

Disadvantaged Community Benefits

Lower San Gabriel River WASC

1/9/24

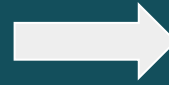


Presentation adapted from Council for
Watershed Health's [Overview for ULAR](#) (2021)



Purpose

1. Recall the “Interim Disadvantaged Community Programming Guidelines.”
2. Explore the location of awarded projects and current projects under consideration in relation to disadvantaged communities.
3. Inform WASC decision-making regarding direct benefits to disadvantaged communities.



Interim Disadvantaged Community Programming Guidelines

Safe, Clean Water Program

Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program



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Purpose

Experience to-date in the Regional Program reveals that aspects of Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) related to providing Disadvantaged Community Benefits require further guidance to better support achieving the outcomes sought. The SCWP emphasizes investments that produce benefits in or directly to disadvantaged communities. Complying with the Disadvantaged Community Benefit policy in the Program is complex, and asserting what benefits accrue to which communities is not easily quantified.

As of May 2021, the District Program is developing a study which, among many things, will review how other funding programs that direct investment in disadvantaged communities have worked to overcome the many challenges that remain when seeking to implement the SCWP policy. That study will inform future guidance, currently expected in the Spring of 2022, in support of Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) development in the Regional Program for Year 4 (2022-23).

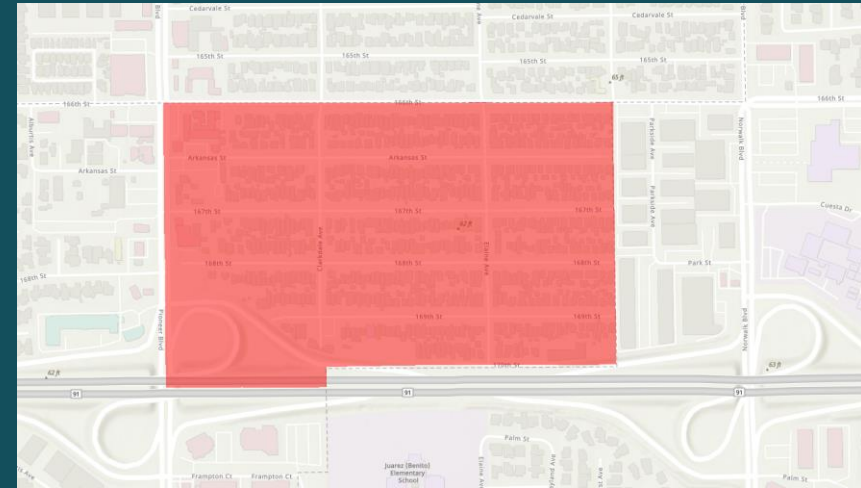
Available on the [website](#)

Takeaway

- This slide deck is a resource for the WASC to reference when reviewing Round 5 projects.

Program Definitions

“**Disadvantaged community**’ means a census block group that has an annual median household income of less than eighty percent (80%) of the Statewide annual median household income (as defined in Water Code section 79505.5).” (Section 16.03(H))



Example of a Census Block Group in the LSGR

“**Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Benefit**’ means a Water Quality Benefit, Water Supply Benefit, and/or Community Investment Benefit located in a DAC or providing benefits directly to a DAC population.” (Section 16.03(I))

"Water Quality Benefit"



"Water Supply Benefit"



"Community Investment Benefit"



SCWP Disadvantaged Community Benefit Policy

Provide Disadvantaged Community Benefits that are $\geq 110\%$ of the ratio of the disadvantaged community population to the total population in the Watershed Area. *(Section*

18.04 (J))

All Projects to Date	
DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (DAC) ALLOCATION	
Required DAC Ratio	22%
Required Funding for DACs FY23-28 (110%)	\$11,070,955
Funding Allocated for DACs FY23-28	\$32,734,008

To date, the LSGR SIPs have met and exceeded required investment in disadvantaged communities.

Projects provide a Disadvantaged Community Benefit if:

1. **Any of the construction effort** is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community

OR

1. **None** of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community **BUT it provides a** “direct benefit” to a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community.

What Counts as a “Direct Benefit?”

