

# Santa Clara River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



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Thursday, February 2, 2023  
3:00pm - 5:00pm  
WebEx Meeting

## Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)  
Ali Elhassan, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Agency)  
Steve Cole, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency)  
\*Christopher Lapaz, LA County Sanitation Districts (Agency)  
Jerrid McKenna, City of Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services (Agency)  
Hunt Braly, Poole & Shaffery (Community)  
Mary Johnson, Agua Dulce Town Council (Community)  
Sandra Cattell, Sierra Club (Community)  
Ivan Volschenk, Evolve Business Strategies (Community)  
Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel, Santa Clarita Valley Community Hiking Club (Community)  
\*Allen Ma, Los Angeles County (Municipal)  
Jason Gibbs, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Heather Merenda, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Damon Letz, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Darin Seegmiller, Santa Clarita (Municipal), Chair  
\*Amanda Begley, TreePeople (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

\*Committee Member Alternate

## Committee Members Absent:

No Committee Members were absent.

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

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### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Darin Seegmiller, Chair of the Santa Clara River (SCR) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and gave a brief WebEx tutorial, then called the meeting to order. The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (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 December 1, 2022**

District staff presented the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Member Jason Gibbs motioned to approve meeting minutes from December 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by a Member Sandra Cattell. The Committee voted to approve December 1, 2022 meeting minutes, with 14 votes in favor and 3 in abstention (note that the member from Los Angeles County represented three votes) (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

### **3. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures**

Chair Seegmiller and Member Cattell disclosed conversations with city staff regarding projects.

### **4. Committee Member and District Updates**

Member Cattell asked about the frequency of WASC meetings and how Committee Members may add items to upcoming meeting agendas. District staff replied that any member can send an email to the District. SCR WASC meeting cancellations occur on a case-by-case basis, depending on whether there are District updates or action items to attend to.

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District staff provided an update:

- On January 10, 2023, 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. District staff will provide additional guidance if and when that occurs.
- The District distributed the first batch of Fund Transfer Agreements and Addendums for new and continuing projects approved in the Round 3 Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs). Project developers should look out for emails from the District and provide the requested items in a timely manner. Developers should create an account on the portal and submit the Infrastructure Project (IP) project developer form, signed agreement or addendum, scope of work, resolution or authorization to execute the agreement, and vendor identification form. If a project requires California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, proponents should send their CEQA documentation so that the District can make determinations.
- Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY22-23) Quarter 2 reports are due on February 15. Quarterly reports are still required by project developers even if there is no project activity.
- Annual plans for municipal program are due April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for FY23-24.
- As a reminder, if the primary WASC member cannot attend a meeting, please ensure the alternate member can attend. WASC Operating Guidelines may be found [here](#).
- Community stakeholder seats are up for reappointment this August, if you would like to be reappointed or appointed for a three-year term, please complete the following form found [here](#).

## 5. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Amanda Begley presented a recap on various projects and community events from Quarter 3 Year 2. Presentation slides can be found on the SCWP website and attached. Upcoming events include the Rural Water Supply and Reliability Workshop on February 15.

Watershed Coordinator Begley also shared SCWP events are now posted on a calendar at [www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar](http://www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar).

Committee members thanked Watershed Coordinator Begley for leading efforts around the community.

## 6. 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 and no comments were made in the meeting.

District staff shared screen of a meeting minutes attachment submitted by Member Heather Merenda regarding the scoring of the Via Princessa Park project. Member Merenda provided insight into community investment and leverage funds scoring categories. The attachment can be found on the SCWP site.

## 7. Discussion Items

### a) Selection of the SCR Watershed Coordinator for next term

Committee members expressed strong support in reselecting the current SCR Watershed Coordinator for the next term.

