

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



Tuesday, February 28, 2023
9:00am – 12:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

*Mark Beltran, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)
E.J. Caldwell, West Basin Metropolitan Water District (Agency)
Art Castro, LA Department of Water and Power (Agency)
*Hubertus Cox, LA City Sanitation and Environment (Agency)
*Darryl Ford, LA City Recreation & Parks (Agency)
Rita Kampalath, LA County Chief Sustainability Office (Community), Vice-Chair
Alysen Weiland, PSOMAS (Community)
*Gloria Medina, The Solutions Project/SCOPE (Community)
*Maggie Gardner, LA Waterkeeper (Community)
Edgar Campos, T.R.U.S.T. South LA (Community)
Josette Descalzo, Beverly Hills (Municipal)
Sean Singletary, Culver City (Municipal)
Roberto Perez, Los Angeles (Municipal)
Rafael Prieto, Los Angeles (Municipal)
Susie Santilena, Los Angeles (Municipal), Chair
Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Curtis Castle, Santa Monica (Municipal)
Mikaela Randolph, Heal the Bay (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)
Michelle Struthers, SGA Marketing (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

There were no absent Committee Member seats.

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

District staff conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx. Susie Santilena, Chair of the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order.

District staff facilitated the roll call of Committee Members. All Committee Members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2023

Member Maggie Gardner made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Josette Descalzo. The Committee voted to approve the January 24, 2023, minutes, with 15 votes in favor, and two members absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

LA Waterkeeper has conducted an assessment of the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP), which is available on the LA Waterkeeper website.

Member Hamamoto mentioned that the ribbon cutting for the Ladera Park Project was delayed and will be rescheduled. Member Hamamoto will invite WASC members when that information is available.

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Member Castle provided an update on the City of Santa Monica's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project, which was partially funded by the SCWP. The project is almost operational, and the City hosted a visit from Yana Garcia, the California Secretary for Environmental Protection.

Chair Santilena mentioned that the Ballona Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Project has broken ground.

District staff provided an update, noting:

- Fiscal Year (FY) 22-23 Quarter 2 (Q2) reports are due on February 15. Quarterly reports must still be completed by project developers even if there was no activity done on the project.
- WASC Community Stakeholder seats are up for re-selection this year. Per Article 4 Section 5 of the WASC operating guidelines, there will be a reselection of Community Stakeholders Members this year. Current Community Stakeholder Members may serve additional 3-year terms if they are reappointed. Community Stakeholders are appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor's Commission Services Division. Individuals interested in serving as a Community Stakeholder should submit the Interest to Serve Form; the link is available on the first page of the agenda. Those interest in serving or continuing to serve should consider that future WASC meetings will be in person.
- Today the WASC will deliberate on the projects to include in the Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP). It is important for the WASC, in the work they do within the Regional Program, to remain transparent and fair. These principles are built into the SCWP and are represented by the ex parte communication disclosures on each agenda. WASC members whose job connects them to specific SCWP projects should ask colleagues or consultants to attend WASC meetings to share about or advocate for those projects during SIP deliberation and should avoid using their position as WASC members to advocate for projects from their home entities.

Members Edgar Campos and Gloria Medina requested that written procedures for the Community Stakeholder seat appointments be provided to Committee Members.

Member Descalzo shared that Committee Members need not recuse themselves during SIP deliberation during the discussion of a project in their municipality. Committee Members should refrain from specifically advocating for a particular project and should have colleagues in attendance respond to questions.

a) Future Governance of Committee Meetings Presentation

District staff gave a presentation on how future WASC meetings will be conducted after the State of Emergency for California ends on February 28, 2023. The presentation is available on the SCWP website and includes information regarding future in-person and online meeting requirements. Future CSMB WASC meetings will be held in person in Culver City.

It was confirmed that Culver City's meeting location is equipped to handle hybrid meetings for Committee Members and public members to attend in person and via teleconference. District staff also has portable teleconference equipment to facilitate hybrid meetings.

Watershed Coordinator Randolph clarified with District staff on whether "just cause" includes travelling for business. District staff will get back on the specific scenario but mentioned that advanced documentation is required regardless.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

a) Disadvantaged Community Benefits and Community Engagement Presentation

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The Watershed Coordinators gave a presentation that summarizes the disadvantaged community benefits claimed and community engagement conducted by the projects being discussed today. The presentation can be found on the SCWP website and attached.

5. Public Comment Period

District staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting, uploaded them to the SCWP website, and displayed them on-screen.

Thirteen public comments were submitted, and public members were invited to provide comment.

Michael Berns (California Greenworks) described the contents of a letter submitted by California Greenworks that explained the challenges nonprofit organizations have experienced in the SCWP. Berns encouraged the Committee Members to tackle the challenging task of looking into solutions that would better support nonprofit organizations to participate in the SCWP.

Cheryl Ebert (City of El Segundo) shared support for the Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project, citing the community benefits and flooding improvements.

District staff noted that OurWaterLA submitted a comment letter that recommended the Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project and the Blackwelder Tract Community Greenbelt BMPs and Landscape Improvement project for funding.

6. Discussion

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Chair Santilena described a meeting with Vice-Chair Rita Kampalath to discuss how to approach today's meeting, and participation in regular coordination meetings within the City of Los Angeles and with District staff that involve basic discussions of the projects in this WASC.

Member Gardner disclosed that LA Waterkeeper facilitates and coordinates with OurWaterLA, who submitted a public letter, on projects being discussed.

b) Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) Scientific Study Summary Overview

i. Regional Pathogen Reduction Study

Gateway Water Management Authority

Richard Watson (Project Applicant) responded to the comments from the SCCWRP summary citing that the Study does not have a complete proposal. Watson explained that this study took lessons from a copper study on the Los Angeles River to solicit stakeholder feedback before finalizing the scope of work. As of today, six WASCs have approved funding for the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study.

The OurWaterLA recommendation notes that there are not a lot of multi-benefit solutions and Watson noted that this study should not be held to the standards of infrastructure projects, which emphasize multi-benefit solutions.

