item 6

8. Local Stakeholder Education

- **See Item 1.**

9. Watershed Coordinator Collaboration



- Working with Watershed Coordinators Schools/ Committee , looking to see if we can better articulate community hopes for Measure W in Education / Outreach with new funding from Measure W
- Attended event showcasing watershed work by Rajendra Singh, Rajasthan, India, “Clean flowing rivers must be a human right.”

What Do You Want for NSMB Education / Outreach in 2023?

A. State of the Watershed Event

- Online?
- In person?

B. WaterTalks Workshop (Inspired by Upper Santa Clara River,) for agencies and electeds

C. North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Tour

D. Local Water Supply Opportunities Event

E. CicNSMBVia (Inspired by CicLaVia)

- A. To include Pure Water Project and other watershed sites as key points



**Winner,
First North
Santa Monica
Bay Watershed
Prize,
Alex Farassati,
City of
Calabasas**

12/6/22, 11:41 AM

Alex Farassati, Sustainability Champion for the City of Calabasas - Valley News Group

Valley News Group

Warner Center News Valley Vantage CALABASAS ENTERPRISE ENCINO ENTERPRISE North Valley News

Alex Farassati, Sustainability Champion for the City of Calabasas

by VNG / November 10, 2022

By Melina Sempill Watts



In Calabasas, both the City Council and voters have pushed towards sustainability...but what does it take to actually get there?

The answer is not a what, but a who: Alex Farassati, Environmental Services Manager.



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

**Nature Based Solutions Ideas: Opening the Conversation
December 8, 2022**

By Melina Sempill Watts
Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County



Measure W says,

Nature-Based Solutions: A Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain; infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include relying predominantly on soils and vegetation; increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas; **protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains; creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands;** creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; and enhancing soil through composting, mulching, and, planting trees and vegetation, with preference for native species. Nature-Based Solutions may also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon; supporting biodiversity; providing shade; and improving quality of life for surrounding communities. Nature-Based Solutions include Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity. Nature-Based Solutions include NatureMimicking Solutions. Nature-Mimicking Solutions.



Photo by Watts

Nature Based Solutions Success Stories: Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Austine Racelis, Associate Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works, asked for a list of Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities...**when Coordinator worked on a similar list for the NSMB IRWM in past years the list was at 202 projects.**

So... we'll start with some that have been suggested over the past 18 months.

Nature Based Solutions Success Stories: Growing Water Quality Conversations

Can we get Erica Gies to talk about the hyporheic zone to L.A. Regional Water Quality Control Board?

“After this intervention, researchers found a total of 1900 pollutants in water coming into the restored stream. Tracking this water as it went into the restored Thornton Stream, they found that “Just flowing downstream reduced about 17 percent of the chemicals. The short stretch of the hyporheic reduced 59 percent, and the long stretch, 78 percent.”

– Erica Gies, *Water Always Wins*

“...Lynch penciled out the cost and found that piece was just \$300,000 out of the two sites’ combined \$10.5 million budget. She also argued that if the restorationists could repair a stream’s natural systems, the creek might use and move sediment on its own, ultimately saving money by reducing the need to spend an average of \$1 million a year dredging a nearby stormwater pond.”

– Erica Gies, *Water Always Wins*



*Can we get
Dr. Jill Murray,
Santa Barbara
Creeks Division
to talk about the
balancing
swimmable
surfable water
and ecosystem
restoration and
water quality
with L.A.
Regional Water
Quality Control
Board?*

Nature Based Solutions Success Stories: Growing Water Quality Conversations



Photo by Watts

Dr. Patrick Monfort and co-authors looked at water quality in *Prophète Beach* in Marseilles, France and discovered that human health water quality problems are driven not mainly by upstream watershed impacts but primarily by fecal shedding from swimmers.

Dr. Patrick Monfort has offered to send his most English-fluent colleagues to talk to Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to discuss this research.

Can we listen?



**Nature Based
Solutions
Success Stories:
Growing
Water Quality
Conversations**

Photo by *Tourisme Marseilles*

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

A photograph of a sunset over a mountain range. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and lens flare effects. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and some clouds. The mountains in the foreground are silhouetted against the bright light.

To create a current Nature Based Solutions Project List we need to differentiate between,

1. Project concepts
2. Projects with interested proponents
3. Projects with committed proponents

Please do not infer that projects in this discussion are in category 2 or 3 unless explicitly stated; this is an ideas conversation.