## 8. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

## 9. Voting Items (moved up by Chair Seegmiller)

### a. Reselect the current SCR Watershed Coordinator for the next term

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Member Hunt Braly motioned to reselect the current SCR Watershed Coordinator for the next term. Member Cattell seconded. The motion was approved, with 17 votes in favor, zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

## 7. Discussion Items (continued)

### b) Regional Program Quarterly Report Summary FY21-22 Q3 and Q4

District staff shared screen and presented the Regional Program Quarter 2 and 3 Report Summary for FY21-22. The summary may be found on the SCWP site and full reports are available on the SCWP portal. Items in red were flagged activity concerns. District staff invited project developers to respond to any clarification questions

Committee members had no clarifying questions.

### c) Santa Clara River (SCR) Project Selection Discussion for populating Fiscal Year 2023-24 Stormwater Investment Plan

- [SCW Portal](#)
- [SCR Summary of Resources FY2023-24](#)

Chair Seegmiller provided an overview of the Via Princessa Project and stated the City of Santa Clarita is proposing to push Newhall Park project's FY23-24 and FY24-25 funding out to future funding to free up budget for other projects, including the Via Princessa Project. Chair Seegmiller expressed the Via Princessa Project is a priority because it has an impactful potential to create a new park for the community.

Committee members asked for clarification as to when funding for the Newhall project will be pushed out to. Chair Seegmiller replied the timeline is dependent on the availability of regional funds.

Member Cattell asked if there will be flexibility for the Newhall Project to make improvements and changes to the project in the future, without rescoring. Chair Seegmiller responded if no substantial changes are made, then the project will not need to be rescored.

## 8. Public Comment Period (continued)

There were no public comments.

## 9. Voting Items (continued)

### a. Reselect the current SCR Watershed Coordinator for the next term

This item was moved forward in the agenda by Chair Seegmiller, see above.

### b. Selection of Vice Chair

Member Mary Johnson motioned to select Member Sandra Cattell as Vice Chair for the SCR WASC. Member Steve Cole seconded the motion. The motion was approved, with 17 votes in favor, zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

### c. Approve the final Fiscal Year 2023-24 Stormwater Investment Plan funding recommendations for the SCR Watershed Area and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee for review

Member Cattell motioned to approve the FY 23-24 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) as proposed, with the Newhall Park project being moved to future funding, with recognition that the Newhall project was already approved. Member Gibbs seconded. The motion was approved, with 17 votes in favor and zero opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

District staff noted the SIP will now be reviewed by the Regional Oversight Committee. If approved, the SIP will then be presented to the Board for final approval in the fall.

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## **10. Items for Next Agenda**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. See the SCWP website for details. Items on the Agenda include:

- a) Findings to Continue Teleconference Meetings under Assembly Bill 361 (if needed)

## **11. Adjournment**

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

**SANTA CLARA RIVER WASC MEETING - FEBRUARY 2, 2023**

		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)			
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 12-1-2022 Meeting Minutes	Reselect the current SCR Watershed Coordinator for the next term	Vote to Approve SCR Vice Chair Sandra Cattell	Approve the final Fiscal Year 2023-24 Stormwater Investment Plan
Agency	District	Julian Juarez	x	Ramy Gindi		y	y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	Ali Elhassan	x			y	y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Steve Cole	x	Rick Viergutz		y	y	y	y
Agency	LA County Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell		Christopher Lapaz	x	y	y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services	Jerrid McKenna	x	Susan Nelson		y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Poole & Shaffery	Hunt Braly	x			y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Agua Dulce Town Council	Mary Johnson	x			y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Santa Clarita Sierra Club	Sandra Cattell	x	Diane Trautman		y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Evolve Business Strategies	Ivan Volschenk	x			y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation	Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel	x	Heidi Webber		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto		Allen Ma	x	a	y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto		Allen Ma	x	a	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Jason Gibbs	x	Tyler Pledger		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Heather Merenda	x	Oliver Cramer		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Damon Letz	x	Dan Duncan		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Darin Seegmiller*	x	Sarona Vivanco		y	y	y	y
Watershed Coordinator									
Non-Voting Member	TreePeople, Inc.	Peter Massey		Amanda Begley	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yes (Y)	14	17	17	17
Total Voting Members Present		17			No (N)	0	0	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	3	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		5			Total	17	17	17	17
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