Chair Santilena asked the project applicant what community stakeholders the study plans to engage. Watson explained that the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, and potentially the Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 will be involved with this study and noted that the exact community stakeholders have yet to be defined. The Gateway Water Management Authority intends to start that process once it knows which WASCs want to be involved.

Vice-Chair Kampalath understands the intention to leave the scope of the study open to allow community organizations and technical experts to weigh in but reasoned that it would benefit evaluators of the study to have an idea of the potential team working on the study. Vice-Chair Kampalath asked the project applicant how much outreach has been done to engage nongovernmental organizations for the

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stakeholder committee, as involvement would depend on the organizations' availability and willingness to take part in the study. Watson responded that while the team has not reached out to any specific community organizations, he believes that participation will be likely based on past experiences.

The study will investigate source management in addition to source identification. The task of creating the stakeholder committee will be conducted before consultants are chosen and will be paid for separately. It is estimated that the study will be completed in four and a half years after establishment of the initial study team.

c) Project Updates for Funded Projects

ii. Regional Program Quarterly Reporting Summary FY2021-22 Q3 (Jan – Mar 2022) and Q4 (Apr – Jun 2022)

The summary was shown on screen with activity concerns highlighted in red. District staff demonstrated that the reports can be accessed on the SCWP website's project portal map by clicking on an infrastructure project raindrop. This will bring up a tab on the left of the screen where reports can be accessed.

- **Beverly Hills Burton Way Green Street and Water Efficient Landscape Project**

Member Descalzo provided an update, noting that the project is in construction. Various project components have been installed and listed upcoming work components. Utility relocation caused a delay in scheduling, but construction is anticipated to be finalized at the end of April 2023.

- **Culver City Mesmer Low Flow Diversion**

Member Singletary noted that construction has been paused due to the rainy season and will resume in the summer.

- **Ladera Park Stormwater Improvements Project**

Member Hamamoto noted that this project is complete and an invitation to the ribbon cutting ceremony will be shared with Committee Members.

- **MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project**

Alfredo Magallanes (Project Developer) provided an update, noting that the Environmental Impact Report is ongoing, and the project expects to be completed in the spring of 2024. The project team has been engaging with its tribal consultants and continues to receive a lot of information. The City of Los Angeles is exploring alternatives to fill a budget gap due to increased construction costs.

- **Monteith Park and View Park Green Alley Stormwater Improvements Project**

Member Hamamoto provided an update on funding; the project team required supplemental funding from Los Angeles County Public Works and will receive that in June and anticipates a start date in the fall.

- **Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project**

Member Castle noted that the project is complete. The plant is expected to be open in mid-March and fully operational 3-4 months afterwards.

- **Washington Boulevard Stormwater and Urban Runoff Diversion**

Member Singletary provided an update that the project's design plans are 99% complete, after incurring some design changes based on traffic concerns from stakeholders. Coordination has been occurring with an adjacent Culver City project on traffic medians that this project will irrigate. The project team is preparing internally to fill an anticipated budget gap due to increased construction costs. Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer.

- **Ballona Creek TMDL Project**

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Brett Perry (Project Developer) noted the project is currently in construction and the team is exploring different opportunities to fill the construction budget gap.

Member Medina clarified with District staff that these quarterly reports are from FY21-22 Q3 and Q4, which is why Ladera Park Stormwater Improvements Project information does not reflect completion. District staff noted that the “Active Phase List” column may show a project in operations and maintenance (O&M) phase if applicable. Chair Santilena mentioned it might be good to add a column depicting project completion.

District staff will check with the technical team on why the Activity Concern column is highlighted instead of the Activity Delay column for projects that specified schedule delays.

iii. **Project Updates and Budget Confirmation for Projects with Continuing Funding Requests**

(1) Year 1

- a) MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project
LASAN
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$4.7M

(2) Year 2

- a) Ballona Creek TMDL Project
LASAN
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$3M
- b) Slauson Connect Clean Water Project
Corvias Infrastructure Solutions/Geosyntec Consultants
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$2M

District staff confirmed with Year 1 and 2 project applicants beforehand that no changes to funding allocations were requested.

(3) Year 3

- a) IP – Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project
City of Inglewood
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$2.6M
- b) IP – Angeles Mesa Green Infrastructure Corridor Project
LASAN
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$530K
- c) SS – Microplastics in LA County Stormwater
UC Riverside
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$86K
- d) SS – Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation
LA Community Garden Council
FY23-24 SIP Allocation: \$189K

These projects have not received their first allocation of funding and did not have substantial updates.

d) Results of Project’s Survey for Round 4 Projects for FY 23-24 SIP

District staff shared the preliminary survey results as a starting point for discussion, which showed a consensus for approving the Imperial Highway Greenway Infrastructure Project and mixed preferences concerning the other projects.

The SIP tool was shown onscreen with the scenario to fund all considered projects in Round 4. This scenario results in a 68% funding allocation for FY23-24 of available CSMB Watershed Area funding.

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Another scenario was shown that includes all considered projects in addition to anticipated construction funding requests for projects that had only previously applied for design funds.

The committee returned to the “All Considered Projects” scenario and investigated the disadvantaged community allocation percentage, which showed that the WASC is well within the quota for allocating funds for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) clarified that according to the SCWP, disadvantaged community benefits are only able to be claimed by Infrastructure Program (IP) projects and is not a relevant consideration for Technical Resource Program (TRP) projects.

e) Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for FY 23-24 SIP (SIP Tool & Summary of Resources)

i. IP

1. Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project
City of Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment

Chair Santilena requested that the Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project be added to the SIP because of the consensus in the preliminary survey results.

See Agenda Item 8 regarding discussion of disadvantage benefit claims.

ii. TRP

1. Hollywood Bowl Stormwater Quality Improvement and Sustainability Project
Hollywood Bowl Operations

Committee Members discussed the project’s disadvantaged community benefits, including the location of the project, the proposed drainage area, and the accessibility of the park to the public.