Whether a Project provides a “direct benefit” will be **a decision made by WASCs on a project-by-project basis**, considering:

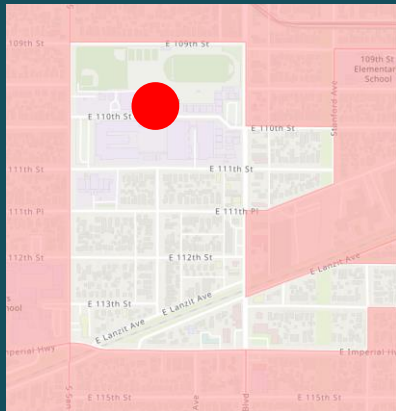
- the goals of the SCWP,
- the benefits provided to the community by each Project, and
- the area within which those benefits will be felt.

How Can you as a WASC Validate Direct Benefits?

Hearing from community members is the best way to validate a direct benefit.

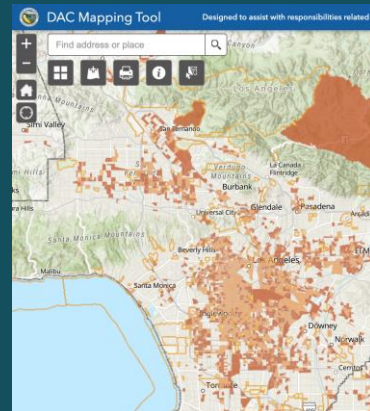
Other Possible Considerations:

Adjacency:

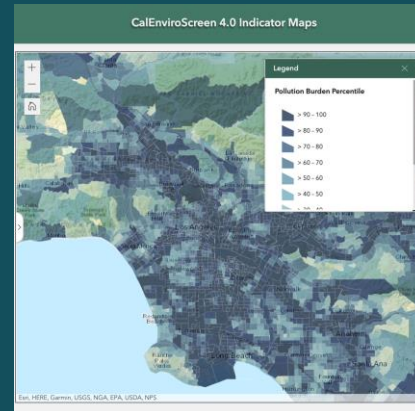


Some projects are near disadvantaged block groups.

External Datasets:



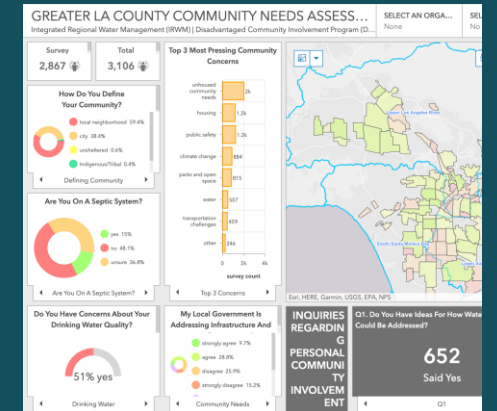
Other Census data (DWR DAC Mapping Tool)



CalEnviroScreen 4.0



LA County RPOSD Park Needs Assessment



IRWM DAC Involvement Program Greater LA County Needs Assessment

Location of Projects

3 “Buckets”

Projects Located Within
a 2020 Disadvantaged
Census Block Group
(thus expressly benefit a
DAC)



Projects NOT Located
Within a 2020
Disadvantaged Census
Block Group but NOT
Claiming a DAC Benefit