**Attendees**  
**Santa Clara River WASC Meeting**  
**February 2, 2023**

Alexandro Garcia  
Ali Elhassan  
Allen Ma - LA Co Public Works  
Amanda Begley  
cherise thompson  
Chris Lapaz  
Damon Letz  
Dan Duncan  
Darin Seegmiller

Dianne Hellriel  
Emily Ng  
Graciela Cruz Sierra  
Haris Harouny - LACFCD  
Heather Merenda  
HELLO BYE  
Hunt Braly  
Ivan Volschenk  
Jackie Lillio

jason gibbs  
Jenny Chau  
Jerrid McKenna  
Julian Juarez  
Kirk Allen  
Leslie Frazier  
Lynne Plambeck  
Mark Hall GLAmosquito  
Mary Johnson

Mike Antos (Regional Coordination)  
Nate Schreiner  
Oliver Cramer  
Roland Pacheco  
Sandra Cattell  
Sherry Steele  
steve cole  
Uriel Cobian - LACFCD

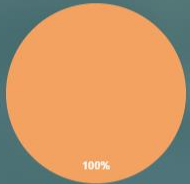
This scenario was selected and approved by the Watershed Area Steering Committee for funding.

# SCW Funding Summary

FY23-24 
  FY24-25 
  FY25-26 
  FY26-27 
  FY27-28 
  All 
  5-Year 
  Infrastructure Projects 
  Scientific Studies 
  Technical Resources 
  All 
  DAC 
  Non-DAC 
  All 
 1 Total Projects 
 1 Filtered Projects 
 Clear All

## Current Call for Projects

### FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

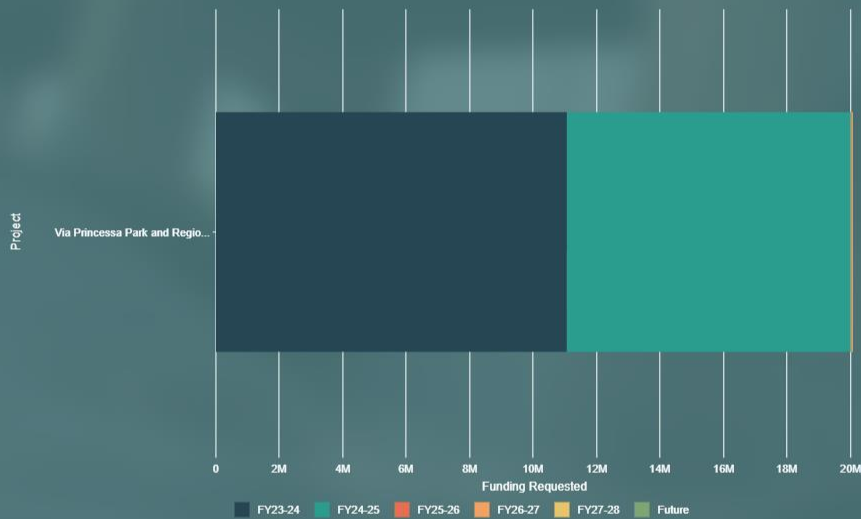


### IP PROJECT SCORING



### PROJECT FUNDING BY FISCAL YEAR (FY)

Stacked  Grouped

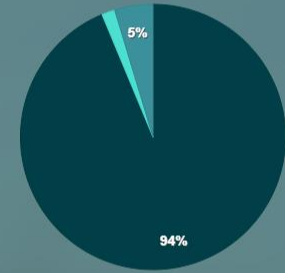


## All Projects to Date

### DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (DAC) ALLOCATION

Required DAC Ratio	12%
Required Funding for DACs FY23-28 (110%)	\$ 2,727,836
Funding Allocated for DACs FY23-28	\$ 20,079,768