Antos reminded the committee that TRP projects can solidify project elements, during development of the Feasibility Study by the Technical Assistance Teams, to clarify whether the project intends to claim disadvantaged community benefits when it comes back for funding through the IP. There is flexibility in adjusting the scope of work, such as the investigation of capturing offsite runoff. Committee Members commented that it is useful to consider the disadvantaged community benefit opportunities for this project now because TRP projects may return as IP applications.

Mike Rudd (Project Applicant) explained that the parking lot drywells associated with the project would prevent polluted water from flowing downstream to disadvantaged communities and mentioned that there is a portion of offsite runoff from the community southeast of the project location.

Watershed Coordinator Randolph mentioned that this project is in the northern region of the CSMB Watershed Area and is worth exploring the feasibility of the project to actualize disadvantaged community opportunities. For example, it would be useful to know the percentage of visitors utilizing the dollar tickets or whether the park is accessible to members of disadvantaged communities when no events are scheduled. Laura Connelly (Project Applicant) explained that the park is open 365 days a year, including during the off season, when the theatre is open to the public at no cost. There is free parking and picnic sites where visitors can bring in their own food and beverages. Bus and shuttle services are also provided at a cost. Member Ford also mentioned that both the Hollywood Bowl itself and the surrounding park area is heavily used by the public.

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Committee Members discussed considerations that should be evaluated during the feasibility study. An analysis on pollution contribution from the open space upstream of the project would help the committee evaluate the project, given the concern that a large portion of pollutants occur downstream of the project. Capturing drainage from the highway and partnering with Caltrans should also be investigated during the Feasibility Study. The project applicant also confirmed that community access would be investigated for areas affected by the project.

Chair Santilena made a general comment that the CSMB Watershed Area has a large need for wet weather projects, and that TRP projects applying to this WASC should focus on that.

Chair Santilena mentioned that it may make sense to vote to include this project in the SIP as a separate voting item.

2. Blackwelder Tract Community Greenbelt BMPs and Landscape Improvement *California Greenworks*

Chair Santilena invited comments from Committee Members on this project as there were some hesitations shown in the preliminary survey results.

Member Hamamoto supports the idea of nongovernmental organizations leading projects and acknowledges the difficulty in acquiring resources to fully develop the design. However, he is concerned that the project is located on a private tract and changes in private ownership may result in changes to the use of the tract. The project is also in the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) right-of-way and while the LACFCD has not explicitly rejected the concept, there is also no endorsement or partnership on this project, which may lead to permitting difficulties down the line. The property already has several low impact developments, and the project has already conducted hydrology analyses, prepared exhibits, and decided that a geotechnical study is not feasible. The anticipated construction and O&M costs are also very high. Member Hamamoto is unsure how much benefit the project would receive by advancing as a TRP.

Other Committee Members noted that when this project originally applied as an IP project, several Committee Members noted that there were some aspects missing and recommended the project apply to the TRP for additional technical assistance. The Watershed Coordinators and District staff worked with the project applicant to apply to the TRP, where the project applicant would have access to the necessary resources to investigate opportunities for leveraging funding, request support from municipalities, and navigate the complex permitting tasks. The portion of funds going to the TRP is relatively small and the completion of a Feasibility Study would enable the project applicants to apply for funding elsewhere. Member Ford mentioned that great projects can come out of the relatively inexpensive TRP and supports funding all considered projects.

Michael Berns (Project Applicant) also noted that the project team is willing to explore all potential benefits to community, including investigating offsite runoff in addition to drainage from the tract. Berns also mentioned that the organization is seeking additional funds from Baldwin Hills Conservancy for the TRP phase of the project.

Chair Santilena mentioned that it may make sense to vote to include this project in the SIP as a separate voting item.

Member Descalzo confirmed with District staff that there is limited flexibility for projects to expand their scope of work to include exploring offsite runoff and that there is no way to conditionally approve the TRP to ensure that happens. The committee will have the chance to evaluate the project again if it returns to the SCWP as an IP project application.

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- iii. **Scientific Studies Program (SS)**
 - 1. Regional Pathogen Reduction Study
Gateway Water Management Authority

Member Gardner noted that the project was not funded in the past two rounds and has not been modified based on concerns, so LA Waterkeeper is not inclined to include this study in the SIP but is open to discussion.

Member Hamamoto voiced support of this study. While it has been the fourth time this project has applied for funding, there have been changes in the landscape surrounding pathogens. Member Hamamoto explained that fecal indicator bacteria has been used to indicate the presence of pathogens but does not actually study the human health risks associated with pathogens. In the past three years, there has been traction in the notion that while fecal indicator bacteria was the best available indicator before, better tools and models are available to investigate identifiers that impact human health more directly. In addition, there is now momentum in the SCWP with six out of nine WASCs funding this study and strengthening the regional aspect of the study.

Vice-Chair Kampalath mentioned that letters of commitments or outreach meetings could have been conducted to quell the concern of the absence of a stakeholder team. Vice-Chair Kampalath considered the possibility of waiting to approve this study in a future funding round and add a couple CSMB sites then, given that there is funding available through other WASCs. Watson returned from the concurrent Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) WASC meeting and mentioned how the LSGR WASC took that position last year and has now approved the study, which means that seven of the nine WASCs have chosen to fund the study.

Member Hubertus Cox voiced support for the study but also agreed that stakeholders should be involved in the early stages, especially the regulatory agencies.

Member Ford voiced support to include this project in the current SIP.

f) Future WASC Meetings Schedule

District staff will send out a meeting poll to the Committee Members to solicit preferences for in-person meeting times once the Culver City meeting location is confirmed.

7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

8. Voting Items

- a) Approve the Final FY23-24 Stormwater Investment Plan recommendations for the CSMB Watershed Area, including Watershed Coordinators, and submission to the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) for review

The committee decided to vote on each project as a separate addition to the SIP.

Chair Santilena motioned to approve the Imperial Highway Greenway Infrastructure Project, seconded by Member Prieto. The motion was retracted after Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) reminded the committee that Committee Members wanted to discuss the disadvantaged community benefit being claimed by this project before voting.

