



5 ways Measure W, the Safe Clean Water parcel tax, would affect the Foothills:

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 foothill cities.

1. Measure W would help cities work together to increase regional water supply and sustainability

L.A. County gets two-thirds of its water from hundreds of miles away. That's no longer sustainable. Increasing our local water supply through stormwater capture would reduce the need to import water from increasingly exhausted sources and allow for cities across the County, from the Foothills to the ocean, to work together in a smart regional system.

2. Measure W would help protect against the effects of extreme heat

High temperatures are a growing threat to public health, especially hotter cities that are further from the coast. Triple-digit temperatures can be deadly, especially for children and the elderly, and wildfires pollute our waterways with harmful contaminants. The Safe Clean Water program would help safeguard against the effects of dangerous weather by creating more shaded, cool areas that lower temperatures while capturing and cleaning toxic, dirty stormwater.

3. Measure W would provide schools with new improvements

Through Measure W, schools in our corner of Los Angeles County could apply for funding to build stormwater capture sites that double as playing fields—saving our districts money and giving kids more space to learn and play. Measure W would also provide hands-on learning opportunities and could improve our environmental science curriculum.

4. Measure W would save businesses money

Complying with the Clean Water Act is expected to cost cities \$20 billion over the next 20 years, which may lead to increased taxes for small businesses. If L.A. County updates our 100-year-old infrastructure now, cities and businesses could avoid future costs.

5. Measure W would help improve water quality

As beautiful as our region can be, stormwater runoff washes trash, plastic, and other contaminants into our rivers and streams. The Safe Clean Water program would capture and clean toxic water before it contaminates our communities and our environment.

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.