



## 5 ways Measure W, the Safe Clean Water parcel tax, would affect L.A. County schools

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 schools.

### 1. Measure W would help provide schools with new improvements

Through Measure W, schools could apply for funding to build stormwater capture sites that double as playing fields—saving school districts money and giving kids more space to learn and play.

### 2. Measure W would provide learning opportunities for students

By building stormwater capture sites on their grounds, schools would be able to provide impactful, hands-on science lessons on water and sustainability.

### 3. Measure W would make schools greener and improve health

Green spaces can improve students' physical and mental health. By expanding green infrastructure and replacing pavement with plants and natural features, schools would support their students' learning and achievement while also improving their health.

### 4. Measure W would provide certification and job training programs

L.A. County's water system was not designed to meet the needs of such a large population or protect against extreme weather and climate change. The Safe Clean Water Program would modernize our dated system to protect against the effects of heat waves, fire, and drought.

### 5. School districts would not have to pay for Measure W

Public school districts would be exempt from the Safe Clean Water parcel tax, allowing them to benefit from improved water quality and facilities at no cost.

### 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.