

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Thursday, April 13, 2023
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Conference Room
4232 Las Virgenes Rd Calabasas, CA 91302
WebEx Hybrid Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Marcela Benavides-Aguilar, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)
David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency), Chair
Chad Christensen, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Agency)
Madelyn Glickfeld, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability UCLA (Community), Vice-Chair
Tevin Schmitt, Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County (Community)
Jessica Forte, Agoura Hills (Municipal)
*Tatiana Holden, Calabasas (Municipal)
Joe Bellomo, Hidden Hills (Municipal)
Aaron Ordower, Los Angeles County SD3 (Municipal)
Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Mark Johnson, Malibu (Municipal)
Roxanne Hughes, Westlake Village (Municipal)
Melina Sempill Watts, Melina Sempill Watts Inc. (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

*Committee Member Alternate

Committee Members Not Present:

Craig Jones, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Agency)
Russ Bryden, LA County Waterworks Districts (Agency)
Doug Marian, California Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association (Community)
Kirsten James, Resident (Community)
Elias Garcia, LA Area Chamber of Commerce (Community)

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

1. Welcome and Introduction

LA County Flood Control District (District) staff provided a brief WebEx tutorial for individuals joining online. David Pedersen, Chair of the North Santa Monica Bay (NSMB) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. All Committee Members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2023

Chair Pedersen presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Member Joe Bellomo motioned to approve, seconded by Member Tevin Schmitt. The WASC voted to approve the February 9, 2023 meeting minutes with 8 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 3 in abstention, and 1 member absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

District staff provided an update, noting:

- The COVID-19 State of Emergency ended on February 28, 2023. To ensure quorum and effective communication during critical Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) deliberations such that all

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Committee Members can participate equally, Committee Members are highly encouraged to attend in person or send an alternate to attend in their place. If the meeting venue can accommodate hybrid meetings, Committee Members may have the option to attend virtually in a manner that is compliant with the full Brown Act and/or Assembly Bill (AB) 2449.

- The first term for WASC Community Stakeholder seats will end at the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY23-24). Community Stakeholders interested in joining the WASC for the next 3-year term should submit the interest to serve form. Current seat holders interested in reapplying do not need to submit another form. The link to the form is available at the bottom of the first page of this meeting agenda and [here](#).
- All WASCs have finalized their SIP recommendations for FY23-24. The Regional Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet and begin reviewing all nine SIPs on April 20, 2023.
- The District has released the Regional Program Funding Process Handbook. The handbook provides consolidated information on existing Regional Program requirements and guidance. The handbook is available under the Regional Program – Call for Projects tab on the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) website.
- Municipal Annual Plans were due April 1, 2023. District Staff will contact members whose submittal is still pending.

4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Melina Sempill Watts provided an update about recent and upcoming outreach efforts in facilitating community engagement, identifying and developing project concepts (with particular mention of community-driven projects and partnership opportunities), working with technical assistants, facilitating identification and representation of community priorities, integrating priorities through partnerships and extensive networks (noting the importance of continuing to build relationships), leveraging funding and cost-share partners, continuing educational efforts, and collaborating with other watershed coordinators. Watershed Coordinator Watts reminded the WASC that there are a lot of funds through Measure W that have not been spent yet. Upcoming events are included under Agenda Item 6d. Lastly, Watershed Coordinator Watts introduced Angelique Higgins, a new member of Sempill Watts Consulting LLC. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

The Committee discussed the possibility for partnering with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Watershed Coordinator Watts and Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) shared that Caltrans is required to comply with waste load allocation reductions, so they are incentivized to become funding partners to projects that can contribute to their compliance with the permit. Caltrans has access to federal funding for such activities, and they need projects to partner with. The WASC requested a future agenda item presentation on Caltrans programs and Vice Chair Madelyn Glickfeld suggested scheduling conversations with Caltrans to discuss the matter further, particularly regarding potential work along state highways. Chair Pedersen will invite Caltrans to provide an update on existing programs at a future meeting.

5. Public Comment Period

District staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting. No comment cards were received before the meeting. There were no public comments.

6. Discussion

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Member Jessica Forte disclosed a meeting including Watershed Coordinator Watts, Member Roxanne Hughes, and others, to discuss and plan the upcoming State of the Watershed event.

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Watershed Coordinator Watts noted that even if there is no quorum, there is still interest in holding the NSMB WASC meetings. Participants of this meeting agreed that the WASC meetings play an important role in project development, and so should be held even with a smaller group of people present.

b) Q&A Discussion for the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study

Richard Watson, Gateway Water Management Authority

Richard Watson (Gateway Water Management Authority) shared an update on the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study at the request of the WASC. Watson reminded the WASC about the goals of the study which leverages recent research to develop better proxies for pathogens that cause human illness, as compared to the fecal coliform indicator. The study is included in all nine Watershed Area SIPs, and they have started the process of generating and executing transfer agreements. The team plans to establish a Stakeholder Committee inclusive of representatives from environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and possibly the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Upon request for clarification regarding the difficulties associated with wet weather compliance requirements, Watson noted that their process will include acquiring an extension of compliance from the Regional Board.

Watson shared the tentative list of proxies under development which includes norovirus, coliphage, and others. The list also includes the HF183 human marker, but Watson noted the associated complexity of false positives. The fecal coliform indicator will continue to be monitored to use as a control and standard of comparison for the other proxies. Watson added that work is underway to prepare laboratories to handle more sophisticated testing kits.

When asked about whether the study would include markers for animals such as horses, Watson replied that the Stakeholder Committee will make that determination.

Vice Chair Glickfeld emphasized the time-critical nature of this research and recommended that the study team consider building in actions that will yield short-term benefits, not just the long-term.

