

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, March 4, 2020
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility,
1935 S. Hughes Way, El Segundo, CA 90245

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen (LA County Flood Control District)	Darryl Ford* (Los Angeles Rec & Park)
Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)	Stephanie Katsouleas (Manhattan Beach)
Craig Cadwallader (Surfrider Foundation South Bay)	Julio Gonzalez (Carson)
Diane Gatza (Water Replenishment District)	Guang Yu Wang (SMB Restoration Commission)
Alex Heide* (West Basin)	Heecheol Kwon (Hawthorne)
John Dettle (Torrance)	Hany Fangary (Fangary Law Group)
Susie Santilena (LA)	Wendy Butts (LA Conservation Corps)
TJ Moon* (LA County)	
Ken Rukavina (Palos Verdes Estates)	

Committee Members Not Present:

Alison Suffet-Diaz (Environmental Charter School)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Diane Gatza, Chair of the South Santa Monica Bay WASC, called the meeting to order.

All committee members made self-introductions, and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 19, 2020

The District provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Diane Gatza asked the committee members for comments or revisions.

Kristen Ruffell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Craig Cadwallader seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes. (unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kirk Allen provided the District update, noting: the Watershed Coordinator solicitation should go out in April; and the fund Transfer Agreement will go out for public review next week.

John Dettle announced that City of Torrance computer systems are down which may hinder communication, requesting communication only by fax at 310-781-6902.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



4. Public Comment Period

A member of the public requested the SSMB WASC consider funding the Manhattan Beach project, and that Heal the Bay does not support the Wet Weather Zinc study and that Heal the bay is concerned with the lack of details on the Bacteria Study.

5. Discussion Items:

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

No members have had any ex parte communications to disclose.

b) SSMB Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for the FY 20-21 Stormwater Investment Plan

Diane Gatza noted that a ranking sheet provided by the District would not be utilized, noting there is enough funding to potentially fund all projects.

Hany Fangary inquired how a consensus will be reached if no ranking or voting is made. Diane Gatza noted that it would be more of an organic process using the SIP Planning tool, and that there are no official voting items for today.

Diane Gatza inquired what percent of infrastructure funds the WASC would consider, suggesting 80% of the current year and 50% of funds for future years. Diane Gatza noted that this would be considered as a voting item for the next meeting.

Stephanie Katsouleas inquired how the 50% ratio was reached. Diane Gatza and Kirk Allen clarified that a portion of funding is required to be available for future year SIPs, and noted that future years are only estimated earmarks and not guaranteed; noting it would be up to the next year's WASC to agree and make modifications to the future year SIPs. John Dettle agreed that 50% budgeting estimate would be beneficial.

Wendy Butts inquired how the 80% maximum was reached. Kirk Allen noted that this is considered a 20% contingency to allow additional fund balance for projects that go overbudget.

Kristen Ruffell requested that the 80% and 50% numbers would be considered "targets" to allow some flexibility in the SIP planning process.

The Committee discussed potential phasing of applicant budgeting requests, and how modifications could be made to fit into the 80% and 50% SIP targets.

The Committee reviewed the various projects for consideration reviewing specific benefits of the projects. The Committee shared concerns on how projects requesting only O&M would be considered, especially if O&M were directed only at community investment benefits. Additional concerns were raised for projects that may change in the first year or that may need to phase funds to earlier or later years. The Committee agreed that funding maintenance of projects developed through the SCW should be considered for ongoing O&M for the life of the project.

The committee suggested potentially only funding the design portion of the Washington Q Street Project; funding would be modified at \$570k for FY20-21, \$2,177k for FY21-22 & FY22-23.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



The Committee suggested moving funding forward for the Alondra Park Multi Benefit Stormwater Capture Project but did not come to a consensus on the budget values.

For Harbor City Greenway O&M, the Committee raised concerns with the precedent set by allowing a project to fund O&M for landscaping and suggested that the project be removed from consideration. Susie Santilena requested an opportunity to check if the proposed landscaping would be used for water quality or if it would only provide a visual enhancement. The Committee decided to keep the project in until more information was provided by the City of LA.