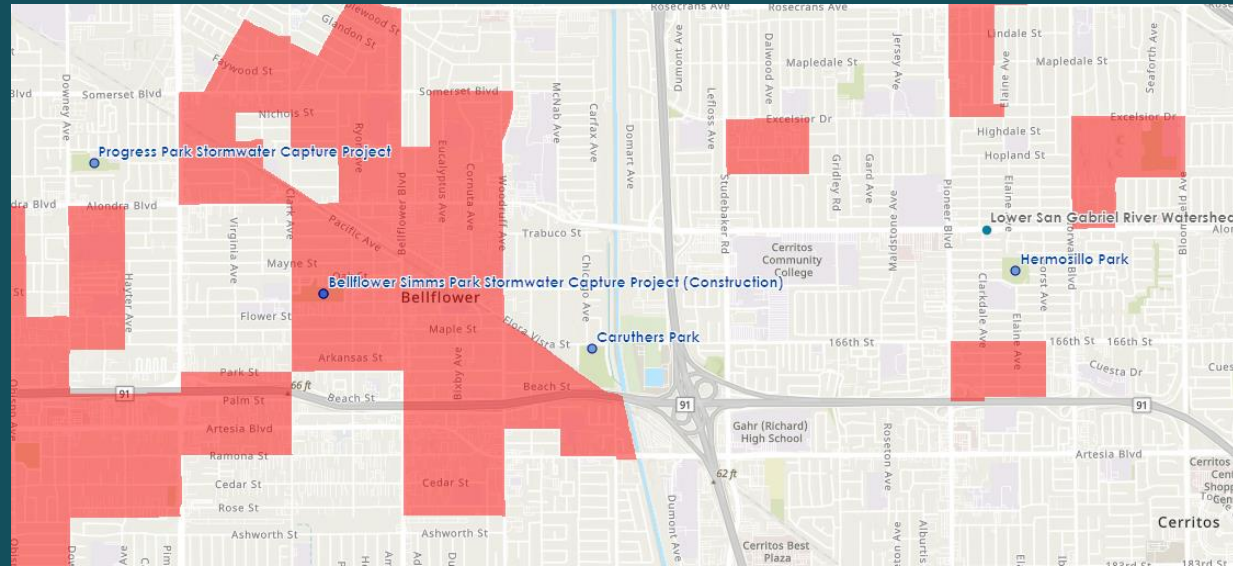


Projects NOT Located
Within a 2020
Disadvantaged Census
Block Group but ARE
Claiming a DAC Benefit



Awarded Projects To Date in LSGR

	Bucket 1	Bucket 2	Bucket 3
	Within a DAC block group	Not within DAC block group and no benefit	Not within DAC block group but does benefit
17 IP	3	3	11
1 TRP	-	-	1



110% DAC investment requirement met and exceeded

Awarded Projects To Date in LSGR

	Bucket 1	Bucket 2	Bucket 3
	Within a DAC block group	Not within DAC block group and no benefit	Not within DAC block group but does benefit
17 IP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bellflower Simms Park Stormwater Capture Project 2. Bellflower Simms (Construction) 3. Adventure Park 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skylinks Golf Course at Wardlow Stormwater Capture Project 2. Heartwell Park at Palo Verde Channel 3. La Mirada Creek Park 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. El Dorado Regional 2. Hermosillo Park 3. Cerritos Sports Complex 4. Caruthers Park 5. Mayfair Park 6. Bolivar Park 7. Artesia Park 8. Lakewood Equestrian Center 9. York Field 10. La Habra Heights 11. Progress Park
1 TRP	-	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sorensen Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project

Round 5 Projects Under Consideration

	Bucket 1	Bucket 2	Bucket 3
	Within a DAC block group	Not within DAC block group and no benefit	Not within DAC block group but does benefit
5 IP	N/A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. El Dorado Park Regional Stormwater Capture Project, Construction 2. Independence Park Runoff Capture Facility 3. Reservoir Park Stormwater Capture Project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sorensen Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project 2. Heartwell Park at Clark Channel Stormwater Capture Project



Submitted Round 5 Projects
Located Within a 2020 Disadvantaged
Census Block Group