Watershed Coordinator Watts recommended adding feline markers to the study, which Watson said he would relay to the Stakeholder Committee, where decisions will be made to come to agreement on the markers which are most significant to all residents and beneficiaries.

c) NSMB WASC EWP Project Updates

Melina Watts, NSMB Watershed Coordinator

Watershed Coordinator Watts provided an overview of the NSMB Watershed cities' utilization of SCWP funds, including actual and potential funding allocations. Cities include Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, and Westlake Village. Watershed Coordinator Watts shared details about two projects in Malibu (Zuma Beach parking lot and Broad Beach shoreline restoration, beach habitat creation, and water capture) and potential partnerships. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

Member Forte shared an update about the project in the City of Agoura Hills which previously failed to receive SCWP funds due to the Scoring Committee disagreeing with the cost calculations in the proposal. Funds have since been received through the City and they are confident that they will meet the scoring criteria when they apply for the next round.

Antos encouraged the Committee to use this moment to reflect on ways to seek projects from other entities in the region, now seeing the progress each of the cities is making.

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The Committee discussed the possibility of partnering with school districts to develop water quality projects for kids. Watershed Coordinator Watts shared that while there is interest from schools, they have heard that the districts are overworked, and the process is complicated.

Member Glickfeld shared an example of what to avoid, when conducting project work that impacts nearby communities. The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors used Point Dune State Beach as a staging area, dumping truckloads of rocks, disturbing the sand dunes, and harming the beach. All this created conflict with the community. Member Glickfeld emphasized the importance of following appropriate procedures to disturb communities as little as possible during project development.

Watershed Coordinator Watts commented that a project at Rindge Dam resulted in the availability of approximately 800,000 cubic feet of beach quality sediments that may be helpful to the City of Malibu for habitat and shoreline restoration. This will be presented at the State of the Watershed event on May 11, 2023 and attendance is encouraged.

d) Potential Dates for Outreach Events

Watershed Coordinator Watts reminded the WASC about two upcoming events:

- State of the Watershed 2023: Thursday, May 11, 2023, 4:30pm – 6:30pm at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- DIY Cistern Day: Saturday, September 23, 2023, at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

e) Updated North Santa Monica Bay Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Watershed Coordinator Watts provided an overview of the draft update for the SOEP. The plan consists of 25 strategies that address nine tasks for the watershed coordinator and 14 goals in Measure W. Watershed Coordinator Watts shared suggestions and efforts related to these strategies. See slides available on the SCWP website and attached.

Antos shared that work is underway with coordinators across the program to strengthen the commitment to Tribal engagement and use appropriate language in strategic plans.

Member Hughes shared that there is a small Homeowners Association (HOA) that is working in the development of a HOA council where all HOAs can share lessons learned, knowledge and solutions. Member Forte commented that some HOAs expressed interest in spreading education and asked Watershed Coordinator Watts for her support in this matter.

Upon inquiry, District Staff clarified that the SOEP must be approved by the WASC every year.

7. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

9. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2023, 1:00pm – 3:00pm and will be held in person at the Las Virgenes Metropolitan Water District Conference Room. See SCWP website for meeting details. Items on the agenda include:

- a) Discussion on Regional Oversight Committee feedback on the recommended FY23-24 Stormwater Investment Plan, if needed

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



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- b) Hidden Hills City Demonstration Cistern Water Supply Project
 - c) Malibu Creek Watershed Nutrient Study

Vice-Chair Glickfeld raised the question of how to increase public engagement in these meetings and the Committee discussed ways to make meetings more accessible and the schedule more reliable. District staff noted that public participation in this WASC may be lower relative to other Watershed Areas, given the fewer number of projects.

Public attendee Dennis Washburn extended an invitation to an Earth Day event at Las Virgenes Creek Park on April 22, 2023, 2:00pm – 5:00pm.

10. Adjournment

Chair Pedersen thanked the WASC members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.



Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee North Santa Monica Bay

Date Thursday, April 13, 2023
Time 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Location Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Conference
Room - 4232 Las Virgenes Rd Calabasas, CA 91302

WebEx Hybrid Meeting – See below or [SCW website](#)
for WebEx Meeting details

WebEx Meeting Details

Committee members are expected to attend in-person at the address listed above. Members of the public may participate by joining the WebEx Event Meeting below. Please refer to the [Video Conferencing Guidelines](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water Program website for additional information.

Join via WebEx Events (recommended)

Event number: 2492 432 0019

Password: scwp (7297 from phones and video systems)

<https://lacountydpw.webex.com/lacountydpw/j.php?MTID=m1cd162f821d3538ee72958fb85000980>

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll or

+1-213-306-3065 United States Toll (Los Angeles)

Access Code: 2492 432 0019

Public Comment

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete the [Comment Card Form](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water website and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting.

Para solicitudes de comentarios públicos en español, envíe un correo electrónico a SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov o lláme al (833) 275-7297 dos días antes de la reunión para asegurarse de que haya un traductor presente para transmitir el comentario para consideración del comité.

Requests for accommodations may be made to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov or by telephone to 833-ASK-SCWP at least three working days in advance of the meeting.

Supporting documentation will be available on the Safe, Clean Water website at www.safecleanwaterla.org.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 09, 2023
- 3) Committee Member and District Updates
 - a) Community Stakeholder Seat Reselection, 2023
[Commission Service Division \(CSD\) – Interest to Serve Form](#)
- 4) Watershed Coordinator Updates
- 5) Public Comment Period
- 6) Discussion
 - a) Ex Parte Communications Disclosure
 - b) Q&A Discussion for the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study
 - Richard Watson, Gateway Water Management Authority
 - c) NSMB WASC EWP Project Updates
 - Melina Watts, NSMB Watershed Coordinator
 - d) Potential Dates for Outreach Events
 - Melina Watts, NSMB Watershed Coordinator
 - (1) State of the Watershed / WaterTalks – 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Saturday May 11, 2023
 - (2) DIY Cistern Event at LVMWD – Saturday September 23, 2023
 - e) Updated North Santa Monica Bay Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan
- 7) Public Comment Period
- 8) Voting Items
- 9) Items for Next Agenda
 - a) Discussion on Regional Oversight Committee feedback on the recommended FY23-24 Stormwater Investment Plan, if needed
 - b) Hidden Hills City Demonstration Cistern Water Supply Project
 - c) Malibu Creek Watershed Nutrient Study
- 10) Adjournment

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Next Meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Conference Room
4232 Las Virgenes Rd Calabasas, CA 91302

Requests for accommodations may be made to SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov or by telephone to 833-ASK-SCWP at least three working days in advance of the meeting.

