



# Public Comment Form

Name:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Organization\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\*Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

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

Please complete this form and email to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov) by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

## Comments

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

To review the guidance documents and for more information, visit [www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org](http://www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org)

# GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Office (562) 944-9656 Fax (562) 944-7976

Email: [info@GLAmosquito.org](mailto:info@GLAmosquito.org) Website: [www.GLAmosquito.org](http://www.GLAmosquito.org)

## PRESIDENT

*Melissa Ramoso, Artesia*

## VICE PRESIDENT

*Marilyn Sanabria, Huntington Park*

## SECRETARY-TREASURER

*Ali Saleh, Bell*

## GENERAL MANAGER

*Susanne Klueh*

March 13, 2024

### BELL GARDENS

*Pedro Aceituno*

### BELLFLOWER

*Sonny R. Santa Ines*

### BURBANK

*Dr. Jeff D. Wasseem*

### CARSON

*Jim Dear*

### CERRITOS

*Mark W. Bollman*

### COMMERCE

*Kevin O. Lainez*

### CUDAHY

*Daisy Lomeli*

### DIAMOND BAR

*Ruth M. Low*

### DOWNNEY

*Dorothy Pemberton*

### GARDENA

*Paulette C. Francis*

### GLENDALE

*Steve Ryfle*

### HAWAIIAN GARDENS

*Luis Roa*

### LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

*Leonard Pieroni*

### LA HABRA HEIGHTS

*Catherine Houwen*

### LAKEWOOD

*Steve Croft*

### LA MIRADA

*Matthew Wight*

### LONG BEACH

*Emily Holman*

### LOS ANGELES CITY

*Steven Appleton*

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

*Steven A. Goldsworthy*

### LYNWOOD

*Rita Soto*

### MAYWOOD

*Jessica Torres*

### MONTEBELLO

*Avik Cordeiro*

### NORWALK

*Margarita L. Rios*

### PARAMOUNT

*Isabel Aguayo*

### PICO RIVERA

*Gustavo V. Camacho*

### SAN FERNANDO

*Sylvia Ballin*

### SAN MARINO

*Howard Brody*

### SANTA CLARITA

*Heidi Heinrich*

### SANTA FE SPRINGS

*William K. Rounds*

### SIGNAL HILL

*Robert D. Copeland*

### SOUTH EL MONTE

*Hector Delgado*

### SOUTH GATE

*Maria del Pilar Avalos*

### VERNON

*Leticia Lopez*

### WHITTIER

*Jessica Martinez*

Dear South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee:

The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (District) is in support of the City of Gardena Willows Wetland Stormwater Enhancement Project. This project is not only important for the health of the Willows, but also for the health and safety of all of those living in and visiting the area.

The District has been working diligently for many decades controlling the mosquito populations at the Willows with the gracious cooperation of Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve. However, current environmental conditions and endemic mosquito-borne diseases, like West Nile virus, require more resources than is available through volunteer organizations.

The District collected in excess of 9,000 mosquitoes from the Willows over the 2023 mosquito season. These numbers must be reduced, and the Gardena Willows Wetland project will correct many of the conditions that support this abundance of mosquitoes.

Thank you for considering our support of the Gardena Willows Wetland Stormwater Enhancement Project. We are confident this project will help the District in its efforts to protect the public from mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease.

Sincerely,

Mark Hall

Environmental Program Manager

Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District



January 30, 2024

Dear South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Environmental Charter Schools (ECS) to express our unwavering support for the City of Gardena Willows Wetland Stormwater Enhancement Project. As the Founder and Director of Growth & Sustainability at ECS, I have witnessed the profound impact this natural preserve has had on both our students and the broader community.

In 2001, ECS opened its first school with 100 students and a mission to reimagine public education in low-income communities of color to prepare conscious, critical thinkers who are equipped to graduate from college and create a more equitable and sustainable world. Today, we serve over 1,500 low-income students of color in grades 6th - 12th at four unique sites. Just steps away from the busiest streets and freeways in Los Angeles, our campuses are alive with fruit trees, vegetable gardens, living streams, chickens, rabbits, composting projects, and solar-powered greenhouses. In fact, we strive to make learning more meaningful and relevant through interdisciplinary and project-based curricula, and our collaboration with the Willows Wetland and the City of Gardena has just done that!

To actively engage our students in restoration projects, all grade levels (6th-8th) at our Gardena Middle School campus visit the wetland preserve at least five times throughout the academic year, amounting to at least 45 visits during their middle school experience. By the time our 8th graders culminate they have learned about the Willows flora and fauna, best management practices and so much more. Most importantly, each learner participates in a service project that makes a measurable difference at the Willows. Examples include reseeding a hillside with native wildflowers and painting a mural that shares the Willows' story with the community. Additionally, our 10th-grade high school students return to the Wetlands to enhance their understanding of local ecosystems and actively participate in another learning project. Through these immersive experiences, ECS fosters a sense of civic responsibility and empowers our students to make a difference in their community.

ECS is also actively developing and piloting curriculum materials that Willows Wetland and the City of Gardena can utilize as they expand programming to other schools and districts. Not only does this initiative align with our commitment to sharing best practices, but through the Stormwater Enhancement Project it represents a vital step towards sustainable urban development and the expansion of environmental education.

We appreciate your dedication to this endeavor and look forward to witnessing the positive transformations this project will bring to the Gardena Willows Wetland and our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Diaz", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Alison Diaz  
ECS Founder and Director of Growth & Sustainability



FRIENDS OF

# GARDENA WILLOWS WETLAND • PRESERVE

February 6, 2024

Dear South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee:

The Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve support the feasibility study for the City of Gardena's Willows Wetland Stormwater Enhancement Project.

The feasibility study is a step in the right direction towards using nature-based solutions (NbS) to improve urban watershed health and stormwater management in the City of Gardena. The appropriate stormwater treatment strategies and upstream improvements will improve the water quality of flows entering the federally-protected Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve and enhance the ecological benefits the wetlands provide.

As part of this feasibility study, we strongly urge the consultant team and the City of Gardena to continue to engage ALL stakeholders in creating a plan that is a benefit to ALL community members throughout the process. This includes not only focusing on the wetlands, but also on opportunities to improve City infrastructure in the neighborhoods surrounding the Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve. For example, the use of best management practices (BMPs) such as bioswales and bioretention basins in City-owned parkways and parks surrounding the Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve will allow for water collection and infiltration even before it enters the wetlands. Implementing BMPs in a visible and beautiful way represents an invaluable opportunity for the City to develop educational opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about watershed health and how nature-based solutions are improving our community.

Thank you for considering the Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserves' support of the City of Gardena's Willows Wetland Stormwater Enhancement Project. We hope that this ongoing effort will yield results and create lasting change for the City of Gardena.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fleming  
President  
Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve

1202 W 170th St, Gardena, CA 90247

P.O. Box 2211, Gardena, CA 90247

(310) 421-8635

[www.gardenawillows.org](http://www.gardenawillows.org)

[info@gardenawillows.org](mailto:info@gardenawillows.org)

[@gardenawillows](https://www.instagram.com/gardenawillows)