

Safe, Clean Water Program

North Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, May 12, 2021
10:00am - 12:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen (LACFCD)
Dave Rydman* (LAC Waterworks)
Chad Christensen (MRCA)
David Pedersen (LVMWD)
Tevin Schmitt (WCFCV)
Richard Ambrose* (UCLA)
Jessica Forte (Agoura Hills)
Alex Farassati (Calabasas)
Joe Bellomo* (Hidden Hills)

Sophie Freeman* (LAC Supervisor District 3)
Bruce Hamamoto (LA County Public Works)
Mark Johnson (Malibu)
Roxanne Hughes (Westlake Village)
Patricia Torres Bruno (LA Area Chamber of Commerce)
Doug Marian (CPMCA)

Committee Members Not Present:

Kirsten James (Community Stakeholder)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

David Pederson, Chair of the North Santa Monica Bay WASC, welcomed the WASC and called the meeting to order. All WASC members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

Kirk Allen (District) discussed WebEx features and facilitated the roll call. WASC members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2021

The District provided a copy of the minutes from the previous meeting. David Pederson asked the WASC for comments or revisions.

Alex Farassati made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Cung Nguyen seconded the motion. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes (13 Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kirk Allen (District) provided the District updates, noting:

- Call for Projects for Fiscal Year 2022-23 deadline is July 31, 2021.
- Online reporting module has been updated and will go live on May 25, 2021.
- Project applicants must submit a conceptual plan approval letter from the District, if utilizing District property and/or facilities, and must contact and provide project information to the District at least two months in advance of the call for projects deadline.

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- Two Call for Projects Informational Sessions are scheduled for May 27, 9:00am – 10:30am and June 3, 3:00pm – 4:30pm.
- First quarterly reports from project applicants that received SCW funds are due on May 15, 2021 on the Safe Clean Water online reporting portal.
- Municipal Program FY 21-22 Annual Plans were due on 4/1/21. The 2nd funds disbursement for the Municipal Program is anticipated to be disbursed in August 2021.
- Watershed Coordinators (WC) - 7 out of the 12 agreements have been executed. Melina Watts is the WC for the NSMB Watershed Area. A WC roster is available on the SCW website.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Melina Watts, of Melina Sempill Watts Consulting (MSWC), shared a presentation on coordination updates in the North Santa Monica Bay watershed (see attached).

5. Public Comment Period

No public comments received.

6. Discussion Items:

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Bruce Hamamoto noted to have exchanged emails with Madelyn Glickfeld and Rich Ambrose regarding the Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements project. He also exchanged emails with Melina Watts regarding Viewridge area residents' concerns.

Joe Bellomo noted to have had conversations with Melina Watts regarding Hidden Hills' goals, objectives of the watershed, and progress made in the Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP). Also, he spoke with the Malibu Creek Watershed EWMP Group regarding the advancement and development of projects.

Cung Nguyen noted to have exchanged emails with Bruce Hamamoto in April regarding the Regional Board's Trash TMDL order.

Chad Christensen noted to have had general discussions with Jessica Forte and Joe Bellomo regarding the Trash TMDL.

Mark Johnson noted he had a meeting with Melina Watts to discuss the City of Malibu's goals for the Safe Clean Water Program.

Rich Ambrose noted he exchanged emails with Bruce Hamamoto regarding the Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project. He also noted he had conversations with Madelyn Glickfeld about today's meeting.

Roxanne Hughes noted to have met with Melina Watts to discuss different outreach strategies and projects in Westlake Village. She also noted that they discussed Melina's experience with the community surrounding the Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements project.

Tevin Schmitt noted to have met with Melina Watts last week to discuss interests in the watershed, Nature-based solutions, and community outreach.

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David Pederson noted to have met with Melina Watts to discuss outreach strategies. He also noted to have had general discussions with Kirk Allen and the Public Works team regarding Guidelines for WC communications.