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NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - April 13, 2023

		Quorum Present				Items
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Vote to Approve February 09, 2023 WASC Meeting Minutes
Agency	LACFCD	Marcela Benavides-Aguilar	x	Mark Beltran		y
Agency	LAC Waterworks District	Russ Bryden				
Agency	MRCA	Chad Christensen	x			y
Agency	LVMWD	<u>David Pedersen</u>	x	Craig Jones		y
Agency	LVMWD	<u>David Pedersen</u>		Craig Jones		
Community Stakeholder	UCLA	<u>Madelyn Glickfeld</u>	x	Richard Ambrose		a
Community Stakeholder	CPMCA	Doug Marian				
Community Stakeholder	LA Area Chamber of Commerce	Elias Garcia				
Community Stakeholder	Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation Ventura County	Tevin Schmitt	x			y
Community Stakeholder	Community Stakeholder	Kirsten James				
Municipal Members	Agoura Hills	Jessica Forte	x	Kelly Fisher		y
Municipal Members	Calabasas	Alba Lemus		Tatiana Holden	x	a
Municipal Members	Hidden Hills	Joe Bellomo	x	Kerry Kallman		y
Municipal Members	LAC Supervisor District 3	Aaron Ordower	x			a
Municipal Members	LAC Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Allen Ma		y
Municipal Members	Malibu	Mark Johnson	x	Tracey Rossine		y
Municipal Members	Westlake Village	Roxanne Hughes	x	Phillipe Eskandar		
Watershed Coordinator	Melina S. Watts Consulting, LLC	Melina Watts	x			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yay (Y)	8
Total Voting Members Present		12			Nay (N)	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	3
Community Stakeholder		2			Total	11
Municipal Members		7				Approved

Other Attendees

Angelique Higgins
 Dennis Washburn
 Allen Ma
 Andrea Prado Iriarte
 Andy Corafeschi
 Giancarlo Ceja
 Jason Lim
 Jenny Chau
 Judi Uthus
 Kelsey Reed
 Richard Watson
 Ramy Gindi
 Gabriela Gonzales
 Crystal Walkup



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Cities' Utilization of Measure W

By Melina Sempill Watts

Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

April 13, 2023

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Cities' Utilization of Measure W Funding, Actual and Potential

City	TRP Funding Application Date	Measure W App Date, Potential	Measure W Utilized Actual	Measure W Funding Ask Estimated	Notes
Agoura Hills	0	2023	0	\$1.25M	
Calabasas	2021	2024	\$300,000	\$2.5M	*
Hidden Hills	0	0	See below	0	**
Malibu	Est. 2024	2025 or 2026	0	\$1 – 3M, est.	***
<u>Westlake Village</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$2M</u>	
<u>Total, confirmed</u>				<u>\$5.75M</u>	

Notes



- **Calabasas** will be applying for Wildlife Conservation Board funds which might cover the Measure W ask referenced.
- The **City of Hidden Hills** is using 50% of city return funds from last year and this year to build a demonstration cistern at Hidden Hills City Hall.
- Many projects in the new EWP City **of Malibu** are not located on city property but do address MS4 compliance. Malibu would like to connect with property owners that would be project leads and then co-apply with them. Examples include,
 - Redoing the Zuma Beach parking lot
 - Taking on Broad Beach shoreline restoration, beach habitat creation and water capture.

When A Group of WASC Members *NEED* About \$5.75 Million... and Your Current Budget is ... \$5.8 Million



SAFE CLEAN WATER
STORMWATER INVESTMENT
PLANNING TOOL - BETA

Select Watershed Area

North Santa Monica Bay ▾

Select Call for Projects

FY23-24 ▾

Funding Scenarios

Final 2/9/23 ▾



MENU ▾

LOGIN

FY23-24 FY24-25 FY25-26 FY26-27 FY27-28 Future

Scientific Studies (<5%) Technical Resources (<10%)

Stormwater Investment Plan Preview

	Budget		Projections					TOTAL	Annual O&M
	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	Future Funding			
A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected	\$1.9M	\$1.9M	\$1.9M	\$1.9M	\$1.9M		\$9.3M		
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D) ⓘ	\$5.8M	\$6.9M	\$8.6M	\$10.4M	\$12.1M				
C. Total Recommendation in Current SIP	\$650k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650k	\$591k	
Total Allocated in Previous SIP(s)	\$133k	\$128k	\$131k	\$111k	\$100k	\$0	\$604k	\$142k	
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C) ⓘ	\$3.9M	\$5M	\$6.7M	\$8.5M	\$10.2M	\$12M		Total: \$732k	
E. Percent Allocated (C/B) ⓘ	14%	2%	2%	1%	1%		13%		



SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee Update

By Melina Sempill Watts

Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

April 13, 2023

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County



1. Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP

The Native Plants Kit Program Launch:

- Attended Calabasas Low Water Use Garden Event, dazzling presentations by Alexa Hendricks, LVMWD and Eric Wilson, TreePeople; invited Adi Liberman
 - Invited Eric Wilson, manager Native Plants Kit project at TreePeople to join me at outreach events
- Shared West Basin Know Your H2O Class
- State of the Watershed event at LVMWD on 5-11-2023
 - Set planning meetings
- Will attend Agoura Hills Community Day on 5-6-2023
- Working with LVMWD on DIY Cistern Day 9-23-2023
- Attending Earth Day events at Pepperdine, Westlake Village, Calabasas
- Connected with Pamela Manning, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, to discuss outreach opportunities
- Reached out to the offices of Senator Jacqui Irwin and Supervisor Lindsey Horvath
- NSMB Outreach events now listed at Safe, Clean Water L.A. site,

