



5 Ways Measure W, the Safe Clean Water parcel tax, would affect our communities

It's no secret that we live in a water-scarce region. L.A. County's water system was built 100 years ago to send stormwater out to sea to prevent floods, not capture the water for future use. The way the system is currently designed, the County misses the opportunity to capture more than 100 billion gallons of water each year. L.A. County's stormwater system is designed to move water out to the ocean as fast as possible without filtering out any trash, plastic, or other contaminants. This contamination has the effect of polluting our rivers, waterways and oceans. This contamination has been identified as one of the biggest threats to L.A. County's water quality, as it poses a danger to humans and animals alike.

This November, voters in L.A. County will decide whether to approve Measure W—the Safe Clean Water Program—a parcel tax that would increase L.A. County's local water supply, improve water quality, and invest in making our communities greener and more livable. As described below, the money raised by Measure W would have several impacts on L.A. County's local communities.

1. Measure W would help make our communities greener

Many L.A. neighborhoods—especially in low-income areas—are paved over and don't have enough parks, trees, or shade. Measure W would prioritize a variety of projects, from large wetlands to green streets, that beautify underserved communities and protect residents from extreme heat.

2. Measure W would help make our communities healthier

Many of the projects likely to be built through Measure W would not just capture, clean, and collect water—they would help create more recreational open space.

3. Measure W would boost investment where it's needed most

The communities that are the most vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather and poor water quality are often the same ones that struggle to fund improvements to their water systems. Measure W would boost investment in underserved communities and help design and fund projects that would otherwise not be built.

4. Measure W would help create new jobs

The Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) estimates that Measure W would create as many as 9,500 construction jobs and stimulate as much as \$14 billion in economic activity over 30 years. Measure W would also provide job training so workers in communities where jobs are lacking can learn to design, build, and maintain a system for safe, clean water.

5. Measure W would help increase our local supply of clean water

The Safe Clean Water Program would use new technology, science, and nature-based solutions to improve water quality for all of L.A. County.

How Measure W would be funded:

If approved by 66.7 percent of voters in the November 2018 election, Measure W would be funded by a parcel tax of 2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable areas (like concrete) within the County. This would raise approximately \$300 million annually. The median L.A. County single-family residence would pay about \$83. Certain properties, such as public schools, would be exempt from paying the parcel tax.