The Committee discussed how the project is not located within a census tract designated as a disadvantaged community, but the project proponents claim it would benefit residents of disadvantaged communities that travel to the nearby beach and airport. It is also claimed that the project benefits

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employees of the nearby Los Angeles World Airports, many of which were assumed by proponents to live in disadvantaged communities that would use this path on their commute to work. It was also mentioned that the nearby Dockweiler Beach also hosts Ocean Day, which garners participation from residents from various communities. Committee Members noted that deciding to affirm proponents' claims of disadvantaged community benefits for projects that are located outside of a disadvantaged community, as done in the past during SIP deliberations, and doing so now would not create a new precedence. It was mentioned that the WASC is well within the required disadvantaged community funding allocation so denying this project's claim of disadvantaged community benefit would not affect that requirement. Committee Members mentioned it may be useful to defer to the Watershed Coordinators' evaluation. The Watershed Coordinators noted that updated interim guidance provides guidance on this issue, so the committee does not need to rely solely on precedence. The West Los Angeles College Soccer Field Basin Dry Well Project from Round 2 is a parallel project, where the project was not in a census tract designated as a disadvantaged community but would benefit students that live in disadvantaged communities.

Vice Chair Kampalath motioned to remove the disadvantaged community benefit designation from the project and Chair Santilena seconded. The motion failed to pass, with 4 votes in favor, 2 votes in abstention, 10 votes opposed, and one member absent at the time of the vote (not approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

Chair Santilena motioned to approve the SIP Tool "IP Only Scenario" as the Final FY23-24 SIP funding recommendation for CSMB Watershed Area, including Heal the Bay and SGA Marketing as Watershed Coordinators, and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee for review. Member Hamamoto seconded the motion. The motion was approved, with 16 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and one member absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

Chair Santilena motioned to add the Blackwelder Tract Community Greenbelt BMPs and Landscape Improvement TRP to the Final FY23-24 SIP, seconded by Member Gardner. The motion was approved, with 15 votes in favor, 1 vote opposed, and one member absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

Chair Santilena motioned to add the Hollywood Bowl Stormwater Quality Improvement and Sustainability TRP to the Final FY23-24 SIP, seconded by Member Gardner. The motion was approved, with 11 votes in favor, 5 votes opposed, and one member absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

Member Descalzo motioned to add the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study to the Final FY23-24 SIP, seconded by Member Hamamoto. The motion was approved, with 9 votes in favor, 1 vote in abstention, 6 votes opposed, and one member absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

9. Items for Next Agenda

Items on the agenda include:

- a) Continued CSMB Watershed Area Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for FY23-24 (if needed)

Since the SIP was finalized at this meeting, the March meeting may be canceled. District staff will be sending out a poll to confirm a future in-person meeting time and date. See the SCWP website for details.

10. Adjournment

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

CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - February 28, 2023

		Quorum Present				Voting Items					
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approval of 01/24/23 Meeting Minutes	Remove DAC designation from the Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project.	Approve SIP Tool 'IP Only Scenario' as the Final FY23-24 SIP funding recommendation for CSMB Watershed Area, including Heal the Bay and SGA Marketing as Watershed Coordinators, and approve submission to the ROC for review	Add Blackwelder Tract Community Greenbelt BMPs and Landscape Improvement TRP to the Final FY23-24 SIP	Add Hollywood Bowl Stormwater Quality Improvement and Sustainability Project TRP to the Final FY23-24 SIP	Add Regional Pathogen Reduction Study (SS) to the Final FY23-24 SIP
Agency	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Marcela Benavides-Aguilar		Mark Beltran	x	y	n	y	y	y	y
Agency	West Basin Metropolitan Water District	E.J. Caldwell	x				n	y	y	y	n
Agency	Los Angeles City Water & Power	Delon Kwan		Art Castro	x	y	n	y	y	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment	Sheila Brice	x	Hubertus Cox		y	a	y	y	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	x	y	n	y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	Rita Kampalath	x	Kristen Pawling		y	y	y	y	y	n
Community Stakeholder	PSOMAS / Business Sector	Alysen Weiland	x			y	n	y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	The Solutions Project / SCOPE	Gloria Walton		Gloria Medina	x	y	n	y	y	n	n
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	Bruce Reznik		Maggie Gardner	x	y	y	y	y	y	n
Community Stakeholder	T.R.U.S.T. South LA	Edgar Campos	x			y	Not present	Not present	Not present	Not present	Not present
Municipal Members	Beverly Hills / West Hollywood	Josette Descalzo	x	Matthew Magener		y	n	y	y	n	y
Municipal Members	Culver City	Sean Singletary	x	Yanni Demitri		y	n	y	y	n	y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Roberto Perez	x			y	y	y	y	n	a
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Rafael Prieto	x				n	y	y	y	n
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	x	Ryan Jackson		y	y	y	y	y	n
Municipal Members	Los Angeles County	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Geremew Amenu		y	a	y	n	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Monica	Curtis Castle	x	Selim Eren		y	n	y	y	n	y
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Mikaela Randolph	x			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Watershed Coordinator	SGA Marketing	Michelle Struthers	x			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total Non-Vacant Seats	17				Yay (Y)	4	16	15	11	9
	Total Voting Members Present	17				Nay (N)	10	0	1	5	6
	Agency	5				Abstain (A)	2	0	0	0	1
	Community Stakeholder	5				Total	15	16	16	16	16
	Municipal Members	7				Approved	Not Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

MEETING ATTENDEES	
Alfredo Magallanes	Marisol Serrano
Alynn Sun	Marsha Hansen
Andrew Gray	Matt Magener
Brandon Willnecker	Melania Gaboyan
Brett perry	Michael Scaduto
Carmen Andrade	Mike Rudd Geosyntec
Cheryl Ebert	Nancy Ngugi
Christine McLeod	Paige Bistromowitz
Conor Mossavi	Richard Watson
Cynthia Jackson	Selim Eren
Daniel Rydberg	Serena Zhu
Demitri Demitri	Thomas Lee
Elaine Nesbit	Tiffany Wong
Gabriela Gonzalez	Troy Hunt
Geremew Amenu	Wendy Dinh
Giselle Ramirez	
Ida Meisami	
Jenny Chau	
Katie Harrel	
Kevin Ho	
Laura Connelly	
Londy Alvarado	
Maggie Gardner	
Marisol Ibarra	