<https://www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar>

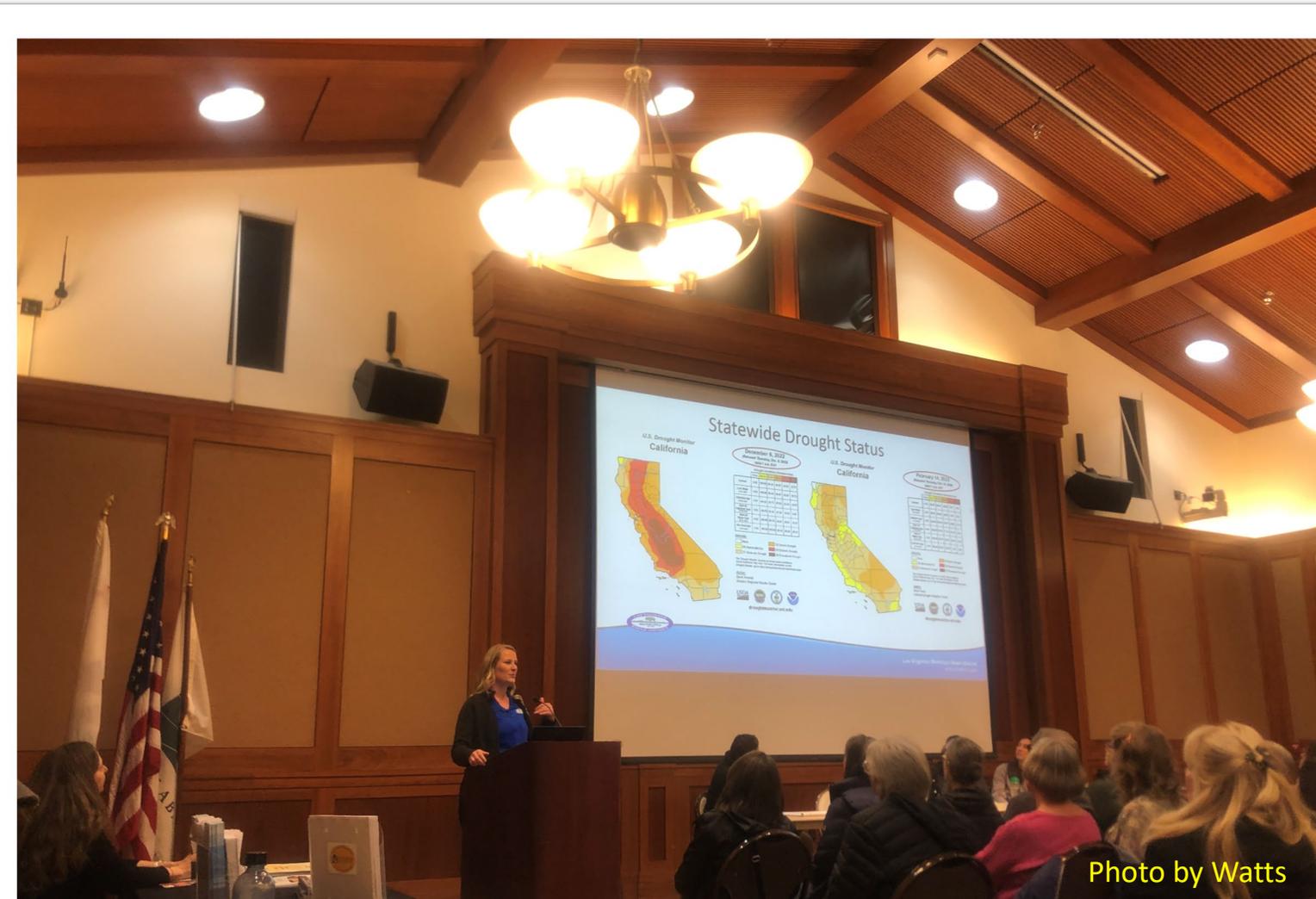


Photo by Watts



Community Input and Green Output, Non-Native Plants

March 3, 2023





**Topanga
Roadside,
with 0 Outside
Water:**

**Native Plants
for the Win**

Also,
March 3, 2023



Sumac:
More
Native Plants
on
March 3, 2023

2. Identify and Develop Project Concepts

- Explored collaborative Measure W idea: **NSMB for Rainwater Gardens, Turf Removal**
- Madelyn Glickfeld shared info about **green alleyways** to share with NSMB WASC
- **Melanie Winter** suggested **social media hashtag for community members to report flooding** with visual images + locations as a way to drive future projects, **Matt Frary stated this is in place already.**
- Connected **Eric Wilson** to Terry Dipple to get Native Plants Kit presentation in front of leadership at **Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments**
- Read City of **Malibu EWMP**
- Watched **Agoura Hills' upper watershed MS4 compliance presentations**
- Connected with Shannon Ggem, president of **Malibou Lake HOA** to discuss project opportunities
- Worked with **Anand Maganti, CALTRANS** to try to submit Stormwater Improvement Projects list; not enough time to submit projects
- **Achieved clarity** on short term **feasibility of a collaborative multi-city, multi-agency Measure W application** (not possible) and on long term feasibility (possible, probably.)
- Worked to assess project readiness of current/upcoming MS4 compliance projects and assess how/when /if these might utilize Measure W funding.
- Spoke with Jeff Neff (environmental consultant) about illegal grading / oak removal at property off of Kanan
- Reached out to **City of Malibu** multiple times, received updated EWMP; met with new assistant city manager on April 6, 2023