Alex Farassati noted to have met with Melina Watts to discuss the Regional and Calabasas projects.

b) Guidelines for Watershed Coordinator Communications

David Pederson provided an overview of the WC communications document and the issues they are resolving to comply with the Brown Act. He noted that the document has been posted on the SCW website and guidelines have been shared with the coordinators.

c) Municipal Plans for future rounds of Call for Projects

- i) City of Agoura Hills Annual Plan FY 2020-21
- ii) City of Calabasas Annual Plan FY 2020-21
- iii) City of Los Angeles Annual Plan FY 2020-21
- iv) County of Los Angeles Annual Plan FY 2020-21
- v) City of Malibu Annual Plan FY 2020-21
- vi) City of Westlake Village Annual Plan FY 2020-21

City representatives discussed their respective cities' Annual Plans (see attached).

David Pederson provided an overview of the SCW Ordinance and the funding breakdown for the Infrastructure Program (IP)(85%), Technical Resources Program (TRP)(10%), and Scientific Studies (SS)(5%). He mentioned the budget for the WCs comes from the TRP funds.

Jessica Forte provided an overview on the City of Agoura Hills Annual Plan.

Alex Farassati asked for the correct presentation to be posted on the website because the one currently posted is incorrect for Hidden Hills. Kirk Allen responded that the SCW team would confirm.

Bruce Hamamoto commented that the County of Los Angeles' plan intends to only use its Municipal funds to fund Regional projects.

d) North Santa Monica Bay (NSMB) Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for populating the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Stormwater Investment Plan (SCW Portal & NSMB Scoring Rubric)

- i. Technical Resources Program (TRP)
 - (1) Las Virgenes Creek Restoration – Phase III – City of Calabasas
 - (2) Liberty Canyon Green Improvement – LA County Public Works
 - (3) Watershed Coordinator

David Pederson shared that the 10% amount budgeted for the NSMB TRP cannot be exceeded over a five-year period, per the Ordinance.

Alex Farassati asked if both TRP projects above could be bundled into one and be developed by one consultant. Kirk Allen (District) indicated that there is too much deviation between the two projects and it not recommended for them to be combined.

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Bruce Hamamoto expressed support for Alex Farassati's idea of bundling the projects and stated that the County of Los Angeles would be open to having one consultant develop both projects.

Joe Bellomo commented that he would be interested to see if both TRP project applicants would accept half of the \$400K available budget and if the District would accept the differential from each of the agencies.

Cung Nguyen asked if the WASC could apply the Partial Funding Guidance and have the Municipalities accept the \$200K. Kirk Allen replied that that would only be for applicants receiving funding. Kirk added that the program is new and it's too risky to come in at a lower dollar amount for two feasibility studies. He also asked if it would be possible for the Municipalities to augment the difference in funding. Kirk Allen (District) indicated that additional funds from a Municipality could not be leveraged and transferred to the County to support funding the engineering and consulting work associated with the TRPs.

David Pederson asked if there are other possibilities to fund both projects. Kirk Allen (District) indicated that it is not a plausible option at this stage of the program. He added that costs are unknown until a cost proposal is submitted by a consultant for a particular Feasibility Study.

Melina Watts asked if City in-house engineering staff time could be used to contribute to TRP projects that receive reduced funding amounts? Kirk Allen (District) indicated that that has not been discussed.

Alex Farassati urged the WASC to fund the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project due to City of Calabasas not having the funds to move the project forward, since the pandemic has had a significant impact on the City's operating budget. The project will likely be shelved for years without the SCW funds.

Chad Christensen asked if the Liberty Canyon Green Improvement project's proponents have considered the impacts of the wildlife over-crossing project and commented that there could be impacts to drainage since some utilities will need to be moved for the over-crossing. Bruce Hamamoto responded that their project will be outside of the construction zone of the over-crossing project and that impacts from the relocated utilities has not yet been evaluated.

Tevin Schmitt asked Bruce Hamamoto if LA County can make a commitment to choose native plants instead of drought tolerant plants for the Liberty Canyon project and commented that in his opinion the use of drought tolerant plants is not a nature-based solution. Bruce Hamamoto responded that it's too early in the project development to make that commitment; he commented that native plants are more challenging to acquire and that native plants are a subset of the drought tolerant category.

Roxanne Hughes commented that the area tributary to the Liberty Canyon project is mostly open space and residential and asked what the biggest pollutant generating land uses are in the area. She expressed concern over using a large amount of funds to clean up low levels of pollutants. Bruce Hamamoto responded that the project would be sized to treat the developed areas. He also commented that the MS4 storm drains serve residential communities and those areas generate pollutants that are of concern to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Roxanne Hughes asked if the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project includes trash capture prior to flows entering the creek. Alex Farassati indicated that trash capture is part of the project. He added that part of the Feasibility Study is to see what they can do to treat the water before it is discharged, noting that Las Virgenes Creek is high in bacteria, but the source of pollution is still unknown.