Future Governance Committee Meetings



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



Timeline and Where We Are Today

- March 2020 – Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency for California as a result of the threat of COVID-19
- September 2021 - Assembly Bill (AB) 361 signed into law to continue suspending Brown Act teleconference requirements when a local agency meets during a declared state of emergency, or local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.
- October 17, 2022 – Governor announced that the COVID-19 State of Emergency will end on February 28, 2023





Future Committee Meetings

- Starting March 1, to ensure quorum and effective communication during critical SIP deliberations such that all committee members can participate equally, committee members are highly encouraged to attend **in person** or send an alternate to attend in their place.
- If the meeting venue can accommodate hybrid meetings, committee members may have the option to attend virtually in compliance with the **Brown Act** or modified Brown Act per **AB2449**.
 - The District will send a survey prior to each meeting to confirm quorum and solicit required information for teleconferencing, if needed.
 - For meeting venue recommendations, please contact the District.





Brown Act Requirements

- Brown Act teleconference requirements:
 - Notice each teleconference location committee members attend from on the agenda
 - Post agenda at all teleconference locations
 - Each teleconference location to be accessible to the public
 - Members of the public may address the committee at each teleconference location





AB2449 Requirements

- AB2449 teleconference requirements - Board member's teleconference location does not need to be posted on the meeting notice or agenda, and does not have to be open to the public. However:
 - Quorum must participate in the meeting from a single physical location
 - Committee member must submit a disclosure of "just cause"
 - Committee member must participate remotely by audio *and* video
 - May not participate remotely under "just cause" more than two meetings within a calendar year
 - And may not participate remotely for any reason for more than three consecutive months or for 20 percent of the regular meetings within a calendar year.





Future SCW Committee Meetings

Questions?



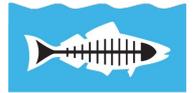
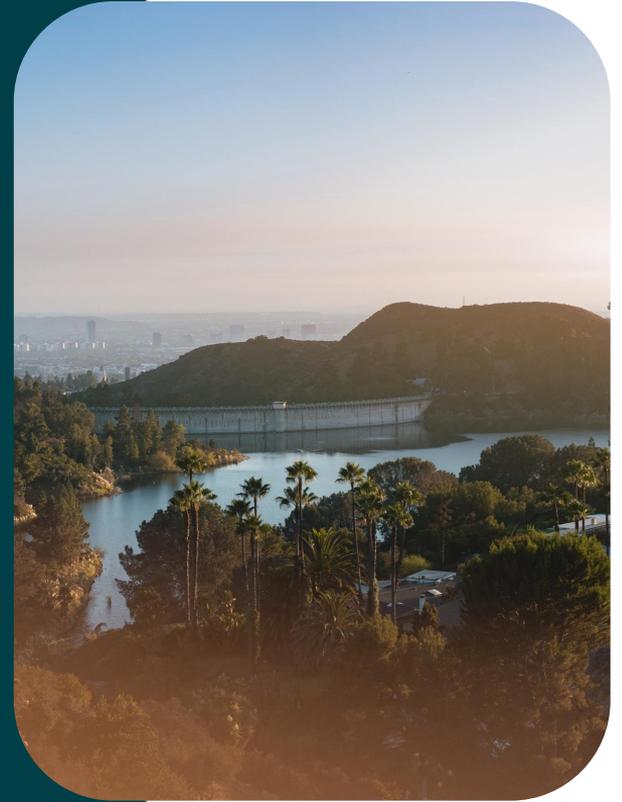


CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY

REVIEW OF DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY BENEFITS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

February 2023

-Watershed Coordinators Presentation-



Interim Guidance for SCWP

01

Strengthening
Community
Engagement
and Support

02

Water Supply
Guidance

03

Programming
of
Nature-Based
Solutions

04

Implementing
Disadvantaged
Community
Policies in the
Regional
Program

Safe Clean Water Program Model for Community Engagement



Projects provide a Disadvantaged Community Benefit if:

1. **Any of the construction effort** is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community

OR

1. **None** of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community **BUT it provides a “direct benefit”** to a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community.

CSMB Disadvantaged Community Allocation

To date, the CSMB SIPs have met and exceeded required investment in disadvantaged communities.

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (DAC) ALLOCATION	
Required DAC Ratio	50%
Required Funding for DACs FY22-27 (110%)	\$ 27,398,027
Funding Allocated for DACs FY22-27	\$ 36,114,594

Source: CSMB 22-23 SIP

SCW DAC Policy Reminder:

Provide Disadvantaged Community Benefits that are $\geq 110\%$ of the ratio of the disadvantaged community population to the total population in the Watershed Area. (Section 18.04 (J))

CalEnviroScreen Scoring

A higher CalEnviroScreen score indicates a higher pollution burden and higher sensitivity to pollution.

Pollution Burden

Average of Exposures
and Environmental
Effects



Population Characteristics

Average of Sensitive
Populations and
Socioeconomic
Factors

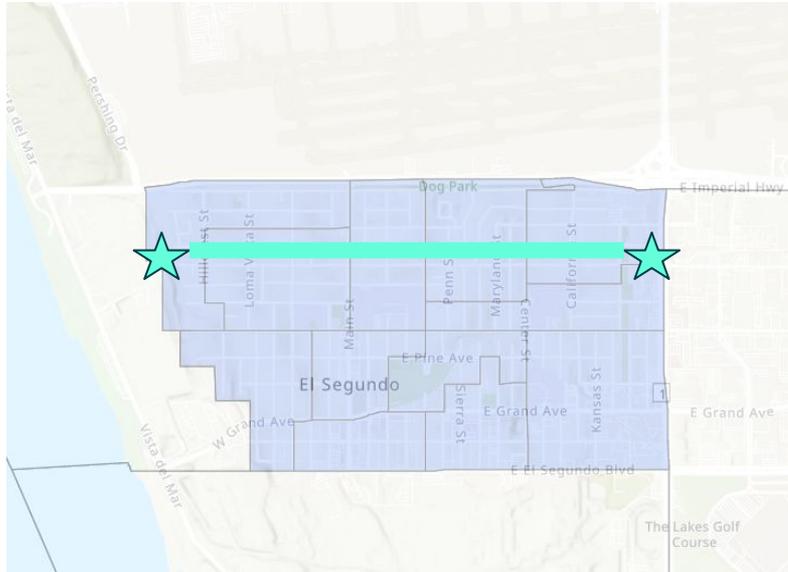


Pollution Burden

CalEnviroScreen
Score

Lead: LASAN

Funding Requested: \$5.2 M



Not Disadvantaged (MHI = \$56,982 to Max)