3. Work with Technical Assistance Teams

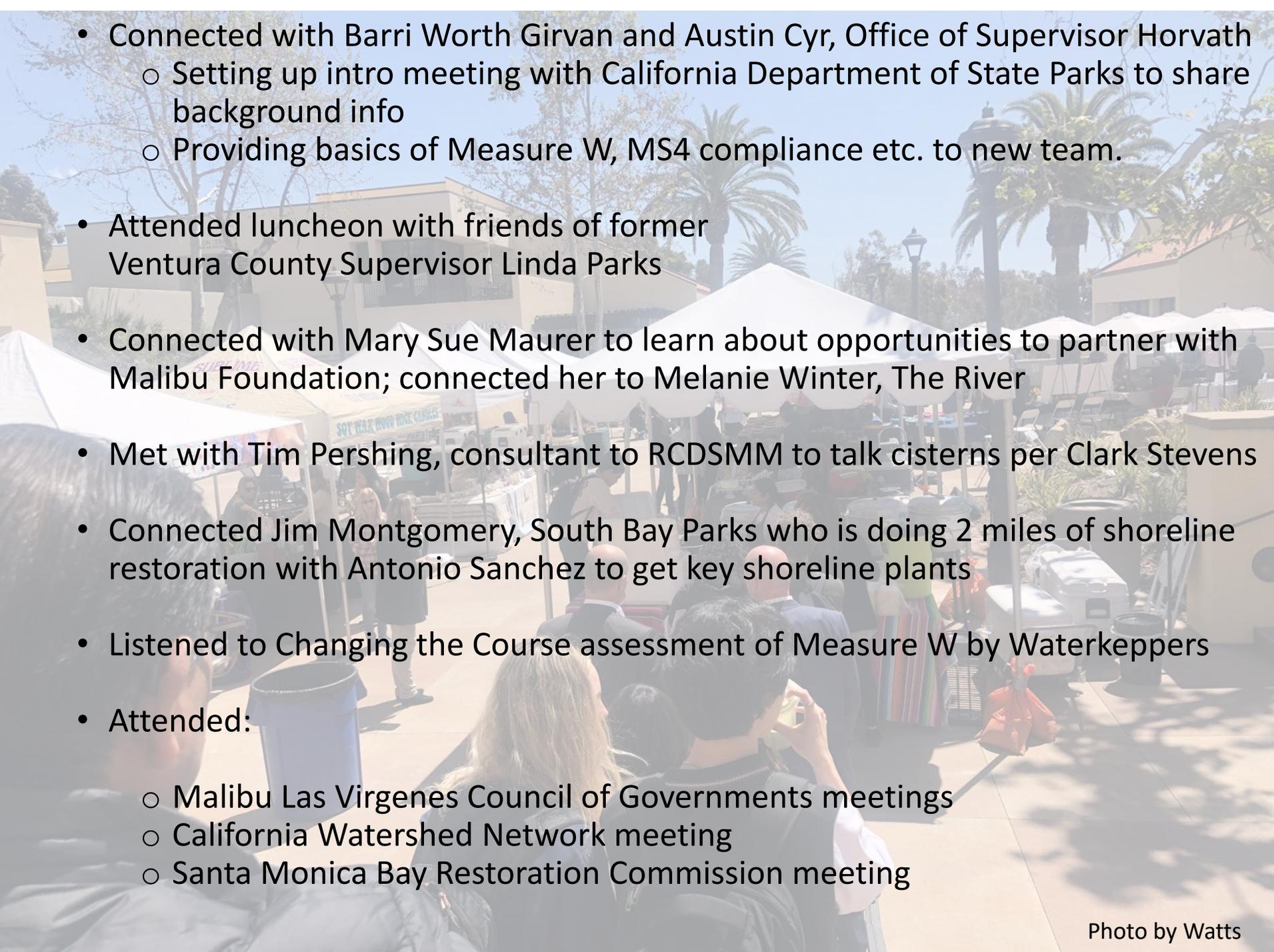
- Reaching out to convince City of Malibu that the TRP program might be a path forward.
- Suggested TRP application to Hidden Hills.



4. Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities

- Hidden Hills explained that they used ½ of city return money from one year and ½ of city return from a subsequent year to build a demonstration cistern. Looking for a talk on his experience by Joe Bellomo.
- Jessica Forte will provide updates on upper watershed MS4 compliance presentations in May
- Connected Tim Pershing to Julia Ekstrom, and JulieSaare-Edmonds, DWR< to talk Suburban Water Supply and potential funding opportunities
- Attended “LA County's Safe Clean Water Program: Findings from New Report” lead by Bruce Reznik, please review study
- Looked into the viability of maintaining NSMB WASC meetings as remote or hybrid activities; Kirk Allen states that the Brown Act requires in person now that State of Emergency lifted by Governor Newsom.



- 
- Connected with Barri Worth Girvan and Austin Cyr, Office of Supervisor Horvath
 - Setting up intro meeting with California Department of State Parks to share background info
 - Providing basics of Measure W, MS4 compliance etc. to new team.
 - Attended luncheon with friends of former Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks
 - Connected with Mary Sue Maurer to learn about opportunities to partner with Malibu Foundation; connected her to Melanie Winter, The River
 - Met with Tim Pershing, consultant to RCDSMM to talk cisterns per Clark Stevens
 - Connected Jim Montgomery, South Bay Parks who is doing 2 miles of shoreline restoration with Antonio Sanchez to get key shoreline plants
 - Listened to Changing the Course assessment of Measure W by Waterkeepers
 - Attended:
 - Malibu Las Virgenes Council of Governments meetings
 - California Watershed Network meeting
 - Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission meeting

5. Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks



6. Cost-Share Partners

- City of Calabasas invited to submit WCB application for Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project phase III; Watts will write first draft when schedule allows
- Connected with CALTRANS to attempt to get match for watershed projects; will have to apply in 2024; too time consuming relative to time available, hope to succeed in this venture next year

7. Leverage Funding

- City of Calabasas invited to submit WCB application for Las Virgenes Creek Restoration project phase III
- Shared WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects funding opportunity with water leadership
- Shared Economic Opportunity Grant Program Now Open to LA County's with watershed coordinators



**Economic
Opportunity
Grant Program
(EOG)**



8. Local Stakeholder Education

- Connected with Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu and Westlake Village, LVMWD and Pepperdine University to ask if I can table for Safe, Clean Water at Earth Day events
- Tabled at Calabasas Lawn to Drought Tolerant - Environmental Public Forum
- Suggested public outreach efforts related to TRP application projects with WLW.