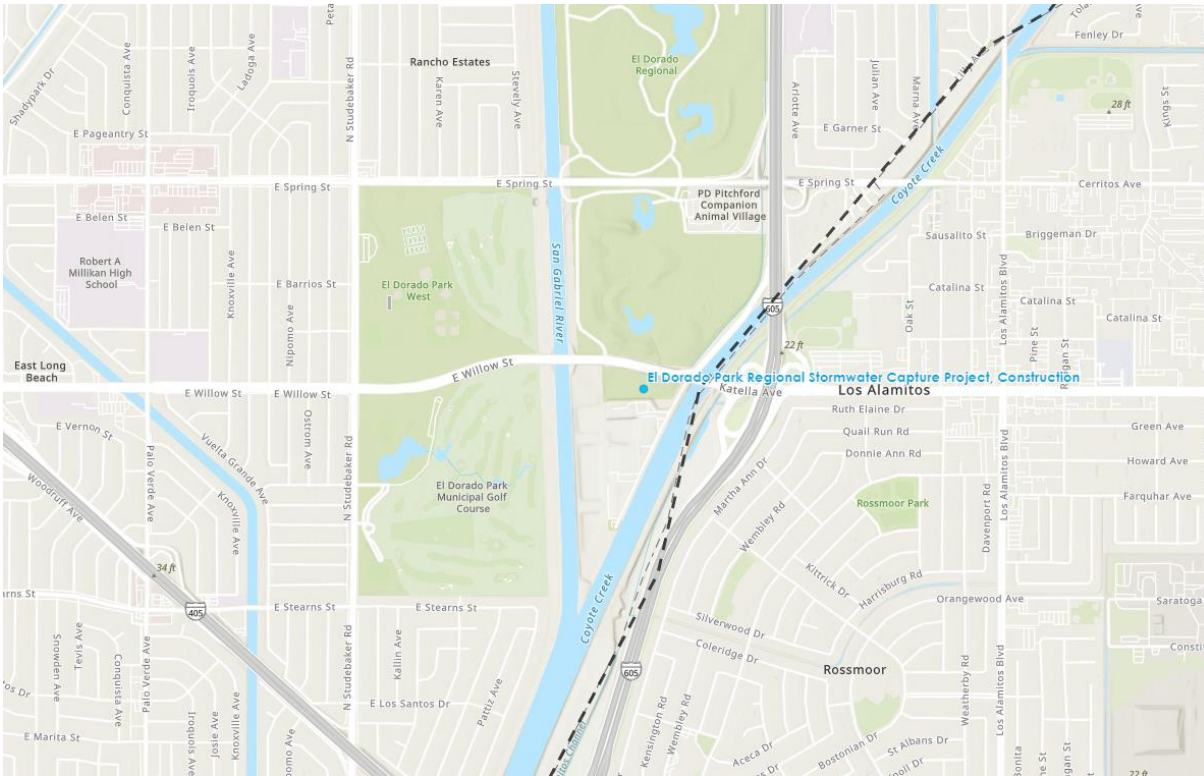
Suggested Action: None. If implemented, expressly provide disadvantaged community benefits according to Safe, Clean Water Program Guidelines



Submitted Round 5 Projects
NOT Located Within and NOT Claiming Benefits to a
Disadvantaged
Census Block Group

Suggested Action: None. No further assessment required by WASC regarding disadvantaged community benefit.

Lead: City of Long Beach
Funding Requested: \$37.4M

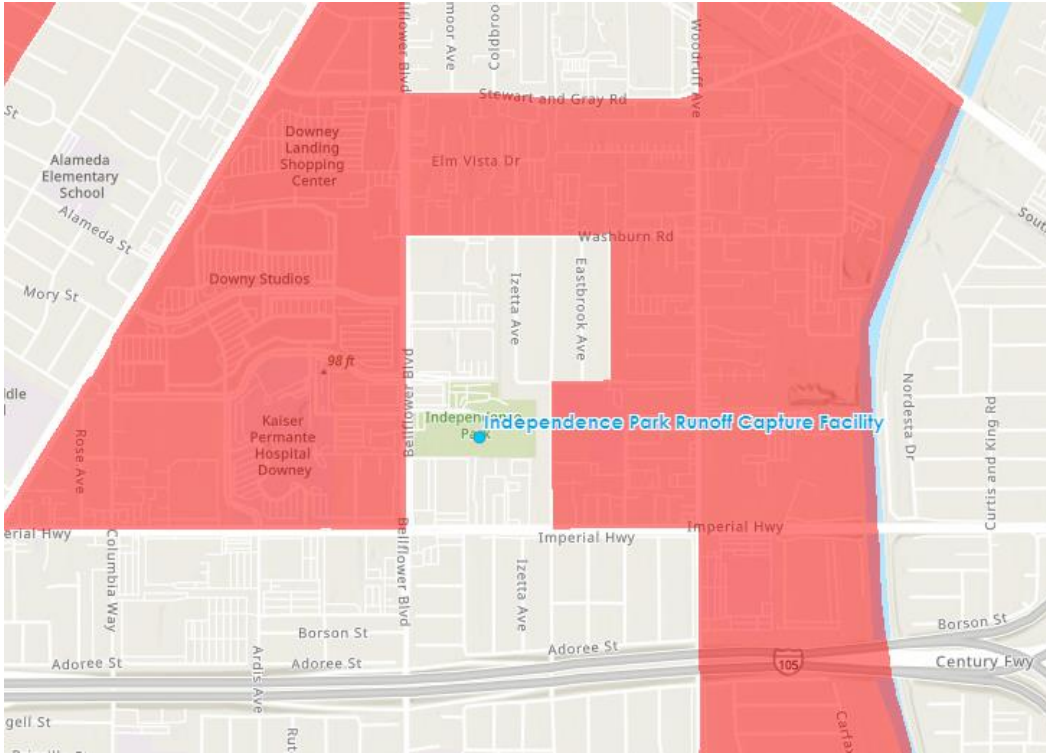


Does application claim DAC benefit?	No
Located within 2020 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Located within 2016 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Distance to nearest DAC	2 miles
CalEnviroScreen Score	34 th percentile
Park Need	Low