Disadvantaged (MHI = \$42,737 to \$56,982)

Severely Disadvantaged (MHI < \$42,737)

No Data or No Population

Located within 2018 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Does application claim DAC benefit?	Yes
Distance to nearest DAC (mi)	2.5
CalEnviroScreen Score	36th

DAC Benefits Described in Application:

- Enhances water quality by removing stormwater contaminants before it reaches Dockweiler State Beach
- Pedestrian and bicycle access to the beach and LAX

WASC to validate direct benefit to a disadvantaged community.

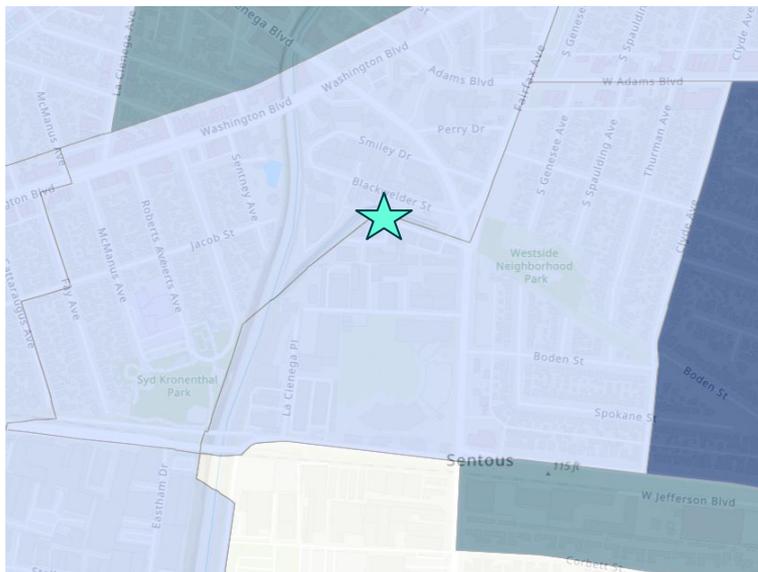
What they have done

What they plan to do

<p>Good</p> <p>Better</p> <p>Best</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact Sheet • 2 Surveys • 4 Committee Meetings • 1 Community Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email Updates • Community Meetings • Social Media • Local Media 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Input & Participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Meetings 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 resident letters of support • 6 City of El Segundo letters of support • 2 CBO letters of support • Established project concepts based on community-driven needs • Formal partnerships with joint implementation & management 			
IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
A + B	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D + E + F
(3) Active Engagement	(6) Direct Engagement	(9) Community Involvement	(14) Community Satisfaction	(18) Stakeholder Partnerships

Lead: California Greenworks

Funding Requested: \$5.7 M



Not Disadvantaged (MHI = \$56,982 to Max)

Disadvantaged (MHI = \$42,737 to \$56,982)

Severely Disadvantaged (MHI < \$42,737)

No Data or No Population

Located within 2018 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Does application claim DAC benefit?	Yes
Distance to nearest DAC (mi)	Unconfirmed
CalEnviroScreen Score	99th

DAC Benefits Described in Application:

- Increasing access to healthy green spaces and provide education opportunities
- Improve water quality by diverting, treating, and reducing pollutants present in DAC areas.
- Irrigation for the green-network along the creek corridor

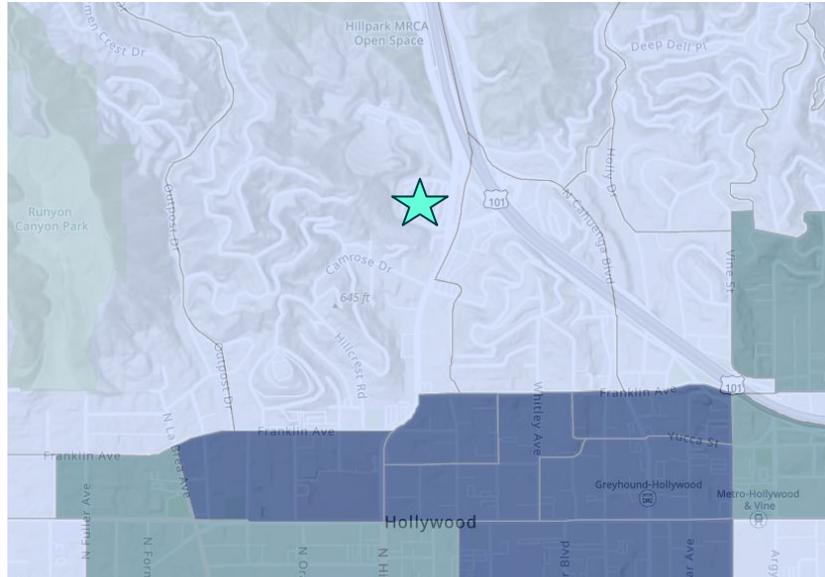
WASC to validate direct benefit to a disadvantaged community.