### REGIONAL PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION



Infrastructure Projects (>85%) 
  Scientific Studies (<5%) 
  Technical Resources (<10%)

## Stormwater Investment Plan Preview

	Budget		Projections					TOTAL	Annual O&M
	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	Future Funding			
A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected	\$5.9M	\$5.9M	\$5.9M	\$5.9M	\$5.9M		\$29.4M		
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D) ⓘ	\$17M	\$11.5M	\$8.1M	\$13.7M	\$19.3M				
C. Total Recommendation in Current SIP	\$11.1M	\$8.9M	\$27k	\$27k	\$27k	\$0	\$20.1M	\$77.1k	
Total Allocated in Previous SIP(s)	\$311k	\$295k	\$304k	\$236k	\$200k	\$16.2M	\$1.3M	\$666k	
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C) ⓘ	\$11.1M	\$5.6M	\$2.3M	\$7.8M	\$13.4M	\$19.1M		Total: \$743k	
E. Percent Allocated (C/B) ⓘ	67%	80%	4%	2%	1%		73%		



Select Watershed Area

Santa Clara River

Select Call for Projects

FY23-24

Funding Scenarios

Final



## Project Selection & Funding Details



Project Name	DAC Benefit	FY23-24 Budget	FY24-25 Projection	FY25-26 Projection	FY26-27 Projection	FY27-28 Projection	Future Funding	ANTICIPATED TOTAL	Include
Infrastructure Projects		\$11,055,619	\$8,943,149	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$20,079,768	
• Via Princessa Park and Regional BMP Project	Yes	\$11,055,619	\$8,943,149	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$20,079,768	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scientific Studies		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Technical Resources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Grand Total		\$11,055,619	\$8,943,149	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$20,079,768	



# Previous FY Project Funding Details

FY22-23 - Project Name ▾	DAC Benefit	FY23-24 Budget	FY24-25 Projection	FY25-26 Projection	FY26-27 Projection	FY27-28 Projection	Future Funding	ANTICIPATED TOTAL REMAINING
● Infrastructure Projects ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
• Pico Canyon Park Stormwater Improvements Project	No	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 ⓘ
● Scientific Studies ▾		\$111,065	\$95,198	\$103,520	\$36,183	\$0	\$0	\$345,966
• Regional Pathogen Reduction Study	7 WA	\$111,065	\$95,198	\$103,520	\$36,183	\$0	\$0	\$345,966 ⓘ
● Technical Resources ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
• Jake Kuredjian Park Stormwater Improvements Project		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 ⓘ
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$111,065</b>	<b>\$95,198</b>	<b>\$103,520</b>	<b>\$36,183</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$345,966</b>

FY21-22 - Project Name ▾	DAC Benefit	FY23-24 Budget	FY24-25 Projection	FY25-26 Projection	FY26-27 Projection	FY27-28 Projection	Future Funding	ANTICIPATED TOTAL REMAINING
● Infrastructure Projects ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
● Scientific Studies ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
• Regional Pathogen Reduction Study	8 WA	\$108,550	\$107,645	\$18,092	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$234,287
● Technical Resources ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
• Via Princessa Park		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 ⓘ
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

FY20-21 - Project Name ▾	DAC Benefit	FY23-24 Budget	FY24-25 Projection	FY25-26 Projection	FY26-27 Projection	FY27-28 Projection	Future Funding	ANTICIPATED TOTAL REMAINING
● Infrastructure Projects ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,198,897	\$16,198,897
• Newhall Park Infiltration	Yes	\$0 ⓘ	\$0 ⓘ	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,198,897 ⓘ	\$16,198,897 ⓘ
• Hasley Canyon Park Stormwater Improvements Project	No	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0 ⓘ
● Scientific Studies ▾		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
● Technical Resources ▾		\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
• Santa Clara River Watershed Coordinator	WC	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000 ⓘ	\$200,000	\$0	\$1,000,000 ⓘ
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$16,198,897</b>	<b>\$17,198,897</b>