No direct benefit to a disadvantaged community claimed by applicant

Lead: City of Downey

Funding Requested: \$1.3M

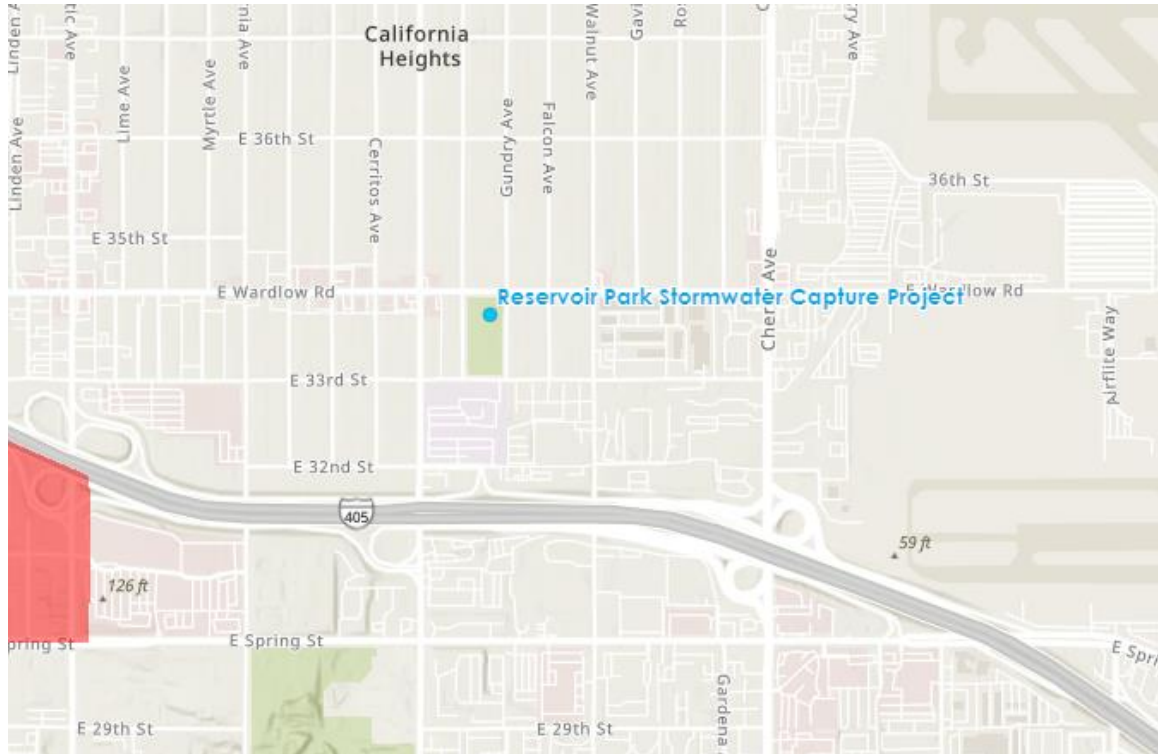


Disadvantaged community census block groups (2020)

Does application claim DAC benefit?	No
Located within 2020 DAC Census Block Group?	No (but adjacent)
Located within 2016 DAC Census Block Group?	No (but adjacent)
Distance to nearest DAC	0 miles
CalEnviroScreen Score	80 th percentile
Park Need	High

No direct benefit to a disadvantaged community claimed by applicant

Lead: City of Signal Hill
Funding Requested: \$6.7M



Disadvantaged community census block groups (2020)

Does application claim DAC benefit?	No
Located within 2020 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Located within 2016 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Distance to nearest DAC	0.6 miles
CalEnviroScreen Score	71 st percentile
Park Need	Very Low

No direct benefit to a disadvantaged community claimed by applicant



Submitted Round 5 Projects
NOT Located Within and ARE Claiming Benefits to a
2020 Disadvantaged
Census Block Group

Suggested Action: Up to the WASC's discretion to validate whether these projects would provide direct benefit to disadvantaged communities if implemented.