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ii. Infrastructure Program (IP)

(1) [Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project](#) – LA County Public Works

David Pederson asked if the total funding requested for the Viewridge project was \$800K; \$400K this year and \$400K next year. Bruce Hamamoto confirmed and clarified additional funding for the project comes from Prop 1 IRWM grant (\$800K) and the remaining balance for the \$8M total project cost comes from the County General Fund.

Bruce Hamamoto shared a presentation on the Viewridge project (see attached).

Roxanne Hughes commented that she is concerned that spending \$8M to treat a 40-acre residential subdivision with a very low pollutant load from a low priority land use would set a unsustainable precedent for future projects. Bruce Hamamoto responded that it has been projected that County-wide there is a \$20B need over the next 20 years to address water quality issues and agreed that it is a very high amount. Additionally, he stated the County and others have already implemented projects in other neighborhoods treating residential neighborhoods' tributary areas. Furthermore, the testing and the modeling data and the actual testing of the pre-project monitoring have always yielded similar data; the pollutants are higher than the limits allowed by the Regional Board.

Jeremy Wolf (Senator Stern's Office) provided an overview of Bill SB54, which will set a statewide goal of reducing waste generated by single use disposable packaging and food service ware by 75%, by 2032.

7. Voting Items:

Alex Farassati motioned to include Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvement project in the SIP for this year. Sophie Freeman seconded it. The motion was approved (14 Yes's, 1 No; see Vote Tracker sheet).

Tevin Schmitt motioned to include Las Virgenes Creek Restoration in the TRP. Roxanne Hughes seconded. The motion was approved (15 Yes', see Vote Track sheet).

Cung Nguyen motioned to approve the final Fiscal Year 2021-22 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) and advancing the SIP to the Regional Oversight Committee, which would include Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements project and the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration TRP. Alex Farassati seconded the motion. Motion was approved (14 Yes's, See Vote Tracker sheet)

8. Meeting Schedule

- a) 2nd Wednesday, 1PM – 3PM: June 9th
- b) 2nd Thursday, 10AM – 12PM: June 10th
- c) 2nd Thursday, 1PM – 3PM: June 10th

To be determined.

9. Items for next agenda

None

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10. Adjournment

David Pederson thanked the WASC and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.



North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Co-Coordination Updates