Project Name	Total SCW Funding Requested	SCW Funding Requested (FY 20-21)	SCW Funding Requested (FY 21-22)	SCW Funding Requested (FY 22-23)
Alondra Park Multi Benefit Stormwater Capture Project	\$30,000k	\$10,000k	\$10,000k	\$ 10,000k
Harbor City Greenway O&M	\$75k	\$75k	\$ -	\$ -
Torrance Airport Storm Water Basin Project, Phase 2	\$906k	\$906k	\$ -	\$ -
Wilmington Q Street Local Urban Area Flow Management	\$4,924k	\$570k	\$2,177k	\$2,177k

6. Public Comment Period

A member of the public disagreed with the Heal the Bay assessment that the Bacteria study aims to reduce the water quality requirement for bacteria. The study is aimed at identifying markers for pathogens and identifying sources of these markers. It would be up to the Water Boards to consider changes to bacteria water quality standards.

7. Voting Items

None

8. Items for next agenda

Diane Gatza suggested including a voting item to set a maximum of 80% funding for this year and 50% estimate for future years. Kristen Ruffell requested that these maximums be considered “targets”.

Diane Gatza requested if the meeting on March 18 could be extended to 3 hours to facilitate any remaining discussions. The meeting would be held from 1pm to 4pm.

Kristen Ruffell suggested the agenda include a voting item on a final SIP package.

Susie Santilena requested if a ranked voting could be added back for consideration into the next meeting in case the SIP approval process does not go smoothly.

9. Adjournment

Diane Gatza thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

South Santa Monica Bay
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Cung Nguyen	FCD	CUNGUYEN@dpw.lacounty.gov	P	
Carolina Hernandez	FCD	CHERNANDEZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	A	
Diane Gatza	Water Replenishment District	dgatza@ wrd.org	P	✓
Lyndsey Bloxom	Water Replenishment District	lbloxom@ wrd.org	A	
Cathie Santo Domingo	Los Angeles Recreation & Parks	cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org	P	
Darryl Ford	Los Angeles Recreation & Parks	Darryl.Ford@lacity.org	A	
Kristen Ruffell	Sanitation Districts	kruffell@lacsds.org	P	
Mike Sullivan	Sanitation Districts	msullivan@lacsds.org	A	
E.J. Caldwell	West Basin	edwardc@westbasin.org	P	
Alex Heide	West Basin	alexanderh@westbasin.org	A	
Alison Suffet-Diaz	Environmental Charter School	alison@ecsonline.org	P	
Craig Cadwallader	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	craigc@surfrider-southbay.org	P	
Mary Simun	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	entamoebatrex@hotmail.com	A	
Hany Fangary	Fangary Law Group	hany@fangarylawn.com	P	
Justin Massey			A	

South Santa Monica Bay
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Wendy Butts	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	wbutts@lacorps.org	P	<i>Wendy A. Butts</i>
Bo Savage	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	bsavage@lacorps.org	A	
Guang Yu Wang	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission	Guangyu.wang@waterboards.ca.gov	P	<i>[Signature]</i>
Julio Gonzalez	Carson	JGonzalez@carson.ca.us	P	<i>[Signature]</i>
Maria E. Williams-Slaughter	Carson	MSlaughter@Carson.ca.us	A	
Susie Santilena	Los Angeles	susie.santilena@lacity.org	P	✓
Alfredo Magallanes	Los Angeles - Sanitation	alfredo.magallanes@lacity.org	A	
Paul Alva	Los Angeles County	PALVA@dpw.lacounty.gov	P	
Mark Lombos	Los Angeles County	MLOMBOS@dpw.lacounty.gov	A	
TJ Moon	Los Angeles County	TMOON@dpw.lacounty.gov	A	✓
John Dettle	Torrance	jdettle@torranceca.gov	P	<i>JD</i>
Wilson Mendoza	Torrance	Wmendoza@TorranceCA.Gov	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Stephanie Katsouleas	EWMP: Beach Cities (Manhattan Beach)	skatsouleas@citymb.info	P	✓
Shawn Igoe	EWMP: Beach Cities (Manhattan Beach)	sigoe@citymb.info	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Heecheol Kwon	EWMP: Dominguez (Hawthorne)	HKwon@cityofhawthorne.org	P	<i>[Signature]</i>

South Santa Monica Bay
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Akbar Farokhi	EWMP: Dominguez (Hawthorne)	AFarokhi@cityofhawthorne.org	A	
Lauren Amimoto	EWMP: Dominguez (Inglewood)	lamimoto@cityofinglewood.org	A	
Barmeshwar Rai	EWMP: Dominguez (Inglewood)	brai@cityofinglewood.org	A	
Ken Rukavina	EWMP: Peninsula (Palos Verdes Estates)	krukavina@pvestates.org	P	<i>Ken Rukavina</i>
Elias K. Sassoon	EWMP: Peninsula (Rancho Palos Verdes)	esassoon@rpvca.gov	A	