	What they have done	What they plan to do
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaires • Comment boards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial capability assessment
Better	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community forums • Interactive workshops • Dot exercise • Stakeholder Input & Participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Events
Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 CBO letter of support • 1 NGO letter of support • Established project concepts based on community-driven needs 	

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
A + B	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D + E + F
(3) Active Engagement	(6) Direct Engagement	(9) Community Involvement	(14) Community Satisfaction	(18) Stakeholder Partnerships

TRP Hollywood Bowl Stormwater Quality Improvement and Sustainability Project

Lead: LA Philharmonic
Funding Requested: \$300 k



- Not Disadvantaged (MHI = \$56,982 to Max)
- Disadvantaged (MHI = \$42,737 to \$56,982)
- Severely Disadvantaged (MHI < \$42,737)
- No Data or No Population

Located within 2018 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Does application claim DAC benefit?	Yes
Distance to nearest DAC (mi)	.5
CalEnviroScreen Score	41th

DAC Benefits Described in Application:

- Stormwater quality benefits to downstream DACs
- Park enhancements, which provides benefits to the diverse communities that visit the Hollywood Bowl

WASC to validate direct benefit to a disadvantaged community.

	What they have done	What they plan to do
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue stakeholder meetings
Better	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach to additional County agencies Continue to engage with stakeholders
Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal partnerships with joint implementation & management 	

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
A + B	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D + E + F
(3) Active Engagement	(6) Direct Engagement	(9) Community Involvement	(14) Community Satisfaction	(18) Stakeholder Partnerships

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SCIENTIFIC STUDY PROPOSAL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Proposal identification information and summary of the project goals.

Title: **Regional Pathogen Reduction Strategy**

Proposing Organization: **Gateway Water Management Authority**

Your summary of the Project Goals and Objectives:

The reviewers agreed that the overarching goal of this project is to develop targeted, science-informed management strategies for remediating the specific sources of human fecal pollution in L.A. County watersheds that pose the greatest human health risks. Specifically, the study will leverage recent scientific advances in fecal pollution tracking and fecal risk assessment to: (1) determine the sources of fecal pollution that pose the greatest human health risks during both dry and wet weather, (2) identify beaches and other recreational water bodies where these risks are greatest, and (3) identify management interventions that could effectively combat fecal pollution in the highest-risk areas.

2. Are the objectives clearly stated? What portion of the objectives need more clarification?

The reviewers disagreed on whether the project's objectives are clearly stated. Two reviewers concluded the objectives are clearly stated, with one of these reviewers adding that the proposal requires "no further clarification," while the other reviewer caveated their positive assessment by noting that they would have liked to see clarification about how permittees are to be supported. The third reviewer concluded that the first two project objectives are clear, while the third is not because the proposal does not make clear whether the management solutions that will be evaluated are stormwater control measures vs. other management actions.

3. How do the project goals directly support a nexus to increasing stormwater or urban runoff capture and/or reducing stormwater or urban runoff pollution?

All three reviewers agreed that the project supports the SCWP's goals of reducing stormwater or urban runoff pollution. They all characterized the project's goal of collecting specific, detailed fecal pollution data sets for this region as essential in helping managers effectively reduce risks to public health.

4. What is (are) the overarching technical approach element(s) of the proposed project as you understand them (not necessarily the same as the elements described in the proposal)?

The reviewers agreed that the study's technical elements will consist of: (1) collecting water samples from beaches, rivers, creeks and channels, (2) using both legacy fecal pollution detection methods and next-generation molecular methods to measure fecal indicators, fecal genetic markers, viruses and other pathogens, (3) estimating human health risks at beaches and other recreational water bodies and (4) developing a management tool and management solutions for addressing the highest-risk human fecal contamination sources.

5. Has the proposal provided sufficient information to describe the technical approach for each element? If not, what information is missing?

The reviewers all agreed that insufficient information is provided describing the proposal's technical approach, with each reviewer citing numerous examples of missing information. One reviewer cited a lack of clarity about sample collection and analysis methods, how the modeling work will be conducted to estimate health risks, and how the project will identify which sources represent the biggest risks to public health and which source control measures are most effective. A second reviewer cited much of the same missing information as the first reviewer, and also cited a lack of clarity about whether the project has established relationships with necessary stakeholders, whether a cost-benefit analysis will be done for each identified management solution, and how the management insights generated by the project will help managers comply with regulatory requirements for bacteria. The third reviewer also cited much of the same missing information as the other two reviewers, and expressed particular concern about the lack of detail about the sampling protocols, including how targeted the sampling effort will be.

6. Is the technical approach sound? If not, what do you recommend should be done to improve the technical approach of the proposed project?

All three reviewers expressed concerns about the technical soundness of the proposal, although they differed in their level of concern. One reviewer characterized the proposal as overall having a "logical progression," but lamented the fact that more detail was not provided to evaluate the proposal's technical soundness. The other two reviewers were more critical. One reviewer noted that "at minimum" additional information should have been provided on sampling methods, and expressed concern that the project does not intend to collect samples from each site at the same time, which will limit the study's ability to compare health risks at different locations. The second of the latter two reviewers said that the technical approach is sound for the sections with sufficient detail, but expressed particular concerns with the planned sampling approach, including: (1) whether flow rates associated with different sampling sites will be measured – a key measurement for understanding how much of a health risk a highly polluted source might represent to its downstream environment – and (2) whether modeling will be used to help determine specifically where to sample.

7. How achievable are the study's stated technical objectives, especially within the proposed timeframe and budget?

The reviewers disagreed on how achievable the study would be within the planned timeframe and budget. Two reviewers expressed concern, with both reviewers using the word "ambitious" to describe the project's timeline; one of these reviewers explained that the timeframe for completing the modeling work and developing risk models might be inadequate. The third reviewer complimented the proposal for presenting a "logical progression," but lamented the fact that numerous important details are missing from the proposal. Regarding budget, one of the reviewers characterized the project's budget as "reasonable," a second reviewer said they were not qualified to comment on the budget, and the third reviewer did not explicitly weigh in on budget.

8. What are the greatest technical risks that you foresee the proposing agency facing when implementing the project?

All three reviewers agreed that the project faces technical risks. One reviewer expressed concern about whether the sampling could be completed because of the challenges associated with measuring the specific constituents that are planned to be measured, and consequently whether the modeling work could be completed. This reviewer also expressed concerns about the study being able to achieve its goal of estimating site-specific health risks because of its reliance on “disparate,” geographically expansive data sets. A second reviewer questioned whether multiple laboratories would be asked to analyze samples, noting that this factor could challenge the study’s ability to reach rigorous conclusions. The third reviewer said the study’s success will be shaped by how study sites are selected, whether updated sampling methods are used, and whether flow rates at the sampling sites are measured – which is critical to put into context the relative health risk that a site represents.