- Attended monthly Watershed Coordinator meetings
- Shared Economic Opportunity Grant Program Now Open to LA County's with watershed coordinators
- Shared Frary/Winter concept of social media campaign , something like, #LAcountyfloodphotos with other watershed coordinators.
- Attended conversation with Leslie Friedman Johnson about potential use of education funds that are embedded in Measure W



9. Watershed Coordinator Collaboration

10. SAVE THE DATES

**STATE OF THE WATERSHED 2023: Thursday May 11th,
4:30 – 6:30
At Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**

**DIY CISTERN DAY: Saturday September 23, 2023
At Las Virgenes Municipal Water District**



Photo by Watts

New at Melina
Sempill Watts
Consulting LLC:
Introducing
Angelique
Higgins





SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement

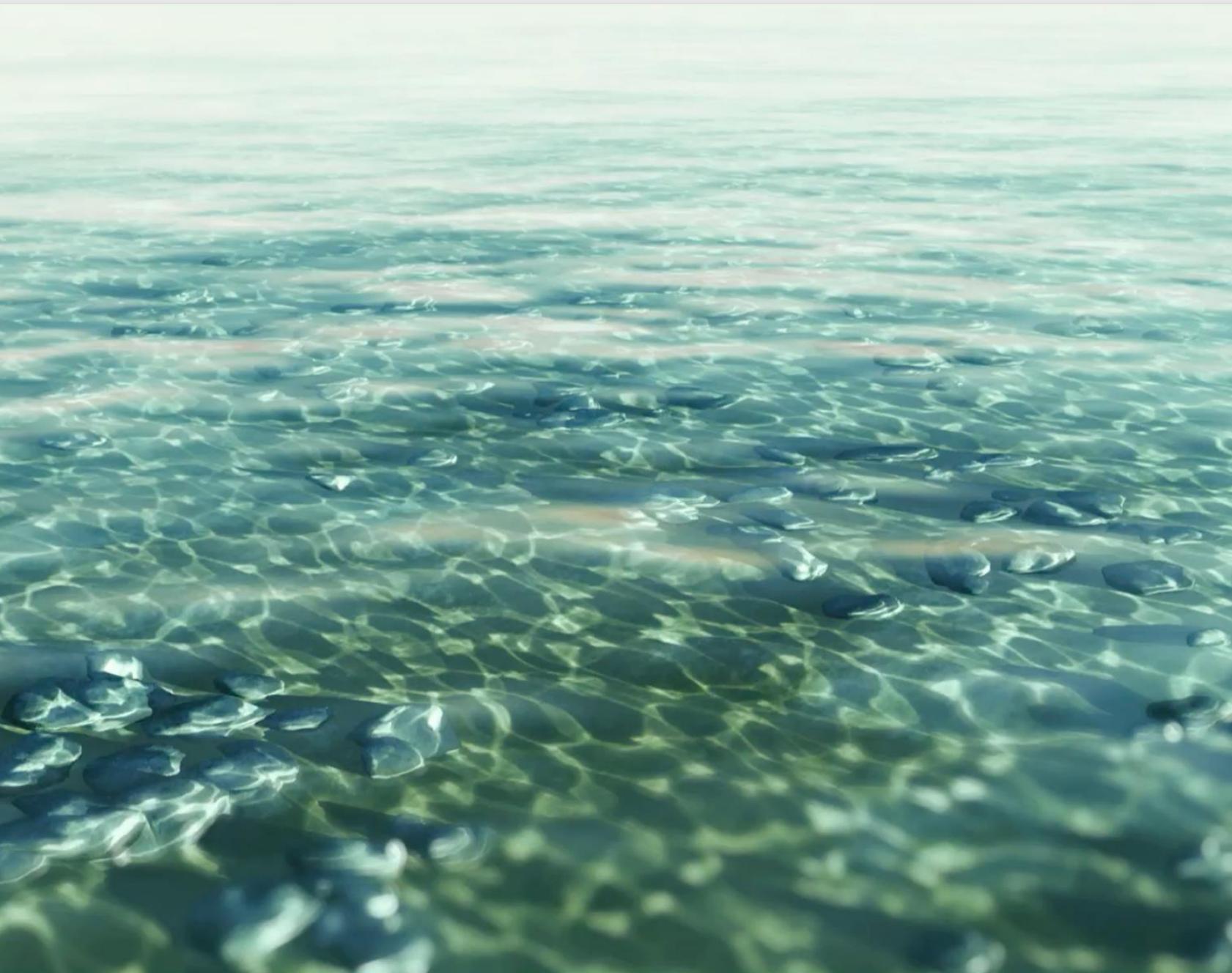
DRAFT Update April 2023

By Melina Sempill Watts

Watershed Coordinator, Safe Clean Water L.A.

April 13, 2023

Photo and Logo, Los Angeles County



The North Santa Monica Bay Watershed 2023 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan – DRAFT

As per the approved NSMB SOEP 2022, the NSMB SOEP 2023 uses 25 Strategies.

It is proposed to continue with these.

These 25 strategies address,

- 9 Tasks for Watershed Coordinator**
- 14 Goals in Measure W**

1. **Prioritize Utilization of Measure W Funds for Projects that Meet MS4 Compliance Goals Four Community Outreach Events**
2. **Four community outreach events**
3. **Educate stakeholders about water quality challenges in the watershed area.**
4. **Facilitate dialog about water supply sources for and in the watershed area.**
5. **Collaborate with partners to encourage the use of native plants on public and private land.**
6. **Ensure SCWP is part of special events like Coastal Cleanup Day, Earth Day, Arbor Day, Calabasas Pumpkin Day, Arts Festivals**
7. **Identify opportunities to reach youth at schools, Girl Scout Troops, YMCA, etc.**
8. **Focus on engaging with homeowners' associations.**
9. **Explore developing a North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area website**
10. **Develop and maintain social media presence for watershed area**
11. **Connect with media**
12. **Identify and facilitate project concepts from North Santa Monica Bay Area and Community Members**
13. **Use Zoom from Nature Based Solutions Success Stories' Event in November 2022 to for new YouTube station for NSMB WASC**
14. **Work with Technical Assistance Teams**
15. **Facilitate identification and representation of community priorities**
16. **Integrate priorities through partnerships and extensive networks**
17. **Attend and distribute materials from 'funding fairs' conducted by Federal, State, regional, and philanthropic organizations**
18. **Support public education about trash reduction**
19. **Support dialogue and development of innovative projects and technology raised by stakeholders**
20. **Watershed Coordinator collaboration**
21. **Support nexus between water quality and sustaining biodiversity**
22. **Support Nexus Between Fire Recovery, Pre-emptive Fire Protection, Water Quality and Water Supply**
23. **Support locally relevant scientific research**
24. **Look for nexus between water supply and energy via climate change harms reduction.**
25. **Consider Potential Options to Increase TRP Funding Opportunities for NSMB Watershed Area**

The 25 Strategies



Strategy 1: Prioritize Utilization of Measure W Funds for Projects that Meet MS4 Compliance Goals

- Track upcoming project applications from NSMB cities, agencies and community members.
- Compare proposed project funding requests with available funds for NSMB from Measure W.