Lead: Los Angeles County Public Works
Funding Requested: \$1.6M



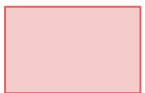
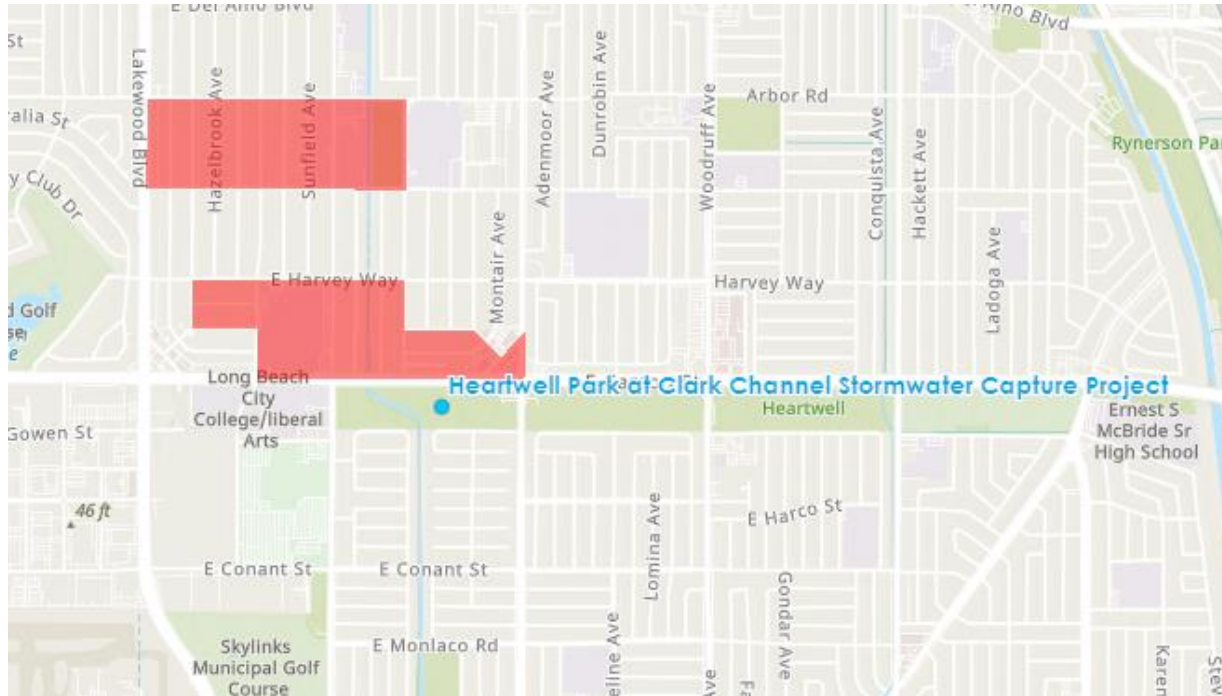
Disadvantaged community census block groups (2020)

Does application claim DAC benefit?	Yes
Located within 2020 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Located within 2016 DAC Census Block Group?	No
Distance to nearest DAC	0.17 miles
CalEnviroScreen Score	68 th percentile
Park Need	Low

WASC to validate direct benefit to a disadvantaged community.

Lead: City of Long Beach

Funding Requested: \$2.9M



Disadvantaged community census block groups (2020)

Does application claim DAC benefit?	Yes
Located within 2020 DAC Census Block Group?	No (but adjacent)
Located within 2016 DAC Census Block Group?	No (but adjacent)
Distance to nearest DAC	0 miles
CalEnviroScreen Score	29 th percentile
Park Need	Low

WASC to validate direct benefit to a disadvantaged community.

Moving Forward

As a WASC, you are tasked with validating whether a Project provides a “direct benefit” to a disadvantaged community. Done on a project-by-project basis.