9. Please describe the linkages between the project’s technical objectives and the types of decisions that stormwater managers will make based on the project’s outcome(s)? Will the technical achievements provide stormwater managers useful linkages that extend beyond this study?

All three reviewers agreed that the project has the potential to produce results useful to stormwater managers, but varied in the degree of confidence they put behind this assessment. One reviewer commended the study’s “excellent regional coverage” across the L.A. region, but caveated this assessment by stressing that the study’s managerial relevance will depend on whether it is conducted in a technically rigorous manner. The other two reviewers offered fully positive assessments of the study’s managerial relevance, expressing confidence that the modeling tools and engagement channels developed during the study will be widely applicable after the study, including to other regions.

10. Please provide any additional technical perspectives you would like to share.

Two of the reviewers shared additional technical perspectives. One reviewer noted their biggest concern is the “overly optimistic” sample collection effort being planned, which could impede the study’s ability to collect necessary data for estimating health risks associated with each study site. The second reviewer noted that it will be important for the study to use risk modeling approaches that have been developed specifically for use in the L.A. region.

11. Please answer each of the following questions by selecting one of the following five answer choices: *Excellent, Very good, Adequate, Inadequate or Not applicable because of insufficient information*. Please add an explanation to accompany your answer choice (or refer to the question number above for appropriate context and rationale):

- a. How well do the proposal objectives address the County’s goals of increasing stormwater or urban runoff capture and/or reducing stormwater or urban runoff pollution?

The reviewers generally agreed that the proposal’s objectives will be adequate for addressing SCWP goals, with two reviewers giving a “very good” rating and the third giving an “excellent” rating. Only one reviewer caveated this assessment by reiterating their concerns about the achievability of achieving the study’s goals.

- b. How well do you think the technical approaches will achieve the study objectives and stated outcomes?

The reviewers did not agree about the achievability of the study's objectives and desired outcomes. One reviewer gave a rating of "not applicable because insufficient information" and reiterated their concerns about the proposal's omission of key information. A second reviewer gave an "adequate" rating, and echoed the first reviewer's concerns about missing information. The third reviewer rated the technical approach to the sampling and modeling work "very good," and the development and transition of management solutions for combatting major sources of fecal pollution "not applicable because of insufficient information."

- c. Technical experience and qualifications of the study team?

The reviewers did not agree in their assessment of the study team's experience and qualifications. Two reviewers gave a rating of "not applicable because of insufficient information," with one of these reviewers expressing "particular concern" at the lack of details about the study team's qualifications because of the difficulty associated with measuring the constituents will be measured. The third reviewer gave a "very good" rating, noting that while the study team's qualifications are omitted, the team appears competent because the team cited (1) relevant studies in the proposal and (2) a plan for engaging with appropriate experts and stakeholders.

**CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY
Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary**

Watershed Area	Central Santa Monica Bay
Report Year	FY21-22

Full reports are available at:

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

Row Labels	Project Developer	Report Period	Report Status	Active Phase List	Scope Modification	Exhibit Modification	Activity Concern	Activity Delay	Funding Projected	Funds Awarded to Date	Expenditures to Date
FY20-21											
Infrastructure Project											
Beverly Hills Burton Way Green Street and Water Efficient Landscape Project	City of Beverly Hills	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Construction	No	No	Yes	No	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$423,250.00
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Construction	No	No	N/A	No	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$423,250.00
Culver City Mesmer Low Flow Diversion	City of Culver City	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Other, Construction, Design	No	No	Yes	No	\$950,000.00	\$950,000.00	\$0.00
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Other, Construction, Design	No	No	Yes	No	\$950,000.00	\$950,000.00	\$12,762.00
Ladera Park Stormwater Improvements Project	Los Angeles County Public Works	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Construction	No	No	N/A	No	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Construction	No	No	N/A	No	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project	City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Design, Environmental Documentation	No	No	N/A	No	\$20,043,718.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$1,560,407.25
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Design, Environmental Documentation	No	No	N/A	No	\$20,043,718.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$1,734,958.77
Monteith Park and View Park Green Alley Stormwater Improvements Project	Los Angeles County Public Works	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Design, Environmental Documentation, Other	No	No	N/A	No	\$4,550,000.00	\$1,400,000.00	\$1,386,574.55
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Design, Environmental Documentation, Other	No	No	N/A	No	\$4,550,000.00	\$1,400,000.00	\$1,386,574.55
Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project	City of Santa Monica	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Construction	No	No	N/A	No	\$7,500,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$7,500,000.00
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Construction	No	No	N/A	No	\$7,500,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$7,500,000.00
Washington Boulevard Stormwater and Urban Runoff Diversion	City of Culver City	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Other, Design, Post Construction Monitoring	No	A-10 Work Schedule and Completion Date Modifications	N/A	No	\$3,600,000.00	\$2,400,000.00	\$271,857.03
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Other, Design, Post Construction Monitoring	No	No	N/A	No	\$3,600,000.00	\$2,400,000.00	\$271,857.03
FY21-22											
Infrastructure Project											
Ballona Creek TMDL Project	City of Los Angeles, LA Sanitation and Environment	Q3 (January - March)	Complete	Design, Bid/Award	No	No	N/A	No	\$15,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00
		Q4 (April - June)	Complete	Bid/Award	No	No	N/A	No	\$15,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00

			RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE PROJECT IN FY23-24 STORMWATER INVESTMENT PLAN (SIP)	
	Program	Project Name	INCLUDE	DO NOT INCLUDE
1	IP	Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project	12	0
2	SS	Regional Pathogen Reduction Study	9	3
3	TRP	Hollywood Bowl Stormwater Quality Improvement and Sustainability Project	7	5
4	TRP	Blackwelder Tract Community Greenbelt BMPs and Landscape Improvement Project	9	3