Strategy 2: Four Community Outreach Events

Most changes here.

- Set a time and venues for,
 - 2 NSMB WASC defined community outreach events and
 - 2 NSMB Watershed Community events to allow meaningful and productive dialogue with community members and the North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee leadership.
- Avoid canceling NSMB WASC meetings even without a quorum so as to facilitate NSMB WASC member conversations, per Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Malibu, Westlake Village and Vice Chair Madelyn Glickfeld.
- Dates planned for this year,
 - North Santa Monica Bay State of the Watershed 2023: Thursday May 11th
 - DIY Cistern Day: Saturday, September 23, 2023
 - TBD: 2 NSMB Watershed Community meetings



**Strategy 4:
Facilitate dialogue
about water
supply sources for
and in the
watershed area.**

Add in,

- Per numerous community entities including leadership at Topanga Elementary School, Topanga Town Council, Malibu Foundation, ARLA and others, explore other ways to fund building cisterns for water supply in watershed.



Strategy 5: Collaborate with partners to encourage the use of native plants on public and private land.

Instead of seeking funding for the Native Plants Program that TreePeople/LVMWD created, which is now funded thanks to ARLA, changed language to indicate,

- Per conversations with Eric Wilson TreePeople, support community awareness of LVMWD / TreePeople Native Plants Kit program.



Added in,

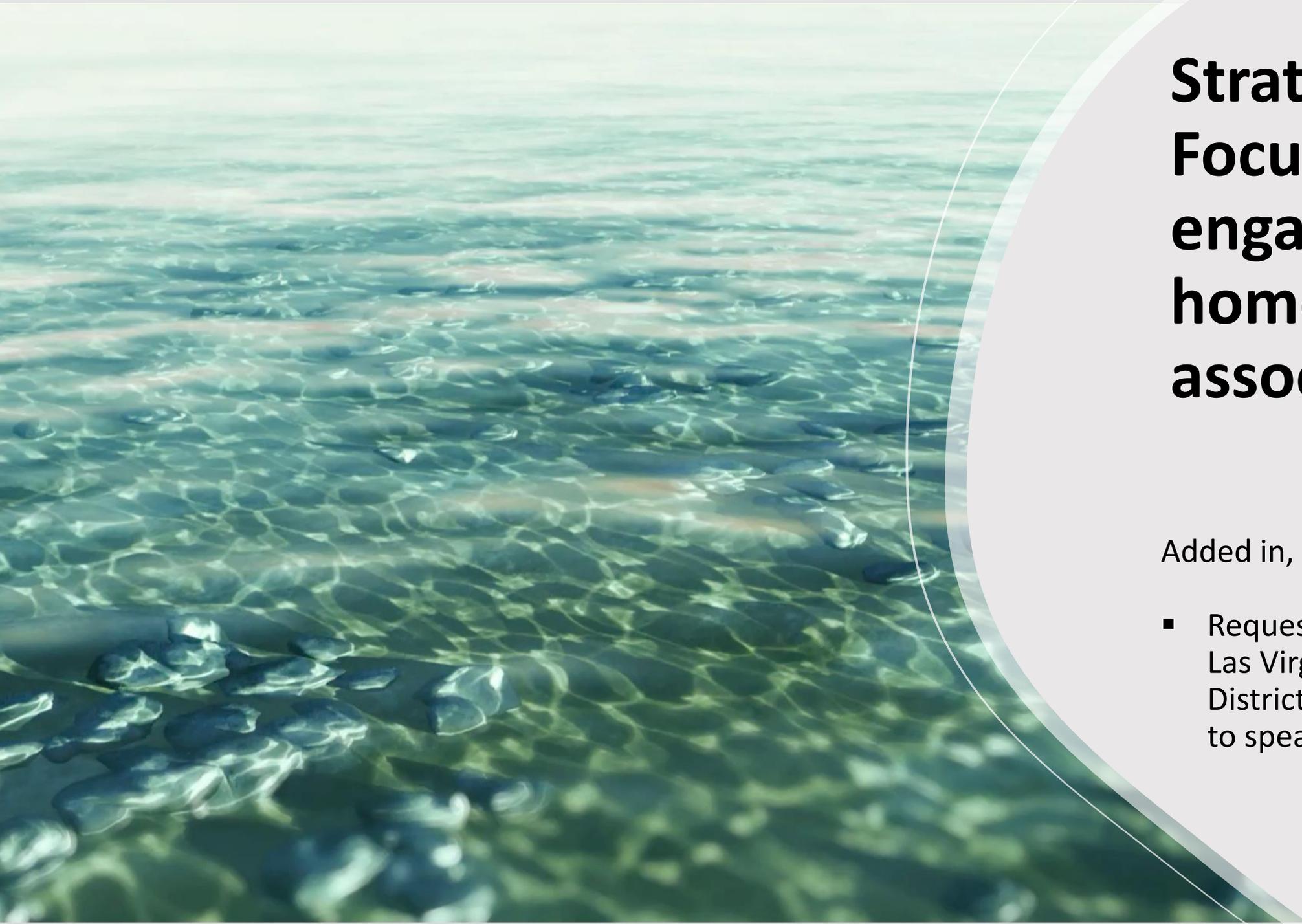
- Do tabling at Earth Events where requested, including Pepperdine University, Westlake Village and Calabasas.