Take into consideration:

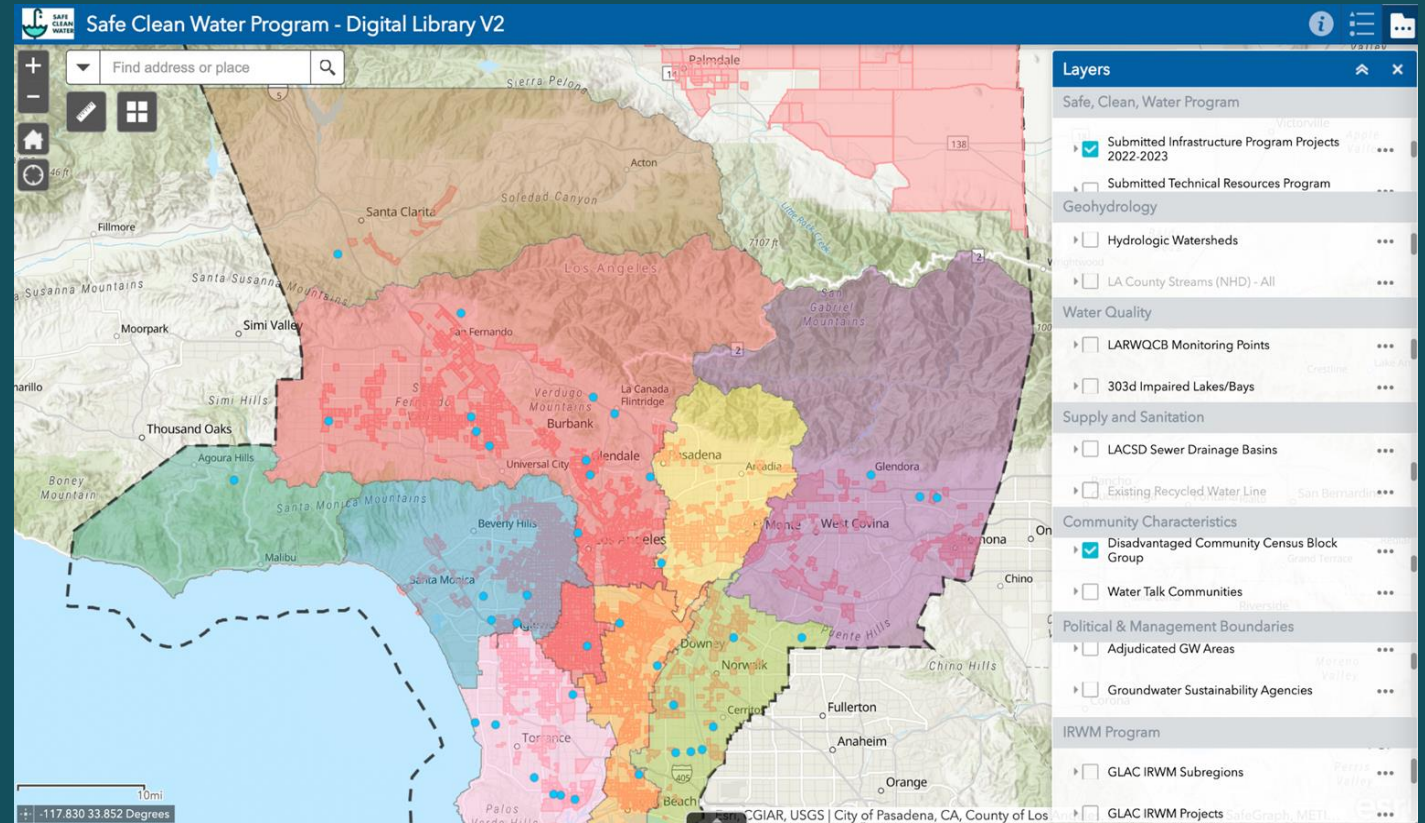
- What you have heard from the community themselves?
- What benefits is the project providing and how are these quantified?
- What areas will experience those benefits?
- Do the project benefits meet community-identified priorities and concerns?
- What other project-specific considerations should be taken into account?
(E.g. community access to a site)

Resources

[Safe, Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library](#)

[Interim Disadvantaged Community Programming Guidelines](#)

[Regional Program Resources on the SCWP Website](#)



A person is shown in profile on the left side of the frame, looking towards a whiteboard. The whiteboard is covered with numerous sticky notes of various colors (yellow, white, blue) and some diagrams. The person's hands are visible at the bottom, holding a small object. The background shows a window with blinds and a dark wall.

Discussion

Contact the program team at:

www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov

1-833-ASK-SCWP (1-833-275-7297)