By Melina Sempill Watts

May 12, 2021

Photo by Watts

Calabasas, Alex Farassati + Staff: NPS project idea

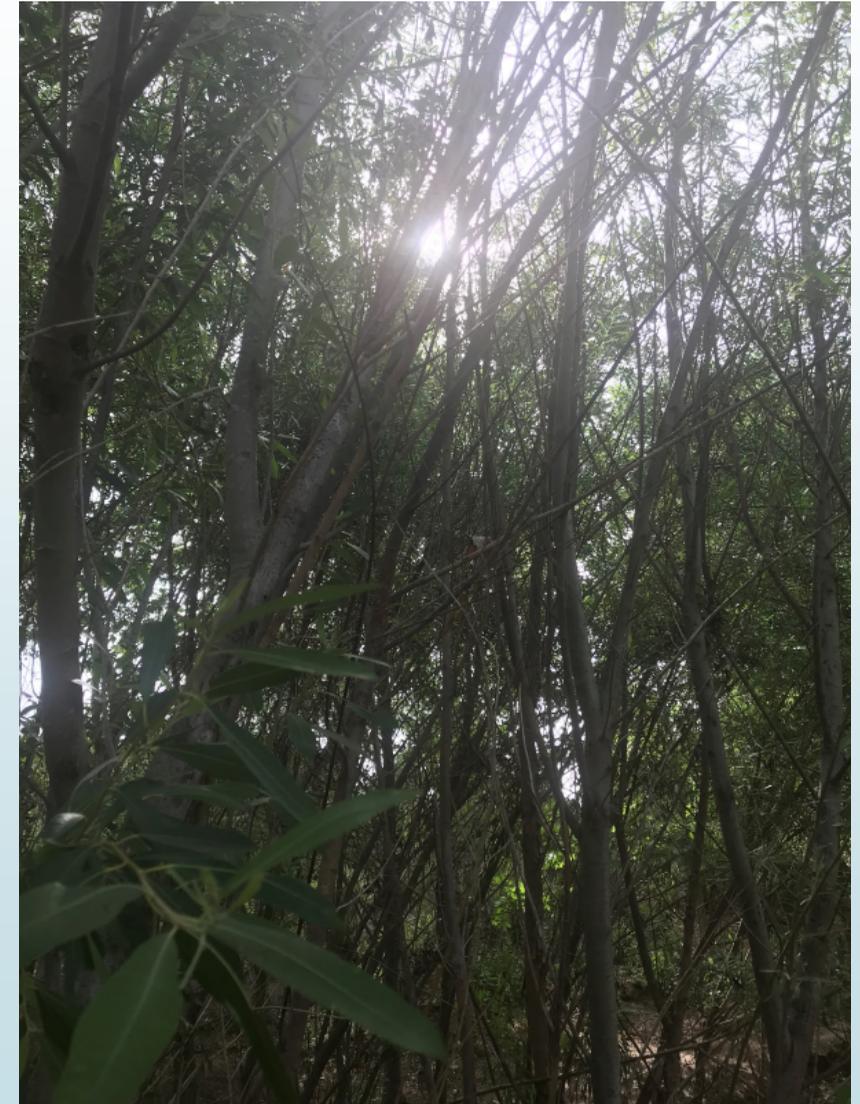
- ▶ City staff designed + **donated** design of permeable parking lot, biofiltration strips + bathrooms for NPS at Las Virgenes' end
- ▶ Potentially replicable throughout the Santa Monica Mountains



Photo, Watts' Collection

Safe, Clean Water Program Nature Based Solutions Interim Guidance

- ▶ A must-read document
- ▶ A powerful tool to increase viability/
scoring potential of creek restoration
and open space projects



Photo, Watts' Collection

Senator Henry Stern +
Chief of Staff Jeremy Wolf
want to share
information on AB 54



Photo, Watts' Collection

Trash in the Parks

- ▶ Per Madelyn Glickfeld, please add conditional waiver permit for trash for the parks to June agenda
- ▶ Invite parks leadership to attend



Photo, Watts' Collection

The Brown Act

- ▶ Continuing to be mindful of county recommendations on Brown Act compliance
- ▶ Committed to meeting with/talking with each of you individually



Photo, Watts' Collection

Draft of Draft: Strategic Outreach and Education Plan → Ready

- ▶ Half a dozen outreach event ideas, including Roxanne Hughes' idea of a TikTok series with kids showing water quality problems at each testing site that could be integrated into a video for people to see the scale of the problem
- ▶ Demonstration projects
- ▶ Need **your** input



Photo, Watts' Collection

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Community Workshops

- 4 required per year
- Shall we start in September?
- Can we set up a regular quarterly schedule?



Photo, Watts' Collection

Safe, Clean Water in the North Santa Monica Bay





SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

2020-21 ANNUAL PLAN

NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WATERSHED CITY SUMMARIES

MAY 13, 2021



City of Agoura Hills



PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

- **Citywide Low Flow Diversion Project**

For FY 2020/21, the City of Agoura Hills (City) proposes to begin design and environmental planning for a Citywide Low Flow Diversion Project. The City is within the Conejo Valley in an area without a viable aquifer to infiltrate storm water. This project will bring together the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to develop a low-cost water supply for the area. using open channel and streambeds where bioremediation takes place.

- **Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrients Special Study**

For FY 2020/21, the City proposes to use the Measure W Payment to fund a portion of the city's cost-share for the Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrients Special Study. The City is a partner with the cities of Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village, County of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles County Flood Control District. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed by the City in September 2019, which outlines administration responsibilities and cost sharing for implementation of a special study to address technical and regulatory Issues in attainability and applicability of MCW Nutrient and Benthic Community Total Maximum Daily Loads. In addition to the Nutrient Study, the MOU includes a separate cost share related to the MCW Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP). The Measure W funds will contribute solely to the City's Nutrient Special Study cost share during FY 2020/21.