Strategy 6: Ensure SCWP is part of special events like Coastal Cleanup Day, Earth Day, Arbor Day, Calabasas Pumpkin Day, Arts Festivals

Refined to address specific requests from cities, content will now read,

- Re-invite LAUSD to set up rainbarrel demonstration at Topanga Elementary School.
- Participate in Agoura Hills Watershed Education Day.
- See if other cities would like to create parallel events.
- Connect City of Agoura Hills and Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains to re-establish watershed education program at public school
See if sister cities want to utilize the same program once established.
- Provide watershed education at local high schools, possibly middle schools and elementary schools as facilitated by city staff.
- Per Jessica Forte, look for ways to layer in STEM / STEAM scholarship, internship and job opportunities for high school and university students while conducting watershed outreach.
- Jessica Forte observed that SEC closed a STEM scholarship, as no one applied. We need to help grow more civil engineers,biologists and related watershed-thinkers /workers for the future of the watershed.
- Invite Alex Farassati to talk the NSMB WASC in the fall about how he developed an outstanding / effective internship
- Program at City of Calabasas.
- Explore opportunity to speak at Pepperdine University and new Santa Monica City College site in downtown Malibu and other local venues about local water supply/water quality improvements.
- Consider a TikTok of the paperbag watershed lesson with cities.

**Strategy 7:
Identify
opportunities
to reach
youth at schools,
Girl Scout Troops,
YMCA, etc**



Strategy 8: Focus on engaging with homeowners' associations.

Added in,

- Request support from cities / Las Virgenes Municipal Water District to broker invitations to speak at HOAs.



Strategy 10: Develop and maintain social media presence for watershed area

Add in,

- Develop NSMB YouTube channel; include talks from past events.**

Strategy 12: Identify and facilitate project concepts from North Santa Monica Bay Area and Community Members

This is an insert that will require fine-tuning with project proponents, I will review with project proponents and supply accurately next month.

Project Concepts as of May 2023	Proponent	Tentative SCWP Project Type	Plan for Date to Submit for Funding / Notes
Project Citywide Low Flow Diversion	Agoura Hills	Infrastructure Program (IP)	Project underway; City will apply for funding again..
Malibu Creek Watershed (MCW) Nutrients Special Study	Agoura Hills	Scientific Study (SS)	Funded by City of Agoura Hills.
Four Green Street Projects	Calabasas	IP	TBD
Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project Phase III	Calabasas	TRP	TAT is Larry Walker and Associates; work underway..
Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project Phase III	Calabasas	IP	2024? 2025?
Retrofitting Debris Basin to be Retention Basin	Hidden Hills	IP	
Cistern Demonstration Site	Hidden Hills	City Return Funding	Project in design.
Exploring using Horse Manure as Compost Opportunities	Hidden Hills	SS	
Native Plants Nursery	Las Virgenes MWD	IP	Unsure of status
Garden In a Box	Las Virgenes MWD		Project funded..
Pure Water Program at Ladyface Mountain: Water Reclamation Project	Las Virgenes MWD	IP	
Malibu Creek Southern Steelhead Trout Survey	Las Virgenes MWD	SS	Project funded..
Viewridge Project	Los Angeles Public Works	IP	Project funded.
Trancas Canyon Feasibility Study	Los Angeles Flood Control District	Technical Resources Program (TRP)	
Liberty Canyon Improvement Project	Los Angeles Public Works	IP	Project funded
Marie Canyon Low Flow Diversion Project Design Concept	Los Angeles Public Works	TRP	
Marie Canyon Greenstreets	Los Angeles Waterworks District 29: Malibu		
Maintenance at Legacy Park (Civic Center Stormwater Treatment Facility) and Paradise Cove Stormwater Treatment Facility	Los Angeles Waterworks District 29: Malibu	IP	
Focusing on Woolsey Fire Recovery	Los Angeles Waterworks District 29: Malibu	TRP	
MS4 Compliance Project for Westlake Village	Westlake Village	TRP	2023
Seminole Springs	Seminole Springs HOA		
Topanga Elementary School	Potentially /TreePeople	IP	
Roof / cistern Project for 100 Homeowners	Potentially RCDSMM	IP	

Strategy 13: ~~Formerly, Convene group of experts— about impacts of creek restoration on water quality~~

Now to become...

Strategy 13, Use Zoom from Nature Based Solutions Success Stories' Event in November 2022 for content for new YouTube station for NSMB WASC

- Take input from past event to become tool for further sharing these conversations via Youtube and other social media sites.



Strategy 16: Integrate priorities through partnerships and extensive networks

Adding in these additional community partners,

- Topanga Town Council
- Numerous City Council members from Calabasas and Agoura Hills; looking to deepen connections at Hidden Hills, Malibu and Westlake Village
- Staff, Office of Assemblymember Richard Bloom
- Staff, Office of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin
- Staff, Office of Senator Ben Allen
- Barri Worth Girvan, Austin Cyr and Aaron Ordower at Office of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, District 3
- Malibu Methodist
- Malibu Foundation
- Pepperdine University
- Earth Island Journal, Sierra Magazine
- Editors and writers, local newspapers
- Local schools including but not limited to, Malibu High School, Westlake High School, Colina Middle School, Conejo Elementary School, Viewpoint School, Our Lady of Malibu School, Juan Cabrillo Elementary School, A. E. Wright Middle School, MUSE School etc.
- Mark Johnson has offered to connect me to new Santa Monica City College campus in downtown Malibu
- Local public libraries. • Local book clubs
- Local media / outreach staff at citie



Strategy 18: Support public education about trash reduction

Added in,

- Re-approach CALTRANS for funding opportunities in this arena.

Strategy 22: Support Nexus Between Fire Recovery, Pre-emptive Fire Protection, Water Quality and Water Supply

Added in,

- **Clark Stevens, Resource Conservation District will speak to this subject at State of the Watershed 2023.**



Strategy 23: Support locally relevant scientific research

Added in,

- Continue to support work for ongoing scientific research both for MS4 compliance and better understanding of watershed dynamics.