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Support **Native Plants in a Box** project at TreePeople with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Fund garden-by-garden nativescaping to conserve water and teach fire safe planting and increase water supply reliability

Funded by grants from Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and ARLA for two years; the plan is that this will become self-sustaining.



Photo by LVMWD

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities



Calabasas Green Streets Project

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

- Support **Santa Monica Mountains Fund watershed project to grow and replace riparian habitat where Woolsey fire burned**
- Support **planting at Woolsey fire sites to reduce sediment**
- **Santa Monica Mountains Fund nursery** run by Antonio Sanchez; can be used watershed wide.
 - **Workplace Development Opportunity**
 - **DAC Opportunity**
 - **Watershed Education Opportunity for Paid Interns + Classroom Field Trips**



Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

**Malibu Creek Watershed
Ecosystem Restoration Project**

Result of USACE Study

**Rindge Dam + Removal of 10 (maybe 9, now)
Upstream Fish Migration Barriers**



And...



Measure W: Open Space Acquisition + Water Quality

Photo by MRCA

Looking for open space acquisition opportunities

- Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority
- California Department of State Parks
- National Park Service
- Westlake Village

The pre-emptive strike approach: if we don't build on it, we aren't creating water quality problems.

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Potential Project:

The Jim Morrison Creek Restoration Project

Site of former Topanga Corral, Bridge and Creek Restoration across the Street at MRCA Property

RCDSMM idea.



Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

**Creek restoration within State Parks
where creek has undercutting**

Photo not available

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Potential project:

**Malibu Creek Restoration
Parallel to Downtown Malibu**

Discussed many years ago; not a “live”
project.



Photo by Watts



Photo by Watts

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Potential project:

**Headwaters of Topanga
Creek**

Would suggest as an MRCA
or an RCDSMM project.

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

Potential project:

Potential Creek Restoration in Lake Lindero Golf Course

No discussions underway.



Photo by
Greenskeeper.org

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities

California Department State Parks,
National Park Service and MRCA

**Potential creek restoration project at
King Gillette Ranch where pond is.**

Discussion from past years;
Project not alive currently.



Photo by MRCA

Nature Based Solutions Project Opportunities: Idea Suggested at South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Tour on Saturday

Danielle Marquez, Board of Directors, Willows Preserve
**Suggesting Dominguez Channel
Creek Restoration Project**





Measure W Revenue Stream for Stream Restoration and Other Natural Solutions

- protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains
- creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands

With few exceptions, scoring system is not allowing projects that fit these definitions to win.

Many voters thought Measure W would help support nature.

Is 2023 the year to change the system to allow nature to win?

SO MUCH ADDITIONAL FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS...

From the California Legislative Analyst's Office, 2022:

*“The 2022-23 budget package provides a total of **\$23.7 billion** from various fund sources—the General Fund, bond funds, and a number of special funds—for programs administered by the California Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agencies.*

- California Coastal Commission, \$715 million over the next 2 years
- Wildlife Conservation Board, \$853 million over the next 2 years
- Federal BiPartisan Infrastructure – a ½ a Billion for L.A. County, a billion??

California 2020-2023 Natural Resources Agency Funding

Natural Resources Budget Summary

(Dollars in Millions)

	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Estimated	2022-23 Enacted	Change From 2021-22	
				Amount	Percent
Totals	\$11,088	\$20,481	\$16,239	-\$4,243	-21%
By Department					
Water Resources ^a	\$4,020	\$6,986	\$4,359	-\$2,628	-38%
Forestry and Fire Protection	2,132	3,382	3,401	19	1
General obligation bond debt service	1,296	1,289	1,268	-21	-2
Parks and Recreation	1,260	1,899	1,480	-418	-22
Energy Commission	740	2,938	1,450	-1,488	-51
Fish and Wildlife	450	1,059	890	-168	-16
Wildlife Conservation Board	329	374	853	478	128
Conservation	163	429	337	-92	-21
Conservation Corps	155	174	279	106	61
Natural Resources Agency	87	835	704	-131	-16
Coastal Conservancy	74	156	715	559	358
State Lands Commission	51	356	51	-305	-86
Other resources programs ^b	4,351	604	451	-153	-25

**Nature
Based
Solutions
are a part
of our
cultural
DNA in the
Santa
Monica
Mountains.**

**Biodiversity
's nature.**



Photo by State Parks