South Santa Monica Bay
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Timmy	Takigawa	CWE	ttakigawa@cwecorp.com
Nate	Schreiner	Tetra Tech	nate.schreiner@tetratech.com
Jul	Waver	Weston	volent.waver@westonsolutions.com
Jacqueline	Mak	JLHA	jmak@jlha.net
Susan	Robinson	McGowan	Susan@mcgowan-consulting.com
Aaron	Chiang	LA County	achiang@pw.lacounty.gov
Brenda	Panton	Woodard & Curran	bpanton@woodardcurran.com
Thuan	Nguyen	LA County	
Richard	Watson	RWA	rwatson@rwaplanning.com
Jon	Aseison	Stanrec	jonathan.aseison@stanrec.com
Nancy	Shrodes	Heal the Bay	nshrodes@healthebay.org
Mercedes	Passanisi	LA County	mpassanisi@pw.lacounty.gov
Stephanie	Katsoulacos	CMB	skatsoulacos@cityofmb.info
Michelle	Staffield	JLHA	mstaffield@jlha.net
Jacqueline	Mak	"	jmak@jlha.net

*Signing or completing this form is voluntary for members of the public



Public Comment Form

Name: Richard WATSON Organization: RWA/LCC watershed group
 Email: rwatson@rwaplanning.com Phone: 949-394-8495
 Meeting: South SM Bay Date: 04 MARCH 2020

LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

Comments

Agenda Item 6

I disagree with Health Bay that the Regional Bacteria Study is primarily designed to weaken water quality standards rather than improve water quality. The primary purpose is to develop procedures and tools to focus our project investments related to addressing bacteria problem on human fecal matter which is the source of most human pathogens. As I mentioned in an earlier presentation we want to find human markers that help us ~~find~~ address the source of human pathogens. For instance ~~we are~~ in the Los Cerritos channel watershed we are starting marker for Bacteriophage MS2 that is a ~~surrogate~~ ^{surrogate} of norovirus. I expect that we are going to find a ~~series~~ series of markers that will be useful in different circumstances. After a five year study is completed and current research on permeability for risk for various markers is completed, the Regional Board may choose to modify objectives at some point to match the ^{focus on} human sources.

To review the guidance documents and for more information, visit www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

Comments can be mailed to:

ATTN: Safe, Clean Water Program (over)
 LA County Public Works
 P.O. Box 1460
 Alhambra, CA 91802-1460

There will be a Technical Advisory Committee and a Stakeholder Committee that would involve proponents, NGOs, regulators and others. Bruce Pandey has said that in addition to the Regional Water Board, the State Water Board and the EPA Region 9 be involved. I also expected SCCWRP will be involved either on the Project Team or the Stakeholder Committee.

I'm Nancy Shrodes, the Associate Director of Policy & Outreach at Heal the Bay, and I would like to share our position on a few projects with the committee.

- We would like to highlight the Manhattan Beach Infiltration Trench Project for Technical Assistance. It is an impressive project to address both wet and dry TMDLs at this incredibly popular beach location for residents and nonresidents alike.
 - o We fully support and applaud the public health benefits- 100% reduction in Fecal Indicator Bacteria is noteworthy!
 - o Thoughtful with GHG requirements with proposed gravity flow
 - o Infiltration to help with salt water intrusion, which is historically problematic in SM Bay- glad that captured water would be put to good use
- Heal the Bay does not support funding the Zinc or the Bacteria scientific studies
 - o The Safe, Clean Water Program is not the right funding source for either study because this study does not support many of the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program or its Scientific Studies Program. The voters approved this funding to cleanup up our act, not to reduce water quality criteria.
 - o For the recalculation of wet weather zinc criterion,
 - This proposal is asking for \$500K to **potentially** weaken water quality objectives, rather than improving our water quality. This money should instead be spent on multi-benefit stormwater capture projects.
 - There are other potential ways to achieve this type of recalculation, including working with the State Water Resources Control Board.
 - o In regards to the Regional Bacteria Scientific study

- We have concerns about the scientific rigor and lack of clarity in the details of the study, particularly without involving academia.
- This proposal is asking for ~\$10M over the next five years to weaken water quality objectives, rather than improving our water quality. This ~\$10M should be spent on multi-benefit stormwater capture projects.
- There are other potential funding sources for this study including the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition, which already has a similar study in its 5-year plan.