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City of Agoura Hills



PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

- **Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrients Special Study**
- **Storm Water Treatment Facility Maintenance**

The City proposes to use the Measure W Payment to fund a portion of the existing street sweeping program.

Project/Program	Activity Type	Budget
Citywide Low Flow Diversion Design and Permitting	New Program	\$138,000
Nutrients Special Study	New Study	\$100,000
Street Sweeping	Existing Program	\$102,000
Total		\$340,000



City of Calabasas



CITY of CALABASAS

PROJECTS

- **Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project – Phase III and Las Virgenes Road Green Street Project**

For FY 2020/2021, the City proposes to begin the feasibility study process for a Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project – Phase III and Las Virgenes Road Green Street Project, which, when constructed, will help fulfill City stormwater volume capture requirements of the Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP).

- **MCW Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP)**

For FY 2020/2021, the City proposes to use the Measure W Payment to fund a portion of the city’s cost-share of the MCW Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding the Administration and Cost Sharing for Implementing the CIMP and Necessary Reports for the MCW, and Special Study to Address Technical and Regulatory Issues in Attainability and Applicability of MCW Nutrient and Benthic Community Total Maximum Daily Loads (Nutrients Special Study). The MOU includes two cost share matrices: the CIMP and associated tasks, and the Nutrients Special Study.

Project/Program	Activity Type	Budget
Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project	New Project	\$90,000
Las Virgenes Road Green Street Project	New Project	\$80,000
MCW CIMP Cost-Share	Existing Program	\$75,000
Total		\$245,000

City of Hidden Hills



PROJECTS

- No new projects are proposed during FY 2020/2021 that will utilize Measure W funding.
- **Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrient Study Project**
For FY 2020/2021 the City proposes to use Measure W funds for the Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrient Study Project.
- **Municipal NPDES Permit related programs**
For FY 2020/2021 the City proposes to use the remaining Measure W funds for the continuation of Municipal NPDES Permit related programs. This largely includes implementation of minimum control measures (MCMs) for the Public Information and Participation Program, Planning and Land Development Program, Development Construction Program, Public Agency Activities Program, Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Elimination Program, and staff training activities

Project/Program	Activity Type	Budget
Municipal NPDES Permit Programs	Existing Program	\$22,000
MCW Nutrient Study	New Program	\$43,000
Special Monitoring Program	New Program	\$15,000
Total		\$80,000

City of LA

PROJECTS

- Current projects do not appear to fall in the North Santa Monica Bay Watershed.



City of Malibu



PROJECTS

- **Marie Canyon Green Streets Project**

The City has allocated \$276,248 in Los Angeles County Measure W funding for this project in the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. This project meets the Municipal Program’s goals as it will protect public health and improve water quality in the Santa Monica Bay. The project includes the installation of filters and other devices to capture and treat stormwater to reduce bacteria and marine debris into Marie Canyon Creek and the Santa Monica Bay

- **Maintenance at Legacy Park (Civic Center Stormwater Treatment Facility) and Paradise Cove Stormwater Treatment Facility**

The City has allocated \$100,000 in Los Angeles County Measure W funding for this maintenance work in the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Operation and maintenance activities at these facilities meet program goals by protecting public health, coastal waters, and beaches from contaminants. Legacy Park (Civic Center Stormwater Treatment Facility) and Paradise Cove Stormwater Treatment Facility improve water quality by reducing bacteria loads in the Santa Monica Bay from stormwater and non-stormwater runoff.

Project/Program	Activity Type	Budget
Marie Canyon Green Streets	New Program	\$22,000
EWMP Update, City Share	Existing Program	\$112,394
Storm Water Treatment Facility Maintenance	Existing Program	\$100,000
Total		\$234,394

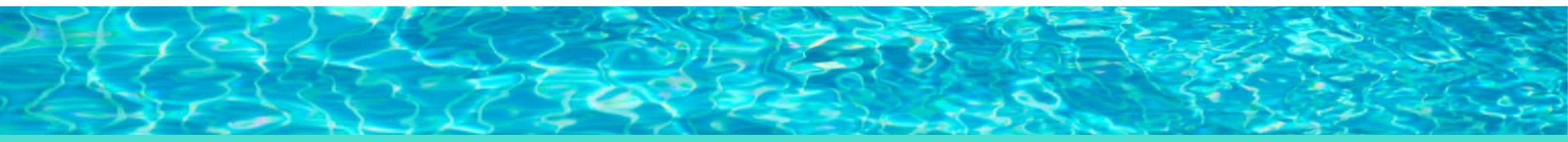
City of Westlake Village

PROJECTS

- **Ridge ford Stormwater Project Feasibility Study**

The Ridgeford Stormwater Project is an MCW EWMP priority project, which proposes the installation of an infiltration basin on a vacant, city-owned lot at the corner of Lindero Canyon Road and Ridgeford Drive, adjacent to Triunfo Creek. The project has a BMP footprint of 1.59 acres, potential capture volume of 3.18 acre-feet, drainage area of 42 acres, and 85th percentile volume of 1.2 acre-feet, per the MCW EWMP.

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City of Westlake Village



PROJECTS (continued)

- **Canyon Oaks Passive Park Project Concept**

The proposed project will treat drainage from the Westlake Canyon Oaks community, located in the northern end of the City. The project will drain entirely to Lindero Creek from a current vacant lot adjacent to Lindero Canyon Road and Lindero Creek. The proposed project will include a stormwater treatment component and has the potential to incorporate a passive park and wetlands with educational signage, native landscaping, and nature-based solutions. Conceptual at this time.

- **MCW Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP)**

For FY 2020/2021, the City proposes to use the Measure W Payment to fund a portion of the city’s cost-share of the MCW Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Project/Program	Activity Type	Budget
Ridgeford Stormwater Project Feasibility Study	New Program	\$115,000
Canyon Oaks Passive Park Project Concept	New Program	\$46,000
MCW CIMP Cost-Share	Existing Program	\$69,000
Total		\$230,000



Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project

Supervisory District 3

Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project



Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project



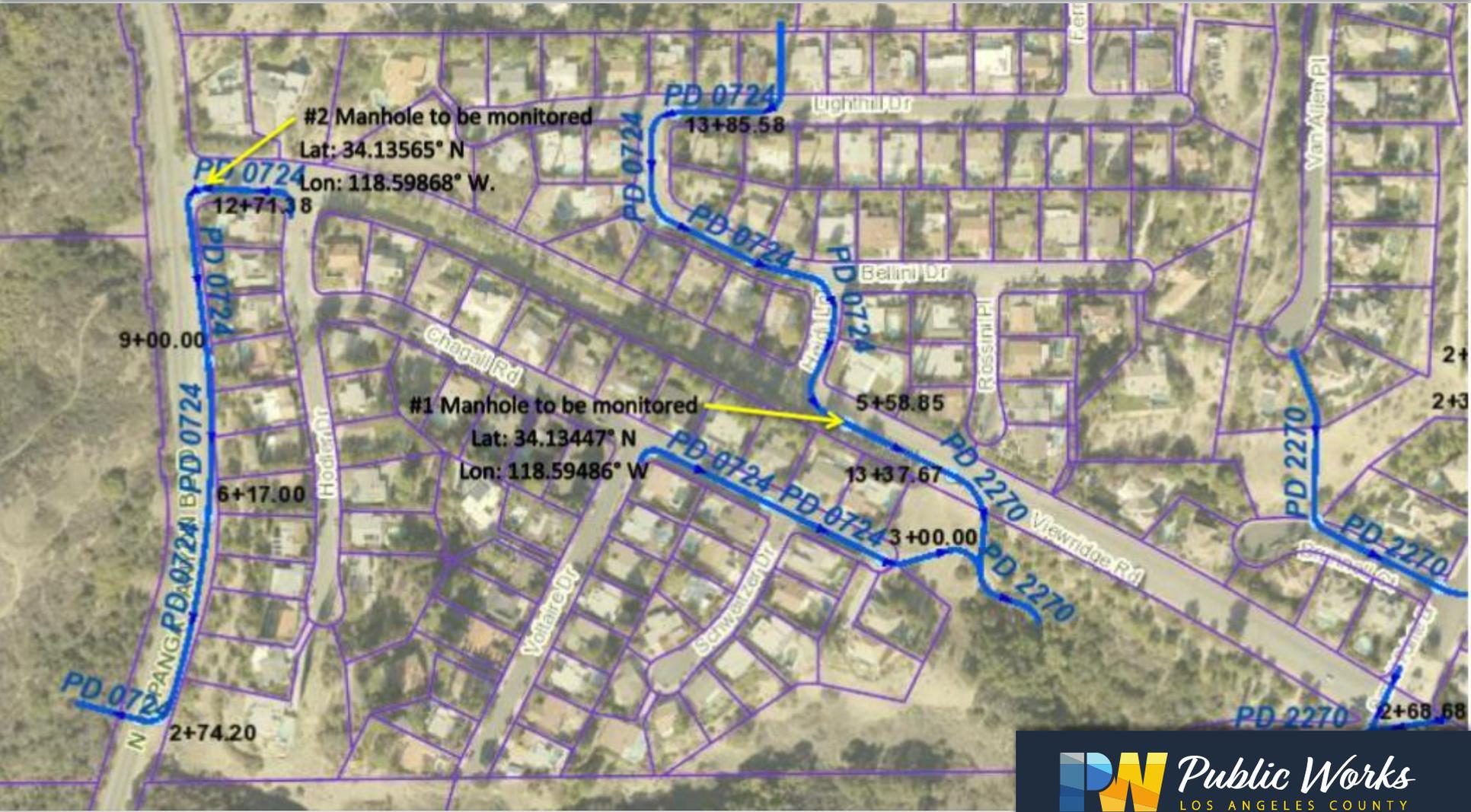
Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project



Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project



Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project



Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project

Constituent	Unit	VWR-01					VWR-02						WQO
		Dry 2	Dry 3	Dry 4	Dry 5	Average	Dry 1	Dry 2	Dry 4	Dry 5	Dry 6	Average	
Lead, Dissolved	ug/L	0.14	0.12	0.35	0.42	0.26	0.12	0.33	0.11	0.06	0.04	0.13	HD
Lead, Total	ug/L	3.2	0.38	0.56	0.65	1.20	1.2	1.4	38.02	0.2	0.62	8.29	HD
Hardness as CaCO3	mg/L	178	163	197	197	184	271	246	138	138	157	190	
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	19	13	24	28	21	27	20	8.6	5.3	9.2	14.0	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	48	4	6	6	16	29	16	7	1	8	12.2	
Coliform, Fecal	MPN/100 mL	23000	36000	5000	5000	17250	NS	NS	20	3000	NS	1510	400
Coliform, Total	MPN/100 mL	500000	900000	30000	50000	370000	NS	NS	3000	30000	NS	16500	10000
E. coli	MPN/100 mL	1700	520	2400	2400	1755	NS	NS	54	43	NS	48.5	235
Total DDT	pg/L	963.7	407.2	669.11	289.2	582	ND*	2224	356.12	193.2	1668.5	1110	19
Total PCBs	pg/L	661	267	395	214	384	ND*	2170	459	222	1000	963	170

Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project

Constituent	Unit	VWR-01					VWR-02					WQO
		Wet 1	Wet 2	Wet 3	Wet 4	Average	Wet 1	Wet 2	Wet 3	Wet 4	Average	
Lead, Dissolved	ug/L	NS	0.11	0.088	0.068	0.09	NS	0.13	0.32	0.046	0.17	HD
Lead, Total	ug/L	NS	1.7	1.1	1.5	1.43	NS	1.4	3.4	1.7	2.17	HD
Hardness as CaCO3	mg/L	NS	27.8	30.4	81.9	46.70	NS	26.9	106	56.4	63.1	
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	NS	8	6.9	9.9	8.27	NS	8.9	36	13	19.3	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	350	NS	36	13	133	710	34	90	88	230.5	
Coliform, Fecal	MPN/100 mL	5000 0	480	1700	26000	19545	5000	3500	3300	3500	3825	400
Coliform, Total	MPN/100 mL	5000 0	9200	3300	110000	43125	30000	17000	24000	24000	23750	10000
E. coli	MPN/100 mL	3700 0	700	190	4100	10498	2800	2800	3000	1800	2600	235
Total DDT	pg/L	67.8	1125	3711	4035	2234.7	42.2	561	1219	6606	2107.1	19
Total PCB	pg/L	1260 0	1320	6420	8270	7153	2310	650	2250	3240	2113	170